

A publication of the Golden Isles Sail and Power Squadron • A unit of the United States Power Squadrons

Spring/Summer Updates for GISPS



CDR Larry Jefferis

Time is just flying by during this year on the Power Squadron calendar.



We've lost a few folks from our ranks for various reasons but have managed some gains to keep our membership at 62. We've had some successful and not so successful events. All in all its been a good 3 months since our last regularly scheduled meeting.

Announcements:

Jack Peters: Jack Peters, a long time member of USPS, and an associate member of Golden Isle Sail & Power Squadron, passed away in LaPorte, Texas on April 7. Jack is formerly of Brunswick, so a memorial service was held at the Brunswick First Presbyterian Church Monday, the 16th of May.

Jack's son, Karl, is a Charter Member of GISPS and was active in the squadron when he lived on St. Simons Island. Jack kept in touch with us and enjoyed receiving

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GOLDEN ISLES SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON 2011 BRIDGE

the Porthole. Some of you may have had the pleasure of visiting with Jack when he scheduled a visit to the area last October and attended the District Fall Conference to cheer us on as hosts. We'll miss Jack's steadfast support.

Bucky Harris:

Bucky has been having some heart problems for several months. He is currently awaiting heart surgery. Notes may be sent to: 2707 West Terrace Drive Augusta, GA 30909

Tommy Cox:

I just became aware that our Squadron Chaplain, Tommy Cox has been suffering from prostate cancer which has spread to bones, lymph system and more. Tommy appreciates your thoughts and prayers very much!

Events and Awards:

Three members have completed the 26 May PaddleSmart class which was taught by Joe Caneva. Members completing were Linda Mahoney, S, Jim Grimshaw, AP, and Larry Jefferis, AP. Joe is a great instructor and has a lot of applicable experience in kayaks of all sizes and purposes. Thanks Joe!

Activities:

Membership: It is membership renewal time. In checking the dues, there are 15 members from last year who haven't paid. Many of you are part of our out of town contingent but we'd surely appreciate you renewing and keeping our Squadron a vital, growing organization. Everyone is important to the success of the Squadron and we've been on a really good run to successes. Stay with us and renew as soon as possible.

Membership:

I'd like to welcome new members Sam Hanft, AP and his wife Marilyn, AP, from St Marys. Welcome Sam and Marilyn. We look forward to meeting you at our next meeting.

Boating Activities:

We would still like to have at least one spring and one fall cruise for the Squadron but that doesn't prevent individual members from joining up to cruise to somewhere or just to raft-up somewhere in the local area. Use that one page roster we send out to contact some of your squadron friends and go boating! If you do and you tell us (bridge) we can earn points toward the District 26 Boating Activities Award. Just let us know what's happening and how we can help.

Coop Charting:

Our event which was scheduled for 14 May began pretty well but the weather interfered and we felt compelled to cancel the depth survey and the cookout. Seven of us arrived at Golden Isles Marina for the event. Emil & Jennifer Hoffman brought their boat over from Jekyll Island. We had a very informative one-hour session with John Rodgers to discuss Coop Charting's origin and included activities. We had decided we would all go on one boat and execute a depth survey of local creek which provides river access to the Coast Guard Station. We completed the training and were having lunch when the rain came. This was heavy, horizontal rain with a lot of lightning and, according to weather reports and weather radar, was going to threaten us all afternoon and evening. We made a weather call and cancelled the remainder of the day. Hoffmans made a run to Jekyll during a lull

in the weather. My thanks to Emil and Jennifer for bring their boat for the event. Thanks to John and Pat Rodgers for planning and organizing the event and thanks to Vicky Jefferis and Linda Mahoney for braving the elements and the heat of the classroom. We still have the provisions for the cook-out and can reschedule Coop Charting for another day.

11 June Social Hour:

The Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron will be starting an ICW cruise at Golden Isles Marina. They will be traveling and launching on Saturday June 11, 2011. They will leave Sunday morning and return on Friday June 17, 2011. They have 9 boats and 35 people on the trip. The Jefferis and Wilsdorf families are planning to meet them on Friday evening for their social hour and possibly dinner. Other squadron members are welcome. Call me and I'll get more details. Come help us welcome a visiting Squadron into our area.

