

# AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

## Golden Isles



For Boaters, By Boaters™

A monthly publication of America's Boating Club Golden Isles

### Upcoming Events

#### November

- No club social in November

#### December

- 9- Club Christmas Party at Riverhouse at Sanctuary Cove

#### January 2023

- 3- Content for The Port-hole due
- 17- Club Social, location TBD

#### February

- 4- ABC Course
- 7 - Content for The Port-hole due
- 21 - Club social, location TBD

#### March

- 7 - Content for The Port-hole due
- 17-19 - District 26 Conference and Change of Watch
- 21 - Club social, location TBD

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## Commander's Message

### THAT'S A WRAP



Cdr Jerry Lamb, S

Maybe I'm a frustrated film director – seeing my home videos would explain why. Or maybe, it's because it is time to start wrapping those holiday presents. After all they had Black Friday before Halloween. Really, this message is a wrap, the last PORTHOLE for the year. Even though it's only the first of November, it has been a year since the new Bridge's COW. Because of the Bridge and the many other Club members who volunteered for our activities, it has been a good year.

Our collegiality was enhanced by the great socials (Thanks, Eileen) and cruises, or non-cruises in too many cases, despite careful planning (Thanks, Cynthia). At least we have some cruise plans in the bank for next year. The Club has more than fulfilled the rest of its mission to **"Promote recreational boating safety through education and civic activities while providing fellowship for our members."** Actually, providing fellowship is an integral part of all parts of our mission. The people providing the education (thanks, Mike, Charles, Vicky, Teresa, Cynthia) have a camaraderie that is obvious to the students and makes the classes better. We did three ABC classes (did you know that about 50% of clubs don't offer even one ABC course?) and a boat handling course this year. Based on Mike's survey, we will offer some additional courses and seminars next year that members want. Even slogging through the muck and mire around Liberty Ship Park, led by Rick and Sharon, somehow seems enjoyable as a group. Another civic project sponsored the Foar From Home crew, who finished their 3,000 mile row and gave us a great idea of what it is like to row across the Atlantic at one social.

The times, they are a changing. The Club exists as part of a larger constellation, with District 26 and National setting guidelines and providing assistance, even if the assistance is not always wanted. There are major changes coming in the overall governance of America's Boating Club. The national Board of Governors adopted a new structure that may provide us with more flexibility in how we manage the club by simplifying the required number of Bridge officers and reducing the reporting requirements. Districts have even more flexibility in how they operate but District 26 will probably stay much the same. To support the individual Clubs, the District signed a Constant Contact contract and provided the service to the clubs at no charge. We are one of the smaller, but not the smallest, Club in the District with Hilton Head and Tybee Light having hundreds of members. We managed to hold our own in numbers this year with some long inactive members leaving but new and very active members joining.

Cynthia and I also wrapped up a chapter in our boating lives this year. Our 23-foot open boat is giving way to a weekend cruiser. We have managed to get on the water every month since we started boating in the Golden Isles and the enclosed cabin on the new-to-us boat should make the February days better.

To put a bow on this wrap, I wish you the happiest of holidays and look forward to seeing you at the Christmas party, on the water, in the new classes, and in the Liberty Park muck.

Jerry

## The People You Meet



XO Cynthia Lamb, S

I found it very telling at our last social that even the 19<sup>th</sup> century Jekyll Island millionaires complained about the cost of owning a boat. Even though they didn't have a West Marine or a Defender.com to entice them with all sorts of cool gadgets, I'm sure it must've cost a pretty penny to outfit and maintain a 304-foot wooden boat. If recreational boat owners behaved rationally in the economics sense, no one would own a boat. As many of you remember from previous newsletters, my husband and I just bought a new boat. This is our third boat in a little over 5 years. What "rational actor" does this? Crazy boat people, that's who. I love crazy boat people. And there are plenty around here. These people are part of my boating life.

The people who make up our boating network are found all over. They include people in our club like Charles Wilsdorf, Mike Moye, Ed Reynolds and Bruce Miles. Charles and Mike are two of the most experienced boaters I have ever met. Ed Reynolds oversaw my vessel safety examiner certification process and has given me lots of great suggestions for cruises. Bruce Miles knows all sorts of "hacks" for outfitting a boat including how to make your own custom mattress for a V-berth. This one hack alone will probably save us over a thousand dollars. They are passionate and knowledgeable and always willing to help.

