



The Ocean Breeze

An official publication of America's Boating Club® Hilton Head
"Innovation, Education, Community"



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Editorial Staff

Debbie Dion
Editor

Cdr. Peter J. Dion, SN-IN
Consulting Editor

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The Bridge

Commander, Peter J. Dion, SN-IN
peterjdion@gmail.com
843-521-7071

Executive Officer, Chris Brigham, S-IN
chris@cbrigham.com
808-285-8700

Administrative Office, Mark Hente
mark.hente@gmail.com
614-282-1875

Secretary, Christine Dattilo, S
chrisdat@gmail.com
978-460-0712

Treasurer, Dave Frederick, S
dfrederick@hargray.com
317-691-1606

Education Officer, Tom Ryley, P-IN
tomryley@mac.com
843-298-0628

WEBSITE

americasboatingclubhiltonhead.org
-or- abchh.org

EVENTS CALENDAR

SOCIAL CRUISES

- July 30 Ogeechee River and Fish Tales Cruise
- Aug 12 ~~Savannah Yacht Club~~ - CANCELLED
- Aug 17 Wexford Canals Cruise (full - registration closed)
- Aug 17 Cruise to Historic Savannah
- Oct TBD Overnight #2 - Jekyll Island*
- Oct 13 Skidaway Island (TBD)
- Nov 6 Chelsea Plantation*
- Dec TBD Pop Up Mystery Cruise

Note: 1. Asterisk (*) denotes weekend cruise
2. All dates & destinations subject to change based on tides, weather, dockage, and venue availability.

MAGELLAN CRUISES

- Aug 26 Circumnavigate Hilton Head Island w/lunch
- Sept 24 Cooper River & Daufuskie Island - reverse w/lunch
- Oct 26 Cawley's Creek & Page and Pine Islands w/lunch
- Nov 8 Backside of Bull Island, Bryant Creek, Barataria Island

SOCIAL EVENTS

- Sept 21 DINNER MEETING - POSEIDON @ Shelter Cove - 6:30 PM



FROM THE COMMANDER

Peter J. Dion, SN-IN



What a great time to be an ABCHH member! The recent cruises and upcoming educational offerings are just some of the several benefits in being an ABCHH member. A special thanks to our cruise captains Bob Newbert, Paul Hoyte, Chris Dattilo, and Glenn Crews for developing and leading the cruises in June and July. You are truly an important asset to our club. Great job!

It was especially gratifying to see many, many new members participating in the recent cruises. You are getting practice in safe boating while exploring our beautiful Lowcountry waters. Kudos to all of you.

Speaking of new members, the focus of our next dinner meeting is just for you. What we are all about will be the main topic of our next dinner meeting at **Poseidon on September 21**. Your boating club (ABCHH) is for all types of boaters - novice and experienced, in coastal or inland waterways. We bring boaters together to improve their skill through education and training, make connections, provide community service, or just enjoy time together. We want new boaters to better understand what our squadron is all about and how does it relate to our national organization and our District 26 (D26). **So new members, come and enjoy dinner at the Poseidon and better understand what we are all about.**

I want to put in another pitch for our upcoming education seminars and courses. Our six **Boat Handling** seminars, **Marine Navigation**, and **Weather** courses have been scheduled for this fall. If you haven't taken any of these, I *highly* recommend you pull up the information on our website (ABCHH.org) and decide if they are right for you.

Finally, as you may know, we are a part of a larger organization, the United States Power Squadron. Every year they hold two national conferences. See the message from USPS at the end of this newsletter for information about their Fall Conference, which you are invited to attend.

Mark your calendars for our next dinner meeting on September 21 at Poseidon. I hope to see you there!

Peter Dion
Commander

WANTED: Cooperative Charting participants. Come to the September dinner meeting to find out what this is and how you can join. Our August newsletter will feature Cooperative Charting also.

Boys & Girls Club of Bluffton members explore local waterways

Rachel Hartdegen, *Bluffton Today*

[This article was published in *Bluffton Today* on July 16, 2021]

Members of The Boys & Girls Club of Bluffton set sail Wednesday.

Hosted by America's Boating Club of Hilton Head, members cruised through local waters to learn about the environment around them during the club's annual Day on the Water.

This day of learning was created by captain Bob Newbert in 2016. Newbert started the program to teach youth about the history of Hilton Head Island and all of the animals that inhabit its waters.

