



# WATERLOG



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The Editor reserves the right to revise, change or reject any materials submitted to the Waterlog, consistent with standards of accuracy, fairness, and good taste, subject to the approval of the Squadron Commander.

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## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE "A FALL CALL"

As the fall season approaches, we feel the evening breeze become cooler, Monday nights are scheduled for boating classes, and our warm weather boating activities begin to slow down. Take a moment and do me a favor. Ask yourself why you joined the Atlanta Sail & Power Squadron. Then ask yourself if you have contributed to this great organization this year.

Your participation in one meeting or one event means involvement. Your involvement means active growth for the squadron. The active involvement of every member is the wind in our sails, the fuel in our engines, and the buoyancy that will carry our squadron to greater harbors. Begin your involvement now by making reservations for the OCTOBER 27TH party. It's your squadron. Let us man our stations and steer a course to success.

Cdr Don Williams, SN

## *Ayesha's Last Cruise* -- by J. Gregory Dill

(This article which appeared in the July/August issue of *Ocean Navigator*, was reprinted with the permission of the author, and submitted by Lt Jack Friel, SN.)

In 1914, the German cruiser SMS *Emden* and Kapitanleutnant Helmuth Karl von Mucke found themselves in the South Pacific upholding the Imperial interest of Kaiser William. On Nov. 9, the *Emden* disembarked 50 men, including von Mucke, at Direction Island in the Keeling group, to wreck its vital cable and radio station. The landing party quickly vandalized the facility, and British operators were made "prisoners," although no one was actually constrained or locked up. In fact, the interaction of the two groups was so cordial that von Mucke agreed to a British request that the station's radio tower be felled in such a manner as to avoid disturbing the tennis court adjacent to the station, tennis being the only diversion the British had to combat the boredom of island life.

Unfortunately, while the landing party went about its selectively destructive chores, an Australian cruiser, HMAS *Sydney*, arrived and immediately began pounding *Emden* into little more than a pile of scrap metal. With all hope of returning to *Emden* dashed, and capture imminent, von Mucke commandeered a rotting vessel discovered lying at anchor in the harbor. The three-masted *Ayesha*, square rigged on her fore mast and fore and aft rigged on her main and mizzen, was obviously well past her use-by date. Her condition would have made any marine surveyor cringe, but Mucke quickly decided to ready the hulk for sea in a bid to run for home.

Some of von Mucke's men had had naval sail training while others were former fishermen. So, while less knowledgeable comrades scouted the island for provisions, those who had spent some time before the mast bent on mildewed sails and gingerly poked about *Ayesha's* spongy timbers looking for potential structural problems. Eventually they stopped looking: every part of the ship was structurally unsound.

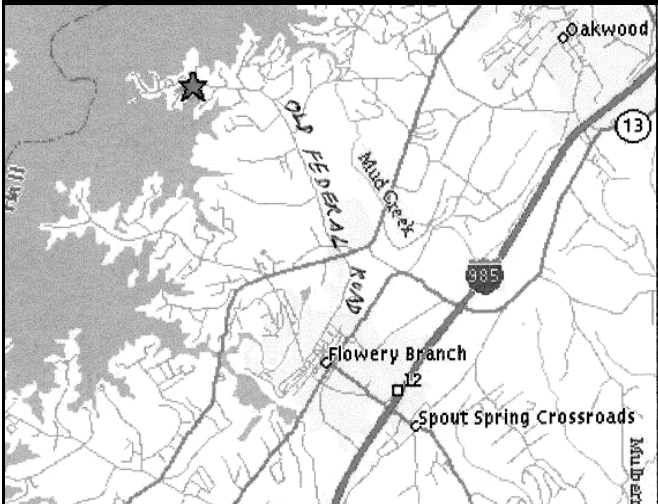
The British, priding themselves on being good sports, and showing gratitude for the sparing of their beloved tennis court, offered von Mucke assistance in locating provisions. They also helped prepare *Ayesha* for sea, and congregated on the beach to cheer the Germans off as they departed on what most thought a brave but foolhardy voyage back to "der Vaterland." With the islands hardly out of sight, *Ayesha's* shrouds began snapping like over-tightened violin strings, and the crew was constantly employed repairing and replacing sails and rigging. To make matters worse, a British cruiser could be expected to appear at any moment to blow the sickly vessel out of the water.