There are a cast of characters at our home marina, the Hampton River Marina, that have given me some of the best advice ever. Our marina is so laid back and friendly, I've started calling it Mayberry. Just like the quirky characters hanging out at Floyd's Barber Shop, we have ours at Hampton River Marina. Danny, Neil, Dave, and Woody are just a few. Danny was the one that told me to always dock into the current when I first started. Neil mostly teases me, but he's a real great guy. There are also the fishing captains like Brooks Good and Tim Cutting. They always have some new tip for me.

One of my favorite people at the Hampton River Marina doesn't even work there but knows more about boats than almost anybody I know (except for maybe Charles and Mike). His name is Barney Riley. When I first met Barney, he was pulling up in a little fishing boat with his dog. We sort of hit it off right away. Then I saw Barney one day in a very nice Grady White. He said this was the boat he uses with his wife. She doesn't like the little fishing boat. Then I saw Barney pull up at the marina's long dock with a 36-foot sailboat. He had brought it up from Morningstar to get it ready to cruise to Charleston. Turns out, Barney used to own Dunbar Yachts. Actually, he founded Dunbar Yachts. Every time I run into Barney, I try and pick his brain. Sometimes he just tells me a story about a recent cruise of his. The other day he told me about his last trip down to Fernandina with his sailboat. He said he forgot to bring his 50-amp to 30-amp converter (or something like that) and ended up having to get a loaner from the marina down there. Being the newbie that I still am, I didn't even know what he was talking about. That's when he explained about the different power available at marinas and how you have to be ready. So \$250 later, we now have a 50-amp to 30-amp splitter. He also lent me his 30-amp Y-splitter so I didn't have to run 2 cables. These are the crazy and wonderful boating people in our lives.

Some other people I've met include Mitch Martin at Shoreline Marine. We bought two boats from Mitch. He's a wealth of knowledge. He's friendly and willing to share information. Even though we did not buy our last boat from him, he offered us suggestions for weekend/pocket cruisers to look for. I've also made friends with this guy at West Marine. His name is Hans. He is very helpful and has lots of hands-on experience. When I told him I bought a Jeanneau, he thought I had a sailboat and was telling me to make the trip to the Bahamas. When I told him it was a powerboat with about a 200-mile range, he said I wasn't going to the Bahamas. I know! There are boating people that we interact with only remotely, equally passionate and knowledgeable as those we interact with in person. The boaters who post videos about living aboard their boat. The boaters who tell you how to fix things. My husband subscribes to various forums, including Bob423 Tracks which has all kinds of advice on traveling on the intracoastal waterway.

Boating is not only a great way to connect with nature, but it's a great way to connect with like-minded people. It's the reason my husband and I joined the boating club. My boating experience could not be what it is without all the people I've met along the way and we've met some great ones!

Cynthia

## Administrative Officer's Report - November



AO Eileen Berta

What a great turnout we had for our last monthly social of 2022! While we enjoyed dinner at Ember, Allison Dupuis, Museum Educator with Jekyll Mosaic, entertained twenty-two of us with stories of the yachting life during the Club era. We were surprised to learn how many Club Members were yachtsmen and boaters, and to hear some of their eccentricities. Through Allison's well researched stories and anecdotes we could imagine Club Members traversing the same waters we do today, navigating the rocks at the mouth of the Jekyll Creek, mooring off the ends of the Island!



Club social at Ember



Allison Dupuis

**Remember** - there will be no monthly social in November. Enjoy the RSM Classic and Thanksgiving with your families! We will meet again to celebrate the Holidays in December.

### **ABC-GI Holiday Party and Gift Exchange**

**Date and Time:** Friday, December 9, 6pm

**Place:** We will return to the Riverhouse at Sanctuary Cove, site of last year's COW. Directions will be provided.

**Format:** Potluck and wacky white elephant gift exchange.

**Dress:** Holiday Casual

Plan to bring your favorite hors d'oeuvre or dessert and beverage. The Club will provide a ham, sides, plates, napkins, utensils, etc.

You may want to start thinking now about what to bring for the gift exchange. You may each bring a gift (\$20 or less) and both participate or bring one gift and play as a couple.