Bob Newbert, **right**, shares the history of Hilton Head Island on Wednesday during The Boys & Girls Club's Day on the Water. "It is very gratifying to see the kids when they get out on a boat for the first time. We live surrounded by natural beauty, but most of the kids have never been on the water, and a few have never even seen it," Newbert said.

After exploring historical sights and discussing facts about creatures that live in the ocean, the group learns a new skill when they take control of the boat. This part of the event is their favorite, as the boys and girls are able to see the water from a new point of view.

"I love sharing the history, beauty and enjoyment of our waterways with the kids. It is wonderful to see their smiles when they see dolphins for the first time or take the helm of the boat," Newbert said.



Cameron Huffman, **left**, takes control of the boat while captain Barbara Summers shows him where to go.

Day on the Water is a two-day program offered in conjunction with the club's Explorers LEAD (leadership, excellence, achievement and determination) program. Wednesday was a celebration for the members who completed program.

In the Explorers program, the club partners with the Bluffton Police Department to "introduce the youth to law enforcement," teen director Pamela Castle said.

The department provides officers to lead the program. Officer Heather Betz said it helps the cadets.

"During the school year we really stress grades, we check progress reports, so if those start to go down we can work with them," Betz said.



Explorers program members, from left, Grant Morehouse, Molly Smith, Eniyah Scott and Cameron Huffman embark on The Boys & Girls Club's Day on the Water.

Molly Smith, 15, has been a member of the Explorers program for three years. Smith is her group's platoon leader and she said she has taken away keen skills from the program.

"I learned to lead and balance social connections. I learned to live more," Smith said.

This program was created by executive director Molly O. Hornbeak in 2005 as a way to teach members discipline and give them skills to lead a full life.

"The boot camp helps build their character and adjust their behavior," Hornbeak said.

Hornbeak said after the first year, five members joined the Navy. She said many more have pursued jobs in law enforcement and the military.

"It has proven to have a huge impact on the kids' lives," Hornbeak said.



A boat of Boys & Girls Club members heads off Wednesday to explore the waters around Hilton Head Island. Members who participated in Day on the Water received a certificate and team hat. Newbert said that gives recognition to children who haven't often received it.

"Some of these kids have never really been recognized for anything, so they get their certificate with their name in calligraphy and it means a lot," Newbert said.

The program will take place again next summer alongside the Explorers program.

'DAY ON THE WATER' PHOTOS FROM TOM RILEY, EDUCATION OFFICER



Bob Newbert gives instructions to the participants.



Commander Dion explains the GPS.



Commander Dion with a crew member.



Commander Dion with a crew member.



Boats participating in Day on the Water



Sleeping on the job!



Captain Dion and his crew.

THESE 'DAY ON THE WATER' PHOTOS WERE PROVIDED BY PAUL HOYTE.



MAY RIVER HEADWATERS CRUISE

BY: CHRISTINE DATTILO

Twelve hours after Tropical Storm Danny left only blue skies and calm seas in its wake, a group of ABCHH boaters headed out to explore the headwaters of the May River. This is our first Magellan Cruise to go all the way up to this rarely explored headwaters area.

Cruising along Old Town Bluffton - we noticed the significant erosion that is occurring on the Bluffton shoreline. A combination of hurricane damage, increased boat traffic, and the loss of erosion control vegetation, which had several 100+ year old Live Oaks hanging on to their edge - barely.

We had a brief stop to admire the Bluffton Oyster Company processing facility jutting out into the May built on a firm foundation of oyster shells. We recently heard Larry Toomer (owner of the Bluffton Oyster Company) speak at our June ABCHH dinner, so it was nice to see in person the active shrimping, crabbing, and oyster operation that he spoke of, still operating after being established over 100 years ago.

Not long ago, Bluffton was a river town whose fortunes depended on shrimp, crab, and oysters with only 900 people living along the May River's banks. Now, Bluffton has grown. Our last stop was to admire the beautiful homes of Palmetto Bluff, the natural beauty of Stoney Creek as it's skinny finger darted under Route 46, and heard about the ongoing work to control the run-off of bacteria into the May River's Watershed that endangers the May's precious gifts of beauty and abundance.

Our last stop was at the brand-new Bluffton Town Dock at Wright Family Park. We walked into town for some lunch and a cool drink before heading home.

