



Gator Bytes

www.watergateyachtclub.org

Watergate Yacht Club
Newsletter

Volume 4, Issue 1
February 2008

Greetings Watergators!

We hope that you've enjoyed the "off" season and have made your New Year's resolutions to include the following:

- To do more boating in 2008
- To meet new friends and neighbors
- To join the Watergate Yacht Club

Contained in this issue is an application for membership to the Watergate Yacht Club (join before June 1st and receive a free WYC t-shirt); also please note the activities detailed by Vice President Dave Ruzicka.

As a reminder from the Watergate Marina Navigator, please respect your boating neighbors by following the marina rules regarding picking up after your pets and by not parking in front of the steps/ramps or in front of boats in the land and launch areas.

Also, please welcome two new members to your WYC Board. Michelle Olson, who will head up the WYC website, and Gretel Keene, who is a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Please contact Michelle regarding any website information (www.watergateyachtclub.org); and Gretel for information on Coast Guard Boat Safety inspections.

Mark your calendars now for the WYC General Membership Meeting to be held on Friday, May 16, 2008 aboard the Magnolia Blossom.

And finally, thanks to each of you for your great support of the Yacht Club. We had the largest number of members (73) in 2007 since its inception.

Wishing all of you a safe and fun-filled summer of boating activities.

Sincerely,
Virg Amsden, President WYC

WYC Board Members

If you have any questions regarding WYC, please contact any of the following board members of WYC:

- Freeman Brooks, Commodore (Cobra's Den K-7)
- Virg Amsden, President (Manhattan Madnes, E-18)
- Dave Ruzicka, Vice President (Jordaliya, K-3)
- Deb Distad, Secretary (Temptation, J-8)
- Jim Hillman, Treasurer (The Real World)
- Chris Schmitz, Social Co-Chair (Somarhom, J-9)
- Kathy Mohn, Social Co-Chair (Lady Kate, K-1)
- Dan Dickinson (Magnolia Blossom)
- Tom Dinsmore (Dr. Jekyll, K-16)
- Jim Gaul (Knot for Sail, H-13)
- Gretel Keene (LaVedette, C-10)
- Michelle Olson (Willie B II, K-14)

Please watch the dock information boards often for any updates.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Watergate Yacht Club is to promote safe and enjoyable boating on the Mississippi River to those with dockage at Watergate Marina in St. Paul. As a nonprofit organization, each member will support the management and the City of St. Paul in their efforts to provide a marina service to the boaters at Watergate.



2008 Calendar of Events

March 15/16
Saturday/Sunday
Boat Safety Class
8:30 am

Saturday April 19
Adopt-A-River Clean Up
11:00 to 2:00
Pot luck at 3:00

Friday May 16
General Meeting on the
Magnolia Blossom
6:00 pm

Saturday June 7
Nautical Flea Market
9:00 am

Saturday June 14
Progressive Dock Party and
Poker Trek
5:00 pm

Saturday July 12
Rib Fest/Horse Shoe
Tournament
Family Fun Day

Hey Matey, by the time you read this, it won't be long before we will be thinking about getting our boats back in the water for the 2008 boating season. For those that may not know, the boating season does not end for the officers of the Watergate Yacht Club. During the cold months, the officers of the WYC have been planning and scheduling events for the 2008 season. In this part of the newsletter, I will list and give you a little insight on the events we have planned for the 2008 season.

Boating Safety Class (April 5 is an alternate date) This is a popular MN DNR class offered to Watergate Marina boaters, young and old. There is limited space, so sign up early. See the article on page 3. For more information contact Jim Hillman 651-433-3364

Adopt-A-River Cleanup - In cooperation with the MN DNR, WYC has adopted one mile of river (1/2 mile on each side). We walk the river shoreline to pick up trash and debris that does harm to the river and the environment. This makes the river a better place to boat and allows us to be proud of our efforts to improve water quality. This is a great way to get out in the spring to enjoy new and old friends. For more details, contact Virg Amsden 651-699-3429

General WYC Meeting - Again this year, we are planning to have our Watergate Yacht Club General Membership Meeting on the Magnolia Blossom. This is a great time to renew your WYC membership, if you have not already done so. If you are new boaters to the marina, you are invited to join us to find out more about the yacht club and to meet fellow boaters. Snacks and cash bar. For more information, contact Virg Amsden 651-699-3429

Nautical Flea Market - Ok, fellow boaters, this is your chance to get rid of those boating items you no longer have a use for or to find that treasure that you have been looking for. For more information, contact Virg Amsden 651-699-3429

Progressive Dock Party - This party ranks right up there as one of our more popular events. This is the way it works: each dock ABC, DE, FG, HI, J, and KL chooses a party theme; each dock then serves a beverage and hors d'oeuvres to go with their theme. We spend 30 minutes at each dock before moving on to the next dock. Now, to make this a little more fun and interesting, we are including a **POKER RUN**. For more information, contact Chris Schmitz 651-755-7197 or Kathy Mohn 952-210-7593

Rib Fest/ Family Day - If you like ribs, this is the event for you. Our very own yacht club Commodore, Freeman Brooks, serves up these tasty morsels after he and Tricia spend many hours of preparation. With these delicious ribs and our famous fixing's, no one goes away hungry. We will have games for the kids and grandkids. There will be lots of fun and food for all. For more information, contact Virg Amsden 651-699-3429



