

# THE RIVER VIEW VIEWS

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## FROM THE HELM!

Thinking about this being Memorial Weekend brings back a flood of memories. There were the parades we watched at first, then participated in, with decorated bikes and Scout troops. In our family Memorial Day (the real one -- May 30<sup>th</sup>) was always special since it was also my Grandmother's birthday. That meant celebrating the day at her place. My grandparents lived in an old huge farmhouse that had a wrap-around porch, located on a couple of acres of ground—plenty of areas for playing all kinds of outdoor games and large gnarly trees for climbing. My parents and relatives would sit in the wooden Adirondack chairs enjoying each other's company and array of flowers blooming in the gardens. Of course there would be plenty of food (all of the family favorites) and snacks, plus a special dessert to celebrate my Granny's birthday. As she was born in 1899, it was easy to remember her age because we only had to add one to the year it was.

Maybe that's why I look forward to each year's opening rendezvous on Memorial Weekend. We start out in a parade of boats crossing the lake to our destination. When there, we sit on the dock enjoying the company and scenery. The food is always plentiful and scrumptious. Invariably a game of bocce ball gets started while others are off whacking away at a little white ball (some call it "gawf").

Although we're not celebrating someone's birthday, we are celebrating those brave people who willingly gave their life for freedom. This year, we're ever mindful of the tragic events of September 11<sup>th</sup> and feel a deep sense of patriotism and memories for those lost.

The Fitting Out Party last Saturday was memorable for those who came, thanks to VC **Lynn Koleski's** planning. About 25 members attended. Both **Jim Roth**, recovering from shoulder surgery and **Barb Brown**, who had foot surgery, were present. The food was excellent, especially when barbecued outside on the grill thanks to PC **Jim Baran**, and the stockpile of beer was finally depleted! Those I-68 pictures, courtesy of **Pat Thul**, tell the "rest of the story...."

Speaking of memories, do not forget **Venetian Weekend** is less than two weeks away. Decorating should be easy this year with the theme of **Riverboats**. RC **Ray Brown** has a delicious "Southern" style dinner planned and the cost is only \$15 per person. This also includes music and entertainment by Brian Bosman. The festivities even extend into Sunday--plan on joining me for the traditional Commodore's Bloody Mary party on Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 10 am on the deck by the pool.

**Commodore Jean Pritchard**

## **VICE VIEWS!**

The U.S. Coast Guard flare demonstration was extremely informative. Not one person who attended had ever shot off a flare or flare gun. Before. I was surprised, as everyone there was a long-time boater. The men and women who showed us how to set them off were very nice. We were also treated to a tour of the coast guard station. Thanks to PC **Joe Clapper** for making the arrangements.

Afterwards, we met a Kean's for the business end of the meeting, which was very short. We had a discussion regarding the I-68 forms, which are used for re-entering the States after being in Canada. These forms used to be good for life, but the rules changed after 9/11. Everyone I spoke to had a different opinion about the form. I know Chuck and I plan to carry our passports on board, which I hope will take care of the matter. The I-68 can be obtained at the either the Windsor-Detroit tunnel or the bridge. Basically, you'll need three 1" X 1" passport-type photos of yourself, proof of citizenship and \$16.

Our Fitting Out Party was well attended. As usual, we had a good array of food from the members to supplement the brats, burgers and Polish sausages. Thanks to PCs Jim Baran and Joe Clapper for standing out in the cold to cook them and to all for the wonderful dishes to pass.

Looking forward to our first rendezvous of the season in Wallaceburg. See you all soon!

**Vice Commodore  
Lynn Koleski**

## **FROM THE REAR!**

Can you believe it? June is almost here. I have not had an opportunity to go any place by boat yet this year. The old weatherman has not been kind at all, but things are going to improve. I hope you are all as anxious as I am to go on the rendezvous to Wallaceburg. Great chance to shake out the cobwebs and get ready for serious traveling when summer shows up. (I am sure she will show up!)

As most of you are aware, **June 8<sup>th</sup>** will be the **Venetian Riverboat Parade** and blessing of the fleet. Lots of activities are planned and we will live up to our motto, "For Fun's Sake." Please let me know how many people you expect to have so I can make sure there will be enough food.

From our Nautical Dictionary I came up with A-B-C last month. This month is D-E-F:

**D. Dry rot.** A condition of wood that becomes as strong as cole slaw. Best way to deal with it is to keep your wood boat in a garage or warehouse permanently.

**E. Emergency.** A situation that is presumed to exist if the water is deeper than the tallest person on board.

**F. Fitting Out.** A series of maintenance tasks performed on boats on shore prior to launch, that continue on good weekends throughout the summer to get the boat ready for winter.

