Force 12

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®

For Boaters, By Boaters™

St. Petersburg

Safe, Fun, Boating Starts Here!

April/May 2024 *Volume 80* *Issue 2*

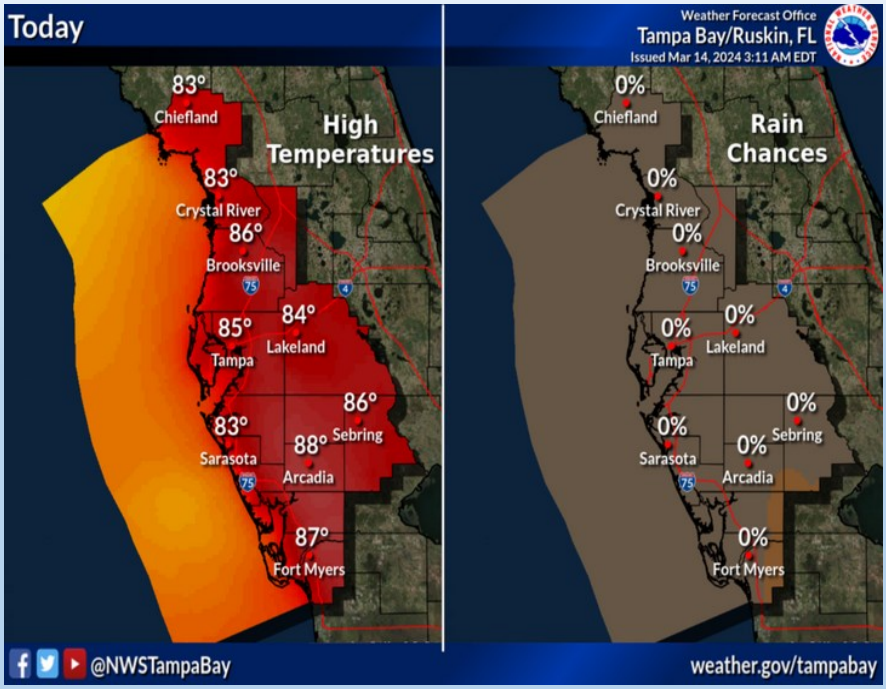
Join us Wednesday, 10 April

at St Petersburg Yacht Club

For a Special Presentation by:

Nicole Carlisle, Senior Meteorologist

Marine Program Leader National Weather Service - Tampa Bay Area



Enjoy the

SPYC Buffet

featuring

2 entrees and 4 desserts

$31

($1 discount for cash or check)

Parking in the SPYC Garage INCLUDED.

If you prefer to not join us for dinner, please come for the presentation and meeting. Presentation starts at 7pm (1900) and the meeting will be held afterwards. Please note when you RSVP, (1) coming for the dinner and meeting or, (2) coming just for the meeting. We would like to make sure we have enough seats for everyone.

Squadron Information

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

Executive Officer:
Lt/C Louis E. McBride, P
AO@boating stpete.org

Education Officer:
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SEO@boating stpete.org

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Treasurer@boating stpete.org

Secretary:
Lt/C W. Douglas Townes, SN
Secretary@boating stpete.org

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

Members at Large: *
Lt Glenn T. Dobos, AP
Lt Sue Paul, S
Lt Elaine W. Schroeder, AP

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

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Always be ready with a kind word, or smile, no matter the season. They're always in style. They can do wonders where medicine has failed. Kind words and a smile uplift the lonely, the sick and frail. Whenever, through kindness, you show that you care, that rough road seems smoother, the waters calmer and true friends, like true treasures, are special.

Be that special one with a kind word and that special smile.

'Distinctive Communicator' is an award for the publications that meet or exceed USPS defined criteria. Our Force 12 has been recognized for this award.

Reprint of Monthly Articles By P/C Tom Krupa, P

◊ Butterflies taste with their feet, is that a foot fetish?

