Force 12

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®

For Boaters, By Boaters™

St. Petersburg

Safe, Fun, Boating Starts Here!

Spring 2023 *Volume 79* *Issue 2*

Squadron Information

Commander:
Cdr Fredrick M. Hauck, JN
Commander@boating-stpete.org

Executive Officer:
Lt/C Vanessa Goodrum, P
XO@boating-stpete.org

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

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

Secretary:
Lt/C Louis E. McBride, P
Secretary@boating-stpete.org

Past Commander: *
P/C Constance H. Beckman, SN

Members-at-Large: *
P/C Douglas Townes, SN
Lt Elaine Schroeder, AP
Lt Sue Paul, S

* Please see the Roster for contact information or email: force12@boating-stpete.org

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CONGRATULATIONS

TO THE 2023 BRIDGE

Commander Fred Hauck, JN

Education Officer:
Lt/C Bob Cox, JN
Treasurer:
Lt/C Casey Considine, JN
Secretary:
Lt/C Louis McBride, P

Executive Officer:
Lt/C Vanessa Goodrum, P

TO OUR NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Lt/C Kasey Considine

and

Lt Jeff Eckhart, AP
Lt Dawn Eckhart, AP

2023 America's Boating Club Cruise on Celebrity BEYOND

This year's post-Annual Meeting cruise had 107 members and friends in our group. We enjoyed an amazing 7-day Western Caribbean trip on the truly spectacular Celebrity Beyond that is cutting edge in the industry. Furthermore, we had the fantastic Captain Kate McCue at the helm, whose daily informative briefings with a quiz and her mom's advice at the end were always something to look forward to. The ship was stunning, with all kinds of amazing art and really different features that are very contemporary but elegant. There were numerous options for dining, the entertainment phenomenal, and the weather was with us! Our ports were Nassau, Costa Maya, Cozumel, and Grand Cayman this year. If you would like to join the next adventure on our 2024 cruise, please see Dawn's flyer on page 11.

MARCH 8, 2023 GENERAL MEETING

We had a very informative presentation by Mr. Richard Sanchez, President, Egmont Key Alliance.

Cdr Fred Hauck also issued the pledge to new member, Joe Muczynski.

FROM THE BRIDGE

Commander
Cdr Fred Hauck

Let me start by thanking everyone who attended our March general meeting. We had a great turnout and a fantastic presentation from the President of the Egmont Key Alliance, Mr. Richard Sanchez. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 12, 2023. Please mark that on your calendars. The guest presentation will be announced at a later date.

Last month, I attended the America's Boating Club annual meeting in Orlando. I was joined by several of our squadron members. Of note from the meeting and after much discussion, an increase in dues was voted on of $5.00 per Active Member, $7.50 per active member with Family Membership, and $2.50 per Life Member. The increase is slated to become effective in approximately 60 days. This is the result of increases to expenses, including insurance and a decrease in revenue. In addition, it was voted to allow free electronic instructor books for SEOs so that they may review and assess for inclusion in courses/seminars to be offered. As a side note, approximately 25% of USPS squadrons did not offer a course in 2022.

You'll see in this issue that we have a District 22 meeting on Saturday, April 22nd. The National Chief Commander will be speaking at this event for those who may want to attend. It should prove to be interesting to say the least. We are looking for approximately 10 squadron members to be voting delegates (I don't have the exact required number yet). Please let me know if you are interested and can attend.

We will be sending out our course/seminar schedule and announcements to the squadron via email distribution. Please take one along when you go to your boating clubs, yacht clubs, marinas, favorite West Marines, etc., and ask if you can post them. We would like to spread the word out and this would be an effective tool.

On a side note, Justin Woodyard, a Sea Scout from Ship 912, is working on his Quartermaster Rank Service Project on Cooperative Charting. His project is an Aids to Navigation (ATON) survey in the local area. In the survey are Bayou Grande, Little Bayou, Smacks Bayou, Coffeepot Bayou, and Big Bayou. If you are interested in taking part in the survey, please contact Sue Tokarz or Louis McBride.

We are still looking for folks who would like to work with the leadership as assistants and successors for key roles and committees. We have quite a few new members and we'd really like to get others involved. New people bring new ideas and we are always open to changes for the better; so don't be shy to volunteer as we have plenty of areas where you can help. For example, there are many opportunities to help plan and organize boating events and social events, etc.. If you have a favorite place to go or thing to do then let's go and do it! Remember, this is your club.

Don't forget, it's time to get a Vessel Safety Check (VSC). Stickers for 2023 are in. Contact Jeff Eckhart to get yours checked.

