

JUNE 2021

**Launch Party &
Brown Bag
Auction
June 12
Hammond Marina**

**LMCA Catalina
Rendezvous
July 16-18**

**Fleet Meet at
Kenosha
August 7**

**Leukemia Cup
Regatta
August 28**

**Lobster Fest at
Michigan City
September 4**

**Annual Banquet
September 25
Palos Country Club**

WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back summer, sailing, margaritas, and Fleet 21 Outings! We're ready to celebrate and hope you'll join us at our first get-together in more than a year.

The blenders will be whirring in a new location this year: Hammond Marina. Hammond features a nice outdoor patio, free parking, and available slips in the marina. To add to the fun, we're including the Brown Bag Auction in this event. Sounds like a great combination doesn't it? Drink a margarita (or two) and then bid on an unknown item!



You'll need to bring an appetizer to share, an auction item, and cash for margaritas and the auction. If you've never been to a brown bag auction before, it works like this: put something gift-worthy in a bag of some sort. The item can be nautical or not. You can re-gift something you can't use, recycle a boating accessory you no longer need, or just fill it with something neat or tasty. Staple or tape your bag shut and indicate on the outside an estimated value and a clue as to what's inside. Don't say what it is, just a clue. Then let the bidding begin. Our high-powered salesman will auction off each bag to the highest bidder. The bidding can get fierce so bring lots of cash. You might just go home with a bottle of wine, boat gear, a door knocker, or next year's brown bag item.

Bring along chairs too, in case we need them. Several members indicated they will sail to the event (depending on the weather). Hansen's are sailing from Belmont and others may come from Michigan City. Slips are available. Call the Hammond Harbor Master at 219-659-7678 to reserve your spot. If you want to be with other Fleet members, ask for P Dock.

We'll be on the north patio adjacent to the Administration Building. At the gate say you are with the Catalina Fleet. Membership directories will be distributed at this event.

COMMODORE	
Branson Stone	219-201-5583
VICE COMMODORE	
Harold Hansen	773-480-7412
TREASURER	
Pete Pohl	630-319-3207
SECRETARY	
Laura Pohl	630-682-3204
PAST COMMODORE	
James Caldwell	312-391-7777
HARBOR CAPTAINS	
Belmont	Harold Hansen 773-480-7412
Burnham	open
DuSable	open
Hammond	Pat Reynolds 773-779-4949
Jackson Park	Wanda Robertson 773-538-7531
Kenosha	Deborah Ruxton 630-279-4533
Michigan City	Ted Kuenzli 708-539-9955
Monroe	open
Montrose	Fred Swastek 773-578-6852
31 st Street	open
Waukegan	open
DIRECTORY	
Bill Thompson	630-373-3594
MEMBERSHIP	
Pat Shereyk	708-645-1957
OUTINGS	
Dave DeAre	630-469-6117
PROGRAMS	
April Hansen	319-321-9751
RACING	
Bob Garrett	773-988-5501
RIGGING & EQUIPMENT	
Leo Beer	708-204-6771
Jeff Danhauer	270-570-0385
MEMBER AT LARGE	
Jack Bretall	708-974-4932
PUBLICITY	
Fleet Sheet	Carolyn DeAre 630-469-6117
Main Sheet	Fred Collins 219-762-4107
MARINER'S FUND	
Ted Kuenzli	773-517-1576
WEB SITE	
Bob Kuba	773-327-9331
CYA REPRESENTATIVE	
James Graham	847-477-1491
BANQUET	
Madalyn Duerr	708-429-0005

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMODORE

It is now June of 2021. Hopefully, the worst of Covid-19 is behind us and we can once again gather with family, friends, and attend Fleet 21 events and meetings. Zoom meetings helped keep the fleet in contact, but Zoom is not the same as in person meetings and events.



Most of you by now have your boats in the water, and are ready for a more active summer. Restrictions at the marinas, shops, and restaurants are being relaxed, or completely removed. Last year taking a port to port cruise was out of the question. This year, we can again get out and use our boats, and take those trips.

Lake levels are down, making life easier at most docks. Danita and I have been able to do away with the steps we needed to get on and off our boat last year.

We have several Fleet events already on the schedule; Margarita Party/Brown Bag Auction at the Hammond Marina on June 12th, LMCA Rendezvous at Lake Macatawa (Holland, MI) July 16-18th, Fleet Meeting in Kenosha August 7th, Chicago Leukemia Cup August 28th, and Lobster Fest in Michigan City on September 4th. Also, Bob Garrett would like to arrange a fun race/cruise, either using the marks off Burnham, or a port to port. As always, if you have an idea for an event or meeting, we want to hear from you.

