



# The Tides of Datha

The official newsletter of the Dataw Island Yacht Club

Volume 25, No. 1

[www.DatawYachtClub.com](http://www.DatawYachtClub.com)

January 2017



## The Commodore's Corner . . . JOHN HUNTLEY

*Welcome to the 25th Year of the Dataw Island Yacht Club!*

Last year under the leadership of Commodore Gerry Chesser and an outstanding Board of Governors, we maintained a rigorous schedule of events with something to offer for all of our membership. On the water and off the water, the DIYC excelled in maintaining its reputation for the best events on the island.

And then the unexpected happened — Hurricane Matthew slammed us hard. The Dataw Island Marina was destroyed along with many of our boats. In the aftermath, recovering from the shock, we did not miss a beat. More determined than ever, we went forward with the Commodore's Ball. It was a fantastic gala. We had a full house, and the band did not stop playing until after 11 PM. By the way, don't miss it next year! The success of the Commodore's Ball reassured us of the strength of DIYC's leadership and membership.

To our retiring members of the Board of Governors, a special *thank you* for your service. The Social Chairs, Ann MacFarland and Valerie Hatcher, did an outstanding job with every event. Peggy Lantelme, Secretary, handed in her notebook and recorder after 12 years, and she will certainly be missed. Membership Chair, Carol Luzzi, also retired after years of dedicated service. Except for the above, the other Board members will be returning with the addition of Betty Huntley as Secretary, Patty and Perry Gesell as Membership Co-Chairs, along with Lenda Jablonski and Holly O'Shea as our newest additions to the Social Committee. As you can see, we have an exceptional Board of Governors with the talent and dedication to make our 25th year the best ever.

We are going to provide a full calendar of cruises, kayak and nature tours, along with fantastic social activities starting with "Final Fridays" in January and February. The other members of the Bridge, Vice Commodore Wayne Vance and rear Commodore Bob Hazelrigg, have a wealth of boating and leadership experience. They are already busy planning the season. The new Cruise Captain, Keith Aspray, is working out the details for the cruise schedule. Herb Stackhouse, Kayak Chair, has already started the kayak season with a December trip on Cuckold Creek. The sailing fleet is facing some difficulty without a marina and a number of sailboats lost to Matthew. But under the leadership of Roy Crocker, we will continue to be a major player in the Pedro Menendez Cup and sponsor the Dataw Island Cup in addition to staging individual races from alternate locations.

Furthermore, we will continue to interact with other area yacht clubs — Charleston Yacht Club, Edisto Island Yacht Club, Fripp Island Yacht Club, Beaufort Yacht and Sailing Club, and South Carolina Yacht Club. These relationships will add synergy and open up more opportunities to enjoy being out on the water.

I look forward to serving as your Commodore in this 25th year of the DIYC. We are a strong organization, well equipped to deal with the challenges of the coming year.

*Good Sailing and Cruising!*

## Mark Your Calendars

### FINAL FRIDAY GET TOGETHERS!

6–8 PM at the Rec Center Flag Room in the Community Center on the last Friday of the month in January and February. Join us as we enjoy the winter months on Dataw! Watch for details!

Friday, January 27 and Friday, February 24

### LOOKING AHEAD!

Commodore's Ball — November 11, 2017

### Not a DIYC member?

Join the DIYC and don't miss out!

See membership information on page 4!



## Yachting Club of America Courtesy Card

As part of your DIYC membership, you are also a member of the *Yachting Club of America*. YCA membership gives all DIYC members reciprocal benefits at over 800 yacht clubs in our country. Yacht clubs throughout the U.S. (including Alaska, Hawaii and the Virgin Islands) are members. Your YCA membership allows you to visit any YCA member yacht club and make use of their facilities. Did you use your membership to YCA this year? If you took advantage of this great benefit, please tell John Huntley, Wayne Vance or Bob Hazelrigg about your trip!