Remember, living in Florida, we have the entire coastline as our water playground year-round! So go out and have a great 2023.

Executive Officer
Lt/C Vanessa Goodrum

Hi everyone! I would like to introduce myself as the new Executive Officer of the St. Petersburg chapter of America's Boating Club. I have been an active, albeit quiet, member since purchasing my first cruising sailboat in 2013. For the past ten years I have worked closely with Casey on the website and getting online registration enabled for our courses. I'm honored to be able to serve the organization as the XO for 2023 and look forward to helping our members become more active and promote safe boating across the Tampa Bay region. If you have ideas for events or suggestions on how we can improve, please don't hesitate to reach out to me via email at vanessa.goodrum@gmail.com.

See you out on the water!

Congratulations to our Secretary!

Several of us had the privilege of witnessing our Secretary, Lt/C Louis McBride, receive the Boy Scouts of America, District Award of Merit. Congratulations, Louis!

Education Officer
Lt/C Robert Cox, Jr

Hard to believe that we are now 3 months into the new year and the spring boating season is well underway and the spring break season is upon us. As you prepare your boat for the season, there is no better time than now to continue your boating education and we have a number of courses and seminars to help with your knowledge. The course / seminars schedule for the remainder of the year is attached below. Also be sure to encourage your fellow boaters to take part in our education opportunities even if they are not members of the Squadron.

We are also presenting a **one-day ABC (Boating Safety) course on 1 April** to address the need to reach and qualify more boaters who are more interested in a one-day course instead of the 6 week course currently offered. If this continues to meet the Tampa Bay Boating community needs, we will look at continuing with the one-day course.

You may have noticed that we are having a warm start to the spring boating season, and albeit we are in need of some rain, the summer months will soon be here and with the increase in temperature you must keep a weather eye out for those afternoon thundershowers and storms. Presently the good weather continues to provide steady winds for sailboats and good fishing opportunities for all on the bay, despite the growing threat of Red Tide.

Remember, if you don't see a course or seminar you need, let me know as we can adjust to ensure we bring you what you need to make your boating all that you want it to be. Contact me by email at (bob_cox_spsps@yahoo.com).

As a reminder an excellent resource for boating information is provided at Americas Boating Channel https://americasboatingchannel.com/. Also, there is an 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 mark to having safe fun on the water; we are here to serve you and the local boating community.

Schedule of Classes

	Start	*Day*	*# of Weeks*	*Cost with Book* *Members/ Non-members*	*Sharing Book* *Members/ Non-members*
ABC Course					
ABC2	1-Apr	MON	1 day	$60.00	$30.00
ABC3	28-Aug	MON	6	$50.00	$25.00
ABC4	16-Oct	MON	6	$50.00	$25.00
Seminars					
Using VHF/DCS Marine Radio	22-Mar	WED	1	$50.00/$75.00	$25.00/$35.00
Suddenly in Command	19-Apr	WED	1	$50.00/$75.00	$25.00/$35.00
Hurricane and Boats	26-Apr	WED	1	$50.00/$75.00	$25.00/$35.00
Basic Weather & Forecasting	17-May	WED	1	$50.00/$75.00	$25.00/$35.00
On-board Emergencies	20-Sep	WED	1	$50.00/$75.00	$25.00/$35.00
Advanced Courses					
Engine Maintenance	28-Mar	TUE	8	$ 75.00/$100.00	$35.00/$50.00
Offshore Navigation (JN)	24-Aug	THU	13	$125.00/$150.00	$50.00/$75.00
Advanced Piloting (AP)	7-Sep	THU	10	$ 60.00/$100.00	$20.00/$40.00
Boat Handling (S)	9-Nov	THU	5	$ 75.00/$100.00	$35.00/$50.00

* Note: Navigation's additional fee will be added if additional exams or site folders are needed.
Plotters = $8.00, Dividers = $12.00

Treasurer
Lt/C Kathryn Considine

2023 DONATION TOTAL THROUGH FEBRUARY: $ 480.92

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 the 50/50 at our General Meetings,
5) from general donations made to the squadron, or
6) from Life Members in lieu of dues.

Thank You!

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

Schedule your 2023 inspection!

