# AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB Golden Isles





For Boaters, By Boaters™

## A monthly publication of America's Boating Club Golden Isles

## Upcoming Events October

- 21-22-D26 Virtual Fall Conference
- 22 Cruise to Darien for lunch at either Skippers or at Keys North Market and Grill
- 25 Social at Ember Restaurant on SSI with
  "Millionaires' Yachts"
  presentation by Allison
  Dupuis from Jekyll Mosaic at 6PM

#### **November**

- I- Content for The Porthole due
- 8-Porthole distribution
- No club social in November

#### **December**

 9-Club Christmas Party at Riverhouse at Sanctuary Cove

#### Inside this issue:

Executive Officer Report	2
Admin Officer Report	3
Educational Officer Report	4
The Cruise Scene	5
D26 Fall Conference Schedule	6
Sept Club Social	7
Club Cruise Pictures	7-8
Calendar and Contacts	9
Birthdays & Membership	10

## Commander's Message



Cdr Jerry Lamb, S

Mother Nature showed her most awesome and awful sides during Hurricane Ian. Who can forget the images of destruction on our sister barrier island, Sanibel? Boats on houses, level land where there had been communities, people dazed by the ferocity of the storm. It was harrowing for those who were there when the storm hit. Cynthia's brother and his wife were in Punta Gorda, the eye's landfall. Her description, hastily written the day after, describes the impact and what they had to do to weather the storm. The most telling line, repeated many times, is "we're alive." My imagination cannot grasp being in such a storm.

Mother Nature is also fickle. The early track of lan was to come up the east coast of Florida, slightly inland. This would have put us on the right side of the storm, which is the wrong side of the tracks. Instead, it went out to sea by about

100 miles, giving us 30 MPH wind for 24 hours and very little rain. Skipping Georgia completely, it crashed into Myrtle Beach and the rest of the Carolinas as a revived hurricane, causing flooding and deaths. We all know this and congratulate ourselves on being lucky for dodging the proverbial bullet – or missile as the *Brunswick News* put it. We never expected 155 MPH winds and probably think a weakened lan would not cause much damage. Think again. Our friend who lives in the Orlando area had lan park over them with wind and rain, rain, rain (18 inches). His lanai was shredded, pool and pond overflowed, trees down and fish in the street. At least, he did not have to be evacuated by boat, unlike so many others in the area. Eighteen inches of rain, combined with a high tide and strong winds, could be disastrous here. Such an event could rival Irma's damage five years ago.

Mother Nature can be more predictable; the seasons march on despite individual weather events. And Fall is here. And with Fall comes the semi-annual migration. My bellwether bald eagle is back on his causeway light pole, monarchs are in the yard -- and boats, lots of boats with big wakes, are on the ICW. I follow an ICW Facebook group, and it is rife with comments, advice, questions, and warnings. Some advice is helpful, like the updated track through Jekyll Creek, a notorious ICW problem area, as is St Andrews Sound in our locale. The migration also causes berthing space problems at the marinas, changing our planned trip to Fernandina.

Mother Nature allowed us to finally get a cruise in as planned after a summer of storm cancellations. Three

boats with eight people, led by Joe and Cathy Stortz, made the journey through the creeks to the Satilla River for lunch at Capt. Stan's Smokehouse. The plan was to dock at the Woodbine municipal docks and walk the approximately one mile to Stan's. Two guardian angels, Charles and Teresa Wilsdorf, showed up as we pulled in and ferried us to Stan's. Pictures on pages 7 and 8.

The Woodbine trip was over 100 miles from Hampton River Marina, exceeding our longest ever. It was the last trip on our current boat. We are looking forward to the new (to us) boat. It will allow us to become one with the ICW crowd, at least in our general area, and see what cruising is all about.

Just in case you think we dodged all the bullets, see picture on right..

Jerry



Boats aground south of Jekyll harbor marina after lan.

