

## Bigger, Better (and Noisier) 25th Annual Fireworks Display Set for Sunday, July 3rd

### Cardboard Boat Regatta, Golf Cart Parade, Fireworks Set

On Sunday, July 3rd, Belle Maer Harbor celebrates a significant anniversary as we host the 25th Annual Fireworks Display off our marina shoreline.

This year promises to be bigger, better, longer and noisier as we mark the 25th year of the big bang by the water.

Always an anticipated event, this spectacular show just offshore draws huge crowds. More than 100,000 are expected to see the display from shore and from nearby anchorages and restaurants and other sites.

More than 1,200 shells are typically fired off in the Belle Maer display and this year even more are planned to mark the 25th Anniversary. There are also many "barrage cakes" which shoot off 100 shells with 25-1,000 shots each. The finale runs through as many as 600 shells on its own, ranking our show among the best and biggest fireworks displays in Michigan. Expect to be impressed and dazzled with a few surprises too.

The display begins once full darkness sets in, usually around 10:15 p.m. Weather conditions may cause a delay or cancellation, although our event has never been cancelled. Severe storms have delayed shows in past years, but a window has always opened to allow the show to be fired off. The U.S. Coast Guard maintains a watchful eye over the event and has the final word on this. The contingency rain date is Monday, July 4th.

As was the case last year, there will be no free guest decals and the purchase of guest decals will be limited to two per well. Cost is \$25 each. All vehicles parked or entering the marina (including the front parking lot) must display a 2011 membership decal or guest decal. This procedure has significantly reduced the number of guest vehicles and helped us more efficiently identify car owners in case of parking disputes.

Please make arrangements to purchase your fireworks guest decals at the Marina Office.

In addition, please observe these special rules for only the Sunday July 3, 2011 holiday:

Please disable your car alarm during the fireworks display. It is annoying to listen to car alarms set off during the show.

No membership cards, transient cards or guest lists will be accepted for the entry of any vehicle (including motorcycles) into the Marina on the fireworks date. Only vehicles with membership decals or guest decals affixed to the front driver's side windshield will be admitted into the marina.

Individuals on foot (not in vehicles) may use their membership cards or transient cards to gain access into the marina.

Any vehicles parked on marina property (including the front parking lot) without a decal will be towed at the owner's expense. We must maximize our parking and be able to identify every vehicle being parked in case of a dispute.

BMH members are limited to the purchase of two guest decals at a cost of \$25.00 each.

No parking spaces will be used for anything except parking of cars on the fireworks date. No picnic tables, gas grills, etc. will be allowed in parking spaces.

No golf carts will be allowed access into the marina without the proper BMH cart ID decal.

Because of the traffic congestion, please make an effort to have your family and guests car pool for this event. We realize this requires some extra effort on the part of our boaters. However, the marina staff works very hard to put on the best fireworks display each year for you and your guests.

We are looking forward to the largest and most memorable fireworks display in our history as we celebrate our 25th Anniversary!



## **Belle Maer Golf Cart Parade to Take Place on July 3rd**

With our 25th Fireworks Display taking place on July 3rd, it only makes sense to don the patriotic finery for our golf carts—and to have our parade on July 3rd as well.

As most who have participated already know, the Belle Maer Golf Cart Parade offers a great opportunity to show your colors and patriotism. It also provides a perfect excuse to take family or friends on an excursion around the marina, going up and down every row to cheers of admiring onlookers.

So if you own a golf cart and want to have some fun on the July 3rd, plan to be in the July Golf Cart Parade this year. Just show up with your decked-out golf cart with your passengers aboard at 12:30 p.m. on July 3rd between Buildings 5 and 6. The Parade begins at 1:00 p.m., and the route travels around each pier through the marina.



