

# AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB THE BUOYS

Cape Coral Sail & Power Squadron • A Unit of United States Power Squadrons® • District 22

Issue 06-23

June-August 2023

## CCSAPS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

DINNER: 6:00 -7:00 P.M.

MEETING: 7:00 - 8:30 P.M.

SQUADRON HARBOR

SPEAKER: TOM HAYDEN, CAPE CORAL  
COUNCILMAN

TO REGISTER AND ORDER OPTIONAL DINNER  
CATERED BY **BIG 8 BBQ**  
(\$10/PERSON AT THE DOOR)

CLICK ON THE FOLLOWING LINK.  
**SEPT 11 DEADLINE.**

[HTTPS://CCSAPS.TICKETLEAP.COM/SEPTEMBER-GENERAL-MEETING-LITE-BITES/](https://ccsaps.ticketleap.com/september-general-meeting-lite-bites/)  
SOFT DRINKS AND BEER PROVIDED.



America's Boating Channel™

Promoting National Safe Boating by Debra Allen, AP

Proper care of life jackets ensures they will work when needed. Plus, fresh clean life jackets are more attractive to wear and desirable for people to use while underway on your boat. Videos are available that offer an overview of the importance of wearing and caring for your life jacket. America's Boating Channel™ produced these videos to help viewers learn that it only makes sense to treat your life jacket as though your life depends on it.

Watching videos like "Life Jacket Care" (<https://youtu.be/iEofd6mUwN4>) is an excellent way to understand how to properly care for your life jacket. Invite your friends and neighbors to watch, like and subscribe to America's Boating Channel on YouTube as a fun and educational introduction to what our organization has to offer. This video and more also are available via America's Boating Channel on-demand app on Roku or FireTV.



**CAPE CORAL SAIL & POWER SQUADRON, INC.**

WE ARE AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®

A UNIT OF THE UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRON, INC. – DISTRICT 22

PHONE (239) 549-9754 • 917 SE 47TH TERRACE CAPE CORAL, FL 33904

**OFFICE HOURS TUESDAY AND SATURDAY 9:00 A.M. - NOON**

**WWW.CCSAPS.ORG**

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# COMMANDER'S REPORT



Scott Steele | Commander  
ABC/ Cape Coral Sail  
& Power Squadron

When I sat down to write this I was both frustrated and happy. The frustration comes from attending a couple meetings this week and hearing the estimates on Cape Coral repairs and structure. You've probably heard that City Council wants to eliminate the various boards that were established over the years. I'm

not an expert on any of this and don't have an opinion on most of these boards. The one I am familiar with is the Waterway Advisory Board. Members Jim Humphrey and Tom Dawson are on this board. The frustration arises when I see citizens volunteering their time, trying to formulate positive recommendations for the city, and then told they are not necessary. Sorry to say, but I just don't think individual inputs from citizens will be as effective. Jim Humphrey has an article following in this edition of the Buoys. It's more detailed and it highlights my next frustration. We are looking at 18 to 24 months to get the rim canals dredged. The city doesn't have the proper permits, doesn't have a dredge and doesn't have a contractor. Wouldn't you think that a city with 400 miles of canals would be a little more proactive with ongoing maintenance, even without the impact of Ian? I've met people who can't get their boats out into the river because of the shallow depths around the Yacht Club.

Enough of the frustration; let's talk about the good stuff. We just completed our first ABC class of 2023. Though we did it a little different, it turned out quite well. One of the things we reinstated was having the various groups attend pre-class and discuss various activities. This worked out well and gives students a more balanced approach to what we do versus trying to do it all at a graduation. We will have graduation ceremonies in the future, but will make some modifications.

We hung the burgee over the office door that was flying during Ian. It's a bit symbolic in that it was beaten up a little bit but



survived. To many of us it's a reminder of all the commitment and efforts that members have put forth since 9/28/2022.

As I mentioned last month we've received about 67% of our insurance. With our previous cash reserves and the insurance funds we will be able to get everything repaired. The first floor is completely done. All the remaining bathrooms were remodeled and are functional. They look great. The entire exterior of the building was sealed and repainted. Not only does it look good but we stopped all the leaks. The recent rains gave us a good test. We still have gutters to get installed and new windows on the south side of the second floor. This should be happening pretty soon.

