



MUSKEGON YACHT CLUB

# PORTWATCH

APRIL 2019



**A beautiful spring morning on Lake Michigan!**

**Photo taken on March 29, 2019**

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**3198 Edgewater, Muskegon, MI 49441 • 231-755-1414**  
**[www.muskegonyachtclub.org](http://www.muskegonyachtclub.org)**

## FLAG OFFICERS

Commodore.....Brad Fisher  
Vice Commodore.....Tim Wallace  
Rear Commodore.....Dean Runk  
Treasurer.....Larry Taunt  
Secretary.....Jessica Ledsworth  
Past Commodore.....Bud Ainsworth

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Bach  
Mike Gassmann  
Kevin Moore  
Jon Tasker  
Jay Wallace Jr.

## FLEET OFFICERS

Fleet Captain of Sail.....Greg Young  
Fleet Captain of Power.....Paul Wickland  
Fleet Surgeon.....Dr. Don Crandall

## STANDING COMMITTEES

By Laws.....Bill Newman, Ben Broughton  
Dock & Yard.....Bill Richardson  
House.....Eric Bombery  
Juniors.....Scott Corder  
Membership.....Melody Stenstrom  
Race & Regatta.....Sam Nedeau,  
Josh Wallace  
Social.....Rome Palmer, Scott Miller

## MYC STAFF

General Manager.....Kim Nguyen  
Executive Chef.....Caleb Westbrook  
Business Manager.....Sue Peters  
Facilities Manager.....Nicky Anderson

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Officers & Staff  
Commodore's Comments  
Meeting Schedules  
Committee Reports  
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## On The Cover:

Photo Credit to Kim Nguyen

## Portwatch Submissions:

Please email Kim Nguyen  
[kim@muskegonyachtclub.org](mailto:kim@muskegonyachtclub.org)  
Deadline for content  
submission is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each  
month.

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## MYC Staff Contacts:

Kim Nguyen,  
General Manager:  
[kim@muskegonyachtclub.org](mailto:kim@muskegonyachtclub.org)  
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Executive Chef:  
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Nicky Anderson,  
Facilities Manager:  
[nicky@muskegonyachtclub.org](mailto:nicky@muskegonyachtclub.org)

# COMMODORE'S COMMENTS:

## ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM ENERGY TAX AFFECTS SAILORS

LANSING, MI (AP). The approval of Proposal 1 has most of Michigan hoping Marijuana tax revenues will improve the State's aging infrastructure. On April 1, 2019, Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed another law to increase State revenues from an unusual source. Introduced by Democrat Jim Ananich (D-Flint), the Alternative Minimum Energy Tax (AMET), will tax not only biodiesel and ethanol production, but also require sailing vessels to self-report and pay taxes on their wind energy use.

After years of losing fuel tax revenue to sailors, the State has finally imposed a wind tax. Users of "wind-propelled watercraft" must now pay taxes on the energy used by their boats, based on a weighted formula of sail area, displacement, distance traveled, and average speed. Sail area and displacement factors are given more weight than speed. As a result, heavy boat with an overlapping jib will pay more AMET than a lighter boat with less sail area—even if the lighter boat is going faster.

Unfortunately for sailors of all kinds, the legislature imposed no minimum weight thresholds or minimum sail area exemptions. As a result, windsurfers and kiteboarders must file an AMET return with their annual State income tax return. Similarly, there are no tax reductions for motorsailing.

Under AMET, a wing-keeled Catalina 30 traveling upwind from Muskegon to White Lake would incur approximately \$.54 in AMET liability for the trip. Hoist a spinnaker for a downwind run of the same route in the same boat and the tax liability increases to almost \$.93. Motor the same distance (with no sails up), and there is no AMET liability.

