

the porthole



Volume 4, #9

A publication of the Golden Isles Sail and Power Squadron • A unit of the United States Power Squadrons

New Monthly Meeting Location and Much More!



CDR Charles Wilsdorf

Many thanks to Steven Chambless for his efforts in securing the 4th of May Restaurant for



The Coast Guard Tour in Brunswick, GA

our monthly meetings and to our Executive Officer, Steve Batson, for lining up speakers this year. I am happy to report that GISPS had

another well attended meeting in August, with 21 members and guest present. Our new meeting place will afford us much

more room and a varied local menu.

I would also like to introduce our newest member, Andrea (Angie) Lowe. Angie loves boating. When not working at West Marine, she and her boyfriend are recommissioning a 1978 Challenger sailboat. Angie was drawn to our squadron to take advantage of our education program and to participate in other squadron activities. Welcome Angie!!

GOLDEN ISLES SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON 2009 BRIDGE

Commander
Executive Officer
Squadron Education Officer
Administration Officer
Secretary
Treasurer
Assistant Treasurer
Porthole Editor

Charles Wilsdorf, SN	(912)265-9550	chaswi@aol.com
Larry Jefferis, AP	(912)264-1352	larryjefferis@bellsouth.net
Audie Holmes, JN	(706)737-8113	pharris@aug.edu
Steve Batson, AP	(229)878-0880	sbatson1@bellsouth.net
Vicky Jefferis, AP	(912)264-1352	vickyjefferis@bellsouth.net
Linda Mahoney, S	(912) 265-6715	lbmahoney@bellsouth.net
Sandra Cox, S	(706)829-960	satocox1@comcast.net
Joey Herzberg, P	(803)279-4464	joeyherz@comcast.net

Via email, I have tried to keep members updated on roster and calendar changes. Please let me know if you find an error in either so I can make necessary changes. Also please take special note that our next Sep 26 Membership meeting is the annual meeting so that GISPS active membership can vote on 2010 Bridge Officers and elected Committees. Please be present. Our squadron is indebted to Audie Holmes and Howard Klippel for their work putting together the 2010 slate of officers. Now, would also be a great time to mark your calendars for the upcoming squadron Change of Watch, Nov 14. For you newer members, this is the one time of the year that I won't be wearing shorts. The Change of Watch ceremonies will be installing the 2010 GISPS Bridge, socializing, and a fine dinner. Please don't miss it.

Now it's time to get to work on old "Epilogue" to get her ready for our September 18-20 Fall Cruise. I hope to see everyone at Fernandina.

Chas

Upcoming Events

8-13 September
National Governing
Board- Kansas City, KS

18-20 September
Fall Cruise-
Fernandina, FL

22 September 0930
Piloting- Chas's House

26 September 0900
Boat Smart
UGA Extension
Downtown Brunswick

26 September 0630
Annual Membership
Meeting
4th of May, Brunswick

2-4 October
District COW and
Conference-
Charleston, SC

August Monthly Meeting with guest speaker SGT John Harwell, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources and pictures from the Brunswick Coast Guard Tour



The Squadron Education Report

Audie Holmes, JN



I am very proud to present the names of the eight new graduates of the course **Electrical Systems** (formerly called Marine Electronics). They are:

1. James S. Chambless
2. James M. Grimshaw
3. Coy L. Hodges
4. James Larry Jefferis
5. Vicky L. Jefferis
6. Howard B. Klippel
7. Linda B. Mahoney
8. John Harold Sterrett

This is not an easy course, and Cdr. Charles Wilsdorf, as always, did an extraordinary job in his instruction! Again, congratulations!!

Please be reminded that Boat Smart will be taught by me on 26 September at the UGA Marine Extension Service in downtown Brunswick on lower Bay Street. Please invite a crowd! Don't forget you just need to let me know if you wish to self-study any of our courses except for Instructor Development. By the way, I shall teach Instructor Development in October. Please come!

