

OCTOBER 2024

Annual Banquet
November 16
Burnham Park
Yacht Club

IT'S PARTY TIME!

Think party and head out for a night on the town as Fleet 21 says goodbye to another sailing season. Our Annual Banquet will be on November 16th at Burnham Harbor Yacht Club. This is our annual year-end event with dinner, dancing, awards for Boat of the Year, Rookie of the Year, and the Commodore's Award and the installation of next year's officers. (See the box below for the proposed slate). Invite your crew, friends and family to join us. Dress this year is smart casual: includes blazers, sports jackets, dresses, sweaters, trousers, khakis, skirts, blouses, button-down shirts, dress shoes, boots, heels, flats, scarves. We'll have free parking right next to the yacht club; an access code will be provided as we get closer to the date.



Please plan to attend and **make your reservation today** by mailing the enclosed form back to April Hansen. Zelle, check, or credit card payments are accepted. You can complete, scan, and email her your reservation form, if you prefer.

Cocktails and passed hors d'oeuvres will start at 6:00. Tickets are \$95 per person and will include 4 appetizers, salad, dessert, 2 hosted bar drinks plus bottled wine (red and white on each table). Your choice of entrees include:

Salmon Momma-Dore: teriyaki-glazed salmon with toasted sesame, coconut rice and vegetables

Half Roasted Chicken with sautéed carrots and roasted potatoes

Steak Frites: 6 oz. Manhattan cut with blackened garlic chimichurri, bacon-wrapped asparagus and fries

Please note your entree preference on your reservation form.

Everyone is encouraged to put together a raffle "basket." It can be one item or several in a basket, bag or not and nautical or not. We'll sell tickets and raffle off the items throughout the night. Bring cash for raffle tickets!

We hope you'll join us for this special time of year to celebrate another great sailing season and the memories made along the way.



It's Almost Time to Vote! Not for President, but Commodore!



We are once again holding election of officers by way of email ballot this year. It's an opportunity for all members to vote, not just the few who attend a general meeting. **Each membership (boat) is allowed one vote.** There will be the opportunity for write-in nominations if you so choose (though there has not been a nomination from the floor for many years) Watch for an email from Past Commodore Harold Hansen that will be coming by way of electionrunner.com with your link to the ballot.

Ballots will be emailed by Wednesday, October 9 and are due no later than Wednesday, October 22, 2024. Results will be reported at the Annual Banquet on November 16 at Burnham Park Harbor Yacht Club.

The Nominating Committee has proposed the following offices for Catalina Fleet 21 for 2025:

Commodore: Pete Pohl
Vice Commodore: Brett Boas
Secretary: Maria Rayson
Treasurer: Erik Hillenmeyer

In case you're wondering, Cat Hillenmeyer's expanding work responsibilities have made it necessary for her to relinquish her role as Vice Commodore. Normally, our flag officers serve two years. Brett Boas has agreed to step into the role pending the results of the election.

COMMODORE		
Pete Pohl		630-319-3207
VICE COMMODORE		
Cat Hillenmeyer		630-915-8163
TREASURER		
Erik Hillenmeyer		630-915-8163
SECRETARY		
Maria Rayson		815-735-9266
PAST COMMODORE		
Harold Hansen		773-480-7412
HARBOR CAPTAINS		
Belmont	Cat Hillenmeyer	630-915-8163
Burnham	Maria Rayson	815-735-9266
DuSable	open	
Hammond	Pat Reynolds	773-972-2177
Jackson Park	open	
Kenosha	Deborah Ruxton	630-279-4533
Michigan City	Captain Leo Beer	708-304-6771
Monroe	Cathy Bredlau	708-807-2165
Montrose	Fred Swastek	773-578-6852
Waukegan	open	
Wilmette	Jim Graham	847-477-1491
DIRECTORY		
Bill Thompson		630-373-3594
MEMBERSHIP		
April Hansen		319-321-9751
OUTINGS		
PROGRAMS		
Laura Pohl		630-682-3204
RIGGING & EQUIPMENT		
Captain Leo Beer		708-204-6771
Michael Reed		773-480-7412
PUBLICITY		
Fleet Sheet	Carolyn DeAre	630-842-8545
Main Sheet	Dave DeAre	630-842-8544
MARINER'S FUND		
Ted Kuenzli		773-517-1576
WEB SITE		
Brett Boas		812-343-7389
CYA REPRESENTATIVE		
James Graham		847-477-1491
BANQUET		
PHOTOGRAPHER		
Ed Kita		847-226-5286

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMODORE



We just got back from taking *CopyCat* to West Basin Marina in St. Joe for haul out. And thus ends the 2024 sailing season.

What a great one it was. As well as our Wisconsin Shore Cruise, we had an impromptu sail in June to St. Joe for a night and on to South Haven for three nights, plus a fun Flotilla on a Saturday earlier in August. Can hardly wait to see what next season brings. For sure there will be a Michigan shore cruise that we'll start planning early next year.