Analysts have criticized this disparity between downwind and upwind tax liability, but are unsure if this is a flaw or a deliberate attempt to deter the popularity of sprit-boats and their large asymmetrical spinnakers. Regardless of the rationale, jib and main racing fleets are expected to increase in popularity as a result of AMET. Underpowered rigs like those from

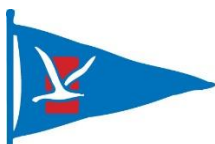
manufacturers Hunter and J/Boats are also expected to see a rise in sales. Representative Ananich's office would comment only that AMET would lead to the modernization of sailing fleets by "promoting more tax-efficient sailboats."

Reached by phone, one anonymous boat designer commented that this tax scheme will force boat builders to consider lighter materials and less sail area in the quest for a more tax-efficient sailboat. "PHRF and IRC are going to be thrown out the window. Soon we'll have accountants designing boats." Fortunately, the law does not take effect until September 31, 2019. Sailors are encouraged to make the most of their last summer of tax-free sailing.

*A slightly altered version of this entirely fake news story appeared in the April 1, 2007 edition of the Grand River Sailing Club Rhumbline Newsletter, which resulted in your Commodore making a lot of gullible sailors very angry.*

See you at the Club!

Brad




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### Club Hours of Operation

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	<u>Bar Hours</u>	<u>Kitchen Hours</u>
<b>Monday:</b>	<b>Club Closed</b>	<b>Club Closed</b>
<b>Tuesday:</b>	<b>Club Closed</b>	<b>Club Closed</b>
<b>Wednesday:</b>	<b>4pm – 10pm</b>	<b>4pm – 9pm</b>
<b>Thursday:</b>	<b>4pm – 10pm</b>	<b>4pm – 9pm</b>
<b>Friday:</b>	<b>12pm – 11pm</b>	<b>12pm – 9pm</b>
<b>Saturday:</b>	<b>12pm – 11pm</b>	<b>12pm – 9pm</b>
<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>1pm – 9pm</b>	<b>1pm – 8pm</b>

**MYC Committee Meeting Reminders:**

**Dock & Yard Committee – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays at 9:00 am**  
**House Committee – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays at 10:00 am**  
**Membership Committee – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays at 11:00am**  
**Race & Regatta Committee – 3<sup>rd</sup> Weds at 7:00pm**  
**Social Committee – as needed**  
**Board Meeting – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays at 7:00pm**

**2019 Capital Improvement Fund Update**

**2019 Collected:**  
**\$ 26,066**

**+**

**12/31/18 Balance:**  
**\$29,687**



**2019 Expenditures:**

**Kitchen remodel**  
**\$23,829**

**Available Balance =**  
**\$31,924**



Muskegon Lake & Lake Michigan - Photo Credit to Brad Fisher (3/2019)



## Treasurer's Report:

April 4, 2019

Greetings,

As required under Article V, Section 6 (B) of the Muskegon Yacht Club bylaws, I am pleased to report to the membership the consolidated MYC budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year, which begins May 1<sup>st</sup> of 2019. This budget was unanimously approved by the board of directors at the March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 board meeting.

The budget reflects projected revenues of \$896,695, and expenses including debt service and principal payments of \$894,449. These figures do not include the Capital expenditures and income associated with the Capital Improvement Funds as those revenues are exclusive to Capital expenditures and are budgeted separately. The noted increase in membership equity reflects the reduction in outstanding debt from principal payments.

The Club budgeting process is very time intensive and I would like to thank all the club committees, board members, and staff, for their time and input into this. I would also like to make special note of thanks and recognition to our long time Business Manager, Sue Peters for her many hours of work on this, as my availability was extremely curtailed this year.

The club faces some significant challenges in the coming year with the unrepaired dock system and potential redesign looming over us. As such the board is exploring methods to accelerate the payoff of our debt to provide us with more flexibility in the coming years as we plan for the future. Fortunately, we have an outstanding staff led by our General Manager Kim Nguyen, who have continued to provide our members with an outstanding experience as they face the many day to day challenges of an aging building and a difficult employment market. I am looking forward to another outstanding season ahead.

