



# the p h o l e



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The Captain Snapper being blessed on Mother's day

Dear GISPS Members,

As everyone now knows, P/C Larry Jefferis, JN passed away unexpectedly last month. Words cannot adequately express the sorrow we share with Vicky and her family. It has been a shock to everyone and we all need to be strong for and available to her as best as each one of us can.

It is a cruel reality that life with our loved ones is all together much too short. While I will certainly miss Larry's smile, his humor, and his drawl when he would say to me "Hello, dear",

I will also feel grateful for our paths crossing in this lifetime and for his guidance and mentoring as I became a first-time commander of GISPS. For those of you who missed Larry's service, his obituary is reprinted here in this Porthole.

Looking ahead to this month, our next gathering will be June 27th at Sanctuary Cove Golf Club to celebrate the 10th anniversary of GISPS. It will be a social event, with a low country boil provided by GISPS. You should have received and

hopefully responded to an "evite" for this event! There will be a cake, and everyone is encouraged to bring an appetizer. A cash bar will also be available.

Please RSVP for the above date! I hope to see you all there !!

Cdr. Lisa M. Noetzel, JN

Treasurer's Report  
Teresa Wilsdorf, S



GISPS currently has a balance of \$9, 389.96 in the bank. As you all know, we will be celebrating the 10th Anniversary of GISPS on Saturday, June 27th at Sanctuary Cove Golf Club. I am overjoyed over all the replies from members that are going to attend, regret all replies from members unable to attend, and look forward to those of you that have either not opened your email or have not yet responded, responding that you will attend. This is a celebration of our squadron and it would be a shame if it were not well attended.

If anyone has any questions regarding membership, the anniversary gathering or anything else I can help you with please email me or give me a call.

Hope to see you soon!  
Teresa Wilsdorf, S



**June**

12 Emil Hoffman  
15 John Vitale  
17 David Curtis

18 Bob Morrison  
28 Mary Roeder  
30 Lalla Eshliman

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A Message from Paulette  
Paulette Harris, SN

Dear Members of the GISPS: I wanted the opportunity to reminisce about some of the beginnings of the GISPS. I wish Audie were here to write this, but I think this is what he'd want you to know. It took time to make individuals realize that the Golden Isles area was just waiting for the USPS to have a squadron in that vicinity. Here was a beautiful coast with a myriad of opportunities for all kinds of boating, and yet there had not been a USPS in the area for a long time.

Audie Holmes (past commander of the Savannah River Sail and Power Squadron) and I had bought two condos at St. Simons: one at Riverwatch and one at Marbella. We opened the doors to a group of very interested and strong members of the United States Power Squadrons who were willing to explore establishing a new squadron in coastal Georgia from below Chatham to just above the top of the coast of Florida. Audie worked closely with Frank Clayton, SN, Nettie Dumais and Ed Leibfarth to develop the new squadron's national requirements. The charter was officially presented in June 2005 at Charlotte. Audie was elected the first commander. Charles Wilsdorf, SN and Larry Jefferis were to follow. Then, Vicky Jefferis and now Lisa. All outstanding!

Many held other positions of support from the beginning and along the way: Pat and John Rodgers were great supporters. Early on, Tommy and Sandra Cox helped. Fred Favour of the SRSPS supported us as well. Unfortunately, Audie, Frank, Larry, Tommy, and Fred are no longer with us on this earth. Ed is not doing well at this time. Nettie has just lost George, her son, who supported our efforts as well.

Regardless, we are here as the GISPS. We thank all who helped to make it happen and look forward to its future! May the 10th anniversary be a true celebration of the newest and best squadron in D26!

Sincerely, Paulette Harris-Holmes

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Administration Officer  
Sharon Hindery, P



A dark cloud hung over our May meeting on the 16th. Larry's passing earlier that day hit us all hard. In the two short years Rick and I have known him, Larry was a mentor and friend whose company we thoroughly enjoyed. His presence was missed, and will be for many meetings ahead...

We returned once again to Moon Doggies for our May meeting. Our speaker for the evening was the very dynamic Greg Ingram, the National Park Service Superintendent for Cumberland Island and more recently Fort Fredericka. He entered the

room and immediately introduced himself individually to everyone present. His talk began with his path through law enforcement and in to the Park Service touching on the experiences that led him to Cumberland Island a few years ago. He spent a bit of time enlightening us on the impact to the National parks reduction of funding and how to make the NPS relevant to a larger demographic than it currently is. Speaking about Cumberland Island specifically, he discussed Ferry system vendor bidding and changes in services expected from the new contracts, as well as the vision for Cumberland's future. His audience was very engaged, asked many questions. I expect he will have recruited a couple of volunteers from his efforts.



