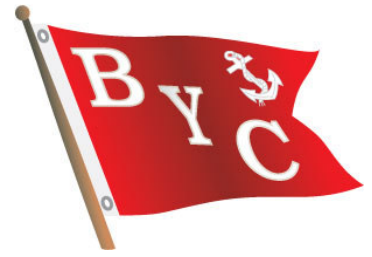


Boulder Yacht Club Boulder Bits



Bits and Pieces. Some Noteworthy; none newsworthy.

Vol. XXXII/No. 3

<http://www.boulderyc.org>

March 2009



Incoming & Outgoing
Commodore



BYC Officers of 2009
receive their Officer's flags

The No-Boat Regatta means a lot of things to the Boulder Yacht Club members. It is a time that we reward members for their achievements of last year, recognize the work that last years officers did to make these achievements possible, install the new officers for the new year, and just have fun. Most of all we have fun at a time when sailing is not available to most of us, and this year's regatta was a great one. Reports by the retiring officers proved that BYC was again ready for another good year. Racing awards went to: dry sail class Thorston Schaeette (Thor's Hammer) 1st place, Bill Mika (Valdez) 2nd Place; wet sail class Steve Kratchman (Casa Cita II) 1st place, Dave Renard (Sailing Fox) 2nd place. Having so many exploits with club members at moonlight sailing The Seaman Ship Award was given to Schmidty. Jeff Morrison who is always there to help everyone was awarded the Achievement Award. All of these sailors were deserving of their awards. Dave Grimes, the Tradewinds Commodore spoke about our two clubs working together to make this sailing season better. The marina management talked about his plans to improve the facilities at the marina. Oh I almost forgot we had good food, good music and of course good dancing. When you get all of these things together with sailors you also get good stories but I think you know that. Thank you Gary and Margaret for a great No-Boat.

---COMMODORE'S COMMENTS---

Thanks to all of BYC for the warm welcome as commodore, I am looking forward to seeing you this spring, and putting your boats in. That's right your commodore will be putting your boats in, pretty kew!! Remember this spring, when you see the moonlight flag, come sail with us. We can have moonlight regattas any time we want, and we will, so come and join us irie mon.

See at the BOAT LIFT, irie mon.
Vice Commodore Schmidty
314-704-0177 or schmidtw_sail@yahoo.com



Flag
by
Sharon
Schmidt

---FROM THE VICE COMMODORE---

Hello BYC Sailors

It was very nice to see everyone at the No Boat, it was a great party and I had a lot of fun. Maggie and Gary, you did a fantastic job. The little wine glasses for everyone to keep were a very nice idea. We do have some of those wine glasses left, if you are interested in having a couple more let me know. They are \$3.00 a piece or 6 for \$15.00.

I hope everyone had a chance to see the new BYC Ship Store collection, which was displayed at the No Boat. If you did not see your size or color, please let me know and I will get it for you. If you weren't at the No Boat the same items were an attachment in last months bits.

I am looking forward to warmer weather so we finally can get the new season started. It will be a pleasure to work together with all the new officers. Being voted in as your new vice commodore has a nice little bonus for me I finally outrank my husband.

See you at the Marina
Ulli Schaette Vice Commodore
ulli-24@hotmail.com

---FROM THE SECRETARY/TREASURER---

Hello fellow BYC'ers. Well, it's out with the old and in with the new. Seasons, that is. We're now in the BYC 2009 season. And, last weekend's No-Boat Regatta was a way to end it with a bang! Great time. Had 72 in attendance. Wish we'd had everyone from the club there.

A quick run-down on the numbers for the 2008-year:

Cash Flow

	Expense	Revenue	Total	Bank Accounts	
Parties	(\$6,488)	\$6,804	\$316	Checking	\$5,381
Racing	(\$278)	\$315	\$37	Savings	\$1,022
General & Ship's Store	(\$3,465)	\$3,881	\$416	SubTotal	\$6,403
Totals	(\$10,231)	\$11,000	\$769		

Debts

Leukemia Society	(\$1,500)	Balance after debts	\$4,903
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Things are looking good for 2009. We have 41 renewed members and 7 new members. Since the last Bits, we've had 4 new families join BYC: Andrew Strebler and Tracy Krieg, and their children Alyssa, Abigail, and Drew. They have a Hunter 24, "Compramise". Hopefully I didn't misspell their boat's name.