Education:

Please read the SEO's report. We hope to offer an AP and Marine Communications this summer. Please let me or the SEO know if you are interested in either of these classes or let me know if there are any other classes you might have an interest in.

If you have an interest in marine weather, don't miss this very informative and interesting webinar. Please see: http://www.sailangle.com/index/education for details and registration.

Marine Weather Forecasting, Webinar, June 14 – 2000 EDT

Meetings:

Our June meeting will be held on 25 June at a place to be determined and will be a cookout to use up the remaining provisions for the Coop Charting event in May. Please come and bring a side dish to share. More details will be provided separately.

Financial Statement:

At the end of April we had \$ 6,539.49 in the bank.

Calendar:

- June 11 Social with Atlanta Power Squadron at Golden Isles Marina
- Next EXEC Com meeting @ TBA
- June 25 General Membership Meeting @ TBA would like to do a cookout.

23-Jul	1700-1830	GISPS EXCOM Meeting	ТВА
23-Jul	1900-2100	GISPS Membership Meeting	TBA
27-Aug	1700-1830	GISPS EXCOM Meeting	ТВА
27-Aug	1900-2100	GISPS Membership Meeting	ТВА

Closing:

The summer is before us. It's starting to get hot but we have many enjoyable days ahead. Take advantage of the weather and the opportunity to practice safe boating. Get out and enjoy! Safe Boating All!

The Squadron Education Report Charles Wilsdorf, SN



Boy, is this year going by fast. As they say, "time flies when you're having fun".

The VHF Seminar was a roaring success, at least judging by the turnout. We had twenty participants. If nothing else, we hope all of you are on the DSC bandwagon now. If you still don't have a MMSI#, please apply for one at: http://www.usps.org/php/mmsi/home.php . We will probably do another VHF Seminar this summer at West Marine if you missed this one. I ask all members to check the USPS Education web: http://www.usps.org/e_stuff/seminars.htm and let me know what other USPS Seminars you would be interested in.

We had three GISPS member boats, George Bloodworth, Jack Sterrett, and Coy Hodges who made successful cruises to the Bahamas this Spring. The cruising was great with just a few challenges ranging from medical, rigging, electronics, and electrical failures, but all had much fun even with the challenges. Just remember, "Cruising is working on

your boat in exotic places".

GISPS had it's first JN class this Winter/Spring with five students, Larry Jefferis, Jim Grimshaw, Lisa Noezel, Jack Sterrett, and Coy Hodges. So far, two students, Coy Hodges and Jack Sterrett have taken the test. Let's wish them luck. I would also like to congratulate Lisa Noetzel who successfully completed Seamanship which now gives her the full grade of AP.

Joe Caneva, with help from our commander, Larry Jefferis put on a great seminar, Paddle Boating, at West Marine May 26. I would like to offer many thanks to Joe on his fine professional presentation.

Steven Chambless will take the Engine Maintenance exam next week. Once graded, Steven will become IN BOC Certified. Once he completes AP, Steven will become an IN BOC Certifier. If you are interested in receiving your IN Certification or would like to become a Certifier please let me know.

Changing hats to GISPS Membership Chairman, I would like to remind all members who use to pay their annual dues by June 1st they are due again if you hadn't already paid. It's easy to renew at: http://www.usps.org/dues/. Please give me a call should you have any questions (912 265-9550).

We hope to offer an AP and Marine Communications this summer. Please let me know if you are interested in either of these classes or let me know if there are any other classes you might have an interest.

On another note, "Epilogue" our trawler, has found its new owners Tom and Mary Stone. She will be moving to NC. We will miss her, but not the associate expenses. Teresa and I are now trailer boaters with the purchase of a 17.5' Scout center console. Guess you might say we have come full circle. We are really looking forward to exploring the rivers of SE Georgia and might even get a little fishing in.

Speaking of exploring, Teresa and I just returned from a road trip to Nashville via Pickwick Lake. What a beautiful area. While at Pickwick visiting friends we got some fishing in as well as a beautiful trip from the mouth of the Tom Bigbee Waterway down to Florence, Alabama. This part of the Tennessee River is really pretty with limestone bluffs and little development.