I am chairing the nominations committee and proudly report the names of the following individuals for member vote at our September annual meeting. All nominees have been selected in accordance with the bylaws of the Golden Isles Sail and Power Squadron. Necessary approvals have been obtained. Each nominee has agreed to serve, if elected. The election will be held at the September annual membership meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Audie Holmes, JN

2010 Nominations

Bridge

Commander	Larry Jefferis, AP
Executive Officer	Stephen Batson, AP
Administrative Officer	James Chambless, S
Educational Officer	Audie Holmes, JN
Assistant Educational Officer	Charles Wilsdorf, SN
Secretary	Vicky Jefferis, AP
Assistant Secretary	Joe Scirica
Treasurer	Linda Mahoney
Assistant Treasurer	Teresa Wilsdorf, S

Other Members

Member at Large	George Eshliman, S
Member at Large	Jim Mahoney, S
Member at Large	Richard Jones, AP
Member at Large	Howard Klippel, AP

General Committees

(Report to Squadron Membership)

Chairman (1 year)	Jeanne Klippel
Member (2 years)	George Eshliman, S
Member (3 years)	Richard Jones, AP

Rules

Chairman (3 years)	Charles Wilsdorf, SN
Member (2 years)	Audie Holmes, JN
Member (1 year)	Howard Klippel, AP

Secretary's Report

Vicky Jefferis, AP Secretary



Cdr. Charles Wilsdorf, SN, called the meeting to order 22 August 2009 at 7:00 PM. Howard Klippel, S, provided the invocation, XO Larry Jefferis, AP, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Charles introduced Past Commander/National Staff Commander

John Rodgers, SN, new members Frank and Lynne Barron, and guest speaker SGT John Harwell, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources. Secretary Vicky Jefferis, AP, confirmed a Quorum was present. July meeting Minutes were approved. She summarized business conducted at the Executive Committee meeting: Associate Memberships – Associate Members have played a very important role in making GISPS a viable organization from the time it was chartered. Many have made huge contributions of time, expertise and money over the years. Charles introduced the question, “should Associate Members pay a modest amount for dues each year?” . The Bridge voted to invoice Associate Members \$10 annual dues in the future beginning with the next normal membership renewal. Squadron Change of Watch – Scheduled for November 14. Invitations will be sent via postal mail and will include an RSVP card to be returned with payment for meals. Executive Officer Larry Jefferis reminded members that Coast Fest will be held 3 October. Bob Woodman has had a change of plans and cannot oversee our booth and volunteer workers this year so we need a volunteer to step into the void, especially

since most of the Bridge will be attending the District 26 Change of Watch in Charleston, SC that weekend. Larry also announced that the Coast Guard Tour is scheduled August 29 at the Brunswick Coast Guard Station at 3:00 PM. The Tour will last no longer than two hours and everyone is encouraged to attend. Vicky Jefferis read the Squadron Education Officer Report from Audie Holmes, JN. Marine Electrical Systems, taught by Charles Wilsdorf, is underway. Steve Batson and Joe Scirica recently completed Cruise Planning. Charles will offer a new Piloting course beginning in September and the next Boat Smart class will be held 26 September at the UGA Marine Extension Service. Cdr Wilsdorf encouraged everyone to consider enrolling in a course or elective. Treasurer Linda Mahoney, S, reported a July 31 bank balance of \$3,277.13. She also noted that the Audit Committee has completed its work and is planning to submit the Audit Report soon.

OLD BUSINESS:

Fernandina Cruise Sep 18-20 – Jack Sterrett, AP has reserved slips at the Fernandina Marina for the cruise. He needs commitments from those planning to attend. Please contact him. Cdr Wilsdorf encouraged everyone to attend.

NEW BUSINESS:

Squadron Webmaster Joe Scirica continues to improve the GISPS Webpage and is always looking for photos and information. In addition, Joe was recently selected as the new D26 Webmaster. Congratulations to Joe! Marine Electrical Systems students will take their test on Wednesday 26 August at 9:30 AM. Good luck to everyone.

Treasures Report

Linda Mahoney, S Treasurer

BIG THANKS!!!!!!

to Jeanne Klippel, Vicky Jefferis, and Teresa Wilsdorf for performing our first Audit.... Great job Ladies!!!!.... almost painless. The committee found our finances in good order and books balanced. They have prepared a very helpful document to me going forward as the Treasurer. If you would like a copy please do not hesitate to contact me and I'll hard copy or e-mail it to you.

Reminder we're hoping to have a working committee soon to assist our Silent Auction on Chair, Paulette Harris-Holmes in the procurement of the goods and services that will make for a successful Silent Auction for COW 2010. In the meantime, please look for treasures

that you come across in your usual dealings with those whose business you support and ask them to support our great Squadron.... No item too small... [they can be combined with others to make baskets worthy bid items]. We're thinking of doing a Ladies lunch sometime in early Nov? to generate enthusiasm for the procurement process. Details to follow in the next Porthole.

