

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

Golden Isles



The   

For Boaters, By Boaters™

A monthly publication of America's Boating Club Golden Isles

Upcoming Events

July

- 13 - ExCom Meeting at 5PM
- 17 - ABC Course
- **20 - Club Social at Naz-zaro's on SSI**
- 31 - Club Cruise to Satilla Riverside Cafe at the Hickory Bluff Club and Marina

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

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Commander's Message



Cdr Charles Wilsdorf, SN-ON

June club dinner and social from the Foar From Home (FFH), a group of four US veterans who plan to row across the Atlantic to raise awareness of veteran suicide. These four men and their supportive wives presented a very compelling presentation about their mission. I am proud to say our club members donated over a thousand dollars to this worthwhile endeavor. Our club's administrative team, Terry Osman, P, Eileen Berta, and Cynthia Lamb will be making a formal presentation to the group.

Unfortunately, I missed another great cruise. I have received nothing but positive feedback on the St. Mary's cruise and lunch venue. I would like to commend Ed Reynolds, S, our club's executive officer, for his time planning and executing these club cruises. Ed and his cruise committee are investigating new areas to cruise.

Speaking of cruising, some of our sailor members, Jack Sterrett, SN and Mary "Chri" Gray, P have made passages lately to Oriental, NC and to ports in between.

Our club has hit a new groove with fresh eyes and new ideas which I think will launch us into the near future. We have many members, particularly some of our newest members, who are stepping up to make our club more attractive by offering activities such as our public boating education, club socials and dinners, and club cruises. I would like to personally thank all of our members' efforts that are bringing these changes. I would also like to remind you that if you would like to help on our 2022 bridge or a committee, please contact P/C Vicky Jefferis, JN or P/C Sharon Hindery, AP our club's Nomination Committee.

Wish you all fair winds and following seas.

Chas

I would like to welcome our newest members George and Michelynn "Mike" Carellas who have lived on St Simons Island for the past 3½ years. I sure like starting my monthly contribution to the *Porthole* with "Welcome New Members". George and Mike completed our club's October America's Boating Course and met Jerry and Cynthia Lamb who encouraged them to join our club. George and Mike enjoy exploring the Village Creek and Hampton River areas in their 15' Boston Whaler.

Once again, our club's administrative assistant, Eileen Berta arranged an interesting and worthwhile presentation at our



George and Michelynn "Mike" Carellas

Club July Social and Presentation

What an inspiration the dedicated FOAR from Home Veterans are! We all enjoyed meeting these four great guys and their supportive spouses in June and hearing about their mission to bring awareness to PTSD and Veteran Suicide by rowing the Atlantic Ocean in the Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge later this year. If you haven't already, please check out their website (www.foarfromhome.com) or "like" their Facebook page to get real time updates and view live videos of their training rows.



At our July social, we will get a Golden Ray update from the SSI Response Team. Can you believe it will be 18 months - January 2020 - since we had that first presentation about the plans for removal of the Golden Ray from the Sound within the year?

We will be meeting at Nazzaro's Italian Cuisine on St. Simons and ordering from the regular menu. Like so many local restaurants, they are having staffing issues, and have asked that we provide a headcount by the Friday prior so that they can plan to adequately staff the private dining room.

When: Tuesday, July 20, 6:00pm

Where: Nazzaro's Italian Cuisine, 196 Retreat Village, St. Simons Island, <http://nazzarositalian.com>.

Questions/RSVP: Call or email Eileen, 912-602-9500, eileenberta@gmail.com, by Friday, July 16.

Still to come in 2021 -

- Entertaining and informative talk by member Jack Sterrett
- A representative from UGA Marine Extension will educate us on oyster farming and the shrimp industry here in Georgia
- Some useful fishing advice from a local Fishing Captain
- Fun social time at one of our new local breweries

Please continue to let us know your interests and suggestions for future events!

Eileen Berta

LET'S GO FOR 3 IN A ROW!



**Executive Officer
Ed Reynolds, S**

Hello again fellow America's Boating Club members and friends!

We had another successful cruise on June 19! We journeyed to St Mary's for lunch at Lang's Marina Restaurant. It was our longest cruise of the season and the weather could not have been better. Partly cloudy to keep the temperature down and just enough breeze to keep the flies away! Four boats totaling 14 people made the trip. We were fortunate to have a guest boat join us! Kevin and Lynn Michael from Hampton Marina along with their daughter and son-in-law from South Carolina. It was a pleasure to get to know them and I hope they will consider membership.

Let's continue our cruising adventures with a July trip of a little shorter duration (due to anticipated higher mid-summer temperatures). This month's lunch destination will be the Satilla Riverside Cafe at the Hickory Bluff Club and Marina. It is located on the Little Satilla River in Waverly GA. Here is a link to their Facebook page [satillariversidecafe](https://www.facebook.com/satillariversidecafe).



