

Navigating in Fog

COMPASS MAGAZINE

Since navigating in fog can present serious challenges, boaters need to have a plan to deal with fog before it occurs.

“Storms announce their arrival with bravado—a fanfare of wind, rain or snow. Fog arrives stealthily, and oftentimes quickly, with silent restraint,” said Ronald Kessel, past Marine Environment Committee chair of United States Power Squadrons, America’s Boating Club. “There is no other weather event where your safety is so dependent on other boaters or where your responsibility to other boaters is greater.”

Fog restricts visibility, making it difficult or impossible to see and be seen by other boaters with the naked eye. When you can’t see the horizon, you can lose your bearings and experience temporary disorientation. Fog also dampens some sound frequencies, making it difficult to discern the direction from which sound is coming. These factors increase the risk of collision, grounding and injury.

WHAT TO DO IN RESTRICTED VISIBILITY

Kessel advises that any prudent boater should delay getting underway when fog is present or forecast. However, if you’re caught in fog, you can take three immediate actions to stay safe:

- Reduce speed to be able to stop within half the visible distance.
- Ensure everyone on board is wearing a life jacket, preferably a high-visibility vest equipped with reflective tape, a whistle and an emergency position-indicating radio beacon (EPIRB).
- Make sure your running lights are on: You want to be seen.

Your lookouts should be vigilant, looking and listening for nearby vessels and buoys. Reducing your own engine noise momentarily can help. You and your crew should be familiar with the sound signals—horns and bells—used to warn others around you of your proximity, relative bearing, and whether you are underway or anchored. Periodically fix your position using your GPS or a chart, and use your compass to navigate in the right direction. Alternatively, stop until the fog lifts and do

all you can to ensure you are in a safe location—out of shipping channels—where other boat traffic is unlikely.

USING YOUR EQUIPMENT TO NAVIGATE

Marine electronics provide vital support:

- Your VHF marine radio helps you to monitor NOAA weather forecasts about changing fog conditions and communicate with other boaters.
- Radar helps you know about other vessels, objects and dangers around you; and radar reflectors make your vessel’s target image brighter and bigger on another boat’s radar monitor.
- AIS helps you and other AIS-enabled vessels transmit and receive data about vessel identity, location and closest points of approach. One of the advantages of AIS is that, unlike radar, AIS makes a full-size target image on the other boat’s monitor regardless of the size or type of boat transmitting the AIS data.
- Fish finders and sonar help you reconfirm your position against charted depths.

All contribute to vessel readiness, safe navigation and seamanship—provided you and your crew know how to use them.

CCSAPS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

MEETING

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024

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

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

SQUADRON HARBOR

TO REGISTER AND ORDER

OPTIONAL DINNER CATERED BY BIG 8 BBQ,

PLEASE PAY CASH AT DOOR \$10 EACH

CLICK ON THE FOLLOWING LINK

[HTTPS://CCSAPS.TICKETLEAP.COM/FEBRUARY-GENERAL-MEETINGLITE-BITES/](https://ccsaps.ticketleap.com/february-general-meetinglite-bites/)

LIGHT BBQ DINNER IS \$10/PERSON AT THE DOOR OR
SOFT DRINKS AND BEER PROVIDED OR BYOB

PLEASE ATTEND, QUORUM NEEDED

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 TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS AND SATURDAYS 9:00 a.m.- noon

www.ccsaps.org

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COMMANDER'S REPORT



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

After six: plus years living in Cape Coral my body has adapted. Anything below 70 degrees is freezing, but I'll survive. I still have all my winter stuff from up north. You'll see others in their winter gear in some of the photos from Coop Charting and the different boating groups. It's winter. I'm also one of those who drives by the Yacht Club beach and is amazed by the number of people and that people are actually in the water. It's

interesting how our perspective and bodies change.

Speaking of change we have some important elections coming up at the **February 8th General Membership Meeting**. We need to get a good turnout, as we will be voting on new officers and the budget. Our bylaws require a quorum of 10% of the membership to have an official meeting. We've got Big 8 BBQ set up for the pre-meeting lite bites, so please plan to attend. You can enter your preferences using the Ticketleap app.

We've also got the **Change of Watch** dinner and ceremony scheduled for February 23rd. The entertainment folks have put together a really nice dinner and all are invited to attend. The sign up and payment for this event is also through Ticketleap.

We've got a **New Member Orientation** set up for February 5th at the squadron. These sessions are focused on our newest members and cover some basics about our squadron, the district and national organization. It also contains a little history about our building and we talk about our various groups and activities. I've sent invitations out via email but if I've missed anyone feel free to stop by at 7:00 p.m. on the 5th.