## **Why Not Have Friends Stay for a Weekend This Summer at Belle Maer Harbor**

This boating season, invite your friends from other marinas to stay at Belle Maer and create your own weekend rendezvous. After all, Belle Maer has all of the amenities and comforts of home a boater could wish for when traveling to another port. And remember the free Harrison Township Shuttle is available to take them to bars and restaurants, or just to see the sights! And, the Gathering Pavilion makes the perfect social "headquarters" for larger groups to call home while away from home.

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 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 pricing for the night of the fireworks is \$3.00 per linear foot.

For all Belle Maer transient wells, reservations must be paid in advance and transient passes will be made available upon their arrival. Transient guests must pay in advance. Payment can be made by cash, check or credit card. Reservations being made less than 10 business days in advance must be paid in cash or by credit card (no checks). No cancellation refunds once the reservation and payment has been processed. 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.

## **Office Hours**

Monday – Friday: 8:30am – 5:00pm  
Saturday: 10:00am – 4:00pm

(Closed on Saturdays during the months of July, August, November & December)

The Marina yard is open 24/7 during the summer season. The gate will be locked and the Marina yard closed throughout the non-daylight hours of the winter season.

Contractors must check in with the Marina office. They are therefore admitted access to the Marina yard only during the hours that the Marina office is open unless they have arranged for advance authorization from the Marina office.

## **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  
Harrison Twp Fire Department: (586) 466-1450

## 3rd Annual Cardboard Boat Regatta Planned Saturday, July 2nd

It's Big. It's Fun—no, Hilarious. And it's Wet. It's the Belle Maer Cardboard Boat Regatta and it's slated to kick off the 4th of July weekend festivities on Saturday, July 2nd. This year will be the 3rd Annual Belle Maer Cardboard Boat Regatta, and it's growing in participation and popularity among spectators who line the canal.

The event continues to exceed expectations with more enthusiasm and creative (and faster) entries than we thought possible. Created primarily for kids and teens under 17; this is an authentic boat race. The first heat begins at 1:00 p.m. on the Canal between Calypso (C-Row) and Elco (E-Row).

Boats are to be made of cardboard, paper, tape & paint only. A limited supply of donated cardboard & duct tape will be available beginning the weekend of June 18 and 19 in the Rack Storage Building. Materials will be provided on a first come, first served basis so be sure to design your boat and start building it as soon as possible. Engineering and construction are open to all, but only children up to age 17 can be "captains."

There will be two age groups that will compete in the Cardboard Boat Regatta, and each will race separately. Prizes will be awarded to age groups as follows:

Ages 12 and under - 1st, 2nd, 3rd place medals

Ages 13-17 - 1st, 2nd, 3rd place medals



### T-Shirts for all participants

Marina barges will be situated at each end of the canal and will be used as the launch site of the boats. Occupied dinghies will be situated every few slips on both sides of the regatta route for safety. Start and finish line flag banners will be strung across the row. Pontoon boats will be at the end of the race row to pick up the children and boats. Life jackets will be mandatory for each participant.

All boats must be registered and checked in by noon on July 2nd. Prior registration is requested by June 30. To register, please see Debby Piontkowski at N1 or call 248-765-4028, or Liz Wyss at J213 or call 248-561-6786, or contact the Marina Office.

Check-in on the day of the race is between 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon, and boats will be inspected and on display from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. The regatta will begin promptly at 1:00 p.m.

Awards will be given out at the starting line after the completion of both races. Boats will be inspected prior to the race to make sure only cardboard and duct tape are used in construction. Oars are optional, but double sided oars will not be permitted. All captains must be inside boat and use paddles only. No swim fins for help will be allowed.

### GENERAL RULES

1. Only cardboard, paper, duct tape & "one-part" paint may be used.
2. Wood, metal, styrofoam, or other materials that would aid in flotation or make the boat rigid are prohibited.
3. Paint may be used, but must be "one-part" paint. No epoxy glues, fiberglass resins, Liquid Nails, or "multi-part" paints or varnishes may be used.
4. No nails, metal or wood fasteners, or staples may be used in the construction of the boat.
5. A minimum of 50% of the boat's volume must remain intact as part of the boat when raced.
6. Decorations may be made from any material, but may not be used to reinforce the actual structure of the boat.
7. No boat will be allowed to leave the starting gate unless all persons on board are wearing a Personal Flotation Device (PFD). Participants must supply their own PFDs and paddles.
8. No swim fins or double-sided oars are allowed.
9. A maximum of 2 captains will be allowed per boat.
10. Boats are subject to inspection and disqualification for any violation of the above rules.

