



The Ocean Breeze

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



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EVENTS CALENDAR

MARCH

30 TIDES AND CURRENTS (9:00-11am HHI Senior Center)

APRIL

- 10 Magellan 1: Buck Island Cruise, 10 am - 3 pm
- 13 HOW TO USE A CHART (New & Revised) 9:00-11am Senior Ctr
- 15 Executive Committee Mtg (6:30 pm, HHI Senior Center)
- 27 BASIC COASTAL NAVIGATION (9-11am, HHI Senior Center)
- 27 MCAS Air Show with the Blue Angels

MAY

- 4 Boat Handling Under Power (On the Water @ Skull Creek Marina) 9-12
- 6 Savannah Yacht Club - Boating Activity
SEAMANSHIP (TBD)
- 9 Magellan 2: Pinckney Island, 10 am-3 pm, BYO Picnic Lunch
- 18 Mastering the Rules of the Road, 9-11:00, HHI Senior Center
- 20 Executive Committee Mtg (6:30 pm Senior Center)
- 21 AJ's at Tybee Light Island - Boating Activity w/Lunch
- 21 Monthly Dinner Meeting, Skull Creek Dockside, 6:30 p.m.
(Featured Guest Speaker will be Captain Chip Michalove, the area's renowned Shark Whisperer, who has been in the news lately for tagging the largest male Great White Shark in the Atlantic in January of this year.)
- 30 ADVANCED PILOTING, 6:30-8:30 pm, HHI Senior Center

JUNE

- 3,6,10,13,17,20,24,27 ADVANCED PILOTING 6:30-8:30pm, Senior Ctr
- 4 Ossebaw, GA Nature Cruise - all day boating activity
- 6 Magellan 3: Bull Island Cruise w/Lunch at Daufuskie Crab Co.
- 8 Using GPS Seminar, 9-11:00, Location TBD
- 17 Executive Committee Mtg (6:30 pm HHI Senior Center)
- 20 Fripp Island - Boating Activity w/Lunch
- 22 Emergencies on Board Seminar, 9-11:00, HHI Senior Center

Commander's Corner

Commander Mark Larson



Paul Hoyte reports that at the D26 Spring Conference three sessions were offered and attended by three of our members -- PC Barb Sommers, and Paul and Nancy Hoyte. On Friday, March 8, the Geodetic session was attended by Nancy. As part of this class, attendees participated in a field trip to find some survey markers that were located in the Myrtle Beach area close to the conference center. The process was quite interesting requiring participants to dig for buried and hidden markers using directional signs as posted in the area.

The Co-Op charting session was attended by Paul where instructions were given on how to perform the charting process. After the discussion, they were then loaded onto two boats and actually boated out into the Intracoastal waterway to perform a few charting exercises. Information seen and gained from this experience is critical to ensuring our waterways are clearly defined and safety is maintained. As avid boaters and being on the water frequently, it would be easy to incorporate this activity into future boating trips.



Article and photos
submitted by Paul Hoyte.



On Saturday morning, March 9, the SARS training sessions was held. This session was attended by Paul, along with PC Barb Sommers. The SARS (Squadron Activity and Reporting System) was developed by Al Lehman initially to support his squadron's activity reporting requirements. The system provides a basic reporting capability using Microsoft's Access database and can track activity by member. The system was provided on a CD pre-loaded with current squadron members and would have to be populated with all events that are offered by the club. Hopefully as the functionality of this system matures it might work for those groups that require more sophisticated reporting.

At the D26 Spring Conference awards ceremony, our Club received honorable mention from the National Membership Committee for having a membership increase of 3.6%. America's Boating Club of Hilton Head also received its 29th award - Certificate of Merit - for their participation in the USPS Education Fund. Our website and newsletter were given the District Communication Awards. Finally, the D26 honorable mention Spark Plug Award went to Debbie Dion, who is the editor of our newsletter and the secretary for our club. Congratulations Debbie!



MARCH DINNER MEETING

By Debbie Dion

Our March dinner meeting was held at Poseidon Coastal Cuisine in Shelter Cove, and our guest speaker was Carolyn Coppola. Carolyn is a historic preservationist, who spoke on the history of Bluffton and significant buildings on Hilton Head Island and other communities in South Carolina. Carolyn has been practicing historic preservation since 2007, and she approaches preservation from a community context so that each completed project supports and strengthens its neighborhood and region. She nominates buildings to the National Register of Historic Places and defines plans for rehabilitating historic residential, commercial, and industrial properties. She helps property owners of historic properties apply for and secure federal and state funding so that preservation is an affordable option.

