

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

April

- 19 - Club Social - FOAR from Home Presentation at 1800 Mexican Restaurant, Brunswick
- 23 - Club Cruise on Turtle River
- 30 - Boat Handling course begins

May

- 2,3,9,16,24,25 - Boat Handling course
- 17- Club Social at Morningstar Marina

June

- 18 - Club fishing charter from Hampton Marina with Capt. Brooks

Inside this issue:

Executive Officer Report	2
Admin Officer Report	3
Educational Officer Re-	4
Club Cruise Information	5
Wee Pub Pictures	6
Calendar and Contacts	7
ABC Class Photos	8
Membership	9

Commander's Message



Cdr Jerry Lamb

It was the winds of March – not the Ides – that derailed our plans for a March cruise for the second year in a row. Twenty MPH with gusts to 30 were the order of the day. However, the old proverb about an ill wind proved true that Saturday. Cathy and Joe ventured out and sheltering behind the Lanier Bridge had a great day of fishing. Congrats on their bravery and fishing skills.

There is another wind, metaphorically speaking, blowing through the national USPS organization that will affect all clubs. I noted in the January issue that the National Organization was studying how to address the decline in membership over the years. They have published a proposed reorganization change (<https://theensign.org/reorganization-update>) for consideration by the Board of

Governors. While there are controversial aspects to the recommendations, such as the elimination of districts and direct communication to members, the overall goal is to increase membership. A major part of the proposed approach is to

- Preserve and strengthen Club capabilities to serve their members
- Reduce burdens on Clubs and allow more freedom to do what they feel necessary
- Bolster the capabilities of local Clubs to market and teach boating education
- Improve communication to Clubs and to all members
- Provide better marketing and management tools to Clubs and undertake more National marketing campaigns

It is good that National will focus on the Clubs and will provide better tools, including updating the educational materials. In January, I said that GISPS has remained viable despite the national trend. Thanks to you, we continue to do so with a record number of students, more than some much bigger clubs, in both the February and April ABC classes and more new members. We continue to do civic duty by holding the ABC courses, offering Vessel Safety Checks, and cleaning up Liberty Ship Park. Also, Eileen has put together a great series of socials over the next few months. We will continue to pursue the goals published in the February PORTHOLE.

March's winds also brought something else, RAIN – and lots of it. I sometimes felt like an ark might be more appropriate than our current boat. We were able to go boating only five times in March. April brings hope for warmer and dryer weather - and a reminder that we all need to do a Spring safety check along with our polishing and scrubbing. In addition to your yearly Vessel Safety Check (call Ed Reynolds for yours, and we have a newly minted VSC examiner in XO Cynthia), make sure your engine is tuned, your dock lines not worn out, bilge pumps work, and all the myriad things that could spoil a day on the water or worse.

We will try the Blythe Island cruise again in April (see the cruise page for details) to see if it's the month or the location that's the jinx. The cruise director would like members to suggest cruise destinations, say whether you prefer long or short cruises, would consider cruises during the week, or any other thoughts to make cruises more fun and interesting. Just call, text, or email XO Cynthia with your ideas.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the FOAR From Home social on the 19th, at Blythe Island for the picnic, and just on the water.

Safe and pleasant boating this month,

Jerry

Boating Etiquette – Get Some!



XO Cynthia Lamb

Just like the old children's game "What's wrong with this picture?", see if you can identify what's wrong with these scenes. These all really happened to my husband and me.

Example #1: We need gas before heading out for the day. We pull out of our slip and head over to the gas dock. Typically, there are 2 gas pumps at Hampton River Marina, but today one is out of order. A young guy (all by himself) is gassing up when we first come by, so we wait. He finishes filling up and heads off in the direction of the marina office. So, we wait some more. No big deal, we are sure he is just going in to pay. Finally, some guy comes down to the boat carrying a case of beer. Unfortunately, he is not the boat operator, just a passenger. We ask this guy if he can move the boat. He says he can't, but he'll go get his buddy. So, he leaves and goes to the marina office. We continue waiting.

