



United States Power Squadrons®

"Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the FriendsSM"

TARS & TRIPE



Official Publication of the
Grosse Pointe Power Squadron



Trader Todd's Marina Blessing of the Fleet



VOLUME 53 NO. 7 | JULY 2026
www.gpps-d9.com



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Bridge

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*Is there a subject or topic
you'd like to read about?*

Contact your Editor(s):

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DRESS CODE FOR YACHT CLUB

Family Casual - Dress Pants or
Dress Denim. Dresses or Skirts
for women, if preferred.
Collared shirts. No Tee Shirts,
Baseball Caps or distressed
clothes.

Calendar of Upcoming Events



JULY 2026

- 11 SAT - Roadtrip - Tour of National Museum of the Great Lakes
Toledo

AUGUST 2026

- 7-9 FRI-SUN - Northport Lobster Bake
Traverse City
- 15 SAT - On The Water - Raft-Up Lake St. Clair
North of Pier Park Point
- 25 TUE - Detroit Tigers VIP Home Game Experience / Tampa Bay - SOLD OUT
6:40 pm
- 26 WED - Executive Board Meeting
GPYC

SEPTEMBER 2026

- 9 WED - Diamond Jack Dinner Cruise
- 17-20 THU-SUN - Progressive Metro Beach Boat Show
(Volunteers to staff table)
- 20-27 SUN-SUN - National Governing Board Meeting
Cary, North Carolina
- 22 TUE - Tall Ship Science & Sail - SOLD OUT
Miliken Marina
- 23 WED - Executive Board Meeting
GPYC

OCTOBER 2026

- 14 WED - General Membership Meeting
GPYC
- 23 FRI - Commander's Tea
Pier Park
- 28 WED - Executive Board Meeting
GPYC

Check Website for updates to Calendar
www.gpps-d9.com

Check District-9 Michigan website for other events
www.d9-usps.org



***See www.gpps-d9.com for other Squadrons Activities you are invited to join.*

Note: Refer to the GPPS web site for more details - Unless otherwise posted -

All GPPS General Membership Meetings are on the second Wednesday - Sept. through May

All GPPS Executive Committee Meetings are on the fourth Wednesday - Aug. through May



Commander's Message

Cdr. Cassandra Washington, P

Ahoy, GPPS Community,

July is one of the best months to be on the water. Marinas are active, families are cruising, and our waterways remind us why we are passionate about boating. In fact, nearly 100 million Americans go boating each year, making recreational boating one of the nation's most popular outdoor activities.

As we move into July, I also want to reflect June as the month gave GPPS several meaningful opportunities to gather, serve, and celebrate our boating community. One of those highlights was our **New Members Picnic and Steak Roast** held on **June 10 at Pier Park**. It was a wonderful evening of welcoming newer members, reconnecting with longtime friends, and enjoying fellowship in a relaxed waterfront setting. The event was well attended, the conversations were lively, and there was no shortage of laughter, especially as members spiritedly debated the best steak preferences from rare to well done. Moments like these remind us why GPPS is such a welcoming place to connect, learn, serve, and enjoy the water together. Thank you to Lt/C Ken Owens for planning a wonderful event, to everyone who attended, and to the volunteers who helped make the evening such a success.

We were also honored to participate in Trader Todd's annual **Blessing of the Fleet**, hosted by owners **Todd Hyatt and Virginia Carstarphen**. This meaningful tradition brought the boating community together before the height of the season, alongside **Trader Todd's Marina**, the **Maritime Cathedral Church**, fellow members of America's Boating Club, civic leaders, family, and friends.

Our very own **P/D/C Chet Dunbar** officiated the ceremony. Another highlight included music by Harbormaster **Leslie "Les" Leitch** and **Larry Maxwell**, creating a warm and memorable setting for reflection. Yet, one of the most powerful moments experienced was when each person was given a flower to toss into the river in remembrance of a loved one. It was a moving expression of love, gratitude, and connection to those who remain part of our journey.

