

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

Golden Isles



The port hole

For Boaters, By Boaters™

A quarterly publication of America's Boating Club Golden Isles

Upcoming Events

August

11 - EXCOM mtg
13 - Tides Seminar

September

8 - EXCOM mtg
11 - Litter pickup
12 - Women in Boating
15 - Club social

October

3- ABC Class
17-18 - District Cruise
& Rendezvous

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Commander's Message



Cdr Cynthia Lamb, JN

Our Weather Wisdom for Boaters program on July 21 was a milestone for America's Boating Club Golden Isles.

Sixty people attended—more than we've ever had at any educational or social event in our club's history. It was an exciting evening and a tremendous team effort from many of our members.

Rick Ellis deserves special recognition for helping make the event such a success. Through his efforts, our club received outstanding publicity, including two articles in the *Brunswick News*, coverage in *The Current*, *The Islander*, and dozens of social media sites. Rick has also written an article in this newsletter explaining how our club is gaining visibility throughout the community and how every member can help spread the word. I encourage you to read it.

Of course, no discussion of the evening would be complete without mentioning the incredible hospitality our club demonstrated. Alice Vaughan and Rhonda DeCrescenzo created what was easily the most impressive charcuterie display I've ever seen, and many other members also volunteered to help make the evening run smoothly. About half of those attending were club members, while the other half consisted of guests from throughout the community. That is exactly the kind of outreach we hope to continue.

Perhaps the most encouraging outcome of the evening wasn't simply the attendance—it was the people who attended.

A senior representative from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources came, as she later jokingly told me, "in disguise." She also said she was blown away by both the turnout and what our club is trying to accomplish. She is excited about our ideas for educational programs aimed at coastal anglers and wants to help us develop them. Bryan Fleuch, Director of the University of Georgia Marine Extension, was also there. Bryan has already been a great

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Commander's Message (continued)

partner by providing classroom space for our programs, but that evening he went far beyond that—helping set up tables, assisting throughout the event, and even helping clean up afterward. More importantly, he shares our enthusiasm for expanding what we offer the boating community.

Megan Desrosiers, President and CEO of 100 Miles, attended the event and assisted Sharon Hindery with recording the presentation. Our guest speaker, Andrew Shashy of the National Weather Service, has also offered to continue working with our club, including hosting our members for a tour of the Jacksonville forecast office.

These relationships are incredibly valuable because they support something we've been thinking about for quite some time. In order to succeed, our club needs to grow its mission and its membership.

Safe boating requires much more than learning the Rules of the Road. Good decisions on the water depend on understanding tides and currents, weather, local waters, navigation, marine technology, conservation, fishing conditions, and the unique environment of Georgia's coast. By bringing all of these subjects together, we can help people become not only safer boaters, but also more capable mariners and better stewards of our coastal waters.

As we've expanded this vision, we've begun asking an important question: **What are the boaters in our area actually looking for?** To help answer that question, we've been working with data from the Georgia DNR License and Boat Registration Unit. By analyzing more than 10,800 vessel registrations from Glynn, Camden, and McIntosh counties, we've gotten a remarkably clear picture of boating in our area.

Most boats are relatively small, with a median length of only 17½ feet. Nearly nine out of ten boats are under 24 feet. Three-quarters are open motorboats, most are powered by a single outboard engine, and the median vessel is more than twenty years old.

Those numbers tell us something important. The typical local boater isn't operating a large cruising yacht. They're running a modest center console, bay boat, skiff, or fishing boat through shallow tidal waters. They need practical knowledge about docking in current, launching and retrieving at boat ramps, navigating marsh creeks, understanding tides and weather, handling single-outboard boats, avoiding shallow water, and fishing safely in our unique coastal environment.

In other words, they need exactly the kinds of programs we are beginning to develop. In many cases, we're already teaching these subjects—we simply need to present them in ways that better connect with today's boaters. The success of Weather Wisdom confirmed that people are looking for this kind of education. The partnerships we are building will allow us to offer it.

Our club has always been committed to boating education. Today, we're building on that foundation by becoming a broader educational resource for everyone who enjoys our coastal waters. Let me know how you would like to help.

