

Feb 2009

Caretakers Corner

Welcome to Caretakers Corner.

Hopefully you're not getting tired of me telling you that things are looking up around the Club. I don't think that the Club and surrounding area has ever looked better. Each of the improvements that we have made just adds to the appeal and makes our Club a more desirable place to seek membership. It's already March 2009, and everything for setting up our season is looking pretty good. Mainly, I'm referring to the fact that the price of gas has gone down, so hopefully that will allow us all to get out and enjoy more time together with family and friends.

Things are starting to come together in regards to the new dock, and with hard work any luck at all, it will be ready for usage when the Club opens for the season. For those of you who are looking for work hours there are a lot of things that need to be done. Getting the docks ready and preparing the Club itself. So keep us in mind if you have some spare time.

PLEASE SIGN IN FOR ALL WORK HOURS. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SURE YOUR TIME IS ENTERED INTO THE WORK TIME BOOK. YOU MAY NOT RECEIVE CREDIT FOR TIME WORKED IF THIS IS NOT DONE.

We have also updated the web-site and there are some photos of the new dock in the photo gallery. www.mcboatharborllc.com. As you start bringing your boats down for the season you will see that your slip number has changed, this does not mean that you have been moved from your former location it is a new numbering system to make it easier for new members and friends to locate slips. For example if your slip was B-1 it will now be B-42.

We do have several smaller slips available for small boats, so if you know of someone looking for a slip, please refer them to our web-site for an application.

Concerns

If you own a boathouse, you will be receiving or may have already received a request from the Board of Directors (along with your yearly dues), that requests that you provide the Club with proof of insurance on your boathouse. I will admit that I am the person who brought this request to the Boards attention, and here are my thoughts behind the request.

I am a boathouse owner also, and I know full well the cost of replacing or rebuilding a boathouse. With most boathouses being no farther apart than three or four feet, a fire involving a boathouse would more than likely destroy the houses on either side of it and possibly more than just one or two before the fire department could even arrive at the scene.

As we can all see, a large number of our boathouses have been remodeled or rebuilt, indicating that members are using their property's more often which leads more cooking, grilling and in the winter time, heating it. There are also a few boathouses' that are not in such good repair, which could lead to electrical problems and takes us back to the problem of fire. As I read our rules and regulations, I see that under liability it states:

(VII. Liability, a member is directly responsible for any damage that his or her boathouse, pontoon, houseboat, cruiser or other boat causes to another person's property.)

As the Board of Director's are the enforcing body of this Club, the only way this rule can reasonably be enforced is by checking to see that members who hold personal property in this Club are bonded or properly insured. Coming from my former background, I have witnessed several times that the person who protests the most is the same one in the front of the line to say, why didn't you as our governing Board make sure that I was protected, not only from others, but also from myself? Hopefully, obtaining this paper work will not be a big problem. For those of you who do not have insurance, or are having trouble finding a company, the Winona Agency and Wunderlich Insurance Agency have companies that will insure boathouses.

Also, for those of you boathouse owners who have old or outdated electric meters that in some cases don't work at all, the Club currently has six meter heads and meter bases available for purchase. Please contact someone from the Board or myself.

Important Dates

Saturday, March 21st 2009, will be our annual Spring Fling at the Club, starting at 1 pm. Please bring a dish, chips or some type of desert to pass.

Wednesday, April 15th 2009, is the date for the **Annual meeting**. This meeting will be held in the Clubhouse starting at 7 pm. This meeting is for the Election of New Board officers of which four positions will be filled. If you are interested in running for a board position, please contact Jim Hansen at 507-454-3922.

Caretakers Corner

The creation of this newsletter was for the purpose of helping to keep you (our members) informed of what's going on around the Club and at our Board meetings. However, because I am the writer and editor, you are only getting my views and opinions. I strive to ensure that my views and opinions are accurate, either from personal experience or from what you (our members) are telling me. As some of you may know, I don't always agree with some of our Board members at the meetings, and I will speak up if I feel it is necessary.

Now for the really bad news: It looks like I'm going to be the caretaker here for at least another year. My hope is that you find my services as the caretaker acceptable. However, please keep in mind that I do not receive any compensation from the Club for services rendered around the Club and to you. My compensation for being here as your caretaker comes from profits in the sales of products in the Clubhouse, and from being hired to do work around the Club and on personal property. So please consider making

your purchases of fuel and other items here at the Club, rather than at Kwik Trip or any other convenience stores. I do my best to keep my prices in line. I have had members question my gas prices. You should know that I purchase only non-oxygenated fuel for our boats that cost more but is much better for your motor. I have placed in my contract with the Club that I will only charge 25 cents per gallon over my cost for the fuel. The bad part of selling fuel is that I can't follow the prices at the stations I need to recover my cost so my price needs to remain until the gas is sold even if the price at the stations drop.

I'm hoping for a really great year and to see all of you again, (a little sun shine and warmth would be nice to).

Thank You.

Bob R. Schei

Board Members

Doug Block	President
Rocky Volkman	V- President
Jim Hansen	Secretary/Treasurer
Tom Lozenski	
Mark Walters	
Ron Schneider	
Travis Buxengard	

The Board holds a meeting on the second Tuesday of every month, (during the boating season) at 7 P.M. They are hoping that you as members will attend, since this is your club and without your input they can only act on their own knowledge and thought's. Please, if you have Club business, come to a meeting and bring it up, as it takes the board as a whole to make a decision on Club business, not just one member of the board.

The Club address is; Minnesota City Boat Club
P.O. Box 101
Minnesota City 55959