Example #2: After finally getting gas, we decide to go through Mosquito Creek. Mosquito Creek is pretty shallow, narrow, and very crooked. It can be pretty shallow in spots (less than 5 feet) even at high tide, but if you stay right in the middle and trim up a little it's doable. It is close to high tide, so we proceed. We go for a while before it gets really narrow. We come around a bend and see that there's someone anchored ahead right in the middle of the creek. There is no way we can continue with him anchored there, so we turn around.

Example #3: We come out of Mosquito Creek and get back into the Hampton River. We head south towards Sea Island and Village Creek. It's one of our favorite places to look for dolphins. A boat goes by and we wave at the people on the boat. No one waves back.

Example #4: After docking and getting ready to tidy things up, we notice a boat coming in to dock right next us. It is an older couple with 3 young children. It's very easy to tell that the operator is inexperienced, so we prepare to help them dock. As they get closer to the dock, one of the children is hanging over the gunwale using his hands to keep the boat from banging into the dock and to help get the boat in place. That's bad enough, but the boat carries no dock lines. The operator left his dock lines on the dock. (What he was going to do if he had to tie up at a different dock is beyond me.). We, along with one of the marina workers, quickly tied the dock lines onto his boat and then got him tied up to the dock.

Etiquette Lesson #1: At a fuel dock, get fuel, pay your bill and move out of the way. If you need to buy groceries or bait, relocate your boat.

Etiquette Lesson #2: Don't anchor in the middle of a channel.

Etiquette Lesson #3: Not waving to someone may seem trivial but I think it's important. In 2013, BoatUS conducted a survey that showed 99.4% of boat owners do wave to other boats. It is a nice, simple gesture. Waving to the other boaters can mean more than just a simple acknowledgment. Consider it more like a code among boaters: "We're in this together. I see you and I got you."

Etiquette Lesson #4: Okay, I realize that this goes way beyond a lack of etiquette. This guy needs to take our ABC Class, followed by Boat Handling ASAP! (Besides all of this operator's shortcomings, I also think it's bad form to use human beings as fenders.) An example of good boating etiquette was shown by the people who helped the boat get docked. Good boaters always try to lend a hand.

Understanding these unwritten rules of the water isn't just about being polite. It helps keep the water safer and less stressful for everyone. Be courteous out there and have fun!

Cynthia

Administrative Officer's Report - April



AO Eileen Berta

They say if March comes in like a lion, it will go out like a lamb. Let's hope that's true! Crazy March winds caused us to defer our Turtle River cruise and Blythe Island picnic. The Berta's ventured out the day prior, fueled up for the cruise, and enjoyed a delicious lunch at Zachry's in the Jekyll Marina. We definitely need to go back there as a group again this season! And if you haven't tried their shrimp salad sandwich and hushpuppies - don't miss your next opportunity! On our return to Morningstar, the winds had already quickened significantly and we definitely earned our Boat Handling badge getting back into the slip. Fortunately, there's no video..... Good call by Commander Lamb to defer the cruise in the interest of all our safety!

We had a great turnout for our March "St. Paddy's Day" social at Wee Pub. There was definite wearing - and drinking - of the green going on - who knew the Irish made green margaritas?? Fun times! The staff at Wee Pub did a great job with our pre-ordering and the service that night. We commended them on that and promised we will be back. Wherever possible, we will try to pre-order for our group socials in the future.

Our logo wear has arrived from Queensboro and looks great. For those who ordered and haven't gotten theirs yet, I will have your shirts and hats at the April Social.

We have a special event planned for April, as we will welcome back the FOAR from HOME team to share tales of their adventure and celebrate their success. We'll be meeting in a new venue, 1800 Mexican Restaurant in Brunswick. We are going to ask that you RSVP for this event, since I'm sure many of you may want to invite guests and prospective members, and we will need to let 1800 know how to configure their spacious event room based on our final number. The management at 1800 cannot accommodate pre-ordering but have committed to taking our orders and delivering meals in thirty minutes turn around. To facilitate this, please take a look at their extensive menu and be prepared with your selections that evening.

You can find the menu on the 1800 Facebook page at

https://m.facebook.com/pg/1800MexicanBrunswick/menu/?ref=page_internal&mt_nav=0

or from Rush Delivery at

<https://www.rushdelivery.co/r/1463/restaurants/delivery/Mexican/1800-Mexican-Restaurant-Brunswick>.