## Inside this newsletter

DIYC Board of Governors (page 2)  
Vice Commodore's Report (page 3)  
Rear Commodore's Report (page 3)  
Farewell from Gerry Chesser (page 3)  
Sailing Fleet Report (page 5)  
DIYC Ships Store (page 4)  
Welcome Aboard (page 4)  
2017 DIYC Membership Drive (page 4)  
Commodore's Ball photos (pages 5–7)  
2017 DIYC Membership Form (page 8)

## 2017 DIYC BOARD OF GOVERNORS

## FLAG OFFICERS

|                |               |              |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Commodore      | John Huntley  | 843-838-9094 |
| Vice Commodore | Wayne Vance   | 843-379-2209 |
| Rear Commodore | Bob Hazelrigg | 843-838-5511 |

## CLUB OFFICERS

|                 |               |              |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Treasurer       | Ron Jacobs    | 843-838-9756 |
| Secretary       | Betty Huntley | 843-838-9094 |
| Cruise Captain  | Keith Aspray  | 843-838-2950 |
| Sailing Captain | Roy Crocker   | 843-838-2453 |

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

|                     |                 |              |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Membership Chair    | Patty Gesell    | 843-838-2995 |
|                     | Perry Gesell    | 843-838-2995 |
| Social Co-Chairs    | Lenda Jablonski | 843-838-0240 |
|                     | Holly O'Shea    | 843-838-2246 |
| Communication Chair | Cindy Schafer   | 843-838-7517 |
| Ships Store         | JoAnn Aspray    | 843-838-4965 |
|                     | Ruthie Pierce   | 843-838-2950 |
| Kayak Chair         | Herb Stackhouse | 843-838-9950 |

**Check out the DIYC Website at**  
[www.DatawYachtClub.com](http://www.DatawYachtClub.com)

You will find an event calendar, photo gallery, membership information, newsletters, resources, and more. Use the "Contact Us" tool to send in your suggestions to make our site even better!

**Not a member of the DIYC?** Contact Membership Co-Chairs Perry and Patty Gesell for a membership form. (See contact information for Perry and Patty in Membership article on page 4.) If you would like more information about our organization, contact any of the members of our Board of Governors, listed above.

*The Tides of Dataw*  
 January 2017

The *Tides of Dataw* is a publication of the Dataw Island Yacht Club. Published as a source of information for the DIYC membership, it is sent to DIYC members and is also available on-line at the DIYC website [www.DatawYachtClub.com](http://www.DatawYachtClub.com).

We welcome member submission to this newsletter. Contact Cindy Schafer at 843-838-7517 or e-mail submissions to [cindyschafer21@gmail.com](mailto:cindyschafer21@gmail.com).

Dataw Island Yacht Club  
 43 Marina Drive  
 Dataw Island, SC 29920

## Vice Commodore's Report . . . WAYNE VANCE

Fall can be melancholy as we remember good times from the past year, but can also be filled with anticipation for the upcoming seasons. At DIYC we recall a wonderful year of successful cruises into our rivers, streams, wetlands, sandbars, neighboring marinas, Charleston and downtown Beaufort. Bob Hazelrigg's piece on page 3 beautifully captures the events of our 2016 cruising year.

We had numerous well-attended social events including wintertime "Final Fridays" in January (*Chili!*) and February (*Shrimp Gumbo!*) to lead us into the spring season. In May, the "Chicken Pickin" dinner at the Gazebo featured numerous grilled and fried chicken dishes and a whole lot of good friends. The Pot Luck dinner in September was equally fun and was well attended as always.

As he does every year, Roy Crocker organized a busy sailing schedule and races. The events were scheduled throughout the spring and summer. The winds varied, but the races were always a treat. See Roy's article and thoughts for next year on page 4.

One of the most fun and fulfilling days was the DIYC's participation in Camp Dataw. Betty Huntley and Alice Chesser, with ample participation and support from DIYC members, organized games and activities, some with boating themes, in the Gazebo. The campers then toured a sailboat and a power cruiser in the marina. The day was beautiful, and the kids seemed to have as much fun as we did.

