



Commodore – Fred Hoitash

By the time most of us read this article, there will be discussion about how we will be opening up businesses in Michigan. There is even an outside chance we may be able to have a real membership meeting this month! Most of us have been doing our part in controlling the spread of a very contagious virus. I see the effort of the majority of the counties in the state as I review the daily COVID-19 numbers from Michigan and the US. I know we are all looking to get back to some form of “normal” in our lives, finances and boating.

Celeste and I have been walking as much as we are able. We had a good month to catch up on our lives, but now she is back to work as a critical employee. I continue to get out regularly as a critical water/wastewater infrastructure person. This goes to say that we have not been as affected as many other people. The bicycles are ready to go once the threat of snow passes this week. We have done major repairs on the boat trailer as it sits in the driveway. We will begin working on the sailboat this weekend since it is stored where we can get at it. Last year these might be just trivial items not worthy of writing. Now even these little things that get us out of our house and away from the paranoia are SO refreshing.

So, based on where the current political discussions are going, along with some early actions by some governors, it looks like we will begin to go back to work in May. We may be able to go to our favorite restaurant again, with some modifications for personal and employee safety. It may even be time to start talking about that summer boating activities and regattas this summer. The Memorial Day Service even appears to be a probability at this time. Needless to say, most of us will want things to open faster than they will. Have a little patience and be thankful for your health. We will soon be looking at this time in history as we did a little over a decade ago during the last pandemic.

Some of the plans we’ve had over the last several weeks have had to be cancelled or postponed. Burger nights have been cancelled though the end of April. We are awaiting news from the Michigan government on when food service can begin at MBC to start up these events. The Commodores Ball, originally scheduled for 15 March, is now scheduled for 06 November. The Blue Gavel Steak Roast on 02 May has been cancelled. The remodeling of the banquet room



Vice Commodore – Dan Martin

Unusual times? Yes. At some point I am looking forward to waxing the boat and discovering what is the new normal as far as boating life goes. As the weather gets warmer and restrictions slowly get lifted, I hope to see all of my MBC friends around the club and working on their boats. That being said the COVID-19 issue is real and we all need to aware and respectful of what it takes so we keep each other healthy.

has been delayed by the shut-down of non-essential services – the carpet and flooring installers. This project will possibly wrap up about 2 weeks after the non-essential services become essential once again. At least we know that this project will be completed sooner than later.

Let’s turn our thoughts to the future and to the resurgence of our economy as America and Michigan begins to put its work force in action again. Let’s look to the future and plan to launch our boats and start racing sailboats. Let’s plan for the Commodore’s Steak Roast on 26 June and the 75th anniversary regatta on 24-25 July. Let’s focus on packing the house for the May membership meeting and start inviting people to become members again. How ‘bout we came out and fill the house when the Rear Commodore gets the green light to open up the Bar in May? I hear he has some big plans for the celebration. We have so many blessings that we do not recognize and so many reasons to be thankful that it should be far easier to think forward with courage than backwards with fear.

“Inaction breeds doubt and fear. Action breeds confidence and courage. If you want to conquer fear, do not sit home and think about it. Go out and get busy.” Dale Carnegie.

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Some limited work has been done around the clubhouse and plans are moving forward as to the painting and new carpet in the banquet room. Regatta planning was started, and some plans are in place based on years past. I asked Lady Gina to layout some groundwork should we have to alter the event. Soon I will need much help with Regatta and hope many of you are able to leap into action when we can make more definite plans.

Many businesses have been greatly impacted by the corona virus. I am the proprietor of a manufacturing and tool distribution business. Quickly the business was altered to manufacture "sneeze guards" as

a barrier between a customer service person and a consumer. To do this there were as many as 25 MBC members or more that have volunteered to help make a significant effort to slow the spread of the corona virus. I not sure who wants to be called out by name, so I am reluctant to drop names, but I am honored to work with these members during a crisis. Please know these Monroe Boat Club frontline essential worker / warriors have likely impacted thousands throughout the US and prevented many people from having to go to the hospital. The opportunity happened fast to make a difference, but I can now tell you stories about MBC members and their dedication that would put you in awe!



Rear Commodore – Brian Moyer

Hello Members from your Rear Commodore! It is hard to believe the situation that we now find ourselves in. Many people have expressed their concerns to me regarding the actions of the Governor of Michigan. I always respond with the same thought. "I am glad I am not in her position". Caution is not necessarily a bad thing, especially if you care about your fellow citizens. You may be tempted to go a bit "overboard" when lives are at stake (just my humble opinion).

News from the bar is quite positive except for the fact that we are unable to serve you currently. The State of Michigan offered a liquor buyback program that I enrolled us in that may give us a modest cash infusion and eliminate some inventory that was not well received by the membership. I would like to thank P/C Mike Powers for his help with that project. I hope to hear that this program will work to our benefit but again there are many moving parts in a crazy situation.

