



the p o r t h o l e



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CDR Vicky Jefferis

Memorial Day Weekend is considered by many to be the beginning of the summer season – a



Angie Lowe and Rich Guettler, West Marine, presenting a set of life preservers to Lisa Noetzel, Executive Officer for GISPS.

time filled with vacations, outdoor activities, and days with long hours of daylight. It's a great

time to spend time on your boat, and sometimes best of all, time on your boat with friends

and family. As you plan your boating activities, don't forget to make sure you've covered your normal and special maintenance needs before you leave the dock. Nothing can spoil a wonderful day faster than some kind of mechanical issue out on the water, especially something that could have been easily addressed before you launched for

GOLDEN ISLES SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON 2011 BRIDGE

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GISPS members Bill Gauthier, George Eshliman, and Larry Jefferis helped with the Boating Safety Week booth.

the day. Of course, be sure you have all your safety equipment checked out and easily accessible. While I'm thinking about water safety, I'd also like to urge you to be extremely careful if you're wading or swimming in the surf in our local waters. Just last week, a 30 year old soldier drowned when he got caught by a rip current off a St. Simons Island beach. As boaters, we're familiar with the large tide swings and strong currents in local waters, so keep their power in mind when spending a day at the beach.

It's been a busy month for members of the squadron! Our XO Lisa Noetzel organized a very successful effort to highlight Safe Boating Week with a power squadron table set up at the Brunswick West Marine store on May 19 and May 26. Members were able to talk to several people about our squadron and what we offer, as well as just raising the issue of safe boating to a large population who frequent the local waters. Thanks to Lisa and our members who helped make it all possible: Emil & Jennifer Hoffman, Skip & Mary Roeder, Bill Gauthier, George Eshliman, Joe Scirica, Linda Nelson, Larry Jefferis, and Charles & Teresa Wilsdorf. Special thanks

go to Rich Guettier and Angie Lowe for allowing us to set up our table near the store door and for donating a life jacket package that we used as a free giveaway.

On June 9 Pat & John Rodgers led us in a terrific Co-op Charting outing. Despite overcast skies and a few light showers, eleven members on three boats got a lot of work done and had fun in the process! We covered a lot of the area on our adopted chart, 11506, checking range markers near Colonel's Island, elevation and water depth around Bird Island, and visual checks of markers, signs and landmarks in the Frederica and Mackay Rivers, Troup Creek, and the ICW in the northern portion of our chart. Thanks to Pat & John for organizing this event and to the Rodgers, Chuck & Sandra Boynton, and Charles & Teresa Wilsdorf for providing their boats for the day. John, Charles, and Larry Jefferis, thanks for doing the work to complete the reports that will be submitted to USPS, NOAA and



Charles Wilsdorf, John Rodgers, and Larry Jefferis enter information into CCWeb to complete the June Co-op Charting reports.



John Rodgers and Larry Jefferis work to complete Co-op Charting Reports while Pat Rodgers, Dee Morrison, and Chuck & Sandra Boynton talk about the discoveries of the day.

the Coast Guard. Everyone who attended had fun and learned something new!

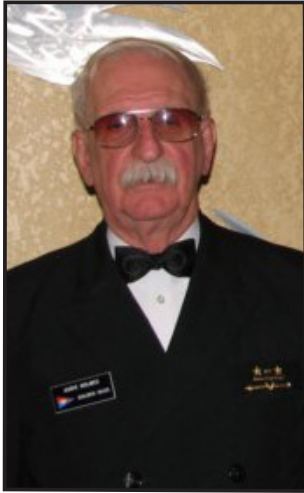
Last but certainly not least, I'm pleased to announce that our District 26 Commander, Bob Boal, will be joining us at our June 23 meeting. Commander Boal is making a big effort to visit with as many squadrons in the district as he possibly can because he wants to meet you. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend! Our meeting place is Skipper's Fish Camp in Darien, time is 6:00PM for some social time before we have a short meeting and hear from Commander Boal.

Golden Isles Sail and Power Squadron 2012 Activities Calendar

Date	Time	Function	Location
Jun	TBD	GISPS EXCOM Mtg	TBD
Jun 23	1800	GISPS Membership Mtg	Skipper's Fish Camp, Darien
July	TBD	Weather/Other Seminar	TBD
	TBD	Skipper Saver	TBD
Jul 28	TBD	First Aid/CPR Training	UGA Extension
		GISPS EXCOM Mtg	TBD
		GISPS Membership Mtg	TBD
August 11, 18	TBD	ABC	UGA Extension
August	TBD	Advanced Piloting	TBD
Aug 25	TBD	GISPS EXCOM Mtg	TBD
		GISPS Membership Mtg	TBD
September	TBD	Weather	TBD
Sep 22	TBD	GISPS EXCOM Mtg	TBD
Sep 22	TBD	GISPS Membership Mtg	TBD
Oct 27	TBD	GISPS EXCOM Mtg	TBD

Charter Commander's Report

Audie Holmes, SN



A-h-h- summertime! To many of us it is our favorite season of the year. Mild mornings and breezy evenings—nice hot mid days and velvet starry or moonlit nights... This is the time of year when we are invite guests to share our boating pleasures. Boating is often more enjoyable when we share it with family and friends. However, this pleasure is often compromised by guests who have no idea of yachting etiquette.