The 3rd Annual Cardboard Boat Regatta is sponsored by Belle Maer Harbor, New Wave Boat Club, Ralph C. Wilson Insurance Agency & Great American Insurance Company.

## 2nd Annual Belle Maer 'Fun Day' Big Success

If you got up and looked out the window on the morning of June 11, saw overcast skies and decided to stay home, well, you missed out. Because June 11, 2011 turned out to be a special day for those who came to the marina to attend Belle Maer's 2nd Annual "Fun Day."

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary got the day rolling with its volunteer members performing Vessel Safety Checks on numerous Belle Maer boats.

Later, the Harrison Township Fire Department brought their hook and ladder apparatus for the kids to explore. Brian Dobrzycki, City of Roseville K-9 Unit patrolman (and Belle Maer boater), introduced everyone to his law enforcement partner, Kato the German Shepherd.

Our own Kurt Dettmer, a C-Row boater and executive for Fremont Insurance Co., brought a crew of business associates to help plan and execute the day's events.

Macomb Gerlach Agency sponsored balloon tying for the kids, who were delighted with the many creative shapes and sizes.

Jackie Bobcean of HandBags of Hope was on hand with husband Jeff to arrange and manage a number of attractions, including the perennial favorite bounce house, kid's bubbles & tattoos, a snow cone machine, piñata smash and more.

Then as evening approached, Kurt, his friends and staff from Fremont Insurance fired up the grills and prepared dinner (there's nothing better than a hot dog and chips when you're hungry)—thanks to Kurt and to Fremont.

As evening set in (and a few thousand fluttering fishflies), Lori Kusmierz and her brother, Brian Krasow, got set up to perform. They were in fine voice as they entertained one and all to cap off a beautiful (and fun) day.

One note: Lori and Brian will be back at Belle Maer to play again on July 30 from 6 to 10 p.m. with their expanded six-member band, the Dock Side 6. This free concert will take place by the Pavilion—don't miss it!



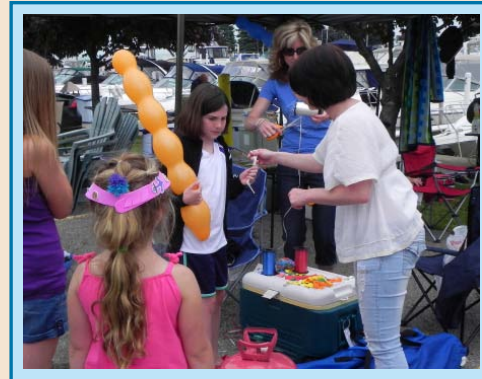
From morning until late afternoon on Belle Maer Fun Day, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary offered Courtesy Vessel Safety Checks for mariners who want to comply with requirements. Here, our own Richard Dichtel (right) works with his fellow examiners to schedule as many boats for safety checks as possible.



Fun Day at the marina became a lot more fun when the firefighters of Harrison Township rolled in with their massive hook and ladder truck—then invited kids to take a tour and sit behind the wheel. Shown here are (left to right) are Harrison Township Firefighters Chris Durso and Brian Lorkowski, Battalion Chief Mark Hoskin, Belle Maer youngsters Colin Kiwicki, Nicole Bachuwa and Jacob Siwicki.



Belle Maer's own Brian Dobrzycki, who is in charge of the City of Roseville K-9 unit where he is a patrolman, introduces a few interested law enforcement (and dog) fans to his respected companion, Kato, the two year old German shepherd who helps him track criminals, find missing children for several area police forces and agencies.