Our itinerary is as follows:

WHEN: Saturday, July 31

WHERE: 2 route options

1. Boats 24 feet and smaller meet in front of Blythe Island dock at 11:30am. Cruise Fancy Bluff Creek to the Little Satilla River.
 2. Larger boats may have difficulty getting under the Fancy Bluff Creek railroad trestle bridge, so we will meet near markers R22 and G21 on Saint Simons Sound at 11:30am. Cruise through Jekyll Creek to Jekyll Sound to Little Satilla River.
- Dockage is first come first serve at the Cafe but there is usually plenty of room. If not, we can raft up (which we learned to do in Darien!).
 - After lunch, we will take a short excursion further up the Little Satilla to do a little exploring. Then we will return home via the route of your choice.

WHAT TO BRING: Lunch money, bug spray, drinks (including beer/wine as the cafe does not have an alcohol license yet but allows carry in.)

BOAT RULES: Maintain contact via VHF channel 72, max boat speed 25mph

HOW TO SIGN UP: Reply to Ed Reynolds by text (423-341-2531) or email (ejreynolds3@icloud.com) by Wednesday July 28. Let me know if you are bringing your boat or need a ride. All are welcome (members as well as guests!).

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

If you would like to have a courtesy safety vessel inspection (VSC) of your boat, contact me as well.

See you on the water!

Ed Reynolds



More St. Mary's cruise pictures on page 8 & 9.

Welcome Aboard New Members Whit Perrin and Russell Wright

We are so happy to welcome Russ and Whit Wright - recent new members who live in St Simons Island. Long-time owners of many different types of boats and years of boating. Both Whit and Russ have always loved time on the water, so we're thrilled they've found us!

Russ and Whit were both raised in the Southeast and moved in 2017 to St Simons from their farm in Jasper, GA where Russ had a dental practice. They both attended Emory University, but their education extends beyond academic into the boating world. The couple has completed several sailing trainings over the years including Whit at Annapolis Sailing School.

Their boating activities are many and include their Moorings honeymoon to BVI, after which they owned a Hunter 30 on Lake Lanier, then a Catalina 350 at Morningstar as a "floating beach cottage". Power-boat wise they had a 23-year-old Robalo21, then a Creville 23 bay boat which they sold leaving them boat less (except for kayaks) at present, for the first time in many years! (This is only about half of their previous boat inventory....)

Here are the things to ask Whit about: What is a "lateen-rig" boat? And where to go on a chartered cruise? How many different types of boats have you experienced?

Next time you see Russ, ask him: What's it like sailing off Destin, FL? And about his first boat? What is life like serving as the dentist for a battalion of Marines aboard ships in the Pacific?

Russ and Whit are a wealth of information and so delightful to be around! And they say they are enjoying the camaraderie with us new boating friends too, go figure! We are thrilled to have you both aboard in the America's Boating Club Golden Isles and look forward to many boating adventures with you!



On left, Russ and Whit Wright; on right, Russ shows off "the big one" that did not get away.

Club Education Officer Report



CEO Mike Moye, SN

Well, we have good news and bad news. It's probably best to give the good news first: In August 1971 President Richard Nixon signed the Federal Boating Safety Act. Apparently, things in our lakes and rivers as well as near coastal waters were getting a bit out of hand. That's my observation anyway. It's also my observation that the President might have heard that a South Georgia boy named Mike had just bought his first boat and the country needed to make sure he didn't terrorize the folks on area lakes and rivers with his new 80 h.p. Mercury. Anyway, the new law basically mandated a Federal and State effort to improve safety. It established the National Recreational Boating Safety Program and gave the United States Coast Guard authority to mandate manufacturing and safety standards. It was also in August 1971 that same South Georgia boy got his first boating ticket (not wearing a life jacket while skiing). Department of Natural Resources (DNR) was taking the new rules seriously. Even though boating rules in the United States have been around since Abraham Lincoln signed the "Rules to Prevent Collisions at Sea" law, I can assure you that prior to the ramped-up effort in 1971, few folks knew much about safety in recreational boating.

Back to the good news. In 1971, there were 20.6 deaths per 10,000 boats. In 2019 that number had dropped to 5.2 deaths per 10,000 boats. It is the opinion of the Boat U.S. organization that boat manufacturers, the Coast Guard, Boating Law Administrators, and folks that push boating safety programs and boating education programs (like us) have all contributed to this change in our safety climate.

