

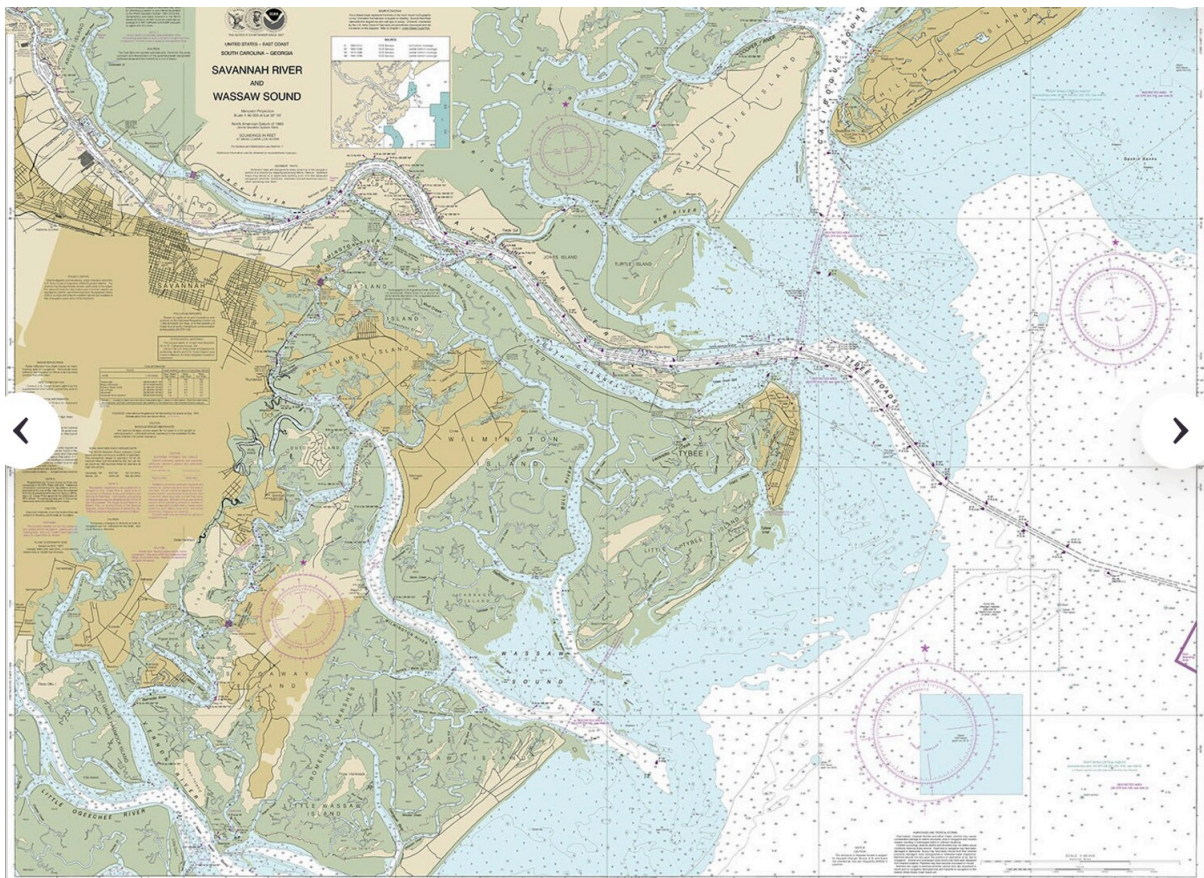
“No International Shipping Incidents. Not one!”

Cook’s Cadre Expedition #3

By Bob Newbert

USCG Master Captain, AP-IN

Rest easy Sea Captains and Harbor Pilots. Cook’s Cadre has your back. We successfully surveyed navigation aids from the open ocean to the Port of Savannah – a 32-mi. stretch from G “1” in Tybee Range to R “60” in the city’s Front Channel Range by the Fig Island Turning Basin¹



Like a mine sweeper, we slowly probed our way up the Savannah River charting, examining, documenting and reporting on 73 Aids to Navigation (ATONs). Some were in fine shape, others in disrepair, and still others MISSING.

