



The crews of *Instinct* and *Beelzebub* come in close contact during one of the Les Cheneaux Yacht Club's Ensign Fleet 31's summer sailing race series in the Les Cheneaux Islands this summer. (Photograph courtesy of Steve Birkmeier)

## Summer Ensign Racing Results Announced

*AWOL*, the ensign owned by Russ Lincoln, won the Birkmeier Trophy for sailing the best season in Ensign Fleet 31 of Les Cheneaux races this summer. The team on Mr. Lincoln's vessel, skippered most of the season by Scott Graul, accumulated 30 points.

Second place was taken by *Second Wind*, owned by Joel Birkmeier, with 39.50 points. Last year's top racer, Jonas Carpenter, who skippered *Instinct*, took third place with 44 points. *Starlight*

*Express*, skippered by Dick Knapp, collected 82 points for fourth place.

The Arbaugh Trophy for "biggest contribution to the races" was given to Linda Parlin, a Les Cheneaux Islands cottager who chaired the race committee with her husband, Dave. Dick and Sheelagh Knapp will head the race committee next year.

Fleet 31 members, all from the Les Cheneaux Islands, race Ensign sailboats, which are 22.5 feet long,

have a full keel, and sail with jib, main, and spinnaker. The boat is usually crewed by a skipper and two or three other sailors. The Fleet 31 racing season ended with the Boot to Voight Race, a race that takes place annually on Labor Day weekend.

The season's racing results follow.

**Birkmeier Trophy** (Total season)

1. *AWOL*, owned by Russ Lincoln, 30 points; 2. *Second Wind*, Joel Birkmeier, 39.50 points; 3. *Instinct*, Jonas Carpenter, 44 points; 4. *Starlight Express*, Dick Knapp, 82 points.

**Islander Trophy** (July races around LaSalle and Marquette islands)

1. *AWOL*, Russ Lincoln, 2.75 points; 2. (tie) *Second Wind*, Joel Birkmeier, 7 points, and *Instinct*, Jonas Carpenter, 7 points; 3. *Starlight Express*, Dick Knapp, 9 points.

**Horsburgh Trophy** (July race to and from Mackinac Island)

1. (tie) *AWOL*, Russ Lincoln, 2.75 points, and *Water Dog*, Rob Dendel, 2.75 points; 2. (tie) *Second Wind*, Joel Birkmeier, 7 points, and *Instinct*, Jonas Carpenter, 7 points.

**August Regatta - Haines Trophy for A Race Boats**

1. *Foxy Lady*, Frank LaBelle, 15.25 points; 2. *Rudy*, Todd Snyder, 15.50 points; 3. *Water Dog*, Rob Dendel, 16 points.

**August Regatta - Iverson Trophy for B Boats**

1. (tie) *Dragon Lady*, Jack Edwards, 11.75 points, and *Katogi*, Chuck Letts, 11.75 points; 2. *Sunrunner*, Fred Moore, 14.50 points.

## 1,000 Boy and Girl Scouts Rally at Bay City Lake



Boy Scout Edward Maxbauer (far left), with Scout Leaders Roger Deemer of Lake Ann and Joel Wright of Traverse City, break down the "Stir Up the Beehive" learning station at the 20th Annual International Scout Rally at Bay City Lake, Hessel, Saturday, September 16. The station taught knot tying, lashing, and scout spirit skills, and it was one of several stations in at the rally that taught recreational skills to 1,000 Boy and Girl Scouts from the Midwest and Canada. This year's rally was the 20th Anniversary, and incorporated rally themes from the past 20 years in its three days of festivities.

## 'The Fantasticks' Opens Sept. 21

The Soo Theatre announces its final presentation of the season, the EUP Fine Arts Council's production of "The Fantasticks" on Thursday, September 21, and Friday, September 22, at 8 p.m. at the Sault Ste. Marie theater.

"The Fantasticks" features many performers from around the Eastern U.P. This musical is appropriate for audiences of all ages. Opening entertainment for Friday evening will begin at 6 p.m. with Gentleman George Snider, Roy

Nason, Jack Kinney, Tim Hatfield, and Wild Fate. Pizza and refreshments will be available in the lobby area and from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are available at the Soo Theatre Box Office by phoning (906) 643-1930. Ticket prices for Thursday will be \$10 for adults, \$5 for students, and children under 5 are free. Tickets for the gala Friday performance will be \$12 for adults, \$6 for students, and children under 5 are free.

