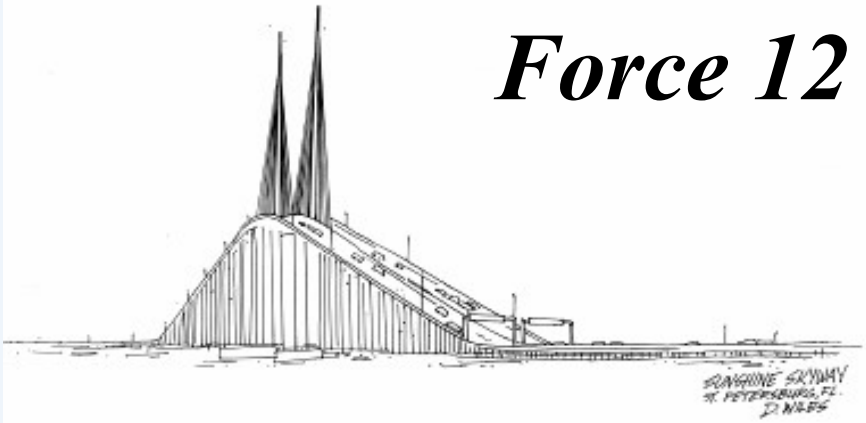
St. Petersburg Sail and Power Squadron



Force 12

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®
For Boaters, By Boaters™

January 2021 *Volume 78* *Issue 1*

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®
For Boaters, By Boaters™
St. Petersburg

Our 81st Annual
CHANGE OF WATCH

Help Welcome Our New Bridge For 2021
Saturday January 30, 2021

Isla Del Sol Yacht & Country Club
6000 Sun Boulevard
St Petersburg, FL 33715

JOIN US!

Cocktails 6:00
Dinner 6:45

Menu Choices:

Surf & Turf - 6oz Beef Tenderloin in Cabernet Syrup with Lemon Pepper Prawns $45
Grouper - Topped with Lobster, Shrimp and Mandarin Orange Hollandaise $40
House Salad Rolls & Butter Chef's Seasonal Vegatables Dessert Iced Tea & Coffee

Safe, Fun, Boating Starts Here! www.boating-stpete.org

Squadron Information

Commander:
Cdr Roger L. Erb, JN
Commander@boating-stpete.org

Executive Officer:
open
XO @boating-stpete.org

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

Administrative Officer:
Lt/C Fredrick M. Hauck, S
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 Jack Albrecht, AP

Members- at- Large*
Lt Susan Tokarz, SN
Lt Dawn M. Eckhart, AP
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 decals should arrive shortly…..

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:

Tom Chamberlain - naclhoh@verizon.net
Jeff Eckhart - jeffeckhart41@gmail.com
Jim Greenhalgh - tbskjim@gmail.com
Dennis Jones - dr.d@dennismerrittjones.com
Al Lima - bosbyshelllima@gmail.com
Bob Zewski - bobzewski@yahoo.com

or
Tom Krupa at tskru@outlook.com
or 727-422-1380

From our newest inspector, Jim Greenhalgh:
"This is a good program. I am slowly turning my examinations into a little one-on-one educational program and it seems to be well received. I didn't realize the VSC program was such an educational opportunity or I would have gotten involved much earlier."

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.

Florida West Coast Yachts
Sail & Power
Al Lima
Licensed and Bonded Professional
C - (813) 230-5751
O - (727) 323-5300
al@floridawestcoastyachts.com
P.O. Box 755
St. Petersburg FL 33731
floridawestcoastyachts.com

JSM
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We speak for the injured. We speak for their families.
J. Stanford Morse
Attorney at Law
3131 66th Street North Suite #2 St. Petersburg, FL 33710
PHONE: (727) 347-7737 FAX: (727) 347-0179
jsmorse@injurylawus.com www.injurylawus.com
Personal Injury and Wrongful Death Cases

Thank You!!

The following members received a Merit Mark for services provided to our Squadron during 2020

A special "well done" to Susan Tokarz and Marilyn Van Goey who received Life Membership on receiving their 25th Merit Marks.