I really want to thank and show appreciation for the members who have worked behind the scenes at the club recently. In the Bar area P/C Rick Campbell and P/C Wendy Campbell have undertaken some of the toughest and dirtiest jobs involving some much-needed

deep cleaning and maintenance done to our infrastructure. I really appreciate the hard work. Please thank them when you have a chance. Commodore Fred Hoitash and Lady Celeste have also taken on some bar projects that fall into the same nasty category. The Bar will look fantastic when we open and that will be thanks to these folks. The back-room renovation project has been mostly on hold, but members P/C Rick Campbell, Dennis Lamb, Kurt Trendle and Cindy Trendle worked tirelessly prepping and painting the walls in our banquet room, and It looks fantastic!! Everyone involved has really worked their butts off and shown their love for MBC and I really hope we all show our appreciation.

Going forward Lori and I will be working to reassemble the bar and prepare for our re-opening. My college schedule will be over soon and I look forward to having more time to devote to our "home away from home". As developments unfold, I will be issuing updates by email to all of the membership but currently this is still a moving train with no stops scheduled as of today. As always please feel free to contact me with your concerns, suggestions, or otherwise.

Brian Moyer – mbc.rear.comm@gmail.com 734-777-6093.



Power Fleet Capt. – Ryan Shaughnessey

Hello members. It finally appears that we are starting to turn the corner on the weather which always makes me anxious to get out on the water. We finally received some good news that power boating will be allowed in MI according to the governor as long as social distancing rules are followed. With the lift on the ban just coming through we will be providing updates as to how it will

affect the club as soon as we can. I will keep everyone posted on poker runs as well. So far, only the first poker run of the year at PPBC has been cancelled. It was supposed to happen from May 29th through May 31st. Should there be any other changes I will send out a mail chimp email. I can't wait until the boats are in the water and see everyone at the club again.



Sail Fleet Capt. – John Davis

Our cruising and racing season is in a state of flux. Our tentative plan as of now, is to push back the start of the racing season a couple weeks. April is normally the start of boat prep, however the weather has been unseasonably cold, windy and rainy and Martie won't

help me when it's cold. We're hoping May will bring better weather and the government will lift some of the restrictive sanctions. We're all looking forward to the club opening soon. Unfortunately, the premier sailing race on Lake Erie, The Mills Trophy Race, has been postponed.



Dock Master – Brian Manor

I'd like to update you on what is happening with the docks at this time. As of my writing of this article our Governor has lifted the restrictions on boating. Many of you have already installed your dock poles, but there are a lot still laying on the docks. We need to start getting them installed. Please practice the proper social distancing when installing your poles.

the safety equipment has been installed including the ladders that were missing last year.

Once most of the dock poles are in, I'll inspect the docks for repairs that need to be done. I know we have some boards that need replacing. I will be sending out a request for a work party once the social distancing restrictions are lighted up.

Please stay healthy and safe.

The electric is on at this time. The water has been turned to all docks except the main T. There is a plumbing repair that need to be done yet. Hopefully that will be completed by the time you read this. All



Auxiliary – Michele Lachcik

There is no Auxiliary news to report this month. I will let you know when the next Auxiliary Board meeting and General meeting will be once we find out when the club will be reopened. Stay safe and hopefully we will be meeting up soon.

CCEC Update – Charlotte Neuhauser

ACTIVITIES

- No meetings this month. Be Safe! Be Well!

MBC CCEC NEWS



MBC Book Club From Judy Peterson: "No meeting until the club reopens."



Earth Day turned 50 on April 22, and will be over by the time you read this; however, we all need to be reminded to pick up the trash when we walk outside, teach our kids and grandkids about conservation, and keep our community and Lake Erie clean through a shared commitment.

Whether you're sheltered in your home in Michigan, Ohio, Arizona, Florida or some other state, post on Facebook or other site past photos or videos of you and/or family members fishing in your favorite place, hiking a trail, picking up trash, with a reminder to your "friends" to pledge a commitment to watch over our environment once the COVID-19 is over.

There are more than 100,000 tons of plastic floating in the Pacific alone, much of it washing ashore far from its source (National

MBC-A (501c3) Update

The MBC-Association operates 4 major educational events each year, and the health restrictions have had a devastating impact on three of the four events. The first year of the 5th Grade Fishing Club has been curtailed and the Michigan Walleye Tournament was going to be headquartered at Monroe Boat Club for the Bolles Harbor event on May 2-3, is cancelled. This year was to be the 10th Annual Environmental Career Day on June 1st and 2nd at MBC, which also needed to be cancelled. It is truly sad to see a year's worth of work, coordination and planning not come to fruition. We thank everyone involved and especially Charlotte Neuhauser for their efforts, and certainly hope that a decade's worth of momentum will be revived next year.

