

**MAY 2023**

**Preserving the  
Chicago  
Lighthouse**  
May 19  
Burnham Park  
Yacht Club

**Launch Party**  
June 3  
Michigan City

**Michigan Shore  
Cruise**  
June 23 – July 4

**Book Club  
Meeting**  
July 20  
Zoom

**Red Witch II Sail**  
August 5  
Kenosha Harbor

**Annual Banquet**  
September 30  
Burnham Park  
Yacht Club

## ***An Event-Full Season***

Welcome to the 2023 Fleet 21 sailing season. It's going to be an event full season as we celebrate our 50 years as a club. We have programs, book club meetings, outings and more on tap.

First off on May 19 is a presentation at Burnham Park Yacht Club on preserving Chicago's Lighthouse. While this program is open to the public, Fleet 21 has been cordially invited by speaker Kurt Lentsch, President and Chief Dreamer of the Friends of the Chicago Harbor Lighthouse. The program begins at 6:00 and a table will be reserved for Fleet 21 members. Please RSVP to [Harold Hansen](mailto:harold-hansen@sbcglobal.net) to let us know if you will be attending: [harold-hansen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:harold-hansen@sbcglobal.net).

A member of the Chicago boating community for over 20 years, Kurt Lentsch has cruised past the Chicago Harbor Lighthouse hundreds of times. Along with his fellow boaters, from a front-row seat, he watched this iconic structure deteriorate to the condition it is in today. Something needed to be done to save Chicago's quintessential symbol of maritime history. The dream began.

In March 2022, Kurt took action. He walked into the Illinois Secretary of State's Office on Washington Street with the dream and a stack of papers. The dream was to preserve, restore and celebrate the Chicago Harbor Lighthouse and the papers were the documents forming the **Friends of the Chicago Harbor Lighthouse**, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charity. One year later, with Working Groups in place, including preservation, construction, fundraising, communications, and community outreach teams, the **Friends of the Chicago Harbor Lighthouse** is ready to make this dream come true.

As someone who has heard Kurt's presentation for the Chicago Maritime Museum, I highly recommend this program. His knowledge of the history and passion for preserving this iconic Chicago landmark are fascinating and a real crowd pleaser. After the presentation stay for dinner and Burnham's bingo night.

On June 3<sup>rd</sup> we'll have our traditional Launch Party with margaritas and taco salad. This year the event will be at the marina in Michigan City. A flyer spelling out all the details is included in this newsletter.

The Michigan Shore Cruise sets sail June 23-24 from South Haven Marina. The next Book Club meeting is July 20<sup>th</sup>. Details about both of these events are included in this newsletter. And mark your calendars for the Fleet Cruise on the *Red Witch* at Kenosha on August 5.

And see inside for a report on our April 29<sup>th</sup> Kick-Off Event . Hope you'll be part of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events to come.

## **BOOK CLUB**

Join us on July 20<sup>th</sup> for our next **Fleet 21 Book Club gathering** 7:00 (ZOOM invitation coming later). Our next book is *The Boy Who Fell to Shore*, written by Charles Doane, cruising editor for *Sail Magazine*, about the life of Thomas Thor Tangvald. A Zoom link will be provided later, and we will also gather on G dock at Belmont Harbor if anyone wants to join us in person. Here's an excerpt from the preface: *A boy who was literally born at sea and lived on a sailboat, through all his childhood. Who initially had such limited contact with human society he believed for years that most people must live on boats, just as he and his family did. A boy with a genius IQ who mostly educated himself, studying the books on his father's boat and the natural world of sea and sky that surrounded him. Who was fluent in three languages, loved mathematics and physics, and later had little trouble gaining admittance to prestigious universities... A boy who as a young man, once introduced to modern society and life on shore, saw clearly how it was going astray. Who consequently was fiercely determined to live simply, sustainably, and independently on his own terms. Who in the end disappeared without a trace, leaving no evidence of his fate and more than a few questions behind.*

## **MEMBERSHIP**

*Welcome aboard to the following new members:*

Skipper: Gary W Leo  
1st Mate: Elizabeth Martin  
Address: 11906 Somerset Road  
Orland Park, IL 60467

Phone: (917) 912-1062  
Email: [garywleo@gmail.com](mailto:garywleo@gmail.com)

Boat Info:

Name: *Gallivent* Size: 36  
Harbor: Burnham Slip: P43

Skipper: Fred Henry  
1st Mate: Marla Davis Henry  
Address: 647 Wicklow Road  
Deerfield, IL 60045  
Boat Info: Name: *Wavy Hare* Size: 25  
Sail #: 2650  
Harbor: Kenosha Slip: 331  
Email: [henryfr1960@gmail.com](mailto:henryfr1960@gmail.com)

## **KICK-OFF EVENT**

**Reported on by Laura Pohl**

With the help of member Fred Swastek, Fleet 21 was able once again able to use the Corinthian Yacht Club for an early season social event. We used an excellent but affordable catering company, La Vida Catering (please look them up if you need anything!) and booked maritime singer Tom Kastle through the Old Town School of Music. His singing of the "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald" was especially poignant with the passing of Gordon Lightfoot.

