



# GREAT LAKES CRUISING CLUB

# Lifeline

Summer 2023



Grants help Great Lakes

## GL Foundation

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Lake Erie getaway

## Harbor Insider

Vermillion, Ohio (E-14)

Follow this sailing logbook

## Founders Award

Jim and Heidi Egensperger

It's almost time for

## RENDEZVOUS

**2023**

Enjoy Cleveland (E-10)

July 16–20



Volume 89 Number 4

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

The membership application which may be included with this issue of Lifeline is for your use in signing up a new member. It DOES NOT mean that your membership has expired. It is just a reminder that GLCC is always interested in new members, and you are the source. Sign up a new member today!

Editorial Closing Dates

Editorial copy and change of address should be submitted no later than 6 weeks before the publication date, to the GLCC Office.

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Cruising Club helps all boaters
better enjoy the Great Lakes

Last summer, Pam and I enjoyed a six-week cruise around the 2022 Rendezvous in Mackinaw City. We came up from Lake Erie on the US side of Lake Huron. After the Rendezvous, we explored the North Channel and made the return trip down the Canadian side of Lake Huron.

This is what the GLCC is all about – providing cruising information to make exploring the Great Lakes a pleasurable experience. There is still time to take in the boatload (pun intended) of GLCC events this 2023 summer boating season.

The biggest and best event will be the 2023 Rendezvous in downtown Cleveland on Lake Erie. Dave and Bobbi Miller are your hosts at the North Coast Harbor Marina (formerly Rock n Dock). The marina is at the heart of downtown Cleveland, Ohio (E-10) and adjacent to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. The dates are July 16–20. In addition to many of the usual events at the Rendezvous, there will be a dinner cruise on the Goodtime III.

There are also many more events to take in this summer depending upon your location: Just before the Rendezvous is a Lake Erie Wilderness Rally in the beautiful Presque Isle State Park, Erie, Pennsylvania (E-4). The dates are July 11–13. Your host is James Dylewski. You can attend this rally, and then do the run west to Cleveland for the Rendezvous.

Other things not to miss:

- Lake Erie Picnic, June 3 at Herl's Marina, Catawba, Ohio (E-16.8). Port Captain Ken Vannorsdall is your host.
• Region 47 Picnic on June 10 at Lake St. Clair Metro Park, Michigan (D-44). Rear Commodore Rob and Port Captain Kelly Hillman are your hosts.
• Lake Erie Rally at Middle Bass Island, Ohio (E-18.5) on Father's Day weekend June 16–18. Your hosts are Dave and Lori Guertal. The theme is African Jungle Cruise. This will be a great event not to be missed.
• A get-together in the North Channel at Eagle Island (NC-25) July 25–26 (contact Rear Commodore Dave and Port Captain Kathy Spencer for more info).
• Lake Superior Rally, Aug. 4–6 at Houghton-Hancock, Michigan (S-200) on the Keweenaw Waterway. Contact Rear Commodore Jim Passe and/or Treasurer Niels Jensen for more information.
• Lake Ontario Rally Aug. 11–13 at Trent Port Marina in Trenton, Ontario (O-34) hosted by Rear Commodore Eric and Port Captain Cynthia Sunstrum.
• A Georgian Bay Rally Aug. 26–27 in the Massasauga Provincial Park

On the Cover

GLCC officers aboard the late Past Commodore James C. Acheson's 1979 Pacemaker, Lady J, the 2018 Rendezvous

- Photo by Port Captain Karen Mesenburg



Cleveland at night, sight of the 2023 GLCC Rendezvous.  
 Photo by Rob Sinclair, Flickr / Wikimedia Commons

in the Moon Island Area, Ontario (GB-28). Again, Dave Spencer is your contact.

- Thom Serafine is looking to run an event in lower Lake Michigan in late August or early September. If you can help, reach out to Thom and volunteer.
- Lake Erie Dinner, Sept. 16 at the Cleveland Yachting Club (E-10). Jim Ehrman has more info.

I hope many of you will be out on the water this summer and can attend a GLCC picnic, rally or the Rendezvous. These events are fun, and a great way to get to know your fellow members.

Pam and I will attend the Lake Erie Picnic, the Lake Erie Rally and the Rendezvous, in Cleveland. We plan on cruising more of Lake Erie after the Rendezvous. I encourage all of you, as you're cruising this summer, to take a moment to review Harbor Reports where you visit. Take some pictures, add notes and comments. These can be sent to Julie Thorndyraft for updating at [glccharborreports@gmail.com](mailto:glccharborreports@gmail.com)

When I think about cruising, I also think about the lake levels. Here is what I read about Great Lakes water levels compared to last year (2023 vs. 2022):

- Lake Superior: within 1 inch of 2022 levels during the summer months
- Lake Michigan/Lake Huron: 4-7 inches below 2022 levels
- Lake Erie: 6-14 inches below 2022 levels during the summer months
- Lake Ontario: 3-13 inches below 2022

(This information is from the US Army Corps of Engineers and is subject to change).

On a different subject, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry put a scare in all Great Lakes cruisers earlier this year. It proposed new legislation that would create revised limits in Ontario waters that included:

- Prohibit anchoring within 300 meters of a house, dock, boathouse, etc.
- Reduce the number of days that a person could anchor at one location from 21 days to 7 days.
- Increase the distance one would need to move their boat to a new location from 300 meters to 1 kilometer.

These changes would have eliminated anchoring in nearly half of the North Channel and Georgian Bay anchorages.

Once we discovered this situation, Rear Commodore Dave Spencer took the lead on submitting comments to the Ontario Ministries. He worked with several other members, specifically Susan Reid, Rear Commodore Eric Sunstrum, Director Andy Wright, Judge Advocate (CAN) Stephen Selznick, Director Ardy Barclay, and Honorary Member Roy Eaton.

I am happy to report that our input, along with many others, has influenced the Ontario Ministries, and all of these proposed changes have been dropped as of March 17. I want to recognize these members for their contribution to keeping our Great Lakes Ontario waters available for cruising.

This is also the time when the GLCC's Nominating Committee is recruiting members for board positions, committee leaders, etc. Feel free to reach out to Past Commodore Dan Cline if you are interested in volunteering and helping lead our club.

Pam and I wish all of you a fun and safe summer cruising season. Feel free to reach out to me any time to share any comments.

**Doug Jackson, Commodore**  
 ([doug@dougandpam.com](mailto:doug@dougandpam.com))

## July 16–20 | 2023 GLCC Rendezvous | Cleveland, Ohio (E-10)



## Race spectators have the best view

Among sailors in the annual Port Huron-to-Mackinac Island (Michigan) Sailboat Race, “Old Goat” status is conferred on anyone who has completed 25 or more of those races.

I had the privilege of writing stories, choosing photos, writing headlines and designing front pages of the Port Huron paper for the race during my 20-plus years at the Times Herald. I never participated in a race, but I was nearby. I had offers to join a crew, but my work schedule wouldn't cooperate. So I guess I am a somewhat adjacent Old Goat wannabe.

Here's my point: The Great Lakes Cruising Club members are typically not racers. They enjoy the lakes in a more leisurely fashion. While cruising club members may not be interested in participating, it is a great spectator sport, particularly while floating near the starting and finishing lines.

This year's Port Huron-to-Mackinac Island race is July 14–16. It's marking its 100th anniversary in 2024, making it the world's longest continuously run long-distance freshwater yacht race.

I haven't raced to Mackinac, but I've been among the spectator fleet as the boats take off. A spinnaker start is something to see, especially close-up and at water level. Preferably at anchor, with a cold beverage in hand. My advice: Look for a race near you. Join the spectator fleet. And wish the participants well.

Have a great 2023 boating season.



# New members are free at Region 47 picnic on good Lake St. Clair

In the past, it was called a “border rally.” This year it's a Lake St. Clair picnic June 10 that includes what likely will be a spirited competition for the coveted International Cornhole Trophy.

Lake St. Clair Metro Park, Michigan (D-44), is a great spot for a picnic, offering nature walks, bird-watching, wind surfing, kite boarding, bicycling, swimming and, of course, boating.

The activities start with a pancake breakfast at Pavilion K at 0800 on June 10. After, a nature Interpreter will lead a nature walk, showing off Michigan's unique wetland habitat up close.

Visitors can meet at Pavilion K to board a shuttle for a short ride to the park's nature center. The park's naturalist will lead a one-hour walk to explore natural areas traversing freshwater marsh, meadow and woodland habitats. During our walk, a park interpreter will answer questions.

The picnic starts at noon at Pavilion K. The organizing committee will serve hamburgers, hot dogs, side dishes, and corn on the cob. Condiments, plates, plastic


ware, soft drinks, cups, and water will be provided. Folks are welcome to bring a dish or dessert to share. BYO adult drinks and lawn chairs.

People who are planning on coming to the picnic by boat have two options:

1. If you plan to arrive at the park Friday June 9 and spend the night, you will need to go to the Michigan State Park & Harbor Reservations website ([midnrreservations.com](https://midnrreservations.com)). Look for dock-tails around 1530 at the pavillion. A free vessel safety check is available Saturday morning from members of the Birmingham Power Squadron. Please register for a inspection at <https://www.bpsd9.org/vsc> or call 248-425-9192.
2. If you come to the picnic for the day, dockage is available on a first-come, first-served basis. You can tie up at a vacant slip or along the seawall, enjoy the picnic and leave after. If you are coming by car, the park is less than a hour's drive from Port Huron and about 40 minutes from Windsor, Ontario.

The cost: for the picnic \$25 USD/pp for adults. Guests age 18 and under are free. New members (2022 and 2023) also can attend free. The optional nature walk is \$6 USD/pp. The optional breakfast is \$4 USD/pp.