Squadron Education Officer's Report



SEO Jerry Lamb, P

Getting There and Back

Recently, I had the experience of playing student instead of instructor — turnabout being not exactly fair play, though it was entirely my own fault. I'd taken and genuinely enjoyed, thanks to Charles Wilsdorf, the full sequence of United States Power Squadrons (USPS) navigation courses: Marine Navigation, Advanced Piloting (AP), Ocean Navigation, and Celestial Navigation. But out of pure stubbornness, I never sat for the AP exam, so none of that advanced coursework counted toward the USPS credentials (those letters that USPS puts after your name).

Now AP has been replaced by Advanced Marine Navigation (AMN), and the stock of old AP exams is rapidly dwindling. Mike Moyer, ever the magician of USPS admin, tracked one down for me to take. It's a take-home exam, so my dining room table disappeared under charts, books, compasses, and plotting instruments while I tried to remember how I used to boat. The test took me back to my early days on the water, helping Columbus find China (Spoiler: we missed). Back then, boating in the Northeast US meant paper charts, hand-bearing compasses, and converting magnetic to true for plotting. The AP course, published in 2009 just as the electronic era was taking hold, still leaned heavily on those traditional tools and skills — the same ones Joshua Slocum used on the first solo circumnavigation.

Those skills are still valuable, but they don't get much use in today's world of electronic charts, GPS, AIS, and automatic routing. Paper charting, GPS, following aids to navigation (ATONs), or just following your nose — they're all just ways of getting from here to there and back. Do you really need anything more than a chart plotter manual (good luck with that) and a willingness to push buttons? Chances are you'll be just fine without knowing how to navigate — until you aren't.

Electronics fail. Weather changes. Currents push you where you didn't expect to go. An unfamiliar inlet suddenly doesn't look quite like it did on the screen. That's when understanding *why* you're making certain decisions becomes just as important as knowing which buttons to press.

Recognizing that boating has changed, USPS has updated its navigation curriculum with Introduction to Navigation, Marine Navigation, and Advanced Marine Navigation to better reflect today's world. Those courses provide an excellent foundation, but not everyone has the time to work through the entire series.

That's why our club is developing a practical seminar called "Getting There and Back in Georgia." Rather than teaching navigation for the sake of navigation, we'll focus on the knowledge that helps coastal boaters actually use their boats with greater confidence. It will cover the basics (understanding *why*), getting ready (easy ways to know where you're going), getting there and back without running into things, and crabbing - not the food kind, but the technique for handling currents and other conditions unique to our waters. Pair it with the club's planned "Fishing the Georgia Coast" seminar, and you'll be able to catch enough to feed the whole neighborhood and

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Squadron Education Officer's Report (cont'd)

and still find your way home with the goods. Both seminars are planned for next year — watch for dates and sign-up details.

Club Education Roundup

It's been a strong year for education at the Club. Recent offerings included "Weather Wisdom for Boaters" in July and "Georgia's Amazing Tides" (aka Tides and Currents), which was popular enough in its first run that Cynthia gave a special Zoom repeat to a member of a South Carolina club — it returns on August 13. Looking ahead, America's Boating Course runs October 3, and, after a sold-out course in May, "Women in Boating" is back on September 12.

Jerry

What's Wrong With This Picture?



This boat was photographed approaching at dusk. At first glance, maybe nothing seems unusual, but...

Can you spot the problem?

Answer: The problem isn't the boat—it's the lights. Two bright red lights mounted high on the vessel could be mistaken for navigation lights or interfere with recognizing the required red and green sidelights.

The Navigation Rules require the proper red, green, and white navigation lights to identify a vessel's direction and status. Red light on the port, green on the starboard.

Administrative Officer's Report



AO Alice Vaughan, S

Hey Members - what sounds like fun?

I think that for many of us the social aspect of our club is important, and I'm hoping you'll furnish me some feedback as I try to schedule social activities for us. Traditionally we meet for dinner, and those evenings are fun and give us a chance to get to know one another better. A drawback is that we are often in a small area in a restaurant and not able to mingle with everyone.

Still, we usually have a good meal and lots of fun as some of the photos from our last social at La Nopalera Mexican Restaurant on St. Simons shows.

If you have any opinions about alternate activities, new restaurants, or new experiences I'd love your feedback! Nothing is too ridiculous or different - we're just spit-balling here! And send your ideas directly to me at adv4495@gmail.com and I promise I will not immediately count out any reasonable suggestion! If you ever feel like you'd like to invite 30 or so of us over to your home, that would be interesting news also!



