

the porthole



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Cold Freeze Can Damage Boats



CDR Larry Jefferis

We have just weathered one of our coldest winter periods in the last 50 years. Lots of things



Frozen Boats at a Marina.

have frozen and may have been damaged. If you haven't been aboard your vessel within the last 2-3 weeks, please go survey your vessel

and ensure it has survived the weather.

I want to applaud webmaster Joe Scirica's, S, work on our website. He's

done a great job of providing photo coverage of our various events and especially our most recent Squadron Change of Watch. If you haven't looked lately, try surfing around on the website and pay particular attention to the Photos and the Porthole Archives. Great work Joe!!

Remember that we have our first America's Boating

GOLDEN ISLES SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON 2010 BRIDGE

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Course in March. It will run each Tuesday evening in March from 7:00 until 9:30PM at the UGA Extension Center on Bay Street. We were able to get a nice article published in the Brunswick News to publicize the course but if each of you could help encourage one person to come take the course, we'd have a great turn out for this inaugural course. Come monitor the course and remember some of those boating safety tips you've forgotten!

The District 26 Spring Conference, hosted by the Lake Hartwell Squadron, is being held in Greenville, SC, 5-7 March. If you're interested there is still time to sign-up and join others from the squadron who will be attending. You can find all the details and reservation forms at the Lake Hartwell Squadron website at www.lake-hartwell.org/ <<http://www.lake-hartwell.org/>> .

Our biggest challenge is still the D26 COW in October. We have several members who have stepped up to chair some of the activities but there are still several more positions where we're going to need help.

We still need an overall Conference Committee Chair. If you've ever managed a similar event, we would appreciate your expertise in this crucial position.

We need a chair for Registration. All attendees are going to be making reservations and keeping them straight and accurately accounted for is crucial. We need help here.

Linda Mahoney, S, stepped up to take on the Silent Auction. Thanks Linda!. Paulette Harris-Holmes, JN, has volunteered to teach us all she knows about running the silent auction. Thank you Paulette!.

We still need a Hospitality chair. We will be running a hospitality room at various times Friday and Saturday of the conference so this assistance is vital.

There are 3 individual events where we will need someone to watch over the event and help keep things running smoothly after the preliminary planning is finished: the Friday night activity, Saturday meeting and Saturday banquet. Jeanne Klippel will manage the Spouse/Guest Activity on Saturday and Audie Holmes, JN, and Paulette Harris-Holmes, JN, will be hosting and managing the Sunday Brunch. They'll be needing help and food donations to make the brunch successful.

Please, if you haven't picked out your piece of the action, take a few minutes and review our needs above and pick the area you'd most like to work with. The Bridge will be available to help these committees. Pick an area and feel good about helping out.

Safe Boating!!

Upcoming Events

5-7 March

D26 Spring
Conference
Greenville, SC

2,9,16,23,30 March

GISPS ABC Course

27 March

1715 Executive Meeting
1830 Member Meeting
4th of May Café

Secretary's Report

Vicky Jefferis, AP Secretary



Cdr Larry Jefferis, AP, called the meeting to order 23 January 2010 at 7:10 PM. P/C John Rodgers, SN, provided the invocation, and Joe Scirica, S, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Larry introduced

Past Commanders Nettie Dumais, AP, Paulette Harris-Holmes, JN, Audie Holmes, JN, John Rodgers, SN, and Charles Wilsdorf, SN. Guests Al Barnes, George Champion, and Lewis and Phoebe Waynick were also introduced. Secretary Vicky Jefferis, AP, confirmed a Quorum was present. November meeting Minutes were approved. She thanked those who have volunteered for the Telephone Committee: Sara Grimshaw, Jeanne Klippel, Veronica Maguire, Lynda Sterrett, and Teresa Wilsdorf. Then she presented a summary of the Executive Committee meeting: XO Steve Batson, AP, reported that, based on our expenditures for educational materials in 2009, we can expect National to reimburse us up to about \$194 to for Co-op Advertising in 2010.

SEO Audie Holmes, JN, announced that the new America's Boating Course will be presented at the UGA Marine Extension Center each Tuesday in March from 7 – 9:30PM. For boaters needing a one day course, Boat Smart will be offered on the 4th Saturday in April. Two students completed the Boat Smart course offered in December and six have completed the requirements for Instructor Development.

