



# The Smoke Signal



Newsletter of the **BLACKHAWK CHAPTER-ACBS**

**VOLUME 18 ISSUE 6**

**November/December 2012**



The Dennis Sullivan docking in Discovery World harbor with Cartner's, Vidal's and Moberg's boats in foreground, Navy ship in background



The Air and Water Show was part of Navy Week and the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 at Milwaukee's waterfront



Larry Larkin presents Outstanding Achievement Award to Mark Svoboda



Fall Dinner and Meeting at Fox River Valley Boat Company Showroom

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*Blackhawk Wishes Our Members  
a Happy Thanksgiving and  
Joyful Holidays  
with Family and Friends !*

# BLACKHAWK CHAPTER

## Officers and Directors

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Blackhawk Members:

With the 2012 boating season behind us, I have had an opportunity to take a few days to pause and reflect on the year. It was a good year with some progress for the club and a few things that I could have done better. I enjoyed the shows and events for 2012 and I was pleased to see some new faces at every activity. The Chapter membership continues to rise and more are getting involved with club



functions. I hope that this trend continues and that we provide a good value to our membership.

I would like to thank all of the Blackhawk membership for helping to make this season a success. We faced a big challenge this year coming off of the achievements of the 2011 season and the ACBS National Meeting. I am pleased to report that we have succeeded beyond my expectations and I trust yours as well. I would also like to thank the 2012 Blackhawk Chapter Board of Directors for their support and hard work this past year.

For the 2013 season I am committed to improving communication with our membership and developing more opportunity for us to enjoy our boats out on the water. We are working hard to improve the Smoke Signal and to make it a more useful and informative tool for our membership. We are also working on the 2013 show and event schedule. We hope to provide you with more club activities and events including shows, seminars, workshops, and cruise dates.

As always watch your email or snail mail for the latest Blackhawk updates. Regularly check the Blackhawk web site at [www.blackhawkacbs.com](http://www.blackhawkacbs.com) for the latest information on club events and meetings. I look forward to seeing you all out on the water at our 2013 shows and events.

Best regards,

Mark Svoboda

### Editor's Note:

The Fall Dinner Meeting is when the new Officers, Directors and Chairpersons are voted on/announced. (See page 3) At that time, the Membership Chairman position was still open. Cindy Cartner has since volunteered to take this position. A warm welcome to Cindy, as well as all other new volunteers! We encourage all Blackhawk Chapter members to consider getting involved and enriching their club experience by volunteering at events or for the positions listed to the left. Contact anyone listed to learn more about volunteering for events or for information on having a Chapter position in the future.



# Fall Dinner and Meeting at Fox River Valley Boat Company

Once again Tom and Marge Wagner of Fox River Valley Boat Company graciously hosted the Blackhawk Annual Fall Dinner and Meeting. Larry Larkin had decided it was time to pare down his personal library collection, and the fall dinner's 80 attendees were the lucky ones who could choose any of mostly boating related books that they wanted (which were stacked a foot high across a large table) and give them a new home. We mingled amongst the beautiful boats enjoying cocktails and each others' company, then continued on at our tables as we dined on a delicious beef and chicken buffet dinner with all the trimmings.

A multi-media presentation of the 2012 boating season and Chapter business followed dinner, led by President, Mark Svoboda. As always, Mark's presentation style accompanied by his wife Shelly's photographs makes the meeting enjoyable and the evening seems to go by so quickly. It began with a photographic review of the Spring Workshop, Father's Day Cruise, Fox Lake Boat Show, Milwaukee Event, Geneva Lakes Boat Show followed by the plan of events and dates for the 2013 schedule.

The first order of business was a special presentation and charitable contribution check to the Geneva Lakes Water Safety Patrol. Next was the Sharpest Arrow Award. This is a Blackhawk exclusive, annual, traveling trophy bestowed upon a member's boat that was selected by the committee of previous recipients of the award. The 2012 winner was Matt Byrne's 1939 Gar Wood, "Miss Lisa".

