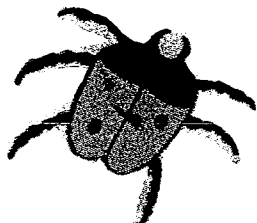




50th Anniversary
East Cooper Outboard
Motor Club

Goldbug Island



Welcome to the **50TH Anniversary** of the
East Cooper Outboard Motor Club
On Goldbug Island



August 26, 2006

Happy Hour

6:30 to 7PM

Welcoming Remarks

Commodore Jim Craig

History of the Club

Commodore Jim Craig

Introduction of Charter Members

Commodore Jim Craig

Charter Members

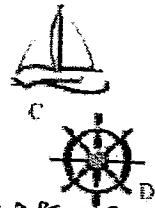
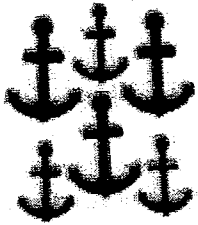
Julian Taylor
Howard "Buck" Taylor
Donald Buckner
Russell Hydrick

Introduction of Past Commodores

Commodore Jim Craig

Past Commodores

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Julian Taylor | 1956-1957 |
| D. E. Murrill Jr. | 1957-1958 |
| H. A. Taylor | 1958-1959 |
| J. J. Calcolough | 1959-1960 |
| B. H. Moore | 1961-1962 |
| R. A. Butler | 1962-1963 |
| E. Woods | 1963-1964 |
| W. L. Mazych | 1964-1965 |
| T. Fentress | 1965-1966 |
| Julian Taylor | 1966-1967 |
| Robert Johnson | 1967-1968 |
| Roy Cook | 1968-1969 |
| H.A. Taylor | 1969-1970 |
| Bobby Curry | 1970-1971 |
| U. A. Hasal | 1971-1972 |
| P. A. Royster | 1972-1973 |
| Harry Polk | 1973-1974 |
| P. A. Carswell | 1974-1975 |
| Fred Kimbrell | 1975-1976 |



Past Commodores Cont.

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| A. F. Witte | 1976-1977 |
| S. M. Thurman | 1977-1978 |
| W. L. Kirkland | 1979-1980 |
| J. D. Meyers | 1980-1981 |
| Duncan Wright | 1981-1982 |
| J. Connor | 1982-1983 |
| D. F. Rowland | 1983-1984 |
| J. Connor | 1984-1985 |
| J. Peele | 1985-1986 |
| F. O. Kimball | 1986-1987 |
| R. A. Adams | 1987-1988 |
| E. T. Brown | 1988-1989 |
| Julian Taylor | 1990-1991 |
| J. A. Barnett Sr. | 1991-1992 |
| Jim Craig | 1992-1993 |
| Ron West | 1993-1994 |
| Ron West | 1994-1995 |
| J. A. Barnett Sr. | 1995-1996 |
| J. A. Barnett Sr. | 1996-1997 |
| Ron West | 1997-1998 |
| Ron West | 1998-1999 |
| George Poirier | 1999-2000 |
| George Poirier | 2000-2001 |
| Wallace Jenkins | 2001-2002 |
| Chris Momeier | 2002-2003 |
| Chris Momeier | 2003-2004 |
| Chris Momeier | 2004-2005 |
| Jim Craig | 2005-2006 |

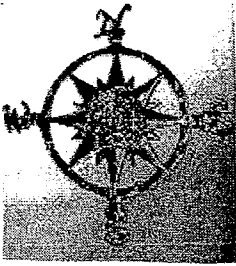
JT. Taylor 1978-79

Introduction of Board of Directors

Commodore Jim Craig

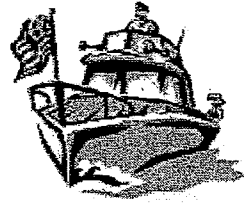
Board of Directors 2005-2006

Jim Craig – Commodore
Pete Mulvey – Vice Commodore
Mike Richardson – Treasure
Dave Clifford – Secretary
Stanley Waldrep – House Chairman
Matt Murphy – Entertainment Chairman
Jerry Barnett Sr. – Membership Chairman
Billy Hydrick – Member @ Large
Jerry Von Dolen – Member @ Large
Julian Taylor – Commodore Emeritus
Chris Momeier – Past Commodore



Board of Directors 2006 - 2007

Jim Craig – Commodore
Pete Mulvey – Vice Commodore
Mike Richardson – Treasure
Luke LaPierre – Secretary
Stanley Waldrep – House Chairman
Matt Murphy – Entertainment Chairman
Jerry Barnett Sr. – Membership Chairman
Donald Buckner – Member @ Large
Allen Sinkler – Member @ Large
Julian Taylor – Commodore Emeritus
Chris Momeier – Past Commodore



Introduction of Board of Directors Ladies Auxiliary

President Ann Grizzle

Board of Directors 2005-2006

Ann Grizzle - President
Marie Von Dolen - Vice President
Gene Craig - Treasure
Joan Dumont - Secretary

Board of Directors 2006 - 2007

Ann Grizzle - President
Marie Von Dolen - Vice President
Gene Craig - Treasure
Joan Dumont - Secretary