Balloons were a hot commodity at Belle Maer on Fun Day, because kids and balloons just go together somehow. The Macomb Gerlach Agency did not disappoint, and arranged for a balloon tying team that put smiles on a lot of faces.



Calling all bouncers: the bounce house was a popular attraction for one and all on Belle Maer Fun Day. And, as these photos illustrate, you don't have to be a little kid to enjoy the absence of gravity for a few seconds. In fact, the larger the bouncer, the higher the little kids go (is there a physics major who could explain that?).



Jackie Bobcean of HandBags of Hope makes yet another snow cone—they are a kid favorite.



Jackie Bobcean (center) is the founder of HandBags of Hope, which accepts donated purses then adds 10 items of necessity. They deliver the filled purses to domestic abuse shelters so they can be given to women who need them. Experience and testimonials have shown how much a small gift such as a new purse is appreciated by the women who receive them. Jackie is shown here with husband Jeff and sister-in-law Christine Camphous, who is in our Belle Maer boating family.

To learn more, visit the HandBags of Hope website: <http://handbagsofhope.webs.com>



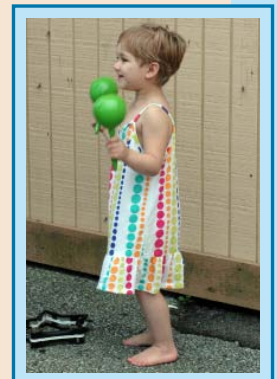
Belle Maer's own Kurt Dettmer and Fremont Insurance were on hand to make sure all of us were well fed on Fun Day. Here, Kurt is assisted by friend Jay Gramlich as they grilled dozens of franks for the hungry crowd and served them up with bags of chips. Thanks, Kurt, the dogs were great!



Part of the fun of Fun Day is that everyone gets "in the act." Here taking the stage with an acoustic guitar and harmonica is none other than Dave Gerlach of the Macomb Gerlach Agency in Mt. Clemens. Would you buy insurance from this man? You bet!



Lori and Brian call themselves Sibling Rivalry for a reason: they are brother and sister and they sometimes fight. Well, not so much anymore. Now, they mostly have fun and sing. Really well, in fact. Lori Kusmierz and brother, Brian Krasow, were in fine voice on Belle Maer Fun Day—or night, actually. And helping with percussion is a young maraca player who seemed to know all the moves.



Lori and Brian will be back at Belle Maer to play again on July 30 from 6 to 10 p.m., with their bigger band, Dock Side 6.

## County Executive Mark Hackel Announces New "Lake St. Clair Circle Tour" Signage Program

Soon, travelers in and around Macomb County will be seeing new signage marking the "Lake St. Clair Circle Tour." Macomb County Executive Mark A. Hackel held a press conference to announce the installation of 50 of the Circle Tour signs throughout the county. The signage program also includes the installation of 12 additional "Coastal Business District" signs to identify the County's communities, businesses and attractions situated on Lake St. Clair: New Baltimore, Harrison Township and the Nautical Mile.

The Lake St. Clair Circle Tour signs were developed in a cooperative effort between the Lake St. Clair Tourism Initiative and Macomb County. The signs will stretch along the highways, surface roads and freeways of the Lake St. Clair Circle Tour route plotted earlier by county and tourism officials. It is expected that the signage program will be expanded and adopted by surrounding St. Clair and Wayne Counties, as well as the province of Ontario.

The Circle Tour signage is one of several actions being implemented by Hackel as he looks to expand awareness and tourism of the Lake St. Clair region, improving access to its waters, communities and businesses and stimulating job growth at the same time.



Shown left to right are Brad Simmons, director of the Lake St. Clair Tourism Initiative (and Belle Maer boater), Gerry Santoro, Macomb County land and water resources manager, and Mark Hackel, Macomb County Executive. Photo courtesy of Todd McInturf / The Detroit News

## Additional Dog Waste Dispensers Added Around Marina

We have expanded the number of dog waste dispensers to make it even more convenient to pick up after your dog. You will find them near every garbage bin and at strategic locations around the piers and grassy areas.

