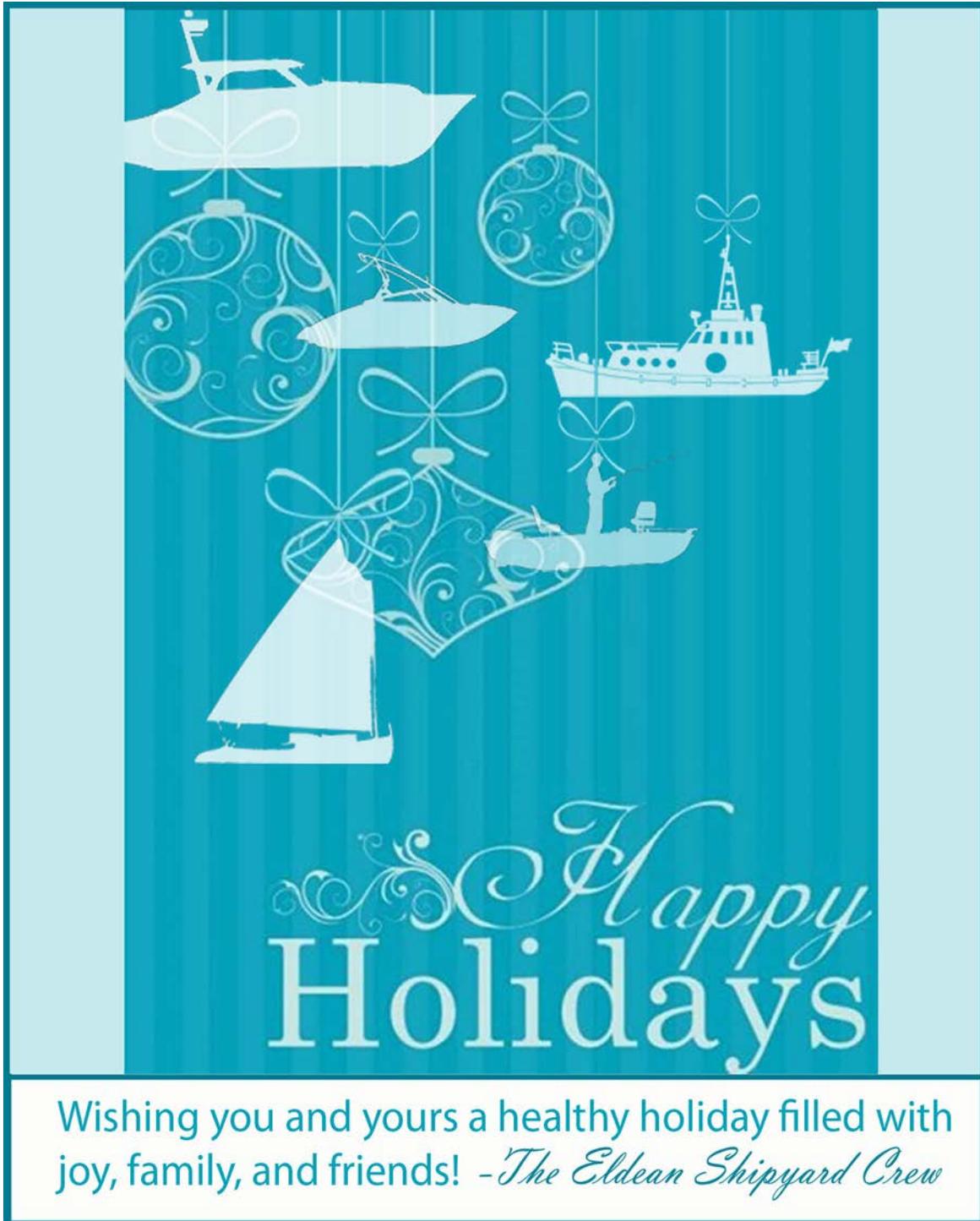


ELDEANews

December 2016

INTERESTING STUFF FROM WADE



Thank you for choosing Eldean Shipyard!

Eldean Shipyard, 2223 South Shore Drive, Macatawa, MI 49434
616-335-5843 fax: 616-335-5848 www.eldean.com email: wade@eldean.com

Holiday Sale!

December 1 to December 31

Stop by the Shipstore to shop for this year's Christmas Gifts.

We have received our **new Gill products** for 2017 and have offered them on sale at 20% off during the Holiday Season. Stop by to check out the foul weather gear, assorted tops for layering/warmth, and sailing gloves.

The remaining 2016 Clothing is also on sale!

