

the porthole

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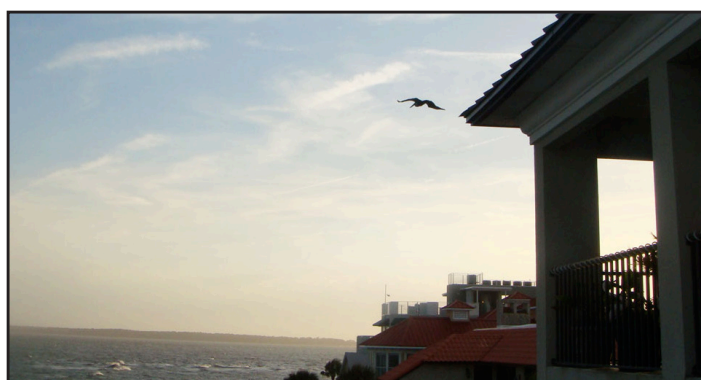
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District 26 Spring Conference-A Big Success!



CDR Charles Wilsdorf

Golden Corner Sail and Power Squadron hosted a fantastic and productive district conference. It



started with a big tailgate party at the hotel in Anderson, SC, Friday, April 28, and ended with an awards dinner on Saturday night. P/C Audie Holmes, JN, P/C Paulette Harris-Holmes, JN, Teresa and I represented the Golden Isles Sail and Power Squadron. Again, I encourage all of our

members to attend the District conferences and COW. You are not only presented with the latest news and changes in the District and National USPS, but it is a chance to cross-pollinate with members of the other twelve squadrons which make up District 26. And, you never know what surprises are in

store. This conference I met a member, Daniel D. Ray, SN and his wife Joanne, JN, from the Lake Hartwell Sail & Power Squadron who attended the same high school I did in Nashville. We both shared stories of our youth. But, what is even more remarkable, Daniel has earned **44** merit marks in the USPS. Wow!!

GISPS was presented the USPS Educational Fund Certificate of Merit. Good going GISPS Members!! In addition, P/C Tim Tate, AP from the Savannah River Sail and Power Squadron donated a District 26 burgee to us. Thanks Tim!

GOLDEN ISLES SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON 2008 BRIDGE

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Highlights of the District 26 Spring Conference

- Both membership and education is on track for District 26
- CO-OP charting is at 100% participation
- District is working on a New Squadron Commanders info packet
- District putting together protocol manual which will be posted on District Website
- New Committees – Homeland Security and Environmental Committees
- Squadron Officers Guide - <http://www.usps.org/x/x.pl/x/x.cgi?natsec/officers.html>
- USPS now in good financial shape
- USPS now has a Board of Directors as well as Governing Board
- USPS is considering selling new Boating Course over Internet with membership Pkg.
- USPS University would have approved squadrons teach unattached members
- Membership, selling features – Boating is fun, let us show you how!
- Coop \$\$ available for Squadron Advertising through district, deadlines 3-15, 7-17, 10-15
- 17 District 26 members have passed JN in the last year
- May 17-25 is National Safe Boating Week



In addition there was a great presentation by the Long Bay Sail and Power Squadron on their Boat Dealer/Marina program. This squadron program sells certificates to boat dealers and marina. These certificates are then given to the dealer/marina customers when purchasing a new or used boat. The certificate entitles the customer to a Boat Smart/America's Boating Course with text and VSC. This sounds like a great program that might work for us. Any takers on putting this together?

I also attended a Coop Charting seminar conducted by D/Lt Don Funderburk, SN District 26 Coop Charting Chairman, who is a member of the Tybee Light Sail & Power Squadron. It was a very instructive class. Don showed us just how easy it is to conduct a Coop Charting exercise and log it on the ccweb.

On the home front, it is still *membership, membership, and membership*. I hope each member can introduce a new member to our squadron this year. So far, this calendar year we are doing well increasing membership from 31 to 36 active members which is a 16% increase, but we still have a lot of recruiting to do. So please, do your part and bring in a new member.

On the behalf of the entire squadron I would like to congratulate Arthur "Bucky" Harris for earning five merits marks which gives Bucky the status of Senior Member. Thanks *Bucky* for all the hard work and dedication.

All for now.
-Chas



**Report from the Administration Department;
Howard Klippel, AP**



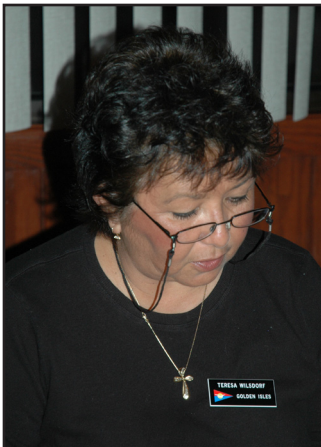
The first GIP&S Squadron Cruise to Fernandina on April 25 to 27 is coming together. We currently have 5 boats scheduled for the trip, and have made reservations for 16 hungry sailors for dinner at Brett's Waterway Cafe at 1900 hrs on Saturday, April 26. Jack Sterrett (912-634 5791) has been coordinating the reservation for boats at the Marina. Please contact me by phone (912 832-3318) ASAP if you can attend.

