

# MIACC

At the Helm

### **MIACC Annual Member Meeting: Nov 11**



# Association Of Collier Cour

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### Welcome Aboard New Members:

Engel & Volkers Yachting Walter Johnson Phone: (239) 404-9329 8375 Fifth Ave S Naples, FL 34102 walter.johnson@evyachting.com Website: EVYachtingusa.com

Sun Coast Surveying & Consulting Frank Messana Phone: (239) 707-4114 Email: frank@suncoastms.com naplesmarinesurveyorinc.com

Tow Boat US Naples & Marco Island Dominique & Todd Dillman Phone: (239) 389-1177 PO Box 7253 Naples, FL 34101 Email: boatusnaples@gmail.com

Share the benefits of membership With your colleagues!

boatusnaplesandmarcoisland.com



# MIACC At the Helm

## Welcome Our New 2022 Board Members



#### **BLAKE BORGESON** World Cat of Naples

Thank you for considering me as a potential member of the Board of Directors for MIACC. I am currently the Sales manager at World Cat of Naples. I helped open this dealership in January of 2020. Over the last year and a half World Cat of Naples has become one of the top 5 grossing World Cat dealers in the World. Prior to managing World Cat of Naples, I was a part of the sales team at Naples Bay Marina, Waylen Bay Yacht Sales and ran a charter fishing/sightseeing company, Paradise Coast

Charters. I grew up on the water and enjoy boating, fishing, and diving in my free time. I have participated in the Naples Boat Parade a few times and enjoy collaborating with my family to make our boat brighter and more festive each year. I think I would be a great fit for the board because I am very familiar with the marine industry and can bring a perspective from the dealership level for boat shows, parades, and other events.

#### DARSEY GABBARD

#### **Cruise Cool**

Darsey Gabbard was born and raised in northern Indiana and spent her summers at her families' lake cottage and most of her spring breaks fishing with her family in Canada, Minnesota, or Wisconsin. In this day and age, kids would probably cry child abuse, being taken from one cold place to an even colder place for spring break! However, those experiences helped shape her



character and instill respect for nature. Darsey started out working in the IT industry, with no formal training or education. It was her 'feet first' attitude

that sprung her to success. She grew from a help desk service technician to running multi-million-dollar accounts in the Healthcare industry, with MD

Anderson being one of her biggest clients.

After years of growing her accounts, the corporate world took its toll. One day while visiting her family, she called her husband, Doug, and asked, "Do I need a job to quit my job?" His answer would shock most people as he replied, "Darsey, that is up to you." She put her two weeks' notice in and was ready for a new challenge.

In 2016, the Gabbard's purchased Cruise Cool and put their hearts into running their new business. Their business services Marine HVAC and refrigeration on all types of vessels. Although it may seem that Darsey is not a likely candidate to own this type of business, but she brings a fresh perspective to the table.

Darsey's core values of honesty, hard-work, determination, and optimism have propelled the ongoing success and growth of Cruise Cool. Her IT background has even proven to be a plus in updating the business! When she is not tending to the day-to-day business, Darsey enjoys growing plants and trees from seed, spending time with family and taking care of her 3 fish (Buster, Chopper and Spaz) and her constant companion, her dog, Rocky Balboa. Her favorite event to volunteer is the Kid's Fishing Clinic hosted by the Marine Industries Association of Collier County.

In closing, what you will get with Darsey is loyalty, compassion, and honesty. Darsey will do what is right for the local water community. She is a dedicated leader and will listen to all and make sound decisions to benefit all.

#### DAN MARUSCZAK

Mariner Services Inc.

Dan has been a Naples resident since 1994, and President of Mariner Services Inc., a Naplesbased Yacht and Vessel Management Company for the past 15 years. A New England native, he is a United States Coast Guard 100 Gross Ton Captain/Merchant Marine credential holder for the past 25 years. Dan has Captained vessels ranging in size from 24-foot runabouts to 105foot motor yachts from the New England Coast to the Keys and Bahamas throughout his career on the water. As the past owner of Pelican Charters, he had previously offered charter



services on his vessels that ranged in size from 26 to 55 feet. Presently, Mariner Services Inc. provides staffing and manages the vessel operations at Minto Communities-USA, Windstar on Naples Bay, Isles of Collier Preserve, as well as a number of privately-owned yachts/vessels in the Southwest Florida region. Dan holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Westfield State University and a Master of Business Administration from Western New England University. He is a member in good standing with the American Boat and Yacht Council (ABYC), Society of Accredited Marine Surveyors (SAMS) and is NAVTECH/US Captain certified.

Dan presently serves on the Board of Directors of the Marine Industries Foundation and is passionate in moving the Keewaydin Preserve forward as a legacy project for our present generation of MIACC members. He believes that the preservation of waterfront lands today is essential for the enjoyment of future generations in the areas of fishing, camping and waterfront activities. Dan is also an active advocate for Freedom Waters Foundation, a nonprofit organization that provides therapeutic boat experiences for individuals, children, and veterans with special needs, and has donated Captain services and vessels for Foundation events.