The total rebuild of the second floor is underway and it should be completed by the end of June. Our contractor has been doing a great job and it's been fun to see the transformation. As we did on the first floor, we are going through and pulling out some of the pre-existing fixtures that are no longer needed. We've got a few smaller projects that need to be undertaken but by the time of our September meeting everything should be better than before.

As most know, we don't send out a Buoy in July and August. Our next edition will be in September. The office remains open in July and August and we are now starting to schedule future rentals. We are telling folks we will confirm these after August 1st, but things are looking good. Marge Maciag is working with Kathryn Ferrell to transition leadership of the rental program.

It's been quite the experience since last September, but we can finally see the light at the end of the tunnel, and it's not a train.

Scott  
Scott Steele, S  
Commander, [commander@CCSAPS.org](mailto:commander@CCSAPS.org)



## 2023-24 BRIDGE OFFICERS

---

### Commander

Scott Steele, S  
commander@ccsaps.org

### Executive Officer

John Swift  
execofficer@ccsaps.org

### Squadron Education Officer (SEO)

Neil Pignatano, SN  
education@ccsaps.org

### Administrative Officer

Jill Berger, S  
adminofficer@ccsaps.org

### Secretary

Leslie Corte-Real, S  
secretary@ccsaps.org

### Treasurer

Carl McGrath, P  
treasurer@ccsaps.org

### Assistant Bridge Officers

Commander's Aide:  
Carl McGrath, P

Assistant Executive Officer  
Vacant

Assistant Admin Officer  
Vacant

Assistant SEO  
Antal "Tony" Zsupan, S

Assistant Secretary  
Vacant

Assistant Treasurer  
Vacant

### Chaplain

Tessa Buechler, S

### Flag Lt

Paul Moses, P

### Building Manager

Terry Rosenstrauch

Assistant Building Manager  
Larry Rich, SN

Rental Chair  
Vacant

### Executive Department

Vessel Safety Check Program  
Craig Buechler, S  
Tessa Buechler, S

Co-Op Charting  
Denny Pearson, AP  
Barb Riordan

Farmer's Market  
Vacant

Events Coordinator:  
Vacant

CERT and SERAT Coordinator:  
Vacant

Media Relations  
Jeff Maddy, AP

Radio Tech  
David J. Lawrence, S  
Gerry Whisler, S

Ship's Store  
Delores Buhner

Sea Scout Liaison  
Vacant

### Secretary's Department

BUOYS Advertising Mgr  
Vacant

BUOYS Editor  
Marian Brenton, S

Tech/Dbase/Squadron Directory  
Gerry Whisler, S

Webmaster  
Nancy Maddy, S

Social Media  
Joette Humphrey

### Education Department

On the Water Training  
David V. Eberle, S/N-CN/C

### Administrative Department

Cruise & Rendezvous  
Delores A. Buhner  
Paul Moses, P

Entertainment Committee  
Karen Collins  
Dani Fergen

Member Involvement  
Jill Berger, S

Weekend Boaters  
Scott Fergen

Weekday Boaters  
Doug Brenton, S

Fishing Group  
John D'Esposito

Kayaking Group:  
Gary Brooks

Scuba Diving  
Vacant

Sailing Group  
Vacant

Membership Chair  
Carolyn Token

Pantry Inventory Mgr  
Karen Dipalmo

Port Captain  
John Farmer, P

### GRADES

S – Seaman (aka Boat Handling)

P – Pilot

AP – Advanced Pilot

P-Pilot

JN – Junior Navigator

N – Navigator

SN – Senior Navigator

Indicates the highest level of education competed. Follows the name of the person.



## COOP CHARTING HELPS CAPE CORAL RECREATIONAL BOATERS

by Jim Humphrey



Jim Humphrey, CCSAPS member

At the Water Advisory Board (WAB) on May 25th, we learned that the City of Cape Coral is contracting to replace and repair aids to navigation that fall under its responsibility. Since these are not federal aids, they are private aids to navigation (PATONS.) After eight months, this is welcome news for the safety and navigation of Cape Coral boaters.

