Force 12

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

Safe, Fun, Boating Starts Here!

November 2021 *Volume 78* *Issue 9*

Squadron Information

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

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Education Officer:
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Administrative Officer:
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Secretary:
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Secretary@boating-stpete.org

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

Past Commander: *
P/C Al Lima, AP

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

* See the Roster for contact information or email: force 12@boating-stpete.org

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District 22 Fall Conference

The D22 Fall Conference was conducted October 8-9 at the Charlotte Harbor Event & Convention Center. Members D/Lt/C Casey Considine, JN, and D/Lt/C Al Lima, AP, serve on the District Council, Treasurer and Admin Officer, respectively. Representing the SPSPS was Lt/C Fred Hauck, P who acted on behalf of Cdr Connie Beckman, SN, as well as our ten delegates: Lt/C Bob Cox, JN, Cory-Jeanne Houck-Cox, Lt Dawn Eckhart, AP, Lt/C Michele Kennedy, S, Fran Lima, P, Stf/C Louis McBride, P, P/C Carol Segundo, JN, Lt John Tokarz, SN, and Lt Sue Tokarz, SN. Also in attendance was associate member P/C Douglas Townes, SN. While our squadron may not have won any awards, congratulations go to Douglas for winning a door prize and CJ Cox for being one of the 50/50 recipients.

A few take-aways from the Conference follow:

- National Budget - It is on track; a big savings has been the use of virtual meetings/conferences
- USPS Logo - Suggested for use in newsletters
- Regionalization - The thought process here is to focus more on our local clubs/ members and not on the districts; Florida would be its own region. Bylaw changes would be required for this to occur.
- Membership - Membership appears to be declining nationwide. We must focus on keeping current members while also looking to obtain new members. There was a comment made that 58% of new members leave within 2 years of joining.
- Education - It was stated that 33% of the squadrons are not teaching classes anymore. With the regions, it may be possible to share education opportunities. Also, online learning was mentioned.
- There were two proposed changes to the D22 Standing Rules; both were accepted.

Our own Al and Fran Lima held round-table discussions covering "Are we Having Fun Yet" and "Cooking Onboard". Al was joined by P/C Marge Maciag, SN from Cape Coral Sail and Power Squadron providing examples of social events on the water and social events off the water, as well as educational events and civic service. Some of the events included: raft-ups, cardboard boat races, poker run, C&R overnight/lunch trips, glass painting, chili cook-off, squadron anniversary/

(continued on next page)

merit mark party, ABC Potluck dinner, potluck table decorating contest, game show dinner, indoor golf, nautical yard sale, luau dinner, wine knot seminar, sunset educational cruise, CPR/first aid seminar, flare shoot demonstration, and several others.

Fran discussed provisioning for general cruising as well as how she did it for their 14-day Atlantic Passage, Caribbean 1500 Rally from Hampton, Virginia to Tortola, BVI. There may have been a few more participants for this discussion due to the authentic planter's punch that was served!

Fran's Planters Punch

- ◊ 1/4 cup fresh lime juice
- ◊ 1 tbs + 1 tsp Cane or brown sugar
- ◊ Shake until mixed, 1-2 min
- ◊ 1 shot + a little more of Aged rum (light brown)
- ◊ Pour over ice
- ◊ Grate fresh nutmeg on top

Enjoy!

2021 New Members

To help our members know who our new members are, we decided to list everyone who joined America's Boating Club St. Petersburg this year. At any of our events, if you see someone you don't recognize, please introduce yourself; you might meet one of our new members! (*See our newest members on page 5*)

Robert and Gerrianne Russell
Stephen Badea, Sea Scout
Bradley, Amy, Tyler, Mason, & Audrey Bell
Jose Reyes and Rosario Camacho Reyes
John and Rima Terradista
Daniel and Elaine Schroeder
Alan Nitzman and Brenda Goebel
Robert Oakley and Janet Kilby
Melissa Oelschig
David and Julie Scott
Harold and Nancy Bray
Chuck and Lisa Piazza
John Humphreys, Sea Scout
Michael J. Saul
Dale L. Fasenmyer
Nancy Whiting
Dennis Jones
Kevin Houck
Zhenyu Shou
Keith Booe
Lorraine Thurber
Seth Hurd

November Dinner Meeting

Tuesday, November 9th

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

Social - 5:45pm
Dinner Served - 6:15pm

Presentation by
Tampa Bay Watch

Main Course: Medallions of pork tenderloin topped with port wine & Dijon mustard sauce, wild mushrooms, apples, and caramelized sweet onions
Salad, rolls, and dessert

$28.00 or $27.00 if paid with cash or check

Email your reservation to:
reservations@boating-stpete.org

DEADLINE: Thursday, Nov 4th

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:

Jim Greenhalgh - tbskjim@gmail.com
Al Lima - bosbyshelllima@gmail.com
Bob Zewski - bobzewski@yahoo.com

or our new chair:
Jeff Eckhart - jeffeckhart41@gmail.com or 727-295-5920

Please contact Jeff if interested in joining the 'team'!