If you have an interest in marine weather, don't miss this very informative and interesting webinar. Please see: http://www.sailangle.com/index/education for details and registration. A description is below.

Marine Weather Forecasting Webinar June 14 – 2000 EDT

"I must go down to the seas again, to the lonely sea and the sky..." John Masefield

Ever since mariners set out to sea, weather has been a vital concern to them. The sails and courses they set and even their lives were and still are weather dependent. This Marine Weather Forecasting seminar deals with these same agesold concerns, but in a modern way taking full advantage of today's meteorological advances and presenting it via the Internet as a Webinar.

Marine Weather Forecasting will particularly appeal to coastal and offshore cruisers. Boaters will be introduced to and taught how to use the 500 mb chart by Joe Sienkiewicz, Chief – Operations Branch, Ocean Prediction Center, National Weather Service.

The seminar also is intended for those with a broader interest in marine weather. Topics will include:

- Review of Surface Maps and Winds
- Upper-Air Winds and Charts
- The 500 mb Chart
- GRIB Forecasts
- NWS Marine Weather Forecasts. (Seminar participants will be able to download in pdf format:)
- The classic article co-authored by Joe and Lee Chesneau: Mariner's Guide to the 500-Millibar Chart
- A Seminar Guide with slide images and complete notes.

While there are no pre-requisites and everyone is welcome to take this webinar, those with some weather knowledge (e.g., preferably the USPS weather course, but also the seminar) will get the most out of it. The seminar will be recorded so those who cannot participate on 14 June will be able to view it for four weeks thereafter. A record will be kept of those who participate (not just register) and they will receive USPS credit for having taken it.

USPS MEMBERSHIP – WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

Besides tremendous education classes and the fun and friendship you experience when you participate in GISPS membership events, have you ever wondered what you get from your USPS membership?

There are all kinds of special discounts and offers available to USPS members. For example, you are eligible for discounts on Dell computers, several types of navigation software, NOAA charts, marine hardware and supplies. In addition you can find insurance discounts, vacation offers, car rental discounts and more. All you have to do is go to USPS.org and click on the Member Benefits/Discounts button in the upper right quadrant of the home page.

Secretary's Report Vicky Jefferis, AP Secretary



Cdr Larry Jefferis, AP, called the meeting to order at March 26, 2011 at 7:15 PM at the Sanctuary Cove Golf Club in Waverly. Jim Grimshaw, AP, led the Pledge of Allegiance and Larry provided the invocation. Cdr Jefferis introduced Past Commander Charles

Wilsdorf, SN. He also welcomed our newest members, Bob, SN, and Margaret, N, Butler, who recently transferred their memberships from the Richmond Squadron.

Larry presented certificates to members who completed the February VHF Seminar. Next, he was pleased to announce that GISPS was honored to win numerous awards at the recent D26 Spring Conference. He presented Educational Proficiency Certificates to Jim Grimshaw and Steve Batson, AP, and noted that Bob Butler, SN, P/C Audie Holmes, SN, and P/C Paulette Harris-Holmes, SN, received Educational Achievement Awards for completing a "Full Certificate." Congratulations were in order for everyone!

The Squadron was presented the USPS Distinguished Communicator Awards for its Porthole newsletter and website www.gisps.org. Congratulations to Joey Herzberg, P, Porthole Editor, and Joe Scirica, S, Webmaster, for their great work! Joe also received an award for the D26 Website. GISPS won the District Membership Award for 23% growth during 2010. Thanks to all members who helped recruit new members, particularly our Membership Chair, Charles Wilsdorf. The Squadron was recognized for another year of 100% member contributions to the USPS Education Fund.

For the third year in a row, one of the District's most prestigious awards, the Wolf-Ewing Educational Achievement Award went to GISPS for achieving the highest percentage of member boating course completions and members completing advanced boating education requirements. Larry thanked former SEO P/C Audie Holmes, SN, and SEO Charles Wilsdorf for their hard work that made this award possible.

Two Squadron members claimed awards honoring outstanding individual accomplishment by the 2010

District Commander:

Each Squadron Commander can nominate a candidate for the District 26 Sparkplug Award recognizing a new member (2 years or less) for exceptional contributions through time and effort contributed to USPS. The District Commander then personally selects the winner. This year's winner is Lt/C Linda Mahoney, S. Linda has served as the Squadron's Treasurer, chaired the exceptionally successful Silent Auction at the D26 Fall Conference, and has aided in numerous special Squadron events. Congratulations, Linda!

