



GEECHEE SAILING CLUB RHUMB LINE



COMMODORE, Linda Howard

WE'RE FAMOUS! Or at least we're in the news!

Not only did we get great coverage of our St. Patrick's Regatta through an interview with WTOC TV, but we were also interviewed by *The Connect Savannah* magazine.

The interview with WTOC TV should have been with Angela Margolit, but she was in Pooler and couldn't get to Savannah in time. So Tim Grissette and I were interviewed, and it was aired several times the next day. Check it out online at WTOC.com. [Geechee Sailing Club](http://GeecheeSailingClub.com) hosting 45th Annual St. Patrick's Regatta.

As for the *Connect Savannah* magazine, their April edition quotes Judy Grissette, Angela Margolit, and me. You check it out online at connectsavannah.com. See pages 20 and 21.

On top of all this, Angela wrote a piece on our website and also sent it to *The Beat* (*North Carolina Sailboat Racing News*).

And don't forget our Facebook site.

If we don't get some activity from all this, I'll be surprised!

A few of my favorite quotes from the magazine are:

Linda Howard recalled a club trip involving several boats led by another sailor. "He was leading us through this shallow area because he knew the way," she said. "He fell asleep. We were following him right up into the marsh." (That was Lem!)

And...

Angela said, "Just trying to find the right resources to fix certain things and have things

done to your boat is invaluable." (I think the word "fix" is probably understated. We all know that 50% of boating is fixing something or other.)

And...

"We could talk forever and just laugh. We've had some near-misses, lots of near-misses, because we call it "boating." We're not in a hurry to go anywhere. That's the whole purpose of the club. It's to enjoy the waterways here, the nature, and it's just a beautiful sail in our area."

Be sure to point these resources out to your friends and potential members!



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

WEBSITE:
www.geechesailingclub.org
EMAIL ADDRESS:
geechesailingclub@hotmail.com
FACEBOOK:
Geechee Sailing Club

GEECHEE SAILING CLUB'S UPCOMING PARTIES & CRUISES

Socials:

Saturday, November 16 -
Change of Watch - Savannah
Country Club

Others to be announced later.

Cruises:

Saturday, May 25 -27 - Cruise to
Odingsell (Ossabaw)

Saturday, June 15-16 -
Daufuskie Island

Saturday, July 20-22 - Palmetto
Bay Marina, Hilton Head

Saturday, August 17-18 - Ro-
merly Marsh Creek

Friday, Sept. 6-8 - "After Labor
Day Cruise" to Safe Harbor in
Beaufort.

Saturday, Oct. 12-14 - Bluffton
Art Festival

(see pg. 3 for more details)

MAY'S PROGRAM:

Because of an anticipated light turnout due to many members being out of town, there will be a movie.

JUNE'S SPEAKER:

Matthew Emmer, President of The Friends of the Savannah Coastal Wildlife Refuges

(See page 2 for details on these programs)

VICE COMMODORE, Kathleen Buckley-Warshaw, by Linda Howard

MARCH SPEAKER

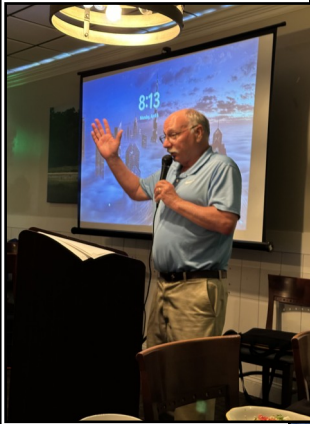
Our March 11 speaker was Kristina Williams Carroll. She is the Director of the Caretta Research Project on turtles. Although we had a sparse crowd, her presentation was very interesting, and we kept her for quite a while with all our questions. Here is her bio:

Kris has been working with sea turtles since 1990, after graduating with a Master's Degree in Biology from the Buffalo State College in New York. She has a long history of working with various types of sea turtles in different locations: Kemp's ridleys in New York and Mexico, leatherbacks in Costa Rica, and loggerheads in Florida and Georgia. In 1996 she was hired as the Director of the Caretta Research Project (CRP) in Savannah and has been working there happily ever since.



APRIL SPEAKER

Our speaker for April 8 was our Cruise Chair, Larry Sprague. He recounted, with a Power Point presentation, his daughter's terrifying experience as a crew member on the replica of *The Bounty* that sank October 29, 2012.



