

Wisconsin Boating Club

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Fleet Sheet

November 2024



Dates to remember



November 4 – Membership Meeting, Waukesha State Bank, 151 E. St. Paul Ave.

December 2 – Membership Meeting, Waukesha State Bank, 151 E. St. Paul Ave.

December 7 – Christmas Party, Diamond Jim’s Steakhouse, 11811 W. Janesville Rd. Hales Corners. Cocktails 6:00, Dinner 7:00.

November Birthdays

- Margaret Landis 2
- Lisa Marks 3
- Pete Zierden 6
- Chris Knuth 15

Shipshape

- [Planning for a boat-trailer breakdown](#)
- [The difference between towing or salvage](#)
- [How to control pests on your boat](#)



BOATERS NEWS-BY KEITH PONATH

Should the Apostle Islands be a National Park?

A trip to the Apostle Islands was once one of the most anticipated cruises for the Wisconsin Boating Club. It would be full the day it was announced, this was because it was limited to 8 boats, based on slip limitations.

The group would stay in Bayfield overnight and cruise out every day to one or two of the islands to look at the light houses or the famous sea caves.

I bring this up because U.S. Rep. Tom Tiffany has proposed making the Islands a National Park. You would think this would be a no-brainer, because Wisconsin does

not have a National Park, but many local residents are opposed to the idea.

My main source for this column is an article in the *Milwaukee Journal* on Oct. 15. The group of twelve islands became a National Lakeshore in 1970 which means it is a protected area with the purpose of preserving environmental, cultural, scenic, recreational, and natural or habitat resources. The change to a national park would change the makeup of the area and encompass a larger area than the current National Lakeshore.

Some of the concerns are that the area does not have the infrastructure. “We don’t have housing for employees. We have an employee shortage. We have a shortage of police officers for law enforcement in the community,” Bayfield Mayor Ted Dougherty said.

Also, there is no hunting in national parks, so Indian Treaty Rights would be impacted. Rep. Tiffany’s proposal would exempt Sand Island, which would be designated as a preserve unlike the rest of the Apostle Islands. This would allow hunting and trapping on that island. But making Sand Island a preserve could open the island to development such as mining or logging, according to Mary Dougherty, a Bayfield County Board Supervisor and local environmental activist.

In support of his idea, Rep. Tiffany uses Indiana Dunes as an example; it changed from a National Lakeshore to a National Park in 2019. Visitors have almost doubled from 1.7 million to 3 million per year. But with the increased attendance, there is more wear and tear on the park. This is offset by a service charge to use the park, which pays for some of the increased maintenance.

Of importance to me is you can **already** use the National Lakeshore for free – not fee! I’m a senior so I get in for free anyway – but you get the idea.

Local Indian tribes are also opposed. The Ojibwe of Wisconsin were forced to cede millions of acres to the federal government in the mid-1800s. Those treaties ensured that tribal members would maintain the right to hunt and fish in the ceded territories. The Apostle islands are in the ceded territories – and as I have previously said – U.S. law states that hunting is banned in all national parks.

So you can see, something which seems like it is a good idea can really be a can of worms when you look into it. Just to make it clear, the locals are not totally opposed to the idea of a national park, but they would like to have more input than they do.

On another note, I was hoping to do this month’s report on the Milwaukee Harbor Safety Comm. meeting, but as of now the date is undecided. I hope we have one this Fall because this was a very eventful summer.

So I am going to sign off for now but just remember, a can of worms is not necessarily a bad thing, you can always go fishing.

–Your Legislative Liaison, Keith Ponath



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Commodore's Corner



Please read these important details!

With the arrival of Autumn, our club turns its focus from time on the water to business. Here are key items to note.

Since there seems to be some confusion among the members, I feel compelled to repeat ... The 2025 budget was completed last month and voted as approved by the Board. For a line item to change it will require an addendum. It was **approved**, although by split vote, to **discontinue** annual insurance and **only** have one-time event insurance as required by The Boat Show. **This is decided.** It can be changed by a motion and then approval of an addendum to the budget by the Board.

