



MHYC

"The Affordable Family Boat Club"

FORE & AFT

November 2007

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Alas, our active boating season is ending. After a late start, the Lake was really great for boating this summer. It's also been an active summer for MHYC with our Chili Dump and Commissioning Party, the LMYA rendezvous in June, a chicken grill behind Barnacle Bud's, a wine tasting party at the McKinley Marina Pavilion, and the Racine Rendezvous. There was also one impromptu water event where three members boated to Port Washington. And now we come into the other half of the year with the October general meeting, Thanksgiving dinner, and Christmas Party. The April membership meeting and Chili Dump will cover a new safety topic: *"Making your ditch bag."* Watch for the announcement.

From what members were saying at the October general meeting, two of the issues that came up are a desire for both more social and more boating events. With the above excellent meetings (plus January – April events) there may be a good way to add more social and boating events. How does this sound to you: 1) on a weekend two weeks after a Wednesday event, plan an impromptu boating or social event, and 2) two weeks after a weekend event such as the Commissioning Party, schedule a social event on a Wednesday? This is where your desires for events can come into being. Let the Board members know—we want to offer the activities you want.

In addition to members requesting more social and boating events, they also generally like the idea of using **MHYC "The Affordable Family Boat Club"** to identify the Club. This allows us to maintain our historical identity and not be confused with other clubs in the Milwaukee area.

Finally, the **Fore & Aft** will be published after Board meetings so members can be current on actions taken, and before the next event. It will generally be about the first of each month that it is published. We are also switching to an email attachment format to shorten download time. If you want pictures included, we're asking you to email Charlie at cbie@execpc.com with your request, and he'll send them to you. This way, if your download speed is slow, you won't have to wait for the pictures to download just to get the Fore & Aft. Let the Board members know if this works for you.

Some indicated they would like mailed copies again. What we need is to know who wants them, and volunteers to print, address and mail them. Let Linda Brown at watermusic@execpc.com know. The current team is unable to add this task to their current MHYC obligations.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 14 General Membership Meeting and Dinner

We will be meeting at the Charcoal Grill & Rotisserie, 15375 W. Greenfield Ave., New Berlin, WI, in the lower level banquet room. Social time is from 5:30 PM on, and the meal will be served at 6:30 PM. This will be another important general membership Dinner meeting for our club and we will be continuing the discussions on membership growth, activity planning, and the club identification.

The meal will again be provided by the MHYC, and we will be having a buffet style dinner with roasted turkey breast and pineapple honey glazed baked ham and of course all the various side dishes to go with it. We will have full bar service available right in the room for your convenience. Keep in mind that this dinner is part of your membership perks, and it is up to you to take advantage of this opportunity. Please note that this meal is a large cost for the Club as there is a \$500 minimum charge for the meal and the room which equates to having about forty persons attend the event to for us to get the most benefit out of it.

We are requesting that all of you bring a non-perishable food donation for the Waukesha Food Pantry so that we can share a little of our good fortunes with the needy. Contact David & Karen Erbstoeszter with your RSVP.

RECENT EVENTS

Racine Ron-devous

There were eight couples who enjoyed a Hawaiian Luau at the Reefpoint Marina in Racine over the Labor Day Weekend. Those arriving Friday night enjoyed a great fish fry at the Fifth Street Yacht Club—nice to have the same waitress serve us again. Saturday morning the Baugher's shelters were set up, and the Luau theme lights attached. It was great to see so many nice Hawaiian shirts, blouses and hats—thanks for participating in the fun.

Joe and Jeanne Kelley again shared their black jack with us--it gets very serious sometimes! Mary Beth won an audio tape of Jimmy Buffet's latest book: A Salty Piece of Land. Linda Brown has been reading it and finds it to be an absolutely wild tale everyone would enjoy--not just boaters. And Al Walz won a bottle of wine.

Charlie Brown introduced a new activity—a drawing arranged with West Marine for those who went up and entered. They also highlighted our event in their events notice, and gave all of those in MHYC who made a purchase a 10% discount. They were happy to have our business and support us. Steve Bucher and Mary Beth Berger won the large cooler—always welcome by those who fish.

There was excellent food arranged by Ellen Baugher, Peg Harshman and Marge Walz. The pulled pork and the salads and other snacks and treats everyone contributed were also excellent—no one went away hungry. Ellen also arranged for us to journey over to the Racine Yacht Club for an excellent breakfast and view of the Racine lakefront Sunday morning.

October General Membership Meeting and Dinner

Our October 10, 2007 Membership meeting was held at the Venice Club in Brookfield, and was attended by most of our members. I want to thank all those who joined us for a great meeting, good food, and fun activities. There were fun activity sheets from Mike and Charlie, with door prizes donated by Mike & Linda. There was tremendous input from the members on the topic of the night which was "what to do to grow our club". We posted the results of the surveys that were brought to the meeting for all to see on large paper sheets on the wall. We discussed all the items and came to a number of conclusions as to the direction we should go. It was decided to keep the club name, but abbreviate it to "MHYC" and add the phrase "The Affordable Family Boat Club" to help explain what kind of club we really are. Also mentioned was the desire to have more events during the year, both on and off water. More details will be published in the next issue of the Fore & Aft.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

We are now in the process of re-designing our tri-fold handout, and will be distributing it to marine dealers, stores, and marinas in the SE WI area. We will also be giving copies to all the members to hand out to dock mates, friends, co-workers, and relatives in the continuing effort to boost our Club membership. Every member of the Club is part of the membership team, and we all need to make that little extra effort to help our Club grow. As part of this effort, we will be updating and redesigning our web site to better reflect on our Club. We will also be reaching out to the trailer boaters and the inland lake boaters to show them how affordable a Family Boat Club can be, and how much more boating pleasure they can achieve by being a member of a fun loving Boat Club. If any

of you have ideas or suggestions, please contact one of the Board members to let them know how you can help.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

It's hard to believe, but it's that time of the year we begin the process of selecting our nominees for the year beginning at the Commodore's Ball in March, 2008. Traditionally, a past commodore has been on this committee along with two other members. Please contact Linda Brown at 414-421-1383 or watermusic@execpc.com if you would like to serve on this committee.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Dave and Karen Erbstoeszler are in the process of moving into their condo, and their computer system is not yet up and running. The October and November Minutes will be summarized in the next Fore & Aft.

NEXT ISSUE: HELMOISE RETURNS, LMYA, CHRISTMAS PARTY, NEW TRI-FOLD, 2008 EVENTS SCHEDULE WITH IMPROMPTU EVENTS INCLUDED . . .