



# The Ocean Breeze

An official publication of America's Boating Club® of Hilton Head  
"For Boaters, By Boaters™"



Volume 33

Number 9

August 2018

## Editorial Staff

Debbie Dion  
Editor

Cdr. Mark Larson, AP  
Consulting Editor

The Ocean Breeze is published monthly by the America's Boating Club® of Hilton Head, a unit of the United States Power Squadrons. Articles in this publication represent the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the policy of the United States Power Squadrons or the America's Boating Club of Hilton Head.

## The Bridge

Commander, Mark Larson, AP  
abchhcdmrl@gmail.com  
843-706-2420

Executive Officer, Walter Kirk, AP  
walterckirk@aol.com  
843-342-3931

Education Officer, Peter Dion, SN  
peterjdion@gmail.com  
631-456-9134

Administrative Officer  
Vacant

Treasurer, Craig Christiansen, P  
christiansenhhi@yahoo.com  
843-342-3767

Secretary, Debbie Dion  
Ladyd\_gi@hotmail.com  
734-558-4971

WEBSITE  
americasboatingclubofhiltonhead.org  
-or- abchh.org

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### SEPTEMBER

- 13 Tybee Island joint cruise w/Beaufort Club, 10:00-4:00, Lunch at AJ's
- 15 Fripp Island make-up cruise
- 22 CPR Training, 8:30-11:30 am, HHI Senior Center
- 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

### OCTOBER

- 1,4,8,11,15,18,22,25,29,Nov 1 - Piloting, 6:30 p.m., HHI Senior Ctr
- 13 Magellan Society Fall Make-up Cruise, lunch at Salty Dog
- 15 Colleton River Cruise and Oyster Roast presented by Sea Eagles Market at the Colleton River Club community dock. This will be a land and sea cruise; land lovers welcome to join by car.
- 16 Dinner Meeting w/2019 Officer Elections, Indigo Run, 6:30 pm
- 20,27 America's Boating Course (ABC) 8:30-1:00, HH Boathouse Showroom on Fording Island Road
- 20 Marine Radar, 9:00 a.m., HHI Senior Center
- 22 Ex Comm Meeting, 6:30 p.m., HHI Senior Center
- Fall Large Boat Cruise - date TBD

### NOVEMBER

- 1 Piloting, 6:30 p.m., HHI Senior Center
- 8 Change of Watch dinner/Skull Creek Dockhouse, 6:30 p.m.
- 5,8,12,15,19 Seamanship, 6:30 p.m., HHI Senior Center
- 10 Using GPS Seminar, 8:30-11:30 am, Location TBD
- 19 Ex Comm Meeting - 2019 Calendar, 6:30 p.m., HHI Senior Ctr

### DECEMBER

- 1 How to Use a Chart Seminar, 9:00 a.m., HHI Senior Center
- 11 Holiday Dinner Meeting w/Shore Notes, 6:30 p.m., Indigo Run

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**.

"America's Boating Club® is a trademark of the United States Power Squadrons®"



## Message from Commander Mark Larson, AP

### BE A GOOD CREW MEMBER



In an article published in *Boating Magazine*, by Jim Hendricks, some good suggestions are made regarding a role many of us in America's Boating Club® of Hilton Head play: **crew member**.

Skippering your own boat brings rewards, but it also comes with responsibility and extra work. So occasionally, it's nice to jump aboard another boat and let someone else shoulder the burden that weighs heavy on the helm.

Considerate and experienced guests - especially those who captain their own boats - take on responsibilities to help the skipper. Here are 10 tips for being the best crew member ever.

1. **SHOW UP EARLY** A now-departed boating mentor once told me: "If you're on time, You're late". Arriving 10 to 15 minutes ahead of the appointed meeting time tells the captain you're eager and ready to go. Never keep a captain waiting, lest he invoke the "15-minute rule": if you're more than 15 minutes late, the boat leaves without you.
2. **ACT LIKE CREW** Too many guests sit down and do nothing. That's actually a great routine for the kids, but you should ask how you can help and then respond immediately. The skipper may not want assistance, but it is always good to ask.
3. **NO SECOND-GUESSING** If the captain makes a decision or a request (it's not really a request, it's a polite command), don't second-guess. You gave up that right when you stepped aboard another person's boat. This is especially important when maneuvering in tight quarters, negotiating rough seas or in emergency situations.
4. **AVOID OVERINDULGING** Just because you're not behind the wheel doesn't mean you can consume alcohol (or other intoxicants) at will. Part of being a good crew member means you need to stay alert and agile. You might need to shimmy up to the bow to man the anchor or handle dock lines. A beer or two while on the water can impair your ability to traverse a catwalk or descend from the bridge. From my point of view, a tipsy crew member is more of an impediment than a help.
5. **OFFER TO BRING PROVISIONS** This is not essential, but it's one of those gestures most captains appreciate immensely. Having someone else handle the food, drinks and ice results in fewer things for the captain to worry about when getting thereat ready.

