

Scuttle

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BUZZ
Steve Jobs' Yacht Finished Posthumously

Just one year after Apple founder Steve Jobs' death, shipbuilders in Aalsmeer, Holland completed construction of the megayacht Jobs spent years designing, according to a recent story published in Yahoo! News.

Built entirely of aluminum, the yacht was designed by Jobs, with help from French designer Phillippe Stack. The vessel, named *Venus*, measures between 70 and 80 meters (230 and 262 feet). Luxurious amenities reportedly include a large sun deck with built-in Jacuzzi tub, all-glass cabin, and state-of-the-art bridge outfitted with 7 27" iMacs than handle the ship's navigation and controls.

After the megayacht's completion, Yahoo! News reports the Jobs family hosted a christening party with the shipbuilders, all of whom were said to have received iPod Shuffles with the *Venus* name engraved on the back as a token of thanks.



The violent storm surge resulting from Hurricane Sandy lifted boats from their blocks and deposited them across lawns in the suburban neighborhood of Island Park, New York (top left). Coast Guard Petty Officer 1st Class Travis Olson, with the National Strike Force's Pacific Strike Team (bottom left), conducts a damage assessment of vessels in Great Kills Harbor in Staten Island, New York. Responders with the Hurricane Sandy Pollution Response Unified Command are working to identify potential pollution concerns. Fallout from Hurricane Sandy also affected the Great Lakes region, causing Chicago to close its lakefront path due to waves that reached upwards of 20 feet high (right).

GREAT LAKES NEWS

Hurricane Sandy Damages More Than 65,000 Recreational Boats

BoatUS, the nation's largest group of boaters, estimates that more than 65,000 recreational boats were damaged or lost as a result of Hurricane Sandy. The total dollar damage is estimated at approximately \$650 million, making the late October 2012 storm the single-largest industry loss since BoatUS began keeping track in 1966.

"We are all reeling from the huge impact this storm has had on communities and people's lives," says BoatUS AVP of public affairs Scott Croft. "We've never seen anything like it."

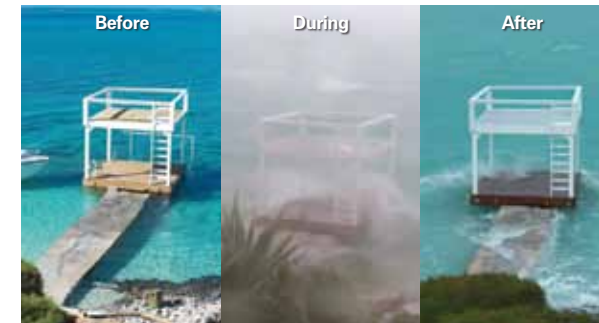
The scope of the damage to boats is unprecedented, affecting large areas from the Atlantic seaboard as far inland as the Great Lakes, with the majority of damage in New Jersey, New York and

Connecticut. BoatUS estimates more than 32,000 boats were damaged in New York, followed by 25,000 in New Jersey. Approximately 2,500 boats sustained damage in Connecticut, and another 6,000 were negatively impacted in remaining various states.

Dollar damage estimates to recreational boats in New York is \$324 million, followed by \$242 million in New Jersey and \$23 million in Connecticut.

Previously, during the 2005 hurricane/storm season, damage from Hurricanes Wilma and Katrina was estimated at more than \$700 million combined, making Hurricane Sandy a very close second in terms of recreational boat loss.

For more information, visit BOATUS.COM.



MUST-HAVE

Virtually Indestructible Dock

Looking for a dock that'll stand the test of time and hold up to the natural elements no matter how severe? Then check out Merco Marine of Wellsburg, West Virginia.

If you don't believe us, just ask Butch Hampton of the Bahamas. He recently contracted Merco to build a stationary dock platform mounted to an existing concrete dock at his Bahamas home. Two months after the project was complete, Hurricane Sandy struck the Eastern seaboard of the U.S. Amazingly, Hampton's dock survived the natural onslaught of Sandy completely unscathed.

For more information about Merco and its dock products, visit MERCOCOATDOCKS.COM or call 800-396-3726.

BOATS

Zodiac Launches Two New RIB Series

Zodiac Recreational of North America recently launched two exclusive series for 2013: The re-designed Medline Series and the new N-ZO Series.

Zodiac used its decades of experience to create the 2013 Medline Series. It features the classic Zodiac traits, creating enhanced fuel economy and improved performance stability. Featuring foldable sundecks and optimal deck plans, the Medline Series is laid out for versatility.

Step into the future of RIBS with the N-ZO Series, a range of large RIBS suitable for a wide variety of boaters. With four models ranging from 19' to nearly 25', these versatile RIBS feature plentiful seating, optimum comfort and an elegant design unmatched by the competition.

For more information, visit REEDYACHTSALES.COM.



Day Cruisers. Coastal Cruisers & Hardtop Coupes. Inflatables and Center Consoles. Express Sedans & Flybridge Cruisers.



