

# TOWER TALK

## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ISLANDER CLUB



July—September 2021



Thank you to Jeff Beeba, Jose Rodriguez, Sally Kingston, Kris Brommeland and Elena Thomas for all your hard work! PS. The face masks are for sale at the office (\$11).

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Board of Dir.

Sally Kingston, Administrative Mgr.

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Radlinski

Phyllis Radlinski, Editor

## **ZOOMing To The Future**

**The pandemic forced us to think differently about many things. Communication is always a critical component of community living, but it became even more so when information about COVID-19 was being updated from so many sources so quickly.**

**Early in the pandemic we realized we needed to take advantage of technology to stay in touch with our residents. Enter the use of ZOOM for our Board and Committee meetings! What was mandated by the necessity to stay in touch with our owners became a wonderful tool of engagement. Participation in meetings, particularly Committee meetings, increased dramatically. It proved to be a very efficient and effective means of staying in touch and sharing important updates.**

**We recently took ZOOM to the next level in its use for the Islander Club. Seeing an opportunity to further expand engagement for our residents while also spreading communications throughout the year, rather than just 'in season', I put together a ZOOM resource for our Board of Directors and Committee Chairs. With special thanks to Bonnie and Bob Rosen who helped me test and retest the tools, we now have a simple resource consisting of a couple of written documents and a video that explains how to set-up, conduct and archive Board and Committee meetings. The Board and Committees can effectively continue their work year-round, avoiding the crush of activity that happens in the winter. In addition, with the archiving feature, anyone can access a copy of the meeting at their convenience. This can be especially helpful when you cannot attend a meeting of interest due to the various conflicts that life throws at us on a day-to day basis.**

**Looking ahead, we are anxious to resume live meetings in our beautiful Club Room. But with ZOOM, it is anticipated that even more members of our community will be able to tune in either live or via the technology. We look forward to even greater resident participation and contribution in the future to our amazing Association.**

**Joseph Dallacqua**

**Vice President**



**FLIP A  
SWITCH  
MAKE A  
MOVE**

**SAVE OUR  
TURTLES**

Nesting season is from  
May 1st to October 31st

## ISLANDER CLUB OFFICE NEWS—Sally Kingston

FOR SALE— 34 SOUTH \$785,000

### NEW OWNERS

- 31 SOUTH Peter & Georgia Vrankovic Huntington, NY
- 34 NORTH John & Leisa Harding Lansing, MI
- 32 NORTH Dave & Nonnie Kibbey Palm Desert, CA
- 13 SOUTH William Cummings Purchase, NY
- 63 SOUTH Sal & Karen Catalano Merrick, NY
- 82 NORTH Vladimir & Ida Fiks Portland, OR
- 115/116 NORTH Edwin & Jayne Cook Shelby, MI

### BIRTHDAYS

- |                          |                                 |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Steve Cole - July 2      | Jay Giles -- August 12          |
| Leisa Harding - July 3   | Barbara Harvey - August 22      |
| Bill Stock - July 8      | Valerie Zamberletti - August 22 |
| Sondra Cohen - July 19   | Linda Kanner - August 26        |
| Donna Amari - August 3   | Susan Friedman - August 30      |
| Jim Loftis - August 4    | Joe Dallacqua - August 31       |
| Nadar Tomasbi - August 6 | Geff Yancy -September 1         |
| Bill Whistler - August 7 | Cindy Yancy - September 14      |
| Marc Pohl –August 9      | Gayle Pfirmann - September 22   |
| Terry Rodina - August 12 | Katherine O'Dell - September 23 |



### ANNIVERSARYS

- |                         |                    |                       |                      |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Bob & Muriel Klosterman | July 2 (50 yrs.)   |                       |                      |
| George & Jackie Shaps   | July 2 (69 yrs.)   | Dave & Galina Elliott | August 23            |
| Carl & Gayle Pfirmann   | July 8             | Terry & Stacey Rodino | September 8 (37 yrs) |
| John & Leisa Harding    | August 8           | John & Lisa Ring      | September 20         |
| Mark & Pam Schneider    | August 13 (38 yrs) |                       |                      |



