



April, 2018

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Rendezvous  
in Killarney -  
Register Now!**  
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**Have You Paid  
Your 2018 GLGBA  
Dues?**

Don't Miss Out on All the  
Benefits of Membership...  
the News...the Website...  
GLGBA Rendezvous...  
Great Times and Good  
Friends!



To All Great Lakes Grand Banks  
Association Members & Friends...  
**GLGBA President's  
Message**



*Barb & Rick Scime*

**H**ello again to all the members of the GLGBA, with a special welcome to the eleven new member-couples who joined since last summer's Rendezvous at Mackinaw City.

In the last President's Letter published in the January 2018 Newsletter, I made mention of our intent to do a survey to gather members' opinions of the "Winter Rendezvous". Later in this letter I give you some feedback. Before I do that I will now conduct a much quicker survey. Here it goes:

**"Will all of you who are sick and tired of this past winter's lousy weather please pick up your varnish brushes and wave them high over your heads. Those of you who were smart enough to head south need not bother.**

You will only make the rest envious. Now set the brushes aside in a safe place but remember to bring them to the 2018 Summer Rendezvous in the North Channel/Killarney where you may be asked to wave them, in a friendly manner, at the ones who went south."

OK, that's the last survey I shall ever do.

Now I owe you the feedback on the earlier survey of your preferences pertaining to the "Winter Rendezvous". As you may know the last winter meeting in Chicago was not well-attended, to put it politely. The organizer should be fired! So, we created a questionnaire to keep the next organizer out of trouble. The 40 responders led us to conclude that the answers to most of the questions were intuitively obvious.

**Q. What is the appeal of the Summer Rendezvous?**

A. We are boaters and enjoy the challenge of cruising to beautiful destinations where we can socialize on and around our boats with others.

**Q. How many Winter Rendezvous should we have?**

A. One's enough.

**Q. Where and when?**

A. Western Michigan or Eastern Wisconsin in the early fall before US Thanksgiving.

**Q. What should the Agenda be?**

A. The format should be a mix of spontaneous gatherings and formal meeting time with presentations about vessel maintenance and cruising experiences. Sightseeing and formal entertainment is not a high priority.

**Q. Meal plans, cost?**

A. Keep the meals reasonably basic and not overly expensive; keep the overall cost of lodging and provided meals less than \$500/couple. Surprise - alcohol availability/consumption is not so important.

**Q. Any volunteers to handle future gatherings?**

A. It came as no surprise that willingness to become actively involved as an organizer of this event is rather low with 2/3rds declining and, with the exception of a few, the rest ambivalent.

So where do we go from here? To the Killarney Rendezvous where we can kick this around in the General Meeting and come up with a time and place for 2018 Winter Meeting. Right now, we have 14-member couples, 13 boats signed up. I'm sure that Robbie Colwell can find dockage for a few more boats. I encourage the newest members to think about joining the fleet at Killarney. Look at the list on the GLGBA website (members only - events&registration) showing the members who are already signed up. Perhaps you will find a boat or two you can hook up with to form a flotilla to cruise into the North Channel. If you've never been there you owe it to yourself to see just how wonderful this place is.

**I'll close this message with an update on a couple of other issues from the January Newsletter.**

First, 2018 dues payments. I am pleased to be able to tell you that over 75% of dues-paying memberships have been renewed. I believe this is principally a result of the newly implemented on-line payment system created by Jerry Cilibrise. Thank you, Jerry! Several of you have spontaneously remarked on the simplicity and convenience of the new payment tool. If you haven't yet paid your 2018 Dues, please give the new system a try. It's a no-brainer.