The event proved to be a winning combination! More than 40 people attended, which made it financially viable for the Fleet.

Members from Waukegan, Wilmette, Montrose, Belmont, Monroe, Burnham and Michigan City harbors attended. We welcomed new members Larry Gelbert (Belmont) and Tom and Kathy Steider (Monroe) while also recognizing founding Fleet members Fred and Shirley Collins. The members traveling the furthest to attend were most likely Randy and Carla Carie, who live in West Lafayette, Ind., and keep their boat in Michigan City.

Thank you everyone for your enthusiastic response! We'll hope we can do it again next year.



*Tom Kastle sent this note after the event*

*"Just dropping a line to say thanks for a great time with the Catalina sailors and Corinthian YC. I was surprised and delighted by the response both to my playing and to the music itself. A new generation embracing the music and the traditions."*

<b>COMMODORE</b>	
Harold Hansen	773-480-7412
<b>VICE COMMODORE</b>	
Pete Pohl	630-319-3207
<b>TREASURER</b>	
Eric Hillenmeyer	630-915-8163
<b>SECRETARY</b>	
Laura Pohl	630-682-3204
<b>PAST COMMODORE</b>	
Branson Stone	219-201-5583
<b>HARBOR CAPTAINS</b>	
Belmont	Cat Hillenmeyer 630-915-8163
Burnham	Maria Ryerson 815-735-9266
DuSable	open
Hammond	Pat Reynolds 773-972-2177
Jackson Park	Wanda Robertson 773-538-7531
Kenosha	Deborah Ruxton 630-279-4533
Michigan City	open
Monroe	Cathy Bredlau 708-807-2165
Montrose	Fred Swastek 773-578-6852
Waukegan	open
Wilmette	Jim Graham 847-477-1491
<b>DIRECTORY</b>	
Bill Thompson	630-373-3594
<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	
Pat Shereyk	708-645-1957
<b>OUTINGS</b>	
<b>PROGRAMS</b>	
April Hansen	319-321-9751
Laura Pohl	630-682-3204
Cat Hillenmeyer	630-915-8163
<b>RIGGING &amp; EQUIPMENT</b>	
Leo Beer	708-204-6771
Michael Reed	773-480-7412
<b>PUBLICITY</b>	
Fleet Sheet	Carolyn DeAre 630-842-8545
Main Sheet	Dave DeAre 630-842-8544
<b>MARINER'S FUND</b>	
Ted Kuenzli	773-517-1576
<b>WEB SITE</b>	
Jozef Stawarz	
<b>CYA REPRESENTATIVE</b>	
James Graham	847-477-1491
<b>BANQUET</b>	
Madalyn Duerr	708-305-3342
<b>PHOTOGRAPHER</b>	
Ed Kita	847-226-5286

## ***A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMODORE***

May is here! I hope everyone's plans and preparations are proceeding for a 2023 commissioning. We have our fingers crossed for a great sailing season.



While it is still a way off, put on your calendar Sept 30, 2023, for the CF21 Annual Banquet. We will gather at the Burnham Harbor Yacht Club. This will be the season closing event of our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year and one you will not want to miss. Fun, conversation, great food, drawings for baskets, awards and recognitions, new Flag Officers, and some dancing to complete the evening. Burnham Harbor is central to the geography of our Fleet membership, so save the date to be there for this very special celebration.

Welcome to our newest new member: Gary Leo/Elizabeth Martin hailing from Burnham Harbor. We are looking forward to getting to know you. This makes four new members so far this year, with a total membership to date of sixty-one. Membership directories will be published in the first part of June and available at the Launch Party in Michigan City.

I continue to hear stories about things fleet members learned or help received from other fleet members while attending a CF21 event or program. For our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary there are many events planned throughout the sailing season. I urge you to take part. We had a great season opening at Montrose Harbor, April 29<sup>th</sup>, with 42 attending. There will be a Launch Party in Michigan City June 3, the Michigan Shore Cruise June 23 to July 4 (join for part or all) Kenosha Sail-In on August 5, with the Red Witch cruise, and a Michigan City Sail-In/Rib Fest Labor Day weekend. These are great opportunities to SAIL, meet or make new friends, learn from fellow sailors, and hopefully have a LOT of fun!