The 2024 budget came in with a positive bottom line, for the first time in many years. The 2025 budget also projects a positive bottom line, with enough excess to cover all expenses, including either insurance option. This is despite of rising costs across all areas of club expenses.

Thank you to all who were a part of accomplishing the work of our club's budget, as well as to our advertisers. The advertisers make the largest contribution in our organization's ability to cover the club's budget. Please keep in mind, the more dedicated advertisers we engage, the more the club can do. Support our current advertisers and invite more to advertise.

Next item is temporary coverage of two open Board positions, as well as nominations to cover these positions starting in 2025.

Temporary Vice Commodore: Tom Fredrickson. He has also agreed to the nomination.

Temporary Purser: Jim Kaun.

Nominations are needed for: Purser and Senior Pilot.

Nominations **must** be completed prior to the next Membership Meeting on the first Monday in November. **Please contact** Mark, Tom or Vince if you are interested in the position or would like more information about the responsibilities of the role, **ASAP**.

Thank you,
Mark Kimball, Commodore

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Membership Meeting

October 7, 2024



Members Present: Robin, Jim Kaun, Chris Knuth, Barb Selk, Leona, Mark Kimball, Traci Koepke, John Schultz, Bette Yentz, Lynn, Vince Verhasselt, Keith Ponath, Duane Delaney, Peggy, Joe Miotke, Peter Zierden, Robin Mosleth, Lisa, Boyd Dittmer, Suzanne, Ren Rodee, Dana, Tom Fredrickson, Linda, Russ Weber, Katie, Todd Memmel, Chris, Lloyd Vogts, Kate, Kevin Moss, Dale Peck, Donna, Dan Danowski 34 attended!

The meeting was called to order at 8:45 p.m.

A motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting was made by Keith, seconded by Vince, minutes were approved.

Purser's report:

Beginning balance for October	\$2,371.16
Income	\$0
Expenses	\$0
Ending Balance	\$2,371.16

A motion to approve the report was made by Duane, seconded by Dana, purser's report approved.

Membership/Marketing:

Dana collected membership forms and dues. If you have not joined yet please send your form and dues to Dana as soon as possible. She will be in contact with those not at the meeting.

Programs:

Tonight's program was with Chris and Barb sharing their time doing the beginning of the Great Loop. It was fantastic! Thank you!

November's program will be at the same location, Waukesha State Bank at 7 p.m.

An attorney will be coming to talk to us about our insurance issue.

Safety:

No report

Cruise Manual:

No report

Grievances:

None

Fleet Sheet:

No report

Website:

The website is current, send any photos or cruise reports to be put on website.

Sunshine:

A card was sent to Barb Selk for her recent gum surgery.

Legislative Liaison: The Break Wall is under way at South Shore Yacht Club.

The Riverwalk construction will start in 2025.

Old Business: none

New Business: There was a lengthy discussion about the Board approved budget for 2025, specifically the line item regarding insurance. Tom made a motion to table the discussion until the November meeting, it was seconded by Ren.

Misc. Business:

A nominating committee was formed with Mark, Tom and Vince for Board positions for 2025.

A big thank you to Russ and Linda for providing snacks at our meetings for the past 10 years!

The Christmas Party will be at Diamond Jim's on December 7 Cocktails at 6 p.m. Dinner at 7 p.m.

A motion was made by Duane to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Vince.

Meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Robin Kaun Yeoperson

Cruise Report

Labor Day Weekend Trip
Todd (and Katie) Memmel, Captain
August 30-September 2, 2024
Reefpoint Marina – Racine, WI

While the actual cruise didn't officially start until Friday, a few of us decided to begin on Thursday. It felt different for us, driving into a fairly large city with the boats, as opposed to our more usual "rural" settings.

Heading east from 94, there was almost complete road construction to the lakefront. Weber's somehow picked up a large "bolt" in their tire, and needed to stop along the Racine streets to change it. Koepke's also had some car trouble. Thankfully they had a few people stop to try and help them. Memmel's didn't have trouble ... this time! Verhasselt's were already at their boat, which they slip at Reefpoint. Delaney/Freckmann and Kaun cruised down from Milwaukee in their boats, and said that the lake was perfect, maybe six-inch waves. After the days that some had, that sounded really nice.

