



THE RUNABOUTER

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



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COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Our February 19th Educational Meeting was entertaining as well as instructive. Peter Zierden and Keith Ponath, of the Waukesha Cruise Fleet, presented a great video (by Peter) and stories of their dinghy cruises on several Wisconsin rivers.

MBC's "Sno-Fun Cruise" to the Milwaukee Museum on February 28th was a great success thanks to Captains Connie and Jim Heyden. Thirty-four members and two guests attended the IMAX movie *Ghosts of the Abyss* and the "Titanic" exhibit, which were both fantastic. Afterwards we headed down to Botanias Mexican Restaurant for fun, food, and Margaritas...a great time with great friends (See the article in this issue).

On March 10th join us for our Captains' and First Mates' breakfast at the Bluemound Gardens Restaurant. Donna Danowski will be sending an email reminder.

Don't forget to bring an appetizer and your appetites for our "St. Patrick's Corned Beef Dinner" on March 19th. Chef Russ Berg and crew always prepare a delicious meal.

With the snow melting, a little warmer weather, and Daylight Saving Time, spring is just around the corner. Let's hope it's a short corner.

Grey Halstead

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 10 Captains' (First Mates') Breakfast
Bluemound Gardens
11703 West Bluemound Road, 414-771-3000
Captain Donna Danowski
- March 19 St. Pat's Corned Beef Dinner
6:30 P.M. Harborside Yacht Center
(A-G bring desserts; H-Z bring appetizers/salads)
Captains Russ Berg, Wayne Happel, Daryl Grubbs,
Dave Risch & Tom McElwee
- April 14 Captains' (First Mates') Breakfast
Bluemound Gardens
11703 West Bluemound Road, 414-771-3000
Captain Donna Danowski
- April 23 "White Elephant" Auction
6:30 P.M. Harborside Yacht Center
(A-M bring hearty appetizer/salad; N-Z bring desserts)
Captains George Graubner and Jim Heyden



BIRTHDAYS

Wish the following members a happy birthday!

MARCH

- 2 Greg Canak
- 5 Connie Heyden
- 8 Dave Risch
- 9 Jim Mergener
- 10 George Graubner
- 12 Dave Schneckenberg
- 14 Lynda Nelson
- 16 Wayne Happel
- 23 Dick McCormick
- 25 Donna Danowski
- 30 Monica Tillmann

APRIL

- 4 Bill Erby
- 6 Dick Grabowski
- 7 Leo Wagner
- 10 John Grasse
- 15 Dave Dorer
- 24 Carolyn Nason

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

OFFICERS

Commodore Grey Halstead
 Vice-Commodore & Cruise Director Wayne Happel
 Senior Pilot Daryl Grubbs
 Purser Dave Dornier
 Yeoman Cindy Halstead
 Director of Membership Bonnie Merryfield
 Director of Programs Jim Heyden
 Director of House & Equipment Tom McElwee
 Director of Refreshments Leo Wagner
 Past-Commodore Pete Merryfield

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

LMYA Representative Wayne Happel
 Boat US Agent Mary Berg
The Runabout Editor Liz Beaudoin
 Advertising Pete Merryfield
 Scuttlebutt Mary Berg, Gloria Larsen, and
 Bonnie Merryfield
 Webmaster Daryl Grubbs
 Dry Dock & Welfare Charlene Zierden
 Club Sales Nancy Grabowski
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 Cruise Directory Advertising Pete Merryfield
 Historian Bonnie Merryfield
 Keeper of the Log Sue Ring-Wagner
 Photographer Bonnie Merryfield

2009 “SNO-FUN CRUISE”

Jim and Connie Heyden put together a fabulous “Sno-Fun Cruise” that will not soon be forgotten by the thirty-four members and two guests who attended.

Some members arrived at the Milwaukee Museum early and toured the various exhibits. The rest of us joined them later at the Imax Theater to view the film *Ghosts of the Abyss*. The film allowed us to experience the closest thing to an actual dive two-and-one-half miles down to the wreckage of the “Titanic.” The reverence and respect shown by those in charge of the salvage operations and dives were felt by all of us watching the film. The importance of these operations was underscored when we learned that in as little time

as two decades, there may be nothing left of the ship to salvage.

Following the film, we entered *Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition* and viewed what had been brought up from the once-spectacular ship and what remained of the belongings of its passengers. It was so very touching and heart-breaking to see pieces of clothing, jewelry, letters, money, and personal items that had once belonged to passengers who had held such hopes and dreams when they boarded the “Titanic” on that ill-fated voyage. We placed our hands on the replica of the iceberg and could only imagine how cold the Atlantic must have been on that fateful night. As we left the exhibit rooms, our thoughts were centered on the tragedy that had happened all those years ago.

Botanas Mexican restaurant offered a welcome change from the poignancy of viewing the “Titanic” exhibit. We talked about what we had seen, and the stimulating conversation, together with the delicious meal, was the perfect ending to another successful Milwaukee Boat Club outing.