Fall Schedule of Classes

	Start	Day	# of Weeks	Cost with Book Members/ Non-members	Sharing Book Members/ Non-members
ADVANCED COURSES					
Boat Handling (S)	Nov 3	Wed	5	$ 60.00 / $ 95.00	$ 20.00 / $ 40.00
Celestial Navigation (N)	Nov 4	Thu	14	$170.00 / $210.00	$ 30.00 / $ 50.00

November Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Event	Location	Contact
Nov 4	6:30pm	EXCOM Meeting *(rescheduled to Oct 26, same time/place)*	St. Petersburg Yacht Club	Cdr Connie Beckman
Nov 5	11:30am	Lunch Bunch	Portofino's, 34th Street	P/C Marilyn Van Goey
Nov 10	5:45pm	Monthly Dinner/ Meeting	Isla Del Sol Yacht Club	Lt/C Gene Sicard
Nov 11		Veterans Day		**Thank you to all of our veterans**
Nov 20	9:00am	Beach Clean-up	Pass-a-Grille Beach	Stf/C Louis McBride
Nov 20	5:00pm	Fall Kickoff Cruise	Emerson Point Preserve Pavilion #1	P/C Al Lima, AP
Nov 25		Thanksgiving		

Boating Events

A great time was had by all who attended the boating event at **Clearwater Yacht Club** October 15-17. Thank you Peter Losi for hosting this event. (*Two more photos on page 9*)

November Birthday Greetings to:

1 - Jesse Marsano	13 - Roseanne Molkentin	23 - Howard Rothstein
6 - Jeff Eckhart	18 - Norman Dobiesz	24 - Susan Oates
6 - James Greenhalgh	19 - Tom Krupa	25 - Virginia Clancy
6 - Leonard Jurca	19 - Donald Murray	30 - Maureen Dobiesz
6 - Lenox Stevens	20 - Margaret Baulig	30 - Sally Morse
10 - Linda Potter	23 - Arthur Molkentin	30 - Rosario Reyes

December Calendar of Events

	Time	Event	Location	Contact
Dec 1	6:30pm	EXCOM Meeting	St. Petersburg Yacht Club	Cdr Connie Beckman
Dec 2	11:30am	Lunch Bunch	Portofino's, 34th Street	P/C Marilyn Van Goey
Dec 7	5:45pm	Annual Meeting Meeting	Boca Ciega Yacht Club	P/C Al Lima
Dec 12	12:00pm	Holiday Luncheon	Isla del Sol Yacht Club	Lt Terry Sicard
Dec 21		First day of Winter		

Other Celebrations:

Nov 28 - Dec 6	Hanukkah
Dec 25	Christmas
Dec 26 - Jan 1	Kwanzaa

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.

We also have Squadron license plates or how about a Squadron bag/satchel?

Contact Douglas Townes at det949@mindspring.com to place your order or see him at our General Meetings.

Lunch Bunch

Thursday, December 2nd

Portofino's Italian Restaurant
5035 34th Street, S
St. Petersburg
Publix Shopping Center)

Join us for the 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**

Executive Officer
Lt/C Fred Hauck

Hello squadron mates!

Here we are into November 2021.

I attended District 22's Fall Conference in Punta Gorda, FL, October 8-9, acting on behalf of our Commander, Connie Beckman. Since it was my first conference, it proved to be rather interesting, to say the least. More information on the conference can be found on pages 1-2. Many thanks to Bob Cox, Cory-Jeanne Houck-Cox, Dawn Eckhart, Michele Kennedy, Fran Lima, Louis McBride, Bruce Rogers, Carol Segundo, John Tokarz, and Sue Tokarz for representing our squadron as delegates.

