

Bill O'Neill receives the prestigious USPS Charles F Chapman Award



Eric Pearson (left), representative of America's Boating Club's Educational Department, and Chief Commander Mary Paige Abbot (right) present the Charles F. Chapman Award for Excellence in Teaching to Bill O'Neill at the 2022 Annual Meeting of America's Boating Club in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.



Commander Bill O'Neill (center) receives the Charles F. Chapman award locally from District 26 Education Officer Chuck Gresham (right) with wife, Pat, at his side at the March 23 dinner meeting.

Bill O'Neill, commander and instructor of the America's Boating Club – Thurmond Lake was recently awarded the prestigious Charles F. Chapman Award for Excellence in Teaching at Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. at the annual meeting of America's Boating Club, also known as the United States Power Squadrons® (USPS). Charles Frederic Chapman was an avid boater, cofounder of the United States Power Squadrons®, cofounder of the Chapman School of Seamanship, author of the standard boating reference work ("Chapman Piloting") and was editor of "Hearst's Motor Boating" magazine from 1912 to 1968.

Bill was presented the award locally at a dinner meeting at the River Grille on Wednesday evening, March 23 by District 26 Education Officer Chuck Gresham. Jan Wright, aide to the District 26 commander provided an overview of the USPS organization structure.

O'Neill's boating experience spans his 31-year membership in USPS and includes home ports on Lake Ontario at Rochester, N.Y., the Atlantic Ocean at Hilton Head and Lake Thurmond. In Rochester, he cruised Lake Ontario, the St. Lawrence Seaway and the 126-mile Rideau Canal. He also cruised the Intercoastal Waterway (ICW) from Rochester to South Carolina. During this time, he cruised in a series of twin-screw vessels from 28' to 54' LOA.

Bill piloted several commercial vessels on the ICW while living on the coastal island of Hilton Head, including a 65' 100-passenger ferry, a 50' 50-passenger ferry and a 12-car capacity ferry. He also acquired a 100-ton vessel license at the Coast Guard Maritime Academy in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. in the fall of 2000.

O'Neill's teaching career started with mentoring fellow students through the Coast Guard Auxiliary's Boating Skills and Seamanship course in 1987. As a member of the Rochester Power Squadron, Bill taught the Boat Smart and Seamanship courses and was also designated by US Sailing at the University of California as an instructor for small power boats.

As a member of the Hilton Head Sail & Power Squadron, O'Neill was the sole instructor for the America's Boating Course, Seamanship, Piloting and Advanced Piloting courses. Apart from USPS, Bill trained ferry boat captains for piloting ferries in coastal waters.

Upon transferring to the Thurmond Lake Sail & Power Squadron (now America's Boating Club – Thurmond Lake), Bill assumed teaching the America's Boating Course, Piloting and Advanced Piloting courses. His students remember him for his use of teaching aids he made (range markers demonstration aids and boat lock model) and other visual aids used in class for demonstration (inboard motor shaft and stuffing box material) to provide hands-on learning.

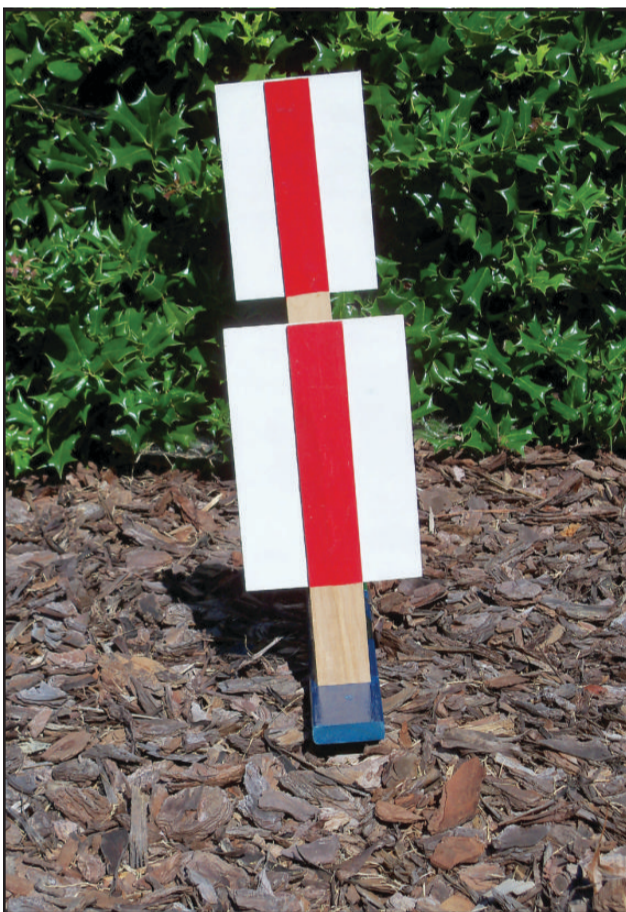
The only other instructor from Thurmond Lake to receive the Charles F. Chapman award was the squadron founder, Frank Clayton. Bill received the pictured plaque and a Chapman Award lapel pin, and the squadron received \$500. The Thurmond Lake squadron also received third place in the National Teaching Aid competition for the range marker aid demonstrated by O'Neill in the photo.