Our next Executive Committee Meeting is on February 1st at 7:00 p.m. One topic that we'll be covering is building insurance. We were finally able to get a quote that didn't require flood insurance. (Ian didn't flood us, he just eliminated the roof. The rain did the rest.) The estimate for windstorm coverage, etc. is about \$20,000. This is quite the jump from our previous cost, but we are in the same situation as many of our members. Choices are limited and none of them are cheap. We're confident that we can cover this expense now that we are back to normal operations. Classes and rentals are filling up.

Our January ABC class was the largest we've seen in a few years. We had 52 students, and pretty well maxed out the room. It was a great group and our recent graduation ceremony went really well. We had five new families and one single person join the squadron. Our classes and the Farmer's Market are really positive influences on attracting new members. A couple events coming in February are **Wine & Knots** on the 9th and we are going to conduct a **CPR** class on the 21st. I attended the last CPR class and it was a great refresher. A few things have changed over the years and it's well worth a few hours to get up to date. I'm sure many folks are like me and don't really want to pump out their boat's head. My philosophy is women and children first and only in a real emergency. ☺ That being said, there's a good article from Barret Bonden on this subject in this month's Buoy. It's worth reading as many of the pump out stations are not in operation. This app could be very handy when the need arises.

Here's to a great kickoff to 2024 and hopefully a near normal year. We could use the boredom.

Cdr Scott Steele, S
commander@ccsaps.org

NEW MEMBER POTLUCK January 31, 2024





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

Eric Token

Assistant Admin Officer

Jeff Maddy, AP

Assistant SEO

Antal "Tony" Zsupan, P

Assistant Treasurer

Gary Farwick

Chaplain

Tessa Buechler, S

Building Manager

Terry Rosenstrauch

Assistant Building Manager

Larry Rich, SN

Rental Manager

Kathryn Ferrell

Assistant Rental Manager

Marge Maciag, SN

Executive Department

Vessel Safety Check Program

Craig Buechler, S

Tessa Buechler, S

Co-Op Charting

Denny Pearson, AP

Farmer's Market

Jim Humphrey

Joette Humphrey

CERT and SERAT Coordinator

Vacant

Media Relations

Jeff Maddy, AP

Ship's Store

Delores Buhner

Secretary's Department

BUOYS Editor

Marian Brenton, S

Tech/Dbase/Squadron Directory

Gerry Whisler, S

Webmaster

Nancy Maddy, S

Social Media

Joette Humphrey

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On the Water Training

David V. Eberle, S/N-CN/C

Administrative Department

Cruise & Rendezvous

Phillip Kryger

Entertainment Committee

Karen Collins

Dani Fergen

Fishing Group

John D'Esposito

Kayaking Group

Jeff Maddy

Membership Chair

Carolyn Token

Member Involvement

Jill Berger, S

Pantry Inventory Mgr

Karen Dipalmo

Weekday Boaters

Doug Brenton, S

Weekender Boaters

Scott Fergen

GRADES

S – Seaman (aka Boat Handling)

AP – Advanced Pilot

P-Pilot

JN – Junior Navigator

N – Navigator

SN – Senior Navigator

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

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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.

CCSAPS Entertainment Committee presents

America's Boating Club[®] Cape Coral
Cape Coral Sail and Power Squadron

Change of Watch

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2024 • 6:00 P.M.

America's Boating Club Cape Coral

Cocktails 6:00 p.m. • Dinner 6:30 p.m. • Program 7:30 p.m.

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS FEBRUARY 16, 2024

Food provided by Tuscany Italian Market

\$35 per person includes:

Chicken Parmesan Brussel sprouts & carrots
Beef & Mushrooms Eggplant Rollatini
Vegetable Lasagna Salad & Rolls
Penne Vodka Assorted Desserts

**Includes non-alcoholic beverages,
beer and wine or BYOB**

**RESERVE AND PAY
HERE**

[HTTPS://CCSAPS.TICKETLEAP.COM/POWER-SQUADRON-CHANGE-OF-WATCH-2024/](https://CCSAPS.TICKETLEAP.COM/POWER-SQUADRON-CHANGE-OF-WATCH-2024/)

Attire: Squadron or dressy casual • Reservation deadline: February 16, 2024



Report of the Nominating Committee

In accordance with section 6.8 of our Bylaws: "The Nominating Committee shall select a candidate for each elective office and for the chair and members of each elective committee provided for therein. It shall submit its' written report to the Secretary at least 40 days before the annual General Meeting."

