

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

Golden Isles



The port hole

For Boaters, By Boaters™

A monthly publication of America's Boating Club Golden Isles

Upcoming Events

September

- ♦ 15 - Online Club meeting at 6:00pm

October

- ♦ 17 - ABC Class 8:30 - 4:30
- ♦ 20 - Club meeting 6:00pm - Annual Meeting
- ♦ 30-31 - Online D/26 Fall Conference and Change of Watch

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Commander's Message



Cdr Charles Wilsdorf, SN-ON

Let's all congratulate Paulette Harris, SN and Kurt Glass, S for their 25 years of service and support for our club. Paulette and Kurt are both charter members of our club. Paulette and her late husband, Audie Holmes were very instrumental in originating our club in June of 2005 and getting our charter. Again, thank you both for your support and service to our club.

No, Mike and I haven't forgotten the Navigation Class. Since the material was all in basically a rough draft form, we are working on smoothing the rough edges. Much, much thanks to Cathy Stortz, AP who has been diligently working on the Power Point Presentations.

Now, back to where I left off last month, what could go wrong? Well first rather than just Sue and Jim, their oldest son, Kurt and their tiny teacup yorkie, Bodie, would be joining us. This was challenging in its own way. Kurt was not a boater, so much of the time he was in the way, Bodie on the other hand was so small the poor boy got stepped and sat on a lot. The first day and evening were picture perfect and *Mokolea* was making about 5 kts with her crew, with bicycles in bags lashed to the forward stanchions and life lines along with a sizeable tv satellite dish. *Mokolea* resembled the *Clampett's Family* car. Before we had left I had a

We have two club members, who have been awarded a 25-year service pin from the United States Power Squadron's Headquarters.

conversation with Jim about the amount of fuel onboard and he said both tanks were full, but about 8 hours into the cruise he informed me that the second tank even though was full he had no idea how old the fuel was and was afraid to use it, surprise! The cockpit on *Mokolea* was about 22" deep, 28" wide, and about 3' long. It was basically a hole in the aft deck; but at least it had a couple of cockpit drains. The steering, a rack and pinion, was nicely enclosed by a box which sat on the deck with the wheel on the forward side of it. To steer one



Mokolea's cockpit

had a choice of sitting on the box where the wheel faced forward protruding through your legs or sitting on the deck with legs in the cockpit and reaching up to the wheel just behind you. Neither of these choices were optimum to me. *Mokolea* had a pair of non-self-tailing winches which had to serve for the yankee and staysail with the respective sheets coming through clam cleats. You also had the mizzen boom right above your head. The companionway was on the starboard side of the cabin so as not to interfere with the mizzen mast. To say the least, this deck plan was very different and very awkward to me and took a little getting used to. Well, maybe a lot getting used to.

Article continues on page 2.

Commander's Article Continues from Page 1

The second day out we ran the dedicated weatherfax. It showed a cold front which would probably pass us during the night. Now, this is where my weather knowledge came in handy. My thoughts were this front, an extratropical cyclone, wasn't much to worry about since it was not a tropical storm. See where this is going? About night fall, we started getting rain and a little wind. I put a reef in the main and took down the mizzen. The wind kept getting greater and greater. Jim, Sue, Kirk, and Bodie went down below locking themselves in the cabin. As the wind grew more, I decided it was time to heave to which I had practiced many times with a sloop. The wind was coming over the port side from the NNW. Eventually, the aerometer was pegged at 50 kts. To keep *Mokolea* hove to I had to start the engine to keep the boat in position. Water was creeping up on the deck and I could see how easy the sea could dump into the companionway through the louver doors. At the time, I felt doomed and all I could think about was I was never going to see my family again, but another challenge kept me busy. As I mentioned before, the cockpit was basically a hole in the deck and this one had the engine air intake mounted several inches above the cockpit sole. I had asked Susan several times not to put Bodie's pee / poop pads on the deck which I had stepped in more than once, but they kept coming. So, as the water ran down the deck, here came those pads. Unfortunately, some of these pads ended up in the cockpit. About that time, a loud alarm bell started ringing and Jim hollered at me through a 4" round porthole to turn off the engine since he perceived the engine had some type of problem. Between the loud alarm bell and the deafening wind noise, the situation was becoming really chaotic. I didn't turn the engine off because I didn't want us beam to the seas which by this time were very high. I checked the engine gauges and all were normal and then noticed the cockpit was full of water and under further inspection, found Bodie's pads were covering the cockpit drains allowing water to drain directly into the engine room; you guessed it, the bilge alarm was ringing because the bilge pump could not keep up with the flow of water. Jim had interpreted the alarm as an engine problem. Once I removed the pads all was well. The 50 kts plus winds lasted just shy of an hour and slowly started decreasing. At about 30 kts, just at daybreak I turn the boat downwind and we were underway again and sailed all day until reaching a safe anchorage just off the east side of Isla Cedros. After no sleep for about 30 hours I was one tired puppy. This anchorage, even though it offered good protection from the wind, was home for hundreds of harbor seals who relentlessly barked at us while circling the boat. After a couple of stiff Jack Daniels to drown sound from the seals, I finally got some shut eye lying on the cabin sole.