The City is responsible for maintaining the navigation aids which guide boaters from the federally maintained (USCG) navigation aids defining the Caloosahatchee Intracoastal Waterway to our Cape Coral canals. Boaters are guided to canals through a series of waterway entrances between Everest Waterway near Rosen Park to the Cape Coral Southwest Channel near Tarpon Point.

Influencing Cape Coral to authorize, replace and repair contracts were Denny Pearson, Tom Dawson, and our Coop Charting Captains, crews, and staff. Three of our Coop Charting Crews rapidly completed surveys and compiled timely discrepancy reports. Denny Pearson and Tom Dawson provided this data to Richard Gainley, Harbor Master and City Parks and Recreation, and Maureen Buice, WAB Liaison and Assistant to the City Manager. Of the 192 Cape Coral PATONS surveyed by CCSAPS Coop Charting crews, 52 were damaged needing repair and 30

were destroyed and missing. Therefore, about 43 percent of our navigation aids were missing or damaged. Wow!

Harbormaster Gainley stated that city crews are preparing to start installing missing day boards to Cape Coral PATONS in the next couple of weeks, and missing posts will be replaced by the contractor used by Lee County (a firm timeline has not been established).

Commander Scott Steele appeared before the WAB and spoke to the need for prompt action to repair and replace navigation aids. He also detailed silting and safety problems in Cape Coral waterways, citing as an example, the hazard of the shallow water at Redfish Point near the entrance to the Redfish Point Rim Channel. Scott also expressed support for the WAB and urged the city to retain the WAB in view of the importance of Cape Coral Waterways.

Commander Steele's presentation served to promote a discussion of possible dredging solutions. Cape Coral no longer owns its own dredging equipment; the city must not only get a contractor but renew permits that expire in July. So, it estimated that silting problems will not be addressed for 18-24 months. There was discussion of whether Cape Coral should have some of its own dredging capability with its 200 miles of Gulf access canals and 12 entry channels to maintain.

Bravo Zulu to the Cape Coral Power Squadron and its Coop Charting Team! We made a positive contribution to boating safety, enjoyment, and navigation!

Members desiring to find out more information about joining CCSAPS Coop Charting are asked to Contact Denny Pearson or Tessa Buechler. FYI, I find that a practical helper to learn to navigate Cape Coral as well as SWF waterways is "Safe Boating in Southwest Florida Cape Coral Edition"

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THE BUOYS is published monthly, except for July and August, by the Cape Coral Sail and Power Squadron, Inc. America's Boating Club®/ Cape Coral Sail & Power Squadron is a unit of District 22 of the United States Power Squadrons®, Inc. Opinions expressed by individual authors do not necessarily reflect USPS® or Cape Coral Sail & Power Squadron policy or endorsement. Please send submissions and suggestions to [buoys@ccsaps.org](mailto:buoys@ccsaps.org).

**Material for publication must be received by the editor no later than the 20th of the month** prior to publication. The editor reserves the right to modify materials submitted for publication. We appreciate your articles and input. Please make sure the information submitted to THE BUOYS is correct. All articles will be edited to ensure conformity with USPS® regulations and guidelines.

# Hurricane Season 2023

## 2023 Hurricane Season Forecast Atlantic Basin

	1991-2020 Average	2022	Colorado State University	The Weather Company
■ Total Named	14	14	13	15
■ Hurricanes	7	8	6	7
■ Cat 3 or Higher	3	2	2	3

## ■ Tropical Cyclone Names 2023

### Atlantic Basin

Arlene	Gert	Margot	Tammy
Bret	Harold	Nigel	Vince
Cindy	Idalia	Ophelia	Whitney
Don	Jose	Philippe	
Emily	Katia	Rina	
Franklin	Lee	Sean	

\* New names in 2023 replacing Harvey, Irma, Maria and Nate

Courtesy of The Weather Channel



### TIME TO GET YOUR ANNUAL VESSEL SAFETY CHECK (VSC)



Even if you pay careful attention to safety, dangerous mechanical problems can crop up on the best-maintained boat. That's why the U.S. Coast Guard recommends that all recreational boaters (including personal watercraft users) take advantage of the free Vessel Safety Check (VSC) program every year. VSCs are offered by experienced members of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and the United States Power Squadrons, two of the nation's premiere volunteer boating safety organizations.

