Force 12

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®

For Boaters, By Boaters™

St. Petersburg

Safe, Fun, Boating Starts Here!

September 2021 *Volume 78* *Issue 7*

Squadron Information

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

Executive Officer:
Lt/C Fredrick M. Hauck, P
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 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

Inside Contents:

2 - Awards
3-4 - Upcoming Events
5-8 - Articles
9 - Conferences/Meetings
10-11 - Businesses

SO MUCH FUN!

A big thank you to Lt Sue Tokarz, SN for organizing the week-end boating event at Twin Dolphins, August 20-22.

Attending Boats

Happy Hour

Rubber Duck Race

Sponge Bomb Pass the Water

Wet t-shirt: Hairiest, Most Macho, Most Creative

Potluck BBQ

Awards

The following awards were presented at the June Meeting:

P/C Marilyn Van Goey, JN received her 25-year certificate

Lt/C Bob Cox, JN was surprised with the Proud Award for his hard work as Education Officer

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'!

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.

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

Fall Schedule of Classes

	Start	Day	# of Weeks	Cost with Book Members/ Non-members	Sharing Book Members/ Non-members
ABC COURSE					
ABC4	Oct 18th	Mon	7	$ 45.00	$ 20.00
SEMINARS					
Onboard Emergencies	Sep 21st	Tue	1	$ 30.00 / $ 40.00	$ 15.00 / $ 20.00
ADVANCED COURSES					
Advanced Piloting (AP)	Sep 2nd	Thu	10	$ 60.00 / $100.00	$ 20.00 / $ 40.00
Weather	Sep 15th	Wed	8	$ 60.00 / $ 95.00	$ 20.00 / $ 40.00
Boat Handling (S)	Nov 3rd	Wed	5	$ 60.00 / $ 95.00	$ 20.00 / $ 40.00
Celestial Navigation (N)	Nov 4th	Thu	14	$170.00 / $210.00	$ 30.00 / $ 50.00

September Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Event	Location	Contact
Sep 2	11:30am	Lunch Bunch	Portofino's, 34th Street	P/C Marilyn Van Goey
Sep 2	7:00pm	Advanced Piloting	St. Petersburg Sail Center	Lt/C Bob Cox
Sep 7	5.45pm	Monthly Dinner/ Meeting	Isla Del Sol Yacht Club	Lt/C Gene Sicard
Sep 6		***Labor Day***		
Sep 11		***Patriot Day***		
Sep 11		Classic Sailboat Race/ Meals on Wheels	St. Petersburg Yacht Club	P/C Al Lima
Sep 15	7:00pm	Weather Course	St. Petersburg Sail Center	Lt/C Bob Cox
Sep 21	7:00pm	Onboard Emergencies	St. Petersburg Sail Center	Lt/C Bob Cox
Sep 22		***Autumn Begins***		

October Calendar of Events

	Time	Event	Location	Contact
Oct 6	6:30pm	EXCOM Meeting	St. Petersburg Yacht Club	Cdr Connie Beckman
Oct 11	11:30am	Lunch Bunch	Portofino's, 34th Street	P/C Marilyn Van Goey
Oct 11		Columbus Day		
Oct 12	5:45pm	Monthly Dinner/ Meeting	Isla Del Sol Yacht Club	Lt/C Gene Sicard
Oct 15-17		Boating Event	Clearwater Yacht Club	
Oct 18	7:00pm	ABC4 Course	St. Petersburg Sail Center	Lt/C Bob Cox
Oct 31		HALLOWEEN		

Boating Events

CLEARWATER YACHT CLUB

Weekend of the 15-17 October

Watch your inbox for more information

September Birthday Greetings to:

1 – Teresa Kropp	7 – Connie Beckman	17 – Roger Erb
2 – Madeleine Bohrer	10 – Bev Grier	17 – Dennis Jones
2 – Jacob Fisher	13 – Fran Lima	18 – Becky McBride
3 – Chet Rees	14 – Clive Jordan	24 – Joseph Kennedy
4 – Therese Hammond	15 – Vanessa Goodrum	29 – Tom Chamberlain
4 – Stan Morse	15 – Don Reeder	30 – Erik Ball

Executive Officer
Lt/C Fred Hauck

Hello squadron mates! Here we are into September 2021!

We are still moving along with Vessel Safety Checks (VSC). At the end of July, 122 have been completed! So, if you own a boat and still have not signed up for a VSC, let's do it soon! It's never too late! We are still looking to expand our vessel examiner "fleet"; so, if you are up for the challenge, please give Jeff Eckhart a call to start the process to become a VSC examiner. Contact information may be found on page 2.