Closing Remarks

Commodore Jim Craig

Music By

Smoky Wiener & the Hot Links

Catering By

Jamie Westendorff

Club History

Charter Member Julian Taylor

Club History

Charter Member Howard Taylor

Club History

Charter Member Donald Buckner

ECOMC Minutes History

Turkey Shoot Tradition

Jennifer Graham, Boston Globe

ECOMC Celebrates 50 Years

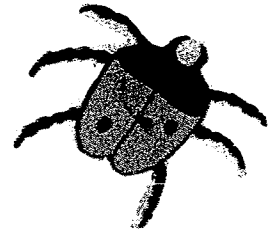
Sully Witte, Moultrie News

Goldbug Poem

Sully Witte, Jenks Daughter

ECOMC 2006 Member List

History - East Cooper Outboard Motor Club



By Julian Taylor

The first outboard motor club to organize in the Charleston area was West of the Ashley with Commodore Charles Andrews, followed shortly thereafter by the Charleston Heights club, with Commodore Mouzon Taylor. Wally & Mouzon invited me to a meeting at the Charleston Heights club, where it was suggested that we try to organize a club East of the Cooper. With the help of my wife Ruth & our friend Jean Murrill, we put out flyers in local business and set a time to meet.

Our first meeting was held at my home on August 15, 1956. Twenty-five men attended to hear guest speakers Charley Andrews & Wally Adkinson. A temporary steering committee was named to govern the club during the next meeting. The committee consisted of Legrande Gentry, Rodney Cope, W.K. Britzius, Bob Sargent as temporary scribe & Julian Taylor as Chairman. Commodore Andrews acted as the Chairman of the nominating committee.

The second meeting was held August 21, 1956 at the American Legion Post on Mill Street in Mt Pleasant. Thirty seven men attended this meeting. We discussed with the other clubs the need for safe boating & a boat landing. We agreed to organize as East Cooper Outboard Motor Club, adopting the name "The Goldbugs." Officers named at this meeting were Commodore Julian Taylor, Vice Commodore W.K. Britzius, Secretary Robert G. Sargent, Treasure Russell Hydrick, G.M. Darby Jr. By-laws Committee Chairman, & Buddy Murrill as Cruise Master.

By-laws of the West Ashley & Charleston Heights clubs were adopted to be used on a temporary basis. Our next club meeting was set for September 4, 1956. We agreed to hold two meetings per month & to affiliate with the National Outboard Boating Club of America for insurance purposes.

We continued to hold meeting at the American Legion Hut until late September when the Legion post Commander sent a notice asking us to pay five dollars per meeting. We thought they were asking for more than we could afford so in October 1956 the membership decided to move our meeting place to the Etiwan Masonic Hall.

Our first cruise was September 16, 1956 from the Isle of palms to Capers Inlet & back. Fourteen boats with 48 passengers made the run. We cut watermelons, churned ice cream & had snacks on the beach.

Our first fun raiser in April 1957 was a three club cruise on Colonial Lake in Charleston to benefit the Charles Webb crippled children's Society. Approximately 40 boats took part riding people around the lake for \$.25 each. We raised \$300.00 that day. Can you imagine the boats we have today cruising around Colonial Lake?

The Club held the first fishing tournament from December 1956 thru May 1957. The largest fish was a four pound trout & the largest catch was 107 trout.

Our first boat landing was built at Lake Woodland on Hobcaw Creek in December 1956 on land owned by member George Resch. Club members donated the material & labor. The club's second boat landing located on Hamlin Creek was leased from the Beach Company for \$1.00 per year. At one point we gave rides to Goat Island for \$1.00 per person to benefit the cancer society. There was a pier, floating dock, six boat launching area & concession stand with a paid attendant. For safety reason you were required to sign in before leaving & out upon returning.

In 1957 the three clubs went to County Council and proposed three new boat landings for Wando Woods, Cherry Point & Sullivan's island. The Sullivan's island permit was granted on July 19, 1957.

Our largest three club cruise took 90 boats from Wappoo Cut to Seabrook Island. The weather made up before returning & some of the smaller boats were sunk.

In June 1957 we auctioned of a rod & reel to purchase office equipment & supplies for our club.

Our first night cruise was to Bulls Island to the Dominic Restaurant. It was supposed to be a moonlight cruise but the moon forgot to show up. We had several near accidents on the return trip but another night cruise was planed just the same.

The first installation Banquet was celebrated with a sit down dinner at the Ocean Highway Grill on Coleman Boulevard in August of 1957. The building was overrun with members & their wives. Membership peaked at 200 on September 1, 1957. It was at this point we started a waiting list.

The present location of the club was found in the latter part of 1957 and was named Gold Bug Island after the original Gold Bugs. The newsletter has always been called the "Gold Bug Wake." The canal was dredged to the island making a four boat launching ramp, but because we accessed the members a \$10.00 fee for dredging we lost about 70 members overnight. The other alternative was to build a causeway to deep water with a ramp and dock we have at present. A few years latter, a tug pushing a barge ran into the dock & destroyed it. After a lengthy litigation with an attorney in New Orleans we finally reached a settlement.

We received our first charter from the state in 1958 as a non profit organization. Twenty years later we lost that charter when the Secretary forgot to pay the five dollar dues. In January 1958 the first covered dish dinner & work party including men & women.

