



CRUISE NEWS

The monthly newsletter of the Cruising Club of Charleston



Commodore

Elizabeth Beckmann



Vice Commodore

Paul Hensarling



Secretary

Lynn Menches



Treasurer

Joann Lape



Navigator

Carl Beckmann, Jr.



Past Commodore

Mike Fauss

NEXT MEETING

May 5, 6:30 pm, Point Grill

Speaker: Tracy Harler

Topic: She will be sharing her experiences with long range cruising

THIS MONTH'S CRUISE

Steamboat Creek--May 7-8

We need a Host Boat!!

Sail ho!

As I write for this month, I wonder if the mettle for the Cruising Club of Charleston is being tested. The March Cruise, with 2 boats, played out in bad and unpredictable weather. The April cruise, with 17 boats, faced 30kt winds gusting to 35kts, leaving a fellow cruiser returning to his homeport for repairs. Even though *Charon II* had not made it to Hamlin Sound, fellow cruisers wished him well along with thoughts, "that could have been us!"

The club is still searching for a "Fun Committee Chair and Members for this year. Don't be bashful, try it you just might like it. This person would be responsible for coordinating the Luau, Christmas Party, Oyster Roast and Change of Helm, with the help of various subcommittees for each event. Please search for the "Help Wanted" ads in this month's newsletter.

A BIG thank-you goes out to Dick & Sue Wing for the pictures taken of the cruise to Hamlin Sound. I have forwarded them to our webmaster for publication. Great shots! You can really tell a great time was had by all, despite the windy weather.

The navigator is still seeking host boats for 3 remaining cruises. Based on the number of boats that attended last month's cruise, we may have to have a "raft-up" in order to accommodate provisions and personnel. Anyone interested in assisting the Navigator with the "interpretation" of the current by-laws detailing the award of the burgees and annual awards given, please contact him direct.

CCC schedules for regular meetings, cruises, and steering meeting dates are posted on the website. I encourage all members to join in on the steering committee meeting. It is held at the Variety Store at the City Marina on Monday evenings, starting at 6:30.

As a gentle reminder, dues are now due. Please contact Eddie Sykes or Joann Lape with dues and any updated information, especially phone numbers and email addresses. Deadline for renewing is May 31, 2011, in order to provide an updated "boat" roster for each club member at the June's meeting.

Let's set sail!
Elizabeth Beckmann
Commodore

ANNUAL DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE

If you have not already sent in your annual dues, please mail a check for \$40.00 payable to The Cruising Club of Charleston. The mailing address is as follows:

The Cruising Club of Charleston
P.O. Box 22664
Charleston, S.C. 29413

You will not be getting a bill in the mail. This is your reminder!

CCC Main Meeting Minutes 4/ 7/11

Commodore Elizabeth Beckmann called the main meeting to order at 7:29 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A call for guests was made. Richard and Jan Massey introduced Gretchen Marquardt, Tom Morelle was the guest of Dick and Sue Wing, and, new member, Kevin Pickett introduced himself.

Vice Commodore Paul Hensarling introduced the guest speaker, John Brophy, president of Pierside Boatworks. John mentioned that he had 38 years of experience in the boating business. He has worked his way up from cleaning heads to owning his own company.

John gave a thorough review of the major problems that he sees on boats that come into his yard for service along with tips on general maintenance to prevent larger problems. His boatyard offers full service as well as DIY space.

He presented club members with Pierside bags and pens. John also honors coupons and ads from competitors and honors a free haul with club membership renewal.

A motion was made and passed to approve last month's minutes.

Members were encouraged to vote on the monthly cruise schedule.

Commodore Beckmann mentioned that there is still a need for a Fun Committee Chairperson and committee volunteers.

The Website Editor, Ed Geiger, has created a "Cruising Club Forum" on the web site. Commodore Beckmann encouraged members to take a look at the revised website and contribute to the discussion forum.

Membership renewals are due.

Carl Beckmann, Navigator, is putting together a subcommittee to review the club by-laws.

Bill Prewitt, Historian, asked that it be duly noted that there was no history for April 2011.

Navigator Carl Beckmann spoke about April's cruise to Hamlin Sound. 18 boats were expected, and Carl commented that a barge would be needed for the Host Boat. A host boat is needed for the Steamboat cruise in May.

It was noted that member, Mike Lape, is recovering from his accident and was in attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Host Boat Report



Hamlin Sound, April 2011

We expected a lot of vessels for this cruise and were not disappointed. Seventeen vessels attended. WOW! With the poor turnout at Church Creek in March due to weather, we knew a lot of boats would want to scratch their cruising itch! Most of us

left in great weather, but it turned on us halfway there. *Makani* was following the Commodore in *Palmetto Moon*, and after we passed the Ben Sawyer Bridge, the weather turned to a windy, bitter cold day. However, we made it to the sound and were able to set anchor on our first try. We did have one unfortunate incident. *Charon II* got caught up in this wind and was dismayed. Fortunately there was no injury to Ron, just the boat. Good luck on getting back on the water Ron. Hope things go well with the repairs.

Time for Play was scheduled to raft up and help *Makani* host the Happy Hour, but the windy weather made that an unsafe decision. So, we passed. As a result we had between 30-35 people just on *Makani*. *The Branch Office*, a smaller vessel than *Time for Play*, did raft up later and helped out. Thanks Bill.

Sunday morning five boats met at The Morgan Creek Grill for brunch. A tip: Be sure and use the Morgan Creek docks if you decide to cruise to this restaurant. The marina wants \$0.50 per foot per hour if you use their dock while patronizing Morgan creek. Ugh.

All in all a great cruise, as always. See you on the water!

Keith & Lynne Gannett
Makani

MEMBER HAPPENINGS



Sharon and Charlie Barnett are out on the *Blue Horizon*!

Follow their adventures on: <http://barnettsonbluehorizon.blogspot.com>

In June Bob and Lynn Menches (*Syzygy*) will be towing their boat down to the Florida Keys for a week of sailing. Although sailing will be a big part of the trip, the primary reason for heading down is to participate in a 12.5 mile swim around Key West.

Bob and Lynn are part of '*Low Country Swimmers for Water Missions International*'. Their goals are two-fold: to raise \$2500 for Water Missions International through donations and to bring awareness to the global need for potable water.

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All donations go to support Water Missions International (WMI), a Charleston-based non-profit organization that works to provide safe water - liquid hope - to those who have none in both developing countries and disaster areas throughout the world. Through one-of-a-kind engineering innovations, WMI is transforming communities and changing lives everyday. <http://www.watermissions.org/>.

“It’s hard to believe that in this day and age there are still people in the world drinking water that I wouldn’t even think of swimming in,” says Lynn. She volunteers at WMI and helps build the water treatment systems. A donation of as little as \$10 can provide one person with clean water for life according to WMI’s statistics.

Donations to the fundraising swim can be made online at: <http://www.firstgiving.com/fundraiser/lowcountryswimmers/2011-fkcc-swim-around-key-west>.

Donations can also be given directly to Bob or Lynn. All donations are tax deductible and a Water Missions International receipt will be provided.

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HELP WANTED

**Decisions... Decisions...
 Just Do It!**



Volunteer for the
“Fun Committee Chair”

Seeking a person to coordinate the cruising club’s annual functions: Luau, Christmas Party, Oyster Roast, and Change of Watch Dinner.

or

“Fun Committee Members”

Seeking club members to assist the Fun Committee Chair in the Cruising Club’s annual functions. Volunteer for 1 or for all 4. This is a great way to meet fellow club members, no boat required.

For more information contact the Commodore.