

## Fireworks Celebration Set to Fire Off July 4th, Pick Up Guest Stickers at Marina Office

On Friday, July 4th, the Belle Maer Harbor fireworks marks its 22nd Anniversary as we celebrate with tens of thousands of our fellow revelers along the shoreline of Anchor Bay. On July 4th, more than 100,000 are expected to watch the display, with boat owners, their families and friends viewing the display from their marinas, while others in the vicinity watch from restaurants, beaches—and wherever they can catch a glimpse. It is a festive day indeed, and our event is consistently rated among Michigan's best fireworks displays.

More than 1,200 shells are used in the Belle Maer display—even more if you include many "barrage cakes" which shoot off 100 shells with 25-1,000 shots each. The eye-popping (and ear-popping) finale runs through as many as 600 shells alone.

The display begins once darkness falls, usually around 10:15 p.m. Weather conditions may cause a delay or cancellation, although this event has never been cancelled. Severe storms have delayed shows in the past, but a window has always been open so "the show could go on." The U.S. Coast Guard maintains a watchful and safe eye over the event, and has the final word on this. The contingency rain date is Saturday, July 5th.

We are very pleased that Huntington Bank has agreed to sponsor the 22nd Anniversary of the fireworks, which helps to offset some of the costs.

### Guest Sticker Program Continues

Due to the popularity of the 4th of July Fireworks event, the biggest challenge is managing the huge volume of vehicles entering the marina. To resolve problems associated with entry and parking, the marina created a guest vehicle sticker procedure two years ago. Since then, boater response has been overwhelmingly positive and lines at our gates have been almost eliminated.

Guest vehicle stickers are available for the 4th of July event in the marina office. Belle Maer boaters are asked to stop in the marina office and sign out vehicle stickers for your guests. Two stickers will be provided to you at no cost; additional stickers can be purchased for \$20 each. Please make every effort to have your family and guests car pool for this event.

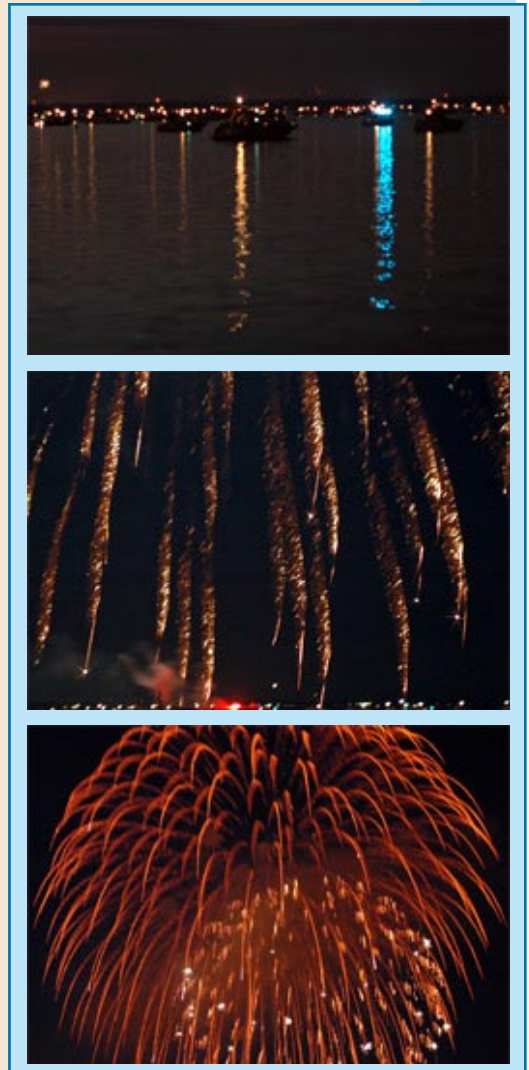
As in the past two years, guest lists will not be accepted for the 4th of July. Guests arriving without a guest sticker will be charged \$20 for entry and issued a guest sticker (provided parking is available).