Register online by June 1 at [glcclub.com/2023-region-47-picnic](https://glcclub.com/2023-region-47-picnic).

Direct questions to Picnic Chairman Tony Simion, 586-258-9670, [asimion3@yahoo.com](mailto:asimion3@yahoo.com), or Rear Commodore Rob Hillman, 248-224-8495, [robhillman@duck.com](mailto:robhillman@duck.com). 



## Cleveland promises a great Rendezvous

Are you signed up yet for Rendezvous 2023 in Cleveland July 16-20? You will have a ball. Except there's no ballgame as the Cleveland Guardians are out of town the week of the Rendezvous. But still...

There is a lot to see and do in Cleveland: The Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, The lake freighter *Mather*, a World War II submarine the USS *Cod*, the Great Lakes Science Center, and many others.

Docks are available through Tom Tucker at [ttucker4399@bex.net](mailto:ttucker4399@bex.net); 440-309-5885. Rooms are available at The Double Tree by calling 216-241-5100 and using the booking code "ARD".

Various activities are scheduled. The goal is to show Cleveland that the Great Lakes Cruising Club is doing well, and enjoys different places each year.

Direct questions to Rear Commodore (Ret.) Dave Miller at 216-210-2136 or [capdave@centurytel.net](mailto:capdave@centurytel.net). 



# 2023 GLCC Rendezvous

## July 16–20

**Cleveland, Ohio  
(E-10)**

at the  
Oasis North Coast Harbor  
(formerly Rock 'n Dock)



# Eight Bells

## Boating community mourns death of Past Commodore Dr. James C. Acheson



Past Commodore James C. Acheson, 86, of Port Huron, Michigan, passed away on April 2, 2023. He had been a member for 56 years.

Commodore Acheson joined the Great Lakes Cruising Club in 1968 and became a member-at-large of the board of directors in 1981. He was elected vice commodore in 1986, serving under David Landry, and became commodore in 1988. Subsequent to his watch, he was elected fleet captain, an office he held for 25 years.

He codified uniform standards for the club and promoted proper flag etiquette. In 1988, he established the club's first computer system, establishing a database for the nearly 3,000 active membership records previously kept on 3-by-5-inch cards in a shoebox. He oversaw the conversion of the Port Pilot to word processing.

Jim created the Admiral Bayfield Award to recognize members for their extensive Great Lakes cruising, and established the William J. Kivell Award for outstanding performance by a port captain. He created the position of port captain coordinator and wrote the first port captain's handbook.


In his second year as commodore, Jim instituted "Spring Break" (initially "Winter Break"), first held at the Isles Yacht Club in Punta Gorda, Florida. He was the recipient of the Award of Merit, the William J. Kivell Memorial Award, and the Admiral Bayfield Award.

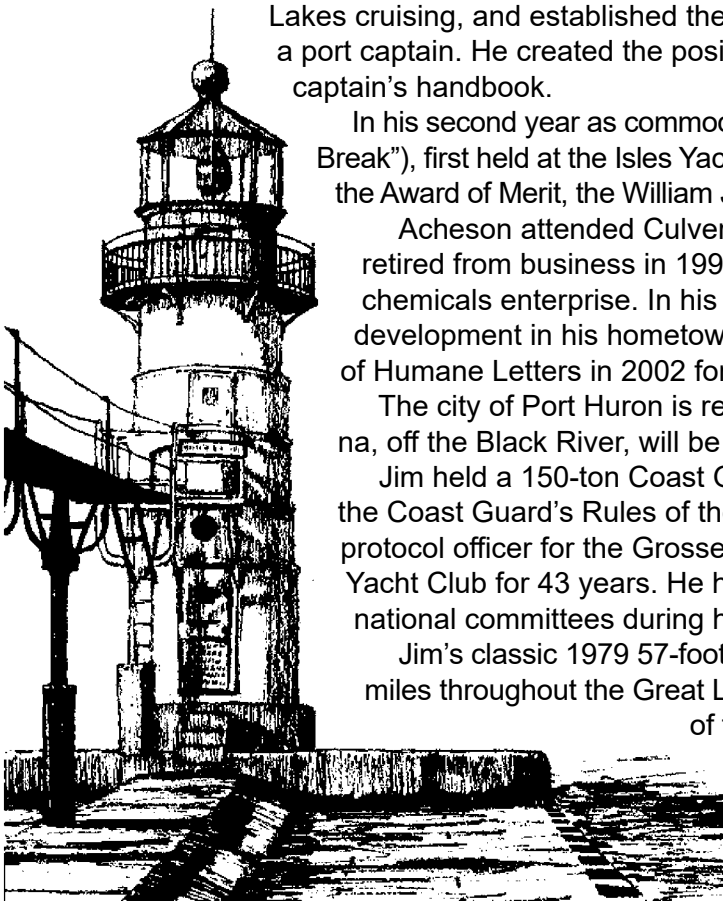
Acheson attended Culver Military Academy and the University of Michigan. He retired from business in 1998 after leading his family's century-old global specialty chemicals enterprise. In his later years, he focused on philanthropy and community development in his hometown of Port Huron. He was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters in 2002 for his philanthropic contributions.

The city of Port Huron is renaming its River Street Marina in his honor. The marina, off the Black River, will be known as the James C. Acheson Marina.

Jim held a 150-ton Coast Guard master's license and was a two-term member of the Coast Guard's Rules of the Road Advisory Council (now BSAC). He had been protocol officer for the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club and a member of the New York Yacht Club for 43 years. He had been a district commander and had chaired four national committees during his 61-year membership in USPS.

Jim's classic 1979 57-foot Pacemaker motor yacht *Lady J* carried him over 67,000 miles throughout the Great Lakes, the Canadian Maritimes, the east and Gulf coasts of the United States, the Bahamas and Cuba.

He is survived by his wife, Susan Nelson Acheson, his three adult children, Larry, Joe and Dan, and his six grandchildren. He was preceded in death by an infant son. 



# African adventure is theme of Lake Erie annual rally

By Lori and Dave Guertal, Rally Co-chairs

The Lake Erie Rally is just a few weeks away. There has been wonderful participation for this rally in the past, and this year should be no exception. The theme is “African Jungle Cruise.”

It will again be on Middle Bass Island, Ohio (E-18.5) in western Lake Erie on June 16–18. Food will be served at the “Posh Picnic” on Friday evening, a “Taste of Africa” dinner on Saturday evening, and two continental breakfasts Saturday and Sunday mornings.

On Thursday, June 15, mariners who arrive early to the island rally can get a jump on the fun. They can settle in, register early, enjoy the island, and join a pizza party and jungle trivia.

Those who arrive Friday can register, then dress their ships for a drone photo of the rally fleet. Dinner and an opportunity to make or renew friendships is at the Lonz Shelter House.

Saturday events include a flag presentation and anthems. A private “Bootleggers” breakfast will be at the island Speakeasy behind the Island Grind Cafe.

Guests will test their physical and cognitive skills with unique team games:

- Dare to feed piranha to crocodiles
- Outwit wild monkeys
- Hoop the hungry hippo.

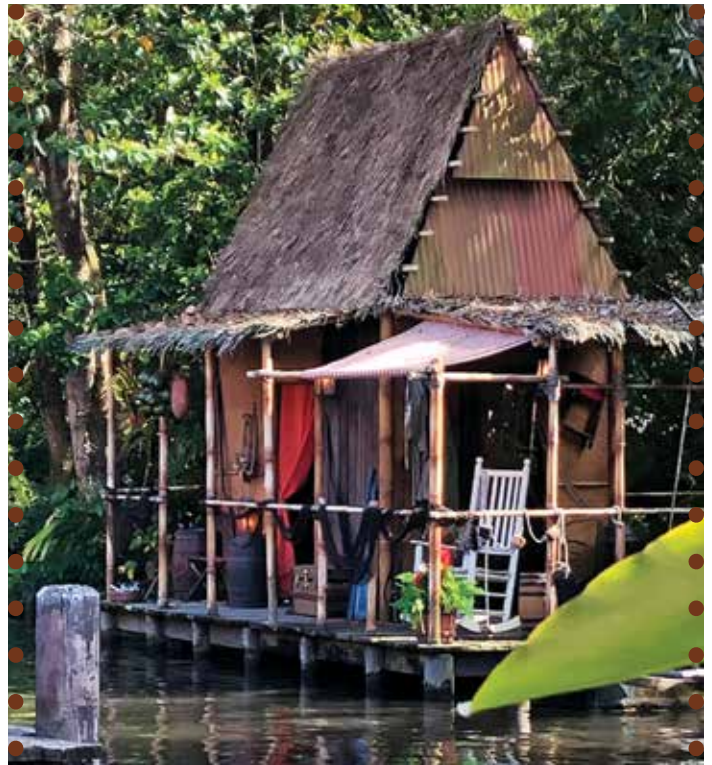
And, of course, hike on a jungle hunt through the “wilds” of Middle Bass Island, seeking animals while discovering hidden areas of the island. There is gold to be won at the end of this hunt.

Saturday evening, guests will come to dinner dressed in their finest animal or explorer attire. Be creative: Animals, explorers, Tarzan and Jane, perhaps a Venus fly trap are all great costumes. It’s important to note: Do NOT wear a costume that is disrespectful to the African people or native African culture. Such costumes will not be permitted at this GLCC event.

After dinner, prizes will be presented for the hunt, and the costume contest. The live band Lucky Fools will play great dancing music to round out Saturday.

Sunday morning, breakfast “on the down low” will be served in the Speakeasy, followed by a cruise to further Lake Erie summer adventures.

