

AUGUSTA SAILING CLUB

APRIL, 2008

STARBOARD TACK

OFFICERS

Commodore

Greg Hatcher, 803-279-0074
GregHatcher@comcast.net

Vice Commodore

Brian Slater
BSlater@INGConsulting.com

Rear Commodore

Rocky Kight, 803-279-9323
RockKight@MSN.com

Secretary

Bill Collins, 803-642-9651
BBCollins012@Earthlink.net

Treasurer

Dick Mayne, 706-863-9359
ASC.WebMaster@Comcast.net

Past Commodore

Russell Cathey, 706-592-5786
RussellCathey1@Comcast.net

GOVERNORS

Richard Dimenna
Ben Jacobson
Marcus Moehlman
Tom Renard
Ed Durant
Laura Farmer
Cliff Russell
Michael Walsh

STAFF

Resident Caretaker

Jim Paschal, 706-825-8449
JPaschal_asc@bellsouth.net

Club Bookkeeper

Edna Varble, 706-860-6772
Ednacby@Knology.net

Membership Chairman

Russell Cathey, 706-592-5786
RussellCathey1@Comcast.net

Yard Master

Michael Walsh, 706-860-6333
M.J.Walsh24@Comcast.net

Harbor Master

Tom Renard, 706-799-2547
Tom@CornerstoneAugusta.com

East Point Mayor

Ed Joy, 706-863-9956
BEJoy@Knology.net

Web Master

Dick Mayne, 706-863-9359
ASC.WebMaster@Comcast.net

Newsletter Editor

Betty Renard, 706-799-5670
Betty@CornerstoneAugusta.com

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

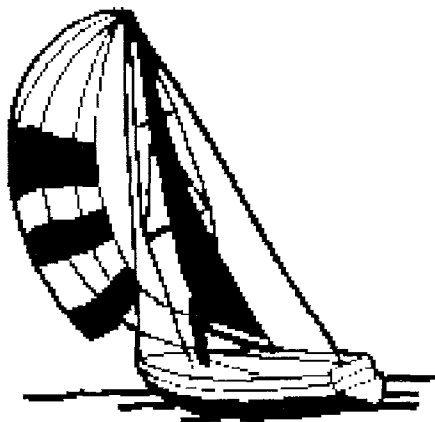
Death by Chocolate was held by candlelight on the night of the big storms. The storms kept most of you away, so those of us who made it had plenty of good desserts. Thank you to Marj and Jan for working to make the Death By Chocolate happen deliciously.

We saw high winds, heavy rains and hail, and we lost power for about 5 hours on March 15th. We were lucky not to have a lot of damage to our club property or to boats. We did have a lot of flooding around (and in) the clubhouse. The Board is working on plans that will help to alleviate some of the flooding and drainage issues. The storms are a good reminder to check on your boat's dock or mooring lines.

It is time to start gearing up for a great summer of sailing. We have had a lot of wind this year during the Fall and Winter series, and I hope it will continue during the new Spring series. Plan ahead, as the Spring series will begin on May 10.

Don't forget that the ASC Wenches are working to raise money toward cancer research. They will be walking at the Relay for Life event on April 25-26 at the Family Y on Wheeler Road. Support our wenches!

If you've lost your TACK ... good news! Dick Mayne and the Renards have managed to post it on the website. Starting with the March 2008 issue, they hope to be able to post the TACK each month.



Thanks go out to Tom and Betty for a great job with the March TACK.

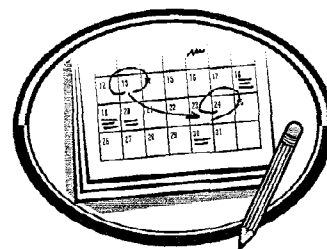
As spring approaches I'll be spending even more time at the club. I hope you will be, too. I'll see you there!

Greg

Keep Current at www.AugustaSailingClub.com

April 2008 Events – Mark your Calendar!