The water was shallow, skinny and uncharted - but we made our way to where the history of Bluffton starts - where rice, indigo, and fishing all meet - the headwaters of the May. It was a good day!



Attendees:

Captain Dick Lowe & Marianne Lowe w/guest
Captain Rebecca Jefferies with guest
Captain Chris Dattilo, Joe Dattilo, Pete Dion,
Mark Larson, John & Tina Thompson

Chris Dattilo points out something during the May River Headwaters Cruise.



Larry Toomer's son prides himself with "Daddy's Girls" shrimp boat.



Dick and Marianne Lowe and Guest



Rebecca Jefferies and guest to enjoy the ride.

FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT



Tom Ryley, P-IN
Education Officer



Brad Loescher, S-IN
Asst. Education Officer

Hopefully everyone has had a great summer on the water, both on our ABCHH cruises, as well as your own outings. We have had a hiatus on our courses and seminars for this period, but we are now preparing to "get back on the horse", or more appropriately" back on the boat", and deliver a full fall education program.

This will start with a session of America's Boating Course, our introductory course for new boaters, and those recent to the area, which will be offered Saturday, August 21. We are very pleased that this will be in a new venue -- in the Heritage Lecture Hall at the **University of South Carolina Beaufort**, on their Bluffton campus. This is a large facility with top notch AV equipment, excellent seating with large tables, lots of parking, and use of the university cafeteria for breaks and lunch. We have access to this through the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, and their coordinator Andrea Sisino, for which we are very grateful. We will also be returning to this new location for ABC on Saturday, October 16. As the America's Boating Course is a great introduction to boating in the Low Country for those unfamiliar with our local waters, as well as new boaters, please actively promote the ABC program to anyone you feel may be interested. Registration is on our website at abchh.org.

Beyond ABC, our fall program includes the Marine Navigation course, the six seminar Boat Handling course, and the Weather course. The first of these, Marine Navigation, (formerly called Piloting) starts September 23, and is an excellent program that takes students back to the basics of charting and navigation, before the advent of modern electronic chart plotting equipment. It is very hands on, with the use of all the manual tools the "old salts" used, and it will also challenge your math skills. It is also a required course for those pursuing the Coastal Navigator (CN) boat operator certification. Our Commander Dion **"strongly recommends"** this course, and it's perhaps then no surprise that he himself is teaching it.

The Boat Handling series of seminars follows, starting October 18, and includes Rules of the Road, Docking and Undocking, Boating with Confidence, Emergencies on Board, Anchoring, and Knots and Lines. These seminars can be taken individually, or as a complete package as the Boat Handling course. Those going the course route will be able to sit for an exam at the end, which after passing will be recognized with the Seamanship designation. These seminars have enjoyed a very popular response from attendees, and they are the logical next step for those wanting to advance their knowledge beyond the ABC course. The course is also a requirement for those working towards the Inland Navigator (IN) boat operator certification.

Finally, as reported in our Commander's report, we want to recognize the passing of Cecil Viverette and express our condolences to his family and many friends. Cecil was a very active instructor for our squadron, and in particular, he taught the Marine Electronic Systems course, which is one of our toughest. He did a wonderful job as an instructor, presenting a difficult subject with a great deal of humor, wonderful use of teaching aids, and sympathy for dumb questions. We will sincerely miss Cecil.

Thank you again for your support of our education program, and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Tom Ryley
Education Officer

Brad Loescher
Assistant Education Officer

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

By: Debbie Dion, Editor



Please join me in welcoming two of our newest members - Kevin and Stefanie Thieneman. Kevin and Stefanie reside on Hilton Head Island. They grew up in Indiana and have lived many places, including outside of the United States for eleven years. Kevin is still working, but in their spare time they enjoy the beach, playing golf, and boating. They have two daughters. They have a Grady White called 'Sea Devil' at Long Cove Club. The Thieneman's have not taken any of our educational offerings, but I know they will be encouraged to do so because boating in the Lowcountry has its challenges. Kevin and Stefanie hope to meet more fellow boaters as members of ABCHH and want to do more boating related activities. They want to increase their knowledge of boating and we intend to make sure they are well educated boaters. Welcome Kevin and Stefanie!