The deadline for registration was May 25. If you have already placed your registration, we look forward to seeing you. If you have not yet registered, please contact Rally chairs Lori and Dave Guertal at 330-224-7813 to see if room is still available. 🚩





## Great Lakes Foundation grants support education, preservation

By Dan Cline, President, photo courtesy Canadian Lighthouses of Lake Superior

It's been an active year for grantmaking at the Great Lakes Foundation. The Foundation awarded almost \$20,000 in grants so far, and we expect to make almost another \$20,000 in grants before the end of this fiscal year.

### How grants are made

The GL Foundation grant-making process:

1. A grant applicant completes and files a grant application form, along with any supplemental materials.
2. Each grant application is reviewed by our U.S. Judge Advocate, Greg Korstad, to make sure the applicant and the purpose of the grant meet any applicable legal requirements.
3. About a month before each of the Foundation's Board of Directors meetings, the Grants Committee reviews applications and makes recommendations regarding which grants should be made and in what amounts.
4. Grants Committee recommendations are presented to the Board of Directors, which makes its final decisions.
5. The Foundation President contacts each applicant with the results, and successful grant applicants sign a grant agreement with the Foundation before the money is released.
6. All grantees must report to the Foundation regarding the project for which the grant was made.

The Foundation Grants Committee is Rear Commodore Thom Serrafine as Chairman, along with Director Ardy Barclay, Immediate Past Commodore Dan Cline, Judge Advocate (U.S.) Greg Korstad, Director Mark Lifter, Director Christine Moore Skrocki, and Rear Commodore Eric Sunstrum. They deserve thanks for their hours of work reviewing applications and making recommendations.

### The Foundation's current-year grantees:

#### *Hands on Deck*

Hands on Deck is a nonprofit organization based in Green Bay, Wisconsin (M-109), that teaches traditional boatbuilding and woodworking skills to people of all ages. It provides boating experiences for hundreds of

people each summer. Hands on Deck plans to conduct a series of Estuary Connections Camps for children that include such elements as model boat-building, wood carving, boaters' safety classes, and a variety of on-the-water experiences. The boating program includes activities on a variety of boats, such as a lobster boat, modern sailing sloop, an antique runabout, and small boat sailing. The Foundation is supporting the Estuary Connection Camps by providing \$10,000 for camp scholarships for children from low-income families.


#### *Canadian Lighthouses of Lake Superior*

Canadian Lighthouses of Lake Superior is a nonprofit organization based in Thunder Bay, Ontario (S-134), that restores, maintains, and promotes historic lighthouses in the Lake Superior region. It is responsible for three lighthouses: at Porphyry, Shaganash, and Trowbridge islands. A variety of programs is made available to boaters visiting the lighthouses. The Foundation is supporting this organization with a grant of \$5,220 to buy a workboat, wood for a slip, and a winch at the Trowbridge Island Light.

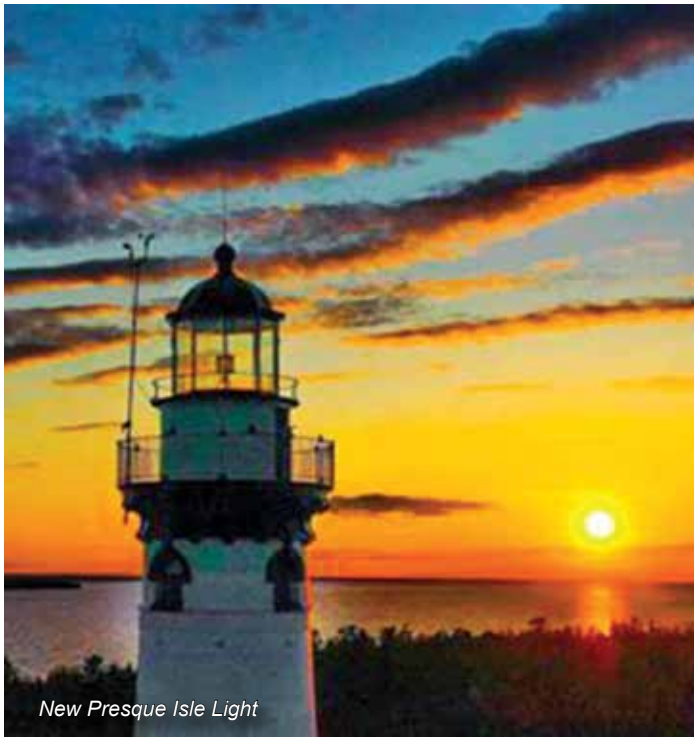
#### *Maritime Heritage Alliance*

Maritime Heritage Alliance is a nonprofit organization based in Traverse City, Michigan (M-10), that restores and maintains classic wooden boats and offers classes in boatbuilding and related skills. It has several boats, including *Champion*, a 38-foot Concordia Cutter. The *Champion* is used for programs providing youths with sailing experiences. Groups working with this program include 4-H and the local county court system. The Great Lakes Foundation is supporting this program by providing \$4,251.30 to purchase a new life raft for *Champion*.

### Your support

The Foundation could not do this work without members' financial support. Gifts to the Foundation can be made by check to the Great Lakes Cruising Club payable to "Great Lakes Foundation." Members can also donate online through the Great Lakes Foundation tab at [www.glccclub.com](http://www.glccclub.com). 





New Presque Isle Light

## Wilderness Rally offers Lake Erie fun, relaxation

By Chair James Dylewski

For the second-ever time in club history, a Wilderness Rally will be on Lake Erie. Join the fun July 11–13 at Presque Isle State Park on Marina Lake. It is acknowledged as among the best, if not the best, anchorages on Lake Erie.

Participants can explore the beaches and lagoons (no motors), and such events as a dinghy poker run and cornhole. They can also relax in the serenity and beauty of the park.

Boats arrive Tuesday to a potluck dinner and BYO beverages. Wednesday offers the dinghy poker run, BYOB happy hour social time, and barbeque dinner. Thursday features a lucky day breakfast, BYOB happy hour, and appetizers.

For information, contact James Dylewski, sv.Windigo@gmail.com, 561-317-9492. 🚩

## Lake Superior Rally planned for Aug. 4–6

By Treasurer Niels R. Jensen

For the first time, the annual Lake Superior Rally will be at Houghton-Hancock (S-200) on Michigan’s spectacular Keweenaw Peninsula (S-199).

This location was made possible by a major harbor improvement project of Houghton’s City Dock.

The rally will be Friday, Aug. 4 to Sunday, Aug. 6. As of press time, the rally committee was still working on some details. However, it is confirmed that the Saturday and Sunday breakfasts, as well as the Saturday evening dinner, will be at the Copper Range Depot on Houghton’s waterfront.

The featured speaker for the Saturday’s dinner is Dr. John Vucetich of Michigan Technological University. He leads the decades-long wolf/moose study at the Isle Royale National Park. In addition, Dr. Vucetich is an avid sailor, who races in the *Shanti*, a C&C 33.



View of the Houghton-Hancock Bridge from the boat ramp. Photo by Treasurer Niels R. Jensen

Final 2023 Lake Superior Rally details will be posted on the GLCC website at [www.glclub.com/2023-lake-superior-rally](http://www.glclub.com/2023-lake-superior-rally).

Those attending are strongly encouraged to visit some of the area’s other enticing harbors and anchorages after the Rally, such as Copper Harbor (S-207). If requested, it may be possible to arrange for an après-rally flotilla cruise of the peninsula, but it’s too early to announce any such added activity. It should also be noted that the peninsula is an ideal jumping off point for visiting Isle Royale and the Canadian shore.

The Keweenaw Peninsula is geologically similar to Isle Royale, and has plenty of beauty to match. However, while it indeed has stunning nature, this is not a wilderness area. Instead, there are charming towns, developed harbors, historical sites, and mine tours, as well as plenty of exciting opportunities for outdoor recreational activities. It’s another must-see Lake Superior sector to explore, and Houghton-Hancock is its gateway. 🚩



New pier plan Photo by Treasurer Niels R. Jensen

# Toronto Meetup in January was cold and warm both at once

By Port Captain Cynthia Sunstrum



It was a frosty winter evening on the shore of Lake Ontario but the camaraderie among boaters warmed the 51 Great Lakes Cruising Club members and guests who attended the first GLCC members' Meetup in Toronto, Ontario (O-45) Jan. 27.

Walking past the snow-covered boats on the hard-to-get-to clubhouse of the National Yacht Club was a reminder that launch was still a few months away. Nevertheless, attendees were happy to be watching the whitecaps lap against the rocks from the window of the inviting upper floor yacht club dining room.

Few GLCC member events take place in southern Ontario where many Canadian GLCC members live. Arranging a dinner to coincide with the Toronto International Boat Show, the largest indoor boat show in North America, seemed like a good idea.

While most attendees live in the area, others traveled a fair distance to attend both the dinner and the boat show. The award for traveling the farthest goes to Commodore Doug Jackson from near Columbus, Ohio, who welcomed the group.


Five other guests traveled over 400 km (nearly 300 miles) to attend. A dozen members came from south of the border. The full group included the Commodore Doug Jackson, three Rear Commodores (Eric Sunstrum, David Spencer and Rob Hillman) and 15 port captains.

Another guest worthy of special mention is Lucile Ellins, the 104-year-old mother of Port Captain Charlie Ellins from Severn, Ontario. Lucile loves attending yachting club events as well as spending time aboard Charlie's boat, the *Lady Lou*, a 34-foot Sea Ray, on the Trent Severn Waterway. Lucile is an inspiration to all boaters. She proves you are never too old to enjoy being on the water.