On a personal note, regarding our industry, Dan believes that the adage "there's something in the water" is true. The time is now for us to make a positive impact from and economic, political, and societal standpoint. Dan knows that you will not find a more passionate industry than the marine industry, and we must foster our organization and its mission for the benefit of future generations of marine professionals.



#### TONY TOFANI **First Citizens Bank**

FSM II/VP/Corporate Officer

I originated from small town Ohio growing up on our Grandparent's farm. I had the great honor growing up of playing Collegiate levels for Football and Track. I've also had and extensive background in Banking and Financial services since 1997 and relocated to the Naples area in 2010 to care for a grandparent.

In 2014 I opened a successful Marine Business and Captaining service. I found an immediate love for the area and have looked continuously for ways to give back

to my community including the Treasurer for the Sports Council of Collier

County and numerous civil events on behalf of several area banks. For the last 3yrs I have had the incredible privilege to work for First Citizens Bank. First Citizens was founded in 1898 and is the largest Family Controlled bank in the United States. Currently, we are led by our 4th Generation of Founding Family leadership with every generation starting from Tellers working their way up. We continue as a bank to find ways to give back to our communities and support our local Business owners with a Face-to-Face Partnerships, Concierge service, and no one is ever a number with us mindset.

### MIACC At the Helm

**MIACC Events** 

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Kids playground

Awesome BBQ

(Coolers allowed)

Shallow Sport



Registration will be held at Check-In. No tickets will be distributed.

# \*Physicians Regional Healthcare System\*



# MIACC At the Helm

# **Member News & Events**



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### Veterans & Active Duty Cruise FREE



### Thursday, Nov. 11

Sightseeing Cruises Departs at 12pm & 2pm

Pure Florida's signature sightseeing cruise is a perfect way to experience the water. Pure Florida is so thankful for your service and hopes you enjoy this cruise!

Valid with full-fare adult or child admission. Cannot be combined with other discounts or be used with a promotional gift certificate.

Contact our team at 239.263.4949 to Reserve your FREE Cruise ticket!

### Science & Santa Holiday Cruise



#### Saturday, December 4

- 9am 11:30 am
- \$44 Adults
  \$22 Children (3-12 yo)

Holiday Science Experiments with Mr. Glen, time with Santa, ornament making & a fun Pure Florida Sightseeing Cruise! Seas the Holidays!

Holiday Fun 9am - 9:45am Cruise 10am - 11:30 am

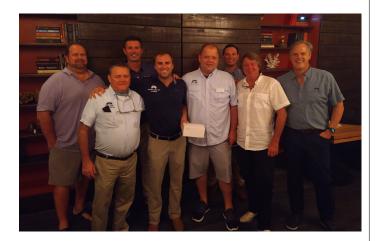
BOOK ONLINE - PureFL.com or contact our team at 239.263.4949



World Cat Boats, based in Tarboro, NC, awarded their top sales and service awards this month at the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show. We are pleased to announce that Blake Borgeson of World Cat of Naples (WCN) was recognized as the #I Salesperson in the World.

Blake, recent addition to the MIACC board, has been at World Cat of Naples, since opening in January 2020. World Cat of South Florida, WCN's parent company, located in Fort Lauderdale, was named the manufacturer's Dealer of the Year for the 14th year straight! WCN's reputation carries over into their service department as well. The service staff were present to receive the 5-Star Service Excellence Award. Drew Davis, President of World Cat of South Florida and Naples had this to say, "this award is evidence of Blake's work ethic and all the staff's commitment to our community. We are blessed to have them serving our customers."

World Cat of Naples is located at 2825 Davis Blvd. Sales and Service can be reached by calling 239-529-5652 or texting 954-765-6256 or emailing Blake@PowerCatMarine.com.



Vic Porter, Chairman Emeritus of Formula Boats passes away. He was a good soul who loved the industry, his company, his employees, his community, and his fellow man, and he was a true visionary.





# MIACC At the Helm

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## **Member News**



 LEESBURG, FLORIDA EXPANDS BOATING ACCESS WITH GOLDEN DOCKS

The City of Leesburg, Florida is in the final stages of an ambitious public waterfront revitalization. Situated on Venetian Gardens, a tranquil park-like cove of Lake Harris, the project includes a mix of Golden Marine Systems fixed and floating docks. With an expected completion date of October 2021, the site expands public boating access in the area and enhances recreational opportunities for residents and visitors.