In June 1959 we began work on the foundation of the building and it was completed in 1961. A block layer & helper were hired with the rest of the work done by members. A cistern was built to hold runoff water from the roof for use in the bathroom only. Now we have Mt. Pleasant water (Don't waste it). In August 1962 we held our first banquet in the new building. The Ladies Auxiliary was organized in the early sixties. We also had special nights to play bingo.

In the 60's & 70's campouts were held off McClellanville at Raccoon Key, Cape Island & Sandy Point. We found Ceda Island not so swift. People in sleeping bags ended up covered in sand. We went to Botney Island & the raccoons stole our food overnight. All we had then were styrofoam coolers. After that we went to the Wando River calling the island "Cat Island." After Hugo we started using Goldbug Island. Boy was that more convenient. No tables, pots, pans or food to haul.

September 1989, Hugo came ashore bringing with it a large amount of damage & destruction. Sixty to seventy thousand dollars worth. He also wiped out the dock & floating dock. The building was put back together with volunteers & long hard hours. Fortunately we were able to use it again.

This is our fiftieth anniversary. We have gained some & lost some. We've made many friends and we're still going strong.

Howard A. "Buck" Taylor
Offices held-
Commodore 58-59 & 69-70
V-Commodore
Secretary, Cruise master & Board Member

Membership #20



The ECOMC was born as a result of the desires and dreams of a group of young men who shared a love of the water and boating, and who were influenced by the apparent success of the West Ashley and North Charleston Outboard Clubs. Meetings were held in several individual's homes and in the American Legion Hut in Mount Pleasant.

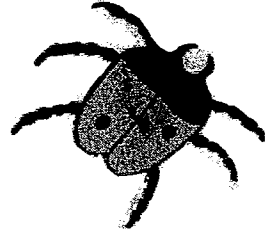
Charles Andrews of the West Ashley OBC and Wally Atkinson and Mouzon Taylor of the North Charleston OBC were present at the Legion Hut and lent some suggestions how to create a club in the East Cooper area. An application for a charter to establish the East Cooper Outboard Motor Club was forwarded to the Outboard Marine Corporation of America and a charter with guidelines was granted. Julian Taylor was the first elected Commodore. Meetings were eventually held monthly in the Masonic Temple.

Our first installation banquet was held at the Ocean Highway Grill. Our second banquet was held at Alhambra Hall. Our first launching ramp and parking lot was constructed on the Isle of Palms on property leased for \$1 per year. Members cleared the land, built a ramp and a small dock. We used this ramp for several years until the property owner demanded improvements and terms we couldn't comply with. Goldbug Island was explored and found to be suitable to build a ramp. After ownership was determined, I met with John Horlbeck and George Cornis in an attempt to purchase 1000 feet on the waterway, 1250 feet down each side and 1000 feet across the rear marsh. Purchase price was established at \$1500, \$300 at signing the deed, and \$400 per year for the next three years, with no interest. Membership quickly agreed. Members cleared the island of underbrush and a launching ramp was the first order of improvement.

I drafted a proposal and mailed it to everyone whereby each member, and any new member joining, would agree to loan the club \$100 over a two year period to pay a launching ramp, dredging, and eventually a clubhouse. A proposal was adopted at the first meeting. ECOMC was granted a charter as an eleemosynary corporation by the Secretary of State and was made exempt from paying taxes for many years.

Merritt Dredging (Julian Taylor) dug the canal to the high ground and our first ramp was constructed. It served unsatisfactorily for several years until the present causeway and existing ramp were built. I remember that Henry White finished the concrete slab for our clubhouse floor for \$150, and J. Basha, Jr laid every concrete block, designed and help build the roof trusses, built the septic tank and charged 10 cents per block. Members provided manual labor, lots of sweat, curses and laughs.

History of East Cooper Outboard Motor Club



In the year of 1956 when the East Cooper Outboard Motor Club was in its beginning, we met at the American Legion Hut where The Common is now located. We also met in the home of Julian Taylor, on the outskirts of then the Mt. Pleasant town limits. Our regular monthly meeting was held at the Etiwan Masonic Lodge on Whilden Street until we were able to provide our own place.

Mr. Charles Andrews from the West Ashley Outboard Motor Club and Mr. Wallace Atkins from the North Charleston Outboard Motor Club came over to help organize and set up By Laws, etc.

Some of our early members were Julian Taylor, Karl Britzious, Donald Buckner, Russell Hydrick, Buck Taylor, Bob Sargent, Pete McLaulin, Buddy Murrill, Adam Hamilton, Roy Cook, Harry Brunson, Burt Ballam and Ernest Basha just to mention a few, that had shown interest in organizing an Outboard Motor Club east of the Cooper. The interest grew fast and the charter was formed in 1956.

The purpose of the club was "To promote family boating and safety upon the water," Wholesome recreation was our goal. It was not long before we were operating a boat landing on Isle of Palms not far from the Exchange Club Building on Hamlin Creek.

The next exciting move was when the East Cooper Outboard Motor Club purchased the property in 1957. The seller was the Carnish and Hallback firm.

The members chose to name the property, Goldbug Island, based on history according to Edgar Allan Poe.

The clubhouse was an exciting undertaking and quite a challenge. Various members who volunteered their time and talent built the clubhouse. Mr. Harry Hitopoulos, contractor and friend proposed many ideas and gave us encouragement. The Island Development Fund was established to have money available for needed projects including building the clubhouse and the roadway.