April Social - Welcome Home FFH!

When: Tuesday, April 19 at 6pm

Where: 1800 Mexican Restaurant

5296 New Jesup Hwy. (341)

Brunswick, GA

912-472-1603

RSVP: to Eileen by Friday, April 15

eileenberta@gmail.com

912-602-9500

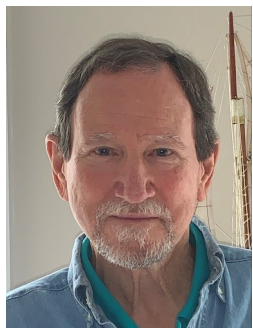
Upcoming schedule

May: Good news - the pavilion at Morningstar Marina has been repaired! And a grill has been added! We have reserved it for a pot luck social on May 17 to enjoy the Spring weather hopefully a great sunset over the water!

June: (Note the change) We have booked a club fishing charter with Captain Brooks leaving out of Hampton Marina on June 18th, 10am - 12pm. The cost is \$60 per person with everything you need included. Lunch will be planned for our return. We will need a minimum of 12 members participating, so we ask that you let Cynthia or Eileen know as soon as possible if you will participate. If we don't have 12 members, we will open it to guests. This will be a combined cruise/social event. We will have no separate social in June.

Eileen

Club Education Officer Report



CEO Mike Moyer, SN

The next ABC class is scheduled for April 9. At this writing there are still a few spots open, but we're pleased to have a great crowd signed up and hope to have a full (18) class. The fall class will be held October 8.

Boat Handling (Seamanship) kicks off on April 30. Folks are beginning to sign up and there lots of open seats left. It's slated to be a fun and very informative course and we hope that our membership will take advantage of this opportunity to increase both nautical knowledge and skills. We're also inviting the February 5 and April 9 ABC classes to participate in the Boat Handling course.

We are very pleased to announce that Commander Jerry Lamb and Executive Officer Cynthia Lamb are joining the instructional staff of America's Boating Club--Golden Isles. They are each teaching sections from the ABC course and have taken leadership in setting up the on-the-water demonstrations for the upcoming Boat Handling course. Thank you very much Commander Jerry and XO Cynthia for sharing your boating experience with us.

Mike Moyer, SN
Education Officer



Club Educational Officer Mike Moyer, SN teaching ABC Class on April 9, 2022. Photo by Cynthia Lamb.

More photos of ABC Class on page 8.

Club Cruise - Let's Try This Again...

Blythe Island and Turtle River Cruise and Picnic Part 2

So our first cruise of the season had to be canceled because of weather, so we're going to try again. Same itinerary, different date.

We will convene in the vicinity of the Blythe Island boat dock at 11:00 a.m. and journey up the Turtle River. After exploring that waterway up to Oak Grove Island, we will return to the Blythe Island boat dock for a picnic lunch. Our itinerary is as follows:

- WHEN: Saturday, April 23, 11:00am
- WHERE: Blythe Island Boat Dock (GPX file will be provided)
- ROUTE: Turtle River and return (GPX file will be provided)
- WHAT TO BRING: Lunch, drinks
- HOW TO SIGN UP: Reply to Cynthia Lamb by text (860-908-5148) or email (cynthia.l.lamb48@gmail.com) by Friday, April 22. Let me know how many will be attending and if you will be providing a boat (and how many extra passengers you can carry). You will be notified which boat you will be on and when/where to board. All are welcome!

Jerry and I will review the weather forecast on Friday, April 22 (keep your fingers crossed). If we determine that it is NOT safe to proceed, you will be notified ASAP. Otherwise, it's a go. Maximum boat speed is 20 knots (narrow waterway).

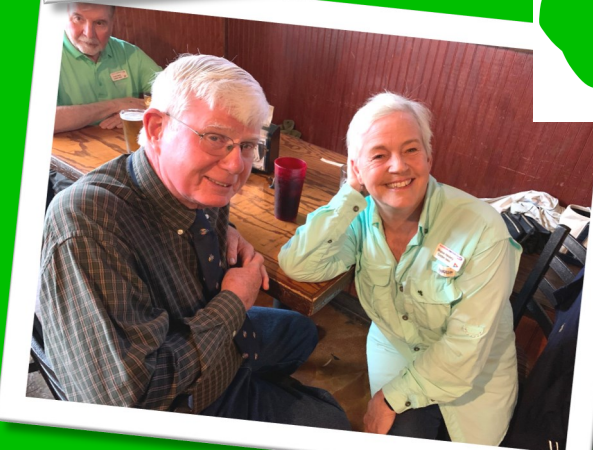
Hope to see you on the water!