We plan to hold our November Dinner/Meeting on Tuesday, November 9th! Isla Del Sol will continue to implement their COVID protocol. We hope that this will help alleviate, or at least minimize, your fears. In addition, Tampa Bay Watch will provide the presentation for the evening. As info, Tampa Bay Watch was established in 1993 and performs a variety of habitat restoration and protection projects, utilizing thousands of volunteers, to help the bay recover from its environmental problems. So, please make plans to join us.

Check out our Facebook page (**America's Boating Club - St. Petersburg**) for seminars, classes, and other events that are posted. We have been working diligently on expanding the America's Boating Club St. Petersburg presence in the Tampa Bay boating community.

Remember, living in Florida we have the entire coastline as our water playground year-round. So, go out and have a great November 2021!

Admin Officer
Lt/C Gene Sicard

Promotional News:

Our television and digital advertising campaign with Spectrum News 9 has been trafficking more eyeballs than expected to our web-site and hopefully growth is happening with ABC St. Petersburg. Also, our print campaign in the Mariner and Gulfport Gabber looks great but has yet to produce the results we are hoping for. Recent classes and seminars have done well. Our Facebook presence is also growing weekly and continues be a good source of fresh prospects for new membership.

Boating Event News:

This October 15th, ABC St Pete invades the Clearwater Yacht Club! Three boats will be making the trek; many more by iron dinghy. "The Meals on Wheels Regatta", on September 11th, sponsored by Fran and Al Lima, was a huge fund-raising success. Everyone on board had a blast and we were very proud to finish last once again! What we lacked in speed, we made up with financial contributions.

The weekend of November 20th will be the "4th Annual Fall Kickoff Cruise" at Emerson Point Preserve, Pavilion #1, with an overnight anchor-out on the Manatee River. Contact the Lima's for more info.

Meeting News:

Mark your calendars. Next month, November 9th, at Isla del Sol Yacht Club, Rachel Arndt, of the Tampa Bay Watch, will do a presentation about the quality and environment of our Tampa Bay waters.

Fair Winds and Following Seas

Many of long-time members of the St. Petersburg Squadron might have fond memories of Gary and Polly Lytle.

Gary passed away some time ago and Polly moved north to be with their children.

Recently, Polly's daughter, Ruth, informed Casey Considine that Polly passed away September 29th at the age of 93. Ruth recounts the following: "Her last few years were more difficult for her with health challenges; however, we were able to bring her on a few trips and to our homes for overnight visits. She never lost her love for Gary and talked about him almost every day. If you have a moment, raise a toast to Polly."

Welcome New Members

Cdr Connie Beckman issued the pledge to new members Bob Oakley and Elaine and Dan Schroeder during the October General Meeting.

Education Officer
Lt/C Robert Cox, Jr

As I pen this Squadron Educational update, the Fall classes are drawing to a close. Boating continues in Tampa Bay and the hurricane season is all but over with no serious impacts from the numerous named storms to our local waters (knock on wood).

The District 22 Conference was very informative and highlighted changes to the education program as we go forward. I will be putting together a short paper to highlight the upcoming direction and impacts to the Squadron after I have had time to fully digest the information and way forward.

Congratulations to the ABC3 class who graduated 16 students with some of the highest grades tabulated for any previous class. Advance Navigation Class and the Weather Class students are completing their studies and completing their exams.

As we draw to a close with our fall classes, ABC4 is underway along with Boat Handling and Celestial Navigation.

The final 2022 Training Calendar follows below and should be posted on our Squadron website. We are excited about getting back to a full training schedule next year. If you don't see either a course or seminar that you are interested in, please send me an email (bob_cox_spsps@yahoo.com).

