

2011

Commodore:	Ron Pye
Vice Commodore:	Sharron Thompson
Rear Commodore:	Lorraine Bergman
Cruising Fleet Captain:	Bill Thompson
Secretary:	Maggie Mitchell
Treasurer:	Iris Kilpatrick

To bring in the New Year, three (3) Cape Coral Sailing Club (CCSC) boats were anchored in Glover Bight. Happy Hour and dinner was held on one of the boats. The weather was made-to-order with temperatures in the 60'S New Years Eve, and temperatures in the 70's New Year's day. The fireworks, boat horns, conch shell horns added to the noise at midnight. There were five (5) boats (21 people) for the raft-up New Years day, AND, it should be noted that the rafted boats did not drag this year.

There were a total of ten cruises this year. Besides the New Year's cruise in January, there was the annual "Icicle Cruise" to Franklin Locks, with eleven (11) boats participating. In addition to the wonderful breakfasts and dinners, there were dinghy rides, bocce ball, and other games played. In February, the cruisers went up to Palm Island for the "Go-Fly-a-Kite" cruise. Besides six (6) boats, some members stayed in the condos at Palm Island Marina, and others drove up for different events. The last day was cool and foggy, but games were played during the day, and Happy Hour and dinner was a big party. Another cruise in February was to Smokehouse Bay, Marco Island, with seven (7) boats participating. In March, six (6) boats went to Tween Waters for the St. Patrick's Day festivities. Some other members of the club drove to Tween Waters (Captiva) for the day. In April, there was a three-day cruise called "Food, Food, Food". The first day was lunch on Picnic Island, the second day was lunch at the Sanibel Harbor Resort, and the third day the boats anchored off York Island, and dingied up to the Ragged Ass Saloon (on Pine Island) for lunch. Our annual St. Petersburg Yacht Club cruise was in May with five (5) boats enjoying the trip up with various stops and the hospitality of the St. Pete Yacht Club. With June, July, and August being too hot for cruising, our next cruise was in September to the Royal Palm Yacht Club in Ft. Myers. In October, six (6) boats (somewhat) raced up Charlotte Harbor to Punta Gorda, for Gilchrist Park activities, and then joined in the Seven Seas Cruising Association GAM Friday night and all day Saturday. There was an "anchor out" at Glover Bight in November for the Salute-to-the Commodore Boat parade and luncheon. Fifty-four (54) people – twelve (12) boats – enjoyed lunch at Marker 92, Tarpon Point, Cape Coral. There was a Happy Hour on the Commodore's boat the evening before the parade and luncheon.

Twelve (12) luncheons and two “early-bird” special dinners were enjoyed by the members this year. The attendees ranged from fourteen (14) and sixteen (16) people in the summer months to thirty-seven (37) in the other months.

Most of the CCSC general meetings this year had some kind of a social event associated with it. In January there was a wine tasting contest before the meeting. Prizes were awarded for the best red wine and best white wine. In February there was a potato and salad bar, and in March, a “Bonnets and Nautical Book Exchange”. Be it a bonnet, beret, or cap, prizes were given to the most flamboyant, most ancient, and most nautical head adornment. In April everyone brought hors d’oeuvres to share, and played Bingo before the meeting. In May there was a potluck dinner. A Hurricane Party was held before the June meeting which consisted of everyone forecasting various aspects of the upcoming hurricane season. This included BYOB and sharing appetizers while completing their guesses on the hurricane season. Prizes were awarded after the hurricane season to the person whose predictions were the closest to the actual events. In July there was just a meeting. In August there was a Happy Hour before the general meeting. To welcome some of the snowbirds back in September, there was a “Chocolate Dessert Extravaganza” before the meeting. In October there was a Halloween Party which included a costume contest, along with a potluck dinner. A Thanksgiving buffet and Happy Hour was the special event before the November meeting.

Some of the programs and speakers at our general meetings were: Carla Lewins demonstrated the AED (Automated External Defibrillator), noting that the Cape Coral Yacht Club has one, and gave a brief description of hands on CPR; Ken Wilkinson, Lee County Appraiser; Harry Phillips, Cape Coral Public Works, responsible for canal water quality; Mike Scott, Lee County Sherriff; and, Muriel Blaisdell, Corp. of Engineers.

Besides the social events before the general meetings, there were two BBQ’s at Veterans Park, one in April, and one in September. April’s attendance had forty-eight (48) participants. In addition, in December, the Change-of-Watch dinner dance was held at the Cape Coral Yacht Club.

At the January general meeting Jack Ibach was awarded a special award for all his work for the sailing club through the years. Also, at the January meeting, recognition was given to Lloyd Derrer, avid sailor, member of the CCSC since 1987, on his 100th birthday. Cards and memories were shared.

At the January Board Meeting a motion was made and passed to eliminate the Charlie Varga award, which was for the boat attending the most luncheons. It was noted that the same boat always wins now. There are not enough boats attending luncheons to make a competition.

At the July meeting Ray Daugherty received a “Certificate of Appreciation” in recognition for his services as the Boating Information Chairman.

After the summer, the Board proposed a change to the By-laws to enable the club to eliminate general meetings during June, July, and August. There was a vote at the general meeting in October, and the proposal was voted down by a large majority.

The Member-of-the-Year award for 2011 went to Mark Skrzynski, for arranging the outstanding program speakers at our general meetings. George Hunt and Aggie Gomez received special Commodore Awards. George, for his fantastic job as editor of the Mainsheet, CCSC's newsletter, and Aggie, for her diligent work as the Sunshine person (sending cards for illness and death) and keeping the Commodore notified of such. Joe and Ginny Holland and Arnold Small/Gerri Kahn received Cruising Fleet trophies for going on the most cruises in 2011.

For more information, visit the Cape Coral Historical Museum, open Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday afternoons, 1-4 p.m. (closed July and August).