To make repairs, von Mucke, decided to shape a course for the neutral Dutch port of Padang, Sumatra, arriving there Nov. 24. During the cruise, von Mucke had ordered gun ports be cut to accommodate his four machine guns to convince Dutch authorities that "SMS" *Ayesha* was indeed a man-o'-war, and as such, could not be interned as a merchant vessel might be. On arrival, the Dutch reluctantly accepted his arguments, but insisted that *Ayesha* be out of their jurisdiction before nightfall to avoid British ire.

The short stay did not allow for proper repairs, but several German merchant vessels in port managed to send boats filled with cigarettes, novels, clothes and newspapers from home, which lifted the crew's spirits considerably. Through the German consul they also received charts, sail cloth, water, toothbrushes and other personal items, even 10 frisky little pigs. At eight bells (2000) *Ayesha* shipped her anchor with some difficulty, as the pigs kept sliding about and getting underfoot. *Ayesha* was again underway!

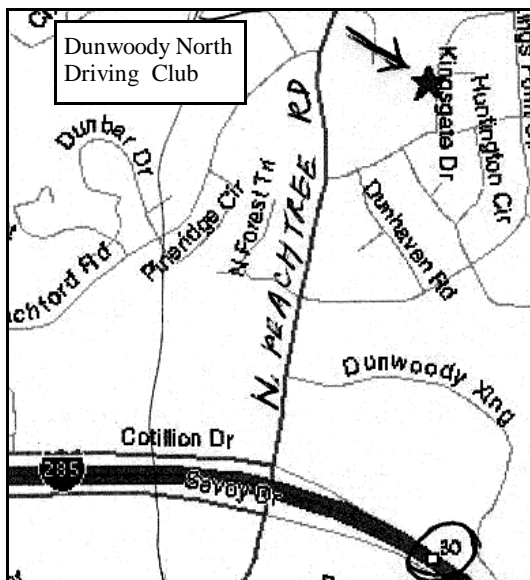
On Dec. 14, while *Ayesha* way lying to in a heavy sea south of the Maldives, the watch officer reported a steamer approaching through the rain. This turned out to be *Choising*, a German vessel that had been searching for *Ayesha*. The following morning, after the worst storm the crew had yet experienced, *Ayesha* was

(continued on page 5)



### FALL LEAF COLOR CRUISE

The plan is to go under Brown's Bridge (sailboaters having transferred to power boats); then go up the Chestatee River and return to ascend the Chattahoochee River.



### COMING EVENTS

- 18 Oct Executive Committee meeting  
Old Hickory House  
5490 Chamblee-Dunwoody Rd.  
Dunwoody, GA  
1830 dutch treat dinner  
1900 meeting
- 20 Oct Fall Leaf Color Cruise  
Contact John Fowler (770) 781-4427 by 15 Oct (both boat owners and non-boat people)  
all assemble at Old Federal Road Park launching ramp (see maps on this page) between 1230 and 1300. Bring your own lunch and beverage
- 27 Oct Halloween Costume Party  
Dunwoody North Driving Club  
4522 Kingsgate Drive  
Dunwoody, GA  
Starting at 1900  
See map and details below

### HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY

Pot-luck dinner. Each family bring one dish to serve 8. To cover the cost of the clubhouse, \$10 per person with costume; \$15 per person without costume. Beverages will be provided including a limited bar.

Those planning on attending should RSVP Bob Wilson (404) 256-4625 home; (770) 521-4414 work.

Members are encouraged to really dress up for what promises to be an exciting evening in Atlanta.

All members will be asked to recite a Halloween poem or favorite ghost story .

### Ayesha's Last Cruise (continued from page 3)

dead in the water in a calm sea. The steamer took the tired old schooner in tow, but von Mucke decided they should remain aboard *Choising*, and scuttle *Ayesha* there in the southern Maldives.

After voyaging 1,700 nautical miles, von Mucke and his crew fondly bid farewell to Ayesha as she slipped, with some new-found dignity, into the sea. The fate of the pigs is unknown, but they are believed to have perished as a result of consumption.



## AUXILIARY MEETING

The Atlanta sail and Power Auxiliary regularly scheduled meeting was for lunch, 11 Sep at the Marietta Conference center. Many of the members were on their way when they learned of the horrible tragedy which was occurring at that time in our country.

