



# SUNSEEKER'S *Boating Club*



## APRIL 2016



**HOURS:**  
Tues - Thurs: 6pm to 11pm  
Fri - Sat: 6pm to 2am  
Closed Sunday and Monday  
(except special events)

**Membership Meetings:**  
First Wednesday  
of the month @ 7:30 pm

**Address:**  
13880 Middle Gibraltar Rd  
Gibraltar, MI 48173

**Phone:**  
734-672-6543  
<http://ssbc.us>



**APRIL HIGHLIGHTS:**  
Apr 6 ~ Membership Meeting

Apr 8 ~ Tigers Tailgate Bus Trip

Apr 9 ~ Incoming Bus Trip

Apr 15 ~ Name That Tune

Apr 23 ~ Spring Bus Trip

## More News:



### **COMMODORE: JEFF UPHOLZER**

734.775.7598    jeff@upholzer.com



Greetings SunSeekers,

It's officially SPRING, which to me is the gateway to boating season! If your boat has been laid up like ours for the winter months then there is more to getting them ready than filling up the cooler and casting off the bow lines. A few pages back in this newsletter is a checklist for you to take with you as you get your vessel ready for its spring launch. It's a good way to make sure that nothing was overlooked and you will be starting this boating season with confidence that everything is shipshape.

Although I was out of town for the annual SSBC St Patty's Day Party, I heard that it was a fabulous event. Congratulations to V/C Jeannette for organizing everything, to R/C Jerry for a flawless bar operation, and to everyone that helped with the logistics. And a very special thank you to Marty Arvay for her special touch on all of the food for the event. You are awesome!

A big thanks to R/C Jerry and Lady Anna for setting up some impromptu bus trips on St. Patrick's Day and for the Tiger's Home Opener. What a great time it is to spend a day with our amazing club members and friends.

In March, Lady Teri and I attended the Ford Yacht Club Ball and the Monroe Boat Club Ball. We will be attending the balls for Bay View Yacht Club, Seaway Boat Club and Wyandotte Yacht Club in April. We continue to have an amazing time representing our club at these wonderful events!

See you on the docks or at the Club!

Jeff Upholzer  
2016 Commodore

# More News:



**VICE COMMODORE: JEANNETTE FOLEY**

734.626.9306 jeannettefoley@ymail.com



Hello fellow Sunseekers!

Yay... Spring has sprung!! I'm excited about the warmer weather and it being a little closer to the boating season!!

March was packed full of fun activities! The St. Patty's Day Party was off the hook! Thank you to Marty Arvay and her team for the delicious corned beef dinner and thanks to everyone that donated food to add to the magnificent food display. Thanks to everyone that helped set up, tear down, decorate, work the door, and anyone that contributed to make the party such a success!! Thanks to Jen Gracia and her friend, Dawn, who served up some non-stop liquid refreshers! The band, Shamrock Shore, started the festivities with some awesome entertainment and then Acoustic Dust had us all dancing late into the night! It was a very fun party!!

The Bunny Lunch also took place in March. Thanks to the Chamberlin's for cooking and handling the activities. Also, thanks go out to the Commodore and his lady for making sure the Easter Bunny came to town for the Jr. Sunseekers' kiddos! The children had a fabulous day! .....and so did the bunny hopping around the boat club!! Thanks to all for a great day :)

Also in March was the Good Friday fish fry.. Thanks to Matt Jamison for an outstanding fish dinner! He can really cook up some fish!! Thanks to Marty Arvay for coordinating the extras and desserts. It was so nice enjoying a wonderful dinner with everyone! Yum!

In March, Mark and I enjoyed Ford Yacht Club's ball and the Spaghetti dinner served by the Class of 15. Both events were a lot of fun.

Looking ahead, April 2<sup>nd</sup> is the Euchre Tournament, April 8<sup>th</sup> will be the Tiger's Opening Day bus trip, April 15<sup>th</sup> Lori Stoddart will be doing Name that Tune, we'll depart on the SSBC Bus Trip on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, and April 30<sup>th</sup> will be the Celeron Island cleanup! Looking ahead to May, please plan to attend the Gibraltar Road clean-up and the Jr. Sunseeker's Fishing Derby!! I'm looking forward to our next entertaining activities!!

Stay tuned to your emails for more upcoming events.

Stop up at your club!! See ya there!

