



COMMODORE, Angela Margolit

Your Board of Directors has been meeting through the summer to keep all of our activities on track. THANK YOU to those planning the cruises (Dawson), speakers (Larry), social events (Cindy, Tommy, Pam, and Mary Ellen), plus our keeping up with membership (Scott), communications (Linda), and MONEY (Steve).

If you enjoy being a Geechee, please consider stepping up to be on the Board of Directors in 2027. We are especially in need of:

- Membership Co-chair to help Scott reach out to potential members
- Secretary to attend and take minutes at the monthly Board Meetings
- Member-At-Large to attend the Board Meetings and offer meaningful input!
- Social Committee members to help with our numerous parties!

If any of these exciting positions appeal to you, we'd love to have you join us! Per the Geechee Bylaws, the slate of officers are to be presented and voted on in the October meeting. I look forward to hearing from you.

Well, another fun field trip is in the books: The Field Trip to Grey's Reef Discovery Center on Thursday, August 13, at 10:30am was so informative – and fun! We were joined by my Outdoor Adventures group to make a perfectly sized tour group. Afterwards, we all went to Rancho Alegre for a delicious lunch. I highly encourage you to stop by the center and enjoy the displays.

Check out: <https://graysreef.noaa.gov/visit/centers/>

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.geecheesailingclub.org
EMAIL ADDRESS:
geecheesailingclub@hotmail.com
FACEBOOK:
Geechee Sailing Club

GEECHEE SAILING CLUB'S UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Socials & Cruises

Sept. 11-13—Safe Harbor, Beaufort, Cruise

Thursday, October 15 - Cruise on the Sea Dawg

Oct. 16-18—Bluffton Seafood & Art Festival, Cruise

Oct. 24 - Cookout at Art Chapel's

Dec. 14 - Combined Change of Watch and Christmas Party

Thursday, Nov. 19, 1:00 p.m. - sailing on The Lynx schooner out of St. Simon's Island

SPEAKER FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

JAMES SMITH

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
THE MASSIE HERITAGE CENTER**



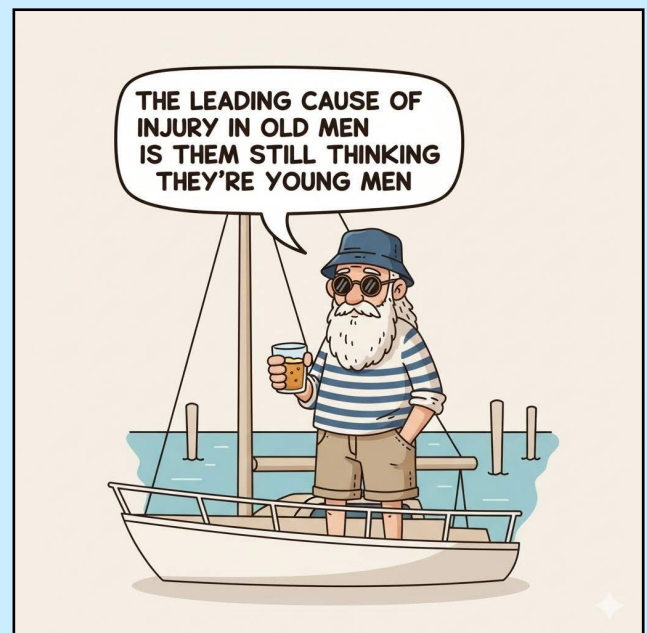
COMMODORE, Angela Margolit (Continued)



Next up: *R/V Sea Dawg* excursion is Thursday, Oct. 15. Check out: Research Vessels - UGA Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant.

This cruise will run from 8:30am until late morning. After we disembark, we will make trash bags out of used fish netting. Then, after that, we can go to the Driftaway Café (one of our St. Patrick Regatta sponsors) for lunch!

Note: there are only five spots left, so contact Angela ASAP if you are interested!



VICE COMMODORE/SECRETARY, Larry Sprague

JULY 13, 2026

Our own Stuart Gough spoke on his recent solo sail through the Bahamas



AUGUST 10, 2026

Our own Kevin and Elke Quinn regaled us with a short recounting of their recent trip through Ireland and Scandinavia



SEPTEMBER 14, 2026

Steve Smith with the Massie Heritage Society to speak. (I, Linda, was a student there 1954-1956)



OCTOBER 12, 2026

Larry & Mary Ellen Sprague recounting their two-week adventure on the *Stad Amsterdam* (a fully rigged clipper ship)!



