



*D.I.Y.C. News* - John Huntley, Commodore

From the very beginning of Dataw Island's development, there was a keen interest in boating/sailing. With the marina and the geography, Dataw Island was a natural spot for enjoying time on the water, whether it be locally on the Morgan River, Jenkins Creek, and numerous tributaries feeding into the Morgan River or St. Helena Sound leading into the Atlantic Ocean for offshore sailing, cruising, and fishing. It is a perfect natural setting for a variety of activities on the water and the reason that many of us chose Dataw Island to live and play. To bring this all together in a group of like-minded residents, the Dataw Island Cruising Club was established on April 2, 1992. DIYC will be hosting a celebration event for the 25th Anniversary.

The Cruising Club evolved into the Dataw Island Yacht Club (DIYC) with its own constitution and bylaws on September 13, 1993. Our first Commodore was Norman Robertson who still resides on the island. Thank you, Norm, and the other pioneers that got it going. Twenty-four commodores were to follow, up until my installation at the last Commodore's Ball. Each of these commodores had a Bridge consisting of the Vice and Rear Commodores as well as a Board of Governors consisting of the officers and committee chairs necessary to get the job done. Bottom line, a long tradition with many dedicated people made the DIYC what it is today. Currently we have 259 memberships with a total of over 480 people.

So what exactly do we do? Generally we encourage yachting for our members by providing a full calendar of events on and off the water. This includes the promotion of boating safety, social activities, power and sail cruising, kayaking, and sail racing. We also interact with other area yacht clubs, including Charleston Yacht Club, Edisto Yacht Club, Fripp Island Yacht Club, South Carolina Yacht Club, and Beaufort Yacht and Sailing Club.

This past year, 2016, was a boating success for DIYC with cruises into our rivers, streams, wetland, sandbars, nearby marinas, Charleston, downtown Beaufort, and Bohicket. We had numerous well attended social events. Our sailing program under Captain Roy Crocker was a great success with the Pedro Menendez and John

Ribaut Cup races, the Dataw Island Cup, as well as numerous club races. Captain Herb Stackhouse continued to organize kayak events and promote the kayak program.

DIYC also played an active role with other Dataw Island clubs' events. In July we hosted the Camp Dataw campers with a craft project, games, and tours of a sailboat and a power boat. We partnered with the Garden Club and the Historic Foundation for Luminary Night activities such as a boat decorating contest and decorating the marina deck. DIYC also hosted a booth at the Dataw Island Carnival of Clubs.

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, the DIYC decided to move forward with plans for the Commodore's Ball. This proved to be a fantastic gala event. Don't miss it next year! The success reassured us of the strength of our leadership and membership.

Faced with new challenges we are going to provide a full calendar of cruises, races, kayak and nature tours along with an array of fantastic social events. We are a strong organization of creative, dedicated people who will work around the difficulties presented by Matthew.

We are an inclusive club with membership open to Resident and Country Club Members of Dataw Island-boat owners and non-boat owners. Many of us are in transition (between boats) since Matthew. If you are not a member, consider joining and being a part of an active yacht club with reciprocity to yacht clubs across America. January will begin our membership drive, so do not hesitate to contact me or Patty and Perry Gesell, our membership co-chairs. Our Final Friday in January will feature a variety of chili recipes and will be focused on new memberships. Please consider attending as a guest of a member.

Have a great New Year!  
John Huntley - Commodore

*ACE Basin Tour: Al Diedel and Gerry Chesser (back) John Huntley and Betty Huntley (front)*



*DIYC Members Attending the Commodore's Ball*