2008 CALENDAR CONTINUED

**Saturday August 2
Trek to Treasure Island**

Trek to Treasure Island - This is really a fun event and a good trip for those that are fairly new to the river, because boaters can plan to travel together. For those that have not made this trip before, there is a Lock and Dam at Hastings for boaters to lock through. This can be a fun and exciting experience. The trip normally takes from four to eight hours, depending on the wait time at the lock and the speed of your boat. Saturday evening we have a potluck and a lot of good prizes to give away. We are limited to a block of 20 slips at TI. So if you want to go, sign up early. Contact Virg 651-699-3429

**Saturday August 16
Breakfast at the
Riverboat Grill
10:00 am**

River Boat Grill Breakfast - For those not familiar with the River Boat Grill, this is a floating tugboat that has been converted to a restaurant, and is moored on the public dock at Harriet Island. On this Saturday morning, we get together on several boats and head on down the river to RBG. About half way there, we call the restaurant to put in our order; that way our food order is ready when we arrive. You can take your own boat or ride with others on their boat. (If traveling by boat won't fit your schedule, we welcome anyone who makes the trip on land!) This is a great way to get to know fellow boaters. We had a great turn out last summer! For more information, contact Chris Schmitz 651-755-7197 or Kathy Mohn 952-210-7593

**Saturday September 13
Dinghy Regatta 12:00 pm
Chili Cook-off Contest 4:00 pm**

Dinghy Regatta - For our competitive boaters, this is it! Get that dinghy tuned up! The regatta is held earlier the day of the Chili Cook Off. Contact Jim Hillman 651-433-3364

Chili Cook Off - If you have a secret chili recipe, cook it up and enter it in our Chili Cook Off. (The recipe doesn't have to be a secret; we welcome all varieties). You may win a prize - or, if you just like chili, there are always a lot of delicious flavors to try. So join us for a good time. Contact Chris Schmitz 651-755-7197

**Saturday October 4
General Meeting and
Fall Finale on the
1:00 – 4:00**

General Meeting / Fall Finale - We incorporate our last WYC General Meeting of the season with a fun boat ride on the Magnolia Blossom. Once again, we have a multitude of great food and great friends to enjoy. Contact Virg Amsden 651-699-3429

Boy, that's a lot of stuff going on. On that note, we do not require or expect any of our members to attend all of the above events, but if you can, we look forward to seeing you there.

**HAPPY BOATING
Dave Ruzicka, Vice President, WYC**

BOATING SAFETY CLASSES

Being a part of the boating community here at Watergate has great rewards. Whether you are a novice or an experienced boater, it is important to maintain an up-to-date insight on all boating aspects - whether it is equipment, regulations, safety concerns or river dynamics. The certified DNR boating safety course at Watergate Marina by a DNR certified safety instructor(s), offers the latest and most current information and training for boaters, in one easy 8-hour study session or two 4-hour study sessions.



This year instructors will be offering one scheduled class, as per this newsletter. In addition, we will be offering random classes at individual docks as requested. Watch the bulletin boxes on each dock for further information regarding these classes. Or call Jim Hillman at 651-433-3364.



Membership Application

We'd love to hear what events you enjoy and what you would like to see added to the calendar. Please fill in your address and phone numbers so we can keep you informed of any/all matters of interest to you and all boaters at Watergate.

Please send your completed form to:
Watergate Yacht Club
c/o Watergate Marina,
2500 Crosby Farm Road,
St Paul, MN 55116

– or give it to any of the board members along with \$25.00 for dues for the 2008 boating season.



Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Telephone(s) _____

e-mail _____

Dock / Slip # _____

Boat name _____

WYC Membership Dues: \$25.00 _____

WYC T-shirt \$ 8.00 _____

Size _____

Burgee \$20.00 _____

Please list any suggestions for events you would like included in WYC calendar of events:

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

WATERGATE YACHT CLUB GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Friday, May 16, 2008

Magnolia Blossom

6:00 pm



NOTES FROM WATERGATE MARINA

All remaining slip/land and launch/storage fees for the 2008 summer season are due March 31st.

With spring approaching quickly, now is the time to get in your service requests to ensure your boat is ready to go for the summer season. All launch times will be set up through Adam around mid-March.

We are pleased to announce Watergate Marina will be offering wireless internet service throughout the marina as early as April. Rates and requirements will be posted at a later date.

*Kristen
Office Manager
Watergate Marina*



FROM THE SALES DEPARTMENT

Spring time is right around the corner, and with it comes another boating season here at Watergate Marina. We have again expanded our available services to better compliment our floating community. We are the Midwest dealer for Holiday Mansion Cruisers, Weeres Pontoon Dealer, Mercury outboard dealer, Mercruiser service center and dealer, Inflatable / Rib dealer, and new this season - Fractional Ownership Programs. Yes, we have certainly been busy, and look forward to seeing everyone soon! Brokerage sales are going strong, interest rates on boat loans are low, and it's such a great time to look at upgrading your boat! Know someone looking to buy or sell? Steer them our way! Referral Bonuses are available! Shifting gears to our most important advertising tool, our website. Our website is continually changing and being updated. We would strongly recommend always checking in and seeing what the specials are! Book mark our site at www.watergatemarina.net . If you have other questions, feel free to call me at 651-695-3780, or email jason@watergatemarina.net

Until the next time, hope for a quick end to winter!

Jason Oliver - Watergate Marine Sales

See our complete list at www.watergatemarina.net

Office phone: 651-695-3780

Email: jason@watergatemarina.net

Watergate Yacht Club
At Watergate Marina
2500 Crosby Farm Road
St. Paul, MN 55116