Meet Captain Kirk and Susan Glenn. Originally from Fort Myers, Florida, they reside on Hilton Head as they wanted a coastal town. Kirk is a retired CPA and they are avid boaters. With over 67 years of both sail and power experience, Kirk has his USCG six pack. They have a Sabre 45 SE named 'First Light' which is at Windmill Harbour. Sailing across the Atlantic is one of the many accomplishments he shared. Can you imagine how many stories he could share? And they wouldn't be "fish tales." Kirk's hobbies include sailing, woodworking, sewing canvas projects, and gym classes. They enjoy travel, reading, forestry and farm management. They joined ABCHH to meet more fellow boaters and to participate in our boating activities. Kirk took his first basic course 45 years ago. With a resume like his, I think we need him to be one of our instructors! How about it Captain Kirk? Or maybe we could get him to be a guest speaker at one of our dinner meetings. I suspect he has a wide range of topics he could talk about. Welcome Kirk and Susan.

TOWN OF BEAUFORT MAGELLAN CRUISE JULY 15TH

By Captain Glenn Cruise



It was a wonderful day for a cruise to Beaufort!

With wind about 2-3 knots, high tide and temperature around 82, I can't remember a day that it was this calm crossing Port Royal Sound!!

Meeting at G9A (Skull Creek Marina) with our 4 boats and 11 people, we set out for the wonderful trip to Beaufort for lunch!

In leaving Skull Creek, we used our "Seaman's eye" to pick out Bay Point and Phillips Island to find the buoy for the Port Royal channel. Of course, we can always use the compass with a heading of about due east of 90-100 degrees, but it's great to recognize some of the navigation aids. Since everything is so flat and the terrain all runs together, getting to know some of the landmarks helps in navigating in the Low Country.

After a several stops to learn about the Atlantic Bight, the Port Royal Sound, the Port Royal Battle, Parris Island and St. Helena Island, we continued up the Beaufort River. We stopped to watch a large pod of dolphins, which was unusual to see that many traveling together!

Docking at the Beaufort City docks was easy and we had a great lunch at "Plums on the Waterfront." Some folks stayed for their favorite ice cream and a little sightseeing afterwards...but everyone eventually headed back home with memories of a great day on the water!

Captain Glenn Crews

Captain Paul Hoyte



David Medvedeff & Fred Parker (guest)

Attendees: John & Ann Fitzgerald and guests Fred Brunk, Janice Nesmith, Mary Lyons and another Janice.

**Glenn Crews
Paul Hoyte**

David Medvedeff & Fred Parker (Guest)

Richard & Michelle Warner



John & Ann Fitzgerald aboard "LOSAWATA" with their four guests.



Richard & Michelle Warner

Photos provided by Paul Hoyte.



Janice Nesmith, Mary Lyons, Ann Fitzgerald, Fred Brunk



John Fitzgerald and another guest named Janice



Richard & Michelle Warner



L to R: Paul Hoyte, David Medvedeff, Fred Parker, Glenn Crews



Ann & John Fitzgerald



Mary Lyons, Ann & John Fitzgerald, Fred Brunk

CIRCUMNAVIGATION OF DAUFUSKIE ISLAND

By: Debbie Dion

The Magellan Cruise on June 15th was the circumnavigation of Daufuskie Island; the cruise was led by Captain Paul Hoyte and narrated by Nancy Stermer-Hoyte. Members in attendance were: Phil Burke, Peter Dion, Brian & Jennifer Ericksen, Rick & Nancy Ford, Gemma Gatti, David Mauk, David & Joanne Medvedeff, Andrew & Debra Buzzelli, Rebecca Jeffries, Klaus Loehr, Jim & Kathy McQuade, Randy & Lee Royen, Ken & Nancy Turner, Frank & Deborah Modrowsky, and Dr. Santiago Vera.



Captain Paul Hoyte, First Mate Nancy Stermer-Hoyte, and Dr. Santiago Vera



Gemma Gatti and friends



Phil Burke with Ken and Nancy Turner

All Daufuskie Island cruise photos were provided by Commander Peter Dion.



Captain John Fitzgerald aboard 'LOSAWATA' w/crew Pat Nesmith, Rebecca Jeffries, Mary & Joe Lyons, and Tim & Denise Nahley.



Captain David Mauk and his crew

All Daufuskie Island cruise photos were provided by Peter Dion.