This report was submitted to the Secretary on 28 December 2023. In accordance with section 9.3 of our Bylaws: "The Annual General Meeting shall be held on the second Thursday of February at Squadron Harbor at which time election of officers and members of the elective committees shall be held." Written notice of this election has been published in the January 2024 issue of "The Buoys".

For Watch Year March 2024 – February 2025

Bridge Officers / Assistants

Commander	Scott Steele, S
Executive Officer	John Swift
Education Officer	Neil Pignatano, SN
Administrative Officer	Jeff Maddy
Secretary	Leslie Corte-Real
Treasurer	Carl McGrath, P

Commander Aide	Carl McGrath, P
Asst. Ex Officer	vacant ***
Asst. SEO	Tony Zsupan, S
Asst. Admin	vacant ***
Asst. Secretary	Ed Estes
Asst. Treasurer	Gary Farwick

Executive Committee

Jerry Ferrell	(1)
Craig Buechler	(1)
Scott Fergen	(1)
Lee Corte-Real	(2)
Jim Humphrey	(2)
S. Curt Collins	(2)
Jill Berger	(2)
Joette Humphrey	(3)
Tom Dawson	(3)
Josh Wurtsbaugh	(3)

*** We continue to recruit members to help run our all volunteer organization. If you have time to spend and an interest in the future of our organization, contact the Chairman at treasurer@ccsaps.org.

These nominations will be brought up to the General Membership at the General Meeting on 9 February 2024. It is very important that all members attend this meeting so that the nominations can be approved. See Commander Report for notice of this meeting.

Audit Committee

Jim Mullaney
Deana Mullaney
vacant ***
vacant ***

Nominating Committee

Carl McGrath, P
vacant ***
vacant ***
vacant ***

Rules Committee

Gerry Whisler, S
Patrick Flash, SN
Herb Schneider, SN

Respectfully Submitted,

Carl McGrath, P Chair
Nominating Committee

SQUADRON EDUCATION OFFICER



Neil Pignatano |
Squadron Education Officer
ABC/ Cape Coral Sail
& Power Squadron

SEO's Notebook

The CCSAPS Education program is off to a rousing start for 2024. Thanks to all who've been helping get the word out about our curriculum. The recently completed ABC class netted 50 (that's right, five-zero) new graduates, the highest I've seen since I've been SEO! Congratulations to all! And the

March ABC is seeing robust registrations. And, the Boat Handling class is in full swing with Capts. Seaby and Betti at the helm. And, there's been a lot of sign-ups for the February Wine & Knots Seminar (marlinspike as a drinking game... sort of).

March also brings another Boat Handling class with our very experienced instructor Herb Schneider, and the Advanced Marine Navigation course, skippered by yours truly. Boat Handling is a great refresher for all the things you learned in ABC, in case you're a little rusty. Advanced Marine Navigation picks up where Marine Navigation left off, and introduces navigational techniques using ship-board electronics, such as sonar and radar. And you'll learn how wind and tides affects your vessel as you cruise (two very important considerations in our local boating environment). Both courses meet once a week for two hours for eight weeks, followed by an optional final exam.

And if your busy schedule does not allow for the time investment for a formal class, there are our two-hour seminar offerings. These are designed to provide an overview of various topics of interest to recreational mariners. Try the

Introduction to Charting and Navigation seminar to gain exposure to electronic navigation. Or, there's the Weather and Forecasting seminar which shows you how to predict the near-term weather by just looking at the clouds and feeling the wind. This way you'll know just how long you have to get to safe harbor before that summer squall line ruins your day! There is also a seminar specifically designed for those who are not Captains, but spend their cruising time in the role of First Mate. Our Partner in Command seminar provides tips, tricks, and techniques for First Mates should the unthinkable happen and the Captain is no longer able to run the vessel. Learn basic anchoring and docking techniques, first aid, how to call for help, and much more! As First Mate, you should be able to take over when necessary.

All classes and seminars for Winter/Spring 2024 are available for online registration. Scan the QR Code of your choice on the following pages and get taken directly to the registration portal. It's that easy!! The academic calendar is also posted on the CCSAPS website with links to the registration portal. On a final note, we are currently seeking volunteers to help teach the ABC class. All required training will be provided. Let me know if you are interested.

If you'd like further information or have questions, please contact me at education@ccsaps.org."

Until next time...

Neil Pignatano
Squadron Education Officer
education@ccsaps.org

**LINK TO SIGN UP FOR OUR
IN PERSON CLASSES:**
<https://americasboatingclub.org/index.php/learn/select-type-of-boating/power-boating/power-boating-courses>

WHAT IS ABC? ABC IS AMERICA'S BOATING COURSE. The course gives you the basics you need to get out on the water safely, and it meets most states boating education requirements. Our in-person boating course includes a comprehensive introduction to boating, covering boat types, boat engines, boat selection and more.