Our first launching area began to fill in with silt and made it necessary to create a roadway to the inland waterway to obtain deep water at all tides. Thus, causing the need for a paved landing.

Our ideal location with a great landing and facilities attracted a stream of individuals applying for membership. It was almost uncontrollable and a membership limit was established. Many years later Life Membership was considered and was a means to open a slot for new member applications and still have a limited membership.

Hurricane Hugo in September 1989 destroyed the dock and gutted the clubhouse. Records were lost or destroyed. Furthermore, the government used their "eminent domain" powers and commandeered the club. They needed our landing to access the water for a temporary bridge to Sullivan's Island since the Ben Sawyer Bridge was damaged. The National Guard agreed to protect the club and surrounding property. However, rare coins and other objects were dug from the lamination of the bar counter top. Concrete slabs were pushed into the water for a roadbed for government use. The material will always prevent us from

dredging or deepening around the dock area. However, the club persevered and repairs were made to make the clubhouse, the landing and the dock useable. The Oyster Shed and Turkey Shed were added during the Hugo repair period. (The Turkey Shoot has been the major source of revenue for charity.)

In 2001, the clubhouse was renovated and extended. Under the leadership of Fred Tuck with the other members giving their time, labor, talents and monetary gifts performed much of the renovation. We should be proud of this undertaking.

Hopefully our member will capture the vision and continue to seek new ways to improve our facilities that may better serve our members, families and community.

Donald E. Buckner, Charter Member

June 15, 2006



ECOMC History taken from the official club minutes

August 1957 – Club received Certificate of Incorporation

September 1957 – First Installation Banquet was held.

November 1957 – Board announced the purchase of the island north of the Ben Sawyer Memorial Bridge on the west side of the Intercoastal Waterway

November 1957 – Ground breaking on new island by eight volunteers headed by Cmdr Murrell, Julian Taylor, Pete McLaulin, Russell Hydrick, Roy Cook, Robert Kiser, William Cisa & Harold Washington.

January 1958 - Received original deed from George Cornish, purchase price \$1,500.00

February 1958 – Julian Taylor skipper of the dredge Santee announced that the canal is complete. It took 14 1/2 work days & cost \$2,500.00

April 1958 – The Island Development Committee proposed setting up a fund for the development of clubhouse, ramps, parking area, picnic areas & landscaping. Assessed members \$100.00 payable within the year.

August 1958 – Boat launching ramp completed. The ramp was 70' wide, had a slope of 7-1 & took 180 yard of shell to complete.

September 1958 – Annual dues were \$6.00

May 1959 – Gate was installed, first keys issued & Rules were established. 1) Don't loan out your key. 2) If lost contact Secretary. 3) Lock gate behind you entering leaving. Violators will be brought before the Board

January 1961 – Increased initiation fees to \$15.00 & dues to \$10.00

May 1961- Cmdr. Burt Moore placed an order with Gensco for first decals. He placed Our seal on a letter that would be put on the decal, informed them our symbol Was a Goldbug, Taken fro Edgar Allen Poe, & our colors were maroon & Gold.

August 1961 – Established a House committee with a Chairman. elected with the other officers, for the purpose of attending to club Maintenance, future development & drawing up a set of house rules.

February 1962 - First Regular meeting in the club house.

October 1962 - First regular meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary, 19 ladies present. It was noted that officers were elected & everyone was home in time to see Ben Casey

May 1963 - First spring dance (Spring Fling) held @ Sullivan's Island Community Ctr. music by the Citadel Bulldog Orchestra.

August 1965 - The Ladies Auxiliary donated a sound system to the club. (My guess is a new jukebox but not stated)

November 1965 - Goldbug Wake: Commodores never cease to try to teach the membership new tricks. Did you happen to see Commodore Julian Taylor trying to launch his boat for the annual fishing cruise. Pushing, grunting & groaning just to show everyone you can't launch a boat with the tie down straps in place.

August 1966 - Dues increase from \$10.00 to \$15.00, if this did not cause an IRS problem.

September 1968 - Membership agreed to start renting the club for \$.50 per person with a minimum fee of \$25.00. It was decided that a set of rules of conduct would be posted for renters. In addition a \$25.00 cleanup deposit was added to insure club was cleaned/

January 1970 - J. C. Long was dropped from club membership for non payment of dues.

September 1970 - Floating dock was installed.

October 1972 - The Annual banquet was a community event inviting the Mayors from Mt. Pleasant, Sullivan's Island & Isle of Palms. Happy hour was from 8 to 9PM, Dinner Buffet 9 to 10PM & dancing 10PM to until! Music provided by "Juke Box Bands", cost \$2.50 person.

March 1973 - Dues increased from \$15.00 to \$25.00 due to rising cost of taxes, fire protection, dock & Clubhouse Repairs.

IN S.C., TURKEY SHOOT AIMS AT TRADITION, NOT THE BIRD*Published on November 25, 2001***Author(s):** Jennifer Graham, Globe correspondent

CHARLESTON, S.C. - It's called the annual East Cooper Turkey Shoot, but the contestants don't shoot turkeys. They win them. The jeans-and-sweat shirt crowd assembles at a wooden shelter on Gold Bug Island to fire at paper targets, paying \$3 or \$4 for a shot at glory and a coupon for a frozen turkey or ham from a Piggly Wiggly supermarket.