The following is the current list of participants:

Wilsdorf - 4 - boat & dinner
Rodgers - 2 - boat & dinner
Jefferies - 2 - boat & dinner
Sterrett - 3 - boat & dinner
Klippel, - 2 - boat & dinner
Jones - 2 - dinner

Again, please give me a call, everyone is welcome.

**From the Squadron Secretary;
Teresa Wilsdorf**



As Charles wrote, we attended the District 26 Spring Conference and it was quite nice. I attended a seminar on membership. They stressed that the best way to improve membership is through word of mouth. So all of ya need to start talking us up!!!! They also mentioned that not only does the USPS offer great courses, but we also like to have fun, fun, fun. So if any of you have any ideas for get together's, please let me know. We can do anything from cruises, to picnics, to parties.....so come up with some ideas and we will start having some fun! Waiting to hear from you.....Teresa

**XO's Remarks
Bob Woodman, AP**



I would like to announce we will be participating in a West Marine Boat show the afternoon of Friday May 16 and Saturday May 17 which also kicks off National Safe Boating Week. The Coast Guard Auxiliary and the Georgia DNR will also be represented. West Marine is going to be providing free food and drinks as well as advertising, so a sizeable crowd should be generated. This will provide a great opportunity for us to meet the public, drum up Boat Smart Students, make appointments for VSC's, and scout some new GISPS members. Let's show the public we know how to have FUN!

Your help will be needed to man our booth, so please give me a call to volunteer ASAP.
(912)554-1780.

The Squadron Education Report

Audie Homes, SEO



I shall begin by complimenting GISPS charter member, Buck Harris, P, for successfully passing two electives: Engine Maintenance and Marine Electronics 101. On the Engine Maintenance he had a perfect score. Great job, Buck! Six of our members (including two very new members) completed the Seamanship course and are awaiting results of the exams. Our Commander, Charles, Wilsdorf, SN, was the instructor so we have little doubt of expected positive results of our soon-to-be new Seamen. This is a good place to report that the GISPS candidate for the annual Chapman award must be submitted by 15 June and as SEO, I plan to nominate our commander, Charles Wilsdorf. Not only has he taught Seamanship, but he is preparing to teach the Piloting class very soon. Please let the Commander know if you plan to join that class and please send me letters of support recommending our commander for the Chapman award. Those of you who just completed Seamanship, especially please consider writing a letter of support and submitting it for me for the packet that I must submit. Thank you, commander, for a job well-done! It is up to the rest of us to sign-up for classes. With that in mind, I shall begin Navigation, my final class for a full certificate in the next couple of weeks. Let's all take advantage of the many educational opportunities afforded us through the United State Power Squadron Univeristy in 2008! P/C/ Audie Holmes, JN

Boat Smart

The next Boat Smart to be taught by Audie Holmes, JN, will be held at the Marine Extension Center, Brunswick at 0900 on 26 April 2008. Cost for materials is \$25.00. Space is still available for more students! Please encourage those interested to attend. If you have any questions, please leave me a message at 912-634-7571. Your assistance in making the class successful is greatly appreciated.

The Nominating Committee Preliminary Report:

The nominating committee will meet in the immedate future to select a list of qualified candidates for election at the GISPS annual meeting in the fall (27 September 2008) of the Golden Isles Sail and Power Squadron. This is an important annual event and is not to be taken lightly. Remember that our GISPS Change of Watch is scheduled for Saturday, 29 November, 2008. Today is a good time to put that important date on our calendar. Audie Homes, JN

DISTRICT 26 Fall Conference and Change of Watch 2010 to be held in the Golden Isles

District 26 has selected the Golden Isles Sail and Power Squadron to host the District Change of Watch in fall, 2010. Early planning is essential for this event to be successful. P/C Nettie Dumais was asked by District 26 to assist with the planning for this event. Nettie has asked that I (Audie Holmes) serve as her assistant and I willingly agreed to assist since Nettie and I have had first-hand experiences planning several of these events; a suitable site must be selected that allows for meetings, activities, entertainment, silent auction, and much more. This is a serious undertaking and the planning committee (although experienced) will need the assistance of all members to make this event happen and go well! We gratefully appreciate Nettie's willingness to again bring her expertise to the GISPS where she is a very active associate member. An event like the District Change of Watch allows us as a new squadron to make our squadron's name known and to make many new friends as we renew acquaintancs with old friends as well. It would be advantageous for as many GISPS members as possible to attend the 2008 District 26 Change of Watch in Columbia on 10, 11, and 12 October, 2008 hosted by the Lake Murray Squadron. Audie Homes, JN