



AUGUST NEWS FROM COMMANDER PAT SCHMIDT

Greetings to you all...wherever this letter finds you!

This is a rather long letter - I apologize. That said, I think you'll find it worth your while to read it to the very end.

While this is a particularly slow time of the squadron's year, I'd like to share some organization information, as well as some member updates.

EDUCATION

First of all, **congratulations** to the six graduates of the Advanced Piloting course:

- Rogers Hemphill
- Todd Roberts
- John Turner
- Lori Turner
- Gregg Wickstra
- James Winn

Of course, success in the classroom is the result of great teaching. That's John Fridlington.

Also, four members passed the Navigation course, the culminating class in the education series. **Congratulations** to these Navigators:

- Ellen Trevor
- Sandy Trevor
- Mike Schmidt
- Pat Schmidt

Thanks to instructor Steve Abbott for his great instruction!

Speaking of instructors, two of our experienced teachers have chosen to "retire." **Jay Brown**, A.B.C. lead teacher, announced he is stepping aside to spend more time on his various community projects. Jay has been an invaluable part of our Education Department, and he will be sorely missed.

Likewise, **Bill Hay**, Seamanship instructor, is stepping aside. He and wife Dianne are moving off island. Like Jay, after years of teaching this course, he's ready to "pass the textbook" to someone new. Bill's teaching will be sorely missed, as well.

All of us are grateful for the dedicated work these two gentlemen have done over the past years. How will we be able to “fill their shoes”? That leads me to what I want each of you to consider. Education Officer Bob Orr is working on filling these positions. While many of us might think that because we are not experienced teachers, we can't teach or co-teach one of these two courses. **Yes, you can!** And the club needs your help. Bob Orr and others are beginning their recruiting in the next week(s). Please consider joining this invaluable part of our organization.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

If you're on island over these summer months, you've noticed that the *Island Reporter* is carrying our “**Safe at Sea**” series of articles. Topics have covered a wide range: life jackets to maritime museums to boat names, etc. Special thanks to contributing writers Joanne Heroy-Giller, Bob Orr, and – particularly – Bob Eidsvold. This is another avenue where we need help. (“**Yes, you can!**”)

EVENTS

In August, you'll be receiving a Postcard that has the **Calendar of Events September-December**. We'd hope you'd post it right on your refrigerator so that you're “in the know” and can mark your personal calendars with our Dinner Meetings, C & R's, and other events.

Our first gathering of the upcoming season is in September (tour w/ lunch of Ding Darling) - keep your eye on your email as this is a “Reservation” event.

Then, our first Causeway Potluck will be held on Monday, October 1. That event marks the “season” as underway.

DISTRICT 22

The **D-22 Fall Conference** is October 6. Gregg Wickstra – our Email Blaster (aka Postmaster) will be sending Information/Reservation Flyers out next week. Information can also be found at the District 22 website at <http://www.usps.org/localusps/d22/>

Please consider this one-day event up at the Charlotte Harbor Event Center in Punta Gorda. Executive Officer Joanne Heroy-Giller will be leading our delegation.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER MESSAGE

In fact, Joanne has written the following section for all of you to consider.

We are America's Boating Club. "We DO" ...

- ⚓ Introductory Boating Classes (ABC)
- ⚓ Local Sunset Educational Cruises
- ⚓ SERAT
- ⚓ Free Vessel Safety Checks
- ⚓ Teach Sanibel School 6th Grade Safe Boating Classes
- ⚓ COOP Charting
- ⚓ "Boat Talk"
- ⚓ Kayaking
- ⚓ Bailey Fest
- ⚓ Ft. Myers Boat Show
- ⚓ Sanibel Farmers Market

We ARE San-Cap BOATING. Won't you help? [Come and join in the fun!](#)

Contact me with your interest or your questions.

Joanne Heroy-Giller
jheroy@yahoo.com
239-850-1051

MEMBER NEWS

I know this is lengthy, and I apologize. The last piece is important. I want to share news that I've received about a few of our members. Please, if you have similar news about other members, please email it to me at patandmikeschmidt@gmail.com. Please send best wishes to these fine folks.

Jim Ott has been up north at their Pennsylvania home for many months as he has been battling cancer. When we connected, he was upbeat and determined to be back in Sanibel.

Email: jott009@comcast.net
Address: 9 Manchester Rd, Media, PA19063-4201

Bro D'Arcy (From Dede D'Arcy) - To all our good friends,

Some of you know, to some this will come as a surprise, Bro has declined dramatically since his May birthday. At that time he was using a cane and had a tiny bit of memory loss and balance issues. He was working with a personal trainer and physical therapist to allay those problems. Since then he has declined to the point that he can no longer walk, get out of a chair or dress himself. As well as losing the physical ability, his mental state is now in a pretty perpetual state of confusion. He still recognizes the family. Our children and grandchildren have been wonderful and all have visited him in the near past or are doing so now. He also

has some steadfast friends that visit him on a regular basis. He is being well taken care of in Shell Point Pavilion, our retirement community's extended care facility.

As a favor to Bro and me, we would love if you could take the time to send an e-mail or letter to me to make up a Book of Memories. I'm hoping it will stimulate his memory and also let the nurses and attendants who work with him get to know what a wonderful man he was. His sense of humor, his sense of adventure and escapades, his loyalty and his accomplishments would be an insight for them and a reminder to Bro. He has the same nurses that Mom has so in that sense they do remember the person he was with all the visits we did with her together.

We are all doing as well as expected. There is nothing to worry about on my account. I have been loved, taken care of and spoiled pretty much all of my life from both my Mother and my husband. It's my turn to surround them with love and support. The love of all our friends and family surrounds all three of us.

Love to all, Dede

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David & Susie Kentner have moved to Venice! In making this announcement, they wanted to thank everyone for the wonderful memories! No new address at this time.

Bill & Dianne Hay are moving off island, but they intend to continue as active members of our club. No new address at this time.

Jim & Mary Hock - Mary has taken a couple falls that have resulted in lengthy hospitalization. Together, they will be moving into long-term care. When I spoke with Jim just a couple days ago, he had visited the facilities at The Villages and believed they would be returning there. (Sigh. We just got them back.)

Phone: 585-437-5432
Address: 20647 Dennisport, North Ft. Myers, FL 33917

Carol Allen - Today, July 31, Carol will undergo knee replacement surgery in Minneapolis.

Phone: (Cell) 612-210-1525
Address: 17501 Saddlewood Ln., Minnetonka, MN 55345

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August News from Commander Pat Schmidt

The good news: There won't be another lengthy letter in your email/mail until mid-September as I'll be traveling out of the country. Gregg Wickstra will be keeping you up-to-date, and Joanne Heroy-Giller will be sending out news as appropriate.

May the "Dog Days of Summer" treat you well on sea and on land!

Pat Schmidt

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