



For Boaters, By Boaters™

Volume 4, April 2019

A monthly publication of the Golden Isles Sail and Power Squadron

Upcoming Events

April

- 16 - Club Dinner at ember restaurant on St. Simons Island. EXCOM @1700, dinner @ 1800
- 27 - Liberty Park Litter Pickup 0900-1100
- 27 - Lynx 1812 Privateer Sailing Ship Tour 1400 - 1600

May

- 17-19 - D/26 Cruise and Rendezvous in Brunswick
- 21 - Club Dinner
- 18-24 - Safe Boating Week

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Commander's Message



Cdr Charles Wilsdorf,
SN-ON

The District 26 Spring Conference was a success. Our club attendees, Vicky Jefferis, JN, Teresa Wilsdorf, S, and I attended meeting/seminars both Friday and Saturday. Friday, I got an update on what is new in USPS national education and a seminar Saturday morning on the new (Squadron Activity Reporting Systems) SARS app.

The SARS app is an aid for the squadrons/clubs to keep track of club events and the members' time who organize and implement these events. The app will also make reporting boating activities much easier. At the end of the year, all of this info can help determine which members are eligible for a Merit Mark.

Our last club dinner drew a sizable crowd with Tim's Trivia and Caribbean cruising travel stories shared from our members. Good job Terry and Tim

It was also a club's award night. Cathy

Stortz, AP accepted a national Distinctive Communicator Award for our newsletter, *The Porthole* and Sharon Hindery, AP accepted a national Distinctive Communicator Award for the club's website. These endeavors took many hours and dedication. Many thanks to you two.



Cdr Charles Wilsdorf, SN-ON with Cathy Stortz, AP and Sharon Hindery, AP.
Photo by Teresa Wilsdorf, S.

Two boats, *Spirit* captained by Michael Moyer, N with crew Sharon Moyer and *Topwater*, captained by yours truly, with crew Braxton Sorg, AP, Hilarie Brush, AP and Teresa Wilsdorf, S embarked on Jekyll Creek last September 9 to inspect and report on its Aids to Navigations (ATONs). Our efforts earned our club a spot on the Nautical Discrepancy Reporting Program's Honor Roll, in fact, ranking us 11th nationally.

(Article continues on the next page.)

Commander's Message Continued from Page 1

Not bad for an afternoon on the water. Cooperative Charting reporting is a great way to give back while also having a good time on the water.

A couple of Sundays ago, David Jones and I made a day trip down to Cumberland Is. and Fernandina Beach (no fuel there, docks have not been replaced). On the return trip through Jekyll Creek, we noticed some odd object sitting up on the east bank all covered in mud. First, I thought it was a catamaran, but when we got a better look, it appeared to be an army tank. I thought it might be a tank that DNR had used for an artificial reef. Wrong, upon inquiring, the object is equipment the US Army Corp of Engineers uses to navigate the marshes.

I hate to sound like a broken record, but we still could use help and raffle gifts for the upcoming District 26 Cruise and Rendezvous. According to our club treasurer, Teresa Wilsdorf, registrations are rolling in.

Have you submitted your registration yet?

Hope to see you Tuesday, April 16 at our next club dinner.

Chas



Photo provided by GA DNR and was taken by Clay George.

GETTING CLOSER!



Executive Officer
Ed Reynolds, S

Hello again fellow Squadron members! We are getting closer to several major boating events.

District Cruise and Rendezvous May 17-19. Many thanks to those of you who have already volunteered. For anyone still thinking about it, please contact me at 423-341-2531. We can use your help with many small tasks. Also, don't forget to SIGN UP ([D/26 Registration Form](#)) for the event yourself. Reservation deadline is April 26.

The Lynx Tall Ship sailing event for our Squadron is Saturday April 27 from 2:00pm - 4:00pm departing from Saint Simons Island Pier. There is still plenty of space available. Register at tallshiplynx.com. If this specific time interferes with your schedule, the Lynx will be in Brunswick April 19-24 and in SSI April 25-28 with additional sailing options.

