



ANCHORS UP

SAILING SINGLES OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

www.sailing-singles.net | April 2013 Newsletter



PHOTO BY Shannon Sykes

FEB 9 SAIL ON BOUNTIFUL, SUNSET

Who's Who

Commodore: Lee Hawk
Vice Commodore: Dan Bullard
Secretary: Joy Hanson
Treasurer: Janet Valentine
Directors: George Cuic
 Melissa Butler
Membership: Georgene Bruder
Cruise Committee: Kathy Maciel

Telephone: John Coriell
Newsletter Editor: Sonia Raymond
Website Editor: Shannon Sykes
Heads Up: Ann Lieberman
Program Coord.: Phil McCorkle
Social Chairman: Kathy White
Publicity Coord.: Jocelyn Erickson

CAPTAINS

Mary Burch	Deena Kirkey
George Cuic	Kathy Maciel
Tom Edleman	Sonia Raymond
Allen Fiske (305) 720-7494	Clarence Yahn



CALENDAR

APR 5

TGIF - 5pm Shoeless Joe's

APR 13

Day Sail - Sign up online

APR 18

7pm Membership Meeting
FMB Moose Lodge #964
See Heads Up for Details

Check the website and watch "Heads Up" and the website for additional outings and more specific information.

BIRTHDAYS

APR 2 | Fabienne Guenther
APR 4 | Leslie Emery
APR 6 | Bonnie Knoll
APR 9 | Peter Follmer
APR 13 | Lee Hawk
APR 22 | Chuck Darger
APR 22 | Bob Hammer
APR 24 | Glenn Tomlinson

READERS CORNER

Coastal Cruising Made Easy was published by the American Sailing Association as a companion book for its Basic Coastal Cruising, but the guide is an incredible resource for any sailor, whether you are learning the basics of how a boat works or already an experienced skipper. A practical manual it encourages readers to learn the necessary skills to get out of their comfort zone. It has easy to follow diagrams, photos and chapters. Don't jump ship, get the book.

Quote of the Day:

"Don't spit into the wind."

Commodore's Corner [Lee Hawk]



If you are interested in serving as a board member and or know someone who would like to serve, be sure to attend the April meeting. We will entertain nominations from the floor and vote for the new slate of officers. The current nominations are as follows:

Commodore– Dan Bullard; Vice Commodore – Bob Rollman
Secretary– Joy Hansen; Treasurer– Kathy White; Directors-
Melissa Butler, Roger Wood; Membership– Carol Fitzgerald
Cruise Coordinator –Joan Kachel

From Cruise Chair [Joan Kachel]

We still have room for people to sign up for our weekend sail to Naples. SIGN UP!. If you want to arrange to meet us down there, let me know and we will set up some kind of arrangement to let you know where we will be so you can hook up with us.

The Half Fast Race requires planning. The racing Captains will be meeting with me before April's meeting (we will need charts and tide listings). We would like to know as soon as possible which boats that are racing. If you have a boat and do not want to race, you are most welcome to take any of the beach spectators out to view the race from the water.

Another reason we are asking you to sign up early for this is so Kathy White will know how much food she and her crew need to buy for Dan to cook after race. (You might want to bring your own snacks to nibble on while the race is going on.) BYOB. Well folks, the season is way past the half way mark, so let's make sure we don't waste opportunity!! We have super Captains, lovely boats and good friends so Let's Sign Up!

HOW TO SIGN UP FOR A SAIL

- Go to www.sailing-singles.net
- Click on the button that says: Click here for full calendar or to sign up for sails.
- Choose the sail you would like to sign up for and click the "Sign Up Now" button
- Fill in the sign up form and hit submit.

Sails will be assigned on a first-come, first served basis. If you do not get to sail, you will get top priority on the next sail, **but, you must still sign up for the next sail so we know you are available and interested.**

If you sign up for a sail and then find out you cannot go, please call Joanie to tell her you are no longer available.

Once assigned, Captains will call you with details and departure times. At this point you must respond to the Captain if you are suddenly unavailable to sail.

Keep checking back as the sign ups will be made available a month out so you can sign up at any time. There might also be impromptu sails so visit the site and see what is available.