We hosted the Edisto Yacht Club for its annual cruise to Dataw, and we looked forward to our return visit to their marina and club in October. The cruise there last year had the most boats on a DIYC cruise in years and the Edisto hospitality was warm and welcoming. But our cruise there in October 2016 was not to be — Matthew visited Dataw with fury over the Columbus Day weekend.

The damage wreaked on the Island was huge and led to a long period of clean-up and anxiety about where things will go from here. Boats were lost and docks were wiped out. At this writing, the future of the marina docks has not been announced, but there is reasoned optimism that they will indeed be back. Otherwise is inconceivable.

As for the outlook of our Dataw Island Yacht Club, our future was made clear at the season finale Commodore's Ball. On returning to the Island after Matthew, the decision to go forward with the November Ball was unanimous and enthusiastic. The response from the Club membership in a beautiful evening in the Carolina Ball Room became a celebration of our recovery and future. Our DIC Manager Ted Bartlett attended and was given well-deserved special recognition for his and his staff's wonderful and exhaustive storm response work.

The Commodore's Ball was not just a celebration of the year past or just of the DIYC's 25-year anniversary. It was a clear showing of our determination to move forward. That is what the DIYC is doing, with an optimistic leadership team on the Bridge and Board who are meeting challenges and busily planning a new year full of opportunity.

## Rear Commodore's Report . . . BOB HAZELRIGG

The DIYC enjoyed a wonderful cruise season this year and, with one notable exception, we truly benefited from splendid weather. Need you be reminded that our luck finally ran out with the untimely arrival of Hurricane Matthew! The damages and disruptions resulting from Matthew obviously necessitated the canceling of the October 21st cruise to Edisto which was to be our last cruise of the season. We have developed a special relationship with our friends at Edisto and we wish them the very best as they, like us, recover from the affects of Matthew.

A special thanks is in order to the Cruise Captains for this years events. Bob Welborn captained our first cruise in March to Beaufort for a delightful luncheon to Southern Graces. Southern Graces provided an especially good buffet that was enjoyed by all. The Bass Creek raft-up in April, which was superbly organized by Mike Koetters, was a rousing success. It was special because it included both power and sail boats of all sizes. Chuck Wibby headed up a great hamburger and hot dog buffet at the Back Porch Grill at Port Royal Marina. A special attraction was the El Gallion being docked close by on Battery Creek.

The summer schedule began with the overnight cruise to Charleston. Andy Jacobs and our new Commodore John Huntley did their usual great job and one that everyone who attended really enjoyed. The consensus is to repeat it in 2017. The Q on Bay cruise to Beaufort was rescheduled to late June to accommodate the Edisto Yacht Club's visit to Datha and in spite of a very hot day Bill Krebs did a wonderful job as did the Q.

Wayne Vance and Jack McGill organized an impromptu cruise into the ACE Basin in June that was great fun and a very beautiful as well as educational trip. Once again it was hot which meant that many of us chose to ignore the risk of alligators and take a swim in the Combahee. Perhaps a few Blood Marys made taking that risk a little easier!

Dan Barton, for what I'm sure to him seems like about the 20th time, organized the Morgan River Sandbar festivities with the Fripp Island Yacht Club. Dan deserves special kudos for organizing this event because of all the cruises this one requires a lot more work and no one could possibly do it as well as Dan. If it works out like it has been discussed, next year will be even better because there are plans to include the Edisto Yacht Club. What a day that will be with all three clubs!

As it turned out our last cruise of 2016 was our annual Bohicket trip. Stan Hudson was the captain and did a great job putting the trip together. A number of us made a two or three day trip out of it and the large group of day trippers added to the

fun. They arrived a little late since the lead boat ran aground and the rest of them followed like little lost sheep! Luckily that was not a problem and no damage was done except for a little hurt pride!

I would be terribly remiss if I didn't tell everyone how much I enjoyed my year as Cruise Captain. The willingness of those mentioned to serve as captains for the specific cruises and the help and cooperation of all of DIYC members is very much appreciated. Because of the aftereffects of Hurricane Matthew, 2017 will pose some new challenges, but the Cruise Captain position will be in the very capable hands of Keith Aspray. With your continued support we will all look forward to another great year!

