



BYLINE



BELMONT YACHT CLUB

February 2008

Bridge

Commodore
 James Sanderson
 Vice Commodore
 Tim Harrington
 Rear Commodore
 John Graneto
 Secretary
 Charlotte Mullen
 Treasurer
 Michael Premer

Staff Officers

Fleet Captain
 John Garrett
 Fleet Surgeon
 Geoff Engel, M.D.
 Judge Advocate
 Barry Lewis, J.D.
 Club Historian
 Scott Baumgartner
 Public Information & Publications
 Tim Harrington

Board of Directors

Scott S. Baumgartner, PC
 Charles Goes, IPC
 Betty Lerner, PC
 Deborah Loviza
 Kenneth Low
 Jane McMillan, PC
 Dick Rose
 Eric Schuermann
 Fred Van Dorpe
 Daniel Waters

Belmont Yacht Club
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 www.belmontyc.org

OFFICIAL NOTICE

February Meeting Cancelled

The next board meeting will be held
 Tuesday March 18, 2008, 7:00 pm
 Commodore Sanderson's Residence



Commodore's Corner

Dr. James Sanderson, Commodore



I stopped at the Mack yesterday and found that she was floating free of ice even at 7 degrees, and the heaters were keeping the inside safe. It made me think that our next season is not too far away and plans are under way to clean up, fix up, and improve our club. Watch for the announcement of work days so you can add them to your calendar. Do not forget to pay your slip fees as they will be due by the time you read this. We are planning on a meeting with our Harbor Master in March, so if you have any concerns please forward them to me and I will attempt to address them. Construction is under way for pump out facilities on H, I, and J docks so pump out for the rest of us will be the same, either South or North ends or harbor or hopefully the Honey Jug. You should shortly receive your dues statement; please pay as soon as possible so we will be able to start our planning early. Hope to see you at Strictly Sail or at our March Board Meeting held in the warm south, that is Frankfort, IL. Scott had me check and I found out that you do not need your Passport to attend, only a short 45 minute ride. Louise is planning a Northern Italian dinner and again all members are invited. Watch for details. Keep warm and pray for Spring.

Commodore Jim

Mark Your Calendars

January 31 – February 3 – Strictly Sail at Navy Pier

February 23, Saturday – Chicago Maritime Festival @ Chgo History Museum

February 28, Thursday – 1900hrs Chicago Yachting Association meeting @ Columbia YC.

March 18, Tuesday – 1900hrs Board of Directors Meeting at Commodore Jim Sanderson's residence and is open to all members. RSVP required

<< Details for all BYC events may be found on our website at www.BelmontYC.org >>

Celebrating This Month...

Members celebrating their birthdays this month are;

4 – Chriselle Water
Fred Van Dorpe - Director



12 – Gail Premer

28 – Ken Low - Director

Members celebrating their anniversary this month include;

7 – Commodore Jim & Louise Sanderson

13 – Bill & P/C Jane McMillan



Strictly Sails at Navy Pier



The Midwest's only all-sail boat show, Strictly Sails, returns to Navy Pier January 31 - February 3, 2008. This four-day sailing event features the latest and greatest the sailing industry has to offer. You'll find all the latest boat designs from the industries best designers, the newest sailing gear, accessories

and hardware from the industries top suppliers and the most up to date charter information all from more than 250 exhibiting companies from around the globe. Sailors of all ages and sailing abilities find Strictly Sail Chicago "the sailing event" of the Midwest. This year's activities include a full schedule of seminars for sailors of all ages and abilities, daily prizes and activities suitable for every attendee. BYC will have a booth at the show that will be staffed by volunteer members of the club. If you plan to attend the show, please stop by the BYC booth and say hello. If you would like to volunteer at the booth, there are still times we do not have someone to cover. Please contact V/C Tim Harrington to offer your help.



Next Board Meeting

Due to cold weather and a lack of agenda items, the February board meeting is cancelled. Therefore, the next meeting of the Board of Directors will be Tuesday, March 18. We will be meeting at Louise and Commodore Jim Sanderson's home in Frankfort. Please contact Jim if you will be attending the meeting so he can plan refreshments accordingly. Social hour begins at 1830 followed by the Board meeting at 1900. All BYC members are invited to attend.