What is Environmental Career Day at MBC? Monroe Public School's 7th graders visit MBC and the Knabush Math and Science Center for two days of learning about our coastal environment, take water samples from the lake onboard MBC member's boats, and participate in presentations from the Ohio State University Stone Laboratory and US Customs & Border Patrol. This was to be the 10th year that MBC has sponsored this program, introducing MBC and our members to the students as they explore the lake, see the shoreline and take water samples.

How it started: In 2011 a pilot of the Environmental Career Day was offered for 16 Lutheran School middle-schoolers. It was offered through collaboration with Mr. Tom Green of LEEOP, the fore runner of the Knabush Math/Science center. Because of its success, by 2012 we were working with Cherie Hunter of the Monroe County School District and Danielle Conroyd of the River Raisin Institute. This was the time when the project became more focused on 7th graders as Ms. Hunter presented data from the Monroe Public Schools that showed by 8th grade kids had decided whether or not to drop out of school. We thought possibly by getting to them at the 7th grade with a program of varied possible careers and interests

Geographic, April 2020). Go reusable and seek alternatives to plastic. My daughter gave me a stainless-steel straw which comes in a case and fits easily into my purse. Single-use plastic straws make up about 4% of the world's plastic pollution. The April 19th Sunday issue of Parade shows easy-to-clean stainless-steel straws in packets of 8 are available from Toodour for \$10. Click on www.smile.amazon.com.

Since Michigan's children will be home for the rest of the school year, the Department of Natural Resources is providing some fun and educational activities focused on the outdoors and history. There is an extensive list of links and materials to give families plenty to do – check it out at Michigan.gov/NatureAtHome.

Resources include DNR nature videos, virtual field trips, indoor and outdoor nature exploration activities, lessons and reading materials for various grade levels, free apps and much more. Check out the 60-second snakes videos and identify the snake that hangs out around MBC's docks.

There was an elder who looked around at the crowd and said, "We are all voyagers. What you carry with you and what you leave behind define who you are."

focusing on the land and sea environment, it might cause them to stay in school. The program offers interesting and fun activities that may be attractive to a wide range of students and we hope this program can reach some of those kids who might be thinking about dropping out. Most of these students would never think of coming to the lake on their own initiative, but after a day at MBC we get kids who say, "This has been the best day of my life." This from a kid who skips school as much as possible.

This is an expensive program because we provide food and a variety of materials (chemicals for water testing, backpacks, handouts). There is no money used from the MBC General Fund. We have been able to annually receive a grant from the Monroe County Environmental Fund (Healthy Monroe Solid Waste Program) since 2014. Every year after the event, the planning team from River Raisin Institute, MBC Association, and MCISD meet for a "lessons learned" session and decide how to improve the program.

amazon smile At this year's 75th Anniversary Regatta, the Kids Fishing Derby will celebrate its 19th year of kids fishing! Your help and tax-deductible contributions these programs is always appreciated! You can help the MBC Association of the Monroe Boat Club with its projects by taking advantage of Amazon Smile <http://smile.amazon.com> and indicate MBC Association as your charity, Amazon will give 0.5% of the purchase price for each item to MBC-A by depositing it directly into MBC-A's bank account. It does not add to the cost of the item you're purchasing, but it is taken from the purchase price that Amazon receives. The Amazon items and purchase prices are the same as for those you don't purchase through Smile. When signing in to Amazon, simply use the following link <http://smile.amazon.com> to purchase your items. Make sure you are using our charity by clicking on **MBC Association** within the Amazon site.

Items of Interest

MBC Spring/Summer Boat and Trailer Storage

Store your trailer, boat or vehicle at MBC:

Members who would like to store their boats, trailers or other equipment in the Club storage yard are most welcome to fill out the attached application and return with payment via US Mail or deliver to the mailbox in the Commodore's Room in the clubhouse.

Spring Boat Prep Procedures:

The Storage Yard is available for use when working on your boat this spring.

The most recent advice from the governor allows boating of all kinds, and you are welcome to prep your boat in our yard. We all must abide by the current distancing requirements. In all cases while working on your boat, you must maintain at least 6-feet between people of different households. This will remain in effect until the Stay At Home Order is lifted, potentially on April 30 but subject to change.

Please pick up any used materials and dispose of properly.