I want to plan some additional on the water activities for this summer and fall and would like your suggestions. Please send me your ideas at ejreynolds3@icloud.com.

Finally, don't forget about our free Vessel Safety Checks (VSC). Please contact me if you or your friends would like to have their boat inspected. It could save a life!

See you on the water!

Ed Reynolds, S
Ejreynolds3@icloud.com

423-341-2531

Squadron Administrative Officer Report



AO Terry Osman, P

Your Administrative Officer for 2019 has three missions:

1. Keep or improve the allure of our monthly Club Dinners
2. Open new avenues to retain members and draw in new ones
3. Promote the FUN of boating, safety and continuous learning!

You might be like me. I like our club (Squadron) just the way it is. The people are super, I learn all the time, and what we promote is consistent with my values so it is rewarding. The members we have are more than enough to keep me very happy. (And entertained...) But that doesn't mean as a "club" we can sit on our laurels. What doesn't grow falters. And a lot of people out there might be missing out on fun and personal involvement simply because they just don't know about us.

The questions become: "What can we do to share with others what we ourselves enjoy?" and "What do we do to stay vibrant and alive as an organization?"

I'd like to collect your opinion on ideas that have floated up so far, and add in some of yours. Let's talk.

Advertise more

Conduct (and advertise) more classes

Current members become ambassadors

Add more boating activities

Associate with other clubs and businesses

Become known for our guest speakers

Create a mentor system for new boaters

Visibility through vessel safety checks

Our Next Club Dinner

*** NOTE THE LOCATION !!!! ***

Join us at our regular third-Tuesday meeting for dinner and comradery!

Place: Ember Restaurant

60 Retreat Village (Winn Dixie Shopping Center)

St Simons Island, GA 31522

Date: Tuesday, April 16, 2019

Time: 6:00 pm

See you then!

Don't be Fooled When Documenting Your Vessel!



Which is the real vessel documentation agency?

Many boat owners choose to document their vessels with the U.S. Coast Guard in addition to registering in their state. Documentation is a federal form of registration that is recognized internationally. It provides conclusive evidence of nationality, while its "Certificate of Documentation" also serves as a title for the vessel.

The ONLY source for documentation is the U.S. Coast Guard. Unfortunately, many other commercial entities advertise with similar logos, markings and color schemes, INTENTIONALLY luring unsuspecting owners to register using their services. Their service is legal, but they are a third-party charging an unnecessary fee, sometimes up to several hundred dollars.

Don't be duped into using an unnecessary middle man when the Coast Guard's National Vessel Documentation Center (NVDC) makes it easy and cheap to keep your vessel properly documented. For more info: <http://www.uscg.mil/nvdc/>

Coast Guard Documentation – Fast Facts

To qualify, a vessel must measure at least five net tons and must be owned by a citizen of the U.S. When a vessel is documented as recreational, it may not be used for any other purpose. The vessel's document must be shown to state law enforcement personnel upon their demand; therefore, your original document must be stored onboard. Georgia requires documented vessels to be registered according to Georgia regulations (but without hull numbering) and to display the decal showing that they have complied with state requirements.

Are you a History Buff?

To get to know your vessel better, it is often possible to trace its history through the entire chain of ownership by the endorsements that appear on the documents. The first certificate for a particular vessel often cites the most information: builder, carpenter, or surveyor. Plus, the reverse side of many certificates contains endorsements of surrender or the fate of the vessel. If you own a vessel with any age on her, you may appreciate knowing her whole story.

U.S. Vessel Registration Began with Early Colonists

Vessel Documentation is one of the oldest functions of U.S. Government. Laws were put forth under George Washington by the First Congress in 1789. Taxes on vessel tonnage, registering and clearing vessels in the ports of the New World show the importance of marine trade and transportation in establishing the new society. Registration was initially limited only to citizens.

(This article was provided by Terry Osman, P.)

