

# ELDEANews

Launch 2024

**INTERESTING STUFF COMPILED BY WADE**

## ***Please Welcome our New Slip Members!***

Ahoy, and welcome to Eldean Shipyard! We are thankful to have a fantastic group of boaters on our docks and this year's new slip members will certainly be another great addition. If you are new and have questions, don't be shy, just ask one of your dock neighbors or stop by our Shipstore and ask our crew.

## ***Our Summer Crew...***

We are very happy that Leslie is returning for her 3<sup>rd</sup> summer as our Shipstore Manager! Leslie has some exciting news! Leslie and her husband Tom are expecting a baby near the beginning of June! As a result, Leslie will likely be out on maternity leave when you arrive for the summer. Lauren, who in her 4<sup>th</sup> summer working in the Shipstore, will be running the store and fuel dock in Leslie's absence. Additionally, there will be a few other familiar faces in the Shipstore this summer including Kelly (4<sup>th</sup> Summer), Charles (2<sup>nd</sup> Summer), Jenna (2<sup>nd</sup> Summer), and Avery (3<sup>rd</sup> Summer). Eli & Lacie are new and will round out the store crew. Avery will also continue working as a pool attendant with the help of our newest pool attendant, Gavin. We are excited about our summer staff and are looking forward to a great summer season. Our crew is happy to assist you! Just ask.

Additionally, our service writers and schedulers are Heather and Scott. The email address for service work requests has not changed and you can contact:

Scott at [boatservice@eldean.com](mailto:boatservice@eldean.com)

Heather at [service@eldean.com](mailto:service@eldean.com)

## **YoChef's Woodfired Pizza is Coming!**

Does it get any better than Boats and Pizza! This reminds me of a "Stepbrothers" Prestige Worldwide song, lol. Woodfired pizza will be on site, 6/14, 6/16, 6/22, 6/29, 7/6, 7/13, 7/20, 7/27, 8/3, 8/10, 8/18, and 8/31 (weather dependent). Save the Dates!

## **The 2024 Party Schedule - Save these Dates**

**Our summer dock-parties** will be held on the following dates at the Z-dock and Playground picnic areas. More information will be emailed and posted in July.

**Z, A & B Docks 6:30 pm, Saturday, July 27**

**C, D, E, R Docks & Buoys 6:30 pm, Saturday, August 10**



Eldean Shipyard 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party May 2023

## ***Memorial, 4th of July & Labor Day Holidays***

The Eldeans will be firing up the grills again! Stop by the picnic tables at the playground for grilled salmon, hot dogs, chili-dogs, & brats on Thursday the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, & Sunday afternoon of Memorial and Labor Day Weekends - Compliments of the Shipyard! **We will be cooking from 12-2:30 (or until the food is gone).**

## **We will have the Kitchen 55 Food Truck on Site!**

The Kitchen 55 food truck is planned for both Lunch and Dinner from 11-6:30pm on these Sundays: June 23, July 21, July 28, August 4, & August 25. For a menu preview, go to: [www.facebook.com/p/Kitchen-55-100090680961775/](https://www.facebook.com/p/Kitchen-55-100090680961775/)

**– New customers please take note –**

## Would You Like Piling Caps Installed?



If you would like to add white piling caps to your slip, we will install them at the discounted price of \$25/piling (normally \$30-\$35 w/o install). We think they will be a benefit for years to come (they remain with the marina if you leave). The piling caps should help reduce the amount of bird droppings on and around your boat.

[Email me](#) if you would like them installed at your slip.

## Do you need Internet Access?

A Seasonal Wi-Fi Subscription is \$95. Please [email Wade](#) to set up your Wi-Fi access. Many of you have already signed up and I have already sent you an email with your subscription information. For problems with your Wi-Fi this summer, please email [computers@eldean.com](mailto:computers@eldean.com) or stop by the Shipstore and let us know.

