



# BYLINE



## BELMONT YACHT CLUB

March 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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Chicago, IL 60613  
(773) 871 – 4424  
www.belmontyc.org

### OFFICIAL NOTICE

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



Lately when I wake up in the morning I feel as if I am in the movie "Groundhog Day", same gloomy, cold weather. I am thankful I have boating to think of: warm, sunny skies, and open blue water. Only 65 days until boating launch day, but who's counting. I want to thank all those that helped at our

booth at "Strictly Sail", which was our first attempt at a major event. Thanks go out to Vice Commodore Tim for organizing this event. It was fun seeing members, potential members, and boaters in a warm environment. Next year will even be better. Membership renewals are starting to come in, thank you to those replying early. Please remember to update your directory sheet and send it with your check for 2008 dues. Our next Board Meeting will be March 18th at our home in Frankfort, only 30 miles south of Belmont. It is a real easy trip as we are close to I-80. Louise has a great meal planned, and remember; **all club members are invited.** Watch for your invitation with directions to the Board Meeting. This will be a great time to talk about next season, boating, and help make plans for club activities, all input is important. The April meeting will be back on the Mack.

Praying for spring, Commodore Jim

## Mark Your Calendars

**March 9, Sunday – Daylight Saving Begins**

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

**March 31, Monday – All Non-Renewed Memberships Expire**

<< Details for all BYC events may be found on our website at [www.BelmontYC.org](http://www.BelmontYC.org) >>

## Celebrating This Month...

Members celebrating their birthdays this month are;

9 – Scott Baumgartner, PC  
10 – Tim Harrington, VC  
14 – Betty Lerner, PC  
19 – Jill Garrett



Members celebrating their anniversary this month include;

22 – Director Ken & Lynn Low



Quotable Quickie: A good time to keep your mouth shut is when you're in deep water.

## Next Board Meeting is Going to be Stormy

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. The main agenda item will be brain-storming fundraising opportunities so as to avoid raising dues.



## Don't Get Locked Out

By Vice Commodore Tim Harrington



As most of you know, I am a funeral director. As such, when people expire I am there to help. Well your membership is about to expire and once again, I am there to help. March 31<sup>st</sup> your old membership dies and with it all the happy memories of the boating season may become a thing of the past too. However, unlike the lives we live, if you enjoyed how things went during the last year you can renew for another year. By the time you read this you should have received your renewal notice and a sheet with your information for the membership directory. If any changes need to be made, now is the time. If there is a mistake on your listing but you send in your check without noting the changes, please don't expect sympathy from me; funeral directors dole that stuff out only to those deserving it. I have received several renewals already; **please take a minute to make sure your renewal and check has been sent in.** On April 1 door entry codes and other locks will be changed. By the time the club ship reopens for the season in mid April, all renewed members will have received the new code by a special mailer. The code will be sent to the address of record for each member and can then be used immediately once the Rear Com has officially reopened the club.

As membership chair my job is not only to bring in new members, but to make sure our current members are happy enough to renew each year. If something happened during the last season that is making you hesitate to renew, please contact me in confidence and we can discuss the issue. Our club is just that; Our Club. You have as much right to enjoy the club as the next guy, because collectively the members are the owners of the club. Membership is meant to be a positive experience. Let me know if there is something I can do to ensure that it is. I am here to serve you in your time of need, that's what I do.



# Chicago Sea Scouts Need Your Support

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 2, 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 Chicago Sea Scouts **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 to the Sea Scout program in BYC's Ship #2006 name. We are also looking for auction items to add to our expanding list. For further information or to arrange a donation, contact PC Gary Hooper, Columbia YC, 312-938-3625. The kids thank you for your support.



## Strictly Sails at Navy Pier Report

The Strictly Sail show held the first weekend in February was quite the event. Starting Thursday with a major snowstorm that lasted through Friday didn't help the attendance numbers, nor did the Super bowl on Sunday, but people still came out by the thousands. A special BYC thank you goes out to **Fred VanDorpe, Barry Lewis, Mike Premer, Ken Low, Com. Jim Sanderson, P.C. Chuck Goes, Dan Waters, & Webb Davidson**; members who volunteered their time to staff our booth and try to get the BYC name out to the masses. Below are comments from a few of those volunteers:



**Webb Davidson** - The Strictly Sail was as usual a terrific show. It seemed to have a lot of foot traffic. I'm impressed with the distance sailors travel to come to the show. We spoke with several people from as far as Michigan and even Minnesota. There were a lot of people who don't understand the harbor system and how it works in Chicago. They wanted to know about fees, etc. It gave us a chance to explain the Chicago Park District, Westrec and how the yacht clubs are separate. Many assumed if you had a boat in the harbor you had access to the club and amenities. There were also a lot of people interested in lessons so we gave them info on Chicago Sailing. Having them located next to BYC is an asset. So, where does that leave BYC? There seemed to be a fair amount of foot traffic. I think we were very well received. We had a lot of fun speaking to a lot of folks. We handed out dozens of applications. There seemed to be a few serious shoppers. Several remarked that they were put off by the atmosphere of the other clubs. They were looking for a club where they could socialize without the formalities. There was also a lot of interest in the "There and Back" race; sailors looking for info, e.g., schedules, etc.

