

# THE 45<sup>TH</sup> PARALLEL

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Sail and Power Boating

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Articles for publication must be received by **the 20th** of the month. Articles may be submitted by e-mail, computer disk or hard copy to:

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General Membership meetings are held the first Thursday of the month at the Elks Club, Traverse City. Executive meetings are held the third Thursday of the month at Traverse City. Anyone interested may attend.

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## Grand Traverse Bay Sail and Power Squadron 2016 Activities Calendar

Sept 1	General Meeting-Chris Doyal-1600	Elks Club
Sept 8	Lunch with the Commander-1200 (cancelled)	Cottage Café
Sept 13	Seamanship Class starts	NMC
Sept 14	Executive Committee-1600	Cottage Café
Oct 6	General Meeting-1600	Elks Club
Oct 13	Lunch with the Commander-1200	Cottage Café
Oct 19	Executive Committee-1600	Cottage Cafe

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### **1 September 2016**

**Chris Doyal**

**Come enjoy the pictures of Cuba from his trip this Spring**

**1800 Social Hour  
1900 Dinner  
2 Entrees  
Salads, Vegetables, Rolls, Dessert  
18.00/person**

If your telephone caller does not reach you by Sunday, Aug 28 please call Donna Daciuk at 231-223-7140 or email [daisy.d1569@gmail.com](mailto:daisy.d1569@gmail.com) by Monday, Aug 29  
(Please let your caller know if you will need a ride to the meeting)



## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Cdr Thomas Stone, P

It's hard to believe and even harder to accept that our summer, and ultimately our boating season, is coming to a close. This year we made a huge effort to hold events that everyone could participate in, even if you no longer have a boat. I would say that even though participation was low, the events were fantastic.

We started with the Shakedown at Elk Rapids. Tom and Barb Lyon hosted a fantastic pizza party on their deck, which was attended by many. On Saturday we had fun with the simulator at the marina and our usual great dinner at the pavilion.

Next came the Power Island Picnic. It was decided to move the event to Saturday instead of Sunday, which turned out to be a very smart move. Sunday turned out to be a terrible weather day.

Next up the equality cruise. Only 3 boats, Pat and Bill Rottman, Jerry and Madonna Williams, and Bill Bailey made the entire trip. Janet and I brought our Lyman by trailer to Boyne City for "The Day on the Water" and then sailed to Petoskey for the last leg of the event. In addition, Barb and Tom Lyon, Mary and Harve Norris, and Mary and Charlie Dietrich came by car for the day. We had a great time and wonderful food including fresh roasted corn. In Petoskey we had a wonderful picnic on Sunday. Joining us there were Barb and Tom Lyon, Linda and Arnie Taddia, and Marti and Jim McIntyre. Thanks to everyone for attending!

Finally, we just finished our August Rendezvous. Despite her best effort, Mother Nature is no match for the GTBSPS. With tents and tarps everywhere we were able to prepare and serve a delicious meal despite several inches of rain falling during dinner. Thank you to the committee members for planning and executing the event. It is no easy task. Special thanks go to MR Gillooly for organizing the silent auction, which netted over \$1200 this year.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, September 1, at the Elks Club. Our guest will be Chris Doyal, who just returned from a trip to Cuba. You won't want to miss that. We will not have lunch with the commander in September, since the commander will be out of town. We will resume that event in October. The next Executive Committee meeting will be Wednesday September 14.

***Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the Friends'***



## **EDUCATION OFFICER**

**LT/C Dave Terrell, AP**

1. The summer sail class has concluded. 32 students enrolled in the course. 10 completed the course and 8 have taken the exam. I think a 9th will take the test. One student had to be out of town for a family funeral and said he really did not need to take the test. I have found that it is not uncommon for people of a certain age to say they have taken enough tests for a life time.

The students had 21 hours in the class room and almost 21 hours on the water. I did cancel a few time because of weather issues. Overall, they made good progress toward becoming competent sailors.

The class concluded with the a terrific dinner party at the Terrell house. My wife, Diana, made a super Italian meal and we served a lot of wine. The students brought some really good appetizers.

