



# the port hole



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



GISPS Commander  
Cdr Sharon Hindery, AP



GISPS Booth at the 2016 coastfest

I hope that this issue finds that everyone has come through hurricane Matthew with little or no damage... Those of you that I have spoken with, on the Glynn county coast, are breathing a sigh of relief. We are counting blessings that we did not get the perfect storm that was forecasted...

This unpredictable storm wavered east just enough, and came through a bit earlier than expected so as to miss high tide. This prevented the massive storm surge that was predicted. We (the Hinderys) lost a few of our reclaimed door garden art,

but the best parts survived to become part of some other future project... Our marsh deck had floated off its cinderblocks and landed some 15 feet further into the marsh. Thanks to a full moon high tide about 2 feet higher than predicted, we were able to float it back and wrestle it onto its blocks. I am sure the DNR appreciates that.

Hurricane Matthew messed up everyone's schedule last week- Including the fall District conference in Augusta. The decision to cancel the conference was made on Wednesday before the conference to allow refunds

for meals, other events, and to allow folks time to cancel rooms no longer needed. However, 4 couples from the district kept their rooms as evacuation lodging. The Hotel did not have any problem filling the rooms with other evacuees from the coastal areas of Charleston, Savannah, and Myrtle Beach...

The Locals we met in Augusta made everyone feel welcome, with plenty of suggestions for places to eat and things to do to distract us from useless worrying.

As for the conference... the district has received permission from National to hold the business portion of the conference, including the Change of Watch, on November 2<sup>nd</sup> via a webinar type electronic meeting.

For the Youth Poster contest GISPS had 13 posters submitted by the YMCA after school program. Eight were in the 6-8

age group, Five in the 9 to 11. Since the Dist Conference was sidelined by Matthew, we will submit our winners in the 2 age groups via electronic image. All Squadron winners will be posted on the District 26 Face book page. Voting for your favorites will be by "likeing". Winners will then be forwarded to district to take to nationals. The YMCA folks were enthusiastic about the program and wish to use it in the Summer Camp next year. I plan to make it a bit more structured by incorporating a presentation to the kids to introduce them to the topic. Our winners are shown at the end of this newsletter .



2016 Kids Poster Contest Winner

I am told there were over 8000 visitors to Coastfest this year ... and I believe it. We had at least 11 adults/older teens try their hand at the Virtual trainer... and over 50 kids of all ages... Kids generally had an adult with them who also got to listen to the messages given about safety around the water with a few nautical terms thrown in...

We also had the ever popular bean bag toss for candy and a table full of USPS/GISPS boating literature. We got a few names for folks interested in ABC class and GISPS as well. The weather was beautiful, the day went by fast, but was exhausting! We did get to meet our newest member Ed Reynolds and his Fiancé Cindy Simpson, who stopped by our booth. Ed transferred his membership down from Johnson City Sail and Power Squadron in Tennessee.

GISPS also gives a special award to one of the Art entries from the Glynn County Schools... this year's theme was based on coastal ecology- so there weren't many pictures that represent boating and boating safety.... However, our distinguished judges DID find a special piece that demonstrated the second part of the mission statement "... stay for the friends"...

I really think this one shows the friendship that we have for each other! We will arrange to present this middle school student, Ann Burdell with a gift certificate and letter of acknowledgement personally.

Boating activities to SKIP---I know many of you have been doing some boating this summer- even if not as an organized activity with GISPS...Make sure you forward the dates and details to Skip Roeder so that he can fill out the Boating activities report...



Secretary  
Lt/C Cathy Stortz, AP

### **Golden Isles Sail and Power Squadron Meeting Minutes**

September 24, 2016

Cdr Sharon Hindery, AP called the meeting to order at 6:29 PM at Moondoggy's Pizza.

There were 13 members and 1 guest present.

#### **Unfinished Business**

- Nominating Committee Chair Vicky Jefferis, JN presented the 2017 slate of officers and committee members. There are still vacancies, please let Vicky know if you wish to serve. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the October meeting prior to the annual election.
- Coast Fest – Cdr. Sharon created a sign-in sheet and asked members to volunteer to work 2-hour shifts. The virtual trainer will be there and will be limited to people 12 yrs. and older with a 10 minute time limit. Other literature will be available and an ABC class sign-up sheet will be there. A garbage pick-up is planned for early in the week after the event at the Sydney Lanier Park.
- Poster Contest at YMCA – GISPS sponsored a poster contest at the YMCA in their after school program. The deadline is October 1. Cdr. Sharon asked for volunteers to help judge the posters. First, second and third place winners will receive \$15, \$10, or \$5. The Hinderys will take the winning posters to the upcoming District 26 meeting in Augusta.
- Change of Watch (COW) is on November 19 at the Bonefish Grill on St. Simons Island.
- The Christmas party will be December 10 at the Roeder's home.
- Geodetic Activity – Earlier in the day, five people participated in this activity and found 5 of the 6 markers. All had fun completing this activity.

