

MIACC

At the Helm



RSVP! Annual Meeting: May 12

May 2026

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Welcome Aboard New Members:

GCG Construction

Teely Byrd
(239) 454-7304
6819 Porto Fino Cir, Suite 1
Ft Myers, FL 33912
reception@gcgbuilds.com
GCGBuilds.com

Suntex Marinas

Thomas Hearden
(920) 680-5755
17330 Preston Rd
Dallas, TX 75252
Thomas.hearden@suntex.com
Suntex.com

*Share the benefits of membership
With your colleagues!*

*Sign Up a New Member
And earn a free meeting ON US!*

*Follow Us! Like Us!
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LET'S CELEBRATE
THE END OF SEASON



MAY 12, 2026
5:30-9:00 PM

Guest Speakers



Missy Timmins Yvette Benarroch Lauren Melo Ben Murray

GET TICKETS

Director@MIACC.org
(239) 682-0900

Naples Sailing & Yacht Club
896 River Point Dr

<https://MIACCAnnualDinner26.eventbrite.com>

Event Highlights

Networking

Celebrating a successful year among industry professionals

State of the Industry

Guest speakers, Political leaders, Industry insight, MIACC news & events

Delectable Cuisine by NSYC

Savor a delightful array of food and beverages available throughout the event

Auction and Raffle

Chance Auction and 50/50 raffle — Win exciting prizes while supporting the MIACC Foundation!

Member & Community News

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE



Molly Strassel

May 16, 2026

10:30 am Funeral Mass | St Ann Catholic Church 985 3rd St S, Naples
1:00 pm Burial at Sea Flotilla
Meet at Gordon Pass or RSVP for a seat on the Double Sunshine (boarding at 12:15pm at Tin City)
2:30 pm Reception at Pinchers Tin City

To honor Molly's life and legacy, in lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the MIACC Foundation
MIACC.org/foundation | PO Box 9887, Naples, FL 34101



City of Naples Tree Fest

FISHING



Clinic

*Partnered with Marine Industries Association of Collier County

AGES 5-15

Fishing Gear Provided • Baiting Hook Lessons
Fishing in the Gordon River • Knot Tying Lessons
And more!



SATURDAY,
JUNE 6, 2026



START 9:00AM
END 12:00PM



BAKER PARK
100 Riverside Circle

Mike's
Bait House

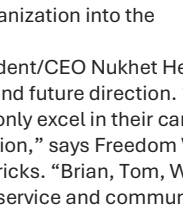


On Friday, April 24, 2026, the City of Naples, along with Pier rebuild contractors Shoreline Foundation, Inc., and marine and environmental engineers Turrell, Hall & Associates (THA), marked a milestone in recovery efforts from Hurricane Ian and the rebuilding of the iconic Naples Pier. Fifty-nine concrete pilings from the demolished pier, totaling over 300 tons, were successfully deployed at the Wasmer Reef site, located approximately 10 miles offshore of Gordon Pass in the Gulf.

Rather than sending the concrete to the landfill, the City exercised a reef deployment option, transforming remnants of the Naples Pier into the foundation of a new underwater ecosystem. The deployment, made possible through a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit and overseen by THA, marks the eighth reef created within the Wasmer site. The reef was first established in 2015 through a multi-agency collaboration funded by BP oil spill grants and private donations.

The Wasmer Reef, now more than a decade old, is thriving and hosts corals, aquatic vegetation, invertebrates, bivalves, and tunicates that provide refuge and food for juvenile and mature fish species alike. The Naples Pier pilings will join that legacy, with dive teams confirming site conditions before and after deployment to ensure full compliance with permit requirements. Remaining pier pilings not destined for the reef have also been diverted from the landfill. They have been delivered to a recycling facility, where they will be processed into recycled concrete aggregate (RCA) for use in road construction. For Naples Pier Rebuild Project updates, visit the Naples Pier Rebuild Project webpage or subscribe to the City of Naples email lists. Video footage and additional photos from the reef deployment will be posted later this week.

Member News



The Freedom Waters Foundation is proud to announce the appointment of five new members to its Board of Directors: Brian Work, Thomas "Tom" Gordy, Walter Johnson, Michael Kincaid, and Dennis Dunham. Each brings a strong background of professional expertise, passion for the water, and deep commitment to serving others.

"With the addition of our new President/CEO, Nukhet Hendricks and these five incredible Board members, along with the current Board and staff, Freedom Waters Foundation is well poised for a very bright future," says founder Debra Frenkel. "I am so forever grateful for all those who have helped along the past 20 years and for those who will continue to share their passion for serving others through this organization into the future."

Building on that foundation, President/CEO Nukhet Hendricks spoke to the organization's continued growth and future direction. "Our board is strengthened by leaders who not only excel in their careers but also share a heartfelt connection to our mission," says Freedom Waters Foundation President and CEO, Nukhet Hendricks. "Brian, Tom, Walter, Michael, and Dennis each embody the spirit of service and community that defines our organization."

Brian Work grew up boating on the Indian River Bay in southern Delaware and on lakes across the Northeast. His career with UPS brought him to Atlanta, where he began boating on Lake Lanier. Brian currently serves as President of CloneOps.ai, an artificial intelligence communications company.

