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Boating instructor urges mandatory seamanship course

Florida should require mandatory seamanship courses and licensing for boat owners to combat overcrowded waterways and a growing number of marine accidents, a USF safe boating instructor says.

So far in 1989, 761 boating accidents have been reported in the state, killing 43 people and injuring 341. One hundred twenty of these accidents were alcohol-related, according to statistics from the Florida Marine Patrol.

The scarcely populated inland waters of yesteryear have emerged as thoroughfares for sailboats, fishing craft, runabouts and cruisers. Boating accidents have become the second leading cause of transportation injuries in the United States, according to reports from the federal Department of Transportation.

Records show estimated vessel damage stemming from the accidents was about $2.1 million; estimated property damage was $225,000.

Currently in Florida, boaters are not required to know navigation laws, and the state doesn't require boat drivers to have licenses.

Cliff Bare, a safe boating and sailing instructor at USF St. Petersburg, says boat owners need to be educated about marine regulations. To alleviate boating mishaps, owners of vessels should be required to pass a safe boating course in order to obtain an operating license. He cautions, however, that the "courses aren't a catch-all for the power boat owners who don't have any more common sense than to push the throttle."

Bare also recommends that an increase in the number of law enforcement officers on the waterways would help to keep potential offenders in line.

Stronger laws could be in place by the fall of 1990, says Capt. Alan Richard, deputy boating safety coordinator for the Marine Patrol.

"The department is considering drafting legislation to present to the governor and the Cabinet to better regulate the operation of vessels," Richard says. The draft could be converted into bill form when the state Legislature convenes next spring and be enacted into law in October, he added.

Both Bare and Richard are well aware of fatal marine collisions. A recent USF graduate, J. David Springfield II, was killed July 6 when his small boat was hit by a speedboat on Lake Magdalene in Tampa.

Dean Davis hospitalized

Lowell Davis, dean of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg, was hospitalized Aug. 23 at Bayfront Medical Center after apparently suffering a stroke, university Provost Gerry G. Meisels said.

Karen Spear, associate dean at USF St. Petersburg, is serving as dean in the interim, Meisels said.

"We are distressed by this unexpected illness. Dean Davis is an enthusiastic and committed administrator with a strong loyalty to USF St. Petersburg," Meisels said.

"We hope his absence will be very short."

Davis, 58, has been dean of USF St. Petersburg since August 1986.
An Icelandic looks at St. Petersburg

Fulbright scholar comes to campus

By Deborah KurelEk

Unlike many Europeans who get their impressions of America from episodes of Dallas and Eddie Murphy movies, Ragnar Sigurdsson knew better.

He knew he wouldn't find rich Texans rolling in their oil dollars. And he knew profanity wasn't the language of choice for most Americans. Still the Fulbright scholar and international traveler was amazed by American life.

"I was astounded by the variety and diversity of people and the area," said Sigurdsson, a teacher who was here on sabbatical from Iceland. After receiving a Fulbright grant in January 1988 to study anywhere in the United States, he chose USF St. Petersburg and completed his master's degree in U.S. history in September. He has since returned to his homeland.

While he was here, he studied incessantly - it's not easy getting a master's degree in a year's time. He inevitably could be found on campus day or night, resembling a nomad in his loose-fitting clothes and sandals, but with his bearded face immersed in books. He's a family man whose wife and four children followed him here.

Living a student's life suited him well. "It was a nice change being on the other side of the desk," he said. He teaches history and English at a high school and middle school in Iceland.

He liked it in St. Petersburg, where people are "more open and friendly" than in his hometown of Reykjavik, a cosmopolitan but evidently subdued city of 80,000 located in the southwest region of Iceland.

The weather reports here confounded him. "Why forecast it when it's the same every day!"

A good summer day in Reykjavik won't top 68 degrees Fahrenheit, "and there can be five (types of) weathers in one day." Winters get down to a surly 14 degrees.

Yet he found life isn't entirely sunny in the United States. Sigurdsson was saddened and appalled by the number of homeless people he saw around the Tampa Bay area.

"It shouldn't be allowed to exist, this problem of homelessness," he said. "I feel everybody has the right to live decently and get help from society when they're down and out."

Homelessness is almost unheard of in Iceland, he said, and there's nearly no unemployment.

"Everybody seems to have work, with no apprehensiveness about the future. The idea that people should be helped is more ingrained in the structure of society than here."

Nearly everybody may work in Iceland, but everyone pays as well. There's a 25 percent sales tax and an inflation rate of between 20 and 30 percent. It's been that way for the last 20 years, he said.

