

August 2026



GREAT LAKES
CRUISING CLUB

Lifeline
A member newsletter

Saugatuck: A favorite Lake Michigan port



The southeastern shoreline of Lake Michigan has many attractions for boaters. Perhaps no port has more to offer the boating visitor than Saugatuck, MI, southwest of Grand Rapids. Its time as a lumbering center has passed. What remains is an easily accessible, highly scenic, and entirely charming resort community with many restaurants, shops and amenities thriving firmly within an artistic culture.

[Click here to learn more](#)

GLCC 2026 events

Opportunities to connect with other GLCC members continue!
Check out these upcoming events:

Upcoming 2026 Summer Events	Dates	Location
Balloons Over Bay Harbor - Meet Up	Sept 11-13	Bay Harbor, MI (M-5.5)
Annual General Membership Meeting and Board of Directors Meeting	October 23-25	Toledo, OH (E-21)
Events in the works:		
Holiday Gala	December	TBD

[Click here to learn more](#)

This was an eventful summer!



Enjoy this photo collage of GLCC events from the summer of 2026, including the Lake Erie Rally, Hop On/Hop Off meetups, the Mackinac Island Rally, the Rally at the Soo, the North Channel Wilderness Rally, and the annual Rendezvous, this year at Duluth/Superior. Look for articles and more photos in September's *Lifeline*.



FROM THE BRIDGE Commodore Joe McKeown

On the Great Lakes, summer is a season whose every moment is worth savoring. For members of the Great Lakes Cruising Club, those seasonal moments are far more meaningful than for many other boaters. Everyone shares the water, but the Club also offers its members a community, a tradition, and an adventure that continues to inspire us year after year. I have a few other thoughts about the Club I'd like to share

[Click here to learn more](#)



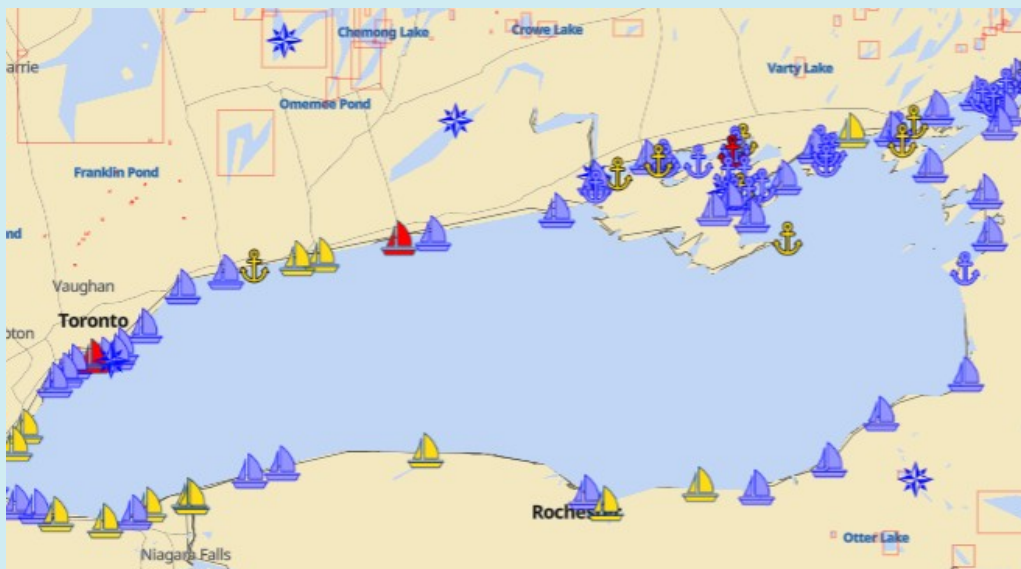
Join us in welcoming newest GLCC members

Please welcome our latest club members into the GLCC community. If you don't know them already, you soon will.

