



The Tides of Datha

The official newsletter of the Dataw Island Yacht Club

January 2012

www.DatawYachtClub.com

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The Commodore's Corner . . . STAN HUDSON

Safety is always first! Not far behind is common sense. The recent grounding of the 950 foot Italian liner gives us all food for thought. How can a "State of the Art" vessel with every known navigational aid end up on its side in 25 feet of water? With time we will know the answers, but the obvious answer is they were too close to shore. We are all guilty of taking the easy way to reach a destination. How many times have we talked ourselves into the easy way to save time or effort?

As we spend the "cold winter months" dreaming of warm weather boating, let us try to train ourselves in some simple safety procedures. How about making sure you have a chart available even you have made the same trip many times before. Are your guests aware of where the life jackets are stored? May seem silly, but, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure". A simple set of voice directions regarding docking can prevent that awful crunch of fiberglass against a wooden or cement dock. Are you really that confident you can dock with that darned tide? Common sense can save you dollars and more importantly save you and your guests from injury.

This coming year is going to be filled with many activities for all members of the Club, and we encourage you to participate. If you are new to the Club let an older member, or a Board member, help you get acclimated. This Club is made up of a wonderful group of people who enjoy the Yacht Clubs' camaraderie. "A stranger is only a friend you haven't met yet".

Smooth Seas and Fair Winds

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First Place photo by Dale Martin in the Dataw Island Cup Photography Contest run by the VAC. For other winners, see page 4.



Mark Your Calendars

Final Friday Get Togethers

6-8 PM at the Rec Center Flag Room; BYOB
January 27, February 24, March 30

Pig Pickin': Monday, May 7

Pot Luck Dinner: Monday, June 4

Chicken & Ribs BBQ
Monday, September 10

Commodore's Ball with Theme:
Saturday, November 17

Next regularly scheduled Board Meeting
will be on February 7 at 4:30 PM
in the Community Center.



Photo by Dale Martin

Vice Commodore's Report . . . ANDY JACOBS

Here we are already at the start of the 2012 boating season. The weather has been so mild we have been able to sail right into the new year. We have many new and exciting events on our 2012 schedule. The Final Friday's should be a fun time and an opportunity for us all to gather with old friends and meet new ones. This year we are going to coordinate our sand bar and boating activities with our members who own kayaks. We hope to host an event with some kayak manufactures which will also include some demonstrations on the water.

We look forward to everyone's participation throughout our 2012 season.

Rear Commodore's Report . . . JOHN CARTER

Let's start the new year with a real life story. This past New Years' Day, with warm winds and temperatures hovering around 70 degrees, a handful of boats left our marina for an afternoon jaunt down the Morgan river, around Morgan Island and back up the Coosaw and Parrott Creek. One boat, with a captain knowing the local waters quite well after six years of local boating, followed another larger boat to the end of the Morgan and out into choppy waters towards 'Green 11.' The smaller boat's GPS was not functional, but it was follow-the-leader anyway. Well before reaching the green marker, winds picked up and the waters became too choppy for the smaller boat to continue. It radioed that it was turning around and heading back to calmer, familiar territory. Within two minutes, the depth went from 27 feet to 17, 10, 3 feet — and flashing. Also, not knowing exactly where it was on the chart didn't help either. The lead boat was requested to turn around and guide the nearly grounded boat back to channel water.

Here's the point. This scenario can happen to the most experienced of boaters and it is very easy to become complacent about preparing for a trip; especially a 'casual' trip in local, familiar waters. As a pilot of aircraft, I am legally bound to ensure that before leaving the ground, I must become informed with weather and en-route conditions, have up-to-date charts, be familiar with the details of my route, and have all instruments in working condition. These are very good rules which should also apply to all our boating trips. If you were alone, would you have known how to get out of this situation? And never be embarrassed to request help from any available source.

I would like to reintroduce the DIYC website (www.datawyachtclub.com) to you. It is a valuable tool, not only to see the calendar of events planned for the Club in 2012, but also to use the links for weather, tides, and reciprocal relationships with other yacht clubs. We are continually updating the site, so I encourage you to visit it frequently. Make it easy; open the home page, right click anywhere on the page and then click on 'create a shortcut.' Click 'yes' to install an icon on your desktop. You only need to click on this icon in the future to open the public page of the website. The Log-in password for DIYC members to access the members-only part of the site will be in your DIYC handbook, or you can e-mail me.

Cruise News

. . . MICHAEL MC KEOWN, Cruise Captain

A Happy New Year to everyone. I hope this mild winter weather stays with us until spring begins. This will give everyone ample time to get down to the marina and throw a coat or two of wax on their boats to get a head start on the new boating season.



We have compiled a cruise schedule that should accommodate the day boaters and the cruisers. We are also trying to tie in with the sailors on an event or two. Hopefully, there will be something of interest to everyone.

While I am on the subject of cruises, I need to fill some slots for Cruise Captain for a majority of the cruises. Feel free to volunteer to captain either a day cruise or an over-nighter. We encourage you to partner up with a Co-Cruise Captain to share the responsibilities of setting up a cruise. Co-Captains don't necessarily have to be boat owners, just DIYC members. If you see a particular cruise that you are interested in, e-mail me or call (mckeownmchl@gmail.com, 838-7678). We have synopses of past cruises that may help you as far as contacts for reservations etc.

The Last Friday Raft-Ups (April through September) will be handled by one cruise captain as not much preparation is required except to put out an e-mail as to where and what time folks should meet up on the last Friday of the particular month.

Hoping you find something on the schedule to your liking,

Check out the DIYC Website at www.DataYachtClub.com

There 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 Dataw Island Yacht Club? Contact Carol Luzzi, our Membership Chair, for a membership form. (See contact information for Carol in Membership article to the right.) If you would like more information about our organization, contact any of the members of our Board of Governors (see page 6).