John R. Albrecht
Linda S. Albrecht
George Baulig
Constance H. Beckman
Kenneth N. Beckman
JoAnn Chamberlain
R.T. Chamberlain
Kathryn A. Considine
Robert E. Cox Jr.
Jacque D'Louhy
Glenn T. Dobos
Dawn M. Eckhart
Jeff Eckhart
Evelyn D. Eibach
Charles M. Ellins
Roger L. Erb
Sharlet K. Fillingham
Vanessa M. Goodrum
James B. Greenhalgh
Fredrick M. Hauck
Cory Jeanne Houck-Cox
Michele D. Kennedy
Sandra S. Krupa
Thomas F. Krupa
Karen E. Lieberman
Al Lima
Frances Lima
Lewis McBride
Michael J. McBride
Rebecca McBride
Shelia J. Moore
Norma Morris
Robert Morris
Robert W. Potter
Dennis M. Reynard
Howard Rothstein
Sicard, Terry
John Tokarz
Susan Tokarz
Marilyn P. Van Goey
Elizabeth J. Wiemken

A merit mark is the only pay a member receives for the contributions made to USPS. Of all the awards conveyed by the organization, the merit mark is the most prestigious. It may be only a small gold bar to adorn our uniform but its significance is greatly coveted. Indeed, five merit marks bring senior member status and 25 merit marks accord a member life membership, exempt from national dues.

The concept of merit marks was conceived by Chief Commander A. B. Bennett, who presented the first awards in 1920. His vision has proved to be one of the most revered customs of USPS.

Congratulations to all!

Commander
Cdr Roger Erb, JN

We are looking forward to the New Year with the beginning of delivery of COVID-19 vaccines. Hopefully, we will get some relief and be able to return to a more normal level of activity.

The annual meeting was somewhat different because of the restrictions related to the pandemic. Boca Ciega Yacht Club was closed so it was necessary to relocate the meeting to Billy's. We want to thank **Fred Hauck**, our AO, for arranging the meeting under trying circumstances. The primary items on the agenda were the election of the 2021 officers and passing of our financial budgets.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the following members of the Commanders Department for their service:

Flag Lieutenant, **Bob Potter** and Aid, **Ken Beckman** were always available to offer advice and support.

Tom Krupa once again served the squadron as Chaplain always providing interesting remarks.

Stan Morse, Law Officer, kept us focused on the job at hand.

Sue Tokarz, Merit Mark coordinator, did an outstanding job preparing the merit mark portfolio for submission to the Chief Commander.

IT and Roster Chair, **Casey Considine** coordinated the efforts of **Evie Eibach**, Data Entry and Roster and **Vanessa Goodrum**, Web Master.

Thanks also to **Connie Beckman**, Training and **Louis McBride**, Sea Scout Liaison

Once again thanks to all.

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

AMERICA'S BOATING CHANNEL™

https://americasboatingchannel.com/

Education Officer
Lt/C Robert Cox, Jr, JN

Well, we made it through 2020 and it is truly something to look back on with 2020 vision. I am prayerful that all of you are doing well and all are enjoying the good winter weather on the bay to go boating, sailing and fishing.

Before I go too far, let me first thank each member of the 2020 Educational Team for their dedicated and hard work during an extremely difficult time as we had to cancel or shift classes and figure out how to teach in a COVID environment.

A Big Thank You to **Connie Beckman**, ASEO and congratulations to her as she moves up to become our 2021 Commander. A special thanks to **Jeff Eckhart** who continues to go above and beyond with his dedication and support to the ABC Boating Safety Course. To **Mike and Louis McBride and John and Sue Tokarz** who have stepped forward to assist with administration of both our Advance and Elective Courses. Also, a special thanks to the individual instructors; **Al Lima, Tom Krupa, Doug Townes, Jack Albrecht, Ken Beckman, George Baulig and Jesse Marsano** for their dedication and perseverance to our course schedule this past year. BRAVO ZULU to all.

Many thanks go to the **St. Pete Sailing Center** for their quick work with the city to get the Center back open for classes and helping to keep everyone safe and in compliance with the requirements set by the city/county/state governments.

Now, as we look forward to the New Year and our Education Program, we have high hopes that things will be returning to a more normal state and our class schedule reflects this optimism. The 2021 schedule has been posted to the Squadron website and is linked to National HQ for registration. Please take a look at the schedule, share with you friends and boating neighbors so we can educate the public to safe boating practices. See the upcoming schedule on page 7.

