



THE RUNABOUTER

Publication of the MILWAUKEE BOAT CLUB, Inc. Founded June 1957



June 2007

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COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Well, summer is finally here. With the warm weather we've been having, I hope you've all been able to launch your boats for the season. I finally put "Merrytyme" in the water after returning from my great adventure hiking down to the bottom and back up to the top of the Grand Canyon. Other MBC hikers in our party were Wayne Happel, Russ Berg, and Pete Zierden. My souvenirs of our hike are the two black-and-blue toenails on my big toes which will probably have fallen off by the time you read this (the toenails, not the toes). The hike really was the adventure of a lifetime. Be sure to read the article in this issue.

Thanks to all who attended the May "White Elephant" auction at the clubhouse. The auction was a big success, and the result is that we added some extra dollars to our general fund. It was great to see Jeff Addie at the meeting and to learn he is on the way to a full recovery. Jeff will continue to chair MBC's "50th" anniversary celebration, and finalized plans for the event should be available for our next issue.

Remember to keep in touch regarding cruising dates with your fellow MBC-er's by phone or by clicking onto the MBC blog link on our website.

The LMYA "Rendezvous" will be June 22-24 in Sheboygan. Russ Berg and Jim Heyden are the MBC co-captains for this event. Some of us will be spending Thursday night in Port Washington and then heading for Sheboygan on Friday morning.

Hope to see you there!

Pete Merryfield

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 22, 23, 24	LMYA Rendezvous Cruise to Sheboygan
July 6, 7, 8	LMYA Open House
July 21	Dinghy Cruise on the Milwaukee River Rendezvous for dinner (restaurant TBA)
August 18	SSYC Annual Corn Roast (Dancing, public invited)
August 25	Port Washington Cruise
September 8	50 th Anniversary Celebration
September 15	Oktoberfest at Bavarian Inn, Glendale
October 9	Captains' & Admirals' Breakfast
October 25	Club Meeting, 6:30 P.M.
November 13	Captains & Admirals' Breakfast
November 15	Club Meeting, 6:30 P.M.
December 1	Annual Commodores' Ball
December 4	Captains' & Admirals' Breakfast
January 28, 2008	Club Meeting, 7:30 P.M.



BIRTHDAYS

Wish the following members a happy birthday!

JUNE

- 3 Lynne Happel
- 8 Ted Tiemann, Jr.
- 10 Bob Knollenberg
- 15 Angie Ollmann
- 21 Doug Gallus
- 22 Tom McElwee
- 22 Sue Ring-Wagner
- 27 Russ Berg

JULY

- 6 Gail Vieira
- 7 Jean Bluemner
- 24 Shelly Kohen
- 28 Ann Goodnetter

Milwaukee Boat Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 1463
Milwaukee, WI 53201-1463
<http://www.milwaukeeboatclub.com>

OFFICERS

- Commodore.....Pete Merryfield
- Vice-Commodore..... Grey Halstead
- Purser.....Dave Dorner
- Yeoman Bonnie Merryfield
- Director of Membership Bonnie Merryfield
- Director of Programs.....Jim Heyden
- Director of House & EquipmentBud Martiny
- Directors of Refreshments
Daryl and Christine Grubbs

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- LMYA..... Wayne Happel
- The Runabout* Editor Liz Beaudoin
- Advertising.....Pete Merryfield
- Scuttlebutt..... Mary Berg, Gloria Larsen,
 Bonnie Merryfield
- Dry Dock & Welfare Charlene Zierden
- Club SalesNancy Grabowski

OBITUARY

It was with shock and sadness that Milwaukee Boat Club learned of the passing of MBC member Mike Ollmann on Tuesday, June 5, 2007.

Mike and his wife Angie joined MBC two years ago and were dear, long-time friends of many of us. We send our heartfelt condolences to Angie and her family.

Mike's obituary ended with "Gone Fishing." We hope Mike will save some for us.

DRY DOCK

Honorary member Mary Bykowski, now a full-time Florida resident, had both hips replaced in May. She is recuperating well, and MBC wishes her a speedy recovery.