2. This Fall we will continue to offer classes through NMC's extended educational services division. We are offering Seamanship and Piloting as we did last fall. We have developed a two year schedule of classes. We are hoping that with two piloting classes over two year's time we will have enough students to have a credible class in advanced piloting in the January term.

3. Yes, plans are set for January. Our course schedule calls for us to offer Advanced Piloting, Engine Maintenance, Marine Electrical Systems and Weather. Sail and multiple forms of the ABC course will be offered in the summer session

4. Next year we plan to offer the seminars through NMC for a nominal cost. I think NMC will give us the publicity we can not get elsewhere and I am sure we have presentations that our audience will be willing to pay a modest fee for.

That's it for now.



**EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
**Lt/C Bill Smethells, S**

Stonehaven Harbor in Scotland. What shall we title it: "Sorry dear, but it looks like we won't be able to go boating tonight?" Twin stub keels make a lot of sense here. If you are interested in seeing some photos of the trip, they are on my or Nicole's Facebook page. We are presently on the Isle of Harris and will take the ferry to Skye tomorrow morning. We'll be back late on Sept. 5, missing the meeting, unfortunately. Hopefully, the Fall will provide some nice cruising opportunities.

We hear via email and weather reports that you have had some dicey weather recently. Congratulations on Boating on the Great Lakes is great! You never run into the situation in this picture of pulling off the Lobster Fest in spite of the challenges! We are looking forward to seeing everyone when we get back.



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**SHAKEDOWN CRUISE—**





## **SAFETY OFFICERS REPORT**

**Lt Brian Nelson, AP**

### **Bad Fuel Is Not An Inconvenience Issue, It's A Safety Issue**

The adage "give your diesel engine clean fuel and it will run forever" is very true. The USCG and organizations that provide on-the-water emergency services will tell you that the most calls they get for assistance start by being engine related. They will also tell you that 90% of engine failures are due to fuel issues. With winter storage season just ahead, don't forget about your fuel tank and the fuel that is in it. Insuring that your tank is free of water and sludge and that the fuel has been treated for the long winter ahead will greatly reduce the likelihood of problems next season. While this is true for both gas and diesel engines, marine diesels are especially vulnerable.

Locally, most sailboats have diesel auxiliary engines which may not be used much. Much of the fuel in the tank may have been in there for years. Water is present at the bottom in virtually all diesel tanks due to condensation which occurs when the space above the fuel "breathes" with temperature changes. Bad seals on filler plugs are also a problem. Even with clean fuel coming in, problems can grow inside a boat's tanks. Mold, yeast, fungus and bacteria breed where diesel fuel and water meet. They're living organisms, and anything that lives makes waste. That waste is the black stuff we call sludge. We know that metal in the presence of water will corrode, so too can a metal fuel tank. The "fix" is two-fold: remove as much water from the bottom of the tank as possible and treat the fuel with additives to kill and prevent "bugs" and to stabilize and fortify the fuel with lubricants and inhibitors.

In decades past, diesel fuel didn't require much in the way of additives — at most a biocide to kill microbes or prevent them during long-term storage. But low-sulfur fuel introduced in 1994 and ultra-low-sulfur fuel that arrived in 2006 changed that. The refining process that decreases sulfur also reduces fuel's lubricity, causing accelerated wear in components ranging from injector pump barrels and plungers to exhaust valve seats. Engines built after 1994 employ hardened parts to mitigate wear, but adding lubricity back to fuel benefits all engines.

Problems don't end there either. "Ultra-low-sulfur fuel is a sweeter food for microbes," says Fred Ruhland, vice president of technology for ValvTect ([www.valvtect.com](http://www.valvtect.com)). Some states mandate or encourage mixing biodiesel into the fuel supply as well. "Then you have an even sweeter food," Ruhland continued. "Biocide becomes not just an option [to treat symptoms], but more of a normal maintenance additive". ValvTect recently introduced a marine diesel additive with micro-biocide, which adds lubricity and a small dose of biocide to diesel tanks as well as surfactants to prevent injector deposits, antioxidants to keep fuel from breaking down and forming sediment, cetane boosters to help engines run cleaner and smoother, and dispersants to control moisture inherently present in fuel. There are several other good products on the market as well.