Squadron Education Officer Report



SEO Mike Moye, N

Borrowing the Capital One TV commercial's theme of "What's in your wallet?", my question to all is "What's on your book shelf?". Specifically, I'm thinking what's lurking there that might have a nautical related title? These days, our book shelves might be virtual and include electronic files that contain books, blogs, and electronic messages like *The Porthole*. Many of us joined America's Boating Club, The United States Power Squadron to take advantage of opportunities for Boating Education. We have some great courses and we've all learned a lot, but how do we keep that information fresh? How do we add to it? How do we pass it on to others—our fellow boaters, our friends who want to be boaters, and most importantly to our children? So, I thought it might be a good thing to pass on some of the things I read and view to keep up with trends and to learn new things. This is how I try to continue my education about boating. It's part of my quest for "Life Long Learning"—something we must do as we age just to stay sharp at the helm.

First, the magazines—There are tons of different magazines that are crafted to meet your individual interests. For years I subscribed to *Wooden Boat*, mainly because I owned a wooden boat. I don't have that boat or subscription any more but still pick up copies off magazine racks—it's always a great read. Likewise, I pick up *Good Old Boat* to get ideas. Obviously, that's a magazine about older boats—specifically sail boats, but if you must maintain your boat—large or small, you'll find great ideas and techniques. A buddy of mine once got me a free subscription to *Power and Motor Yacht*. I've been enjoying it for twenty-five years, always beautiful photography and stories about boats I may never see let alone be able to afford but it's fun to dream. I've subscribed to *Boating and Saltwater Sportsman* for a while, but those sister publications move in a different direction than my current boating focus. I love *Yachting* and have really enjoyed the tech articles and "how to" articles found there. I even have two WWII era copies of *Yachting* that were fun to read to see how they did it "way back". My go-to magazine these days is *Soundings*. It's tailored for boaters in the northeast but has information that all boaters can use. Since I'm a Boat U.S. member, I get their magazine as well as our own *Ensign*. Great reads, but of course the slant is mostly related to organizational happenings.

Blogs and e-newsletters are among my favorite sources of boating information these days. I get multiple reading doses each week from lots of different sources. Some are devoted to sailing, some power, some trawlers, and one of the best is devoted to living aboard. That one is called *The Boat Galley* and is written by Carolyn Shearlock. She writes a little about the galley and what goes on there (cooking) but mostly it's about boat projects—almost anything you can think of that can be done by a DIY boater. A couple of the other blog/newsletters that I follow are devoted to maintenance. They are both powerboat oriented—specifically trawlers. One is *Trawlers and Trawling* and the other is *Trawler Forum*. They both have search engines and I promise, if something has needed repair/maintenance it has been discussed by these folks. I read them so much that I feel like I know the contributors personally.

I think big ships are cool. I read the *gCaptain* newsletter almost daily. It gives the news of the shipping world so many articles are not of interest, but lots are. *Cruising Compass* is a newsletter devoted to sailing. It has a sister newsletter devoted to power boating called *Cruising Odyssey*. Both cover a wide variety of topics and are great reading even if you're not a cruiser. All of the electronic resources mentioned are free and delivered directly to your email box. Just Google the title and they'll tell you how to subscribe. I suggest sampling first.

I had every intention of mentioning a few of my favorite books, especially those to which I often refer. Many of them contain boating lessons that are best reviewed many times. I'll try to sneak them into a future *Porthole*.

The April ABC class will be over when this is published but thanks to all who played a part in making it as successful as I know it will be.

High tides and fair winds,

Mike Moye, N
SEO

Treasurer's Report



Treasurer Teresa Wilsdorf, S

GISPS has a bank balance of \$5,580.17

It is time to sign up for the District 26 Cruise & Rendezvous (C&R) on May 17-19. In addition, there is also a need for volunteers to help make the C&R a memorable event for all. Contact Ed Reynolds to find out where your skills can be used best.

I would also like to remind everyone that we will be doing a raffle at the C&R to help offset costs. Please let me know if you have any items that you yourself would be willing to spend \$5 to \$10 for raffle tickets. We would also love to get some gift certificates. If you know of any business in town that might be willing to donate something, please check with them soon. If you are crafty, think about making something special to raffle.