Jozsf Stawarz has just volunteered to be our new Webmaster. Thank you Jozsf and we look forward to working with you. Michael Reed has agreed to assist Leo Beers with our Rigging and Technical Column when he returns to the US. His first mate Julia Gorman became ill while they traveled in Spain this spring and is reported to be out of the hospital and recovering well. A big thank you to both of you. There are numerous opportunities for you to become involved: Harbor Captain for North Point, Waukegan, DuSable or 31<sup>st</sup> Street Harbors, Outings Chair, Membership Chair for 2024. If you are willing to help, we will get you involved, and we might even have some fun doing it together.

If you need to contact me during the later part of May, I may be offline a little for a week or so, as I am having back surgery. Hope you have a wonderful sailing season in 2023. See you on the Lake, (soon I hope)!

*Harold Hansen*

Commodore  
Catalina Fleet 21

## OUTINGS

### Launch Party

Toast the start of the sailing season with a margarita then gobble up some appetizers followed by a taco salad dinner at Michigan City on June 3. See the enclosed flyer for all the details.

### Michigan Shore Cruise

As part of our ongoing 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, we are planning a special group cruise along the Michigan Shore. Many of us were a little nervous about cruising the first time. Going across the lake, docking in an unknown slip, or really not knowing what to expect was a little daunting the first time or two. April and I were grateful to have Dave and Carolyn DeAre volunteer to sail with us from Chicago over to Michigan City on our first crossing. So whether you are a veteran or a first-timer, there's never been a better time to sail with your Fleet 21 friends to ports along the beautiful Michigan Coast line. We will be sailing over from Chicago, so anyone who wants to connect with us is welcome. We will have folks from Michigan City as well, if you want to partner up. Reservations can be made on the MI DNR website unless otherwise listed: <https://midnrreservations.com/>

Full disclosure—this website can be a little quirky, so you may have to tweak your boat length/width/depth, but other than that, it's pretty slick. If in doubt, you can always call them directly. Once you set up an account, your boat name, specs, and registration number will appear every time you log in, and you can make all reservations at one time and pay at one time. Generally, slips are about \$1.50 per foot per night and you can actually select the specific slip you prefer (port or starboard tie-up) right on the site.

Please see below the planned sailing itinerary for June/July.

June 23 - June 25: South Haven Municipal Marina  
June 25 - June 26: Holland, MI (reserve directly with Eldean Shipyard or Macatawa Bay Yacht Club if you have reciprocity)  
June 26 - June 28: Grand Haven Municipal Marina  
June 28 - June 30: Saugatuck, MI (reserve directly with Tower Marine or Singapore Yacht Club)  
June 30 - July 2: South Haven Municipal Marina  
July 2 - 4: New Buffalo Municipal Marina

**We have 8 boats who have committed to all or part of this trip and possibly 10!** Please note that the **marinas are already filling up**, so anyone who wants to participate will need to book quickly. And you can modify this agenda if you need to leave later or get back earlier. Please consider joining in on the fun and don't delay on making reservations for this special 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event! Please let the Commodore know if you are considering and have questions, or when you decide to join us.

**Wanted:** Crew to sail with me on the 50th Anniversary Cruise in early July, and later, the September 2-4 Ribfest cruise to Michigan City. Our boat, *Advocate*, is a 34.5 MkII Catalina, built in 2005. She's moored in Monroe Harbor, Chicago. If any members are interested in cruising with me, please call or text Cathy Bredlau at 708-807-2165. Email address is: [cbredlau@gmail.com](mailto:cbredlau@gmail.com)

### Red Witch II Sail

Mark your calendar now for our Kenosha sail-in and private sail on the *Red Witch II* on Sat., Aug. 5<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-7:00. Harbor reservations can be made through



<https://dockwa.com>. If you haven't been there, Kenosha is a beautiful harbor. Lots of shop and restaurants are within walking distance. We will walk to a restaurant

for dinner after our cruise. If you prefer to drive, parking is plentiful and free. More to come on directions, dinner and tickets.

*Red Witch II* is a 1930-design America's Cup racing yacht similar to those that raced in 1908, 1912, and 1920 Olympics and in the America's Cup from 1958 to 1987. This era of elegant racing yachts, with long, swooping bow and stern, and flush deck, are considered among the most beautiful and seaworthy sailboats ever designed. *Red Witch II* is an exact replica of the vintage 12-Meter racing yachts – except she carries safety gear as specified by the U.S. Coast Guard to assure the safety of passengers and crew.

### Still to Come

Mark your calendar for Michigan City Sail-in and Ribfest over Labor Day Weekend. Sail or drive to Michigan City, but be sure to join us one way or the other for our annual end-of-season get-together.

## ***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](mailto:deare30@sbcglobal.net).

## ***REMEMBER WHEN?***



*Anniversary Cruise on the Windy  
August 2003*



### **Catalina Fleet 21**

306 Linden Street  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

**FIRST CLASS**