THE NEXT ABC CLASS BEGINS MARCH 4, 2024 (MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS) 7:00 - 9:00 P.M. FOR THREE WEEKS you have friends or neighbors who are interested in the ABC class, have them contact our Education Officer Neil Pignatano at ccsapsseo@gmail.com or call the Squadron office at (239) 549-9754 for more information. Please leave a message.

New ABC classes begin soon! The next three week classes begin 04 MAR and 06 MAY 2022.

You can also register online <https://www.ccsaps.org/abc-in-person-classes>

THANK YOU! 2024 MERIT MARK RECIPIENTS

Richard Apfel
Jill Berger
Ken Berger
Phil Botana
Doug Brenton
Marian Brenton
Craig Buechler
Tessa Buechler
Rick Clements
DeborahClements
Karen Collins
Curt Collins
Lee Corte-Real
Leslie Corte-Real
Ted Dawson
Tom Dawson
John D'Esposito
Walter Engel

John Farmer
Connie Farmer
Gary Farwick
Scott Fergen
Dani Fergen
Jerald Ferrell
Kathryn Ferrell
Will Foster
Jamie Halstead
Bill Harris
John Hessenbruch
Joette Humphrey
Jim Humphrey
Gary Lazo
Jeff Maddy
Nancy Maddy
Carl McGrath
Robert Meier

John Muiz
Peter Partillo
Dennis Pearson
Neil Pignatano
Karen Reeder
Larry Rich
Barb Riordan
Terry Rosenstrauch
Ellen Schneider
Zach SeEVERS
Scott Steele
John Swift
Wayne Szabo
Ron Tichy
Pam Tichy
Carolyn Token
Tony Zsupan

WHAT IS A MERIT MARK, AND WHY DO POWER SQUADRON MEMBERS RECEIVE THEM?

United States Power Squadrons

A "Merit Mark" (MM) is awarded by the "chief commander" to a member for substantial personal effort in furthering the interest, programs and objectives of USPS, its districts and squadrons. It is a coveted award; it is by and large the only official recognition members receive for their efforts.

Only one merit mark may be awarded in a year to a member, no matter how extensive the contribution. Five merit marks bring senior member status and 25 merit marks accord a member life membership, exempt from national dues. We are greatly indebted to our members for their service!

WINE & KNOTS PARTY/SEMINAR

WHEN: Friday, February 9, 2024
WHERE: Cape Coral Power Squadron,
Room 203
TIME: 7:00 pm
COST: \$10
DESCRIPTION: Learn four basic knots,
beginning with the bowline. Each knot will be paired with wine and an
appetizer. Join us for a fun evening with Captains Betti and Seaby!
Seating limited to 30



SIGN UP HERE:

<https://ccsaps.ticketleap.com/wine-and-knots-feb-9/>

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, visit the squadron office Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays 9:00 a.m. - noon, or email buechlercraig@yahoo.com to schedule your safety check today.

usps.org

SIGN UP FOR FREE CPR/AED TRAINING

Save a life! Cape Coral Power Squadron, in partnership with Cape Coral Fire Department, will present FREE life-saving CPR /AED training **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1:00-4:00 P.M.** ENROLLMENT IN THIS FREE CLASS IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. REGISTER ON THIS SITE.

[https://www.ticketleap.events/tickets/ccsaps/free-cpr-aed-training-for-club-community-](https://www.ticketleap.events/tickets/ccsaps/free-cpr-aed-training-for-club-community-members)



[members](https://www.ticketleap.events/tickets/ccsaps/free-cpr-aed-training-for-club-community-members)
Learn essential skills to respond confidently in emergencies. A Cape Coral Fire Department certified

instructor will guide you through hands-on practice and teach you how to correctly perform CPR and choking aid for both adults and infants.

Don't miss this FREE opportunity to prepare to make a difference and potentially save a life. RSVP now for our upcoming CPR training session at the Power Squadron. Enrollment is limited to 20, so hurry! Since space is limited, please sign up ONLY if you're sure you can make it. Thank you!

CCSAPS Boating Groups

CO-OP CHARTING



Co-op Charting group meets 7:00 p.m. the first Monday of the month at the Power Squadron



Despite the weather, our Cooperative Charting Group managed to accomplish a successful run. Thank you to all the people who participated! Photo by Tom DeMarzo

CO-OP CHARTING GROUP UPDATE

The Co-op Charting season has two more runs left to complete, Run D and Run I, for this post hurricane season of 2023/2024. Run E, crew pictured with Captain John Swift, went out January 15, 2024. This was our first run since Hurricane Ian to report zero discrepancies. This does not mean that all the ATONs, markers and

signs have all been repaired or replaced yet. Run D was rescheduled, and is planning to go out on January 30 with Jim Humphrey as the Captain. Our final run, Run I, is scheduled for February 1 with Doug Brenton as Captain. We currently have seven captains but would welcome one or two more. Training for various crew roles is being planned for March and April. Next meeting is Monday, February 12 at 7:00 p.m. at the Power Squadron.