It would have been almost impossible to contact all who Planned to attend, so we continued with the lunch and meeting except for a few people. There were many who decided to forgo the planned tour of the Brumbly House however.

This picture was taken during our election of officers which were as follows:

First officer - Ruth Bruhns  
 Second Officer - Cathy Gruber  
 Secretary - Peggy Farber  
 Treasurer - Faith Todd

Our Change of Watch will be on 13 Nov at 1130 at the Peasant Uptown in Phipps Plaza. Any ladies who are interested in joining us for lunch and to see how we operate, will be most welcome. Male spouses are welcome but otherwise this is a women's activity. Please phone me by 9 Nov for reservations.

Norma Van Nostrand (770) 775-7575

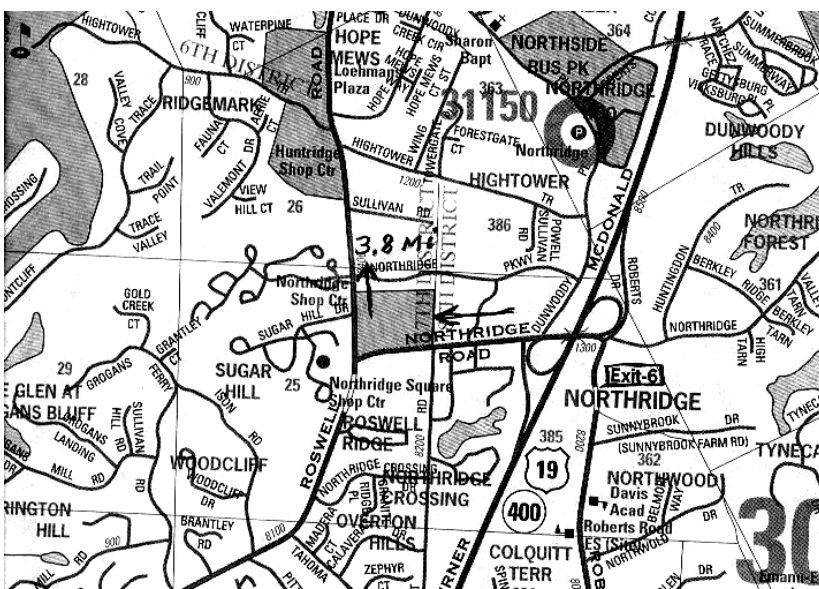
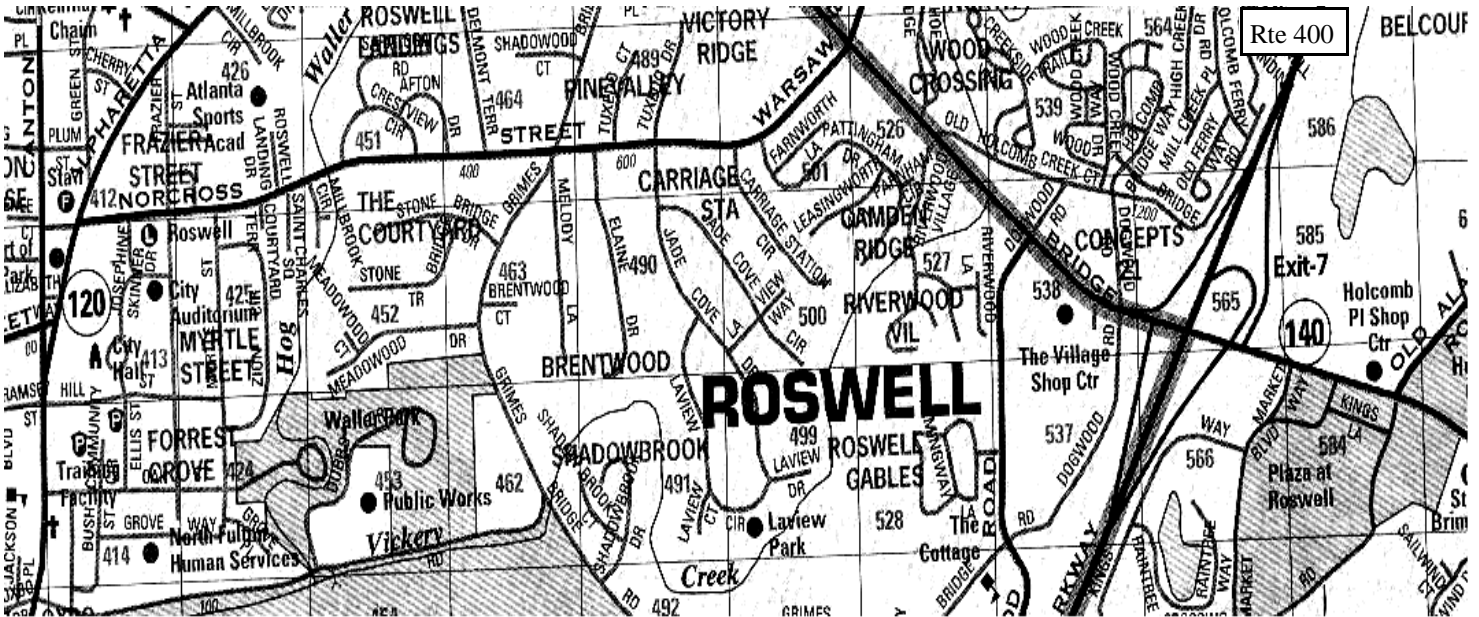
### In memory

