

January 25, 2008  
Island Connection  
Volume 1, Issue 20

“Ship Store Ship Shape with New Owners”  
By Kristen Hackler

A few month’s ago, the Ship Store at Bohicket Marina was under threat of closing for good. An institution at the Marina for over 25 years, the Ship Store was owned by Al and Brenda McAbee for as long as fishermen have been visiting the Marina’s docks. However, the couple decided that it was finally time to retire to Greenwood, SC and turned the store over to the able hands of Sam Alston, owner of the Bohicket Marina boat rental company and Colleen Keys, former employee of the Bohicket Boat charter company.

Besides saving this beloved Bohicket fisherman’s resource from closing for good, Sam and Colleen have added several new items to the store, including a partial food and snack section to help stock up boaters’ onboard coolers and a recently installed fully stocked live bait tank. “My son is in charge of that one,” laughed Colleen. “He could catch minnows in that tank all day.”

Both Sam and Colleen have grown up near the water and stepping up to the ownership of the Ship Store seemed like a natural progression for both of them. “This store is such a great resource for visitors and the captains of our own charter businesses, we couldn’t let it close for good,” said Sam.

The new Ship Store will hold an official Grand Opening in March, but for now, its soft opening allows everyone to stay well supplied for any length of water adventure they might choose. Sam and Colleen are also taking suggestions as to what locals and visitors would like to see stocked in the store, so if you get a chance, drop by, share some ideas and just say “hi!”

*The Ship Store is located next to Up Da Creek Seafood Restaurant in the Bohicket Marina Village, right off of Seabrook Island Road. Their winter store hours are 8:00am – 5:00pm, though the times will change as the Marina stays open later. For more information, please call the Ship Store at 768-0855.*

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