## WATER LEVEL UNCERTAINTY...

**The water levels have dropped a bit!** I anticipate the water level this summer will be about 4-6" lower than last summer. 4 years in a row of lower water isn't good news. We would like more stable levels from year to year without dramatic swings from highs to lows.

To see the water data from the USACE:

- [Options for all Great Lakes](#)
- [The Lake Michigan Monthly Forecast Bulletin](#)

## Lower Water Dock Issues:

As the water level is going down, our docks that were rebuilt for the all-time-high water levels may be a little high/tall for your boat. We lowered a few docks at our expense that were necessary and a few others for convenience that we split the cost with the boater. If your dock is too high to board, the options are:

-Install a ladder: Buy or Rent. For a rental ladder it is \$95 and includes installation.

-Hire us to lower the dock. Your dock neighbor will have to agree too (and possibly split the cost with you). If the old support structure is still there, then it will be much quicker and less expensive.

**For marina information regarding news, amenities, events, suggestions, and policies:** Go to [www.eldean.com/news](http://www.eldean.com/news), [Calendar of Events](#), and also Click on the "[More Fun Stuff](#)" heading (left side) for additional info on marina services and nearby attractions.

### Pick up your Keys

Pool and Head Keys are each available in the Shipstore. Each key has a \$20 deposit that is refunded when you return the key.

### Parking Stickers

If you haven't already, please fill out your parking form and we will mail you up to 3 parking stickers (\$20 each). This is the new orange oval sticker. If you purchase a new car, **just bring us your old sticker** and we will issue a new one at no charge. The parking stickers are usually updated every 5 years, so you do not need new stickers every year. Day/weekend passes will be available for your guests at no charge. On busy days, guests parking will be directed to building #7.

**Your Boat and Dockbox Keys, please:** We need to have a spare set of your keys and/or combination to your boat in order to move the boat in the event of an emergency. When we are doing dock work, we may need to remove the dockbox.

**Tie up your boat on all sides:** On the day that you arrive to your slip, it may be a calm and peaceful day. Unfortunately, storms come and go, and during wind and storm events it is important that your boat is tied up with many lines and all sides of the boat. [Click here](#) for more information on tying up your boat properly.

**Pool Rules – 5 People MAX** in your group and the boat owner/family member must be present (Do not give your keys to neighbors or friends). [Click here for More of the Pool Use Policy](#). Also, Glassware/bottles & Food are NOT allowed around the pool.

### If you leave with your boat for 48 hours -

When you are not using your slip we make it available for transient boaters to rent on a nightly basis. If you go cruising or remove your boat from the slip, for any reason for 48 hours or more, **you are required** to let us know that you will be vacating the slip. Please let Leslie in the Shipstore know the date of departure and return before you head out. You can stop in the Shipstore or email Leslie at [store@eldean.com](mailto:store@eldean.com).



## ***Pops at the Pier – 2024 Scheduled!***

The annual Pops at the Pier concert by the [Holland Symphony Orchestra](#) has been scheduled for Thursday, June 20th. It's an unforgettable evening of music, food, and fun with the [Holland Symphony Orchestra](#). Concert tickets are available through the Holland Symphony website. There will be food vendors, so bring your appetite to enjoy great food and music!

Thursday, June 20, 6:30 to 9pm, Tickets \$5-\$25

Location: The Eldean Boat Shed #3



**Tickets available at Symphony Office, 616-796-6780**

## **Additional Summer Spaces...**

Many of you have toys, dinghies, kayaks, SUP, etc that make a day at the marina more fun and enjoyable. We do have room available for some of your toys, but since space is at a premium, we do have a fee for them:

- Kayak Rack** - \$100 (only \$50 on top rack)
- Dinghy Spot** - \$100 small, or \$150 Larger
- **SUP/paddleboard Rack**- \$35

## **Social Media Connections...**

To follow Eldean Shipyard on Facebook, like [Eldean Shipyard and Marina](#).