[June New Members](#)

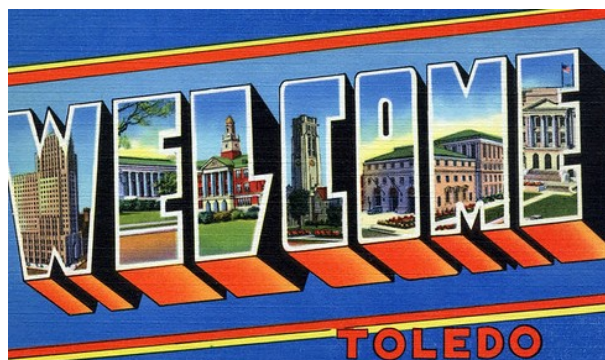
[July New Members](#)

Harbor Reports now uses AquaMaps; here are tips



The new AquaMaps map layout for Harbor Reports has been “live” on the GLCC website for just over a month. This replaces the Google Maps background with a nautical chart provided by AquaMaps. The goal for this change was to provide key details (depth/entrance cautions, fuel, pump-out, provisions, etc.) about a location without having to open each Harbor Report to make cruise planning easier. It also provides current and forecast weather conditions. Here are some tips to get the most out of the new, improved features.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Holy Toledo! Annual meeting set for Ohio

The GLCC’s Annual General Membership Meeting will be in Toledo, OH, on Oct. 23-25. Please plan to attend this year’s meeting to witness the change of watch, reconnect with old friends, make new ones, swap stories, and wish our



From the Chaplain: The lighthouse stands resolute

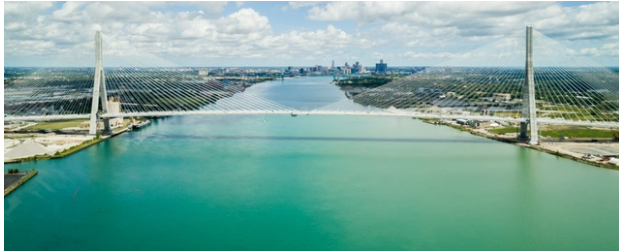
“A lighthouse does not remove the storm, nor does it calm the waves.

Office Manager Yvonne Murray and Secretary Jim Austin well in their upcoming retirements.

[Click here to learn more](#)

Instead, it faithfully shines, reminding those on the water that there is still a safe course to follow.”

[Click here to learn more](#)



New Gordie Howe Bridge links US, Canada at Detroit/Windsor

The Gordie Howe International Bridge, named after the Hall of Fame pro hockey player, is more than a bridge. It is the product of nearly two decades of planning, billions of dollars in investment, years of construction, political battles, legal challenges, a global pandemic, and even last-minute international negotiations before vehicles finally crossed in July 2026.

[Click here to learn more](#)