Winner of the PFD, Manny Rocha and his wife.

We also enjoyed meeting a few guests for the evening as well: Lee and Karen Yonkers, Terry Osman, and Maddy Russell. They seemed to enjoy the meeting and the fellowship they were shown by the GISPS members, and we hope they wish to join us.



Margaret Butler, giving instructions on the VBT.

### **Blessing of the Fleet Mother's day weekend.**

I would like to thank Vicky Jefferis, Margaret & Bob Butler, and Teresa & Charles Wilsdorf for helping out during this event. The event was well attended & we had good traffic by our booth. Kids especially were interested in our virtual trainer, and all wanted to try it. With most of the kids, parents followed. While stressing safety, we coached the "pilots" on leaving the dock, acceleration, using trim, and watching other boat traffic. Any navigation aids



The Captain Snapper being blessed on Mother's day

encountered were also explained. Although a few "hot dogs" were encountered, most were very attentive in maneuvering the boat. Actually it was fun. Approximately 75 tried the Simulator, maybe 25 were adults. We obtained some 22 names on our list for future contact about classes, GISPS and interest in attending a meeting, 2 of which have already attended.

We enjoyed being a part of revitalizing this event which was attended by about 4000 folks over the weekend. We also collected some more names during Boat Safety Week in front of Lowes. The Winner of the PFD was drawn at the post event meeting & was won by Manny Roca, who was the first to sign

up!



This young man was a real learner!

Our next meeting will be June 27th at Sanctuary Cove –a celebration of GISPS 10th anniversary. This is a strictly social event, with a low country boil being provided by GISPS. You should have received and hopefully responded to an "evite" for this event! We will have a cake, and everyone is welcome to bring appetizers. Cash bar will be available.

Sharon Hindery, P

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Squadron Education Officer  
Charles Wilsdorf, SN



I wish I could say something very profound about our loss of Larry Jefferis, but all I can muster is that I miss him as my friend as many of you do and that our squadron will miss his many contributions. Both his formal and informal leadership will be hard to replace, but I know he wants us all to step up to the plate and keep the ball moving forward. Larry, we miss you.

As I mentioned in the last "Porthole" our squadron has many boating classes presently being presented. Jack Sterrett, SN has seven students enrolled in Piloting and we are working with diligence to have five new Navigators before the end of July. We also have plans for a Weather Class after N in starting mid-August. Our CPR/AED/First Aid will be held Saturday, June 13.

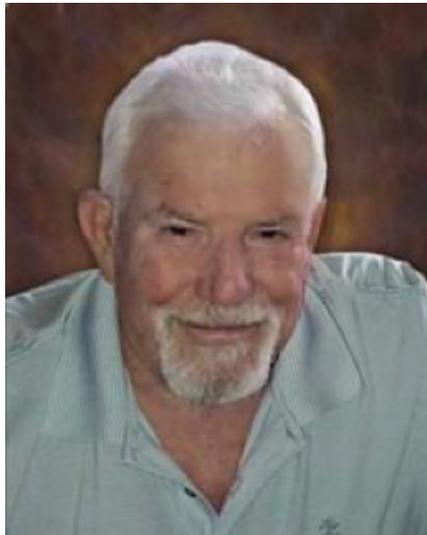
Our last May ABC class was cancelled due to the lack of students. We must get a better plan to get the word out. Please let me know if you have any ideas. We also need more instructors, especially ABC. Please consider giving a little time and a couple of Saturdays a year to share your boating knowledge. Please also consider being a chairperson for any of our elective courses if there is a particular area of boating you really like and feel comfort with teaching.

I am happy to report that GISPS has four new members: Rodger "Bo" Taylor,S; Susan Taylor,S; Abby Lee Taylor; and John "Jack" McMEnamin, S. Please welcome these new members with open arms. Notice that three of them have already completed Seamanship with flying colors and have earned the grade S. Great job guys!!!

I hope to see you all at the upcoming GISPS 10th Anniversary Party.

Charles, SN-ACN

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## **In Memory of LTC (Ret.) James Lawrence "Larry" Jefferis**

James L. "Larry" Jefferis was born Jan 2, 1944 in Hutchinson, Kansas and passed away suddenly on May 16, 2015 at Southeast Georgia Hospital, Brunswick, GA. He was the son of James L. "Levis" and Vivian M. Hefner Jefferis, the oldest of five children.

