

**MARCH 2022**

**Yachtapalooza**  
March 19  
Crowley's Yacht  
Yard Lakeside

**Program &  
General  
Meeting**  
April 19  
Virtual

**Annual Banquet**  
September 24  
Palos Country Club

## ***SPRING FEVER***

Once you turn that calendar over to March, it's time to think spring, sailing and Fleet 21! Mark your calendars with these upcoming spring events.

Yachtapalooza is March 19 at Crowley's Yacht Yard. This annual event is scheduled for 8am until 4pm and features seminars, ship store sales, a Nautical Donations flea market, vendor tables and food. Many events are outside or in expansive meeting rooms or tents. Fleet 21 will have a membership table so stop by and say hello. Vice Commodore Pete Pohl is putting together a video collage of still photos of Fleet 21 member boats that will run on a loop on a laptop at our membership recruiting table. Your boat's name and your harbor will appear with the photo(s). The idea is to make people aware that we're an active fleet, we're all around southern Lake Michigan and maybe you've seen our boats. Include your boat by emailing a photo or two of your boat, either docked, moored or under sail, to [Ppohl57@aol.com](mailto:Ppohl57@aol.com). At around 3:00, Fleet members will head to Keith's Bar and Grill for a late lunch/early dinner. Address: 1872 Indianapolis Blvd in downtown Whiting. Join us!

On April 19<sup>th</sup> we'll have a general meeting and program via Zoom. Rather than the state of the union, the topic is the state of Lake Michigan. Did you know that Indiana is one of 34 states that participate in the Coastal Zone Management program? In fact, Indiana has 45 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline.

Please join us at 7 p.m. for a virtual discussion of the Lake Michigan Coastal Program, administered by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. Our speaker will be Jenny Orsburn, who is the program manager and a native of Michigan City (and a 2001 alum of North Central College). Her team focuses on a variety of emerging coastal issues, including coordination of State resources, grant funding, education and outreach on water quality, habitat protection/restoration, coastal community resiliency planning, and cultural/historical resource protection.

Laura Pohl is coordinating the discussion and will help Jenny narrow down her discussion topics. If you have an area of interest/concern related to the Indiana coastal area, please contact Laura

If you enjoy sail racing mark your calendars for United States Sail Grand Prix | Chicago at Navy Pier Starting Monday, March 7th, you can save 15% on early-bird tickets for the **United States Sail Grand Prix | Chicago at Navy Pier!** This will be the first public ticket offering to reserve your space as the adrenaline-fueled racing of SailGP comes to Chicago June 18-19, 2022.

From extensive grandstand seating options at Navy Pier to exclusive premium on water "bring your own boat" options, there are options for the entire family this Father's Day Weekend! For more information go to [sailgp.com](http://sailgp.com) and [navypier.org/events-and-public-programs/sailgp/](http://navypier.org/events-and-public-programs/sailgp/). If there is enough interest we may try to do a group sail or raft-up to watch these exciting boats. Let the Commodore know if this sounds like a good Fleet activity.

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## ***A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMODORE***

It's almost St. Patrick's Day and spring is in the air! Let's hope the warm temperatures in early March are an omen for a good spring and beginning of the 2022 sailing season. And I hope you and those you love have survived the COVID19 pandemic in good health.



Our first activity of the season is Crowley's Yachtapalooza, March 19. Vice Commodore Pete Pohl is assembling a photo collection of our members to display at the table the Fleet will have to promote the club and encourage new membership. Many of you have already submitted, but there is still time to get your boat's picture (or 2) included. It can be a dockside, sailing or an activity picture. Send photos to Pete at [ppohl57@aol.com](mailto:ppohl57@aol.com).

Yachtapalooza kicks off our spring season and is a great place to connect with Fleet 21 friends, buy your bottom paint, attend educational sessions, cruise through the Nautical Donations flea market (or make a donation), and then join us for a Fleet 21 gathering afterwards.

