

*May 2011*

*Issue 163*

Inside This Edition

Table of Contents  
Page 1

Birthdays  
Page 2

Anniversaries  
Page 2

Coming Events  
Page 2

River Trip  
Page 3

River Trip  
Page 4

River Trip  
Page 5

River Trip  
Page 6

River Trip  
Page 7

New Baby Coming  
Page 7

Scott  
Page 8

Rob  
Page 8

Jack  
Page 8

Dylan  
Page 8



*MAY 2011*

I think spring forgot about us this year. In a family that is farm orientated, we all wish for the sun to warm up, and dry out the soil so the seeds can grow, and rise to the heavens. We may even appreciate the mosquitoes this year---NOT!!!! Actually we have to be thankful it is just cool weather, and not the earthquakes of Japan and the tornadoes of Iowa and North Carolina.



## *May Birthdays*

Doug Goblirsch	May 01
Amy Mages	May 04
Kari Mages	May 05
Alex Mages	May 06
Greg Mages	May 07
Eric Plath	May 08
Jeff Plath	May 09
Joe Gall	May 11
JoEdna Mages	May 13
Jeremy Mages	May 15
Nicole Goblirsch	May 16
Nicholas Gall	May 17
Dean Nelson	May 17
Ashley Wolf	May 19
Nicholas Strate	May 21
Brandon Schmitz	May 23
Lauren Mages	May 25
Trevor Wilson	May 29
Grandma Barbara	May 29

## *May Anniversaries*

Emily and Brennen Rath

May 01                      7 years

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

### **News Deadline**

20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Send articles & photos to:

[mimi@myclearwave.net](mailto:mimi@myclearwave.net)

Or

[lindagall@rocketmail.com](mailto:lindagall@rocketmail.com)

## *Coming Events*

May 12-14-Woodbury Garage sales

May 15, 2011-Captain Dan Day's, Lucan, Mn..

May 21,2011-Saturday, Graduation party for Dylan Nelson 3pm-7pm.

May 29, 2011- Scott Mages Graduation

June 05,2011-Jack Mages Graduation

July 24, 2011-Mages Family Picnic in North Mankato. Barb and Kevin Plath family hostess and hosts.

September 11,2011- Kodet Family Reunion at Larry and Maggie's Farm

September 17,2011- Wedding of Joe and Imia

September 24,2011- Kodet Sister's Day in Morton

October 01 & 02,2011- Sister's Weekend at Emerald Hideaway.

October 2011- Baby due for Ken and Trista

November 26,2011- Mages Family Christmas

February 29,2012-Wedding of Teresa and Mando in the Dominican Republic

Fall 2012- Trip to Germany

# *Mississippi River Adventure*

I call it an adventure because you never know what new thrill will happen around the next bend. Luckily everything on this trip went well and I can report that we finished our trip safely just 3 miles from the Gulf of Mexico. The crew was Joe Gall, Tom Mages, Bob Klegstad, and Larry Mages. We had nearly 850 miles of river to go since getting out of the water in Hickman, Kentucky two years ago. All 54 Locks and Dams were behind us, so we were able to average 30 miles per hour on the river.

From here the river is all commercial traffic, usually 30 to 100 feet deep and a 1/2 mile to a mile wide. There are no more marinas and very few boat ramps. We carried enough fuel to go about 180 miles, but even then we were forced to carry fuel through the bogs once, when a boat ramp we thought would be open, wasn't. The first day had the worst weather, including a drenching thunderstorm, but we still made it to Memphis by nightfall. Bob and I were invited into a river tug during the worst of the storm, so at least we were safe and it gave us a wonderful opportunity to see a tug from the inside. On this part of the river the largest barge tows are 6 abreast by 7 long. Each barge can hold 60 semi loads. Sometimes they need to put three 11,500 horsepower tugs pushing, in order to push the barge tows up through narrow spots where the current is strongest.

On day 1 we stayed in Memphis for the night and enjoyed Memphis style ribs and made the rounds up and down Beal Street, Home Of The Blues and Elvis Presley and Gibson Guitars.

Day 2, Since all of us had toured Graceland on other trips, we were in the water early. Tom and Larry, hoping to reach Greenville Mississippi by evening. It was during this trip that a planned boat ramp was closed and we weren't certain that we could make it to Greenville with the gas we had. We looked for side streams and ways to get close to the motorhome, but in the end, had to get muddy and carry gas through the bogs.