Imitation Crab Dip

Ok, at the last meeting I brought this and all the gals wanted the recipe, so here you go...

From: Aloha World One Recipes



Ingredients:

- 1 lb. imitation crab, shredded
- 1 Tbsp. pepper
- 1 8oz. pkg. cream cheese
- Juice of one lemon
- 1 16oz pkg. shredded cheese (Mexican mix is good)
- 2 Tbsp. sugar

Before starting, be sure that your crab has most of the water squeezed out; otherwise your dip will be watery. Take 2/3 of the crab and, in a food processor or by hand, chop it until almost fine. Toss all the crab together, add the sugar, pepper and lemon, and mix well. Add the shredded cheese also mixing well, then the cream cheese. Incorporate the cream cheese throughout the mixture until fairly even. Mixture should still be loose. Add mayo a little at a time and to your own taste. Chill for about an hour and serve with crackers and/or tortilla chips.

Enjoy,

Captain Gene

MILWAUKEE BOAT CLUB MINUTES FOR MAY 22, 2007

Following a half-hour of active socializing, the MBC meeting for May 17, 2007 was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Commodore Pete Merryfield.

The minutes of the March 22, 2007 meeting were read and approved with no additions or corrections.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

Vice-Commodore – No report.

Senior Pilot Wayne Happel reported that there is a possibility that the LMYA Inner Harbor ordinance could pass this summer. Wayne will keep us posted as to the progress of the ordinance.

Purser Dave Dorner reported a March 21, 2007 starting balance of \$3,151.58. Total income for the period of March 22, 2007 through April 17, 2007 totaled \$1,304.00. Club expenses for the same period totaled \$1,049.02. The final balance as of May 17, 2007 totaled \$3,406.56.

Director of Membership Bonnie Merryfield officially initiated Leo Wagner and Sue Ring-Wagner into Milwaukee Boat Club. Leo and Sue were enthusiastically welcomed by the membership.

Bonnie also reminded members to submit "Scuttlebutt" items and other articles of interest to our *Runabout* editor Liz Beaudoin. Keep in mind that the deadline is the 4th of each month, with the exception of July when the deadline will be the 5th.

Bonnie distributed the new 2007 MBC Directory to those members at tonight's meeting. She will distribute as many directories as possible to MBC members attending upcoming SSYC functions to reduce mailing costs. Remaining copies will be mailed. Todd Weiler's help in getting the directories ready for the printer was greatly appreciated. Bonnie told members to note the updated history section, area codes for all phone numbers, and e-mails for the updated yacht and boat club list on page 37.

Bonnie read a note from Lorraine Warren thanking MBC for granting her honorary membership in the club. Lorraine is the widow of John "Jake" Warren, MBC's 1963 commodore.

Director of House & Equipment – No report.

Director of Refreshments – No report.

LMYA Pete Merryfield reminded members interested in cruising to the LMYA "Rendezvous" in Sheboygan to get their slip reservations in to Harbor Centre Marina as soon as

possible. He also suggested that members check to see if some of us will be spending Thursday night (June 21st) in Port Washington before traveling to Sheboygan on Friday morning. Webmaster Daryl Grubbs suggested members use our new blog link on the MBC website to post and check cruising dates.

Advertising – Pete Merryfield reported that he is continuing to solicit advertising and to collect fees from those advertising on our website, in the Directory, and in *The Runabout*. Contact Pete if you know of anyone interested in advertising through MBC channels.

Dry Dock & Welfare – No report.

Club Sales – No report. MBC burgees are available for \$15.00.

Any old business? – Not at this time.

Any new business? – Pete Merryfield called for a membership vote on amending three existing by-laws to accommodate MBC's new website. In accordance with Article XI, Section 1, a 60-day notice of the vote was given to members via the website and *The Runabout*.

- By-Law Amendment #1 – "website committee" should be added to the third sentence of Article III, Section 2.
- By-Law Amendment #2 – "website committee" should be added to committees listed in Article VIII, Section 1.
- By-Law Amendment #3 – In Article X, Section 1, the phrase "shall be mailed" should be changed to "shall be distributed" (a generic term which would cover e-mail, website, and paper distribution).