Now there are numerous dog waste dispensers, and each has a supply of "poop bags." So please remember to clean up after Fido so your neighbors' don't discover an unpleasant surprise in bare feet.



## Belle Maer Pavilion Great Gathering Spot for Rendezvous, Groups

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

This sheltered area, which is located between the tennis courts and the playscape area, 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 and reservations.

## Hints from the Harbormaster

1. To control odor (especially during the hot summer months), we strongly recommend all boaters in the marina use a chemical odor deterrent in their holding tanks. There are a number of effective and environmentally friendly products available at local marine stores. Talk to a representative at your favorite marine store about the size of your holding tank and what the best solution is for you.
2. If you experience electrical problems at your boat, please check two breakers before you report a problem. 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 issue a Service Request to get the problem resolved quickly if necessary.
3. We have had many reports of glass-top furniture breaking in high winds. We no longer permit tables with glass tops to be brought into the marina (if you currently have such a table, it is permissible, but please use caution and replace it when possible). This policy is being implemented for the safety of all Belle Maer customers; glass table tops can break into dangerous flying shards or tiny glass pieces that present serious hazards and risk of injury.
4. Please remember that golf carts must be registered with the marina. You may pick up a registration form from the office; it states the rules and regulations for driving the cart on marina property. After you complete and return the form, your permit will be issued. The permit must be affixed to your cart in order to use it within the marina. Only individuals with a valid state driver's license are allowed to operate a golf cart on marina grounds.

## Advertising Programs Available On Belle Maer Harbor Web Site

Belle Maer Harbor offers a flexible and effective advertising program on its website, allowing individuals and businesses the opportunity to reach our busy community of boaters and guests.

Classified Ads are posted on the website, 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.

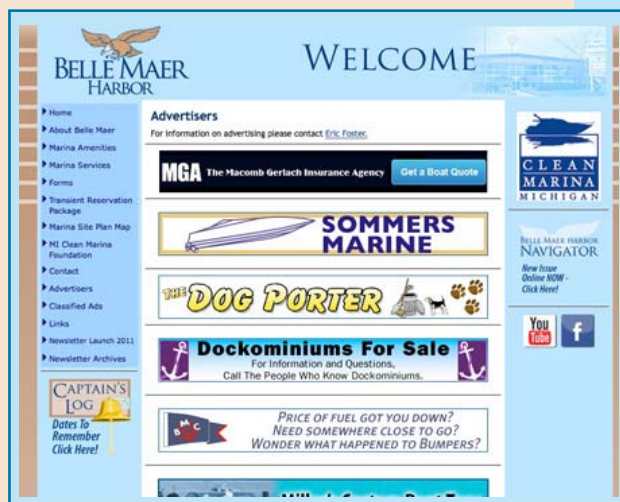
Photos can be included with your ad for an additional charge.

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.



The screenshot shows the Belle Maer Harbor website home page. At the top left is the Belle Maer Harbor logo with an eagle. To the right is a 'WELCOME' banner. A navigation menu on the left includes links for Home, About Belle Maer, Marina Amenities, Marina Services, Forms, Trip/rental Reservation Package, Marina Site Plan Map, MI Clean Marina Foundation, Contact, Advertisers, Classified Ads, Links, Newsletter Launch 2011, and Newsletter Archives. The main content area features an 'Advertisers' section with a link to contact Eric Foster. Below this are several banner ads: MGA (The Macomb Gerlach Insurance Agency) with a 'Get a Boat Quote' button; SOMMERS MARINE; THE DOG PORTER; Dockominiums For Sale (with a link for information and questions); and CAPTAIN'S LOG (with a link for dates to remember). On the right side, there are social media icons for YouTube and Facebook, and a 'CLEAN MARINA MICHIGAN' logo. A 'Belle Maer Harbor NAVIGATOR' section is also visible, with a note to 'New Issue Online NOW - Click Here!'.