"So it's very nice to go into shops here week after week and have the same prices." Luxury items are astronomical in Iceland and folks have to work hard to get them. Yet Sigurdsson said status seeking is popular and "worse than here" - creating a polarized class structure.

Class or no class, Icelanders are a industrious people, who "basically work around the clock to uphold a good standard of living."

That is, except for a mandatory, paid four-week vacation, compliments of a generous labor law.

Their advanced social structure provides for a nationwide health care system that charges citizens little or nothing for medical care.

Icelanders also are enlightened when it comes to the environment. Because fishing comprises 80 percent of the country's export business, stringent laws protect the water. No offshore water drilling is sanctioned in the North Atlantic; little water pollution exists.

"Everybody's very aware that resources can be depleted, and if that happens, Iceland goes bankrupt," Sigurdsson said.

The plastic foam trash that washes up along Bayboro Harbor and Tampa Bay was a new sight for Sigurdsson. But he thought that was due in part to the scant population of his country - 250,000 in an area the size of Kentucky. Pack 2 million people (the population of the Tampa Bay area) into that space and the outcome would likely be the same amount of pollution generated here, he said. Affordable day-care is not as big a problem in Iceland as it is in America, no doubt due to a powerful women's movement, Sigurdsson said. Municipalities run the day care centers as a low-cost city service.

The women's movement in Iceland wasn't always as respected. Back in the '70s, the movement wasn't recognized until women went on strike. Almost every woman in Iceland stopped working for one day, nearly bringing the country to a halt.

"They were appreciated after that," he said. Equal opportunity laws soon followed and women there today frequently hold top corporate jobs.

There is a women's political party, Kvinnalistinm, and about one quarter of Parliament's 63 members are women. The movement is so supported that Sigurdsson suspects the number of women in Parliament will double in the next election.

Crack cocaine hasn't invaded Iceland, and the drug trade is small. But alcoholism is considered a big problem. State-funded treatment centers abound there.

Iceland has a tight gun law, with handguns prohibited. Hunting rifles and shot guns are allowed by permit only. Consequently, Sigurdsson said, very few murders occur a year.

His experiences here gave him a sharper perspective of life in America, and they're something he can share in the classroom back home.

The weather is another story.

"In a way I'm sad to leave because I like it here," he said. "But, of course, I'm happy to go back to the southwest winds and the rain."
Robert Kelzer: A direct approach to giving

Community organizer Kelzer — president of R-Systems Inc. in St. Petersburg, and a USF Alumnus — sets out to "get the job done" in a multitude of ways.

By Robin Simmons

Robert Kelzer had a lot on his mind on this day. Hosting a panoramic journey into the critical growth issues facing Pinellas County, he stated his case for affordable housing, mass transit and all that must be accomplished to create a community filled with amenities where everyone can live.

Try turning to a more nuts-and-bolts explanation of his own home construction business, and Kelzer will obliged. But soon he's off again discussing the need to create higher land-use densities for affordable housing, removing the stigma of mental illness and erasing the parochialism that thwarts cooperation across the bay.

Like so many things about Kelzer, there is a reason for his full-circle approach. To grasp his views of what makes up a community is to understand the extent of Kelzer's involvement in helping make all the pieces fit. "All of that community interest and excitement for the future is where I've been and where I'm heading," says Kelzer, 38. "All of what I've talked about is who I am."

By trade, this president of R-Systems Inc. is a St. Petersburg home builder and project manager for private investors in development. By day and by night, he is a community volunteer and disciple of a Daytimer that keeps his time management in sync.

Kelzer worked on a subcommittee that reviewed St. Petersburg's land-use planning for the Urban Task Force under the umbrella of the St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce. The review is now before the city for approval and implementation. He's committed to the Rotary Club, and the Suncoasters. And the arts, both in St. Petersburg and in Tampa. He's a vice president of the board of the Suncoast Center for Community Mental Health. According to one friend, "Piece of cake," is Kelzer's natural response when approaching a new task.

The recipient of last year's "Service Above Self" award given by the Rotary Club and Tampa Bay Business Journal, Kelzer was credited with helping to bring to the public eye the many scientific research disciplines that exist in the community. "There was a need for the story to be told," Kelzer says matter-of-factly of the "Research Showcase," which was held in the fall of 1987. That event has led to the formation of the "Resource Consortium," composed of experts in microbiology and other fields who meet to exchange views and resources.

