

## NWS Tampa Bay Area Visits Local Power Squadron



NWS Tampa Bay Area Meteorologist Mike Cantin Presents Marine Weather Information

On Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, the National Weather Service in Ruskin sent a representative to speak with the Anna Maria Island Power Squadron. Lead Forecaster Mike Cantin spoke to the group for about an hour on various topics including the mission of the National Weather Service, marine weather products available, how to report severe weather, and an update on the active tropical weather season. A highlight of the evening was a demonstration of the new marine weather webpage that will soon be unveiled.

This new webpage puts forecast and marine weather observations at your fingertips in an intuitive web-based format. It is designed to be a one-stop-shop of marine weather information, and utilizes a series of clickable options. During October of 2008 the marine community of southwest Florida will have an opportunity to make comments on the new site, and decide whether it will replace the existing site on NWS Tampa Bay Area's main webpage. You can preview the experimental site by clicking on the following link:

<http://forecast.weather.gov/mwp/index.php?d=tbw&bg=basemap&pl=&fc=0&from=southeast>.

In all, 35 members of the power squadron attended the meeting and learned more about the various services available from NWS Tampa Bay Area. If your local boating group is interested in a visit/presentation please contact Mike Cantin at [michael.cantin@noaa.gov](mailto:michael.cantin@noaa.gov), or by calling 813-645-2323.