Those in attendance voted, and all three amendments were passed unanimously.

Jeff Addie distributed planning options to the Board members for our "50th" anniversary celebration. We were all glad to hear that Jeff is on his way to a full recovery from his recent health crisis and were impressed with all the planning work he has done. Commodore Pete said he will schedule a Board meeting soon to discuss the various options, and the Board and Jeff will report back to the membership.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 P.M. followed by pizza and the "White Elephant" auction. Craig Hesel and Pete Merryfield presided over the auction, and the enthusiastic bidding resulted in members acquiring many new treasures. There were many comments by members with regard to the high quality of the auctioned items.

Respectfully submitted,

Yeoman Bonnie Merryfield

The MBC “Macho Boys” and Their Excellent Grand Canyon Adventure

By “The Wives”

Okay, boys, your great adventure is a recent memory. We've seen the photos and will soon see the video. Are we wives going to say, “We told you so?” We are, although with definite pride in our voices.



Do you remember our words of encouragement when you told us your grandiose plans to hike the Grand Canyon? Let us refresh your memories as to our comments:

Comment #1 – “You're crazy.” (Or having way too much fun at the “Commodore's Ball.”)

Comment #2 – “You guys are too old for this.” (Your group was the oldest of those hiking the Canyon).

Comment #3 – “You won't be able to walk for days after you complete the hike.” (Repeat after us, “knees, calves, ankles, and toes” not to mention, but we will, your aching backs and shoulders from those heavy backpacks you carried all the way down and all the way up).

Comment #4 – “Don't come to us for sympathy.” (Alright, you may count the massages).

Comment #5 – “We'll be thinking about you all the time we're waiting in Vegas for your return.” (While we're shopping, dining, attending shows, and doing a little gambling).

Did you guys listen to us? Of course, not.

May 10, 2007 – There all seven of you were, standing at the top of the Grand Canyon in close to 100-degree heat, ready to begin your 4700-foot descent. You were dressed like warriors ready to go into battle, armed with hiking poles and 50-lb. backpacks containing quarts of drinking water, bottles of Gatorade, energy bars, and other forms of nourishment. Oh, yes, let's remind you that anything you brought down into the Canyon had to be carried out; nothing could be left, and there are no places to stop for water on the way down. Our warriors' names will go down in history: Pete Merryfield, Russ Berg, Wayne Happel and his friend Ken Schaetz, Pete Zierden, his daughter Jennifer, and Keith Ponath. Let's not forget this would be Wayne and Pete Z.'s second time and Keith's third doing battle with the Canyon.

To do you all justice, it was quite the undertaking (okay, poor choice of words), and there is a two-year waiting list to hike the Canyon. (Now, *that* list is truly one of the Wonders of the World, as far as we wives are concerned). We do realize that the 4700-foot descent (over 6 miles) is equivalent to climbing down the Sears Tower five times in succession without the benefit of clearly-defined stairs. Then, after spending the night in the bunkhouses at the bottom, you woke at 5 A.M. to begin your climb out and to get as far as you could on your 10.6-mile trek up before the scorching sun began heating those canyon walls.

This might be a good time to mention that the trail is not exactly a cakewalk. There were few places to seek shade from the unforgiving sun or from the temperature, which never dropped below 95 degrees. The water and Gatorade that you each carried had to be consumed at the rate of one to two quarts per hour, and quantities of food had to be eaten to replenish a loss of 800 calories per hour. This consumption of food and water is vital for survival, as Ken learned when he had to be airlifted out of the Canyon by helicopter and spent three nights in a Flagstaff, Arizona hospital suffering from severe dehydration. In spite of this, Ken has every right to be proud of himself. He made it all the way down to the bottom of the Canyon and three miles from the top on the way back. Not many guys can say they've accomplished that.



You all said it was the most physically grueling thing you've ever done, including anything in the military. However, all of you said you were glad that you had done it. Why did you do it? You know the old saying – “because it was there.”