Some odds and ends:

Knowledge Bank— Instead of the Knowledge Bank I'd proposed earlier this summer, Leo Beer has a different/better approach to sharing problems and solutions. Thank you, Leo. He writes:

"There are members of our Fleet 21 that may need technical assistance and there are a bunch of members who have a lot of experience and knowledge that we can draw on. While the Facebook page is here to share our sailing outings and other fun stuff with fellow members, we can also use it to help our sailing family. If you have a technical boat question regarding a current problem or project you are undertaking, there are members who may have had the same issues in the past that would love to help with some advice. Anyone with questions or advice is welcome to participate. Find our Facebook page under Catalina Fleet 21 Chicago Region.

If you have completed a project or did an upgrade to your vessel that you're proud of, post it. We'd all love to see it and give you the accolades you deserve!

*'The only stupid question is the one you don't ask.'
'A smart person learns from their own mistakes; a genius learns from someone else's mistakes.'*

*Looking forward to seeing your posts.
Leo Beer, SV High Life"*

A Flag Officer change—Cat Hillenmeyer informed me her expanding role at work has gotten to a point that she can't continue in her role as Vice Commodore, so she is stepping down for the 2025 season. I've asked Brett Boas to run for the office for 2025 and he has agreed to it. We're grateful for Cat's valuable contributions and look forward to Brett's.

I hope to see you at our Annual Banquet. Burnham Park Yacht Club has great food and you can't beat the view of the city. It'll be a fun evening with great food, sailing friends, and a bit of dancing. And please consider putting together and donating a basket for our raffle.

Commodore Pete

MARINER'S FUND

Mariners Fund Donates To Sailing School

Commodore Pete presented a \$300 check to Lisa Corsica representing the South Shore Sailing School in Michigan City. The school operates a summer day youth camp and evening adult classes for people looking to learn the sport of sailing. This past summer several Michigan City Fleet 21 members volunteered to take campers out on their Catalinas for a big boat experience.



LOGO WEAR

New Fleet 21 Logo Wear Available

Head over to <https://www.bonfire.com/store/catalina-fleet-21/> and pick out a t-shirt, long-sleeve, hoodie or crewneck sweatshirt with our logo on it. You're a member. Show your pride.



CYA

Reported by James Graham

Highlights from the Sept. 26 meeting of the Chicago Yachting Association:

The CYA's nominating committee has recommended that Catalina Fleet 21's own James Caldwell be its next commodore. James is the current ice commodore and is expected to be uncontested for the top leadership position.

All mariners are invited to attend the **Chicago Yachting Association's End-of-the-Season Celebration**, Sunday, Oct. 20, 2024, 3-6 p.m., Chicago Yacht Club Belmont Station, 300 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago. Tickets are \$65/person, dress is "yachting casual," and each attendee gets a buffet dinner, one drink ticket and live entertainment. The event recognizes Boat of the Year, Sea Scout of the Year, Yacht Person of the Year and Venetian Night Winners for 2024. RSVP to Capt. James Caldwell, email jcald25994@aol.com. Checks payable to Chicago Yachting Association or send money via Zelle to treasurer@chicagoyachtingassociation.org.

The Chicago Harbor report by Scott Stevenson:

- Crime problems at 31st Street Harbor were serious during early-summer, but the situation has improved since July. Two steps taken that have helped: (1) a parking garage was closed to the public and reserved for boaters only, and (2) new fencing was installed.
- CYA was asked to help select a date for next year's Venetian Night, but the options were extremely limited. No decision yet on a date
- A boating enthusiast, Marlon Everett, will be joining the Chicago Park District Board of Commissioners.
- The management company has sought to enforce a zero-tolerance policy for violent or criminal action, with threat of boating permit revocation. He noted that loud music is not considered a violation subject to expulsion from the harbor; that offense is handled by fines.
- There were 363 charter boats in the Chicago harbors this year, 175 of them at 31st Street Harbor.
- The National Sailing Hall of Fame will hold its induction ceremony in Chicago this year on Oct. 4-5, Chicago Yacht Club, 400 E. Monroe, Chicago. For more information, visit <https://thesailingmuseum.org/events/induction-2024/> (Note that your CYA representative has been attempting to get John F. Kennedy, captain of the Victura, named to this Hall of Fame, but has been unsuccessful.)

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome aboard to the following new member. Please add the information to your directory.

Skipper: Karen Purze
Partner: Steve Purze
21 W. Goethe #19A
Chicago, IL 60610
M-Karen_purze@yahoo.com
Phone: 312-952-5562
P-windjunkie@msn.com
Phone: 312-446-8555

Catalina 36: *Good Tidings*. Sail #207
Michigan City (no slip number listed, but it's the 800 dock)

RACING

Our resident racer Pat Reynolds and his Catalina 320 *Karizmaddie* completed their 384th and last race with a 1st in the St. Joe to Michigan City Tri-State Race leg. Horse still swift, jockey not so much! (Pat's words not mine!)



Wow! 384 races including Macs, Hooks, Queen's Cups, Tri-States and Leukemia Cups. Congratulations, Pat, on a stellar racing career!