Our contribution as a boating club is boating education, vessel safety checks, and various programs that promote safety on the water. You may have seen Commander Charles' letter to the Brunswick News regarding boating education opportunities provided by our local Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla and our own Golden Isles—America's Boating Club. There are other courses as well: The Georgia Department of Natural Resources has one, and on-line courses from Boat-Ed, Boater Exam, BOATsmart, and the Boat U.S. Foundation (whose course is free) are also available. Some of these courses offer a state recognized boater education card and some don't. But they all offer boater education with a significant emphasis on safety.

I've had occasion to mention the pandemic a couple of times in the article I write for the *Porthole*. It never occurred to me that there might be much of a relationship between the pandemic and boating—particularly boating safety. However, during the last 18 months—basically during the pandemic, 415,000 folks bought a boat for the first time. Just my opinion now, but I'd bet that most of them will be on the water at some point during the week of July 4. In addition to them you can add in the millions who already have a boat. Always be careful out there, but particularly during summer holidays.

And now for the bad news. On June 30, the Coast Guard released its 2020 Recreational Boating Statistics Report. Unfortunately, it showed a 25% increase nationwide in boating fatalities from 2019 with a total of 767 deaths. Accidents increased 26.3% from 4168 to 5265. Non-fatal injuries increased 24.7%.

The report is long and is packed with lots and lots of information about who, and what, and how. Information that is sobering as it relates to boating safety. The report has this to say: "The Coast Guard reminds all boaters to boat responsibly on the water: wear a life jacket, take a boating safety course, attach the engine cut-off switch, get a free vessel safety check, and boat sober."

COURSE NEWS

We don't typically have an ABC course in the summer; however, because of requests we are going to offer one July 17. It will be held in a different location and so if you know of anyone interested, please have them contact me or Commander Charles. Looking a little further out we are ordering an exam copy of the Basic Weather and Forecasting seminar booklet. We hope to schedule that seminar in late summer/early fall. The next regularly scheduled ABC course is October 9.

Mike Moye, SN

Education Officer

Club Yard Sale a Success!



Sharon Hindery, AP

My goodness, is it July already? As I write this, TS Elsa is heading our way, hopefully only for a bit of breezy heavy rain. It does remind us all to watch the weather forecasts and be safe this summer both on and off the water.

I must say that our yard sale was quite a success! Not only did we make about \$1000 in cash money... we still had enough STUFF left over to make significant donations to The Big Flea, Hello, Good Buy, and Habitat for Humanity Restore... All local Non Profits. As for the cash, we won't be spending it quickly, nor in one place...our discussions are ongoing. A donation will, however, be made to the "FOAR from Home" Veterans team for their row across the Atlantic Race. Thank you all for your sale items and help before, during, and after the sale... We were quite busy the whole time- so busy I forgot to take pictures –shame on me! As for the term " STUFF" ... I am formally retiring that word from my vocabulary for the foreseeable future!

Sharon Hindery
630 323 1206
sharona53@comcast.net

Club Achievements



Above, Cdr. Charles Wilsdorf, SN-ON presents Cathy Stortz, AP with a 2020 Distinctive Communicator Award for our club newsletter.

On right, Cdr. Wilsdorf (center) and Vicky Jefferis, JN (2nd from right) present Club members Joe Stortz, AP, Cathy Stortz, AP and Jack Sterrett, SN with their completion certificates for the Operations Training.

Photos submitted by Vicky Jefferis



Administrative Officer Report



AO Terry Osman, P

Hi everyone, it's been so nice meeting the visitors who have joined us recently and especially the several new members! There is definitely something special about our club that makes it unique. I happen to think it is all of you, and the sense of adventure, camaraderie and fellowship that we extend when we are together - especially on the water. I've also enjoyed our mutual healthy respect for the water and our responsibility while we are out there - for the safety of ourselves, fellow captains, crew, equipment and the environment.

Our recent cruises have been so much fun, and also have afforded us the opportunity to be on the water together - really the end game for what our club is about. It's the WHY behind our Club's commitment to boating education. Imagine being on the water if the largest portion of boaters out there at the same time were the LEAST edu-

cated/skilled ones we see periodically oooh that's a scary thought.

So A BIG THANK YOU to Ed Reynolds and the other cruise leaders and helpers for getting us out on the water after COVID.

Where I am, these rain patterns the past month have severely restricted my time on *Willow*. But I did get down (by land) to Metro Park city dock in Jacksonville over the 4th of July weekend. Again, it was rainy, and the marina was only about 10% full. However, there were five huge trawlers docked in adjacent slips. There were also picnic tables full of people under a pavilion in the park. I put 2 and 2 together when I saw the "Free Vessel Safety Check" banner. Of course! It was the America's Boating Club Jacksonville squadron out for their July 4th event! Even in the rain, they were having their fun. (However, they were IN cabin cruisers...)