VICE COMMODORE/SECRETARY, Larry Sprague

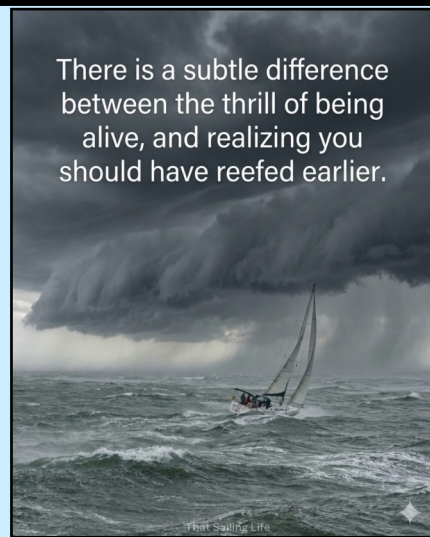
Our speaker for the September meeting will be Steve Smith, the Executive Director for the Massie Heritage School. This school has a fascinating history, and several of our members attended it. One of the interesting things we Geechee sailors will find of interest is their extensive ship model collection as well as a chart of the Savannah River painted on the floor.

The October speaker will be....me! I will be speaking about the two-week voyage Mary Ellen and I had

on the *Stad Amsterdam*, a fully rigged clipper ship. What is it like to spend two weeks on a two-hundred-and-thirty-foot fully rigged ship? Come and find out! What did we do on watch, did we go aloft in the rigging, did we have any bad weather, what was the food like, and how did we like our fellow sailors? All will be revealed!



There is a subtle difference between the thrill of being alive, and realizing you should have reefed earlier.



CRUISE CHAIR, Dawson Long

September 11-13, Friday-Sunday,
"After Labor Day Cruise" to Safe
Harbor, Beaufort, Beaufort

I have enjoyed their Rails-to-Trails scenic bike ride and the great restaurants and shopping. Bring your bike or rent one. The restaurants are all within walking distance of the marina.

October 15, Wednesday, Sail on
Research Vessel *Sea Dawg* from
Skidaway Island

October 16-18, Friday-Sunday,
Bluffton Seafood & Art Festival

I am not sure that the public dock is expanded or not. We have always anchored in the river.

November 19, Field trip to sail on
the Schooner *Lynx* at St Simon's
Island

I hope that all the cruisers out there in the sailing community get a chance to be a part of these cruises. Notice how the field trips

on a vessel are included as my broadened definition of a cruise. Our planning for cruises has been active this summer. However, our attendance on cruises has been down. Some cancellations have been due to weather such as the Brunswick cruise.

The Palmetto Bay Marina cruise destination was unattended because Tom "Cruiser" Howard and Awesome Andiamo Dawson did not call enough ahead of time to reserve dock space. Marinas have been packed this summer. Along with that, they had a fire that destroyed 7 boats and damaged 3 more, so that attributed to their not having adequate space for us.

I should follow my own advice and schedule a slip for the cruise to Beaufort today. I will bring my folding bike to ride on the fabulous Rails-to-Trails path starting just south of the town. If there is no space on the dock,

there may be some mooring balls available. We will have a pot-luck brunch on Saturday around 10:30 at the pavilion. We plan on eating out at a restaurant on Saturday evening. I would get on the Dockwa app to reserve a slip. Also, sometimes calling the marina can give you more detail about the time required to wait for an available slip.

The Beaufort cruise is after Labor Day, so we should have better luck this time, Tom Cruiser.



MEMBERSHIP CHAIR, Scott Lawson

Welcome to our newest member Kris Hunter!

Kris sails a classic Douglas 32 out of Turner Creek (*Inchmore*) and has already participated in numerous Geechee Sailing Club cruises as well as local races. Please introduce yourself at our next meeting. I appreciate Kris' enthusiasm and am looking forward to his involvement with our group.

Plenty of events coming up on our calendar. Come out and support

your club. Better yet, bring a friend.

See you soon!



**The problem is simple.
 Kids today don't know
 the fear of hearing
 leather being pulled
 through seven
 Wrangler loops.**

COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR/EDITOR, Linda Howard

ABANDONED AND DERELICT VESSELS (ADV's)

How many times have you said you wished you could do something about all those abandoned boats on Turner's Creek or other waterways in our area? Obviously, these create hazards for all of us, if not just eyesores.

According to BoatUS's Sept/Oct/2025 magazine and their April/May 2026 one, there is finally something that BoatUS has done to give us a way to deal with these boats. Now we can make reports directly through the ADV Removal Program.