"I think a lot of people don't know what he does in business," says Rusty Vaughn, who worked with Kelzer on the Research Showcase. As former vice president of marketing for the GTE/St. Petersburg Grand Prix, Vaughan tapped into Kelzer's computer knowledge as well. "In community work, he has to get the job done and move on to the next task."

"When you go camping or canoeing with Bob, you get a newsletter before the trip telling you what to take," Vaughan chuckles. "And shame on you if you've left anything behind."

"People who are content with mediocrity and don't understand his discipline can feel very uncomfortable around Bob," Vaughan adds. "I've never known him to be anything but a gentleman, but Bob simply doesn't have a lot of time for frivolity. He spends his time where someone will gain from it."

Kelzer's direct approach stems from a simple belief that people ask questions for two reasons: "Either they don't know the answer or they are curious to know what you are thinking," says Kelzer, who as a youngster, disliked frivolous responses by adults to his own questions. That same direct style is apparent in his approach to community projects. "There are needs to be filled. Just go out and do something," he says.

A Minnesota native who came to St. Petersburg at age 9, Kelzer initially designed his working career around graphic art. Graduating in 1972 with a bachelor's degree in advertising from the University of South Florida, he set up his own freelance shop but quickly learned that during budgetary restraints, "the first thing businesses cut is their graphics side," he says.

"So, like everyone else, I went into real estate," Kelzer grins at the "Doesn't everyone has a license?" joke. That's the beginning of what ultimately led him into site and development work with private investors. Then, in 1981, he secured his general contractor's license.

Right now, Kelzer is winding up a 10-year commitment as project manager at a 340-home development on Lake Seminole, and another site off Ulmerton Road. And, with the completion of his own development in Pinellas Park, where he has built 11 starter homes, Kelzer intends to focus on opportunities in steel construction and downtown development work.

His regionalist's perspective and support of more across-the-bay cooperation, is apparent through Kelzer's continued involvement of the arts — the St. Petersburg Museum of Fine Arts and the Salvador Dali Museum.

In the past, he has volunteered for the city of Tampa's Jazin' Jubilee Fundraiser, the Tampa-based Playmakers and the Tampa Museum's Pavilion. He currently holds a president's status with the Tampa Museum and the Playmakers.

Kelzer explains his involvement as being "the sum of all the parts; they make me whole. Life is people. I simply have something to give, and there are many places to apply it."

This story was reprinted with permission from Florida Business.
The facts of job life - Career Expo '89

Hundreds of USF St. Petersburg students learned the facts of job life at Career Expo '89, a career fair featuring about 50 Tampa-Bay area employers in industries as diverse as financial services and non-profit organizations.

At a recent expo, representatives spoke candidly about their companies and what it takes to succeed in them - hard truths, but useful for students who want to make informed decisions about future career tracks.

Though the companies seldom recruit on campus, contacts are made and interviews may be set up. Students can ask frank questions about the job and learn about the company so they will be better prepared when it comes time to interview.

The range of industries represented lets students explore companies they may not have considered before. Companies that have participated include IBM Corp., E-Systems Inc., AT&T Co., and many of the top national accounting firms, as well as social service organizations such as Boley Manor. The expo, hosted by the USF St. Petersburg student affairs division, is in its sixth year. It's a big hit with students.

"It's a good opportunity to get out in front of potential employers and find out what they're looking for in an employee," said Lou Overbey '88, who has attended several expos while in school and after graduation. "It helps you on your networking and finding our important 'inside' little things about the people and their firms."

More than 340 people attended a business after hours mixer held on campus in June. The event was co-sponsored by Southern Bell and USF St. Petersburg. The crowd, all members of the St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce, came to network and learn about the latest advancements in telephone equipment. The crowd was serenaded by USF music education professor Janice Buchanan.

Look for...


BOAT continued from page 1

Springfield was the fifth Tampa Bay area resident to die in a boating accident in less than two months. Four teenagers were killed May 27 when a 38-foot Cigarette boat crashed into their 17-foot pleasure craft near the Indian Rocks Beach Bridge. Friends and families of the victims are trying to prevent similar tragedies and promote water safety.

"We aren't stopping until we get these waterways safer," says Susan Christman, whose daughter Jan, was killed in the accident.

Christman and other members of the group have led campaigns urging boaters to slow down on the Intracoastal Waterway.

The group, Christman said, plans to become active in lobbying for stronger navigational laws and enforcement.
A dinner cruise, wine tasting gala and sock hop are on the Pinellas County Alumni Club's agenda for the coming months, says club president Sharon Nolte, '81.