MAY'S PROGRAM

In lieu of a speaker, we will be showing a movie created by Linda Howard of her and Tommy's cruise to Alaska in May and June of 2017. The movie has music in the background and subtitles and shows their cruise on a Princess ship, including the two weeks they drove and flew around Alaska. It lasts 25 minutes.



JUNE SPEAKER

Matthew Emmer is the President to Friends of the Savannah Coastal Wildlife Refuges. That group is the official nonprofit connected to the Savannah Coastal Complex which consists of seven National Wildlife Refuges in our area. They do volunteering,



operate a nature bookstore at the visitors center, connect with elected officials from Congress to local offices, and try to educate the general public about what our refuges offer. A National Wildlife Refuge is on the same protection level as a National Park, though their purpose is for wildlife and wildlife habitat first rather than the human recreational aspects of National Parks.



TREASURER, Dawson Long

My last article spoke about contentment for what I have versus my desire for a smokin' hot catamaran. Since then, I have become doggedly determined to hold on to and fix this old boat. Like my boat, if anyone meets me, words may come to mind like "deferred maintenance." When you focus on a bigger, newer, faster boat, your mind does not attend to the needs of the old boat that you have. I have not figured out what medication to overcome the boat-lovers affliction, Onefootitis. As soon as I started investing into the care of the old boat, the affliction started waning.

This month, my friend and boat expert Stuart Gough is painting my sailboat on the cabin-top and the deck. He and I are stripping the old

brightwork down to the original teak. When the boat misses a few scheduled layers of brightwork, the cost to recover is very high. Please, friends, remind me every six months to put a few coats of varnish on this old boat. *Andiamo* is getting a makeover as you would see on TV. As most of you who have seen Stuart's boats that he has rehabilitated, you know how beautiful the results are.

Now, when the spouse of a boat-lover meets the person helping you rehabilitate the boat, you may have a problem. In my case, my wife visited the boat when I happened to not be there. When she started calculating the estimated expense to finish the work, she got nervous. Contrary to the spouse who is a boat-person, we know that trying to reason math and boat repair costs with a non-boat

person doesn't work. You can't bring silly math into the equation. It is always more expensive than reason should dictate. My wife started asking questions about how expensive it would be. But then my luck turned, because she was so impressed with the results that she encouraged Stuart to go ahead and finish other areas of brightwork.

So, fall in love again with your old boat. It may spark some interest in getting your spouse out on the boat like old times.



CRUISE CHAIR, Larry Sprague

Below are the next three cruises for the Geechee Sailing Club:

Memorial Day Cruise – Saturday, May 25th to Monday, May 27th. South end of Wassaw Island near the DNR dock. Go down the Odingsell River at the south end of Wassaw and then bear right into Wassaw Creek. The DNR dock will be on the right. Anchorage is good in Wassaw Creek. Bring chairs and a small table, as we will gather on the DNR dock for drinks and breakfast.

June 15th to 16th -Daufuskie Island. *THIS is a change in*

dates to a week later.

Anchoring is near the public landing on the New River just past the ICW cut (buoys R40 & G39) to the Cooper River.

Golf carts can be rented through Tour Daufuskie (843-842-9449) or Daufuskie Carts (843-997-0062). Make sure you tell them that you need to pick up the cart at the public landing and not the Freeport Marina.

July 20th to 22nd -

Palmetto Bay Marina, Hilton Head.

Go ahead and make reservations for the July cruise at **Palmetto Bay Marina.** (<https://>

dockwa.com/explore/destination/x1cmxy-palmetto-bay-marina?form=transient
843/785-5000

The September cruise will be to Beaufort, so also make reservations at the **Safe Harbor Marina** for **September 6th through the 8th.** (<https://shmarinas.com/locations/safe-harbor-beaufort/>) 843/524-4422



COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR/EDITOR, Linda Howard

OYSTERS!!!

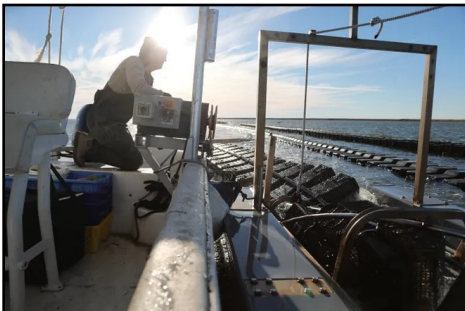
Yes, I know we just had an oyster roast, but do you really know what you were eating? Some of you have a pretty good idea, so you don't partake. Others actually know...and don't care. 8>) - like me. I actually dissected one in a Zoology course in college.