We showed up at Metro Park to see the fireworks, but also to get a feel for the current there at max flood. It is well-known that there are potentially VERY difficult currents within the marina. Eddies were visible almost everywhere. Confused eddies. Heavy strait flow in a few spots. The flow was also completely absent in a few others. We also observed two boats on the outside of the T-dock which were subject to such strong lateral force from the wide river ONTO the dock that the vessels were literally pressed onto their leeboards, fenders and the bulkhead so tight that their spring lines were actually slack. (!!!!) I pondered the eddies and flow BELOW v. the same NEAR THE SURFACE. Doesn't all this sound like fun? I was glad I arrived via a comfy Nissan Murano. I identified one or two slips I might attempt at slack current if I ever happen to catch it; other than that I will stand clear.

We spoke to one of the USPS captains at length about their visit and docking into the slips they had chosen. He said one thing they had done was all agree that each vessel would come and go as they had the stomach for, as they judged the conditions they saw as they changed. He described one instance of a trawler becoming trapped horizontally at one point laying on dock posts (during an earlier visit). Interesting that all the dock posts (concrete) are wrapped in some kind of 2-3" padding.

Conclusion, Jacksonville Metro Park City Marina: have a plan B in your hip pocket because you'll probably want to use it. This was one time I'm actually glad my possible plans for a fun weekend fell through.

Terry Osman

June Cruise to St. Mary's GA



Vicky Jefferis



Cindy Simpson



Cindy Simpson

Cindy Simpson



Cindy Simpson



Vicky Jefferis



Cindy Simpson

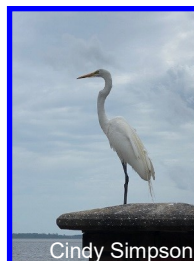
Arriving at Dock and Lunch in St. Mary's GA



Cindy Simpson



Vicky Jeffers



Cindy Simpson



Vicky Jeffers

June cruise to St. Mary's. On left; lunch at Lang's Marina Restaurant; top right, docking; bottom right, the sentential welcomes all to St. Mary's. Same bird sat for 2 pictures.

Get Your Club Burgee Here



We will soon be receiving a new stock of Club burgees.

Send a request to Terry Osman and a check payable to GISPS for \$35 (collected by Treasurer Teresa Wilsdorf). See us at the next meeting, or email/phone/text Terry at t.osman@att.net (414) 510-9338. They are sturdy little buggers, not soon to wear out! Especially if you add UV protectant spray.

Order yours now!

Safety Alert for Local Waters



Coastal Health District

Lawton C. Davis, M.D., District Health Director

2747 Fourth Street

Brunswick, Georgia 31520

Phone: 912-264-3961 | Fax: 912-265-8837

NEWS RELEASE

July 1, 2021

Media Contact:

Joint Information Center 912.944.7122

Public Advised of Possible Oil Impacts on Jekyll & St. Simons Islands

GLYNN COUNTY, GA – Swimmers and fishers should remain alert for possible oil impacts in the water and shoreline around Jekyll and St. Simons Islands.

Oil was released into the water Thursday during cutting and removal of a section of the Golden Ray, a capsized ship in the St. Simons Sound. According to the St. Simons Sound Incident Unified Command, response teams are watching the shoreline 24-hours a day so they can quickly remove any oily substances that reach the shore.

If you are swimming and see a sheen of oil on the surface of the water, get out of the water and report the sheen to the U.S. Coast Guard National Response Center at 1-800-424-8802. Do not swim or fish in an area with a visible oil sheen.

If you step on a tar ball or get oil on your skin, wash off the oil with soap and clean water. There is no need to use harsh detergents, solvents, or other chemicals to wash oil from skin or clothing – these could be harmful to you.

Additionally, shoreline survey teams continue to recover small pieces of debris related to the Golden Ray wreck removal. If you encounter what you believe is debris from the Golden Ray wreck, please do not handle the debris. Call the Debris Reporting Hotline at (912) 944-5620.

For additional information about today's operations, visit the response website at <https://www.stsimonssoundincidentresponse.com/post/section-three-cut-complete>.

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We Protect Lives.

America's Boating Club of Golden Isles Calendar July - September 2021

July

13 - ExCom Meeting at 5PM

17 - ABC Class - Location TBD

20 - Club Social at Nazzaro's Italian Cuisine on SSI

31 - Club Cruise to Satilla Riverside Cafe at the Hickory Bluff Club and Marina



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



2021 Club Cruise Dates
July 31

September

7 - Content for *The Porthole* due

14 - *The Porthole* distribution

14 - ExCom Meeting at 5PM

21 - Club Social



America's Boating Club Golden Isles 2020-2021 Bridge Contact Information

Commander	Charles Wilsdorf, SN-ON	912-265-9550	chaswi30@gmail.com
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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



Happy Birthday Jerry Lamb

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.