

THE LEARNED LAMP

SUMMER 2023, Edition #1



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Why "The Learned Lamp" Name?

Jib Davidson recently shared that *The Learned Lamp* name came from the wonderful floor in Library East lobby at UF, the oldest library on UF campus. In the lobby, taking up most of the entrance, is an Aladdin-style lamp embedded into the terrazzo floor. The idea is that the lamp can bring wisdom from learning. The lamp is called "The Learned Lamp," and hence the name of our newsletter. The Power Squadron can bring wisdom from learning.

Anyone with an interest can visit Library East to view this Learned Lamp. If you do that, as Jib Davidson said, "I am sure you will be flooded..."

Commander's Comments

CDR Laraine K. Teiss

Our Boating Club is for fellowship and having fun, be it on the water or sharing a meal. We had a wonderful gathering at Francois and Helen's home. Francois, being the cook that he is, prepared a delicious pasta dish plus had his grill ready for cooking the many types of sausages he had purchased.

We welcomed our newest member, one of our members of years past, Barbara Miller. Barbara rejoined that evening and is looking forward to being with us. Barbara is a Real Estate Broker of her own firm, Miller Real Estate, US.

As you can see by reading this, Wendy Kinser Maxwell, is our new Editor in Chief of our Quarterly Newsletter. Look forward to receiving it and please share pictures and ideas with her to make this the best newsletter in print! Yvonne Gilbert has taken on the challenge of keeping our Facebook up to date and interesting.

I will be sending out an email when I need to communicate with you all to notify you of important upcoming events and their details. Please email me with concerns, ideas or questions.

A quick update on two events you will be hearing more about: Weeki Wachee Springs Activity already have 10 members signed up to attend, and the USPS District 23 Fall Conference on 9/29-10/1 has 12. Please make plans as soon as you can and let us know.



Laraine K. Teiss, Commander
USPS Gainesville Boating Club
Gainesvilleboatingclub@gmail.com

11619 NW 2nd Avenue
Gainesville, FL 32607
Mobile: 352 665-0734

2023 Photo Gallery

C.O.W. (+ Valentine Party) at Diane & Jerry's



Cedar Key - IFAS Env. Research Ctr Tour & Cookout at Teiss residence



2023 Photo Gallery (continued)

Raingutter Regatta at the Shrum Shipyard



2023 Photo Gallery (continued)

More Raingutter Regatta



2022

in photos

**Party on the Dock
at Kay Stedman's,
Lake Alto**



Captain's Ball



2022 photos (continued)



Raingutter Regatta

Cedar Key
Fish Fry



C.O.W.



Nautical Toes

It's hot here in Tortola: tropical hot. Three-a-day shirt hot: one until the pre-lunch shower, and the final one after the pre-dinner shower. Folks from northern climes travel with a water bottle clutched in their hand all the time. I've had my pre-dinner shower and I'm wearing my new clean shirt as I walk the docks prior to adjourning to the shady and many fanned open air bar. I plan to adapt to summer in Tortola by readjusting my fluid level with icy drinks.

Two young men are working on the port engine of a Lagoon 57. I'm already sweating freely and they are stripped to greasy shorts while they shout in French above the chattering diesel. If it's this hot on dock it must be infinitely worse inside an airless engine hatch crouched alongside a hot diesel. What grabs my eye are the two shiny toe rings on one mechanic's left foot, braced among the chromed box wrenches. Obviously this is a suave and cool dude, as well as a sweaty, greasy mechanic.

I've noticed toe rings in the boating world before. Rudy and I used to anchor in Joe's Sound in the Exumas. An abandoned house at the water's edge had a functioning cistern. Every winter we'd employ empty tin cans and lots of Yankee ingenuity to repair

the rain collection system. My main function was to provide the shoulders Rudy stood on while patching the gutters. Another couple aboard a 30 something monohull spent a week or so with us one winter. I recall they served as the HF link with Herb as they continued on to the Caribbean. I first remember noticing the first mate as she adroitly bounced into their large inflatable dinghy, popping expertly from tube to tube, shifting her weight to perfectly balance the RIB as it hopped onto a plane. She wore several toe rings, a couple of which were local rings made from Conch shells, and made an exotic impression in a little known and wild anchorage.