One of my favorite activities in the last two years has been the sunset wine cruise on the Altamaha with Georgia Tidewater Outfitters, and I'd like to know if you're interested in doing that again.

And instead of dinner, would you be interested in a happy hour, and do you have a favorite location? Movie night? Beach party? We could even have a Zoom happy hour or a trivia night!

Send me an e-mail, let your imagination run wild!



(Photos: J. Lamb)

Trading Dock Lines for Trash Bags

Submitted by: Rick Hindery

Yes, you're at home on the water. Yes, you can anchor with assurance, and you can confidently dock and undock. No one knows more about knots and lines than you. Merit marks, you've earned a few but then again too few too mention. Not that it's a small number but because you have the perfect ratio of humility and talent. You are a Power Squadron Pro.

You love the water and you want others to feel the joy that you do. You are a guru of boating safety and a topflight boat inspector. When we took those summer camp kids out for a ride and a picnic lunch you might have been one of the captains.

But have you found the latest and greatest in **Power Squadron pleasures**? Are you an America's Boating Club 'Retriever of Refuse'? Can you imagine yourself as a 'Titan of Trash'?

Debris, junk, rubble and cast-off dross litter our beaches and marshes and we have been called upon to help.

Strangely, our first group of eight volunteers (Alan and Cheryl Shedd, Randy Olson, Rick Ellis, Dave and Alice Vaughan, and Rick and Sharon Hindery) found it a wonderful and rewarding adventure.

There "where the deep blue pearly waters wash upon white silver sands," our group of magnificent mariners discovered a dump site and rectified this sight of refuse.

Proud smiles abounded as litter was loaded into bags and the natural beauty of the place was reinstated.

We left with memories of a morning well spent leaving only our footprints on the sand.



See how happy we were!

Photos: S. Hindery

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Trading Dock Lines for Trash Bags (cont'd)

Mark your calendars for our next adventure along Homer Wilson Way on **Friday September 11 at 4PM**. Mother Nature has arranged a low tide for us; however, muck boots are helpful for those daring few who love the hunt and go to where the wild things are; things like broken bottles and filthy grocery bags, discarded tires and the stranded hunks of Styrofoam.

For newbies, high ground will be provided as the treasures of a throwaway society are there to reward the dedicated fledgling in search of fulfillment.



Contact Rick at rfhindery@comcast.net for a fun time

Every Member Is Part of Our Marketing Team

Submitted by: Rick Ellis

You may have noticed America's Boating Club Golden Isles being featured recently in the local media as well as online with your favorite social media groups such as Facebook, Instagram and others.

We have an effort underway to build the club's word-of-mouth growth and the main driver of this happens online. In addition to the various news media sources, for the most recent events more than three dozen Facebook pages and Facebook groups have featured our postings.



This is where you can help. Each time one of our member sees, likes, comments on and shares one of the club's Facebook posts, it helps introduce our programs and events to hundreds of additional people. When several members engage with our posts soon after they're published, social media platforms typically show it to a wider audience which helps us reach boaters, anglers, and coastal residents who may never have heard of our club.

Every single member can make a difference, and you don't have to be a social media expert. There are two things every member can do to contribute to building the word-of-mouth growth of our club: *Follow and engage with our website and promote our social media content that you see online.*

Our terrific website- <https://gisps.org/> - that David Jones keeps up to date, contains tremendous information that is of interest to everyone who enjoys the water. Each member should follow the site and share content that David frequently posts with his updates.

Secondly, you can be an online emissary by following our Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/GISPS/>- and regularly **"liking, posting and sharing"** the content. When you see our posts, simply leave a brief comment of your own about why you're interested or planning to attend and then share it on your own Facebook page. That simple effort significantly increases

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Every Member Is Part of Our Marketing Team (cont'd)

the visibility of our messages. To take it further, if you know a friend who enjoys boating, tag them in your post as well and invite them to attend an upcoming event. Personal recommendations are among the most effective ways to encourage others to participate. A single post can reach hundreds or even thousands who have an interest in boating and coastal activities.

Our club is built on three core principles: **Education, Service, and Fellowship**. By helping spread the word about our programs, you're supporting all three. You're helping educate fellow boaters, strengthening our boating community, and welcoming new friends who share our passion for being safe and confident on the water.

The next time you see an America's Boating Club Golden Isles post, remember four simple steps: **Like it. Comment on it. Share it. Invite a friend.** If every member does a little, together we'll reach thousands more people throughout Coastal Georgia and continue growing a stronger, safer boating community.