Looking forward to seeing you on **Venetian Weekend!**

**Rear Commodore  
Ray Brown**

## **FROM THE MEMBERS!**

**Carol Bacile** had this to say: Please save your beverage can **tabs** for her. They will be donated to Mott Children's Hospital, which recycles the tabs to buy equipment. [By the way – **Bev Niermann** collects Betty Crocker Emblem for Education and **Barb Brown** knows somebody who collects those Campbell products Labels for Education. Bring yours to next meeting– Editor]

**Mary Gavin** has this to say: I am sending this plea for help. Please let RVYC know we need power boats and people to help **Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>** at the **CAHA annual FUN DAY IN THE SUN** picnic at **DYC**.

This is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of **Crawford-Armstrong Handicap Association**. We are a group of volunteers that meets once a month, all year long, with the purpose of organizing a boat ride, picnic lunch, gift bags, and entertainment for people from Detroit area group homes. Last year we invited 1,300 physically and mentally challenged people. Over 700 attended, many in wheelchairs. We even had one man come in a full-size bed!

This **FUN DAY IN THE SUN** is a treat for everyone. It is also a lot of hard work for us volunteers--we start at 8 am and work until 3 or 4 pm. If anyone would like to volunteer for the day or just an hour or two, please call me. Thanks!  
Mary Gavin 586-939-3993

**Terry Dawes** had this to say: The Detroit Power Squadron is conducting Safe Boating Class at Kean's, beginning June 11<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm. Also, Terry will do vessel safety inspections. Call Terry at 586-774-2472.

## Metro Beach Rendezvous

**Where:** Black Creek off Lake St. Clair.

Channel entrance: Lat. 42°33'55"N, Long. 82°47'43"W.

We will be in the North Basin – go past the South Basin and turn left at the island.

In that we could not get reservations on the finger docks for this weekend, participants decided to go to Metro Beach on Friday night to assure slips in the North Basin. This is on a first come, first served basis. Bring lawn chairs, roller blades and golf clubs.

**Participants:** Baran, Dawes, Koleski, Niermann, Peterman, Thul, Vauris, Wilkerson

**When:** June 21-23, 2002

**Marina Telephone number:** [Harbor Master on duty from 8:00 am to 11:00 pm]  
(586) 463-4581

***The Club will monitor Channel 72 while on the water.***

### **Movement:**

Friday, June 21:

- Longest sunlight day of the year. Try to get to the North Basin by 8:00 pm.
- Hors d'oeuvres and libations party at 8:30 pm.

Saturday, June 22:

- AM – Par 3 golf tournament organized by Jim Baran & Ron Sherman.
- PM – Bocce ball tournament organized by Lee Vauris.
- 7:00 pm - Evening cookout. Bring something to grill and a dish to pass.

Sunday, June 23:

- Bloody Mary party and Club breakfast – bring a breakfast dish to pass (Ruth promised to bring her Pecan French toast).
- Another round of par 3 golf?
- Movement to home marina.

**Fleet Captain Ed Pritchard**



**May Birthdays**

- 4 – Lee Vauris
- 9 – Karen Bemiss
- 15 – John Seedott
- 17 – Jill Martyka
- 23 – Bob Caza
- 28 – Roger Bartlett

**(Sorry, Lee, for trying to change your birthdate. last month. Editor)**

**May Anniversaries**

- 7 – John & Peggy Cornwell
- 18 – Pat & Judy Thul
- 20 – Ken & Diana Wilkerson
- 24 – Ron & Ellen Bickel

**Other May Dates**

- 5 – Cinco de Mayo
- 10 – RVYC Flare Demo @ Belle Island Coast Guard Station, 7:30 pm (meeting afterwards @ Kean's)
- 12 – Mother's Day
- 18 – Fitting Out Party @ Kean's, 4 pm
- 18 – Armed Forces Day
- 20 – Victoria Day (Canada)
- 25/27 - Wallaceburg Rendezvous**
- 27 – Memorial Day (Observed)

**June Birthdays**

- 5 – Ruth Peterman
- 7 – Dan Martyka
- 23 – Ken Wilkerson
- 24 – Robert Theard
- 26 – Pete Mischung

**June Anniversaries**

- 4 – Dave & Marilyn Carson
- 9 – Glenn & Karen Bemiss

**Other June Dates**

- 7 – RVYC Meeting @ Kean's, 8 pm
- 8/9 – Venetian Weekend**
- 14 – Flag Day
- 16 – Father's Day
- 21 – Summer Begins
- 21-23 Metro Beach Rendezvous**