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

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

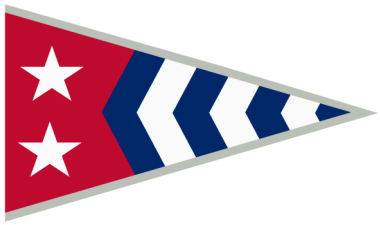
Jim Greenhalgh - tbskjim@gmail.com
Al Lima - bosbyshelllima@gmail.com
Bob Zewski - bobzewski@yahoo.com

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

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

Today's Smiles
P/D/C Tom Krupa, AP

- Really – my stomach is flat – the "L" is just silent.
- Medicine bottle – Warning – may cause weight loss, remove wrinkles, and increase energy.
- It's hard to understand how a cemetery can raise its burial cost and blame it on the higher cost of living.
- If you want to follow your dreams, go back to bed.
- Camels are unique – but – can you trust someone who can go a week without a drink?
- At the nursing home cafeteria they have two lines – "Cane" & "Able".
- A nurse finds a thermometer in her pocket and thinks – some asshole has my pen.
- At our age we don't buy organic – we need all the preservatives we can get.
- Velcro – what a rip off.
- Free Beer – Topless Bartenders – "False Advertising".
- Up North, winter is not a season – it's an occupation.
- AND – "Trans Slender" – being fat but identify as skinny.



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 and hat.

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.

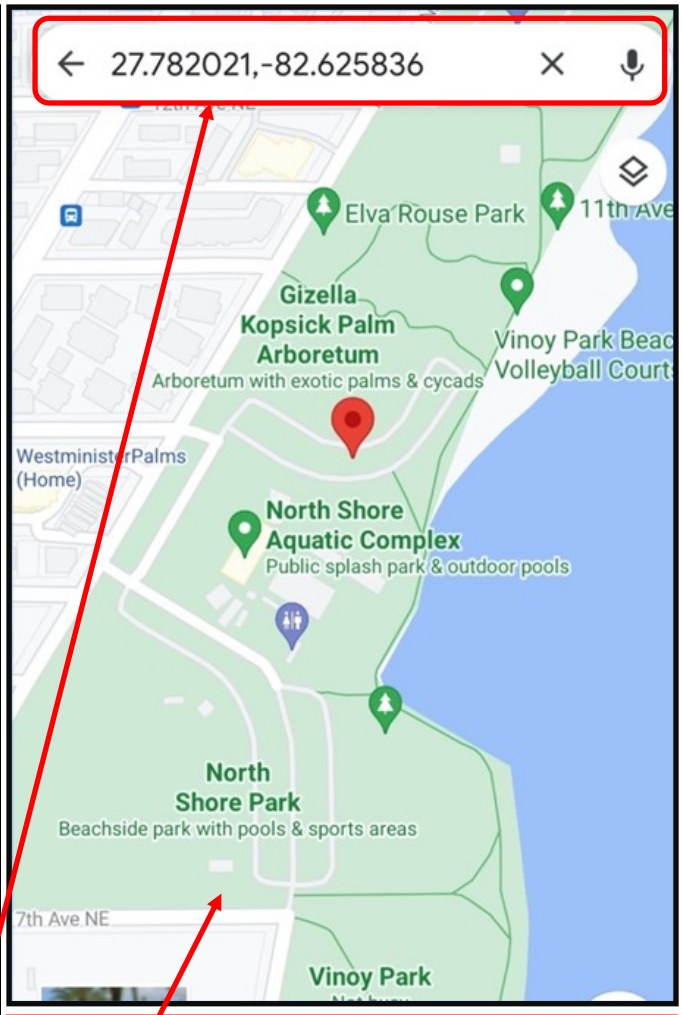
GPS SCAVENGER HUNT
March 25!

The SPSPS Scavenger Hunt is a social as well as an educational event that is designed for any and all skill levels to engage in. As the late, great Yogi Berra might have said, "You don't even have to know how to spell GPS in order to participate," or something like that. As all of you know, the US Power Squadron has a reputation for having some of the best navigation courses in the country. Not only do we have some of the best nautical educational courses, we also have some of the best educators (our instructors) and educational materials, especially when it comes to nautical navigation. So, when it comes to having a scavenger hunt as a Power Squadron social activity, it is only natural that latitude and longitude coordinates be given as waypoints (WP) instead of street addresses. This means that the land navigation unit most of us have installed in our land chariots will most likely not be useful to get the answers to the scavenger hunt questions.

All of the WP's for this scavenger hunt will be given in latitude and longitude. The only navigation tool that you need is your smart phone. Even if you are proficient at using a dedicated handheld GPS device, it is good to know how to use your smart phone as a secondary navigation backup device. Because of the different operating systems of our individual phones (I-Phone verses android), the most universal app for completing this hunt is "google maps". A detailed set of universal smart phone instructions has been written by Douglas Townes and proofed by three squadron members (an experienced sail boater, a sea scout, and a doubting, cantankerous curmudgeon). After reading and installing the WP's in the instructions, all three agreed that "yes" anyone should be able to enjoy this hunt as long as he/she knows how to use a map app on a cellphone. (OK one person did not use the word "enjoy" but we all know which one that was).

