



# the port hole



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**CDR Vicky Jefferis**



Hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable Memorial Day weekend. June certainly has started off to be a warm month, so spending some time on the water sounds good and you'll get an

opportunity to get out and enjoy time on the water plus participating in a community service activity at the same time. In lieu of our regular meeting on June 22, GISPS members

will be out on nearby waters doing some Coop Charting. Along with the actual charting work, there will be a Captain's Meeting and potentially a social event to wrap up the day. Our

Coop Charting Chair, Pat Rodgers, AP, P/C John Rodgers, SN, and XO Lisa Noetzel, JN, are working on all the details so please be sure to read Lisa's article in this issue to learn more. Larry and I will be out in Washington State for a family event that weekend and won't be there to take part, but know it'll be a fantastic day, so I urge everyone who can to bring your boat or come anyway to participate.

## GOLDEN ISLES SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON 2012/13 BRIDGE

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**Executive Officer**  
**Squadron Education Officer**  
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**Administration Officer**  
**Secretary**  
**Treasurer**  
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Speaking of on-the-water activities, are you sending the information on your trips (short or long) to our Admin Officer, Skip Roeder, S, for the GISPS Boating Activities Report? Be sure you keep him updated on your outings! And, if you're going out, let other squadron members know, who knows, they just might want to join in the fun!

As you might remember from D/Lt/Cdr Andy Hyman's, SN, message from our District Cdr at our Change of Watch, member involvement is an important theme he's stressing this year. Why? Simply put, when several of us participate in the squadron, the work and the fun is shared by many. People who do things for the squadron make a big contribution and can feel good about it and get to know other people who enjoy boating and the water. For example, we missed a golden opportunity to do this when we didn't get enough volunteers to man a Safe Boating Week tent. With a little bit of help from many, nobody has so much to do that they get bogged down. Conversely, when only a few carry a big load, it's easy to start feeling overworked and overwhelmed. It gets harder and harder to stay enthused about planning trips, teaching classes, and providing all the other things that make GISPS membership a great experience. I hope all of you will give some thought to what you can do to help the squadron offer activities you enjoy.

One of the things we ALL can do is to renew our memberships and continue to support the squadron when we receive our renewal materials. As you saw in the May edition of The Porthole, Teresa Wilsdorf, S, offered some tips on how you can easily renew via your computer or by sending her your renewal check. We have several members who were due to renew by June 1, so don't forget to get that "check in the mail." Every one of you are important to the squadron, and I think of each of you as a friend, so I hope you're all planning to renew!

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

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



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**Squadron Education Officer**  
**Charles Wilsdorf, SN**



GISPS Members, it might not be the official summer yet, but today between my outside thermometer and the hum of my air conditioner I think summer is here. My boat is serviced and ready to go, so guess I better get out on the water before it gets too hot.

I would like to commend Arthur “Bucky” Harris, P and Robert “Bob” Quinn, AP on successfully completing the USPS Sail course. Great job guys!!!! Bob Quinn, AP has now earned the Education Proficiency Award. Good going Bob!!!!!!!!!!!! We have a few more members who only need one more course to earn the Education Proficiency Award and/or the Education Achievement Award. Let’s get going guys.

Our current Seamanship class has only one more meeting, then exam time. I am sure all the Seamanship students will do well. We have members in this class who would like to continue into Piloting so we will schedule a Piloting Class to run during the same time frame as the upcoming Advance Piloting Class, starting July 15 for AP and July 16 for the Piloting Class; and to run each for the next four Mondays and Tuesdays. The AP class will be starting at 9:00 AM on Mondays and the Piloting Class will be starting at 6:00 PM on Tuesdays. Please contact me ASAP if you are interested in either of these classes if I haven’t already contacted you.

As I always mention, please contact myself or other bridge members to request any classes or seminars you would like to see offered.

Changing hats to membership, I would like to mention there are several members overdue on renewing their annual membership. It’s easy to renew at: <http://www.usps.org/dues/> . Please give myself or Teresa a call or email if you have lost your invoice and need your invoice number.

Welcome home George Bloodworth, AP, Frieda Bloodworth, and Jack Sterrett, SN who made a non-stop run from Marsh Harbour, Bahamas to Brunswick Landing Marina.

Since there is no meeting in June, hope to see you all at the Coop Charting event Saturday, June 22 and the social afterwards.