BOAT SAFETY

1. **Knowledge** – take a safe boating course to learn how to avoid trouble.
2. **Preparedness** – Captains carry all required Coast Guard safety equipment and Crew do what the Captain tells you.
3. **Experience** – Follow the rules of the road and get out on the water and get as much experience as you can. Can't do it sitting watching TV.
4. **Discretion** – Weather is a primary consideration in whether to head out or stay in. Check the weather using the many sources available.
5. **Caution** - Captains -file a float plan and Crew tell a friend or relative that you are going out.
6. **Judgement** – Be aware of your surroundings and the weather.

Emergency Radio Call Procedures

1. Make sure radio is on
2. Select Channel 16
3. Press/Hold the Transmit button
4. Clearly Say: MAYDAY
MAYDAY MAYDAY
5. Also Give:
 - i. Vessel Name and/or description
 - ii. Position and/or location
 - iii. Nature of emergency
 - iv. Number of people on board
6. Release Transmit Button
7. Wait for 10 seconds – if no response repeat "MAYDAY" Call.



Have all on board put on life jackets.

NOAA's Guides Go Digital: Effective August 21, 2012, NOAA has begun publishing its entire US Coast Pilot series online, where books are available as free downloadable PDFs. The nine volumes provide navigational information for the majority of the country's waterways, including anchorages, currents, tides, weather and small craft facilities.

www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov

Crews Corner & Notes

SAILING:

April 13: Day Sail, sign up by April 10

April 26-28: Weekend Sail to Naples - Sign up by April 23

May 11: Half Fast Race, Sign up by May 8

Bowditch Point: captains, crew and spectators, let's all start to get ready for a good time at our race and picnic party celebration!

Pick your own way to participate! **All size boats are welcome to the race.** WE ALSO NEED A COMMITTEE BOAT AT THE BEGINNING/FINISH LINE. WHEN YOU SIGN UP, please indicate your role choice on the form.

May 24-28: Extended Sail to Charlotte Harbor Area, sign up by May 21

Impromptu day and skills sails.....call Mary if interested. Bright Star will be available this month to sail. Lets get some small groups and go. Weather promises to be great so bring swim suits from now on.

James Baker also likes to go out on the River. Give him a call.

HEADS UP: Watch the Sailing Singles website or look for Head's Up for know what is happening.

SSC SHIRTS: Get them at Fred's Award World, Ft. Myers.

DID YOU KNOW???? The United States Coast Guard has rescued well over 1 million people since it was established as the Revenue Cutter Service in 1790.

BOATING COURSE: Take an Online Boating Course

It's time to brush up on your boating and safety skills, and doing it online is easy and free.

www.BoatUS.org/onlinecourse | www.BoatUs.com/games

NEW WEBSITE:

www.Boatsafe.com | Has boat safety, boating courses, articles, ships store and boating quizzes.

LEE WATERWAYS APP: Lee County boaters now have their own App for smart phones. This free App has a variety of information. There are maps and satellite maps of waterways throughout Lee and Collier Counties. A fish finder and identify the fish you catch and the regulations. A reef map gives boaters GPS coordinates for local reefs. A ship-wreck map does the same for underwater shipwrecks. The maps show where idle and slow speed zones are. There's info on drawbridges and passes. You can download it on your phone and know the information is up-to-date. Search: Lee Waterways App.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION: An interesting website called: Tales From the Scuttlebutt. Some truly interesting nautical yarns which people have spun!! There are cartoons and other interesting sites there. In search, type "Tales From the Scuttlebutt" to get on the website.

POWER SQUADRON: Try Power Squadron Courses to Increase Your Boating Knowledge

KNOW YOUR KNOTS: Go to these websites for a fun way to learn to tie knots with animated illustrations: www.animatedknots.com | www.Netknots.com

JOCELYN WANTS TO KNOW: If any of you see my articles in any of the newspapers, clip and save for me.

REMEMBER ROPE\$

A rope is a rope
but sometimes a line
Or it might be a painter
towing the dingy behind.

From fiber to yarn
then strand into rope
its the twisting that does it
which makes strong at the scope.

There's polys and sisal
manila and hemp
But when buying nylon
your money's well spent.

The big one's the howser
with strain to defend
The little one's the small stuff
for seizing the end.

The rode holds the anchor
in mud, sand, or rock,
The bow, spring, and stern lines
hold the ship to the dock.