Paulette is also Silent Auction Chair for Savannah River Power Squadron for the 17th year with a ball, dinner, at the casino on the water. Only \$20 a ticket. Nov. 7th if anyone would like to come. It's great fun! please contact Paulette Harris-Holmes.

XO's Locker

Larry Jefferis, AP



Coast Guard Tour: We were finally able to get the tour of Coast Guard Station Brunswick arranged for 29 August. Charles Wilsdorf, SN, Joe Scirica, S, Linda Mahoney, S, Vicky Jefferis, AP, and Larry Jefferis, AP, were guided through the facility by FN (Fireman) Jesse Robb, a fine young "Coastie" who was knowledgeable of the day-

to-day workings of the station, their equipment and their vessels. It was an enjoyable tour and very informative.

Coast Fest: We're still looking for volunteers and a project leader for Coast Fest on the 3rd of October. Please confirm your participation with me ASAP we can coordinate our efforts.

Squadron Cruise: Vicky and I have started preparing ODYSSEY for the September cruise to Fernandina. We hope to see many more of you there. Even if you don't "boat in" let Jack Sterrett or myself know that you'd like to join us for dinner on Friday and/or Saturday evenings.

Texas Talisman Dance: A couple of weeks ago, August 19-21 to be exact, there occurred an event in the Saint Simon's Channel, which was extraordinary to me. The channel dredge "Texas" was delivered to our area by the "Talisman", the mother ship, to be employed to improve the shipping channels around Jacksonville. There were several extraordinary aspects of this operation which I'd like to share with you. The "Texas" had most recently been used in the country of Bahrain and had been brought here by the "Talisman". The loading/unloading process is extremely difficult due to the sheer size of the "cargo", the close proximity of the two gigantic vessels floating so dangerously close to each other, and the possible effects of tidal current on the operation.

The "Talisman" is a converted oil tanker. The configuration now, after extensive modification, reminds me of the 18 wheeler "low boys" that carry excavators or earth movers over the highway. The "Talisman" has a huge bow, a huge stern section, a very tall bridge, and then two very tall bulkheads on either end of a very long deck which appears to

be about 24 feet above water level. It's like they've taken a knife, made two vertical cuts at either end of a large center section then filleted the center off the lower part of the hull ... a very ingenious creation to move a massive piece of equipment. The "Texas" is then carried in this "notch" in the "Talisman's" hull.

A very detailed examination of the south eastern coast was made to select this particular spot for its depth. I understand that this operation had been executed some 18 months ago in the vicinity of St Marys but that previously used location wasn't available this time. The "Talisman" normally draws about 50 feet. That's pretty constant in that the hold is partially flooded to maintain ballast when the "Texas" is not aboard. In order to load the "Texas" on her deck, "Talisman" must "sink" and allow "Texas" to float onto or off of the "Talisman" deck. This is done by flooding the hold of the "Talisman" which causes her draw nearly 90 feet when flooded.

Besides the "Texas" there were other barges, long sections of pipe and large floats aboard that had to be removed first before the "Texas" could be released. These had to be removed after the "Talisman" was "sunk" and before the "Texas" could be moved. It takes about 14 hours to "sink" the "Talisman" to the point where her cargo deck was awash.

Additionally, in order to control the "Talisman" and to minimize the effects of the tidal current, they could only remove "Texas" and the other barges on the deck safely when the current was below 2 knots. At each current shift (change from rising to falling tide or vice versa) the "Talisman" had to be shifted to a "bow into the current" position. This resembled a "spin" move with tugs pushing "Talisman" stern and bow simultaneously in a carefully orchestrated maneuver. I overheard the tugs conversation on a hand held VHF radio and it was amazing. I also understand there were daily coordination meetings before and after any maneuvering was attempted. There were, at peak activity periods, as many as 8 tugs around the "Talisman" in order to keep her in position and to pull/push the "Texas" off her deck. From the air it must have looked like a huge ballet.

After "Texas" was floated off "Talisman's" deck, it was towed by tug to Jacksonville. I was able to see the maneuvering that occurred to get "Texas" properly oriented, get the tugs disconnected and...

...continued from page 5.

repositioned for the run to Jacksonville. The whole event seemed to take forever (three days) but once “Texas” was floating and safely away from “Talisman” everything seemed to happen very quickly. The suspense which had hovered over the entire scene was gone. The crowds disappeared and life returned to normal.

I’ve included some pictures which help to clarify what I was seeing but I was astonished. I was viewing the scene from the area around the base of the Saint Simons Light. It was a spellbinding scene even though it resembled watching paint dry at times. The last day, the day “Texas” was removed was most interesting because of the viewing angles. The tugs on the far (south) side of “Texas” were obscured.

