

The Bullship Log

Monthly Meeting
Harlem Township Hall
Monday - Feb 15 @ 7:00 p.m.



2016 Dues:

\$30.00 payable to Rockford Yacht Club
Bring payment to meeting, or Mail to:

Ray Olson
4510 Crescent Circle
Rockford, IL 61108

Commodore's Corner

Ahoy mates -

This will be an exciting February for Rockford Yacht Club. We refuse to fade away knowing there are other members of the community interested in sailing. Our outreach at the upcoming Boat, Vacation and Fishing Show at the Mercy Indoor Sports Center on Riverside Road February 19-21 should draw a lot of attention and co-promotion. I am offering a sailing lesson/excursion as a prize for the show. We will also be signing people up for the June 18th A Taste of Sail. If sufficient interest warrants, we may arrange to take some of these folks sailing before A Taste of

Sail. I don't want to wait too long and possibly lose interested persons.

These things always attract the attention of folks who are already sailors or have had some sailing experiences. These folks are our real target new member. So we wish to hear their stories and invite them to join us. In all, it will be fun and the time spent working the show will fly by. I expect we'll have a prominent presence at the show - up front with a big white main and jib pointing towards the rafters.

Till then - hope to see you at the February 15th meeting - and remember to pay your \$30 dues if you have not done so already and bring some old sailing magazines we can give away.

Faire Winds,

Allen

LAKE MONONA IN JANUARY – MARTY O'CONNOR



Late last month, Allen Penticoff invited Brian Black and I to go sailing on Lake Mendota. As it turned out, 4LIYC posted club racing was to launch from Olin Park on Lake Monona, so we agreed to meet there on Sunday, Jan 27. I packed my boat on top of my old car, and arrived about 15 minutes before Brian and Allen. Winds were very light and we chose to cruise around, rather than join in any races. The plan was for the three of us to take turns in both boats, but several minor complications delayed my foray out to open ice, and the weak winds made it difficult to sustain good tacks. We were able to find stronger wind the farther away from shore that we traveled, but had to remain clear of the race course where sailing was most favorable. Winds were just beginning to pick up toward noon, and we were starting to have a little fun as Brian took video and photos. Then, while hauling back on the mainsheet with both hands, I heard and felt a significant bang. My rigging crashed to leeward and the runners dragged over the shrouds to a fairly quick stop. The mast hound had broken apart at

its tang. Thus ended our sailing for the day, but a little cold wind can go a long way on the ice, and we quite enjoyed ourselves. The best part is, I've had more boat outings in the first month of 2016 than in all of 2015. Can't complain about that.

