

Roundtables & Tabletop Demonstrations

These sessions will be held in Hibiscus Hall A.

Captain/Mate Communications 101

The Communication Game Changer for Looping is Marriage Saver Wireless Headsets. Nevin & Paula will discuss how these devices can enhance communication while docking, while departing, when fueling, while locking, for daily routine and for safety.

Nevin & Paula Saylor
Gold Loopers

Cruising with Pets

The discussion will focus on traveling the Loop with your furry friends. Linda and Scott will address basics such as getting on and off the boat, keeping your pet ON the boat, supplies, getting to shore, interacting with other dogs, food and medications, and ideas for your pet's comfort. We will also discuss the rules for taking your pet into Canada and bringing him/her back again. Linda and Scott are Gold Loopers who took their Corgi, Bella, on their 2023/2024 Loop.

Scott & Linda Sarine
Gold Loopers

DIY Raw Water Pump

Is your engine overheating? A common problem might be your rubber impeller on your raw water pump. Captain Chris will help you discover the tricks to changing your impeller. You can put your hands on the real deal.

Chris Caldwell
Ask Captain Chris

Electronic Ground Faults: Tools & Testing

Boaters are experiencing power loss at docks with power pedestals that have the "New Style" (Ground Fault) circuit breakers. This session will discuss a method for owners to perform screening tests of their own boats. We will discuss what "ground faults" actually are, how an owner can know if a positive test is caused by an issue on their own boat or not, and VERY BRIEFLY review the most common wiring and equipment choice causes. There will be a display of electrical tools and test equipment for boaters to carry aboard their boats.

Jim Healy
Gold Looper

Financing Your Great Loop Boat

This roundtable will provide information on how to obtain financing for your boat, including general bank requirements for a down payment, terms, and other factors that affect financing such as the age of the boat. Cindy will also give details on the overall state of the market and why one should consider borrowing versus paying cash for their vessel.

Cindy Lewis
Sterling Associates

Finding and Buying Your Great Loop Boat

Finding and buying your Loop boat can be one of the most exciting steps in your Loop preparation. However, it can also be the most stressful. Michael Martin of Great Loop Yacht Sales would like to help alleviate some of that stress by answering your questions, and giving you industry insight into the process. Michael is a Platinum Looper and understands the unique challenges of acquiring a boat for the Loop.

Michael Martin
Platinum Looper
Great Loop Yacht Sales

Galley Tips

Long-time cruiser, Alyse Caldwell shares ideas, shortcuts and hints to make your time in the galley a fun part of the adventure. The right tools for the right job help you handle storage, meal prep and even what to do with your trash.

Alyse Caldwell
Ask Captain Chris

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Go/No Go Decision-Making

Do you have a Go/No Go criteria? Have you fine-tuned your criteria? Visit our table to help determine your criteria, how to effectively use your Go/No Go criteria, or possibly how to refine your established criteria. Having an established Go/No Go criteria will make your boating experience pleasurable.

Tsali Bentley
Platinum Looper

ICW Cruising Tips

Robert will cover the basics of navigating the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway to ensure you have a great time on this 1,000-mile section of the Great Loop. He'll provide details on how to read day markers and range markers, dealing with commercial traffic, managing tides, and more.

Robert Creech
Gold Looper

Interactive Cruising with Waterway Guide

The Waterway Guide Mobile App allows boaters to have access to all the online Waterway Explorer content offline. Get information on marinas, anchorages, free docks, locks, bridges, nav alerts and much more. Leave reviews, post new information and download digital copies of all our guides. We recommend that you download the app (Apple or Android) to your phone or tablet prior to attending the roundtable discussion.

Ted Stehle
Waterway Guide

Looper Budgeting

Many factors impact how you can budget for your Great Loop, starting with the boat you purchase and ending with your personal interests for your Great Loop. We'll discuss tips for saving money on your Great Loop, strategies for estimating a budget, and answer questions on the costs of the Great Loop.

Elliot Schoenfeld & Jennifer Johnson
Gold Loopers

Maintenance in Exotic Places: The Engine Room

Experience hands-on exposure to the systems that power your dreams of cruising the Loop! We've been told, "If it's not broke, don't fix it!" But, if you don't maintain it, it might break. In this session, begin your familiarity with the systems you will encounter in the engine room, and talk DIY maintenance and mechanics with Jay Kraft.

Jay Kraft
Trawlers Great Lakes

Money Saving Tips

The crew of *Wilma May* will lead a discussion and offer some ideas on ways to keep the budget under control while on your Loop. Whether you're concerned that your budget is tight, or just want to save money along the way, you'll leave with practical ideas on how to do the Loop without breaking the bank.

