

The Bullship Log

Newsletter of the Rockford Yacht Club

July 2011

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



Monthly Meeting at Harlem Township Hall
Monday July 18, 7:00 p.m.

Potluck Snacks

No program scheduled. Bring your sailing stories.

As I go to print with the Bullship Log, the Siegworts may be out sailing around Lake Michigan on the "Cross Lake Michigan" cruise that was scheduled for July 9 - 17.

Joe Rittner sent me a couple of reports. One was for the NWSA sail on Lake Mendota the weekend of July 8 - 10 where he indicated two boats were out on a hot and windless Friday, followed by a "terrific" Saturday sail and an "okay" Sunday morning when weather threatened and the wind died, prompting an early departure from the lake.

He also reported on a Lake Geneva sail in May...

The May 14th & 15th Lake Geneva sail with the Rockford Yacht Club and NWSA was canceled due to the weather, it was COLD and WET and it was getting worse! I do want to thank the RYC members who signed up to bring boats: Harley Johnson, Eric Mueller, Richard Spears, Jim Pardee and RYC Commodore Burnie Turner. In total 41 sailors (33 from NWSA) signed up. Without the 5 sailboats from RYC, it would have been a meager turnout with 3 boats from NWSA. Thanks again Harley, Eric, Richard, Jim and Burnie.

I did get out Friday (the 13th) with Bruce and Debbie Streeter (NWSA) helping with rigging and launching at Fontana. We had a terrific sail with the lake virtually to ourselves. Some E scows were practicing by the LGYC in preparation for the weekend regatta. We got back to a mooring in front of Gordy's for an early start on Saturday. However, I was just too optimistic that the weather would at least hold. Saturday morning had too much of a misery factor. Bruce and Debbie also came back to Fontana and we put the ready and willing M25 back on the trailer. The willing part was missing from me.

Several NWSA members had made prior overnight arrangements. They enjoyed the local restaurants and some toured the Yerkes Observatory on Saturday. There is always the next Lake Geneva combined sail "The Frostbite" Oct 1st and 2nd.

Joe Rittner, RYC and NWSA member

Commodore's Corner

Hello Everyone,

I hope everyone has had a chance to get out on the water at least once this summer. Penny and I have been out a couple of times. The winds this year have been light to say the least every time we have made it out there. They might have started off alright, but dwindled every time on us. Ask us sometime about our extremely long day sailing to Kenosha and back.

The picnic is next month and I hope everyone with a boat suitable for Pierce Lake will bring it with. Everyone who made it to the social event at our house seemed to have a good time. Congratulations to all who participated in the 2nd annual RYC Pool Regatta and especially to the top 3 finishers. The fan used for the race was a bit weak this year and I do apologize for that. Big thanks to Kyle for bringing his remote control sailboat. Even with the slight winds it was still fun to sail around the pool. (see photos on page 2)

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the meeting.

Commodore Burnie

Flotillas Coming Up

2011 Green Lake Sail

Dates: Aug 5 - 7, 2011 Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Information will be provided at the July RYC meeting
Cruise Capt. - Dick Spears 815-923-4374

RYC Picnic

August 20th, Bay View Shelter, Rock Cut State Park

Adopt A Road

Saturday, July 23, 8:00 a.m. Harlem & Argyle Roads.

We've not picked up the road in awhile. Come try out our new reflective vests and picker-upper sticks. RYC invested in some better vests than what the county provides and some grabber sticks to make things go better. Next up, something to hold those darn bags open in the wind. Breakfast together afterwards at Steve's (formerly Maid Rite) Cafe on Riverside.

Second Annual RYC Pool Regatta 2011



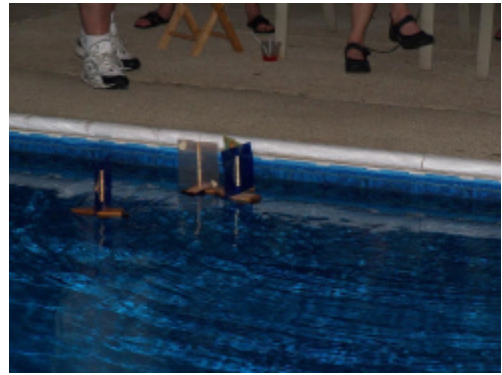
Preston Aylesworth chats with newcomer Dale Neeck prior to the start of the regatta.



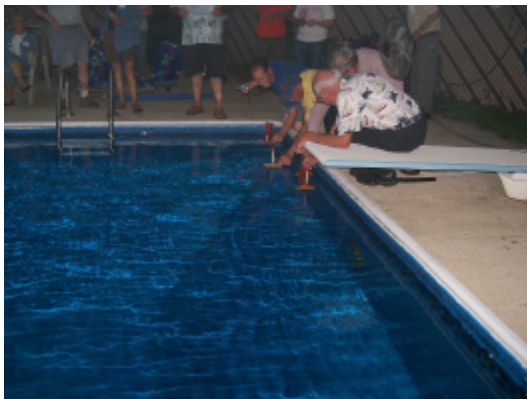
A typical confused start to the race. One small box fan was not much for wind.



Allen Penticoff attempts to "steer" his boat "Happy Camper" with waves - with little success after it had decided to go on a beam reach across the pool before the finish line.



Competition was intense - including boat to boat contact. In the spirit of a good time - no protests were made.



In the run off heat, Bill Siegworth (blue hat) demonstrates his starting strategy, while Preston takes the end of the line.

We have learned George and Valerie Kittner are moving to Arkansas. Their O'Day 17 is for sale. We'll miss them as fun regulars to our meetings, flotillas and events. We wish them Bon Voyage



The Winners were: Left to Right
Gina Ross - tied for third
Bill Siegworth - first place (repeat of last year)
Kyle Anderson - second place
Preston Aylesworth - tied for third
Congratulations go to Gina for doing so well in her first sailboat race - having just been to A Taste of Sail with husband Dave.