

The Bullship Log

Newsletter of the Rockford Yacht Club

June 2011

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Website: www.RockfordSailing.org
Meeting Location: Harlem Township Hall
819 Melbourne Ave.
Machesney Park, IL



No meeting at Harlem Township Hall this month.

The "meeting is a Social Event, following our calendar of alternating business meetings and social events each month. Those new to RYC should know that most of the meetings, business and social are held at the Harlem Township Hall on the third monday of each month - with occasional exceptions. To call our business meetings "business" is something of a stretch - they are pretty much social events too - with food, sailing tales and often a program. Any of these events is a good time to get to know others with an interest in sailing - no boat required.

This month we meet at the Commodore's and wife Penny's home for the second annual toy boat race, cook out, pool party. This would be a good event for anyone new to join in as it is purely social and avails itself to mingling and getting more opportunities to meet the members. All who are attending A Taste of Sail are welcome to attend.

Meeting Monday June 20th, 7:00

Turner Home
11380 Main Street
Roscoe, IL
815-298-3800
(just north of downtown
Roscoe, look for sign)



Sailing Classes

Club member Allen Penticoff will be conducting two courses on basic sailing in coming months. The first will be on June 29 9-12 at the Center for Learning in Retirement on Bell School Rd. (\$10 for CLR members)
rockvalleycollege.edu/clr or 815-921-3931

A repeat offered via Rock Valley College Community Education program is on September 16th, 9-12 (\$30). Each class will focus on types of sailboats, how they sail, boat handling, how to do basic navigation (get somewhere and back), weather and safety. No on-the-water experience is offered with either of these, but Allen may make personal arrangements to go sailing following the courses.

rockvalleycollege.edu or 800-973-7821

Commodore's Corner

Sailing season is upon us. I assume most of the larger boats in the fleet are launched and settled into their slips. The trailer sailors are all cleaned up and ready to hit the road and a few have already. Now is my favorite time for social events and meetings when everyone brings their sailing adventures to share. The next event for RYC is the "A Taste of Sail" on Pierce Lake in Rock Cut State Park. This is probably our biggest event as far as recruiting new members and sharing our sport/hobby/passion with others in our community. I would like to thank Allen for doing such a great job of getting the word out. We always have a great turn out because of the effort he puts into promoting this event with the local media.

Being a sailor in the Rockford area is kind of unique in the fact that we can and do go sailing in so many different ways. We are lucky to be situated in a great location that has so many lakes of all sizes less than 2 hours away with most, no more than a short 1 hour drive. Lake Michigan our inland fresh water sea that can challenge even the most seasoned of sailor to the small lakes like Pierce Lake in our back yard or the larger lakes of Madison, WI, we are a lucky bunch to live where we do. Penny and I are hosting the social meeting this month at our home. Like last year those interested will be building boats at the beginning of the meeting for the pool regatta to be held before it gets too dark. Please remember to bring a dish to pass. We will supply pop and other drinks. Bring a swimsuit to go for a dip in the pool if you are so inclined.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the meeting.

*Welcome to new member **Bill Reilly** of Belvidere. Bill has a Hobie Getaway sailboat we hope can join us in our sailing adventures.*

Commodore Burnie

RYC Calendar

July 9th - Across Lake Michigan: contact
Bill Seigworth
608-751-897

July 8-10 Northwest Sailing Association - Lake Mendota
Contact Joe Rittner 815-455-4637

Aug. 20th - Rockford Yacht Club Picnic
Bayview Shelter, Rock Cut State Park

The boats of "A Taste of Sail" 2011



At left is skipper Jim Pardee's Seward Slipper 17. A very stable small boat that weighs in at 1,200 pounds including 400 pounds of ballast. Nearly 8 feet wide, it has a very roomy cockpit that easily accommodates the skipper and four passengers/crew.

Jim has recently added a Honda 2 h.p. four-stroke outboard - more than enough to get him going and back.

Jim is skippering his Slipper 17 during the 2011 A Taste of Sail for the first time. We know many new to sailing folks will enjoy the ride.

This size boat is excellent for Pierce Lake as well as larger bodies of water such as Madison's Lake Mendota. All day sailing comfort.

At right is Albert "Harley" Johnson with his O'Day 23 *Carol's Rival* sailing on Missouri's Mark Twain Lake.

Harley came upon this boat in a used car parking lot in DeKalb, Illinois and has enjoyed its large cabin and cockpit sailing many great places. He and his friend/crew Eric Mueller have sailed on numerous lakes in the Midwest ...(sometimes on Eric's MacGregor 25).

While a "big" boat for Pierce Lake, it accommodates many passengers and crew at once. Harley and Eric are relied upon to take out the larger groups.

Sailboats of this size can be comfortable for a week cruise as well as a daysail. There are many on the market that are very reasonably priced.



At left is the American 14-6 *The Little Bote* of skipper Allen Penticoff sailing with Commodore Burnie Turner on Lake Geneva one fine November day. November!

Allen once instructed in this boat for Rock Valley College - then later bought it at auction - sans sails. After considerable cleaning up, he now uses it for instruction and joy rides on Pierce Lake. The American 14-6 (14'6") is a stable center-board boat with no ballast - except the people. It performs very well in light air and can be run up on the beach if need be. Capable of carrying six adults (rather tightly) it is comfortable with 4 or 5 aboard. Allen likes the high mounted boom that makes for easy safe sailing.

Boats in this size range can be a few hundred dollars used - to a few thousand for new. All are for daysailing only.



Shown on page one is Commodore/skipper Burnie Turner's Pirateer 13. This boat is very similar to the American 14-6 above, being a bit shorter and with an open bow. The Turner's enjoy sailing this boat on beautiful Lake Redstone in central Wisconsin. The Turner's, as the Penticoff's, have larger boats too. The Turner's have a Tanzier 26 based in the marina at Racine, while the Penticoffs trailer their MacGregor 26 from New Milford to destinations all over the country. Several members of Rockford Yacht Club have "keelboats" in the 30+ foot range. These big comfortable boats are great cruisers, suitable for long term stays aboard.