#### **New Business**

- Past Commander (P/C) Charles Wilsdorf, SN-ACN reported the next ABC class is on October 15 at the University of GA Marine Extension building on Bay St. in Brunswick. Three people have signed up so far. Instructors will be Mike Moyer, N, P/C Vicky Jeffries, JN, Tim Lahrs, S and Skip Roeder, AP.
- Sea Scouts – Swen Peterson is starting a group on St. Simons Island for participants 12-20 years old. He has seven signed up so far. We will invite him to speak to our group early next year.
- Golden Isles Community Sailing Camps – We will have Dave Heine speak to our group in October to educate us on their mission and needs.
- Our bank balance is \$8,253.16.

#### **Adjournment**

Cdr. Sharon Hindery, AP adjourned the meeting at 6:52 PM.

Minutes submitted by: Lt/C Cathy Stortz, AP





## Administration Officer Lt/C Rick Hindery, P

Mark your calendars for  
Nov 19 @ 1800 Our annual  
change of watch will be at  
Bone fish grill on St Simons  
Island. Be on the lookout for  
the Evite in your email box.  
Also, keep December 10

open for our annual Christmas Party being hosted by Skip  
and Mary Roeder.



The afternoon before the last meeting, several of us went on a hunt for geodetic triangulation station markers in Glynn county. These survey markers were placed, some as long as 50 years ago by NGS and USPS helps out by periodically locating the markers, documenting the location and current surroundings. We found 5 of 6 markers we looked for along the causeway, 17, old town Brunswick area...the one we didn't find is on the old Sidney Lanier bridge, likely under the cement wall placed on the edge. It was a fun way to practice using GPS and compass on the land...Thanks to Pat and John Rodgers for setting this activity up.

**Boater safety course set for Saturday**

By TYLER H. JONES  
tjones@goldennews.com

On the open water, ignorance can be anything but bliss, a local boating safety expert says.

Charles Wilsdorf, an education officer with the nonprofit boating group Golden Isles Sail and Power Squadron, is hoping people will learn more about how to stay safe on the water Saturday during a free, public safety training course in Brunswick.

"The class is really designed for new boaters, but it's for experienced boaters as well," Wilsdorf said Thursday. "It's good to freshen up on the laws and regulations, as well as new safety protocols and safety items."

America's Boating Class is slated to begin at 7:45 a.m. at the University of Georgia Marine Extension Service office, 715 Bay St. in Brunswick. The class will teach attendees about nautical terminology, federal and state regulations, collision prevention, docking procedures and other safety-related topics, Wilsdorf said. It also satisfies state law requiring anyone born after Jan. 1, 1998, to undergo a boater safety course before operating a motorized watercraft.

The class ends with a proctored exam, but Wilsdorf said most participants usually answer 90 percent or more correctly. People who pass the exam with an 80 percent or higher grade will receive a certificate and wallet card. It's more than bragging rights, though, Wilsdorf said many boat owners can receive a discount on their boat insurance if they present the certificate to their insurance company.

But the class is about more than a discount. Just this year, eight people in the Golden Isles area have died in water-related emergencies, according to Sgt. Mark Carson of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Brunswick office. He said that number of deaths is "very much" out of the ordinary, but wasn't sure what has made 2016 such a deadly year on coastal waters.

"I'm not sure why there's been so many more," he said. "That's what we (DNR) want to step back and see, but it looks like it's carelessness, and people not respecting the water."

A class like the one offered Saturday can educate boaters in how to avoid potentially dangerous situations, but can also teach the courteous demeanor by which boaters abide, Carson added.

"(The class) gives boaters the basic rules of the road and some basic boater etiquette," Carson said. "It also gives you some insight into what you can expect with a water-related emergency."

Wilsdorf, who has more than 30 years experience boating at sea and in lakes, will lead Saturday's course. The class is expected to last for about eight hours with a 45-minute lunch break.

America's Boating Class will also include sections on buoy systems, personal watercrafts, line handling, adverse conditions and trailer boating.

While there is no cost for the class, an optional textbook costs \$29 and may be purchased at the beginning of the class Saturday. Although not required, Wilsdorf requests people make reservations for the class by calling him at 265-9950.

Wilsdorf hopes the class won't scare people away from boating — it's an activity he enjoys and wants to share with others, he said. He just wants people to be safe.

"Safety is one of the keys," Wilsdorf said. "Boating is a lot of fun. It's a family sport, but it can also be dangerous."

For more information on the Golden Isles Sail and Power Squadron, visit [www.gisps.org](http://www.gisps.org).

Tuesday after Coastfest a sweep was made of the Sidney Lanier Park for litter left over after the festivities... The Park looked pretty good but we did find 5 trash bags of cans and bottles etc from the brush along the park before the rain set in. This counted as our 3<sup>rd</sup> pickup of the year... One more needed before year's end to keep in the good graces of our friends at Keep Golden Isles Beautiful.