You've all been left with priceless memories of the most beautiful scenery in the world. You walked down through three climate changes, through vegetation, rock, and desert, that couldn't be experienced by simply standing at the Canyon rim. You stayed in the bunkhouses at the bottom and ate in the mess halls that served meals brought down from the top by mules. What did you say was the best part of your marvelous adventure? It was the comradeship you all shared.

All kidding aside, we couldn't be prouder.
With much love to our “macho boys,”
Your wives,

Bonnie Merryfield, Mary Berg, Lynne Happel, Charlene Zierden, Sally Scott-Ponath, and Jan Schaetz



SCUTTLEBUTT

Gloria Larsen would like to thank MBC for the cards, well wishes, and beautiful floral arrangement received after her recent surgery. She is doing well and looking forward to seeing everyone.

Clarion owner and *The Runabout* advertiser **Ken Rupena's** staph infection has healed, and he will be returning to Milwaukee soon.

EDITOR'S NOTE

I hope everyone is enjoying the boating season, as it swings into full gear. I just wanted to remind the membership that the deadline for July's issue of *The Runabout* is July 5th. Happy Independence Day!

Liz Beaudoin

ACTION REQUEST FROM THE NATIONAL BOATING FEDERATION

BOATBLUE COALITION ON BALLAST WATER DISCHARGE

Last fall, a U.S. District Court ruling nullified EPA regulation 40 under the Clean Water Act exempting effluent discharge incidental to the normal operation of vessels. The ruling is the result of a lawsuit to halt the introduction of invasive species from ballast water from commercial ships. Unfortunately, the ruling did not differentiate between vessels and includes gray water and bilge water discharge from recreational boats as well. Under the court order, the EPA must establish new regulations and a permit process to enable the normal discharge from recreational boats by September 2008. The permit process and enforcement would be worked out between the EPA and the states.

To fight this ruling and its results, NBF was asked by the NMMA to join the BoatBlue Coalition. The Coalition has informed Congress of the problem and the harm it would do to the marine industry and the boating public. Further, we have cited the need for legislation that would codify the exemption for recreational boats that has existed under the Clean Water Act for many years. This is a significant problem for both manufacturers and the boating public. There are 13 million registered boats in the US and 74 million boaters, contributing to a \$37 billion a year industry. For more information, log on to www.boatblue.org.

Please write your U.S. Senators and U.S. Congress

Representative to ask them to pass a law preserving the exemption for recreational boaters from the Clean Water Act National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit rules.

SAMPLE LETTER TO FAX OR E-MAIL

Dear (Senator or Representative):

As a recreational boater, I wish to bring to your attention a matter of serious concern. A recent court decision has made it very likely that all of the recreational boat owners in the nation will be required to obtain a permit in order to operate their boats. There are nearly 18 million recreational boats in operation and about 72 million boaters nationwide.

Not only do boaters support a \$37 billion a year boating industry, they contribute significantly to other outdoor recreational opportunities, such as angling and hunting, both of which are multibillion dollar industries that are of considerable cultural significance in America.

Recently, a federal judge invalidated a longstanding regulation exempting the normal discharges of recreational boats from the Clean Water Act. Although unintended, the consequence of the decision is that every registered recreational boat owner in the country could be subjected to sweeping new regulations and permit requirements for normal discharges, which includes bilge water, deck runoff, engine cooling water, and others.

We urge Congress to enact a legislative remedy that will codify the legal exemption for recreational boats that has existed in law for 34 years. Otherwise, boaters could face new yearly fees and bureaucratic red tape associated with getting a permit, both of which will drive down participation in boating and outdoor recreation, reduce tax revenues for environmental conservation initiatives nationwide, and cause considerable economic harm to the local communities that rely on boating and outdoor recreation. Federal and state governments would be required to develop new programs to implement these regulations, which would be very costly to taxpayers and deplete scarce agency resources.

The exemption for recreational boats was enacted 34 years ago for good reason — these regulations in the Clean Water Act are meant for supertankers and cruise ships — not your weekend boater on our country's waterways.

We urge Congress to act quickly by simply making the exemption for recreational boats in the Clean Water Act permanent.

Sincerely,
John Q. Boater
Address
City, State, Zip

Submitted by Gloria Mitchelson



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