For those moving their trailers into the Yard this spring, a new contract, payment and insurance needs to be submitted PRIOR to moving your trailer into the yard. Download your contract from the club website in the "Members" tab or click here: [Storage Agreement](#)

Also, space may be tight as there is the probability of delays in removing winter-stored boats due to the current health situation. If you are experiencing launch delays, the Winter Grace Period extends to July 1 to help accommodate your needs. With your help we will work through the situation and overcome these difficulties.

The club gives a big **Thank You** to John Gagne Jr who graded and leveled the storage yard, eliminating holes and puddles leaving a nice smooth surface! Rick Campbell was also busy tagging stored items to help organize the Winter and Summer transition.

Directory of Officers, Board, etc.

<p style="text-align: center;">FLAG OFFICERS for 2020</p> <p>Commodore.....Fred Hoytash mbc.commodore.20xx@gmail.com (734) 649-1335</p> <p>Vice Commodore.....Dan Martin danmartin@magnumtools.com (734) 751-8600</p> <p>Rear Commodore.....Brian Moyer mbc.rear.com@gmail.com (734) 777-6093</p> <p>Power Fleet Captain.....Ryan Shaughnessy ryan.shaughnessy@ymail.com (517) 745-8145</p> <p>Sail Fleet Captain.....John Davis jadavis1@bex.net (419) 304-1211</p> <p>Financial Secretary.....Lance Piedmonte</p> <p>Treasurer.....Kay Sisung</p> <p>Secretary.....Todd Strauch</p> <p>Dock Master.....Brian Manor</p> <p>Yard Master.....Dave Ryan</p> <p>By-law Chair.....Rodger Dutton</p> <p>Membership Chair.....Steve Hudkins</p> <p>Historian.....Charlotte Neuhauser/Rob Adkins</p> <p>Obituaries.....Jim Brzuchalski-OH / P/C James Kozlowski -MI</p> <p>Parliamentarian.....Lance Piedmonte</p> <p>Chaplain.....Fr. Darin Robert</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BOARD of DIRECTORS</p> <p>P/C Rodger Dutton - P/C Dave Fetterly P/C Dan Thomas - P/C Jeff Morrow</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BLUE GAVEL OFFICERS</p> <p>President..... P/C John Peterson</p> <p>Vice President..... P/C Mike Powers</p> <p>Secretary.....P/C Ron Soto</p> <p>Treasurer.....P/C Duke Finch</p> <p>Chaplin.....P/C John Peterson</p> <p>Delegates..... P/C Rick Murray P/C Jim Kozlowski</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AUXILIARY OFFICERS</p> <p>President.....Michele Lachcik</p> <p>Vice Pres.....Sharon Bagley</p> <p>Secretary.....Diane Costello</p> <p>Treasurer.....Kim Fuller</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SATIN GAVEL OFFICERS</p> <p>President.....Linda Lamb</p> <p>Vice-President.....P/C Kathy Powers</p> <p>Secretary.....Celeste Hoytash</p> <p>Treasurer.....Molly Wood</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FIND MBC ON FACEBOOK!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FINANCE COMMITTEE</p> <p>Comm. Fred Hoytash - P/C Dan Thomas P/C Jeff Morrow – Kay Sisung Fred Lemerand - Lance Piedmonte - Tom Snarey</p> <p>AYC DELEGATES: P/C Brian Moyer Larry Inguagiato – Ryan Shaughnessy</p> <p>AYC ALTERNATES: P/C Rick Campbell P/C Dan Thomas – P/C Rodger Dutton</p> <p>ILYA DELEGATE: John Davis</p> <p>Roster & E-mail address changes.....Lance Piedmonte lance@piedmonte.com</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">NEWSLETTER "HARBOR LIGHT"</p> <p>Editor.....Randy Treece randy.treece@icloud.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DEADLINE FOR CONTENT SUBMISSION 20th of each month</p> <hr/> <p>Monroe Boat Club website.....monroeboatclub.org</p> <p>MBC-A (501c3) website.....mbcassociation.org</p> <p>Webmaster.....Ken Naszradi knaszradi@yahoo.com</p>
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Calendar of Events

May

2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7	8	9
10 Mother's Day	11	12	13	14	15 Dock Poles Should Be Installed if Possible (Deadline Extended)	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Memorial Day	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Future Events

- Jun 1 – Summer Storage Begins
- Jun 26 – Steak/Chicken Roast Commodore’s Fundraiser
- Jul 1 – Winter Storage Grace Period Ends

Ongoing Events

(Cancelled Until Further Notice)

- Thursdays 5:30 – 8:00 pm Burger Night with Delicious Homemade Soup!
- Weekday Banquet Room Rental only \$150.00
- Lunch Specials Every Day

CLASSIFIED

Summer Storage Season
May 1- Nov 1
Winter Storage Season
Nov 1 - May 1
Contact Yard Master
Dave Ryan
(419)-260-9578 - dryan@bex.net