

Westlake Yachting Club
“On the Black River”
Lorain, Ohio

Newsletter
 February
 2009

HAPPY VALENTINE’S DAY!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEETING REMINDER

WYC Trustees Meeting
FEBRUARY 11th at
at 7:30 PM
Location: Jackalopes

The Trustees meetings are open to every member of Westlake Yachting Club. All members are encouraged to attend.

2008 Officers & Trustee’s

- Commodore:** Keith Chafer
V/Commodore: Mike Pollock
R/Commodore: Burt Bruehler
Treasurer: Bobby Rhodes
Secretary: Joyce Rhodes
- Trustee’s:**
- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| Robert Hilko | Pat Swagger |
| Ray Cull | Jason Smith |
| Robert Coffman | Jim Sigman |

Commodore – Keith Chafer

Happy New Year to everyone.

Well, a new year is only just upon us and I’m already looking forward to Summer arriving. It can’t happen quick enough for my liking.

At the January meeting all the new Bridge Officers and Trustees were sworn in and the process of setting up this years committees is now taking place. Please volunteer your time to participate in a committee by contacting the Club Secretary. If you are contacted with a request to be on a Committee please do so, it’s a great way of being involved in the club and helping manage it to the benefit of all members.

The menu for the Commodores Ball, on the weekend of 28th March, is now set and invitations will be going out within the next few weeks. The Double Tree Hotel has a Shula’s Steak Restaurant on site and the food for the Ball will be prepared, in the same kitchen, by Damon, the Restaurants Executive Chef. Consequently, I’m told that the food served will be at a standard above the typical “Banquet style food” at this type of event.

Please remember to Save the Date and ensure you come along for what I’m sure will be a great social weekend. Don’t forget, we will also be having a party on the Friday Evening, 27th March, as well.

Keep warm and drive safe.

Commodore,

Keith Chafer

Vice Commodore – Mike Pollock - No report submitted

Rear Commodore – Bert Bruehler - No report submitted



COMMITTEE MEMBERS
FOR 2008

Finance Committee

V/C Michael Pollock
R/C Burt Bruehler
Bobby Rhodes, Treas.
Open - Trustee

House & Grounds

V/C Michael Pollock
R/C Burt Bruehler
Open - active member
Open - active member
Open - active member

Grievance

R/C Michael Pollock

Hospitality

Sue Taylor

By-Laws

V/C Michael Pollock
Joyce Rhodes, Sec.
Open - active member
Open - active member
Open - active member

Membership Committee

R/C Bert Bruehler
Open - active member
Open - active member
Open - active member

Ways and Means

Open - active member

Entertainment

R/C Burt Bruehler
Teri Wysocki, Mgr.
Open - active member

Fleet Captains

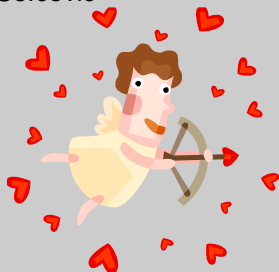
P/C Roger Kubera – Power
William Arnett – Sail

Newsletter

Open - active member

GCBA/ILYA

Rich McKee
Bob Sefcovic



Membership

Your 2009 membership dues are due on January 1. The renewal letters have been mailed to you. If you did not receive a letter please contact Joyce Rhodes, Secretary.

WAYS & MEANS

We have a limited supply of tee shirts, golf shirts, sweatshirts, polo shirts, tank tops, hats, visors, tote bags, mugs, koozies and youth apparel. Also in stock we have our WYC lapel pins and WYC necklace charm.

If you want something in a different size, color or with something special on it, like your name or boat name, it can be ordered.

NOTE: All regular & special orders need 50% down. Items in stock can be purchased Teri at the Wheelhouse or see any board member.

BOAT CRUISES! BOAT CRUISES!!

2009 WYC CRUISES

Our Fleet Captains are now in the process of setting up next years cruises. If you have any suggestions please don't hesitate to contact them. We're waiting on confirmation and will keep you posted.

Roger Kubera – Power Fleet Captain
Bill Arnett - Sail Fleet Captain

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Articles are **due by 20th** of the month.

