PIGEON KEY MARINA

NEWSLETTER



Pigeon Key Marina at dusk.



Pigeon Key Marina 2007 Festival of Lights Boat Parade

WELCOME
PIGEON KEY MARINA 2008 BOATERS

We hope you find Pigeon Key Marina's Newsletter helpful as you start the 2008 boating season. In this issue you will find information about your Pigeon Key Marina staff, dates to remember, phone numbers, updates, and safety tip. We welcome your feed back regarding the newsletter and hope that you will let us know any concerns you have regarding the operation of Pigeon Key Marina.

Your 2008 Pigeon Key Marina Board





Introducing The Benoit sisters. Julia (L) and Allison (R). Last year Julia and Allison joined forces serving as dockhands. This season Julia will serve as Pigeon Key Marina's Manager and Allison will return as one of Pigeon Key Marina's experienced dockhand.

PIGEON KEY MARINA

Introducing your 2008 Pigeon Key Marina's Board

There were no nominations received for the 2008 Slate of Officers so the following individuals agreed to serve on the Board during the 2008 season: **David R. Taylor, President; Linda L. Taylor, Secretary; and Bruce Rambow, Treasurer.** It was decided during the fall meeting that an election would be held during the spring 2008 meeting to identify new board members. Please consider serving on the Marina board for the 2009 season.

Introducing your Pigeon Key Marina's Manager

Julia Benoit has been hired to serve in a new role of Marina Manager. Under the guidance and direction of the Pigeon Key Marina Association Board President, Julia will be responsible for the daily management and supervision of operating the Marina. She will establish hours of Marina operation based on need and supervise the dockhands. Please stop by the office to introduce yourself to Julia and to let her know any of your concerns.

Introducing your Pigeon Key Marina's Dockhands

Last season we had some exceptional dockhands available to assist us. We are pleased to inform you that four familiar faces will return for the 2008 boating season. They are: **Allison Benoit, Andy Lowney, Jim Paul; and Tom Paul.** Be sure to introduce yourself to these fine individuals. The dockhands will provide assistance docking your boat and other small tasks as needed. Don't hesitate to give a helping hand if you see one of our dockhands are in need of assistance. They sometimes experience problems and appreciate all of us coming to their aid, when needed.

Introducing Pigeon Key Marina's Maintenance Specialist

For the past several years, **Bruce Rambow** has served as Pigeon Key Marina's harbor master and *"Mr. Fix It All"*. Bruce will no longer serve in the role of harbor master but will continue to provide his expertise in readying the Marina for opening and closing day and fixing things that need to be fixed in the Marina. Should you see something that needs attention, please inform Marina Manager, Julia.

Introducing your Pigeon Key Marina's Accountant

In October 2007, the Pigeon Key Marina Board employed **Ms. Shelly Zudor, CPA, PC** to handle our day to day business affairs. She has been responsible for paying our bills, preparing payroll, sending out bills for association dues, taking care of insurance matters, and finalize slip lease agreements. Shelly has been most helpful, working with Board President, **Dave Taylor**, to obtain our own Federal and State Tax ID numbers and workman compensation documents. Her office is located at 1497 W. Laketon Avenue in Muskegon. She can be contacted by phone 231-759-7410.



PIGEON KEY MARINA

Marina Operating Permit

Board President, **Dave Taylor**, is pleased to announce that Pigeon Key Marina is now in full compliance with the MDEQ (Michigan Department of Environmental Quality) until December 31, 2010, when the Marina Operating Permit (MOP) is again up for renewal. Pigeon Key Marina has been operating on an expired MOP for some time. Prior to the transition from the Developer to the Association taking over Marina operations, there were several unsuccessful attempts made to renew the MOP. Several issues needed to be resolved before Pigeon Key Marina would gain approval for a renewed MOP.

The original permit was obtained stating that Pigeon Key Marina had a pump out station, which we do not have. MDEQ questioned Pigeon Key Marina about this matter. To comply with MDEQ regulations we were required to obtain a letter from Harbour Towne Marina (HTM) indicating that Pigeon Key Marina boaters could use their pump out facilities. Mr. Dave Jorgeson, HTM Harbor Master, graciously provided us with a letter indicating Pigeon Key Marina boaters would be allowed to use HTM pump out facilities. Had such a letter not been obtained all boats with holding tanks would have been banned from Pigeon Key Marina to be in compliance with MDEQ regulations.

In addition, MDEQ questioned broadside docking on A, B, and C docks. At question was fairway navigation, depth of access and appropriate signage. Therefore, to be in compliance with the MDEQ approved Pigeon Key MOP, **all broadside dockage on the end of A, B, and C docks are strictly prohibited**.

Finally, according to the MDEQ, operation of Pigeon Key Marina must be in compliance with the condition that all boats moored shall not extend beyond the end of the authorized dock or slip length. Several slip owners were told at the time they bought their boat slip there was a 10% allowance extending beyond the slip length. This leeway no longer applies, however, we believe the existing boats that were docked last season are within the appropriate limit.

Pigeon Key Marina Boat Registration and Boat Decals

For security and safety reasons all Pigeon Key Marina boaters are being asked to complete a registration form to be on file in the Marina office. A 2008 Pigeon Key Marina boat decal will be provided and needs to be placed on the dockside of the boat so it can be easily seen by Marina personnel. This will help identify who should and should not be in Pigeon Key Marina.

Pigeon Key Marina Parking and Parking Stickers

Pigeon Key Marina parking spaces are located at the northwest side of the parking lot. All spaces are marked with white (Pigeon Key Marina) initials. The four spaces closest to the walkway is designated for handicapped parking. The large circular space closest to the entry is allocated for short-term trailer parking. Short-term is determined to be long enough to launch your vessel at Harbour Towne Marina and then have the trailer moved to a storage facility. Trailers may not be parked longer than overnight. Pigeon Key Marina parking stickers will be provided to display in the front lower right window of your car.

PIGEON KEY MARINA

Bathroom Combination

The bathroom combination is only to be given out to Pigeon Key Marina owners and their guests. We ask that you do not disclose the combination to boaters docking at Dockers' Restaurant or other transient boaters. Please ask in the Marina Office for the combination. We want to maintain a clean facility for your use. With your help in keeping the combination available only to Pigeon Key Marina boaters, we'll be able to do a better job of maintaining the bathrooms for your use.

Important Phone Numbers

Pigeon Key Marina Office
231-755-7511

Bruce Rambow
858-531-7428

Dave Taylor
231-343-9125

U. S. Coast Guard
231-759-8581

Tow Boat U. S.
231-755-7141

Important Dates to Remember

Saturday, May 17, 2008
Spring Meeting
1:00 p.m.
Outside Marina office

Friday, August 15, 2008
Pigeon Key Marina's
Festival of Lights Boat Parade
(rain date August 16th.)

Important Safety Tip

Zap, Crackle, Pop!

BEWARE OF ELECTRIC CURRENT LEAKS AT FRESHWATER MARINAS

Although it may be tempting for you or your dog to dive off the swim platform while docked in your slip, DON'T DO IT! Shock hazards are becoming an increasing problem, especially in freshwater. Any boat with a shore power system installed is suspect. Electrical "leaks" from a boat in freshwater tend to spread out at the surface water, migrating sideways toward the shore, which is the ground path. If there is a leak of electricity in this water, a swimmer or your dog who enters it is at great risk of getting a shock. (Source: Boating Magazine, February 2007, page 80.)