**Shep Sawyer**, the father of Shelton, passed away Thursday morning 20 Sep. His wife Margaret, and Shelton with his wife Judy were present to ease the passing. Donations to the American Cancer Society, Hope Lodge, Gainesville, FL would be appreciated.

# SQUADRON YARD SALE

## HELP NEEDED 12 & 13 OCT

The Squadron has scheduled a garage sale for 13 Oct, Saturday from 0800 - 1600, at the Masonic Lodge in Roswell next to the Fire station and about 1/2 block north of City Hall.



### WE NEED THREE THINGS

1. Items that you can donate to the sale. (clothes, furniture, equipment, housewares, books, records, etc.) Start putting them in a box now. This will help you clean the areas you have been talking about doing for years. Remember, "Your junk is another person's treasure".
2. People to help pick up items in various areas of Metro Atlanta and get them to the event Friday night (1800 to 2100) or early Saturday morning (0700).
3. Will need much help on Friday night and Saturday to price and sell items

If you can do any or all of the above, please e-mail me at [Meier@mindspring.com](mailto:Meier@mindspring.com), or phone at home (770) 993-7408 or at work (770) 587-0125 ext. 226. **YOUR HELP IS ESSENTIAL.**

## The Digital Gulf in Pictures (revisited)

By Jeff Wise

In the June Waterlog (before I took the summer off to work on my San Juan), I wrote an article about digital cameras and how computers store pictures. That was a long time ago, so I'll review a little and then finish the discussion of digital pictures by explaining a bit about the different file formats.

In June, I described that pictures are digitized by measuring the red, green, and blue values for each of thousands of small areas in the picture. For example, imagine putting a piece of transparent graph paper over the picture. In each tiny square of the graph paper, an instrument would measure how much red light is reflected from the picture, how much green light, and how much blue. These three RGB values or numbers describe the color of the picture in that tiny area. Combinations of Red, Green, and Blue can describe virtually any color. Equal amounts of Red and Green, and a low value for blue, for example describes yellow; blue and red makes purple, etc.

Computer geeks call the small cells, that I described as squares in the graph paper, as "picture elements" or "pixels." Most digitized color pictures represent the color as three numbers for each pixel, so a 5"x7" picture, digitized at 100 dots per inch (dpi, or pixels per inch) would require 1,050,000 numbers (5" x 100dpi x 7" x 100dpi x 3 numbers/pixel). If one byte is used for each number, then we could represent 256 levels of red, 256 of green, and 256 of blue (or 16-million different colors) and the picture would require a little over 1 megabyte. Black and white pictures work similarly, except that only one byte would be required to describe the gray value, with zero equal to black, 64 equal to dark gray, 128 equal to medium gray, 192 equal to light gray, 255 equal to white etc.

Digital cameras work exactly this way. They use an integrated circuit that has hundreds or thousands of tiny photodetectors to measure the RGB values for each pixel. Better digital cameras are advertised as "mega-pixel" or millions of pixels. A one mega-pixel camera thus would be equivalent to our 5"x7" picture digitized at 100dpi. For many purposes, 100dpi is probably adequate, because our eyes can't see much finer than that. The problem, however, comes if we want to enlarge the picture or zoom in on a part of the picture. Suddenly, a 1-mega-pixel camera may not be fine enough. Just as with boats, it's only a matter of cost and what we want to do.

