Force 12
AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®
For Boaters, By Boaters™
St. Petersburg
Safe, Fun, Boating Starts Here!

April 2021 Volume 78 Issue 4

AWARDS Presented at the March Meeting

Silver Trident Award

P/C Al Lima, AP

Teacher of the Year

P/C Al Lima, AP

Proud Awards

Lt John Tokarz, SN

Fran Lima, P

Lt Louis E. McBride, P

Squadron Information

Commander:
Cdr Constance H. Beckman, SN
Commander@boating-stpete.org

Executive Officer:
Lt/C Fredrick M. Hauck, S
XO @boating-stpete.org

Education Officer:
Lt/C Robert E. Cox, Jr, JN
SEO@boating-stpete.org

Administrative Officer:
Lt/C Gene Sicard, P
AdminOfficer@boating-stpete.org

Secretary
Lt/C Michele D. Kennedy, S
Secretary@boating-stpete.org

Treasurer
Lt/C Kathryn A. Considine, JN
Treasurer@boating-stpete.org

Past Commander: *
P/C Roger Erb, JN

Members- at- Large*
Lt Susan Tokarz, SN
Stf/C Louis E. McBride, P
Lt John Tokarz, SN

*See the Roster for contact information or e-mail force12@boating-stpete.org

Color copies of Force 12 can be found at:
http://boating-stpete.org/spsps/resources/

Schedule your 2021 inspection!

The decal indicates that your boat has the required safety equipment.

Feel free to contact any one of St Pete Squadron's dedicated inspectors directly:

Jeff Eckhart - jeffeckhart41@gmail.com
Jim Greenhalgh - tbskjim@gmail.com
Al Lima - bosbyshelllima@gmail.com
Bob Zewski - bobzewski@yahoo.com
or
Tom Krupa at tskru@outlook.com
or 727-422-1380

Contact Tom if interested in joining the 'team'!

Ship's Store

Show that you are a proud member of our Squadron by flying our burgee on your boat and wearing a squadron shirt.

You can bring your own shirt to have the logo embroidered.

We also have Squadron license plates!

Contact Tom Krupa at tskru@outlook.com to place your order or see Tom at general meetings.

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PHONE: (727) 347-7737 FAX: (727) 347-0179
jsmorse@injurylawus.com www.injurylawus.com
Personal Injury and Wrongful Death Cases

Awards

The following awards were presented at the March Meeting:

50 Year Member

P/D/C Paul C. Jaynes, SN (not present)

25 year Members

P/Lt/C Jacque D'Louhy, S (not present)

P/Stf/C Sandra Krupa, P

P/D/C Thomas Krupa, AP

P/R/C Nancy M. Reeder, SN (not present)

Lt John Tokarz, SN

Finley Award

P/R/C Ken Beckman, SN

Commander
Cdr Connie Beckman

We are lucky that there are many members in our organization with incredible talents. Some of these members teach, some work on computers, some write, and some find speakers and organize meetings. Over years of trial and error, these talents are learned and improved. Each of us grows in our own way and in our own time.

Sadly, there are many people who are incredibly talented yet make nothing of it. Others have never used their talents and spread their wings. Only those who are willing to use their gifts help an organization to grown and accomplish its mission.

When I joined SPSPS, a treasurer asked me to be in charge of fundraising. I had never raised a dime for an organization before. I took on the project and managed to raise money, meet new people, and enjoyed myself doing it.

Volunteering to use your talents helps the organization, its members and yourself. As Mark Twain said *"Sail away from safe harbor, catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore, dream, discover."* America's Boating Club, St Petersburg, allows members to do that.

Who knows what you can accomplish when you volunteer?

Try it, you might find it's addictive and *fun.*

Education Officer
Lt/C Robert Cox, Jr

I trust that you all have taken advantage of the improving boating weather. Thus far this past February and March, we have been blessed with warm weather and good winds for all the sailboats, only separated by a few days of cold temperatures.

The training for 2021 is well underway with better-than-expected attendance at our current ABC 2 course with 16 students; VHF/DCS Marine Radio Seminar with 14 students; and Marine Navigation Course with 6 students.

