

# The Bullship Log

Newsletter of the Rockford Yacht Club

July 2013

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



## Meeting at Harlem Township Hall Monday July 15 @ 7:00

Program: none defined yet

Snacks: potluck

Camaraderie: abundant

RYC Picnic: July 27 noonish, Rock Cut State Park  
Island View Picnic Shelter

RYC will provide the chicken - you provide the pot luck. Bring a lawn chair if you'd like. A boat if you care to sail or paddle. Always a good time.

### Flotilla Stuff

I've not heard any reports about Sailstice at Lake Mendota from June 21st. Anyone have a report?

Plans were tossed about to sail during one of the EAA convention weekends. Airventure runs July 29 through Aug 4 this year. The weekend of the 27th is often good to go to do the arrivals - but it conflicts with the RYC picnic. The big airshow will be on August 3rd. If we go - I can get those who attend into the airport grounds for free. A visit to the seaplane base is usually interesting from both land and water. Plenty of slips at the Pioneer Inn marina usually - and lots of good restaurants nearby. See Allen about attending. [www.airventure.org](http://www.airventure.org) for more info (watch the promo video for a quick rundown of the action).

### **Racine Yacht Club - Shrimp Boil/Reggata**

Ray Olson announced the date has changed. It is now Sept. 21.

Ray has arranged for free dockage 9/20 - 9/22 for RYC members who attend with boats. \$20 is the per person dinner cost for the shrimp boil - breakfast is \$3.95. He promises a better band this year.

We had a good turn out and had a wonderful time at this event last year - let Ray know if you are interested in attending - boat or not.

**NOTE: Dick Spears has a new email address:  
[rlspears99@gmail.com](mailto:rlspears99@gmail.com)**

## Commodore's Corner

Stepping in for the commodore - I want to thank the O'Connors - Marty & Linda, Harley Johnson, and Commodore John Kochanski who came to a very rainy adopt-a-road with Ruth and I. Nothing was picked up - since it was quite rainy and about to rain harder. So off to breakfast we went and had a good time. RYCers come for the breakfast for the most part - not the trash pick up - but I can tell you that YOU all are a great bunch - who consistently do more than is expected and enjoy the job. We can't get people who live in Rockford to pick up trash in their own yard - yet you come from far away to do this - because it is a good thing to do - and you are committed to doing it right and because you enjoy the company of your fellow sailors when you are done. Applause here!! (\*)

Ruth and I went to the Beloit farmers market afterward - where we got rained on some more. But, we ran into some good friends who were buying cheese - and went off to the very interesting Bushel & Peck's for some drier conversation and beverages. The farmers' market comprises three blocks of downtown. A rainy day is a good time to go - when it's not so crowded. I discovered a "real shoe store" in Stanton Shoes there as well. A real step back in time - found some running shoes my size on sale too.

You don't need to go far to have adventures - or spend a lot. That's why we like our little boats and other things that float. Always a bit of adventure when boating - even if everything happens to go right. And - a bad day boating is better than a good day at work. Even if you work with boats!

*Allen*

p.s. I'd like someone else to take over the Bullship Log next year. I've done it long enough - time for some new blood.

\* No next adopt a road date has been picked to replace the rained out date - we'll decide on one at the meeting.

Those of us who attended Sam Walker's mothers memorial service were surprised to run into former RYC stalwart - Steven "Salty Dog" Kreitlow at the door of the funeral home - working. Nice to see you again Salty - come on around to one of the meetings and meet the new crew.



If you go on a little trip to the corner of Liddle (or Sprague Road ) (there is a sign that says Liddle - but Google maps says Sprague) and **Old River Road** near Rockton IL. - you'll discover a pirate ship under construction. This is just south of Stephen Mack Middle School on the east side of the road in back of some homes. Can't miss it though if driving north on Old River Road. You can also see the foundation in the satellite view on Google. The house & pirate ship are the first house on Sprague.

It looks like quite the elaborate playhouse - and I'll keep an eye on progress - I'm interested to see if it sprouts masts, rigging and sails.

If anyone knows these folks - I'd love to have them give us a tour some day. Argg.

If anyone has photos from A Taste of Sail - please pass them along.

We had 20 participants at A Taste of Sail - with some good prospects among some young people to get hooked on sailing.