

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

October

- ♦ 17 - ABC Class 8:30 - 4:30
- ♦ 24 - Club Social 3:00pm @ Morningstar Marina on St. Simons Island
- ♦ 30-31 - Online D/26 Fall Conference and Change of Watch

November

- ♦ 6 - Club Cruise and Raft-up

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Commander's Message



Cdr Charles Wilsdorf, SN-ON

Even though we miss getting together for in person monthly club dinners and other club activities, I think we all have developed some skills in using virtual socialization. My first thought

is that it hasn't been since February not seeing you all in person, because I think the visits on our club's monthly virtual meetings, which Terry Osman, P has been so good organizing, has filled much of the void. I also attended many of the USPS National Virtual Meetings which otherwise I would not have participated at all. And, there have been other virtual meetings, seminars, discussion groups, and webinars I have attended. We are contemplating a Navigation Course using Blended Learning which includes both virtual and traditional classroom learning. In conclusion there is nothing like the real thing, but this virtual stuff does have some valuable attributes. I would like to hear from you what virtual activities you have been participating in and what value you think they were.

Speaking of virtual, as a reminder, the Virtual District 26 Fall Conference and Change of Watch is being held Friday Oct 30 and 31. Please don't miss the Awards Celebration Friday at 5:00 pm. You can just mix it in with your cocktail hour. It is a good bet you will see some deserving familiar faces. Just google D26 and go to the district's [website](#) for all details.

Our club is planning to have a couple of live activities again, our America's Boating Course class Oct 17 and our Club's Fall Outing Oct 24 (in lieu of a Change of Watch) both of which will include social distancing and a mask when appropriate. I am hoping they both will **be fun and productive** even though they won't be the past normal. I am really looking forward to seeing you all at the Fall Outing.

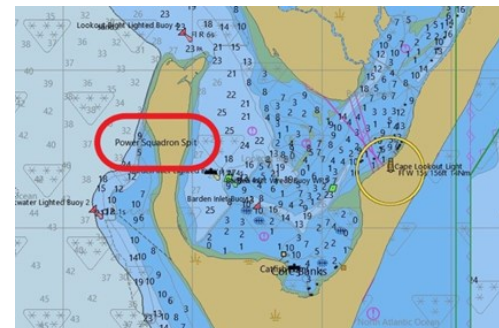
National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) reports the new powerboat retail sales are continuing to climb, up 22% in July on a seasonally adjusted basis compared to the same month a year ago. I think we had a couple of club members who helped support this increase. Also, the U.S. House of Representatives passed bipartisan legislation to strengthen the federal response to marine debris (Our Seas 2.0) which is supported by the recreation boating community. Let's do our part and keep the plastic out of the areas where we boat.

Monthly questions:

What type is this vessel?



Where is Power Squadron Split located?



Hope this message finds you all happy and well. See you at the October 24 club outing.

Chas

One More Time!



**Executive Officer
Ed Reynolds, S**

Hello again fellow boat lovers! We want to get another cruise in before the weather becomes an impediment (COVID 19 stay away!) October is kind of busy with our ABC class and the D26 conference. Also, we want to avoid conflicts with football games. So, we have targeted **Friday** November 6 for a cruise/raft up in Saint Simons Sound. We hope those of you still working can arrange the time off. (If not, call in sick! Ha!)

CRUISE DETAILS:

- Rendezvous 1 nm WNW of the Golden Ray shipwreck near ICW light marker 250 at 11:00am.
- From there, we will parade as close to the Golden Ray/mammoth crane as possible for some picture taking. Something to share with your grandchildren one day.
- After that (If we are all not arrested by the Coast Guard!), we will cruise to a location close by for a raft up social. (our first raft up ever!).
- Bring your own picnic lunch and beverages.
- After eating and greeting we will return to our home ports.