KAYAKING IS BACK!

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2024
MANATEE PARK/ORANGE RIVER

After a lengthy hiatus, we are restarting the kayak group. We made it through the pandemic and the hurricane, and are ready to paddle! We always have a good time and welcome paddlers of all levels!



<p>Where? Manatee Park 10901 State Road 80 (Palm Beach Blvd.) Fort Myers, FL 33905</p> <p>When? Tuesday, February 20, 2024. Meet at the back of the Power Squadron building at 9:30 a.m. and we'll convoy to the park.</p>	<p>What to bring? Kayak (also available for rental at park), water, sunscreen, insect repellent, life jacket, and a sack lunch, if desired</p> <p>Need more info? Call Nancy Maddy 417-882- 2090</p>
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Manatee Park is a seasonal location for viewing non-captive Florida manatees in Lee County. Manatees visit the park in search of warm water during the cooler days in winter when the temperature in the Gulf of Mexico is below 68° F (20° C). The warm water in the Manatee Park canal comes from the Florida Power and Light Power Plant across the street and is created as a byproduct of cooling off their equipment.

Kayak rentals and gift shop provided by the Manatee Kayaking Company
<http://www.manateekayakingcompany.com/>
(239) 913-9993
Kayak, paddle and lifejacket rental \$26 for 2 hrs; \$35 for 3
VISIT THEIR WEBSITE TO MAKE RESERVATIONS

Parking fee is \$2 per hour or \$5 per day



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. Our January outing was cancelled due to incimate weather. For more information, or to get on their email list, please contact Scott Fergen at weekenderboating@gmail.com.

Doug Brenton leads the **Weekdayers**. This group goes out for lunch at a waterfront restaurant usually on Tuesdays or Thursdays. The next Weekdayers outing will be announced in February by email depending on weather. For more information, or to get on their mailing list, please contact dwbrenton@gmail.com.



On Friday, January 5, the **Weekdayers** cruised to Gramma Dot's on Sanibel Island with seven boats and 19 people. We were treated to a slightly chilly but sunny day that warmed up nicely so we could comfortably eat al fresco.



Weekenders - 31 club members in 7 boats went to Parrot Key at Ft. Myers Beach January 27, 2024

CRUISE AND RENDEZVOUS

From Phil Kryger:

Next cruise is to 'Tween Waters March 6,7, & 8 March, leave on the 9th

Power Squadron members may join events, which are announced in The Buoy's Newsletter. You do not need a boat to participate in many of these activities. Many C & R activities require advance registration and payment. Information is found in The Buoy's.



Each month, we also plan an overnight stay at one of the area resorts. Don't have a boat?.....You can rent a room at the same location and spend your time on the dock with us as we relax and have fun together. Contact Phil Kryger for more information ppkryger@gmail.com

FISHING GROUP

Fishing Group Hosts Geologist Turned Charter Captain Russ Walker

Russ Walker, a former petroleum geologist who became a fishing charter captain upon retirement, gave a spectacular clinic to the fishing group, which centered on how to use structure to catch more fish. Russ is a true Renaissance Man; a published author of a number of novels, an artist, and the inventor of the Hidden T, the "ultimate fighting butt rod building component." As a charter captain, Russ has also excelled. His record 4 hour charter caught 140 fish!!

He gave out great advice. For example, if you wish to target big sharks, a proven strategy is to go to Nash Point off Sanibel by the Pink Condos, in 15 to 17 feet of water. Drop two or more bottom fishing rigs loaded with mackerel chunks, and wait for sharks, tarpon, or even an 18 foot long sawfish. Use 150 pound mono leader with a big circle hook. Balloons can also be used to suspend your bait off the bottom or to indicate when your bait is being chewed on. An important safety hint here is to never pick up a shark by the tail as they have cartilage but no bones and can whip around and bite you if the head is unsecured.

When fishing in Inter-coastal waterways, the target fish - pompanos, sea trout, sheepshead, etc. are mostly migratory. The bait of choice for these fish is shrimp. Because sea grass cannot photosynthesize in waters deeper than 5.5 feet, the sweet spot for fishing these species is about 5 feet or so. These ambush predators like to come off the bottom and attack their prey from beneath, so dangling bait at this range is perfect. The target species also tend to patrol; the outskirts of the grass bed, so successful anglers will anchor in about 4.5 feet of water just outside the bed and cast into it.