Let's start from the beginning. What boats are we talking about? They can be:

- ◇ Boats of any kind that have been stripped and anchored,
- ◇ those that have not been stripped but have been abandoned due to the death of the owner who died without making provisions for his/her boat,
- ◇ those that have not been stripped but the owner could no longer afford to keep,
- ◇ and the ones blown up into the marsh by a hurricane and the owners could not afford to salvage (at Fernandina?).

As BoatUS states: "common reasons include the high cost of boat disposal, a lack of options for end-of-life removal and recycling, and lack of affordable housing for those owners who have been living aboard. Extreme weather events and accidents also contribute to ADVs." The most complicated is the derelict without being abandoned such as a vessel at anchor with no working engine. So...even if someone is living on an anchored boat, it is something that needs to be reported. Needless to say, some can also be found in large numbers at marinas which include saltwater, freshwater, lakes, and ponds.

BoatUS started by creating the BoatUS Foundation and asked for grant proposals to handle these boats. They received 53 applications and chose ten for funding. The panel of five volunteer grant reviewers plus the Foundation staff was comprised of representatives from NOAA, the salvage industry, boater representation, and nonprofit conservation. Removal efforts will begin once grantees finish navigating the environmental compliance and permitting phase with NOAA's Marine Debris Program. All projects will be completed by June 2027. They will also have a prevention component.

These ten that were chosen for the initial \$10 million funds are: Alaska, Guam, Louisiana, Maine, North Carolina, Oregon, US Virgin Islands, and Washington.

So...what is the good news for us here in Savannah, GA?

We can now contact the BoatUS.org/database and both report and identify abandoned or derelict (not seaworthy) boats. Also check out BoatUS.org/advgrant.

This is the central database for reporting and tracking ADVs. It is in partnership with MyCoast.org. It will allow the public, states, communities, and organizations to easily log ADVs in local waterways, including uploading photos. These locations include any body of water in the US, its territories, and Freely Associated States.

This database will help us to write new, or better, laws to help prevent reoccurring ADVs or setting aside more funding to assist in problem areas. It will also encourage more and easier solutions for disposal as well as sustainable disposal options to keep

fiberglass and composite boats out of landfills.



Communities with significant numbers of ADVs can use the data to identify where hot spots are located, any commonalities of those locations, and eventually track removal and prevention efforts.

How many reports did we have as of February this year? 1,010! I'm sure there are many more now that we are in the Summer months!

Be sure to keep this address handy in your phone. Remember to take a picture. If you need to know your location, just look on the Coast Guard app, Whereareweat app, or something similar.

BoatUS.org/database



SOCIAL COMMITTEE, Cindy Tutor

Holiday Party and Change of Watch Celebration

The Geechee Sailing and Boating Club invites members to celebrate the holiday season at the combined Holiday Party and Change of Watch Event on Monday, December 14, 2026, at the Marsh Harbor Neighborhood Clubhouse.

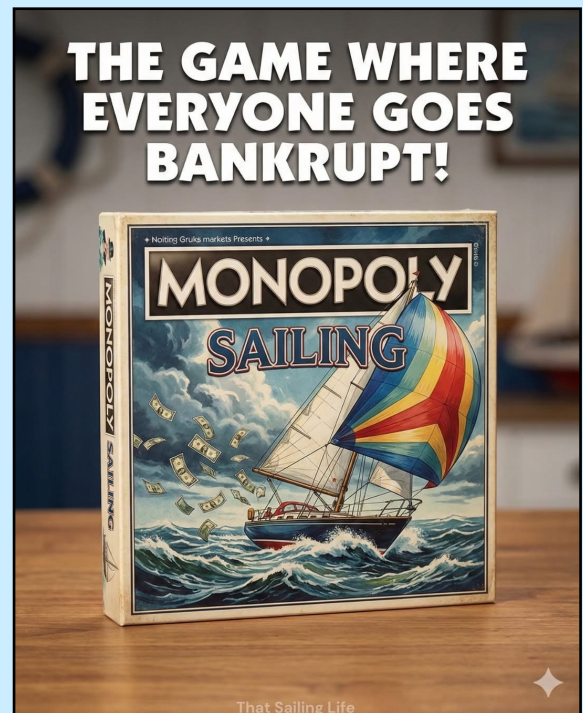
This special evening will bring members together for fellowship, celebration, and reflection as the club recognizes its accomplishments from the past year and welcomes its incoming leadership team.

Guests will enjoy an evening of camaraderie with cocktails and food provided. Members are encouraged to dress to celebrate the season and join in the festive spirit as we gather with friends and fellow sailing and power boat enthusiasts.

An invitation to the event will be forthcoming with additional details, including event information and other important updates.

We look forward to celebrating with all members as we close out the year and welcome new adventures ahead on and off the water.

