

# the porthole



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## Always Be Prepared!



CDR Larry Jefferis

This summer has been a scorcher and as I write this article, Irene is bearing down



on our neighbors to the north. We've played peek-a-boo with her for several days but she keeps moving further east in order to spare most

us from the worst of her wraith. This should remind us to ensure we have taken extra precautions for additional protection to our vessels, our

families and our pets. Make your preparedness list, pack your "get away" bags and ALWAYS drive on the top half of your gas tank ... make sure you have enough to "get away". Doubling lines on our vessels and ensuring our fenders are adequately inflated will help eliminate damage to our vessels by banging against the dock during periods of gusty wind and rough water.

### GOLDEN ISLES SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON 2011 BRIDGE

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**Executive Officer**  
**Squadron Education Officer**  
**Assistant Education Officer**  
**Administration Officer**  
**Secretary**  
**Treasurer**  
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**Announcements:**

We still have Bucky Harris and Tommy Cox in health crises. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

**Events and Awards:**

Lisa Noetzel, JN, Jack Sterrett, JN, and Coy Hodges, JN, Have completed their course work and exams for Junior Navigator. My congratulations to them all.

**Membership:** It is membership renewal time. 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. There have been several new members who have joined recently. We've had Floyd Pruitt, John and Carolyn Vann and Skip and Mary Roeder join us recently. Welcome to you all. 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.

**Education:** Please read the SEO's report. We have had 3 members finish their Junior Navigator class and 4 members finish their Advanced Piloting class. We're going to hold a Seamanship Class in late August and early September. 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.

**Financial Statement:** At the end of July we had \$ 6,904.50 in the bank and we project a balance of \$7010.77 at the end of August.

**Calendar:**

27-Aug	1700-1830	GISPS EXCOM Meeting	Sanctuary Cove Golf Club
27-Aug	1830-2030	GISPS Membership Meeting	Sanctuary Cove Golf Club
24-Sep	1830-2030	GISPS Low country bowl	Richard & Dorothy Jones
22-Oct	1830 - 2030	GISPS Membership Meeting & John and Pat Rodgers presentation on their recent cruise.	Saltwater Cowboy St Simons Island
19 - Nov	1830 - 2130	GISPS Change Of Watch	TBA
10 - Dec	1830 - 2130	GISPS Holiday Party	TBA

**Closing:**

Keep your eyes on the weather and take appropriate precautions for the hurricanes as they approach. Enjoy your boating and come share your experiences with your friends at Golden Isles Sail and Power Squadron.

Safe Boating All!

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## The Squadron Education Report

Charles Wilsdorf, SN



Sure hope all of you are having a wonderful summer. We have had some great boating days here in the Brunswick area mixed with the smoke days. I can't complain though since we are not having fires or floods in the Golden Isles area. Let's just keep our fingers crossed that no hurricanes come our way in late summer. Guess it wouldn't hurt to wish for a little rain.

I am happy to report the GISPS has three new JN's, Lisa Noetzel, Coy Hodges and Jack Sterrett. Congratulations to you both. I know it was a lot of hard work and dedication. These guys only lack a couple of more classes to become SN's and they both have pledged to get the job done.

I am also happy to report that Steven Chambless has successfully completed Engine Maintenance and also received his IN Certification. With the completion of AP Steven will earn an Education Achievement Award as well as become an IN Certifier. Let's get it done Steven!

We also just wrapped up an AP class with four students, Steven Chambless, George Bloodworth, George Gauthier, and George Eshliman. We are all wishing you good luck on your exams.

Lisa Noetzel lacks only one more elective for her Education Achievement. Good going, Lisa. Lisa is also committed to becoming a SN.

We would like to offer a Seamanship class, a Marine Communications class and an ABC class the last part of August and the month of September as well as an ABC Class. Help!!!! Instructors Needed. Please give me a call at 912 265-9550 if you are willing to do some teaching or taking one of these classes. Also, please give me a call if should have an interest in receiving a BOC IN or CN certificate.

As Membership Chairman I would like to report that we have three new members who Larry reported. Welcome aboard Floyd, Skip, and Mary. Unfortunately, we have lost several members this year so please be on the lookout for potential new members.

Now, last, but not least, I would like to mention that it's that time of year again to start planning the 2011 Change of Watch. Please contact myself, Audie Holmes, or Howard Klippel if you are interested in serving on the bridge next year.