Kris Eldean has taken to Instagram to share interesting marina photos and happenings. Go to:

[www.instagram.com/eldean\\_shipyard](http://www.instagram.com/eldean_shipyard)

## **Looking for Race Crew?**

Do you need racing crew or are you looking for a boat to crew on? Check out [Crew Finder and Boat Finder](#), a system supported by the Lake Michigan Sail Racing Federation (LMSRF). The LMSRF stated, "After years of seeking a suitable platform, the Lake Michigan Sail Racing Federation Board has a new Crew and Boat Finder. We are grateful for the development of 'Rail Meets' and believe this comprehensive system will provide for the needs of our racing skippers and crews."

There are only a few from our area signed up at this time, but this sounds like it has the potential to be great solution for connecting Captains with Crew!

## **Dockbox Maintenance....**

E-dock received special treatment with all of its dockboxes repaired, painted and/or buffed, and waxed. We hope to continue with this program on a yearly basis and are planning on reviving the A-dock boxes this winter and also giving the dock a good power washing when the boxes are removed (Z-dock was completed the previous winter). And remember, if the pulpit of your boat pokes a hole in the dock box we will be sending you a repair bill, so make sure that you have a spring-line in place that won't allow your boat to hit the box.

Wade's photo, Sunrise April 25, 2024 (send or post your great photos!)





## We are a MI Clean Marina!

To help keep our waters clean and provide outdoor opportunities for kids, Eldean Shipyard supports the Michigan Clean Marina Program, the Macatawa Greenway & the Outdoor Discovery Center. Let's keep our water clean for future generations!



## Project Clarity – 10 Years!

From the [ODC Network](#): “Project Clarity marked its 10th anniversary last June. Originating as a response to elevated phosphorus levels in Lake Macatawa, the community chose not to ignore the situation, but to invest. These investments have yielded the lowest phosphorus levels in the lake in the past 50 years”

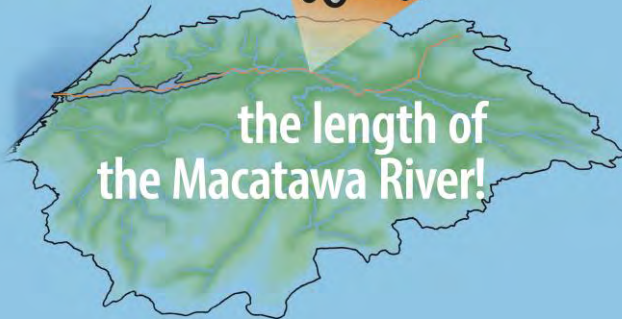
**46,000 Tons  
of Sediment**

annually withheld from the  
Macatawa River— enough to fill

**20 miles  
of back-to-back  
dump trucks—**



**the length of  
the Macatawa River!**



## MI EGLE Funds River Clean-up!



Over 31,000 pounds of garbage was collected in 2023.

For more information on the grants program and the communities that took advantage of the funding to help clean up our rivers, [click here](#).

## In 2023 the ODC Volunteers Cleaned:



**770 pounds** of waste  
was cleaned up from the  
Macatawa Watershed  
through our River  
Cleanup Programs



## Herb's Harbor at the ODC!



In memory of Herb Eldean, the new Herb's Harbor dock has been built behind the Herb Eldean Educational Center at the ODC. My Dad's stories from childhood always started, "When I was down at the Harbor...", referring to Chicago's Monroe Street Harbor. Oh, the stories! A few of those early stories were great memories catching, cleaning, and selling the perch that he would catch. Herb found out fast that he didn't even need to clean the perch as people loved them so much, they would clean the fish themselves just so they could get them. Herb wanted to support childhood experiences like fishing and the outdoors in our community as it helped shape his life.



## Looking Good...

There is a lot that goes on in order to get ready for summer. This year we are sandblasting & refinishing the pool, painting dock boxes, power washing docks, paving parking lots, replacing flooring/windows/siding, updating gardens, replacing retaining walls, replacing rotted pilings, lowering docks, and adding boatlifts. Whether it's materials, utilities, fuel, or labor, it is certainly costing us more to provide the same marina facilities and boating experience than it did just a few years ago. But we are committed to our maintenance programs and keeping Eldean Shipyard one of the finest marinas on the Great Lakes!