The meetup was planned as a relatively informal event to provide an opportunity for GLCC members to get better acquainted and exchange boating stories. Members mingled and chatted with new and old acquaintances. Conversation continued well through dinner, interrupted only briefly with a few words from Commodore Doug Jackson and Rear Commodores Eric Sunstrum and Dave Spencer. They reminded everyone that such events are one of the reasons the GLCC has well over 2,000 members from Canada and the US.

Rear Commodore Sunstrum extended thanks to those who helped organize the event. Rear Commodore Spencer also thanked those members who volunteered at the GLCC booth at the Boat Show the previous week.

The National Yacht Club provided a welcoming setting for the event.

Those interested in another meetup next year should pass their comments to Port Captain Cynthia Sunstrum (cynthiasunstrum@gmail.com) or Rear Commodore Eric Sunstrum (ericsunstrum@gmail.com). 

# Welcome Back to The Blue Water Area



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## Single-handed tour turns into a two-person adventure

*Editor's note: This story based on the log of Jim and Heidi Egensperger and their visit to Redezvous 2017 in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin. Jim sailed their Catalina 30 mostly single-handed from Chagrin River, Ohio, meeting with Heidi in Escanaba, Michigan.*

Touch of Grey trucking

*By Port Captain Jim Egensperger*  
TOUCH OF GREY | Mentor Harbor, Ohio (E-8)

It was a cold, dreary late February Sunday in north-east Ohio. I came across the information brochure about the GLCC Rendezvous scheduled for July 8-13, 2017 in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin (M-72.5). I posed the question to Heidi: "What would you think about taking our boat to the GLCC Rendezvous this summer?" She hesitated and answered with two questions of her own: "How far away is that?" and "How long would we be away from home?"

We had owned our Catalina 30 sailboat *Touch of Grey* and were GLCC members for just over two years. Initially, we boated locally on the south shore of Lake Erie. Our longest cruise on this boat was to Port Stanley, Ontario (E-31) – 50 nautical miles across the lake.

We were not inexperienced boaters. We began sailing as race crew members in Mentor Harbor in the 1970s. In the ensuing 40+ years, we crewed, delivered and chartered many different boats in many different places on all five Great Lakes, the St. Lawrence River, the East Coast from northern Newfoundland to Florida, Bermuda, and chartering in the Whitsunday Islands of Australia, San Juan Islands, Washington, and the Windward Islands.

But, how much capability and comfort did this Catalina 30 have in her?

When we acquired *Touch of Grey* (the hull has a bit of gray trim, we both have a bit of gray and the song has an inspiring chorus), a 1988 Catalina 30 MKII #5388, we were confident she had "good bones."

I said, "How about I depart solo, head north, see how the boat handles and if I like cruising it? If things

don't work out, I turn back home. When I get to someplace nice, I'll call you, you drive up and climb aboard."

That plan sounded doable, so we registered for our first GLCC Rendezvous that week.

#### **Middle Bass Island, Ohio (E-18.5), June 8, 2017**

My logbook reads "Departure from Chagrin River 0815 hrs." Thursday, June 8, 2017. Destination that day: Middle Bass Island, 55NM away. "Heading 270°; speed 6k @ 1700 rpm; sea flat, wind calm; 1015 hrs. abeam downtown Cleveland; 1415 hrs. motor-sailing Jib and Main, 6.5k; 1810 hrs. arrive Middle Bass docks. Nice!"



*Enjoying Great Lakes sailing!*

My single-handed cruise adventure had begun. I felt my preparations of the boat were quite proper. I had many spares, including upgraded safety equipment, a lightweight kayak, many full-sized NOAA charts, cruising guides, and all the hard-copy GLCC Harbor Reports from Cleveland to Green Bay. With full tanks, including beer, wine and liquor, *Touch of Grey* was riding a bit low on her waterline, but she carried the extra load with no complaint.

My departure date allowed four weeks to get the boat in the northern lakes, rendezvous with Heidi and complete the 800-nautical mile trip to the GLCC event. This was more time than necessary for the trip, but I had no specific itinerary and wanted time to learn the boat, correct any problems and allow for weather delays. I also wanted to stop in as many ports as possible.

During my first week traveling on *Touch of Grey*, daily log entries were quite basic. I knew my port-to-port distances would be relatively short. I also knew I would be motoring up the Detroit River, Lake St. Clair and St. Clair River. I was primarily focused on monitoring and recording engine data in the logbook: running time, speed, fuel consumption, lube oil consumption, normal gauge readings, etc.



*Comfortably underway*

#### **Grosse Ile, Michigan (D-74), June 9, 2017**

Day 2 found me "Departing Middle Bass at 0535 hrs." with the notation: "Sun rising and full moon setting." At 0920, I was abeam Detroit River outer light, still several miles from the banks of shoreline defining the Detroit River. I noted the "Wind W 10-12K, nice close reach at 6K." I enjoyed the pleasant sail before the several days of motoring up the rivers, which held little expectation of sailing. At "1130 hrs. tied up Grosse Isle YC, Eng. hrs. 842.2, fuel 5/8 on gauge. \$1.50/ft. for dock, lovely 2-story clubhouse, tight entrance, fabulous dinner."

The next day, Saturday, 6/10, I "Departed GIYC at 0815 hrs. sunny and calm" My goal was to get up the Detroit River and anchor at Metro Beach Harbor (D-44) in the NW corner of Lake St. Clair. Being slightly unsure of what my ultimate speed over ground (SOG) would be against the river currents, my log entries were focused on noting major milestone locations as I chugged upriver. "Abeam River Rouge 1100 hrs., Ambassador Bridge 1131 hrs., abeam Peche Isle Light 1250 hrs. (Into Lake St. Clair)." When I added "Anchor at Metro Beach", I failed to note the time, but logged these useful computations: "Engine run 16 hrs. on 1/2 tank, log 58NM, DOG 35NM, current ~-2.5K." It felt wonderful to be in the snug anchorage on the park side lobe of the lagoon that is Metro Beach Park.

#### **Port Huron, Michigan (D-1), June 11, 2017**

I affirmed this feeling with the note: "Perfect night at anchor!" and "wake up 0700" I checked engine and found "oil down 3/16" on dipstick, "Chk/Add later." At

"0755 Anchor Up", underway headed for the North Channel approach to the main channel of the St. Clair River. Shortly after entering the North Channel proper, I got "fuel at Balfour's Marina: 1020 hrs., fuel gauge at 1/4 tank, took on 11.9 gallons, 2 bags ice (\$2 each), added 1 cup of engine oil, engine hrs. 834.9." "Cast off fuel dock at 1045 hrs." to proceed up the St. Clair River.

My only note about an uneventful motoring up the river was: "Entered St. Clair River 1210 hrs., 1.5-2K current, tuff on auto pilot," requiring hand-steering most of that afternoon. Looking for less current, or even a few short-lived north-bound eddy currents, caused me to switch from one shore to the other in an amusing game to maybe shorten the hours by a few minutes.

That evening I "Entered Black River 1700 hrs., tied @ Port Huron Yacht Club (PHYC) (D-1) 1720 hrs., log 290NM, engine hrs. 841.5." A common practice of mine over the years was multi-tasking some chores during happy hour. Between occasional sips of tasty Scotch, I "Tightened the alternator belt," computed fuel consumption at "0.58 gallons/hr." and confirmed the engine "oil level @ full" on the dipstick. Four days under way and all systems GO!



Passing under the Blue Water Bridge.

After completing the motoring slog up the rivers, the imposing sight of the Blue Water Bridge overhead means you are finally crossing the threshold into the magnificent upper Great Lakes. Granted, you still have the short-term challenge of getting through the 4-knot mid-channel current created by the entire outflow of the 3 largest Great Lakes concentrated in this narrow passage. Within an hour, however, you will enter the ever widening expanse of open water as you head north into Lake Huron. For me, it feels like the true joy of cruising is opening up in front of my bow.

Having watched hundreds of boats struggle against this current over the years, I learned that skippers should hug close to the east (Ontario) shore to avoid maximum current. The river maintains significant depth close to the rock wall and the foul current is much less there.

### Harbor Beach, Michigan (H-56), June 12, 2017

The next two pages in the log book: "Monday 6/12,

Port Huron to Harbor Beach" and Tuesday 6/13, show a departure from my basic, factual format in preceding log pages. My text becomes a combination of data, descriptions, information and feelings.

Starting with a 0630 departure from Port Huron Yacht Club bound for Harbor Beach, envision a nearly perfect 45+ NM cruising day on the water. After passing under the magnificent Blue Water Bridge at 0655, then abeam Green Bell Buoy #11 at 0755, the comment: "Finally out of the current!" gives a hint of the joy of that moment. Only to be exceeded by the following lines describing the gorgeous conditions of "Lake 1 ft., wind SW 15, PERFECT!"

With GPS telling me the bearing to the Harbor

HARBOR BEACH MARINA 999-479-2707

DATE: MONDAY 6-12 CRUISE FROM PORT HURON Y.C. TO HARBOR BEACH

TIME ABEAM	LOCATION	DIST. IN MILES	DEPART. TIME	COURSE TRUE MAG. P.C.	ESTIMATED TIME OF ARRIVAL	ACTUAL LOCATION
0630	DEPART PHYC					
	0655 UNDER BLUE WATER BRIDGE					
	0755 SC. BUOY #11					
	1020 HARBOR BEACH FUEL DOCK					
	0825 ENGINE OFF; SAILING 352° 5.5 KNOTS. BEAM REACH					
	GREAT 6 HR SAIL! 6.5 TO 7.5 KNOTS.					
	POLISH STRATAGAN'S DODGER					
	400 WIND DIED; START ENGINE; 1555 ENTER HARBOR BEACH BREAKWALL					

FUEL IN GALLONS

DATE	LOCATION	IN TANKS	TAKEN ON	CONSUMED	GAL. PER HOUR	COST	REMARKS
	FUEL 7.06 GAL		ENG HRS	845.65			ICE \$2.00
	WITH GRACE!					834.9	
	PRICE - GRACE, JUDE, VICTORIA			7.06 @ 10.75		.66	

ANCHORED 1730 BY S. BREAKWALL  
 1800 - CLEAR WATER - SEE ANCHOR 12' GAL/HR

Jim's typical log entry

Beach lighthouse was 352° M, at "0825 hrs., engine off, sailing 352° M, beam reach, great 6 hr. sail at 5.5 to 7.5 knots!", I entered the channel between the break wall and lighthouse 1555 hours and proceeded to the fuel dock.