If you have any questions regarding the C&R or raffle, feel free to give me a call on my cell 912-222-9751 anytime or at home any evening or over any weekend 912-265-9550. Any of the Ex Comm members will answer any questions you have, so please contact one us.

Look forward to seeing you all at the next dinner gathering!

Golden Isles Sail and Power Squadron's 2019 Bridge Contact Information			
Commander	Charles Wilsdorf, SN-ON	912-265-9550	chaswi30@gmail.com
Executive Officer	Ed Reynolds, S	423-341-2531	Ejreynolds3@icloud.com
Administrative Officer	Terry Osman, P	414-510-9338	t.osman@att.net
Assistant AO	Rick Hindery, P	773-779-5653	rfhindery@comcast.com
Squadron Education Officer	Mike Moye, N	229-454-6791	mmoye@surfsouth.com
Secretary	Sharon Hindery, AP	630-323-1206	sharona53@comcast.net
Treasurer	Teresa Wilsdorf, S	912-265-9550	tmwilsdorf@aol.com
Member at Large	Bob Butler, SN	276-229-9099	mbutler12323@gmail.com
Member at Large	Vicky Jefferis, JN	912-264-1352	vickyjefferis@bellsouth.net
Member at Large	Richard Jones, AP	912-882-3883	rjones8@tds.net
Porthole Editor	Cathy Stortz, AP	912-222-1038	cstortz1@yahoo.com

Secretary's Report

March 2019 ExCom Agenda

America's Boating Club Golden Isles - GISPS EXCOM Meeting

Tuesday, 3/19/2019 5:00 PM at Jerk Shack on Altama, Brunswick

Board members:

Cdr. Charles Wilsdorf- present

EXO: LtC Ed Reynolds- present

SEO: LtC Mike Moye- absent

AO: LtC Terry Osman- present

Assistant AO: Lt Rick Hindery- present

Tres: LtC Teresa Wilsdorf - present

Sec: LtC Sharon Hindery present

Members At Large:

Richard Jones- absent

Vicky Jefferis- present

Bob Butler- present

Other Club members present: Margaret Butler

I. Ed's C&R report.

- a. Joe Stortz will pick up and transport tables
- b. Lunch is confirmed
- c. Ice from DNR on Friday
- d. Coolers SS Newcomers and Butlers
- e. Drink charge \$5 for Mixed/\$4 for Beer& Wine, \$2 for soft drinks/\$1 water
- f. Hold off on décor until we have a head count.
- g. Cost of hiring police, City reduced to one officer at 30/hour for hours serving liquor. This was not anticipated.
- h. Butlers will be bar tenders.
- i. Rum punch will be donated by Chas.
- j. Sunday brunch managed by Chas
 - i. Need folks to bring "breakfast casseroles"
 - ii. Coffee, juice, tea
 - iii. Utensils/plates/napkins
- k. Vicky -agreed to be Transportation Chair
- l. Mike -Saturday activity for during the cruise
- m. Ed noted that there are 4 freedom club boats now- some members who belong might want to re-serve for the cruise.



Secretary Sharon
Hindery, AP

Secretary's Report Continued from Page 7

2. Teresa – ideas for raffle Baskets of local items. Keep down to a few very good items. Local?
3. Report time spent on club activities and the SARS program/app
 - a. Chas noted that there is an SARS activity log for members to document their volunteer hours.
4. Interest in learning how to navigate usps.org?
5. Terry and Ed – ABC class promotion
 - a. Add note that lunch is offered.
 - b. Public seminar soon after ABC class to keep interested.
 - c. Get on the calendars in BWk news etc.
 - d. Power point to promote Americas Boating Club will be shown during lunch break.
6. Membership ideas??