Do not forget to mark your calendar for the Fleet's year end banquet, September 25th. This year it will again be at the Palos Hills Country Club. We have moved the banquet from November to the end of September to accommodate the many "Snow Birds" in the fleet. It is always a great evening, and we hope everyone will come out and join us.

Have a great summer, and remember, be careful out on the water.

Branson Stone
Commodore

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to our newest member:

Skipper: Diane Wang
First Mate: Josh Woodard
Address: 2026 Windflower Place
West Lafayette IN 47906
S Cell: 908 -392-4474
M Cell: 217- 979-1257
Boat Info:
Name: *Out'n About* Size: 27'
Harbor: Michigan City Mooring: Slip 145

The new membership directories are ready!

They will be distributed at the Hammond Launch Party and mailed to those not attending.



**Phil Byrd
1941-2021**

Sadly, long-time Fleet member Phil Byrd passed away suddenly on May 26, 2021. Phil and his wife Jan joined the Fleet in 1994 and sailed *Wind Dancer*, a Catalina 320, first out of Jackson Park, then Hammond, and most recently from the 800 dock of Michigan City. Phil was a proud Navy veteran and would have turned 80 on June 17. Jan passed away in 2018.

We'll miss you, my friend.

CYA

Reported by James Graham

Following is a summary the Chicago Yachting Association meeting, 5/27/21

The most useful information came from Chicago harbor management, which reports the following:

Harbor openings occurred as anticipated with a few small repair projects ongoing.

Covid 19 restrictions have been significantly loosened and it's anticipated they may be all but eliminated by July 4th.

Lake water levels continue to drop, now down 16-18 inches below last year's levels.

The swimming pool at 31st Street is open. The City of Chicago and the park district are looking to attract [SailGP](#) to Chicago. This is a major international sailing competition of high-performance foiling catamarans, similar to those that came to Chicago ahead of the America's Cup races a couple of years ago. The event would be in June 2022.

Also in 2022, Soldier Field anticipates one of its biggest concert seasons ever, with some 13 major events including acts such as Coldplay and Taylor Swift.

Harbor boat occupancy is ahead of schedule and should be comparable to 2018 and 2019 levels. Scott Stevenson commented that boat merchants report brisk sales. He predicts the number of new inexperienced boaters will probably be higher than in the past, introducing new levels of risk to the boating scene as a whole.

Scott Stevenson also noted that park district harbors are having a very hard time attracting young people to fill jobs. They are looking for people age 18 and up, of any age above really, to fill seasonal jobs. Lifeguards are much needed, as are people with boating skills and knowledge.

About 28 people participated in the Zoom meeting.

RIGGING & EQUIPMENT

By Jeff Danhauer

Safety Checks

Rig Tension Safety Inspection – Feel for anything that is really loose. With your index and middle finger pull on each shroud at shoulder height. A sailboat rigger looks for large variables in tension for each shroud.

Wire Safety Inspection – Look closely up and at the wire. Look for rust or any candy caning. Candy caning is a red rust stain on the rigging that follows the spiral pattern of the wire. This could be a sign of core rot. Look for heavy rust coming out between the strands. Look for broken strands up the wire. Run your hand down the wire and feel for any strands that may be coming unlaidd.

Swage Safety Inspection – Inspect where the wire goes into the swage. Look for broken strands at that point. Look for heavy rust on the swage itself. If there is rust, it needs to be cleaned off to inspect for cracks beneath the rust. (Some signs of cracks are heavy rust deposits) I prefer to use a Scotch Brite pad (the red type). Otherwise you can use 600 grit sandpaper. Do not use anything more abrasive than that as it could damage the swage fitting creating the potential for additional rust. Cracks are often hairline cracks so I recommend using a magnifying glass or glasses when inspecting.

Turnbuckle Safety Inspection – On the turnbuckle you want to look for heavy corrosion and cracks (especially if you have closed body turnbuckles). Check that cotter pins or rings are in place and are in good condition. It is a best practice to periodically lube and turn your turnbuckles.

Toggles & Tangs Safety Inspection – Check the toggles and/or tangs below the turnbuckles for the same corrosion and cracks as stated above. Some cracks may be hard to see because they could be located on the underside of the fitting. Be sure that the clevis pin is in good condition with a proper cotter pin or ring.

MAN OVERBOARD!

Dave DeAre submitted the following excerpt from a recent article in Sailing magazine written by John Kretschmer.

Kretschmer is a sailing instructor and this excerpt is part of his safety briefing.

“It is ridiculous that we consider retrieving a person overboard a “technique,” with supposedly various ways to respond. Falling off the boat is a really bad thing to do, so don’t do it. From that starting point, we talk about our emergency plan of action. It’s simple. I believe in the immediate heave-to manoeuver. No matter the point of sail, when someone goes over, immediately steer aggressively into the wind and put the boat in irons, essentially heaving-to. You will end up very close to the person in the water and drift in the same direction. You then bring the boat back in to the wind and stall next to the person and at that point attempt a retrieval. The concept of the figure-8 person overboard technique, where you first sail sway from the person, should be stricken from your brain.