Such is the modern-day turkey shoot, perhaps the only holiday ritual that men in the South can claim as their own. There are women, and occasionally children too, but they're not the chosen demographic group. A turkey shoot is about a man and his shotgun. Or, a man and his beer, watching other men fire shotguns.

"It's just good old Southern fun," said Kevin Dixon, 34, who by day handles maintenance for a local Baptist church. "I know people who come and don't pull a trigger all night." Dixon figures that he comes to this shoot, located about 50 yards from the bridge to posh Sullivan's Island, three or four nights a week during November. He might shoot three times a night. This year, Dixon has won four hams and a turkey, but it's not beginner's luck; he's been shooting since he was 4 years old.

Look hard, and you can find a turkey shoot in almost every state in the union, but in the South, they are plentiful. The events are often the major fund-raiser for small-town fire departments and civic clubs.

The East Cooper Outboard Motor Club has put on a turkey shoot every November for at least 25 years, though no one can remember exactly when it began. Club members built the wooden shed on this tiny island near Charleston Harbor specifically for the shoots. After expenses, they net about \$7,000, which is distributed to local charities and scholarship funds, said Bo Stallings, chairman of this year's shoot. The event draws enough people for 25 to 30 rounds on a weeknight, more on Saturdays, with 10 people shooting each round. Participants plunk down \$3 if they hope to win a turkey, \$4 if they prefer a ham. They can bring their own gun or choose a house gun - either the lighter .410 shotgun or the feisty 12-gauge.

A club member calls out names when it's time to shoot - "Shooter Reese!" or "Shooter Gill!" - and the participants take turns firing at the targets, which are attached to 4-foot-4-inch posts 75 feet away. Afterward, a member collects the papers and everyone gathers around a table to see how he did. The targets of winners who hit the dead-center "X" are posted on a wall.

The East Cooper Outboard Motor Club has 200 members, a multiyear waiting list, and a Ladies' Auxiliary, which sells soft drinks, coffee, and snacks at the turkey shoot. But participants are allowed to bring their own beverages, which may explain some of the night's poorer efforts.

The key is to shoot and then drink, not drink and then shoot," explained Meriwether Gill, a 29-year-old graphic designer, putting down her borrowed shotgun. Gill found the turkey shoot last year, when she drove past the sign for the event and thought it looked like fun. On this night, she brought along friend and coworker Elizabeth Joyce, who had never fired a shotgun but on her second night won two turkeys.

First-timers like Gill and Joyce are treated kindly by the men who have attended turkey shoots since they were children. Everyone offers advice to a novice, but a turkey shoot is fundamentally a game of chance. The shotgun blast sprays more than 250 tiny pellets - the "No. 7 load" used to hunt quail and doves - and anyone, in theory, can hit the bull's-eye by pointing the gun generally in the right direction. If no one hits the exact center of the target, the next-closest shot wins. Occasionally, a winner must be determined by a shootoff, and sometimes Stallings has to pull out a pair of calipers to measure an especially close call.

While most shooters come away with a target that has at least a few dozen holes, occasionally someone manages to fire at the target and miss. "Sometimes we have to pick up a paper and poke a few holes in it," joked Luke LaPierre, a club member who often retrieves the targets.

The modern, turkey-less shoot is a descendent of Colonial times, when participants bound a turkey behind a log and then shot at the bird's bobbing head, according to Karen Davis, author of the new book "More Than a Meal: The Turkey in History, Myth, Ritual and Reality." "Live turkey shoots began to die

out around the turn of the 20th century, when the destruction of wild turkeys and their habitat had rendered the birds nearly extinct," Davis writes. Occasionally, reports surface of an event featuring live birds, but the resultant bad publicity is enough to quickly stamp them out. In 1995, Davis writes, the television show "Hard Copy" ran an expose of a Pennsylvania event in which members of the Lone Pine Sportsmen's Club tied the legs of an

estimated 100 turkeys, put them in rubber tires, and then shot them.

Someone secretly videotaped the event and released the footage to the news media. That live turkey shoot no longer takes place, at least not with public knowledge. Although live animals are rarely used, the turkey shoot still draws ire from animal-rights groups like People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, and from Davis, who heads an organization called United Poultry Concerns Inc.

"I certainly have a moral objection to having a corpse as the prize of any contest, even if the turkey is not put in a box or tied to a tree," Davis said. "The cruelty is removed from the scene, but cruelty is still part of the scene."

The plight of the commercially produced turkey, however, is of little concern to John Schuster, who brings his daughters, ages 9 and 11, to the shoot. "We come every year, said Schuster, a mechanic who won a ham on a recent evening. "It's different."

"And fun," 9-year-old Sophia said. "Daddy, can we shoot again?"

Moultrie News

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East Cooper Outboard Motor Club celebrates 50 years

By Sully Witte

Moultrie News

The more things change, the more they stay the same, it seems. And so it is with the need for boat landings in the East Cooper area.

But 50 years ago this month, a group of men set out to change that, forming the East Cooper Outboard Motor Club. Little did they know that membership into this exclusive group of boaters would become a highly sought after commodity.

The East Cooper Outboard Motor Club, is the result of a group of Lowcountry men who wanted to form a club for outboard boating enthusiasts.