The next morning, we were off again to Bahia Tortuga (Turtle Bay) another 45 nm. I then had time to reflect what we could have done different during the storm. Well, obviously I didn't realize the severity of a passing cold front and should have checked the weather before we had ever left. With just me on deck, heaving to was a good decision, but *Mokolea* being a true cutter/ketch, I should have struck the main and left the mizzen up to keep the correct balance while being hove to; I wouldn't have had to use the engine to keep a balance position. The bicycles and satellite dish sure didn't help with the windage.

I will not say there weren't some other memorable moments in our cruise to Cabo, but we did arrive safely and were still good friends. Jim and Sue cruised the Sea of Cortez a couple of years before returning home. After this experience, I crewed several more times down the west Mexican coast, but made it a habit to arrive at least a day early and do a detailed inspection of the boat, make sure the owner or owner captain, any other crew, and I had the same expectations. I also revisited the dangers of a cold front and always studied the weather at least several weeks before departure.

I hope to see you all in our Zoom cocktail hour Tuesday, September 15. I'm sure you're as tired of this pandemic as me, but some of us more senior members must be extremely careful.

Fair Winds and Good Fishing,

Chas

ZOOM Online Club Social



*Let's raft up together online! It's like a virtual happy hour with your friends in the Club.
If we haven't seen you since COVID began, WE MISS YOU! Please come!*

Online Club Social - Tues, September 15th 6pm

What have YOU been up to? The heat is starting to abate in early mornings and evenings: have you been boating? Let's meet on ZOOM and hear what's new with Stephanie and David's culinary adventures, Steve and Kathy's setup in their new slip at Morningstar, Terry's latest offshore jaunt to Cumberland Island, find out where "Caroline Em" has been lately, and the latest catch brought in by Joe & Cathy.

Let's not let COVID get us down! Will we see you and maybe hear your story, too?

Online Club Social

When: Tuesday, September 15th 6–7:30pm
Where: Anywhere you want
How: www.zoom.us (see instructions)
Meeting ID: 2498324807 / Password: 414 510 9338
Host: Terry Osman, phone 414-510-9338

*** Please log in timely so we can begin at 6pm ***

Instructions to Participate (Two Options)

Option 1

Click this link and you will be connected:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2498324807?pwd=cGxFeUZRb09Hb09MkhRVDIYQkRTZz09>

Option 2

1. Go to www.zoom.us
2. Click "Join a Meeting"
3. Enter Meeting ID 2498324807
4. Enter Password 4145109338
5. Wait for Zoom system to launch
6. You may be asked if you want to be on VIDEO? Yes/No
7. Find the mute button so you can turn on/off your microphone.

Different phones and computers have slightly different controls – sometimes touch the screen or move the mouse to make your controls appear.

Need help, give the host a call! 414-510-9338

Any Mini Cruises to Report?



Executive Officer
Ed Reynolds, S

Hello again fellow boat lovers! Like the rest of you, I am keeping my fingers crossed that back to school activities don't cause an increase in COVID-19 cases. We will keep watching and may plan an October cruise if the situation is not out of control.

In the meantime, do you have any mini cruise or private outing boating stories to share? As we all know, something unusual almost always happens every time we go out. And embellishing the story is quite fun. So please send Cathy Stortz any entertaining short stories that you experience.

As we enter the fall season, please remember to check the tide charts for unusual tide levels. Those extra high tides can cause very challenging currents.

See you on the water!

Ed

Captain Steve and First Mate Kathy Druckenmiller invited their friends Robin, Ed Reynolds, Cindy Simpson and Ed's sister Judy on a mini cruise to Jekyll Island for lunch. Their new boat *Island Girl*, is wonderful! More pictures on page 9.



Administrative Officer Report



AO Terry Osman, P

Hi Club Members! Just a shout out this month to all you members who are continuing to find time, work between thunderstorms, brave the heat and resist COVID inertia to get out on the water. YOU are the salt of the earth J - the most adventurous and committed of us!