He spent his childhood years in Goodwell and Tulsa, Oklahoma. Growing up mostly as a farm boy, he learned how to work hard and do most anything, traits that stayed with him throughout his life. Just about any of his large circle of family and friends came to Larry to learn from his expertise, whether it be wood working, mechanical

challenges, model trains, or computers.

Larry graduated from Goodwell High School and Panhandle State College in Goodwell, OK. Upon graduation as a Distinguished Military Graduate of the Army ROTC program, he was commissioned in 1966 as an Army second lieutenant in the Armor Branch. He served in a variety of locations, including Germany, Viet Nam, Kansas, Arizona, Georgia and Washington, DC. During this time, he attended Iowa State University and earned a Masters' Degree in Electronics Engineering. He retired as a Lieutenant Colonel after 22 years of proud service.

During one of his assignments at Ft. Riley, KS, Larry met his future wife, Vicky Wright, and they were married in December 1970.

Following his Army retirement, Larry worked in the computer field for Advanced Integrated Technology Arlington, VA and Nashville, TN, as a program manager and Vice President of Operations and later as a security program analyst for Booz-Allen-Hamilton, providing support for US Army Forces Command, Atlanta, GA. While living in Atlanta, Larry volunteered his time as Webmaster for his community association.

Larry retired once again in 2006 and turned his focus to overseeing the construction of his and Vicky's retirement dream home and playing on his boat, ODYSSEY. He moved to Sanctuary Cove, Waverly, GA in December 2007 and soon developed a large group of new friends in the neighborhood and through the Golden Isles Sail & Power Squadron, a unit of the United States Power Squadrons. Once again, Larry gave generously of his time and talent, providing computer expertise, handyman services, and committee work to the Property Owners' Association. He was deeply involved with the Power Squadron, shared his love of boating as an instructor for several of the courses it offers and served in various officer positions, including Commander of the local squadron. In addition, he served for several years as the District 26 Treasurer where he did truly "Come for the Education and Stay for the Friends."

Larry is survived by his wife and four siblings; Robert J. (Joe) and Bonnie Jefferis, John L. and Kim Jefferis, Jerry L. and Cheryl Jefferis, and Susan Jefferis. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews including his special "Son in Arms" LTC Jason Jefferis, Shelley Harmon, Autumn Ellis, Adrienne Wilson, Cory Jefferis, Christa Jefferis, Jeremy Jefferis, Kenny Jefferis, Jenny Murata and their spouses as well as eight grand nieces and nephews. Larry had the great joy of spending precious time with most of this beloved family in April 2015 at a family wedding in Hawaii. In addition to his blood family, Larry had many friends he considered family living all around the world and enjoyed his last vacation to attend the Kentucky Derby and follow the Kentucky Bourbon Trail in May with a few of them.

Larry's body will be cremated and his ashes inurned at the Jacksonville National Cemetery, Jacksonville, FL.

## GISPS Calendar of Events

<b>January</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
18-25 USPS Annual Meeting	All day	Jacksonville, FL
24 GISPS Meeting	1800	Moon Doggies
<b>February</b>		
27-28 D26 Spring Conference	All day	Jekyll Island
<b>March</b>		
01 D26 Spring Conference	All day	Jekyll Island
05 Navigation Class begins	TBD	Wilsdorf Home
14 Instructor Recertification	0830-1230	Wilsdorf Home
21 ABC Class	0800-1600	UGA Marine Extension
28 GISPS Meeting	1800	Copper Pig
<b>April</b>		
20 Seamanship begins	TBD	UGA Marine Extension
25 GISPS Meeting	1800	TBA
<b>May</b>		
16 GISPS Meeting	1800	Moon Doggies
16 ABC Class	0800 - 1600	UGA Marine Extension
17-23 Safe Boating Week	All Day	Nationwide
<b>June</b>		
08 Piloting Class begins	TBD	Brunswick Landing Marina
11 Navigation class part II	TBD	Wilsdorf Home
13 CPR/ First Aid	08000-1600	UGA Marine Extension
27 GISPS Social	1800	St. Simons Island
<b>July</b>		
25 GISPS Social	1800	Jekyll Island
<b>August</b>		
22 GISPS Social	1800	Brunswick
31 AP Class begins	TBA	Wilsdorf Home
<b>September</b>		
26 GISPS Meeting	1800	TBA