Detailed invitation and directions will come in an email later this month.

I'm asking again this month - let me hear from you! As I plan our calendar for 2023, please think about our socials this year and let me know which ones you'd like to see us do again, plus add any other topics of interest you'd enjoy. Do you enjoy just meeting for social time and dinner some months, or do you prefer a speaker? Are "field trip" activities like the Home Front Museum tour of interest? Not to worry - I'm pretty certain you will see the Wine Tasting/Nature Tour boat ride again on the 2023 calendar!

Eileen

## Club Education Officer Report



CEO Mike Moyer, SN

Thank you very much to those folks who responded to our Course Interest Questionnaire. Here are the results: The topic that received the most interest was Confidence in Docking and Undocking. It is a seminar that is part of the larger Boat Handling course. This seminar lends itself to an on-the-water experience where we demonstrate docking and undocking techniques at a local marina. We'll poll class participants to determine interest in the other four sections of the Boat Handling Course and if there is interest we'll do that too.

Two other seminars that received interest were Weather for Boaters and Using VHF and VHF/DSC Marine Radio. Both of those seminars would provide some very valuable information to boaters no matter where you are travelling on the water. We all have to keep a "weather eye" and the seminar can help us know what conditions to watch. We also use the VHF radio almost every time we de-

part from the dock or ramp. Maybe we don't talk on it much, but we certainly listen. This seminar covers applying for a MMSI number and entering it into your radio. It also provides information on how to connect your radio to your chartplotter via NMEA 0183/2000 protocol. It's pretty easy to do and when completed a distress call made on your radio will carry much needed GPS location data to potential rescuers.

The advanced course appealing to several members was Introduction to Navigation. This is a newly created course that replaces the 2011 Piloting course which was revised in 2016. We have a copy of the PowerPoint presentations that will be used with the course, but the student manual is still in the printing stage. If you're new to navigation and can only use the chartplotter like a nav system in a car, then this is the course for you. It will start with basic concepts using a paper chart to plot a course and move quickly to a computer based chartplotter which has most of the bells and whistles that your boat's system has. The really neat thing is that you'll learn how to create waypoints at home, turn them into a route, save the route onto an SD card and load it on the chartplotter on your boat.

The Boat Handling course is usually taken prior to Navigation, however, it's not absolutely necessary. You can jump right out of the ABC course directly into Introduction to Navigation. I don't want to give the wrong impression though. This course does require out of class study and homework. Boat Handling teaches you how to take off and land, but Introduction to Navigation teaches you how to get from point A to point B after you leave the dock—with a much better chance of not running aground.

No dates or locations have been set for any of the seminars or courses mentioned above. We do have an instructor identified for Navigation however and would be happy to talk to anyone who might be interested in teaching any of the others.

The dates for our ABC courses for 2023 have been set. They will be held on February 4, April 8, and October 7.

Thank you for your interest in and support of the educational efforts of our squadron. We truly appreciate it.

Happy Boating,

Mike Moyer, SN  
Education Officer



# The Cruise Scene



*Club cruise to Darien on October 29. Picture on left shows group lunch with George & Mike Carellas, Cathy Brewer-Moore, Cynthia Lamb, Bruce & Kay Miles, Pieter Van Steen. The GA-FL football game was also played that day.*



*Picture on right: Group could be watching other GA-FL activities.*



*Pictures by Jerry Lamb.*



**November**  
*Cynthia Lamb*  
*Cathy Stortz*

**December**  
*David Campbell*  
*Shawn Cuniff*  
*Sharon Hindery*  
*Kay Miles*

## Boater Endorsement

The Georgia Department of Driver Services (DDS) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) have partnered to help boaters show they have the required boater education. A boating indicator – a small anchor - will be added to the front of a driver's license or ID card. Customers will no longer need to have a boating safety education card with them when boating.

Georgia requires that anyone born on or after January 1, 1998, who operates any motorized vessel on the waters of the state must complete a boater education course.

### Process – Our America's Boating Course class qualifies

- Customers who complete an online National Association of State Boating Laws Administrators (NASBLA) approved boater education course:
  - Must bring the original certificate of completion to a DDS Customer Service Center.
  - You may be subject to issuance or renewal fees to have the indicator placed on your card.