Todd had made arrangements with River's End Marina so we could launch and store our trailers there for the weekend. Launching and storage was \$70/per boat. By water, the launch was very convenient to Reefpoint – sort of kitty-corner, up the river. The municipal launch would not allow us to store our trailers in the lot without acquiring a "season pass", the cost of which would have been \$215.00 each, so we decided to go with the alternative this time.

We all got organized. Most ate dinner in the boats, then headed to the pool/hot tub area for a relaxing finish to our day.

Friday, August 30, 2024

Very early this morning, some of us heard the perfect steady rain on our fiberglass. No wind, just the calming sound of the drops, which lasted until mid-morning. Nobody was in a hurry. Eventually, the ladies decided to walk up the hill into town for a



little shopping. I, Katie, rode my scooter. Eventually, the guys went back to River's End to check out the Ship's Store. It was a warm afternoon, so after lunch, most of us went to the pool. Schultz/Yentz arrived and launched at River's Edge. Sarinske's, along with some of their friends from McKinley, arrived by water about 5:30. Some decided to eat in their boats. Another group decided to go to Yardarm's for dinner. Our waitress did a great job, and we would recommend going there in the future, if anyone is looking for good food and decent service. When we arrived back at the marina, a few of us sat on the dock and chatted while others turned in.



Saturday, August 31, 2024 (My birthday)

Such a beautiful day, and perfect to be on the water! Delaney/Freckmann wanted Jenny's elderly dad to have a final boat ride for the season, so she drove



back to Brookfield, picked him up, and delivered him back to Racine. It was sweet to witness them giving him so much care, a guy who'd always enjoyed boating, but could no longer do it easily. They departed for Milwaukee together, and were not returning back to Racine.

The wind was light so the group decided to take a short boat ride out to the lighthouse. On our way back, we stopped at the beach, located just north of the marina, to anchor, eat lunch, and swim. Eventually, Kimball's, in their new pontoon boat, joined the cruise. We were





just about ready to head back to the dock for a cocktail party, so we all followed each other in. The ride was much rougher than when we'd gone

out. The wind had picked up, multiplied by lots of cross-wave traffic, but we all returned to our slips unscathed.

After sharing some laughs, most of us walked up to the restaurant at Reefpoint (The Reefpoint Brewhouse) where we had 7:00 p.m. reservations. All seemed to enjoy their dinners. We'd heard there would be live music that night on the docks, but I'll simply say it wasn't very "good". Since it was my birthday, Todd had bought some cupcakes to share with the group, so some sat out by the boats and talked while others said "good-night".

Sunday, September 1, 2024

The wind picked up overnight, and it had gotten rough, so we all knew there'd be no lake boating today. When we went for dinner on Friday at



Yardarm's, we'd noticed that they had BOGO Bloody Marys on Sundays. Some of us hatched a plan to go over there for "lunch", while others stayed back and used the pool/hot tub. I figured we'd take cars or walk, but Kimball's

offered our group to hop on their pontoon and they'd give us a ride. It was so much fun. Yardarm's is located on the river, so it was a nice little jaunt over there. We sat outside and most ordered lunch and drinks. It was a blast. Afterwards, Captain Mark and 1st Mate Leona, continued up river with us, and we got to see as far as the bridges would allow us passage.



When we got back to the dock, it was almost time for our final hors 'doevres party. Everybody brought a dish to pass. Since it was so windy,

Sarinske's offered for us to set up the food inside their boat. Nobody went home hungry that I could

tell. Food, drinks, and good conversation lasted throughout the evening. Reality set in when our talk switched from our fun weekend to how we'd be getting our boats back on trailers Monday morning and heading home.



Monday, September 2, 2024

As is always the case on "last days", we started early, about 8 a.m. Those whose trailers were at River's End, coordinated getting their vehicles and boats to the launch. Those who were going back by water, coordinated their times. All went well at the launch and we were pumped out, up on trailers, and out by 10:30.

I speak for the captain and I, but overall, I think we all had a wonderful time. Thanks to everyone who attends these events and brings their smiles, fun, and party attitudes. Another good Labor Day cruise in the WBC books.

Katie Memmel