



www.lmya.net

## Heading into Spring at the LMYA

### Special points of interest:

- LMYA moves forward
- Website launched with new features
- Toms Reports from NBF and the Coast Guard meetings
- New Logo for LMYA is featured
- Lock Closures and Repairs in 2019

LMYA is moving along with the member enrollment period for 2019 and we are seeing most of our former members coming back for another boating season. We want to welcome back the Sheboygan Yacht Club which returns after a couple of years away. This brings our list of potential yacht club members to 37 clubs.

This has been a rebuilding year for the LMYA—new contacts and communications being installed.

New Commodore, Tom Dogan, has been bringing us information from the National Boating federation and from the National Boating Safety Advisory Council in Washington. In addition we have new Rear Commodores in Illinois,

Wade Schroder, and also in the Indiana/Michigan region, Christine Hunt. We have been actively reaching out to other yacht clubs about joining the association to strengthen our group and provide more boating bargains to our membership through the Cruising Card program. We have been working on the website (see article below), and checking social media options.

Our emphasis will be to provide more current information on what is happening at the legislative level which impact boaters around the lake, improving communications methods to reach boaters in a more timely manner, and building communication networks for both commodores and club managers.

The Bridge—2019  
Commodore: Thomas Dogan  
Vice Commodore: Matt Dogan  
Secretary : Jim Mergener  
Treasurer : Sally Mergener  
Past Comm: Scott Robertson  
Judge Advocate: Tom Dogan

State Rear Commodores:  
WI : Jim Mergener  
IL: Wade Schroder  
MI/IN: Christine Hunt

Our Post Office Box:

**LMYA Secretary**

**P.O. Box 631**

**Germantown, WI**

**53022**

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## New Website is Launched

The LMYA website, LMYA.net has a new look and added functionality. Launched in November, we have completely rebuilt the website with interaction buttons, better graphics, a new logo and branding, better designs for yacht club pages and membership list-

ings, and links to other yacht club's websites for easy access. You will like the new look and feel of the site and may want to check it frequently for new features. For example, there is now a Contact Us box for questions, and a place to add your name to our lists for

receiving Spreader newsletters. We are currently adding yacht club pictures and maps for all clubs that have provided them to us. Moving forward in the year, other features added including event postings for regional club's events, LMYA clothing offers, etc.

## Tom Dogan's Report from the NBF and Coast Guard

Tom reports from his meetings with the National Boating Federation that they are becoming heavily involved in the electroshock issue and states that fresh water shock zones could be harmful or fatal up to 50 feet from these shock barriers.

He also reported that at one of the Coast Guard council meetings there was discussion of testing underway for unmanned transport ships on the oceans up to 800 feet in length, that travel

90% submerged below the surface. With no crews? Could those show up in the Great Lakes? Perhaps, in time.

Another issue he brought in is a movement being considered to replace regular navigational bouys on the oceans with electronic aids using satellites called ETONs. To use these electronic aids you would need special navigational electronics. Does this mean no more red or green bouys in the ocean harbors? It is a possibility down the road.

## Lock Closures in 2019

Illinois Rear Commodore Wade Schroder reports that many of the locks along the Illinois River are in very poor condition and need a lot of work. The army corps of Engineers will have to shut down several locks for up to 120 days this summer for repairs. The most critical are the Marseilles and Ottawa Locks. Others that will be closed for periods of time include Peoria, LaGrange, Dresden Island, and Brandon Road Locks.

Keith Ponath reports that the locks on the Fox River are nearing completion but the "dry lock" which involves raising boats with a boat lift and then using a washing station has yet to be started. It is still in the early planning stages. LMYA has been actively monitoring this lock repair project for several years in hopes that the Fox River may be reopened to boaters from Green Bay to Lake Winnebago.

## Summer Events Scheduled

Two annual events are already scheduled for the Wisconsin area this summer. First is the Rendezvous to be held at the port Washington Yacht Club on June 14 and 15th. On Friday night we will have a dinner gathering—location tbd followed by a return to the yacht club for an after party. Saturday activities include a luncheon at the Yacht Club, the LMYA update review, and

possibly an afternoon cruise on the Jakob, a 55 foot sailing ship operating out of Port Washington this summer. The evening activities include dinner at the Yacht Club, a silent auction, and games and prizes.

On July 13th, South Shore Yacht Club in Milwaukee will once again host the annual Day At The Lake for SSYC and LMYA members. The open house fea-

tures meals, games, prizes, an auction, and plenty of wonderful hospitality on the lake front. This is a super fun event and LMYA members can get an extra night of free dockage at the yacht club with their LMYA Cruising Cards saving them some money to extend their stay an extra night. This Open House draws people from all around the lake, so come enjoy the day at SSYC.

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*LMYA Rendezvous and SSYC open house are already scheduled - mark your calendars*

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## New LMYA Logo unveiled

As part of our website update project launched in November, we selected a new Logo to replace the ones that have served us for so many years. The new logo is a dark blue circle surrounded by the words LAKE MICHIGAN YACHTING ASSOCIATION, with a modern

cruiser design and the outline of the lake in white. Above the cruiser are the traditional LMYA knot from our old logo and four stars representing the four states in which the LMYA operates. You will be seeing the new logo design on our forms and paperwork, and on the website pages.

Our inspiration for the revised logo is that we want our club to be the focal point for cruising boaters on the lake. We are reaching out to all corners of the lake with both information and a welcome to all who boat on the lake. May your travels take you to all corners of our great lake.



**New LMYA Logo**