## Meet your Neighbors by Ratna Agharkar : 43S Suzan & Barry Friedman

Suzan told me that she and her husband, Barry, first started coming to the IC back in 1991! That's when Suzan's parents, Albert and Nora Balk, purchased a unit here. Then they were the parents of 2 young daughters who enjoyed coming here as much as they did. Barry remembers when the carports had plastic green roofs and Suzan recalls there was no fence around the pool. Now, after completely renovating the unit, its their turn to enjoy life here at the IC.

Suzan grew up in Bergen County, NJ; Barry in Manhattan. After college, they attended different law schools in Boston. A classmate of Suzan's and her brother, a classmate of Barry's, introduced them and of course, the match was successful. They were married in New York City in 1978 and settled in Bethesda MD. Suzan spent her career at the Federal Communications Commission. Barry was a partner at several law firms, the last being Thompson Hine. He recently transitioned from partner to senior counsel status.

They are now busy enjoying all that LBK and Sarasota have to offer - attending the theatre, concerts, ballet (okay, just Suzan), lectures and visiting museums. They can often be seen poolside as well as off kayaking and bike riding. Suzan enjoys photography, bridge, and collecting contemporary art glass. Barry is a golfer and plays with the IC golf group. They love to travel and are looking forward to traveling again soon. And best of all, they are looking forward to their daughter's wedding in November!

Interviewing The Friedmans' was such a pleasure. I felt like they would motivate people by setting an example.



## Meet your Neighbors by Ratna Agharkar : 111/112N Robert & Bonnie Rosen.

If you are looking for the most helpful people at IC ask for The Rosens' ..Bob & Bonnie are now a staple .. They started looking in Venice then Siesta Key etc ..Discovered LBK by accident. 2012 bought unit 81 N .. rented it out for 5 yrs..recently bought a double unit on the 11th floor. Bonnie loves her room with 'a view' for her Art.

Bob grew up in Philadelphia. He graduated from Temple Law School as he says, a long, long time ago.. He considers himself a 'simple country lawyer' for almost five decades. He served as an active member and officer of several non-profit boards for 45 years as well as a chairman of his township planning commission. Bonnie grew up in Souderton, PA and has been a lifelong educator for over 40 years. She completed her administrative certification from the University of Pennsylvania and served as principal and educational supervisor in the North Penn School District. She also owned and directed a day care school that contracted day care school services for Merck, a large pharmaceutical company. She taught education courses at in various schools of higher education and coached/supervised student teachers. Bob has a great sense of humor..When asked how they met...Bob promptly said I picked her up in a parking lot.. Bonnie explained that they were Chamber of Commerce members and met during a card exchange event that happened to be in scheduled in the lot of a car dealer chamber member.

They enjoy traveling, in fact Bob owned a piece of a travel agency in the past and they have visited over 80 countries. Cruises are a favorite..the longest one being 25 days. Bob is a history & movie buff and also loves trivia. He suggests having a movie night at IC.

Bonnie reads a lot. Her other hobbies include swimming, kayaking, biking and walking. Bonnie plays piano and dabbles in art using water/acrylic colors, pastels and colored pencils. They both are inspired by the beauty of LBK and IC and enjoy capturing these photo treasures each day. They noted that Islander Club has such physical beauty, but the friendly people in this caring community are what makes IC a great place to live!