V/C Jeannette Foley

# More News:



## REAR COMMODORE: JERRY HOLLIS



Greetings Fellow SunSeeker's,

Well it is slowly getting warmer out, who is thinking of starting on spring tune ups of their boats? As we approach the warmer weather we also need to think of spring clean-up of the Bar. I would like to coordinate a date with Kevin Lynett and Derrick Ball so we can do a clean-up inside and out such as the grounds around the club.

As for the Bar business, we have pretty much all of April open for bartending. Please take a look and fill in where you can to help support your club. If you're interested but have never bartended before please get in touch with me I would love to show you the basics. It is easy, and a great way to meet your fellow members.

In regards to the past month, I would like to thank all the bartenders who worked behind the bar. Without you we would not be open. We had a great St. Patty's party, our Bartenders Jennifer Gracia and soon to be member Dawn did a great job! Please keep in mind when we have big events like this to keep the ends of the bar open, the bartenders are very busy trying to do their job. If the ends are crowded, then whoever is there will be asked to get supplies for the bartender or take orders for them. (Hint Hint)

Remember this is your club and nobody gets paid to bartend, they get tips only. So please help when you can, such as emptying trash, or clean up a table you're at.... These are suggestions to help them.

As Always Stay Thirsty My Friends,

Sincerely,  
Jerry Hollis  
Rear Commodore

## News From The Bridge



**FLEET CAPTAIN: Chad Gronda**  
**734-717-3949**



Attention....Attention!!!! This is your Fleet Captain Speaking,

Well it's now officially spring time!! I know it doesn't quite feel like it yet, but we have turned the corner and are on our way to warmer temperatures and outdoor activities. I read an article that the spring time Ice Breakers have started making paths for the "Lakers" to start shipping goods. This is a good sign that spring is on its way.

Lady Leeann and I were driving around the local area and noticed a very important thing this last weekend,. The creeks were at their banks and some were overflowing. The spring melt off is pushing streams and creeks to their limits, and in turn, raising the lake levels that we desperately need.

The 2016 Spring Bus trip this year will be held on Saturday April 23rd 2016. I have been in talks with several boat clubs to the south and I'm in the planning stages - it's going to be a blast. The theme will be Sunseekers "County Jail" Bus trip. Just to let everyone know, we only have one bus scheduled for this trip, once tickets are sold out, that will be it. I want to make it clear that there will not be a second bus, so get your tickets early. Sign-up sheets are at the bar. Tickets will be open to Members and Spouse's/significant others and then it will be open for the general public after 2 weeks.

Let's not forget the Poker Runs, so mark your calendars:

- June 3-4: Point Place Boat Club
- July 1-2: Swan Boat Club
- July 22-23: Nugents Canal Yacht Club
- Aug 19-20: Ford Yacht Club
- Sept 9-10: Detroit Beach Boat Club

Thanks

Chad J Gronda

SSBC Fleet Captain 2016

# Membership News:



Welcome Aboard New Sunseeker Members!

\*\*\*\*\* Welcome to our AWESOME club!!!\*\*\*\*\*

**Next Membership Meeting ~ Wednesday, April 6th  
@ 7:30PM. Hope you all will join us.**

Condolences go out to John MacDonald on the passing of his aunt.

Condolences go out to Lady Cindy Romak on the passing of her grandfather.

Recording Secretary

CINDY ROMAK

Treasurer

STEVE DETERS

Sergeant At Arms

AL CARTER

Membership Secretary

JAYNE JAMIESON

Newsletter Editor

MELINDA BEAKER

Jr. Sunseeker's

KATHY HOGAN

Building Committee

PC DERRICK BALL

Regalia

TERI UPHOLZER / NIKOLE LUTON

2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairman & Facility Mgmt.

KEITH WADDLE,

Secretary

PC DERRICK BALL

Bar Operations

PC AL DREW

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Regalia Management

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2016 AYC DELEGATES

PC JOHN ROBBINS

CMDR JEFF UPHOLZER

FC CHAD GRONDA

ALT—PC JOHN HOPPER

ALT—PC MATT ROMAK

2016 I-LYA DELEGATE

PC DENNIS NIEMIEC

**REMINDER:** you would like to put articles/announcements/stories/  
pictures in the newsletter, please send an email to  
the 20th, for the following month's newsletter!  
..... Thanks in advance!!! **Mbeaker@sbcglobal.net**  
Submit them by ~Melinda Beaker