◊ The average life span of a major league baseball is seven pitches; that's why beer is so expensive.

◊ Typewriter is the longest word that can be made using the letters only on one row of the keyboard.

◊ Lemons contain more sugar than strawberries. How can that be?

◊ Be back in a 'jiffy' - its an actual unit of time—1/100th of a second.

◊ One of every four Americans has appeared on television.

◊ You are born with 300 bones, but when you become an adult, you only have 206—if that's true—how come we gain weight with age?

◊ Thomas Edison was afraid of the dark, proving necessity is the mother of invention.

◊ During your life time, you'll consume about 60,000 pounds of food—the weight of about 6 elephants—or—how I felt after my last Holiday meal.

Take time to enjoy today—see Ya!

Reprinted from May 2002 Force 12

Treasurer
Lt/C Kathryn Considine, JN

2024 Donation Total Through February: $ 194.96

These donations are from various sources, i.e.: memorials for our members who have passed, from members to offset expenses, the 50/50 at General Meetings, general donations to the Squadron and Life Members in lieu of dues.

The funds are then used to help offset costs of the printing and distribution of the Force 12 and electronic communication fees.

Thank You!

Commander
Cdr Fred Hauck, JN

Wait!....is it April already? Baseball season has started! Oh yeah, taxes are due this month!
Our squadron activities and events are underway!

We had a great presentation at our February monthly meeting from Sarah Grasty, the Project Coordinator for Crowd Sourced Bathymetry (the collection of seafloor depth from vessels engaged in routine operations using simple data logger technology). Sarah asked for our support of implementing CSB in our area of boating operations (another civic service project). If you missed Sarah's presentation, no worries, she will be the Saturday luncheon speaker during the District 22 Conference/Change of Watch, 12-13 April 2024 in Punta Gorda.

We did not hold a monthly meeting in March as many of the bridge were out of town (including myself) and we didn't have a presentation available.

For the 10 April meeting, we have Nicole Carlisle, Senior Meteorologist, Marine Program Leader for the National Weather Service - Tampa Bay Area as our presenter. Make sure to make your reservation for dinner and/or presentation — feel free to bring a guest!

Please mark your calendar for our May meeting, 8 May. A flyer with the presentation will be forth coming.

On the last Saturday of May, Michele and I will host our annual Memorial Day BBQ, we hope you join us for a relaxing celebration.

Don't forget to check out our Facebook page (**America's Boating Club - St. Petersburg**) for seminars, classes, and other events that are posted! When you see an event posted, please "Like" it and forward to your "friends, etc. That way we can spread the word about an event, a course/seminar, boating safety information, etc.

Remember, living in Florida, we have the entire coastline as our water playground year-round!
We want to do more anchor outs, raft-ups, marina visits, visit local "haunts", have BBQs, etc!
If you have a favorite place to go or do then let's go! Remember, this is your club!
So, go out and have a great 2024!

MEMORIAL DAY BBQ

Let's Celebrate with Burgers and Dogs!

Saturday 25 May

Arrive about 2:00pm Eat about 3:30pm

Fred Hauck and Michele Kennedy's Home

5918 S 6th Street, Tampa, FL 33611

Executive Officer
Lt/C Louis McBride, P

Hello all,

Hope everyone had a wonderful Easter and Spring Break. The following is the schedule for April and May. Hope you are able to join us, so remember to mark your calendar in order to not miss the fun. Details can be found throughout the newsletter and reminders will be emailed occasionally.

10 April – General Meeting at St Petersburg Yacht Club (SPYC)
Keynote speaker will be Nicole Carlisle of the National Weather Service, Tampa Bay.

11 April - Luncheon at Portofino's Restaurant
A local gathering spot to meet other members of SPSPS with a wonderful Italian lunch!

12 and 13 April— District 22 Spring Conference at Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center.
Want to learn what is going on with the local Power Squadron District? I recommend going to this conference to learn more, and for the fellowship of Squadron members from the other Clubs on the West Coast of Florida!