This had been a glorious day boating on Lake Huron. After chatting with Grace at the harbor office, I opted to enjoy the evening anchored out behind the break wall. The water was clear enough to see my anchor 12 feet. below, chilly enough that my rinse-off dip was brief and calm enough that once my grilled rib-eye was consumed, I decided to remain there on the hook for the night. With the sun setting, my anchor rode hung limp from the bow roller. *Touch of Grey* was virtually motionless.

That night began quite calm. Unfortunately, the cold front with squalls that was on the west shore of Lake Michigan when I dozed off, decided to accelerate its eastward movement. Instead of arriving at Harbor Beach mid-morning, it came through around 0300 hours. I was rudely roused from my bunk by wind and waves. With conditions rapidly deteriorating, I called a committee meeting. The 3-0 vote of me, myself and I passed the motion to get the hell out of there!

With white-capped waves growing to 3+ feet and wind mid-20's singing in the rigging, I weighed anchor



Harrisville fuel dock.

at 0330. These were not pleasant conditions for getting under way, but necessary as the wind shift had moved the stern of the boat too near some rocky shallows if the anchor dragged.

The balance of the logbook for Tuesday, 6/13, consists of wonderfully mundane events. Boat chores: filling water tank, checking engine oil, scrubbing bugs from the cockpit, trip planning, including weather forecasts and distance to Harrisville, Michigan (57 miles). Then descriptions of exploring the town of Harbor Beach, breakfast at (the now gone) Al's restaurant, a 3-hour walking tour of the beach park, pier, waterfront bike path, Sandmann's grocery store with a super meat case, good food at Smalley's Bar and Grill, noting the drugstore stocked liquor and the True Value Hardware was nearby. The entry squeezed into the last line of the log says it all: "Very nice stop". On to Harrisville.



Cruising with "Otto Helm" driving.

### **Harrisville, Michigan (H-64.5), June 14, 2017**

Wednesday: 0720 hours, cast off Harbor Beach dock. I was able to utilize the "10-14 knot east wind for an efficient beam reach sail, making 6+ knots with the autopilot easily holding the 352° heading."

I was blessed with this quiet progress for several delightful hours until the wind pressure died and I started the iron genoa at 1055. I have no qualms about making good miles motoring at 6+ knots. Sailing is a joy, but when cruising, putting miles under the keel is paramount. Finishing the 57-mile passage, tying to the dock at 1645, felt just right. Cocktail hour!

After sipping a wee dram, I borrowed a bike and peddled into the village for some exercise. My most enjoyable time in Harrisville was spent relaxing in the comfortable boaters lounge with fireplace, sofa, kitchenette and tables. It was an ideal venue to strum my guitar. I opted to relocate to the anchorage area in the small harbor. Being at anchor on a quiet night with the sound of a gentle rain on deck is my idea of ultimate serene sleep.

### **Alpena, Michigan (H-66), June 15, 2017**

Thursday, 6/15, I tied up at the fuel dock at 0730 long enough to use the restroom and thank harbor-master Jim. The passage to Alpena was pleasant. My only notes say "4 hours – great sail." Due to a combination of chores, touring and a questionable weather forecast, I planned to remain on the dock at Alpena through Friday. I took the extended walk to The Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center. What a magnificent display showing a broad spectrum of Great Lakes shipping history. In conjunction with the NOAA Thunder Bay National Marine Underwater Sanctuary, this facility is well worth an extended visit.

My casual evening in Alpena began with a power nap at 1730, then enjoying a sumptuous burger in town entertained by a local singer, guitar strummer at the restaurant's sidewalk tables. Afterward, I opted to see a movie at the local multiplex. Exiting that barely humorous comedy at 2300 and strolling along the 15-minute walk to the dock, I felt this visit to Alpena was complete. I was disappointed thinking of staying another day to avoid the predicted foul weather.

Approaching the boat, going through my usual pre-boarding visual checks of dock lines, fenders, power cord, halyards, I glanced up to the entire night sky chock-a-block with stars. Following my typical routine, I tuned in to VHF Weather and radar app on my phone.

Then it hit me! Ideal conditions! Weather deteriorating through the coming day. DEPART NOW! I began preparations for departure: flashlights, charts, jacket, watch cap, caffeinated Mountain Dew, snacks. All the while, reviewing the sensibility of this idea. With the engine warming, fenders stowed, dock lines singled, I hesitated on the dock. Stepping back, I literally asked myself aloud: 'Am I being foolhardy or prudent?' That midnight log entry read: "Lite S. wind, flat water, rain tomorrow." Then: "Untie 0005 hrs., motor to Presque Isle." (Note: local pronunciation: "Isle" is EEL)

### **Presque Isle (H-70), June 16, 2017**

With my capable, trustworthy, German friend 'Otto Helm' available to handle most of the driving, I expected the 43-mile motor in calm conditions would be straightforward. From my many nights under way, in deliveries and long distance races, I enjoyed boating in starlight. I relish seeing the imperceptible glow of daybreak slowly followed by the potentially glorious sunrise while somewhere out on the Great Lakes.

We (Otto and I) got to Presque Isle fuel dock: 0655 hrs., Emma unlocked the fuel pumps at 0700 hrs. After hurriedly topping up with diesel, opting to postpone payment until later because of rapidly darkening clouds, I eased into my assigned slip: 0725. While adjusting the last fender, the first raindrops hit. These initial sprinkles grew into a steady rain that lasted all morning. Perfect for catching up on a couple hours of sleep.

The sky became sunny that afternoon. Definitely nice enough to explore the shoreline parks and the two vintage lighthouses (older one from 1840, newer one 1870), and adjacent museums.



Even though I'm not one of those folks striving to visit every lighthouse, I enjoyed seeing these excellent displays. If you can handle the climb (125 feet), the view from the top of the lighthouse overlooking Lake Huron and the shoreline SE and NW is awesome. By pure luck, this weekend was the 25th Annual Presque Isle Wooden Boat Show. With both shore-side and floating displays, this event is a fabulous exhibit of local, restored antique watercraft, ranging from cedar strip canoes to high horsepower mahogany Chris Crafts.

As it turned out, pushing ahead with the nighttime transport was a good decision. I got to enjoy the trail, lighthouses, antique boats and tasty food at the dockside restaurant during my leisurely two-day stay at Presque Isle Marina. I was also glad to be on solid Presque Isle State Park docks, rather than at anchor, being able to comfortably "Sit out heavy rain squalls.



Wind W 20-30 in pm." Had I not moved in the pre-dawn hours that Saturday, I would have remained in Alpena 2 more days, thus delaying my progress north.

The distance to Rogers City was 18 miles. Getting those few miles behind me would be better than none. With leftover, blustery westerlies, a short day on the water would be appropriate. Off the Presque Isle dock



at 0900. By 1100 hours, I was "motor-sailing, tacking with reef, 6+ knots, partly cloudy-nice, wind WNW 10-12, 2-3 ft. seas, on nose, but OK. 1200 hrs. – 2.5 miles to Rogers City WP.; wind NW 15, more clouds, cooler. 1255 on dock Rogers City. Rain at 1305 –Yeah! Rib-eye steak on grill."

The 40-mile run from Rogers City to Cheboygan would be a medium day motoring into light west wind. Departing early at 0615, I ate breakfast under way. Boat speed was a steady 6 knots. Arriving dockside at 1300 hours usually allows sufficient time to get acquainted with most ports. The chilly night air in these northern waters definitely suits me for a good night's sleep.

### **Beaver Island (M-2), June 21, 2017**

Outbound, "Wednesday, 6/21, abeam outer buoy at Cheboygan 0645 hrs." This day turned out to be the most stupendous overall day of my entire two-month cruise that summer. Conditions were generally mild and "crystal clear." I was greatly satisfied to be logging mile-





posts that I had known from previous years racing. The 'Big Mack' Bridge was easily visible, still miles away. The Grand Hotel showed bright white on Mackinac Island. I motored under the bridge at 0915 hours, shut the engine down shortly after passing "1233 abeam Grays Reef Light" and enjoyed 2 ½ hours of gorgeous sailing.

My next stop would be Beaver Island. I couldn't help but feel confident, in myself as a single-hander and in the capabilities of this Catalina 30, *Touch of Grey*. We made a good team.

I am now finishing week 2 of my experimental adventure cruise. From Beaver Island, it is totally possible for me to make the ultimate goal of attending the GLCC Rendezvous in Sturgeon Bay beginning July 8.

Earlier this season, much of May into the first week of June, was cooler and wetter than normal in the entire Great Lakes basin. As a result, many boaters were delayed in prepping for spring launch. The yacht clubs and marinas I visited these past weeks had more boats still covered in shrink wrap than floating in slips. Most places felt like I was the only boater around.

I've now progressed north enough to be getting the feel of the northern lakes. The trees, smells, brisk air, clear water, few boats, I felt just a small step beyond the population and congestion of the lower lakes and just a tiny bit closer to some form of remoteness, it felt wonderful!

