



GEECHEE SAILING CLUB RHUMB LINE



COMMODORE, Stuart Gough

Hello Everyone,

Like just about everyone else, it feels as though the world as we knew it has been turned upside down during this past couple of months. In my memory at least, this is an unprecedented and total dislocation of things we all took for granted...going out, meeting people, socializing, etc.

It has become almost impossible to plan anything with any degree of certainty regarding the GSC social and cruising activities.

However, I should point out that although it appears that everything has just about stopped with cancellation after cancellation of the club's activities, I can assure you that

our Board members are busy behind the scenes planning for even bigger and better things when we get the "all clear" and can finally press on.

The club is blessed this year with a group of Board members who are dedicated to improving and expanding all aspects of the club and events...that has not changed, and we will succeed!

One of the things we have discussed in an effort to continue the early momentum that we experienced at the start of the year is introducing a mailout in addition to the Rhumb Line. Linda Howard suggested we call it the "Geechee Gab." It would be in email format with articles, comments,

stories, photos, jokes, advertisements, etc. - **by the members for the members.** It can be anything we want it to be.

All you need to do is email your contribution to her (howardhome@comcast.net). She will then cut and paste them into one email to be sent out around the middle of the month.

Finally, can I ask you all to stay safe and be responsible until the good times return...as they will!

P.S. An old girlfriend left a note on the screen of my Jaguar saying, "Sorry, this just isn't working." I turned the key and it started just fine...what was that all about?....

MEETINGS: Every second Monday of the month at Hilliard's, 3316 Skidaway Rd. Order dinner at 6:00; meeting at 7:00.

WEBSITE:

www.geecheesailingclub.org

EMAIL ADDRESS:

geecheesailingclub@hotmail.com

FACEBOOK:

Geechee Sailing Club

**GEECHEE SAILING CLUB'S
UPCOMING CRUISES,
PARTIES, & RACES**

May 23-25 = Memorial Day Cruise to Ft. McAllister

June 8 = Meeting Speaker Walt Suter of Sailors' Marine

June 20 = Low Country Boil with Live Music and Yard Games; Ed Harms'

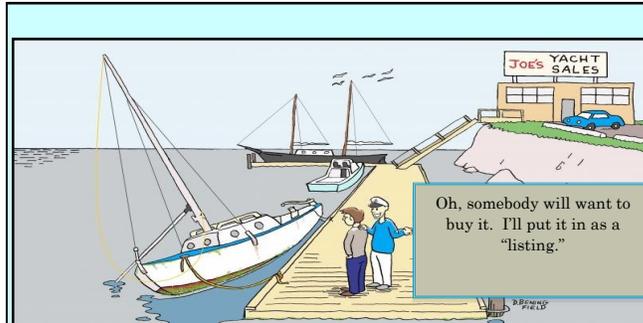
August 22 = Potluck & Bingo; Marsh Harbor Clubhouse

VICE COMMODORE, Dawson Long



From the desk of the Vice Commodore, I want to assure you that the speakers are still in the plans to speak when we are given the opportunity. I hope that everyone rests enough to absorb the beauty around the water.

Have faith that we will win this battle for our health!



TREASURER, Pat Howard

Social Distancing:

Not long after “shelter in place” was mandated, Joy and I decided to take advantage of a nice weather window and cruise *Southern Breeze* to Wassaw for a few days. We put our chores and to-do lists aside, loaded our food and gear on board, and headed out on April 7th with a fair tide and good weather.

An hour later we had the anchor down in Odingsell River (we dock the boat at Delegal Marina, so a short trip). We splashed the dinghy, lowered the outboard, and slipped into cruising mode. As we scanned our surroundings, we found we were totally “socially isolated” - not another boat or soul within five miles. After lunch, we took the dinghy to the beach and confirmed our census. There were, however, 20 or so dolphins to keep us company with their acrobatics.

Back on board that evening, we grilled burgers and watched a large alligator swim across the fetch to Pine Island. Swimming was off the agenda for sure! Following a roly tide change, the river settled down for a quiet night.

