

The Bullship Log

Newsletter of the Rockford Yacht Club



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Meeting Location: Harlem Township Hall
819 Melbourne Ave.
Machesney Park, IL

NO Township Hall Meeting this month

August Meeting/Event

Get together for the Ski Broncs Show
WED. Aug. 15th, 6:00 p.m.
Shorewood Park, Loves Park, IL.

Look for our EZ up tent and banner.
BYO picnic dinner / concessions on site.

Ski Broncs show starts at 6:30, but drop by
as your schedule permits for RYC camaraderie.

Maybe those in the club that have powerboats
might be inclined to bring them out and offer a
river ride after the show.

I'd have liked to have brought out our RYC "raft" but
too much going on to get it ready - but may be still
worth considering down the road. - Allen

Flotilla Nuze

The Tall Ships are in Kenosha this week - Aug 10 - 12.
We have two RYC boats in Kenosha, so you might con-
tact Evans Walker cell 815-341-5964 or Kyle Anderson
cell 815-243-0318 if you are up that way. Kyle indicated
he'd be out there Thursday.

Kyle was inquiring at the meeting about anyone inter-
ested in doing an across Lake Michigan sail. Contact
Kyle.

Dick Spears was promoting a Green Lake NWSA flotilla,
which is this weekend, Aug 11 - 12. See column two for
more NWSA scheduled sailing events or visit their web-
site: nwsail.com

See next column....

Commodore's Corner

Hello All! Well the dog days of summer are upon
us. The hot days make us all want to get out into the
cooler lake water to get some relief. Sam and I went to
lake and got more than we planned for. The winds
started out from the SW with temps in the 90's. Within
45 minutes the winds shifted to the SE around 25
knots and dropped into the low 70's. Quite a change but
that is what you expect from Lake Michigan. Now with
these pop-up thundershowers everyone needs to be
cautious when sailing and keep a watchful eye on the
weather. I hope everyone is having a fun filled summer
and plan on bringing the entire family and some friends
to the Ski-Broncs picnic and show coming up during
August. It will give us all an opportunity to make some
late summer sailing plans with our fellow club mem-
bers. Sincerely.

Evans Walker
Commodore - RYC

F.Nuze cont.

NWSA schedule:

Aug. 18th sail to Milwaukee for Irishfest
Aug. 25 -26 sail to Michigan
Sep. 8 daysail Waukegan Harbor
Sep. 15 daysail Northpoint Harbor
Sep. 22 -23 "frostbite" Lake Geneva

RYC sailing:

None scheduled for August or September. Late October
trip to Kentucky Lake, 19th - 21st probably.

Next month we should have a full report on the North
Channel cruise undertaken by the Tarrants, Scheuers,
Siegworths, and Jepsens. We had a call from Don
Jepsen during the July meeting telling us it was cold up
there.

RYC News

As reported last month. Charlie Fritts' father, James D. Fritts, had passed away. RYC made a \$40 contribution to the Alzheimer's Association in his memory.

July meeting we had one boat to look at – Bill Passmore's 1987 Force 5 that looked like new. Bill was trying to sell it – and via a mass emailing – he found a buyer in A Taste of Sail 2006 participant, Wendy Larson. Wendy has been busy learning to sail this fine little boat. And we hope to see Bill again perhaps as crew on one of our boats. Bill discovered RYC via our bumper sticker!

Leo Wehner gave us a little report on sailing Lake Sule in Rochelle and Allen Penticoff gave a brief description of new dockage he found at Milwaukee south of their Discovery Center.

Marty O'Conner emailed me this report: Today was not nearly as nice as Allen's two best sailing days (Last Saturday) nor as fast as Pierce Lake on July 7th, but Linda finally got a couple pretty decent photos today. So far the cockpit has been bone dry and no nasty surprises with the running rigging. Sailing single-handed has been very comfortable in these light breezes, but it's nice to have a crew member when it comes time to drop the halyards. The main tends to hang and mess up my downwind docking, much like the time I forgot about the Sunfish halyard completely at Taste of Sail.

Linda and I had a real nice sail last Saturday, but I think we'll have to find something with taller seating and more stability if we plan to do much of this together. Brian gets bored quickly whenever we aren't heeled to the rail, but I'm always concerned this boat will embarrass me as skipper and I'll earn a Captain Ron Award.

(Ed. note - the "two best days" I was referring to were the day you sell a boat and the day you buy one - in reference to Bill Passmore selling his boat to Wendy Larson)



O'Conner LS-13 @ Lake Shabbona

As a side note – Ruth and Allen recently kayaked around Lake Shabbona. There is plenty of wildlife to observe and it seems deep enough for sailing small boats – but be aware there are many stumps underwater. Harley Johnson has also sailed this lake.

On Aug. 4th there was a going away party for Dave and Judi Moore at the Askegaard home. There were several RYC members in attendance, including the Joy & Dave Tarrant, who told us of their trials and tribulations in going to the North Channel of Lake Huron.

It seems that on their first voyage out of Little Current, the rudder snapped off their MacGregor 26D "Mucky Duck." Joy could not control the boat so they had to drop the sails and take a wild tow from Nick Scheuer's Shearwater 28 "True North." During the ruckus to get the sails down, Dave had a nasty fall from slipping on a genoa sheet, crashing against the boom and onto the deck and almost going overboard. He ended up with severe contusions – thinking perhaps some ribs were broken (none were). Sore and without a rudder they headed back to Rockford. Our condolences. Dave is shopping for a new rudder. The other crews had a much better time despite the initial cold spell.



Wehners sail "Free Wind" near the Capitol

Lake Mendota Sailing – July 21/22. The Penticoff's took their MacGregor 26D "Thebote" to Lake Mendota in Madison WI for the weekend of taking passengers for day excursions. The 21st was a light air day, good for swimming, and calm in the afternoon before picking up again around 4–5 p.m. with a steady breeze that stayed blowing for a cross lake run and back. The wind lasted all night and into the next day making for excellent sailing on Sunday. Leo and Judy Wehner called from Byron – about to cancel for lack of wind when Leo got Allen's report of plenty of wind. They made it up by noon, launching without problem at Marshall Park. We sailed in one another's company for a couple of hours before we had to go our separate ways. Thebote had been launched at Warner Park, which we found to be quite shallow due to low water (about 10" low) and silting in. Thebote also had some interesting close encounters with two big A scows Sunday afternoon. A great day for sailing!