If you have any questions about the budget, or club finances in general, please feel free to contact me at [ltaunt@regalfin.com](mailto:ltaunt@regalfin.com) or 616-340-8678

Respectfully submitted

Larry Taunt

Treasurer

Muskegon Yacht Club

**Muskegon Yacht Club  
2019-20 Operating Budget**

May 2019 - Apr 2020

**RESTAURANT OPERATIONS**

Sales Revenue	436,140.00
Cost of Goods Sold	-189,260.00
Staff Expense	-174,070.00
Other Misc. Expenses	-3,400.00
<b>SURPLUS / (SHORTFALL)</b>	<b>69,410.00</b>

**DOCK & YARD OPERATIONS / MARINA**

Slip Rental Fee Income	182,005.00
Other Misc. Income	27,550.00
Staff Expense	-10,993.00
Taxes, Permits & Insurance Expense	-30,430.00
Utility Expense	-16,500.00
Maintenance & Equipment Expense	-28,200.00
Mortgage Expense (Principal & Interest)	-110,770.00
<b>SURPLUS / (SHORTFALL)</b>	<b>12,662.00</b>

**CLUB & MEMBERSHIP OPERATIONS**

Dues & Initiation Fee Income	209,000.00
Other Income	42,000.00
Staff Expense	-169,633.00
Taxes, Permits & Insurance Expense	-34,770.00
Utility Expense	-34,875.00
Maintenance & Equipment Expense	-17,400.00
Misc. Operating Expenses	-74,145.00
<b>SURPLUS / (SHORTFALL)</b>	<b>(79,823.00)</b>

<b>RESTAURANT OPERATIONS</b>	<b>69,410.00</b>
<b>DOCK &amp; YARD OPERATIONS / MARINA</b>	<b>12,662.00</b>
<b>CLUB &amp; MEMBERSHIP OPERATIONS</b>	<b>(79,823.00)</b>
<b>Net Income from Operations</b>	<b>2,249.00</b>
<b>INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP EQUITY</b>	<b>61,920.00</b>



# OPEN HOUSE

April 13, 2019

12:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Open to the Public!

Live Music from “Upcoast Kin”  
featuring Brett Dame from  
1 pm – 4 pm

**New Member Incentive: Join during the Open House and receive half off your initiation fee. Don't miss out on this special offer!**

*Tell your friends and family to stop down and check out MYC!*





# SPRING FLING PARTY

HOSTED BY MYC SOCIAL COMMITTEE

**APRIL 13, 2019**

**Live Music from Jaded 8  
starting at 7:30 pm**

**Open to the public!**

*Contests for the best sunglasses, straw  
hats, and flip flops!*

**COME JOIN THE FUN!**





## Membership Committee Report:

MYC Membership Committee Update:

We will be hosting the annual **MYC Spring Open House**, Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> Noon to 5 pm.

During the event we will be giving tours, sharing information and answering questions that prospective members may have. We would love to have you attend to help welcome the attendees. Please invite your friends and family that might be interested in joining MYC. This is a great day to learn more and receive a special discount on the Initiation fee – **½ off during this event!**

MYC will be open to the public all day. We will be enjoying Live Music by **Brett Dame**.

More fun follows the Open House as the **Spring Fling Party**, hosted by the MYC Social Committee, shifts into gear with contests for best sunglasses, flip flops, and & straw hats. Bring your dancing shoes because you won't want to miss more Live Music by **Jaded 8 Band** from 7:30 to 11:30.

A big **Thank You** to Cathy Young for her many years Chairing this committee. Cathy is stepping down as Co-Chair, we greatly appreciate the guidance and service she has provided and we are very happy that she will be remaining on our committee. We would also like to welcome the newest member of our committee, Craig Rozelle!

The Membership Committee welcomes you to join us at our monthly meetings. We gather at 11 am on the second Saturday of the month at the club. We are currently working on new ideas for promoting MYC and creating a better system for communicating with our newer members to ensure that they are enjoying their MYC experience.