Frank and Lynne Barron have had their grades upgraded to AP. Charles Wilsdorf, SN, added that three members are very close to completing the requirements for the Educational Proficiency designation and he will be working with them to attain this goal. He also mentioned that D26 has an Order of Mariners Award that can be achieved by earning

Educational Proficiency and 15 Merit Marks. The Bridge voted to buy the LCD projector we've been borrowing from Charles Wilsdorf since we foresee continued need for one. Provided an overview of the D26 Change of Watch Kickoff session hosted by Audie and Paulette at Marbella earlier in the day. Linda Mahoney will chair the Silent Auction Committee. Jeanne Klippel will chair the Spouse Program. Audie Holmes and Paulette Harris-Holmes will host the Sunday Brunch. Training Aid judging is held at the Fall Conference. Charles Wilsdorf is the D26 Training Chair, and will head this committee for GISPS. Cdr Jefferis presented certificates to Linda Mahoney, S, Teresa Wilsdorf, S, and Vicky Jefferis, AP, certifying completion of the Leadership Development Course at the D26 Spring Conference. Cdr Jefferis also completed this training. Treasurer Linda Mahoney, S, presented the Treasurer's Report for December 31, 2009. Balance on Hand as of 31 December 2009 is \$2784.51

NEW BUSINESS:

Cdr Jefferis announced Pat Rodgers, AP, will represent GISPS at the USPS National Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL in February. Pat Rodgers announced that GISPS is on the Co-op Charting Honor Roll for 2009. She intends to conduct a co-op charting outing in May.

OLD BUSINESS:

Cdr Jefferis turned to discussion of the D26 Change of Watch (COW) scheduled in October 2010. He thanked Howard, AP, and Jeanne Klippel for finding the Jekyll Island hotel site and for negotiating the great rates. He also thanked Audie Holmes and Paulette Harris-Holmes for hosting the luncheon planning session earlier that day. He also thanked those who have already stepped up to take specific committee assignments and asked everyone to consider the many jobs left and volunteer for the ones they can take on. We will be creating

a D26 COW Budget in the next two months for review and approval by the D26 Bridge. With our good financial position and by abiding by the budget, the COW should not pose a financial burden to GISPS. Charles Wilsdorf announced that the Ships Store has for sale a Man's X Lge Shirt for \$20, Ladies Shirt for \$20, and a GISPS Burgee. Jim Grimshaw moved to adjourn the meeting. John Rodgers provided the Benediction. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

The Squadron Education Report

Audie Holmes, JN



We have not received the scores back as of yet but he had six individuals complete the Instructor Development class. They are Larry Jefferis, AP, Coy Hodges, AP, Jack Sterrett, AP, Steve Batson, AP, Charles Wilsdorf, SN, and Vicky Jefferis, AP.

Don't forget that we are presenting the new America's Boating Course over a 5 week period in March, 2010 on Tuesday evenings at the UGA Marine Extension Service. We'll use this same format to present America's Boating Course in September, 2010. In addition, we'll offer Boat Smart in a one day Saturday class on 24 April, 2010.

Please review the many courses (elective and advanced grade) and notify me of any you would like to take self-study as well. Remember that all except Instructor Development may be taken self-study.

I shall be attending all of the training for SEOs in Greenville on 5-7 March at the District 26 conference. Host squadron will be Lake Hartwell. Hope to see you there!

As a reminder, 2 February (Ground Hog Day) was also the 98th anniversary of the United States Power Squadron. For future reference, all members are allowed to fly the Power Squadron Ensign from their home flagpoles on that day.

Audie Holmes, JN

Respectfully submitted,
Audie Holmes, JN

Treasurer's Report

Linda Mahoney, S Treasurer

Bank balance as of 1/31/10 is \$2894.37

Reminder that we have started early to plan for the Silent Auction portion of our hosting of the District Change of Watch in October.

A very productive meeting was held recently in the lovely home of Paulette Harris and Audie Holmes. We are very lucky to have someone like Paulette with such a wealth

of experience assisting us in our efforts.

Please consider donating an item. If we each pitch in and donate an item/ or make efforts to find donations, we will be on track to launch a successful silent auction. Please let Linda Mahoney know if you have something in mind. Again, it's not too early to start our collection of items.

XO's Locker
Steve W. Batson, AP



The Executive Department is responsible for the functions generally described as "external." Committees assigned to the executive department include boat show, cooperative charting, liaison, legislative, public relations, radio technical, safety, and vessel safety check.

Speaking of vessel safety checks, it will soon be time for us to consider checking our vessels for all of the safety requirements. I am always amazed that several items are recommended but not required. Two of those include a radio and an anchor! No self-respecting

mariner would be caught dead without either. Many have two or three VHF radios on board (fixed and handheld). Long-distance cruisers supplement their VHF with SSB to monitor nets and other resources. Communication with other boaters and the Coast Guard is essential for safe boating.

I never trusted my boat-handling skills enough to function without an anchor. My boat has two anchors and enough rode to sink a battleship. If you end up dead in the water, you need an anchor. If you need to stop in a crowded location, you need an anchor. Break out the checklist and review conditions, dates, and other features of your equipment and your vessel. Bring everything up to par before the weather draws you out of the marina. Safe boating!

HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 – Richard Jones

6 – Kathleen Batson

Happy Birthday to All!!



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