
The Bullship Log



Ahoy Sailors!

Had an interesting program at the November Rockford Yacht Club meeting where a presentation / discussion occurred on Marine Radio usage. The improved safety features and Digital Selective Calling are all nice features of the newer radios. New Commodore Bill Reilly presented the program. Thank you Bill!

Looking forward to the RYC Christmas Party which will be held at Thunder Bay Grille on December 17th. Cocktails at 6:30, dinner at 7 pm. Visit with your friends at RYC and talk about the adventures you had over the last year. Contact Evans Walker if you plan on attending so he can get a head count to the restaurant. (815) 341-5964

You can vote for Member of the Year and best Captain Ron story. Also the Harley Johnson Sailor of Merit award will be given.



Flag flying at half staff for former President Bush while the geese gather around the open water on the ice at Rock Cut State park.

Club member Carl Nelson recently passed away attached is his obituary. I thought about the recent eulogy at the Bush funeral and thought this quote was fitting for Carl.

“There are wooden ships, there are sailing ships, there are ships that sail the sea. But the best ships are friendships, and may they always be.”

Carl B. Nelson 1925—2018

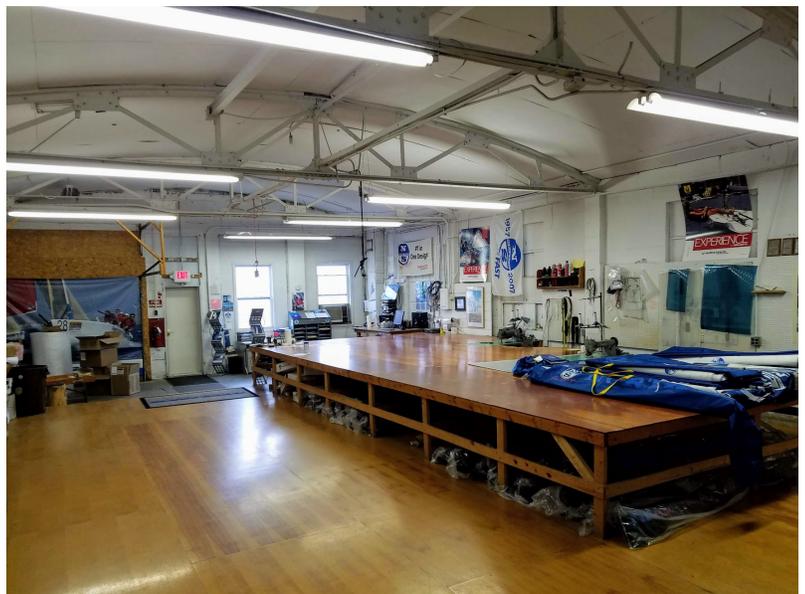
Carl B. Nelson, son of Carl and Hilda Nelson, passed away suddenly on November 8, 2018, which was one year after moving to Mesa, AZ from Loves Park, IL. He was born in Beloit, WI on December 13, 1925. After marrying Frances M. Salamone on July 4, 1952, they moved to northern Illinois to begin their life together. Carl established and owned Nelson Metal Company, and then the National Car Rental franchise in Rockford, IL from 1979 to 1990. He was a family man, whose hobbies were sailing, golfing and gardening. Survivors include his wife Frances, son Carl along with his wife Shelly, grandchildren Trevor and Kylee, and many nieces and nephews. A viewing and funeral services were held November 16, 2018 at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Mesa, AZ. Carl was interred with Navy Funeral Honors at the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona in Cave Creek on November 19, 2018.

Commodore Brian

Allen Penticoff offered the following suggestion for a field trip in the near future, details of which we should discuss at the Christmas Dinner:

On 11/21 I was at Melges Boat Works in Zenda WI picking up my American's sails. I had full battens put in the main and modified the genoa for roller furling and bought Harken hardware through them too.

The sail loft guy is Jim Gluek. He said he would be willing to come to RYC on a Monday night to deliver a program on sail care and repair. HOWEVER, I think an RYC road trip on a Saturday to Melges in Zenda would be far better. To see, be, in the sail loft is impressive and can be far more instructive than talk and slides. Next door to the sail loft is the spar shop. Elsewhere the Melges offices are in an old brick school building where there are some interesting displays. Boat building occurs in big pole buildings.



When the tour is over one must adjourn for beverages and burgers at the Zenda Tap.



Melges is closed on weekends - so one probably would not see much activity. If members favored going on a weekday - that would be the BEST. It seems to me we've done this before. But my memory is fuzzy about it. I've been to Zenda enough times that it is familiar. We could put a vote to the RYC members. Monday program, or road trip.



Personally, I'd be a bit reluctant to have a speaker come to our humble facilities and have a low turn out. But with even only a handful of folks on a tour of their facilities there is no embarrassment.