

NORTH BY NORTHWEST

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Photo by
Chuck Mason

SPRING LAUNCH

Launch 2009

Northwest Marine Yacht Basin spring launch is scheduled for Friday, May 1st starting at 8:00 a.m. with a meeting of all participants in the clubhouse and finishing Saturday, May 2nd. The launch fee is \$155.00, which includes lunch on

Saturday. Cradle storage is an additional \$60.00 and jack stand storage and additional \$40.00. All Boats in the upper parking lot must be removed by Monday, May 11th.

Your Annual Reminder
Parking at Northwest Marine and Foster Boat Works is very

limited. Please use common courtesy and park in the North upper parking lot while cruising. If you have more than one vehicle or a large SUV or Truck please park in the North-upper lot. All transient dock rentals are to park in the North upper or lower lot. Please

be courteous of our neighbors and do not park directly in front of the condos. The 57 spaces in front of the Condos are reserved for Condo owners only (this is in accordance with the Master Deed of both Associations). Out of courtesy to our sprinklers do not park on the lawn. The spaces at the South end near the bike rack are for loading and unloading only.

I would like to remind everyone that the dumpsters are for garbage generated on your boat or at FBW, not from your home, condo, or cottage. We have over 60 local homeowners and if everyone brought down their household waste we would not be able to accommodate it. Also, it is against local, state, and federal law to leave hazardous waste and materials in or around any dumpster (oil, antifreeze, batteries, paint, etc.). If you are caught you will be reported to the authorities and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Please remember that the swimming pool and bathhouse are designated non smoking areas. Due to the close proximity of boats in slips we ask everyone to use common courtesy when smoking so that your neighbors are not affected by smoke.

Service and Storage

BERGMANN MARINE
231-547-3957
BOAT WORKS OF
CHARLEVOIX
231-547-2287
DRY HARBOR 231-547-0040
IRISH BOAT SHOP
231-547-9967
KANTOLA MARINE
231-547-1986
MOBILE MARINE
231-536-2872
WARD BROTHERS
231-547-2371
JOE SCHWARTZ FISHER
231-675-5396

New Slip Owners

If you have recently purchased a slip in Northwest Marine Yacht Basin Association you must notify:

(Electrical Utilities)

Charlevoix City Utilities
210 State Street
Charlevoix, MI 49720
231-547-3259

(Association dues, accounting, mailings, etc.)

Mason & Kammermann,
P.C.
110 Park Avenue
Charlevoix, MI 49720
231-547-4911

Spring Fling

Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 23rd, 2009 for the annual Spring Fling in the clubhouse. Everyone should bring a dish to pass and their own table service. Call Eric if you would be interested in hosting this event. The

festivities should kick off at 4:00 p.m. This is a great event and the perfect chance to meet your slip mates. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Annual Meeting of Co-owners

The 27th annual meeting of co-owners will be held on Saturday, June 20, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. once again at the Charlevoix Yacht Club. Three board of director terms are open for election (Dan Fair and Bob Uehlein and Bruce Rohrer.). It is the intent of Dan, Bob, and Bruce to once more run for their seats. However, any member in good standing may stand for election. Any interested parties should notify Eric so that their names may be mentioned in any future mailings or articles.

After the meeting there will once again be a picnic pool side and in the clubhouse from noon - 2p.m.. Everyone attending should bring a dish to pass and their own "special" beverage. The Association will provide the meat and non-alcoholic beverage.

Boat lengths

Vessels in a 30 FT. slip may not extend more than 3 FT. past the end of the finger pier. Vessels in a 40 FT. slip may not extend more than 4 FT. past the end of the finger pier. Vessels in 55 FT. and 70 FT. slips may not extend past the outer pilings of their respective

slips. Vessels in slips 92, 149, 194, and 195 may not extend more than 10 FT past the end of their respective slips. Owners and vessels that presently exceed this rule and do not present a hazard to navigation must come into compliance when a new vessel is purchased. Any new slip owner's vessel must be in compliance. Slip owners are responsible for the compliance of their lessees or the slip owner will be fined \$200.00 per calendar month or any portion thereof until lessee becomes compliant.