Please keep in mind that our courses are being taught at the St Petersburg Sailing Center, and we continue to comply with the COVID-19 protocols established by the City Council of St Petersburg in compliance with CDC guidelines. Remember masks should be worn anytime you are on property attending a class.

Please look at the schedule posted here and online, share the information with your friends and boating neighbors so we can educate the public in safe boating practices.

As a reminder, an excellent resource for boating information is provided at America's Boating Channel https://americasboatingchannel.com/. Also, download the ABC app for your phone. It is an excellent resource and free for all to use. USPS created this phone app with links to a number of resources and boating educational and safety resources now placed conveniently at your fingertips for ready reference. It is sure to enhance your safe boating experience. Check it out at Boating App from America's Boating Club https://americasboatingclub.org/app

Finally, we continue to look for new instructors or volunteers willing to help out as table proctors for some of our classes. If you are interested in working with the education department, please reach out to me soon so we can take advantage of your unique talents and love for boating in support of our local boating community. If you have a desire to volunteer to be an instructor, or assist in any way, please let me know by dropping me an email at SEO@boating-stpete.org

Remember safe boating and education are the hallmark to having fun on the water;
we are here to serve you and the local boating community.

Cheers, Bob Cox, SPSPS SEO - 813-566-2576 (**NEW cell**)

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

April Classes:

April 20 — Seminar —

Suddenly in Command

April 27 - Seminar -

Hurricane and Boats

AMERICA'S BOATING CHANNEL™

An excellent resource for boating information is provided at Americas Boating Channel

https://americasboatingchannel.com/

Check out the Boating app at

Boating App from America's Boating Club

https://americasboatingclub.org/app

Safety Article

By
P/D/C Bob Morris, AP

The United States Coast Guard offers a downloadable float plan at www.uscgboating.org/float plan. However, do not file it with them.

The idea is to fill it out and give it to a trusted friend. If you are running late or deviating from the plan, you should be able to contact him or her by cell phone or radio and let them know about the change of plans before they notify the Coast Guard or other boating safety organization.

Basically, your plan should consist of a description of your boat, its name and your name, registration information, number of persons aboard and their names as well as a list of communication devices and equipment on board.

When cruising out of the country, we found it helpful to check in to the appropriate SSB radio net for that area with at least your boat name, call sign and location. It was also good to communicate with fellow cruisers by VHF radio and share your intentions.

Wishing you all safe and fun boating.

A Walk on the Beach Saturday, May 15

Come enjoy a one hour walk / beach cleanup starting at 9am at the south end of Pass-A-Grille Beach. Gloves and bags are provided or bring your own.

To 'prepare', we meet at 8am to enjoy the amazing menu of Skyway Jacks on 34th Street for an early breakfast.

Contact Stf/C Louis McBride for more info at louismcbride219@outlook.com.

The beach cleanups are hosted by Sea Scout Ship Ballyhoo 912 every other month

Executive Officer Lt/C Fred Hauck

Hello squadron mates!

Here we are into April 2021, which I hope will be brighter and safer for all of us! National Safe Boating Week will be May 22 —28, which leads me into Vessel Safety Checks (VSC). The 2021 VSC season is in full swing. Tom Krupa reported that we have conducted 27 vessel safety checks so far. This is one of SPSPS's success stories. We are looking to expand our vessel examiner "fleet". So, if you are up for the challenge, please give Tom a call to start the process to become a VSC examiner.

One new safety-related item to pass to all boaters concerns new engine cut-off switch guidance from the Coast Guard*: "Boats under 26 feet manufactured after 2018 with a 3 hp or larger motor are required to have the engine cut-off switch installed by the manufacturer and users are required to use it beginning on April 1, 2021 when operating over displacement speed and without an enclosed cabin."*

Just to let you know, we have been making some great strides to expand America's Boating Club St Petersburg presence in the Tampa Bay boating community. Vanessa Goodrum (our website guru) has been working diligently reworking our website with new graphics. It will also allow folks the ability to pay for our courses and seminars online. Gene Sicard, our Administrative Officer and graphics extraordinaire, has revised our logo to include the Sunshine Skyway Bridge. Our course and seminar offerings have new flyers that are posted to our SPSPS Facebook page and emailed out; new ads are planned for the Gulfport Gabber and Florida Mariner, just to name a few!