Frank & Deborah Modrowsky



Brian & Jennifer Ericksen with private guests as crew.



Captain Rick Ford with Nancy Ford, Lee Royen, & Randy Royen



Dave & Joanne Medvedeff aboard "Club Med" with Art & Cathy LaPoint.

All Daufuskie Island cruise photos were provided by Peter Dion.

Captain Pete Dion was aboard the Lady D II with crew Klaus Loehr, Kathy & Jim McQuade, Andrew & Debra Buzzelli.



Lady D II



Pete Dion & Klaus Loehr



Debra & Andrew Buzzelli

Also on board were Jim & Kathy McQuade; unfortunately, we did have a photo to include at the time of publishing this issue.

The following article is from the National Meetings Committee of USPS/ABC

Who Said You Can't Have Fun at a ABClub National Meeting?

“Why should I attend a National Meeting?” “What’s in it for me?” ABClub/USPS National Meetings attendees often hear this from other members. The reason anyone should attend any “meeting” is to have fun! What is fun? With lots of committees and a range of times and dates for meetings, members find time before, in between, and after to meet other members, participate in the group events and even attend the offsite events. Never been to a national meeting? Be sure and sign up as a First Timer! You will be invited to meet national leadership and other First Timer attendees. Traveling with a friend or spouse who is active and attending meetings? Join others for offsite events such as boating and/or kayaking followed by lunch. Don’t want to get wet or be outside? Why not join the group for High Tea, or touring the Natural Science Museum? Did you know the Natural Science Museum is the largest in the southeast US? You will not want to miss this!



2021 Fall Governing Board
August 29 - September 5, 2021
Raleigh, North Carolina

In addition to individual committee/department meetings, you can check out some interesting seminars and topics. “Introduction to the New Information Center”, “How Not to Recruit”, “Your Squadron Activities Hit Parade”, “21st Century Tools for Teaching in the Blended Learning Environment” and “Building and Delivering PowerPoint Presentations in Today's Online World” are just a few. The entire agenda is available online. Opening the meeting is our Keynote Speaker, Kevin P. Duffus. We have all heard about WWII activity off the North Carolina coast, but I do not think we knew the extent. Come learn about the War Zone: World War II off North Carolina’s Outer Banks. This speaker is sure to be interesting.

Wednesday evening come join us for Friends Night. We will be gathering for dinner then some fun entertainment with games and challenges. This event is for everyone, and it was a big hit at our last in-person national meeting in 2020 Annual Meeting.

Thursday, September 2, we will all gather for an entertaining Murder Mystery Dinner Theater! With a large cast, it is sure to be entertaining and lots of laughs with your friends participating! Can you guess the murderer? It may be someone you know and sitting next to you. Do not let your guard down!

On Thursday and Friday, stop in the Meet and Greet room. This room is for us to have a place to chat, have small group meetings, gather with friends to play cards or other games or just to relax.

If you have never been to the USPS headquarters building, multiple free tours are being offered. The library is a must see!

Saturday offers a busy day of the Governing Board meeting, the group luncheons and ending the conference with a 50’s Sock Hop! Yes, go back in time with some of your favorite tunes, and a Blue Plate Special! Costume, sock, and dance contests will provide lots of fun for participants and people watchers.

Also, to help keep prices down, we are offering a fundraiser. Buy a chance for two free nights in Ponte Vedra, FL (2022 Annual Meeting) for \$10! Fundraiser is only available in Raleigh at the National Meeting 2022 Annual Meeting display table.

National Meetings are designed to communicate and share ideas to members, boating community friends, squadrons and districts. Along with the business, comes lots of opportunities to have fun with our boating friends. It is not all work, but also times to meet others, make new friends, and get to know those you know, more! Come join us and make your post-quarantine time a fun one!

(Check out the National Meeting Reservation site for a list of all meetings and events, meeting details, times / dates and reservations for meals and offsite.

https://www.usps.org/php/reservations_new/meetings.php?mtg_id=40.

We are also looking for new team members! Contact chair Arlene Anderson (arlene.anderson47@yahoo.com) for more information. Some work is done at the meeting and some is done before. Some jobs are for a few hours and some are for more. For example, we need volunteers who can use Word and/or Excel, send emails, make phone calls to hotel area businesses, chat with guests at the meeting and more! You won't be disappointed.