2008 Chicago Maritime Festival - Saturday, February, 23

The Chicago Maritime Festival at the Chicago History Museum, now sailing into its 6th year, continues to offer the most diverse maritime program in the Great



Lakes. This indoor festival held in Chicago's "off season", is a wonderful way to meet maritime minded (or nautically curious) folks from all around the region and across the sea. The festival is organized by the Chicago Maritime Society, the Chicago History Museum, and Common Times, and sponsored by Chicago Yachting Association, BOAT U.S., and others. Seminars are presented by individuals and organizations including the Underwater Archaeological Society, US Coast Guard Auxiliary, National Weather Service, International Shipmasters Association, Chicago Maritime Society, Friends of the Chicago River, John G. Shedd Aquarium, Michigan Maritime Museum,

and others from the maritime community of Chicago, the Great Lakes, and the World. The performers are among the best in the World and have hailed from all across the United States as well as England, France, Scotland, Canada, and the Netherlands. Activities for kids have included model boat building, lakeside biology, knot tying, seeking maritime careers, and "How to Become a Shipwreck Detective". Find more information at their website: www.chicagomaritimefestival.org/2008/



A Funny Thing Happened...

By Vice Commodore Tim Harrington



I ran into an old grade school friend of mine, Pete, at a pre-boat show event hosted by Karma Yacht Sales. Pete is planning to buy a new sailboat. The only thing stopping him right now is that he works for LaSalle Bank and he doesn't want to make any major purchases until his job is secure with the new owners. I told Pete I hoped it would all work out, and he said he believed it would, most of the cuts in his department were done and he was still there. When I asked about which Beneteau model he was looking at, he mentioned he had been talking to Karma owner Lou Sandoval for the last several months and had narrowed it down to one model he felt would fit him and his family. I was curious to know how he knew Lou, as I had known Lou for many years and had in fact crewed for him for several seasons including in a Mac race. Pete said he and Lou were both members of Chicago Yacht Club and had struck up a conversation at the bar one day. I mentioned I too belonged to a yacht club and I asked him if he was happy at CYC. He said he had been given a free membership through LaSalle Bank as they were sponsors of the Mac race, but the free membership was now a thing of the past and he wasn't really interested in continuing his membership for the price they charge. So I invited him to think about joining BYC and went on to explain the costs and benefits of our little club. He seemed very interested and we will be getting together as soon to discuss further details, and I will be sure to have a membership application with me. I tell this rather long story to illustrate that you never know where our next member will come from. When you are talking to anyone in the boating community, mention your membership in BYC. See if it sparks any interest. You might be doing your friend a great favor by inviting him to join our little BYC family.

Saving Fuel - In terms of miles per gallon, the basics still apply. Slow down. Sometimes you can double your miles per gallon by easing off as little as 15% on the throttle. Keep your engine cool; clean air filters, clear intakes, and general good airflow are important, and they pay off in good performance. Slow-turning, large-diameter props can add as much as 30% to your efficiency.

– George Lundgren

Chicago Sea Scouts Want You to Have Fun

By Tim Harrington, BYC's Sea Scout Representative

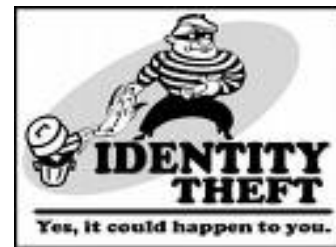
Set the date, April 10, 2008. The Chicago area Sea Scouts will be having our Spring Kick Off – 2008 *Looking to the Future* party and silent auction. Guests will enjoy cocktails and hors d'oeuvres along with music provided by Bernie Wiczer and Fred Gorr. For over one hundred years, young adults ages 14 to 20, from all walks of life, have benefited from Sea Scouts by providing hands-on experience, while teaching team work and leadership skills in our sailing program. As I have said before, I was a Sea Scout in high school and I attribute my experiences in the program for instilling my love of sailing on our beautiful lake. *2008 Looking to the Future* will be our only major fundraiser of the year, and the money donated is used to offset the high cost of mooring, maintaining, and storing three vessels for the youths to use during the season. We need your support through your participation or donation. Your gifts are tax deductible and go directly toward funding the Chicago Sea Scout program. So please reserve the hours between 6 and 9 PM on Thursday, April 10 and join us at the Chicago Yacht Club, Monroe Station. We will have thousands of dollars worth of donated items available for bid. If you cannot join us that night, please consider making a donation in the BYC's Sea Scout Ship #2006 name. We are also looking for auction items to add to our expanding list. For further information give me a call or to arrange a donation, contact PC Gary Hooper, Columbia YC, at 312-938-3625. The kids thank you for your support.



