



The 45th 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, or hard copy to:

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BRIDGE OFFICERS 2023

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General Membership meetings are held the first Thursday of the month at Sleders. Executive meetings are held the third Thursday of the month at Traverse City. Anyone interested may attend via Zoom

| | | |
|-------------|--------------------------|--------------|
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www.gtbbayboating.org

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Grand Traverse Bay Sail and Power Squadron 2023 Activities Calendar

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| October 5 | General Meeting-1800 | Sleders |
| October 12 | Lunch with the Commander-1200 | Cottage Café |
| October 19 | Executive Meeting-1600 | Zoom |
| November 2 | General Meeting-1800 | Sleders |
| November 9 | Lunch with the Commander-1200 | Cottage Café |
| November 16 | Executive Meeting-1600 | Zoom |
| December 7 | Change of Watch-1800 | Sleders |
| December 14 | Lunch with the Commander-1200 | Cottage Café |
| December 21 | Executive Meeting- | Zoom |

5 OCTOBER 2023

TO BE DETERMINED

1800 Social Hour
1830 Dinner

Battered Cod
Cherry BBQ Chicken

Please let your caller know your preference

\$25 Per person

If your telephone caller does not reach you by Sunday, Sept 30, please call Janet Ward at 231-492-3038 or email Janet Ward at janet.ward49@yahoo.com by October 1.
(Please let your caller know if you will need a ride to the meeting)



COMMANDER'S REPORT

Cdr John Krieger, P

A quick look over our shoulder reminds us of how fast September is passing. Boats are being pulled, days are certainly shorter, and soon we will start the fourth quarter of the year. That means our focus returns to our squadron and programing for the coming months.

Each month at our general meeting, we try and provide you with not only a good meal, but also a good speaker who presents on an interesting topic. Thanks to the good work of Janet Ward, our Administrative Officer and others on the Bridge, we have been able to do so.

However, to broaden our world of potential presenters, I am pleased to announce the return of our **Speakers and Presenters Committee** which will report to our Administrative Officer. To date, Mary Petterson, John Holcombe and Bill Bailey have all decided to join. I encourage each of you to consider joining them and help us achieve our goal of providing interesting topics and speakers for our general meetings.

With October almost upon us, we return full time to the focus of running the squadron. There are many moving parts including safety, education, social activities, membership, financials and building community. We as the Bridge will solidify our plans and will be prepared to share our "float plan" which will disclose where we will lead our squadron in the next twelve months.





EDUCATION OFFICER

Lt/C Bill Smethells, N

If you have gone to the Northwestern Michigan College website looking for our classes and had difficulty finding them, here is a quick tutorial on searching:

1. Go to nmc.augusoft.net
2. Click on “Life Enrichment”
3. Then click on “Recreation”
4. Scoll down until you find the class in which you are interested.

This Fall, you will find one class listed — Marine Navigation (previously, Piloting), taught by Mary Petterson and Arnie Taddia. It meets 8 evenings, October 11 to November 29, from 6 PM to 9PM. The current enrollment is six with room for more. This course is important because it focusses on good Navigation skills and what to do when the electronics fail (it happens!). If you have been thinking about taking this class, now is the time because Bill Bailey will be teaching the follow-on course, Advanced Marine Navigation (previously, Advanced Piloting), in the Spring, 2024.

Speaking of navigation courses, how about Offshore Navigation (previously, Junior Navigation) and Celestial Navigation (previously, Navigation)? Both of these are available for in-home groups or individually. Always available for independent study are all of the courses that we teach.

Next month we’ll review the details of the classes for Spring. At his point, we know that they will be Advanced Marine Navigation, Cruising and Cruise Planning, Sail, and America’s Boating Course. Seminars for May are yet to be determined (start thinking about doing one!). The College for Kids version of ABC will be offered in June, as usual.

Fair winds!





ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Lt/C Janet Ward, AP

It's hard to believe that fall is here and boats are coming out of the water until next spring. But we will have our monthly dinner gatherings to enjoy while we wait for another boating season to begin.

There is a vacancy on the Calling Committee so if you would like to earn a merit mark and help out with contacting members for rsvp's and meal choices each month, please consider it and contact me at janet.ward49@yahoo.com. "Calling Committee" is a misnomer since few if any actual phone calls are made. All that is needed is to make an email distribution list for the 8-10 members on your contact list and drop them an email each month with the dinner choices and speaker information and then send me an email with your final numbers. Hope you will consider this opportunity.

To the current Calling Committee members, John Snow and I have decided that it makes more sense for each of you to contact me directly with your total rsvp's and meal choices rather than sending that info to John and then he forwards it to me. It eliminates an unnecessary intermediary. So from now on, just contact me each month with your final numbers and meal choices.

The Ex Com decided at the last meeting to form a Speaker Committee to arrange speakers for each monthly meeting. We have a few volunteers but could use a few more. If you are interested in helping to arrange speakers for each meeting then please contact me. Of course, it will earn you a merit mark as well.