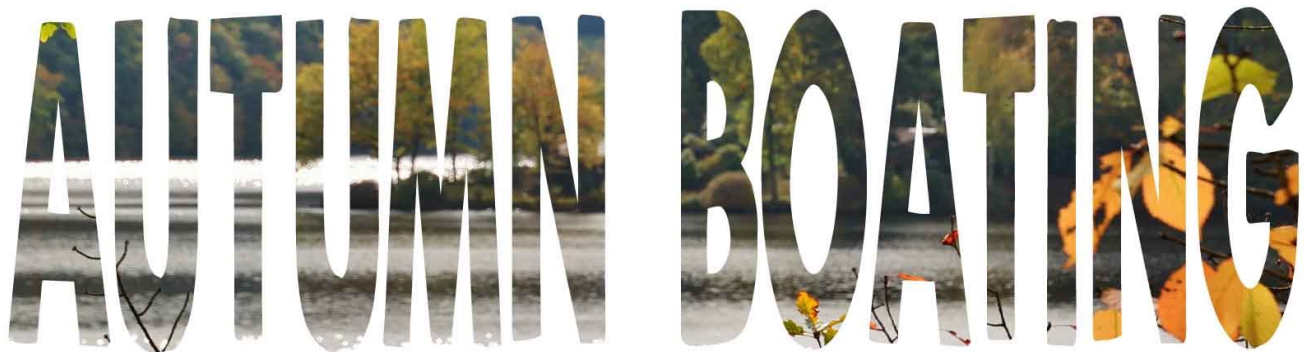
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING:

- Contact Ed at ejreynolds3@icloud.com or 423-341-2531 by Nov 1.
- If you need a boat ride, let me know and I will TRY to arrange one for you.
- Charles and Ed will review the weather forecast on Thursday evening and notify participants if we need to postpone.
- Social distancing and masks/gloves are encouraged.

Finally, I hope you can attend our Fall Social on Saturday, Oct. 24. Morningstar Marina is a wonderful venue to experience the “boating life” that we all enjoy!

See you on the water

Ed



Fall Social

“FALL SOCIAL” Saturday, October 24th, 3 p.m.

(NOTE: this replaces the monthly ZOOM for October)

Morningstar Marina, Gazebo - 206 Marina Dr, St Simons

*** **RSVP by October 17th by email or text to t.osman@att.net or 414-510-9338 *****

Yes, we're doing it! Annually we have a special celebration to mark another year of club fun and accomplishments, and this year we will do it in person! Let's have some back-slapping, elbow-bumping fun in the outdoors !!!

It will be nice to actually cross paths in person, especially after months of meeting on-line during the COVID months. This will give everyone a chance to enjoy seeing each other's face for the first time since February. Expect masked socializing of course, and heavy hors d'oeuvres provided by the club. The weather in October should be ideal. And, who knows, we might wander the docks and visit some of our members' boats as well!

Please consider attending!

Arrangements:

BYO Beverage

Heavy hors d'oeuvres provided

Masks are requested

In case of rain, look for an announcement day-of

*** **RSVP Oct 17th - by email or text to t.osman@att.net or 414-510-9338 *****

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Club Education Officer Report



CEO Mike Moye, SN

October 17 is the date for the upcoming ABC course. We have 14 students confirmed and have had to close the class. Our space at the University of Georgia Marine Extension building has been made available to us but they have guidelines we must follow regarding appropriate distancing and other safety measures. Those factors limit the number of students we can accept. Our next class will be February 2021. Hopefully, folks who did not get into this one can join us next year.

We've been talking about the upcoming Marine Navigation class for several months now but have been unable to set an exact date. We are, however, shooting for January. As Commander Charles mentioned in his article, this will be a hybrid course with some in-person classes and some work done on-line. Several folks have already committed for the class, but there's room for more. There will not be a cost for the class beyond the tools needed for plotting (we'll get a group order for that) and printing of the **Participant's Guide**. Students will have

the option of downloading and reading materials on their computer screen, printing materials at home on their personal printers or if there is enough demand we can get a group order and have it printed at a local office supply store.

As a personal note, I took a version of this course several years ago. It was taught by Charles and some other squadron leaders, and I really learned a lot. The big take-away for me was the ability to create waypoints and routes using the free computer program Open CPN (which we will use in this class), save the files onto a memory card and upload it to my Raymarine chartplotter. Most other chartplotters have that same capability. It really makes planning a trip much easier and is a cornerstone to the principles of "plan, navigate, and check" that will be stressed in the course. Please let Charles or me know if you want to join the class.

Hope to see you soon on the water—but if not there, maybe in the classroom.

Mike Moye, SN
Education Officer

Administrative Officer Report



AO Terry Osman, P

First and foremost, I am excited to see everyone again on October 24th at Morningstar for our Fall Social! (yes, masked!)