Thomas "Tom" Gordy, a 26-year retired logistics specialist veteran of the U.S. Navy, grew up in Columbus, Georgia, and later settled in Cumming, Georgia. Tom became involved with Freedom Waters Foundation through the Weller Day boating event at Lake Lanier in 2024 and quickly developed a passion for this meaningful way of serving others.

Walter Johnson is recognized as one of the top sailors in the country, having won numerous national and local championships as well as ocean races. An avid competitive sailor and boater, Walter serves as the broker of record for Walter Johnson Yachts and is a certified professional yacht broker.

Michael Kincaid brings a unique combination of technical expertise and maritime passion. After leading global innovation initiatives at Google, he transitioned to a life dedicated to service on the water. A U.S. Army veteran of the 82nd Airborne Division, Michael is deeply committed to providing restorative, therapeutic experiences for fellow veterans. He also offers more than 30 years of experience as an expert-level American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter.

Dennis Dunham recently retired as Vice President of Operations and Director of Winemaking at Oliver Winery in Bloomington, Indiana, following a 26-year career managing wine operations. Dennis has been drawn to the water since childhood, spending summers boating and camping. Since 2024, he has volunteered as a boat captain on his home lake in Bloomington, where he continues to share his love of the water with others.

The addition of these five board members marks an exciting new chapter for the Freedom Waters Foundation as it continues to expand its reach and impact. Through therapeutic boating experiences, the organization serves

children and adults with disabilities, veterans, and their families—creating moments of freedom, connection, and joy on the water.

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Member News



Visitors to Fort Myers Beach this summer will find fresh new dining and improved docking options. The Marina at Bonita Fish Company recently completed an overhaul of their docks with the expert help of Golden Marine Systems. Formerly Bonita Bill's restaurant, the location replaced their legacy fixed timber docks with 30 slips of Golden's proven 850 Series single track floating dock system. Golden also supplied four (4) new gangways for safe and efficient dock access. Premium Weardeck composite decking covers the docks for enhanced longevity and minimal maintenance while GMS 12" adjustable cleats and heavy-duty pile guides provide secure mooring and reliable performance through the dynamic Gulfside Florida seasons. "The restaurant is brand new as well," relates owner Joe Harrity. "It's part of an area we're calling Fisherman's Wharf on Fort Myers Beach. If you use our docks, we don't limit you to go to Bonita Fish Company; you can go anywhere you want, any of the three restaurants here.



Phase One represents a significant step forward in restoring and upgrading this unique waterfront infrastructure. "We allow both transient and long-term use," notes Harrity, "We do have one floating wooden dock that we're leaving for restaurant use, so daily boaters coming up for lunch." Dockside amenities include water and 10/30/50 amp power set to go live in June upon successful delivery of electric panels. More information about slip rental and docking and dining options can be found at www.bonitafishco.com.



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Member Events

Marine Industries Association of Collier County
 PO Box 9887
 Naples, FL 34101

Phone: (239) 682-0900
 Fax: (239) 236-9000
 Email: director@miacc.org
www.miacc.org

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Tiffany Sawyer-Schank
Executive Director

Cheers to 250

From Sunset to Sparkle
 Celebrate America's 250th
 Birthday in unforgettable style
 aboard

Pure Florida's 4th of July Fire-
 works Cruise.

Begin with a scenic cruise
 through the Naples' iconic wa-
 terways while your captain
 shares fun local stories along the
 way as we head into the Gulf
 just in time for a breathtaking
 sunset.

As darkness falls, get ready for the grand finale, a front-row seat on the water to the City of Naples' spectacular fireworks display. Watch the sky light up in dazzling color, reflecting across the water for a truly magical, can't-miss celebration of freedom and tradition.

With festive music, a lively atmosphere, and unbeatable views, this is more than a fireworks show, it's a once-in-a-lifetime way to celebrate 250 years of America.

Date: July 4, 2026

Cost: \$150 per person

Time: Departs 7:15PM, approximately 2 1/2 Hours



MIPAC 2nd Quarter Contributions

A PAC is a Political Action Committee. In simple terms, a PAC is an organization that raises and spends money to influence political elections or public policy.

What a PAC does:

- Collects donations from individuals, companies, unions, or members
- Supports or opposes candidates for public office
- Funds political activities like campaign contributions, ads, or advocacy

Why PACs exist:

- PACs allow groups of people or organizations with shared inter-

ests to combine their money and have a stronger political voice.

- Marine Industries Promoting Access for Citizens (MIPAC) was formed to support issues and legislative candidates who assist the goals and purposes of the marine industries community.

On a quarterly basis, MIPAC seeks donations of \$50.00 from each member. MIPAC's mission 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 MIPAC do-

Our Mission: Marine Industries Association of Collier County (MIACC) is a not-for-profit membership-based 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.

nations 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 to which candidate assistance is allocated.

Please support MIPAC quarterly and follow our lobbyist' success on our website's Legislative Page. Please send your quarterly donations to MIPAC, PO Box 9887, Naples, Florida 34101



Please make checks payable
 to MIPAC

Upcoming Events

MIACC Annual Meeting: Naples Sailing & Yacht Club

Arbor Fest/Kids Fishing Clinic

Marco Boat Show

Christmas Boat Parade

Naples Boat Show

May 12 at 5:30pm

June 6, 2026

October 16-18, 2026

December 12, 2026

January 21-24, 2027