RACING

Racing chairman Bob Garrett is considering organizing some casual Fleet 21 races either from Burnham Harbor or Michigan City. If you would be interested in participating, contact Bob at garrettr@dls.org or call him at 847-477-1491.

The Leukemia Cup is August 28. Join other Catalinas in this race for a cause. Register your boat at lcrchicago.org



OUTINGS

It's great to be able to have outings this summer!

Now we need you to suggest some! Contact the Outings Chairman, Dave DeAre, if you have an idea for your harbor. We can always add to the Outings schedule.

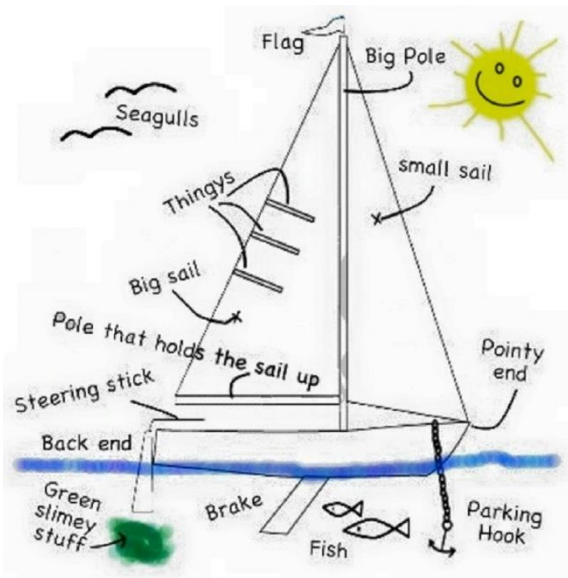
We'll get the year launched with the Margarita Party/Brown Bag Mash-up on June 12. In July, the big Catalina event is the Catalina Rendezvous at Lake Macatawa sponsored by the Lake Michigan Catalina Association. As of today, details are still sketchy. Check their website at www.lmca.com frequently for registration information. Many of our Fleet 21 members attend this great event either by boat or car.

If you are planning a cruise in July and would like to invite other boats along, send your itinerary to the Fleet Sheet editor and we'll list it in the next Fleet Sheet.

BUY/SELL/TRADE

Fleet members may list items they want to buy, sell, or trade in this column. Listings are free and run for three issues of this newsletter. Send submissions to the Fleet Sheet editor at Deare30@sbcglobal.net.

MORE TECHNICAL STUFF



Nautical Quiz

1. Your disabled sailboat has been taken under tow. When a fog bank rolls in, what sound signals should you make?
2. What is the origin of the phrase "son of a gun"?
3. What is the origin of the term "mayday" for an emergency call?
4. Where on a sailboat are you most likely to find an angel?
5. You have been sailing south through day after day of heavy overcast and fog, and are thus unable to use your sextant to determine your latitude (and you have no GPS). How can you tell when you have crossed the equator?
6. Few people with [ancraophobia](#) become sailors. Why? What are they afraid of?
7. Every mariner knows the difference between port and starboard. Hundreds of years ago, however, a different word was used to refer to the left side of the boat. What is it? Do you know the origin of these terms?

1. A vessel under tow in fog should give one long sound blast followed by three short blasts. Repeat at two-minute intervals.
2. In historic sailing ships, women were occasionally smuggled aboard - and many naturally became pregnant in due course. Childbirth at sea traditionally happened between cannons on the gun deck, and the child was recorded in the ship's log as a son of a gun.
3. "Mayday" is said to have originated from the French phrase "M'aidez" - meaning "Help me."
4. An "angel" is another term for an anchor kellel or sentinel. This is a weight that is suspended from the anchor rode some distance down from the bow to lower the angle between the lower part of the rode and the sea bottom, thus increasing its holding power while also providing slack to absorb the strain caused by gusts and waves, especially when there is not room to let out sufficient scope.
5. Water going down a drain swirls counterclockwise in the Northern Hemisphere and clockwise in the Southern Hemisphere. So just put some water in the galley sink and watch after you pull the plug. This is called the Coriolis effect, which also influences ocean and wind currents.
6. Ancraophobia is fear of the wind.
7. The term originally used for the left side of the boat was larboard. Given its similarity in sound to "starboard," you can see how the term "port" became preferable over time. "Starboard" derived from Old English terms for steering board (on the right side of historic ships). Larboard possibly came from the words for loading and board - and ships were traditionally docked on their left side for loading. "Port" is thought to have the same meaning: the side put to the wharf when in port.