Wednesday dawned clear but windy, so we moved the boat into Wassaw Creek and had smooth water there. We spent the day watching the resident eagles chase trespassing ospreys from their territory, then cruised the creeks in the dingy before making our afternoon trip back to the beach. Lo and behold, there were two boats at the beach! They departed soon after our hike around the point, so no distancing guidelines were broken.

Several thunderstorms came through on Thursday morning, but had cleared the area in time for our trip back to Delegal. We eased into the slip as flood tide went slack.

A perfect cruise afforded by the awesome area we call home!



CRUISE CHAIR, Judy Grissette

It was a beautiful day Saturday, April 18, in the Herb River with visiting boats of Mary Ellen & Larry Sprague and Angela Margolit and her crew. We stayed safe as you can see in the photos. Sunday morning was lovely, and we got home well before the rain. Hope to have lots more of these impromptu cruises.



Although the club's Brunswick Cruise was cancelled due to the Coronavirus, the Grissettes and Howards are still headed that way the first part of May. Let me know if you want to join us.

The Memorial Day Cruise is definitely on for Ft. McAllister Marina May 23-25. Everyone is responsible for making their own reservations (912/727-2632). Do it now since you can always cancel. It was a very well-attended cruise in the past.

Saturday night we will have the cocktail party with hors d'oeuvres around 5:00. If the restaurant is open, some people may want to do supper afterwards. Sunday morning will be the potluck brunch with the Mimosa makings. Hopefully, we can use the outside seating at the restaurant.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR, Linda Meyer

During this time of physical separation and social distancing, it is more important than ever to keep our social connections. People join the Geechee Sailing Club to be part of an organization with like-minded people who love boating and socializing. They stay because of the connections they make. Our relationships are important, and we need to strengthen the ones we have - and even build new ones. What might this look like in our changed world?

For starters, we can help our club stay strong, and even prosper, by working together and taking care of or checking in on each other. All of us have had our normal routines disrupted. And when people take a break from these routines for an extended period, they sometimes find other things to fill the gap. That is why it's vitally important that we keep our members connected and engaged in new ways.

With our creativity and innovation, we can reach out to each other to help our friends who are members get through these strange times. Here are some ideas:

*First of all, we want to be sure that everyone is OK. If you need anyone to run an errand for you to get food, medicine, or anything else, please let someone know. I volunteer myself to help in any way I can. You can call me at 912/657-5272 or email me at lindameyer47@yahoo.com. I can certainly run an errand for you and bring it to your house - and still practice "social distancing." I am sure there are others in the club who would be willing to do this also. You can let me know if you need errands run or if you would be interested in helping.

*Communicate with members through email or our Facebook page.

*Have a Zoom party on your smart phone, tablet, or PC with a group of members. I have been doing this with a group of my friends every Monday.

*Facetime or Skype a member you haven't seen in a long time. Perhaps they know how to fix some-

thing on your boat and you could get some ideas.

*Just give a few members a call. Find out how they are and let them know how you are. Connections are important at this time.

*Let the other members know what you have been doing while you have been sheltering at home. Send some stories to Linda Howard so she can pass them on. We would love to hear some humorous situations that the pandemic has brought on or some inspiring ones that you have heard or been part of. Or have you been working on your boat?

I know we will all be glad when this is over and we can come back together and socialize and enjoy our beautiful boating environment as a club again, but in the meantime, let's try to keep our friendships in the club strong by reaching out to each other.

**REMEMBER...
20 in 2020**

SECRETARY, Kim Breland

Once upon a time in grade school, I was required to memorize and recite *Sea Fever* by John Masefield. When I am on the beach or out on the water, fragments of this serene poem often wander through my mind. For your enjoyment, here is *Sea Fever* in its entirety:

I must go down to the seas again, to the lonely sea and the sky,
And all I ask is a tall ship and a start to steer her by.
And the wheel's kick and the wind's song and the white sail's shaking,

And a grey mist on the sea's face,
and a grey dawn breaking.

I must go down to the seas again, for the call of the running tide
Is a wild call and a clear call that may not be denied;
And all I ask is a windy day with the white clouds flying,
And the flung spray and the blown spume, and the sea-gulls crying.