We concluded the month with the privilege of presenting **Harry Jones, President**, with a donation to the **Detroit Community Sailing Center** at the Belle Isle Boathouse. Their commitment to introducing youth and adults to sailing, water safety, and seamanship reflects many of the same values that guide our organization. We are proud to support programs that make boating more accessible while building confidence, respect for the water, and lifelong skills.

Events like these remind us that boating far exceeds our vessels. It is about community, stewardship, and looking out for one another both on and off the water.

July is **National Lakes Appreciation Month**, reminding us that protecting our waterways is just as important as enjoying them. As you enjoy the weeks ahead, I encourage you to continue practicing safe boating, wear your life jacket, schedule a Vessel Safety Check if you have not already done so, and invite someone new to experience the joy of being on the water.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming squadron activities.

Until Our Next Wake,





Education Officer
Lt/C Chester Dunbar Jr., AP

BOATING SAFETY LAWS

LIFE JACKETS WEAR IT

Law

- All vessels must be equipped with a PFD for each person on board/towed.
- Children under 6 years of age must wear a USCG approved Type I or II PFD when riding on the open deck of any vessel while underway.
- One throwable device must be on board and be readily accessible.
- Each person on a PWC or being towed must wear a USCG approved Type I, II, or III PFD. Inflatable PFDs are not allowed on PWCs or while in tow.

Recommended – All persons should wear a PFD in good condition.

PERSON IN TOW

Law

- Every person in tow must wear a PFD.
- Every vessel towing a person must have a person on board, in addition to the vessel operator, observing the towed person(s) at all times.
- It is only legal to tow persons one hour before sunrise through one hour after sunset, or between 8 a.m. and sunset if towed behind a PWC.
- Boat and person being towed must be kept at least 100 ft. away from shore, a vessel, dock or marked swimming area or person in the water.

SAFETY

Law

- If underway between sunset and sunrise, or during reduced visibility, vessels must be equipped with and exhibit navigation lights.
- PWC's shall not be operated from sunset to 8 a.m.
- Most vessels, including PWCs, are required to have a Type B fire extinguisher on board in an accessible area.
- Sound-producing devices and Visual Distress Signals are required in case of emergency.

BE PREPARED! THE TOP 5 CONTRIBUTING FACTORS TO ACCIDENTS ARE:

Improper Lookout ⚓

Operator Inexperience ⚓

Machinery Failure ⚓

Alcohol Use ⚓

Operator Inattention ⚓

BOATING SAFETY CERTIFICATE

It is recommended that all boaters who operate a watercraft obtain a Boating Safety Certificate. People **required** to obtain a boating safety certificate before operating a boat include:

- Those born after June 30, 1996
- Those born after Dec. 31, 1978 who operate a personal watercraft
- Those less than 14 years of age may not legally operate a PWC.

ELECTRIC SHOCK DROWNING

Never swim at a marina as there is risk of electro-shock drowning. If a swimmer feels an electric current in the water, it is important to swim away from the source even if it is the boat or the dock.

BEFORE HEADING OUT ON THE WATER

- Ensure boat and all equipment is in good working condition.
- Check the weather forecast to assure it's conducive to safe boating.
- Always carry a first-aid kit and anchor.
- Ensure the cabin of your vessel has appropriate ventilation to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.

See the entire Handbook of Michigan Boating Laws and Responsibilities and find a boaters safety course (online or in-person) at Michigan.gov/dnr.

MICHIGAN BOATING INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION



Executive Officer
Lt/C Lisa Nieves, AP

Boating Safely in Extreme Hot Weather

A sunny day on the water can become dangerous when temperatures rise. Boaters often prepare for storms but overlook the risks of extreme heat, which can quickly lead to serious illness.

Why Boaters Are at Higher Risk

Boaters face added heat exposure from:

- Direct sun for long periods
- Sun reflecting off the water

- Humidity that slows cooling
- Physical activity like docking or water sports
- Dehydration
- Alcohol use

Even on breezy days, overheating can happen fast.

Heat Exhaustion

Heat exhaustion happens when the body loses too much water and salt through sweating.

