

the porthole



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March Meeting A Must See!



CDR Charles Wilsdorf

If you weren't at the February membership meeting all I can say is "you missed a good one". Many thanks to Executive Officer, Steve Batson for providing Dr. Terry Norton, Executive Director and Veterinarian of the Georgia Sea Turtle



Dusk at the Golden Isles Marina on St. Simons Island.

Center for our meeting's speaker. The presentation was most informative and interesting. In fact, I am planning a trip next week to Sea Turtle Center for my out-of-town guest. **Now, if you missed the February**

meeting you will have to make plans now to attend the March 28 meeting which Steve has invited Wendy Vasquez Galan, Altamaha CoastKeeper to speak about "Water Quality for the Georgia Coast".

A lot of work has already started for our hosting of the 2010 District 26 COW. There are many items which we all can be thinking about and working on now: collecting opened or unopened spirits which we will need for our hospitality suite, items for a silent auction (these might be a gift you received that you don't want, donated items from local business, etc.), gift-a-way items for registration gift bags (these can be pins, pencils, small samples of a boating product, local info brochures, etc.). Please call Howard Klippel or Larry Jefferis if you have ideas or want to make a donation. We will need contributions from all of our members on this endeavor.

GOLDEN ISLES SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON 2008 BRIDGE

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Squadron Education Officer
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Please contact Audie Holmes, Bob Woodman, or myself if your boat does not have a current VSC decal. Also, encourage your boating friends to give us a call for an inspection as well as remind them of the May 16 Boat Smart Class.

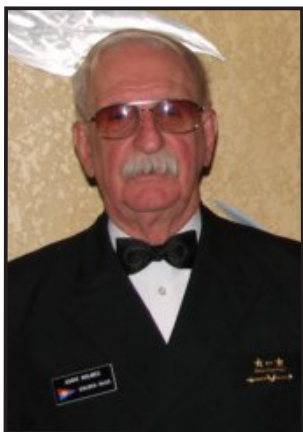
I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Weather-08 students who just completed their class and exam: Coy Hodges, Larry and Vicky Jefferis, Linda Mahoney,

Steven Chambliss, and Jack Sterrett. This course has to be the hardest one in the USPS curriculum and these students all did very well.

As always, please do your part in growing our squadron. Remember the "Power Of One Program" and bring a friend to our meetings.
-Chas

The Squadron Education Report

Audie Homes, JN



What a great Boat Smart class we held last Saturday, Feb. 28, 2009. We began at 9:00 a.m. and did not end until 4 :00 p.m. without even a lunch break! Yet, all the students made from 98-100 on the final exam! Congratulations to the following students in our class: Robert Schwandt, Jr. of St. Simons Island , Linda Mahoney of Waverly, George Eshliman of Darien, and Alec Hay of

Jekyll Island. I had the distinct pleasure of presenting the Boat Smart class to the four spirited and lively participants who attended. At the University of Georgia Marine Extension Service classroom a lot of fellowship and learning took place during this course. It is so nice to have eager, active students. Of course, I was proud that all passed with very high grades!

It is a true pleasure to congratulate the members who recently completed their exams for the weather course. The graduates include: Coy Hodges, Larry Jefferis, Linda Mahoney, Vicky Jefferis, Steve Chambliss, and Jack Sterrett. As all yachtsmen know (or soon find out) weather is an important part of the boating world and Mother Nature is a non-forgiving agent. As you may have heard four NFL players learned this the hard way in the last few days. Brute strength and strong muscles do not compensate for weather hazards. Rule #1 in a capsizing: Stay with the boat!. It is so sad that we have to now use those fine young men as examples to safer boating. Please remember that as SEO I'll be sending our splendid

Commander's name forward with letters from many of you for the Chapman's award. This is the last call for other letters of support. If you have taken any course under Cdr. Charles Wilsdorf, SN, please consider emailing me a letter of support for our packet to District 26. Many thanks to those of you who have already done so!