	Start	Day	# Weeks	Cost with Book	Sharing Book
ABC Course					
ABC1	24-Jan	MON	7	$45.00	$20.00
ABC2	21-Mar	MON	7	$45.00	$20.00
ABC3	29-Aug	MON	7	$45.00	$20.00
ABC4	24-Oct	MON	7	$45.00	$20.00
Seminars					
HOW TO USE A CHART SEMINAR	25-Jan	TUE	1	$ 30.00/$ 40.00	$15.00/$20.00
USING GPS	22-Feb	TUE	1	$ 30.00/$ 40.00	$15.00/$20.00
USING VHF/DCS MARINE RADIO	22-Mar	TUE	1	$ 30.00/$ 40.00	$15.00/$20.00
SUDDENLY IN COMMAND	19-Apr	TUE	1	$ 30.00/$ 40.00	$15.00/$20.00
HURRICANE AND BOATS	26-Apr	TUE	1	$ 30.00/$ 40.00	$15.00/$20.00
BASIC WX & FORECASTING	17-May	TUE	1	$ 30.00/$ 40.00	$15.00/$20.00
ON BOARD EMERGENCIES	20-Sep	TUE	1	$ 30.00/$ 40.00	$15.00/$20.00
Advanced Courses					
MARINE NAVIGATION (P)	27-Jan	THU	10	$ 75.00/$110.00	$20.00/$40.00
CRUISE PLANNING	16-Feb	WED	9	$ 60.00/$100.00	$20.00/$40.00
BOAT HANDLING (S)	31-Mar	WED	5	$ 60.00/$100.00	$20.00/$40.00
OFFSHORE NAVIGATION (JN)	17-Mar	THU	13	$ 95.00/$150.00	$25.00/$45.00
ADVANCED PILOTING (AP)	08-Sep	THU	10	$ 60.00/$100.00	$20.00/$40.00
WEATHER	21-Sep	WED	8	$ 60.00/$100.00	$20.00/$40.00
CELESTIAL NAVIGATION (N)	03-Nov	THU	14	$170.00/$210.00	$30.00/$50.00

As a reminder, an excellent resource for boating information is provided at Americas Boating Channel https://americasboatingchannel.com/. Also, 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 several resources and boating educational and safety resources now placed conveniently at your fingertips for ready reference and ensured to enhance your safe boating experience. Check it out at Boating App from America's Boating Club https://americasboatingclub.org/app.

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.

A special thank you to Cdr Connie Beckman for donating her winnings from the October General Meeting 50/50 to the Education Fund

Treasurer
Lt/C Kathryn Considine

2021 DONATION TOTAL THROUGH SEPTEMBER: $ 721.89

These donations were 1) to help with the printing and distribution of the Force 12 and other electronic communications, 2) memorials for our members who have passed, 3) made by a member to offset expenses, 4) from our 50/50 at our General Meetings, 5) from general donations made to the squadron, or 6) from our End-of-Year Giving Program.

Thank You!

If you are making a donation, please remember to designate the use you prefer - education fund or operating fund.

Secretary
Lt/C Michele Kennedy

We are still looking for a member to come forward to assume the responsibilities of Squadron Secretary and editor of the *Force 12*. Hopefully, you are strongly considering one of these two positions and will provide your desire to volunteer to P/C Al Lima, AP.

Editor's Corner:

Apologies to Stefanie Stevenson for misspelling her name under the birthdays in the October *Force 12*.

Also, I accidentally dropped the last line in the first paragraph of Douglas Townes' article concerning the Ship's Store. I apologize for that, too. The end of the paragraph should have included: "The messenger bag is a great bag to store and carry all of your important Power Squadron training materials or other organizational needs."

Beach Clean-up
Saturday, November 20th

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 S for an early breakfast.

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

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

Safety Article

by
P/D/C Bob Morris, AP

I was recently looking over the internet for material when an article about Electrical Shock Hazards caught my eye. My degree is in Electronic Engineering Technology and in 30 years working with a power company in various positions, including being a Watch Electrician in an old power plant and a substation operator, switching up to 345 kilovolt lines, I just couldn't ignore this.

Having spent a lifetime of boating and living aboard our Island Packet 44 sailboat for eight years in the Caribbean, I couldn't resist sharing this with you.

My biggest fear was being hit by lightning and on the smaller boats we would clip a cable on a shroud and toss the other end, which contained a zinc, overboard for protection while we were anchored. The newer, bigger boats had a metal grounding plate on the underwater part of the hull, providing a safe grounding source for everything that was connected to it; however, the rule was always not to touch anything metal during a storm, but this article was about something different…things I always seem to take for granted but should not ever be ignored.

I never witnessed anybody being electrocuted because of swimming in a marina, but we never did it anyway. We would always leave the marina and try to find a small offshore island to drop the hook and clean the bottom, as well as the prop, before leaving.

The only dangerous thing we witnessed was in a marina in Trinidad where several of us "went on the hard" to do maintenance and get new bottom paint in that reasonable priced, excellent facility. We lived on our boats during the maintenance and used a tall aluminum ladder to get aboard. One morning, a fellow sailor in the marina shocked everyone by screaming as he tried to climb the ladder barefooted, and he couldn't let it go until finally falling to the ground nearly unconscious. He was big and strong, which allowed his strength to finally pull him to safety. It turned out that the extension cord he had just plugged in was faulty and caused the metal rail and ladder to become positively charged.