## The Cure for Anything is Salt Water...a Second Mortgage and a Credit Card



XO Cynthia Lamb, S

I'm not sure when I got the bug to cruise. It might've started with a book by Mary South that I read a few years ago. In her book, *The Cure for Anything Is Salt Water: How I Threw My Life Overboard and Found Happiness at Sea*, Mary sells her house in Pennsylvania, quits her job, and buys a custom 40-foot steel trawler in Florida even though she has absolutely no boating experience. She heads to Florida to get the boat and to attend an accelerated boating captain's course. Mary had never been out on her boat until literally the day before she's going to take her boat 1,500 miles to New York. She receives a few on the water lessons from one of her instructors on how to drive and dock the boat. That was about it. So anyway, she and a friend (who is also not an experienced boater) take the trawler on a 3-week trip through the intracoastal waterway and into open water on their first voyage. It sounded fun but crazy! All I'm trying to do is make it to Beaufort, SC or St. Augustine, FL. (As an aside: my friend Barney Riley told me that we could've made it to either place in one day in our current (open

bow) boat if we wanted to. Thanks, Barney.)

I've been imagining this exciting life on the water for quite a while now. All I needed was the right boat. Jerry and I set up a list of requirements: fits in and out of our covered spot at Hampton River Marina, has an outboard engine (preferably a Yamaha), has a place to sleep and eat, has a stand-up head, has air conditioning, and we can handle it – both from a boathandling and financial perspective.

It was a lot of fun looking for a boat. You can do it in front of the TV with your iPad. That kept us occupied for a few months as we tried to figure out a) what we wanted, and b) how we were going to pay for it. To figure out which boat we wanted, we did quite a bit of traveling (probably about the same distance (1,500 miles) that Mary South traveled in her book). We finally found what we wanted – a Jeanneau 795 that checked off all our boxes - in Westbrook, CT, which is only about a half hour from where we used to live.

It's also been a lot of fun just thinking about cruising on this boat. I'm so obsessed that I've been watching a British couple's homemade videos on YouTube of their cruises along the southern coast of England and Wales on their Jeanneau. Their names are Bob and Nikki. They seem to have just the best times! They make tea and cook bacon in the morning, they fish off the boat, they carry a paddleboard on top of their boat (I want one too!), and it looks amazingly cozy on board at night. By the way, Nikki is as obsessed with seeing seals in the water as I am with seeing dolphins.

So even though our boat has not been delivered yet, I'm already thinking of all the things I will need to buy to make this the best boat ever — especially things for cooking onboard. I've never cooked on a boat, but it sounds like it could be challenging. I have my eye on a Magma portable grill that fits in the boat's rod holder — just like the one in the picture below. I'm also thinking of getting a Coleman camping stove with a couple burners and/or a portable generator like the Honda EU2200i 2200-Watt I20-Volt Super Quiet Portable Inverter Generator. Mike Moye told me that he used to store those Coleman propane cannisters in a Coleman cooler. It fit those canisters perfectly, so they didn't rattle around at all. So, all of you cruisers out there, please let me know what you think about these specific products and cooking on a boat in general. I'd love some advice. Thanks!

Cynthia



## Administrative Officer's Report - October



**AO Eileen Berta** 

The Golden Isles fared well through our first Hurricane/Tropical Storm of the 2022 season, as lan slid right by us far offshore. We were all so fortunate! Although we arrived at Morningstar on Sunday to find we had to spend an hour cleaning out a trash bag full of debris that had blown into our boat while up on the rack, and to hear tales of four-foot waves rocking the in-water boats and swamping the new floating Jet Docks. We did see two less fortunate sailboats off Jekyll that day.



Beached sailboats off Jekyll





Eleven of us learned so much about our area's role in World War II as we visited the Home Front Museum in September. We also learned how much we enjoy several of the brew and food options at Barrier Island Brewing after the tour! Pictures of the social at Barrier Island Brewing are on page 7. Pictures submitted by Cynthia Lamb.

#### October Social

Date: Tuesday, October 25 (Note change from regular third Tuesday due to several conflicts)

Time: 6:00PM

Meeting place: Ember, 70 Retreat Village, SSI 912-434-9384

Speaker: Allison Dupuis, from Jekyll Mosaic, will present on the Jekyll millionaire's yachts

RSVP/Questions: email Eileen at eileenberta@gmail.com

#### **Upcoming:**

November - No Social to allow Members to enjoy the RSM Classic Golf Tournament and Thanksgiving.

December 9 - <u>Mark your calendars!</u> We have reserved the Riverhouse at Sanctuary Cove, site of last year's Change of Watch (COW), for our annual Club Christmas Party potluck and wacky gift exchange. Details will follow soon.

As I plan our calendar for 2023 (yes, already!) 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.