The events, geared to USF St. Petersburg alumni and community members, are part of the club's plans to raise money for scholarships while providing opportunities for networking and socializing.

"The events are a good way to friend-raise and fund-raise at the same time — and build alumni awareness," Nolte says. The club intends to heighten its profile in the community, and increase the number of scholarships it donates to USF St. Petersburg students. The club currently gives out two $500 scholarships a year.

The events listed below are tentatively scheduled, but final dates will be confirmed soon and details will follow.

- **December** a holiday dinner cruise aboard the Captain Anderson.
- **January** a sock hop, in conjunction with the opening of USF St. Petersburg's newest building, the Campus Activities Center.
- **February** a wine and cheese tasting gala to benefit the alumni scholarship fund. Representatives from noted wineries will be on hand to guide participants in wine selection.

And, as always, the alumni club is looking for volunteers to work on committees and help staff events. If you're interested, you can call these people:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund raising and programming</th>
<th>Membership</th>
<th>Awards/Scholarship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anita Jordan 822-4545</td>
<td>Kathy Malaxos 797-6462</td>
<td>Pat Sciarappa 541-1866</td>
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The Pinellas County Alumni Club

**What's in it for you?**

A $25 fee, and the benefits roll in

A $25 annual fee gets you: merchandise and travel discounts; access to low-cost medical insurance and Visa/MasterCard credit cards with reduced interest rates; swimming pool privileges; a subscription to USF magazine; and instant membership into the National Alumni Association. New graduates get their first year of membership free.

**Not to mention friends...**

Networking and social contacts — with a like-minded group of people who through their USF education have enriched themselves and Pinellas County.

Self-vested interests — the value of your degree increases the more an alumni association grows in stature.

USF provides $40,000 worth of academic scholarships a year to recruit the very best students, again increasing the value of your degree. Your membership also ensures that excellent higher education continues.

**Membership is not limited to graduates**

Former students or Friends of USF also can join the club.

Graduates from any USF campus can become a member as long as they live or work in Pinellas County now.

Records show about 8,000 USF alumni currently live in the county.
Poynter Library gets two renowned collections

Robert M. Garrels Collection

The Poynter Library staff is currently processing and assimilating the personal library of the late Dr. Robert M. Garrels, a USF professor whose extensive collection was donated to the library.

In 1979, Garrels, already a world renowned scientist, accepted the St. Petersburg Progress Chair in Marine Science. During his tenure, Garrels contributed significantly, as researcher and educator, to the advancement of the marine science department and the community at large.

The Garrels collection consists of more than 500 books, reports and theses, holdings of several journal titles, and an estimated 4,000 scientific reprints. The titles reflect not only Garrels’ research in geochemical cycles, but also his lifelong interests in nature, outdoor life, conservation and literature. Garrels received many gift books from colleagues, peers, and students in appreciation or respect for his contributions and leadership in scientific endeavors. The international scope of his personal library, particularly French and Russian publications, mirrors his reputation and involvements in the world’s community of scientists. Garrels had the distinction of being the first foreign lecturer invited to the Annual Vernadski Celebration in the USSR, where his book, Solutions, Minerals and Equilibria served as textbook.

A description could continue. Fortunately for the Poynter Library (a grateful professional staff acknowledges), Garrels was a model of organization and thoroughness. Along with the impressive holdings, the library received comprehensive indexes providing both documentation and access by author and subject of the report, theses and reprint collections. The addition of all of these materials will enhance Poynter’s marine science collection and, consequently, benefit the oceanographic community here at USF.

— Deborah Henry

Deborah Henry is an instructor librarian at the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library.

John C. Briggs Collection

The summer tranquility of Poynter Library has been broken this year as the university’s carpenters adapt the former group study room to be the new home of the John C. Briggs collection of ichthyology and natural history. This notable collection of more than 3,000 books, pamphlets and periodicals was obtained through the cooperation of all the USF libraries, but will be housed in St. Petersburg as a natural complement of our distinguished marine science department, of which Dr. Briggs has been a member since 1979.

A graduate of Oregon State University, Briggs began his collection as a graduate student at Stanford University, where he received a Ph.D. in biology. After positions at the University of Florida, the University of British Columbia, and the University of Texas-Port Aransas, Briggs joined the biology faculty at the University of South Florida in 1964. In 1976, he became acting chairman of the marine science department at USF St. Petersburg, and, along with his wife, Dr. Eila Hanni, associate professor of economics, has been part of our campus every since.