The first outboard motor clubs were formed west of the Ashley with Commodore Charles Andrews and the Charleston Heights Club, commodored by Wallace Adkinson.

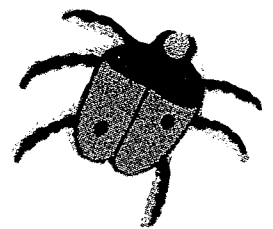
Adkinson encouraged a man named Julian Taylor to form a similar club east of the Cooper. With the help of his wife Ruth and friend Jean Murrill, Taylor distributed fliers to businesses along Coleman Boulevard, seeking anyone interested in such a club.

The first organizational meeting landed 36 interested men. They continued to meet in various locations throughout Mount Pleasant, including the American Legion Post on Mill Street, The Etiwan Masonic Hall and Alhambra Hall. They sought a charter from The National Outboard Motor Club of America and called themselves "The Goldbugs."

The group's mission was to create wholesome recreational boating opportunities for boat owners and their families and teach safety on the water. They also vowed to improve boating opportunities for the general public by advocating public boat ramps. In between, they held seasonal fundraisers to benefit local charities. One of those involved a cruise around Goat Island for \$1. The proceeds went to The Cancer Society.

Today they give out over \$8,000 to local charities each year.

Their first recreational cruise as a club was on September 16, 1956



from the Isle of Palms to Capers Inlet and back. Fourteen boats with 48 passengers made the run, enjoying watermelon, churned ice cream and snacks on the beach.

And eventually, their first boat landing was built on Hobcaw Creek at Lake Woodlawn in November of 1956 on land owned by member George Resch. It was built by the membership and used until the opportunity arose to lease land from JC Long on the Isle of Palms for \$1 a year. This ramp, just past 4th Avenue, featured six launching areas and a concession booth, complete with drinks, smokes and oil. The general public could use it for a fee of 50 cents.

By 1957, the club was growing. They put the weight of their club, the West Ashley Club and the Charleston Heights Club to propose to Charleston County Council, that three new boat landings be built - one in Wando Woods, one at Cherry Point, and the other on Sullivan's Island.

The Sullivan's Island permit was granted July 19, 1957.

Membership peaked at 200, and that's when the first waiting list began, and has continued to this day.

Today the club consists of only men. But very early on, two women were actually inducted as members.

Today, potential members can expect to wait four to six years before their name is called from the waiting list.

As time passed, improvements required by the landowner of the Isle of Palms boat ramp were deemed too expensive for the membership to take on. They sought another location, happening upon a 33-acre spit of land that many thought sat underwater at high tide.

Member! Buck Taylor walked the property one day. As he approached a large pine tree, which was about a foot in diameter, he saw St. Augustine grass growing all around the tree. It was at that moment he knew that salt water did not touch that land.

They sought out the property owners, John Horlbeck and George R. F. Cornish, who had purchased the fee simple title to the property for the purpose of investment.

Buck Taylor explained to them that they wanted to purchase the land for the club and build a boat ramp.

Horlbeck asked how much of the land he was interested in, and offered to sell it for \$5,000. Taylor began to thank him for his time, saying they couldn't afford it.

Horlbeck said "then make me an offer." Taylor promised him \$300 up front and \$400 a year with no interest for a three-year period. The offer was accepted, and each member was assessed a loan of \$100 for two years and promised repayment upon leaving the club or death. This money was put into an account called the Island Development Fund.

The 33-acre property is worth over \$7 million today.

They got the land and went to work.

Julian Taylor commissioned Santee Dredging Company to begin cutting a canal from Goldbug Island to the Intracoastal water in January of 1958. Each member was assessed \$10 to cover this cost. The club lost 70 members overnight because many didn't want to pay the fee. However the project went forward.

The dredging effort was futile, as the canal silted in many months

later.

Members knew they needed to provide access to deep water, so they built a road and paved a ramp on the Intracoastal Waterway.

This caused an influx of interest in membership which is capped at 200. They also designated a "Life Member" category of which they have 40.

There are four remaining charter members including Donald E. Buckner Sr., Russell Hydrick, Julian Taylor and Howard A. "B! uck" Taylor.

All four of them, who remain active, agree that the club was built from the dedication of the original members.

In the meantime, members were called upon to clear the land by hand. Construction on a social hall and ECOMC headquarters began in 1959 and was completed by 1961. The dimensions of the original building were 80 feet by 34 feet. The men laid brick, shingled the roof and painted the building. The wives showed up with lunch. The club was later expanded in 2001.

A lot of thought went into planning the club. But in the early days, there was no heat, so members wore a lot of clothes to their winter meetings.

Things were a little rustic. Members had to build a cistern to hold runoff water from the roof for use in the bathroom. Eventually, when Toler's Cove was developed, they received water and sewer service from Mount Pleasant Waterworks.

The first Ladies Auxiliary was formed in the mid-1960s. They are! known as the Ladybugs. They also host fundraisers for the club and support the membership when called upon.

For many years, charitable organizations were allowed to use the hall for fundraisers. Overtime, members agreed to rent the hall out to bring in revenue for maintenance and operating costs.

By 1997, the club voted to protect Goldbug Island with a conservation easement that forever restricts development.