I also want to bring to your attention one of THE BEST benefits of being part of America's Boating Club Golden Isles – continuing education.

1. **Golden Isles Club** – Make sure to read Mike's article in this newsletter for what's coming through our own club locally. And also, be aware of these opportunities:
2. **District Conference Seminars** – Oct 30-31. The group of clubs we belong to in the southeast U.S. is called a "District", and our district gets all our clubs together for this annual boating conference. I am attending the seminars virtually and encourage you to check it out! Why not take advantage. Reason being there will be no charge and no educational credit.
 - ♦ Seminar Topics: weather, boat handling, first mate skills, and co-op charting. (Find all the details in Vicky Jefferis article in last month's newsletter.)
 - ♦ Regarding Co-op Charting, in case you are unaware, members of the America's Boating Club have been providing a valuable civic service to help update marine charts produced by the government. From our boats on the water, boaters supply information about the waterways to USPS National for club credit. All discrepancies in Aids to Navigation (ATONs) are also reported online to the USCG. The USPS Co-op Charting Program has been active **since 1963!**
 - ♦ Sign up for this session at the conference if this activity is something you want more information about!
3. [Americasboatingchannel.com](https://americasboatingchannel.com) – Great short clips on basic boating and safety topics – super for brushing up on things we all should know! Lifejackets, MMSI, Aids to Navigation, Visual Distress Signals, and more! A collaborative effort between America's Boating Club and US Coast Guard.

Take advantage of your CLUB BENEFITS!

Terry

Safety - 2019 Recreational Boating Statistics

Table 1 was taken from COMDTPUB P16754.33, U.S Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Coast Guard, Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety. Follow this link for the full report <https://www.uscgboating.org/library/accident-statistics/Recreational-Boating-Statistics-2019.pdf>.

Table 1 ▪ 2019 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY						
TOP FIVE PRIMARY ACCIDENT TYPES						
Accident Rank	Accident Type	Number of Accidents		Number of Deaths	Number of Injuries	
1	Collision with recreational vessel	1071		47	650	
2	Collision with fixed object	493		44	326	
3	Grounding	413		16	253	
4	Flooding/swamping	399		45	124	
5	Falls overboard	299		189	122	
VESSEL TYPES WITH THE TOP CASUALTY NUMBERS						
Casualty Rank	Type of Boat	Drownings	Other Deaths	Total Deaths	Total Injuries	Total Casualties
1	Open motorboat	201	87	288	1246	1534
2	Personal watercraft	24	22	46	614	660
3	Cabin motorboat	14	20	34	248	282
4	Canoe/kayak	107	18	125	121	246
5	Pontoon	32	8	40	153	193
LIFE JACKET WEAR BY TOP FIVE KNOWN CAUSES OF DEATH						
Known Cause of Death Rank	Cause of Death	Number of Deaths	Life Jacket			
			Worn	Not Worn	Unknown if worn	
1	Drowning	439	57	362	20	
2	Trauma	92	35	49	8	
3	Cardiac arrest	17	5	12	0	
4	Carbon monoxide poisoning	5	0	3	2	
5	Hypothermia	4	2	2	0	
TOP TEN KNOWN PRIMARY CONTRIBUTING FACTORS OF ACCIDENTS						
Accident Rank	Contributing Factor	Number of Accidents		Number of Deaths	Number of Injuries	
1	Operator inattention	546		36	296	
2	Improper lookout	506		26	425	
3	Operator inexperience	458		39	273	
4	Excessive speed	358		22	325	
5	Alcohol use	282		113	221	
6	Machinery failure	274		18	93	
7	Navigation rules violation	235		21	141	
8	Weather	184		31	58	
9	Hazardous waters	170		48	87	
10	Force of wave/wake	140		12	117	

America's Boating Club of Golden Isles Calendar Oct - Dec 2020

October

17 - ABC Class 8:30 - 4:30

24 - Club Social 3:00pm @ Morningstar Marina on St. Simons Island

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



November

6 - Club Cruise and Raft-up

10 - Liberty Park litter clean up 9:00am

11 - Articles due for November *Porthole*

17 - *Porthole* distribution to club members



2020 Club Cruise Dates
November 6, 2020

December

No *Porthole* this month

TBD - Club Holiday Party





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.