Vessel safety checks and safety on the water go hand-in-hand. I am going to try again this year to make my goal for VSC checks. My goal for 2009 is 20 vessels. This may appear to be a lofty enterprise, but there is no cost to aiming high. Charter member, Kurt Glass, is in the news again directing the Annual Disabled Veterans Bass Tournament at Clark Hill Lake. Kurt is an avid sports fisherman and a fine boater. Nothing holds Kurt back. He's an inspiration for all of us! The next Boat Smart class is scheduled for 16 May during National Boating Safety Week. To celebrate safe boating week, let's all attend and bring a friend to that class! Please let me know if you'd like to take any of our courses as an independent study.

I'll be glad to order what you need. In addition, let us know what courses you want to take next. Also, consider taking Instructor Development so you can be the instructor! My vision as SEO for 2010 is for us to have a full slate of instructors for every course! We can do it. It's a pleasure to be the founder, past commander, and SEO for such a fine, growing squadron. I know we're going to show well in 2010 when the whole District 26 comes to see us. I plan to have a complete roster of instructors for all courses available in USPS by that time. I am proud to be your SEO!

Respectfully submitted,
-Audie

Upcoming Events

20-22-March
District 26 Spring
Conference Hosted by
Swamp Fox Florence, SC

28-March 1730
Executive Committee
Meeting La Fuente De
Pablo Mexican Restaurant

28-March 1830
Monthly Membership
Meeting La Fuente De
Pablo Mexican Restaurant

XO's Locker Larry Jefferis, AP



I'd like to congratulate those who attended the February meeting. We nearly out grew our always ready meeting/dining room. I am encouraged about the participation we saw last week and look forward to more great turnouts. My thanks to Steve Batson for arranging for our guest speaker last month and he already has others lined up for the future.

Congratulations also to our Commander who has once again shepherded six members through the weather elective. Thanks Charles. Weather now means more to us than just wind, temp and seas.

I was serious about the Squadron shirt issue I raised at the February meeting and would like to take just a moment to describe the candidates and an alternative logo we might be able to use. Logo shirts usually are polo type shirts but several in the Squadron have expressed a desire for a sport shirt with color or even one of the Columbia fishing shirts. I've found the Columbia shirts at Belk at a reasonable rate.

There color selection may not be too great but slate, stone and blue are available and they're usually available at a good price. We could simply make arrangements to have a logo embroidered onto a batch of shirts that we would provide (bring the one you want embroidered and we'll



Golden Isles Sail and Power Squadron

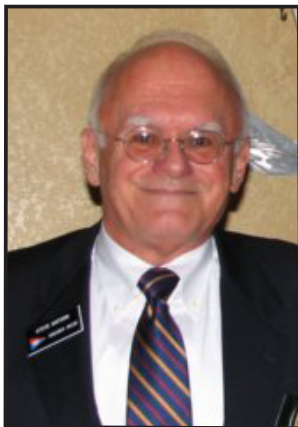
get the logo on it) or buy shirts from the graphics company and have the logo imprinted on shirts they provide. I like the first option so that we can decide which shirts we want and not be bound by the graphics company's selection. That leads to the selection and setup of a logo. The multicolored wheel logo with "Golden Isles Sail and Power Squadron" encircling the logo is complex and would be more expensive to get setup at a Brunswick source business than another I'd like to present. Additionally, on the left sleeve we have had embroidered the Golden Isles Squadron Burgee with staffs crossed with the US Sail and Power Squadron Ensign. I'd like to propose we create and adopt a logo which consists of our Golden Isles Burgee with the Golden Isles Sail and Power Squadron imprinted to the right of the burgee in two lines. We can adjust font face and size as well as the overall size of the logo. I would truly appreciate your comments on this idea and the logo specifically so that we can proceed with the logo shirt acquisition. This sample logo is approximately 3.25 X .84 inches.

Lastly, it appears that our Commander will be cruising in the islands during our scheduled April Cruise. He has asked me to take the reins on the cruise and the coop charting exercise we had projected. To that end, I'd like to ask all who might be joining us for the cruise to come to the March meeting prepared to discuss potential destinations, potential activities, and potential coop charting opportunities near our cruise site.

Safe boating to you all.