America's Boating Club – Thurmond Lake is a part of the nation's largest recreational boating club and focuses primarily on promoting safe boating on our Thurmond Lake. This is accomplished by providing the public with a basic boating course that is sanctioned by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources and is taught by certified instructors Bill O'Neill and Chuck Gresham.

For more information on this boating club that offers lots of fun activities and promotes education and civic participation, please contact the Membership Committee Chair at EllenNewmanCook@gmail.com.



America's Boating Club's Certified Instructor Bill O'Neill uses the range marker teaching aid to demonstrate how a boat is to steer to stay in the channel.



Range marker teaching aid entered by America's Boating Club - Thurmond Lake in the National Teaching Aid Contest at America's Boating Club's 2022 Annual Meeting. The entry won third place in the national competition.



GREENWOOD – As Lander University continues its yearlong Sesquicentennial Celebration, the University was recently recognized with S.C. House and Senate resolutions honoring Lander's "transformative impact" on students, alumni, the community and the state over the past century and a half. State Reps. John McCravy and Anne Parks, and S.C. Sen. Billy Garrett presented the resolutions to President Richard Cosentino and administrators on Friday, March 25, during a special ceremony at the University. "There has never been a time that was better for Lander University," said McCravy. "The proof is in the statistics. Our enrollment has gone up, and the University has the best reputation it's ever had." Garrett, a Lander alumnus, thanked President Cosentino and the Lander faculty and staff for their work and support of students. "It's an absolute pleasure to represent the University in front of the Senate. Everyone is really excited about Lander." Those sentiments were echoed by Parks, who called the 150-year-old institution a "bright, shining star. I'm so proud to let people know that we have [Lander University] in Greenwood." Pictured, from left, are S.C. Rep. John McCravy; Lander President Richard Cosentino; S.C. Sen. Billy Garrett; and S.C. Rep. Anne Parks.

– Photo by Deb Nygro

Self Regional Healthcare now offering highly advanced robotic-arm assisted joint replacement with Stryker's Mako Smartrobotics™ system

GREENWOOD - Self Regional Healthcare is the first hospital in Lakelands region to offer Mako SmartRobotics™. This advancement in joint replacement surgery transforms the way total knee, partial knee and total hip replacements are performed, by helping surgeons know more and cut less.

Mako SmartRobotics™ combines three key components, 3D CT-based planning, AccuStop™ haptic technology and insightful data analytics, into one platform that has shown better outcomes for total knee, total hip and partial knee patients.

"With Mako SmartRobotics™, we know more about our patients than ever before, and are able to cut less. For some patients, this can mean less soft tissue damage; for others, greater bone preservation," said Dr. John Cathcart of Self Regional Healthcare. "Mako's 3D CT allows our surgeons to create a personalized plan based on each patient's unique anatomy before entering the operating room. During surgery, we can validate that plan and make any necessary adjustments while guiding the robotic arm to execute that plan. It's exciting to be able to offer this transformative technology across the joint replacement service line to perform total knee and total hip replacements."

Total knee replacements in the United States are expected to increase 189 percent by 2030, yet studies have shown that approximately 20 percent of patients are dissatisfied after conventional surgery. Mako Total Knee combines Stryker's advanced robotic technology with its clinically successful Triathlon Total Knee System, which enables surgeons to have a more predictable surgical experience with increased precision and accuracy. In clinical studies, Mako Total Knee demonstrated the potential for patients to experience less pain, less need for opiate analgesics, less need for inpatient physical therapy, reduction in length of hospital stay, improved knee flexion and greater soft tissue protection in comparison to manual techniques.

By 2030, total hip replacements in the United States are projected to grow 171 percent. Mako SmartRobotics™ for Total Hip is a treatment option for adults who suffer from degenerative joint disease of the hip. During surgery, the surgeon guides the robotic arm during bone preparation to prepare the hip socket and position the implant according to the predetermined surgical plan. In a controlled matched-paired study to measure acetabular bone resection, results suggested greater bone preservation for Mako Total Hip compared to manual surgery.

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