A VSC is your best way of learning about problems that might put you in violation of state or federal laws or worse, create danger for you or your passengers on the water.

Contact us by phone @ (239) 549-9754 Tuesday and Saturday 9:00 a.m. - noon, or email [buechlercraig@yahoo.com](mailto:buechlercraig@yahoo.com) to schedule yours today.



ABC Graduating Class, May 24, 2023

# SQUADRON EDUCATION OFFICER

## SEO'S Notebook



LT/C NEIL PIGNATANO, SN  
SQUADRON EDU.OFF.  
[EDUCATION@CCSAPS.ORG](mailto:EDUCATION@CCSAPS.ORG)

Resumption of our education program, post Ian, has gone relatively well. ABC restarted in May, and all who took the exam passed with flying colors. Seventeen new safe boater certifications will be issued. Unfortunately, due to several circumstances beyond our control, the June ABC class had to be cancelled and those registered have been moved to the September class. On a more positive note, two advanced grade classes have been completed, and everyone who took the final exam passed with flying colors. I'd like to give special recognition our new advanced grade members.

Six new Seaman were promoted from the Boat Handling class: Carlisle Barker, Kevin Eisener, Lauren Eisener, Peter Hohmann, Terry Rosenstrauch, and Lloyd Wolf. Special congratulations go to Peter Hohmann who scored a perfect 100%!

Four new Pilots were promoted from the Marine Navigation class: Daniel Hallforth, Daniel Waters, Antal Zsupan, and Douglas Volpp.

Congratulations to all!

And while I'm at it, I'd like to give special recognition to three of our instructors: Herb Schneider, Betti Garcia, and Seaby Bess. They have all been awarded the 2022 Excellence in Teaching Award as Outstanding Teacher of Year. Thanks to Herb, Betti, and Seaby for their dedication and diligence. Without our team of instructors, there would be no Education Department.

Our summer hiatus is starting so there are no courses currently scheduled for June, July, and August. With the exception of ABC, the fall academic calendar is currently a work in progress and will be published in the next few weeks. ABC classes for September, October, and November are currently open for registration, so spread the word. And it looks like our second floor classrooms will be ready for use for the fall term.

There are still two seminar sessions for June:

- Partner in Command: June 10, 2023, 1 PM for two hours – great for first mates!
- Weather and Forecasting: June 15, 2023, 2 PM for two hours – check the weather before going on the water!

All seminars are open to registration at the CCSAPS web site. Or contact me directly.

If you'd like further information, please contact me at [education@ccsaps.org](mailto:education@ccsaps.org).

Until next time...

## The definitive answer to how the Miserable Mile got its name

By Barret Bonden

As we all know, the Miserable Mile is located between daybeacons 2A and 8 at the start of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway in Pine Island Sound. This dredged channel is about 200 feet wide, with a charted depth of 9 feet. It was dug right through a shoal in 1960 as part of creating the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway that runs up to the Anclote River near Tarpon Springs.

If you have read the notes on the NOAA chart for that area, there a note regarding the area between daybeacons 2A and 8. It warns boaters to be aware that they will encounter strong cross currents “especially during the ebb of spring tide.” In other words, the channel runs northeast/southwest and the tide crosses the channel northwest/southeast.

Even though I thought I knew how the Miserable Mile got its name it seems I was wrong. Recently one of the Cape’s original residents, Elmer Tabor, passed along the real reason. Tabor moved to the Cape in 1960 with his family, the year dredging started on the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway. Before the channel was completed deeper draft vessels wanting to travel between Pine Island Sound and the Caloosahatchee River had to pass along the northeastern shore of Sanibel Island and through middle of San Carlos Bay.

With the opening of this channel coal barges, heading to the power plant on the Caloosahatchee River in North Fort Myers, were able to cut miles off their trip. Unfortunately, every now and then a barge would get pushed by the cross currents and strong winds up on to the shoal. This would block traffic through that section forcing boats to use the longer route. It turns out that the barge captains gave the area the moniker, The Miserable Mile.

Today we don’t have coal barges passing through there anymore, but that stretch of water remains dangerous. Like the rest of Pine Island Sound the area is controlled by Navigation Rule 6, **Safe Speed**. Many boaters don’t know what Safe Speed means and they think it means they can go as fast as they want.