Symptoms:

- Heavy sweating
- Cool, pale, or clammy skin
- Weakness or dizziness
- Headache
- Nausea
- Fast, weak pulse

What to Do:

- Move to shade or air conditioning.
- Loosen clothing and have the person lie down.
- Cool with wet towels, cool water, or a fan.
- Give small sips of water or a sports drink if they are awake.

Get medical help if symptoms worsen, last more than an hour, or the person becomes confused or unconscious.

Heat Stroke – A Medical Emergency

Heat stroke is life-threatening and can cause permanent damage or death.

Symptoms:

- Body temperature of 104°F (40°C) or higher
- Hot, red, dry, or damp skin
- Confusion or strange behavior
- Seizures
- Loss of consciousness
- Rapid, strong pulse

What to Do Immediately:

- Call 911.
- Move the person to shade.
- Remove excess clothing.
- Cool them quickly with water, wet towels, ice packs, or cool water immersion if safe.
- Do **not** give fluids if they are unconscious or unable to swallow.

Rapid cooling can save a life.

Prevention Is the Best Protection

Before boating:

- Drink plenty of water.
- Avoid alcohol and caffeine.
- Wear light-colored, lightweight clothing.
- Use sunscreen, sunglasses, and a hat.
- Take shade breaks when possible.
- Plan trips for cooler hours.
- Watch children, older adults, and pets closely.

A Final Safety Reminder

Know the signs of heat exhaustion and heat stroke, keep water on board, and call for help right away if needed. Safe boating starts with preparation, hydration, and awareness.



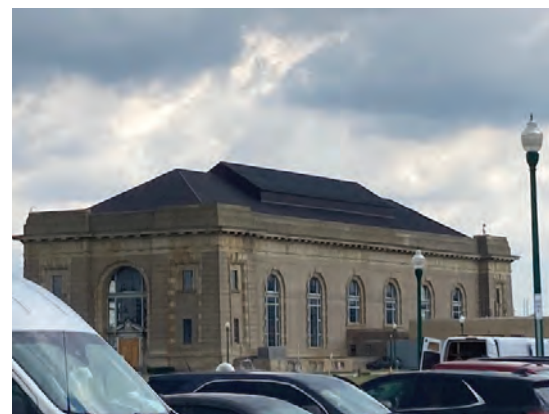
Administrative Officer *Lt/C Ken Owens, P*

Sixteen of our members had the rare opportunity to tour the water treatment facility on Jefferson Avenue, next to Sindbad's and the Roostertail. Two of our members brought their teenage relatives with them for an educational adventure. Normally, the Great Lakes Water Authority offers tours to middle and high school groups, but since we are a nonprofit organization with a connection to the water, they agreed to allow our adult group.

They told us ahead of time to expect a 1 hour guided tour, but ours turned into 2 hours. Our guide was thrilled with all the great questions our group asked. I guess when you are accustomed to speaking to groups of kids every day, it's refreshing to have a group of enthusiastic adults.

The Great Lakes Water Authority operates five water treatment facilities, serving the Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb County area; supplying about 4 million households with pure water. They also operate the one sewage treatment facility which we will tour next year. The five treatment facilities receive their water from three intake stations: one on Belle Isle between the DYC and golf course, one downriver across from Allen Park on Fighting Island, and one in Lake Huron about 4 miles offshore. These three intake stations supply the billion gallons of water each year to the five purification facilities; with Lake Huron supplying the most.

It was truly an educational privilege to learn how Detroit River water is made safe to drink. The Water Works Park facility we toured was rebuilt in 2002 and uses the latest technology in water processes, including ozone purification. I know several members are anxious for next year's sewage treatment tour so we learn the complete lifecycle of water.



Water Works Park Building



Intake Building on Belle Isle



Secretary Officer *Lt/C Gaylynne Giliberto, AP*

July opens with the excitement of celebrating Independence Day, and this year is no different — only grander. As our nation marks its 250th anniversary, families and friends will gather around barbecues across the country in a celebration befitting this historic milestone. But did you know that the explosion of backyard barbecuing

originated right here in Michigan?

