

# The Bullship Log

Newsletter of the Rockford Yacht Club

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



Monthly Meeting  
Harlem Township Hall  
April 18th @ 7:00  
Potluck Snacks

## Program: Yack'n & Snack'n

My apologies to those who get the newsletter by print for being so late this month.

On page two you will find the Dick Spears supplied invitation to sail with Northwest Sailing Association. They always have a well coordinated event. Their first is on Lake Geneva - May 14th & 15th. You can read their fine newsletter, the "Communique" at [www.NWSAIL.com](http://www.NWSAIL.com) (it is way better than I do with the Bullship Log - and RYC gets plenty of mention there too). See attached NWSA schedule.

### First Sail

It was a gloomy looking Saturday to start with - and depressingly little wind at home. But I'd made a commitment to go sailing with Eric Mueller, while some others expressed an interest in getting out on the water too. So on April 9th Eric and I rigged TheLittleBote (my American 14-6) at Pierce Lake and headed out.

We found the wind to be light and very variable. It wouldn't be Pierce Lake if it was otherwise. It was warm enough that a light jacket was all that we needed to keep warm - and when the sun came out, that was almost too much as the temperature got to about 70 degrees. We were the only sailboat, but there were plenty of people trying to fish from boats. I say "try" as we never saw any being caught.

We chased the wind around for a couple of hours, at times it was blowing enough to justify hiking out. Eric did most of the steering. Soon we'd had enough, but we did get what we needed - our out-on-the-water fix. Of course, after we took the rig down, the wind picked up!

I got to iceboat three times this winter. While its a ton of fun, there is nothing like messing about in a boat - and very glad the soft water sailing season is back. ~ Allen

## Commodore's Corner

*Hello Everyone,  
I wanted to thank everyone who made it to Veterans Memorial Hall for our March meeting. Everyone seemed to enjoy learning about the hall, its history and all of the interesting items they have there. Scott the manager told me he wished he would have brought out the display board they have from the navy. It was used during World War II for teaching knot tying to the sailors. He wanted to also ask all the members to please tell everyone about the hall to raise awareness of the unique museum we have right here in Winnebago County. We had a great turn out for the road cleanup also. It was the largest turn out since I have been a member. Club participation is what keeps RYC strong and viable, so let's try to keep that momentum going. This month is a social meeting and maybe we can do a round table discussion of where everyone is at with getting their boat ready for the spring launch.*

*I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the meeting.*

*Respectfully,  
Commodore Burnie*

### **Adopt A Road report**

This won't be news to too many RYCers - as it seemed like everyone was there. Double the number signed up - we had nineteen folks turn out and make a quick job of removing the litter from Harlem Road.

Burnie & Penny Turner  
Sam & Evans Walker  
Jennifer & Charlie Fritts  
Preston Aylesworth  
Eric Mueller  
Dennis Nelson  
Scott Foster  
John Reh  
Marty O'Connor  
Allen & Ruth Penticoff

I know of no other organization that has this many people show up regularly for Adopt A Road - and who has so much fun in the process.

Thanks! Allen & Ruth

## **A GREAT SAIL ON LAKE GENEVA**

**(A COOPERATIVE SAILING EVENT WITH NWSA)**

**DATE : MAY 14, 2011 SATURDAY**

**PLACE : LAKE GENEVA ----- FONTANA LAUNCH RAMP**

**BOATS ARRIVE FOR RIGGING AT 9:00 A.M. ----- LAUNCH TIME : 10:00 A.M.**

**ASSIGN CREW TO BOATS**

**SAIL TO WILLIAMS BAY - SACK LUNCH (CAMARADERIE) AT THE LAKESIDE PARK  
- NEAR THE DOCK**

**SAIL LAKE GENEVA IN THE AFTERNOON**

**RETURN TO FONTANA DOCK : 4:00 PM - UNRIG THE BOATS - PARK CARS &  
TRAILERS**

**DINNER (EXCHANGE SEA TALES) : 5:00 PM AT GORDY'S RESTAURANT AFTER  
THE SAIL**

**BRING : WARM CLOTHING**

**SACK LUNCH**

**SOFT SOLED SHOES**

**DIRECTIONS : ROUTE 173 EAST TO ROUTE 14 IN HARVARD**

**NORTH ON ROUTE 14 TO WALWORTH , WIS. / RT 67**

**ROUTE 67 TO FONTANA**

**TURN RIGHT TO LAUNCH RAMP ON LAKE FRONT**

**SIGN UP FOR THIS EVENT AT THE APRIL 2011 RYC  
MEETING**

**OR CALL DICK SPEARS AT 1-815-923-4374 BEFORE MAY 4, 2011**

**CRUISE COORDINATOR DICK SPEARS 815-923-4374**