## **Golden Isles Sail and Power Squadron 2013 Activities Calendar**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Function</b>	<b>Location</b>
Jun 21	1900	Captain's Mtg for Sat. Co-op Chtg.	Noetzel's Home
Jun 22	TBD	Co-op Charting	Golden Isles & Jekyll Marinas
Jun 22	1700	Squadron Social	Jekyll Marina
Jul 15	0900	Advanced Piloting	Wilsdorf's Home
Jul 27	1645 1800	EXCOM Meeting Membership Mtg	Sonny's BBQ Brunswick
Aug 24	1645 1800	EXCOM Meeting Membership Mtg	TBD
Sep 28	1645 1800	EXCOM Meeting Membership Mtg	TBD
Oct 4-6		D26 Fall Conference	Lake Murray, SC
Oct 5		CoastFest	Brunswick DNR
Oct 26	1645 1800	EXCOM Meeting Membership Mtg	TBD
Nov 16		Change of Watch	

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**Treasurer's Report**  
**Teresa Wilsdorf, S Treasurer**



GISPS currently has \$7,014.83 in the bank as of 5/31/13.

I have a spreadsheet that can be emailed to anyone that wants a copy of our year-to-date financial information. Just email me a request and I will send it to you.

I want to remind everyone to make sure you renew your dues. There are still some members that have renewal dates of June 1 and have not paid. Remember, this can be done on the computer and can be paid by credit card or debit card. In addition, you can send me your renewal check if you choose.

Hopefully we will have a lot of member participation when we do Co-Op Charting and the social gathering afterward on June 22nd. It will be a great opportunity for all of us to see each other, spend a few hours on our boats, learn a few things, have good food, and have some fun!

Happy boating!

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**AO Report**  
**Skip Roeder, S**



June will be another month with no membership meeting. A lot of us will be involved with co-op charting on the 22nd with possibly a picnic at the Jekyll Marina afterwards. The July meeting will be at Sonny's BBQ at exit 36 off I-95. Head toward Jesup and Sonny's is on the right.

For those interested in fishing, the tripletail are still off Jekyll and willing to bite if you find them. Keep your eye on the weather, as we are into the afternoon thunderstorm season.

Speaking of boating activities, please send me the information on all your fishing trips, cruises, and other boating you've been doing during the past few months.



## A different way of thinking about boating safety – Part 1 ©

by Frank Barron



Is a “Boating Safety” checklist enough?

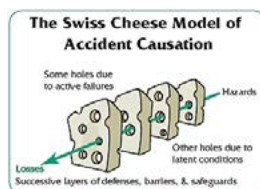
Congratulations to the US Power Squadron for 100 years of boating safety! When I hear or read of the USPS, I think of all the lives saved through this education, and that even with the successes we’ve had, there is still more to be done.

Yea, yea, we’ve all read about boating safety in all kinds of periodicals of quality, but I’d like to take the boating safety movement a notch further. Sure life jackets, seaworthy inspections, float plans etc...are the smart and proper start. Many boaters in our midst do comply with proper USCG regulations but sometimes get caught in an undesired situation that does turn bad, if not tragic.

Let’s go beyond the simple, easy answers such as “they didn’t have the right number of life jackets” or “they shoulda known not to go out in that weather...” We’ve all probably pushed the limits once or twice. In studying incidents, I’d like to go further than just “what happened” but delve into “why it happened” – what were the causes...thought process.

Rarely does one item or event produce a catastrophe. If you look closely you’ll find a series of events that led up to the final outcome. So if we could turn back time, we’d try to stop or eliminate one (or more) of the events that led to the tragedy. This is known as “breaking the Error Chain”.

We’ve all witnessed (or even done it ourselves) someone heading off the dock when a friend or crew member will remind us to make sure life jackets are accessible. “Oh yea” we say. Well that minor event just “broke” the Error Chain. NASA describes the Error Chain this way: “Accidents are multi causal. Meaning the accident is always due to a series of causes synergistically working against the victim”. To this end, when we decide to take on boating as a recreation, we are accepting the hazards of the machinery and elements. But greater than that, we are subjecting ourselves to our own complacency and lack of preparedness. There are several ways to avoid errors building – regular use of checklists, a trained & competent crew, the education of personal limits – such as fuel status, weather forecasts, operating in dark etc... Setting this routine is known as the “Swiss Cheese” effect of “trapping” errors before they begin to pile up.



