



# ELDEAN News

August, 2008

**INTERESTING STUFF FROM WADE**

## ***Dock Parties a Success...***

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Dock Parties have been a lot of fun and there are still two more docks to go! Thank you for joining us for these now annual events. The appetizers have tasted fantastic.

Thanks so much to Bill and Nancy Danhof. With the A-Dock party under threat of rain and severe storms, everyone was invited to the Danhof's house for Appetizers and Drinks. (Thus, A-Dock receives the Award for Spontaneity). How did D-Dock improve on the greatest Dock Party Drink of All? Well, that's easy, the Kleins made a double batch of the Sangria this year!



*B-Dock Award – Most Photogenic*

***Getting Hungry?*** Don your festive attire, and follow your nose to the **Labor Day Luau** "Pork Fest" (held at the Party Barn). See last page for details. ***Be sure to sign up on time!***

## ***Big Sale and Big Bargains...***

Stop in the Ship's store for the Annual End of Season Sale beginning Friday, Aug. 29<sup>th</sup>. Gear up for the remainder of the season or stock-up for next year on these select clothing, footwear, and foul weather gear items.

## ***Lake Michigan Water Levels are Up!***

From last year, 7-25-2007, the Lake is up 8 inches.

## ***New Websites and Updates...***

A new photo tour is now on-line at [www.Eldean.com/Photo](http://www.Eldean.com/Photo). The photo tour now functions much better allowing you to quickly view multiple photos. Also the service department has a new web page at [www.Eldean.com/FixIt](http://www.Eldean.com/FixIt). The "Fix It" page lists the services that our technicians perform and some photo examples of these services. If you have any interesting marina or service photos that you would like to add, please forward them to: [wade@eldean.com](mailto:wade@eldean.com).

Our two Vacation Rentals are now viewable at [www.LakeMacatawaVacationRentals.com](http://www.LakeMacatawaVacationRentals.com). If you have friends coming to visit in the summer or you need a place to stay while you work on your boat in the winter, the Boathouse and Bungalow are excellent options. Please pass this web info along to any fellow Macatawa travelers.

## ***A Wi-Fi solution...***

In the next few weeks we will be testing a marina wide, wireless internet solution. We hope to get the kinks ironed out this summer so that it is ready for you for the 2009 season. I anticipate there will be a small fee to subscribe for the season (similar to charge for cable TV). The seasonal pricing for our Wi-Fi will be less than the other options that are available through Sprint, Charter, or previously with Air2Access. This is intended to be a recreational type of service, and those of you that are in need of large bandwidth for business or downloading movies may need to explore one of the other options available.

## ***The Launch Cam...***

When its haul-out this fall, tune into our [Launch Cam](http://www.Eldean.com/launchcam) (click "winter storage at eldean.com) and watch the boats come out of the water and set on their cradles. The Launch Cam was out of service for a few weeks this summer because it was hit by lighting the night of the flood. It has been replaced and is on-line again. I think the picture is clearer this time, so you should enjoy the view.

## ***Flood Repairs - 95% Complete***



*Seawall Damage, June 8, 2008*

A very comprehensive repair of the E-Dock Seawall is near completion. Besides the new seawall, new power, water, phone, and cable services have been installed. A sidewalk will be installed soon and the picnic and playground areas will be fully functional once again. We appreciate your patience with the reconstruction project. Unfortunately, these and a few other flood repairs were not covered by our insurance policy (of course, it is possible to insure just about anything, but the yearly premiums often cost so much that they outweigh the risk). The damaged seawall was in place when Herb & Rog arrived in 1973. The new seawall is installed with improved construction and engineering techniques to hold up against the next 100 year flood.

### ***We appreciate your business!!!***

Thank you very much for spending your summer with us! We try very hard to provide you with the best services and amenities. We always appreciate positive and critical input as it allows us to improve and better serve you. Please communicate with Matt or myself (Wade) in person. You may also phone, email, or put a note in the comment card box in the shipstore.

***An extra thanks*** to those of you who slip, store, and service your boats at Eldean Shipyard! By working with us in multiple areas, we are better able to keep pricing constant, make improvements, and share overhead costs. For example, the seawall repair is necessary for slip, storage, and service businesses and will be paid for from revenues from all 3 areas (without any price increases).

***The boating industry*** is indeed being hit hard by the current economy. Many boat builders, boat sales operations, and marinas are struggling and forced to have large lay-offs or close. From our local friends at Tiara/S2 Yachts to powerhouse Brunswick (Sea Ray, Whaler, Hatteras, Maxum, etc) it is very disappointing and daunting to see these fine businesses closing manufacturing lines and laying-off hundreds and even thousands of employees. Marinas nationwide are now more likely to be developed into condominiums and dockominiums because of pricing pressures from the downturned economy and increased waterfront property taxes.

Fortunately, we have been able withstand these pressures, avoid employee lay-offs, and continue to serve you and meet your expectations. This is all possible because you, our customers, have been able to endure this recession and continue to LOVE boating and emphasize the boating lifestyle in your family and lives. ***Thank you very much for your continued business and all of us here at Eldean Shipyard hope you are having a fantastic summer on the water.***

### ***The Service Department...***

If you have questions on your winter storage work order forms just ask Matt, Roger, or Angela. If you are not certain what type of maintenance is required to prepare your boat for 2009, Matt, Roger, and Angela are available to help you. Otherwise, please fill out the service form and send it back to us so we can schedule your haulout and get to work on your service needs.