To give you an idea of how your cellphone will be used as a GPS for this hunt, here is a sample screen shot from the instructions:

If you are not familiar with the numbers in the address bar, they are Latitude and Longitude. How did they get there? How do you change the coordinates? How do you navigate from a Lat/Lon WP to another Lat/Lon WP using only a smart phone? The answers to all of these questions and many other helpful bits of information are contained in the scavenger hunt instructions. Email Douglas Townes, det949@mindspring.com, for your copy of the scavenger hunt app instructions. Even if you don't go on the hunt, these instructions will be very useful as you learn how to turn your smart phone into a navigation GPS.



Beach Clean-up
Saturday, May 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, St. Petersburg, for an early breakfast.

Contact Lt/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

Spring Calendar of Events

Time	Event	Location	Contact
	********** **APRIL** **********		
April 1	April Fool's Day		
April 6 11:30am	Lunch Bunch	Portofino's St. Pete	Lt Becky McBride
April 8 or 15	Tampa Ferry	From St. Pete to Tampa	Sue & Robby Paul
April 9	Easter		
April 12 5:30pm	General Meeting	St. Pete Yacht Club	Cdr Fred Hauck
April 18	Tax Day		
	********** **MAY** **********		
May 3 6:30pm	EXCOM	St. Pete Yacht Club	Cdr Fred Hauck
May 4 11:30am	Lunch Bunch	Portofino's St. Pete	Lt Becky McBride
May 5	Cinco de Mayo		
May 10 5:30pm	General Meeting	St. Pete Yacht Club	Cdr Fred Hauck
May 13	Egmont Key Raft-up	(Possible anchor-out)	Lt Fran Lima
May 14	Mother's Day		
May 20 9:00am	Beach Clean-up	Pass-A-Grille Beach	Lt/C Louis McBride
May 27 2:00pm	Memorial Day BBQ	Hauck/Kennedy Residence	Cdr Fred Hauck
May 29	Memorial Day		
	********** **JUNE** **********		
June 1 11:30am	Lunch Bunch	Portofino's St. Pete	Lt Becky McBride
June 7 6:30pm	EXCOM	St. Pete Yacht Club	Cdr Fred Hauck
June 7-23	Pelecanus Octagonos Duxs Sea Scouts	(Former SEAL)	Lt/C Louis McBride
June 14 5:30pm	Founders Day Meeting	St. Pete Yacht Club	Cdr Fred Hauck
	Flag Day		
June 18	Father's Day		
June 21	Summer Begins		

LUNCH BUNCH

Thursdays - April 6th, May 4th, June 1st

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

Join us for the camaraderie. Please let Becky McBride know that you plan to attend. Email louismcbride219@outlook.com or call **727-459-1972**

SPRING BIRTHDAYS

APRIL

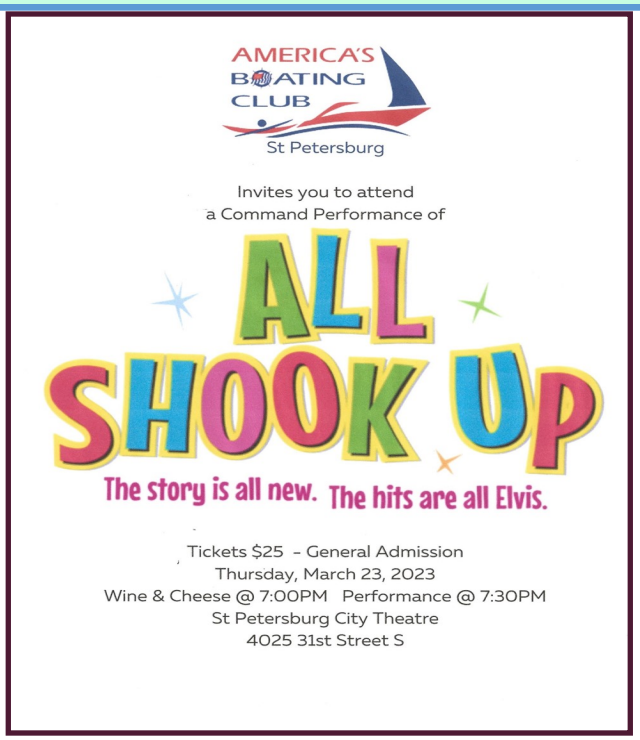
2 - Nancy Reeder
4 - Katie Rodgers
10 - Donald Rife
12 - George Keffalas
15 - Joseph Kane
16 - Michelle Siviter
19 - John Humphreys
22 - Jack Flick
22 - Robert Oakley
23 - Jeff Boehler
26 - Michele Kennedy
29 - Susan Tokarz
30 - Nancy Anello