# SPRING LAUNCH CHECKLIST

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## Getting Started

- If necessary, reinstall batteries. Top up lead acid batteries with distilled water. Fully charge batteries. Clean, tighten electrical connections, especially terminals of battery cables. Coat battery terminals with insulating film of grease, or apply protective battery terminal spray.
- Open and close seacocks; handles should move freely. Hoses should be double-clamped with stainless-steel hose clamps. Replace any that look rusted.
- Inspect the raw-water intake strainer to be sure it has not cracked, and is clean and free of corrosion. Make sure the strainer's top fits snugly.
- Check running lights. Clean/tighten connections or replace bulbs to assure that all are operating properly.
- Check VHF and GPS antenna connections by disconnecting and spraying with moisture-displacing lubricant, then reconnect and test.
- Look for indications of leaking at trim cylinders and hoses as well as at hydraulic steering pumps and rams. Replace the O-ring or gasket if leaking.
- Make sure the stuffing box or shaft seal is completely dry when the boat is at the dock.
- Inspect portlights, hatches, and deck fittings for dirty or displaced caulking, water trails, dirt, and green corrosion, any of which signals a leak that needs to be recaulked.
- Test bilge pump and high-water switches and alarms.
- Test smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, LPG and gasoline fume detector.
- Check flares (expiration date) and fire extinguishers (charge), and replace/ recharge as necessary.
- Check and service safety gear such as life jackets, and MOB gear.

## Boats Ashore

- Inspect props for dinging, pitting, and distortion. Make sure cotter pins are secure. Grip the prop and try moving the shaft — if it's loose, the cutlass bearing may need to be replaced.
- Replace plastic fittings near the waterline with bronze or Marelon.
- Inspect the anodes on the shaft, outdrive, and trim tabs. Replace any that are close to half-deteriorated.
- Check to make sure the rudderstock hasn't been bent.
- After the boat is launched, be sure to inspect around the rudder and all thru-hulls for leaks, and check the stuffing box while underway to make sure there is a steady drip.

# SPRING LAUNCH CHECKLIST

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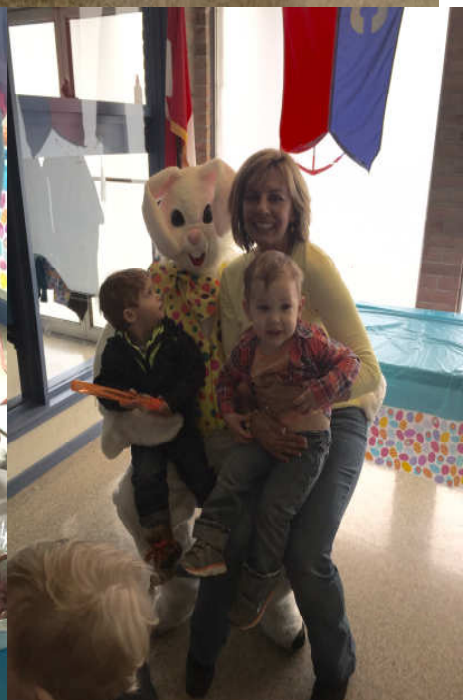
## Outdrives and Outboards

- Check outdrive bellows for cracks and tears (look especially in the folds).
- Check hydraulic trim fluid. If you didn't change it last fall, change it now.
- Check lower-unit lube level. Creamy oil indicates water (and a bad seal). Many manufacturers recommend changing the oil every year.

## Engines and Related Systems

- Flexible gasoline lines should say "USCG Approved, J1527." Replace any that don't.
- Are fuel hoses supple, with no cracks, bulges, or soft spots? Do the lines smell like gasoline (wipe the lines with a clean rag and then smell the rag)? Did you also use a rag to detect odors at connections?
- Cooling hoses should fit snugly and be solidly clamped.
- Replace any hose clamps that show signs of corrosion.
- Replace fuel filters.
- Clean or replace the air filter.
- Change engine oil unless done in the fall (preferable). Check fluid levels: transmission, hydraulic steering fluid, and coolant.
- Check belts for tension and wear.
- Check raw-water and freshwater pumps for seepage, which indicates a gasket needs to be replaced.
- Replace raw-water impellers if they are more than a year old.
- Examine exhaust manifolds for signs of corrosion and water seepage that indicate blockage. If you suspect a problem, remove the manifold.
- Replacing the (inexpensive) gaskets at the heat exchanger every year helps prevent corrosion at the housing and also lets you look for gunk that can clog the stacks.
- Test bilge blower and inspect hose.
- Inspect outer jacket of cables for cracks and swelling, either of which indicates the cable must be replaced. Use waterproof grease at the ends.

# SUNSEEKERS HAVING FUN



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