The club reserved the right to do limited expansion on the clubhouse, boat landing, oyster roast shed and turkey shoot building.

One Small Setback

Hurricane Hugo was devastating enough for the club, tearing the dock to shreds and ripping off the entire back wall of the building. A no wake buoy sat in the middle of the hall when members arrived to see the aftermath.

But even more devastating was when the government enacted eminent domain on the property so that they could ferry residents to and from the Isle of Palms and Sullivan's Island after the storm. The Ben Sawyer Bridge was whipped from the roadbed and left hanging above the water.

All four founding members described the sad condition in which the National Guard and other military personnel left the place.

They pushed boulders down the boat ramp to access deeper water, limiting dredging. They allegedly stole valuable coins and memorabilia that was inlaid in the wet bar. And many records and valuables disappeared during their time there. The grounds were torn to shreds by the heavy equipment they used.

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"But we survived, and we came together and re-did the club," said Buckner. He said that devastating situation really brought the club together in the true spirit of bonding and fellowship that the club was founded on.

Buck Taylor said anyone, even members, can look around the club today and say it's nice. "But for me, it's a miracle. It makes me so proud to look at ! what we've done. I'm as proud as if I had done it all myself. We've got so much more than when we started. You've got to be proud at how we got here. It's pride. I'm damn proud of what I had to do with this club."

For Buckner, the club is quite special. "We raised our families here and truly lived by what we founded the club on - wholesome recreation." Hydrick's three sons and daughter also spent their childhood at Goldbug. He's now got two sons who are members.

Buck says for many people it's a great ambition to become a member at Goldbug.

And he knows why. It's about more than just having access to a boat ramp.

He no longer owns a boat, and it pains him to look in the back yard at the empty space where the boat once sat. He owned several boats over a period of 55 years. But he's still active in the club, and he's proud of that sticker on his car that says East Cooper Outboard Motor Club.

And for Julian Taylor, well! I Goldbug Island is his second home. His wife asks him why he doesn't just move down there.

When he got the group together to form the club, he didn't even own a boat. His wife Ruth actually let him build it in the living room of their home. He and some buddies took the picture window out so they could get the boat out of the house for her maiden voyage.

Buckners says he hopes the new members will have great vision on how to improve the club to serve their families and the community. "It's going to take the young folks to do it. Just like us. We were young when we started this thing," he chuckled.

And over the years, the East Cooper Outboard Motor Club has managed to incorporate plenty of fun into their mission. From fishing tournaments, to picnics at Little Goat Island, to weekend cruises to Lake Moultrie and camping on Cat Island - the members share a common thread for the love for the water and a love for boats big and small!

Sully Witte

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"Hope is not a plan."

-Anderson Cooper

8/24/2006

He reared his kids to follow his lead, which always started at Goldbug
he'd back down the boat, load up the kids and give the line a tug



It was off to fish, and ski and swim in all those creeks he knew
He loved the salty, breezy air and knew that we would too!

He's combed the creeks for many years, searching for his catch,
A crab or two, and even a fish, he caught and would bring back.



Right returning - he knew his way, -
as he headed for his "spot"
To cast his line and tilt one back and try not to get too hot.

The fish and shrimp were mostly few, as he turned the Buds aback
but he found his way each Saturday
as a smile formed under his hat.

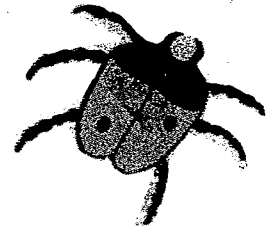
There promises to be a treasure there, so the story goes,
Poe drew a map and chalked it out, but still nobody knows
but just ask the man who combs the creeks where the treasure is
For he'll tell you that it's in your heart - he knows - 'cause it's in his.

Goldbug is a special place where many treasures lie
It's in the PLACE, the SPECIAL TIMES and PEOPLE that stop by.

It's Goldbug you see, which he has shown, is truly a treasure to me!

By Sully Witte

2006
ECOMC
MEMBER LIST



1. Charlie Albrecht
2. Andrew T. Arnold
3. Gary Arnold
4. Danny Austin
5. Jimmy Avinger Jr.
6. Donald Bailey
7. Steve Baker
8. Bertram H. Ballam
9. Trey Banks
10. Jason A. Barnett
11. Jack Bennett
12. Grover L. Blackwell
13. Gene Blanchard
14. Tony Blanchard
15. Joey Bolchoz
16. David Bouchelle
17. Todd Brazell
18. Eddie T. Brown
19. F.S. Bryant
20. J. Wesley Buckheister
21. Donald E. Buckner Jr.
22. John Burn
23. Larry Campbell
24. Billy Cappelmann
25. John D. Cappelmann
26. Thomas Cisewski
27. Charles A. Clarkin
28. Charles Clarkin Jr.
29. Frank Clarkin
30. Michael Clarkin
31. David Clifford
32. Larry Colley
33. Robert J. Conklin
34. Cam Cooper
35. Peter Cotton
36. James M. Craig
37. Jesse Craig
38. Steve Crosby
39. John A. Curry
40. Paul A. Curry
41. Edward Darby
42. Kirk Darby
43. David A. Davey
44. Carey Davis
45. Bob DayHoff
46. Thomas Deas
47. Corky Deer
48. Mark R. Demay
49. Kevin Dixon
50. L.A. Dodds
51. David A. Doty
52. Roger J. Dumont
53. Richard L. Duval
54. William R. Eckbreth
55. Peter Edwards
56. Larry Eppersimons
57. Robert E. Fisher
58. Henry F. Fishburn
59. Roy Fisher
60. Robbie Forbes
61. Thomas A. Franzone
62. Tom M. Fronzone
63. Thomas J. Funke
64. Charles L. Gaskins
65. Tom Gladden
66. Paul Grizzle
67. Jon L. Guerry
68. Jon L. Guerry Jr.
69. Andrew Hager
70. Doug Hamilton
71. Tommy Hanson
72. Victor Hayward
73. Douglas Heath
74. William Hennessy