Bonnie Merryfield

**ADDITIONS/CHANGES/CORRECTIONS
 TO THE MBC 2008 DIRECTORY**

Please note the following change to the MBC Directory:

New e-mail for Dave Risch & Nita Swartwout:
knot2worry@charter.net

Please note the following addition to the MBC Directory:

Bruce & Donna Scott
 5225 S. 13th Street Unit E
 Milwaukee, WI. 53221
 (H) 414-282-9436 (Bruce cell) 414-491-1656
 (Donna cell) 414-378-3035
 E-mail: customconfidential2007@yahoo.com
 E-mail: greeneyedmama2000@yahoo.com

Boat Info. = Brown-Eyed Girl
 Sea Ray
 30' T260
 Reefpoint Racine W3 - 32

MILWAUKEE BOAT CLUB MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 19, 2009

Following some snacking on appetizers and lively conversation, the Milwaukee Boat Club meeting for February 19, 2009 was called to order at 6:50 P.M. by Commodore Grey Halstead. Grey thanked Gloria Mitchelson for her informative article titled *Important Notice From NBF* in last month's issue of *The Runabout*.

The minutes of the January 22, 2009 meeting were read and approved with no additions or corrections.

Bonnie Merryfield welcomed our new members Dave and Carolyn Schneckenberg. Guests this evening were Keith Ponath (Educational meeting co-presenter w/ Peter Zierden) and Mike Schultz (Commodore of the Milwaukee Harbor Yacht Club).

Senior Pilot Daryl Grubbs confirmed the date of Friday, May 15th for the Shove-Off-Spree at the Seven Seas Restaurant.

Purser Dave Dorner reported a 1/22/2009 starting balance of \$3,325.88. Total income for the period of 1/22/2009 through 2/18/2009 was \$396.00, and total expenses for the same period were \$489.93. Final balance as of 2/18/2009 was \$3,231.95.

Director of Membership Bonnie Merryfield reported, as of February 19th, MBC has 103 paid members, 8 honorary, giving us a total of 111 members. Bonnie thanked all members for promoting the club and commented how often we hear what a friendly, warm, and welcoming club we have. Bring as guests any boaters who may be interested in the club and would make a fine addition to our membership.

For LMYA, Wayne Happel reported on the Harbor Safety Meeting of Feb. 13th. He said the Coast Guard announced an exercise called "Hartland Initiative" would take place in the Milwaukee River and Harbor on May 5th involving 10 rescue boats. They asked that recreational boats stay clear. Also, an exercise called "Red Dragon" will occur on land, June 15-17th. Boats will not be involved, but the Coast Guard Station will be hosting hundreds of U.S. Army Soldiers. If you notice a problem with an aid to navigation, report it to the Coast Guard Command Center at 414-747-7180.

Wayne also reported that Director of Lake Express Christopher Colman is concerned the EPA will try to overturn the ruling that recreational boaters are exempt from the rule that gray water must be contained.

The Harbor Safety Committee appointed a sub-committee to find a solution to the problem of Styrofoam entering the river and lake. A solution seems to be to encourage restaurants and yacht clubs to switch to biodegradable cups and plates.

Wayne also mentioned the July Air Show will present the Thunderbirds off Bradford Beach.

Event Captain Connie Heyden announced we had 32 members signed up for the Sno-Fun Cruise Titanic Exhibit and IMAX movie on February 28th.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 P.M. The educational portion of the meeting continued with a presentation and very entertaining video by Pete Zierden and Keith Ponath, from their past Waukesha Cruise Fleet Dinghy cruises, on our beautiful Wisconsin rivers.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Halstead
Yeoman**

"BREAK"ING NEWS

Milwaukee Magazine this month published a feature-length article about the Port of Milwaukee. Although copyright law precludes reproduction of the article in *The Runabout*, the article may be viewed by clicking the hyperlink below:

http://www.milwaukeeemagazine.com/currentIssue/full_feature_story.asp?newMessageID=24470

A section titled "Breakage at the Breakwater" may be of particular interest to MBC members. The section details the history, function, and maintenance needs of the harbor's breakwater.

Submitted by Gloria Mitchelson

**MBC EDUCATIONAL NIGHT
FEBRUARY 19, 2009
"Exploring the Historic Fox River"
Video Presentation by
Pete Zierden & Keith Ponath**



Keith Ponath



Pete Zierden

**"SNO-FUN CRUISE"
FEBRUARY 28, 2009**

Titanic Exhibit, Imax Film *Ghosts of the Abyss*, & Dinner at Botanas



Left to right: Greg Gegner, Leo Wagner, Cindy & Grey Halstead



Left to right: Jim & Connie Heyden (Event Captains), Sue Ring-Wagner, Carol Gegner



Left to right: Patty Heibel & Jim Palmieri, Dave Schneckenberg, Lynne Happel



Left to right: Carollyn Schneckenberg, Daryl, Christine, & Don Grubbs

**"SNO-FUN CRUISE"
FEBRUARY 28, 2009**

Titanic Exhibit, Imax Film *Ghosts of the Abyss*, & Dinner at Botanas



Left to right: Jan & Todd Weiler



Left to right: Russ Berg, Pete Merryfield, Vance Werner



Left to right: Kathy Werner, Bonnie Merryfield, Mary Berg



Left to right: Guest Scott Burke & Pat Moran



Left to right: Guest Barbara Burke & Denis Molloy

Not shown: Jim & Polly Eastberg, Dan & Donna Danowski, Joe & Peggy Miotke

FIRST CLASS MAIL

**THE RUNABOUTER Editor
Milwaukee Boat Club, Inc.
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