Two squadron commanders are recognized annually for their overall achievements and contributions to District 26. This year's Ed Fetner Award, runner up



to Commander of the Year, went to Cdr Larry Jefferis. This award is presented for outstanding leadership in the Squadron and overall contributions to District 26 and USPS.

Secretary Vicky Jefferis, AP, confirmed a quorum was present and asked everyone to sign the attendance sheet. She provided a brief summary of the Executive Committee proceedings. Minutes of the February meeting distributed to attendees were approved.

Treasurer Linda Mahoney presented the Treasurer's Report a/o March 26, 2011. Balance on Hand is \$6,364.09 which includes the proceeds from the VHF Seminar and ABC Course.

Admin Officer Jim Grimshaw asked for ideas for meeting places. He announced that he wants to build



a Publicity program to promote our Squadron. He suggests creating a team who can address various groups to explain what the Squadron does and has to offer. Larry asked for volunteers for this team and for anyone who is willing to write articles to publicize the Squadron's activities.

Following up on last month's discussion of the West Marine Boat Show April 2 and May National Safe Boating Week May 21 activities at West Marine, Cdr Jefferis asked for volunteers to staff a table on both days to promote the Squadron and publicize our new Public Seminars (Paddle Smart, VHF Radio, On-Board Weather, and Radar).

Larry reported that the D26 Co-op Charting Chairman asked Squadrons if there is an interest in a one day seminar focusing on CCWeb, the tool used to communicate with NOAA. The seminar will be held in May or June at the Charleston, SC NOAA facility. Since it is closed on weekends, the training will be during the week if there is interest. If anyone from

GISPS is interested in participating please let Larry know.

Next he discussed schedule changes approved by the Bridge. The April meeting was scheduled for the Saturday prior to Easter and the May meeting for Memorial Day Weekend. Given we have a Co-op Charting event on the calendar for May 14, any required Membership Business will be covered at a short session then. Since the Bridge supported the idea of a cookout that day, we'll be asking for someone to take the lead on arranging that activity. The November meeting scheduled on Thanksgiving weekend and the December meeting scheduled for Christmas Eve will be cancelled. The Squadron Change of Watch is planned for November 19 and we'll hold a December Holiday Party on one of the first two weekends in December. A new 2011 Schedule will be sent via email soon.

The business meeting was temporarily adjourned for dinner and a program. Charles Wilsdorf gave a very informative presentation on the new Boat Operator Certification Program. The objective of BOC is to certify recreational boaters on the water, demonstrating various levels of proficiency. Charles is already trained as an Inland Navigation and Coastal Navigation Certifier and Steven Chambless, P, is working to satisfy the requirements to become an Inland Navigation Certifier. If anyone is interested in attending training at Lake Murray, SC on the first weekend in April, contact Charles.

When the business meeting resumed, Larry announced that Charles and the Nominating Committee are starting to think about candidates for 2011-2012 Bridge and other positions. Linda Mahoney confirmed she doesn't plan to continue as Treasurer, so that position will be open. All members are urged to consider what role fits your skills and interest and let Larry or Charles know what you can do.

SEO Wilsdorf reported that two students completed the one day version of the ABC class March 19. The classroom portion of the Junior Navigation Class is complete. A Paddle Smart seminar will be presented by Joe Caneva at West Marine on May 26.

Larry announced he's received little input regarding the proposal to change the meeting date to something other than the fourth Saturday. He'll be sending out an email asking for member preference, primarily whether to stay with the fourth Saturday or changing to a Friday.

There won't be an April meeting. The next activity will be the May 14 Co-op Charting event.

Jim Grimshaw moved the meeting be adjourned. Motion was seconded and carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM. Respectfully submitted, Vicky Jefferis, AP, Secretary



Spring/Summer Birthday Bunch Happy Birthday to all!