### Traffic Flow Expected to be Lighter

Eric Foster and Jim Krause are meeting with the Macomb County Sheriff Department to plan for smooth traffic flow after the fireworks show. Traffic leaving the marina will most likely be lighter this year with the Fourth on the weekend, as the majority of our member boaters will be spending the night after the show.

So please plan to come to the marina office to sign out your guest stickers as soon as possible. The Belle Maer staff is looking forward to our best fireworks display ever!

The marina office is open 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday (including Thursday, July 3) and is open 10 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Saturdays through June 28.



## U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Vessel Exams Popular Among Belle Maer Boaters

On May 31, many Belle Maer Boaters took advantage of a Courtesy Vessel Safety Check, a complimentary check of their boat conducted by members of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary in Mt. Clemens. If boaters passed, they received a decal to display.

Some of the items checked included Personal Flotation Devices, Registration and numbering, Navigation lights, Ventilation, Fire extinguishers, Distress signals (flares, horn, etc.), and Battery cover and connections.

All of these items are currently required by state and federal laws and, if missing or non-operating, can result in a citation should your vessel be inspected by the Coast Guard.



*Joe Valentine of the Mt. Clemens Coast Guard Auxiliary inspects a vessel on May 31. Unfortunately, the vessel (owned by the author) did not pass because (a) his flares expired in 2005, and (b) he did not have a copy of the U.S. Coast Guard Navigation Rules on board. The author has remedied this, and will schedule another VSC exam.*



*Copy of the Vessel Safety Exam forms used by the Auxiliary.*

## Emergency Telephone Numbers

It might be a good idea to print, clip and save these emergency telephone numbers and keep them in a place where they're easy to find. Let family members know where they are so they can get to them quickly in case the need arises:

### General Emergencies – 911

**Belle Maer Security – (586) 465-4536**  
**Marina Security Dispatch - (586) 803-0003**  
**Sheriff's Marine Division - (586) 469-5803**  
**Macomb County Sheriff - (586) 469-5151**

## Hints from the Harbormaster

In the interest of odor control for the entire marina, it is highly recommended that all boaters use a chemical odor deterrent in their holding tanks. One popular choice is "Odorless," a 68-ounce container priced at about \$20.00. Each use only requires 4-5 ounces. Of course, there are many other choices—but please sure to select one, as a great way of keeping friends and making new ones around the marina!

If you are experiencing electrical problems at your boat, two breakers can be checked before reporting the issue to the guard or Harbormaster. The first is on the pedestal at your dock. The second is located in the electrical meter box located on your row. Your well number appears above the meter and the breaker is positioned beneath it. If these are both turned on and the problem still persists, please contact the harbor office or security. We will fill out a "Service Request" to get the problem resolved quickly if necessary.

Please help us—as well as your fellow boaters—by removing all miscellaneous items from the winter storage buildings. Our buildings are not to be used for storage during the summer; they are designated for vehicle parking only. Any items not clearly marked with the owner's name and/or the owner's well number will be disposed of within 30 days from June 1st. Owners will be asked to remove their marked items.

## **Skipper Bud's, Carver Announce Below Invoice Summer Sales Event**

It's no secret that savvy shoppers in the market for a new boat can get a pretty good deal right now. Tom Walker, sales manager at Skipper Bud's, tells us that Carver Yachts is holding one of its most aggressive sales events ever: you can actually buy a brand new 2007 Carver yacht at below factory invoice price.

During this summer's Carver sales event you can purchase a new Carver yacht, with full 10-5-2 factory limited warranty, at below factory invoice pricing.

Tom says that a limited quantity of 2007 Mariners, Motor Yachts, Super Sports and Voyagers are being sold at the lowest prices ever. These new yachts come with the Carver 10-5-2 limited warranty – the strongest warranty you can find in a yacht in this class.

Brad Andress, vice president of sales for Carver, says, "... the deal just got a lot better. Now is simply the best time to buy a 2007 Carver. Prices will never get better than they are today." How does one know how much the dealer was invoiced by Carver? "Just ask the dealer to show you the invoice," he says. "They will be glad to."