Ed. Note: Rick can be reached at mrrickellis@gmail.com



From the editor: I took this photo on a recent flight from Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic to Miami.

I thought it was beautiful!

Any idea what these turquoise streaks in the ocean are?

Find the answer on the next page.

What Are Those Turquoise Streaks in the Ocean?

On a recent flight from Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic, to Miami, I happened to look out the window and saw one of the most beautiful sights I've ever witnessed from an airplane. Stretching across the ocean were long, brilliant turquoise streaks that looked almost like giant brush strokes painted across the sea.

Like most people, I assumed they were simply pretty colors in the water. They turned out to be something much more fascinating.

These are almost certainly the Bahama Banks—vast underwater limestone platforms that lie beneath only a few feet to a few dozen feet of crystal-clear water. The bright turquoise color isn't coming from the water itself. It's sunlight reflecting off brilliant white carbonate sand on the bottom.

Even more remarkable is how those graceful ribbons are formed.

The Bahama Banks are actually living geological structures built over thousands of years from the remains of corals, shells, algae, and countless other marine organisms. Powerful tidal currents continually move this fine white sand back and forth, sculpting it into enormous underwater dunes and sand waves. What looks like abstract artwork from 35,000 feet is actually the result of the same natural forces that shape sand dunes in a desert—except here, the "wind" is the tide.

These beautiful banks also explain why the Bahamas demand careful navigation. Some of the brightest turquoise areas may be only a few feet deep, while the dark blue water nearby can plunge hundreds or even thousands of feet. Cruisers often plan passages when the sun is high behind them because they can literally "read the water."

Experienced boaters know that:

- **Light turquoise** usually means shallow sand.
- **Dark blue holes** indicates deeper water.
- **Brown patches** often reveal coral heads or rock.
- **Rippled patterns** are underwater sand waves shaped by tidal currents.

One detail in the photograph really caught my attention. Notice the cloud near the center of the image. Where its shadow falls, the brilliant turquoise color almost disappears. That's because the color comes from sunlight reflecting off the shallow bottom, not from the water itself.

As someone who spends a lot of time studying tides and currents, I found this especially interesting. The same tidal forces that shape Georgia's marshes and mudflats are sculpting these spectacular underwater landscapes in the Bahamas. The difference is that Georgia's waters are often stained by tannins and suspended sediment, while the Bahamas' crystal-clear water allows us to see the underwater world in stunning detail.

Sometimes all it takes is looking out an airplane window to be reminded that the most beautiful sights in nature often have an equally fascinating story behind them.

Club Members Enjoy Trip to the Dominican Republic

Submitted by: Daria Lijoi

This past June, a group of our Club Members took an adventure to the Dominican Republic arranged by John and Daria Lijoi. While at the resort they stayed in a fabulous seven-bedroom villa in Puerto Plata, DR. Members were able to take excursions, and some went deep sea fishing, scuba diving, snorkeling and those who were really adventurous took in a dune buggy ride through the countryside and sugar cane fields that brought them to a local beach.

The group also enjoyed a city tour of Puerto Plata where they visited a Cigar Factory, the Larimar Store, the Del Oro Chocolate Factory, the Macorix House of Rum, and went to the top of Mount Isabel de Torres to view the statue of Christ the Redeemer.

They also were able to visit Pink Street and Umbrella Alley in downtown Puerto Plata. Everyone found a little time to relax at the tranquil beach with the oversized beds and jacuzzi pool or took a swim in the pool at their villa prior to going to indulge in some fabulous food and drinks from the multiple Specialty Restaurants.

There was nothing like having the fresh mangoes which were plentiful found throughout the resort. It was an amazing trip with Fellow Club Members. A fun time was had by all! Special shout out to John Maddux who performed at Karaoke Night at the Chairman Circle Terrace.

Don't miss the next adventure...TBD.



Dominican Republic 2026



Manatees in Coastal Georgia now? Yes!

Submitted by: Cheryl Shedd, P



Most people think of seeing manatees only in Florida, primarily in natural freshwater springs or river systems adjacent to the springs. The Florida manatee, a subspecies of the West Indian Manatee, is highly migratory during the warm spring and summer months, traveling up and down the east coast of Georgia and the Carolinas as well as the west coast of FL in search of food. Their range is extensive from the east coast of the US to Mexico, Central America, South America and the Caribbean Antilles. They are

capable of swimming hundreds of miles. They are here! Two manatees were seen in the Sapelo River in July for several days. (The photos on the next page were taken at our dock on the Sapelo.) In addition, the Brunswick News recently published a story about a manatee rescue in the Hampton River. Check out the article [here](#).