In the 1920s, Henry Ford purchased 313,000 acres of forest in Michigan's Upper Peninsula to supply the lumber needed for his Model T automobiles. Building each vehicle required 100 board feet of lumber, generating hundreds of pounds of wood waste in the process. Ford, who was famously opposed to waste in any form, refused to let that go to waste. He assembled a remarkable brain trust — Harvey Firestone, Thomas Edison, and his cousin Edward Kingsford — to find a solution. Ford contracted chemist Orin Stafford to develop a process that combined sawdust and wood scraps with starch, pressing the mixture into pillow-shaped briquettes. Edison himself designed the factory that produced them, built right next to the sawmill. The result was Ford Charcoal Briquets — and the seeds of an American tradition.

Marketing efforts took things a step further in the 1930s with the introduction of the Ford Picnic Kit: a boxed set containing charcoal, a brazier grill, plates, and silverware, sold directly through Ford dealerships. Almost overnight, backyard barbecuing became a widespread American pastime.

After Henry Ford's death, the Ford Motor Company sold its charcoal division to local investors in 1951. The new owners renamed the brand Kingsford Charcoal, honoring the man whose land and vision had made it all possible — Edward Kingsford.



This July, as you gather with family and friends under warm skies alongside the cool blue waters of our lakes, fire up the grill and savor the moment — knowing it all started right here.





Birthdays

July

Chester Dunbar, III
Lawrence E. Briski
Natalie L. Dunbar
Ronald A. Schaupeter
Reanna S. Washington
Leslie L. Leitch

August

Lisa Nieves
Charles E. Fine
John E. Metropoulos
Ronald W. Utz
John J. Sulkowski
Elyse Rose-Trupiano
Eric Stano
Patricia K. Mok
John G. Flynn
Thomas R. McInnes

ROADTRIP



Saturday, July 11, 2026 (10am – 2:30pm)

To

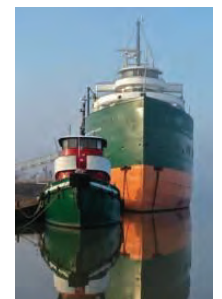
National Museum of the Great Lakes

1701 Front Street, Toledo, Ohio 43605

(Along the Maumee River)

The National Museum of the Great Lakes reveals the varied and fascinating history of our treasured Great Lakes, which make up 84% of all of the fresh water in North America. Come explore the history of the world's greatest natural resource—from canoes and schooners to early steamers and freighters.

- ✓ Pretend you are a Tugboat Captain as you climb aboard the *Tug Ohio*.
- ✓ Roam the 617 foot SS *Col James M. Schoonmaker* freighter launched in 1911. The ship held the title of "Queen of the Lakes" as the largest ship operating on the Great Lakes until April 1914. You can pretend you are Captain as blow her horn, or be an Engineer down in the engine room, or climb down into the cargo hold and see where she carried her tons of cargo!



Pair-up with other GPPS members and carpool the 1 hour and 8 minute, 72 mile trip to this exciting educational, informative, and fun event!

**Touring the tug and freighter require stairs and uneven surfaces. They are not handicap accessible.*

\$17 per person (cash or check to GPPS). Includes discounted admission to museum, tug, and freighter. GPPS will have waters and sodas onsite.

Gather afterwards for a late lunch/early dinner before heading home on your own @ The original **Tony Packo's** Hungarian hot dog restaurant. This landmark was made famous by **Klinger** in the **TV show MASH**, and is just a couple blocks away.



RSVP to Lt/C Ken Owens by **Thursday, July 9.**

GPPSnews@gmail.com or 702.808.5658



D9 SQUADRONS & US COAST GUARD AUXILIARY WILL BE INVITED:

Save The Date...

September 9, 2026

Diamond Jack Detroit River 2 Hour Dinner Cruise \$30

RSVP and full details will be sent later this Summer.

This is just a preview **Save the Date!**

GPPSnews@gmail.com



Grand Traverse Bay

LOBSTER BAKE

2026 Grand Traverse Bay Rendezvous

August 7-8

At Haserot Park, North of the Marina
Northport, MI

Friday night

Happy Hour – 1700
Dinner – 1800

BYO Beverage

Menu: Burgers ,Coleslaw, and Desserts

Table Service provided

Free Hot Dogs for Kids under 12

Music in the Park 7:00 p.m.

