

What We do in the Summer

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The Great Escape

- The summer in Florida is a time when many residents flee the hot, humid, and sometimes stormy climate and head for other parts of the country where they believe they will find more pleasant conditions.
- Some have homes elsewhere or stay in a resort while others have homes that are not stationary.
- These "non-stationary" homes are usually in the form of an RV but in my case it's a boat.
- RVs and boats are very different but also share much in common as well.

RV versus Boat (similarities)

- Both can be very basic or very elaborate.
- The more elaborate models can provide a living environment much like a home where an extended stay is possible.
- Both are fairly expensive to operate.
- Both need to get pumped out and plug in to "shore" power.
- Boats stay in marinas or anchorages while RVs stay in campsites, parks, or Wal-Mart.
- Both require a certain skill level to operate.
- Both can have expensive repairs when they break.
- Both can be hard to sell when you want to get rid of them.
- Neither is a good investment.

Boat versus RV (differences)

- Boats can hit things and sink.
- RVs can have a flat tire.
- Boats are more impacted by bad weather.
- Boats are harder to park.
- Boat repairs are more expensive.
- Boats can go places RVs can't and vice versa.
- RVs tow cars while boats tow dinghies.
- Did I mention the sinking thing?

Our Boating Experience

- Our cruising grounds are the Great Lakes and specifically the North Channel of Lake Huron and Georgian Bay.
- Currently, our only U.S. ports of call are in the far eastern portion of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The rest of the time we are in Ontario, Canada.
- We have a 39' Mainship Trawler motor boat with a single inboard diesel power plant.

Our Boat

- The trawler we have is in a class of boats that are characterized by their economy and slow speed.
- In a pinch, our boat could sleep eight but that won't ever happen while we own it.
- We carry 130 gallons of fresh water and 300 gallons of diesel fuel. Our holding tank has a capacity of 35 gallons.
- On board we have one head, an all-electric galley (stove, microwave, etc.), two steering stations, two decks and an aft cockpit.
- For AC power away from the dock, we have an 8KW diesel generator.
- We have two air conditioners (heating and cooling) and a 2KW inverter that powers some of our AC appliances w/o the generator.
- For travel in limited visibility (fog) the boat is equipped with radar and GPS guided navigation w/autopilot.
- For going to shore we have a 10' inflatable RIB with a 10 HP outboard.