April Birthdays

13 – Lynne Barron

15 – Audie Holmes

18 – Stuart Stratton

May Birthdays

2 – James Bridges

4 – George Bloodworth

16 – Jennifer Hoffman

26 - Frank Barron

28 - Betty Whisnant

June Birthdays

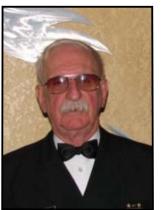
12 – Emil Hoffman

17 - David Curtis

18 - Bob Morrison

30 – Lalla Eshliman

Boating Safely ...especially in the summertime Audie Holmes, SN



High Temperatures. A hot blazing sun. No shade. Careful observance of maritime rules of the road. Noisy engines, etc.

All of the above are necessary ingredients to fatigue the boater...both physically and mentally, making that boater a hazard to him/herself and others.

The combination of all of these factors often leads to the summer fatalities on our states' coastal waterways, our lakes, u rivers, and often enough in small ponds and even in private pools. Days that begin amid laughter and cheery activities can end in tragedy and remorse. That is why we are reminded that it is so important to import our knowledge and expertise onto our new boating friends, our own families, and our on-board guests.

The hazy, lazy days of summer are meant to be enjoyed and what better way to enjoy them than on board a motorboat, a sailboat, a jet ski, a canoe, or Tom Sawyer's raft. The mindless machine cannot think for itself and so we must think for it. Is there any one of us, looking back, who cannot think of at least one time that we made a decision we wished we hadn't? And that the potential for disaster was at least a possibility? Well, I shall at least admit to perhaps several events or situations that I wouldn't even consider doing over again. I'm older now, not so carefree as I once was. But there is no doubt that the intensive training, the sound advice, and various experiences I have gained in my nearly 20 years as a member of the U.S. Power Squadrons has served me and other members well.

This is no time for me, at least, to become complacent and figure I know all there is to know about boats and boating. We are never too old to learn new things or to teach others what we have learned. Danger lurks where careless people tread.

I hope my fellow members of the Golden Isles Sail and Power Squadron are enjoying their summer days, and I hope to see their bright shining sunburned faces very soon. Stay safe-Stay Happy- Stay Young (at heart)!

The Surveyors Angle

This Surveyors Angle article, written by Frank Barron, may seem a little late but it's not Frank's fault. I felt we should include it because the information is important even if a little late. Cdr Jefferis

I knew it......yes!! Spring is here, actually I felt it a few weeks ago and you know what that means. Boat time !! But before we go, let's make sure we're ready. A pre-launch inspection list is a smart thing to do.

If your vessel has been on the trailer, in the drive, in the dry stack or in the slip, these points below will make the season less fearful that something will unexpectedly fail – from the movie-star, we all know where it's gonna happen (fail)...."out there"!!

So I've got a rough outline that I follow each year for my several (way too many) boats. Here's some of the things I look at with seriousness before playtime.

- Give the vessel a good bath with new cleaning supplies. Yes we all have last year's cleaners; they've been frozen and in the hot sun just get new. After a good scrub you'll be able to see lots of things to attend to leaf stains, rips & tears and rust. Make notes.
- Give her a good visual inspection hull, deck and cabin. Create a list for each area. For the hull, look at zincs, thru-hulls, trailer eyes and if any new bottom paint is due. Exercise thru hulls, make sure the seacocks are always ready. Zincs, they're cheap so why not replace them, but make sure they're properly bonded (we'll talk about this in another "Surveyor's Angle"). And check the cabin...are there any leaks or have any critters set up home over the winter? Clean and properly "de-bug" (be aware of any small children or pets). Check trailer for tire inflation, metal corrosion and lights working properly.
- Filters for the engine oil, genset oil, fuel, or AC. Change 'em....they're inexpensive and are good protection....'nuff said.
- In the engine room look at the belts, be aware of time on impellors, look at hoses and clamps, check for any chaffed wiring or corroded connections. Check the charge of the batteries. Check electrolyte level and review in your mind, at least, your power requirements and availability remember that if you have a requirement that will discharge your battery more than 50%, you will reduce the life of the battery significantly. Look at packing glands and drive boots/ bellows for any sign of wear, cracking or decomposition.
- Clean the canvas with a 25/75 ratio of bleach and water (add dish soap if desired) scrub, leave on for a few minutes then rinse off thoroughly.
- For the sailors, remove the sails; lay them in the yard to inspect all eyes. Look for threadbare seams attend to. Look at your rigging...simply make sure that all swages are secure, turnbuckles are safety wired, no "J" hooks on stays & shrouds, and all halyards & sheets are still serviceable. Check security of all blocks too.
- Check that all life lines are secure and can perform. Look at all lines to ensure they are serviceable. Check fenders for proper inflation. Then look at the anchor system (think of it that way as a system). Inspect the quality of the rode & chain. Make sure the rode is secure at the bitter end to the vesselsomewhere. Ensure the turnbuckle is safety wired you'd hate to be anchored only to realize that anchor is still holding but the turnbuckle has "unscrewed" its' self.
- Next ensure the insurance is proper, the "tow-plan" is current, crew members are given a safety briefing and a float plan is known to others.
- Do you have a cruising or maintenance log (oil changes, bottom paint spare parts etc..)?? If not, start this season.....use it.
- Now, lastly but very importantly that all U.S. Coast Guard safety items are complied with. Get a U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary/Power Squadron Safety Inspection. Remember, it's free.

