



THE 45TH PARALLEL

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Grand Traverse Bay Sail and Power Squadron, Traverse City, MI
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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.

Photography

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www.gtbayboating.org

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Grand Traverse Bay Sail and Power Squadron 2017 Activities Calendar

April 6	General Meeting-1800	Elks Club
April 13	Lunch with the Commander-1200	Cottage Café
April 19	Executive Committee-1800	Cottage Café
May 4	General Meeting-1800	Elks Club
May 10	Sail and Trim Seminar-1900	NMC
May 11	Lunch with the Commander-1200	Cottage Café
May 17	Executive Committee-1800	Cottage Café
May 17	Marine Radio Seminar-1900	NMC
May 24	Using GPS Effectively Seminar-1900	NMC
May 31	Boat Handling under power seminar-1900	NMC
June 1	General Meeting-1800	Elks Club
June 8	Lunch with the Commander-1200	Cottage Café
June 14	Executive Committee-1800	Cottage Cafe

6 APRIL 2017



CDR Jerry Williams, AP

Come learn how to do an inspection
Of your boat's safety equipment

1800 Social Hour

1900 Dinner

Two entrees

Salads, Vegetables, Rolls, Dessert

\$18.00 Per person

If your telephone caller does not reach you by Sunday, Mar 30 please call Donna Daciuk at 231-223-7140 or email daisy.d1569@gmail.com by Monday, April 1
(Please let your caller know if you will need a ride to the meeting)



COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Cdr Jerry Williams, AP

Check out the GTBay web page www.gtbayboating.org. Bill Bailey and I have made some changes and there is a link "**Members Log-In**" that takes you to the online roster and the Ex-Com meeting minutes. To sign in to this **Members Only Page** use your certificate number and your PIN (your pin is listed on the stub of your USPS member's card).

At the USPS annual meeting in Orlando Florida, they asked the membership to support the USCG Auxiliary Vessel Safety Check Program. They also asked USPS to increase the number of inspectors and increase the number of boats inspected by 20% this year. Last year GTBay had 66 inspections, Arnold Taddia – 6, Gene Van Rhee – 8, Shirley Van Rhee – 31, and Jerry Williams – 21.

With over 860 marina slips in Grand Traverse Bay, we need some help. This is a great program that allows you to see many different boats and visit with the operators of these boats. The process to become an inspector is simple. If you are interested in becoming a VSC Inspector contact me for study guide and exam information.

Mark your calendar for the GTBay summer activities:

June 16-18 - Shakedown Cruise, Elk Rapids

June 17 – The 2nd Annual Fresh Water Festival, Elk Rapids

July 21-24 - eQuality Cruise, Tour of Grand Traverse Bay

August 18-19 - Lobster Bake, Northport

Only 41 days to Launch!!!!



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



EDUCATION OFFICER

LT/C Dave Terrell, AP

1. All of the students in the Cruise and Cruise Planning class passed. The lowest score was 95. the highest score was 100. That says a lot about the instruction as well as about the students. And the instructional materials. The new Cruise and Cruise Planning materials are vastly better than those that preceded them.

2. I have had an interesting experience in finding out what the real facts are. At the SEO meeting during the D9 meeting last weekend it was announced that the Birmingham Squadron had been awarded \$750 for holding and reporting having held meetings of classes at a certain place. My first thought was that was really important. I thought I should look into this because, since we have a lot of classes, it might be a great way to harvest money easily. I shared this with Jerry and he thought it would be worth looking into. My next step was to check this out on the national site.

Here is what I found out. This is a quotation from the February 2015 national meeting minutes.

"Ole Riise, Brunswick Corp. director of financial services, assisted by Stf/C John Miller, JN, presented awards to the top three squadrons that held the most classes at Brunswick dealerships in 2014.

Silver – Lakeland/22, \$500

Gold – Charlotte/27, \$750

Platinum – Pittsburgh/7, \$1,000"

I have some questions about this: 1. what is a Brunswick dealership? 2. Does that mean any bowling alley or sports shop that sells Brunswick bowling balls? 3. Do we have a "Brunswick dealership" in our area?

The bottom line is even if there is a Brunswick dealership in our area, I think our relationship with NMC is better than any connection with a local Brunswick dealership because we are getting more publicity with NMC and any Brunswick dealer could give us. Further, what Brunswick dealership could give us better instructional facilities that NMC? I think this is another example of the notion that all that glitters is not gold.

3. The schedule of classes and seminars that I shared with you last month is proceeding. Next month I will share what we know about enrollments at that time. My guess is that there may not be a lot of information at that time except for sailing. I have confidence that we will have good results

4. To ensure that will be the case I will be upgrading our processes for contacting local news sources and will work with the two members, Guy Leslie and Dave Millross, who have agreed to help out with publicity on this issue.



SAFETY OFFICERS REPORT

Lt Brian Nelson, AP

Pre-Launch Concerns: Funky Fuel & Funky Lines

Two issues invariably manifest themselves for many boaters upon or shortly after spring launch: fuel and lines, but not the same subject. We are talking fuel tanks and dock lines. Sitting idle for the winter in generally unfriendly conditions is hard on fuel systems and dock lines. Dock lines frequently emerge from storage exhibiting extreme stiffness and possibly mold or algae growth, while fuel tanks may present less-obvious but potentially more serious problems.