Rule 6, **Safe Speed** starts by says that each vessel “shall at all times proceed at a safe speed so that she can take proper and effective action to avoid collision.” The courts read the word “collision” to include both a collision with a vessel’s hull and a collision with a vessel’s wake.

In the Miserable Mile vessels passing each other need to be aware of the damage their wake can cause. The prudent thing to do is reduce your speed so as not to force another vessel to go aground on the shoal while attempting to avoid a collision with your wake.

Stay safe on the water, Barret Bonden

Barret Bonden, a recurring character in the Patrick O’Brian seafaring novels, is the nom de plume for one of our many safe boating instructors.



Image courtesy of Lee County Division of Natural Resources Boater’s Guide





# SUMMER BIRTHDAYS

## JUNE

Bradley E. Barks	William Moeglein	Anita Dawson	Linda S. Pignatano
Michele Belmont	Gabriel Nudi	Barbara M. Eder	Terrie Schmidt
Virginia Bogan	Enrico A. Patucci	Scott R. Fergen	Scott Silic
Douglas W. Brenton	Dennis T. Pearson	Daniel Hallforth	Donald M. Spurr
Stephen W. Corey	Barbara Pendergast	William Hammond III	Pamela M. Tichy
Leslie A. Corte-Real	Linda S. Pignatano	Brian A. Hunt	Marva J. Vickers
Anita Dawson	Terrie Schmidt	George A. Huser	Gerard R. Whisler
Barbara M. Eder	Scott Silic	Thomas J. Kain II	Frederick E. Willms
Scott R. Fergen	Donald M. Spurr	Michael S. Lynch	
Daniel Hallforth	Pamela M. Tichy	Mike B. Magruder	
William Hammond III	Marva J. Vickers	Michael H. McCracken	
Brian A. Hunt	Gerard R. Whisler	Dyanna Mckewen	
George A. Huser	Frederick E. Willms	Mary K. McMannis	
Thomas J. Kain II	Bradley E. Barks	William Moeglein	
Michael S. Lynch	Michele Belmont	Gabriel Nudi	
Mike B. Magruder	Virginia Bogan	Enrico A. Patucci	
Michael H. McCracen	Douglas W. Brenton	Dennis T. Pearson	
Dyanna Mckewen	Stephen W. Corey	Barbara Pendergast	
Mary K. McMannis	Leslie A. Corte-Real		

## JULY

Kyle Barker	Denise D. Farr	Edward J. McCloskey	
Robert W. Biernaum	Kathryn D. Ferrell	Mirna McMinn	Ethan A. Romans
Shirley Bodkin	John F. Furey	Ciara Mullaney	Kimberly Sbanotto
Michael Bromirski	Leah Getts	Mark E. Mullett	Ray Schneider
Christina Brown	John M. Hessenbruch	Ralph Nudi	Bruce A. Sokolik
Jan Brown	Russell Hinds	Lisa Caroline Olson	John Swift
Robert A. Cline III	Charles H. Hobart	William G. Peterson	Diana Wallach
Kathleen Cole	Thomas Jeffery	Dennis H. Potter	
Cathy L. Cooksley	Thomas J. Kuzia	Victor W. Ratz	
Mark Dawson	Douglas Labout	Larry T. Rich	

## AUGUST

Martin F. Anderson	Kathy Conrad	Stephen Henson	Greg Pitts
Bruce R. Baran	Michael W. Cooksley	Joette M. Humphrey	Barbara Pope
Donna J. Bardon	Lee Corte-Real	Alfred R. Iagnemmo	Dennis Schmidt
Robert H. Barkalow	Jim Discher	Warren S. Maciag	Sonya Skinner-Biernbaum
Carlisle Barker	Karen E. Dunn	Antoinette McCloskey	Larry D. Smith
Robert D. Blair	Paul C. Dzierzanowski	Joy McGrath	Suzanne Soltysiak
Edward A. Borner	Walter D. Engel	Linda K. McQuay	Mary Anne Wilson
Laura Bossert	Carolyn Farwick	Nicholas Mullaney	Howard E. Wright
Dana M. Breda	Sue Feldman	James R. Pancoast	
Jack W. Conrad	Michele Hall	Peter R. Partil	