Fish hunt by sight, smell and pressure from their lateral lines. Fish, and especially big fish, are lazy and love to have an easy meal..they are suckers for injured prey or something that mimics an injured prey. Around here, a killer is the popping cork, which does just that the noise it makes makes fish think there is a feeding frenzy going on, and brings them out looking for the shrimp under it. Red glass beads and reflectors also reinforce the fish's view that dinner is served!.

Some structure based fishing recommendations that Captain Russ shared:

1. The V of water going around channel markers causes bait fish to end up in spots where predators lurk. Additionally, the V tells you whether the tides are going in or out.
2. Where dredging is done, the spoils are dumped on the sides of the area that was dredged and grass forms over this area.. prime for fishing (for example around N. Captiva Island)
3. When there is a visible color change in the water, like at

Markers, 46,47, and 48, always throw to the lighter side: the grass is over the darker side. And just outside or near the edge is where your fish is.

Captain Russ gave a wonderful clinic which everybody got some great fishing hints from!

The fishing group meets at the Squadron building on the second Tuesday of the month. If you wish to receive notice of upcoming group meetings, please send your name and email address (phone number optional) to fishingccsaps@yahoo.com.

Entertainment Committee

EAGLES TRIBUTE SHOW CAPE CABARET

Club members were treated to an excellent show January 10 at Cape Cabaret when The Eagles Tribute Show performed. A good time was had by all!



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Christine Abrahams
 Ron K. Anderson
 Tom M. Anderson
 Karen M. Blair
 Courtney Blanchard
 Margie H. Borner
 Jeanette K. Brown
 Pamela Calander
 Edwin M. Cotton
 Thomas Dawson
 John W. Farmer

Frank D. Farr
 Maryanne Gherlone
 Alice M. Granlund
 Michelle Hinz
 Peter Hohmann
 Robert J. Knightly
 Nancy Maddy
 Kathleen P. Moskin
 Faith Osborn
 Daniel Pendergast
 Donna J Peterson

Andre M. Raymond
 James Reeder
 Kathy A. Smith
 Michael A. Smith
 Donna J. Summerour
 Ronald A. Tichy
 Eric T. Token
 Pamela Waters
 Charles H. Williamson
 Michael J. Woodward

Executive Committee Minutes January 4, 2024

- **Secretary:** Meeting had a quorum and minutes were approved.
- **Treasurer:** The search for building insurance continues. The proposed budget for 2024-2025 was reviewed and will be finalized at the general meeting February 8..
- **Education:** Very strong registrations for ABC with 51 registrants for the January class. The Advanced Marine Navigation class is postponed until March and the Weather course has been cancelled. All classes are listed on our website..
- **Executive Officer:** VSC's finished the year with 148 passing. Still hoping for additional people to become examiners. Co-Op charting will have 2 runs in January. The Farmer's Market has been cancelled due to holidays and inclement weather, but will be resuming soon. Volunteers are needed to help on Saturday mornings with this highly successful event.
- **Administrative Officer:** Membership is currently 430. The Weekenders are planning a Snug Harbor outing for 1/20. Cruise and Rendezvous had a successful 5 boat run to the Pink Shell. There will be a potluck for new ABC grads on 1/31 to be held at the Squadron.
- **Rental Program:** Hours for rentals will be revised to end at midnight with an 1 hour for clean up.
- **Commander:** Nominations for Bridge and Executive Committee positions have been posted in the Buoys and will be voted on at the February General Meeting. The Change of Watch celebration will be held at the Squadron on February 23, details to be determined.

[HTTPS://WWW.CCSAPS.ORG](https://www.ccsaps.org)

Our website features a live calendar, and now **new members** may now join and pay online! *To access password to the member directory, please contact our office.*



LIFE JACKET LOANER PROGRAM

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

SAFE BOATING TIPS FROM OUR ABC INSTRUCTORS

NEED TO FIND A PUMPOUT STATION? THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT!

By Barret Bonden

If you are a regular reader of The Nautical Mile, you probably saw the December article by Bob Moro, a member of the Ft. Myer's Power Squadron. Bob is a regular contributor to the magazine and always has something interesting to say.

In December Bob talked about how the impact of Ian lingers in ways that effects boaters. It seems that pumpout stations in Lee County have yet to be repaired. This can a real problem for boaters who need to drain their holding tanks. In looking for a working pumpout, Bob found that the City of Ft. Myers owns their own pumpout vessel to service the boats that use the mooring fields in and around the Matanzas Pass area.