Do these things, you'll have peace of mind allowing more fun time.....now GO, get on the water and I'll see ya out there!!!

Capt. Frank Barron

Frank is a USCG 100Gt Master and a SAMS surveyor. When not delivering boats along the US Eastcoast and Caribbean, he and his wife, Lynne, (also USCG Capt) spend a lot of time continually restoring their 1958 48' wooden Wheeler on Jekyll Island, Ga.

BAHAMAS? I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER!

By: Jim Grimshaw, AP



The invitation from our sailing friends to join them in the Bahamas for a few days on their 40' Catalina and sail back to Port Canaveral, Florida was too good to turn down. So we went. I should have known better. At least I brought my own charts and Garmin 76Csx handheld GPS.



On March 29 upon our arrival in Freeport, our friends told us that they needed to sail back to Lake Worth early the next day because of a bad front moving in from Florida in about two days. No time to go to a grocery store and buy what we like to eat and drink, especially my brand of beer and coffee. They are tea drinkers and don't have a coffee pot.



A few hours after leaving Freeport, the weather got rough. More like 5 – 8 ft waves, rogue waves 10 ft, winds SSW 15 – 25 kts, not like predicted. With only the headsail out 50% we sailed across the 'Stream at 6 – 8 kts boat speed. I took an hour's nap as the weather worsened. When I awoke, we had gone off course to the right of our track by 8 NM. The Gulf Stream and winds were pushing us northward.

My buddy said he had done this for a smoother ride since Sara was sick. Then, the autopilot malfunctioned. He got the boat under control, turned on the engine, the autopilot came back on. Then his Garmin 3010 went bonkers. He turned



on the Raymarine GPS mounted above the Garmin. It went crazy, too. About fifteen minutes later both GPS' came back on line. By this time we had we had drifted 14 NM off course to the north.

I went below, turned on my handheld Garmin, spread out my charts, and he and I confirmed our progress every fifteen minutes until we approached Lake Worth. We were actually closer to Jupiter, FL when we exited the Gulf Stream.

We thought our troubles were over when we motored into the Sailfish Marina at 2245 hrs. The unfamiliar strong current caused my buddy to misjudge his turn into the slip. I was on the bow with a line and yelled, "Reverse, you're going to hit the piling!"

He did! I pushed off and heard him

yell, "I have no propulsion!" The prop shaft problem that had plagued him the whole trip bit him in the butt again. The outgoing tide forced our starboard side hard against the pilings of three slips. At 0215 hrs when the tide changed, we warped the boat into our slip. We ended up spending two days at the marina, including paying a mechanic to repair the problem.



Our sail up to Port Canaveral over the next two days was great sailing just off the coast in deep blue water. We had a great dinner at Ft Pierce City Marina, and we hit a party going on at the Port Canaveral Yacht Club upon arrival. My buddy left his boat there. Sara and I had parked our car next door at the Cape Marina. The next day, April 4, we packed up our SUV to the brim with all sorts of luggage and boat stuff, dropped off our friends at the Daytona International Airport where they picked up a rental car so they could drive back to New Bern. Sara says, "Next time, you want to sail the Gulf Stream,

I'll fly!"