I developed a mental image of being a bold explorer and motored into St. James Harbor on Beaver Island (referred to as the Emerald Isle of the Great Lakes due to its significant Irish background)

at 1540 hrs. Once again, nearly perfect timing for Happy Hour! The stores and shops, grocery and museum are adorable.

I highly recommend an extended stop here on any cruise. In particular, if your calendar allows, be there mid-July for the Beaver Island Music Festival – do not miss it. There are a couple thousand people at the mid-island campground enjoying a full weekend with 30 bands playing music in the woods.

I motored along the shoreline at half-throttle, visually matching the sights with descriptions in GLCC Harbor Report: M-2. While passing by, I noted the ferry dock, DNR marina docks, channel buoys, regularly glancing at the depth sounder, saw shops, bars and lovely homes along Main Street, the docks at Beaver Island Marina and the spacious, well-protected anchorage.

For the first time in my travels this summer, I was about to share the harbor with two sailboats, already at anchor. They were spaced well apart, both about 40 footers, rigged as cruisers and both flying the Maple Leaf ensign. Canadians!

Continuing motoring at dead slow, I circled twice to envision depth contours and gauge adequate swinging room, chose my spot in between and ahead of the Canadian boats, dropped the Delta, let out 5:1 scope, set the hook with a burst of reverse and began to settle in. My log book notes: "1600 at anchor, ~54 mi, 9 hr." day. I rewarded myself with 2 fingers of single-malt Scotch whilst winding down in my cozy, cushioned cockpit. Life is good!

**This is the first of two installments. Be sure to read the next issue of *Lifeline* to follow Jim and Heidi's story.**

*About the Founders Award: It is an annual GLCC member award for the best cruising log of a cruise on the Great Lakes. The award honors the founding members of the GLCC. The purposes of the award are to honor members for exemplary skill and artistry in recording their cruises on the Great Lakes; to foster increased participation and involvement by members in Club activities; and to provide a mechanism for soliciting material which can be used in Lifeline, in the Port Pilot & Log Book, and in other GLCC publications. You may visit <http://www.glccclub.com/founders-award> to learn more.*

## While you're there:



*The ferry Emerald Isle is the vessel that runs folks from Charlevoix to Beaver Island. Read about her at: <https://www.bibco.com/about-us/the-emerald-isle/>*

# HARBOR INSIDER

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The hundreds of harbors around the Great Lakes are unique in different ways. "Harbor Insider" is a feature for *Lifeline* that gives new visitors to a harbor some information that isn't typically included in the GLCC Harbor Reports or other resources. These reports are accurate as of the time they were written. Things change season to season. Please check ahead with local sites if you're planning a visit.

To submit a Harbor Insider for consideration, please follow this broad format. Include any topics you wish about places to do and things to do at your harbor. Email Harbor Insiders to: [editor.glcc.gk@gmail.com](mailto:editor.glcc.gk@gmail.com). Please copy Yvonne at [glclub@att.net](mailto:glclub@att.net), and Cindy at [designerglcc@yahoo.com](mailto:designerglcc@yahoo.com).

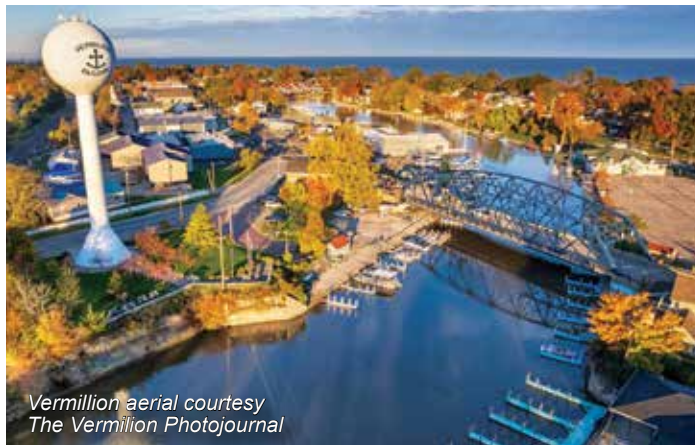
-Garth Kriewall, Lifeline Editor



Wine Vault



Sculpture garden



Vermillion aerial courtesy  
The Vermillion Photojournal



Granny Joe's Ice Cream

## VERMILLION, OHIO (E-14)

### Stop by this small community with 'an amazing summer vibe'

By Port Captain Mark Gagy, Vermillion, Ohio (E-14)

When I present my webinar about cruising Lake Erie, I always point out the quaint little river towns that can be found along the lake's northern and southern shores. They are all rooted in a history of fishing, shipbuilding and, for a few, time spent as an old summer resort. On the south side of the lake is Vermillion, Ohio. I am the Port Captain for Vermillion and Vermillion is our hometown.

Vermillion is a quintessential small town with an amazing summer vibe and a cruiser's delight. The heart of Vermillion is the original part of town designated as Harbortown 1837. This is where the Vermillion River winds through town until it meets Lake Erie. And it is this area that attracts cruisers from all over.

- **A very walkable place:** Vermillion is totally walkable. Without a doubt Vermillion is an ideal place to wander about in a simple pair of flip-flops.
- **Best places to dock:** The Vermillion Port Authority's Water Works docks. While there are several excellent places to dock in Vermillion, what makes the Waterworks location my choice is that docking there makes walking easy. The docks are located right on the river just a half a mile in from the lake and right in the middle of Harbortown 1837.
- **Great places to eat:** There are several places that your flip-flops can easily take you to eat. Want to eat at a place where the food is to die for? Chez François is pricey but you are guaranteed to leave happy. Want fancy food but at a little lower price and not have to change out of your shorts and t-shirt? Try the Wine Vault. Want a great pizza or salad? Woodstock is a perfect choice. Want to eat the best burger in town while hanging out with all the locals? Go to Rudy's Bar and Grill and be sure to say "Hi!" to Rudy and Sara.
- **I need some ice cream:** Granny Joes has a great selection of frozen delights all made at a nearby dairy. Big Ed's Soda Grill is a walk back in time and with an honest to goodness soda fountain (and a great casual menu to boot). East on Liberty Avenue is Romp's Dairy Dock. Try their orange swirl cones, but sharing an old-time banana split in a plastic boat can't be beat.
- **Where to do some shopping:** Walk a half a block south from your boat to the traffic light and get started. Clothing, gifts, kitchen accessories, art-

work and more are all available in our many quaint little stores. And if it's a great Vermilion T-shirt you want, go to Szabo's Apparel right next to the Wine Vault. Brian and Amy will set you up.

- **Historic Vermillion:** Check out the Vermilion History Museum on Grand Street, just one block south of Granny Joe's. Want to do a Harbortown 1837 walking tour? Stop in and pick up a guide at the Vermilion Arts Guild Gallery across from Tiffany's on Main Street. While you are there, get a copy of their Postcard Project guide. The guide will tell you the location and history of 15 amazing enlarged antique postcards depicting life in Vermilion 75 to 100 years ago. You will find these historical treasures scattered throughout the waterfront area.

- **A special place to see:** Moes Marine Service on Liberty Avenue. The Moes family has been tending to wooden boats since 1938 and is renowned for their incredible restorations. Stop by and ask for either Tom or Mike. They'll be glad to show you around. Call and arrange for a ride in their antique speedboat, the *Weir Wind*, a 26-foot 1927 Dodge Watercar. The bonus accompanying your speed boat ride will be talking to Tom Moes. Tom knows more stories about Vermilion than anyone else in town and will gladly share some of those with you.

- **Finding out more:** The best source of information is the website for Main Street Vermilion. There you will find out about seasonal events including Beach Yoga at Main Street Beach, the Live at the Lighthouse concerts every Sunday evening and the Music, Flowers and Sunsets, a musical celebration that spreads throughout Harbortown 1837 on the third Thursday of every month.

- **Want more?** Find out about the 55-year-old Festival of the Fish where you can mingle with locals and out-of-towners as they enjoy the volunteer firemen's water hose battle, the crazy craft races, the lighted boat parade and fireworks on the beach. 🚩



Lighthouse and beach



## Get to know Lake Erie at annual dinner

The fall Lake Erie Regional Dinner has been a Region 53 tradition for many years. It's a chance for cruisers to get together and enjoy memories and camaraderie.

In 2023, it will be a fitting end to a remarkable year of events on Lake Erie: the Lake Erie Rally, the Lake Erie Wilderness Rally and most importantly, the GLCC Rendezvous. Come and meet the Region 53 team who contributed time and energy to making this a memorable year.

It has again been arranged to have the event at the Cleveland Yachting Club in Rocky River, Ohio (E-11). Rear Commodore Jim Ehrman and Port Captain Ed Mahoney have assembled an agenda that includes a cocktail hour with cash bar (US dollars only), dinner and dessert. Port Captain Ed Mahoney will host the dinner at The Cleveland Yachting Club, 200 Yacht Club Drive, Rocky River, Ohio, 44116, USA. <https://www.cycrr.org/>

Cost for this year's event will be announced in May. As always, it will be inclusive of taxes, gratuity, and credit card processing fees. Cancellation cutoff date is Aug. 31. No refunds after that date. This year's event will again be at CYC's beautiful Center Isle complex. There is an outdoor space available for roaming, the freedom to walk the docks, and, of course, football on TV. Where appropriate, all 4 of the wall mounted TV's will be tuned to the Ohio State/Western Kentucky game.

There will be a Lake Erie "surf and turf" menu, featuring Local seafood. The CYC harbormaster will place a priority on dockage requests from GLCC members. Dockage rates will be posted online. CYC dress code is casual in this area, collared shirts and nice shorts are welcome.