¹ G “1” to R “18” in Tybee Range surveyed during Cook’s Cadre Expedition #2 (June 25). Expedition #3 surveyed the remaining 57 ATONs from Tybee Light to downtown Savannah.

We did our job making this critical shipping channel safe.

Want proof?

Not one internationally flagged, 1,200 ft., 150,000-ton cargo ship ran aground during our watch! 😊

That's our story and we're sticking to it.

Aside from our unblemished safety record, we did something else remarkable. We documented the major navigation sectors of the Savannah River: Jones Island Range, Tybee Knoll Cut Range, New Channel Range, Lower Islands Crossing Range, Lower Flats Range, Upper Flats Range, Elba Island Basin Range, Bight Channel Range, Fort Jackson Range, Oglethorpe Range, Wrecks Channel Range, and City Front Channel Range.

Admit it. You know these sectors like the back of your hand and can talk at length about the difference between Lower Flats Range and Oglethorpe Range. Still, someone has to verify & codify all that seamanship you carry around in your head. That's where Cook's Cadre comes in. We document the heading(s) you navigate in your sleep so lesser captains can safely make their way into port.

We also have fun.

After completing our on-site LAT & LON readings, photographing each ATON, and making notes of its condition for later reporting to USPS and USCG, we made time for R&R by docking at the new IGY International on Hutchinson Island.²

Jedison Knowles, IGY General Manager (and guest speaker at our February dinner meeting) greeted us warmly and shuttled us to "The Club at Savannah Harbor," site of the PGA Champions Tour and the Liberty Mutual Legends of Golf Championship – a fitting venue for Cook's Cadre, the legends of ABCHH.

At the club, we enjoyed lunch and honored 1st time Cadre cruisers **Noel Wendt**, **Russ Collins** and **Pete Dion** with a Cook's Cadre Induction Ceremony. They joined veterans **Jim Iannacchino**, **John Westervelt**, **Stefan Gantenbein** and **Kevin**

² New Personal Record: Seven acronyms in one sentence!

Thieneman in making our waterways safe for mariners of every kind -- recreational boaters like ourselves; and, yes, even captains of 1,200 ft, 150,000-ton cargo ships.

Did we mention that no international carrier ran aground while we were on the job?

Capt. James Cook would be proud.





SAVANNAH RIVER NORTH JETTY LIGHT inspected by Cook's Cadre to record its LAT & LON and condition. As you see, a committee of local residents joined us for the inspection and insisted on a closer look.



ROOKIE CADRE MEMBER Noel Wendt in his pro debut at the entrance to Savannah Harbor.



INDUCTION CEREMONY when new Cook's Cadre members receive distinctive caps signifying their elite status in ABCHH (L to R from bottom): Russ Collins, Pete Dion and Noel Wendt.



ABCHH's "BEST" (Cook's Cadre L to R): Stefan Gantenbein, Kevin Thieneman, Jim Iannacchino, John Westervelt, Pete Dion, Noel Wendt and Russ Collins. NOTE: Captains Iannacchino and Westervelt are "on report" for being out-of-uniform on Expedition #3 (on duty without their Cook's Cadre hat).



***The LEGENDS of ABCHH at The Club at Savannah Harbor,
home to the Liberty Mutual “Legends of Golf” Championship.***



IGY INTERNATIONAL provided chauffeur-driven carts to ferry the Legends of ABCHH to lunch.



COOK'S CADRE EXPEDITION #3 (L TO R): Stefan Gantenbein, John Westervelt, Jim Iannacchino, Pete Dion, Bob Newbert, Kevin Thieneman, Russ Collins and Noel Wendt.



KIEL EXPRESS, 1,053 ft ship flagged by Liberia, safely leaving Savannah after Cook's Cadre cleared the way.