In spite of the Hurricane just last week, we had 8 students attend our October 15<sup>th</sup> ABC class. To get the word out we were able to secure a radio "public service announcement" on WBQO 93.7FM, a listing in the Life section of Golden Isles News, as well as a great article in the News on Friday 10/14. This was a great interview with Charles Wilsdorf! If you haven't read it or you don't get the news, check out the GISPS facebook page, & don't forget to LIKE it!

Once again, our team of instructors did a such a good job that all students passed both tests. Six of them got perfect scores! We have extended an invitation to them all to come to our October meeting so you just might be able to meet them yourself. A big thank you to our teaching team: Charles Wilsdorf, Vicky Jefferis, Tim Lahrs, Skip Roeder, and Mike Moyer for once again giving great instruction to these both new and experienced boaters.

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Treasurer's Report  
Teresa Wilsdorf, S



As of the Sept 24 meeting: Our bank balance is \$8,253.16.



### Important Calendar Dates

#### **CHANGE OF WATCH**

November 19th, 2016 18:00 Bone Fish Grill, St Simons Island

#### **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

December 10, 2016 Time TBD, at Skip and Mary Roeder's home

#### **USPS ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Feb 19-26, 2017 Orlando Florida- registration open on USPS website

#### **SAVE THE DATE:**

District 26 Spring Conference: Lake Hartwell Squadron , Greenville, SC March 3, 4 & 5, 2017

#### **GOLDEN ISLES SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON 2015/16 BRIDGE**

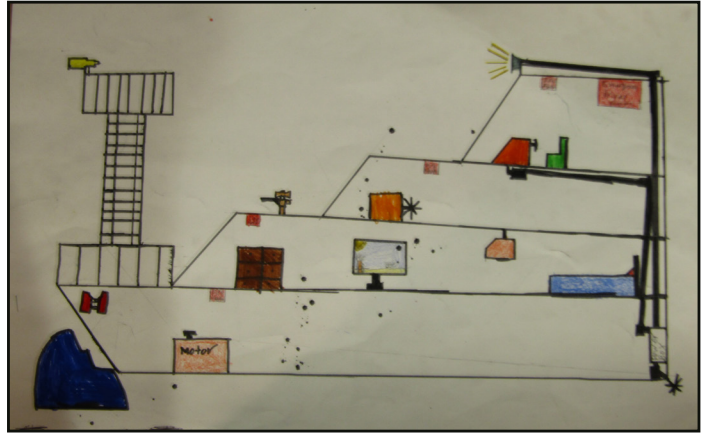
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Squadron Ed. Officer	Open		
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# 2016 Coastfest Poster Contest Winners



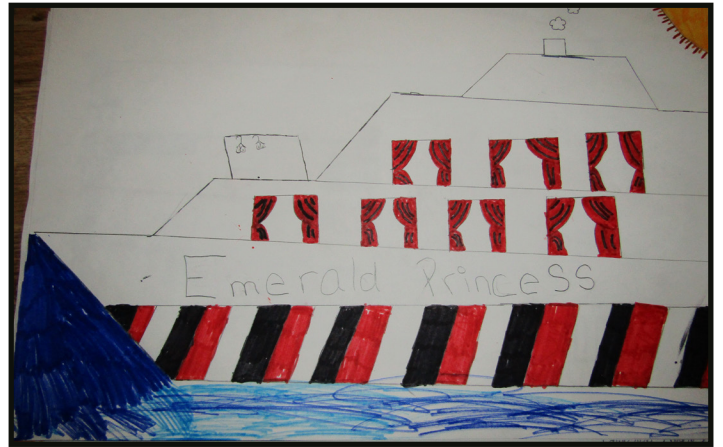
1st Place Ages 6 to 8



1st Place Ages 9 to 10



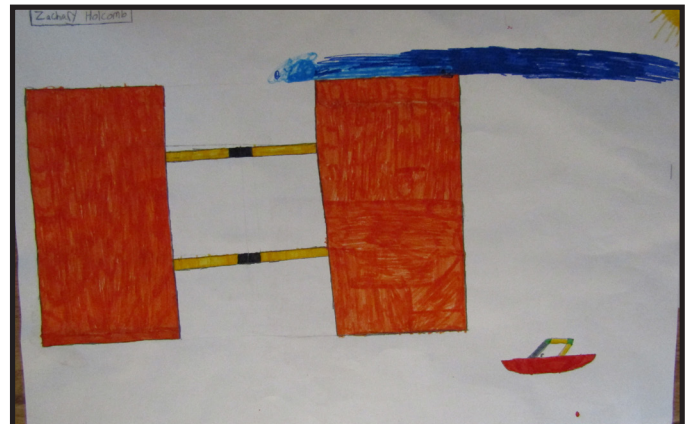
2nd Place Ages 6 to 8



2nd Place Ages 9 to 11



3Rd Place Ages 6 to 8



3Rd Place Ages 9 to 11