

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

Golden Isles



The port hole

For Boaters, By Boaters™

A monthly publication of America's Boating Club Golden Isles

Upcoming Events

May

- 11 - ExCom Meeting at 5PM
- 18 - Club Social
- 22 - Club Cruise #3 to Spartina Grill in Darien

June

- 1 - Content for *The Port-hole* due
- 5 - Club Yard Sale
- 8 - *The Porthole* distribution
- 8 - ExCom Meeting at 5PM
- 15 - Club Social
- 19 - Club Cruise to Lang's Restaurant in St. Marys

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Commander's Message



Cdr Charles Wilsdorf, SN-ON

A couple of weeks ago Stephen "Steve" Ruby, a club member and husband of the late P/C Paulette Proctor Harris, SN contacted me about three sextants which were in Paulette's belongings. After no one in the family was interested in them he asked me if I was interested and of course I said yes. Several days later I received a Fed-Ex package with the three sextants.

Under inspection, I found two of these sextants had been property of the Savannah River Squadron one of which was a plastic sextant and was a 2nd place award from the 1984 The New York Navigation Club (N Club). More on that later. Unfortunately, the filters on this sextant have deteriorated to the point where the sextant would be unusable for a sun sight. The other sextant, I have determined, was produced at the onset of WWII by the Pioneer Instrument Company which was owned by the Bendix Aviation Corporation. Unfortunately, this sextant did not include the telescope, but otherwise it is in decent shape. I have corresponded with sextant repair and restoration experts as far away as New Zealand looking for a telescope for this sextant with no luck. So, I think this one I will try to donate to a museum on our behalf. The third sextant is a modern Astra B III which I am pretty sure P/C Audie Holmes, SN, our first commander, purchased when he was taking sights for the USPS Navigation course (new name Celestial Navigation).



Astra B III

Our club now has possession of four Astra B III sextants. Our club purchased one of these sextants when we were teaching Junior Navigation (JN, now Offshore Navigation). Our club also had the good fortune to receive another Astra B III as an award from the N Club in 2009. The New York Navigation Club (N Club) is a club consisting of members from USPS Districts 2, 3, 4 and non-USPS members who all love the art of navigation. Yearly, they recognize a USPS squadron which has completed the most advance courses based on the squadron size awarding the first-place squadron an Astra B III sextant. Our club also received another Astra B III when yours truly was awarded the Chapman Award in 2013. And now, another Astra B III sextant donated by Steve.

If you have ever determined your position with a sextant, you know that it is amazing, almost like magic how close a position you can obtain. I promise this exercise gives you a great sense of accomplishment. Many of the same principals of sextant positioning are similar to what is used by a GPS but taking sights and completing your computations will take a little more time as compared to just glancing at an electronic navigation screen to obtain a position. The Naval Academy deleted celestial navigation in their curriculum in 2006, but reinstated it in 2011 for ship navigators. This change was made because the GPS system is not infallible.

Commander's article continues on page 2.



USN BuShips Mark II with telescope

Commander's Message Continued from Page 1

Now, I don't personally know anyone who doesn't use their electronic navigation devices for navigation in today's world, but if knowing the art of celestial navigation interests you, please let Michael Moye, SN know. We have plenty of sextants just sitting here ready to go. Our navigation courses are fun, rewarding and a great way to build camaraderie.

Again, I thank Stephen "Steve" Ruby for considering us.

I can't wait to see everyone again at our May in-person get-together and I know Ed Reynolds, S has some ambitious cruises in the making.

See you soon.

Chas

Club Social - "Boat Drinks" Potluck in May!

"Boat Drinks" Potluck in May!

Thanks to Stephanie Chewning, Coastal Education Coordinator with One Hundred Miles, for her informative "Barrier Island Dynamics" presentation in April. I think we could all say we learned at least one something new and interesting that night. Stephanie's enthusiasm for our Georgia Coast is contagious! We hope to have her back again when we meet in person in the future.

Please plan to join us in May for a fun social evening. Rebecca Burns, Mixologist Extraordinaire and Owner of Event Libations, will entertain us with a cocktail demonstration, mixing several "Boat Drinks" for us to sample. Sip a few samples or choose one or two to enjoy. Wine and beer will be available for those not wanting a mixed drink. Please bring an hors d'oeuvre to share. We will be asking you to RSVP so that we can give Rebecca an accurate headcount.