6. **COMMUNICATE** On a boat, there's no such thing as too much communication. That's why Navy crew members repeat an order, to acknowledge that they heard it and confirm the command. So, when the captain says, "fend off on the port side", you should respond, "Fending off on the port side."

7. **NO FRIEND REQUESTS** Please don't ask to bring a friend. While the captain might extend an invitation to you plus one, asking to bring a second person is bad form, at least in my boating circles. Even worse, I once invited a co-worker to go fishing on my boat; he accepted and then asked if he could bring his dog. Dog or human, such requests put the captain in the awkward position of saying no.

8. **REPLACEMENT POLICY** I like to explain to the crew the replacement policy (right after the safety talk). To put it simply, you break it or lose it, you replace it - immediately. I practice what I preach when jumping aboard other boats. This extends from losing one of the captain's lures to breaking a fishing rod. Avoid delays, because the longer it takes to replace, the more resentment it's likely to generate.

9. **PITCH IN** Don't even ask about contributing money toward the trip, just do it. If anything, err on the generous side. The captain invests a lot more time, energy and resources than crew, so an even split of the costs is hardly an even one for the skipper.

10. **STAY TO CLEAN** Any self-respecting crew member offers to unload gear and help clean the boat after a day on the water. It's what I call Man Law (please excuse the sexism). That said, as a captain, I often decline the offer because I like to take my time, have a beer or three, play tunes and relax while washing the boat. I find it therapeutic. At the same time, I greatly appreciate the offer, and just as importantly, I make a note of the guests who don't offer to help me. For them, a second invitation might never come.

Wish you all smooth seas,  
Mark

## Education Report from Education Officer, Peter Dion, SN



Since **Partner in Command** is one of our more popular seminars, I thought it would be worth a shot to offer it again in July. Two reasons: 1.) Test the need for a seminar in the summer months. 2.) Capture the March ABC participants who expressed an interest in this seminar.

Nineteen people attended the seminar: Craig Williams, John and Tina Thompson, Craig and Debra Loomis, Chip and Marie Munday, Sophie and Mike Kozyr, John Walsh, Mark and Teresa Carroll, Heidi and Robin Needham, Bill and Tamra Avrit, Suzanne Stansbury, and Walter Matejovic.  
Instructor: Hal Wilson

Our **Jump Start** program started as I was able to help Suzanne Stansbury and Walter Matejovic, in two separate lessons, practice docking their 35' Cruiser "Blue Skies" in their slip at Skull Creek Marina. They're currently cruising to Quebec Ontario, Canada.



"Blue Skies"



Suzanne Stansbury



Walter Matejovic



## BIG TURNOUT FOR A BIG CRUISE

Mike Gilroy, JN



As with every other Magellan Society cruise this year, the weatherman was issuing unfortunate forecasts up until 18 hours prior to the Magellan Society circumnavigation of Daufuskie Island. Once again, however, we persevered and were rewarded with a partly sunny, calm day for our cruise and lunch.

Six boats carrying 27 members and guests rendezvoused just off the Harbour Town lighthouse and headed south. Once Tybee Island came in sight, our "point" was the water tower on the east end of the island, which was easily visible once we passed South Beach. As we neared Tybee Roads, we encountered a huge container ship heading up to Savannah. Observing the "Tonnage Rules" admonition, all six boats went to no wake speed and let the Big Boy precede them into the Savannah River, anticipating that we would be able to pass on his left. Well guess what? About the time the lead boat thought to do that, a fully loaded container ship leaving Savannah was approaching and coming down the left side of the river. Once again, we were deferential to our much bigger sibling; but, once he'd passed and we survived his four-foot wake, we were all able to push our boats up to 25 and pass. Just past ATON G "33", Fields Cut appeared on our right, and we took it to the Cooper River.

As we approached the Daufuskie Crab Company, each boat took a vote on whether to stop for lunch and chance getting caught in a shower, or head straight home. All six boats voted to stay, and we all enjoyed a Daufuskie-style lunch and drinks. After lunch all boats departed for home without a rain drop in sight. Take that ..... weatherman!

NEXT UP: Graduation Day: Circumnavigation of Hilton Head Island on Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup>.



"Magellan Mike" Gilroy



Mike Gilroy, Randy Royen, Klaus Loehr, Mark Provencher, member guests, Tom Wolfe, Nancy Stermer, Paul Hoyte, Tamra Avrit, Bill McCombs (Front Row)





Klaus Loehr, Mark Provencher



Tom Wolfe with cargo ship ZIM ROTTERDAM



Above Tom Wolfe and Mike Gilroy

Photographs submitted  
by Ann Wolfe.



Nancy Stermer (left)  
isn't scrap iron; she's a  
precious gem!

## PHOTO IDENTIFICATION REQUESTED

Can anyone who is reading this issue of the Ocean Breeze identify the man on the far right in the picture below? We have discovered a CD with several personal family pictures of this gentleman, and we would like to return the CD to him. Please contact Commander Mark Larson via e-mail at [abchcdrml@gmail.com](mailto:abchcdrml@gmail.com) if you can identify this individual. Thank you.

