

November 2025



GREAT LAKES
CRUISING CLUB

LifeLine
A member newsletter

GLCCSchool returns Nov. 20 with programs free to members



READY, SET, LEARN: Get your off-season started right by checking out the first of a strong lineup of programs at your GLCCSchool. All sessions are free to members. The GLCCSchool offers high-quality webinars and recorded videos on topics designed specifically to help GLCC members have safer, easier and more all-around satisfying cruising experiences. Both recent and longtime Club members will enjoy this year's initial

offering: *Introduction to Cruising the Great Lakes*, with Craig Murchison. There's lots to learn at your GLCCSchool. And it's all free to members.

[Click here to learn more](#)

FROM THE BRIDGE

Commodore Joe McKeown

FELLOW MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

As another cruising season comes to a close, it's time to take a deep breath, look astern, and reflect on the wonderful months we've shared on the water. It's been a year filled with fine sailing, beautiful anchorages, and, most importantly, the friendship and fellowship that make our club so special. Join me as I look back on the summer of '25, and look forward a bit to things coming up in 2026:



[Commodore's Blog](#)



Club sets promising course for 2026 at Annual General Meeting in Grand Rapids

Great Lakes Cruising Club members who attended the 2025 annual membership meeting saw Club leadership take office and participated in the business affairs that an international club requires. Beyond that, though, members received memorable insights into Great Lakes shipwrecks, enjoyed professional photographs being taken, shared ideas for the 2026 cruising season, applauded some remarkable accomplishments, made some new friends, and had more than a few laughs.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Port Captain honored for going above and beyond

DeTour Port Captain Dave Obergefell's efforts on behalf of a nearby boater with engine issues caught the eye of a GLCC member who nominated him for the 2025 William J. Kivell Award. The awards committee agreed.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Log from summer-long adventure wins Founders Award

This year's GLCC Founders Award winners are Mary and Wes Micket. They took, in Mary's words, "the cruise of a lifetime." Their "Triangle Loop" tour covered more than 1,100 miles and took the couple through lakes, locks, rivers – and much more.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Couple receives Bayfield Award in honor of landmark cruises

A video by Larry and Elizabeth Hunter-Blank covers highlights from the travels that prompted their winning the coveted Admiral Bayfield Award. Check out the video in the link below.



Newest Rear Commodores share a passion for the water

Nelson Stone is new Rear Commodore for Lake Superior and Dee McClure is new Rear Commodore for Lake Michigan Northeast/Lake Huron Northwest. Their love of the Great Lakes is strong.

[Click here to learn more](#)

[Click here to learn more](#)



Bill Bailey earns 2025 Award of Appreciation

Bill Bailey was honored with the Club's Award of Appreciation for his many contributions through the years to the Great Lakes Cruising Club and to the tradition of boating.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Dee McClure receives 2025 Award of Merit

The 2025 Award of Merit goes to Dee McClure in recognition of her work on behalf of the club, particularly her contributions to the *Lifeline* and club communications.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Join us in welcoming newest GLCC members

Please welcome our latest club members into the GLCC community. These links connect to lists of members who joined in October, as well as those who joined in July. The announcement of July new members was inadvertently missed due to the August *Lifeline* hiatus.

[Click here to learn more](#)



A North Channel legend is new Port Captain

"The Voice of the North Channel," new Port Captain Roy Eaton, has 30 years of experience to share with this scenic region's

[Click to see July New Members](#)

newcomers and old-timers alike.

[Click to see October New Members](#)

[Click here to learn more](#)



You can help support the Great Lakes with a tax-deductible donation; here's how

The Great Lakes Cruising Club is, by definition, made up of people who cherish the Great Lakes. That love is why the Club created the Great Lakes Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit in the United States. All donations to the Foundation are tax-deductible for U.S. taxpayers. The Foundation uses donations to award grants that positively impact all five Great Lakes in Canada and the United States. Donations to the Foundation leave a legacy that will endure. Click below for examples of the good works the Foundation has done and learn more how your donation can help support our wonderful Great Lakes. Donate now!

[Click here to learn more](#)



Have fun - join the GLCC

Like the camaraderie and events you are seeing? Join the GLCC and expand your boating friends and adventures!

[Click here to learn more](#)



Jan. 23 Meetup Dinner set for Toronto

A bonus to attending the 2026 Toronto International Boat Show is the GLCC's member's Meetup dinner at the National Yacht Club Friday, Friday, Jan. 23 from 6-9 p.m. It's open to GLCC members and their guests. Details on registration and meal selection below. Hope to see you there!

[Click here to learn more](#)



Volunteer where the action is: 2026 Toronto boat show

The Toronto International Boat Show Jan 17-25, 2026, is a great event to volunteer at and get excited about the summer boating season. The hotel room block is now open. Check out all the information below.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Club gets good reception at Annapolis Boat shows

Yes, we're a freshwater club, but even the saltiest of ocean boaters at this year's Annapolis Boat Shows learned why they should consider cruising the Great Lakes next year.

[Click here to learn more](#)



New GLCC chaplain offers a message of thankfulness

November is a month of cold winds, sleet and snow, and weather that, overall, is not conducive to cruising. It also, however, is the month of the Thanksgiving holiday. Here are some reasons boaters can be thankful this season.

[Click here to learn more](#)

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