## The Weather Buoys...

Thanks to new technology, you can now get up-to-date wind speed, water and air temperature, wave height and more, by texting a buoy — Yes, text a buoy! By simply texting 866-218-9973 with the ID of one of the 68 buoys that are part of the Great Lakes Observing System. The Holland/Port Sheldon Buoy ID is 45029.

There are 20 weather buoys on Lake Michigan providing real-time critical data to fisherman, sailors, boaters and even beachgoers (rip current potential for beach activities). An index of all the Great Lakes buoys is at <https://glbuoys.glos.us/>. The Port Sheldon location has been one of the most active buoys on Lake Michigan.

**Our Port Sheldon Buoy depends 100% on donations** and advertising for funding. To make a contribution go to the 2023 GoFundMe campaign NOW at <https://www.gofundme.com/f/grand-havenholland-weather-buoy-2023> or send a check written to "South Haven Steelheaders Sport Fishing Association" with "Port Sheldon Buoy" noted in the memo line. Please send donations to: Amanda Filbrandt, 18611 65th Street, Bangor, MI 49013.

If you have any questions, please contact Brad Stephenson at [brad.stephenson32@gmail.com](mailto:brad.stephenson32@gmail.com) or (330) 495-9555 and Bill Sikkel at [bsikkel@sikkellaw.com](mailto:bsikkel@sikkellaw.com) or (616) 836-7504.

## Artist's Boating Adventures in Art

From Colossal: "Whether capturing the sights of a dive in the remote Mexican village of Xcalak or the internal mechanisms of a sailing ship, [Elsa Guillaume](#)'s stylized sketchbooks record her adventures. Glimpses of masts, a kitchen quaking from shaky seas, and a hand gutting a fish create a rich tapestry of life on the move. "Daily drawings (are) a ritual while traveling," she tells Colossal. "It is a way to practice the gaze, to be attentive to any type of surroundings. I believe it is important to train both eyes and hands simultaneously, and regularly." See the images & article at [Colossal](#).

## USCG Document Scam

If you have a USCG Documented Vessel, you should check out [this scam alert provided by BoatU.S.](#)



## A Marina Evaluation Checklist...

From the Waterway Guide: “So, you've bought a boat and you're looking for a marina where you can enjoy sunsets from your deck, maybe work remotely, or stay aboard from time to time to get away from it all. Perhaps you already have a boat but want a change of scenery. [Here is a checklist](#) that you can use when evaluating what's important to you and what the marina offers. Go down the list, confirm your requirements, and then use it to select a marina that you can interview as a prospective location.” How did we do?

### *Celebrating decades of differences*

“In Our Cockpit” by Mary McKSchmidt (E-31)

He says our sailboat is like a cottage on the water.  
I am drawn to the unknown that beckons from beyond.

He taught me to feel the wind on my face,  
sometimes a whisper, sometimes a roar;

introduced me to the thrill of watching  
the air fill the sails, our boat heel,

the hull slice through water,  
the gurgling sound of the wash becoming

background music to an unspoken intimacy  
as nature and knowledge propel us forward.

Accompanied now by flocks of cormorants,  
the black flutter of an occasional monarch,

we have sailed together for decades.  
I am at the wheel; he is trimming sails—

a communion that has brought us home after  
being tossed as a balloon on eight-foot waves,

thrown on our side by gale wind gusts,  
pounded by rain under lightning-lit skies,

swallowed by fog in the path of a freighter.  
His calming presence evokes confidence

but skies seem hazier these days.  
Is it climate? Is it age?

This morning, fishing boats glide across glassy waters  
protected by the pier. But beyond the harbor lights,

a disquieting ripple speaks to waves fueled  
by night's winds, by the dawn's building breeze.