Eileen

## **Club Education Officer Report**



CEO Mike Moye, SN

October 8 was the last ABC class for the year. As always it was a good group mixed with folks who want to become boaters along with experienced mariners who just wanted to brush-up on their skills and knowledge. The ABC courses in 2023 will most likely occur in February, April, and October as they have in previous years. Help your club and spread the word about these classes. They are one of the best resources we have for new members.

Our Course/Seminar Interest Questionnaire was distributed about ten days ago. We're hoping that you have made a response indicating the educational opportunities that interest you. This very short survey will help us tremendously as we plan courses and seminars for 2023. If you have not had a chance to respond, please dig it out of your email in-box (or spam folder). The note will contain a link to a SurveyMonkey questionnaire that can be completed in just a few minutes. If my resource for addresses missed yours, just let me know and I'll send you a copy.

Summer reruns have ended, and the new shows are on TV. Thank goodness! Along with those we have some new video products from our organization's America's Boating Channel. We use many of these videos in our courses and seminars, but they are available to our members as well as the general public with just a couple of clicks on your computer, tablet, or smartphone. All can be accessed via YouTube as well as our national web site. Also, you can get to them with the following links (to open the links you'll most likely need to hover, then control/click rather than just clicking):

#### I. Digital Charts and Virtual ATONS

This video covers the replacement of paper nautical charts with electronic navigation charts. You can also learn about the three types of new virtual aids to navigation (ATONS). The video also provides tips for using these electronic enhancements and how they will make our boating experience safer.

America's Boating Channel - YouTube

#### 2. Boat Operator Responsibilities

This video covers obligations of boat operators for ensuring safety from pre-departure to the conclusion of every voyage. Stressed in the video are operational techniques and boater courtesy. Also featured are tips for avoiding negligence.

**BOAT OPERATOR RESPONSIBILITIES - YouTube** 

#### 3. Capacity Compliance

The new Capacity Compliance video covers complying with the capacity plate permanently affixed to the hull on small vessels. You can learn about how many people can be carried, maximum total weight and engine size. This video also features formulas and tables for calculating these limits.

**CAPACITY COMPLIANCE - YouTube** 

#### 4. Defensive Boating

The Defensive Boating video covers the importance of keeping a safe distance from other boaters. You will learn how experienced boaters can change their habits for a safer boating experience with so many new boaters on the water. Also featured are special tips for those who are new to boating.

**DEFENSIVE BOATING - YouTube** 

Interestingly, filming and acting in three of these videos had heavy involvement from our neighboring squadron, Tybee Light as well as a couple of others in District 26. Filming for America's Boating Channel is provided by a grant from the Sportfishing Restoration and Boating Trust Fund which is administered by the United States Coast Guard.

#### One more thing

I haven't done a book report in fifty years, but I started a series recently that I thought I'd mention. Charles Martin has written so many best-selling books that I'm probably the last person in the Golden Isles to learn about them. However, if

Continues on next page.

## **Club Education Officer Report Continues**

you have not read any of his work, give him a look. Before I read a book by him, I saw the film that was based on his book *The Mountain Between Us*. Then a friend who is familiar with the Golden Isles and the coasts of Georgia and Florida told me about *The Water Keeper*. That's the first in his Murphy Shepard Series. I just started the second book, *The Letter Keeper*, and look forward to the third *The Record Keeper*.

How can you go wrong with reading about a protagonist who cruises the Intracoastal Waterway in a Boston Whaler Dauntless, has a dog named Gunner, and rescues kidnapped children from mega yachts using a bow and arrow. His description of our familiar cuts, shoals, sounds, and marinas will make you think you're riding with him in one of his boats. He even has his nautical terminology down pat. His writing is a good mix of adventure, romance, personal philosophy, and a desire to help others in need. It's just the kind of book you need when riding out a tropical storm.

Stay safe,

Mike Moye, SN Education Officer

### The Cruise Scene



The last club cruise to Woodbine was so much fun! The weather was gorgeous, and the water conditions (right up until St. Andrews Sound) were fantastic. I've never seen it so calm in St. Simons Sound. It was definitely a long trip though – especially starting from the north end of St. Simons. Kudos to Rick and Sharon Hindery for making the long trip with us. They were a joy to have on board. I never get enough of Rick's stories.

Lunch at Captain Stan's Smokehouse (the #I restaurant in Woodbine according to Yelp) was wonderful too. The ambiance and décor were perfect for salty sea dogs like us. I had the X-large baked potato loaded with Boston butt, topped with butter, shredded cheese and sour cream. It was very good. Thanks to the thoughtfulness of Charles and Teresa, we were all able to complete the "Camden County Challenge".