Tim & Diane Vandersall
Gold Loopers

Planning Arrival & Departure

A grand journey like the Great Loop consists of many smaller segments of cruising. Anchoring excluded, without exception, each of these smaller segments consist of three components: (1) departure from a dock, (2) navigation/cruising, (3) arrival and docking. I think it is fair to say, when most of us as Captains plan a segment (leg), we tend to allocate most of our time to #2, the enroute portion of the segment and spend little or no time with advanced planning for our departure and arrival. We just do it! While planning the enroute portion is very important and necessary, this roundtable discussion will focus on points #1 and #3.

Doug & Linda Brown
Gold Loopers

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Planning a Route in Navionics and Aqua Map

This hands-on session will teach you how to plan a route in two popular tablet navigation apps. Ben Stein will walk you through the steps to use both apps for a typical day's cruise on the Loop. Come with your tablet and/or smart phone with Aqua Map and Navionics already downloaded and ready to go!

Ben Stein
Gold Looper
Panbo.com

RVing After the Loop

Flint & Leslie will help you make the transition from boat to RV. This discussion will include topics like: RV vs. motor home, picking the proper towing vehicle, comparing new vs. old for both the tow vehicle and RV, whether you need a professional third-party inspection, overall maintenance, various campground options and how to find them, and more.

Flint & Leslie Firestone
Gold Loopers

Selling Your Boat

Whether you're "one and done" on the Great Loop, or you plan to hold on to your boat for a few years after the Loop, everyone will eventually sell. Brent Bowlin of Great Loop Yacht Sales would like to help answer your questions, and give you industry insight into the selling process. Brent is a Gold Looper and looks forward to sharing the process of preparing your boat for sale and how to best market it from experts in the field.

Brent Bowlin
Gold Looper
Great Loop Yacht Sales

Working Aboard

Emily completed her entire Loop with her family while she worked aboard. She'll answer your questions and cover things like best internet options, how to find time to fit everything in, the need for scheduling flexibility, etc.

Emily Bohonek
Gold Looper

Your Daily Departure Checklist

Jenna will review and discuss a thorough daily departure checklist. While not everything will apply to every vessel, you can adapt this checklist to your vessel to avoid forgetting a step to a safe daily departure.

Jenna Ginsberg
Timeless Yacht

Outdoor Hands-on Demonstrations

All hands-on demonstrations will be held outside on the river side of the building.

All About Dinghies

Do you know you want a dinghy for the Loop but aren't sure where to start? Join this session where Dustin will answer your questions about dinghies, offer suggestions, and help you determine what dinghy features will best meet your needs.

Dustin Kidd
Gold Looper
Bourbon City Yacht Tenders

Bollard Loop

Make locking as stress free as possible with the Bollard Loop! Stop by our table and discover not only how to construct your Bollard Loop but also how to effectively handle the Loop for making your next lock experience stress free for both you and your captain.

Jacque Bentley
Platinum Looper

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How to Do Fitness on the Loop

Learn ways to establish or maintain fitness on the Loop with AGLCA Sponsor Blue Tortuga Fitness. Come as you are and get some great tips on Loop fitness with specific examples. While there won't be strenuous exercise, participants should be cleared by their medical professional to participate in any physical fitness activities.

Kevin Williams
In-Progress Looper
Blue Tortuga Fitness

Knot Tying

Would you like to learn or improve your knot skills? Join Roxanne for a beginner's session on some of the most common knots used on deck. We'll learn and practice together.

Roxanne Martin
Gold Looper

Line Handling

The following techniques will be demonstrated: key knots – (tying to a cleat, clove hitch, two half hitches, bowline, & stopper/figure 8), line toss and line storage for daily trips. After the demonstrations, attendees will actively partake in the above techniques for skill improvements.

Mark & Denise Gillespie
Gold Loopers
On the Mark Yacht Services

What If.....Murphy's Law for Handling Medical Emergencies on the Boat!

In this session, boaters will work together to decide their plans of action before an emergency, in case one does occur! Murphy's Law, if you are prepared, it won't happen!

Malinda Martin
In Progress Looper

GTB 
YACHT SALES

IT'S TIME!

This is the perfect moment! Our expert brokers are well-versed in maximizing your boat's value. Typically, boats are finding buyers within a mere 30 days! With boat shows in full swing, now is the ideal opportunity to both buy and sell. Contact us today!



On the loop Cumberland River Mile 32 & on the TN River Mile 42.1

(270) 362-2800

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