

FEBRUARY 2022

Yachtapalooza
March 19
Crowley's Yacht
Yard Lakeside

**Program &
General
Meeting**
April 19
Virtual

WE'RE BACK!

Welcome to the first Fleet Sheet of 2022! We're gearing up for the sailing season and hoping to revive many of our Catalina traditions that have been on hold due to CO-VID 19. Forget variants, vaccines, masks and quarantines; it's time to think about spring commissioning, bottom paint, water levels and outings!

Spring arrives March 20 at 10:33 a.m. CST. It arrives a day earlier on Saturday, March 19 at Crowley's Yacht Yard with their Yachtapalooza. This annual event is scheduled for 8am until 4pm and features seminars, ship store sales, a Nautical Donations flea market, vendor tables and food. Many events are outside or in expansive meeting rooms or tents. Fleet 21 will have a membership table so stop by and say hello. At around 3:00, we'll head to Keith's Bar and Grill for a late lunch/early dinner. Address: 1872 Indianapolis Blvd in downtown Whiting. Stop by Yachtapalooza, then come socialize with us at Keith's.

For the Yachtapalooza on March 19, we're putting together a video collage of still photos of Fleet 21 member boats that will run on a loop on a laptop at our membership recruiting table. Your boat's name and your harbor will appear with the photo(s). The idea is to make people aware that we're an active fleet, we're all around southern Lake Michigan and maybe you've seen our boats. Please email a photo or two of your boat, either docked, moored or under sail, to Vice Commodore Pete Pohl (Ppohl57@aol.com) by March 1, so he can begin editing. Thanks in advance for your help.

Our Programs Chairman is hard at work lining up speakers for our general meetings. At this time we are planning virtual programs for the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Plans are in the works to have a question and answer session with a possible representative from Catalina Yachts, a program on Lake Michigan and a session on weather. What other topics would you like to see covered? Do you know of a speaker that you think other Fleet members would like to hear? Send your suggestions to our Program Chairman April Hansen at April.hansen@sbcglobal.net. Our first virtual general meeting and program is slated for April 19.

Planning for 2022 Outings has also begun. We need your input and your help. What can we do at your harbor? Would you sponsor an outing? Sponsoring an outing does not mean that you pay for it. You plan the activities and make arrangements for docking (or parking) and food (is there a restaurant nearby, a place for a cookout or potluck, etc?). We are also looking for an Outings Chairman. This person would put together an outings schedule, recruit sponsors for outings, and offer advice. Contact our Commodore to volunteer as a sponsor or chairman: Harold-hansen@sbcglobal.net.

To participate in all the Fleet activities that are in the works, you need to renew your membership. Last year we did not charge any renewal dues. With CO-VID uncertainty still impacting our activities, the Board has reduced renewal fees to \$25 (normal renewal is \$45). To add a subscription of the Catalina magazine *Mainsheet*, add \$15 to your renewal. Renewal forms are included with this newsletter.

For news and links to other sailing sites of interest log into our web page: www.catfleet21.org

Our webmaster for the last 30 years:



Thank you, Bob
Kuba!

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Harold Hansen	773-480-7412
VICE COMMODORE	
Pete Pohl	630-319-3207
TREASURER	
Eric Hillenmeyer	630-915-8163
SECRETARY	
Laura Pohl	630-682-3204
PAST COMMODORE	
Branson Stone	219-201-5583
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Belmont	Cat Hillenmeyer 630-915-8163
Burnham	open
DuSable	open
Hammond	Pat Reynolds 773-972-2177
Jackson Park	Wanda Robertson 773-538-7531
Kenosha	Deborah Ruxton 630-279-4533
Michigan City	Ted Kuenzli 708-539-9955
Monroe	Cathy Bredlau 708-807-2165
Montrose	Fred Swastek 773-578-6852
Waukegan	Irene Gagerman 773-931-9097
DIRECTORY	
Bill Thompson	630-373-3594
MEMBERSHIP	
Pat Shereyk	708-645-1957
OUTINGS	
PROGRAMS	
April Hansen	319-321-9751
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Fleet Sheet	Carolyn DeAre 630-469-6117
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James Graham	847-477-1491
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A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMODORE

Hello to all Catalina Fleet 21 members: I'm hoping you had a good holiday season and have settled into the winter doldrums with only minimal side effects and are staying healthy. Anyway, welcome to 2022 and dreams about a new sailing season coming soon.