Saturday Evening

“The Lobster Bake”

Happy Hour – 1600
Dinner – 1700

BYO Beverage

Menu: Choice of Entree, Potatoes, Corn,
Caesar Salad & Dessert

Free Hot Dog Dinner for Children under 12

BYO Beverage, Table Service and Lobster Crackers

Biggest Ever Silent Auction and Dock Box Sale

Credit cards accepted for Auction and Sale

Please bring an item to be auctioned

Register online by August 1

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/AmericasBoatingClub>

GrandTraverseBay/LobsterBake2026

Make slip reservations at DNR website

www.midnrreservations.com



With the start of the party 4th of July holiday weekend, begins the national campaign to raise awareness of the dangers of boating under the influence of alcohol and drugs, Operation Dry Water. This campaign was initiated in 2009 by the National Association of State Boating Administrators coordinating with local, state and federal law enforcement and US Coast Guard. Just as it is illegal to drive a car under the influence, it is with a boat. Alcohol is the major cause of recreational boating fatalities and accidents. BUI is defined as operating a vessel with a blood alcohol level of $\geq 0.08\%$ in Michigan. But this also includes illegal and prescription drugs that can alter your abilities. They impair your balance, vision, judgement, reaction time and increase your fatigue and inability to tolerate cold water immersion. Boating adds sun, wind, noise, vibration and motion to the mix. Plus, your passengers can slip, fall overboard and suffer life altering emergencies. Is all that worth the buzz?

So continue to follow safe boating practices to include wearing your US Coast Guard approved life jacket, using your ECOS (emergency cut off switch), have a sound producing device, operate under safe speed, and know the rules of the road. Find further information on the web at www.operationdrywater.org, www.nasbla.org, www.uscgboating.org

P/C Rose Stano, AP





Life Jacket Loaner Program for Kids!

...Offered by Boat US and the Grosse Pointe Power Squadron, since 1997

The Boat US loaner program is designed to help boaters comply with state law requiring children under 6 years old to wear either a Type I or Type II life jacket while on an open deck.

A boating family can go to a participating marina and borrow a life jacket, free of charge, for short-term use. Three different size jackets are available: infant, small child, and youth. Now available-- adult life jackets.

Where can I go to borrow a life jacket?

Duffy's Landing at Belle Maer Harbor
41700 Conger Bay Drive
Harrison Twp, MI 48045
586-468-1630

Ken's Marine at Michigan Harbor
24600 Jefferson, St Clair Shores MI 48080
586-775-9274



Lt. Jane Ellis, AP, Boat Safety Officer

Detroit Sailing Community Center



Presenting **Harry Jones, President**, with a donation to the **Detroit Community Sailing Center** at the Belle Isle Boathouse.

ABC of Grosse Pointe
Member Appreciation Steak Roast



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Photos by Lisa Nieves and Rose Stano

ABC of Grosse Pointe
Member Appreciation Steak Roast



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Trader Todd's Marina
Open House



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Trader Todd's Marina
Open House



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Trader Todd's Marina
Open House



Top:
Chaplain Chet Dunbar & Pastor Todd Meyer
ringing the bell at Mariner's Church.

Bottom:
Chaplains Performing Blessings of the Fleet at
Trader Todd's Marina.
Todd Hyatt, Pastor Todd Meyer from
Mariner's Church, Chaplain Joe Minano,
Chaplain Chet Dunbar.



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Anchor Bay Yachting Association

SAFETY, CHARITY & EDUCATION
"Working together for the good of the boating community"

NOF
NOBLE ODYSSEY FOUNDATION

LAKE ST. CLAIR GUIDE

Inland Seas
EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

DETROIT
COMMUNITY SAILING CENTER

DAN BOATER

February 2023
Dan Boater will now be managed by Dan Boater
and not USPS.

Dan Boater will send out email to your registered
email with information on renewal when needed.
New rate will increase but will be discounted
from the \$100.00 rate.

For more information call 919-490-2011 or
<https://danboater.org>

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GROSSE POINTE POWER SQUADRON

EDITOR

P/D/C Chet Dunbar, AP