If you have questions regarding the Membership Committee please contact Melody Stenstrom at [melodystenstrom@gmail.com](mailto:melodystenstrom@gmail.com)



## House Committee Report:

Greetings members,

One more month to sailing season and I hoped you've noticed that the house has been working hard to get ready. If you haven't been by lately please join us. MYC friends, updated kitchen, new chef (Caleb), and your same great staff are waiting for you. At this month's meeting we discussed upcoming events that require open liquor licenses. We also discussed the new menu and how its functioning, please let us know if you have any comments. Remember, as in years past, the club will be closed Easter Sunday so our staff can spend time with their families as well before the busy summer. The committee spent the most time on budget, equipment and capital project needs this past month. It's that time of year to plan for the future.

As one of the many Grand Rapids members I can't wait to get back on a regular basis and see all my friends. See you all soon.

Eric Bombery  
House Committee Chair  
bomberye@gmail.com





## Juniors Committee Report:

### IT'S TIME TO REGISTER FOR 2019 MYC SAILING SCHOOL CLASSES!



The schedule for 2019 Sailing School classes and the 2019 Sailing School Registration Form have been updated on the MYC Sailing School web site.

- Regular sailing classes start the week of June 24 and will run weekly through the week of August 12.
- Monday evening adult and family sessions will run from June 24 through August 12.
- Race Camp and Volunteer Assistant Instructor Training June 17-20.

Click the following link to visit the MYC Sailing School web site:

<http://www.mycsailingschool.org>

## **REGISTER NOW FOR THE 2019 MYC JUNIOR RACE TEAM!**



The MYC Junior Race Team is a great opportunity for youth sailors to engage in the sport and make lifelong friends! The 2019 MYC Junior Race Team practice and regatta schedule are posted on the MYC web site. This year we are eagerly seeking new sailors for the team, especially younger kids for our Optimist fleet. Please spread the word to your kids, grandkids and neighbors!

Click the following link for more info and the 2019 Registration Form:

<http://www.muskegonyachtclub.org/myc-juniors/>

## **2019 WEST MICHIGAN YOUTH SAILING REGATTA DATES**

The West Michigan Youth Sailing Association "Friday Regatta" dates for 2019 will be as follows:

- June 28 at Macatawa Bay YC
- July 12 at Spring Lake YC
- July 26 at White Lake YC
- August 9 at Muskegon YC

For more information about the West Michigan Youth Sailing Association, go to the following link: [www.westmichiganyouthsailing.org](http://www.westmichiganyouthsailing.org)

Follow the West Michigan Youth Sailing Association on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/grjuniorsailing/>

## **2019 BUTTERFLY NATIONALS**

The 2019 Butterfly Nationals will take place at Crystal Lake YC on July 16-18.



## 2019 WMYA WESTERNS

The 2019 WMYA Westerns will take place at White Lake YC on Aug 1-4.

## CLICK THE LINK BELOW TO FOLLOW THE JUNIORS ON FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/Muskegon-Junior-Sailing-Program-134232283314396/>

## MIDWEST COLLEGIATE ICE BREAKER REGATTA AT NOTRE DAME

On April 23-24, first-timers from a handful of Midwest collegiate sailing teams gathered at Notre Dame for their “Freshman Ice Breaker Regatta”.



MYC member Corrine Nedeau (fourth from the left in the photo below) sailed her first outing as a member of the Michigan State team at this event.



## **HIGH SCHOOL SAILING HAS ALSO BROKEN THE ICE!**

The 2019 Midwest High School sailing season broke the ice at Columbia Yacht Club in Chicago on March 23-24. Things really get rolling with four different Midwest regattas scheduled for the weekend of April 6-7. From then until the end of May, there are 3-4 regattas scheduled every weekend in the Midwest.

You can witness high school sailing right here in West Michigan this spring:

- April 27-28 at Spring Lake YC
- May 18-19 at Macatawa Bay YC

## **HOWEVER... THE ICE HASN'T BROKEN EVERYWHERE**

As anyone who has recently been to the club has observed, ice remains in many places, including Muskegon Lake. Grand Valley State University was registered to start their season on Lake McBride near the University of Iowa on March 29, but this regatta has already been cancelled due to ice. The good news is that you should be able to cheer on several collegiate sailors with MYC or West Michigan connections on April 6-7 at Macatawa Bay Yacht Club, when GVSU and Hope College host their annual “Laker Showdown” regatta. This should be a well-attended regatta and MYC member Sarah Corder (on boat #1 in the photo below) is the co-chair for this year’s event.