-Larry

Administrative Offices Report Steve W. Batson, P



There are so many benefits to belonging to the Golden Isles Power Squadron! Kathy and I are really enjoying our membership and fellowship. The programs and meals are outstanding, but I love Mexican food anyway. Where else can you get all of the chips and salsa you want before dinner? Our February program

was well attended and outstanding. Dr. Terry Norton, Executive Director and Veterinarian of the Georgia Sea Turtle Center gave us comprehensive

overview sea turtles, and their plans for the future. There were lots of questions and many comments about planning to visit the facility. There are other benefits of membership, including our fabulous education courses for both the public and Power Squadron members. The list is long and varied depending on your needs and interests. Cruises are an added bonus and exciting opportunities to test your navigation skills, keep your seamanship knowledge current, and just enjoy this beautiful part of the world with friends. As I said in the first issue this year, being able to fellowship with other boaters who both have fun and are serious about their "hobby" is a real positive experience. Where else can you find someone excited about boating safety, boats, navigation, seamanship, Rules of the Road, etc.? -Steve

Secretary's Report

Vicky Jefferis, AP Secretary



Commander Charles Wilsdorf, SN, called the Meeting to order at 6:45 PM. Howard Klippel, AP, provided the Invocation and Larry Jefferis, AP, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Commander Wilsdorf opened the session by presenting Membership Certificates and pins to new Squadron members George and Laila Eschelman and Jim and Linda Mahoney.

He recognized and welcomed Past Commanders Paulette Harris-Holmes, JN, Audie Holmes, JN, Ken Lauren, Preston Lewis, AP, and John Rodgers, SN.

The Minutes from the January membership meeting were approved.

Bridge Officer Reports: Executive Officer Larry Jefferis, AP, mentioned he's working on ideas for Squadron shirts, showed samples, and asked for member input. Steve Batson, P, Administrative Officer, invited all to provide ideas for programs for meetings. Audie Holmes, Education Officer, announced there will be a Safe Boating Class in May. Vicky Jefferis, AP, Secretary, reported on the earlier Bridge meeting: Commander Wilsdorf announced he will be on a cruise during April and asked the XO to plan the April Squadron Cruise/Co-op charting outing. John Rodgers is just about finished refining the Squadron Bylaws. Cdr Wilsdorf will distribute the revision to the Bridge members for their review, then will forward to District and National for approval. Joe Scirica has the Squadron Website up and running. Please take a look and give him your thanks for a job well done, feedback and suggestions. Administrative Officer Steve Batson he has contacted the Coast Guard and someone will participate in the March meeting. The Altamaha River keeper also has agreed to speak at a future meeting.

Education Officer Audie Holmes announced that he will nominate Cdr. Wilsdorf for the Chapman Award and asked that letters to accompany the nomination be submitted to him right away. Jeanne and Howard Klippel provided an in-depth

update of their progress in finding suitable facilities for the GISPS sponsored District 26 Change of Watch in 2010. They noted that they have been working this issue for several months with significant help from Nettie Dumais, AP. The recommended dates are 15-17 October in order to avoid hurricane season and the Georgia/Florida football game. Although there are many choices, several of those on St. Simons and Jekyll Islands are too expensive. The Jekyll Oceanfront Resort has undergone a recent renovation and the rooms are now quite nice. The property will guarantee prices within the price range acceptable to District if we commit soon, so it is the recommended choice. Howard and Jeanne provided room, facility, meal and price information in a detailed handout. The main concern is that the Squadron will need to guarantee a minimum number of rooms and meals which will involve significant funds and we will need to commit soon.

Howard and Jeanne will continue to work with the hotel to see if they will accept incremental payments of the guarantee. The Jekyll Island Marina is nearby if participants want to come by boat and a number of activities are also available for spouses and others who will attend with participants.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: Pat Rodgers, AP, reported she represented the Squadron at Anaheim last week. Preston Lewis showed a night vision solution that he's developed for boating.

Other Business: Cdr. Wilsdorf encouraged all to remember the Power of One program – new members make our Squadron even more vital and fun. He asked members to submit articles and photos to Joe Scirica for our new Website and Joey Herzberg, P, for the Porthole. The District 26 Spring meeting will be held in Florence, SC in mid March. Our next meeting will be Saturday March 28. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM followed by an informative and entertaining presentation on the Georgia Sea Turtle Center by Dr. Terry Norton, DVM.
-Vicky