8 May – General Meeting at SPYC - Keynote speaker TBD

9 May - Luncheon at Portofino's Restaurant

18 May - Beach Cleanup
Helping the local community at Pass-a-Grille Beach with cleaning the beach, meetup right next to Castle Hotel. Breakfast beforehand as well if you would like at the Seahorse Restaurant, 800 Pass-A-Grille Way, St Pete Beach.

18—24 May - Safe Boating Week—Remember the 'Boating Seven'
1. Wear your life jacket 2. Take a boating safety class 3. Carry required safety gear
4. Use your engine cut-off switch 5. File a float plan
6. Be aware of weather and water conditions 7. Be sober, and considerate of others.

Schedule your 2024 inspection!

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

Make sure to contact any one of our dedicated inspectors directly:

Jim Greenhalgh tbskjim@gmail.com
Al Lima bosbyshelllima@msn.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'!

Monthly Meetings

St. Petersburg Yacht Club.

SPYC Dinner Buffet with
2 entrees & 4 desserts
$31 ($1 discount for cash or check)

Parking in the SPYC Garage is INCLUDED.

April Presentation:

Nicole Carlisle

Senior Meteorologist
Marine Program Leader
National Weather Service - Tampa Bay Area

Last date for reservations or cancellations is 5pm the Friday prior to each meeting

Education Officer, Lt/C Robert Cox, Jr., JN

Spring is here and Summer is fast approaching!! The weather has been very cooperative with great winds for sailors and warm weather for the power boaters/fishing crew. All told, looks like we are in for a warm spring and another hot, humid summer. Boating on Tampa Bay should be enjoyable, just remember your sunscreen (as one who continues to be carved up by the dermatologist after years of neglecting to apply sunscreen and protect my skin from sun damage.)

We are heavy into the Winter/Spring Training classes with both Marine Navigation and Cruise Planning underway with 5 students hard at work. Seminars are slowing making a comeback with 4 students completing the Using VHF/DSC Marine Radio class.

Congratulations to our recent Boating Safety Class graduates; 27 January Class: Jason Annett, Jeanie Bui, Jill and Stephen Cox and Anita Jackson, and 16 March Class: John Adams, Danielle Carr, Jesse Cassanova, Rich Cusolito, Richard Giardina, Larry Glock, Jeanne Marchak, Jordan Markel, Lindsay and Marc Shaw, Angier and Jason Smith, and Doug and Wendy Wisehaupt.

The 2024 Spring/Fall Training Calendar follows below and is posted on our Squadron website.
If you don't see either a course or seminar that you are interested in, please send me an email.

	Start	Day	WK	End Date	Instructor	Cost w/ Book	Sharing Book
Boating Safety Course							
Boating Safety Course - 3	31-Aug	SAT	1 Day	31-Aug	Jeff Eckhart	$70	$35
Boating Safety Course –4	26-Oct	SAT	1 Day	26-Oct	Jeff Eckhart	$70	$35
Seminars							
SUDDENLY IN COMMAND	17-Apr	WED	1	17-Apr	Al Lima	$35/50	$15/25
HURRICANE AND BOATS	24-Apr	WED	1	24-Apr	Howard Rothstein	$35/50	$15/25
WEATHER FOR BOATERS	22-May	WED	1	22-May	Bruce Rogers	$35/50	$15/25
ON BOARD EMERGENCIES	18-Sep	WED	1	18-Sep	Howard Rothstein	$35/50	$15/25
HOW TO USE A CHART	16-Oct	WED	1	16-Oct	TBD	$35/50	$15/25
Advanced Courses							
OFFSHORE NAVIGATION	3-Sep	TUES	12	19-Nov	George Baulig	$125/150	$50/75
ADV MARINE NAVIGATION	5-Sep	THUR	10	7-Nov	Bob Cox	$75/100	$35/50
WEATHER	17-Sep	TUES	8	5-Nov	Bruce Rogers	$75/100	$35/50
CELESTIAL NAVIGATION	TBD	THUR	14	TBD	George Baulig	$150/175	$50/75

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 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.