The Oops! Award was presented to Dan Lynch who had the misfortune of backing his 1948 Chris Craft down his driveway into a tree.

Excellence Awards are for those showing a strong commitment to the Blackhawk Chapter, investing their time and energy above and beyond the call of duty. Recipients of these awards were Ted & Cindy Cartner, and Larry & Kathy Lange. The President's Cup is an ACBS sponsored award, similar to Excellence Awards, but is awarded to only one person each year. That award was earned this year by John Barrett.

Larry Larkin surprised Mark Svoboda with his Larkin Award for Outstanding Achievement, which has only been awarded to three other people in 10 years. As Larry describes it, it is only for someone who has done something outstanding, something really special that Larry thought should be recognized. He felt Mark earned it because of his outstanding contribution to the Blackhawk Chapter.

Steve Fleming, representing the nominating committee, presented the slate of Officers for the coming term. The slate was unanimously approved by the membership at the meeting. Remaining as President is Mark Svoboda, Vice President is now Larry Lange, Secretary is Terry Dickson, and Treasurer is Michael Stolz. New Directors for a 2 year term are Walter



Matt Byrne accepts Sharpest Arrow Award from President Mark Svoboda



Excellence Award Kathy & Larry Lange



New Members, John & Erin Fischer and family with their boat "Ann-Tiki"  
A 1936 Chris Craft double forward cockpit Model 511

Goes and Paul Miller. See page 2 for names and contact information for all Blackhawk Chapter officers and committee members.

We closed the evening with a raffle drawing benefitting the Youth Group. Among the many prizes were an umbrella and a very large fender, both won by Nick Wagner; the fender is nearly the size of Nick's boat!



Nick Wagner wins big!



## Share Our Stories

Did you know that it's your newsletter?  
Yes, Blackhawk members, the newsletter belongs to you;  
you can make it better AND WIN, in more ways than one.

It's all about our stories. Whether hanging out at the docks during a show or dining together as a group, we all share our stories...the restoration project, bringing an engine back to life, a boating event, the maiden voyage, the mishaps as well as the glorious days when all goes well. To keep the newsletter fresh, exciting and providing new viewpoints to the readers, I need your stories...the funny, the interesting, the informative. You know you have them, all wood boaters do...

For almost 20 years, Smoke Signal Editors and Blackhawk Presidents have asked me or my husband, Eric, for copy and pictures for publication. Now that the Editor's job has been passed to me, I'm sure that I am going to need your help. There are over 300 members now – I invite all of you to share your stories of a day, a boat, or a lifetime of your experience(s) by writing them down and/or supplying photos that I could put into the newsletter. A different perspective of a boat show or Blackhawk event would be a welcome sight for me and I'm sure for the readers of this newsletter as well! If you are an artsy, creative person, just let me know that you'll design a flyer for an upcoming show or event and I will get the information to you. If you're not a writer, photographer or artist, but your spouse or kids who don't read the newsletter are, please show them this page.

I implore you to send ideas and anecdotes my way, and please encourage your friends and family to send them also. More content from as many sources as possible will save us from a monotonous newsletter and there will be prizes to be had worth over \$200! Any contribution of copy or photos per newsletter publication\* will make you eligible to win in a drawing that will be held at next year's fall dinner. (Winners need not be present.)



Commercial ads cover the cost of printing and postage to keep the newsletter alive. If you have a business and want to run an ad or know someone who else who might, please send that information to Matt Byrne at [mattbyrne@mrbtech.com](mailto:mattbyrne@mrbtech.com). Any other newsletter related information can be sent to me at [smokesignal@blackhawkacbs.com](mailto:smokesignal@blackhawkacbs.com).