We have been working on expanding the America's Boating Club St. Petersburg presence in the Tampa Bay boating community. Our Facebook page (America's Boating Club - St. Petersburg) is a great resource for seminars, classes, and other events that are posted. Also check out our advertisements for various classes and seminars in both the *Florida Mariner* and Gulfport's, *The Gabber*.

Did anyone happen to catch the advertisement concerning the St. Petersburg Sail and Power Squadron on Spectrum Bay News 9 over the weekend of July 23rd? There was one ad concerning membership and another about learning to avoid boating accidents. We will have these advertisements on Bay News 9 over the summer and part of the fall. If you caught one of these ads, please let me know your thoughts.

Remember, we have the entire Florida coastline as our water playground! So, go out and have a great time!

Treasurer
Lt/C Kathryn Considine

2021 Donations YTD - $487.74

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

The donations are composed of:

- Memorials for deceased members
- By members to offset expenses
- Our 50/50 at General Meetings
- General donations made to the squadron
- 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.

September Dinner Meeting

Tuesday, September 7th

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: Chicken Marsala
Dessert: Cheesecake

$28.00 or $27.00 if paid with cash or check

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

DEADLINE: Thursday, September 2

Education Officer
Lt/C Robert Cox, Jr

Summer is over and the children are back in school. So, as we move in the fall season, the weekend boating activities will pick up as families now enjoy the weekends for those fun boating trips. Let us not forget, however, that we are in the middle of the hurricane season with 6 named storms in the Atlantic region having reached the eastern seaboard and one more heading our direction as I pen this input. Luckily, we have suffered more rain and flooding damage than the full force of a direct impact of a Cat 1 or greater event. Always keep a weather eye out while on the water and ensure you check the forecast, especially the long-range weather outlook before you head out on the water.

As summer has drawn to a close, we are now back into full swing of our fall training program with the Fall Schedule listed with details on page 3 of this *Force 12* and summarized as follows:

ABC Courses:	starts August 23rd and October 18th
Onboard Emergencies:	September 21st
Advanced Piloting:	starts September 2nd
Weather:	starts September 15th
Boat Handling:	starts November 3rd
Celestial Navigation:	starts November 4th

Shortly, I am to publish the 2022 schedule (where did 2021 go) and am looking for any input as to what you would like to see listed on the training schedule; so, if you have any preferences about seminars or courses you would like to see, send me an email (bob_cox_spsps@yahoo.com). [Note: 813-566-2576 (New Cell)]

As a reminder, an excellent resource for boating information is provided at America's Boating Channel, https://americasboatingchannel.com/. Also, the ABC app for your phone 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.

Lunch Bunch

Thursday, September 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

Secretary
Lt/C Michele Kennedy

Change is happening!

As you know, we lost the editor-in-chief of the *Force 12* this past June - Sandy Krupa, when she and Tom relocated to Ohio. During the summer, we tried a different format for letting members know what was happening with the SPSPS. We asked for feedback on the format and the limited responses we received were positive.

That said, I am attempting to prepare this *Force 12* edition similar in format to what has been issued before. We continue to request that someone step up and volunteer their time to take over the duties that Sandy accomplished so well and graciously.

I thank JoAnn and Tom Chamberlain, Jacque D'Louhy, and Dawn Eckhart for their support and assistance while I try to maintain some semblance of continuity until we do recruit an editor.

If you have any input to changes made, please let us know at: force12@boating-stpete.org.

Associate Member
P/C Douglas Townes, SN

Emergency Engine Cut-off Switch (ECOS)

Over the last few years, the United States Congress has passed laws requiring boat manufacturers to install engine cut-off switches on recreational vessels and to require recreational vessel operators to use them. Beginning on April 1st of this year, operators of recreational vessels less than 26 feet in length are required to use an Emergency Engine Cut-off Switch (ECOS) and associated Engine Cut-off Switch Link (ECOSL) as the Coast Guard implements a new law passed by Congress. The link is usually a lanyard-style cord clipped onto the operator's person, PFD or clothing and the other end attached to the cut-off switch, either in close proximity to the helm or on the outboard motor itself if the vessel is operated by a tiller. When enough tension is applied, the ECOSL disengages from the ECOS and the motor automatically shuts down. Wireless ECOS have recently been developed and are also approved for use. Owners of recreational vessels manufactured after December 2019 are also required to maintain the ECOS on their vessel in operational condition. Using the ECOSL is not required when the helm is within an enclosed cabin. Other common situations where ECOSL use is not required include when docking or trailering, when trolling, or when operating in no wake zones. The Coast Guard has put together a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) and other educational materials on this new boating safety requirement.