These two young Frenchmen are also attractive members of the boating community. I just couldn't help wondering if glittery silver rings are a good idea for a watery lifestyle. I was present when a pale white and fleshy Dutchman waded back to the beach in Bonaire missing a bloody chunk of finger. A small but voracious fish had decided to devour a pea sized piece of his flesh from the web of his ring finger. We fellow tourists couldn't stop the bleeding and had to taxi him to the hospital for stitches. I wonder if Mr. Barracuda will take a similar interest in the Frenchy's silvery toes.

- Rick Gordon, 11/27/2002

Jib and Teresa's Epic Adventure

The Background...

Jib and Teresa Davidson, long time members of the Gainesville Boating Club and former avid sailors, have turned to the dark side - trawler owners! For the last several decades, they have sailed in and around Florida, Georgia, the Mediterranean Sea (Balearic Islands), the Bahamas and the Caribbean (BVI'S, Leeward and Windward islands). Alas, Teresa decided that she is now an old person who wants to be on the water with more comfort. Jib, under threat of walking the plank (with sharks swirling below), was forced to sell their sailboat and subsequently purchase what sailors call a stinkpot, a 42' Grand Banks Europa Trawler, hull #1506. No sails, fully air conditioned and heated with a nice head and shower along with a full galley.



What would you do with a 42' trawler? How about circumnavigating the eastern third of the US? Perfect! Known as The Great Loop, it is one of the last great epic adventures in the U.S. that you have probably never heard of. It is a year-long, nearly 6,000-mile journey, that will take us north along the eastern United States including the Chesapeake Bay area (think crab cakes) to NYC, then north along the Hudson River to the Erie Canal system. The Erie is the world's second longest canal system with construction beginning in 1817 and completed in 1825. Then north through Canada's Trent-Severn Waterway, a National Historic Site 240 miles long. Back in the US, it's down Lake Michigan to Chicago, savoring its pizza and jazz bars.

Then south through the Western Rivers system (Illinois R, Mississippi R, Kentucky R, Tenn-Tom Waterway, and the Mobile R) to Mobile. Once we reach Mobile, it's back to Florida with stops along the way to visit friends and family, down to the Florida Keys, and then to our home port of Jacksonville.

The trip will take us through 15 states, two Canadian provinces. and more than 100 locks.



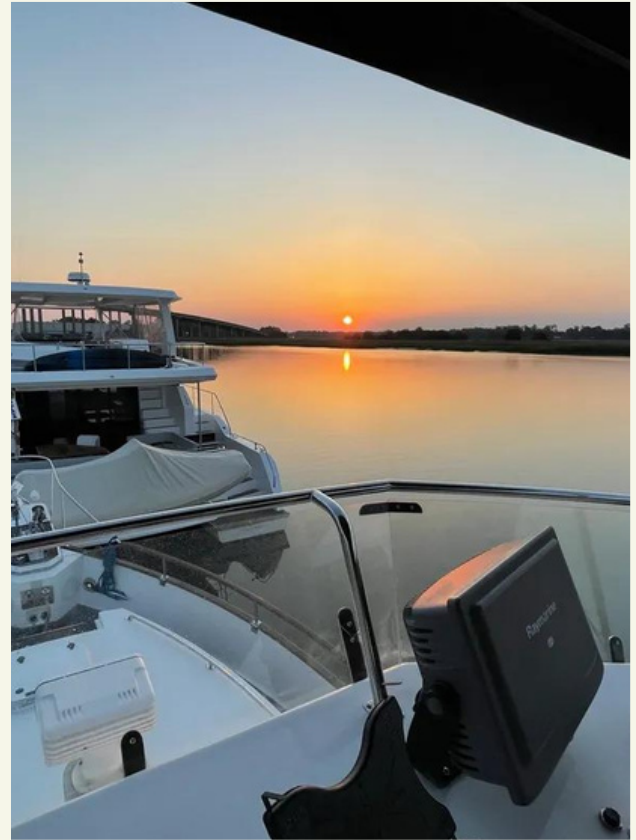
Fewer than 200 "loopers" complete the trip annually, with retirees (that's us) making up the majority. In 2019, 26,657 runners finished the Boston Marathon, 1,024 hikers completed the Appalachian Trail, 876 climbers summited Mt. Everest, and 120 swimmers successfully swam across the English Canal. Only 150 boats completed the Great Loop. In 2021, only 130 boats completed the Great Loop. For us, we will begin in mid-April from our home port of Jacksonville heading north up the east coast following the warm weather. We plan to spend May on the Chesapeake Bay, then up the Hudson River to the Erie Canal by mid-June. Most of the summer will be in New