I did an article on barnacles in the September 2022 *Rhumb Line* and found it very educational! So I thought it was time for something else we have in abundance in the Low Country...oysters.



I saw an article in a local magazine about a couple (Perry & Laura Solomon) who has a "floating oyster farm." They use a Carolina Skiff and head for their "farm", leaving the Savannah Boathouse Marina and arriving at a bend in the Bull River. That's where they keep submerged baskets.

Each basket is attached to containers of fingernail-sized baby Eastern "seed" oysters. In total, they have 100,000 of these "seeds" in 1,200 containers attached to these floating baskets that resemble violin cases.



These baby oysters were purchased in the summer from the University of Georgia Marine Extension and Sea Grant's Shellfish Research Laboratory. In mid-December, the Solomons began harvesting their "Salt Bombs" as they call them, and sell them directly to local restaurants through their business, Tybee Oyster Company.



Who knew we had an oyster supplier so close to us?! They say that they are some of the cleanest oysters you're ever going to see because of the work they put into them. What sets them apart is that they cultivate using a system called "flip farming," which prevents the accumulation of barnacles (yes, check out your September 2022 edition on barnacles) algae, and other elements by periodically exposing the cages to the sun.

The process involves a small catamaran temporarily attached to the skiff. As Perry carefully guides the boat, a line of baskets - each affixed to its own plastic float - twists through the contraption's system of rails - like cars on a rollercoaster.

This time, the baskets are ultimately exposed to the open air. Next time out, the pair will repeat the process and submerge the oysters.

Laura consults a spreadsheet on her tablet to confirm which baskets will be emptied that day. As each one is opened, dozens of oysters crash into waiting plastic bins.



While Perry continues this process, Laura settles in at the back of the boat and begins sorting the contents of the assembled bins. One by one, Laura counts out approved oysters as she places them into a netlike bag. When she reaches 100, she opens a briefcase-like plastic container and, using her mobile phone, sends information to a miniature printer.



The device spits out a paper label including the date, time, and location of the harvest; the name and address of the restaurant to which the bag will be delivered; and a QR Code linked to more information such as tasting notes and appropriate wine pairings. Laura staples the label to the bag, then repeats the ritual.

Under Georgia law, oysters must measure at least 3 inches from hinge to mouth to be harvested. Beyond meeting the minimum requirements, though, Laura looks for like-sized stock.

"Most of the restaurants we work with are high-end, so they're looking for consistency," she explains.

COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR/EDITOR, Linda Howard (continued)

Ten Savannah-area restaurants now serve Tybee Oyster Company's product. That local tie is special for the Solomons,

Terry says, "Good food connects you to where it is from, and oysters do an exceptional job of making that connection," he explains. "Every one of our Salt Bombs brings a capsule of pristine coastal Georgia to the plates of consumers who can be transported to our lease (site) to taste what makes our little corner of the world so special."



Though the same species that is traditionally harvested in Georgia, the Solomons' product is unique because of the way it is raised. "Salt Bombs are beautiful to look at, long and narrow, with clean shells and beautiful bands of black, white and even purple," says Andrew Jay Ripley, co-owner of [Sea Wolf Tybee](#). "They are delicious, with a great salinity and a clean, firm texture."



Customers have shared that enthusiasm, making Salt Bombs Sea Wolf's top-selling oyster. "They make their way to practically every table," Ripley added. "There is an immense feeling of pride we're getting from our locals –

to have an exceptional product like this coming from our community."

River-raised oysters also are good for the environment. Naturally growing oysters are filter feeders that clean water and help add structure to coastal shorelines. They also provide a defense against the impact of climate change by helping to protect shorelines from storm surge and high tides, and reducing erosion caused by intense rain.

By farming, the Solomons are leaving naturally occurring oysters in place while their crop improves water quality, Laura notes. And as a product, the oysters are fresher and require less trucking and refrigeration, resulting in less heat-trapping pollution and energy use.