It turns out that since the mooring fields have been damaged, the city's pumpout vessel has some free time on its hands and is willing to schedule pumpout service to vessels in the area. Their number is 239-usps.org

225-5096.

But wait there is more! In his January article Bob reports he has heard from Dave Fuller, Northeast Florida Clean Boating Coordinator for the Florida Sea Grant. The program is part of The Clean Marina Program and Clean Vessel Act and he manages the pumpout program in Florida. Back in May of 2023 Fuller's

organization partnered with Pumpout Nav a free application for both Android and iOS. The app provides information on the more than 250 publicly available pumpouts, portable toilet dump stations, and mobile pumpout vessels throughout the state. The app lists the hours, price, contact info and the exact location of the station and allows you to report non-functioning units.

This is but one example of how the excise taxes paid for fishing equipment, motorboat, and small engine fuels, and import duties, supports the Florida

boating community. My thanks to Bob Moro for continuing to share useful information with his readers. You can pick up a copy of The Nautical Mile at the Squadron office and other locations around town. The magazine is also online at:

<https://nauticalmilemagazine.com>

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.



Attention Boaters!
Florida is now on the Pumpout Nav App

Help keep our water clean and download the free Pumpout Nav app today!

- 1 DOWNLOAD THE APP
- 2 FIND A PUMPOUT
- 3 CREATE ACCOUNT

www.flseagrants.org/clean-vessels



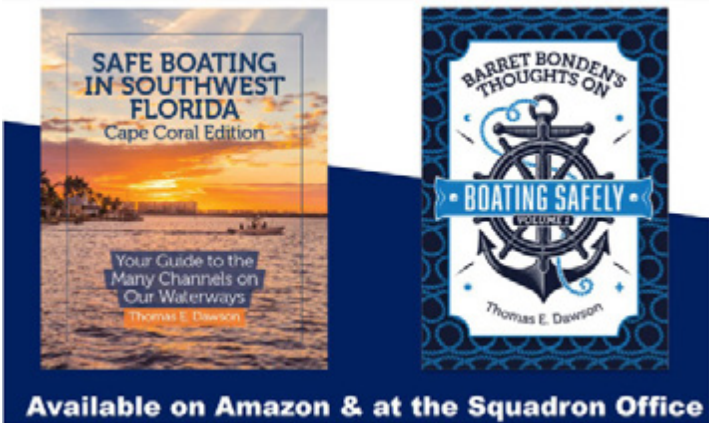
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AND ACTIVITIES HAVE RESUMED. CHECK OUT THESE LISTINGS AND GET INVOLVED!

IF YOU WISH TO RENT A ROOM AT THE SQUADRON BUILDING, PLEASE CONTACT THE RENTAL MANAGER, KATHRYN FERRELL AT RENTAL_MANAGER@CCSAPS.ORG

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

We need volunteers at the Farmer's Market on Saturday mornings. If you can do this, please contact Jim Humphrey at jimhumphreyiii@hotmail.com

We get many inquiries about membership, building rentals and boating classes from this booth and it is a fun, active, busy time.



SQUADRON HELP WANTED

CERTIFIED VESSEL EXAMINERS

- Complete short training course and exam
 - Examine vessels for safety and place VSC sticker
- Contact: Craig Buechler 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
- Rick Clements retiredrick@yahoo.com

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

- Join the committee, attend monthly meetings, assist with planning events.
 - Help in kitchen and hall, setting up for monthly dinner/social events. Have fun organizing our social events!
- Contact: Karen Collins: missmaui614@gmail.com

LIFEJACKET LOAN COORDINATOR

- Organize, manage and maintain the life jacket closet.
- Contact: Jill Berger: adminofficer@ccsaps.org

SHORT TERM INSTRUCTORS FOR MARINE TOPICS

- Teach seminars on topics such as: Trailering Your Boat, Paddle Smart, Tides and Currents
- Contact Neil Pignatano: education@ccsaps.org

For Boaters, By Boaters™



Looking Ahead

February 2024

Day	Date	Name	Time	Place
Thurs	1	Exec Comm Meeting	7:00 pm	Squadron Building
Sat	TBD	Weekenders dependent on weather	TBD	TBD
Tues or Thurs	TBD	Weekdayers dependent on weather	TBD	TBD
Tues	6	Cruise & Rendezvous	TBD	Burnt Store Marina - 3 nights SEE C&R REPORT
Thurs	8	Squadron General Meeting	7:00 pm	Squadron Building
Fri	9	Wine & Knots	5:00 pm	Squadron Building
Mon	12	Co-Op Charting	7:00	Squadron Building
Wed	21	CPR/AED	1:00	Squadron Building
Fri	23	Change of Watch	6:00	Squadron Building

March 2024

Thurs	7	Exec Comm Meeting	7:00 pm	Squadron Building
Mon	11	Co-Op Charting	7:00 pm	Squadron Building
Sat	TBD	Weekenders dependent on weather	TBD	TBD

Dates and events subject to change. Check our live calendar for up to date information [ccsaps.org](https://www.usps.org)
(C & R = Cruise & Rendezvous ABC= America's Boating Course)



Check out our Facebook page for latest news about club activities!