Cynthia

March Club Social at Wee Pub in Brunswick



Clockwise from top left: socializing before dinner; Jerry and Cynthia Lamb; Cathy Brewer-Moore, Charles Wilsdorf, Vicky Jefferis; Frank and Eileen Berta; Rick and Sharon Hindery; Mike Carellas and Cynthia's mother Virginia Hoddy . All pictures provided by Cynthia and Eileen.



America's Boating Club of Golden Isles Calendar April - June 2022

April

19 - Club social - FOAR from Home Presentation at 1800 Mexican Restaurant, Brunswick

23 - Club cruise from Blythe Island dock

30 - Boat Handling course begins



May

2, 3, 9, 16, 24, 25 - Boat Handling course

3 - Content for *The Porthole* due

10 - *The Porthole* distribution

17 - Club social at Morningstar Marina



2022 Club Cruise Dates

April 23

June

7 - Content for *The Porthole* due

14 - *The Porthole* distribution

18 - Club fishing charter with Capt. Brooks at Hampton Marina



America's Boating Club Golden Isles 2021-2022 Bridge Contact Information

Commander	Jerry Lamb	860 908-4678	lambo50@icloud.com
Executive Officer	Cynthia Lamb	860-908-5148	cynthia.l.lamb48@gmail.com
Administrative Officer	Eileen Berta	912 602-9500	eileenberta@gmail.com
Club Education Officer	Mike Moye, SN	229-454-6791	mmoye@surfsouth.com
Secretary	Whit Wright	404-697-7452	whitpw@aol.com
Treasurer	Teresa Wilsdorf, S	912-265-9550	tmwilsdorf@aol.com
Asst. Education Officer	Charles Wilsdorf, SN-ON	912-265-9550	chaswi30@gmail.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	Sharon Hindery, AP	630-323-1206	sharona53@comcast.net
Porthole Editor	Cathy Stortz, AP	912-222-1038	cstortz777@yahoo.com
Website & Publicity	Sharon Hindery, AP	630-323-1206	sharona53@comcast.net

Additional Photos of April 9, 2022 ABC Class - Photos by Cynthia Lamb



Vicky Jefferis, JN teaching the ABC Class.



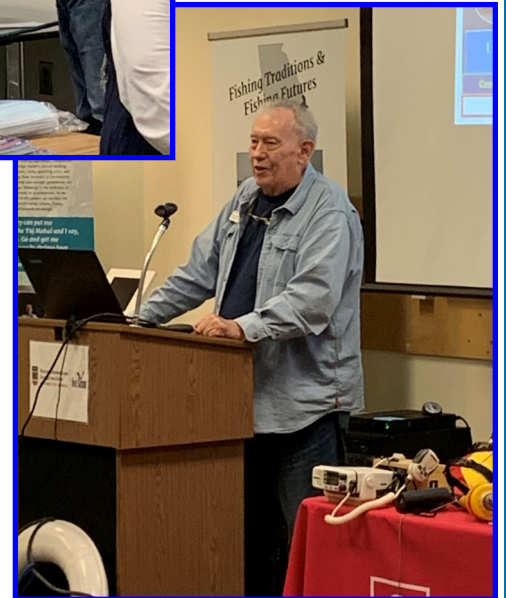
Cathy Moore-Brewer and Cdr. Jerry Lamb



Charles Wilsdorf, SN-ON demonstrates a knot to a student.



Pieter van Steen and Cdr Jerry Lamb



Charles Wilsdorf, SN-ON teaching the ABC Class



On March 26 Joe and I had a great day of fishing near the Sydney Lanier bridge on outgoing tide. It was extremely windy but we brought home black drum, weakfish, sea trout and sheephead. Joe also caught and released a gigantic red drum. -Cathy Stortz

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 20,000 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.