Louis McBride headed up another beach clean-up with the Sea Scouts at Pass-a-Grille Beach on March 20. The next cleanup is planned for May. More to follow on this worthwhile event that helps our community and our environment; please volunteer if you can. Remember, we have the entire Florida coastline as our water playground! So, go out and have a great April 2021!

Treasurer
Lt/C Kathryn Considine

2020 Donations - $ 2,151.03

These donations help with the printing and distribution of the Force 12 and our electronic communications.

If you are making a donation, please remember to designate the use you prefer!

Secretary
Lt/C Michele Kennedy

Help Still Wanted

Minutes from the February 2021 were posted at the March 2021 General Meeting. There were no changes and the minutes approved.

I continue to make a plea to you for a volunteer to take over as Editor-in-Chief of the *Force 12* from P/D/Lt/C Sandy Krupa, P. Sandy's last issue will be the June 2021 issue. That means we need a replacement editor no later than April so that he/she may work with Sandy when she puts the June issue together in May – the sooner the better, however.

Please contact me
at michele.kennedy@verizon.net
and/or Sandy if you are willing to take on this task.

Roster Correction:

Gerrianne Russell email:
Geri@Crosskeysdesigns.com
Robert Russell email:
rbtcrussell@GMAIL.com. (not aol.com)
boat - its Roamin' Two, not Roamin Holiday
(our previous boat)

Is your info correct???

Please support the businesses who have their information in our newsletter

We hope you use the goods and services of the businesses listed throughout the newsletter.
When using the business, please thank them and let them know that you saw their card in the Force 12.

If you know of anyone who would like their card published,
please have them contact our Treasurer, Casey Considine.

2021 - Boating Events Calendar

Month	Date	Location	Coordinator
April	9-10	District 22 – Spring Conference, Punta Gorda Event Center	
	24	Hospice Cup Regatta (Limited Capacity) DIYC	Al Lima
May	15	Day Trip – Egmont Key	Fran Lima
	30	Memorial Day BBQ with Fred & Michele, Tampa	Fred Hauck/Michele Kennedy
June	6	Paddleboard/Kayak at Weedon Island	Els Wiemken
	11-13	Clearwater Yacht Club – Marina Stay	TBD Host Needed
July	16-18 or 23-25	Bradenton Yacht Club – Marina Stay with Saturday Dinner open to Iron Dingy	Bob Cox
August	20-21	Twin Dolphins - Marina Stay ($3.00/ft + tax & electric) Saturday BBQ open to Iron Dingy	Sue Tokarz
September	TBD	Mara Vista Lunch	Host Needed
	TBD	Meals on Wheels Regatta (Limited Capacity) – Climb aboard a sailboat/enter your own boat.	Al Lima
October	TBD	Fantasy Island – Tampa Bay	Host Needed
November	19-21	Manatee River Anchor out – Emerson Point Reserve Co-event with DIYC & Women Who Sail)	Fran Lima
December		No boating events scheduled due to Holiday Luncheon and Annual Meeting (December 7th)	
January	22	Luncheon/Boating Event Planning - Billy's Stone Crab	Host Needed
February	4th	Change of Watch (COW)	

Host Needed for A Boating Event

It really is easy - here's what you do as Host:

YOU get to plan the event - date, time, place, activities.
Write up a small 'schedule' to publicize it.
Work with marina or location to finalize reservation.
Write up a small 'schedule' to publicize it. Keep a list of participants.
Help attendees dock, lead activities, find someone to take some pics for F12 and write little article showing members who didn't attend the good time enjoyed at event!

Contact Sue Tokarz (sitokarz@aol.com) or Fred Hauck for info or to volunteer.