Our Catalina Fleet has been described as a social and drinking club with a sailing affliction. To capitalize on this notion, and in the interest of sharing, I thought it would be fun for members to share a new drink, a wine, a beer that they enjoyed, or a newfound experience over this past winter. We'll compile the list and share it in the next Fleet Sheet. Send your entries to me at [harold@h-ahansen.com](mailto:harold@h-ahansen.com).

I am honored to be the Fleet 21 Commodore, but remember, this club is YOUR club. Get involved this year! We are always looking for thoughts and ideas for programs, outings, and membership interests. We have several harbors not represented in the club and need Harbor Captains for the following harbors: Burnham, DuSable, Jackson Park, North Point. Being a Harbor Captain is a great opportunity to get involved and promote Fleet 21. If you harbor there and would be willing to serve, or recommend someone, please let me know. (See the Harbor Captain position description.)

Plans are underway for Fleet programs and activities for the spring and summer, so stay tuned to the Fleet Sheet newsletters for details and announcements. We hope to see you at Yachtapalooza on the 19<sup>th</sup> to kick off the 2022 Sailing Season!

Harold Hansen  
Commodore

As a Harbor Captain you would:

*Promote awareness of Fleet 21 to Catalina sailboat owners in your harbor.*

*Recruit and mentor new Fleet members in your harbor.*

*Encourage participation in Fleet events and serve on the Board of Directors.*

# RIGGING & EQUIPMENT

## Engine Cooling Pump

Submitted by Leo Beer S/V *High Life*

It will be sailing season before we know it and along with this time of year comes the re-commissioning list of items that need to be checked off. One of these all too important items is the health of your engine cooling system.

I remove the raw water impeller from the pump every fall so that the rubber fins of the impeller don't get a memory from being stuck in the bent position for 6 months and doesn't suck and push the sea water efficiently as it should when you fire up the engine in the spring. I also wire tie the ignition key to the impeller so I don't inadvertently start the engine without the impeller installed.

I replace the impeller every 2 years, needed or not. Cheap insurance and peace of mind. I'm always looking for a good deal and found a company that supplies pumps and parts at an incredible price. Such a great price that I decided to buy a new Oberdorfer replacement pump and completely rebuild our existing pump to keep on hand as an emergency backup. Price was over 30% less than any other supplier.

Need pumps or parts go to their website [PumpsandPartsOnline.com](http://PumpsandPartsOnline.com) or better yet, call and talk directly with Andrew Gervich. He's super knowledgeable about they're products and easy to work with.



Safe sailing. Leo

**At our last board meeting there was discussion of the Tides Track System. Here's information from the dealer:**

Tides Marine manufactures custom mainsail tracks designed to fit any mast. The track is made of Ultra High Molecular Weight material—which means that it is a high-quality plastic that is UV resistant.

To get the proper fit to your mast a series of simple measurements are made and the Tides track is cut to fit into your existing track by feeding it into the slide gate. The track can be installed when the mast is up, though it is a little easier when the mast is down.

To use the track your mainsail must have Tides slides, which are chrome-plated steel. The slides are excellent and they do very well what their name suggests—slide! Your main, especially a full-battened main, will deploy and drop easily. Your current main would have to be retro-fitted with the Tides slides, which I am happy to do, of course!

The full batten slides require a luff box that the slide screws into, provided by Tides Marine. This provides a solid fitting between the sail and the mast which allows the full battens to just drop rather than kink the sail.

The Tides website is actually really useful and I suggest everyone take a look. If there is anything that is not clear, give me a call.  
<https://www.tidesmarine.com/>

One thing to be careful of is the height of your slide gate on the mast. You need at least 10" from the top face of the boom to the bottom of the gate in order to feed the Tides track into your existing track. If the boom is off (or if the mast is down) this is not a problem. If your slide gate is too low, it can be raised with the careful use of a Dremel tool. Any rigger or sailmaker can do it.

Give a call anytime.

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