Everybody's different, but as for me, it's the heat that keeps me from enjoying the boat. There is air conditioning on my Shannon 28' sailboat, so I have visited occasionally to adjust lines, do short repairs and other tasks – but up on deck it hasn't taken 20 minutes to get a sweat running down my spine and in the eyes. So I've not spent much time on the boat, let alone taking it out for a run. The one time I did go out in

August, a popup thunderstorm chased us around, then drenched us with "sideways" rain and scary big gusts. We limped back to the dock. Something that did work a few times on low humidity nights – we got a few friends to gather on the dock and watch the sunset with a toddy. Does that qualify for being "adaptable"?!

Just like everything else, this infamous year of 2020 has required much ingenuity from many of us on how to maintain "normal" routines with our boats. If you are struggling with it also, you are not alone! Boating should not be this hard! ☺

So cheers to you if you have kept your boating hobby alive and well this summer. Me - I am waiting not so patiently for the heat to abate just a bit, and to get out on the water again with you all!

Terry

Secretary's Report

HELP WANTED

ABC Golden Isles member(s) with skills and interest to take charge of making our Facebook page really shine! We are looking for someone to add interesting, fun, and informative, boating related content as well as club information, to attract interest from the FB users. The job doesn't come with financial remuneration, but you will be rewarded with the respect and admiration of your fellow club members as well as myself, (and earn Merit Marks). Let me know if you are interested in helping out.

Sharon Hindery sharona53@comcast.net

Club Education Officer Report



CEO Mike Moye, SN

Commander Charles mentioned in his article that we're making preparations for a Marine Navigation course. This course will be an excellent follow-on to the Introduction to Navigation seminar we held B.C. (Before Covid). Our team is working on making this a blended learning experience. The course presentations will be given online. There will also be two face-to-face meetings where we will concentrate on practical skills. During one of these sessions, students will need dividers and a plotter. If you need these tools, please let me or Charles know so we may order for you. The dividers are made by Weems and Plath, but any brand and any source that you find will work. The plotter is a 4"x15" plastic overlay tool that USPS students have used for plotting for many decades. I still use the one obtained in my first USPS course back in the 80s. The dividers are \$12 and the plotter is \$7.

The course is a club Marine Navigation course with content which is more relevant to today's boater. It is not being taught for credit as an America's Boating Club course but rather as a locally developed course; therefore, you will not take a final exam that would achieve the rating of "P". We believe that with our work and the work of other squadrons around the country that are also contributing, we will be filling a void until a similar course is published by America's Boating Club. I would like to thank Cathy Stortz, AP who is working on our course's Power Point presentations. When a similar course becomes available from USPS we hope we can order the exam for those wanting to take the course for credit. We would, of course, do a review and make sure that we've covered everything in the "official" course.

We wish we could tell you exactly when we would be ready to roll everything out. We really thought it would be ready to go by now but it's going to take a bit longer. When we've polished everything and pulled the trigger, you'll be able to download a student manual, and go to work. You may elect to print out several sections for ease of reading, but I found it pretty easy to just read everything on the computer screen but the choice will be yours. The two in-person sessions will most likely be at the University of Georgia Extension classroom. In that space we can spread out with appropriate distancing and still get 18 people in the room. And yes, you would have to wear a mask.

If you are interested in becoming part of this class please drop me or Charles a note. I should also mention that there are some very experienced members who have already committed to the class. It will be great to draw on their knowledge bank and I'm sure they will be more than willing to assist others in the class.

Don't forget that the ABC class is October 17. We currently have five folks who have signed up. Please encourage your boating friends to consider the course.

Mike Moye, N

Education Officer

The October ABC Class flyer is
on page 13. Please print several
copies and share with others.

District 26 Fall Conference and Change of Watch – October 30 & 31, 2020

The virtual D26 Fall Conference and Change of Watch is fast approaching! The Friday Award session will showcase members who've contributed much time and effort to America's Boating Club programs and activities, including our own members. Join in to see what District members accomplished in 2019.

Fall Conference Seminars are designed to appeal to ALL members, not just Bridge officers. This will be a great opportunity to have access to seminar content that our club may not be able to offer. They'll be available at the virtual conference on October 31, 2020:

Squadron Activities Reporting System (SARS) - Moderated by Lt Al Lehman, AP - This teleconference will present the latest updates which will include on line access by various persons in the Squadron utilizing a variety of tools - MAC, PC, etc.