***Ethanol Gas will be required in 2009.*** Our fuel distributor will only be providing ethanol gasoline to us next summer (Statewide Mandate). There are a few concerns when using Ethanol in boats including: Fiberglass Fuel Tanks, Water/Phase Separation, Winter Storage Fuel Levels, Fuel Filters, and Rubber Components. For more detailed info please check out the Valvtect Bulletin: <http://www.eldean.com/news/Alerts/Ethanol.pdf>. **Please check the box on your winter storage work order form if you would like us to perform a check to see if you are currently compatible with ethanol gasoline.** Marine Formula STA-BIL is an additive that will help counter some the possible negative affects of Ethanol. [Click here for more information.](#)

## ***TV antennas will need upgrading...***

As of February 18, 2009, TV received by antenna signal will now be broadcast over the air in digital format and will no longer be compatible with many TV's. **Fortunately, your dockside cable service will remain unchanged and function normally.** If you still wish to receive TV via antenna signals when you are anchoring or on a boat trip, you will need to make some changes. One option is replacing your TV with a TV that has a digital tuner built in. Another option is to buy and hook-up a TV converter box to your current TV. And a third option is marine satellite TV service. If you are looking to install a new TV, we carry several lines of televisions and can make the installation for you.

## ***Dock Ladder Service...***

If your dock ladder enters the water or is near the surface of the water, it will need to be removed by Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>. The winter ice flow will cause damage to ladders and docks. We provide dock ladder service including fall removal, washing, winter storage, and spring install for \$50/ladder. All ladders remaining after Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> will be added to our service list and a service charge billed.

## ***TowBoatU.S.***

TowBoatU.S is now located at Eldean Shipyard. They currently offer an Unlimited Towing plan for \$34/year with your \$19 membership fee. So whether you run aground, run out of gas, or need a jump start, this is a very economical way to go. At the shipyard we get a few calls for towing service, but unfortunately because of the dangers and complications associated with towing and the insurance coverage required, we are unable to assist. In this case, it's best to call on the experts at [www.BoatUS.com](http://www.BoatUS.com) or 1-800-888-4869.

## ***Shipyard Ambassadors Wanted!***

If you are on **A-Dock, B-Dock, D-Dock, or E-Dock**, and are familiar with the Marina and the Holland Area, we would like to enlist your help.

### ***What's an Ambassador?***

A Shipyard Ambassador is a slip holder who enjoys talking to people and giving a helping hand. On occasion, new slip holders and transient boaters have questions that are often best answered by their boating neighbors. If you are willing to be a Shipyard Ambassador, please email me ([wade@eldean.com](mailto:wade@eldean.com)), call, or stop in to talk.

## **REMEMBER...**

**Notes:** *Please remember item #11 of your berth rental agreement states that you must notify the marina if your slip will be vacant for more than 24 hours during the summer season.*

## **Dock Carts are a Nice Convenience...**

Please return dock carts to their proper positions at the base of each dock and **LOCK THEM UP.**

## **Dog Owner Etiquette...**

Park Township has a Dog Leash Ordinance and a Dog Sanitation Ordinance: "It is unlawful for an owner to allow their dog to be at large or permit their dog to soil an area, other than their own, without promptly disposing of it. Violations of these ordinances could result in a fine." **--Grab a Doggie Doo-Doo bag in the receptacle by the dumpster so you can pick up after your canines.** Please remember that our grass areas are for people and picnicking and are not dog walks.

## **Clean Off Grills...**

Please clean the grill **AFTER** you use it. If a piece of steel wool, or a wire brush doesn't do it, just leave all three burners on high for 5 to 10 minutes while you enjoy your meal.

## ***Clean (& Green) Marina Corner...***

We are now recycling a majority of your trash but **WE NEED YOUR HELP.** Chef Container will save your recyclables from going to the garbage dump if you follow a very simple process: First, use one of the **yellow recycling bags** that Chef provides. Next, put all of your recyclable garbage together in the bag (plastic, metal, cardboard, paper, junk mail, newspaper, glass, etc.). Then, throw your special recycling bag in the dumpster with the rest of the regular trash. Chef Container will sort the special bags from the rest of the trash after they haul it away. The complimentary bags and a list of acceptable recycling materials are located at our dumpsters. Please, do not use these special bags for regular, non-separated, garbage.

## ***On-line Newsletter Sign Up...***

If you received this newsletter by mail, it means that you are one of the few individuals that still need to provide us with an active email address. Just visit [www.eldean.com](http://www.eldean.com) and click on "Subscribe" in the center of the page. *It's that easy...*

# Season Finale



## *Labor Day Luau, AKA: "Pork Fest"* Sunday, August 31st

Yes we will be there and will bring:  
(Check one Item)

- If your group is large (4+), please bring  
a proper proportion of food.

\_\_\_\_\_ *Appetizer*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Salad*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Dessert*

**Number of Guests:**

\_\_\_\_\_ *Porkers*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Chicken*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Total at \$5.00 =* \_\_\_\_\_

*Name:* \_\_\_\_\_

Featuring:

- Pork Barbeque
- Corn on the Cob and Other Stuff
- Chicken available for Non-Porkers
- HOT DOGS for Kids
- Fresh Grilled Salmon

**Music and Appetizers Start at 5:30pm, Pig Out 6:00pm**

*Fill out the coupon and mail it with your check to:*

**Eldean Pork Fest  
2223 S. Shore Dr.  
Macatawa, MI 49434**

*Or drop it off at the Ship's Store*  
**Reservations by Aug. 26<sup>th</sup>**

To avoid last minute confusion and/or the possibility of running out of food, **no reservations after Aug 26<sup>th</sup>**. -All payments to the Ship's Store by 5pm Saturday, August 30<sup>th</sup>. All non-paid reservations are cancelled at 5PM Saturday, August 30<sup>th</sup>.