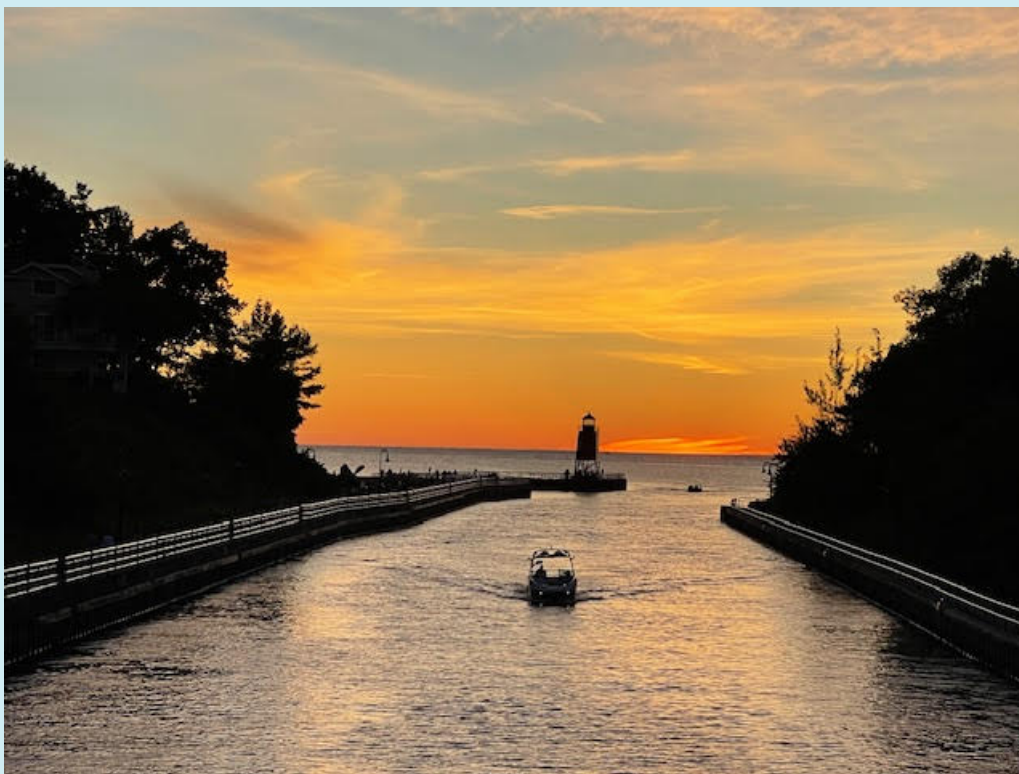


Meet new Port Captain Bill Ditty, White Lake, MI (M-21)

A long and distinguished Coast Guard career offers strong evidence that Bill Ditty knows what he's talking about when the conversation turns to life on the water. His first Great Lakes experience came on Lake Superior, but his experiences didn't end there. Far from it.

[Click here to learn more](#)

Best Cruising Photo of 2025 announced



Larry and Elizabeth Hunter-Blank's picture of the Pine River Channel in Charlevoix at sunset was the winner of the best cruising photo of 2025! As we close out the boating season, start looking through your pics and think about what photo you will want to submit for the 2026 contest.

ON OUR WEBSITE

- * [Eight Bells](#) [Sharon Henrich](#)
- * [Explore](#) a different port
- * [Harbor Reports](#): Your guide to better boating
- * [Member News](#): See new members from your area
- * [Port Captains](#) / [Board members](#)

[Join GLCC!](#)

[More events](#)

[Foundation](#)

[GLCCSchool](#)

[GLCC merch](#)

****PAID ADVERTISEMENT****



WHALESBACK CHANNEL - 28 ACRE PRIVATE ISLAND FOR SALE JUST 4 MILES FROM THE SPANISH MUNICIPAL MARINA

Custom built in 2007, the 3 season, 2256 sq. ft. (including screened sunroom) home is set to take advantage of spectacular south facing water views, as well as stunning sunrises & sunsets. Fully equipped kitchen, dining area and impressive stone fireplace, backed up by an airtight woodstove. Also on the main level is an office/bedroom with its own access to the main floor 3 piece bath, and laundry. On the upper level you will find a large sunlit work out room and the magnificent master suite complete with a 5 piece bath and private deck. Other buildings on the property include a single bedroom sleep cabin (with toilet & sink) strategically situated for your guest's seclusion, a bunkie for the grandchildren and a wood fired sauna. The island's rugged terrain contains mature Boreal Forest for your hiking pleasure, and has a private sand beach tucked in a bay along the western shore.

Known as Brewerton Island, the price is \$1,350,000.00 Canadian

Web Link: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1GvLagwKt7/>

or use this one: https://www.realtor.ca/real-estate/29822894/island-a-whalesback-channelspanishutm_source=listingliveutm_medium=emailutm_campaign=emallistingliveutm_content=viewlisting

Phil Chandler, broker

John E. Smith Realty Sudbury Limited, Brokerage

705 562 1377 (cell)

www.philchandler.com



**Resources and
Relationships for Great
Lakes Cruisers**

[CONTACT US](#)



Share This Email



Share This Email



Share This Email

