



# The Ocean Breeze

An official publication of America's Boating Club of Hilton Head

"Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the Friends"



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## EVENTS CALENDAR

### JULY

- 18 **CANCELLED/Makeup date TBD.** Cruise south to Wilmington River w/Beaufort PS. Lunch @ Tubby's Tank House Thunderbolt, GA
- 31 Makeup Magellan Cruise #4 from 7-16-18. Combined cruise to Fripp Island with the Yacht Club of Hilton Head.

### AUGUST

- 11 Cruise to Fripp Island via back channels with Beaufort PS; Lunch at Bonito Boathouse
- 15 Magellan Society Cruise to Daufuskie Island, 11:00, w/lunch at Eagle's Nest/Bloody Point
- 20 Ex Comm Meeting, 6:30 p.m., HHI Senior Center

### SEPTEMBER

- 13 Cruise to Tybee Island with Beaufort PS, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
- 22 CPR Training (Location TBD)
- 24 Ex Comm Meeting, 6:30 p.m., HHI Senior Center
- 26 30-Year Anniversary Celebration, Harbour Town Yacht Club, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.
- 29 Magellan Society Day-Long Cruise around Hilton Head Island with lunch at Harbour Town's Quarterdeck restaurant

### OCTOBER

- 1, 4, 8, 11, 15, 18, 22, 25, 29, Nov 1 Piloting, 6:30 p.m., HHI Senior Ctr
- 16 Monthly Dinner Meeting (Location TBD)
- 20, 27 America's Boating Course (ABC) Location TBD
- 20 Marine Radar, 9:00 a.m., HHI Senior Center
- 22 Ex Comm Meeting, 6:30 p.m., HHI Senior Center



This year marks an important milestone for our Club and we want you to join in the celebration!  
Hilton Head Sail & Power Squadron  
(now America's Boating Club™ of Hilton Head) is  
"Looking Back, Cruising Forward"

In honor of our Club's **30-Year Anniversary** we are hosting an exciting event on **Wednesday, September 26, 2018** at the **Harbour Town Yacht Club**.

## Message from Commander Mark Larson, AP



Ahoy!

I hope you all had a great 4th of July and are enjoying our cool and dry Summer. OK, cool and dry not so much! Nonetheless, we've had wonderful participation in the various boating events Barb Sommers and Mike Gilroy have organized so far this year, and there is more to come as we cruise into Fall.

We have had a great influx of new members this year, 53 so far, which is 27% of our current membership total of 200. And our new members are active: 28 of the 53 have participated in one or more of our boating events, 17 in one or more of our social gatherings, and 30 in one or more of our educational programs. These numbers are a very encouraging sign of the vitality of our Club. And a big thanks to those members who have opened their arms to the new folks.

We've taken our normal summer break from dinner meetings, but we have a full schedule for the rest of the year with gatherings scheduled for September through December. Most significant is our upcoming 30th Anniversary celebration, which is scheduled for September 26th at the Harbour Town Yacht Club. There will be more to follow as to particulars of the event; but put the date on your calendars now. You won't want to miss it!

Unfortunately, the weather didn't cooperate with our planned picnic on June 30th. We will reconsider the timing for next year. Part of the plans for that picnic included a recognition of our Merit Mark awardees for the 2016-2017 year. Those folks went above and beyond to make America's Boating Club of Hilton Head a great organization. When you have an opportunity, please thank these members for their contributions:

- |                      |                   |                       |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| * Terry Baehr        | * Mike Gilroy     | * Bob Newbert         |
| * Craig Christiansen | * Dick Herrin     | * Steve Rahn          |
| * Glenn Crews        | * Mick Holroyde   | * Barb Sommers        |
| * Debbie Dion        | * Paul Hoyte      | * Nancy Stermer-Hoyte |
| * Pete Dion          | * Klaus Loehr     | * Larry Tremitiere    |
| * Mark Dryden        | * Robert McKenzie | * Cecil Viverette     |
| * Joe Etter          | * Barry Moore     |                       |

Which leads me to a final thought. As our membership continues to grow, and more and more folks participate in our various activities, we all should keep in mind that we are a volunteer organization. As members we must all do our part, like the folks mentioned above, to keep our organization moving forward. The activities of the Club that we all enjoy don't happen if members don't step up to help out. Please consider adding your assistance in the following areas where we need help and leadership:

- \* Education instructors and Education Department support
- \* Boating activity planning and operations
- \* Social event planning and operations
- \* Bridge and Member-at-Large staffing
- \* Vessel Safety Check examiners
- \* Expanded community outreach and civic participation
- \* Rejuvenation of co-op charting
- \* Public relations and external communications

Thanks for your consideration, your participation, and your contribution!