We are looking for a few volunteers to help in the education department. We have lost several instructors and staff during the past year. If you are interested in helping, please reach out to me soon so we can take advantage or your unique talents and love for boating in support of our local boating community. Please consider sharing your boating knowledge by becoming an instructor. If you have a desire to 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.

Safety Article
By
P/D/C Bob Morris, AP

Having read about a recent tragic fatality involving a PWC caused me to realize just how little I truly understood about safely operating this type of watercraft. Not sure where to start, I went to the National Safe Boating Council's web page and found, after some searching, a few videos full of information on this subject.

Here is a sample of what I found:

Most importantly, Wave Runners, Jet Skis, and Sea-Doos are all a type of PWC's and the key to it all is explained as it is a "WC"— they are watercraft and have rules that must be followed.

First, a proper fitting USCG approved life jacket is required to be worn at all times and, having a whistle attached is a good idea. A helmet is also recommended. Each state has different safety equipment requirements; however, a fire extinguisher is a must. There are usually no lights on these vessels so their operation is limited to daylight hours only. You must be at least 16 years old to operate one of these and at that age, a safety course generated license is required. All persons aboard must be able to sit down and place both feet on the deck.

A stop engine lanyard must be attached to the operator's life jacket and the normal rules of the road must be followed.

Absolutely no drugs or alcohol is allowed. This type of watercraft has been involved in a higher percentage of accidents than any other so have fun , but be very careful. There is much more information available on the National Safe Boating Council's web page and is very helpful if you or your friends decide to ride one of these.

Stay safe and have fun!

Treasurer
Lt/C Kathryn Considine, JN

2020 Donations - $ 2,151.03

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

They were received

1) from members as memorials for our members who have passed (unless earmarked for the education fund)
2) made by bridge members in lieu of reimbursement for expenses
3) from 50/50 raffle at General Meetings
4) from general donations made to the squadron
5) from our End-of-Year Giving Program
6) for Special Fund Raisers

We especially want to thank our Life Members (members with 25 merit marks) who generously made donations to support SPSPS even though they are exempt from annual dues.

Lunch Bunch
Thursday, 7 January
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

Creative Person Wanted

To take over as Editor of the Force 12 beginning with the September 2021 edition

Training to begin in March 2021

Contact Sandy Krupa or Michele Kennedy to apply

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.

Cash Out

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Angie Deal

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POSEIDON DIVING

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727-295-7550

12141 117th ST N
LARGO, FLORIDA 33778

JOSHUA.HILLIARD9@GMAIL.COM

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

OUR VISION:

"Making *safe* boating *fun* for everyone!"

OUR MISSION:

As a nonprofit organization America's Boating Club, St. Petersburg, makes safe boating fun by offering scores of informative and affordable boating education classes suitable for every level of boater.

Our goal is to make the water a safer place for all boaters. Through numerous, regularly scheduled events, we encourage social engagement with other members-- on and off the water-- wherein having fun with friends is "the order of the day."

We believe we have a responsibility to serve our civic community in measurable ways through our sponsored programs that makes St. Petersburg the boater's paradise it is for all its citizens.

FYS

ROBERT SIVITER
OWNER
FILLINGHAM YACHT SALES
CELL: 727-415-4676
OFFICE: 727-460-5687
ROBERTSIVITER@FILLINGHAMYACHTS.COM
105 15TH AVE. SE
ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33701
WWW.FILLINGHAMYACHTS.COM
LICENSED AND BONDED

Administrative Officer
Lt/C Fred Hauck, S

We had a great turnout for our December Annual Meeting at Billy's Stone Crab Waterfront Restaurant! During this meeting we voted on our 2021 budget and the nominations for the 2021 Bridge.

As I will be moving up to the squadron's Executive Officer's position in 2021, this is my last Force 12 article as Administrative Officer (AO). Gene Sicard has graciously taken the challenge and has been elected as next year's Administrative Officer!

With that in mind, I will add that being the AO is not a committee of one and that we could not have been successful without the club members who championed our social and boating events during the year.

So, I need to give a special thanks to the following folks: **Al and Fran Lima, Terry and Gene Sicard, Sue and John Tokarz, Els Wiemken, Connie Beckman, Dawn Eckhart, Marilyn Van Goey, and Norma Morris**. I know I am missing a few and I do apologize! Without these folks we couldn't have done as much as we did considering the ongoing pandemic!