RIGGING & EQUIPMENT

Fuel Filter Maintenance

Submitted by Leo Beer

A fuel injection pump is a precise piece of equipment that can be disabled by even the most microscopic pieces of dirt or traces of water. It's also the single most expensive component of the engine that is serviceable by only trained and expensive technicians. Therefore, it is vital to be fanatical about keeping the fuel clean. Approximately 90% of diesel engine problems result from contaminated fuel.

Diesel fuel not only makes the engine run but also acts as a lubricant for the injector system. Fuel can be contaminated by dirt, water and bacteria. Even minute particles can lead to plugged or seized injectors, scoring of cylinders and plungers. Water contamination leads to loss of lubrication in the pump, misfires, loss of performance and a non-running engine.

During the extended periods of shutdown that our boats are subjected to up here in the colder climes, water can accumulate in fuel tanks from condensation on the fuel tank walls when less than full. Changes of temperature and humid air moving in and out of the tank vent causes water droplets to form in the tank. As the ambient temperature rises during the warmer months, bacteria and algae find ideal conditions to grow in a dark, quiet environment.

When you go out sailing, fuel sloshes around in your tank, stirring up contaminants that have accumulated over time. You try to start the engine, and it won't, or it has no power. The filter has become clogged.

Most diesel engine performance and no-start issues I've seen over the years are caused by captains neglecting to treat the filters as the most vital components of the motive operations.

I drain the water out of the water separator bowl twice a year and change the water separator filter and secondary engine fuel filter every other year even if I don't run the engine much.

Most all marina fuels have some types of additives. Ask when fueling what is added. If nothing, then adding a good anti-bacterial, anti-water and anti-gelling additive yourself is a great idea.

Lastly, whenever someone is having an engine problem and I ask them when was the last time the filters had been changed and I get the "I don't know" response, I just shake my head. CHANGE THE FILTERS as if your life depends on it. Your boat's engine does.

OUTINGS RECAP

By Laura Pohl

Wisconsin Shore Cruise

A group of cruisers from the Fleet embarked on a Wisconsin shore cruise in August and included visits to Kenosha, Racine, Milwaukee and Port Washington/Cedarburg. While those stops delivered the expected access to walkable restaurants and Wisconsin charm, it was McKinley Marina and Milwaukee that proved to be a pleasant surprise. The itinerary included two nights in McKinley enroute to Port Washington. Our return trip turned into another two-night visit on the southward journey to avoid rough weather conditions. We loved the nice wide dock dedicated to transient boaters and easy walking access to the beautiful lakeshore parks and nearby restaurants.



A big thank you to **Teri Weber** whose boat *Tranquil*, a Catalina 350, is moored in Reefpoint Marina (Racine). She drove up to Racine from Winnetka to help us dock and brought brownies! Given the floating log in the Boas' slip and some other unpleasanties, her help docking us was invaluable.

Nicest harbor bathrooms: Kenosha, hands down. Wow. McKinley, a close second. Best amenity on a hot day: the Reefpoint swimming pool. Best amenity on a rainy day: Colectivo coffee shop across the street from McKinley. What a cool place to hang out!



Our cruising group included Catalinas from Michigan City Ind., Monroe and Belmont Harbors in Chicago and Wilmette (Ill.) Catalinas represented included a 30, two 320s, a 34, a 350 and a 380 With cruising experience ranging from novice to a seasoned Mac racer, we held captain's meetings each morning to talk about the day ahead when moving port-to-port.

Catalina Fleet 21 will likely cruise to the West Michigan shore in summer 2025. Interest is already building for these popular ports. Watch for details about a planning meeting in winter 2025.

Labor Day Sail In

An Italian buffet on 800 dock drew nearly 30 people representing Michigan City and Chicago. The weekend activities included Tour de Boat on Sunday and an omelet breakfast on Monday.



BUY/SALE/TRADE

Fleet members may list items they want to buy, sell or trade in this column. Listing are free and run for three issues of this newsletter. Send submissions to the Fleet Sheet editor at deare30@sbcglobal.net.

Catalina Fleet 21

306 Linden Street
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

FIRST CLASS

Catalina Fleet 21 Annual Banquet



November 16, 2024

Burnham Park Yacht Club
1500 South Linn White Drive
Chicago, IL 60605

Cocktails and Hors D'oeuvres Begin at 6:00 PM
Dinner, Program and Dancing to follow
Smart Casual Attire

Please RSVP by Nov. 8th

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Please cut here and return the bottom portion to April Hansen, 7414 N. Sheridan Rd.
Text questions to 319.321.9751. Chicago, IL 60626

Name of Each Attendee (Please Print)

Entrée Choice: A. Steak Frites

B. Salmon MommaDore

C. Quarter Roasted Chicken

Name:

Entree Choice:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Total Number of Reservations _____

Total Amount Enclosed---\$95 per person _____

Or Zelle your payment to capt.erik.hillenmeyer@gmail.com (Mail form)

Or Pay by Credit Card: Name on Credit Card: _____

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

3 Digit Security Code: _____

Billing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

_____ I will bring a door prize or basket for the raffle.