You pay out a drogue line
when caught in a gale,
But pay out a halyard
and down comes the sail.

A bell rope it might be
clanging the time of the day,
Or it might be a cable,
holding the mast with a stay.

On wash day at Granma's
clothes pins were used,
But a sailor needs clothes stops*
to hang up his blues.

If you pull on a sheet
your toes will get cold,
But when in a boat
the sails will unfold.

Be it braided or twisted
fiber or steel,
It's still just a rope
if it stays on the reel.

*Written by: Rocky Jones, U.S. Navy and
later Coast Guard Auxillary.
*Clothes stop was a Navy clothes pin made
from a small-diameter cord, 12 inches long,
used to tie laundry to a clothes line.*

Ahoy Sailors [Dan Bullard]

I actually have some time to sit down and write a few lines for the newsletter. I hope everyone had a wonderful Easter Holiday as the weekend certainly provided perfect weather for Sailing. Beth and I had the opportunity to sail on a friend's 35' Catalina out of Burnt Store Marina and spent the afternoon cruising Charlotte Harbor. Don't worry I'm not jumping ship, it was a opportunity I could not pass up.

Our membership meeting on March 22nd went well and was an opportunity for me to conduct the meeting, as our Commodore Lee Hawk was unable to attend. Thanks Lee for providing everything I needed to know and do. I would also like to thank Jan Valentine for standing in as Secretary.

I had the honor in recognizing one of our newest members Allen Fiske. Allen was awarded the Sailing Club's "Burgee" to fly on his 35' Columbia "Minimum Balance".

The "Burgee" is awarded to Captains who have graciously completed 3 or more scheduled club sails. Thank You Allen!



With the Club's Program Coordinator Phil McCorkle out of town, a short video presentation was planned for the attending members. I kind of miss those days when you could just plug in the slide projector and not need a degree in technology. I thought everything was going as planned when I finally got the projector to light up the wall. A half hour after turning the laptop on, it was still FROZEN!!. Heck it wouldn't even shut off when I pressed the off button. So much for the evening's entertainment!! Soooo, I would like to thank Captain

Allen Fiske in providing a short presentation of his Sailing Knowledge and experiences.

With the meeting winding down the attending members were presented with nominees for the 2013 -2014 SSC Slate of Officers.

At our upcoming April meeting, nominations will be taken from the floor and voting will be completed for the SSC 2013 -2014 season.

I encourage all club members to attend the meeting and participate in nominating and voting for the new Board of Directors. Nominations from the floor are encouraged.

Going Aground [Captain Bob Wiseman]

Everyone goes aground! (At least in SW Florida.) The other day I saw a 28 foot sailboat aground on the sandbar near the Sanibel Causeway. The skipper had his sails up and sheeted home. The boat was going even more towards the center of the sandbar. This was during the peak of high tide and just starting to turn which put this guy in the worst possible position.

There are several things you can do if you find yourself in a similar predicament.

FIRST Figure out if the tide is coming in or going out.

SECOND Determine what the bottom is. (Sand, mud, shell, grass, etc)

THIRD Make sure you are not going further aground due to the current and/or wind.

FOURTH If you are on hard sand and the tide is coming in, hold your position and wait till the tide floats your boat off.

FIFTH If you are in mud, move fast and pivot the boat so that you can motor straight out the furrow your keel dug on the way in. If you wait even a few minutes, the mud will

act like a suction cup on your keel and it will be much more difficult to get the boat free.

SIXTH If the tide is going out and/or you're very hard aground, heeling the boat extremely hard to lift the keel off the bottom can get you floating. This can sometimes be done with your sails, but a dinghy pulling your main halyard at 90 degrees to the boat would almost always work. If you don't have a dinghy, put a couple hundred pounds on the end of your boom and swing it outboard as far as it will go. That will work also.

SEVENTH You can try to kedge off. This is done by setting an anchor as far into the deeper water as you can get it. (Usually behind the boat) and winch yourself towards freedom. (Repeat as necessary) Think of shell and grass bottoms as if they were sand, except they won't hold your anchor as readily or as well, so kedging will be more difficult.

EIGHTH You can flag down a power boat passing by and ask for a tow, or you can call a local towing company.

The bottom line is, don't give up!