While there are several dozen 2007 Carvers in dealer inventory around the country, there is not an unlimited supply. Once they are sold – or on June 30th – which ever comes first – the sale is over, said Andress.

One of Skipper Bud's most gregarious and best known salesmen, Darrell Squires, invites anyone interested to contact him directly at (586) 954-3100.

## **Your Boating Friends Can Stay Nearby — in a Belle Maer Harbor Transient Well**

This summer, you can invite your friends from other marinas to stay nearby—right at Belle Maer for your own weekend rendezvous. For all Belle Maer transient wells, reservations must be made in advance and transient passes will be made available upon their arrival.

Belle Maer transient prices have been set at \$1.50 per linear foot per night. Check out time is 11:00 am on the next day. Anyone wishing to stay past the check out time on the next day will be required to pay for an additional night.

Belle Maer also offers special rates to our boating customers: Rack customers can spend an evening in the water by renting a transient well for \$.75 per linear foot. All of our customers can sponsor an individual friend or family member to spend an evening for \$1.00 per linear foot. All rates are doubled for the fireworks show on the 4th of July.

Transient guests must pay in advance. It is preferred that payment be made one week in advance by check. Any payments less than a week in advance must be made in cash (no credit cards). The use of the swimming pool and all of the other marina amenities are included in the daily transient fee.

For more information, please call the marina office.

## **Pavilion is New Gathering Spot for Groups**

If you would like to host your group or club at Belle Maer, the marina now has its own pavilion where everyone can gather.

This sheltered area, which has been constructed around the former tennis building, includes ample parking and gathering space for our full time residents as well as transient friends. In addition, Belle Maer has invited neighboring boat clubs, groups and marinas to visit for a rendezvous or a weekend.

Please call the marina office for a more information on the usage and fee policy and reservations.



## **Free Shuttle Service Offered Again In And Around Boat Town Area**

For the second season, Harrison Township is offering a free Shuttle Service that will take passengers in and around Boat Town on weekends. Hours are Friday from 5 p.m. to midnight, Saturday from 9 a.m. to midnight and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The free service will shuttle you to dinner, shopping, church, brunch—even Metro Beach. Make arrangements by calling (586) 612-4454.

Of course, another benefit of the shuttle means you don't have to worry about driving your car back to the marina after you've had a few cocktails at dinner or afterward: why not let Harrison Township be your "designated driver?"

## **Summer Office Hours**

Monday – Friday - 8:30am – 5:00pm  
Saturday (through June 28) - 10:00am – 4:00pm

Contractors will only be permitted access during the hours the marina office is open (or with advance authorization from the marina office).

## **Classified Ad Program Available On Belle Maer Harbor Web Site**

Belle Maer Harbor offers individuals and businesses exciting marketing opportunities through advertising on the Belle Maer web site.

Classified Ads now are posted on the web site, providing each advertiser the exposure we receive with 6,500 monthly "hits" on the site. Here are the details:

### **Classified Ad Program (for Individuals):**

- We will create a prominent Personal Classified Ad click-on section on our home page (these will no longer be part of the e-newsletter, and will run independent of our e-newsletter postings).
- The ads will be placed as they come into our office and run for a specified time frame. Donna Kempt of the marina office will collect the ad fee.
- Our new charge will be \$20 for two months and \$35 for a four month term. There is no refund if the item sells early.
- Classified Ads in this section should all be personal ads of 35 words or less.
- Photos can be included with your ad for an additional charge.

### **Banner Ad Program (for Businesses):**

- Businesses can purchase Banner Ads which will be run on a calendar year basis. We can accommodate a new banner ad at any time of the year. Animated, custom designed Banner Ads rotate throughout the BMH web site and the e-newsletter, providing optimum exposure to the 6,500 hits the web site receives per month.
- Cost for the Annual Banner Ad is only \$500 for the entire year.

Please call Donna Kempt at the Belle Maer marina office for more information or to run your ad.