## Islander Club's Great Staff



**Kris Brommeland**  
**Property Manager**



**Sally Kingston**  
**Administrative Manager**



**Jose Rodriguez**  
**Maintenance/Housekeeping**



**Elena Thomas**  
**Housekeeping**



**Jeff Beeba**  
**Maintenance**



### **Ways to protect Turtles:**

**The following tips are from Turtle Time, Inc. at [www.turtletime.org](http://www.turtletime.org):**

- **Use only amber or red LED bulbs in outdoor light fixtures near beaches.**
- **Outdoor fixtures need to aim light downward, shielding it from the beach.**
- **Close drapes and blinds at night so houselights can't be seen from the beach.**
- **Don't use flashlights or lighted cell phones at the beach at night.**
- **Don't build beach fires or set off fireworks at the beach.**
- **Don't take flash photographs of sea turtles at night.**
- **Don't litter—turtles mistake balloons and plastic bags in water for food.**
- **Fill in holes you have dug at the beach to prevent entrapment.**
- **Observe nesting turtles from a distance and stay behind her line of sight.**
- **Don't block a turtle's way back to the water.**

**Thank you!**



## Cruising America's Great Loop

By Dick Radlinski



America's Great Loop is a series of connected (and fully navigable) waterways that surround the eastern half of the US and pass through parts of Quebec and Ontario.

"The Loop" as it is called by us boaters who make the trip, is approximately 6,000 miles long (there are several variants and side trips along the way that can make it even longer) and it typically takes about a year to complete. When you "Do The Loop" you cruise on the Atlantic Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, the Great Lakes and many major North American rivers. Along the way, you visit large cities as well as small towns and you get to see numerous landmarks in the US and Canada. You also pass through about 150 locks, some of which are very old, small and hand operated, and others which are designed to handle ocean going ships and large tugs pushing multiple barges. In short, The Loop is a boaters dream and it can be done in almost any size boat.

As a lifetime boater who got started at age 11 when my dad and I built a Sears 12 foot rowboat kit in our back yard in Langley Park, I have wanted to do The Loop ever since I first read about it over 20 years ago. We have completed the entire process of living that cruising dream. Phyllis and I completed The Loop in our 36 foot trawler "Wye Tug". We started out from our dock on the Wye River on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and travelled north up the Atlantic Coast past New York City into the Hudson River. We continued on through Lake Champlain into Quebec and the St. Lawrence River where we turned west heading to Montreal and Ottawa. In Ottawa we entered a series of canals that took us across southern Ontario. Next, we took the small craft route through Georgian Bay and the North Channel of Lake Huron eventually crossing over to Lake Michigan through the Straits of Mackinac. We left the boat in storage in Northern Michigan until due to medical problems after one year we got back on Wye Tug and traveled south to Florida via Chicago and the Western River System (Illinois, Mississippi, Ohio, Tennessee and Tombigbee) ending up in Mobile Alabama on the Gulf of Mexico. We'll spend next winter cruising Florida, then head north up the Atlantic Intra-coastal Waterway (AICW) to the Chesapeake and our home dock. We "Crossed our Wake" and completed the loop in 2017.





The first canal we encountered was at the north end of the Hudson River. At this point you have a choice: You can turn left into the Erie Canal heading west towards Lake Erie or Lake Ontario or you can go straight into the Champlain Canal that takes you north to Lake Champlain. We chose the Champlain route and soon entered the first of the 124 locks we would transit over the next three months. Each lock was different and some, as we would discover in Canada and as you will see later were very unusual.

This is a typical small lock. We went through a lot of these on our trip. Most were built in the 1800s and are hand operated, typically by college students. The grounds are park-like and you are allowed to tie up overnight. Many are in the center of small towns which allowed us to get off the boat and enjoy the local color. We carried folding bikes on the boat and used them quite a bit to get around on land. They were great for making runs to the grocery and hardware stores for supplies.



One of the largest locks we encountered was located near Montreal on the St. Lawrence. It permits ships (as well as small recreational craft like ours) to bypass the rapids on the St. Lawrence at Montreal. Commercial traffic has preference and we had to wait 5 hours here to let several big ships go through. Note how this ship barely fits in between the lock walls. Lots of scraping noise when these guys enter and exit the lock.