So what's the next cruise going to be? I had talked about a cruise and rendezvous to Fernandina Beach with an optional overnight stay, but I think that might be too difficult considering the distance, the logistics, and the costs. I'm thinking that we put that one on the back burner for now. Cruises are hard enough to plan and organize, never mind throwing in the fact we will need to reserve dock space and hotel rooms.

I'd like to suggest instead a cruise on Saturday, October 22 to Darien for lunch at either Skippers or at Keys North Market and Grill. Keys North Market and Grill is the new restaurant that took over Spartina Grill's space.

So, if you're interested at all in joining us on this cruise, please let me know as soon as possible. Once I know there's sufficient interest, we'll settle on details.

Thanks!

Cynthia

#### **District 26 Fall Conference**

The virtual D26 Fall Conference will be available on your tablet or computer. There will be three sessions on Friday evening October 21st from 6:00pm to about 8:45pm, and eight sessions on Saturday, October 22nd from 9:00am to about 6:00pm. On Saturday, there is a lunch break scheduled at noon and time for cocktails before the final Open Questions and Discussion session with the District Bridge begins at 5:00pm. Below is a schedule of the conference. I hope you will join in for at least some of the sessions.

We will receive additional information with log in information and links to the individual conference rooms.

District 26 Fall Conference Schedule				
	Time	Session Title		
Friday, October 21	6:00PM	Conference Business Meeting		
	7:00PM	Awards Celebration		
	8:00PM	Chip Michalove, the 'Shark Whisperer'		
	9:00AM	USPS Re-Organization Update		
	II:00AM	Multi-Squadron Boating Activities		
	I:00PM	SARS: What is it? What's in it for D26 Clubs?		
Saturday, October 22	I:00PM	Instructor Recertification		
	3:00PM	Constant Contact: What is it, What's in it for D26 Clubs?		
	3:00PM	Getting More Out of Your VSC Program		
	5:00PM	Open Discussion with the District Bridge		

## September Club Social at Barrier Island Brewing



September Club Social - After members visited the Home Front Museum, dinner was at Barrier Island Brewing on SSI. Pictures by Jerry Lamb.



## **Club Camden County Challenge Cruise Pictures**

The challenge was boating or driving to Woodbine, eating lunch at Capt. Stan's Smokehouse and returning.

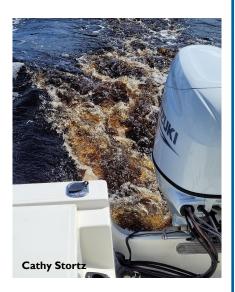
Camden County Challenge Part I - Getting There. Our 30 mile route to Woodbine began at the mouth of Jekyll Creek in St. Simons sound.







Top left, Sea Scotty in foreground and Lamboat2. Top right, Parlay. Bottom right, the water in the Satilla River looks like diet coke or tea. Bottom left, Stephanie and David.



#### Camden County Challenge Part 2 - Lunch at Cpt. Stan's Smokehouse









Picture on top left, David Jones, from left, Stephanie Kraus-Jones, Rick and Sharon Hindery, Jerry Lamb, Joe and Cathy Stortz, Teresa and Charles Wilsdorf. Top center, Cynthia Lamb and "The Capt. Stan" of Cpt. Stan's Smokehouse. Top right, part of the "live music" band? At right, Cathy and Teresa. At left, sign at Cpt. Stan's.



#### Camden County Challenge Part 3 - Returning home with increased chop in St. Andrews sound.



Top left, traveling under I-95 bridge near Woodbine heading home. Top right, crossing St. Andrews sound. Bottom right, Lamboat2 passing Jekyll Harbor Marina.





## America's Boating Club of Golden Isles Calendar OCT - DEC 2022

#### **October**

- 21-22 D26 Virtual Fall Conference, Awards & Workshops
- 22 Cruise to Darien for lunch at either Skippers or at Keys North Market and Grill
- 25 Club social at Ember Restaurant on SSI at 6PM with "Millionaires' Yachts" presentation by Allison Dupuis from Jekyll Mosaic



2022 Club Cruise Dates

Oct 22 - Cruise to Darien for lunch

#### November

- I Content for The Porthole due
- 8 The Porthole distribution

No club social in November

#### **December**

9 - Club Christmas Party at Riverhouse at Sanctuary Cove

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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.