As your new Commodore, I thought I would use just a few lines here to share my background. I'm a 35+ year general manager of public venues - arenas, convention centers, theaters, etc., around the mid-west. Then, after 911, I became involved in the safety and security of these venues and led the training and protocol development for the public assembly venue industry through our professional association and working with DHS on related projects. Since 2017, I have been mostly retired, doing some consulting, and working polling place operations for Chicago elections. And sailing when we can.

I began sailing in 1984 on Lake Peoria. We raced on Saturdays – consistently in last place. Our skipper had a philosophy, “we will have good starts, good food & wine, and oh yeah, we’ll finish.” This all began after a first sailing experience on a windy night with probably too much wine. Now, First Mate April and I own a 1998 Catalina 380 that we upgraded to in 2003 and now sail out of Belmont Harbor in Chicago. A few years later, we had the good fortune to meet Ted Kuenzli in Michigan City on a first crossing of Lake Michigan. He helped us get free from a sandbar and over a cocktail, gave us a CF21 application. So here I am.

Catalina Fleet 21 has provided us the opportunity to sail to numerous harbors, make new friends, and enjoy many wine and sailing opportunities. I encourage you to take advantage of CF21 activities and programs. We have learned much, appreciated the help and advice, and enjoyed the camaraderie and good times at CF21 programs and events.

I encourage you to get involved: sailing, socializing, sharing experiences, or participating in activities and programs. The club is all volunteer so there are many ways to get involved. We have several Harbor Captain positions open, which is a good place to start. But suggestions for programs, parties, or adventures are always welcome. Please share ideas and get involved. Renew your membership, get involved, encourage other Catalina owners to do the same, and let's have fun during the 2022 sailing season! I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at CF21 events.

Harold Hansen
Commodore

MEMBERSHIP

Please complete the enclosed renewal form and return it to the Membership Chairman as soon as possible. **CO-VID Special: renew for just \$25 this year only (we hope!).** If you receive *Mainsheet* through us, add \$15.00. You may also contribute to the Mariner's Fund with a separate check. See the message from our Mariner's Fund Chairman that follows.

As Chairman of Catalina Fleet 21 Mariner's fund, I would like to invite you to donate to this fund and help us continue to help the sailing community. In the past, we have donated to the youth sailing programs, youth building boat projects, and repairing weather buoys. We are looking for other projects that you may know about that will be helpful to sailing. Please consider making a donation at the time of your membership renewal and send your ideas to my email address.

Ted Kuenzli, kuenzli@sbcglobal.net

CYA

Reported by James Graham

Here's a summary of highlights from the Jan. 27 board meeting:

Chicago Harbors

Scott Stevenson of Westrec reports:

- Harbors experienced ice damage but nothing serious enough to delay opening for the season. Repairs ongoing.
- Water levels are expected to be one foot lower for the coming season. This will present dredging challenges for Jackson Harbor, so they are preparing that.
- SailGP will be coming to Chicago's Navy Pier for racing June 18-19, 2022, the second in a series of racing events that starts in Bermuda and, after Chicago, moves on to Plymouth, England; Copenhagen; Saint-Tropez, France; Cadiz, Spain; Dubai and Christchurch, New Zealand. This certainly puts Chicago on the global sailing map. Teams compete in high-tech "winged" F50 catamarans.

Yachting in Chicago magazine is available at Yachtinginchicago.com

HELP WANTED

Fleet 21 is an all-volunteer organization. We rely on members to not only attend events, but to participate as a volunteer. As a new board takes over, there are many empty positions. We need Harbor Captains for Burnham, Dusable, Jackson Park, Montrose, and Wilmette harbors. As a Harbor Captain you would:

Promote awareness of Fleet 21 to Catalina sailboat owners in your harbor.

Recruit and mentor new Fleet members in your harbor.

Encourage participation in Fleet events and serve on the Board of Directors.

We are also looking for an Outings Chairman and a Racing Chairman.

Contact our Commodore to volunteer or if you have questions.

BUY/SALE/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.

AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to the following Fleet members who received their much-deserved awards at the Annual Banquet in September.

Boat of the Year Steve & Phillis Wash *Liberty*

Commodore's Award Carolyn & Dave DeAre
Overdue

Rookies of the Year Cathy Bredlau *Advocate*

Bill & Jennifer Iwanski *JenAly*