

2013

Commodore:	Carmen Rusu
Vice Commodore:	Luc Carriere
Rear Commodore:	Jim Rayburn
Cruising Fleet Captain:	Steve Emmerman
Secretary:	Stephanie Crunkhorn
Treasurer:	Tim Stier
Day Fleet Captain:	Shirley Nemeth

2013 was another active cruising year for the Cape Coral Sailing Club (CCSC), with fourteen (14) cruises from the Florida Keys to Georgia. The cruising began with New Years eve, and eight (8) boats anchoring in Glovers Bight. The annual New Year's Day raft-up had ten (10) rafted boats, both sail and motor. Although the original plan was for one raft-up, there were two raft-ups, the two never met. The weather was perfect, in the 70's.

In the middle of January eleven (11) boats cruised up to the Franklin Locks. This cruise, known as the "Icicle Cruise", lived up to its name. Although it was cold, everyone enjoyed singing with a cruiser and his guitar around the campfire, and all the other activities, including the dinghy ride up river. Wonderful breakfasts and dinners by the cruise leaders and cruisers makes this a popular cruise.

There were two cruises in February, one being a weekend cruise to Useppa Island/Pelican Bay, and the other to Palm Island, known as the "Go Fly A Kite" cruise. There were eighteen (18) boats originally planning to go to Palm Island but, due to sickness and boat problems, only fifteen (15) boats actually went.

In March there were two cruises. The first was to Merwin Key, across from Picnic Island. Due to a cold front with predicted unpleasant weather, only two (2) boats went. The second cruise was to Tween Waters, with fifteen (15) boats participating.

On April 5, five (5) boats cruised up to Useppa Island for a 3-day weekend cruise. The St. Petersburg Yacht Club cruise was cancelled due to some changes at the yacht club which prevents CCSC from being invited there. We had been going annually for over thirty years. Also, in April, four (4) boats went down

through Marathon and cruised up the East coast of Florida headed to Georgia for a two-month cruise. Two boats made it to Cumberland Island, Georgia, and the other two boats headed home sooner.

Four (4) boats headed to Marathon and Key West in May. One of the boats went home via Lake Okeechobee. The summer seems to be too hot to cruise, so cruising resumed in September with a 5-day cruise to the Pink Shell Marina on Ft. Myers Beach. Five (5) boats participated in this cruise. The last four cruises were in October and November. Five (5) boats went on a weekend cruise to Cayo Costa/Useppa Island before the Charlotte Harbor cruise, which had seven (7) boats participating. There was no Seven Seas Cruising Association GAM in Punta Gorda this year because they could not find a leader, but the CCSC cruise leaders invited the SSCA members and Punta Gorda sailing club members to join them for lunch one day at Fishermans Village. Six (6) of them did join the group for lunch. In November, there was an over-night cruise to Glovers Bight the day before the Salute-to-the-Commodore parade and luncheon.

There were thirteen (13) luncheons this year including the Anniversary Luncheon in June and the Salute-to-the Commodore luncheon in November. Destinations for the luncheons were to Cape Coral, Ft. Myers, N. Ft. Myers, and Ft. Myers Beach. The smallest number of people attending a luncheon was eighteen (18), and the largest number of attendees was forty-one (41).

Again this year, social events were combined with the general meetings. In January there was a wine and cheese tasting party before the meeting. The speaker for the evening was Norbert Pfalz from Neptune Marine, who spoke on general boat repairs and maintenance. A chili cook-off was the social before the meeting in February, and Shawn Cervinda, from the U.S. Coast Guard, informed the members of the Coast Guard's duties and responsibilities.

March had two social events. First, fifty (50) members and guests enjoyed a BOCCE/BBQ outing. Second, there was a nautical flea market with hors d'oeuvres before the general meeting. An environmental writer, Chad Gillis, from the News Press, spoke on the water quality in the Caloosahatchee River, estuary and surrounding waters.

In April there was a Pot Luck dinner before the meeting. The speaker at the meeting was Jim La Sorella, Marine Services Department, city of Cape Coral, who discussed the operation of his department.

It is May and the “snow birds” are gone and so are a lot of our members. So to start the summer, there was a Summer Chiller party. Blenders were brought, along with the mixings of their favorite drink, and hors d’oeuvres. There was no formal speaker in May. Members talked about their cruising trips they recently returned from.

What could be more appropriate on a hot June night than ice cream. So it was an ice cream social before the June meeting. The captains and the crew of the boats who cruised up the east coast of Florida to Georgia told their stories of the trip (sometimes with different perspectives).

A pizza party again this year was the social before the meeting in July. And, in August, there was a Bingo party before the meeting. In September, the annual Chocolate Extravaganza was devoured before the general meeting. The speaker in September was Dan O’Connell from Inland Marine of Cape Coral, who makes boat products for inflatables.

In October, there is always a Welcome Home party for the summer escapees. This year there was a French mystery skit, “Last Train from Paris”, enacted by some of the club members. The audience was invited to solve the mystery and guess the murderer. No one guessed correctly. The audience was also invited to wear appropriate WWII attire. It was Halloween after all.

A Pot Luck dinner was held before the meeting in November. There were eight CCSC members who spoke this evening, revealing their funniest boating stories, or “Shipmans Tales”.

The last social this year was the Change-of-Watch dinner dance in December. Sixty (60) members attended this event, welcoming the new Board and thanking the old Board.

There were changes made this year to the By-laws, Rules of Order, and Standing Rules. They were submitted and approved at the September and October

meetings. In addition, the Mainsheet, the club's newsletter, will no longer be mailed out to members unless they pay a fee for the costs of mailing and printing a hard copy. A copy of the Mainsheet is on the CCSC web page.

Member of the Year went to George Hunt, for his three years of service as editor of the newsletter, the Mainsheet.

Cruising Fleet Award went to Ray and Jen Daugherty, "Who 'da Guessed", for participating in the most cruises in 2013.

Commodore's Special Award went to Ann Carriere, Social Committee Chairman, for the outstanding job she and her committee did this year.