Looking at 2021, there will be no January monthly meeting due to the Change of Watch being held on 30 January. In February 2021, the monthly meeting/dinner will be held at Billy's Stone Crab as Isla del Sol has a conflict with the date.

As always, we are hoping for a great turnout for all these events!

Calendar of Events

January	Time	Event	Location	Contact
6 January	1830	EXCOM Meeting	St Pete Yacht Club	Cdr Roger Erb
7 January	1130	Lunch Bunch	Portofino's, 34th Street	P/C Marilyn Van Goey
19 January	1900	Use a Chart Seminar	Sail Center	Lt/C Bob Cox
23 January	1000	D 22 Virtual Conference	via Zoom	Cdr Roger Erb
25 January	1900	ABC Course	Sail Center	:Lt/C Bob Cox
28 January	1900	Marine Navigation	Sail Center	Lt/C Bob Cox
30 January	1800	Change of Watch	Isla Del Sol Yacht Club	Cdr Roger Erb

February	Time	Event	Location	Contact
3 February	1830	EXCOM Meeting	St Pete Yacht Club	Cdr Connie Beckman
4 February	1130	Lunch Bunch	Portofino's, 34th Street	P/C Marilyn Van Goey
9 February	1545	General Meeting	Billy's Stone Crab, Tierra Verde	Cdr Connie Beckman
14 February	❤ Happy Valentines Day ❤			
14 — 21 February		USPS Annual Meeting	Ponte Vedra, FL	Cdr Connie Beckman
16 February	1900	Using Radio Seminar	Sail Center	Lt/C Bob Cox
17 February	1900	Cruise Planning	Sail Center	Lt/C Bob Cox

January Birthday Greetings to:

1 — Charles Grose, Jack Howard, Lanya Massman, Robert Poplstein, Dennis Reynard, Mark Riordan and Michael Walsh

3 — Janet Hurwitz 7— Bob Kropp and Sandy Krupa 8 — Stanley Marianski

9 — Robert Thursby 20 — Jack Albrecht 21 — Glenn Chaney 22 — Al Lima

22 — Eileen Zewski 27 — Shawn Fernald 31 — Tony Cambria and Nancy Weston

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

P/D/C Thomas Krupa, AP

It is with mask in hand that I greet you this "New Year" (for now).

In the year 2020 errands were considered going out.

To recover from this mess remember there is no elevator to success – you have to take the stairs and wait your turn (patience).

For sure – it is not working from home but living at work.

It's tiring being part of a major historical event.

Growing up I wanted to be older; this "19" stuff is not what I expected.

Love is always needed – but – a little chococate doesn't hurt.

Remember – Dove chocolate tastes so much better than their soap.

Toasters should have a window so you can see how toasted the bread is.

They finally caught the great produce bandit – he stopped to take a leek.

Sweden's famous "ice hotel" has a smoke detector.

We are having more hurricanes because of all the new traffic circles: drivers go round and round in circles causing atmospheric disturbances.

We can all agree that in 2016 not a single person got the answer correct to:
Where do you see yourself five years from now?

Chaplain's Corner

P/D/C Thomas Krupa, AP

A New Year – some thoughts:

Prayer doesn't just happen when we kneel or put our hands together and focus and expect things from God.

Thinking positive and wishing good for others is a prayer.

When you hug a friend, that's a prayer.

When we send off our near and dear ones and say "drive safely" or "be safe", that's a prayer.

Helping someone in need by giving your time or energy, you are praying.

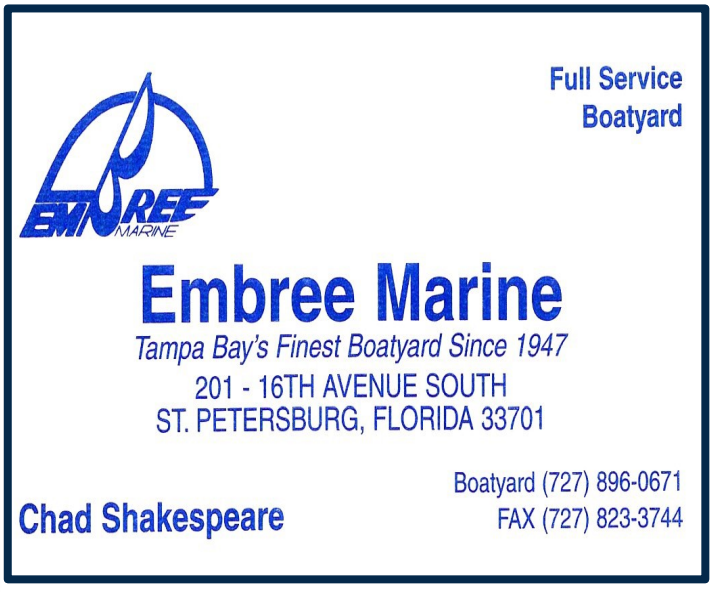
When you forgive someone with your heart, that is prayer.