MAY

1 - Georgia Binns
2 - John Novack
5 - Robert Russell
6 - Kevin Houck
8 - Stephen Badea
9 - Jacque D'Louhy
12 - Daniel Schroeder
14 - Robert Morris
15 - Kathryn Considine
16 - Michael Saul
21 - Gail Poffenberger
26 - Bill Shivers
27 - Jeanette Erb
29 - Robert Springer

JUNE

1 - Clara Poffenberger
2 - Trina Espinola
6 - Christy Wood
9 - Elaine Schroeder
12 - George Pownall
18 - Gene Hammond
19 - JoAnn Chamberlain
23 - Karen Lieberman
26 - Shelia Moore
27 - Paul Jaynes
27 - Zhenyu Shou
27 - Jason Wood
29 - Kevin Anello



MEMORIAL DAY BBQ

Let's Celebrate with Burgers and Dogs!

SATURDAY MAY 27TH	STARTS AT 2:00PM	WE WILL EAT AROUND 3:30PM

Fred Hauck and Michele Kennedy's House
5918 S 6th Street, Tampa, FL 33611
RSVP TO (813) 402-2219
by May 20th

Please support the businesses that 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.

ROBERT SIVITER
OWNER
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OFFICE: 727-460-5687
ROBERTSIVITER@FILLINGHAMYACHTS.COM
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Website: Seascoutship912.com
Venturecrew219.com

DISTRICT 22
2023
SPRING CONFERENCE

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, April 21

0830 – 1200 Registration Desk Open
0900 - 1030 ***Squadron Bridge Officer Meeting***
1100 - 1200 ***District Council Meeting***
1200 – 1330 Lunch on your own

1400 – 1500 ***Procedure for Adoption of New or Amended Club/District Bylaws***
P/D/C Ted Reiss and D/C Gene Burson

1500 – 1600 ***One and Three Year Squadron/District Planning***
P/D/C Sam Bonilla and D/Lt/C Matt Braatz

1600 – 1730 Social with Appetizers (cash bar) 50/50 Raffle 1730 Dinner on your own

Saturday, April 22

0800 - 0900 Coffee and Pastry
0830 – 1200 Registration Desk Open

0830 – 0930 – ***Educational Updates***
D/Lt/C Melissa Butler, SN, District Educational Officer

0930 – 1030 – ***Safety and Recreational Boating***
Scott Szczepaniak, Regional Boating Safety Specialist USCG 7th District, Prevention Division

1040 – 1200 – ***Town Hall***
Chief Commander Craig Fraser, SN and District Commander Gene Burson, JN

1215 – 1330 – ***Luncheon***
Speaker - Hans Wilson, President of Marine Industries of Southwest Florida

SWFMIA sponsors the Go Boating Florida website which offers a wealth of information to recreational boaters

1300 – 1350 Registration Desk Open
1400 – 1600 ***District Conference***

50/50 Raffle

Change of Watch **- social 1730 / dinner served 1800**
Change of Watch Ceremony 1900
Thank you D/C Gene and Welcome D/C Matt!

Dress: squadron shirt, khaki slacks, shorts or skirt
Change of Watch: squadron or district shirt with khaki slacks or appropriate attire

Wishing you safe travel home
See you at the Fall Conference, October 13 - 14, 2023

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

FEB 2024 EASTERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE

7 days: 11-18 Feb 2024

Roundtrip from Fort Lauderdale on the BRAND NEW CELEBRITY ASCENT®

Itinerary: San Juan, Tortola, BVI; St Kitts & Nevis

ENJOY THE ALWAYS INCLUDED PERKS-DRINKS, WIFI, TIPS

GROUP PRICING FROM $1671pp
Ocean view from $1671pp
Infinite Verandah from $2036pp
Concierge class from $2173pp
Aqua class from $2202pp

Price does not include $127.16 pp taxes & port fees. Travel protection & transfers are additional.

Feel free to invite your friends, family and neighbors to join us as we sail on this fabulous new ship which is still being built!

Everyone must book through Dawn Eckhart in order to be included in our group and receive the exclusive group benefits. This is the annual fundraiser event for America's Boating Club.

Email dawn@dawnstraveldeals.com or call

(727) 403-0406 to join our group on this amazing new ship!

Celebrity Cruises

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Force 12 is a publication of
America's Boating Club
St Petersburg Sail and Power Squadron
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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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