Manatees are in Georgia Coastal waters in marine, brackish, and fresh water areas looking for submerged aquatic vegetation in the form of seagrass and eelgrass and also algae. Manatees eat the upper portion of our area's smooth cordgrass (*Spartina alterniflora*) at high tide. They consume 4-9% of their bodyweight daily, using their flippers for holding vegetation. They are able to survive in saltwater due to an ability to use water stored in aquatic plants.

They are large marine mammals, grayish-brown in color with adults ranging in size from 9-10' long to as long as 13' long and weighing 1,000 to 3,500 pounds. They can live to be 65 years old. Current population of Florida manatees is estimated to 8,350 to 11,730 and increasing. The West Indies' Antillean manatee population is estimated at < 7,000 and thought to be declining.

Manatees are highly social and can be seen in large groups especially during mating season. They are intelligent with good memories. They are unable to move their head sideways but are agile in water. Because they are slow-moving, usually traveling about 5 miles/hour just below the surface of the water, they are at high risk for collision and injury with watercraft. Most threats to manatees are human-related: Twenty-five percent of manatee mortalities are due to collisions with watercraft and boat strikes. Other human influenced causes are habitat loss which limits forage and warm water access, entanglements, entrapment, and crushing events in locks. Cold snaps and red tide also cause deaths.

Manatees cannot tolerate water temperatures below 68 degrees. As coastal waters begin to cool seasonally, manatees migrate back to warmer waters in FL and more consistent temperatures found in freshwater springs systems and power plant outfalls.

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Manatees in Coastal Georgia now? Yes! (cont'd)

As manatees move through our waters in coastal Georgia, mariners should be vigilant for the presence of these gentle, slow-moving mammals. Their color makes them difficult to see in our silt laden waters. Wear polarized sunglasses to help reduce glare. Reduce speed and wake in areas where manatees may be. Dispose of fishing lines and nets properly.

Manatees are federally protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 and the Endangered Species Act of 1973. It is illegal to chase, harass, or harm manatees. Fines of up to \$100,000 and up to 1 year in jail may be levied. The Georgia DNR Ranger hotline can be used to report those events: 1-800-241-4113.

To report injured or dead manatees, call 1-800-2-Save-Me. Sightings of healthy manatees are welcome by Georgia DNR using this e-mail address to report healthy sightings:

GAMarineMammals@dnr.ga.gov

While out on the water, please keep an eye open for manatees. If you see them, alert others to their presence. Save these phone numbers and please share this information!

References: The Everglades Foundation, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, US Fish and Wildlife Service



(Photos: A. Shedd)

My First "Real" Fish

Submitted by: Cynthia Lamb

I've been fishing a few times before, but to be honest, I'd never actually caught anything (I don't count stingrays as catching fish). So when my husband, Jerry, Rick Ellis, and I headed out recently, my expectations were modest.

Rick, however, had a plan.

Long before we left the dock, he had studied the weather forecast and tide predictions to pick the best day and time to fish. He even took one very important factor into account—I'm not a fan of getting up before sunrise!

While Jerry and I were getting ready, Rick was already down the causeway buying live shrimp. With the bait aboard and all the right tackle packed, we eased down the Hampton River toward Sea Island and Village Creek.

Watching Rick was a lesson in itself. He carefully selected our fishing spot, set the anchor with the bow facing into the current, and made sure it was firmly set before anyone picked up a rod. He gave plenty of room to other anglers, demonstrating the kind of courtesy and boating etiquette that makes the water enjoyable for everyone.

Then came the fun part.



Not very big, but it counts!

Yes, I caught a fish! Not only did I catch my very first redfish, but I also landed my first seatrout. Jerry caught a flounder too. It turns out that catching fish isn't always just about luck. Good preparation, understanding the tides, choosing the right bait, knowing where to fish, and good boat handling all make a difference.

Our club has always been dedicated to boating education, and we're now expanding that mission to include educational programs on fishing our local waters. This trip was a perfect example of what that means. Fishing isn't simply about dropping a line overboard—it's about understanding weather, tides, currents, boat positioning, boating etiquette, safety, and the habits of the fish themselves.