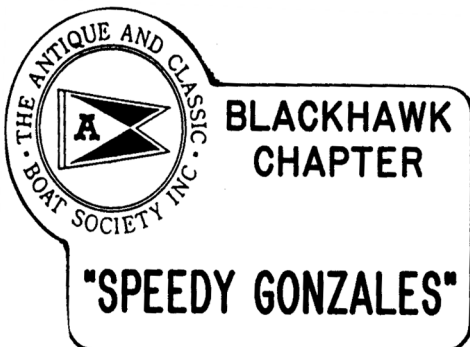
Help yourselves to a better newsletter by helping me get more and better content for it.  
Thank you,

Kathy Moberg  
Smoke Signal Editor

\*Material submitted may be edited

Send your stories and photos to  
[Smokesignal@blackhawkacbs.com](mailto:Smokesignal@blackhawkacbs.com)

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and/or to view any past issues, go to  
[www.Blackhawkacbs.com](http://www.Blackhawkacbs.com)  
Click on the Smoke Signal tab, click on any issue



Blackhawk Chapter name badges are again available. These tasteful badges are a great way to let other members know who you are at outings, and to show your affiliation at non-Blackhawk events. Simply send your name as you would like it to appear, along with a check for \$10 made out to the Blackhawk Chapter to:

Blackhawk Chapter  
c/o Cindy Cartner  
P.O. Box 683  
Antioch, IL 60002



## Celebrating Navy Week and the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 at Milwaukee's waterfront on August 10-12

Those of you who missed this event, (which is most everyone reading this) really missed out on a great time! This was not a boat show, but a weekend of an endless selection of activities and fun while our boats were on display. There was a small turnout of 3 boats in the water, plus a few others who happened by and stayed for awhile, the youth boat on display, and about 20 people for this once every hundred year affair. It was arranged by Glacier Lakes Chapter, but with an equally strong showing of Blackhawk members. To be fair, it should be noted that some who had intended to come had to alter their plans due to the high winds. There were 12 foot waves on Lake Michigan and rollers INSIDE the breakwater! These winds stymied all but the most intrepid boaters. Docking was in a safe, calm



harbor, IF you could get there. The 3 boats launched at McKinley Marina, inside the breakwater, fortunately going with the wind, so it wasn't too bad, even with the bit of morning drizzle. The sun soon made it's appearance, but winds remained with us part of the weekend.

The waterfront in Milwaukee is definitely the place to be on a sunny, summer weekend with festivities going on all around. Docked in a relatively quiet, uncrowded area we had access to so many things. In the heart of the Navy Week Celebration, with



Not pictured is Wil Vidal and his daughter, Nicole Eckert who were on the balcony taking photos. Thanks for sharing the great photo, Wil!

the Air and Water Show all around us, our boats were docked for 3 days in the harbor with the Dennis Sullivan at Discovery World Museum. There were tours of both the Tall Ship and an active duty Navy Ship, (technically, we were docked in the "Kill Zone", but they provided a variance for the weekend). A Fish Fry and a Flick (outdoor movie/dinner) was available, and a Concert by the Navy Band. Best of all was the amazing air show going on above us, really something to see, and it could definitely be heard! The Milwaukee Art Museum was a short walk away, with a special exhibit of Posters of Paris: Toulouse Lautrec and His Contemporaries.

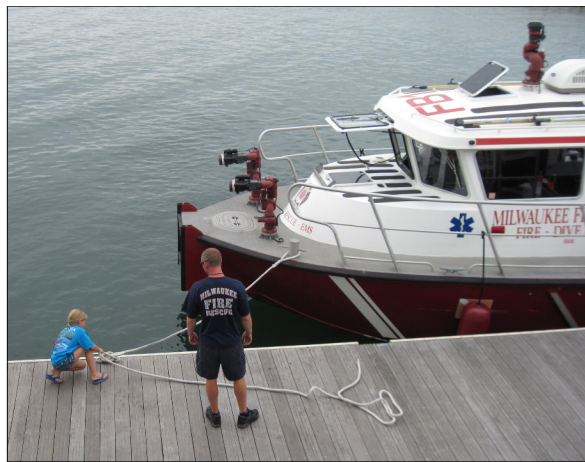
Continued on page 6





Navy Week and Bicentennial War of 1812 in Milwaukee continued...