When: Tuesday, May 18, 6:00pm

Where: Morningstar Gazebo (behind Coastal Kitchen)

Cost: \$10/person includes demonstration, sampling and your cocktails

Bring: An hors d'oeuvre to share

Questions/RSVP Call or email Eileen, 912-602-9500, eileenberta@gmail.com



EVENT LIBATIONS, LLC

Coming up in June: Meet the **FOAR from Home** team of Veterans, as they tell us about their preparations to row the Atlantic Ocean later this year to fight Veteran PTSD and Suicide. Location TBD. Thanks Druckenmillers for introducing us to this cause. Find more information at www.foarfromhome.com.

Please help us by sharing your interests and suggestions for future meetings, both educational and social!

TWO NEW CRUISE DESTINATION COMING UP!



Executive Officer
Ed Reynolds, S

Hello fellow America's Boating Club members!

Once again, the weather did not cooperate with us on April 17, so our planned cruise was canceled. Not to be deterred, we have planned 2 more! Surely, Mother Nature will smile on us eventually!

Our next cruise will be on Saturday, May 22. We will journey up to the Darien River for lunch at the Spartina Grill. Check out the menu at www.spartinagrill.com. Our itinerary is as follows:



WHEN: Saturday, May, 22 at 11:30am

WHERE: Boats meet at Manhead Sound (Mackay and Frederica River intersection)

ROUTE: Mackay River to South Altamaha River to Darien River (electronic route will be sent to each captain)

WHAT TO BRING: Lunch money, drinks, bug spray

BOAT RULES: Maintain contact via channel 72, speed limit of 25 mph

HOW TO SIGN UP: Reply to Ed Reynolds by text (423-341-2531) or email (ejreynolds3@icloud.com) by Wednesday, May 19. Let me know how many will be attending and if you will be providing a boat (and how many extra passengers you can carry). Passengers will be notified which boat you will be on and when/where to board. All are welcome (members as well as guests).

Commander Charles and I will review the weather forecast on Friday afternoon prior to each event. If we determine that it is not safe to proceed, you will be notified.

Our June 19 cruise will be a trip to Saint Mary's for lunch at Lang's Restaurant. Save the date! More details to follow...

Note to all Captains: We request that all boats participating in our events have a 2021 Vessel Safety Check decal. This is a free inspection. Please contact me, Charles Wilsdorf or Mike Moyer to schedule the 30 minute courtesy review. It can be done in the water or on land.

Hope to see you on the water!

Ed Reynolds

Club Education Officer Report



CEO Mike Moye, SN

Education Officer's Report

Thank you very much for responding to our survey of educational needs (and wants) for our club. We could have used more respondents but are able to get a good feel for where you, as a club, want to go with future courses.

There were 13 respondents to our questions. The biggest, and in some ways the most important, was your response to what Advanced Courses we should plan in the future. Seven folks would like to see us teach the Boat Handling course. Because we did a little pre-survey analysis, we saw that more than 35% of our club had not had Seamanship (now called Boat Handling) so we were silently hoping that it would bubble up as a top choice. And it did.

There is a side-bar effect to several folks within the club bunching together to take this course. You may recall Vicky mentioning in the Operations Training event we recently had via Zoom that she was part of a cohort of folks that went through several of the advanced courses together. We're hoping for that kind of result with this class. It serves to really bring together

members forming a good foundation that benefits them and the club as we get to know and depend on each other even more.

The primary times that folks want courses is in the evenings with some opting for mornings. Overwhelmingly our members want face-to-face meetings with only a few on-line. Several mentioned an on-the-water experience to supplement the courses/seminars. Weekdays was the most popular choice for courses/seminars with a close number opting for weekends. The season most folks want to be involved in educational activities is winter with only a couple mentioning the other seasons. Winter may, or may not, be good for on-the-water supplements for courses, but since that component is supplemental to the course, if the weather is bad, we could easily finish the credit part of the course and do the on-the-water portion during the nicer parts of the year.