Safety Article

By Lt Joe Muczynski, Safety Officer

Improving Situational Awareness

Situational Awareness is a continuous process of combining sensory information to form an improved understanding of our surroundings. We can then better detect what is not normal, predict future events and make informed decisions to achieve boating safety and other life goals.

USCG. (2020). 2019 Recreational Boating Statistics reports that the top 2 causes of boating accidents are caused by operator inattentiveness and inexperience.
https://www.uscgboating.org/library/statistics/2019-Recreational-Boating-Statistics-Report.pdf

Constantly use all senses to form a coherent mental representation of situations external and internal to the vessel. Enhance senses with technologies such as: depth meter, binoculars, bearing compass, VHF radio, GPS, CO alarm, etc. Anticipate alternative options in the event of equipment failure/damage or crew injury/fatigue. Become familiar with what is normal on your vessel and in your surroundings to better detect, correct and log/report what is potentially dangerous. Change focus to develop awareness at different scales such as large-scale weather changes, local traffic conditions, small-scale sensing of sail trim, and comparison of a planned course to actual vessel supplies, speed, heading and depth. Multiply situational awareness by strengthening crew members with activities such as reviewing crew communication plans, practicing safety drills, respecting safe boating habits, and receiving/teaching additional training.

Acquiring and improving the key skills for enhancing situational awareness can be achieved through a combination of intentional practice, learning, and self-reflection. Recognize that these skills can also help you to achieve goals other than boating safety.

Here are practical steps to integrate into your life:

- Observation: challenge yourself to focus on the present and notice new details in familiar environments.
- Information Processing: reflect on past experiences to identify patterns between different events.
- Prediction: consider the consequences of different actions in various situations that might occur.
- Decision Making: challenge yourself to make decisions faster to improve quick and effective thinking.
- Adaptability: embrace challenges as growth opportunities and seek unfamiliar situations for practice.
- Communication: practice active listening and seek feedback on your communication style.
- Mindfulness: practice focusing on one task at a time, then reflect on your thoughts and emotions.
- Problem Solving: seek complex problems and break them down into smaller manageable steps.
- Resilience: cultivate a growth mindset by using positive self-talk and viewing setbacks as lessons.

Remember that consistent practice, feedback, and reflection are key to mastering these skills that will enhance your ability to detect and respond to different situations effectively through awareness.

National Safe Boating Week will be held from May 18-24
The event is part of the annual Safe Boating Campaign and serves as an important boating safety reminder before the Memorial Day weekend.

Calendar of Events

Time	Event	Location	Contact
April			
3	6:30pm EXCOM Meeting	St Pete Yacht Club	Cdr Fred Hauck
5—7	*Caladesi Island Boating Event*		Dawn Eckhart
10	5:30pm General Meeting	St Pete Yacht Club	Cdr Fred Hauck
11	11:30am Lunch Bunch	Portofino's, St. Pete	Lt Becky McBride
12—13	District 22 Spring Conference	Charlotte County Event Center	Cdr Fred Hauck
17	7:00pm Suddenly in Command Seminar		Lt/C Bob Cox
24	7:00pm Hurricane and Boats Seminar		Lt/C Bob Cox
May			
1	6:30pm EXCOM Meeting	St Pete Yacht Club	Cdr Fred Hauck
2—12	*Dry Tortugas Cruise*		P/C Al Lima
8	5:30pm General Meeting	St Pete Yacht Club	Cdr Fred Hauck
12	*Happy Mother's Day*		
18	9:00am Beach Clean Up	Pass-A-Grille	Lt/C Louis McBride
22	7:00pm Basic Weather and Forecasting Seminar		Lt/C Bob Cox
25	2:00pm Memorial Day BBQ	Tampa	Cdr Fred Hauck
27			

Thursday 11 April & Thursday 9 May
Lunch Bunch
at
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.