I expect we all have experienced that “misdemeanor” at one time or another. Here are some of my experiences and my personal solutions for handling these sticky problems. My solutions are at the end of my narrative.

#1. I offered some acquaintances to join me for a river cruise. I reminded them that I had invited others and that the boat only had a legal capacity for ten people including myself. Fourteen people showed up because some of guests took it upon themselves to invite others without consulting their hosts...a severe break of boating etiquette. Has this ever happened to you?

#2. I extended an invitation for a few guests to go for a sail on a Star Sailing vessel I once owned. They showed up with high heel motorcycle type boots and a dog! I am not know to be abrupt, but I do know what boat shoes are for!

#3. Another invitation...another misdemeanor. Fourth of July fireworks on the Savannah River. My personal invitations were sent out as usual. Guess what! No. Don't guess; you know already. Another uninvited couple showed up with an invited couple, and the uninvited brought their six month old son. Does any know if there is a PFD for a newborn? I was told by the father that he could hold the baby in his arms for safety. After all, he said it was his baby not mine. Yet, it was my boat, and who was going to explain to the DNR?

It is always a good practice to bring our own PFDs when invited onto a host boat. It makes things easier for everybody. Boating etiquette should be kept alive by all boaters and yachtsmen. It is a tradition that must be maintained.

Now, I said I was going to offer you my solutions and how I handled these three recorded incidents. However, I decided to send it to the Porthole editor in a separate envelope. *Parental discretion is advised!!* See you on the water!

Audie Holmes, First GISPS Commander, SN

Treasurer's Report

Teresa Wilsdorf, S Treasurer



Financial Statement:

GISPS currently has \$7,393.84 in the bank.

Missed not having a May meeting, but I hope you all had a wonderful month, a great Memorial Day, and made it unscathed through Beryl.

Remember, we are having a CPR class Saturday, July 28. We currently have 14 members enrolled, and have room for 6 more people. We do have a requirement of 15 attendees, so please sign up ASAP. If we do not get an additional person, we will have to cancel the class. So, send me a check for \$55.00 for each individual and learn how to save someone's life.....could be one of your loved ones!

I am sure I don't have to remind you, but please do not forget to pay your dues this year! Most of our members have a renewal date of June 1st. There are some of you that have forgotten (I hope) to pay your dues this year. The dues can be paid with a credit card over the internet on the USPS website. If anyone needs help in doing so, please give me a call at **265-9550**. Also, don't forget to ask friends, neighbors, and co-workers if they are interested in joining the Squadron.

Coop Charting Excitement



Charles & Teresa Wilsdorf and Linda Nelson prepare to depart to check range markers and chart depth around Bird Island during the June Co-op Charting event.

Charles and I hosted Cmdr Vicky Jefferis and Linda Nelson on our boat, Top Water, on our Coop Charting outing on June 9th. As we were sitting south of Andrews Island in the Turtle River checking a range, our VHF started beeping loudly and quickly. Our VHF display was illuminated with info for the distressed vessel: position, distance and bearing, it's MMSI, an acknowledgement number, and time for the signal. We wrote down all the information displayed on the VHF. The vessel happened to be South and 73 nm from us. We heard the Jacksonville Coast Guard make contact with the vessel and ask for the acknowledgement number for the distressed signal, which matched the id number we had written down. We could not hear the vessel responding to the Coast Guard but knew the Coast Guard was in contact with the vessel so we continued on our way. It was very interesting to listen to this take place, and made us feel good to know that we have this feature, DSC on our VHF.

Here is a little info I found on the internet regarding the Distress Signal on the VHF:

On the front of the radio you'll see a red Distress button. Just press that button. This is where DSC and Rescue 21 take over. Once you press the distress button, your radio sends a digital signal over Channel 70. That signal

goes to the Coast Guard, but it also goes out to all boats within range that have DSC/VHF radios. The radio will continue to send the message until someone acknowledges it. This message is fast (only 1/3 of a second), accurate, complete and automatic. It will continue to broadcast even if the skipper is incapacitated.