Traditional advanced courses are only a part of what we are about. There are lots of seminars available plus we can do our own "homemade" special topics meetings. Looking at the seminar interest it was clear that the requests were "all over the place". Nothing wrong with that. We can possibly combine some topics to provide something for everyone. Anchoring, Docking and Undocking and a couple of others that would lend themselves to an On-the-Water experience along with a classroom experience are certainly possible. Some others we'll mention was a request for a Visual Distress Signal demonstration, a seminar on local knowledge (where to go, what to do, and especially what not to do), and a session on Medical Emergencies. Some other seminars mentioned were Radar Operation and Tides and Currents. Both of those topics would make remarkably interesting seminars.

Again, thank you for your responses. Although the survey link is closed don't hesitate to contact me or any member of the bridge if you have other suggestions. Boating Education is a major part of what we're all about and we want to provide the experiences that you want and need.

Mike Moye, SN

Education Officer

Administrative Officer Report



AO Terry Osman, P

Hope everyone's enjoying the ability to be outdoors with this nice switch to Spring weather. We have a lot going on in May, so heads up! I'm looking forward to these opportunities to benefit from Club membership!

Terry

Are you looking for a fun boating day?	Participate in the May 22 Club Cruise .
Do you enjoy socializing with other boaters?	Come to Morningstar for the Club Social May 18 .
Do you have stuff to remove from the house?	Donate it to the June 5 garage sale .
Could your vessel use a complementary Safety Check for your summer time boating?	Contact Ed Reynolds, Charles Wilsdorf or Mike Moye.
Do you know a boater who is also a veteran?	Invite them to the June 15 program .
Do you know a young person who needs a boat license?	Recommend they attend the October ABC class .
Do you have a friend who appreciates responsible boating?	Invite them to a Club event .
Is there somewhere on the water you want to go?	Give Ed Reynolds a suggestion for a Cruise .

Club Yard Sale Rescheduled for June 5th!



Sharon Hindery, AP

As you all know ...if you read my email... our Club yard sale has been moved to Saturday June 5th 8 AM to 1 PM... you can thank "Cancel Karma" for the lovely Saturday you (hopefully) enjoyed on May first. Our new date will, hopefully, bring extra traffic due to the Belle Point Neighborhood Community Yard sale is the same date. We would LOVE some company during the event. And also on Friday afternoon to setup/price... send me an email or call to join the fun.

BTW some good STUFF has already found its way here for sale!

Sharon Hindery
630 323 1206
sharona53@comcast.net



Do you want a Club Roster to contact fellow members?

Contact Terry Osman t.osman@att.net.

HOW TO LOGIN TO YOUR America's Boating Club WEBSITE and BENEFITS

1. Go to "USPS.org"
2. Click on "Member's Log In"
3. Enter your credentials and click "Log In"

USPS Members - Use your Member Certificate as the User Name and your PIN for the Password.

User Name or USPS Certificate	E279237
Password or USPS PIN	

4. (Click on "Forgot your password" if you need to!)
5. You will land on the "Member Home" page.
6. Cruise around and explore what National has to offer.
7. Click on "Member Benefits" to learn about all the things you have access to.
8. (My favorite is having had the ABC class, the insurance discount, and DANBOATER membership.)

*Your certificate # is your key to unlocking great savings.
If you need to find your certificate #, consult your renewal bill or our Club Roster.
New benefits are added frequently so be sure to check back often!*

Terry Osman, P



**James Bridges, Joe Stortz,
Steve Druckenmiller, Betty Whisnant, Rick Hindery**

CONSIDER THIS MEMBER BENEFIT



DAN Boater

As part of America's Boating Club® membership, your membership includes the full protection of DAN Boater travel health and safety benefits at no additional cost* to you. When it's time to renew your annual membership, you may keep these valuable traveler safety benefits as part of your Individual or Family membership for only \$25.00*.

- Travel & medical emergency helpline 24/7
- Coverage - global land and sea
- Emergency medical consults, prescription refill support
- Covers patient's return home if appropriate medical service is unavailable
- Referral to area physician, hospitals, clinics
- Coordination of services: logistical transport, evacuation & rescue
- Return of traveling companion due to medical emergency
- Medical monitoring with treating physicians and relay to family

Cost:

\$25 added to your annual dues (normally \$60)

For info & sign up:

<http://www.danboater.org/abc/>

Tip:

If you sign up using the above link, it allows you to also pay annual ABC dues easy peasy – one transaction!

