

Hatteras Classic Club Winter Rendezvous Charleston, SC – March 7-11, 2018

The winter rendezvous was hosted by club president, Bernie Ervin, and was headquartered at the Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina at Patriots Point in Mt Pleasant, South Carolina, across the river from the Charleston peninsula. Twenty-four members attended, to include new members, Charlie and Sue Jenks, who had purchased Irv Kaufman's boat, "Summer Place" and potential member, Betty Ellis, owner of "Napier", docked at the Charleston City Marina. Throughout the event, the weather was dry, but unusually chilly and windy.

The rendezvous began Wednesday afternoon with a welcoming, dock party at "Chantilly Lace", the Ervin's boat, on E-dock at the marina. Despite the wind, all had a good time. A delicious array of food was prepared by Bernie and she presented each couple with a gift bag of wonderful goodies donated by local merchants and Charleston items as pralines, benne wafers, and a sweetgrass rose. Kelly Grindle, CEO, Hatteras Yachts, gifted insulated tumblers as a gesture of gratitude "to the Hatteras Owners for their loyalty to the Hatteras brand"! Mr. Grindle's gesture was unsolicited. He learned of the HCC through our Facebook page and website.

On Thursday, most members toured Boone Hall Plantation, not far from the hotel and marina. Others participated in a scavenger hunt Bernie had planned. That afternoon, almost everyone gathered at Water's Edge Cabana Bar on Shem Creek for their 4 o'clock happy hour. Dinner that night was a low country boil at The Fish House Restaurant adjacent to the hotel. For those not from South Carolina, a low country boil is generally potatoes, corn, sausage, shrimp and Old Bay seasoning all boiled in the same pot and served spread out on a table. It was very good.

After dinner, Ken Phillips, president of Harbormaster, Inc, spoke to the group about marine sanitation and the installation and maintenance of marine toilets. Bill Willets, a Hatteras owner and potential new member followed with a power point presentation on teak maintenance and varnishing.

Just as we were preparing to leave, we heard the sound of horns, seeming to signal something big about to happen. And big it was, as ELVIS suddenly appeared! The ladies swooned as he doled out his signature scarfs and teddy bears while singing many of his hits. Needless to say, many photographs were taken.

On Friday most attendees went on a harbor tour aboard the "Schooner Pride" where several members were put to work raising sails. A few less hardy souls, who didn't bring enough warm clothes, opted out because of the chilly weather. Several members accepted Bernie's invitation

to a "potluck" dinner of low country boil leftovers aboard Chantilly Lace and others enjoyed dinner on your own night, an easy task with the many fine restaurants in Charleston and Mt. Pleasant.

Free time was available on Saturday to enjoy as you choose. Most folks went sightseeing or continued working on the scavenger hunt. At 2 o'clock some attended "Oysters at the Point," a seasonal event, available on the grounds of the hotel. Admission was complimentary to hotel guests offering oysters and beverages available for purchase. We shucked our oysters, enjoyed the music, and camaraderie.

Saturday's farewell dinner was at The Grocery just across the Cooper River in Charleston. The HCC had a private room and the dinner and service were outstanding. Ed and Betty Miles were presented a prize for winning the scavenger hunt and other Hatteras gear was given to various members. Many thanks go to Bernie Ervin who did a lot of work planning and organizing all four days resulting in a really great rendezvous.