There are a number of hotels in the area: Town Place Suites 1-440- 892-4275, 1-440-871-3756 a Red Roof Inn 1-440-892 7920. A search for Hotels near Rocky River Ohio will yield others.

Agenda:

1500 - 1600 Cocktail Hour

1530 - 1600 Port Captains discussion; all are welcome

1600 Invocation

1615 - 1815 Dinner and dessert

1800 Rear Commodore Jim Ehrman remarks 🚩



Photos S to R: GLCC Booth with Port Captain Kathy Spencer (L) and Jen Spencer (R), photo by Rear Commodore David Spencer; Rear Commodore David Spencer presenting Anchorages of Georgian Bay by Sail, photo by Jen Spencer; Port Captain and head of the GLCC School Mark Gagyi presenting Cruising Lake Erie, Our Southern Gem, photo by Rear Commodore David Spencer; Rear Commodore Eric Sunstrum presenting Eastern Lake Ontario and the Thousand Islands, photo by Rear Commodore David Spencer

# Toronto Boat Show back under full sail

By Rear Commodore David Spencer

After a two-year hiatus, the Toronto International Boat Show was back with a full 10-day show at the massive Enercare Centre at Exhibition Place in Toronto. It attracted 65,510 visitors, just a bit below the 69,500 who attended that last pre-pandemic show in 2020.

Organizers viewed this as a very good result, especially since there were three days with weather advisories that limited attendance. Despite a few slow days, organizers, exhibitors and visitors were upbeat about this 65th show.

The Great Lakes Cruising Club was at the show with its new booth that attracted numerous compliments. Thanks go to all who staffed the booth. It was fun to chat with like-minded boaters about the GLCC and cruising the Great Lakes.

A main attraction was the seminars organized by GLCC member and Canadian Boat Shows Seminar Manager Kim Blair. In addition to Lifetime Honorary GLCC Member Roy Eaton's perennially popular seminar on "The Fabled North Channel," the GLCC was invited to deliver a few seminars based on its GLCC School webinars on the main stage.

Port Captain and head of the *GLCC School* Mark Gagyi traveled from Vermillion, Ohio, to present "Cruising Lake Erie, Our Southern Gem." Rear Commodore Eric Sunstrum came from Ottawa, Ontario, to present "Eastern Lake Ontario and the Thousand Islands." Rear Commodore David Spencer, from London, Ontario, presented "Anchorage of Georgian Bay by Sail."

All GLCC seminars were presented twice and were well-attended and well-received. The GLCC booth was a popular place after the seminars with visitors asking cruising questions and inquiring about the GLCC.

Commodore Doug Jackson came from Columbus, Ohio, in less-than-ideal weather. He joined a large GLCC group for the first Toronto boat show meet-up at the National Yacht Club (covered elsewhere in this edition). He then toured the show and took in the GLCC seminars before driving home in much better conditions.

Boat shows are an important way to maintain awareness of the club and to recruit new members. We're looking forward to strengthening our presence at the Toronto show next year and beyond. 🚢



## Chicago Boat Show, Yachtapalooza draw boating supporters

The GLCC has been busy spreading the word to prospective new members at two boat shows in Chicago this winter.

After a two-year pause for COVID, the Chicago Boat Show was back in January and the GLCC booth was staffed with enthusiastic volunteers for all five days. GLCC members came from the Chicago area as well as Indiana and Michigan to spend time talking to fellow boaters about the benefits of joining the club.

Thanks go to Port Captains Lenny and Nancy Buchanan, Fleet Captain Cheryl Cheger-Timm, John Forbes, Jack Manley, Sal Giacopelli, Dave Ausema, Debbie and Jim Hultquist, Jim and Abby Stanick and Rear Commodore Thom Serafine for working the show.

This year's booth was updated to include a slide presentation with high-resolution photos of all five Great Lakes taken by GLCC members. Special thanks go to John Forbes for creating the presentation and to Rear Commodore Dave Spencer for sharing photos from his many years of cruising.

For the second straight year, the GLCC also exhibited at Yachtapalooza, a one-day event held every March at Crowley's Yacht Yard on Chicago's South Side. While much smaller than the Chicago Boat Show, it draws a serious crowd and has become an effective recruiting tool for the club.

The GLCC signed up several new members and re-connected with many old friends. Special thanks to new GLCC member Joe Cannon, who joined the club at the Chicago Boat Show and helped out at Yachtapalooza a couple months later. 🚩



## GLCC Website Challenge

### Rendezvous for you?

This issue's challenge question has its answer in this issue:

What is the name of the harbor and marina where the 2023 GLCC Rendezvous will be held.

Send your emailed answer to Yvonne at [glcclub@att.net](mailto:glcclub@att.net).

The prize for the first correct answer is two official GLCC cold beverage cozies, and a mention in the *Lifeline*.

Remember: The GLCC website ([glcclub.com](http://glcclub.com)) has information of value to GLCC members. The Website Challenge is designed to encourage members to take advantage of this members-only resource.

Everyone who gets more familiar with our website is a winner. 🚩

## 2023 GLCC Rendezvous

July 16–20



Cleveland Yacht Club



# WELCOME ABOARD!



We welcome these new members to the fellowship  
of the Great Lakes Cruising Club:

**Bruce Adamczak**

Port Lorain, Ohio  
*TELOS*

**Bill Akins**

Jackson Park - Chicago, Ill.  
*STAINED BLUE*

**Andrew & Patti Atkins**

Ivy Lea, Ont.  
*SHARKI'S WAKE*

**David & Anne Bannister**

Kincardine, Ont.  
*UNSALTED*

**Jo-Ann Bice &  
Steven Zawacky**

Muskegon, Mich.  
*PEARL*

**Sam Blankenhagen**

Bay Harbor, Mich.  
*ANONYMOUS*

**Mark Bowery**

St. Clair Shores, Mich.  
*MON AMIE*

**Lynn & Rosemarie Boyd**

Duluth & Superior, Minn.  
*WINDSWEPT*

**Scott & Bonnie Bravener**

Port Dover, Ont.  
*ATTAWANDARON*

**Joel & Sarah Brush**

Bob Lo, Ont.  
*LADY B*

**Joseph Cannon**

**Douglas & Margarete Carr**  
Midland, Ont.  
*MADCATS*

**Lee & Deborah Castiglioni**

Anchor Bay, Mich.  
*NEW GOOSE*

**Jerald & Ann Cohen**

Catawba Island, Ohio  
*LOVELY LADY*

**Robert Cox**

Penetanguishene, Ont.  
*MINK ISLE*

**Sam & Rev Crouse**

Sandusky, Ohio  
*HERE'S TO US !!*

**Don & Joan Davidson**

Hilton Beach, Ont.  
*EUPHORIA*

**Mark & Nancy Dawes**

Oswego, N.Y.  
*DAWN*

**Domenico De Luca &  
Jaqueline Mallais**

St. Lawrence River  
*LA DOLCE VITA*

**Jeannette DeFriest &  
Diane Todd**

Waukegan, Wis.  
*MATRON*

**Brian Diedenhofen &  
Nancy Sudor**

Pickton, Ont.  
*"CELTIC SONG"*

**Jason Dittelman &  
Cathy Buchanan**

East Greenwich, R.I.  
*45 DEGREES*

**Kristen & James Drozdek**

*TATIANA*

**David & Dana Gardner**

Northport, Mich.  
*RUM RUNNER*

**Terry & Wendy Gutermuth**

Grosse Pointe, Mich.  
*DECOMPRESSION*

**Mark Hawkins &  
Scott Ainsworth**

Oconto, Wis.  
*Karl & Kelly Heid*

**Jamie Hibbard**

Collingwood, Ont.  
*WAHANA*

**Marek & Marzena Hojsan**

Winthrop Harbor - Chicago, Ill.  
*ALRUNA*

**Greg Holde &  
Brenda Hofmeister**

Winthrop Harbor - Chicago, Ill.

**Lisa Ann &  
Thomas J. Holden**

Cleveland, Ohio

**Tracy Hollands & Juris Ahn**

Sodus Bay, N.Y.  
*NO WORRIES*

**Tom & Harriet Holleran**

Mentor, Ohio  
*THIRD WISH*

**Darrell & Pamela Jerden**

Lake Charlevoix, Mich.  
*MIRTH*

**Thomas Keegan Ryan &  
Maureen Kline**

St. Joseph & Benton Harbor, Mich.