Wish you all smooth seas,

**Mark**

## Bluffton Kids Explore Local Waters with America's Boating Club of Hilton Head

Bluffton Boys & Girls Club members discovered the beauty of Lowcountry waterways through America's Boating Club of Hilton Head's "Day On The Water" (DOW) program, a two-part program introducing them to boating.

"We start out with Sea School, a land-based session giving the kids an overview of boats; where we will go on the water; and what we will see when we're out there," said Bob Newbert who developed the program three years ago. "We want the experience to be more than just a boat ride. We want every child to learn about boating and our natural environment."

Newbert explained that sea school includes nautical terminology, basic navigation using ATONs, VHF radio protocol, charts and chart plotters. Sea School also covers the history of our local waterways and the animals and natural wonders they'll see along the way.

"We talk about the 1861 Battle of Port Royal which freed the slaves of Hilton Head two years before the Emancipation Proclamation; how dolphins sleep; the capacity of a pelican's gullet and what makes our oysters so very different from oysters in other parts of the country," he said. "We also do 'hands on' exercises to drive the lessons home with demonstrations on how a lock works to raise and lower boats; propulsion systems for jet boats; and how oysters get their food."

This year's Sea School was held at the Bluffton Boys & Girls Club on June 28 and followed by "graduation" Day On The Water - July 9. Barbara Sommers, Paul Hoyte, Nancy Stermer, Glenn Crews, Pete Dion, Larry Tremitiere and Dick Herrin served as captains and first mates for "Day on The Water."

"Most of the kids had never been on a boat," said Bob Newbert. "It was a joy to see their delight in discovering the beauty of our rivers, creeks and sounds."

The most popular part of the day according to Newbert was seeing dolphins after learning about them during Sea School. "It's one thing to hear about them in a pre-cruise talk," Newbert said, "but it's a whole different feeling when several of them swim alongside your boat."

The kids, who ranged from 12 to 15 years old, are graduates of the Boys & Girls Club Explorer's Program, an intensive, paramilitary-style leadership training program that starts every day at 5AM with physical training. "Day On The Water" is their reward for making it through Explorers.

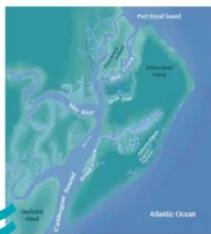
Once out on the water, ABCHH captains reinforced the lessons of Sea School by pointing out ATONs, boating Rules of The Road and other sights and attractions. In addition, each child had the opportunity to drive the boat with the assistance of an ABCHH captain. One child on each boat was also designated "radioman" to communicate with other boats in the fleet using proper marine radio protocol.

Our club DOW fleet pulled into Harbour Town for lunch at the Quarterdeck Restaurant followed by a tour of the kitchen, admission to the Harbour Town Lighthouse and ice cream.

At the end of the cruise, America's Boating Club of Hilton Head presented each honorary crew member with a hat embroidered with our club burgee, and a framed "Day On The Water" certificate inscribed with their name.

"It was a fun day the kids will always remember," said Bob Newbert, "but I'm not sure who has more fun - the kids of the Bluffton Boys & Girls Club or our captains sharing their love of boating with others."

# DAY ON THE WATER

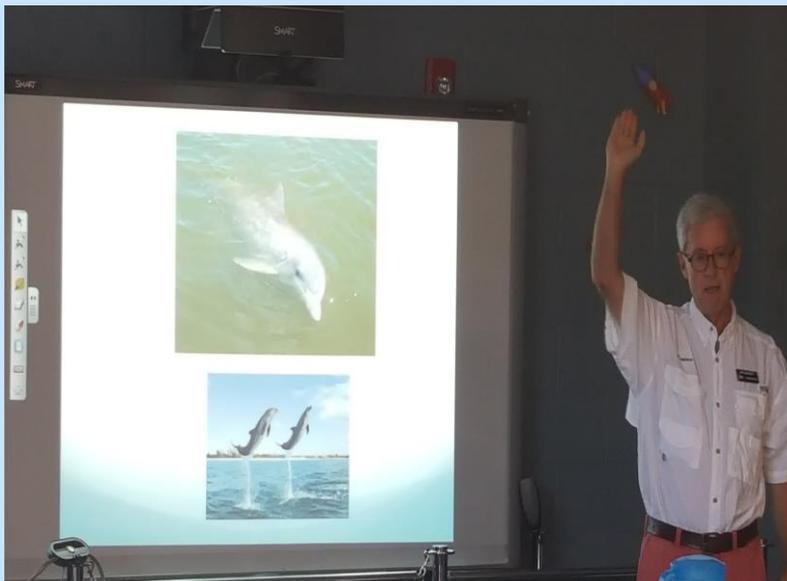


\_\_\_\_\_ has successfully completed a Lowcountry "Day On The Water" with the America's Boating Club of Hilton Head sailing from Skull Creek to Port Royal Sound, Mackay Creek, Calibogue Sound, and Harbour Town Yacht Basin.