Today, like yesterday, the same question.  
Do we stay or do we go?

## Plan Ahead for Cruising...

The last few seasons have brought a lot more boats to Lake Michigan and our great harbors. But that means dockage space is tight, and arranging a transient reservation will be more difficult. You will want to plan ahead and call for reservations. If you already have plans to take a trip or take the boat away for some reason, please let Leslie ([store@eldean.com](mailto:store@eldean.com)) know the dates of your trip so that she can help a visiting boater reserve a slip here in Macatawa. **When you leave, your slip becomes available for nightly rental and you are required to let us know if you will be away from the slip for 48 hours.** We already have a waiting list of transient boaters and we need your cooperation in order to provide them dockage. And hopefully, when you go cruising, your destination will be trying hard to find you a slip too!

## What will we do today?

The MAC Adventure Sports Rental Trailer will soon be open for business.

MAC Adventures, LLC is excited to return in 2024 and offer adventures in water

sport rentals. MAC Adventures is providing paddle board, inflatable/RIB-boat, kayak and pontoon boat rentals. High quality and comfortable equipment with outstanding service is what you will get when you rent from MAC Adventures. Located at Eldean Shipyard, West Michigan's premier marina, rentals have easy access to Lake Michigan as well as Lake Macatawa.

You can usually find them in their rental trailer (Weekends in May from 10am to 6pm and June-Labor Day 9am to 8pm). Or they may be helping customers with rental boats at slips R-5, R-6, R-7, & R-8. For all the Boat, Bike, SUP, & Kayak rental info, go to:

Website: [www.Macadventuresllc.com](http://www.Macadventuresllc.com)

Phone: 616-377-8322

Email: [Info@macadventuresllc.com](mailto:Info@macadventuresllc.com)



### **Voluntary Coast Guard Inspections**

The Coast Guard Auxiliary will be here on **June 15 and June 29<sup>th</sup>** to perform boat safety inspections. However, these dates have already been booked full. If you are interested, please let [Leslie](#) know in the Shipstore and if there is enough interest, we will schedule another day. After passing an inspection, you will receive a 2024 "Safety Check Decal". **Boaters who have a "Safety Check Decal" displayed on their boat, should be free from random stops by marine patrol boats.**

### **Take a Boater Safety Class?**

Please let [Leslie](#) in our Shipstore know if you and/or your children are interested in taking a boater safety class and earning a Boating Safety Certificate at Eldean Shipyard on Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>.

From the MDEQ: In Michigan, boaters born after June 30, 1996, must have a boating safety certificate to operate a boat, and boaters born after Dec. 31, 1978, need a boating safety certificate to operate a personal watercraft ([click here for more details](#)). "If you're on the water operating a boat, or even a canoe or kayak, it's your responsibility to do so safely," said Lt. Tom Wanless, DNR Law Enforcement Division. "We strongly encourage new boaters to take a boater safety course, so they are aware of the dos and don'ts of the water. Even if you have been on the water for years, it's important to refresh yourself on the latest regulations." The DNR offers boating safety education as a self-paced, online course and as a traditional classroom experience.

### **General Boating Safety**

The Michigan Boating Industries Association (MBIA) created this [infographic](#) to help convey some boating safety basics. If you are new to boating safety, [this is a must read](#).

### **Not another Knot Guide...**

However, this time it is a live-action knot guide! Power & Motor Yacht has videos of Capt. Bill Pike performing a few tricks, and tying knots too. [Click here for the videos](#).

### **Sensitive Dock Power...**

The new power system regulations at marina docks make everyone safer, however, they do create a few problems and headaches. The biggest issues are breakers tripping as the threshold for stray current has decreased significantly (more sensitive). This issue is usually caused by a boat's electrical system or power cord causing the breaker to trip and/or even the entire dock to lose power (so if you are tripping a breaker, the most likely reason is a problem on your boat or with your power cord).