Throughout his years of teaching and research, Briggs continued to seek out the scholarly and artistic landmarks of his field, while producing more publications than one hundred of his own. The collection that he compiled includes books dating back to the 1700s. Rare books appraiser Antonio Raimo of Columbia, Pa., called the collection “…the finest of its kind in private hands whether it be in the United States or in Europe.”

Michael Slicker of Lighthouse Books elaborated, “Very seldomly do we see this ‘classical’ style of collection anymore — one that combines the strength of utility and scholarship with the elegance of ornament and design — one that provides both depth of field and visual variety.”

Combining a marine scientist’s working collection with a collector’s attention to the rare, the significant and the beautiful, the Briggs collection is an exciting addition to Poynter Library. Officers of the Society for Advancement of Poynter Library and library staff are planning a winter celebration to mark its acquisition and to honor Briggs.

— Kathy Arsenault

Kathy Arsenault is the collections department librarian at the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library.
Private support is critical to the growth and development of USF St. Petersburg. It provides funding for scholarships, programs establishment and enhancement.

Campaign USF: Opportunities for Excellence, the campus fund drive, targets all three areas.

Campaign USF: Opportunities for Excellence so far has generated about $2.1 million. The goal, part of the overall USF campaign, is to raise $4.75 million.

The campaign includes gifts to the campus for all purposes — from endowed chairs and scholarships to equipment and building renovations.

The gratifying response so far shows USF St. Petersburg is successfully meeting the needs of the people and community it serves, as it has since 1965. USF St. Petersburg is a vital asset providing quality education that benefits everyone throughout Pinellas County.

Alumni and friends can help the campus succeed with a pledge.

Pledge to Campaign USF: Opportunities for Excellence. It's a YES! vote for the continuing growth of our community.

Ray Herbert, human resource division manager of Allstate Insurance, hands a $25,000 check to USF St. Petersburg Dean Lowell Davis and Development Director Ralph McKay. Allstate recently donated to the campus five $500 scholarships for minority students.

Paul Reilly, a partner with Peat, Marwick, Main & Co. and development council chairman for USF St. Petersburg, recently was recognized for a 355 percent increase in annual fund giving. He received a plaque during the annual President's Council weekend, a three-day event for donors, staff and alumni to spend some informal time with USF President Frank Borowski and Kay Borowski.


The campaign's in good hands

C&S Endows Professorship
Citizens and Southern National Bank of Florida has established the C&S Bank Endowed Professorship in Business.

This gift, which qualifies for matching state funds under the State Major Gift Matching Challenge Program, will be used to fund a faculty position in the field of business at USF. It will rotate annually between the St. Petersburg campus and the College of Business Administration at the Tampa campus.
Thank you for the gratifying response to my last article on gifts of life insurance. I hope by now you have received your copy of the booklet, "Gifts of Life Insurance."

Another very important way you can support this wonderful campus in St. Petersburg is through a charitable remainder trust. Frankly, I try to avoid saying, "charitable remainder trust," because it sounds so legal and complicated when it really isn't. In fact, when people understand the benefits of a trust, many wish they had heard about it sooner.

Simply, a charitable remainder trust is a tax-advantageous way for anyone interested in supporting an institution like the University of South Florida to do so without losing any present income. For example, an individual may transfer securities, money, or other property to a trustee, such as a lawyer or a bank trust officer. The trustee then pays income for the lifetime of the person or persons who are the beneficiaries of the trust. Many times a donor will name him/herself as the beneficiary, and upon death the income continues to go to his/her spouse. After the lifetime payments have been made, the trustee transfers what is left in the fund to the charity you have named, such as USF.

The benefits of the trust include:

- A donor may stipulate the amount of money he/she wishes to receive each year for a lifetime, and that of his/her spouse.
- A substantial tax deduction is received when the trust is created, and there is no tax liability when appreciated property is transferred.
- The donor receives the benefits of professional management through an attorney or trust officer.
- A donor oftentimes earns a higher rate of return on securities which are not producing as well as expected.

These are just a few of the many advantages that can be derived by the creation of a trust. A gift today may be worth more to you if it is designated as a trust than if you wait for a later time, or even upon your death. It is possible to enjoy income security combined with significant tax advantages, as well as having the satisfaction of knowing you have generously supported an institution like USF.

If you would like copies of either the booklet, "Gifts of Life Insurance," or "Charitable Remainder Trusts," I would be glad to send them free of charge if you will write to me. Send your request to:

Dr. Ralph L. McKay
University of South Florida
140 Seventh Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL 33701.