Prayer is a vibration, a feeling for someone and a kind thought.

Prayer is the voice of love, friendship and genuine kindness.

Prayer is the expression of you – don't stop; pray for health.

Amen



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2021 Winter Conference

Due to Covid issues, the 'in-person' Meeting scheduled for
Tuesday, 5 January 2021
has been switched to a

Virtual Conference

Schedule:

Council member electronic voting 11-12 January 2021
District member electronic voting 13-14 January 2021
(elected/appointed delegates will receive detailed information via email)

Virtual Conference Meeting
Saturday, 23 January 10:00am – 12:00pm

(watch for zoom instructions in January, prior to the meeting)

Important Matters to be covered:

Officer Reports

Committee Reports
Conference - Rules - Planning - Audit - Budget
Presentation of Awards
D22 Website Update, with intro to Manatee site

Looking forward to gathering with our fellow members
9 and 10 April
at 2021 Spring Conference with Change of Watch!

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

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

FEB 2022 EASTERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE

7 days: 27 Feb – 6 Mar 2022

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

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

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EXCLUSIVE GROUP RATES
OR THE CURRENT HOLLAND AMERICA PROMOTION**
***Promotions determined by Holland America and subject to promotion ending dates**

GROUP PRICING FROM $819pp
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Verandah from $1299pp
Suites from $1799pp

Price does not include $140 pp taxes & port fees. Travel protection & transfers are additional.

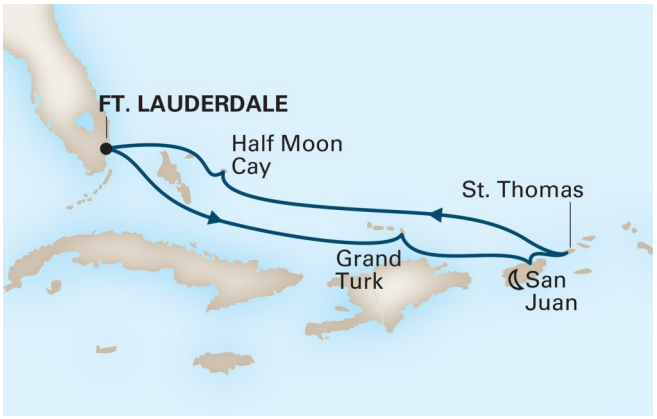
Don't miss sailing on Holland America Line's newest Pinnacle Class ship!

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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Our 81st Annual

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Dinner 6:45

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Grouper - Topped with Lobster, Shrimp and Mandarin Orange Hollandaise $40

House Salad Rolls & Butter Chef's Seasonal Vegatables Dessert Iced Tea & Coffee

Make Checks Payable to: SPSPS

Send to: Sandy Krupa, 500 Belcher Rd. S, # 186 Largo, FL 33771 - tskru@outlook.com

Please send reservations by January 15th!

Name, rank & grade: _____ Meal _____

Name, rank & grade: _____ Meal _____

Squadron: _____ Phone _____ IDSY&CC Member? _____

Safe, Fun, Boating Starts Here!

www.boating-stpete.org

Force 12 is a publication of the
St Petersburg Sail and Power Squadron
PO Box 13542
St. Petersburg, FL 33733-3542

USPS DISTRICT 22 HAS A NEW WEBSITE

https://www.americasboatingclub-d22.org

Features include

- Privacy/Member Only area:
  - Access to District Directory - Documents, Newsletters - Officer Reports
- Username/Password to Member Only can be secured by contacting your squadron commander
- Calendar has events for National and District 22 events
- Ability to Register and Pay on-line for District events

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—Editor: Sandy Krupa

Assistance to this edition: JoAnn Chamberlain, Tom Chamberlain, Jacque D'Louhy and Dawn Eckhart