Ships 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 and a Squadron bag/satchel

Contact Carolyn Brown at cbjackwill@gmail.com to place your order and stop in to meet our new Ship Store Manager at the next General Meeting

BIRTHDAYS

April

2 – Joe Pennavaria
2 – Nancy Reeder
4 – Katie Rodgers
10 – Don Rife
15 – Joe Kane
16 - Michelle Siviter
19 – John Humphreys
21 – Jaymin Anzaldua
22 – Jack Flick
23 - Jeff Boehler
26 – Michele Kennedy
29 – Sue Tokarz
30 – Edwin Herrington and Keith Vidal

May

1 – Georgia Binns
2 – John Novack
4 – Stephen Lasky
4– Donna Martin
9 - Jacque D'Louhy
12- Daniel Schroeder
13 – Dario Alvarez
15 – Casey Considine
19 – Stephen Bolstridge
21 – Gail Poffenberger
27 – Jeanette Erb
31 – Sue Paul

Get to Know the Bridge

The McBride Family

You've seen them at meetings, classes, social events — do you realize all they do for our Squadron?

Becky, Louis and Michael McBride have been members of our Squadron since 2009 after taking the Safe Boating Course at the end of 2008 when the course was first offered to the Sea Scouts. They have been active in Scouting since Louis first joined the Cub Scouts and throughout his scouting as he climbed the ranks to Eagle Scout. He is a silver award recipient, Quartermaster, and Bestowed Vigil but now Leader of *Sea Scout Ship Ballyhoo 912.* While in this position, he also is the Skipper of Cats Point Regatta. He also was the youngest adult adviser of a Venture Crew in the Bay area then committee chair of a Venture Crew being the youngest in that role within the Bay area.

Louis and Michael both work full time in the computer industry.

Lt Rebecca (Becky) McBride has earned 7 Merit Marks and hosts the monthly *Lunch Bunch.*

Lt Michael McBride, AP has earned 14 Merit Marks and is again the current Chairman of Local Boards, Advanced Grade (meaning he orders, administers, and sends the tests to National for grading). He previously served as our Safety Chair for several years.

Lt/C Louis McBride, P (our youngest Bridge member at only 31 years old) has earned 13 Merit Marks is currently serving as our Executive Officer, after having served as Administrative Officer and Secretary. He is one of our certified Instructors and is instrumental in having taught and still teaching safe boating to numerous Sea Scouts.

If you look up Louis's name on the National database, you would see that he holds many positions in our Squadron as well as at National. On the National level, he is part of the membership committee and a general member of the National Governing Board.

Look forward to learning more about SEO Bob Cox in the next edition!

Caladesiville

CALADESI ISLAND BOATING ACTIVITY

5-7 April

To sign up for the Caladesi-Margaritaville event, contact Dawn Eckhart at dawneckhart94@gmail.com or call (727) 403-0406.

Then go register at https://www.floridastateparks.org/parks-and-trails/caladesi-island-state-park.

Tentative Schedule of Events:

Fri, 5 April: Boat arrivals, beach time, exploration
1700: Parrot Head Party commences-Margaritas provided, each boat brings a party dish to share

Sat, 6 April: Lost Shaker of Salt Hunt
1700: Tiki Party/Games at the Parrot Head Pavilion
1800: Cheeseburgers in Paradise cookout (BYOD)

Sun, 7 April: Boat departures as they wish

Sail to the Dry Tortugas

It's time to use your classroom skills!

From 2 –12 May, the squadron is sailing to the Dry Tortugas National Park. As of this writing, there are four vessels bound for the closest thing to the Bahamas in the United States.

This is a 36 to 40 hour nonstop run of sail boats or a few hours by power boat from Key West, employing all those skills that you have acquired in the classroom. All are welcome to join the fleet for an experience that you will be talking about for months.