## Touch of Craft Will Close for Season

A Touch of Craft, located at Arnold Line Dock 1 in St. Ignace, will close for the season Friday, September 22.

Until that date, the shop is open and offering a variety of handmade crafts Mondays through Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

## Dan Musser III Appointed to MBA

### Says That Bridge Has Played Large Part in Family's Life

By Karen Gould

Grand Hotel President R. Dan Musser III of Mackinac Island and Petoskey has been appointed to a seat on the Mackinac Bridge Authority, succeeding Angelo Lanni of Washington, whose term had expired this summer. Mr. Musser was appointed to represent Republicans to a term that runs until June 30, 2012.

"This is the first appointment I actually really sought," Mr. Musser told *The St. Ignace News*, Monday, September 18. "Intellectually, I think it will be a challenge and fun."

On a personal note, Mr. Musser said the Mackinac Bridge has played a large part in his family's life, which makes the appointment more significant to him. His great-uncle, former Grand Hotel owner W. Stewart Woodfill, championed the cause for the need for a bridge between the Upper and Lower Peninsulas and he helped lobby in Michigan for its construction.

Mr. Musser's wife, Marlee Brown, is the granddaughter of the late U.S. Senator Prentiss M. Brown, who helped secure funding to get the bridge built. He also later served as the first chairman of the bridge authority.

"Hopefully, my experience at Grand Hotel, maintaining a significant structure, albeit a wooden one, will allow me to bring some insight to the authority," said Mr. Musser.

Governor Jennifer Granholm also made two more appointments to the bridge authority Tuesday, September 12.

In a maneuver designed to allow the governor to appoint authority chairman William Gnodtke to a new six-year term, he was asked to resign from the authority with two years remaining on his current term.

Heidi Watson, a spokesperson for the governor, said Mr. Gnodtke's resignation was just a formality.

"The governor thinks he has done an excellent job as an authority member and wanted to give him a new full term," she said.

"I'm pleased that the governor thinks I'm doing a good job and I'm looking forward to another six years," said Mr. Gnodtke of Charlevoix. "Very honestly, I

think she just appreciated the way we handled the situation we were in a year ago."

Mr. Gnodtke was referring to the power struggle the authority had with former Michigan Department of Transportation Director Gloria Jeff that resulted a formal operating agreement and in December resulted in a state law designed to protect the authority's role over bridge operations.

Mr. Gnodtke was appointed to represent Republicans on the board, replacing Vice-chair Elsa Schaller of Petoskey, whose term also had expired.

Mr. Gnodtke, now retired, was the president of Gnodtke and Associates, a governmental and political consulting and fundraising corporation. He was first appointed to the authority in 1997 by Governor John Engler and reappointed in 2002. His new term expires June 30, 2012.

Robert Struck, a Marquette county commissioner, also was appointed to represent Republicans and will complete Mr. Gnodtke's remaining two-year term, which is set to expire June 30, 2008.

"I hope to apply my background in highway safety and emergency services to help benefit the Mackinac Bridge," said Mr. Struck.

He is the executive director of UP-EMS, a nonprofit resource organization that helps communities across the Upper Peninsula and Northern Michigan develop and maintain local emergency management services. He also is active in highway safety programs, working with Michigan State Police.

Mr. Struck said he was honored by the appointment.

"The bridge is not just a bridge, it is one of our state's major landmarks," he said.

The authority provides oversight and policy decisions regarding the bridge. The new appointments stand confirmed unless disapproved by the Michigan Senate within 60 days.

The authority consists of six members, three Republicans and three Democrats, and the director of the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), and includes Murray Wikol of Bloomfield Hills, Barbara Brown of St. Ignace and Lansing, Patrick Gleason of Davison, and MDOT Director Kirk Steudle.

Bob Sweeney, executive secretary of the authority, said elections for a new chair and vice-chair will be held at the authority's next meeting, which is scheduled for Friday, October 6, in St. Clair.

## GAME TIME SPECIALS

Friday Before the Saints Game

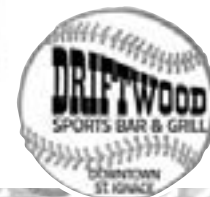
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