

The Bullshiplog

Newsletter of the Rockford Yacht Club

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



No August meeting at the township hall



Instead, we'll meet up for sailing and yacking (or kayaking :-)) at the Rock Cut State Park Concession Stand deck/boat ramp, Monday Aug. 18th. Official get-together time 6:00 but those sailing will probably be there early.

Brown bag dinner to make life easy for all.

So we'll just hang out and enjoy the summer evening. If it is rainyish, look for us up at the Bay View Picnic shelter.

Bug spray might be a good idee'r.

Thanks

Our thanks to Ruth Penticoff and Sam Walker for bringing food to the July meeting and to the O'Connors, Sandi & Leslie for volunteering for galley duty for Sept. Our special appreciation to Frank Schier for a very informative program about the history and otherwise unknown details about the Rock River.

New Members

Welcome aboard to Richard Sykoes, who owns a 17' trimaran and David Browson who came out for A Taste of Sail and wants to learn more with us. Both joined at the July meeting.

Commodore's Corner

Hello All! What happened to the hot weather we look forward to in August. We have not hit 90 in Rockford yet this year! I hope the weather is not keeping everyone from getting out on the water. Sam and I have spent a couple of days in harbor keeping the boat clean after the late July fly invasion. It seems like a lot of the club members have been on some extended sailing adventures in July and August. Come share your stories, eat your dinner, and enjoy a summers evening lakeside at Pierce Lake on August 18th. If you can get out and participate in one of the August or September flotillas please do so. (Contact Harley Johnson or Dick Spears). If you do not have a boat we always seem to find room for crew. Enjoy the rest of the summer.

Evans Walker
Commodore - RYC

Flotilla Nuze

I've not had a report from the bunch o'folks who went up to Bayfield sailing. We'll presume it was good unless we hear otherwise.

Likewise, not heard about Green Lake yet either. Dick?

Northwest Sailing Association has a "Sail Across Lake Michigan Sail to South Haven" scheduled for Sept. 5-7. Those with big boats may be interested. Those with big boats going may be interested in crew.

September is a great month for sailing. Do enjoy the season as it draws near an end. Thebote will look for another trip to Lake Mendota before the season is out.

News from the Pacific Northwest Chapter

First message: After sailing most all the way to Desolation Sound we motored most of the way to the North end of Vancouver Island. Crossing the Nawitti Bar and rounding Cape Scott were both exiting and major milestones for our trip. We are now on our way down the West Coast of Vancouver Island. We sailed yesterday with 30 kts of wind on the Pacific Ocean. Quite a ride! After anchoring last night near Winter Harbor we spent the day today kayaking in a beautiful cove in Quatisino Sound called Julian Cove. Tomorrow we head back out on The Ocean to the position ourselves to round the Brooks Peninsula. What an adventure. We have almost three weeks left to make our way back to Seattle. I wish it was more like two months.

I better listen to the weather and see if they are still calling for gale force winds.

In reply to a statement of envy, and question about the kayaks mentioned above...

Second message: We have a Hobbie tandem kayak that you pedal. We love it. Because you use leg power it is almost effortless. Whenever we go anywhere and anchor we try to either kayak or go hiking. We where at Hot Springs last night and are motoring (yuk!) to Tofino today to check out the biggest town on the west coast of Vancouver Island. It has been raining since last night but we are warm and dry in the pilot house cruising along in the Pacific Ocean swell at 7 kts.

The Hot Springs were fantastic. We had the place all to ourselves for over an hour last night. The boardwalk through the old growth rain forest is very cool. Many of the cruising boats carve their boat names in the boardwalk planks. It is fun to see who all has been there. I better go now since there are a lot of shallows around here.

Ron & Suzie
S.V. Tango

(Ron and Suzie Bauman did that dream thing a few years ago. Sold their house, moved to Seattle, and began living aboard their Nauticat 43 in a marina on Lake Washington at Kenmore. Ron is still working for Hamilton Sundstrand at the Boeing plant while they prepare for that day when they don't have to



Above - red - head - Dan Medler contemplating going overboard to swim ashore at "The Sand Pit" on Lake Winnebago

Two Guys and a Bote

By Allen Penticoff

An amazing thing happened, both Dan and I had the weekend free (7/26-27). We contemplated sailing on Lake Peoria, but the weather did not look so great to the south, so I suggested we combine the pre-EAA convention weekend with sailing on Lake Winnebago at Oshkosh, Wisconsin. No arm twisting required, as Dan is an active pilot as am I.

We got up to the Pioneer Inn Marina on Friday night and set up *Thebote*, my MacGregor 26D. Just down the street is the *South Side Ice Yacht Club* where we ate late at the Friday fish fry - cheap and good, and where I introduced Dan to the weird but tasty drink of mixing V-8 juice and beer. Off to the *Acey Duecy*, a pilot's watering hole, for a night cap and a tour of the many aviator autographed photos in the back room. A slow night since it was still pre-"Oshkosh."

We did a lot of other dining and partying with airplane friends over the weekend when we were not otherwise enjoying some damn fine sailing. Saturday was quite windy and we sailed down the lake to the seaplane base where we had seaplanes lift off just in front of our bow before we were chased out. Across the lake to a fine restaurant at Stockbridge Harbor, then up the lake on the east side nearly to High Cliff State Park marina before angling back to Oshkosh with a three hour wet beat to windward. Out to the airport to hang, and a jeep ride all over the grounds with my friend Steve. Dinner at a downtown bar called *Pete's Garage*. Loud. Greasy food. Younger crowd.

Sunday was a fine wind too. We headed north, rounded Picnic Island then south along the west shore to "The Sand Pit" near the seaplane base. The Sand Pit is a sandy shallow cove of warm water that dozens of powerboats raft or anchor stern and bow so it becomes a giant boat filled wading pool. Many attractions to be seen after we swam ashore. Our time was short, so after take down, we headed out to the nearby airport to attend a hangar party right along the runway at famous 1930s - 1970s air racer, Steve Wittman's former home. Plenty of entertainment there watching planes land three at a time.

All in all great sailing, great friends, some airplane stuff and a renewed acquaintance with our old friend, Lake Winnebago - 30 miles long, 10 miles wide and 20 feet deep.