

Colleton and Okatee River Cruise September 12, 2026

After what felt like two weeks of relentless rain, Saturday, September 12, delivered a perfect day for a Low Country Cruise up the Colleton and Okatee Rivers.

Seven boats carrying 30 boating, nature, and history enthusiasts gathered near the Skull Creek marina to begin the adventure. Little did we know we would soon be joined by hundreds of kayaks, paddleboards, and outriggers taking part in the OluKai Lowcountry PaddleFest. While the paddlers completed their race, we explored the pirate history of the Low Country and the possible origins of the name Skull Creek.

From there, we entered the calm, flat waters of Port Royal Sound and made our way up Broad Creek to the Chechessee River and Daws Island, where we learned about some of the earliest settlements in the region.

Continuing up the Colleton River, we discovered how Victoria Bluff—and much of the surrounding area—might have been forever altered if not for the determined efforts of early activists and Gullah fishermen in 1969.

We pressed farther up the Colleton, passing Spring and Callawassie Islands before reaching the mouth of the Okatee River.

The already perfect day on the water was capped by an unexpected greeting: a large pod of dolphins that escorted us home, as if inviting us to return soon.



Low County Cruisers: Art LaPoint, Cathy LaPoint, Russ Collins, Susan Boggs, Fred Parker, Molly Parker, Rick Ford, Debbie Plonski, Julie Traylor, Mile Gilroy, Rodney Peterson, Stefan Gantenbein, Steve Jacobs, Marilyn Sobwick, Klaus Loehr, Ricky Frazier, Mindy Shea, Noel Wendt, Sara Allegra, Quinton Allegra, Josie Allegra, John Hooker, Diana Hooker, Maureen Arconti, James Arconti, Brad Loescher, Amy Loescher, Jack Jancin, Michelle Jancin, and Pete Dion.