



# Topsider



UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®

MICHIGAN CITY SQUADRON, A UNIT OF THE UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®

## District 20 Sail and Power Boating May 2011

### Commander's Report

Welcome to the May edition of the Michigan City Power Squadron Topsider and my first report as your new Commander. It's been a long and arduous winter in many ways and we are all looking to a refreshing spring and summer season. Boats are being readied and going back in the water. We know there is shoaling on the west side of Michigan City entrance by the NIPSCO light and upstream Trail Creek is very shallow but boats are making it out. The weather is getting warmer and hopefully the lake water levels will rise.

The spirit of the Michigan City Power Squadron also needs to rise. We need to look at everything that we do to make sure it is in the best interests of the squadron. National membership is down and each squadron needs to adapt to survive.

We are going to have meetings every month beginning at 6:30 the fourth Thursday of the month. They will be brief and to the point and over in 30 minutes. The meeting will be followed by a pizza dinner at "12 on the Lake" formerly Georgetti's. It's the same great pizza with a different name. After dinner we will have a speaker that is related to boating.

This month we have the pleasure of hearing about traveling on the Tennessee River by our own Janice and Tom Hines. They have spent the past few summers



slowly making their way southward. This fall they will be continuing their trip down to Florida and the Bahamas. It should be an exciting presentation.

July we will have something special in store as the Michigan City Squadron will be celebrating its 50th anniversary. We discovered this by accident as we were looking at the founding certificate on the wall of the Power Squadron room during the change of watch. We also have the Grand Haven Rendezvous in July.

The Power Squadron's motto on each slide in the ABC course is "Boating is fun...we'll show you how." Membership in this squadron should be fun. I wish I could say I'll show you how because I'm such a fungi, but I can't. I need all of you to help. We need suggestions for speakers, activities, and any other things you think we need to be doing. Above all, we need you to come out to the meetings, provide input, and contribute to the welfare of the squadron. For too long, there have been just a few trying to do it all. We need all, doing a few things well to make it work.

LARRY

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## **Change of Watch**

Our Change of Watch was April 30th and held at Georgetti's. It was presided over by Oscar Lutz, D20 Treasurer. He presented a 25 merit mark award to Tom Sharp and Maxine Spenner for over twenty five years of service to the Power Squadron. Congratulations!



Roger Bateman, Bill Jenkins, Janelle Fleck, David Oberle, Steve Blair, Tim Patterson, and Larry Fleck are sworn in by D20 Treasurer Oscar Lutz .



## ***Classes***

### **Piloting Class**

Seven students successfully completed the winter Piloting class taught by Tom Sharp and Larry Fleck at “12 On the Lake.” Class began in November and exams were finally completed in March after a few delays due to weather.

The students are:

Tom Bacon	Janice Hines
Tom Hines	Bill Jenkins
Erica Richwine	Jeff Richwine
Denise Watt.	

Exams have been returned and you may pick them up at the next meeting.

### **America's Boating Course**

The revised class was held this spring at B&E Marine. Twelve students were enrolled in the class and completed it.

**Seamanship** class is underway in the Power Squadron room at “12 On the Lake” now.

## ***Welcome New Members***

Joseph and Cindy Beckman  
Rod and Deborah Schar  
Jeffery and Kathryn Bernel  
Charles Perry

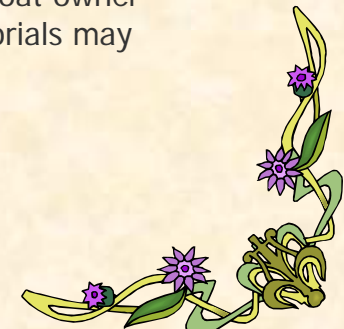


*In Memory of*

***Richard A. Barkow***  
***AP***

***A member of the Michigan City  
Power Squadron for 23 years.***

Dick was born June 16, 1944 , in Michigan City to Norman Charles and Gwendolyn Marie (Ballard) Barkow, who both preceded him in death. On June 29, 1968, he married Carroll Elizabeth Cullom, who survives in Michigan City. Also surviving is his daughter Elizabeth Marie (Vernon) Towle, LaPorte; grandchildren Sean Allen and Ryan Randall Towle; brothers William (Denise) Barkow, Chesterton, Lawrence (Cheryl) Barkow of Farmington, Maine, and Kenneth (Paulette) Barkow of Michigan City; sister-in-law Susan Hall; nephews Christopher, Stefan, Kevin, Keith, Larry Joe, and Daniel; nieces Alison and Kimberly; as well as many cousins. After graduating from Elston High School in 1962, he joined the U.S. Navy and spent 4 years as a communications technician stationed at Pensacola, Florida, Adak, Alaska, and Hawaii; he was awarded the Joint Service Commendation Medal. In 1966 Dick was employed at Bethlehem Steel (now Arcelor-Mittal Steel); and for most of 45 years has worked as a control computer operator, right up to three days before his death. Even though he loved his work, and giving his fellow comrades at the mill a hard time, he also enjoyed skiing and sailing. As a member of Duneland Ski Club, he enjoyed many hours on mountain slopes with friends. He was a senior member of the U.S. Power Squadron, and as a boat owner loved to go sailing with family and friends. Memorials may be made to the [American Cancer Society](#).