I must go down to the seas again, to the vagrant gypsy life,

To the gull's way and the whale's way, where the wind's like a whetted knife;

And all I ask is a merry yarn from a laughing fellow-rover,
And quiet sleep and a sweet dream when the long trick's over.

RACE CHAIR, Angela Margolit

Thanks again to all those who donated items and services for the Tricky Tray. We are saving them for next year!

Please note that the McIntosh Cup, originally scheduled by the Savannah Yacht Club for May 16-17, has been postponed to probably the Fall.

Looking for crew? Looking to be someone else's crew? Download the ASA app: Go Sailing!



Did you see this? Yes, it was a slow day for news, but we benefited from it nicely.



A sailor brings his boat up to a restaurant dock to eat lunch.

The dockhand says, "I'm sorry, sir, but I can't let you dine here today. This establishment has a necktie policy, and you are not wearing one."

"Of course I don't have a tie on," replied the sailor, "I'm on a boat!"

"Well, go down below and put one on," said the dockhand.

"I don't HAVE one!" shouted the sailor.

The dockhand, not wanting to turn away a customer, said: "Well, why don't you just find something that approximates a tie. That should be OK."

After some time, the sailor comes out with a pair of jumper cables. "This is all I could find to put around my neck," he said.

Sighing, the dockhand replied, "OK, I'll let you in with those, but just don't start anything."

SOCIAL CHAIR, Elke Quinn

Our Saturday, June 20, social will be held at Ed Harms' house at 290 Center Dr. After trying several different venues, I had to modify the activities, and Ed volunteered his wonderful backyard. We will be doing a Low Country Boil, beverages, appetizers, and desserts. We'll also have yard games and live music (Savannah Steve).

THIS WILL BE FREE TO ALL CLUB MEMBERS! Guests will be \$20 per person.

As for the August social, we will probably have a potluck and Bingo at the Marsh Harbor Clubhouse Saturday, August 22. Details on that will come later.

I know we will all look forward to getting together again and having some fun!



Remember Meetings?!



COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR, Linda Howard

What are Liberty Ships, and what do they have to do with Savannah?

Some of you may not know that Savannah was a major player in the building of the Liberty Ships that helped save the U.S. in WWII. These ships were built to carry supplies to our troops in Europe - as well as carry new troops.

Just after Germany declared war on the U.S. in December 1941, Germany began a concentrated assault on American commerce along our coastline. It was referred to as "the American Hunting Season." Within a month, an average of 19 German U-boats were off our coast every day, and on January 12th, they sank the British passenger steamship *Cyclops* off of Cape Cod. They proceeded to sink 70 ships in March! (Within 3 years, they sank 3,600 ships!) By April of 1942, the Savannah City Council adopted an ordinance declaring our entire waterfront a restricted zone. It prohibited "fishing, smoking, and selling or consuming liquor within the zone." It also made it unlawful for unauthorized

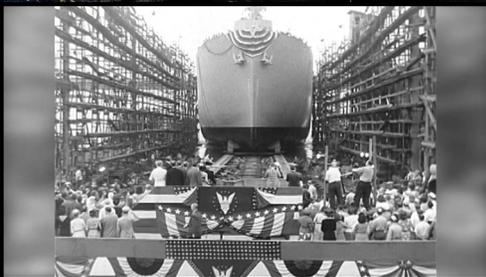
cameras or photographic equipment.

To combat these horrible losses, the U.S. began gearing up cities to replace the lost ships and brought workers from towns and farmlands - and many women - to work in our shipyard just east of downtown! It is said that we had up to 10,000 employed at the shipyards in Savannah and Brunswick. Within 4 years, the U.S. launched 2,710 Liberty Ships, and Savannah had built 88 at a rate of one a week! The Brunswick port built 85. These ships were 441' x 56' with a 27' draft and a speed of up to about 13 mph. They also carried approximately 500 troops each with bunks stacked 5-high!

Needless to say, Savannah served as a significant cargo port for products to Great Britain and war supplies for our troops in Europe. These ships carried tanks, jeeps, half-tracks, trucks, communica-

tion equipment, medical supplies, assault boats, scrap iron, amphibious tractors, explosives, and even airplanes - not to mention troops.