Golden supplied its durable 9 Series fixed Aluminum Dock System. Designed for greater piling spacing than can be achieved with a comparable wooden structure, it provided the City of Leesburg significant cost savings. Plus, fewer piles make the location more attractive from the shore as well as from the water. Manufactured to ISO 9001:2015 standards using fully welded 6061 T6 marinegrade aluminum with stainless steel fittings, it has a life expectancy

of over 35 years and is backed by a 10-year limited warranty. The floating dock section is Golden's 850 Series Aluminum Dock System. Highly stable, it has the same premium build quality as the fixed dock. It features adjustable pile guides, cleats and 22 finger piers with power pedestals, water service and a fire suppression solution.

Installed by Fort Myers, Florida-based Kelly Brothers, Inc., the docks feature WearDeck Composite decking, a virtually maintenance-free solution with the appearance of real wood. Golden also supplied four heavy-duty gangways and a security gate.

"The docks turned out great," said John Folker, City of Leesburg project manager. "We host several bass fishing tournaments that have a lot of boating and pedestrian traffic. Plus, the area ties into many popular islands within Lake Harris and its adjoining lakes. The revitalized waterfront with new docks will be a huge asset for the city."

Located 40 miles northwest of Orlando, Florida, the Venetian Gardens renewal project was grant-funded through Lake County and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. It features a new restaurant, Ski Beach Grill & Bar, extensive landscaping, walking trails and access to Rogers Park and Pat Thomas Stadium, both popular event venues. Golden Marine Systems is a division of Golden Manufacturing, the global market leader in aluminum boat lifts, and fixed and floating aluminum and concrete dock solutions. The enterprise has distribution ware-houses outside of Charlotte, North Carolina and Seattle, Washington and a global network of over 190 dealers.



Fiberon is a leading producer of the award-winning composite decking brand crafting eco-friendly composite materials for residential and commercial markets since 1997. Strong and low maintenance wood-alternatives for easy outdoor living.

#### https://www.fiberondecking.com/

Fiberon is now available at Shoreline Lumber in SWFL. shoreline-lumber.com





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### MIACC At the Helm

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> > Stephen Strassel President

Russell Burland Vice President

Chris Burkard Secretary

Josh Maxwell Treasurer

Directors: Darsey Gabbard, Ray Jahn, Jim Kalvin, Kenny Main, Robin Rosario Emeritus: Frank Donohue, Jim Kalvin, Jim Logie, Lee Lyons, Henry Lowe, Frank Perrucci, Kit Sawyer

> Tiffany Sawyer-Schank Executive Director



### **MIPAC 4th Quarter Contributions**

#### **Marine Industries Promoting** Access for Citizens

In 2002 the Marine Industries Association of Collier County formed a Political Action Committee named Marine Industries Promoting Access for Citizens (MIPAC). This action was taken so that we can support issues and legislative candidates who assist the goals and purposes of the marine industries community.

On a guarterly basis, the MIPAC seeks donations of \$50.00 from each member. The MIPAC's mis-

### Upcoming Events

sions and goals are to act upon problematic issues that must be addressed at the legislative level for the growth and protection of the marine industry. Monies collected from the MIPAC donations are used in supporting political decision makers that will tackle the very issues that affect all members of our industry. As a good steward of our member's donations. MIPAC adheres to uniform contribution criteria when determining how much and



Come aboard and enjoy a nice relaxing time on the water while sharing in the camaraderie of fellow veterans.

Monday, November 8, 2021 12:30 pm-2:30 pm Boarding at 12:00 pm

The Naples Princess 550 Port O Call Way Naples, FL 34102

**Reserve Your Spot** Call: 239-263-2377 or Email: MGavin@freedomwatersfoundation.org freedomwatersfoundation.org

Thank you Naples Princess for donating the use of your vessel!

Sharing Freedom and Joy On and Off the Water!

Our Mission: Marine Industries Association of Collier County (MIACC) is a not-for-profit membershipbased organization focused on the responsible growth of the marine industry for the benefit of its members, recreational boaters, the community, and the environment.

Our Goal: MIACC represents recreational boating and member interests at the Local, State, and Federal levels; Issues of interest include Water Access, Recreational Boating, Commercial Boating, Free Trade, Advocating for Property Rights, and Legislative or Regulatory initiatives that impact these interests.

Our Members: Members include Dealers & Manufacturers, Boating & Professional Services, Charters, Marine Contractors, Boat Lifts, Shipyards & Storage, and Equipment & Accessories.

to which candidate assistance is allocated.

MIPAC will educate you about the political landscape and issues facing our organization and will strategize political impact. In addition, the committee is always open to suggestions, questions and comments.

Please send your quarterly donations to MIPAC, PO Box 9887, Naples, Florida 34101

Association Of Collier County **PROMOTING ACCESS** TO CITIZENS

Make Checks Payable to **MIPAC!** 

MIACC Annual Meeting: Naples Boat Club Clubhouse

Cedar Tree Music Festival

Christmas Boat Parade

Naples Boat Show

**Kids Fishing Clinic** 

November 11th 5:30-7:00pm November 20 & 21 December 11, 2021 January 20-23, 2022 March 5, 2022