My First "Real" Fish (cont'd)

Did You Know?



On Georgia's coast, the **tide** often determines **when** and **where** fish feed.

A good understanding of tidal currents, marsh drains, creek mouths, and structure can make the difference between an empty cooler and a memorable day on the water.

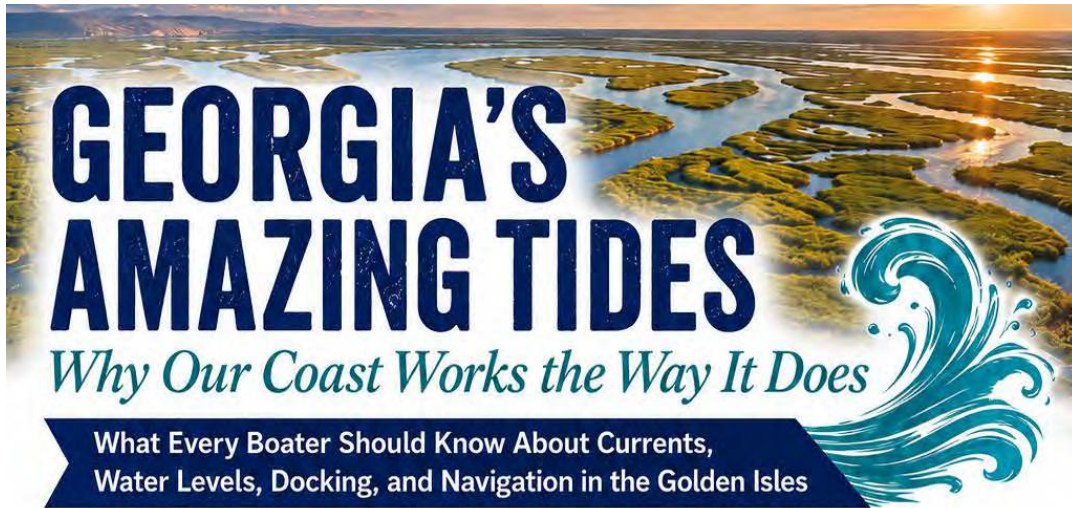


What a cute little flounder!



Rick showing off a 32-inch redfish caught on a previous trip. Holy moly!

Reminder: Don't forget to register for our Tides and Currents seminar...



GEORGIA'S AMAZING TIDES

Why Our Coast Works the Way It Does

What Every Boater Should Know About Currents, Water Levels, Docking, and Navigation in the Golden Isles

Have you ever wondered...

- ? Why are Georgia's tides among the largest on the East Coast?
- ? Why is the current still running hard when the tide chart says "High Tide"?
- ? Why do full and new moons create dramatically different boating conditions?
- ? Why are some docks easy to approach at one stage of the tide and challenging at another?
- ? Why do some channels stay deep while others constantly shoal?

Join us for an engaging and practical look at the science behind the tides and currents that shape life and boating along the Georgia coast.

Whether you're a lifelong coastal boater, a recent transplant, a Freedom Boat Club member, or simply fascinated by the coast, you'll gain a deeper understanding of how our waterways really work—and how that knowledge can make your time on the water safer and more enjoyable.



THE MOON'S PULL MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

SPRING TIDE

Full Moon • New Moon



Higher Highs • Lower Lows
Stronger Currents

NEAP TIDE

First Quarter • Last Quarter



Lower Highs • Higher Lows
Weaker Currents

UNDERSTANDING THE WHY HELPS YOU MAKE
BETTER DECISIONS ON THE WATER.

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®
GOLDEN ISLES

A nonprofit organization dedicated to
boating education, safety, and fun on the water.

LEARN | BE SAFE | HAVE FUN | ENJOY OUR COAST



THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2026

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM



**UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
MARINE EXTENSION**

715 Bay Street
Brunswick, Georgia



COST
\$25

Members

\$40

Non-Members

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

REGISTER AT:

www.gisps.org



*Know the Coast.
Boat with Confidence.*

Weather Wisdom for Boaters

It was a great event with a great crowd. Many thanks to all our members who attended and who helped with the event. Here are some photos from the evening.



(Photos: R. Ellis)



October 16-17, 2026 St. Simons Island, GA

America's Boating Club Golden Isles is pleased to host this year's District Cruise & Rendezvous. We have a great set of activities planned to start the morning of Friday, October 16 and ending Saturday evening on the 17th.