XCOM meeting adjourned at: 6:05 pm

General meeting notes:

- Ed announced that the tall ship LYNX will be at St Simons Pier in April. If a group would like to go on a 2 hour cruise, the tickets are \$55 +\$6 handling fee.
- District Cruise and Rendezvous is May 17-19th Friday through Sunday. Friday 5-7 registration and social at Mary Ross Park. Saturday 9 am cruise up the ICW to Mudcat Charlies for Low country Boil lunch. Evening social and dinner at Mary Ross Park. With an Island themed buffet. Breakfast brunch Sunday morning at International Seafarers Center on Newcastle.
- Members are asked to volunteer for help in transportation, Breakfast buffet items and raffle items.
- District awards were presented to :
 - ◇ Cathy Stortz for *The Porthole*
 - ◇ Sharon Hindery for the Website
 - ◇ GISPS received recognition as 11th nationally for the CoOp Charting.

Number of members present: 19

Next meeting: April 16th, location TBA

Submitted:

LtC. Sharon Hindery, AP

Secretary

District 26 2019 Spring Conference

The D/26 Spring Conference, hosted by Long Bay Power Squadron, was held March 8 – 10 at the Crown Reef Beach Resort in Myrtle Beach, SC. Golden Isles' members, CDR Charles Wilsdorf, SN-ON, Lt/C Teresa Wilsdorf, S and P/C Vicky Jefferis, JN attended.

Over one hundred members from South Carolina and Coastal Georgia participated in the event. D/26 Commander Jim Wilkins and the D/26 Bridge worked closely with the host squadron to provide attendees with seminars and workshops that were interesting and beneficial to everyone, not just squadron Bridge members. The seminars that received the most participation were the Active Shooter presentation, the Coop Charting On-the Water Exercise, the Geodetic Survey Exercise and Introduction to Squadron Activities Reporting System (SARS). Both the Coop Charting and Geodetic Survey Exercises provided participants an opportunity to experience a hands-on outing and then learn how to record the findings in the updated USPS reporting system. The SARS seminar was also a hands-on experience. System creator Al Lehman introduced this new tool especially developed to help the squadrons keep track of information used for various USPS reports and to develop narratives needed to recommend members for Merit Marks each year. He demonstrated how the system works and spent time with each squadron representative attending.

At the Conference business meeting, CDR Wilsdorf had the opportunity to invite everyone to the May 17-19 Cruise & Rendezvous and talk about Golden Isles' plans for our weekend of fun on the water and in the Golden Isles area. Judging from the comments and questions Charles received, many people are interested in attending and enjoying our area from the water.

The Spring Conference is traditionally the time when annual awards are presented to squadrons and individuals. This year Golden Isles was recognized with the 2018 Distinctive Communicator Award for both *The Porthole* and our website and for finishing 11th nationally in Coop Charting activity.

P/C Vicky Jefferis, JN



D/26 members enjoy a Coop Charting Exercise during the Spring Conference. Photo by P/C Vicky Jefferis, JN.



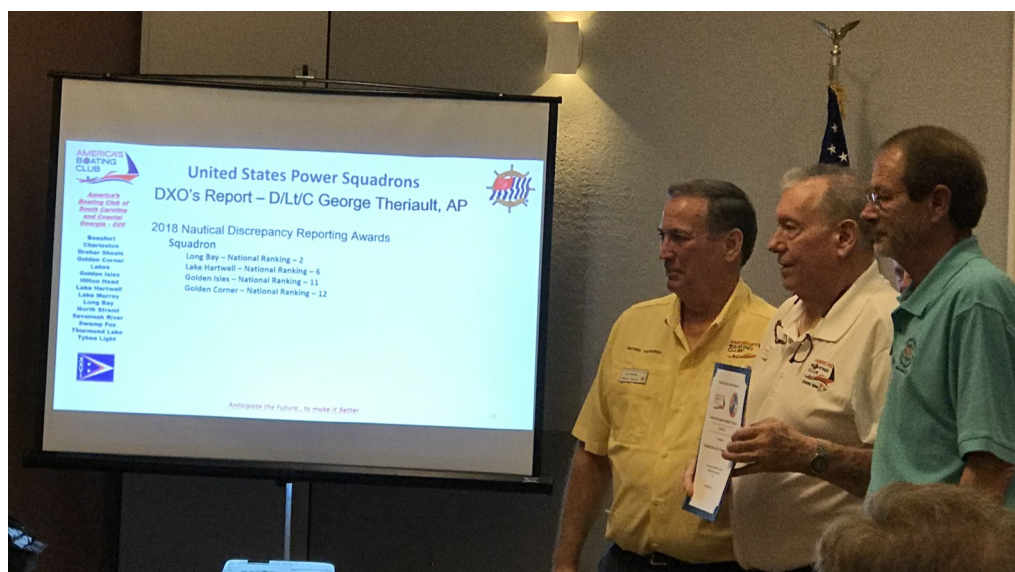
Navigation aid displaying the overhead clearance for a bridge over the ICW in the Myrtle Beach area. Photo by P/C Vicky Jefferis, JN.