For the Solomons, as is the case with many entrepreneurs, creating Tybee Oyster Company involved a significant leap of faith. "We were the first to submit our paperwork, and we took a major financial risk by pre-purchasing all of our farming equipment and having it delivered before we had state and federal approval to deploy it on our lease," Perry explains. That risk included taking out a second mortgage on the couple's home to help fund the startup.

Perry, a retired Navy aviator who now works as a commercial pilot, and Laura both must juggle jobs with their oyster business.

"They are great people – kind, generous, smart, hard working and, above all, community oriented," Andrew Ripley says of the Solomons. "It just so happens that their oysters are phenomenal."



Phone booth
1994



Phone booth
2024

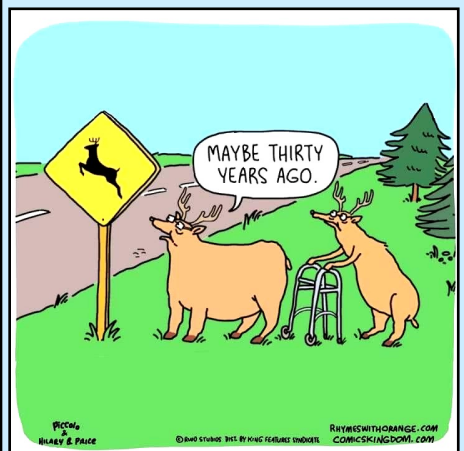


At a couples counseling meeting the speaker mentioned that couples are so disconnected that 85% of husbands don't even know their wives favorite flower.

Mick turned to his wife and whispered:

"It's self rising, isn't it?"

Chop Secrets



RACE CHAIR/WEBSITE MGR, Angela Margolit



Our 45th Annual St. Patrick's Regatta

THANK YOU to all who helped:

Race Committee, the Grissettes, the Debiens

Saturday night: the Quinns (who checked everyone in), the Howards, and Mary Ellen Sprague

And thanks to all who donated to the Tricky Tray, as it made it a fun event!

And if your company stepped up to sponsor: Thank You, as that allowed us to make it a wonderful, yet affordable event!

The winners – who all received a special Geechee Trophy Mug - were as follows:

Fleet Races (Two were held on Saturday)

Spinnaker Class

- 1st – *High Visibility*, J105, Gebel Seese
- 2nd – *Stingray*, J70, SCYC Junior team
- 3rd – *Vortex*, J70, SCYC Junior team

Non-Spinnaker Class

- 1st – *Rooster II*, Troy Lamb, Harbor 20
- 2nd – *Y knot Tri*, Jim Smith Jr., Trimaran
- 3rd – *Apprentice*, Bucky Jones, Shock 34

Rhodes 19

- 1st – *Randy*, Rob Miller
- 2nd – *Peter Pan*, David Jefferiss
- 3rd – *Scholar*, Mary Kovats

Pursuit Race (held on Sunday) Spinnaker

- 1st – *High Visibility*, J105, Gebel Seese
- 2nd – *C Student*, J100, Mark Lamas
- 3rd – *Yahoo*, J109, Michael Sullivan

Non-Spinnaker

- 1st – *Apprentice*, Bucky Jones, Shock 34
- 2nd – *Grand Cru*, C&C 33, Peter Baxter
- 3rd – *Y knot Tri*, Jim Smith Jr., Trimaran

It was very nice to see sailors use the Crew Board! Our very own Larry Sprague contacted Hilary Jones for his team.

We have Regatta shirts for sale, sizes L, XL, and 2XL, for \$25 each. Let me know if you are interested and I will get one to you. I'll also bring them to meetings that I can attend. White goes with everything!

Upcoming Regattas:

MAY

May 4-5: SCYC - Windmill Harbour Regatta & DDS&A (Domenica De Sole & Associates) Cup

17: CORA/SYC – Savannah Cup (Charleston to Savannah overnight)*

24-26: HRYC - GulfStreamer Offshore Challenge, Daytona to Charleston (overnight)*

JUNE

1-2: SYC – D12 Laser Regatta

8-9: SYC - Wassaw Cup, Wilmington River

22: CSC - Summer Sailstice Raft-Up

29-30: SYC - Firecracker Regatta (Sunfish, Laser, Opti, and M15)

*See the complete schedule (and contact information) on our website's Racing page!