**There are some fancy words describing levels of making errors but I think it's easy to see the intent of this in the model above. Some of the trappings are internal and some are external. Internal negative contributors could be health issues, fatigue, alcohol use or even arrogance & ignorance. External issues could be utilizing a vessel for which it is not designed or intended, getting caught in extreme weather changes or mechanical malfunction.**

**So where is the message in this safety article? You now have a foundation to look deeper into thinking about boating safety. Think about your Error Chain when you boat now...look for the subtle signs of "things just not going right" and break it! Next time we're going to discuss a recent tragedy and find the Error Chain. Can you find yours?**

**Till then, be aware...**

**For more information about boating safety and boating education, contact Golden Isles Sail & Power Squadron at [www.gisps.org](http://www.gisps.org), or call [912-264-1352](tel:912-264-1352).**

**Frank is a captain for a US based airline. He is also SAMS AMS surveyor & USCG 100 Tn Master. He and his wife Lynne (also a USCG Captain) are delivery captains and live aboard their 1958 Wheeler on Jekyll Island, Ga. [www.bluewatermarinesurveys.com](http://www.bluewatermarinesurveys.com)**

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**Charter Commander's Report**  
**Audie Holmes, SN**



2013: This is my 21st year as a member of the United States Power Squadrons, and I have passed through the ranks and passed through the grades and chaired many of the activities over those years. I have met many friends and exulted in their accomplishments; all of which are part of the learning processes of life. We learn as we go through our successes and failures. When reflected upon and evaluated, both success and failure can lead to future success.

That is why I highly recommend that every member of the GISPS become thoroughly familiar with the USPS Operations Manual. Sometimes sad stories help us the most, and the Operations Manual points out factors that contribute to the dissolution, the failure, and the demise of a squadron. I have never actually witnessed a squadron having to surrender its charter. For this month's reading from the manual, I chose this topic knowing full well that the GISPS may be able to assist some squadrons at risk.

Many factors contribute to the erosion and collapse of various entities. Once booming shopping centers, malls, businesses, communities, and towns sometimes no longer have a place on the map. Entities rise and fall and squadrons are no exception. Why is this so? It's hard to pin down specifics, but I have witnessed squadrons, once strong in membership, begin to fail to actively recruit. Some become elitist and too selective of membership, ignoring the necessity of personal contact and relying strictly on the sterility of e-mail. Others offer no meaningful activities, have weak leadership, or concentrate on a single objective. They forget the USPS triangular symbol of our civic, educational and fraternal organization. Squadrons that once contained a hundred or more members may now be reduced to a handful and in danger of collapse.

That's why our help to other squadrons is so essential. Think of the heartbreaker to loyal USPS members who believe in the USPS and what we do who find their squadron shrinking. They may need outside suggestions from members such as those in GISPS to encourage them to build once again a strong base. They may need to be reminded that the strongest based is ourselves, the active members of the USPS from all the squadrons to the districts to the national USPS.

I am truly admirable of the success of the Golden Isles squadron and proud to be a member of it. Let's see what we can do to help our floundering squadrons. We can help! Let's do so before it is too late.

See you on the water!  
Audie Holmes



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**XO Report**  
**Lisa Noetzel, JN**



Hello GISPS members! It's June, so that means its sum, sum, summertime! This month, on Saturday June 22nd, GISPS will be out on the water leaving from various locations--e.g. Golden Isles Marina, Jekyll Marina--to do Co-op Charting. It's a fun activity and an essential one to maintaining coastal charts up to date. Starting at 1700, GISPS will congregate at Jekyll Marina for a cook-out barbeque. Please RSVP with me ([lisa.noetzel@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.noetzel@gmail.com)) for Co-op Charting and the BBQ by Saturday, June 15.

On Friday, June 21, at 1900 there will be a Captain's meeting at my house (142 Lakes Drive, Brunswick, GA--off Rt. 82 W)) during which John and Pat Rogers will discuss co-op charting assignments and distribute charts and forms. There are many types of reports we can make--nautical charting, depth surveys, facilities surveys, etc--but John and Pat Rogers suggest we do range surveys.

This type of survey basically checks to see if the range still marks the center of the channel. Each range can be checked once every three years and our area currently has nine ranges available to check. Do you know how to do a range survey? If not, don't worry! Download the Cooperative Charting Manual at <http://www.usps.org/national/coch/> and read Chapter 3, which contains Instructions for Range Surveys and other types of reports. Pat and John can also answer any questions you may have at our Captain's meeting.

**For those who will do Co-op charting, here is a list of things you will need:**

- The Cooperative Charting Manual
- Sun screen
- H2O
- Binoculars
- Hand held GPS,
- Digital camera
- Pad + pencil

For the computer adventurous, there is a free nautical chart viewing program that can be downloaded at <http://opencpn.org/ocpn/download> chart files (also free) at [http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/mcd/Raster/download\\_agreement.htm](http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/mcd/Raster/download_agreement.htm) Check out our adopted chart 11506 take a look at others covering our beautiful Golden Isles!

-Lisa