

## 2012

**Commodore:** Gerri Kahn  
**Vice Commodore:** Carla Lewins  
**Rear Commodore:** Jim Rayburn  
**Cruising Fleet Captain:** Ray Daugherty  
**Secretary:** Carmen Rusu  
**Treasurer:** Mario Rusu

In 2012, more of the new members became active cruisers. Cruising participation increased 100% over 2010 and 2011. On New Year's Eve there were six boats anchored in Glover Bight for the New Year festivities. On New Year's Day, nine boats and twenty-nine (29) people rafted up for the annual raft-up at Glover Bight. Temperatures were in the 70's and it was two beautiful sunny days.

There were more than sixty-nine (69) boats participating in cruising during the year. In January there was the four-day "Icicle Cruise" up to Franklin Locks, with fourteen (14) boats participating. This cruise always has the best breakfasts and potlucks. In February, there were two cruises back to back. First was the Tunnel of Love cruise to Useppa/Pelican Bay for the weekend. Nine (9) boats enjoyed this three-day cruise. The second cruise was to Palm Island, called the "Go-Fly-a-Kite" cruise. This four-day cruise had twelve boats sign up with nine (9) boats actually going. This year there was too much wind for the kites, they were dive-bombing to earth. The weather was wonderful with warm days, particularly appreciated after the last few years of frigid weather.

March was a busy month with two cruises planned. For something different, there was a mystery cruise. A three-day cruise was planned but the destination was not revealed until everyone signed up for the cruise. The cruise was to Castaway Island. All boat captains were given coordinates a few days before the start of the cruise. Thirteen (13) boats were successful in finding Castaway Island (Picnic Island) and enjoyed Happy Hour on the island's beach the first night. The next day there was a scavenger hunt competition to find survival items. Lunch provided by the cruise leaders followed, and due to nasty weather predictions (including 25 kn. North winds), all went home that afternoon. The planned Sat. night Happy Hour was held Sunday night at the cruise leader's home. The second cruise in March was to Tween Waters on Captiva Island. This cruise almost filled the Tween Waters Marina when twelve boats signed up. Actually eight (8) boats enjoyed this three-day cruise, after cancellations.

April was the month for the annual St. Petersburg cruise. This year the cruise was an eleven-day, or more, cruise to the Sailor Circus in Sarasota, with five boats participating. Ten (10) additional people drove up to the Sailor Circus. Then four boats continued on up to the St. Petersburg Yacht Club. From there the cruisers either headed home or up to Clearwater.

In May, there were two groups that headed down to the Dry Tortugas. The first group had five (5) boats, and two (2) boats left a week later. All boats then went to Key West and headed home from there.

The summer is too hot for most of our cruisers, so the next CCSC cruise was planned for September. It was called a Surprise Marina cruise. Seven (7) boats signed up, but it ended up a four-wheel cruise because many wanted to attend the "Celebration of Life" held for one of our cherished and active members, Joanne Stratton McKoy, who was also a charter member of the Cape Coral Sailing Club (CCSC). But a steak and potato dinner was held another day at the Yacht Club pavilion for the cruisers and other members of the club.

Three more cruises were planned in 2012. In October, eight (8) boats went on the Useppa/Cabbage Key three-day cruise. Six (6) boats continued on up Charlotte Harbor for the cruise to Punta Gorda and the Seven Seas Cruising Association GAM. In November, twelve (12) boats participated in the Salute to the Commodore Boat Parade in Glover Bight. Ten (10) boats anchored there the night before the parade, and sixty eight (68) people attended the luncheon at Marker 92 the day of the parade. After the luncheon at Marker 92, nine (9) boats headed to Ft. Myers Beach for four days. Some of the boats were at Moss Marina and some were at anchor.

Some of the CCSC members do not have a boat "anymore", or "yet", so the social activities are important to them. There were twelve (12) luncheons, two (2) dinners, and one (1) Sunday brunch in 2012. Destinations for lunch were Cape Coral, Ft. Myers Beach, Ft. Myers, North Ft. Myers, and Iona. The average number of attendees was thirty (30) members and guests. One to three boats went to most luncheons. Many times there were nine people on one boat.

There were social events plus a speaker at our monthly sailing club meetings. In January, there was a wine and cheese party which included thirty seven (37) bottles of wine to taste. The speaker that night was Mike Ilczyszyn, Business Manager, City of Cape Coral, who spoke on the city's canal dredging master plan.

In February there was a chili cook-off, including twelve (12) crock pots of chili, plus side dishes. The speaker was Rick Lawrence, Director of the Edison Sailing Center, who informed us of their history and talked about their students' sailing experiences. A

check of \$200 was donated to the sailing center on behalf of CCSC.

In March there was a Nautical Flea Market with members sharing hors d' oeuvres. Kurt Martin of Sail Service and Repair was our speaker, talking about sail maintenance, care, and repair. There was also a Bocce and Bar BQ in March, which attracted forty seven (47) attendees.

In April a pot luck dinner, including Happy Hour, was enjoyed by the members. The speaker was Phil Flood from South Florida Water Management District. He talked about how they manage our water resources, specifically as it applies to our waterways in SW Florida.

In May, there was a Summer Chillers party. Members brought their blenders and the ingredients to share their special drinks. A Charter Boat Captain, Capt. John Fetter, spoke to the club and shared information on local fishing: species, gear, lures and bait.

In June, an oldest T-shirt contest was held before the meeting. 1982 was the oldest T-shirt with two winners, Arnold Small and Joe Holland. Ginny Holland, the CCSC Historian, gave a short review of the club's history.

Thirty two (32) people devoured eleven (11) pizzas at our Pizza Party in July. There was no speaker. In August, Bingo With a Twist, with white elephant prizes for the winners, was the social event for the month. Officer Art Morrow from Florida Wildlife Commission talked about water safety, fishing laws, enforcement, and interaction with other law enforcement agencies.

The September meeting was the Chocolate Extravaganza. Dennis Cherney, Ft. Myers/Cape Coral Flotilla Commander, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, talked about the role the auxiliary takes in assisting with waterway safety and environmental protection.

In October the snowbirds were welcomed back with a Pirate Party and Grog. Prizes were given out for the best pirate costumes. Sheriff Mike Scott was the speaker, speaking on various subjects of the Sheriff's Dept., and answering questions from the audience. Also, in October, there was a Key West Beach party at the Cape Coral Yacht Club pavilion. The party included a "race to Cuba" and other games. Forty-four (44) members attended this social.

Our last club meeting for the year, in November, there was a pot luck dinner with the club providing a ham. Chris Marek and Richard White from Ocean Rigging talked about identifying our boat's potential rigging and hardware problems.

The final social event of the year was the Change-of-Watch dinner dance in December,

held at the Cape Coral Yacht Club. Seventy four (74) members came to congratulate the outgoing and incoming Boards, besides enjoying the dining, dancing, and socializing.

Some other events this year was an anchoring seminar in April and a reception held in October for new members of the CCSC who joined between 2010 – 2012. There were nineteen (19) new memberships in the last two years with a total of thirty-five (35) people.

Also, it was announced that our chandler now can have the CCSC logo embroidered on almost anything. It was noted to check the chandler to see all the new items.

Member-of-the-Year went to Webmaster Betty Anderson for the fantastic job she is doing updating and organizing our web page. New content was added to our website for a Members Only password protected page.

Special Commodore Award went to George Hunt who has put together our newsletter, The Mainsheet, year after year.

Cruising Trophy went to Mario and Carmen Rusu, “The Great Escape”.