The following few pages describes the various activities we have planned. An email will be going out shortly to allow people to RSVP for the activities and dinners they have selected.

We will need member help for many of these activities. There is a list of volunteer opportunities at the end of this section. Take a look at what's planned and let me know where you would like to help out.

If you have any questions, please reach out.

Thanks!

Cynthia Lamb, Commander

ACTIVITIES

Day One (Friday, October 16)

Activities on Friday include: A cruise through the Mackay and Frederica Rivers off the coast of St. Simons, or a leisurely outing at Redfern Village, a charming collection of boutiques and specialty shops on St. Simons Island - perfect for browsing and discovering unique coastal finds.



Scenes from St. Simons from the water

We will then head to the famous Southern Soul Barbeque restaurant for a casual lunch featuring award-winning barbecue in a fun, laid-back setting. After lunch, a private narrated trolley tour of St. Simons Island will depart from the hotel.



Dinner that night will be at a fabulous restaurant on St. Simons - Barrier Island Brewing.

ACTIVITIES

Day Two (Saturday, October 17)



Activities on Saturday are centered primarily on Jekyll Island, a beautiful place and state park, where you will have a choice between a relaxed educational experience and a more active adventure that includes bicycling and hiking to an unforgettable beach.

The first experience starts at the Jekyll Island Mosaic Museum, includes a narrated trolley tour through Jekyll's historic district made famous by many of the Gilded Age tycoons including J.P. Morgan, William Vanderbilt, and Joseph Pulitzer.



This experience also includes a **private gatorology class**. In this hands-on experience, you will learn about the American Alligator's history, biology and conservation, while we help to demystify common misconceptions about these amazing and powerful reptiles.



ACTIVITIES

Day Two (Saturday, October 17)



The Second Experience will have you biking around Jekyll Island on perfectly maintained paved bike paths (no hills, we promise) on bridges over marshes, past ancient live oaks and along beautiful Jekyll Creek. Along the way, we will stop to see an abundance of wildlife at Horton Pond, followed by a short hike to [Driftwood Beach](#) – a must see for anyone visiting this island.



*Top photos: Biking through Jekyll Island
Bottom: Driftwood Beach*

ACTIVITIES

Day Two cont'd (Saturday, October 17)



Both groups will then meet up for a 90-minute narrated dolphin tour that leaves from the wharf in Jekyll's historic district. Click [here](#) to learn more about this tour. This tour will be captained by one of our own members, Captain Paul Truelove.



Day Two cont'd (Saturday, October 17)

After all the fun on Jekyll, it's back to St. Simons Island where you will freshen up and socialize in the hotel's courtyard.

You then need to get ready for one of the best low country boils ever. This catered affair will be held right at the hotel in its conference center. We will also offer some fantastic fried chicken for those folks who aren't crazy about shrimp.



ALL HANDS ON DECK!



Help Make Our 2026 District Cruise & Rendezvous a Success!

Whether you can spare an hour or an entire morning, we'd love your help. Every volunteer makes this event better for our visiting members.



BEFORE THE EVENT

Scout the Bike Tour & Driftwood Beach Walk

Help us test the route, estimate timing, and identify interesting stops. We'll schedule a Saturday morning that works for everyone.



FRIDAY • OCTOBER 16

Boat Captains Needed

Volunteer your boat for the Friday morning cruise.



Narration Team

Help identify points of interest and write a short narration that can be read over the VHF radio.



SATURDAY MORNING • OCTOBER 17

Drive or carpool a few out-of-town guests to Jekyll Island.



SATURDAY • 1:30 PM

Help assemble box lunches before the dolphin tour.



SATURDAY EVENING

Help set up for dinner and stay afterward for cleanup. Many hands make light work!

Interested in helping?

Contact Cynthia Lamb at Cynthia.l.lamb48@gmail.com or text me at 860-908-5148

Even one hour of your time makes a difference!

America's Boating Club Golden Isles 2026 Bridge & Committee Contact Information

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CONTRIBUTE TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

Please submit an article, picture, or even a link to a boating story or video that you feel other club members may enjoy. Please send all newsletter content to Cynthia Lamb.



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Our Club is part of the world's largest recreational boating organization with more than 17,000 members. We learn together, boat together, and help each other and other boaters on the water and on land.

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.