The Vessel Sea Y'all II



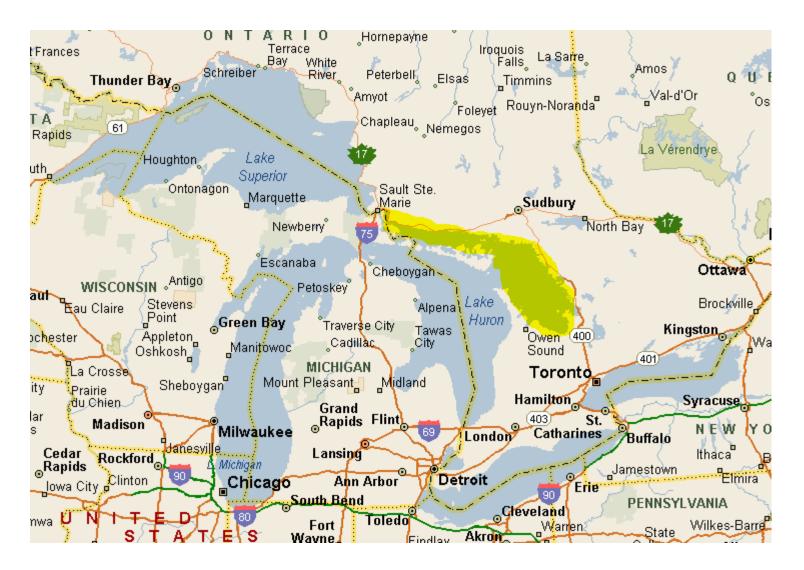
The Vessel Sea Y'all II



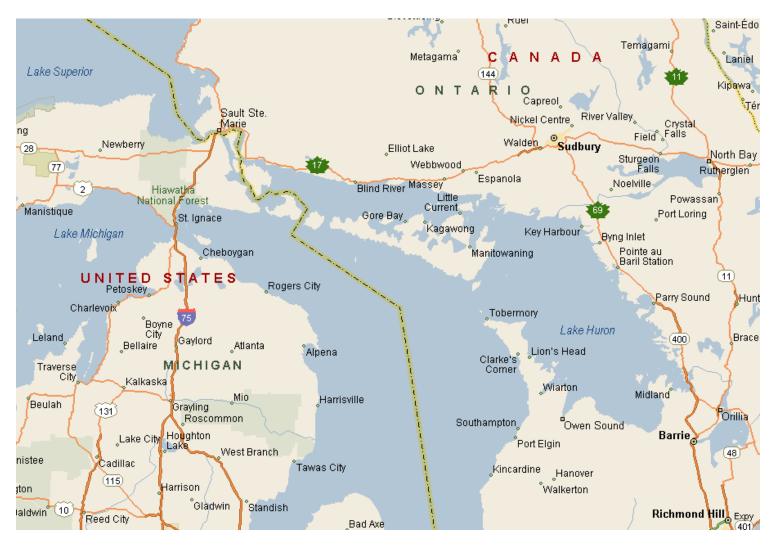
The Vessel Sea Y'all II



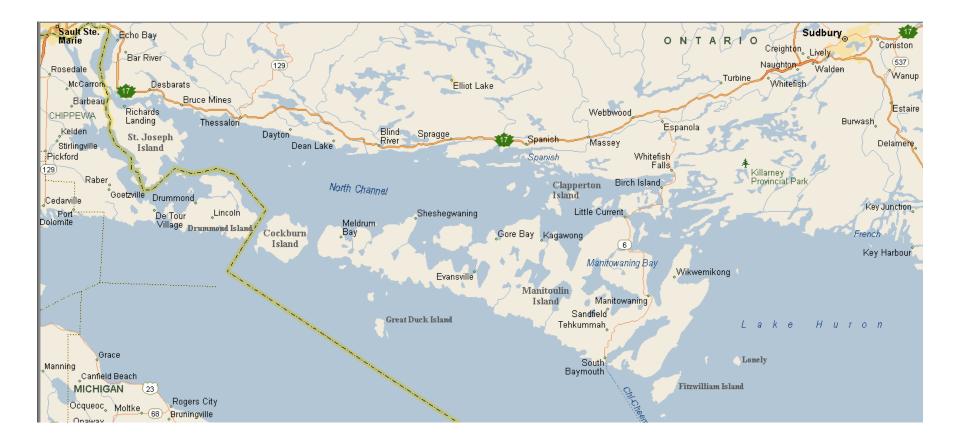
The Great Lakes



The North Channel and Georgian Bay



Our Typical Cruising Grounds



A Typical Day

- When we wake up in the morning we are either at a dock or "on the hook" in some quiet bay.
- I will sometimes go out in the dinghy looking for stuff to take pictures of, try my hand at fishing, our just relax.
- Sheri just reads and relaxes.
- At the end of the day we sometimes meet up with others for some social interaction.

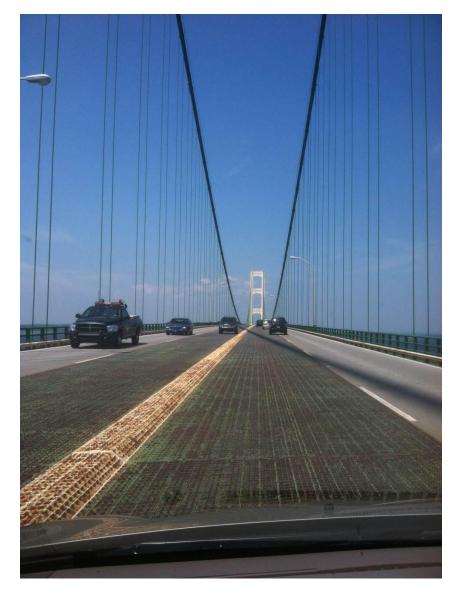
A Typical Day

- If provisions are needed we will make our way to the local grocery store where choices are limited for all but the basic items.
- We usually have an internet connection in marinas so we catch up on email and news.
- This year we picked up a device that enabled an internet connection anywhere we had a cell signal and it worked great.

A Typical Day

- Some marinas anchorages have nearby scenic attractions that we may take in during our spare time.
- We frequent the few eating establishments when we are in port to help support the local economy.
- Update our blog.
- And as always we will socialize and swap lies with others boaters.