We also want to welcome the new MacGregor owners, Nickolas & Leslie McKenzie, with their children Kenzie and Russ. They will be sailing on "Beare Amare", their MacGregor 22.

We'll see more of Cindy Cohoon, our marina office manager, at the parties, since she's now a BYC member! Maybe we can talk her and her husband Larry into going on a night sail. I'm sure her munchkins Austin, Ashlen, and Garrison will want to go.

Last, but not least is Timothy Schleper with his children Will, Andrew, and Bennett. They should have plenty of room on "The Bonny Sue", their 42' Houseboat. Now, that would be fun on a sunset cruise. Hint, hint

Hope to see y'all at the lake soon.
Rob Schmidt BYC Secretary / Treasurer
Schmidt Happens....
Rschmidt63025@gmail.com

-----THE SOCIAL CHAIR -----

The 2009 Sailing Season and Spring Events are approaching. Probably not fast enough for most of us. It may seem odd to some, but I actually look forward to spring and my list of boat projects needing attention. Not that waxing the boat is fun but it provides an opportunity to get to better acquainted with other Sailors in the harbor chipping away at their projects and to try some of the ideas I heard at this years No-Boat. Exchanging ideas and experiences reveals the great sense of community I find quite common at Boulder. These common interests and that sense of community is no doubt where Sailors find some of the appeal in our hobby. Our community is growing thanks to Schmidty. He has leased slips to many new people. Be sure to extend a warm welcome to the new boaters and encourage them to get involved in our Yacht Club and Social Events. Our first event, "The Spring Thaw and Flea Market" is a couple of months away. The off-season is a good time to look over items we don't need any more. They clutter our garages and boats and are hidden away in dock boxes. Do some Spring-cleaning. These blocks and bits can find new life with other Sailors. Who knows, maybe some of us will actually start parking in our garages again. Dig deep and participate in the Flea Market this year.

If you have questions, comments or need information about this year's events please contact me by E-mail at Morrison.jeff@ymail.com

Jeff Morrison, Social Chair

----FROM THE RACE CHAIR----

Here we go

Racers and non-racers had a super good time alike at the No Boat Regatta. The keen observer must have overheard endless stories about how this race was won (or lost) and that race situation was out of this world, and in general that we can't wait much longer to line our boats up and go racing. This alone should get any fence sitter out on the water and come out and play with us. But there is more to racing, it makes better sailors, not just faster sailors but safer sailors as well. When everything fits it's like a ballet of boats trying to get around a mark or vying for positions..... It's beautiful.

I hear the voices in the background about not having the right boat or the right sail or not the cleanest bottom and the excuses are long ... fast backward a couple years back: After a hiatus for several decades we got a 24 foot cabin boat. On our second time out on that boat (My wife's second time on ANY sailboat) we joined our first race. We were so slow that before we even reached the marks the race was over and the marks got picked up while we were still "racing". We somehow continued racing and before you knew it were doing pretty well. That proves that ANYBODY can race and have a great time. That's actually the only really important part of BYC racing: Having FUN (preferably lots of it) C'mon out and join us..In the meantime go to the Club Website, print out a racing declaration, fill it out and mail it to me. If you don't know something on the form, don't worry; just fill in as much information as possible and we will find the rest.

Thanks Thor
Cu on the lake
Thor BYC RC

p.s. while at the No Boat did you check out the cool folding bike donated from www.thorusa.com to the BYC Race Program??? And did you ask me how you can win it?

---BYC FLOTSAM & JETSAM---

STRICTLY SAIL – CHICAGO- by RICK HUMPHREY

For those of us who attended the 2009 edition of Strictly Sail in Chicago we were welcomed with frigid temperatures that made us all yearn for warm breezes to sail by. For Eileen and I this was our first visit to Strictly Sail and we had a wonderful time. We took AMTRAK out of Alton and with some beverages made our way to the Windy City.