BUSINESS CARD ADVERTISEMENTS

Members with businesses can advertise in the WYC Newsletter for 11 months at \$25.00 a year. If your business would be interested in submitting a business card advertisement, please submit in jpeg format and email to Joyce Rhodes. Send check payable to Westlake Yachting Club, P.O. Box 3003, Lorain, OH 4403. Card will not be put in newsletter until payment received.

Don't forget your Membership Benefits:

BoatUS Membership Discount code # GA81748Y
GCBA/ILYA Privileges
Voting Rights
5% Discount off dockage at Spitzer's
Wheelhouse Privileges
WYC Cruises
WYC Events
Members Room Privileges
WYC Newsletter
WYC Members Directory
WYC By-Laws
Lots of FUN!!!

COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Interested in helping out on any of these committees? Then contact the appropriate V/C or R/C.

House & Grounds, Finance, Hospitality (coffee & drinks for cruises), Dinghy Poker Run

Contact: V/C .Michael Pollock
ProAutoTruck@yahoo.com
440-323-4468

Membership, Entertainment, Sail Cruises, Power Cruises, Steak Fry, Clam Bake

Contact: R/C Burt Bruehler
burtelyr@aol.com
440-322-1325

GCBA/ILYA DELEGATE

Please contact P/C Rich McKee at captmac@roadrunner.com or 419-797-0019 or Bob Sefcovic at mrsef@aol.com or 330-656-3273 for any GCBA/ILYA related issues

WYC DIRECTORY

Mail changes to WYC, P.O. Box 3003, Lorain, OH 44052 or email Joyce Rhodes, Secretary at jaye@kellnet.com.

WAYS & MEANS

Open position

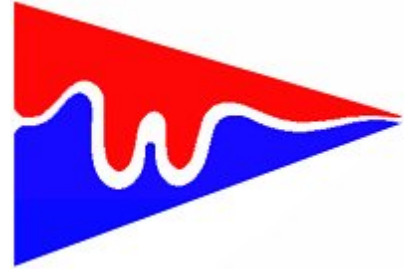
PICTURE'S NEEDED FOR WEBSITE!!

We are asking that anyone who has taken pictures at our event's please put them on a disk or email them to:
webmaster@westlakeyachtingclub.com

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Thoughts & Prayers go out to:
P/C Rich McKee
Dick Kovacs

If you know of a member that needs our thoughts and prayers please notify a flag officer or the Newsletter Editor.



Put-in-Bay JET-EXPRESS 2009 Trip – P/C Beverly Sams

“ Don't Miss the Boat “

The Third Annual Put-In-Bay Jet-Express trip is scheduled for October 3, 2009. The price will be \$55.00 per person and it's a first come first serve on the tickets.

We will be pre-selling a limited amount of 280 tickets and when they are gone they are gone. Everyone who said, they wished they had gone, now is your chance. A group of our members on the last trip found special pricing of \$1.00 a drink and 50% to 75% on clothing at the end of the season sales. Also, the Wine tasting Festival is held this weekend.

Tickets are now on sale and will be on sale at the Wheelhouse in the spring. Don't be left at the dock get your tickets early.

It's a perfect Fall Cruise, Club Function, Anniversary or Birthday gift!
Contact information: 440-324-6288 or bsams1@oh.rr.com.

F Y I

ALEXANDRIA, Va., January 27, 2009 – For boaters cruising offshore, having a way to summon help in an emergency is critical. For years cruisers and racers making offshore passages relied upon EPIRBs (Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons) utilizing the 121 MHz radio frequency. However, with better technology available in the newer 406 MHz EPIRBs, the US Coast Guard will cease monitoring the old frequency on February 1.

ALEXANDRIA, Va., January 22, 2009 – A new online “DockIt!” game is the latest of six, free games available at BoatUS.com/games that will keep your passion for boating alive all winter long.

ALEXANDRIA, Va., January 19, 2009 – Recreational boat owners who paid state sales taxes on a boat purchase, or those who secured a bank loan to finance a boat, may have some tax deductions available when filing their 2008 federal income tax return.