All for now. Look forward to seeing you all at the Aug 27 GISPS Membership Meeting.

### AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

10 – Pat Rodgers

13 – Rose Mary McPherson

19 – Vicky Jefferis



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## Secretary's Report

### Vicky Jefferis, AP Secretary



Cdr Larry Jefferis, AP, called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM July 23, 2011 at Skippers Fish Camp, Darien, GA. Richard Jones, AP, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Larry introduced Past Commanders John Rodgers, SN, Charles Wilsdorf, SN and Jeff

Wolf from Fox Valley Power Squadron.

New recently upgraded Junior Navigators were recognized: Coy Hodges, Jack Sterret and Lisa Noetzel. Congratulations to all! We have three new members: Floyd Pruitt and Skip & Mary Roeder. Larry welcomed visitors Jeff Wolf, Linda Lidster, Rob Hohert, John & Carolyn Vann, and Bill Bartlett. Next, he presented the invocation.

Following dinner, Cdr Jefferis resumed the meeting and presented certificates to George Eshliman, P, and Richard Jones for completing the VHF Seminar. Secretary Vicky Jefferis, AP, confirmed a quorum was present. Minutes of the June 2011 meeting were on each table and she asked they be read and approved. Minutes approved as presented.

Treasurer Linda Mahoney, S, presented the Treasurer's Report. Projected Balance on Hand 31 July is \$6,904.50.

Following up on members' interest in a Squadron Cruise, Larry announced that Emil & Jennifer Hoffman have volunteered to serve as Cruise Captains and are planning a cruise to Fernandina Beach Marina. The Marina is full on Labor Day Weekend, so our options are the weekend of 12 – 14 August or late October. No one date works for everyone, so we'll schedule a trip for August. Everyone should encourage friends to join us. Richard Jones noted that as we travel the ICW, shoaling has shifted in the Brick hill area near Marker 64, and we need to stay to the East side of the channel.

Once again, the topic of changing meeting dates was brought to the membership. In order to get a sensing of preferences, Larry asked for a show of

hands regarding changing meeting dates from the 4th Saturday of the month to the 4th Friday of the month. Results were split with 7 voting to keep the date on the 4th Saturday and 7 voting to change to the 4th Friday. One member suggested changing to a "floating" Saturday near the end of the each month.

Larry introduced Merit Marks as the next topic. A merit mark is the only means the Squadron has for recognizing or rewarding members for contributing to the goals of USPS. Merit marks are awarded on the basis of substantial personal efforts and/or results on behalf of USPS. At the end of each year, the Commander recommends members for merit marks based upon each member's contributions to accomplishing the Squadron's objectives.

He provided several examples of actions that have been rewarded in the past: teaching a class or section of a large class; helping staff a booth promoting the Squadron and/or boating safety; writing articles for the Porthole, D26 True, or USPS Ensign; serving on the Bridge or a committee; planning, organizing and presenting a Change of Watch or other significant event.

Once someone receives 5 merit marks, the member earns the Senior Member designation. Twenty Five merit marks earns someone the Life Member status and in most cases dues are waived. Larry informed the members that there are several upcoming events where volunteers are needed and helping/ participating in these activities are a great way to earn a merit mark for this year.

SEO Charles Wilsdorf reported the Advanced Piloting class work is finished. All four students are working to complete their tests. There are several members who could benefit from a Seamanship class, so he would like to offer one in September. Please contact

Charles if you are interested in attending or teaching. The ABC Class was next up for discussion since response been so low. This seems to be at least partially due to the fact that our publicity efforts are not working as we would like. Please contact Vicky if you can help with our public relations activities. Larry announced dates for upcoming events:



**GISPS August 27 meeting** – Sanctuary Cove Golf Club, Waverly

**GISPS September 24 meeting** – Belvedere Island – Potluck. Jeannie Klippel volunteered to organize it.

**DNR Coast Fest October 1** – need volunteers to organize, manage, and man the booth. Please contact Larry if you can do any of these things.

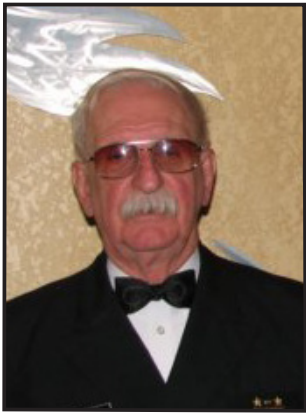
**GISPS October 22 meeting** – tentatively at Salt Water Cowboy, St. Simons Island. Pat, AP, & John Rodgers will present a program on the National USPS Cruise they took in the Pacific Northwest.