(Or post THIS PAGE on your fridge)



Saturday, April 5

1st Mark Youth Club Day

Monday, April 14

Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m. @ Clubhouse

Saturday, April 19

Full Moon Cruise

Friday/Saturday, April 25/26

American Cancer Society RELAY FOR LIFE



TAKE A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE



The ASC Wenches RELAY FOR LIFE Team needs walkers! Please consider signing up to walk for an hour at the event April 25th (7 pm) until April 26th (7 am) Sign up at the clubhouse, or contact Betty Renard, 706-799-5670 to choose your time. This is a fun event to attend, with lots of activities and FOOD, and supports a good cause. To make an online donation to the Wenches RELAY team, please visit <http://main.acsevents.org/goto/wenches>

COMMODORES RECEPTION

Please come and honor our past Commodores

Saturday, March 29, 2008

7:00 P.M. @

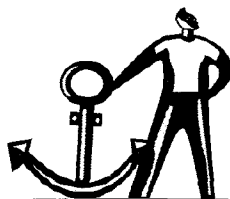
THE CITY CLUB

724 Broad Street, Augusta

Heavy Hors D'oeuvres / Business Casual

\$15 Per Person / Cash Bar

Please RSVP by March 26 to
bslater@ingconsulting.com or
call Amber @ 706-774-1020



PLAN AHEAD FOR SPRING DINGHY SERIES !

RACE DATES:

MAY 10* & 24

JUNE 7 & 21

JULY 5

THE DINGHY SERIES WILL BE OPEN TO ALL BOATS WITH A US SAILING PORTSMOUTH NUMBER.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SAIL IN THE SERIES AND DON'T HAVE A DINGHY, THERE ARE PLENTY TO BORROW.

LOOK FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION COMING IN THE MAY ISSUE OF THE TACK AND ON THE WEBSITE AT WWW.AUGUSTASAILINGCLUB.COM

*Correction from March 2008 Newsletter

Please submit material for THE STARBOARD TACK by email to betty@cornerstoneaugusta.com

or contact Betty Renard at 706-799-5670

The deadline for the MAY 2008 Issue is April 17!

MAILBOX or INBOX ? YOU TELL US!

For various reasons, some members may prefer to receive the TACK by email instead of, or in addition to, a printed copy. Maybe you travel and want to receive it wherever you are. Or maybe you have environmental concerns and want to cut down on paper usage. Some members may want to help cut club expenses (or at least divert them to more fun projects!) Maybe another member of the family checks your mail, and the TACK has a hard time finding you. FOR WHATEVER REASON, if you would like to receive a .pdf copy of the TACK by email, please send a note to the editor, Betty@CornerstoneAugusta.com. Provide the email address(es) you would like included on the distribution list (multiple addresses okay), and please be sure to indicate whether you want to continue to receive the print copy as well.

SWAP AND SELL

Editor Note: Most recent submissions will be included on a "space available" basis. Please check the website for a complete and current list of items FOR SALE by club members.

C SCOW : 1996 JOHNSON, Three sails and trailer. Good condition. Can be seen at ASC Dry Storage, Lot C3. Offer. Rob Sherman, 706-736-3113 or 706-564-7873

CAPE DORY 26: In good condition with a slip on A-dock. \$2,500 . Call Alex or Meredith Pit at Cell 706-755-6915
Email: meredithandalex@hotmail.com

SUNFISH: 2002, race ready, \$2500. Cruising rig and almost new sail, excellent condition, comes with Seitech Dolly. Call 706-825-1119

1984 HUNTER 25: good condition, roller furling jib, private head, gas stove, sleeps 4-6, with slip on C-Dock. \$5500. Call Pat or Kathy DeLoach at 706-854-1337

1997 JY15 #2061: North Sails, roll-up sail bag, rudder bag, hiking stick, galvanized trailer w/ Bunks by Tom, 3 new tires, standing/running rigging in very good condition. \$2600. In dry storage F6. Call Russell Bury, 706-733-3048

HUNTER 240: 2002, includes trailer, 8 hp Mercury OB, roller furl jib, easy mast raising system, bimini, companionway tent, bow roller, stern rail seating, epoxy barrier coat applied to bottom when new. \$18,900 OBO. Call Ken, 706-831-3063

NEW 2008 CLUB CAR XRT 850 UTILITY VEHICLE: Red, gasoline engine, lights, windshield, rear fold down seat, black canopy. Won in raffle. List \$6900; ask \$5500. Call John Helman, 706-733-7147 or email johnhelman@comcast.net

1994 CORONADO 15: With trailer, 2 jibs and a main, lots of additional equipment (compass, etc). Best Offer. Contact David Smithers, david.smithers@knology.net or 706-799-9394 Cell

Spare Lines

(Thanks to Johnnie Poole for this month's helpful information!)