15 Ways to Prevent Identity Theft:

By Charlotte Mullen

- Check credit reports at least twice a year
- Check spouses credit reports
- Lock your mailbox
- Shred all throwaway documents
- Secure all legal documents and account numbers
- Destroy/Shred pre-approved credit card offers
- Place mail in secure outgoing mailboxes or at the post office
- Call the post office if you go more than four days without mail
- Pay attention to delivery dates of all bills
- Pay close attention to bank and credit cards statements
- Reconcile bills and statements diligently and timely
- Pay attention to the expiration date of credit cards and look for arrival of new cards
- Sign all new cards immediately
- Avoid using Social Security numbers for accounts whenever possible
- Have bank ordered checks delivered to the bank and not your home



Abandoning Ship? Call the Pub First

A British yachtsman was rescued, curiously, by calling his local pub to raise the alarm. Alan Thompson fell on the deck of his sailing boat *Padolu* which is believed to have broken his pelvis. He was in great pain after the fall, so desiring to leave the yacht was an understandable reaction. In severe pain, he managed to reach a satellite phone and for some reason immediately called the Bull's Head pub in Fishbourne, West Sussex, England. The Falmouth Coastguard were alerted and launched a joint rescue with their American counterparts early on Saturday evening, 600 nautical miles north-east of Bermuda. Mr. Thompson had just bought the 37ft Hunter Legend (not the one pictured here) in Florida and planned to sail it back to the UK single-handed. Two US coastguards were airlifted aboard the sailboat to help him to abandon the uninsured vessel and board a nearby oil tanker.



Weather Proverbs

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Man has been attempting to forecast the weather since the beginning of recorded history. Long before the invention of radar and other meteorological tools, people relied upon "natural" clues to approaching weather. Many of these have a scientific basis and it can be explained why they "work", others have no such basis but often prove to be true. Perhaps the most often quoted weather proverb among mariners is:

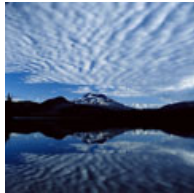
***Red sky in morning, Sailors take warning.
Red sky at night, Sailors' delight.***

A red sky at night (when the sun is to the west) is caused by light passing through dust particles in the air to the west. Dust indicates dry weather and since most weather changes come from the west, a red sky at night usually indicates dry weather approaching. A red sky in the morning, however, indicates that the dry air has moved away. A gray sky at night means that the western air is filled with moisture and it will likely rain soon.

The first recorded use of this system of weather forecasting can be found in the Bible. In Matthew 16.2-3, Jesus says to the fishermen, "when it is evening, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.' and in the morning 'It will be stormy today, for the sky is red and threatening.'" Since it has lasted so long, we think there must be something to it.



Other variations on this theme include:



***Mackerel skies and mares' tails
Make tall ships take in their sails.***

Cirrus clouds (mackerel skies or clouds that looked as if they'd been scratched by a hen, according to the old-timers) often precede a warm front which brings winds and rain.



***When halo rings the moon or sun
Rain's approaching on the run.***

The halo is caused by high cirrostratus (ice crystal) clouds that are indicative of an approaching warm front and predict rain within 20-24 hours. The U.S. Weather Service confirms that rain follows about 75 percent of sun halos and about 65 percent of moon halos.



***Seagull, seagull, sit on the sand,
It's a sign of rain when you are at hand***

In general, birds roost more during a period of low pressure. Before a hurricane, flocks of birds will be seen roosting. Take off may be harder when the pressure is low or the air is thinner because the natural updrafts are lessened.

In addition to many informative articles and boating tips this website <http://boatsafe.com> contains the first nationally approved Basic Boating Safety Course. This course is approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) and recognized by the US Coast Guard as acceptable to the National Recreational Boating Safety Program. Most marine insurance companies, in all states, give discounts to boat owners who have successfully completed such a course.

Which Way is Home

By Tim Harrington

We have a wonderful offer from our harbor neighbor and BYC member **Alan Veenstra** of Chicago Sailing, Inc. He is offering a special discount to BYC members for the Basic Piloting portion of US Sailing's COASTAL NAVIGATION AND PILOTING course this winter. In three evening classes (8 hours total) you will master all the skills you will need for most navigational situations. I took this class myself two years ago and found the information invaluable.



Coursework includes real-life navigational situations that employ chart reading, position finding, course plotting, aids to navigation, currents, and fundamental rules of the road. Successful

graduates will have the skills necessary to confidently pilot a vessel in coastal areas. This class is being offered to BYC members only for \$190. That is more than 10% off the regular price of \$215, and includes U.S. SAILING's Coastal Navigation textbook, basic navigational instruments and chart reproductions. Class size is limited and this class typically sells out each time it is offered, so act fast. Classes meet Mondays, 6:30-9:30PM, Kendall College, February 7 & 11 (6:30-9:30), and February 18 (7-9pm). Check out the Chicago Sailing website at www.chicagosailing.com/navigation_class.htm for more information. You MUST mention the BYC discount when booking.