Harbor View Lofts - Residences

The first unit in the former Piper building was finished this past summer and is leased out on a long term basis. The second unit will be completed in the spring and will be available for weekly rental this summer. If you are interested in a weekly rental or a long-term lease of one of the waterfront residences, please let me know. As for a possible new restaurant on the ground level, a lease is also available. If you know someone in the restaurant business, please let them know about this great opportunity. In the meantime, the **Big Red Stop** is planning extended hours and a larger menu for next summer!

Winter Storage & Repair...

If you are new to our facility, you may not know that we have a complete service and repair department. Our professional staff, with over **250 years of combined experience**, is ready to help. We have technicians that specialize in the following areas: Paint, Varnish, Fiberglass, Gelcoat, Carpentry, Restoration, Sailboat Rigging, Electronics, Engine, Mechanical, Canvas, and Upholstery.

We are currently scheduling NOW for work orders to be done on your boats this winter. Don't wait to the last minute to call us or we run the risk of not being able to complete the work before the launch season.

Please contact [Matt Eldean](#) with any of your service needs or questions

Marine Labor Shortage...

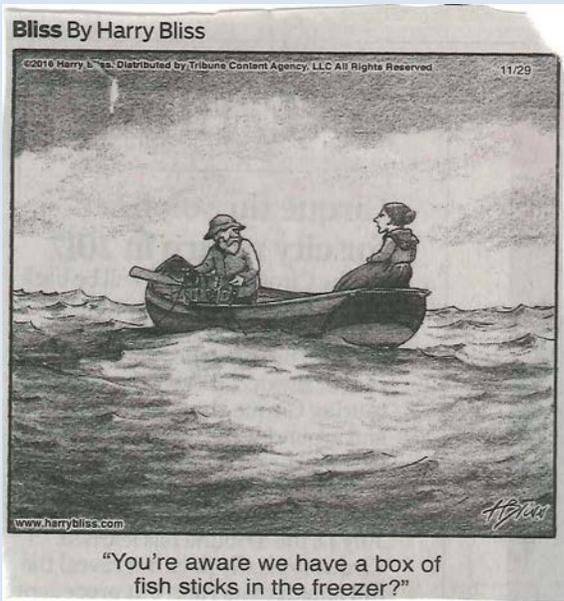
Most boaters have, at one time or another, experienced slow responses, long waits, and generally poor service from a marina, dealership, or boat repair facility. Believe it or not, there's even been a few problems at our yard 😊. There can be a variety of underlying problems that affect the customers overall service experience, such as timeliness, communication, quality, personality, cost, etc.

Looking into the issue of Marine Labor for the first time, the Marina Retailers Association of the Americas (MRAA) conducted a labor assessment of Boat and Motor Dealers in North America. The findings may not surprise you: ***The Marine Industry is in an unprecedented workforce crises!*** "What this study tells us is that our industry is facing a workforce crisis unlike it's ever seen before," MRAA president Matt Gruhn said in a statement. "Dealers are operating their businesses at less than 80 percent of their staffing needs and they expect to need even more employees over the course of the next three years. This problem is only getting worse as baby boomers are retiring from the workforce and our industry finds itself needing even more employees in order to support its current growth trajectory."

We've seen this first hand in Macatawa as job openings take longer to fill or even remain unfilled at our business. In West Michigan, all one must do is look in the newspaper or storefront windows to see the abundance of job openings in our area. Unfortunately, as the MRAA study predicts, the Marine Industry will continue to have a labor shortage for years until more people are trained in our industry and enter the marine labor market.

So what can a boater do? One can help by encouraging young people to get training and education in the boating industry (*We sure like working around boats and the water!*). Taking a child or young adult for a boat ride is a sure-fire way to help break the ice and peek their interest in our industry - and it's easy to do! Try to make it a goal to introduce someone new to the water this summer!

Got FISH? -A few fish stories:



Thanks for submitting this comic Fred Gorr

Fish Stocking Fluctuations...

Once again, the stocked Chinook (King) Salmon numbers will be reduced for 2017. The Michigan DNR has put together a video to help explain the concerns and goals of their stocking programs; [click here](#). For additional MDNR announcements on stocking [click here](#).

Condoms are also Bobbers. Really?

[Click to](#) see how creative Cubans find the fish!

NYC Whale Watching!

[Click to](#) learn why Whales are swimming up the Hudson and hanging out on the Jersey Shore.

China won't be fishing the Bahamas

[Click to](#) learn more about the reported \$2.1 Billion deal that was turned down.

Reef Projects help Detroit Sturgeon

To see how artificial reefs have been built in the Detroit and St. Clair Rivers to help restore our Sturgeon population [click here](#).

Free Gym Memberships!

