

December 2025



GREAT LAKES
CRUISING CLUB

Lifeline
A member newsletter

If you're in need, who ya gonna call? Our Rear Commodores!



Your Club's Rear Commodores have the answers you want, wherever you may be on the Great Lakes. They can help you make the connections you need to ensure a safe, pleasurable cruise.

[Click here to learn more](#)

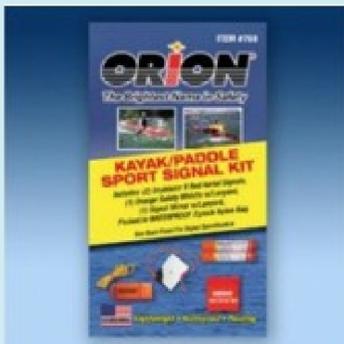
FROM THE BRIDGE

Commodore Joe McKeown

FAMILY AND FRIENDS MAKE THE SEASON: On behalf of my family, I wish you and your family happy holidays. This year, Karen and I are again celebrating with our family in Colorado and Utah. While we are enjoying winter sports, we are still thinking about the summer cruising season. As I reflect on the past year, I want to express my gratitude to all members for your continued enthusiasm and involvement in our boating community. Your participation has been vital in making our events successful and fostering the camaraderie that defines the GLCC. Follow me to the website as I pass along some other thoughts....



[Commodore's Blog](#)



Urgent safety recall: Orion SkyBlazers

Orion Safety Products has announced an Urgent Safety Recall and Product Quarantine for Skyblazer II Red XLT Aerial Signals.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Share your Club experiences at Toronto International Boat Show (Jan 17-25)

The Toronto International Boat Show is about ready to go! Check out everything this amazing show has to offer, and consider volunteering at GLCC's eye-catching booth this January.

[Click here to learn more](#)



There's still time to register for Toronto Dinner Jan.23

A bonus to attending the 2026 Toronto Boat Show is the GLCC's Meet-up and Dinner at the National Yacht Club on Friday, Jan. 23 from 6-9 pm. It's open to GLCC members and their guests. Click on link below for details on registration and meal selection options. Hope to see you there!

[Click here to learn more](#)



Join the GLCC!

Initiation fee waived for Jan/Feb

Like the camaraderie and events you are seeing? Join the GLCC and expand your boating friends and adventures! The \$90 Initiation Fee is waived for January and February making joining the GLCC even more attractive. Take advantage of this opportunity to join in on the fun and cruising!

[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.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Make Plans to go west for an amazing 2026 Rendezvous

The farthest west corner of the Great Lakes promises a memorable time for the 2026 Rendezvous. Superior/Duluth is a boater-friendly, historically significant, scenically unique region. Join others in this once in a lifetime cruise. You won't regret making this the centerpiece of your 2026 cruising plans.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Beat the winter blues with
GLCCSchool's new offerings



January is a great time to plan 2026 cruises on the Great Lakes. GLCCSchool has a robust lineup for January, including *Cruising Lake Erie, Ontario, Superior and the North Channel and Grand Traverse Bay*; and *Solar Power and Lithium Battery Technology*. And for fun, see presentations on the *Misadventures of Maritime Mascots* and *Bottled Goodbyes*. School classes continue to be added. GLCCSchool classes are free to members. Check out the latest GLCCSchool offerings here.

Swash your buckler for Lake Erie Rally piracy

Long John Silver and Capt. Jack Sparrow may not be there in person, but their spirits will be omnipresent at the June 12-14 Lake Erie Rally. Make your plans now, me hearties! Aaaargh!

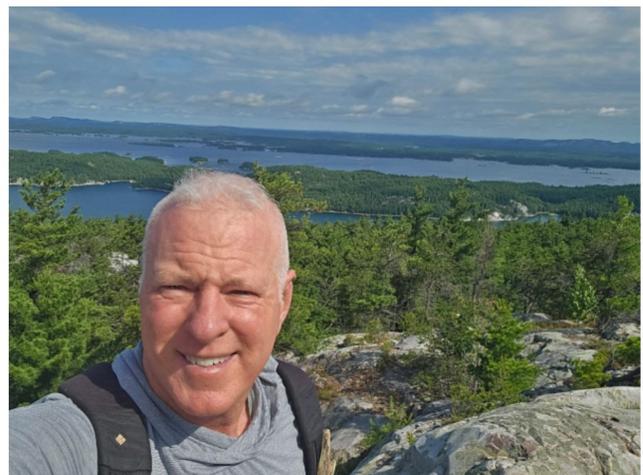
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Newest Rear Commodore masters the Great Lakes

Larry Hunter-Blank is new Rear Commodore for Region 21 – Lake Michigan Southwest and Northeast.



