

Boulder Yacht Club

Boulder Bits



Carlyle Lake, IL

Bits and Pieces: Some Noteworthy, None Newsworthy

April 2021

OFFICER REPORTS

FROM THE COMMODORE



After almost a week of cold rain, the sun is finally out, and I can once again begin to think about the tasks that lie ahead of me to get the boat ready for the sailing season. This year is going to be a little more difficult than most as I need to sand the entire bottom of the boat to remove multiple coats of bottom paint before I can apply the next one. The current paint has gotten too thick and is starting to peel off, and anyone who knows me understands that this is totally unacceptable. I dread this task as I know it is going to be time consuming and painful; my back is hurting just thinking about it. But in the end, this is just one of the many tasks that is required of any boat owner. [editor's note: C'est la vie!]

As more and more boats get closer to getting put in the water, Shanna and Rusty will be getting very busy, so remember to call to make your appointment prior to getting splashed.

Hopefully everyone has remained healthy over the winter; I imagine we are all looking forward to the light at the end of the tunnel. Lynne and I received our first COVID-19 vaccinations last week and will be getting our second in a few more; hopefully in a month or so, both our girls will have gotten their shots as well so we can all enjoy socializing together once more without fear. Stay safe and healthy, and I will see you at the lake.

Tim Bira, BYC Commodore

FROM THE VICE-COMMODORE



Hello BYC members! We are fast approaching the start of the 2021 sailing season. Of course, there are those first steps of sanding, painting, waxing and general repairs that are all part of sailing. Although these chores are not as desirable as sundowners on the lake, they are a necessary part of the process.

With our boat, *GailForce*, I start with removing the cover and inspecting it for any damage from the off season. Now is a great time to get those repairs taken care of. Then I start checking for bird nests. These little guys are relentless. Over the years, I have found them in the end of my boom, so we now tape off that opening. It seems their favorite place is my anchor locker. What a mess! Even with a full boat cover in

place, they find a way to get in there and make a home. For years I went the usual route of stuffing pieces of pool noodles around the openings of my anchor locker. The birds just used them for nesting material. I think I have finally stumbled on a solution that works for me: a \$3 rubber door mat cut to the profile of my bow and weighted down with a few large rocks seems to send them to my neighbor's boat. Sorry about that, Tim! Can't wait for the season to begin!

Jeff Morrison, BYC Vice-Commodore

THE RACE CHAIR



Hello, fellow Boulderites! I hope you had a good time watching the America's Cup. It's astounding how tight the sails are even on the downwind legs; it's all about apparent wind! These boats constantly hit speeds up to 3 times the wind speed and sometimes even more. But if they drop due to a wind hole they go as slow as our boats, as happened in Race 8. But, enough daydreaming about those kinds of races; back to reality!

Tentatively, our friends at Tradewinds have their lakewide race on June 5. In the past, Cheryl and I, and several others, have done all the lakewide races as that also means hanging out with friends and staying overnight in the different marinas. It's great fun, indeed, and you get to meet fun people from across the lake as well.

Also, on June 19 is the first Cruiser Cup Race hosted by us (BYC) again this year. The Cruiser Cup is the 2nd lakewide event where we fight for points and after the second race the huge big beautiful trophy goes to the winning club. Over the past years the CC has drawn nice starter fields and BYC won in 2019. Lets get that trophy back from CYC this year. Also keep in mind that with all lakewide races you will earn points for the BYC Year End Championship. So, mark your calendars for at least one if not both events! Until then, let's get those boats ready for the new season, great spring temps, and fair winds.

Thor Schaette, BYC Race Chair

MARINA MEMOS



Hello, All! As we draw closer to the opening of the 2021 sailing season, please remember to call ahead to schedule boat launches and any other services your craft may need this year. Thank you for your consideration!

Shanna Sampson, Boulder Marina Management

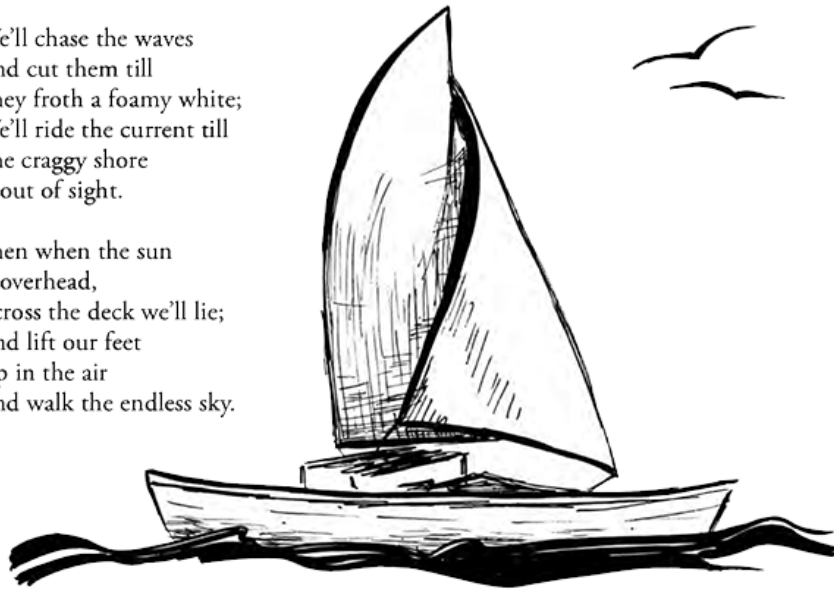
Lubber's Lines

Sailing

We're setting off
Inside our skiff
To skirr the ocean vast,
To raise the sail
And let the wind
Ballooning it from the mast.

We'll chase the waves
And cut them till
They froth a foamy white;
We'll ride the current till
The craggy shore
Is out of sight.

Then when the sun
Is overhead,
Across the deck we'll lie;
And lift our feet
Up in the air
And walk the endless sky.



Excerpt: "Suzie Bitner Was Afraid of the Drain"
By Barbara Vance at SuzieBitner.com

EDITOR'S NOTE

Thanks for reading the BYC Bits! If you'd like to contribute a story or images to an upcoming edition, please follow the instructions below.

***Submission Instructions:** send an email to bycbits@gmail.com with your article as the email body and any pictures attached as jpeg files. Event flyers may be submitted in PDF format but if you would like me to check them for errors, please attach a word/google doc instead. Items received after the 25th of each month may be held over until the next edition.



Emily Elden, BYC Bits Editor

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