So how do we store all these numbers in our computer or on a floppy disk? We could simply write each of the million bytes in a single file. Hundreds of different schemes have been invented for writing our picture numbers in a file— all of them trying to minimize the size of the file while preserving the quality of the picture. I'll only mention three of them. The Tagged Image File Format (TIFF) simply writes the image pixel numbers in order into the file, along with a few other data like the date, time, and image format. Tiff preserves the image as best as possible, but is also the largest in size. Several years ago, Compuserve invented a format, called GIF that compresses the file size by not repeating duplicate color values. Gif images are smaller (in bytes of memory) than tiff, while representing the image nearly as well. Gif image formats are very common on the internet, especially for small things like pictures for buttons. Unfortunately, the Gif format is proprietary and requires paying a license fees to Compuserve.

By far the preferred image format JPEG or JPG. Pronounced J-Peg, JPG formats were invented by an industry team of wizards, called the Joint Photographic Experts Group. The best way to visualize JPG, is to imagine that rather than recording the values for the pixels, a mathematical equation is fit to the pixel color values. Then the parameters of the equations are recorded in the file, rather than the pixels themselves. With luck and good math, the equations can represent hundreds of pixels with only a couple dozen numbers. JPG formatted picture file may be from 1/10 to 1/100 the size of the equivalent TIFF file. But everything has tradeoffs. JPG files are smaller, but they don't do a good job of representing the color changes at sharp edges in the image. For photographs and digital cameras, JPG pictures are great; photographs typically don't have sharp edges. Many digital cameras record only JPG images, while some will record in both TIFF and JPG formats.

Finally, digital movies either on DVD or over the Internet are wave of the future. Have you wondered how they can put the entire video for a movie on a single CD? The Motion Picture Experts Group, MPEG, extended the JPG idea in time. Each frame of the movie is compressed like JPG, and then each frame is compared to the next frame and the changes from frame-to-frame are compressed. Thousands of pixels represented by a few (very complicated) equations. But computers are very good and very fast at solving equations.

(continued on page 8)

## The Digital Gulf in Pictures (continued from page 7)

Well, I hope that explains a little about how digital cameras and pictures on the Internet work. Next month, we'll look at some of the ways to get connected to the Internet from telephone modems to TV cable modems to DSL and ISDN.

### Web Sites of the Month:

<http://www.georgiaboater.com> - Everything you wanted to know about boating in Georgia.

<http://www.lakelanier.com> - Everything you wanted to know about Lake Lanier

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## EDUCATION UPDATE

**Wow**, we have 35 members that have signed up for ASPS Fall classes. There are 15 new or newer members enrolled in Seamanship, 7 members in Junior Navigation, and 13 members in Marine Electronics. If you missed out this time around, you can try again in January 2002. Our current plans are to have Piloting, Cruise Planning and Instructor Qualification. Detailed descriptions of these courses should appear in the next Waterlog - or check the ASPS web site.

For the Number Crunchers (based on info. From USPS for the period ending 30 Jun 2001):-

We had 114 people register for our Boat Smart classes with 102 people passing the exam. This was the second highest number for the squadrons of District 17. Knoxville had 103 pass. Congratulations go to Ryan Troncalli, N and his team.

### ASPS VS USPS

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<u>subject</u>	<u>USPS %</u>	<u>ASPS %</u>
Seamanship	59.93	67.38
Piloting	47.44	53.65
Advanced Piloting	28.90	36.48
Jr. Navigation	11.29	19.31
Navigation	7.28	13.73
Cruise Planning	12.52	14.59
Engine Maintenance	23.72	22.75
Instructor Qualification	13.75	22.75
Marine Electronics	17.88	25.75
Sail	17.00	22.32
Weather	17.53	24.03





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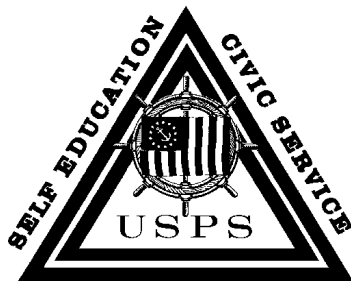
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