The park is 90% water with the largest brick structure in North America, the fort. There is lots to do like fantastic snorkeling, touring the fort, breath taking sunsets, and incredible starry nights!

This is a unique opportunity to experience a part of Florida with fellow squadron members accessible only by water or seaplane.

For more information or to sign up please contact Al Lima, 813 230 5751, bosbyshelllima@msn.com

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

FEB 2025 EASTERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE

7 days: 9-16 Feb 2025

Roundtrip from Fort Lauderdale on the BRAND NEW CELEBRITY ASCENT®

Itinerary: Bimini, Bahamas; Labadee, Haiti; Georgetown, Grand Cayman

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GROUP PRICING FROM $1789pp

Ocean view from $1789pp **Infinite Verandah from $1919pp**
Concierge class from $2119pp **Aqua class from $2319pp**

Price does not include $153.22 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 new ship! 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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Friday, 12 April: All Membership Workshop

0930 - Introductions 1015 – 1200 – Roundtables / Workshops

1200 – 1330 - **Lunch on your own** 1330 – 1500 – Group Discussions

1600 – until ? - Gathering at Ice House Pub

Saturday, 13 April:

0830 - 1200 Registration Desk Open 0800 - 0900 Coffee and Danish

0900 - 1015 Roundtables

First Aid for Boaters
Dr Carl Schultz, AP

Coop Charting/Geodetic Marker Intro
P/R/C Jim Strothers, SN

1030 - 1145 Roundtables

Importance of Public Relations
D/Lt/C Ron Jones, AP & P/C Bob Moro, AP

How to Become an ABC3 Instructor
Tom Dawson

0900 – 1130 – *Instructor Recertification* – *Cdr Susan Agruso, AP*
Registration required by April 5 – jsa818.sa@gmail.com

0900 – 1030 – *Town Hall* - *D/C Matt Braatz, JN & P/C/C Craig Fraser, SN*

1200– 1330 Lunch – *Piloting Crowdsourced Bathymetry* *(seafloor depth)*

Speakers, *Sarah Grasty-Prueitt, Project Manager and Dr Mark Luther, Director*

*Hear how **you** can help collect seafloor depth measurements in Tampa Bay and Beyond –in your own boat.*

1345 – 1600 - District Conference Meeting

1700 – 1800 – after Conference Social at Spring Hills Suites (cash bar)

Change of Watch - event center
1800 – 1830 - Social 1900 – Dinner Served

Beach Clean-up: Saturday May 18th

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

To start the day, we meet at the Seahorse Restaurant, Pass-A-Grille at 8am to enjoy the amazing menu 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

Force 12 is a publication of
America's Boating Club
St Petersburg Sail and Power Squadron
4384 95th Avenue N
Pinellas Park, FL 33782

February Meeting Report
By Lt/C Douglas Townes, Secretary

Twenty-one members and 8 guests attended our February meeting at St Pete Yacht Club 14 February. Executive Officer Louis McBride chaired the meeting in the absence of our commander. After dinner, Robbie Paul introduced the evening's speaker, Sarah Grasty, the Project Coordinator for Crowdsourced Bathymetry (CSB). Sarah explained what CSB is and does and asked for our support in implementing CSB in the Tampa Bay area.

Do you realize there are over 100,000 boats registered in Hillsborough and Pinellas counties? This makes our boating area a prime contributor for CSB data. Suggest you input 'crowdsourced bathymetry, St Petersburg, FL' in your search bar for a wealth of information on this interesting subject with information as to how ***YOU*** can become involved.

Please support the businesses that have their information in our newsletter

We hope you use the goods and/or 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.

Force 12

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

Distribution by email. A fee is required for a hard copy
Contact force12@boating stpete.org **for details**

Editor: Sandy Krupa

Assistance with this edition:
JoAnn Chamberlain, Tom Chamberlain, Jacque D'Louhy, Dawn Eckhart and Sue Paul