We'd like to introduce our new Dinner Meeting Coordinator - Mary Richardson. Mary is taking over the reins from Paul Hoyte and will oversee coordinating all future dinner meetings and speakers. Please introduce yourself to Mary when you see her at our May dinner meeting at Skull Creek Dockside.



We'd like to report that we have another new member who has volunteered to take pictures for us. Before moving to Hilton Head, Mary Ellen Hughes was photographing newborn babies for six years in Long Island, New York. She joins fellow photographers Lynne Harris, Ann Wolfe, Joycelyn Mitchell, and Rich Delcore. Thank you to these volunteers for taking pictures while attending our events.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Joe and Chris Dattilo have been residents of Bluffton for one year. They are not new to the area because they had previously owned a vacation home in Beaufort. They moved from Boston, Massachusetts, where Joe worked for Fidelity Investments for 30 years. Joe and Chris own Niblik, a 22-foot Center Console Pioneer that they keep in Palmetto Bluff. In addition to boating, Joe enjoys golf, shooting, and fishing. Chris enjoys pickleball, hiking, sporting clays, and attending conservation events. The couple joined ABCHH to become more competent boaters in the waters around HH. They look forward to the excursions exploring the low country.



New member articles and photos
submitted by member Debra Loomis.

Dick and Louise Heusinkveld have retired to Wexford Plantation on Hilton Head after living in multiple locations around the world. Louise was born in England and moved to Canada as a young child. She met Dick at university in Kingston, Ontario, and the adventure began! Dick was a mechanical engineer working for a small multinational company that manufactured compressors and turbines. Louise is a history major with a Master's in Library Science who became a research librarian. Dick's relocations caused her to abandon that career only to discover photography as a paying hobby. Louise continues to sell her photography through Getty, Fine Art America, and Alamy. The couple owns two boats -- a Bayliner 245 pocket cruiser (*Seas the Day*) docked behind their house, and an Endeavour 44 TrawlerCat power catamaran (*Nine Lives*). *Nine Lives* is currently in winter storage on the Erie Canal near Syracuse. They joined ABCHH for the USPS courses and seminars. Make sure you talk with them about the five years of trips they have planned!



Discovering Geodetic Survey Marks

Submitted by Nancy Stermer Hoyte

It was the 1970's when I joined my parents and other members of the Flint Sail & Power Squadron near the Lake Huron shoreline. Our mission was to help locate geodetic survey markers or "marks" in that region.

At that time, all I knew was:

- The government asked the United States Power Squadrons to assist in searching for survey marks (similar to cooperative charting) as a "community service" to help keep maps and charts accurate. So, when people create maps; mark property boundaries; and plan/build roads, bridges, and other structures, everything matches up.
- The marks, usually in the form of metal disks, were often in the strangest places and their locations were referenced by power lines, water towers, church spires, etc. - and sometimes reference points were temporary things like trees that were no longer there.
- We were given a binder of typewritten directions (called a "datasheet") for each mark in our assigned area.
- Then, we had to use the longitude/latitude coordinates and measure to find the mark.
- It was challenging, but also FUN!

Fast forward to this year's D26 Conference ---- where I discovered that LOTS has changed! No more typewritten directions nor relying on finding coordinates. Now, we simply use a mobile app (*Benchmap*) to see all the marks and their datasheets in any area, use the phone's GPS to be directed to the location, and then take a photo of the mark (which will automatically be tagged with date & location) ... Wow!

During the D26 session, we practiced using the mobile app (see photos on pages 6 & 7) and learned how squadrons log geodetic survey marks and/or ATONs (cooperative charting) to earn points toward being on an "honor roll".

But, after I returned home, I wanted to find out more about the history, why the Power Squadron got involved, and what survey marks exist in the Hilton Head area.

Here are a few things I discovered from my Internet "sleuthing" about the history:

- The United States Power Squadrons' assistance to NOAA is one of the most successful partnerships that has existed between a federal agency and a private organization.
- Our nation's first civilian scientific agency, NOAA's Office of the Coast, was established by President Thomas Jefferson in 1807 to create/update nautical charts with a mission, like the Power Squadrons', to help increase maritime safety.
- In 1963 NOAA's leaders recognized the challenge of maintaining one thousand nautical charts, having only sparse resources at hand. To help remedy the situation, the established the cooperative charting program, asking local Power Squadron members to check their local charts for accuracy and report discrepancies. Soon thereafter, the program expanded to include geodetic survey mark recovery.