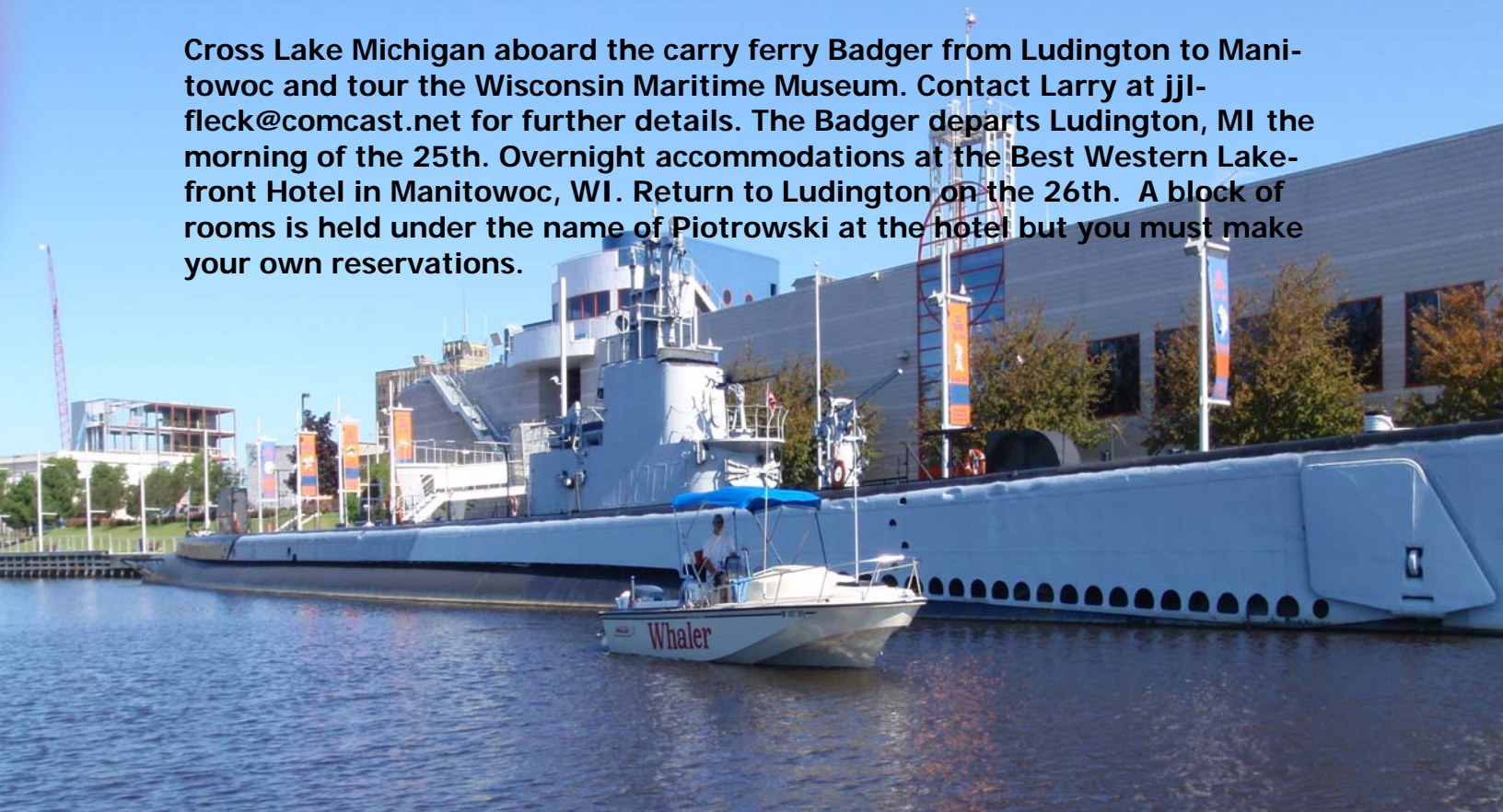


June 18-19, 2011

## Lake Michigan Crossing aboard the car ferry "Badger"



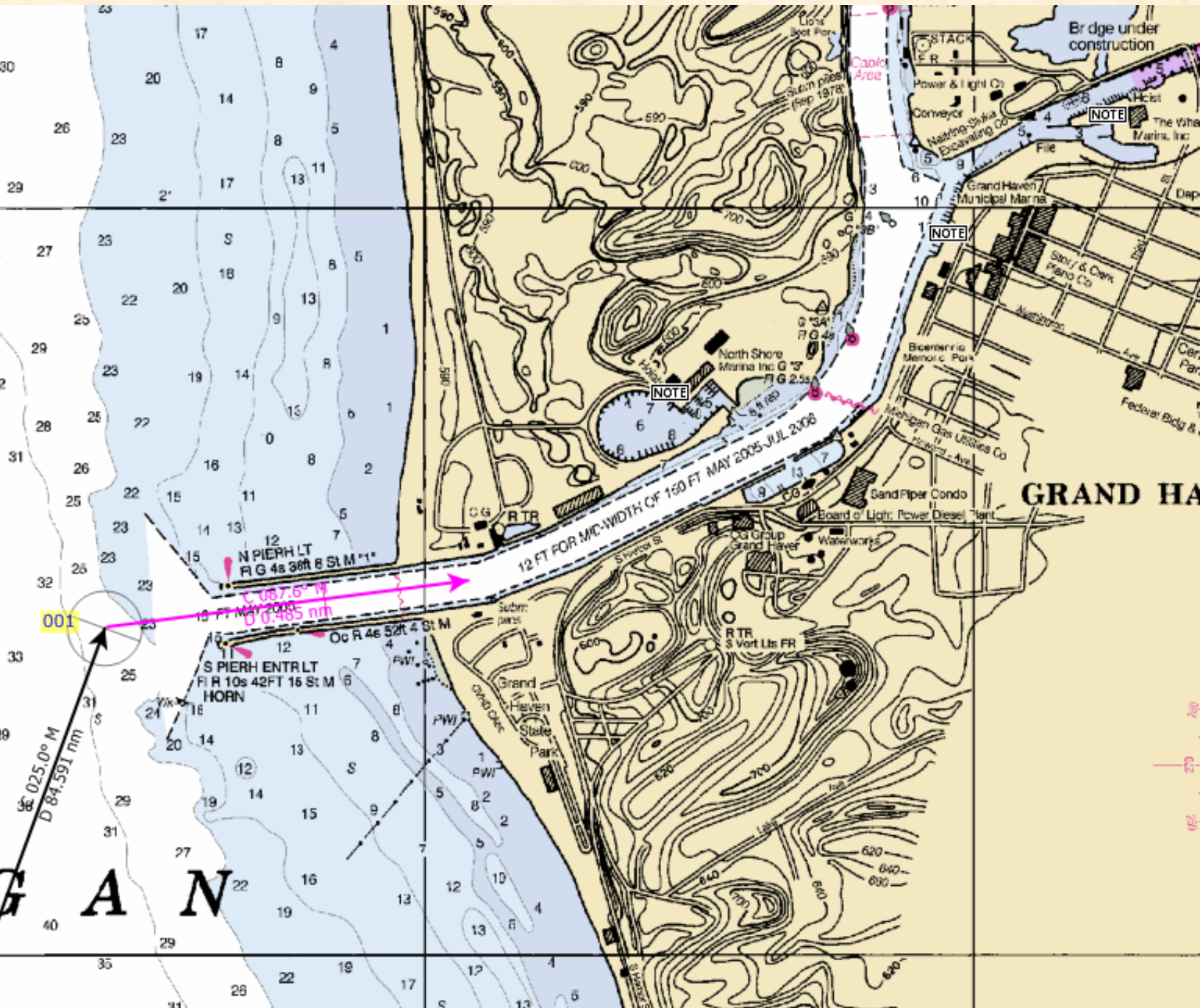
**Cross Lake Michigan aboard the carry ferry Badger from Ludington to Manitowoc and tour the Wisconsin Maritime Museum. Contact Larry at [jjj-fleck@comcast.net](mailto:jjj-fleck@comcast.net) for further details. The Badger departs Ludington, MI the morning of the 25th. Overnight accommodations at the Best Western Lakefront Hotel in Manitowoc, WI. Return to Ludington on the 26th. A block of rooms is held under the name of Piotrowski at the hotel but you must make your own reservations.**



July 21-24, 2011

# Grand Haven Rendezvous

We will be cruising to Grand Haven Michigan for an informal gathering. Cruise by yourself or with a buddy boat. Last year we had four MCPS boats go to South Haven. Three people and a puppy drove up. We all had a really good time. Make your reservations for a slip by calling the marina. For further details contact Larry Fleck [jjl-fleck@comcast.net](mailto:jjl-fleck@comcast.net)



**Officers for 2011**

Commanding Officer                    Larry Fleck

Executive Officer:                      Bill Jenkins

Administrative Officer:                Tim Patterson

Treasurer:                              Dave Oberle

Assistant Treasurer:                  Janelle Fleck

Educational Officer:                  Jim Kilpatrick

Assistant Educational Officer:        Roger Bateman

At Large:

    Tom Sharp

    Steve Blair

    Marty Campanella

Secretary:

    We could use a volunteer

    One meeting per month

**MICHIGAN CITY POWER SQUADRON WEB SITE**

**[HTTP://GREATCIRCLECRUISE.COM/MCPS.HTML](http://greatcirclecruise.com/mcps.html)**

**TOPSIDER@GREATCIRCLECRUISE.COM**