### **Boatyard Fire Safety!**



I'm sure that many of you remember the fire last year at Safe Harbor's Great Lakes Marina in Muskegon and felt relieved that your boat wasn't in the building. Boatyard fires are a serious concern and we take many precautions to keep our marina safe and secure. As a result, we keep our buildings closed to the outside and require that any subcontractor be insured and approved. Working hours for boat owners are limited to our open hours so that we always have additional supervision and help on-site. We do get the occasional criticism about our scheduled open hours, however, I think there is much more downside than upside to having 24 hour access to boat storage. Because of fires, like the one above, I've heard that some other winter facilities are no longer allowing any subcontractors, nor boat owners to work on the boats while in buildings. Marina Dock Age has [published a 2-part series](#), "Marina and Boatyard Fires – Prevention, Mitigation, and Response" outlining many of the issues.

### **Learn to Sail Programs...**

Visit [www.lmsrf.org](http://www.lmsrf.org), then mouse-over "Learn to Sail" on the top of the page and choose from the drop down tabs.

## News from Holland Yacht Sales

### Sailing Charters

Deeplake Ventures will be offering sailing charters out of Eldean Shipyard for their 14th consecutive season.



Charters are captained by Jeremy Smith and are typically 2-4 hours in length on evenings and weekends. The GIG 'EM II is a 2000 Catalina 28 MKII designed with a large cockpit and modern amenities for passengers.

Feel free to contact Captain Jeremy if you are interested in a charter or for captain services on

your current or future sailboat including instruction, delivery, or consulting. : [www.deeplakeventures.com](http://www.deeplakeventures.com).

### Electric Vehicle Chargers



#### Relax at the Pool while Charging your Battery!

As car manufacturers are switching over to electric vehicles, we installed a couple of JuiceBox Pro 40c electric vehicle chargers at the marina. The chargers are located outside the pool clubhouse and also inside building #1. Payment for using the car chargers is made through an App after scanning the QR code on the charger. ***Slip Holders will not be charged the additional \$10 parking fee if you tell us in advance that you will be using the charger and [provide Wade with your name and email address for setup](#).*** Your information will be added to the charging payment system so that you receive the lower rate. Anyone from the public that stops by to use them will be charged the higher rate. Some of the power will be generated from our new solar panels above building #1, so this is a very green system!



### Holland Yacht Sales

As we embark on another boating season I would like to challenge everyone to get out and use your boat. The waters around Eldean Shipyard offer splendid cruising opportunities, whether it's a short trip down Lake Macatawa or seeing the scenic splendor of the North Channel. Plus there are numerous cruising locations that have much to offer close to home such a day trip or overnight to Saugatuck, South Haven or Grand Haven. All of these great harbors provide great restaurants, sightseeing and supplies. Our waters provide a lifetime of cruising opportunities, so get out those charts and guides and begin making plans.

Boating is the best way I know of to make the stress melt away. This summer reclaim the water and yourself. Revive your passion for boating and savor the journey.

Just a few observations on things that are often overlooked when getting your boat ready to go for the season, be sure your registration numbers are current and stickers are in place (remember the sticker always follows the MC number, it will be aft on the port side and forward on the starboard side). If your boat is a titled boat check that the hull number on the title matches the one on the hull. You would be surprised how often it does not, it is much easier to correct before you sell your boat. Finally, check those flares and fire extinguishers.

Boat sales have been very strong this past year on both the power and sailboat sides. Due to this my brokerage list is small and in need of some new listings.

If you're looking to make a boating change or have any questions please don't hesitate to call or stop by my office in the Shipstore.

Have a Great 2024 Season!

All the best!

Henry DeJong,

E-mail: [hysinc@gmail.com](mailto:hysinc@gmail.com)

Office: 616-335-3144 Cell: 616-443-1435

Web site: [www.yachtworld.com/hollandyachtsales](http://www.yachtworld.com/hollandyachtsales)



***This Just In [Stock]***

This year's clothing selection is arriving in the Shipstore. We brought back a few favorites this year along with my new Boat Ride / Bow Hound designs!