Winners learn from the past . . .



Ray Hunt's Brave Mopple, was the introduction of a new hull that set yacht design on its ear as a race winner (1960 World Champion). That same deep-v hull with the sophisticated luxury and design of the Hunt 44 Express Sedan just won again. "Best New Powerboat 2012" and "Best Downeast Yacht, 35' to 45' class." Check out the what judges defined as "perfect, stunning."

www.huntyachts.com



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BUSINESS
MBIA Names
Interim
Executive
Director



Long-time Michigan Boating Industries Association (MBIA) director of communications Nicki Polan has been named interim executive director of the organization.

"We are very pleased Nicki has accepted the position," says MBIA chairman of the board Jim Coburn, of Coburn & Associates. "Nicki has been with MBIA for 24 years and has in-depth knowledge of our industry, our members, our boat shows, and our programs."

GREAT LAKES NEWS

GLC Puts Kibosh on Aquatic Invasive Species Sales

The Great Lakes Commission (GLC) recently received a \$400,000 grant through the U.S. EPA-led Great Lakes Restoration Initiative to develop a web-crawling software to assess the availability of aquatic invasive species for purchase online — and identify sellers of those species.

Intentional and unintentional releases of live organisms that are bought and sold for use in aquariums, nurseries, water gardens, aquaculture, as live bait and for other uses can adversely affect the Great Lakes.

Presently, little is being done to prevent invasive species from being imported, traded or released into the Great Lakes via the internet.

With its grant, GLC will develop a web crawler to search online for invasive species. Sellers of such species will be identified and contacted with information on relevant regulations and potential risks, as well as care and disposal alternatives they can share with customers to minimize risk.

For more information, visit GLC.ORG.



BOATS

Back Cove Toasts 500th Launch

Back Cove Yachts of Rockland, Maine celebrated the launch of its 500th yacht December 5, 2012 at a ceremony attended by nearly all 100 company employees and their family members.

The company, which was established in 2003, has been building composite hardtop express powerboats for nearly a decade. It all began with the Back Cove 29 and the desire to build a production downeast powerboat of the highest quality. Today, the company manufactures three models: The Back Cove 30, 34 and 37.

For more information, visit BACKCOVEYACHTS.COM or call 207-655-2396.

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SCUTTLE

USCG OPSUMS

Rescue Launched Near St. Lawrence

U.S. Coast Guard and Canadian Coast Guard crews teamed up to rescue four boaters whose boat started taking on water in the vicinity of Grenadier Island, Ontario, Canada, near the St. Lawrence Seaway.

At 12:54, a search-and-rescue coordinator at Coast Guard Sector Buffalo, New York, overheard a broadcast from Joint Rescue Coordination Centre Trenton, Ontario, with the broadcast stating a 36' vessel with four people aboard was taking on water.

Although JRCC Trenton was the search-and-rescue mission coordinator, Sector Buffalo directed the launch of a rescue boatcrew from Coast Guard Station Alexandria Bay, New York. A rescue boatcrew aboard a 25' Response Boat-Small quickly responded and arrived on scene with the distressed boaters and started assisting them. As the boat was being dewatered, the Canadian Coast Guard 47' rescue boat *Cape Hearn* arrived on scene and relieved the Alexandria Bay boatcrew.

"Because we share a national border with Canada, and we share waterways like the St. Lawrence Seaway, it takes a lot of coordination to pull successful rescues off," says Paul Angelillo, a search-and-rescue coordinator at Sector Buffalo. "But because we train together and work these cases together all the time, we trust each other in all aspects of the search-and-rescue coordination process." **CASE CLOSED**

Ice, Ice Baby

Since 1973, Lake Superior's ice coverage declined by 79 percent. Lake Ontario is even less icy, having lost 88 percent of its total overall ice in 38 years. Great Lakes ice cover varies widely based on climate, making it hard to predict how much ice to expect in a given year.*

USCG OPSUMS

Five Plucked from Lake Ontario

The U.S. Coast Guard rescued five people from a boat taking on water in the vicinity of Mexico Bay, New York, in Lake Ontario.

At 12:57, a search-and-rescue coordinator from Coast Guard Sector Buffalo, New York received a call for assistance via VHF-FM marine radio channel 16, from a boater reporting his boat taking on water with three adults and two children aboard. The SAR coordinator issued an urgent marine information broadcast and directed the launch of a rescue boatcrew from Coast Guard Station Oswego, New York. A good Samaritan responded, but the distressed boat operator said the situation had been stabilized. A rescue boatcrew aboard a Station Oswego 25' Response Boat-Small arrived and removed all five people from the boat. The rescue boatcrew connected a towline to the boat and towed it to Salmon River Marina.

There were no injuries or medical concerns reported. **CASE CLOSED**

*Source: Wang, J., Hu, H., Clites, A., Colton, M., and Lofgren, B. 2011. Temporal and spatial variability of Great Lakes ice cover, 1973-2010. *Journal of Climate*