Jib and Teresa's Epic Adventure, cont.

York and Canada ending in Chicago by mid-September. The fall will be spent flowing with the currents along the river system to Mobile. Winter will be in Florida and maybe the Bahamas. We will "cross our wake" once we return to Jacksonville and then we will be awarded the coveted Gold Looper burgee.

You will be able to follow us on our trip by going to www.jibteresa.com. There are instructions to download a free GPS tracker to monitor our progress. Teresa plans to post periodic blogs on our website.

We start with our very original mission statement: **WATER - Our final frontier. These are the voyages of the vessel "Make It So". Its two-year mission, to explore strange new ports, to seek out new foods and civilizations, to boldly go where man has gone before!** (Cue Star Trek music).



Read about Jib & Teresa's 2022 and 2023 adventures at

jibteresa.com

FROM THE GALLEY

Laraine's Cup Cookies were such a hit at the May meeting that several of you asked for the recipe. Welllllll, it's your lucky day! See recipe below. Yummmmmm...

Laraine's Cup Cookies

1 C white Sugar

1 C brown Sugar

1 C butter

1 C vegetable oil

1 egg

1 tsp vanilla

Beat all above ingredients and add:

3 1/2 C flour, sifted

1 tsp baking soda

1 tsp cream of tartar

1 tsp ground cinnamon

FOLD in

1 1/2 C crisp rice Cereal

1 1/2 C quick oats

1 C mini chocolate chips

Drop onto ungreased cookie sheet (parchment paper works well)

Bake 350 degrees 12-15 minutes

EVENTS CALENDAR

2023

June - December

Gainesville Boating Club Activities

JUNE	17	11:30 AM - Ivy House Lunch	Williston
		1:30 PM - Cedar Lakes Woods & Gardens	Williston
		6 PM Potluck Dinner	Bob & Sherri Rella's home, Archer
JULY	27	6 PM - Monthly Meeting & Potluck Dinner	Bobbi Korner's home, Haile Plantation (Eloise Gardens)
AUGUST	<i>open</i>	<i>Anyone want to plan a get-together?</i>	
SEPTEMBER	8 -- 10	9 AM, Saturday the 9th - Weeki Wachee	Weeki Wachee Springs State Park, Spring Hill
		BBQ afterward at the Boulware home	Terra Vista neighborhood in Citrus Hills, Hernando
		Possible Boating on Sunday	
	Sept. 29 -- Oct. 1	USPS District 23 Fall Conference	Daytona Beach
OCTOBER	21	Annual Fish Fry at the Teiss Residence	Cedar Key
		6 PM Monthly Meeting & Potluck Dinner	
NOVEMBER	11	Veterans Day Raft Up and Potluck Lunch	Melrose Bay
		6 PM Monthly Meeting & Potluck Dinner	
DECEMBER	9	Holiday Party @ the Teiss Home	Gainesville

NOTE: For details, see event-associated emails from CDR Laraine Teiss.

CLOSING NOTES

Call to action

If you have any stories, articles, and/or photos to submit for future newsletters, please send them to gainesvilleboatingclub@gmail.com.

Check out Laraine's Redfish!

Anyone up for a fishing excursion?



Looking forward

Look out for new sections in upcoming newsletters, including Birthdays & Anniversaries, Officers' Articles, Learning Opportunities, Member Spotlight, and more!