The show was interesting although there was a major gap between trailer-able day sailors and 30+ footers. I got used to just slinging my shoes over my shoulder from boat to boat since you had to remove your street shoes before going aboard.

There were plenty of vendors to see as well and we took the advice of another sailing

couple from Portage de Sioux, whom we met on the train, which suggested that we tour the boats on Friday and then come back for the vendors on Saturday. They were right on as the lines on Saturday to see the interior of the boats were very long indeed.

We are looking forward to Double "D" sporting a new helm seat/cushion, perhaps a composite cockpit table, and a supply of Sham-Wows. WOW!

At this point I don't know if we will return for Strictly Sail next year but I'm sure we will at some point. The combination of good times in Chicago and dreaming about boats I can't afford in the middle of winter is hard to pass up. Come on spring!

Note that even power boaters enjoyed themselves.



----Spring BOAT Jobs---

Prepping your sails during winter keeps you from crisis while sailing is an article from Dave Miller of North's Vancouver sail loft. Spring is finally here, and its time to get your sails ready for a trouble free season. When "spring commissioning" your sails, the most important thing is to catch and correct minor problems before they escalate into serious damage to your sails. Here's how to get your sails off to a good start. (Buy new ones! Steve)

COMPLETE CHECKOVER: You or your sail maker should carefully check every part of your boats sails for signs of chafe, small tears, frayed stitching, and worn hardware. (note: if small "strings" at edges are hanging and they are not dangerously allowing separation of threads, use a soldering gun or a match to carefully melt them back. SK)

Clean and Rig: Masts and standing rigging accumulate a surprising amount of grime that is transferred onto the sails, turning them dirty as well as getting into the cloth's weave and cut into sail fibers. Go aloft in a bosun's chair or clean your rig before it's stepped. This is also a good time to inspect the rig for cracked swages and missing cotter pins. Be sure to clean the mast slot, where grime and aluminum particles, attracted by lubricants, tend to gum up the mast track and stain the sail.

Minimize Chafe: Take every step you can to reduce chafe points on your boat. Cover spreader ends (with tape, leather or plastic boots), and cover sharp points on everything from mast lights to mast-mounted radar domes to turnbuckles. If stanchions are a problem for your headsail, consider having a "pulpit patch" added to the headsail. (Note: this would be an extra sacrificial patch at the bottom of the genoa or jib similar to the patch at the spreaders...if you have them. SK)

Ultraviolet Cover-up: Make sure that your boat's sail covers completely cover the sails. Even a few inches of exposed sail (if the sail cover is too short, has shrunk, or is not tied off properly), can result in significant sun damage.

Ultraviolet Protection: Check the roller-furling cover on your boat's headsail to make sure that it is doing its job. If the cover is frayed or has holes, its time to renew your "sun block" (Note: Patches can be applied using glue or hand-stitching if you have the patience, or give it to a sail maker. Cheap insurance against buying a new sail prematurely. SK)

Roll It Right: It sounds obvious, but when you rig your boat's roller-furling line, make sure that it rolls up the headsail so that the sun cover is on the outside, where it should be. Every year we see roller-furled headsails with UV damage by being rolled up the wrong way.

Minimize Mildew: Your sails are more prone to attract mildew if they are dirty or coated with salt. Keeping them clean reduces the chance that mildew get a foothold. Rinse the salt off your sails, use a mild detergent and soft brush to clean them, and dry your sails before rolling them up or covering them.

Got a question about sails: <http://na.northsails.com/cruising>

Sails/SolutionsForSailors.htm

Note: Much of the above information can apply to general maintenance of your whole boat. If its fabric, keeping it clean and by treating it with a protectant can double its life, especially if you patch the holes or rips as they happen. If its mechanical, protecting it with tape or lubricating it with a greaseless type of lubricant can eliminate or at least minimize wear and extend your happy boating experience. You might check lines and tubes in the engine compartment as well as your pressurized water system for crossover lines that may chafe from vibration. No end of problems can be a result of this kind of wear. And if its electrical the only lubrication is keeping all wiring, contacts, and switches clean. You can wipe these off, you can use an electrical contact cleaner, or you can use a protectant for electrical contacts. The slightest bit of contamination or corrosion on a sensitive electrical contact point can kill it and ruin the day. Remember the day you needed your flashlight left on the boat over winter and it would not work? Probably all that was really needed was to wipe off the contacts and to the batteries with some alcohol or electrical cleaner (most of which are alcohol based, anyway)

After reading and digesting the above, did you think owning and caring for a boat was simple and easy? GET REAL! It is a time consuming reality that if you really want to enjoy your boat, be it motor or sail, or rowing, it is an investment of time, equipment, and materials. A lot of research and manual labor and it is what keeps the boating community connected because we all thrive on it and help one another achieve the best results for each other.