Submitted by Charles Wilsdorf, SN-ON

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## Beach Advisories Move to Real-Time, Web-Based Map

BRUNSWICK, Ga. (Nov. 4, 2022) -- Georgia's beach water quality and swimming advisories are moving exclusively to a new, real-time map that will allow the public to find information on the go.



The Georgia Healthy Beaches advisory map at [GaHealthyBeaches.org](https://GaHealthyBeaches.org) is available on mobile and desktop platforms for beachgoers to pinpoint their location and find current advisories, as well as parking, first aid, and amenity information.

“This move to an online, real-time application will give the public the best available information and streamline the process for advising beachgoers,” said Ed Zmarzly, the coordinator of the Healthy Beaches program at the Coastal Resources Division (CRD) of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. For more information click this link to GA DNR website

[https://coastalgadnr.org/beach-advisories-move-real-time-map?  
utm\\_campaign=&utm\\_content=&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery&utm\\_term=](https://coastalgadnr.org/beach-advisories-move-real-time-map?utm_campaign=&utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=)

Submitted by Cathy Stortz

## America's Boating Club of Golden Isles Calendar NOV 2022- MAR 2023

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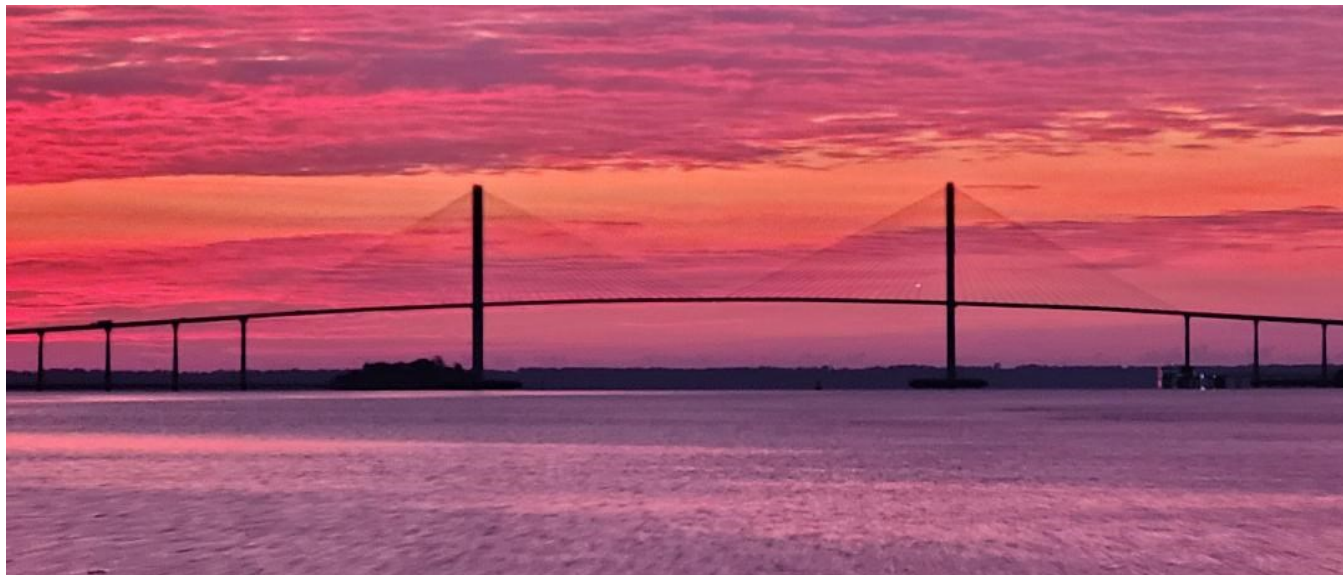
17-19 - District 26 Conference and Change of Watch

21 - Club social. Location TBD



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*Dawn on October 17, 2022. Joe and I were heading out for an early start to a day of fishing. With the Sidney Lanier Bridge in the foreground, this is one of the prettiest dawns I've seen. Instead of the marine saying, "Red sky in morning, sailor's warning" I think it should be "Red sky in morning, the fish are biting" because they were hungry. - Cathy Stortz*



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](http://www.americasboatingclub.org). Our Club website is [www.gisps.org](http://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 20,000 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.