Our October dinner choices are:

Battered Cod or Cherry BBQ Chicken

The speaker is: TBD





SAFETY OFFICERS REPORT

Lt Brian Nelson, AP

Do You Have A Throw Bag Onboard?

If you don't, you might not know just what a throw bag is either. I didn't. It is a throwable life-saving device that every boat should have on board, even though it is not required by USCG regulations. Essentially, it is a heaving line, only a whole lot better. If you need to rescue a person in the water who is already wearing a flotation device, what do you do? Throwing them a Lifesling(tm), ring or a horse-shoe buoy is not necessary and just adds to the gear in the water. What they need is something that can be easily held while being pulled to the rescuer.

A throw bag is about the size of a loaf of bread and consists of a special bag containing 50 to 75 feet of floating, high-visibility line. A good bag will be highly-visible day and night and be easily emptied of water. The idea is to accurately throw the bag just beyond the person in the water so that it can be pulled to the person, who then grabs the rope "handle" on the bottom of the bag and is pulled to the rescuing vessel or pier.

Just as with throwing dock lines and heaving lines, some practice is needed to know how to accurately throw in upwind, downwind and crosswind conditions. Practice in the yard, then from boats and docks. Make it part of **Man Over Board** drills. For more information and illustrated instructions, refer to these websites: <https://www.boatus.com/expert-advice/expert-advice-archive/2023/august/throw-bags-can-be-life-savers> and <https://www.westmarine.com/west-advisor/Throw-Rope-Bags.html>

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS—

Mary Adkins
P/C Jan Hartesvelt, P
Cdr. John Krieger, P
P/C Bill Young, AP



eQuality Cruise 2023

We started planning this year's Cruise in January. Our initial meeting had about 10 members who had an interest in going. We usually plan the cruise for July which coordinates with the GLCC Rendezvous and to assure that we are back in time for Harbor Days and most importantly the Lobster Bake. However this year's Rendezvous was going to be held in Cleveland later in July, and several of the Cruise members were recovering from various injuries and surgeries, so we moved the Cruise to start after the Lobster Bake.

After many destinations were proposed, it was decided to go to the North Channel. We hadn't been there since 2018, because of Covid restrictions, and August was supposed to have calmer weather and seas. We put together an itinerary that would appeal to both power boaters and sailors, with several harbor destinations and anchorages. Initially over 12 cruisers expressed interest, so we had to find places that could accommodate that number. Finally the course was set, and Jan put together a detailed itinerary with dates, harbor info, distances between stops, and harbor contact info.

The cruise was to start on August 16, with most of us meeting up in Charlevoix and then St. Ignace on the 17th, but Mother Nature didn't read the part about being calm in August, so we sat in Elk Rapids and Charlevoix until Saturday the 19th. By this time we were down to six boats, due to several unplanned events. A highlight of St. Ignace was being joined by Eric and Carol Currin for dinner. Finally we all headed to Harbor Island on Sunday and Thessalon on Monday. Thessalon has a new bath house with great showers and a very nice community room, so it was the perfect place to watch our favorite Cruise movie "Captain Ron"!!

The next stop was to be Grant Island but once again the weather turned so 4 of us went to Blind River and Fundy and Exuberance decided to go to Turnbull Island. Exuberance is owned by Dee's friends Matt and Joddy Perry, who were great travelling partners.

We spent 2 nights in Blind River then 2 more at Long Point Cove. We met up with the other two boats at Meldrum Bay, then returned to the USA stopping at Detour. This turned out to be one of the trip's highlights. It was Mary Petterson's Birthday, so we celebrated at a pub in Detour. The waitress called her musician neighbor who brought his guitar to sing to Mary, but for the next hour or so he played lots of old songs that we all sang along with.

After Detour was Mackinac Island with lunch at the Grand Hotel. We all departed happy and full for our home ports, which is another story. We were surprised when we got to Elk Rapids and were greeted by Pat and Janet, who decided to get in a little bit of eQuality. Please consider joining us next year. Rumor has it that Wisconsin might be involved.

SEPTEMBER MEETING



Mel Bowman
Arnie Taddia, AP
Lt Sue Brown, P
P/C Mary Petterson, N



P/C Bill Bailey, SN
Ralph Linley



Paul Gonzalez, N
Nancy Gonzalez
Pat Musson, JN
Ken Musson, SN



Cdr John Krieger, P
Alex Cattelan



Lt/C Dan Cline
Linda Cline
Janet Stone, N



Our speaker Alex Cattelan
From the Brunswick Corp.



John Davies, SN
P/C Tom Stone, N



P/C Bill Bailey, SN
Mike Adkins
P/C Dave Terrell, AP



Bob Cruse, S
LuAnn Cruse
P/C Eric Currin, AP

WINNERS—



Ken Musson, SN



Paul Gonzalez, N



Mary Krieger

LOBSTER BAKE 2023