The full list of FAQs is found here: https://uscgboating.org/recreational-boaters/ Engine-Cut-Off-Switch-FAQ.php. What about boats manufactured prior to April 1, 2021? If the boat was built in January 2020 or later, the Engine Cut Off Switch systems must be maintained in working condition for the life of the boat - just like navigation lights or exhaust blowers.

Typical engine cut-off switch

Safety Article

by
P/D/C Bob Morris, AP

Recently I read an article about heat exhaustion, and it brought back memories from a past sailing experience that I'll never forget. We were on Happyours, our 44' Island packet, and were rushing to clean her up and get ready to leave Venezuela. The weather was like what we've been experiencing here in Florida lately and we felt it was time to move on. The AC was keeping my wife Norma comfortable down below while she prepared the interior for travel, and I was scrubbing the cockpit and cleaning the windows on the dodger. It was lunch time, but I was determined to finish the fore deck and clean the lifelines as well as polish the stainless.

I was scrubbing the fore deck in the hot sun and looked up at our slip number "9" on the dock which was painted in black within a small square yellow box, when suddenly it switched to "6", then back to "9", then the box started to spin. I became very dizzy, disorientated, thirsty, exhausted, and started sweating profusely. After making my way down below, I staggered over to the refrigerator and pulled out an ice-cold beer and drank it down in almost one gulp, which was a big mistake—it should have been water!

Immediately laying down on a soft cushion caused Norma concern and she found some cold water for me to drink. After about twenty minutes, I felt as if I needed to throw up, which convinced me to have her lock the boat and find a cab. The driver took us to the emergency room of a nearby hospital where I was admitted and treated to a drip bottle full of some clear, cold liquid. They monitored my blood pressure and heart rate until finally I started feeling better.

After about six hours, they let me go back to Happyours and insisted we come back the next day for a follow up.

Luckily, my test proved okay and I was told to stay out of the heat and drink plenty of water, which I did, and all turned out okay; however, according to this article, I nearly suffered a heat stroke.

In conclusion, when it is hot and humid, be extra careful; do not partake in strenuous exercise or over exertion. Our bodies can't cool themselves to retain a normal temperature. Alcohol use, over dressing, dehydration, and exposure to the hot sun all contribute to this problem.

Should you experience any of the symptoms listed above, cool off and get hydrated immediately. If that doesn't work, get medical help as soon as possible.

Have fun and be safe!

2021 Fall Conference

Friday, October 8, 2021:

0900-1200	Registration Desk Open Squadron Bridge Officer Meeting
1200-1300	Lunch on your own
1330-1400	Registration Desk
1400-1600	District Council Meeting
1715	Social
1800	Dinner
1830-2030	Live Music by Manatee Squadron Members – *Cahoots* ♫

Saturday, October 9, 2021:

0800-0900	Coffee and Pastry
0900-1145	Seminars/Roundtables
0900-1200	Registration Desk Open
	Lunch Speaker – Liz Schmidt, US National Water Safety Plan
1300-1330	Registration Desk Open
1330-1600	District Conference

Hotel Rates:

Hotel rates are good for 1 day prior and after the conference

Four Points Sheraton - $109.00 - 941-637-6770

Springhill Suites - $ 99.00 - 941-347-4224

Watch your email for additional information

Dress: squadron shirt with slacks, shorts, or skirt

The America's Boating Club of Sanibel and Captiva Proudly Presents

District 22 Big Cruise and Rendezvous Event at South Seas Island Resort on Captiva Island

November 5–7 2021

Our theme **KISS** Keep It Safe, Sailor

Don't miss out on this awesome 3 day event featuring

Useppa Island or Cabbage Key Cruises

- Poker Run
- Karaoke
- Wine Tasting
- Scrumptious Food
- Live DJ
- On-Board Hospitality

Cabbage Key

Useppa Island

Registration details to follow in early summer

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

Come by land or by sea. Just make sure we "Sea You There!"

REGISTRATION DEADLINES

2021 Fall Conference	***September 28th***
District 22 C&R	***October 3rd***

Monitor your inbox for additional information

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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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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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 is a publication of the
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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 force12@boating-stpete.org.

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