## Looking Ahead

### June 2023

Day	Date	Name	Time	Place
Thurs	1	Executive Committee	7:00 pm	Squadron Harbor
Sat	3	Mighty Mussels Terrace Party	5:00 pm	Hammond Stadium
Tues	6	Entertainment Comm	4:30 pm	Rusty's
Sat	10	Partner in Command Seminar	1:00-3:00 pm	Squadron Harbor
Tues	13	Weekdayer Boating	TBD	3 Fishermen
Thurs	15	Weather and Forecasting Seminar	2:00-4:00 pm	Squadron Harbor
Mon	19	New member orientation	7:00 pm	Squadron Harbor
Tues	20	Coop Charting meeting	10:30 am	Squadron Harbor

### July 2023

Tues	4	Entertainment Comm	4:30 pm	Rusty's
Thurs	6	Executive Committee	7:00 pm	Squadron Harbor
Tues	11	Weekdayer Boating	TBD	TBD

### August 2023

Tues	1	Entertainment Comm	4:30 pm	Rusty's
Thurs	3	Executive Committee	7:00 pm	Squadron Harbor
Thurs	17	Weekdayer Boating	TBD	TBD

### September 2023

Tues	5	Entertainment Comm	4:30 pm	Rusty's
Thurs	7	Executive Committee	7:00 pm	Squadron Harbor
Thurs	14	General Membership Meeting	7:00 pm	Squadron Harbor
Mon	11	ABC Class begins	7:00 pm	Squadron Harbor



**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES  
AND ACTIVITIES HAVE RESUMED.  
CHECK OUT THESE LISTINGS  
AND  
GET INVOLVED!**

*ROOMS IN THE SQUADRON BUILDING WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE TO RENT UNTIL WE ARE CLEARED TO REOPEN.*

**HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR E-MAIL OR PHONE #?** IF SO, SEND YOUR UPDATED INFORMATION TO: CCSAPS Secretary: E-MAIL: [secretary@ccsaps.org](mailto:secretary@ccsaps.org)

Hi, I'm Joette Humphrey. My husband, Jim, and I are fairly new to the Power Squadron. Because I enjoy computers and am active on social media, I volunteered to help with the club's social media.

I hope social media can help attract new members and create community awareness. Besides that, it's a fun way to stay informed. But



media can help members and community awareness that, it's a fun touch and stay informed. But I need help!

Anything that is of interest to you regarding boating will probably be of interest to others. It can be related to our club or not. Please send photos and/or ideas to [socialmedia@ccsaps.org](mailto:socialmedia@ccsaps.org). And if you are on social media and you happen to see our posts, please "like" it and/or "share" it!

So far, we have posts on [Facebook](#) and [NextDoor](#). I am hoping to post on Instagram in the future, but I'm having a hard time with that because our log in data has been misplaced. (Any help or advice would be much appreciated.)

Looking forward to meeting everyone in person!

Joette

# SQUADRON

## HELP WANTED

### RENTAL CHAIRMAN

- Review rental files as they come in. This includes checking to be sure all payments have been received prior to rental, all documents have been signed, seating diagram is received and posted for setup crews, and door code issued to renters.
- Coordinate room setup crew for rentals.
- Give instructions to cleaning staff for before and after rentals.
- Act as main contact for renters before, during and after rental.
- Check the cooling (AC) system and cameras remotely during rentals. Remotely adjust room temperatures as requested by renters during event.
- Conduct building walk-through after rentals and report back to Treasurer regarding status of security deposit.

### ASSISTANT RENTAL CHAIRMAN

- Assist Rental Chairman as needed to balance workload.