Instructor Recertification - Moderated by P/C V Jan Wright, SN - Participation in this teleconference will allow those instructors whose certification has expired or is about to expire to be recertified.

Coop Charting - Having made good progress in our Nautical and Geodetic performances, we'd like to provide more information on how to properly complete an inspection of bridges and the newly added category of marinas.

Boat Handling Highlights - Moderated by Cdr Peter Dion, SN - USPS has a series of 6 on line modules dealing with boat handling. This teleconference will provide overviews of each module to make participants aware of the value for signing up to take these courses on line.

Partner in Command - This session will provide an introduction to boating for crew members who need basic information and who may or may not have taken a boating course. It is designed to provide essential information one may require assisting a skipper in the safe operation of a recreational boat and includes actions to take in response to emergencies.

The registration form shown on the next page will soon be posted on the [D26 Website](#) to allow you to indicate the teleconference(s) intend to participate. Please respond early since this will allow teleconference moderators to know the number of people participating and determine the appropriate tools to reach everyone interested.

Vicky Jefferis, JN



2020 Fall Conference, Awards, and COW October 30/31, 2020

Rank/Name/Grade	Street/City/State/Zip	Squadron	Email Address	Cell Phone #

Write first names on line. Check applicable boxes for each person planning to participate.

Friday, October 30, 2020

1700 - 1900 Welcome - Cdr Jim Wilkins, AP
Conference Overview
Awards Celebration

☐☐

Saturday, October 31, 2020

0800 - 1000 Squadron Activities Reporting System (SARS) - Moderated by Lt Al Lehman, AP

☐☐

0800 - 1000 Instructor Recertification - Moderated by P/C V. Jan Wright, SN

☐☐

1000 - 1200 Coop Charting - Moderators: R/C Carl Filios, SN & Cdr Jim Wilkins, AP

☐☐

1000 - 1200 Boat Handling Highlights - Moderated by Cdr Peter Dion, SN

☐☐

1000 - 1200 Weather - Moderated by Lt Robert Hastie, SN

Check if only interested in attending the teleconference

☐☐

Check if desiring USPS Educational Credit & include \$10 each

☐☐

1300 - 1500 Partner in Command - Moderated by TBD

Check if only interested in attending the teleconference

☐☐

Check if desiring USPS Educational Credit & include \$10 each

☐☐

1300 - 1500 Conference Meeting - Moderated by Cdr Jim Wilkins, AP

☐☐

1500 - 1700 Change of Watch - Moderated by Cdr Jim Wilkins, AP

☐☐

To allow the Moderators/Presenters to determine a suitable media for conducting the meeting/seminar, it is requested that your registration be returned as quickly as possible but, certainly, no later than October 23.

Mail this registration form (with check, if applicable) to: Cdr Jim Wilkins
203 Ricelan Drive
Simpsonville, SC 29681

Amount Enclosed for
Weather and/or
Partner in Command

If no check is required, a copy of the Registration Form can simply be Emailed to Cdr Wilkins @ jrwretired@bellsouth.net.

\$

More *Island Girl* Cruise Pictures



Nominating Committee Report: Proposed Slate for 2020-2021 Bridge

Who could have predicted what 2020 would bring and the impacts COVID-19 would have on our Club? It's been a year when your Golden Isles leaders struggled to find ways to provide activities that would keep us safe and healthy, yet keep us engaged with each other. Thanks to all who've done their best to meet that goal!

Despite their best efforts, it's been a quiet year and looking ahead, we can't clearly predict the future. As a result, your Bridge and Executive Committee (with a few changes) have agreed to remain in their respective positions to guide the Club's activities.

Even though it appears that all the jobs are filled, there's always the need for helping hands. Please – if there's a job you'd like to help with, don't be shy! Contact any of the Bridge Officers and volunteer a few hours. Being involved is the best way possible to get to know your fellow Club members and experience the contributions our Club makes to the Golden Isles area.