This very unusual lock in Peterborough, Ontario is called a lift lock. You actually run your boat into a "tub" of water (right side of photo). The upper tub, which is filled with an extra foot of water, pushes down on a piston which creates pressure to raise the lower tub. There are doors on each end of each tub which can open and close to seal off the tubs. This lock raised us up 65 feet in the air to connect to the upper canal. This was built in 1905.





Above are photos of a very unusual lock in Ontario on the Trent Severn Waterway called "The Big Chute." You run your boat into a submerged railcar, the operators support your boat with adjustable slings (controlled by hydraulics) and then the railcar comes out of the water, travels over a road and descends a very long, steep hill into a body of water below. You stay on the boat the whole time.....What a ride, like a roller coaster in slow motion! Scary!

Several conventional locks after "riding" over The Big Chute we entered Georgian Bay which is a separate part of Lake Huron and is almost as big as Lake Erie. We travelled the protected small craft route across the top of Georgian Bay into the North Channel, another very large body of fresh water. Both Georgian Bay and the North Channel are full of huge boulders, small granite islands and lots of windswept pine trees. Many of the Islands have homes on them.



On our next leg we crossed over from a town on the north shore of the North Channel to Detour Island which separates the North Channel from the main part of Lake Huron. This took about eight hours on open water (this indicates the size of the North Channel). Detour Island is a part of the US and required us clearing US Customs. Canada was great but it was nice to be back in the US. After anchoring out overnight we crossed the west end of Lake Huron, another eight hour trip on open water but this time we were in dense fog the entire way. We had to use our radar and didn't actually see passing boats or big ships until they were very very close.

We stopped to tour Mackinac Island, which is just off the northern tip of Michigan. The island is a well known tourist attraction which does not allow any cars; bikes and horses provide transportation. One of the main attractions on the island is the classic Grand Hotel where I had a \$26 Bloody Mary (\$10 to enter the hotel and \$16 for the drink).



After leaving Mackinac Island we passed under the Mackinac Bridge which crosses the Straits of Mackinac. The Straits connect Lake Huron to Lake Michigan. The Mackinac Bridge which is about the same length as the Chesapeake Bay Bridge connects the Upper and Lower peninsulas of Michigan.

We travelled down the West coast of Michigan stopping in Harbor Springs, Petoskey and Charlevoix before ending up in Traverse City at the bottom end of Grand Traverse Bay. The boat was stored in a heated building near Traverse City. We had scheduled for our Great Loop to start after a few months but due to medical problems we had to leave it there for over a year.

The trip thus far had been the experience of a lifetime and we were anxious to continue on. Thus far, we spent three months on the boat and slept on it every night. Its not a big boat but was very comfortable and we got accustomed to it being our home. Before starting the trip Phyllis was somewhat apprehensive about the trip and our living together in such a small space but as it has turned out she loved cruising as much as I do. A couple of weeks after returning home we woke up one morning in our four bedroom house, looked at each other and both said " I wish we were back on the boat".

I will write about the rest of our Great Loop experience for the October Tower Talk Newsletter. For additional details please feel free to contact me at [radlinskid@gmail.com](mailto:radlinskid@gmail.com) or visit the website for the America's Great Loop Cruisers Association (ALGCA) at: [www.GreatLoop.org](http://www.GreatLoop.org)

## Book Club Report by Michael Turk

I was hoping I would be able to hold the 6/21 book club but that wasn't possible. Between health commitments and preparation for our move, it just didn't work out. Things are moving pretty fast and we are scheduled to move from the Islander Club on July 2.

Please know how much I appreciate all your support over the past several years. The Book Club was always a labor of love for me and you always shared your different perspectives. I will miss all your friendships.

I hope you continue to enjoy the discussion of good books and wish you continued success in the future.

*Mike Turk*

We will miss you Mike!



Tower Talk

People who have just become Islander Club owners are asking good questions:

- ◆ Good restaurants in the area?
- ◆ Vendors?
- ◆ Places to visit?
- ◆ Someone even suggested we should have Movie Night!
- ◆ Let us know what you think.

### Contact Information

Give us a call if you have any questions or suggestions.

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