

The Bullship Log

Newsletter of the Rockford Yacht Club

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



Merry Christmas All



**It is time once again for our RYC
annual Christmas Party**

**Join us at Lino's Restaurant
on Monday Dec. 15th**

6:00 cocktail mixer

7:00 dinner

Awards, gift swap fun

**Celebrate another year of good sailing,
new members and camaraderie.**

**If there are any changes or last minute needs
to reserve your place, contact Sam Walker @
815-226-0488 It is okay to bring your
\$25 dues check or cash to the Party too.**

Commodore's Corner

Greetings from your new commodore. We've had a great year in 2008 and look forward to more fun in 2009. At the November meeting we had a new slate of officers that was elected, but we are still lacking someone to come forward and serve as the Activities Captain. If you have any interest in this position, or as a team, please contact me. Gayle Scheuer and I will help you transition into this position should you take it on.

I'm looking forward to the Christmas party. It is always the best social event of the club each year when many members come with their spouses and we get to hear those funny Captain Ron stories. Have in mind nominations for Member of the Year too. The gift exchange always serves very well as entertainment. If you'd like to participate - bring a not too expensive gift to the party.

We'll keep our fingers crossed for good sailing weather in the coming year - and hope you can be a part of one of our sailing or social get-togethers. And thanks to everyone who has brought meeting food, done Adopt-A-Road, participated in A Taste of Sail, or skippered a flotilla boat. Helping is what brings us together.

Happy Holidays, Commodore Ruth

New Officers for 2009

Commodore: Ruth Penticoff

Vice Commodore: Martin "Marty" O'Connor

Yeoperson: Ann Aylesworth

Purser: Shirley "Sam" Walker

Flotilla Captain: Bill Siegworth

Membership Captain: Shirley "Sam" Walker

Signal Officer: Allen Penticoff

Activities Captain(s): vacant, temporary party duty by Sam & Evans Walker

Thanks to the outgoing officers for their service, food at the meeting and to those who stayed on to serve our club again.

November Meeting Highlights

We had some sad news in that past-Purser, Eric Mueller had a death in the family, his brother. The club members signed and sent a sympathy card.

Harley Johnson gave a brief report on his and Eric's experience with taking Eric's MacGregor to Kentucky Lake over Columbus Day weekend. Two nights in Pisgah Bay on the hook, two 1/2 days of sailing in light winds, and some time with a powerboat friend taking a cruise. No wind on Sunday, so headed home.

Nick Scheuer reported on sailing on Cape Cod.

Allen reported getting out on Nov. 3rd at Pierce Lake in the American 14 on a nice 70 degree day. Marty O'Connor reports he's acquired a DN iceboat.

A fair amount of interest was shown in putting together a flotilla to Mark Twain Lake in 2009 to join up with the Mark Twain Lake Sailing Association. Those interested should contact Bill Siegworth so we can find a workable date early on. Flotilla Capt. Bill's contact info is MarthaJ12@charter.net or cell: 608-751-0897

Preston Aylesworth reported that Adopt-A-Road pick up is done for the year. A scheduled last pick up had been cancelled due to inclement weather.

Evans Walker read a letter from Harlem Township about their annual Toys for Tots involvement Albert "Harley" Johnson made a motion that RYC donate \$100 to the Toys for Tots/Harlem Township program, seconded by Preston Aylesworth and approved unanimously.

Commodore Evans Walker held an "October" "Annual Meeting" so some changes to the by-laws could be introduced and officer elections to take place.

As proposed by motion made by Allen Penticoff, then seconded by (didn't get that - I think Preston or Harley). The motion was made to amend the by-laws to change the timing of the election of officers to November and them to take office in January to coincide with the calendar year. The club "year" would then coincide with the calendar year as well. See next column for more officially correct stuff.

Commodore Walker adjourned the "October meeting" and opened the November Meeting with Ruth Penticoff as Commodore. Eric Mueller was absent, Allen Penticoff read the purser's report.

Brian Black and Bill & Marty Siegworth volunteered for the January 19 meeting food.

Amendment to the By-Laws of Rockford Yacht Club

Rationale for change. For a very long time the club has held it's election of new officers in October at the official "annual meeting." The new officers then take their positions at the following meeting in November. While we are now having meetings on alternating odd months, the election does not align properly with what is happening. But more so is the need for change from having new officers take over right at the busiest time of the club year - just when dues are collected and the Christmas Party and all it entails is taking place. It would seem more friendly to have experienced officers take care of this year end business and start fresh with the new officers in January when most of the hub-bub is past. This may make it easier to recruit nominees for positions as well. Second part, changing our "fiscal year" to that of the calendar year. It has always been somewhat confusing in collecting dues and a few other things in having a fiscal year that does not run concurrent with the calendar. This would straighten that out.

To effect these changes the following amendments are proposed; to be ratified by 2/3rds of the membership present at a meeting following 32 days notice of the proposed amendments. (We'll vote on this in Jan. 19, 2009)

Article V. Officers Section 4.

is amended to read:

Officers shall be elected at the annual meeting in November, and serve a one-year term from January 1 to December 31.

Article VIII. Meetings Section 1.- C.

is amended to read:

The Annual Meeting of the Club shall be the regular meeting in November of each year. The active members present at the Annual Meeting shall constitute a quorum. A simple majority of said quorum is required for passage of any action unless otherwise covered by the By-Laws.

Article VIII. Meetings Section 1. - D.

is amended to read:

Fiscal year will be from January 1 to December 31.