ANTENNAS ON SAILBOATS... Why your radio doesn't work as well as it could.

Okay, you've decided that you really want to get in on all the chatter and put a VHF Marine band radio on your sailboat. Now you can't be heard even though you can see the other boat. What's wrong?

Most amateur radio installations on sailboats suffer from the same problem - insufficient grounding!

All electricity needs both a source and a return path. In the case of radio waves, the return path needs a large surface area, not just a thick wire. The three weak areas on most boats are the ground wire to the radio, the shield ground of the radio coaxial cable, and the "ground plane" of the antenna base. The DC ground to the radio must be the same or larger gauge wire than the power feed wire. In all cases the objective is a gas-tight, sealed connection. Corrosion is the enemy of all electrical connections. Contrary to common thought, a soldered connection that is not mechanically supported on both ends and cleaned and sealed is not optimal. For any mobile application (sailboats, jets, spaceships, etc.) solder joints will crack and corrode faster than proper crimp connections.

Once the radio is installed, the next job is to carefully select the mounting point for the antenna. In many cases the masthead is the wrong choice! If properly installed and maintained, there is an advantage in range of about 40% due to increased height. On our lake that advantage is negated by the trees and hills. The longest straight line to the horizon is only about 4 miles! If your antenna isn't above the trees, your range is reduced.

I recommend putting the antenna where you can maintain it easily, and where it is not the highest point on your boat. It will decrease dramatically the chance of lightning frying out the cabin of your yacht. And yes it has already happened to a Catalina 30 on my dock in the 90's. I have my 8-foot whip antenna (the longer physical size is much more efficient) mounted on a well-grounded bimini frame. The VSWR (a measure of radio resistance) is excellent, and the radio talks as well as any. I know the ground plane and radio are good because right next to it is my amateur radio antenna and will consistently talk to Europe and South America.

The final bit of advice is to avoid the wrench-together UHF connectors that come with most antenna cables. Now that's the place for solder!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

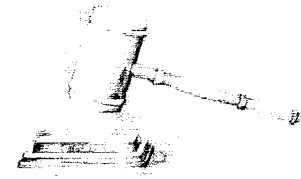
Active	221
Associate	0
Temporary	2
Sustaining	29
Non-Resident	13
Honorary	3
Suspended	2
TOTAL	270

SLIP WAITING LIST

Date of Deposit	Member
08/02/2001	Horace Duncan
06/15/2006	David Williams
10/21/2006	Richard Smith
01/23/2007	Joseph Wood
09/25/2007	Randy Hill
09/30/2007	Phil Cox
10/16/2007	Rick Carson
12/28/2007	Mike Konesky
02/06/2008	Dow Toole

MOORING WAITING LIST

Date of Deposit	Member
08/16/2004	Ken Brosseau
10/16/2007	Jeff Pope



BOARD OF GOVERNORS REPORT

The ASC Board of Governors met on March 10, 2008 and addressed the following matters:

Jim Paschal was acknowledged for his work to improve the overall appearance and functionality of the property.

The condition of club equipment was reviewed, noting that the Carolina Skiff may need a new motor, and one mower needs to be replaced.

The new sewage drain field is online and will be graded and seeded.

It was noted that the Hardin's Cove courtesy dock needs a new bridge.

The Board is considering the installation of a patio on the uphill side of the clubhouse, between the clubhouse and the parking lot. A decision will be made following bids.

The Dock Authority has proposed modifications to the House and Ground Rules, which were approved. The Rules are posted on the Club website, and members should take the time to review them.

The Dock Authority has taken over management of the two courtesy docks and the mooring field, in addition to the cruising docks. It was further authorized to upgrade the electrical system to A-Dock.

The next Board meeting will be on April 14th at 7:00 at the clubhouse.



*Augusta Sailing Club
P.O. Box 1938
Evans, GA 30809-1938*