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Tom Dogan Appointed to NNAVSAC

Tom Dogan, Commodore of the LMYA, has been appointed as a representative to the National Navigation Safety Advisory Committee to the Department of Homeland Security for a three year term. This committee provides advisory assistance on matters related to maritime collisions, ramblings and groundings, Inland

rules of the road, International rules of the road, navigational regulations and equipment, routing measures, marine information, and aids to navigation systems. Tom will represent the views of the recreational boating industry on the council. Tom had served in a similar

capacity several years ago and was able to bring several issues affecting great lakes boaters to the attention of the committee. His input from these meetings will be a great benefit to the LMYA boaters when it comes to safety initiatives which are under consideration or being enacted at the national

levels. For example, there is a new Coast Guard announcement that states that as of April 1st, operators of recreational vessels less than 26 feet in length will be required to use engine cut-off switches and associated links under a new law passed by congress.

A Letter from Indiana Harbor Yacht Club Commodore Raymond White

Special points of interest:

- Tom Dogan, Appointment NNAVSAC
- Letter from Ray White
- South Shore YC - Finger Piers Repaired
- Hook Race July 24th
- Asian Carp Project at Brandon Road Lock & Dam
- Virginia Sansone
- Wis Rendezvous—June 19th
- Quagga Mussels taking over the lakes

As I write this at my dining room table, I am enjoying my coffee, bagel, and banana. Two geese are swimming on the pond deciding if that is a good place to raise a family. It reminds me of our Spring Checklist that involves Bottom paint, cleaners, waxes, boat registration stickers, trailer plates, flares, and checking the batteries, lines and sails. Seems like our list gets longer every year but the payoff is a Summer of fun with your dock

friends. For those of us who are lucky enough to be a member of a yacht or boat club, dock friends have become an extension of our family. I have been blessed with truly great people and look forward to spending quality time with them. These clubs offer a place on the water, surrounded by people who have the same boating interests, with relaxation and fun. The IHYC provides various entertainment in the form of theme-based dinners such as Valen-

tine's Day Dinner serving steak and lobster, along with the annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner of Corned Beef and Cabbage. There are fish fry events during the Lenten Season. Our club holds a variety of raffle drawings and a Bingo and Queen of Hearts Raffle. If you are not already a member of a club, I encourage you to become one. Stop by and join us at the Indiana Harbor Yacht Club. . Your Friend, Raymond White IHYC Commodore

South Shore Yacht Club — Repairing Finger Piers

The FEMA determination appeal that was recently filed has not been answered yet from FEMA. In the meantime, water levels have declined almost a foot since last year at this time and the members of South Shore are proceeding with replacing all of the pallets on the tops of their finger piers so that the slips can once again be open for

boaters to use them. Hopefully the breakwater repair project will begin this year and be finished by 2022. The breakwater needs a complete rebuild after the severe storm damage of January 2020. Milwaukee county has requested proposals from several contractors for the design and engineering of the rebuild efforts. Bids are expected

back this month. South Shore volunteers are installing new pallets made in Green Bay which are a non-skid composite material with extra boards beneath the docks to lock the pallets in place so they can't be dislodged by future storms. Rebuilding the finger piers involves securing about 950 four

-foot sections of composite pallets that are affixed to the steel supports. Some of the members are working on weekends to install the pallets with a target date for opening the docks of May 1st. Most of the pallets on 250 slips should be replaced by that time. See photo below.

38th Annual Hook Race July 24th, 2021

The 38th running of the Hook Race will be held on July 24th starting from the Racine Yacht Club and ending at the Menominee Municipal Marina in Michigan. The race follows the coast of Wisconsin from Racine to the Porte Des Morts (Death's Door) passage south of Washington Island and ends in Menominee. Double and single-handed, one designs, and Spinnaker Fleet entries included. For more information contact Fred Stritt or Ed Palladino the race co-chairs at hookchair@racineyachtclub.org.

Members of South Shore working to install new pallets on the finger piers.



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LMYA Officers for 2021

Commodore: Thomas Dogan
Vice Commodore: Matthew Dogan
Secretary: Jim Mergener
Treasurer: Sally Mergener
Judge Advocate: Thomas Dogan



Project to Block Asian Carp from entering Lake Michigan Enters a New Phase at the Brandon Road Lock and Dam

The next phase in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers's project for the Brandon Road Lock and dam near Joliet is moving ahead after state and federal funding has been secured. The project aims to block out some prolific species of invasive carp that could destroy the balance of the Great Lakes ecosystem and eat their way through the region's \$7 billion fishing industry. The entire project is esti-

mated to cost \$858 million to complete, with Michigan pledging up to \$8 million, Illinois \$7 million, the Illinois DNR 2.5 million and federal funds covering the rest.

The Brandon Road planning phase of the project is expected to take three to four years and includes securing the construction site, implementing research data, modeling, before they begin construction.

Among the technologies included in the plan are an electric barrier to deter and stun carp, underwater sound to scare them off, an air bubble curtain to turn around small fish, and a flushing lock to send larval fish and eggs downstream. Another technology to be tested is carbon dioxide deterrence.

Once construction begins, the project is expected to be completed

in six to eight years.

That puts the finish date somewhere around 2030.

Silver carp, which are known for leaping many feet into the air, and bighead carp that regularly reach 40 pounds and can top 100 pounds are the species of concern. Commercial fishing and electric barriers have not been enough to stop them so far.

Virginia Sansone Passes Away

It is with great sorrow that we report the passing of Virginia Sansone in January in St. Joseph, Michigan. Virginia and her late husband, Fred, were the driving force behind operations of the LMYA for more than 20 years. They kept the club running and created many Blue Books that were distributed to the

members annually. As boaters, they were members of St. Joseph River YC, Eagle Point YC, and Miller Ike's YC. A mass celebrating her life will be held at St. Bernard's Catholic Church in Benton Harbor, June 26th at 11 AM.

Wis Rendezvous Plans for June 19th

With the start of a return to normal in 2021, the Wisconsin region of LMYA is planning to phase in our annual rendezvous once again, but in a safe and scaled down manner. Rather than a two day event in Port Washington as we had previously

done, we will combine our gathering with the Milwaukee Boat Club's Champaign and Cold Duck activity on June 19th in Milwaukee. Location of the party is TBD but further details will be sent to all of the Wisconsin region members well in advance. Mark your Calendars.

Quagga Mussels Taking over the Great Lakes

Researchers at the Univ. of Minnesota Large Lakes Observatory recently released a new study on the impact of Quagga Mussels on phosphorus which regulates Great Lakes ecology. Phosphorus is the limiting nutrient which con-

trols biological production in the great lakes. If there is too little there will be no fish produced, and if there is too much you get algae blooms. Quaggas were introduced three decades ago in the ballast water of ocean

freighters. The small mussels have now reached depths of almost 200 feet to the lake bottom. They disrupt the basis of the aquatic food chain by vacuuming up tiny plants and animals which

will ultimately affect sport fish. They also clog water intake pipes costing industries millions annually. They have changed the food web and it may take decades before things will once again stabilize.