**2006
ECOMC
MEMBER LIST**

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 75. Christopher Holroyd | 114. William Mims |
| 76. Thomas M. Holyfield | 115. William C. Missroon |
| 77. Danny Hughes | 116. Chris Momeier |
| 78. Davis Hughes | 117. Richard E. Moore |
| 79. Ed Hutson | 118. Steve L. Moraska |
| 80. Larry Hydrick | 119. John Mariarty |
| 81. Roger Igoe | 120. Peter J. Mulvey |
| 82. R.L. Irvine | 121. Joe Munson |
| 83. Robbie Irvine III | 122. Matthew Murphy |
| 84. John D. James Jr. | 123. R. Michael Murphy |
| 85. Charles C. Jarman Jr. | 124. Oliver Myers |
| 86. Wallace Jenkins | 125. Allen Nagel |
| 87. Keith H. Johnson | 126. Charles Northcutt |
| 88. Horace W. Johnson | 127. Jody Peele |
| 89. David Kaufmann | 128. Ronnie Pitts |
| 90. Walter Kaufmann | 129. Samuel E. Player |
| 91. Thomas Kellum Jr. | 130. Fred Poston |
| 92. Mike Kenneally | 131. David B. Powell |
| 93. Bradley Kerr | 132. Steve Prescott |
| 94. David Kreber | 133. Rodney H. Quick |
| 95. William J. Kroft | 134. Tim Rakar |
| 96. Jimmy Lamb | 135. Michael F. Richardson |
| 97. Luke LaPierre | 136. Scott Richardson |
| 98. Mark Levy | 137. Roger J. Rowe |
| 99. W.C. Lewis | 138. Larry Rowland |
| 100. Sam G. Limbaker | 139. Danny M. Rowland |
| 101. Sam T. Limbaker | 140. John T. Russell |
| 102. David W. Low | 141. Jerry P. Sain |
| 103. Stanley Low Jr. | 142. Robert Seaborn |
| 104. William S. Low | 143. James Sharp |
| 105. John Martin | 144. Malcolm Shealor |
| 106. David H. McCaskill | 145. Steve Sierko |
| 107. Steven McDuffie | 146. Willard A. Silcox |
| 108. Jack McGee | 147. Paul H. Simmons |
| 109. Joseph McManus | 148. William R. Simmons Jr. |
| 110. Trey McManus | 149. Raymond E. Simpson Jr. |
| 111. Terry McManus | 150. Allen Sinkler IV |
| 112. Ronald R. Metts | 151. Billy Sisson |
| 113. John P. Michel IV | 152. Cleveland Smith |

**2006
ECOMC
MEMBER LIST**

153. Kevin Smith
154. Ral Z. Smith
155. T. H. Smith
156. Kevin Sneed
157. Bo Stallings
158. Fred Sullivan
159. Ashley Taylor
160. Ray Taylor
161. Ronald W. Taylor
162. Andrew Taylor
163. Joseph J. Thomas
164. George K. Thompson
165. Michael Thurman
166. Larry Trace
167. Terry Treece
168. Anthony Tuk
169. Edward F. Tuk
170. Fred Tuk
171. Joey Tuk
172. Ray Utz
173. James Varner
174. Jerry Von Dolen
175. Al Wade Jr.
176. John E. Wade
177. Gary Wahl
178. Jamie Waldrep
179. Jeremiah Waldrep
180. Stanley Waldrep
181. Michael A. Walker
182. Ted Wallace
183. Anthony Ward
184. Allston B. Wayne Jr.
185. Sheridan Welch
186. Ronald West
187. Mac Whitlock
188. Rusty Whitlock
189. Randall Wilkes

190. Linwood Williams
191. Matt Williams
192. Bissell J. Witte
193. Calvin J. Woods
194. James A. Woods
195. William Zorn Jr.
196. William Zorn Sr.
197. William R Hydrick
198. Michael Noll
199. Steven McDuffie
200. Allen Sinkler V

Deceased Members Wives

1. Nunu Brown
2. Dolly Cannon
3. Hollie Hughes
4. Jean Holst
5. Mrs. Kimball



Anchor's Aweigh

Fifty years ago our club founders envisioned a place where families could get together with others, picnic areas, boat ramps, landscaping & a clubhouse. I think we can be proud to say that with a lot of hard work, blood, sweat & I'm sure some tears their vision is a reality. I wonder what the next fifty years will bring. Thank you for coming tonight and many thanks to the hard work Banquet Planning Committee Volunteers & everyone who helped make this possible. We hope you enjoyed the evening, please drive safely on your way home & may God bless you & our club.