There will also be a Cook-out – with homemade ice cream - at Art Chappel's October 24th at 4pm. Check out these photos of his beautiful riverside home:



RACE CHAIR/WEBSITE MGR, Angela Margolit

Summer Series Winner: The J/24 *Gone with the Wind* (assigned to me in the Landings Sailing Club) has won the 2026 Summer Series AGAIN! But – this is mainly because my main competitor, the other J/24 from the Landings, was Disqualified not once but twice!



The annual South Atlantic Yacht Racing Association (SAYRA) Club Championship was just held on Saturday, August 22nd and Sunday, August 23rd.

Lucia Marquez and I represented the Geechees and had a podium finish (3rd place)! Other than the skipper who always wins every year, it was really close – especially at the starts! We even had three (out of six) races where we caught up to the top two boats. Very exciting!

The event was held at the South Carolina Yacht Club (SCYC) which is based at Windmill Harbor on Hilton Head. We raced in the Calibogue Sound in Harbor 20s against other clubs who belong to SAYRA. Most of these clubs have teams compete against each other to determine who will represent them in this event!

I am hoping that next summer we can get two other Geechees (either two men or a man and a woman) to compete in the “Open” championship. It will probably be at an inland lake venue such as Lake Norman.



Women's Division

SAILORS	SAIL NUMBER	CLUB/ORG	NET	TOTAL	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6
1 Katie Mallory Megan Tracey	None	Charleston Yacht Club	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	1
2 Virginia Moore Sarah Moore	None	Carolina Yacht Club- SC	17	17	4	3	2	2	4	2
3 Angela Margolit Lucia Marquez	None	Geechee Sailing Club	19	19	3	4	4	3	2	3
4 Teresa Decker Danielle Delancey	None	Lake Norman Yacht Club	20	20	2	2	5	4	3	4
5 Alison Hall Lee Casey	None	Charleston Community Sailing	28	28	5	5	3	5	5	5

Upcoming Regattas:

SEPTEMBER

26-27: CSC - Oktoberfest Regatta, Wilmington River

This is a two-day regatta on the Wilmington River/Wassaw Sound

Sign up under <https://www.regattanetwork.com/html/calendar.php>

I will be gone again but please participate if you can!

Complete Schedule per the Notice of Race:

- Friday September 25, in-person registration and t-shirt pickup/purchase at the Chatham Sailing Clubhouse, Young's Marina from 7-9pm. Skipper's meeting at 7pm in person and via Zoom to discuss race conditions and planned start location.
- Saturday September 26, first race start 11am; looking to complete 2-3 races by 5pm.
- Saturday September 26, 6pm – Evening Oktoberfest-themed banquet at Chatham Sailing Clubhouse, Young's Marina.
- Sunday September 27, first race start 10am; looking to complete 2-3 races by 1500.
- Sunday September 27, 5pm or as soon as all boats have returned – Awards and race follow-up at Chatham Sailing Clubhouse, Young's Marina.



OCTOBER

10-11: SCYC - Ocean Challenge Regatta, Port Royal Sound



FLOTSAM AND JETSAM

Unscramble each word, then take the letters that are underlined and unscramble them to come up with
A NAUTICAL TERM.

G E I N E N _ _ _ _ _
M T R A N S I T
T O B R O
N A I P

Answer to JULY/AUGUST Scramble: R A D A R

APPLE
ADORE
REAL
PARTY

SUPPORT FOR OUR MEMBERS

This column is for club members to support other members "in need" health-wise (phone calls, visits, prayers, meals, etc.). Let me know of anyone you want to add. I will also get approval before entering any names into this column. Please text me at 912/658-7398.

Also, if you have (or know someone who has) a need to sell something, let me know that as well.

Janet and Joe Lane are selling their boat. It is at the Savannah Yacht Club and is a Morgan Nelson Merrick 45, 1983. Its name is *Memories* and has 2 berths, 2 heads, and heat and a/c. Please call Janet at 912/657-5270 for more information. "Seller is motivated"

2026 OFFICERS

Commodore.....Angela Margolit
Vice Commodore.....Larry Sprague
Secretary.....Larry Sprague
Treasurer.....Steve Allen
Past Commodore.....Linda Howard
Social Committee.....Tom Howard, Cindy Tutor,
Pam Allen, Mary Ellen Sprague
Cruise Chair.....Dawson Long
Race Chair.....Angela Margolit
Membership Chair.....Scott Lawson
Communications Chair/Editor.....Linda Howard
Member-At-Large.....Carl Ericsson

For questions or comments, contact Linda Howard, Editor (912/658-7398)
(howardhome@comcast.net)