District 26 2019 Spring Conference Award Pictures



Cdr Charles Wilsdorf, SN-ON receiving the Distinctive Communicator Awards for the club's website and publication. From left: V/C Lee Popham, JN, Charles, and D/Lt/C Devon Callahan, S.

Photo by Teresa Wilsdorf, S.



Cdr Charles Wilsdorf, SN-ON receiving the Nautical Discrepancy Reporting Award. From left are V/C Lee Popham, JN, Charles, and D/Lt/C George Theriault, AP.

Photo by Teresa Wilsdorf, S.



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

MARINE SAFETY ALERT
Inspections and Compliance Directorate

August 15, 2018
Washington, DC

Safety Alert 13-18

Let us enlighten you about LED lighting!
Potential interference of VHF-FM Radio and AIS Reception.

The U.S. Coast Guard has received reports from crews, ship owners, inspectors and other mariners regarding poor reception on VHF frequencies used for radiotelephone, digital selective calling (DSC) and automatic identification systems (AIS) when in the vicinity of light emitting diode (LED) lighting on-board ships (e.g., navigation lights, searchlights and floodlights, interior and exterior lights, adornment).

Radio frequency interference caused by these LED lamps was found to create potential safety hazards. For example, the maritime rescue coordination center in one port was unable to contact a ship involved in a traffic separation scheme incident by VHF radio. That ship also experienced very poor AIS reception. Other ships in different ports have experienced degradation of the VHF receivers, including AIS, caused by their LED navigation lights. LED lighting installed near VHF antennas has also shown to compound the reception.

Strong radio interference from LED sources may not be immediately evident to maritime radio users. Nonetheless, it may be possible to test for the presence of LED interference by using the following procedures:

1. Turn off LED light (s).
2. Tune the VHF radio to a quiet channel (e.g. Ch. 13).
3. Adjust the VHF radio's squelch control until the radio outputs audio noise.
4. Re-adjust the VHF radio's squelch control until the audio noise is quiet, only slightly above the noise threshold.
5. Turn on the LED light (s).
 - If the radio now outputs audio noise, then the LED lights have raised the noise floor. (Noise floor is generally the amount of interfering signals / static received beyond the specific signal or channel being monitored.)
6. If the radio does not output audio noise, then the LED lights have not raised the noise floor.

If the noise floor is found to have been raised, then it is likely that both shipboard VHF marine radio and AIS reception are being degraded by LED lighting.

In order to determine the full impact of this interference, the Coast Guard **requests** those experiencing this problem to report their experiences to Coast Guard Navigation Center¹. Select "Maritime Telecommunications" on the subject drop down list, then briefly describe the make and model of LED lighting and radios effected, distance from lighting to antennas and radios effected, and any other information that may help understand the scope of the problem.

This Safety Alert is provided for informational purposes only and does not relieve any domestic or international safety, operational, or material requirement. Developed by the U.S. Coast Guard, Spectrum Management and Telecommunications Policy Division. Distributed by the Office of Investigations and Analysis. Questions may be sent to HQS-PF-fldr-CGF-INV@uscg.mil.



¹ <https://www.navcen.uscg.gov/?pageName=contactUs>

USPS® National News on Safety & Membership

Safety

Notice to All Vessel Examiners

Effective immediately, it will be the position of the Safety Committee that, You can't have too many VSC decals, but you can have 'not enough'! Please do not hesitate to request additional VSC decals from your commander.