### CERTIFIED VESSEL EXAMINERS

- Complete short training course
  - Examine vessels for safety and place CSV sticker
- Contact: Craig Buechler [buechlercraig@yahoo.com](mailto:buechlercraig@yahoo.com)

### EVENT SETUP

- With other team members, set up and take down chairs, tables (about once a month)
- Contact: Marge Maciag [margem5@gmail.com](mailto:margem5@gmail.com)  
Rick Clements [retiredrick@yahoo.com](mailto:retiredrick@yahoo.com)

### ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

- Help in kitchen and hall, setting up for monthly dinner/social events. Have fun organizing our social events!
- Contact: Jill Berger: [adminofficer@ccsaps.org](mailto:adminofficer@ccsaps.org)

### LIFEJACKET LOAN COORDINATOR

- Organize, manage and maintain the life jacket closet.
- Contact: Jill Berger: [adminofficer@ccsaps.org](mailto:adminofficer@ccsaps.org)

## How does one run into the Cape Coral Bridge in broad daylight?

By Barret Bonden

Did you hear about the boat that ran into the Cape Coral Bridge? This incident provides insight into why knowing and following the Navigation Rules is important.

In February, a 32-foot boat managed to collide with the Cape Coral bridge on the Caloosahatchee River at 5:00 p.m. on a clear sunny afternoon. The vessel in question had eight people on board and, from reports, it appears the passengers were enjoying an antipasto salad and perhaps some drinks.

No official report has been issued by FWC as of this writing but it is safe to say the operator of the vessel was not following the Navigation Rules, specifically Rule 5, **Look-out**.

This is a very simple rule. It states:

“Every vessel shall at all times maintain a proper look-out by sight and hearing as well as by all available means appropriate in the prevailing circumstances and conditions so as to make a full appraisal of the situation and of the risk of collision.”

The operator of a vessel, is responsible for the safety of the vessel and crew. The operator is required to always maintain a lookout when the vessel is in motion. The operator needs to let someone else entertain the passengers, give the guided tour, and serve the refreshments. The operator needs to watch where they are going and be aware of all other vessels and obstacles in the water.



Although the reports don't mention speed of the vessel in question, it appears it may have been in violation of Navigation Rule 6, **Safe Speed**. At the Cape Coral Bridge, when passing it in the marked channel, there is a posted maximum speed of 25 MPH. If the vessel was passing the bridge outside of the marked channel the speed is Slow Speed Minimum Wake.

In either case Navigation Rule 6, **Safe Speed** applies and it states:

“Every vessel shall at all times proceed at a safe speed so that she can take proper and effective action to avoid collision and be stopped within a distance appropriate to the prevailing circumstances and conditions. In determining a safe speed, the following factors shall be among those taken into account:

(a) By all vessels:

- (i) The state of visibility;
- (ii) The traffic density including concentrations of fishing vessels or any other vessels;
- (iii) The maneuverability of the vessel with special reference to stopping distance and turning ability in the prevailing conditions;
- (iv) At night, the presence of background light such as from shore lights or from back scatter from her own lights;
- (v) The state of wind, sea and current, and the proximity of navigational hazards;
- (vi) The draft in relation to the available depth of water.

Knowing and following the Navigation Rules can save your life. You can download a copy of the rules at, <https://www.navcen.uscg.gov/navigation-rules-amalgamated>.

If you have not already done so, consider signing up for and taking the Boat Handling course. In the course there is a two-hour seminar focused on the Navigation Rules. Consider signing up today.

Stay safe on the water, Barret Bonden

Barret Bonden, a recurring character in the Patrick O'Brian seafaring novels, is the nom de plume for one of our many safe boating instructors.

# CCSAPS BOATING GROUPS

***Plan to add your name to the roster of one of our boating groups:***

## WEEKENDERS & WEEKDAYERS

Weekenders boat-a-long to waterside restaurants and meet periodically to plan future trips. For more information, or to get on their mailing list, please contact Scott Fergen at [weekenderboating@gmail.com](mailto:weekenderboating@gmail.com).

On May 27, the Weekenders boated to The Lighthouse restaurant in Ft. Myers with 3 boats and 15 participants.



Doug Brenton leads the Weekdayers. This group goes out for lunch at a waterfront restaurant on Tuesdays or Thursdays. The next Weekdayers outing will be on Tuesday, June 13. For more information, or to get on their mailing list, please contact [dwbrenton@gmail.com](mailto:dwbrenton@gmail.com).

The May Weekdayer outing had to be postponed due to illness.