Your distress signal alerts the Coast Guard Watchstander that you're in trouble. The digital information, provided you have a MMSI# and your VHF is interfaced with your GPS, tells the Coast Guard the exact location of your boat (latitude and longitude) as well personal information and a description of your boat. The Watchstander will acknowledge your message, and your radio will automatically switch to Channel 16 so you can talk directly to the Coast Guard. In addition, other nearby vessels will be notified where you are and that you are in a crisis. You can rest assured that help is on the way, thanks to Digital Selective Calling and Rescue 21.

In order for this system to function correctly, it is crucial that it be properly configured. For specific information, please always refer to your radio and or GPS user's manual. Also, consider taking the USPS Marine Communications class and VHF seminar.

Squadron Education Officer
Charles Wilsdorf, SN



Upcoming GISPS Classes:

Piloting will start tomorrow night, June 11 with six students meeting for five weekly classes at my house.

CPR/First Aid is scheduled for Saturday, July 28 at the UGA Marine Extension from 0830 until 1530.

We are also offering a ABC class on Saturday, meeting on August 11th and August 18th also at the UGA Marine Extension. Please encourage your boating friends to attend.

Please contact myself or any bridge member if you have any suggestions or recommendations for USPS courses or seminars you would like to see offered.

On Another Note:

How many of you routinely use your GPS's and/or Chartplotter's track (some units use trail for the same terminology) function? I have noticed that some skipper's unit's map screen/page covered with tracks, some even to the point to where important chart information is covered. When inquiring with the skipper I was told they like to keep the tracks in case they would like follow them again. Since a GPS only has limited memory, all of the tracks cannot be kept. Either the oldest tracks are automatically deleted or the tracking function stops until some of the tracks are deleted. This depends on how you originally setup your GPS or the factory

default. Either case, the skipper's original plan, keeping the tracks, has become unworkable.

What are some of the options for the skipper to prevent the loss of a track which has been safely navigated in the past? First, you should only use the track function when you want or need to record your track. After laying a safe track taking all hazards into consideration, you may stop the track function. Generally, when this is done the operator will have the option of saving the track which can be named for easy reference or deleting the track. Again, eventually, the unit will run out memory. When this happens, the tracks may be saved on the unit's SD card or proprietary card or can be downloaded to a pc if the GPS is a handheld. (I have an extra wiring harness for my Garmin 441s and a small 12 v dc battery so I can plan routes on my pc and download into my GPS in the comfort of my office.) These named tracks can be uploaded when needed again.

Another option which I prefer is after laying down a safe track; convert the track to a route. This accomplishes the same thing without taking near the amount of the GPS's memory since the route only requires critical waypoints rather than the many data points a track requires. A modern GPS will even convert a track into a route. Even with routes and waypoints, backing up your info on your unit's proprietary card or SD card is only prudent.

These techniques are covered in USPS Piloting and Advance Piloting. Of course, a good understanding of your specific GPS is a must which requires a careful reading of your GPS's corrections/instructions. Please don't hesitate to give me a call should you have any questions

Hope to see you all at the June GISPS membership meeting.

AO Report

Richard Jones, AP



Hope you will be attending our June 23 meeting.

The June 23 meeting will be at Skippers in Darien. The club and I are open to finding a permanent location for our monthly meetings. So please offer your suggestions.

So far as boating activities go I have put the finishing touches on the ARK and started gathering the animals.

With your help we will increase our on the water activities this year. By doing this we will accomplish the two most important reasons for being a member of the GISPS, learning and having fun.

I look forward to hearing from you.
Serving our members (you) is my job.
Please email me at rjones8@tds.net
or call (912) 882-3883

XO Report

Lisa Noetzel, JN



GISPS had a strong presence during Boating Safety Week (May 19th - 26th) this past month! Setting up a tent outside the Brunswick West Marine store, squadron members had the opportunity to interact with customers, provide information regarding USPS education courses, schedule vessel safety checks, and offer the public a chance to win a set of four, Type-II life preservers.

Many thanks to West Marine General Manager, Rich Guettler, and Assistant Managers, Angie and Trey, for donating the set of life preservers and for allowing us to set up in front of the store. The GISPS raffle winner of the life jacket package was James Cain from Brunswick!

And many thanks to the numerous GISPS squadron members--Vicky & Larry Jefferis, Jen & Emil Hoffman, Charles & Teresa Wilsdorf, Skip & Mary Roeder, Bill Gauthier, George Eshliman, Linda Nelson and Joe Scirica--for manning the booth, and set-up and break-down of the tent.

Secretary's Report

Joe Scirica, S Secretary



Secretary's Report

Because there was no May meeting, there aren't any new minutes for your review this month, so let me change to my Webmaster Hat for this month's newsletter.

The roster is on the web site on the bottom of the "About Us" page. It is password protected. If you would like the password, send me an email and I will reply with the password. My email is jscirica1@yahoo.com

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

12 – Emil Hoffman
17 – David Curtis
18 – Bob Morrison
28 – Mary Roeder
30 – Lalla Eshliman