When docking upon launch, it's pretty difficult to safely secure a boat in a slip with lines that won't hold a knot or stay put on a cleat. If the lines are generally in good shape, proper cleaning can save many dollars over buying new lines. A recent article from *Practical Sailor* provides great advice: http://www.practical-sailor.com/issues/37_7/features/clean_rope_10509-1.html?ET=practicalsailor:e34405:2249598a:&st=email&s=p_grabbag032617&omhide=true

What has happened inside a fuel tank during the winter is much less obvious and potentially more dangerous. An engine that stalls in open water is an inconvenience, but a stalled engine when docking or approaching a bridge can have immediate and catastrophic results. Virtually every fuel tank acquires some water over the winter lay-up, either from condensation or from leaking filler cap o-rings. Either water alone or sludge from bacterial action and fuel breakdown can clog filters, usually at the most inconvenient time! Again, *Practical Sailor* has some good advice for dealing with fuel tank cleaning and fuel storage: http://www.practical-sailor.com/blog/Do-It-Yourself-Fuel-Tank-Cleaning-10873-1.html?ET=practicalsailor:e34405:2249598a:&st=email&s=p_grabbag032617 and <http://www.practical-sailor.com/blog/Preventing-Fuel-Problems-in-Marine-Diesel-Engines-12078-1.html> also http://www.practical-sailor.com/issues/35_7/features/Diesel-Biocides_5800-1.html .

Do these things *before* launching this spring for a safer start to the summer boating season. See you on the water!

MARCH MEETING—



Paul Gonzalez
Nancy Gonzalez



Janet Ward, P
Mary Petterson, P



Barb Lyon, AP; Bill Rottman, AP;
Pat Rottman; Edy Davies; John Davies, SN;
Tom Lyon, AP



Pat Musson, JN; P/C Tom Stone, P; Janet
Stone, P; P/C Jean Schmidt, AP; Terry
Hoiles; Ken Musson, SN



P/C Dave Terrell, AP; P/C Jan
Hartesvelt, S; Lyn Salathiel, P;
Pat Salathiel, P; Carol Currin, P;
P/C Eric Currin, AP



Our great buffet dinners





John Holcombe, AP; Alan Holcombe;
Lt/C John Weih, P; Lt/C Sue Brown, P;
Speaker Chris Doyal; Cathy Holcombe, P



Speaker Chris Doyal



WINNERS—



P/C Jan Hartesvelt, S



Cdr Jerry Williams, AP



Barb Lyon, AP



John Davies, SN skiing at the
Hard Water Fest in March.

2017 Shakedown Cruise
Grace Memorial Harbor, Elk Rapids, MI
June 16, 17, & 18 2017

Even if you can't come by boat,
PLEASE ATTEND and HAVE FUN!

Friday Welcome to Elk Rapids

- Barb and Tom Lyon have offered their home for a deck party
- 8362 N Bay Shore, Elk Rapids, MI
- MENU** - pizza, salad and a light desert **BYOB**
- Cost for Friday night is \$15.00 per attendee
- 1700 to ??

Saturday

- Coffee & Doughnuts at Day Room – sponsored by ERYC (donation please)
- VSC from 1000 to 1300
- FRESH WATER FESTIVAL** – Upper Harbor Park – 1100 to 1700

Saturday Dinner - Jack Blesma Pavilion

- Join the Commander and Crew for Happy Hour – 1700 to 1800
- Dinner Choices** – 1800 to 1930 - \$30.00 per attendee
- NY Strip
- Ginger Salmon
- Salad, Asparagus, Red Skins, Dinner rolls, Desert (brownies & ice cream)
- BYOB**

Sunday Morning

The past few years coffee and doughnuts has turned into a full pancake breakfast so bring you appetite and join us for breakfast. (Donations please) Please indicate if you plan to attend on the registration sheet for our planning.

MAKE SLIP RESERVATIONS WITH Eric Crissman ELK RAPIDS HARBORMASTER
AT 231-264-8174

eQuality Cruise 2017
Cruise the Bay
July 21-24

We are always trying to make squadron events available to as many members as possible, so we are trying something new for the eQuality Cruise this year. Instead of a long 10 day or two week cruise, we are planning a shorter, four day weekend cruise of Grand Traverse Bay. Hopefully, this will allow members who are working, or have a busy weekday schedule, to take only a couple of days off and enjoy boating and camaraderie with other squadron members.

Here's the plan

Friday, July 21 boat to Northport. Picnic in the park that afternoon.

Saturday, July 22 sail to Suttons Bay. Dinner at one of Suttons Bay's restaurants.

Sunday, July 23 continue south to Traverse City Clinch Marina. Perhaps see a movie at the Bijou.

Monday, July 24 boat to Elk Rapids and a cruise ending party.

You must make your own slip reservations at each harbor.

Important! Should make your reservations for Clinch Marina as soon as possible. It fills up fast. Here's the reservation website <https://www.midnrrreservations.com>

So save the dates-July 21-24.

Talk to your boss and ask for a long weekend in July. Then go to the squadron website or click [here](#) to register for the eQuality Cruise 2017,

As always you can go to our website www.gtbayboating.org for more information

MARCH INVOCATION

God has given us everything
He has given us his all
But if we don't understand this
We are certainly due for a fall

When you look at a tree in the forest
What do you really see?
Do you see the beauty of nature
That God has put there for you and me

Life is so very beautiful
And love is oh so very fine
How can we not believe that
It is given buy one who's divine

So when we look at all the wonders
That surround us every day
We can be assured that is a loving God
And it is him that we should pray

P/C Bill Klein, AP

APRIL BIRTHDAYS—

P/C Bill G. Bailey, JN
Edwin K. Bosworth
Carol J. Currin, P
Mary R. Gillooly, S
Robert A. Haack
P/C Douglas G. Heussner, P
P/C David A. Millross, P
Patricia Musson, JN
Brandon Rinehart, AP
P/C Thomas W. Stone, P
Shirley Y. Van Rhee, JN