## CO-OP CHARTING

The Coop Charting schedule has successfully started for this season, (April – June). With Run A completed in April without too many waterway issues it was decided that three further Runs; Run B from Midpoint Bridge to Cape Coral Bridge, Run C from Cape Coral Bridge to Redfish Cove and Run D from Redfish Cove to Carlos Bay would be attempted in May. Many thanks to our respective Captains, Richard Apfel, Scott Steele and Doug Brenton for volunteering to be our run captains and to our crew members who also volunteered. Experience and caution are the name of the game currently when out on the local waters!

In total 339 ATONs were checked and verified for these three runs with a finding of 112 (33%) either damaged, missing day boards or markers were no longer in place. All our findings are reported to the Coast Guard, Lee County and Cape Coral. A lot of repair work has already been done by the Coastguard and the Cape Coral Harbor

master has advised that plans are in place for repairs to their ATONs to start in a few weeks.

Even though we are eight months past Hurricane Ian our local waters and markers are far from completely repaired. It is still very important that all boaters maintain depth and water observation vigilance whenever they are out on the local waters and channels.

The next meeting for the Coop Charting Group will be June 20th at 10.30am at the Squadron building.



Run B



Run C



Run D

## CRUISE & RENDEZVOUS

Cruise and Rendezvous cruises to marinas and resorts for overnight stays and also sponsors two dinner events at the squadron during the year.

## KAYAK GROUP

The kayak group normally paddles area waterways on the third Tuesday of the month. If you would like to participate in these monthly kayak trips send your contact information to Jeff Maddy at [jeff.maddy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jeff.maddy@sbcglobal.net).

## FISHING GROUP

The fishing group normally meets at the Squadron building on the second of the month. These will resume when the building opens. If you wish to receive notice of upcoming group meetings, please send your name and email address (phone number optional) as soon as possible to: [fishingccsaps@yahoo.com](mailto:fishingccsaps@yahoo.com)



# Sunday Social at Rusty's

## May 7, 2023



38 CCSAPS members attended the Sunday Social on May 7, 2023



## LIFE JACKET LOANER PROGRAM

This program is a valuable public service. Please pass the word among your boating friends that life jackets are available to borrow at the Squadron, at no cost, for visiting children or grandchildren. We also have life jackets for adults and four legged friends.

Contact the Squadron for more detail.  
(239) 549-9754



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America's Boating Club Cape Coral/ Cape Coral Sail & Power Squadron

# TERRACE PARTY

**SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2023**  
**5:00 PM**

**HAMMOND STADIUM**  
**14100 6 MILE CYPRESS PKWY, FT MYERS**

ENJOY AMERICA'S PASTIME WITH YOUR FRIENDS FROM THE POWER SQUADRON! NON-MEMBER FRIENDS AND FAMILY ARE ALSO WELCOME TO ATTEND! Enjoy this open outdoor party deck with a great view. Located on third base side, the Terraces provide a unique environment to enjoy the game and mingle with fellow club members. The area is covered and shaded. Tickets available at stadium Will Call.

**RSVP BEFORE MAY 26**

**\$37** PER PERSON INCLUDES 90 MINUTES OF FOOD (HOT DOGS, PIZZA, BONELESS CHICKEN WINGS (W/ SAUCE CHOICES), BREADSTICKS W/MARINARA, PASTA SALAD, PUDDING, LEMONADE/WATER). UNLIMITED SODAS AND A CASH PRIVATE BAR W/ BARTENDER IN OUR SPACE. INCLUDES ALL TAXES, FEES AND GRATUITIES.

**\$10** PARKING PER CAR, PAID AT THE VENUE. CARPOOL AND SAVE!

**SIGN UP AND PAY HERE: <https://ccsaps.ticketleap.com/mighty-mussels-game/>**



# AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

## FEB 2024 EASTERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE

**7 days: 11-18 Feb 2024**

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Price does not include \$127.16 pp taxes & port fees. Travel protection & transfers are additional.

**Feel free to invite your friends, family and neighbors to join us as we sail on this fabulous new ship which is still being built!**

Everyone must book through Dawn Eckhart in order to be included in our group and receive the exclusive group benefits. This is the annual fundraiser event for America's Boating Club.

Email [dawn@dawnstraveldeals.com](mailto:dawn@dawnstraveldeals.com) or call

(727) 403-0406 to join our group on this amazing new ship!



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