

The Bullshiplog

Newsletter of the Rockford Yacht Club

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



While this is not officially a "party" event we will be meeting at [Loves Park Scuba](http://lovesparkscuba.com/) for a tour of the scuba museum.
7:00 p.m. Monday March 17th
7307 N. Alpine Road, Loves Park
(just north of Harlem Road)

<http://lovesparkscuba.com/>



Technically, this isn't about "boats" but many of us find that scuba and snorkeling is one of the most fun things you can do with a sailboat, particularly in warm climates. In some areas, like the Florida keys, checking out what is underwater is where the best scenery is. We'll explore a bit about the underwater world at this month's gathering of RYC.

And since it will be **St. Patrick's Day**, we'll consider going somewhere to sit and chat, and perhaps have a **Green Beer**. Remember, Illinois is now smoke-free, so going out is not as bad as it once was for those who don't like smoky environments.



Commodore's Corner

Hello All! With daylight savings time in effect it can only mean open water and warmer temps are on the way. Sam and I just got back from northern Florida visiting family and we took advantage of going to the east coast and doing a quick tour of St Augustine. The temps were in the high 70's and many sailboats were moored in the harbor. This very old city is home to many nautical sites and history as well as some of the best golf courses Florida has to offer. They are also building a new marina on the west side of the city. Sam and I only had a half day to look around and we plan to go back for a longer visit in the near future. Now is the time to schedule your boat maintenance time you put off all winter. The extra daylight is a great motivator. I always hope I can get all my work done early, but it never seems to work out that that way! Looks like we have a neat program scheduled for March and we hope to see you at the museum. Sincerely,

Evans Walker
Commodore - RYC

Membership News

As of this week, we have 27 paid memberships. That's a dues income of \$675. If you have not paid your \$25 dues yet, you will likely be removed from the paper version mailing list. Though you can stay on the e-version for as long as you'd like with our other non-member recipients of the newsletter. But it would really be nice if you'd renew your dues and stay an official part of the RYC family.

Not sure if you've renewed or not. Contact, Evans, Eric or Allen and we'll check our records.

Flotilla News

Well, it seems some of us can't wait to get out and go sailing....

Leo Wehner and Allen Penticoff both submitted pictures and hopes for sailing to the Rockford Register Star's "Spring Countdown." Allen, Ruth and Dan Medler are still planning to go sailing for four days on Lake Peoria, March 20 - 23rd. Contact Allen if you think you might like to beat these long Winter blues and get out sailing.

Allen's cell phone number is: 815-985-1108 if you change your mind when nice weather appears. Other flotillas have yet to be planned.

SPRING COUNTDOWN
◆◆◆

Yearning to sail, or at least tow



"Our first 'spring is here' activity is to tow our 26-foot sailboat downstate the latter part of March. Our experience has been that late March usually delivers some days that are often very summerlike with sunny 70-plus-degree windy days. But there is an incongruity that while it feels warm, the trees have no leaves yet. Keeping our fingers crossed for good weather is still necessary — it has not worked out every year. But we really need it this time."

— Allen Penticoff, New Milford

14 days

Spring begins March 20

◆ Send us an e-mail about your spring plans, hopes and ambitions.
Address: onlinenews@rrstar.com
RRStar 3.6.08

SPRING COUNTDOWN
◆◆◆

Eager to start windsurfing



"I can't wait to relaunch my windsurfing board on Lake Sule just east of Rochelle. Even if it means putting on the wet suit. Looking forward to spring warmth and wind."

— Leo Wehner, Byron

9 days

Spring begins March 20

◆ Can't wait for spring to get here? Neither can we. Send us your garden photos, vacation shots, poems or anything else that puts you in a springtime frame of mind. E-mail them to onlinenews@rrstar.com and we'll publish them in the paper or on our Web site.

Leo also has a new "Kite Board" he's anxious to try.