



COUNTDOWN TO MRYC 2010 SEASON BEGINS WITH MEMBERS MEETING MARCH 12TH!



Ice jams have the lake laying low right now but believe it or not, winter's days really are numbered. On Friday, March 12th MRYC members will gather at MacRay Harbor for the annual spring **General Membership Meeting**.

After appetizers and catching up with fellow boaters, Commodore Walt Fach will welcome our members to the new season, the board will bring us all up to date on the club's status, and we can check out the new MRYC gear available from the Ship's Store.

Then we'll move on to the highlight of the evening: the calendar of **activities and Cruises for 2010!** As always, there are a lot of great activities scheduled, and it's going to be a great year to be a member.

There's the **Commodore's Ball** on May 8th, and the Launch Party **Shakedown Cruise** at Algonac Harbour Club May 21-23. There are also 5 more cruises planned, as well as several other great activities right in our own "neighborhood".

As always, the season will be capped off by our fabulous Haul-Out Party. So be sure to attend the General Membership meeting and get first crack at getting all the info, and signing up for all these "can't-miss" events!

BOAT SHOW DINNER ANOTHER BIG SUCCESS



Despite the last-minute change of location, the annual MRYC Boat Show Dinner went off without a hitch. Thanks to Tina at the Bistro, we had a great menu to choose from, excellent service, and another successful event!

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL FORUM

(TO NEXUS OR NOT TO NEXUS?)

On February 18th at MacRay Harbor, a very informative presentation was made by Customs and Border Patrol (**CBP**) agents, as well as representatives from several other agencies, regarding the new rules for travel to and from Canada by boat. Congresswoman Candice Miller also addressed that topic, as well as the threat to the Great Lakes from invasive species, especially the Asian Carp.



The consensus seems to be that the best answer for recreational boaters is to obtain the NEXUS card. It's considered the best "bang for your buck" in terms of cost, convenience, and versatility.

A very useful website to visit is the "Mariners Coalition" at http://marinerscoalition.com/downloads/MC_ReportingRequirements.pdf Copy and paste it into your web browser, and you will get a pdf file explaining the various procedures for travel between the two countries (with or without the NEXUS card).

This seems to be an excellent time to apply for your card.



As Vice-Commodore Terry Crockatt reports:

"Note that my recent experience in renewing our NEXUS cards was as follows:

- *registered with CBP's GOES online system, then logged into it to apply at: <https://goes-app.cbp.dhs.gov> - \$50 for 5 years for each person.*
- *after 3 weeks we were notified via email of our conditional approvals (then you have 30 days to schedule your in-person interviews - ours are next Tuesday and available dates are virtually immediate).*

While you are there, remember to get your BR (boater's registration) numbers as well.

*Bottom line is they are not really busy and the process took a month. And yes several of our trips are to Canada this year so **now is the time to act** - it's easy.*

You will also need to get your annual customs user fee decal at: <https://dtops.cbp.dhs.gov> - costs \$27.50 and takes 7-10 days. (When you report in to CBP they DO ask for the decal number!)"

(It's the new reality, and we all need to learn it).

UPCOMING EVENTS

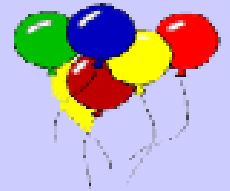
March 5.....	MacRay Harbor Open House
March 12.....	MRYC General Membership Meeting
March 20.....	MRYC Coupon Night at the Bistro, MRH
April 17.....	MacRay Harbor New Member Orientation
April 17.....	MRYC Coupon Night at the Bistro, MRH
April 30	MacRay Harbor Launch Party
May 8.....	MRYC Commodore's Ball
May 21-23	MRYC Shakedown Cruise (Algonac Harbour Club)
May 29.....	MacRay Harbor Memorial Day BBQ
June 13.....	MRYC Hosts ABYA Rubber Band Boat Races

Watch this section for future additions and updates!



Happy Birthday To:

Shelley Dickerson.....	Mar 2
Joe Pascuzzi.....	Mar 3
Bill Quinlan.....	Mar 3
Cathy Girdler.....	Mar 6
Scott Goemmel.....	Mar 8
Richard Allen.....	Mar 10
Stephanie Stegeman.....	Mar 11
Karlann Hudson.....	Mar 23
Rick Kuhlman.....	Mar 23
Rob Galloway.....	Mar 28
Kathy James.....	Apr 3
Charles Hudson.....	Apr 9
Fred Sherrerd.....	Apr 10
Debbie DiDomenico.....	Apr 11
Henry Marcus.....	Apr 16
Larry Page.....	Apr 16
Wendy Lambert.....	Apr 17
Gary Minoletti.....	Apr 18
Paula Sinkel.....	Apr 18
Pete Nowak.....	Apr 23
Moss Rossi.....	Apr 28
Greg Girdler.....	Apr 29



Happy Anniversary To:

Rob and Jackie Paulson.....	Mar 7
Jim and Jana Avenius.....	Mar 20
Wayne and Lynn Bell.....	Apr 6
Walt and Fara Fach.....	Apr 16
Mike and Susan Taormino.....	Apr 16
Jeff and Stephanie Cole.....	Apr 18
Dan and Robin Gabbert.....	Apr 22
Gerry and Diane Prainito.....	Apr 30

BOATING PRODUCT OF THE MONTH!



Past Commodore Clif Chiera spotted this combination gas tank and flare-gun-holder, that might put some "flair" into your next dinghy run.