**SIGHTS AND SOUNDS ALONG THE WAY INCLUDED:**

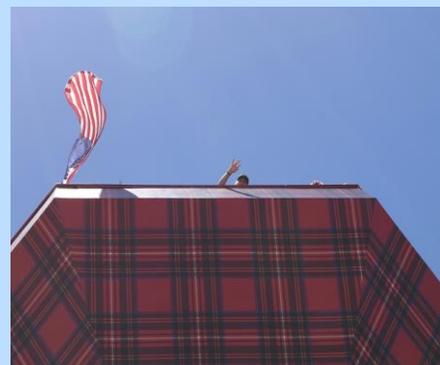
- Aids to Navigation (ATONS)
- Battle of Port Royal
- Beaufort County Tidal Range
- Chartplotter Navigation
- Daufuskie Island Ferry
- Dolphins
- Intracoastal Waterway (ICW)
- Marlinspike Seamanship
- Oyster Beds
- Parasailors
- Pelicans
- Pinckney Island Wildlife Refuge
- Spanish Wells
- VHF Radio Communications
- Windmill Harbor Lock System

GREAT FUTURES START HERE.



Bob Newbert is the instructor for "Sea School" at the Day On The Water event held July 9, 2018.





A note of thanks to Peter Dion for providing us with all of these great photographs from the "Day On The Water." All of the participants had a great day with the kids for the third year running. Special thanks to Bob Newbert for organizing this wonderful event. And thank you to all of our members who served as captains and crew. **YOU ALL MADE THIS HAPPEN.**





## SKIP THE STRAW ... SAVE A SEA TURTLE

In the United States alone, over 500 million straws are used each day for an average of only 20 minutes. It then takes 200 years for one plastic straw to degrade. Plastic accounts for 90 percent of the pollution in the ocean.

- Straws are the 11<sup>th</sup> most common trash found in our oceans. As they break down, they release chemicals that can be toxic to both wildlife and the environment.
- Over 1 million shore birds and 100,000 marine animals die ingesting plastic each year.

Please help Hilton Head and Bluffton preserve our precious coastal environment by reducing our plastic usage. Seattle, Washington is the first major city in the United States to ban plastic. Recently, all McDonald's in the U.K. banned the use of plastic straws. Next year, all of the United Kingdom will ban all plastic straws, plastic bags and Q-tips.

More than 50 restaurants and bars around Hilton Head and Bluffton have jumped on the band wagon to eliminate plastic straw usage, as a result of a local #Strawless Summer campaign sponsored by Palmetto Ocean Conservancy. Locally, Beaufort County became the first in South Carolina to adopt a countywide ban in February 2018 on plastic bags. Businesses have until October 14, 2108 to stop providing plastic bags at checkout counters. Please become an eco-friendly steward to our Low Country environment.



## Weekenders Show their Stuff

by Mike Gilroy, JN



Once again, despite thunderstorm predictions less than 24 hours earlier, Sunday, July 1, dawned mostly sunny with light winds and stayed that way the entire day.

A modesty-sized, but exceptionally enthusiastic, group of 12 Magellan Society boaters, divided equally between two boats, launched at 10 a.m. to do the June version of the Magellan Society Weekend Make-Up Cruise. Its purpose, of course, was to combine Magellan Society cruises 1, 2 and 3 (Buck, Pinckney and Bull Islands) in a single day for those members whose schedules had prohibited their participation in one or more of those cruises held on weekdays.

Our journey began with a cruise around Pinckney through Mackay Creek, followed by a shot up the May River and across Bull Creek, followed by a great light lunch at Daufuskie Island's ONLY REMAINING PUBLIC RESTAURANT, the Daufuskie Crab Company. Photographic evidence confirms good food and adult beverages were consumed by all, including an unexpected Long Island Tea by one of our younger cruisers! Also caught in the act of potential mutiny was First Mate, Leslie Gilroy, who strongly considered abandoning Island Freedom 1 in favor of captaining her own boat, the "S.S. Scrap Iron." Fortunately, sanity prevailed.

Lunch was followed by a cruise along the channel between Bull Island and Middlemarsh Island to demonstrate how calm it is in that channel when Calibogue Sound is challengingly rough.

Everyone returned to their home port by 1:30, with extravagant promises to participate in all the rest of the Magellan Society cruises.

P.S. I must note in passing the sad demise of both an island institution, Marshside Mama's, as well as The Eagle's Nest at Bloody Point Resort, the latter being the only Daufuskie Island restaurant with both air conditioning and INDOOR PLUMBING (!!). Their passing will severely limit our lunch location choices; but, never fear, the Magellan Society will persevere with many other, varied choices for our intrepid members!