Mark your calendars because April 6-7 will be your only opportunity to witness collegiate sailing here in West Michigan this spring. College sailors travel a lot and this spring’s schedule includes several dates in Illinois and Wisconsin.

For more about high school sailing, go to <https://missa.hssailing.org>

For more about collegiate sailing go to: <https://mcsa.collegesailing.org>



## **Outer Dock Committee Report:**

At this time there are two options that the Outer Dock Committee is looking at regarding the damaged outer dock. One option is separating the sections and letting them rock and roll on their own with additional anchors and chains. The other option is exploring a fixed outer wall wave fence. The committee and outside experts feel this is a more permanent, long term solution for the marina and club. We have only been able to work with rough costs to date to price this out. In an effort to get more accurate costs, we have elected to have some geotechnical soil boring and a hydrographic survey taken of the bottom of the lake in the area of the proposed wave fence. This will tell us if the plying needed, should be say, 75 feet or 175 feet, in length and how heavy of a gauge of steel and support system needs to be engineered and built. If this option were elected, it would not start until the 2020 boating season at the earliest. The soil boring will be taken in the next 30 days.

As always, feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Bud Ainsworth

616 638 1676

[cbainsworth@gmail.com](mailto:cbainsworth@gmail.com)



## **Race & Regatta Committee Report:**

To view the 2019 Race Calendar, please click the link below:

<http://www.muskegonyachtclub.org/race-calendar/>







## Dock & Yard Committee Report:



### 2019 Open Slips

#### Price Does Not Include Membership

#### *Marina Amenities: Electricity, Water, and Wi-Fi*

Slip 2, 46 foot slip, \$3,330 for 2019, port tie off

Slip 3, 46 foot slip, \$3,330 for 2019, starboard tie off

Slip 5, 46 foot slip, \$3,330 for 2019, starboard tie off

Slip 9, 46 foot slip, \$3,330 for 2019, starboard tie off

Slip 14, 38 foot slip, \$2,675 for 2019, port tie off

Slip 15, 38 foot slip, \$2,675 for 2019, starboard tie off

Slip 17, 30 foot slip, \$2,150 for 2019, starboard tie off

Slip 18, 38 foot slip, \$2,675 for 2019, port tie off

Slip 20, 38 foot slip, \$2,675 for 2019, starboard tie off

Slip 26, 38 foot slip, \$2,675 for 2019, starboard tie off

Slip 27, 38 foot slip, \$2,675 for 2019, port tie off

Slip 81, 28 foot slip, \$1,940 for 2019, starboard tie off

# SAVE THE DATE:



**SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2019  
9:00 A.M.**

Help is needed to haul and set up our outdoor summer amenities such as: picnic tables, Adirondack chairs, patio furniture, fire pit, grills, pool furniture, etc. Please plan to join us for this MYC Tradition!

*More details to come soon!*

*Action Needed: Do we have your correct directory information?*

Each member's contact information appears in our Member Directory. The 2019 edition will be published this spring. If you have had any changes in address, phone numbers, email address, spouse/significant other, or your boat, please send the update to Sue in the business office.

[Sue@muskegonyachtclub.org](mailto:Sue@muskegonyachtclub.org)

Thanks for helping to keep our directory accurate!

P.S. Did you know the handbook/directory is always online for your convenience at [www.muskegonyachtclub.org](http://www.muskegonyachtclub.org)? Registered members may access it anytime, or download it to your computer.



Member Sharon Alviar & Guests enjoying their evening at the March Wine Dinner!