<https://www.facebook.com/CCSAPS/>

***THIS IS YOUR CLUB...
GET INVOLVED!***

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Welcome these new Power Squadron members:

Peter Welke
Kevin Mertz
Lynn Mertz
Phillip Dicken

Leslie Dicken
Jim Sander
Margaret Sander
Mark Meinert

Steve Hammer
Sean Fuller
Dan Schmitt

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®

Cape Coral Sail and Power Squadron



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AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®

Cape Coral Sail and Power Squadron



Course and Seminar Summary

Beginner, intermediate or advanced — whatever your skill level, our in-depth boating education courses will boost your knowledge and confidence on the water.

- **ABC - America's Boating Course** gives you the basics you need to get out on the water safely, and it meets the State of Florida boating education requirements.

- **Boat Handling Course** builds your competence and confidence on the water with an in-depth look at the practical boating skills covered in the ABC course.

- **Marine Navigation and Advanced Marine Navigation Courses** give you the skills you need to get where you're going using charts and marine electronics as well as a knowledge of winds, currents and tides.

- **Engine Maintenance and Marine Electronics Courses and Seminars** deal with common vessel issues faced by today's recreational boater. Learn proper operation and diagnostic techniques for critical systems.

- **Other Seminars** provide a 2 hour introductions to various boating topics, such as Marine Radio, Weather and Forecasting, Handling Emergencies, etc.

For complete course and seminar descriptions, scan the QR code or go to <https://americasboatingclub.org/index.php/learn>



HELP SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT ABC

CCSAPS relies on our members to help it grow and thrive. America's Boating Course (ABC3) had its largest class in years in January. Fifty-four students registered for the course! Life appears to be returning to normal after the lockdowns followed by the destruction of Hurricane Ian. Hopefully this is a sign of things to come.

The students were asked at the start of class how they heard about ABC3. By a show of hands, it was a tie between "word of mouth" and the "Farmer's Market." The work of members spreading the word about the course is the key to our success. The instructors are happy that Jim and Joette Humphrey have

taken the initiative to lead and coordinate the presence of CCSAPS at the Farmer's Market on Saturdays. Their work and the folks who have been helping them is paying off. The next ABC3 course starts March 4th and there are plenty of seats available. If you can spare some time on a Saturday morning, the Humphreys would appreciate it.



CONGRATS TO OUR NEWEST ABC GRADS!

NEXT CLASS BEGINS MARCH 4, 2024





NEW
America's Boating Club FREE Mobile App
 Your Single Boating Information Source for a Great Day on the Water

Nautical Reference Information, Maintenance Records, Float Plans, Weather Radar, Tides and Currents and much, much more

DOWNLOAD NOW!

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Go to smile.amazon.com

EXPLORE the USPS DISTRICT 22 WEBSITE

americasboatingclub-d22.org/

To protect member privacy, some of the pages are password protected. If you desire access, send an email to ccsapswebinfo@gmail.com

NEW FEATURES INCLUDE

- Ability to pay online for events
- Dynamic styling following USPS national marketing guidelines
- Access to District 22 directory
- Access to district documents, newsletters & office reports

ONLINE BOATING SEMINARS

While You Stay at Home, Learn at Home.

America's Boating Club makes it possible to be productive from the comfort of home. We offer a variety of online seminars you can take from the comfort of your home until it's safe to be on the water again.

Check out our catalog now! Remember: Members get a 25% discount. [http://americasboatingclub.org/lea.../online-boating-education](http://americasboatingclub.org/learn/online-boating-education)

THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP



As a USPS|America's Boating Club® member, enjoy **SIGNIFICANT SAVINGS** from many marine insurance companies that provide discounts to members, as well as numerous merchant discounts on other products and services. Examples include BoatUS, SeaTow, various hotels, Avis and Budget car rental, Office Depot and Office Max, and various boat insurance companies.

<https://www.usps.org/departments/14000/1450001>



Cape Coral Sail & Power Squadron, Inc.
917 SE 47th Terrace
Cape Coral, FL 33904

Happy,
Valentine's
Day