

Underway

Newsletter of the Barbour River Yacht Club



Underway is published sort of quarterly or when the spirit moves us. Its considered purpose is to issue resounding calls to arms, trumpet ringing praises, declaim bitter denunciations, project pregnant persiflage, and generally entertain the writer. This may require bizarre combination of all the above, as the occasion demands.

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Greetings from the banks of the mighty Barbour River:

***There are not enough Indians in the world
to defeat the Seventh Cavalry.***

George Armstrong Custer

***"I think there is a world market for maybe
five computers."***

Thomas Watson, chairman of IBM, 1943

As George and Tom found out, it's hard to predict what's going to happen when you try something new.



Nevertheless, we are going to have our first **Nautical Flea Market** at the club on

April 11 from 8AM to 2PM.

The most famous of these now operating is in Dania, Florida. It was started by a group of fishing buddies with garages full of boat stuff and grew until it is larger than most boat shows.

Boaters, dealers, boat yards, and who knows who else bring stuff they don't want and are willing to sell cheap. The boating public and exhibitors alike buy stuff and take it home, maybe to bring it back the next year if the project proved too ambitious.

I warn you in advance that I am totally irresponsible in suggesting what you buy. Just come and see what's available. If you have the garage problem, bring your stuff. I'll try to be outside to help you find a good spot by about 7:30AM. Please plan to take your unsold goods home before dark.

***All of us could take a lesson from the weather.
It pays no attention to criticism.***

If rain threatens, we have a few covered spots, but bring a tarp just in case. Trucks and trailers are welcome. Even a tent is OK. Bringing your own tables is a good idea. Partnering with a friend or friends to cover the time span will make life easier. I wish I could guard your stuff, but I can't.

Call me at **912-832-6721** if you want to discuss your offerings. I've got some 70 outboard props, a half dozen center console windshields, a bunch of brand new engine gages, and an abundance of other boat stuff. I don't have any objection to your bringing used boats, trailers, motors, etc. We have plenty of open spaces, and it doesn't cost you anything. Make your own signs if they are needed. We will not try food this year, but the drink machine in the clubhouse works fine, and you are welcome to bring a picnic lunch if you put your trash in the dumpster or one of our trash cans.

***"I'm just glad it'll be Clark Gable who's
falling on his face and not Gary Cooper."***

*-- Gary Cooper on his decision not to take the
leading role in "Gone With The Wind."*



There appears to be renewed interest in the paving of Goulds Landing Road. Since it dead ends into the tract where the Barbour River Club holds forth, and we have no “frontage” on the road, I am not sure we have significant standing with the county.

However, since all the nearby islander traffic uses the road and pays healthy taxes (as do I), hopefully that will count for something. Other members pay taxes to the county and most of the rest of the membership also pays Georgia taxes. Nobody escapes the federal government, who furnishes most of the road money. Maybe we will get lucky eventually. If you know anybody involved in the process, it wouldn't hurt to mention our need. We have a steady procession of boats of increasing size. The big trailers don't travel well in the mud.

The only difference between a tax man and a taxidermist is that the taxidermist leaves the skin.

Mark Twain

“A boater who does not charge for rendering assistance is protected under the Good Samaritan laws for any damages or injuries that might occur during the tow,” said Wheeler. “If money exchanges hands and someone gets injured or the disabled boat gets damaged, you're no longer considered a Good Sam and would be opening the door to much more liability. You may be even personally liable, depending on your insurance policy – if you have one. It's just something else to think about before throwing a towline and asking for money. A commercial towing company carries insurance to cover those types of mishaps.”

A tip from Boat US

We had a recent scare on our fine new hoists. One started making noise while lifting – at least for the last few feet of travel. Turns out that a little rust on the chain causes that. Jim did a quick cleaning oiling job and the problem disappeared. We will try to keep this done on a regular basis, but please help by keeping them out of the rain (and, of course, out of the ocean).

Another more serious problem happened to an unknown member. Apparently one of the U-bolt/lifting eyes on his transom failed. The only way we could tell was that the spreader bar had a couple of slight bends, indicating a sudden off center force. These were easily repaired, and we reinforced the spreader to avoid another such event. I hope the boat in question is OK. If any of you want an inspection of your lifting eyes, ask Jim (or me) to check them for you. Usually only a backup plate is needed at the most to make them good. Jim is excellent with that repair.

I hope you are as happy with our **conversion from chain to nylon on the lifting apparatus** as we are. They are cheaper, much stronger, and they don't scratch the boat as easily. Just don't use them if something has cut into them significantly. With any normal care, they should last years.

With the difficulties in outlining our **Invisible Road** so our members can avoid parking trailers therein, I have been thinking really hard. Ground marking paint and other efforts lasted only until the next rain. I have had a brilliant idea. (I must warn you that my wife seldom considers my brilliant ideas nearly as wonderful as I do.)

In any case, I will try to use the trees on each side as navigation buoys with appropriate nautical symbols emblazoned. The trees lining the right (starboard) side of the road as you go inland will sport a **red triangle**. The trees lining the left



(port) side will similarly carry a **green square**.



Remember “**Red on Right Returning**”. Straight out of Chapman's – brilliant, huh? Let the trees

be your guide when you park the trailer – not between the red and green – either side is fine. We can handle a lot more boats that way. I will get the markers up as soon as I can find suitable materials.



I would be unstoppable, if I could just get started.

A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul. *George Bernard Shaw*

More club information on our web site at
barbourriverclub.com

We are in the process of refurbishing and putting son Jack's house back on the market. It rests on 3 well cleared acres, and it has 3 bedrooms and 3 baths. There is also a large room entered by an electric garage door that was a workshop. All is heated and air-conditioned.

There is also a 3 car garage plus enough room in the back yard for buildings, gardens, or maybe a full sized football field. It is number 1335 Goulds Landing Road, NE – a city block from the River Club. It is sturdy if not elite construction and is ideal for a fishing cabin at the water. Call me (or Ed Henderson) if you have an interest. Jack's health is deteriorating, and we would really like to sell it. We are throwing in a year's club membership with the deal.

Have you been using our exercise bike on the clubhouse deck to get ready for spring finery? It is pretty pleasant (as exercise goes) pedaling while watching boats and dolphins go by. Usually someone will interrupt you and let you quit with a clear conscience.

Jim had to start mowing again this week. The warm rains will soon turn our whole coastal world green again. It's just in time. The golden marshes were beginning to look a bit old and brown.

Don't forget the Flea Market for boat stuff, Saturday, April 11th. If nobody else shows up, you and I can swap some junk. If everybody shows up, we may find some real bargains.

John Underwood



High Tide on the Barbour