



Blessing of the Fleet, Inc.

www.BlessingoftheFleetSTL.com

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60th ANNUAL Blessing of the Fleet Press Release, Blessing and Benefit information:

The 60th Annual Blessing of the Fleet and Boat Parade will take place on Saturday, August 19th, 2017.

Theme this year is "PICK A THEME" (from any of our past themes). Decorated boats will be reviewed by a panel of judges who will pick the award winners. Judging will be from immediately upstream from the Shrine of Our Lady of the Rivers, awards will be presented at the Mike's LaRosa Cabana Bar at My River Home Marina immediately following the parade.

My River Home Marina is located at 1545 Riverview, Portage des Sioux, MO 63373. Telephone 636-899-0903 Food and drink are available. Overnight and day slips are available, call My River Home for more info.

There will be two distinct parades of boats that will merge and pass the Statue of Our Lady of the Rivers at Portage des Sioux MO in one continuous parade.

The Lower Pool Parade will start at Alton Marina by the Clark Bridge at 1 PM led by Captain John Bloch in the cruiser "Audy B II" and will proceed upstream to the Statue

The Upper Pool Parade will start at Yacht Club of St. Louis in the Dardenne Slough at 1 PM led by Captain Dutch Hauhe in the cruiser "Scoundrel" and will proceed downstream to eventually merge with the Lower Pool group to pass the Statue at 2:15 PM where each boat will be blessed by Father Robert Banken of St. Francis of Assisi Church.

Benefit for the Blessing of the Fleet will be Saturday, July 15th, 2017 at Alton Marina.

This event is held to raise the funds to keep the Blessing of the Fleet going from year to year.

Saturday afternoon from about 1 to 5 there will be a Pool Party, music poolside by the "D DOCK DJs", the RIVERBILLS GIRLS, other specials and dozens of prizes for the "GREAT BALL SPLASH AND GRAB" raffle (it involves the pool).

Alton Marina is located at #1 Henry St., Alton Illinois 62002, telephone number is 618-492-9860.

Food and drink are available. Overnight and day slips are available with a TwoFer special for that weekend, tow nights dockage for the price of one, call Alton Marina for more info.

We welcome everyone, boaters and non boaters, to come out for what will surely be a fun way to help us continue this great river tradition.

There is no admission charge for either event; the Blessing of the Fleet Inc. is supported by the annual benefit and other donations.

Many Thanks to all of our helpers and supporters in putting this all together. More information on the Blessing of the Fleet website, www.blessingofthefleetstl.com or facebook page [facebook.com/BlessingoftheFleetStl](https://www.facebook.com/BlessingoftheFleetStl)

Hope to see everyone at both events!

Darryll Weil, President, Blessing of the Fleet, Inc.