## Thanks to ALL! . . . GERRY CHESSER, Past Commodore

I would like to thank the membership, Board of Governors, and the Bridge for the support given to me and our Club this year. No better example of that support could be given than this year's Commodore's Ball. What a party the Social Committee gave us, and what a turnout by the membership in the face of the effects of Hurricane Matthew. The importance of that support will help greatly as new Commodore John Huntley navigates the club through the upcoming months. He and his team understand the importance a successful membership drive will have on the effort to insure the Club continues to play a key role in the greatness of our Island. Restoration of the Cruising and Sailing programs will happen, and the social programs, as always, will be great.

John, Vice Commodore Wayne Vance and Rear Commodore Bob Hazelrigg bring a lot of talent and energy to the Bridge, the Board of Governors is the best group I have ever worked with, and the membership is loyal to the Club. What a combination for success.

As I reviewed the events of the Club with the Bridge back in September there was a feeling that the year was turning out to be a good one that demonstrated the continued success the Yacht Club has achieved in past years. Our Cruise program was favored with good weather, Cruises were well attended, and our big cruises to Charleston and the Morgan River Sandbar were outstanding. The social programs continued to sellout. We were anxiously awaiting the Datha Cup and the Edisto Cruise; but things changed after October 8th.

So we look forward to 2017, a milestone for our Club, as we celebrate the 25th year of the Yacht Club.

Thanks again for the opportunity to serve. I hope to continue to play an active role in the Club as so many Past Commodores have done before me.





## Sailing Fleet Report . . . ROY CROCKER, Sailing Captain

Obviously Hurricane Matthew has had a devastating effect on the DIYC Sailing Fleet. Several sailboats were total losses, and those that made it through the storm without any damage are now scattered around our area at various marinas and private docks. With the loss of the marina we do not have a central location that can be the focal point for our activities. We certainly hope our marina will be rebuilt sooner rather than later so we can get back to our normal activities.

In spite of the challenges, we are moving ahead with plans for next year for the two major sailing regattas in the Beaufort area. The Santa Elena Regatta, sponsored by the Beaufort Yacht and Sailing Club is scheduled for April 8 and 9. DIYC has supported this event in the past and we expect that will continue next year. The Dataw Island Cup is set for October 21, 2017. We are hopeful that the marina will be back in operation by that date.

We are planning on having a sailing race in the Morgan River next spring. The race will be from the marina to St. Helena Sound and back on a date when there are favorable currents. We will work with the sailors with boats in the area to pick a date when we can get our boats to Dataw to have the race.

Scheduling our regular monthly races is dependent on the marina getting back into operation. As soon as we know the plans for the marina this schedule will be promulgated.

The DIYC Sailing Fleet sailors are a resilient group, and it is our plan remain an active and key part of the yacht club.



## DIYC Ships Store ... JOANN ASPRAY AND RUTHIE PIERCE

Thanks to everyone who supported the DIYC Ship's Store sale in December. We had a great turn-out and a great sale.. An additional big *thank you* to Christine Curley, Suzanne Giffen, and Lynn Garcia for their wonderful help. We really appreciated all of your assistance and support.

Remember, if you could not make the sale, *the Ships Store is always available*. Just call JoAnn Aspray at 843-838-4965 or Ruth Pierce at 843-838-2950 and we will be glad to show you what is available and help you with your purchase.

Big sellers this year: a fabulous new rain jacket, cozy sweatshirts (with and without hoods), quarter-zip shirts for ladies and full-zip jackets for men and women. Of course, we have our great selection of polo shirts for men and women, and lots of totes, wine glasses, and other apparel for everyone.

*Give us a call and let us help you!*



## Welcome Aboard!

... PERRY & PATTY GESELL  
Membership Co-Chairs

The Dataw Island Yacht Club would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new 2016 members:

### BOAT OWNERS SAIL

**POWER**  
Lewis & Carmen Harden  
Don & Terry LaMont  
Bob & Barbie Priest

**KAYAKS & OTHER**  
Patty Van Sant & John Nielson  
Victor & Suzanne Roberts

**READY TO CREW**  
John & Robin Colgan  
Steve & Anne Schmitt  
Robert & Melissa Smith  
Mary Kay Noreen & Don Wasden  
Nancy Willson

**Honorable Member**  
Ted Bartlett

For information on DIYC membership, see **Membership Drive** article on the right.



