

THE BULLSHIP LOG

Newsletter of the Rockford Yacht Club



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Website: www.RockfordSailing.org

Meeting Location: see below

Meeting: Monday, Dec. 18th, 2006

Christmas Party – Monday Dec. 18th @ Lino's

5611 E. State Street, Rockford

6:00 cocktails

7:00 dinner

“Chinese Auction” gift exchange, 50/50 raffle, fun, camaraderie, awards
(gift exchange – for those who want to participate, items < \$15)

Commodore's Corner

I woke up to a chill in the air of 2 below zero. Not exactly the best sailing weather but it does give you time to reflect on the last sailing season and dream of the next season's sailing adventures. Hopefully everyone got there boat winterized and covered for the winter before this cold snap hit. Now is the time to plan your repairs and updates to your boat that you did not get to last year!

It also reminds you of all the little things to be thankful for during this holiday season; good health, good friends, and hope for peace on Earth.

I am looking forward to seeing most of you at the Christmas party at Leno's, I know some of our members are wintering elsewhere or have taken up new residence outside of the area and will not be able to attend but remember you are always in our thoughts and you will always be part of our club. I ask all our members to take a moment and reflect on the season and remember to count all your blessings. I wish everyone a happy holiday and I hope every will have fair winds in the New Year.

Sincerely,

Evans Walker
Commodore - RYC

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### Visitors

Welcome to Scott Foster and Denney Nelson. Scott has a 16' X-boat that he has sailed at Pierce Lake.

### New Members

Leo and Judy Wehner attended their first meeting. They have joined in November and sailed their Montego 20 at Kentucky Lake recently.

Welcome Aboard

### Food

November meeting food was provided by Sam & Evans Walker, Marty & Bill Siegworth, Harley Johnson and Ruth Penticoff.

January food will be brought by Brian Black & Marty O'Connor.

### Member News

Dick Spears reports that he attained his goal of sailing 30 times this season. He also took two more people sailing, Judy Ball and Marco Vargas, from the renewable energy fair sign up list.

### Upcoming Events

Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> regular meeting at Harlem Township Hall. We'll discuss the upcoming Strictly Sail get together. Program to be announced.

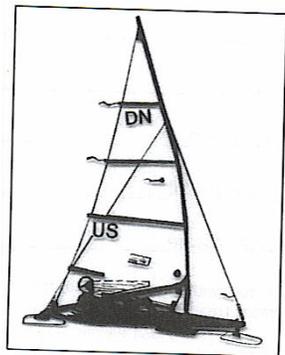
Valentines Day meeting/social event. TBA

March Meeting/social event – Saint Patrick’s Day, get together Saturday March 17<sup>th</sup> location TBA. Meeting night March 19<sup>th</sup>.

### Financial Report

|                  | November 2006 Report |          |          |
|------------------|----------------------|----------|----------|
| Description      | Revenue              | Expenses | Totals   |
| Balance Forward  |                      |          | 1,912.65 |
| Dues             | 450.00               |          | 450.00   |
| Christmas Dinner | 240.90               |          | 240.90   |
| Miscellaneous    |                      |          |          |
| Apparel          | 20.00                |          | 20.00    |
| Power Strip      |                      | -6.25    | -6.25    |
| Current Balance  |                      |          | 2,617.30 |

The Signal Officer has set up an email message board for the purpose of coordinating members sailing together in the coming season. Those who have a valid email address with Allen now should have received an invitation to join already. If you have not and you want to join the list. Email Allen at: [apenticoff@insightbb.com](mailto:apenticoff@insightbb.com)



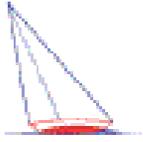
Allen would like to report that he has an article on iceboating that appears in the Winter edition of the Northwest Quarterly magazine. This is the first time he will have been paid for writing a story. Several of his pictures appear in the story as well. The magazine is available free at many locations throughout Winnebago County.

Allen also got some iceboating in already. Our cold snap allowed Lake Wingra at Madison to freeze 4” thick. 22 iceboats turned out for a perfect day of blasting around the lake on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>. Reports of Lake Como being suitable for iceboating were heard as well.

Despite this, Allen and Preston are up to a “Winter Solstice Sail” if conditions are favorable on December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Who know with this weird weather.

Boat for sale: *(This was noticed by Scott Foster, who is passing it on.)*

Hi Allen if you know of any club members looking for a boat there is a 1995 Barrnet 1400 for sale in Wisconsin on the sailingtexas.com web site for \$1,299. That’s a good price,I wish I could buy it ... Scott



## A typical seaman, circa 1948

*Some old (very old) copies of Rudder magazine were donated to the Good Old Boat archives some time ago. Here's an editorial from the April 1948 issue that resonated with us.*

The typical seaman has developed certain traits which set him apart from shoreside people. Let us see what they are, just for the fun of it.

Seamen as a class are not excitable people. Early in life they learn to cooperate with the inevitable. They avoid pounding windward work if at all possible, they anchor in a lee patiently waiting for a favorable slant, meanwhile resting, reading, playing cards, or just gaming.

The sailorman seldom hurries. He has learned the hard way not to run aboard ship, he has plenty of time to get where he is going, and on the way plans what he'll do when he arrives. Those who run fall overboard, and need not further concern us here.

The sailor develops foresight. It's essential for survival, and the skill with which long passages were planned is amazing to behold. Ninety percent of the success of a voyage is planning, the rest execution. This holds true of yachts today.

The seaman learns to get along with people. He is tolerant and understanding. Close quarters aboard, different races and nationalities in ports of call, make him a cosmopolitan, although he probably would resent this word.

Seamen are religious. They see the world on a large canvas painted with bold strokes and vivid colors. Proximity to nature at its best as well as at its most terrifying makes it absurd to doubt the existence of a Creator. The sun, moon, and stars are his signposts and his eyes are often turned heavenward. He has looked into limitless space and found understanding.

The seaman is philosophically inclined. Long silent night watches make him contemplative, and he is given to esoteric searching.

The sailor is self-reliant and self-sufficient. He can do everything himself and takes care of all his needs. The classic example is that when a sailor sews on a button, it outlives the garment every time.

The yachtsman who carries on the traditions of the sea develops these traits to a large extent and brings them to his shoreside existence, with the result that he takes life easier, does not get excited about unimportant matters, and differs from his fellows mainly in the evaluation of life's incidents, which he tries to bring into proper perspective. Upon analyzing them he usually finds they are too picayune to get heated up about and, taking another puff on his pipe, focuses his eye on the distant horizon beyond, which he plans to sail soon...

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