ALEXANDRIA, Va., Jan. 12, 2009 – Selecting the right propeller for your boat's motor is sometimes as much art as it is science. That's because every boater uses their boat in different ways and under different conditions. The January 2009 issue of *Seaworthy* from BoatU.S. Marine Insurance recently looked at why you may want to take a closer look at your prop this winter and ask yourself these five questions: 1. *Is your boat slow to come onto plane?* 2. *Does your engine over-rev and boat seem slow?* 3. *Did you run over a log, hit a sandbar or stump?* 4. *Do you want to go faster?* 5. *Using too much fuel?*

Full articles may be found at: www.boatus.com/news/releases



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MEMBERS ONLY ADVERTISING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members are invited to advertise items or place announcements in the "For the Good of the Order" section of this newsletter at any time, free of charge. Please submit advertisement or announcement to the editor.

Use of Boaters' Revenues in State Parks

Issue

The problem is that the Division of Parks and Recreation has purchased so much new land in Ohio it is having difficulty finding revenues to support the 74 state parks system for maintenance and improvements in Ohio and so legislators are looking at other revenue sources.

Proposal #1:

A legislator has proposed increasing the fees Ohio boating families pay to register their boats, then diverting the increased fees to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Division of Parks and Recreation, instead of to the Ohio Waterways Safety Fund as currently mandated in the Ohio Revised Code.

Proposal #2:

In addition, the same legislator has said if BAO will not agree to the aforementioned proposal, he is planning to suggest that the Division of Watercraft and the Division of Parks and Recreation be merged.

Status

The increase in registration fees for parks and the merging of the Divisions are currently proposals being discussed in regards to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Division of Parks and Recreation budget in the biennial budget bill.

The Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review is reviewing the parking fee rule on March 7, 2005.

In regards to registration fees, BAO is on record as willing to support a nominal increase in boat registration fees to maintain current levels of service in the Division of Watercraft's safety and law enforcement programs; however, no such provision is included in the biennial budget bill at the current time.

In regards to merging the Division of Parks and Recreation and the Division of Watercraft, this would not do anything to reduce actual costs and, therefore, would have no positive impact on our state budget problems. Both Divisions would be expected to maintain its appropriate levels of services to all Ohioans. The Division of Watercraft is entirely a user-pay, user-benefit system, solely supported with boater money through the Waterway Safety Fund, never receiving any General Revenue Funds; moreover, the Ohio Revised Code is very clear and specific as to where these funds come from and how they can be used.

BAO Position

Any proposal that would raise boater registration fees and then divert them to the Division of Parks and Recreation or any other use draws our strongest opposition for the following reasons:

- Such a proposal would not be just "raising a fee" it would be a highly discriminatory tax imposed on one class of citizens, boaters.
- Ohio boaters currently contribute millions of dollars annually to the operations of Ohio's State Parks through the Ohio Waterway Safety Fund, which is funded solely by boaters in terms of dredging monies, on-water marine patrols, and monies earmarked for capital improvements.
- Boaters already directly contribute significantly to our State Parks. To single boaters out for another tax for Parks simply isn't reasonable.
-

Any proposal to merge the Division of Watercraft with the Division of Parks and Recreation would be opposed by the BAO since it would simply fail to recognize the unique and necessary services each of these Divisions must deliver to all Ohioans. In addition, a comprehensive examination of revenue going into and coming from all marinas in State Parks is needed to determine if Ohio's boaters and the Ohio Waterways Safety Fund are receiving fair and reasonable treatment under existing methods of operation and Park policies. If it is determined that new policies are needed, than such action should be pursued. BAO is in favor of some other mechanism, as a dedicated revenue stream to fund the Division of Parks and Recreation and have been neutral on the parking issue; however, BAO would favor user fees in state parks, as parking fees over taking watercraft dollars. According to one legislator, a \$2.50 check off on motor vehicle registrations would raise at least twice what the park fee will generate.

Action You Can Take

Tell your legislator you are opposed to raising boater registration fees and then divert them to the Division of Parks and Recreation and you are opposed to merging the two Divisions.

W Y C's Calendar of Events for 2009	
FEBRUARY	
February 11	WYC Trustee's Meeting at Jackalopes 7:30 p.m.
February 14	Valentines Day