May this spring bring out all those who truly love the water and cannot get enough of it so we can see each other every weekend possible if not each day on the docks. (This could only be for those of us who are happily retired) Steve Kratchman (a.k.a. SK)

Caulking is a springtime job, but which caulk to use? Silicone has low adhesion but is highly cohesive, which means it holds together to form a custom-made gasket. Silicone is useful for bedding things like plastic ports (Plexiglas, Lexan, PVC), which will craze when used with the stickier sealants—polysulfide or polyurethane. When a fitting is bedded with silicone, five years is probably the most you should expect before it starts leaking. Because silicone contains talc, which absorbs water, it should never be used below the waterline.

Polysulfide has far better adhesion than silicone and, like silicone, is flexible. It also resists chemical cleaners and solvents, which is why its used on teak decks. Once cured, polysulfide can be sanded and painted. Leaks typically start when the polysulfide dries out and begins cracking. All things being equal, polysulfide will last longer up north than in the steamy tropics. It will also last longer on a white-hulled boat than on a boat with a dark hull. Aside from causing crazing on plastic fittings, the one other drawback to using polysulfide is that it's extremely messy to work with (an understatement). We'll go out on a limb and say that as a general rule, polysulfide can be expected to last eight to 10 years. Polyurethane, a sealant/adhesive, forms a powerful bond and repairers warn against using it with any fitting that may have to be removed. Manufacturers at the hull/deck joint and on the keel often use polyurethane's. Check the tensile strength to get an idea of how hard a fitting will be to remove. As for longevity, it could last for many years. You'd better hope so, because you probably won't be able to get the fitting off to renew the caulk. (BOAT US ARTICLE)

UPCOMING EVENTS

The 2009 Sailing Season----anytime you want to start

April 25th Spring Thaw and Flea Market
 May 16th Wine Tasting Social and Recognition
 to BYC New Members

Spring Rush Distance Race CB : none needed
 BYC Race 1 Championship CB : Gaile Force

EDITOR'S NOTE

As editor and a member to Boulder Yacht Club I would like to thank last years officers for the superfluous job they did. Our party and race participation improved and that makes for a fun year. Remember these jobs are by volunteers that have real jobs to do also. If you see an error in the club roster or in the *Bits*, just send an E-mail to myself, Bill Schmidt, mail address magicdragon1@prodigy.net or Rob Schmidt at Rschmidt63025@gmail.com and we will set you up to receive the *E-Bits*. I don't know why I put this in here but the **deadline** for the next (April) issue of the Boulder Bits is **3/25/2009**. We encourage everyone to send articles of interest to share with us. I know I will get articles on time this year.

Bill Schmidt, Editor magicdragon1@prodigy.net

OFFICERS	
<i>Commodore</i>	Bill (Schmidty) Schmidt
<i>Vice-Commodore</i>	Ulli Schaeette
<i>Secretary-Treasurer</i>	Rob Schmidt
Race Chairman	Thorston Schaeette
<i>Social Committee Chairpersons</i>	Jeff Morrison
<i>Historians</i>	Sharon Schmidt & Laurel Juenger
<i>Boulder Bits Editor</i>	Bill Schmidt
<i>Webmaster</i>	Rob Schmidt
<i>Co-Webmaster</i>	
<i>Social Ambassador</i>	Susanne Watkins
<i>Fire Marshal</i>	Todd Schroeder
Directors	
Chairman	Steve Kratchman
Secretary	Dave Renard
Other members	Sharon Schmidt, Kort Juenger, Gary Lopez
Web page:- http://www.boulderyc.org	