**GISPS November 19 Change of Watch.** Volunteers are needed for site selection, organization and menu selection. In a show of hands, the membership is split on preferring a seated meal vs. a cocktail buffet. Please contact Vicky to help with the planning.

P/C Wilsdorf is still working to fill Bridge and committee openings. Please contact him to help keep our Squadron vibrant. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

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**Assistant SEO Report**  
**Audie Holmes, SN**



Ahoy, all ye Golden Isle mariners, Looks as if we are going to miss Hurricane Irene or she is going to miss the Golden Isles for the most part. Regardless, it is our hope that she will go far out to sea, and miss the whole east coast!

I continue to conduct vessel safety checks and work with the proposed Ogeechee River and Lake Oconee/ Sinclair soon-to-be provisional squadrons. I know Education in the Golden Isles is moving along under P/C/ Charles Wilsdorf's leadership and that of Cdr. Larry Jefferis. Let me unofficially congratulate the soon-to-be treasurer of the District 26 of GISPS. Way to go!

I am so proud to be a member of the best in D26.

Thank all of you for what you do to make it so.

Respectfully,  
Audie Holmes, P/C

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**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*

How are you feeling today? Stiff? Tired? We all do at some point, and we go to the doctor to try to understand what goes on inside our body. Well what goes on inside us or under the hood can be a mystery... So even though it may be a mystery how it works, we all depend on that it works. The same goes for our boats, so we don't have to go thru our boating lives blindly.

What made me think of this is our guests/crew this week. As I write this we are conducting a charter here in the B.V.I. for some guests from Virginia. On the first day, after safety briefings and all, a couple that had never sailed

before came to me asking all sorts of questions..... Surprisingly I've taken it for granted that everybody thinks about what's under the hood – or below the decks.

Well there are some similarities in all these “systems” of our bodies, car and boats. This couple wondered how “all this works”. So I broke it down like this:

Your body requires a source of fuel and a place to store it. Your tummy, right. Yea, I know, some of us are blessed with bigger “tanks” than others. But this fuel is essential for survival of our bodies and the boats viability. At the heart of this particular system is the fuel pump – just like yours, take care of it, keep it healthy & clean and it will last a long time. Ensure you have A.B.Y.C. approved fuel lines. Keep'em clean & properly routed to prevent chaffing or puncturing. Like our body, the fuel system cannot operate alone – there's more to our boat than that. You have an electrical system on board, just like your central nervous system with many branches and levels of importance. Also in this system are limited amounts of “signals” or power that can be accommodated along any given branch. Just like you, when it gets overloaded, things go awry. Keep it simple, know how much it can handle and be aware of its sensitivities. And at the first sign of something amiss – investigate immediately!

Neither of the above two does a boat make. There is more complexity to a boat. There is a plumbing system too. Some subsystems handle fresh water in, a holding tank and a discharge route. Only approved items are allowed in – failure to adhere to this can have very unpleasant consequences. Again, keep it clean and give it a regular check-up.

Now we have another system – a hard system. It can consist of controls such as Teleflex cables, push cables for steering or throttle management. Just as we are respectful of the limits and care of our tendons and ligaments, do so for your boat. Protect them, keep them lubricated and flexible – they will serve you faithfully for a long time.

And then there is the largest organ of our body – the epidermis. We've all heard our mothers harp “go wash your hands...”. So we do, but how do we take care of this organ? We wash it to keep germs away, we apply protective barriers to prevent sunburn, we lotion ourselves to keep us young and supple and some apply colors and shades to accentuate desired features. Well, do the same for you boats “epidermis” – keep her clean and looking good – repair blemishes, attend to breaks immediately. She'll reward you not just in looking good on your arm, but the personal satisfaction of knowing you're doing the very best for her.

So what does all this mean? Well, as I explained to our charter clients, it's really not all that hard to understand how this boat works. Just think of the “systems knowledge” that we've all been obliquely studying all our lives, break it down and apply it to your boat. Once you've grasped the concept then dig in (caution about the body analogy here!), look around and you'll start seeing your boat in new ways – a deeper dimension. Look at the schematics, crawl around with a flashlight. You'll start seeing things in a more comprehensive way. Knowledge is power.

Till next time, be aware...

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.