Vicky Jefferis, JN and Sharon Hindery, AP

2021 Golden Isles Sail & Power Squadron Proposed Bridge Officers and Elected Committee Members

COMMANDER

Charles Wilsdorf, SN-ON

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Ed Reynolds, S

Vacant - Assistant

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Terry Osman, P

Cynthia Lamb - Assistant

Sharon Hindery, AP – Website & Publicity

EDUCATIONAL OFFICER

Mike Moye, SN

Vacant - Assistant

SECRETARY

Sharon Hindery, AP

Cathy Stortz, AP – Newsletter

TREASURER

Teresa Wilsdorf, S

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Vicky Jefferis, JN

David Jones

Jerry Lamb

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Vicky Jefferis, JN

Jerry Lamb

RULES COMMITTEE

Mike Moye, SN

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Vicky Jefferis, JN and Sharon Hindery, AP

America's Boating Club of Golden Isles Calendar Sep - Dec 2020**September**

15 - Online Club social at 6:00pm

October

6 - Articles due for October *Porthole*

13 - *Porthole* distribution to club members

17 - ABC Class 8:30 - 4:30

20 - **Club dinner at 6:00pm** - Annual Meeting

30-31 - Online D/26 Fall Conference and Change of Watch

November

3 - Articles due for November *Porthole*

10 - Liberty Park litter clean up 9:00am

10 - *Porthole* distribution to club members

13 - Club Change of Watch

December

No *Porthole* this month

TBD - Club Holiday Party



2020 Club Cruise Dates
TBD

**Happy Birthday to club members:**

Stephanie Krause Jones

Mike Moyer

Betty Morrison

Keenen Krause

Sharree Lott

America's Boating Club Golden Isles 2019 Bridge Contact Information			
Commander	Charles Wilsdorf, SN-ON	912-265-9550	chaswi30@gmail.com
Executive Officer	Ed Reynolds, S	423-341-2531	ejreynolds3@icloud.com
Administrative Officer	Terry Osman, P	414-510-9338	t.osman@att.net
Assistant AO	Rick Hindery, P	773-779-5653	rhindery@comcast.com
Club Education Officer	Mike Moye, SN	229-454-6791	mmoye@surfsouth.com
Secretary	Sharon Hindery, AP	630-323-1206	sharona53@comcast.net
Treasurer	Teresa Wilsdorf, S	912-265-9550	tmwilsdorf@aol.com
Member at Large	Bob Butler, SN	276-229-9099	mbutler12323@gmail.com
Member at Large	Vicky Jefferis, JN	912-264-1352	vickyjefferis@bellsouth.net
Member at Large	Stephanie Krause-Jones	912-580-1725	krause.jones@gmail.com
Porthole Editor	Cathy Stortz, AP	912-222-1038	cstortz777@yahoo.com

CONTRIBUTE TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

Please submit an article, picture, or even a link to a boating video that you feel other club members may enjoy. All newsletter content is due to Cathy Stortz cstortz777@yahoo.com by the first Tuesday of each month.



The Porthole is the official publication of America's Boating Club® Golden Isles sponsored by the United States Power Squadrons®. The National website is www.americasboatingclub.org. Our Club website is www.gisps.org. You may also follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/GISPS/>.



Our Club is part of the world's largest recreational boating organization with more than 30,000 members. We learn together, boat together, and help each other and other boaters on the water and on land.

Consider joining our Club to:

LEARN boating skills

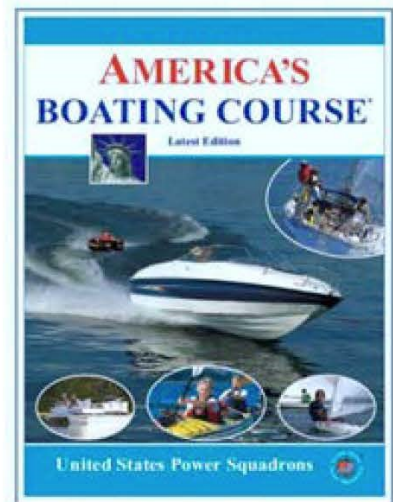
ENGAGE with boating friends

CONNECT with the boating community

The only requirements for membership are a keen interest in boating-related activities and an eagerness to meet like-minded people whether power, or sail, or paddle boaters; however, **you don't need a boat to join**. Contact us through our website or Facebook page if you would like more information.

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

- *Become a Skilled Boater*
- *Reduce Boat Insurance Rates*
- *If you were born after Jan 1998 you must have completed a **Georgia DNR approved boating education course** to legally operate a boat in GA*
- *All types of boating, local inland and coastal*



Presented by the America's Boating Club Golden Isles



Saturday, Oct 17, 08:30 AM to 04:30 PM

Location:

UGA Marine Extension

715 Bay Street

Brunswick, GA

For info, call: 229 454-6791 or email: mmoye@surfsouth.com

Online Registration: www.gisps.org

Registration Fee \$10.00, credited to optional suggested text \$40.00

Lunch Provided



United States Power Squadron®

For Boaters, by BoatersSM



*Approved by the National Association of State Boating Law
Administrators and recognized by the United States Coast Guard*