Safe Boating

Larry



Talisman “riding high” on day 1



Talisman “sinking” with Texas aboard on day 2



Talisman after Texas departure day 3



Talisman after Texas departure day 3

GISPS Member Contributed Story

Jim Grimshaw, AP

Over the weekend of 29-30 August I successfully moved the “Lone Ranger” to Sunbury Crab Co Marina. Coy Hodges and Mike Ross crewed for me.

Many thanks to Coy “NavMan” Hodges for using his handheld GPS chart plotter to navigate the “Lone Ranger” after the big expensive brand new GARMIN 4210 failed to operate most of the night enroute to Sunbury Crab Co Marina Sat night/Sun morning.

Coy and I must admit, though, that being graduates of MES-2008 did not enable either of us to reset the fuse in the GARMIN power cable. We had to ask my buddy Mike “Fuse Man” Ross to use his powerful grubby roofers fingers to push in the bayonet housing and secure it. I did manage to reset the other fuse in its housing. And try as we might to figure out why the big GARMIN worked initially, then shut off when the engine started, and then five hours later came on again when I simply reconnected the power cord, we were summarily stumped.

I sat there on watch for over an hour in the middle of the night thinking that I should just try reconnecting the cable, just for the heck of it. So I did. It worked, and we celebrated by having a beer in the middle of the night...or at least I did. Then, of course, as we were headed into the ICW and Medway River, the big GARMIN shut down again when a circuit breaker tripped. The autopilot came back on but not the GPS when I reset the breaker.

We were mightily searching the MES book for answers that never came. Well, not really. We were too busy trying not to run aground as the tide was going out. A great trip, though no sailing. Winds were less than 8 knots all night long. “Lone Ranger” now secured at Sunbury. Could not have done it without Coy and Mike.
-Jim



The Lone Ranger sitting at the dock.



The mighty but exhausted crew on the dock after the all night cruise to Sunbury.



Coy doing his nav duty in the middle of the night (grin)

Administrative Offices Report

Steve W. Batson, AP



Fall is getting here quickly. Some of us, who once lived further north, would now begin thinking about those last cruises and winter storage. Living in the south provides us a greatly extended boating season, which keeps me from repeating a mistake I made several years ago in West Virginia.

I was preparing the boat for storage in October by taking out all of the safety equipment and other stuff that wouldn't survive winter storage. Against better judgment, I decided one more quick run down the Kanawha River before calling it quits. Wouldn't you know it?

On this last run, I developed engine trouble. No other boat was on the river. I called many times on the VHF and finally cranked up the power and called the Coast Guard. Eventually Coast Guard Sector Ohio Valley answered and agreed to call my wife. In the meantime, a boater in a marina near me had been listening to the conversation and asked if he could help. He arrived shortly after his call and towed me back to my dealer's dock.

Thank goodness for another late-fall boater. I never left the dock again without proper equipment! Our Squadron annual meeting is scheduled for September 26 at Fourth of May in Brunswick, our great new meeting place. Invite a potential member! Shrimp & Grits: The Wild Georgia Shrimp Festival is September 18-20 on Jekyll Island. This popular

event includes a cooking competition, seafood specialties from local restaurants, shrimp boat tours, music, vendors, family activities and more.

Also, invite someone to Boat Smart at 9:00 a.m. on September 26th and refresh your own knowledge on the basics! Safe Boating! Our Commander has done and continues to do an excellent job of providing a strong program of educational courses, including the electives. Please take advantage of these and expand your boating knowledge. They're fun and may save your life at some critical point. Officially, the committees under the AO include Membership, Membership Involvement, Boating Activities, Meetings and Programs, Entertainment, Operations Training, and Leadership Development. As activities develop in any these areas, this column will report on them.

Supporting Marine Dealers.

	SHORELINE MARINE	PROLINE MITZI SKIFFS  Xpress Aluminum Boats
GEORGIA'S MOST COMPETITIVE DEALER		
3517 Darien Highway Brunswick, GA 31521 www.shorelinemarine.com e-mail: cleve@shorelinemarine.com		CLEVE BENNETT Phone: 912-261-0444 FAX: 912-261-8528

ELLIS MARINE <i>"The Fun Starts Here"</i>	BEST PRICES QUALITY SERVICE
BOBBY ELLIS Owner	3687 Community Rd. Brunswick GA 31520 912-264-4024 FAX 912-265-5689