

Mark Koelmel

Vita

Mark Koelmel first came to Sanibel and Captiva as a young boy with his family. A native of Pennsylvania, he and his family were especially drawn to Captiva, returning as often as they could. It was here that Mark learned how to sail, and he developed a love for the islands that provided a center of gravity throughout his life.

Mark studied Business, Economics, and Geology at Lehigh University. He later attended Columbia University's Senior Executive Program. Mark pursued an energy career with Chevron that spanned 36 years. He progressed through a series of exploration, production and managerial assignments both domestically and internationally. He was appointed Chief Operating Officer for Sasol Chevron, a global joint venture, that produced and marketed environmentally friendly fuels and petrochemical products. Mark subsequently assumed a General Manager position with Chevron Energy Technology Company, and led Chevron's global earth sciences technology projects.

Mark and his wife Kristen returned to Captiva in 2016 as full-time residents, to help Mark's parents maintain independence in their Captiva home. In 2019, Mark accepted a Flag position at the Captiva Island Yacht Club and helped lead the successful restoration of the Yacht Club building. The restoration was completed in eight months – on time and on budget. The new building survived Hurricane Ian undamaged, and reopened six weeks after the storm.

Currently, Mark remains an active member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, the Society of Exploration Geophysicists, and the American Radio Relay League. He teaches sailing to his grandkids, and enjoys introducing kids of all ages to the many natural wonders of the islands.