April Dinner Meeting

Italian Night

Tuesday

April 13

Isla Del Sol Yacht & Country Club
6000 Sun Boulevard
St Petersburg

Social - 5:45
Dinner Served - 6:15

Dinner Menu:

Chicken Parmesan over pasta with vegetable medley
or
Eggplant Parmesan over pasta with vegetable medley

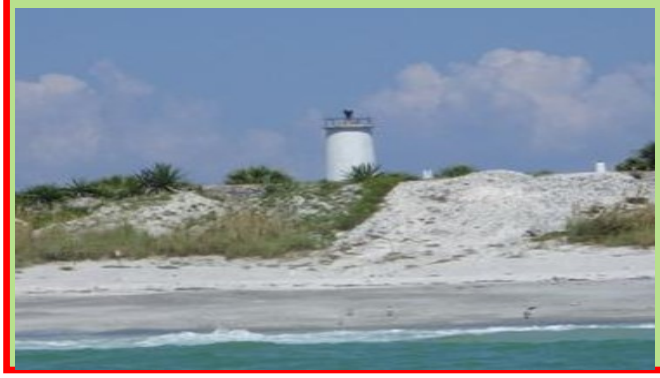
Classic Caesar Salad
Italian Breadsticks

Fred's Ice Cream Stand

$28.00 or $27.00 if paid with cash or check

Email your reservation with choice of entree to reservations@boating-stpete.org

Presentation by Fran Lima on Egmont Key Boating Event
To be held May 15



Administrative Officer
Lt/C Gene Sicard

Our first themed dinner gathering prior to the March meeting held March 9 at Isla Del Sol Yacht Club and Country Club seemed to have gone well. I hope everyone enjoyed their St Paddy's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage. We will be doing more themed dinners throughout this year. It was decided to have an Italian night at our April meeting on April 13th and a Cinco de Mayo Mexican dinner for May … should be fun, hope all will attend! If you have any special needs or dietary restrictions, please contact me as Isa del Sol Yacht is happy to accommodate.

Don't forget to mark your calendars and make your reservations now for the District 22 Spring Conference Change of Watch at the Punta Gorda Event Center. Our very own Al Lima will be installed as Administrative Officer and Casey Considine as Treasurer. Congrats to Al and Casey, and "Good Luck"!

Boating events for March included a luncheon at Billy's Stone Crab on Saturday March 13th and a Gulfport raft-up on March 27th.

Our April 24th boating event will be the Hospice Regatta hosted by Fran and Al Lima. Space is limited, contact the Lima's now.

We need help in booking speakers for our monthly meetings. If anyone has suggestions, please forward your suggestions to me at genesicard@gmail.com.

Lunch Bunch

Thursday, April 1st

Portofino's Italian Restaurant

5035 34th Street S, St Petersburg
(Publix Shopping Center)

Join us for camaraderie

Please let P/C Marilyn Van Goey know that you plan to attend in order to allow the restaurant to make CDC arrangements

mvangoey@tampabay.rr.com
Or 727-501-5345

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

P/D/C Thomas Krupa

April – 4th - Easter Sunday
9th and 10th — D 22 Conference
22nd - Earth Day

"Refract" to bend – the sunlight refracted through the prisim in the window, splashing tiny rainbows on the walls – smile - it's springtime. . .

Cops caught a fugitive who passed gas and gave his location away.

Marriage counselor – your wife says you never buy her flowers: Me - I never knew she sold flowers.

Alcohol may not solve your problems – but neither will milk or water.

Remember when you could refer to your knees as right or left instead of good and bad.

If you violate the "stay six feet away and mask order" you can be arrested and go to jail only to be let out so you don't get the virus.

Don't talk about your troubles: 80% who hear don't care and 20% are happy you are having them.

Modern man drives a financed car over a bond-financed highway on credit card gas.

A journey of a thousand miles begins with running back into the house for something you forgot.

"Crows feet" around the eyes are helpful – you can tell if someone is smiling behind the mask.

Hardware store special – "batteries free of charge".

Speaking of free – hope you get your vaccine shot "ASAP"

Chaplain's Corner

P/D/C Thomas Krupa

The footsteps of the wind –
how it flows far and wide,
sometimes quiet and relaxing and then
strong and boisterous.

We can watch it blow across city streets,
across the water ways,
and over the fields of grass;
ruffling sails and palm branches too.

Cold and rough in the winter –
gentle and comforting in the summer.

We never see this wind,
yet we listen and hear its footsteps.
Let the wind be your guiding light –
like a beacon to guide your way.