Stf/C Bob Boles

bobbales1949@gmail.com

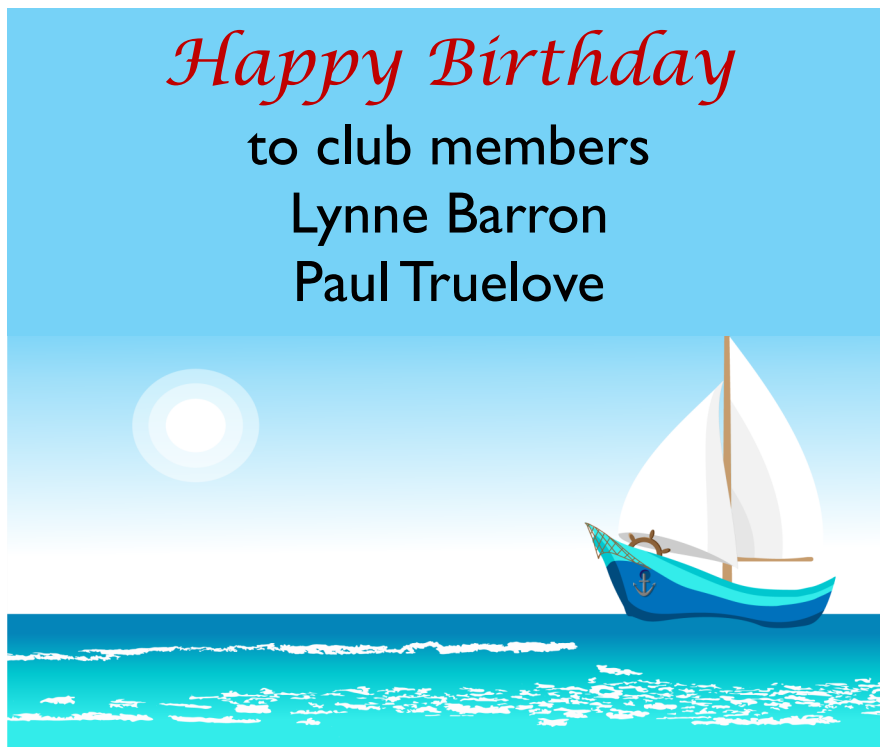
Membership

Have you prepared a new member/member retention plan for this year? A written plan is much easier to follow and also much easier to pass on.

R/C Robert Howd

rhowd1@ec.rr.com

Happy Birthday
to club members
Lynne Barron
Paul Truelove



America's Boating Club of Golden Isles Calendar April - September 2019



April

- 16 - Club Dinner at ember restaurant on St. Simons Island 1800
- 27 - Liberty Park Litter Pickup 0900-1100
- 27 - Lynx 1812 Privateer Sailing Ship Tour 1400 - 1600

May

- 7 - *Porthole* articles due for May edition
- 14 - *Porthole* distributed to members
- 17-19 - D/26 Cruise and Rendezvous hosted by Golden Isles Sail and Power Squadron in Brunswick
- 21 - Club Dinner
- 18-24 - Safe Boating Week

June

- 4 - *Porthole* articles due for June edition
- 11 - *Porthole* distributed to members
- 18 - Club Dinner

July

- 2 - *Porthole* articles due for July edition
- 9 - *Porthole* distributed to members
- 16 - Club Dinner

August

- 6 - *Porthole* articles due for August edition
- 13 - *Porthole* distributed to members
- 20 - Club Dinner

September

- 3 - *Porthole* articles due for September edition
- 8-15 - USPS® Governing Board Louisville, KY
- 10 - *Porthole* distributed to members
- 17 - Club Dinner
- 21 - Liberty Park litter pickup 9-11 am

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The Porthole is the official publication of America's Boating Club® of Golden Isles sponsored by the United States Power Squadrons®. The National website is www.americasboatingclub.org. Our local Golden Isles Club website is 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 30,000 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.