## 2017 DIYC Membership Drive

.. PATTY AND PERRY GESELL Membership Chairs

The Dataw Island Yacht Club is one of the largest organizations on Dataw. There are approximately 500+ individuals who belong to the DIYC. Boat owners comprise 57% of the membership. These are the owners of power boats (28%), sailboats (10%) and kayaks (19%). The remaining members are always welcome to crew on cruises throughout the year.

All DIYC members should have received their 2017 Renewal Forms which were delivered to message boxes in December. Please remember to return the COMPLETED form ASAP, even if you decide not to renew your membership, as it greatly helps with the record keeping. Of course, you can join the DIYC any time. **But if you wish to be included in our 2017 Membership Directory, we will need your form back by January 31, 2017.**

If you wish to join the Dataw Island Yacht Club as a new member, forms are available at the Community Center, and can also be downloaded from our website — [www.Datawyachtclub.com](http://www.Datawyachtclub.com). (Click on “membership information” and then on “membership application.”)

For more information on DIYC membership, please contact our new Membership Chairs, Perry or Patty Gesell, 2017 Membership Chairs, at 843-838-2995 or e-mail at [gesell.islandhome@gmail.com](mailto:gesell.islandhome@gmail.com).

A copy of the 2017 Membership Form is located on page 8 of this newsletter.

*Commodore's Ball 2016 . . .  
A celebration of Dataw's recovery and our future!*



The 2017 Bridge!  
(left to right) Vice Commodore Wayne Vance and wife Beth; Commodore John Huntley and wife Betty; Rear Commodore Bob Hazelrigg and wife Nancy.



The beautiful Carolina Room is set and ready to go!



Social Committee Co-Chairs Ann MacFardland and Valerie Hatcher relax with Assistant Co-Chair Lenda Jablonski . . . the hard work is behind them and they are ready to celebrate!



Alice and Gerry Chesser and Andy Jacobs (Past Commodore, 2013) start the evening with a salute!



Former Commodore Andy Jacobs (2013) was the Master of Ceremonies for the evening.

*Thank you to Melanie Gentile for taking all of the wonderful Commodore's Ball pictures!*



Incoming Commodore John Huntley and his wife Betty are congratulated by Outgoing Commodore Gerry Chesser and his wife Alice.



Incoming Commodore John Huntley, with his wife Betty, poses proudly with the hat!

There were lots of former Commodores at the Ball!  
 (left to right) Tom Hurley (2011) with wife Charlotte; Gretchen Blickle with husband Jim (2007); John Carter (2014) with wife Diana; Gerry Chesser (2016) with wife Alice; Stan Hudson with wife Ellen (2012); John Cashen with wife Josie (2008); Andy Jacobs with wife Cathy (2013); Bill Paddock (2002) with wife Josie; Al Dedel (2015); George Cheatham (2009) wife wife Sue; and Chris Dedel, wife of Al Dedel.





*Dataw Island Yacht Club*

43 Marina Drive  
Dataw Island, SC 29920

**TO:** *Please list your SECONDARY mailing address:*

**Invoice for 2017 Yacht Club Dues and Directory Data**

**Membership Dues: \$45.00**

**DIC #:**

**Phone:**

**Cell Phone:**

**E-Mail:**

**Boat Name:**

**Boat Length:**

**Boat Make:**

**Power, Sail, Other (Kayak):**

Please complete the information above and make any necessary changes. This information will be used in the **Directory**.

Return this sheet along with your check for **\$45.00 payable to DIYC** to: Patty/Perry Gesell  
1722 Longfield Drive  
Dataw Island, SC 29920

\*To be eligible to attend DIYC events, your dues (\$45.00) MUST be paid. **Returning this sheet greatly helps with the record keeping.** Any questions, call Patty or Perry at 843-838-2995