Welcome Aboard!

. . . CAROL LUZZI,
Membership Chair

Thank you to those who completed their renewal forms and returned them in a timely manner.

Fishing Report

... STAN SAGER
Fishing Captain

As the days lengthen and temperatures rise, I hope that everyone

has completed their cold weather maintenance tasks. Oiling reels, changing lines and checking guides are tasks that will have you ready when you get the urge to get out there and fish. We presently have some very nice fishing opportunities and many more will arise shortly.

The phenomenal run of red fish is still underway with fly fishermen casting to very large schools of big fish. This angler has had great success with a simple rig of split shots and mud minnows. This method has produced great results fishing from a kayak or even from the dock at Sparrows Nest.

Conversely, sea trout are around but still have not recovered from our previous cold winters. Hopefully we will see an increase in numbers and size this year.

A neglected species with a scrappy fight is the sheepshead. They are abundant and easily taken on wrecks or around docks and bridges. Crabs are by far the best bait.

I hope our bass fishing friends tried fishing deep with flies this winter. This technique was introduced at the fishing seminars last year and is still the only way I have found to catch bass during their winter period of inactivity.

The best signal that the ponds are lighting up with activity is to watch the gators. At this very moment, "Old Oscar" is basking on the bank in my back yard. Once he spends more time in the water and cruising around, I know it is time for plastic worms, surface lures and artificials.



DIYC Ships Store

... JOSIE PADDOCK and LAURA SHERMAN

Our After-Thanksgiving Sale was a great success. Thanks so much to those who came and shopped for themselves and also purchased Christmas presents. Our logo is unique and a great way to advertise our beautiful island in the Low Country. Wear one of our items while on vacation and see the reaction you may get, it is amazing!

Our new plastic glasses with our DIYC logo are really neat and can be used on your boats, patio, and when your grandchildren visit. They are a set of four glasses for \$8 and they are dishwasher safe!

We will be replenishing our inventory and any suggestions are always welcome. Call Josie at 838-4343 or Laura at 838-3388 with your suggestions, they will be appreciated. Unfortunately, some items that have sold out are no longer available but new items will be forthcoming for spring.

The Outpost has been another place to buy *The Ships Store* merchandise. We are happy to report the fall sales have been better than we expected. They do not carry all of our items but a have nice selection. Stop by and see our display of t-shirts, sweatshirts, caps, and glasses.

As always we appreciate your patronage.

CRUISE CALENDAR 2012

March

26 Dockside Luncheon (Cruise Captain, Rick Brown)

April

10 Fun & Games around Datwa (poker run, or scavenger hunt)

19 Luncheon Cruise to Edisto Yacht Club (Cruise Captain, Bill Paddock)

30 ACE Basin Adventure & Lunch (Cruise Captain, John Cashen)

May

18 Moss Creek Luncheon & Shelter Cove/Theatre Overnight

19-21 Harbortown Yacht Basin (2 nights) & Harbortown Yacht Club
For lunch or dinner on the 20th

June

11 Fun and Games around Datwa (poker run or scavenger hunt)

22 Charleston overnight with Charleston Yacht Club

23-25 Charleston Harbor Resort & Marina at Patriots Point (2 nights)

July

16 Morgan River Sandbar

30 Palmetto Bay Marina & Lunch at either Captain Woodys/Black Marlin

August

8 Caper's Island Lunch Cruise (Cruise Captain John Carter)

September

7 Fun & Games around Datwa (poker run or scavenger hunt)

14-17 Windmill Harbor, Savannah Westin Resort & Marina, (2 nights) and
lunch at Savannah Yacht Club

October

1 Lunch cruise to Panini's/Back Porch Grill
(Cruise Captain, George Cheatham)

15 Bohicket Marina Luncheon

FINAL FRIDAYS RAFT-UP SCHEDULE: 4-27, 5-25, 6-29, 7-27, 8-31, 9-28

Sailing Fleet Report . . . ROY CROCKER, Sailing Captain

The *Dataw Island Cup Photography Contest* was a big success. Thanks to the VAC for running this event. On page one is the first place photo, by Dale Martin. Below left is the second place photo by Bob Underwood and on the right is the third place photo by Carol Luzzi.



Photo by Bob Underwood



Photo by Carol Luzzi

Advertise in The Tides of Datha

The DIYC will accept and post classified ads as a service for its members. Send ads to **The Tides** Editor, Cindy Schafer (cindyschafer3@yahoo.com).

- ⚡ Any DIYC member in good standing can place an advertisement.
- ⚡ Ads must be only for boat or engine sales.
- ⚡ There is no cost for ads for member-sellers.
- ⚡ Advertisements are only copy (no photos).
- ⚡ Ad size is 50 words or less (not including your name, phone, and e-mail address).
- ⚡ DIYC reserves the right to not run any ads it deems inappropriate.

Do you have Cruise photos that you would like to share with members of the DIYC? Or other DIYC photos? Send them to Cindy Schafer at cindyschafer3@yahoo.com so they can be put up on the DIYC website and/or used in future issues of Tides of Datha.

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The *Tides of Datha* 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.

We welcome member submission to this newsletter. Please contact Cindy Schafer at 843-838-7517 or e-mail submissions to Cindy at cindyschafer3@yahoo.com.

Our next issue will be published in March 2012.

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2012 DIYC BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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Commodore	Stan Hudson	838-7295
Vice Commodore	Andy Jacobs	838-4594
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Membership	Carol Luzzi	838-5040
Treasurer	Al Dedel	838-6771
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	Chris & Al Dedel	838-6771
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