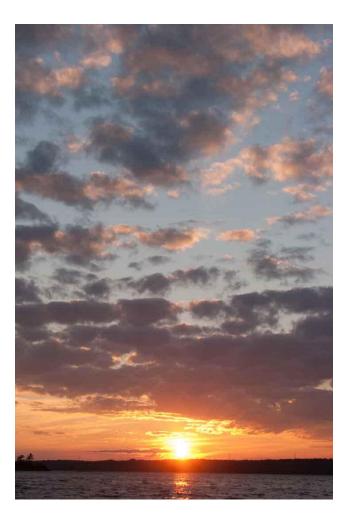










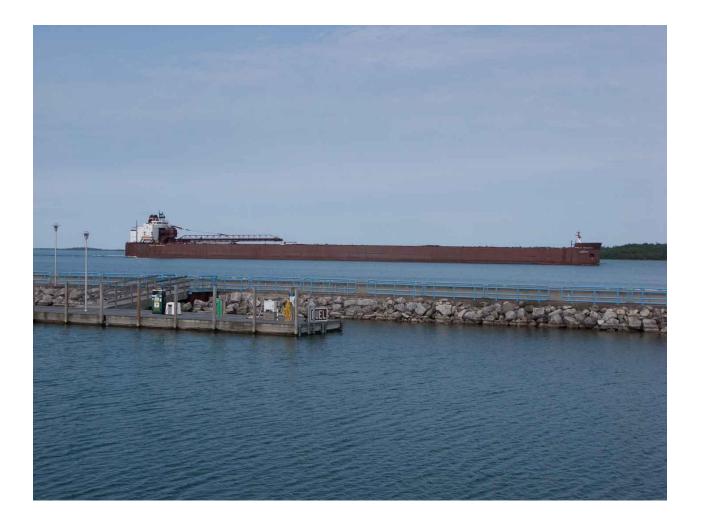


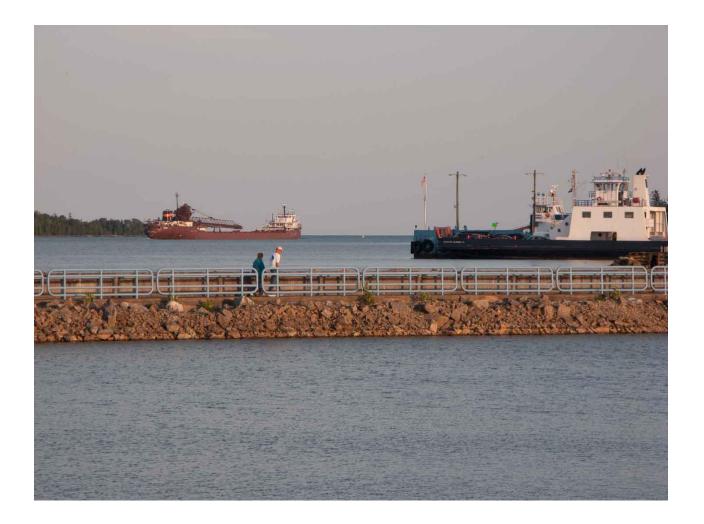














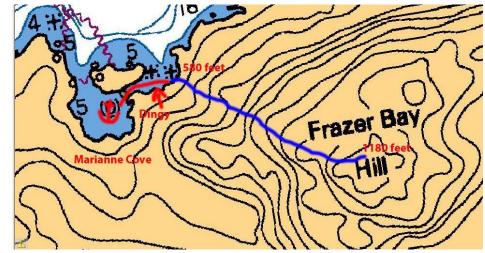




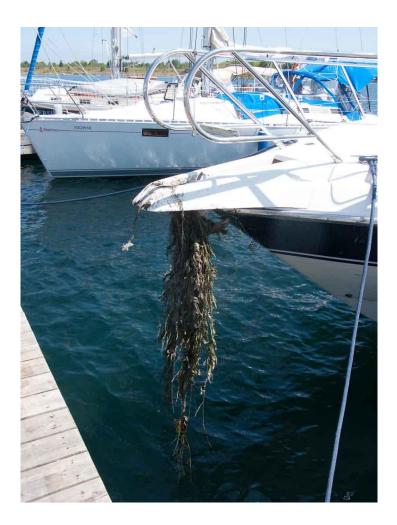










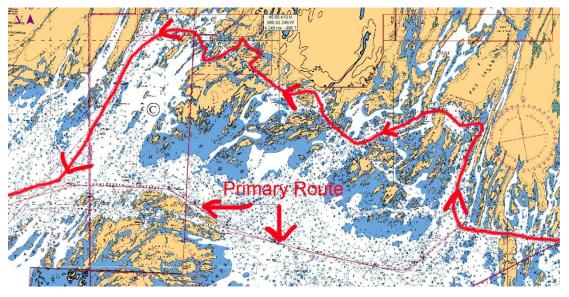


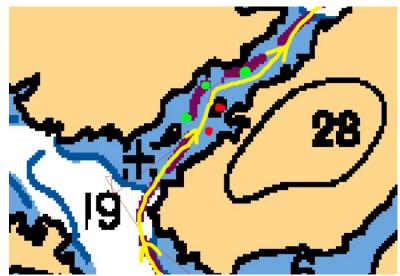
















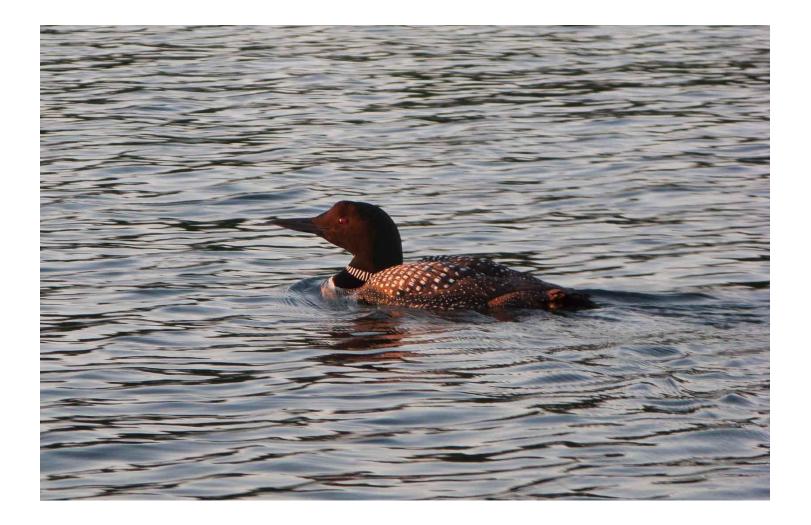




