I also found some interesting survey listings for Hilton Head:

- "CK0724" is a mark that is supposedly near the Leamington entrance by Queens Way. However, it was installed there in 1956 and its reference information says "'ABOUT 0.15 MILE SOUTHWEST OF ROADSIDE REST RESTAURANT". (Has anyone ever heard of that place? Probably not - It's long gone.) The datasheet shows that the US Power Squadron attempted to find it in 1982 and in 2002, but "MARK NOT FOUND".

- "CK2080" is a mark that should be near the traffic circle just near Alexander's restaurant. However, since the 1981 reference points include such information as "NORTHEAST OF A 15 INCH PINE TREE AND 7.5 FEET SOUTHWEST OF A SHORT 12 INCH PALMETTO TREE", it's understandable that the mark cannot be located - perhaps because these trees are either much bigger now or no longer there.
- But, "CK5654" is a mark you will likely find - yeah! It was located as recently as 2015. If you wish to try to find it yourself, you're directed to go to the "Entrance of the Holiday Inn Resort, turn left on the entrance road and bear left through the parking lot along the north side of the building for 0.1 mi to the east corner of the parking lot and a beach access road to the beach, turn right on beach for 0.4 mi to marker 55 and the station on the right near a walkway. Station is flush with the ground, 37.5 ft east-northeast of the east edge of the walkway."

Good luck and happy hunting!

Photos from District 26 Conference - March 8, 2019



District 26 members using a datasheet and a mobile app to locate geodetic survey markers.

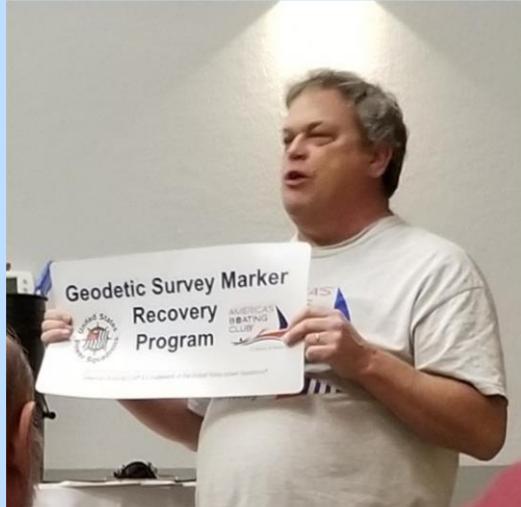


Most markers, as the one shown here, are metal discs that are embedded in structures (like this cement culvert) and are easier to locate.



Other markers may be much more difficult to locate
cover

...Or one we found buried in the ground below a



When there isn't a nearby physical structure for a reference point, sometimes there will be a "witness post" (like this orange one) to help locate the marker.

Editor's Note: Pictured above is Nancy Stermer Hoyte. Thank you Nancy for a very informative article.

Those who plan to search for markers are advised to be easily visible for safety reasons and to look "official" in case of being questioned by security/police or a property owner. So, America's Boating Club offers a lime green safety vest with the ABC logo and magnetic vehicle sign. These can be ordered from Charles Ibach, chasi3@aol.com of the Charlotte Squadron.

VESSEL SAFETY CHECKS

PC Larry Tremitiere reports that 122 Vessel Safety Checks have been completed and gives "kudos" to our VSC Examiners. They are putting forth an outstanding effort this year, and Larry reports that the newest Examiners have completed 49 Vessel Safety Checks. Thank you to all Examiners for a job well done. To schedule a VSC please contact PC Larry Tremitiere at 803-517-6626. **REMINDER ~ Any member planning to attend any of our boating functions MUST HAVE A CURRENT VSC decal on their boat.**



On March 16th and 23rd the spring America's Boating Course (ABC) was held at the Skull Creek Boathouse on Squire Pope Road. Twenty-seven people attended the two Saturday sessions. Our Club secured ten new members as a result of this two-day event. Instructors for the class were Commander Mark Larson, PC Larry Tremitiere, PC Cecil Viverette, Peter Dion, Walter Kirk, Al Pepe, Klous Loehr, and Mark Dryden.



PC Larry Tremitiere and Paul Hoyte conducted on-the-water training on March 23rd for those



America's Boating Club attendees on Saturday, March 23rd.



Education Officer Peter Dion welcomes the attendees.



Assistant Education Officer Tom Ryley (left) answers questions for a class member on March 23rd.

Mark your calendars now to attend the May 21st dinner meeting at Skull Creek Dockside where our guest speaker will be local Charter Captain and Shark Record Holder Chip Michalove. He is known for catching and surgically inserting satellite tags into sharks ranging in size from 8' to a record 17' male great white on January 23rd in the Atlantic.



Instructor Mark Dryden explains the 'man over board' procedures and explains how important it is to point at the victim and keep following the person in the water with your finger. Don't take your eyes off the person who went overboard.

