

September 29th, 2022



Commodore Log

N Lat: 31° 54' 1.1716" W Long: 81° 2' 50.143'



Ahoy from the Desk of your Commodore.

I am writing this log entry from my desk as Hurricane Ian threatens Savannah and South Carolina after battering Florida. The devastation to Florida has been unprecedented from this Cat 4 Hurricane, a once in 100 year event.

I wanted to open this log by sending my thoughts and prayers to the our neighbors in Florida who are struggling to get back to normal after such a devastating event. If you are in a position to help, here is the site for donations to the Red Cross:

<https://www.redcross.org/donate/cm/fox-pub.html/>

Moving on to happier topics, September, as usual at The Landings, was a very busy month for SIBC, highlighted by Low Country Hook Ocean Race.

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There is no better place for boating than the Low Country of South Carolina and Georgia, and it has been a popular spot for sailing for generations. The Low Country Hook Ocean Race regatta offers sailors a unique experience with a course that resembles a large hook, hence the name. The Hook Race is the only open ocean water sailing event in the Low Country. While many area boat clubs host annual regattas in inland waterways, the Hook offers the opportunity to compete in open ocean waters for several hours which historically was a large part of sailboat racing.

This year there were 21 boats at the starting line. With a strong favorable breeze and tide, the first to cross the finish line at Landings Harbor was High Visibility, a Savannah Yacht Club J/105, finishing with a corrected time of 3 hrs 33 minutes. This was the fastest Hook Race and a wild ride for competitors that flew spinnakers south past Tybee Island. A Landings Harbor J/24, ROGUE, finished with the second best corrected time of 3 hrs 34 min. This also placed her at the top of the J/24 class. The non-spinnaker class winner was Shazam, a 28' Beneteau from South Carolina Yacht Club. The cruising class winner was Merlin, a 30' Pearson from the Chatham Sailing Club. The Landings Sailing Club's J/24, Bonnie Blue, captured a 3rd place in the J/24 class.

Photos of some of the finishers can be seen with the link below.

[Hook Ocean Race Finish at LHM](#)

This year, SIBC hosted the Dockside Bar event for members, sailors and sponsors. With the last sail boat to finish at 3:45 PM, the Dockside bar was bustling with sailors telling the tales of the day. One sailor likened the time in the ocean to being in a cement mixer.

The attendance at the Dockside Bar surpassed even our wildest estimations. Approximately 60 people attended the event. A record amount of wine and beer was consumed and a great time was had by all. One of our SIBC members commented "The Skidaway Island Boating Club really knows how to throw a party. I had a great time."

Special Thanks goes to Bartenders, Dianne and Paul Bloom, who kept the beer, wine and conversation flowing. The afternoon would not have been such a success without their help.

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WSAV TV was there taking photographs of the entire event. Those photographs can be viewed here:

<https://www.wsav.com/news/gallery-low-country-hook-ocean-race/>

Savannah Happenings



Open House for the New Gray's Reef Ocean Discovery Center

DATES: OCT 19, 2022 – OCT 22, 2022

The opening of the New Gray's Reef Ocean Discovery Center was brought to my attention recently and it looks to be a fabulous opportunity for anyone who loves the water and Marine Life in this unique area of Georgia known as the Low Country.

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If you have ever had the opportunity to tour the UGA Aquarium, you know about Gray's Reef and how beautiful the Marine Life is that calls Gray's Reef home. Until recently, you had to be a very experienced scuba diver to view Gray's Reef and to experience all the fascinating sea creatures there. Now the wonders of Gray's Reef are brought to your door step by this Discovery Center.

Come for a sneak peek of the Gray's Reef Ocean Discovery Center to introduce the coming exhibits, community space and education programs offered by NOAA Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary and Foundation Chapter. The Gray's Reef Ocean Discovery Center is hosting free open houses and will offer programs, activities and opportunities for local residents and visitors to get involved with Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary and the local Chapter of the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation. There will be prizes and new giveaways for each day of open house!

Venue

340 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Savannah, GA 31401

Admission: FREE

Year End Bash

Members of SIBC - Don't forget our Year End Bash to be held in the Sunset Room at Delegal on Tuesday October 25th, 6-9 PM

This is an SIBC hosted dinner with drinks and entertainment. "C Local Catering" will be preparing dinner with 4 entrees: 2 seafood and 2 meat. C Local Catering is one of the best in Savannah. Beer, wine and Mojito's will be served at the bar. SIBC also has arranged for live music to be provided by guitarist Randy Standard who we had at last year's Year End Bash. This event should be a great closure to a great year for SIBC! Don't miss this event!!

Due to space restrictions in the Sunset Room, we need to limit number of attendees, so make your reservations early.

There will be a booking fee of \$10 per person, booking can be done through our paypal system in our website: <https://skidawayislandboatingclub.org/>

Help Wanted

SIBC is seeking **volunteer help** from our members due to a recent loss of several of our key officers for various reasons. We currently are seeking members who can help us with the following positions:

Dockside Bar Stool Refinishing

We are currently looking for a volunteer to strip and refinish a new Dockside Bar Stool. If you are handy and would like to help out with this refinishing effort contact me at the eMail below. Once you complete the refinish job you will have your name plate permanently installed on the back of the chair.

Interim Vice Commodore

- Assist the Commodore in the discharge of his duties
- In the absence or disability of the Commodore, serve as acting Commodore

SIBC Upcoming Events

Dockside Bar – October 7th and 21st from 5pm to 7pm

October 25th – Year End Bash Sponsored by SIBC 6 to 9 pm

Upcoming Events of Interest

UGA Marine Extension Events

Skidaway Marine Science Day – October 15th 12 to 4 pm

Oyster Roast for a Reason – November 19th 1 – 4 pm

Go to this link for more info: gacoast.uga.edu/events

Email hughandcharlene@gmail.com with questions or for reservations.

Off Watch



*“You said you wanted to go boating
somewhere off the beaten path. Well,
how’s this?”*