Let it take your troubles and burdens away
and be with you at the helm,
guide your ship safely to
the shore of peace,
friendship and kindness.

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Calendar of Events

April	Time	Event	Location	Contact
April 1	11:30am	Lunch Bunch	Portofino's, 34th Street	P/C Marilyn Van Goey
April 4		Happy Easter		
April 7	6:30pm	EXCOM Meeting	TBD	Cdr Connie Beckman
April 9 & 10		District 22 Conference	Event Center, Punta Gorda	
April 13	5:45pm	Monthly Dinner / Meeting	Isla Del Sol Yacht Club	Lt/C Gene Sicard
April 20	7:00pm	Suddenly In Command Seminar	Sail Center	Lt/C Bob Cox
April 24		Hospice Regatta	Davis Island Yacht Club	P/C Al Lima
April 27	7:00pm	Hurricane and Boats Seminar	Sail Center	Lt/C Bob Cox

May	Time	Event	Location	Contact
May 5	6:30pm	EXCOM Meeting	TBD	Cdr Connie Beckman
May 6	11:30am	Lunch Bunch	Portofino's, 34th Street	P/C Marilyn Van Goey
May 9		Happy Mother's Day		
May 11	5:45pm	Monthly Dinner / Meeting	Isla Del Sol Yacht Club	Lt/C Gene Sicard
May 15	9:00am	Beach Clean-up	Pass-A-Grille Beach	Stf/C Louis McBride
May 15		Day Trip to Egmont Key		Lt Fran Lima
May 30		Memorial Day BBQ	Home of Lt/C Fred Hauck	& Lt/C Michelle Kennedy

MEMORIAL DAY

April Birthday Greetings to:

2 – Nancy Reeder	*4 – Katie Rodgers*	*4 – Happy Easter*	*7 – Joy Wissing*
10 – Don Rife	*11 – Thomas Royer*	*15 – Joe Kane*	*16 – Michelle Siviter*
22 – Jack Flick	*22 – Earth Day*	*23 – Jeff Boehler*	*26 – Michelle Kennedy*
27 – Gail Miller	*29 – Sue Tokarz*	*30 – Nancy Anello*	*30 – Arbor Day*

You are invited to join a special group event for members of

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

FEB 2022 EASTERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE

7 days: February 27 – March 6, 2022

Roundtrip from Fort Lauderdale on the BRAND NEW **ROTTERDAM**

Itinerary: Grand Turk, San Juan, St Thomas, Half Moon Cay

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GROUP PRICING FROM $799pp

Inside stateroom from $799pp

Outside from $1069pp

Verandah from $1299pp

Suites from $1799pp

Price does not include $175 pp taxes & port fees. Travel protection & transfers are additional.

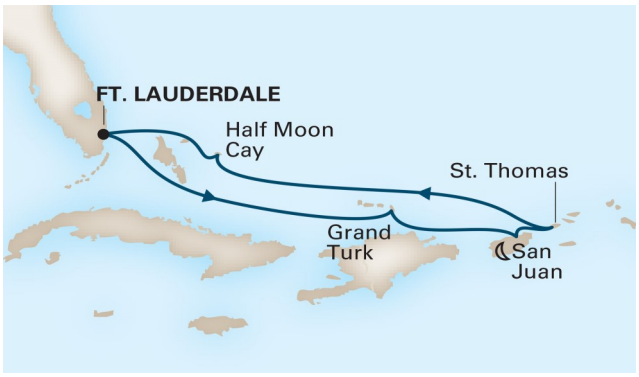
Don't miss sailing on Holland America Line's newest Pinnacle Class ship!

Feel free to invite your friends, family and neighbors to join us.

Everyone must book through Dawn Eckhart in order to be included in our group and receive the exclusive group benefits. USPS will receive remuneration from proceeds of this group event.

Email dawnstraveldeals@gmail.com or call

(727) 403-0406 to join our group on this new, exciting cruise!



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Force 12

Color copies and previous Force 12 issues can be found on our website www.boating-stpete.org — 'resources'

Distribution either by email or hard copy, please let us know which you prefer at tskru@outlook.com

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