Don't forget, we've partnered with Family Fitness to offer you a free gym membership when you are a slip customer – [Click for Details](#). **Stay active this winter!**

In Memoriam -

Richard (Dick) Plowman passed away suddenly this past September. Dick, wife Vickie, and their family have been sailing out of Eldean Shipyard for as long as I can remember. There summer tenancy in Macatawa goes back further than our computer records, however, I still can remember



helping Dick in our Shipstore over 25 years ago when I was in Junior High School. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family. For more information or to share a memory, please see his [obituary page](#).

Give your Kayak a lift!



These neat little kayak lifts not only safely make launching your kayak more convenient, they include a ladder to help you get in and out of the kayak from a dock or seawall. I recently installed one of the 7 step lifts near the Boathouse for our vacation renters. (this 7 step version can launch the Kayak up and down 6 feet). The lifts start at \$1495 plus shipping & tax. If your slip is large enough we may be able install the lift for you in your slip. Just [let me know](#) if you are interested or would like more information.

It doesn't get any better!



On this calm and sunny summer afternoon, Ric (A-24), headed out a few miles on Lake Michigan, turned the engines off and enjoyed a paddleboard cruise away from it all. It's moments like these that keep us coming back to the water!

I've got a fever...

I got a fever, and the only prescription is more Nature! Are you sick, stressed, depressed, or just out-of-sorts? Maybe you need a prescription for nature. [Click here for this hilarious clip](#) on the prescription for nature. And, if you missed my "I got a fever" reference at the beginning, watch this classic Christopher Walken/Will Ferrell, [Saturday Night Live video](#).

DOCKWA Reservations...

Visiting boaters will now be able to reserve a slip at Eldean Shipyard using [DOCKWA](#), the transient slip app and reservation service. DOCKWA provides a more streamlined reservation service so that boaters have more marina information at their fingertips and they can quickly and easily reserve and pay for a transient slip. The DOCKWA platform was new to the Great Lakes last year and they have quickly rolled out their service to several marinas on Lake Michigan including all of the Chicago Harbors.

Movie Night!



After a multi-year sabbatical, movie night returned to the Z-dock picnic area. On Saturday nights in August and September, Tim and Julie (Z-46), would host a movie. They had a lot of fun watching mostly nautically inspired movies. I'd bet that movie night will continue next summer!

Come Sail with Us. Virtually...

Kevin and Deb (D-38) have invited the world to a virtual sailing experience with them aboard their 1974 Tartan 34C sailboat. [Watch their short YouTube video](#) that takes you from the marina out to the lake & back. The video provides non-boaters a little glimpse of what we find so special. Kevin did a great job with the video. With the advent of virtual reality glasses, maybe Kevin and Deb can make the next one a 3D VR experience?

WATER LEVELS...

[Click here](#) to take a look at the Government's water level predictions. The Lake has already dropped a foot this fall/winter which is a good sign for the marina. With the water going down right now it should put us at a good level for next summer. If it does go up we would face some challenges with the docks being too low or some even under water. My prediction is that we will have a similar water level next summer as we did this year and we will not need to raise any docks.

From Holland Yacht Sales...

As we embark on the 2017 boating season I thought it might be helpful to talk about flag etiquette. Many of us fly various flags on our boats. Here are some basic guidelines for flags, most of which come from the United States Power Squadron Code that is based on long-standing traditions that go back over 300 years.

The U.S. national ensign, sometimes called "50-star" or "Old Glory," is the proper and preferred flag for all U.S. vessels. Your boat should wear it from 0800 until sunset, and when you enter or leave port during daylight or at night, weather and rig permitting. While in port, if you leave your boat and will not return before sunset, lower and stow the national ensign before you go.

The national ensign worn by a vessel must be the flag of her registry—not necessarily that of the owner or operator.

Generally you should fly it from the flagstaff at your boat's stern. If your boat has an overhanging boom, an outboard motor, or rudder your flagstaff may be offset to starboard (preferably) from your boat's centerline.

Flags are often too small. When your purchase your flags, use the following guidelines, rounding up to the next larger commercially available size when necessary. The national ensign flown at a flag staff at the stern of your boat should be one inch on the fly for each foot of overall boat length. Another popular flag is the United States Yacht ensign (rather than the 50 stars like the US national ensign it has thirteen stars around an anchor). This ensign may be flown in place of the National ensign but must never be flown in international or foreign waters since it has no standing as a national ensign.

This coming season let's enjoy our boats and fly our flags!

Best regards,

Henry DeJong
Phone: 616-335-3144
Cell: 616-443-1435
E-mail: hysinc@gmail.com



Sailboat Racing...