Great restaurants and micro-breweries were everywhere, by land or by water. The State Fair and two more Navy ships were a short ride away, but there was plenty to do right where we were. The kids really enjoyed the Discovery World Museum with Tesla exhibit and show, petting the stingrays and being invited onto the Fire and Coast Guard boats.





# Welcome Aboard!

## New Members of Blackhawk in 2012

John and Janice Beeman, Villa Park, IL

Dave and Lisa Sharpe, Fontana, WI

John D. Simms, Jr., Lake Geneva, WI

Mike McEachron, Alta Loma, CA

Todd Starr, Naperville, IL

Doug Abbott, Champaign, IL

David Parish, Flossmoor, IL

John Vass, Alanson, MI

Fernando Arroyo, Berwyn, IL

Wayne and Jecca Zinder, Chicago, IL

Keith Pozulp, Williams Bay, WI

Tab and Kathleen Gehrke, Jupiter, FL

Frank and Roxane Lozich, Tinley Park, IL

Paul and Judy Pence, Park Ridge, IL

David and Rosemary Traut, Lake Geneva, IL

Robert and Joan Franzen, Williams Bay, WI

Steve and Nabil Horvath, Glen Ellyn, IL

Mike and Jackie Kuechenberg, Chicago, IL

Richard and Mary Pedersen, Elmhurst, IL

Brian and Melody Tarkowski, Richmond, IL

Tyler Slovick, Chicago, IL

John and Erin Fischer, Johnsburg, IL



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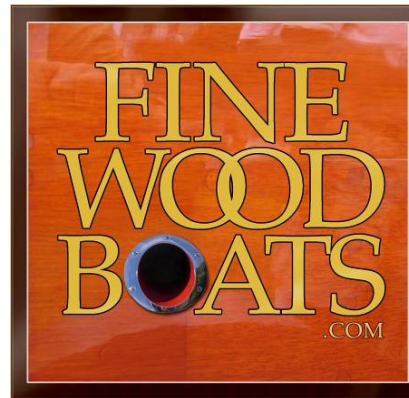
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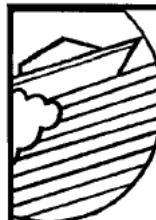
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**FOR SALE:** 1962 Sea Skiff Ranger, 283 Chevrolet V8 Convertible Top, Like new cushions, Newly refinished transom, All new flooring (white waffle) asking \$7800. New aluminum trailer optional +\$2800 - Don Taylor 630-632-9797

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**FOR SALE:** 1955 Chris Craft 20' Continental. Original KLC 125 HP engine. Updated upholstery, custom cover, original but tight bottom, single axle trailer \$25,000 Ron (708) 442-9753, Lake: (262) 275-2475.

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Individual Blackhawk Chapter members may run a single complimentary non-commercial advertisement in any issue of the Smoke Signal. Individual advertisements will not be rerun unless the editor is notified prior to publication of the following issue. The editor reserves the right to edit if necessary to fit available space.

	Business card sized	Quarter page	Half Page	Full Page
Members	\$40	\$80	\$150	\$300
Non-Members	\$60	\$100	\$170	\$320

Provide all advertisements to: Matt Byrne at [mattbyrne@mrbtech.com](mailto:mattbyrne@mrbtech.com) or Kathy Moberg at [smokesignal@blackhawkacbs.com](mailto:smokesignal@blackhawkacbs.com)



## BLACKHAWK CHAPTER-ACBS

### *The Smoke Signal*

2010 Villanova Drive  
Johnsburg, IL 60051



## *2013 Event Calendar*

TBA Spring Workshop

TBA (May) Spring Dinner

TBA Spring / Summer Chain O'Lakes Cruises

Sun, June 16 Fathers Day Cruise

Sat, July 20 29th Antique & Classic Boat Show at Freddie's, Fox Lake, IL

Fri-Sun, July 26-28 21st Minocqua Antique & Classic Boat Show at Matt Morgan's, Minocqua, WI

TBA Geneva Lake Cruise

Sept 27-29 Geneva Lakes Antique & Classic Boat Show at The Abbey, Fontana, WI

TBA (Oct) Fall Dinner

