



# July 2009



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3-4 Location Dealers!

Summer was slow starting but sure has heated up the end of June! Boats are selling, palm trees are growing coconuts, the lake is warming and everyone seems happy.

Every Independence Day is a time of appreciation and reflection.....but do we really understand the meaning of the day? Don't take it for granted. When I was in China in 1987 the Chinese people always referred to the *government*. The *government* won't allow us to "say"; the *government* forbids our thoughts and dreams. Many times I asked the people, "who is *the government*?" as they looked around to see if someone was listening.

My point is, every day in the USA we are losing more rights or are forced to pay another tax or fee. Now, those of us that work extra hard may have to give up more for the people who choose not to work. The real America is home to the most charitable people in the world. However, as more is taken it is only logical to not want to give. The feeling of giving without wanting something in return is the best in the world. I wish that our representatives would go to Des Moines and Washington to give back our rights rather than take more away. Let's say no to our Federal, State, County and City elected officials. No, you can't have any more of our rights and no, you can't have our money. Enough is enough! We will not give up our independence!

When you are watching the fireworks on the 4th of July think of those at home and abroad who are fighting and dying for your freedom. Let's not give our freedom away at home! Our soldiers need a safe place to return to. I took this excerpt from a recent magazine article that discussed the closing of 789 Chrysler dealerships:

Before you shrug your shoulders and write this column off as of no concern to you, consider the words of Martin Niemoller, who spent eight years in a Nazi concentration camp. What he says is relevant for everyone today, in any enterprise, that is willing to say, "It's not my problem" while the lives and life works of others are destroyed:

*In Germany, they first came for the Communists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Communist; then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Trade Unionist. Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me – and by that time no one was left to speak up."*

– Martin Niemoller

This says it all, standing up for what you believe is right, even if it doesn't have a direct impact on you today.

This is a great country and we've had some great times here at the Marina District on Lake Okoboji. The Parrot Head Party June 13th was great; in fact, we had the biggest conga line going that I have ever seen! The Key West Band, Mile Marker 24, will be back again next year. Their new song "Livin on an Island" reminds me of Okoboji. We seem to be sheltered from most of the bad things going on in the world. This little piece of paradise allows us to get away from it all for a few weeks per year. Our summer weather rivals any island that I've ever visited. We want you to visit the lakes and be who you are. Let it all hang out and visit the Barefoot or Okoboji Boats! Every Thursday, there's Karaoke starting at 6p. Come early and let the kids try for an hour and then try it yourself – I do! We have no judges, just all fun and you'll be glad you did.



For fun, you can ride over on Thursday nights aboard our glass bottom boat. It will pick you up from Okoboji Boat Works, The Inn or Crescent Beach and bring you over to the Barefoot for dinner, drinks and if you have the guts some Karaoke! Our BarefEAT menu offers the best of summer "social eating" with plates of ribs, nachos, shrimp, pork chop on a stick and some surprises that Phil adds to the special board each week. The ride home on the boat after dark is wonderful with all the lights and the view of the Amusement Park. You can also call the Water Taxi 712-299-TAXI for direct service anywhere on the lake! We've got cruises everyday all summer so get on parksmarina.com and click on Okoboji Boats to view the schedule. You're gonna have fun on the water when you're here, we guarantee it!

Also consider staying a week or weekend on the Houseboat over at Okoboji Boat Works. It's brand new to us and to the lake! It's got all the amenities, three flat screen TV's, full kitchen, living room, sleeps 7, phenomenal views of Smith's Bay, Arnold's Park, the Boat Works and how about fishing and swimming right out your door?! We've got some open dates and new weekend rates so give Bart a call 712-332-9904 [okobojiboatworks@parksmarina.com](mailto:okobojiboatworks@parksmarina.com) and get your vacation booked today.

Life is short, I say just do it – buy the Boat, take the vacation, stay the extra day, week, or lifetime. Let us be a part of it, we're the pros at boating and on water entertainment!

Happy Independence Day!

[www.parksmarina.com](http://www.parksmarina.com)

# CROWNLINE RENDEZVOUS

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at Parks Marina, Lake Okoboji



220 LS

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