None of this is directly mentioned in the list furnished by the National Marine Manufacturers association, or is it?

Here is their list:

CHECKLIST

When connecting to shore power:

- Dock only at a reputable marina. Get permission from the marina before connecting to a dock receptacle. Ask if the "polarity" and ground are correct and when they were last checked. If you have any questions or concerns, do not use the shore power at that facility.
- Shore power cords and adapters must be clean and dry before use. If they are dropped overboard, do not use until allowed to dry. Keep shore power inlet covers tightly closed when not in use.
- Handling shore power cords when you are barefoot increases your chance of being electrocuted.
- Make certain there are no swimmers in the water around your slip.
- Shut off both the boat's main AC circuit breaker and the dock breaker.
- Connect the shore power cord at the boat first, then connect the cord to the dock receptacle.
- Turn on the dock breaker.
- Check the boat's "polarity" alarm or light (if it has one) on the AC panel as soon as the dock breaker is turned on. If the polarity is incorrect, shut the dock breaker off and disconnect the dock end of the shore power cord immediately. Report the problem to the marina. The marina should contact a qualified electrician to make corrections.
- Turn on the boat's main AC breaker only if the "polarity" alarm is not lit up (if it has one).

When disconnecting from shore power:

- Shut off the boat's main AC circuit breaker.
- Turn off the dock breaker.
- Disconnect the dock end of the shore power cord. This should always be done first.

(continued on the next page)

Safety Article (continued)

- Disconnect the shore power cord at the boat receptacle.
- Clean and dry the shore power cord.

Once a year, have a qualified marine electrician perform at least the following:

- Verify the integrity of the boat's entire AC shore power grounding system, including the connection to the DC system negative.
- Verify that any galvanic isolators (if installed in your boat) meet current American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC) standards and are fully functional.
- Inspect shore power cords, adapters, and boat receptacles for any signs of deterioration, including cord wear, loose connections, signs of sparking or overheating and bent or pitted blades. If there are any such signs, correct and test the equipment or replace it.
- Operate the boat's electrical system at full load (everything on) and check for AC system leakage or voltage between the boat's underwater fittings (bonding system, if equipped) and the shoreside AC system ground.

A Note from the Nominating Committee

Volunteers Needed, without a Bridge we Can NOT Continue!

Every year the nominating committee is responsible to present a slate of candidates to have some fun on the Bridge! This year we are looking for an Administrative Officer and a Secretary, not to mention Committee Heads.

To remain a Squadron, it requires these positions to be filled every year, we need your help!
Please contact: Al Lima, bosbyshelllima@msn.com, 813 230 5751

CLEARWATER YACHT CLUB

More photos from the boating event at the Clearwater Yacht Club

Please support the businesses who have their information in our newsletter

We hope you use the goods and services of the businesses listed in this 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.

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FAX: 727-864-0305
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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

BOOK with the HAVE IT ALL PROMOTION!!!
FREE Drink Package, FREE specialty dining, FREE shore excursion & FREE wifi
(Promotion pricing different from Group pricing)

CURRENT PROMOTIONAL PRICING FROM $899
Inside stateroom from $899pp
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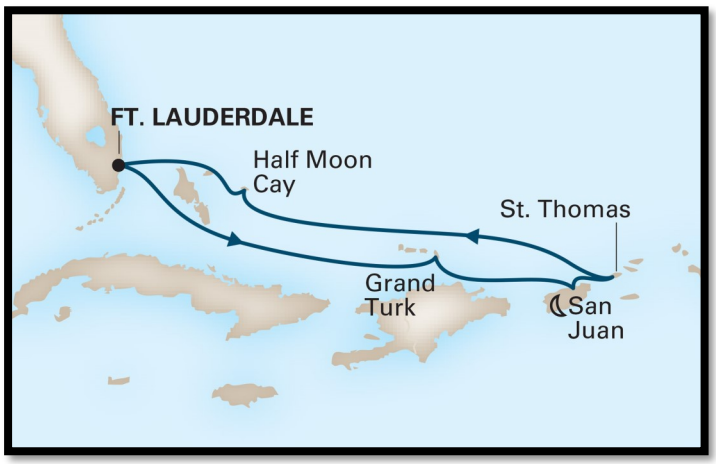
Price does not include $175 pp taxes & port fees. Travel protection & transfers are additional.

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 Dawn at

(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;
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