**Mike Premer** - Turnout was pretty good even for the afternoon of the Super bowl. Even with all of the people stopping by I would introduce us as the biggest little yacht club in Chicago. I got positive response and passed out a lot of literature. I had many inquires about how to get a slip in Belmont and referred all of them to the Westrec booth. Saw a few old friends and asked them to join and a few new slip holders whom I also asked to join. It was a good effort that could use a little more coordination next year. I will share that with you.

**Fred VanDorpe** - A few thoughts on the BYC booth at the SSBS. I think we had a good location. Being next to the booth that was selling cheap sunglasses and the Coast Guard Aux. generated some traffic. When I was at the booth on Thursday and on Sunday I had ten or twelve people stop by to talk. Two of the couples I spoke with showed real interest in our club.

## Venetian Night

By Director, Ken Low - BYC Venetian Night Chairman

Held each summer in late July, Venetian Night takes place on Chicago's beautiful lakefront! The highlight of the show is the waterside parade on Lake Michigan involving approximately 35 decorated boats lit up with extravagant light displays and skippered by costumed crews. This year Venetian Night will be held on **July 26<sup>th</sup>**. This is an exciting event for **ALL** club members. It shows off our club to over 750,000 people and also the Chicago media. With your help, it would be great to win "**Best Over All**" Award! This brings me to needing club members to be on the Venetian Night Committee! Right now I am looking for volunteers to serve on this FUN committee and a commitment from a member for the use of their boat to decorate for the parade. I have been involved three times previously and one time winning "Best Over All" award. We need to form our committee as quickly as possible as there is preliminary work to do once we know the theme for this year. Thank you to those members who have already signed up to be on my committee... **but we definitely need more people to make this event happen for our club.** To sign up to be on the Venetian Night Committee please contact Ken Low at 708-349-8095 (home phone) or [kenlow1@comcast.net](mailto:kenlow1@comcast.net)



## BoatU.S. Online VHF Radio Tutorial Debuts

To help boaters understand the latest advances in marine radio communication, the BoatU.S. Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water has launched a free online marine Digital Selective Calling (DSC) VHF radio tutorial for anyone interested in the new technology. Funded by a grant from the U.S. Coast Guard, the online tutorial, "Can You Hear Me?" is designed to educate boaters on all of the basics of DSC VHF radios. By broadcasting your exact Mayday location with the simple push of one button, new DSC VHF radios give recreational boaters and the U.S. Coast Guard enhanced search and rescue capabilities. By understanding how these radios work, boaters will be able to take advantage of the latest innovations in search and rescue technology. Topics covered include emergency signaling, how to install a DSC VHF radio and an overview of the U.S. Coast Guard's "Rescue 21" program. The tutorial is located at <http://www.BoatUS.com/MMSI>. While the majority of fixed-mount VHF radios available today have the DSC feature, most boaters have not registered their radio in order to get the unique calling number - much like a telephone phone number - called an Maritime Mobile Service Identity or MMSI number. The tutorial also covers this process, which is free through BoatU.S. Equally important is connecting the radio to a GPS so that vessel location is broadcast with a distress call. No special computer program is needed to view the seven-part tutorial and it's compatible with both PC and Mac formats. A viewer can stop the tutorial at any point and return to the same spot later on.



The BoatU.S. Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water is a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit education and research organization primarily funded by the voluntary contributions of the 670,000 members of BoatU.S. The Foundation operates more than a dozen programs including the only accredited, free, online general boating safety course, a low-cost EPIRB rental program, the "Help Stop the Drops" national clean fueling campaign, a free kid's Life Jacket Loaner Program, and has awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants for nonprofit groups for boating safety and environmental projects.

→ "Bravery is being the only one who knows you're afraid." - David Hackworth ←

## The Mack Waits for Spring

These photos taken by Past Commodore **Chuck Goes** paint a blue and chilly picture of our poor little club ship as she waits faithfully for us to return to her in the spring. Rear Commodore **John Graneto** plans to spruce her up before the harbor and the club reopens for the 2008 summer season. Stay tuned for the dates from John when you will be asked to help give the old girl a fresh face for the year.



## Congratulations Capt. Charlotte Mullen



Kudos to Charlotte for completing her U.S.C.G. Captain license in February. Although she said we do not have to call her Captain Charlotte now, she did explain what a challenging experience studying and taking the test was, and how the test has given her a much deeper understanding of the potential complexities of safely navigating her vessel in unfamiliar waters. Congratulations Charlotte on completing the demanding standards set by the Coast Guard.

From a contact he made at Strictly Sail, Commodore **Jim Sanderson** is looking into arranging a private class for BYC members who would be interested in getting their own Captain license either for the in-depth knowledge it affords (as Charlotte did), or for commercial profit sailing the seven seas – or the five inland seas. Contact Comm. Jim if you are interested in more information about this great opportunity to expand your understanding of the ways of the mariners.

→ Money will buy a fine dog, but only kindness will make him wag his tail ←

## Belmont Yacht Club March 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 • Scott Baumgartner's Birthday	10 • Tim Harrington's Birthday	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 • 7:00 pm -9:00 pm : Board of Directors Meeting	19 • Jill Garrett's Birthday	20	21	22 • Low's Anniversary
23	24	25	26	27 • 5:45 pm -9:00 pm : CYA Meeting	28	29
30	31 • All Memberships EXPIRE					