New Port Captain started in Hawaii, now loves Great Lakes

Mark Wild, the new Port Captain of Racine, WI, has been on or around the

He and wife, Elizabeth, live in Kansas, but that doesn't deter them from exploring the lakes, the Seaway, and points beyond.

[Click here to learn more](#)

waters of the world his entire life. Learning to sail in Hawaii prepared him well for the winds and waves of the Great Lakes.

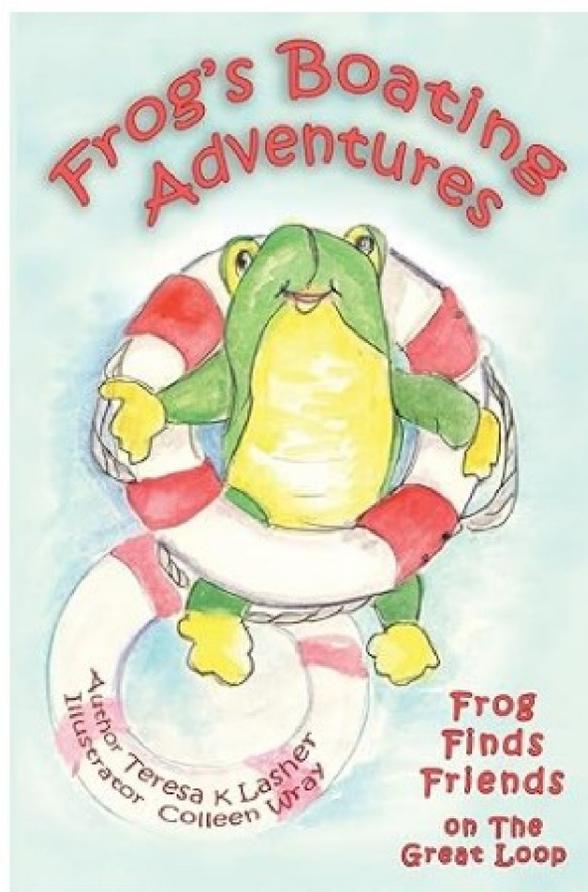
[Click here to learn more](#)



Get an award for cruising like crazy!

Have you taken a memorable cruise? A cruise others might enjoy, or learn from? Most importantly, did you keep a log? Share your journey with fellow Club members and you may be considered for the 2026 Founders Award. Please submit your story to the GLCC office by Monday, March 2, 2026. Details are below. Share that log book, we'd all love to read it.

[Click here to learn more](#)



GLCC Member illustrates children's book with boats

A new children's book illustrated by GLCC member and 2017 Founders Award winner Colleen Wray has hit the bookstands. The story was inspired by true boating stories experienced by Wray and the author, Teresa Lasher.

[Click here to learn more](#)



It's that time of year: Say YES to the GLCC

Don't miss out on everything the GLCC has to offer. Take a few minutes to update your member profile and renew your GLCC membership. Updating your contact



From the Chaplain: Celebrate the lake lights

Winter offers a time for all boaters to reflect on the magic of the Great Lakes: their quiet majesty, their cold stillness –

information, boat name and home port allows other GLCC members to greet you afloat or at home. Renewing your membership ensures uninterrupted, access to up-to date Harbor Reports, free GLCCSchool webinars, and information about Club events. Don't delay – renew today!

[Click here to learn more](#)

and the lights that offer us harbors of hope, now, and for the coming season.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Every holiday stocking has room for the GLCC

Those snappy Great Lakes Cruising Club caps, in white or navy blue, are back by popular demand, and just in time for Christmas. Find them at the GLCC Ships Store, along with lots of men's and women's clothing choices. They make great holiday gifts.

[Click here to learn more](#)



The Great Lakes Foundation can help your community

Many boating communities only need a helping hand to accomplish great things. Our members encourage applications to the Club's Great Lakes Foundation and, in the process, improve cruising life for everyone.

[Click here to learn more](#)

ON OUR WEBSITE

- * [Eight Bells](#):
- * [Explore](#) a different port
- * [Harbor Reports](#): Your guide to better boating
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