News from the LMSRF:

AREA IV CONSIDERATIONS by Grant Cheney: LMSRF Area IV Vice Commodore Muskegon Yacht Club is considering establishing a race that is concurrent with the Queen's Cup. Their leadership feels that their members are better served by having a race that always finishes in Muskegon each year, as opposed to the rotating finish ports South Shore Yacht Club is using as their model. The name of this race is to be determined, however "Trans Michigan Race" may be resurrected as the title for this event.

The Tripp Memorial Cup (LMSRF Area IV's lone sponsored event) will start in Holland, Michigan, in 2017 on June 21. This serves as a mid-point on the shoreline for all Area IV boats that want to have a fun race, as a way to deliver their boats for either the Queen's Cup or the Muskegon event.

Offshore race participation and total numbers of competitors in Area IV events increased slightly year over year, around 5% according to yacht club reports.

Good news: A few "new" events are being discussed for 2017. There may be an offshore one-design weekend on July 22-23 for those boats returning to Area IV and Area III after the Chicago-Mackinac race that are not doing the Bayview Mackinac or Harbor Spring Regatta – stay tuned. Junior sailing and racing continues to grow and set participation records at member clubs. Most clubs are actively putting program in place to "retain" these youth sailors and transition them to adult sailing program-inshore one-design and offshore. We will be revamping the Area IV Boat of the Year series to reflect some of the newer events in the area and allow for "throw outs" so people are encouraged to enter that may not travel much beyond their own ports – which is a reality of today's racing. Looking to add more fun, pursuit or non-windward-leeward events for 2017 that may overlap with current events in the area or may be standalone events. Weeknight and casual racing/sailing is a growing desire in our area.

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Great Lake Cruising Club

The Great Lakes Cruising Club (GLCC) is a phenomenal resource! Besides having a wealth of hands-on information and contacts in & on the Great Lakes, the GLCC also has classes. Webinars and classroom learning are offered on a variety of subjects. There are three webinars on their January, 2017 calendar: Cruising Georgian Bay's Thirty Thousand Islands, Introduction to Cruising Lake Superior, and Introduction to Marina Radar. Go to glclub.com for more information.

Jefferson Beach Yacht Sales...



Honesty, integrity, skilled and experienced boaters...that describes the team of professionals at Jefferson Beach Yacht Sales (JBYS). You'll recall that in early 2015, JBYS opened their sixth Great Lakes location at Eldean Shipyard. JBYS VP, Erik Krueger, opened the Eldean office and the staff at this location has since grown. Jody Clemons joined the team in mid-2015 and serves as the company's business manager. Jody has been working in the marine industry for over a decade and has extensive knowledge and expertise handling customer needs from the beginning of a sale to closing. Another new JBYS crew member at the Eldean location is Mathew Ginsberg. Matt joined JBYS as a sales and brokerage professional and has been involved in boating his entire life. Matt is also a USCG Captain.

Jefferson Beach Yacht Sales represents the finest new boat brands in the industry; JBYS is the oldest Viking Yacht dealer in the world, the oldest Sunseeker dealer in the country, and

among the oldest Princess dealers in the country. Other brands in the line-up include Absolute, Carver/Marquis, Duffy Electric Boats, Williams Jet Tenders and Novurania. Of course, JBYS also offers brokerage services, so whether you're looking to buy new or used, or to sell your current boat, stop in the office and discuss your needs with Erik or Matt.

With six Great Lakes locations, including service to Ontario, Canada, and over 40 years of experience, JBYS is well positioned to service boaters throughout the Great Lakes Region. Recognized locally, nationally and globally for excellence, the JBYS team maintains the highest industry standards and delivers only the finest quality service and customer care. Jefferson Beach Yacht Sales takes great pride in delivering the boating lifestyle you deserve!

Stop in and see us or visit us online at

www.jbys.com.

Erik Krueger 866-490-5297 ext 191 /

erikkrueger@jbys.com

Matt Ginsberg 866-490-5297 x196 /

mginsberg@jbys.com

Let JBYS take you to the water!

State harbors offer slip-specific reservations in 2017 pilot program...

A new pilot program from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources now allows



boaters to make slip-specific reservations in select Michigan state harbors during the 2017 season. The five facilities participating in the pilot project are:

William G. Milliken State Harbor, Straits State Harbor, Grand Haven Marina, Lake St. Clair Marina, and Saint Clair Boat Harbor. Under the pilot program, boaters have the opportunity to reserve their favorite slips, reserve slips next to another boat if they want to dock together or choose which side they want to tie up. They'll know exactly what they are getting before arriving at the harbor.

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