America's Boating Club of Golden Isles Calendar May - August 2021

May

11 - ExCom Meeting at 5PM

18 - Club Social

22 - Club Cruise to Spartina Grill in Darien



June

1 - Content for *The Porthole* due

5 - June 5th 8 AM to 1 PM

8 - *The Porthole* distribution

8 - ExCom Meeting at 5PM

15 - Club Social

19 - Club Cruise to Lang's Restaurant in St. Marys



2021 Club Cruise Dates

May 22

June 19

July

6 - Content for *The Porthole* due

13 - *The Porthole* distribution

13 - ExCom Meeting at 5PM

20 - Club Social

August

3 - Content for *The Porthole* due

10 - *The Porthole* distribution

10 - ExCom Meeting at 5PM

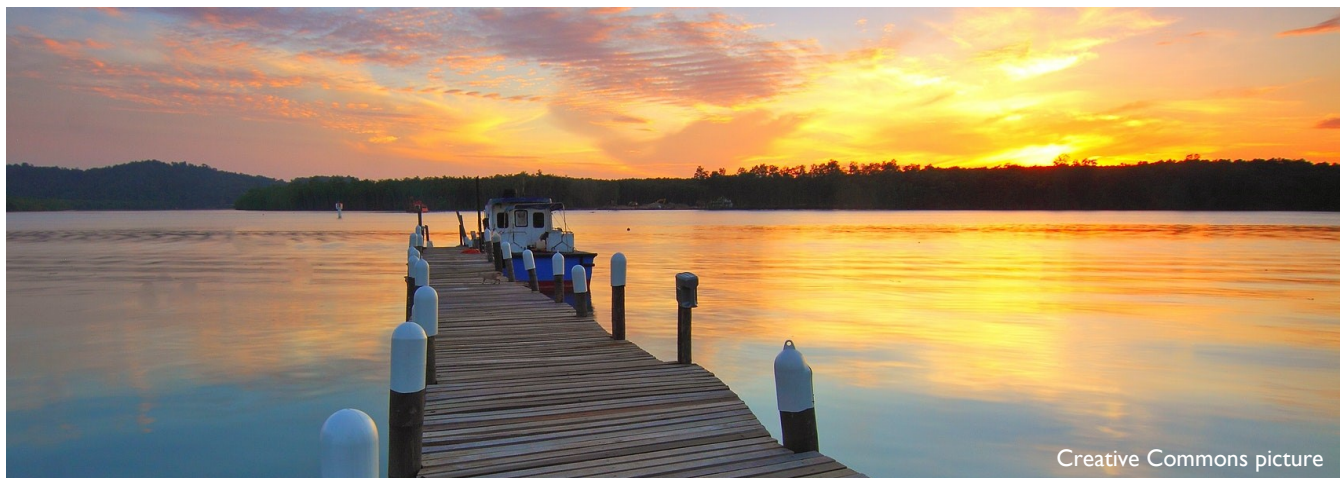
17 - Club Social

29-Sept 5 - Fall Governing Board Meeting in Raleigh, NC



America's Boating Club Golden Isles 2020-2021 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
Asst. Administrative Officer	Cynthia Lamb	860-908-5148	cynthia.l.lamb48@gmail.com
Asst. Administrative Officer	Eileen Berta	912 602-9500	eileenberta@gmail.com
Club Education Officer	Mike Moye, SN	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	Vicky Jefferis, JN	912-264-1352	vickyjefferis@bellsouth.net
Member at Large	David Jones	912 580-1041	david.earl.jones@gmail.com
Member at Large	Jerry Lamb	860 908-4678	lambo50@icloud.com
Porthole Editor	Cathy Stortz, AP	912-222-1038	cstortz777@yahoo.com



CONTRIBUTE TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

Please submit an article, picture, or even a link to a boating video that you feel other club members may enjoy. All newsletter content is due to Cathy Stortz cstortz777@yahoo.com by the first Tuesday of each month.



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