Great Lakes Water Levels Jim Lynch/The Detroit News

Water levels for most of the Great Lakes and Lake St. Clair during March were higher than the previous year -- evidence that the lakes may be recovering from nearly a

decade of losses.

Average water levels in Lake Superior, the Lake Michigan / Huron system and Lake St. Clair were all above the previous year's numbers. Despite the rise over 2008, those lakes remain slightly below their historical averages.

"I think with Lake Superior and Michigan/Huron, we are still below the long-term average and we'd expect to stay below the long-term average over the next six months," said Scott Thieme, who heads the U.S.

Army Corps of Engineers' Great Lakes Hydrology and Hydraulics Office. "But we're getting closer to that average than we've been in some time."

Lake St. Clair, while not officially a Great Lake, also registered a water level that

exceeded its historical average, as did lakes Ontario and Erie.

Ontario and Erie are considered the lower lakes and their March averages were slightly down from last year's figures. But like Lake St. Clair, they both still exceeded their historical averages. Erie posted a March average of 174.072 feet above sea level, which was down from 174.259 the previous year. Lake Ontario's March average was 74.827 feet above sea level compared to last year's 74.874.

The latest numbers provided by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers show:

- Lake Superior's March average was 600.72 feet above sea level, up four inches from last year.
- The Lake Michigan/Huron system's March average was 577.47 feet above sea level, up



a foot from last year.

Did You Know

There have been 61 U.S. Coast Guardsmen, Lifesavers, and Lightkeepers who have lost their lives in the line of duty on the Great Lakes.

TOWER NOTES

Spring has been slow in coming to Charlevoix this year. As I write this on April 17th I am happy to note that this is the first day I have not seen ice in front of our breakwall. Despite the cold weather and ice conditions we suffered no ice damage.

It is a real treat to see people up working on their boats in the parking lot. I think it is safe to say that they can leave their skis and snowmobiles at home now.

If anyone needs a hand with their bottom paint, buffing, diving, welding, or prep work, Joe Schwartzfisher (231-675-5396) is available to help out.

The swimming pool will be opening for the season Memorial weekend. Also, you might notice a change or two around the clubhouse.

Cherry Capital Connection, LLC has purchased Charlevoix

Wireless and has established a new tradition by investing in the infrastructure needs of the area, offering cost competitive options coupled with customer service, and offering employment opportunities throughout Northern Michigan.

CCC was established to offer high speed internet and networking services to locales without service offers, and has expanded to offer high quality service in more densely populated regions. They strive to offer Reliable Local Service by owning and maintaining a unique wireless network with a Fiber backbone.

In September 2008, CCC began managing the service of existing clients in the Charlevoix region. They have made a multitude of changes to the infrastructure, customer sites and overall management of the network.

Contact CCC for your Northwest Marine internet needs at:

Toll Free: 866-870-9970

- Local: 231-264-9970
- Fax: 231-264-9945
- Technical Questions: support@cherrycapitalconnection.com
- Billing Questions: billing@cherrycapitalconnection.com

- Sales Questions: sales@cherrycapitalconnection.com

Air2access wireless service is still available at this time at Northwest Marine, however, their future here remains uncertain due to their poor customer service performance of the past two seasons. I really do not recommend using them at this time.

Chef Al Plungis will soon be reopening the **Edgewater Café** for the season.

Chef Terry Left is still offering the best seafood dishes in town at **Terry's Place**.

A new edition to Charlevoix dining, **Caf   Esperance**, opened, April 14th.

A full-service fifty seat restaurant/wine bar offering creative lunch and dinner menus that are synchronized with the availability of local produce and paired with a dynamic selection of wines by the glass. Open for lunch and dinner Tuesday through Friday from 12pm-8pm and lunch on Saturday from 12pm-6pm. Reservations are encouraged.