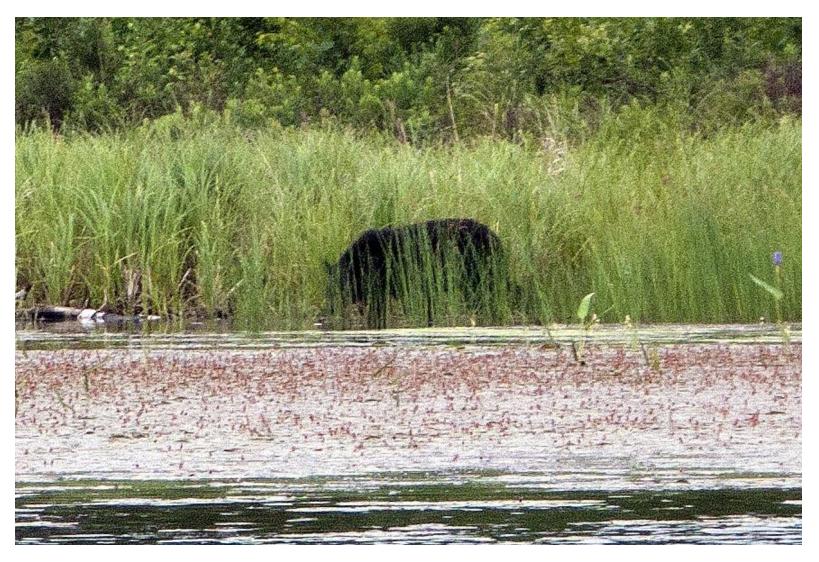












Check Our Blog for the Full Story

- We have maintained a detailed journal of our boating travels since 2009 and you are welcomed to visit them.
 - <u>2009</u>
 - <u>2010</u>
 - <u>2011</u>
 - <u>2012</u>

And Finally!!!

Have fun and take great pictures.



If you have any questions about this presentation please don't hesitate to contact me at actigner@digiact.com