Removing water from the tank is seldom easy due to access. For most cases, removing the fuel gauge sending unit from the tank and inserting a ¼ to ½ inch diameter tube down to the lowest corner and then sucking with a primer bulb or small pump will get the job done. If you see black sludge in the liquid sucked from the tank or in drainage from your filter, you very likely have biological activity in the tank and need to treat the tank/fuel with a micro-biocide. Your boat will love you!

**JUNE MEETING—**



Mary Dietrich, P  
Charlie Dietrich  
Donna Daciuk, AP



P/C Harvey Norris, AP  
Pat Rottman  
Mary Norris



Barb Lyon, AP  
Tom Lyon, AP



Lt Sue Brown, P  
Lt/C Bill Smethells, P  
Cdr Tom Stone, P



P/C Bill Klein, AP  
Barb Klein, AP  
Carol Currin, P  
P/C Eric Currin, AP



Carol Watson, P  
Chuck Watson, AP  
Lt Brian Nelson, AP



Edy Davies  
John Davies, SN



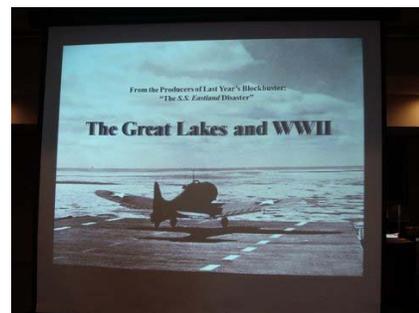
Lt/ C M R Gillooly, S  
P/C Jean Schmidt, AP



John Holcombe, AP  
Donna Daciuk, AP



Nicole Smethells  
P/C Harvey Norris, AP  
Mary Norris



The program for the evening



Lt/C Cathy Holcombe



Lt Brian Nelson, AP  
Donna Nelson, AP



Certificate of Appreciation  
for Barb Klein, AP

**WINNERS—**



Lt/C M R  
Gillooly, S



Madonna Williams



Lt/C Janet Ward, P

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## D/9 August Rendezvous



Whew!! What a party! The Rendezvous weekend started out Friday with a bratwurst dinner on a mighty fine note. Lansing Squadron did a mighty fine breakfast for us Saturday morning. But then our problem solving skills were challenged on Saturday by 2 inches of rain during our event. But, being true boaters we donned rain gear, made make-shift sides for our tent out of tarps cable-tied together, kept the charcoal fires burning under another make-shift canopy, and enjoyed ourselves anyway. What a hearty bunch of people! Everyone who had a reservation showed up despite the forecast and eventual deluge. We had 95 adults and 6 children attend and nearly half of them were from squadrons other than Grand Traverse Bay. Thank you all for being here! Judging from the laughs, tales, and squishy shoes we all had a good time.

Many thanks to Lansing Squadron for the great breakfast! Many, many thanks to the organizing committee! Special thanks to all you volunteers who pitched in helping to make it a fantastic event we will all remember and talk about forever. I am sure that we will hear “were you there the year of the torrential rain and massive puddles” for a long time to come. As the saying goes “the difference between an ordeal and an adventure is your attitude”. We certainly all had a fun adventure!

Donna Nelson

(Editor’s Note-Rendezvous pictures in next newsletter)

# POWER ISLAND PICNIC—



# EQUALITY CRUISE—



July 31  
GT BAY  
POWER SAVADROO  
4:00 Till ?

## JUNE INVOCATION

Our long awaited summer has arrived at last  
And summer in the North Country has lots of class

The Orioles are demanding lots of oranges and jam  
The Robins are making the worms take it on the lam

So many finches and chickadees on the feeders seemingly playing musical chairs  
Then quickly darting away in very loving pairs

Mother nature is showing us that love is in bloom  
We should say hello to faith and hope and good-by to gloom

Thank you God for all you have done  
For creating the earth and our wonderful sun

It is summer in God's country and we are here  
And for that we feel lots of cheer

P/C Bill Klein, AP

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## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS—

Eric Currin  
Gloria Heussner  
Laura Laubhan  
Richard Lavanture  
Claudia Nowak  
Doug Scott  
Nicole Smethells  
Sandy Stockemer  
Jerry Williams