Day 3 on the river had Joe and Larry heading for Natchez, Mississippi. On this day we went past a nuclear power plant, got stopped by the Coast Guard and told that the river was closed, and stopped to tour the Vicksburg Civil War battle and siege. It turned out that the river was closed because of demolition explosions but the Vicksburg boat ramp was just before that. By the time we toured the battlefields, the river was open again and we made it to Natchez just as the sun was setting.

Day 4, Bob and Larry set off for a hoped for boat ramp just North of New Orleans. We made it to Baton Rouge by noon for refueling, beating Joe and Tom, who we saw taking a ferry ride across the Mississippi earlier. As it turned out, the guys in the motorhome really had to scramble to keep up to the boat. It was a toss up who would find the boat ramps first. There really wasn't time for much antiqueing or unplanned sight seeing. Baton Rouge is the furthest north the ocean going ships go, which is about 100 miles up river from New Orleans. We found out that the river is an incredibly busy place from here to the Gulf. The shore is lined with grain terminals, refineries, power plants, chemical plants, just an immense amount of industry and hundreds of parked barges and ships, waiting to be loaded or unloaded. Many times we were 5 abreast on the river with several barge tows going up or down, a ship or two and us. Tugs were tending their tied up shore barges like mother hens, as they were lining up new tows for the trip upriver or guiding a loaded barge next to an empty ship to be loaded with grain or coal etc. The tug operators were pretty friendly, but still reminded us to be careful, and we were.

Day 5 was a big day. All four of us decided to boat through downtown and out to the Gulf and then back up river to the ramp. We toasted out success with Miller Beer as we past downtown New Orleans, then slipped through a lock and dam to take the shortcut to the Gulf out toward the Gulf Port, Mississippi shore. As it turned out, we got within 2.85 miles of the Gulf. New Orleans is building a new seawall around it since hurricane Katrina and that was as far as we could go by this route. We went back and docked at the downtown riverfront and toured the city for several hours and then headed back to the ramp.

Success! The boat had run beautifully. 3,420 miles, 10 days. We spent time on Bourbon Street, alligator hunting on an airboat in the Cypress swamp, visited an 1800s plantation, checked out Hot Springs, Ark National Park, saw several shows coming home through Branson, and stopped to view Tom's Artstone creation of a 30' tall statue of St Anthony on the hospital in Carroll, Iowa. We have now gone from LeSueur, Mn to the Gulf of Mexico. Sometime in the very near future, I will canoe from our farm, hopefully with a few of my Grandchildren, to the Rush River and then to the Minnesota River near LeSueur to complete the trip. If interested in this part of the trip, let me know. Larry

# *Mississippi River Trip*



The Crew: Left to Right- Larry, Bob, Tom and Joe





Their Boat above looks small in comparison

# Mississippi Continued





River Trip



A New Baby Mages is on the way for Ken and Trista and Julia in October, 2011. Congratulations!!



Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College  
Created by www.cartoonists.com | May 2007



*You are invited  
To celebrate  
Scott's Graduation Party  
At our home on  
Sunday May 29, 2011  
3:00pm to 7:00pm  
  
20637 State Hwy 15  
New Ulm MN 56073*

## *Graduations*

Scott Mages May 29, 2011  
at his home 3p.m. To  
7p.m.

20637 State Hwy 15  
New Ulm, Mn. 56073

## *Rob Mages*

I want to send a reminder that Rob will be graduating with his BS in Physical Education on the 7<sup>th</sup> of May from Old Dominion University. We will be having a graduation party at 6pm that evening at our home in Virginia Beach. The address is 1764 Petree Dr., Virginia Beach, VA 23456. I know that it would be a stretch for any of the family to make it but I thought that it would still be good to put in the newsletter.

Also, if you have a mass email list that I could use to send out the information, it would be appreciated as well. Thanks, JoEdna Mages  
National Accounts Manager Office 757-460-8888 ext. 31  
Mobile 757-676-2843 Fax 757-460-8881

Please join us in a graduation celebration to honor Jack Mages on Sunday, June 5, 2011 from 1pm to 4pm. 2320 Aspen Lane, North Mankato, Mn.

Dylan will celebrate on Saturday May 21, 2011 3pm to 7 pm at his home 53671 235<sup>th</sup> St. Grove City, Mn.



**IT'S WITH GREAT PRIDE  
THAT WE CELEBRATE  
THE GRADUATION OF OUR SON**

## **DYLAN NELSON**

**JOIN US FOR AN OPEN HOUSE  
SATURDAY - MAY 21, 2011  
3 - 7 PM**

**AT DYLAN'S HOME  
53671 235TH ST  
GROVE CITY, MN 56243**

**ACGC - CLASS of 2011**