So, since it is said that these Liberty Ships are credited with turning the tide in the critical Battle of the Atlantic, then it can also be said that Savannah had a big part in our victory



MEMBER AT LARGE, David Breland

I used to own a 1972 Cobia "Holiday" 17 ft. runabout. It had a closed bow with an opening windshield that allowed me to get up front and stand to conduct various tasks such as anchor, cast, fish, or hail down passing boats when the engine failed, which it often did. It had an ancient, super unreliable, pushbutton shift 100 hp Evinrude. The engine broke down so often that I christened the craft "Ineedatow."

One time it quit running right in front of Pigeon Island. I took the cowling off and was standing in about waist-high water working on the motor when the screwdriver I held touched an electrical component, creating an arc so big and bright that I flung the screwdriver straight up about 20 ft. in the air! The screwdriver landed in the water near

me. We all know how opaque the water is around here! However, I just reached down through the murk and placed my hand right on it! Voilà! I found it!

After yet another tow back to the ramp at Skidaway Narrows, I took the boat home to troubleshoot. My uncle Ric Fraker came over and, after intricate analysis with a multi-meter, he declared there was a faulty diode. We trekked over to the nearby Radio Shack and purchased a simple, square diode off the shelf. I must admit that I had my doubts. But Ric was sure this was going to correct the issue. We bolted it on and wired it up. Much to my pleasant surprise, he was correct and the engine fired right

up! Never doubt Uncle Ric!

Alive, Active, Inside and Out

COBIA has taken the lead again this year with the most exciting, new interior designs in the marine industry. The fully-carpeted deluxe interiors are color-coordinated with each of the lively new hull colors. Added to the great new look are many extra safety features, even more durable construction and a long list of standard equipment (including a convertible top). For a color catalog of the complete model line and the name of your nearest COBIA dealer, write:

Cobia BOATS, INC.
SANFORD, FLORIDA 32771
800-868-7623

Labels in the diagram include: LESS ANCHOR CAPSET, INCLUDES BOWLINE HOLDERS, GLASS BOW, TINTED GLASS WINDSHIELD, DEEP V BOW DESIGN WITH WINDSHIELD, DOUBLE CONTINUED COORDINATE VINYL INTERIOR, CONTINUED DEEP LUM BUNNET SEATS, RIBBY SEATS, DOUBLE CARBONIDE RESISTANT BATTERY, DOUBLE BATTERY WITH AIR CHAMBERS, DEEP V HULL, DOUBLE LIFE CONSTRUCTION, NEW COOL ACCELERATOR, VIA SELECTED BOWLINE LIGHTS, MECHANICAL STEERING, LITE-BUCKY FLOORING, and BIA CERTIFIED.

FLOTSAM AND JETSAM

More from the list of boating terminology that was posted in 2006:

Deviation - any departure from the Captain's orders.

Dinghy - the sound of the ship's bell.

Displacement - when you dock your boat and can't find it later.

Estimated Position - a place you have marked on the chart where you are sure you are not.

First Mate - crew member necessary for skippers to practice shouting instructions to.

FOR SALE

Mercury outboard, motor, 2.5 hp, 4 stroke - \$300

Nissan outboard motor, 5 hp, 4 stroke - \$300

Tohatsu outboard 6 hp, 4 stroke - \$400

J24 Spinnaker - \$250

J24 New Code Zero - \$600

} Rich Moore (mooregames1@comcast.net)

Broadband 3G Simrad Radar with monitor (no wiring), 2017 - never used - \$500.

Call Linda Howard, 658-7398.



Northhill Storm Anchor, foldable and stainless steel. \$300. Call Tommy Howard, 658-4281

Looking for Code Zero in good condition for 40' boat (contact Rich Moore

2020 OFFICERS

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- Vice Commodore Dawson Long
- Past Commodore Kevin Quinn
- Secretary Kim Breland
- Treasurer Pat Howard
- Social Chair Elke Quinn
- Cruise Chair Judy Grissette
- Race Chair Angela Margolit
- Membership Chair Linda Meyer
- Communications/Editor Linda Howard
- Member at Large David Breland

For questions or comments, contact Linda Howard, Editor (howardhome@comcast.net)