**Christopher & Karen Koch**

St. Joseph & Benton Harbor, Mich.  
*VOLANT*

**Richard &  
Carol Krummenacher**

Port Credit, Ont.  
*NEVER SAY "NEVER"*

**Tyler & Kelly Lowell**

DuSable Harbor, Ill.  
*FORTUNE'S CATCH*

**Hailey MacArthur &  
Dan Bain**

Owen Sound, Ont.  
*VALAUDREY*

**James Maceroni**

Clinton River, Mich.  
*OTSI KETA II*

**Tom Magyarody &  
Christa Jeney**

Humber Bay Park, Ont.  
*TURUL*

**Linda & Thomas Mangliers**

St. Clair Shores, Mich.  
*DREAMBOAT ANNIE*

**Harry & Renee Mika**

Muskegon, Mich.  
*FORTH MARIE*

**James & Kerry Mullally**

Cleveland, Ohio  
*"IRISH WAKE"*

**Eric Palm & Linda Zager**

Monroe Harbor - Chicago, Ill.  
*SILVERHEELS*

**John & Sharon Phillips**

Fairport Harbor, Ohio  
*DEVINE INTERVENTION*

**Michael Quosai &  
Trudy Smit Quosai**

Midland, Ont.  
*PLATFORM 9 3/4*

**Brett Rabb &  
Line Desnoyers**

Collins Bay, Ont.  
*SOULSTICE*

**Richard Reed**

Monroe Harbor - Chicago, Ill.  
*ILLUMINATOR*

**Trevor & Marsha Richards**

West Harbor, Ohio

**Roger & Janet Robichaux**

Racine, Wis.  
*TRAVELLER*

**Robert & Katherine Rogers**

Washburn, Wis.  
*TRAVELER*

**Paul & Wendy Rogers**

Penetanguishene, Ont.  
*BEAU GESTE 1*

**Mary & Joe Rosenfeld**

Sackets Harbor, N.Y.  
*SAPPHIRE*

**Thomas Sayers &  
Stacy Newman**

Sandusky, Ohio  
*STARDUST*

**Kyle & Kara Schoeler**

New Buffalo, Mich.  
*ZEKE E BOY*

**Micky & Barbara Sheppard**

Manitowoc, Wis.  
*LAST DANCE*

**Alfred Silva & Barbara Gray**

Toronto Harbour, Ont.  
*STOWAWAY*

**Tracey Sitts**

Parry Sound, Ont.  
*PROWLER*

**Denise Smith**

Anchor Bay, Mich.  
*FOMO*

**Joe & Terri Smucny**

Marblehead, Ohio  
*PIEROGI PRINCESS III*

**Mitch & Janet Snaden**

Thames & Chatham River  
*MOONDOG*

**Rob Stassen &  
Ellie Dawson**

Parry Sound, Ont.  
*SEAFORTH*

**Patrick & Gail Tagney**

Racine, Wis.  
*MOONDANCE*

**Jeff Turner**

St. Lawrence & Connecting Waterways  
NOMAD

**Michael & Debbie Walters**

Muskegon, Mich.  
WALTS ON WATER

**Bob & Carol Webbon**

St. Clair Shores, Mich.  
BLUE MOON

**Paul Wenglikowski & Elizabeth Szymanski**

Harbor Beach, Mich.  
STO LAT

**Mark & Laurel Wild**

Racine, Wis.  
LUCKY

**Lance & Brenda Williamson**

Washburn, Wis.  
BLESSINGS FLOW

**Richard & Helene Wineberg**

Montrose Harbor - Chicago, Ill.  
CONTENTIOUS

**Wolfgang Woelfl**

Harbor Springs, Mich.  
CORK TOWN



*Photos L to R: Jo-Ann & Steven Bice, PEARL; Deborah & Lee Castiglioni, NEW GOOSE; Marek & Marzena Hojsan, ALRUNA; Tracy Hollands & Juris Ahn, NO WORRIES; Darrell & Pamela Jerden, Kyle & Kara Schoeler, MIRTH; Debbie & Michael Walters, WALTS ON WATER*



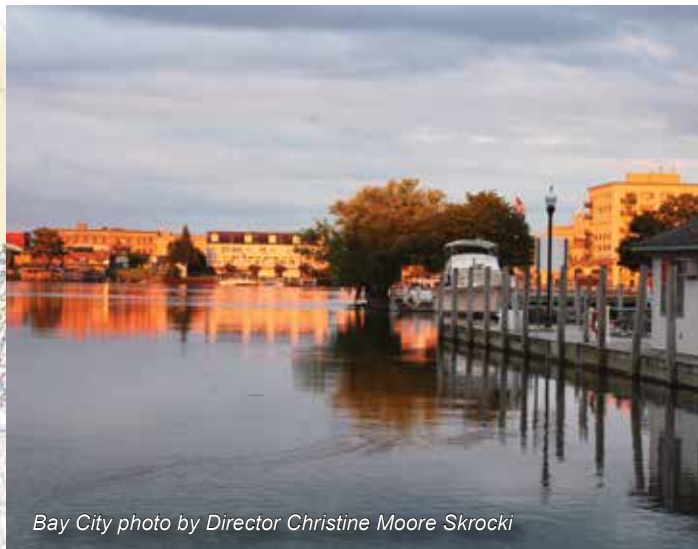
## Port Captain's Logbook



### Port Captains Brian Jacobs & Sharon Hing Jacobs

Bay City, Mich. (H-61)

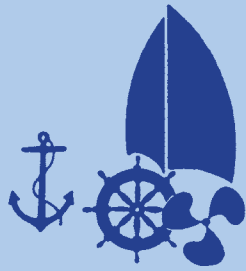
We have been boating since about 1976, starting with a Pierson Renegade 27-foot sailboat. We joined the GLCC in 1979 because we were sailing to Georgian Bay for a couple of weeks. In 1980, we and another couple bought a new Hunter 37-foot cutter rig sailboat which we continued to sail locally in Saginaw Bay, Michigan, and two weeks in Canada. When the other couple decided they wanted to do other things, we bought them out. We continued to sail and raise two boys who also loved the trips to Canada. We joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary, went on patrols and taught boating classes.



*Bay City photo by Director Christine Moore Skrocki*

We retired in 2013 and spent more time sailing, going to the Rendezvous and rallies. By 2019, we decided we needed more creature comforts. We sold our Hunter 37-foot (after almost 40 years with the same boat). We bought a 2010 Hunter 45-foot and have been cruising that ever since. Since we now spend a fair amount of time on our boat in Bay City, we would like to help fellow cruisers enjoy what Bay City has to offer.

We live in Davison, Michigan, just east of Flint, and berth at the Bay City Yacht Club.



# Member to Member Ads

Member-to-Member classified advertisements are available free to GLCC members on the GLCC website (<https://www.glclub.com/forums/ads>). Ads are reserved solely for personal boats, boat-related gear, and cruising activities such as boat-swaps. No commercial sales, please. For listing details or to place an ad, visit [glclub.com/forums/ads](https://www.glclub.com/forums/ads). Or go to the website, then click on the "Discussion" link at the top of the page and scroll down to "Ads." Members advertising items are asked to remove their ad from the site when the item is no longer available.



**Mariner Pilothouse 38 For Sale**  
*Velissa*. <https://www.boats.com/sailing-boats/1980-mariner-pilothouse-sloop-83456> She is in the water at Toledo Beach if you or have a friend who is interested. Walt 419-324-9718 / [wdgrabowski@aol.com](mailto:wdgrabowski@aol.com)



**Catalina 34 MK2 For Sale**  
Fresh water boat for entire life. Extremely well maintained and upgraded. \$115,000 CAD. For more information, please contact Joe Blair at [jjablair@hotmail.com](mailto:jjablair@hotmail.com)



## Port captains needed to share knowledge for benefit of all

We need port captains. Here's why: One of the great things about the Great Lakes Cruising Club is the knowledge of our members. The club was founded by people who were willing to share that knowledge and help fellow cruisers enjoy their time on the Great Lakes.

That tradition continues today in both formal and informal ways. One of the best ways you can continue this legacy is by acting as a port captain.

Port captains help fellow GLCC members by sharing their local knowledge. Port captains answer questions on the best harbor facilities, hidden anchorages, services and even restaurants in their areas.

Currently, the GLCC is looking to replace a long-standing GLCC member who is retiring as Port Captain in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin. The club also is adding a port captain in Manitowoc, Wisconsin. If you or anyone you know is interested in learning more, please contact Rear Commodore Thom Serafine at [thom.serafine@gmail.com](mailto:thom.serafine@gmail.com) or 773-420-8918.



## Great Lakes Cruising Club

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### 2023

##### June 3

Lake Erie Picnic  
Herl's Marina, Port Clinton, Ohio (E-16.8)  
Port Captain Ken Vannorsdall  
937-266-0888 [jibkid@aol.com](mailto:jibkid@aol.com)

##### June 16-18

Lake Erie Rally  
Middle Bass Island, Ohio (E-18.5)  
Dave & Lori Guertal  
330-224-7813 [diguert@gmail.com](mailto:diguert@gmail.com)  
Rear Commodore Jim Ehrman  
330-697-8878 [jimsmarine@neo.rr.com](mailto:jimsmarine@neo.rr.com)

##### July 11-13

Lake Erie Wilderness Rally  
Erie, Pa. (E-4)  
James Dylewski  
561-317-9492 [sv.windigo@gmail.com](mailto:sv.windigo@gmail.com)  
Rear Commodore Jim Ehrman  
330-697-8878 [jimsmarine@neo.rr.com](mailto:jimsmarine@neo.rr.com)

##### July 17

Board of Directors Meeting @ Rendezvous

##### July 16-20

Rendezvous  
Lake Erie at Oasis North Coast Harbor in  
Cleveland, Ohio (E-10)  
Rear Commodore (Ret.)  
Dave and Bobbe Miller  
216-210-2136 [capdave@centurytel.net](mailto:capdave@centurytel.net)  
216-210-2135 [bobbem@centurytel.net](mailto:bobbem@centurytel.net)

##### September 16

Lake Erie Regional Dinner Meeting  
Cleveland Yachting Club (CYC)  
Cleveland, Ohio (E-10)  
Rear Commodore Jim Ehrman  
330-697-8878 [jimsmarine@neo.rr.com](mailto:jimsmarine@neo.rr.com)

##### August 4-6

Lake Superior Rally – Port Superior & Pikes  
Peak (S-192.5) Bayfield, Wis.  
Rear Commodore Jim &  
Deputy Port Captain Angele Passe  
612-379-7303  
[jrpasse@earthlink.net](mailto:jrpasse@earthlink.net)  
[aspasse@earthlink.net](mailto:aspasse@earthlink.net)

#### Great Lakes Cruising Club

810-984-4500 • [glclub@att.net](mailto:glclub@att.net)  
[www.glclub.com](http://www.glclub.com)

42° 58' 30.28" N | 82° 25' 26.26" W



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