St. Patrick's Regatta
Geechee Sailing Club - March 23 - 24, 2024
Select Language ▼

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Crew Finder Bulletin Board
St. Patrick's Regatta - Geechee Sailing Club
March 23-24, 2024

"Skipper Looking For Crew" Posts: Click on post for more information

[Add a Post](#)

"Crew Looking For A Boat" Posts: Click on post for more information

Hilary Jones Posted on Mar 18, 2024 19:11 EST
Experienced racer/helm/trimmer/tactician looking for ride on Saturday only. Member of CSC (past Commodore) and The Landings Sailing Club. Text if interested. Thanks!!

This Post Was Modified: Mar 18, 2024 19:11 EST

Shawn Miles Posted on Mar 18, 2024 17:30 EST
I'm a member of Chatham Sailing Club, looking to crew.

This Post Was Modified: Mar 18, 2024 17:30 EST

[Add a Post](#)

The race organizers have not examined the qualifications of any potential crew member, skipper or vessel posting on this site and does not vouch for the personal qualifications of any person or the seaworthiness or suitability of any vessel. Anyone choosing to use this service does so at their own risk and should insure that they are comfortable with the people with whom they chose to sail and the vessels on which they sail

6

SECRETARY/MEMBERSHIP/AUDITOR, Audrey Debien



NEW MEMBER WELCOME!

I first met Carl Ericsson at the 2023 St. Patrick's Day Regatta. He was captain of the mark boat (later named *Lil Toot*) and I was on the Committee Boat with Dave and others. Later in the year, Dave and I joined the Tybee Light Sail and Power Squadron. Carl is also a member and we got to know him at numerous social events and educational courses.

When Carl joined the Geechee Sailing Club, I asked if I could introduce him to the membership in the *Rhumb Line*. He kindly agreed and provided me with the following information! This picture was taken during the 2023 Regatta. Carl and his crew, aboard the mark boat, saved the day! They were able to untangle *Bonnie Blue* from the anchor line of the race marker!

Carl was born in Brooklyn, NY. He grew up in Miami Springs, next to the Miami International Airport. His dad worked for Eastern airlines.

His earliest boating experience was a 10-foot jon boat with a 7.5 hp outboard. "I could launch it in the Miami Canal in Miami Springs and take it miles and miles out into the Everglades. Of course, that was in the 60's. Today, all that swamp area is neighborhoods and golf courses."

Carl is married to Rhonda. She doesn't enjoy boating like we do, so we haven't met her yet! They are a blended family. They each have two children. Together they have four grandkids who are the center of their lives!

After moving to Savannah from Atlanta, Carl decided to get into boating. He's had three boats, a Sea Dory, a Sea Boss and, now, a Ranger Tug.

Carl says "I've learned from each one, and now am very happy with *Lil Toot*! She'll be my water partner until I can no longer get on board."

My plans are to go North and South on the ICW with Lil Toot. I've been to Charleston and Darien so far. I want to make it to Jacksonville then further South, and further North.

I also participate in the Dolphin Research Project, documenting dolphin behavior.

And I enjoy being the Mark boat on the sailing regattas, maybe except when I get the line wrapped around my prop!"

Welcome Carl! We look forward to seeing you at Geechee cruises, dinners, and social events!



offthemark.com
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Always for sale!



\$12/mug

\$10/water bottle

I will have them at the meetings.



FLOTSAM AND JETSAM

Unscramble each word, then take the letters that are underlined and unscramble them to come up with **A NAUTICAL TERM**. (As you can see, I have changed the hidden word from a person's name.)

T H I A F

R T O M S E N

R E A T H

P R A M

Answer to March/April's Scramble: HALYARD

TRAVEL

BOREDOM

THIN

NAVY

SUPPORT FOR OUR MEMBERS

This column is for club members to support other members "in need" (phone calls, visits, prayers, meals, etc.). Let me know of anyone you want to add. I won't go into a lot of detail on each here, but you can call them. I will also get approval before entering any names into this column. Please text me at 912/658-7398.

- Anna Highsmith - Anna says that she is recovering and, hopefully, rid of lung cancer. She had surgery in August and then went through four rounds of chemo.
- Dave and Audrey are in the process of researching treatments for Dave's prostate cancer.

2024 OFFICERS

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Secretary Audrey Debien

Treasurer..... Dawson Long

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Communications Chair/Editor.....Linda Howard

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For questions or comments, contact Linda Howard, Editor (912/658-7398)