**A GREAT  
TIME WAS  
HAD BY ALL AT THE MARCH  
WINE DINNER!**





## **News From the General Manager:**

Now that spring is in the air, the countdown has begun and we are one step closer to some fun in the sun! The MYC Event calendar is filling up fast and we have plenty of things already planned. Please look for future correspondence on the many regattas and parties: Spring Open House, Kentucky Derby & Cinco De Mayo Party, Volunteer Work Day, Mother's Day Brunch, Melges Spring Regatta, Commodore's Reception, America's Cup Presentation, and much, much more! The next and final wine dinner of the season is scheduled for May 1st. Reservations are required to attend – Menu to be released soon! Looking for a venue to host a party? Please contact me for more information on our catering and banquet services.

Please help me in wishing Chef Caleb good luck as he travels to Augusta, GA this month to go cook at the Masters Tournament (4/3 – 4/16). Chef Adam has offered to help assist MYC in our kitchen operations during his absence. Thank you Adam and Good luck Caleb. We look forward to hearing all of your stories when you return.

Looking to get involved at the MYC? Join one of our committees! We are always willing to welcome new people and fresh ideas. Committee meetings are held the second Saturday of each month, starting at 9 AM. Please contact a committee chairman if you are interested.

If you see an unfamiliar face around the club, please extend a warm MYC welcome and help our new members and staff feel at home. And like always, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to give me a call.

Thank you,  
Kim Nguyen

[kim@muskegonyachtclub.org](mailto:kim@muskegonyachtclub.org)

231-755-1414 x1





**Quarter zip sweatshirts**



**Full zip fleece w/pockets**

**We still have  
plenty of  
MYC Gear in  
stock!**

**Stop by and  
check it out!**



**Long Sleeve Shirts  
Available in Cotton  
& Dry Wick**

**NOT PICTURED: WHITE POLO, BLUE POLO, HATS, VISORS, STICKERS,  
BURGEE'S & MORE!**

# LET'S PLAY!

**CALLING ALL DOMINOES PLAYERS**

**EVERY FRIDAY AT 12:00 PM**



**MYC BAR AREA**

**FOOD, FRIENDS,  
AND FUN!**

---

**CALLING ALL EUCHRE PLAYERS**

**EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 7:00 PM**

**MYC ROUND  
ROOM**



**HAVE A DRINK, EAT SOME FOOD,  
PLAY SOME CARDS!**



**KENTUCKY**  
**DERBY** *Party*

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019

Men & Woman's Derby Hat Finery  
Contest

"Run for the Roses" on the big  
screens and surround sound!



SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019

Live Music from "Bar Code" at  
7:30pm





MUSKEGON YACHT CLUB

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# Commodore's Cup and Reception

## SUNDAY, MAY 26, 2019

Race Starts at 12:00 pm

Parade of Commodores at 3 pm with the  
Annual Pot Luck Luncheon to follow  
*(MYC will supply a sandwich bar)*



# CHASING THE CUP

- Sailing's Highest Prize -

Join AC Host

**Tucker Thompson**

For a sneak peak into the next

**AMERICA'S CUP**



- Relive the Storied History of the Oldest Event In Sports
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- Hear What to Expect in New Zealand for the 36th Cup
- An Exclusive Look At New York Yacht Club American Magic

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presentation with  
America's Cup Host  
Tucker Thompson on  
Wednesday, June 5, 2019  
(After the Wednesday Night Race)**

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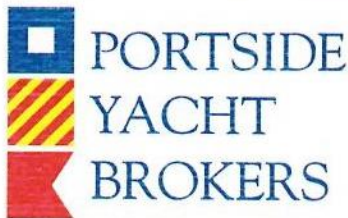
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FOR THEIR SUPPORT!**

~ MYC April 2019 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Euchre Night 7pm	4	5	6
7 Jam Session 3pm	8	9	10 Euchre Night 7pm	11	12	13 Committee Meetings  Open House  Spring Fling Party
14	15	16	17 Euchre Night 7pm	18 Board Meeting 7pm	19	20
21  Easter Club Closed	22	23	24 Euchre Night 7pm	25	26	27
28	29	30				
31						

If you have events or meetings you'd like added to the Portwatch or website calendars, please contact Kim Nguyen - [kim@muskegonyachtclub.org](mailto:kim@muskegonyachtclub.org)