



Hey Sailor!

Feeling like you're the only one in Rockford?

Well, you're not really alone in your love of sailing.

Rockford Yacht Club is an organization of sailing enthusiasts from Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin.

Camaraderie
Adventure
Social Events
Community Service
Flotillas
Chartering
Education
Fun

No experience? But a strong interest in sailing? RYC can aid you in fulfilling your dreams. We can get you sailing aboard as crew, then offer advice on a boat to meet your needs and pocketbook. We can help you learn or recommend sailing schools.

"Yachts" are any private pleasure craft; so don't let the name of the club mislead you. Sailing is not necessarily expensive. Nearly all our members are of modest means.

Some members get together and charter sailboats in Florida and the Caribbean - further great opportunities to share our common love of sailing and the nautical life.

Our monthly newsletter is called "The Bullship Log." It helps keep members abreast of club news, happenings and sharing stories of sailing adventures.

RYC also has a cooperating accord with BOAT/U.S. which offers members a 50% discount on BOAT/U.S. membership dues.

Contact Information

Commodore (2008)

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Annual Dues: \$25

Usual Meeting Location *

Harlem Township Hall

819 Melbourne Ave.

Machesney Park, IL

Third Monday each odd numbered months at 7:00 p.m. Social events held even months.

*Call one of the above to confirm location and date as there are occasional changes in date and location. Harlem Township Hall is one block south of Hwy 173 from the corner of Hwy 251 & 173 (east of Hwy 251)

Mission Statement

Rockford Yacht Club (RYC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the enjoyment of boating activities in the upper Midwest, with an emphasis on sailing. Safety, education, camaraderie, and community involvement are our primary programs and activities.

Rockford Yacht Club was formed in 1989 as an out-growth of the Rock Valley College sailing program.

Many members do not own a boat but share in "crewing" aboard other's boats. Some members have several boats of different sizes to enjoy different kinds of sailing experiences. Some even have iceboats! Our boats range from sit on top Sunfish to large keelboats suitable for long distance cruising.

Whereas many yacht clubs have a strong focus on racing - we have no racing program, although some members do race their boats in area events. The Rockford Yacht Club conducts "flotillas"... get-togethers on the water where members bring their boats, sail, share meals or dining out, and come away with a common experience.

Flotillas are scheduled from March through November, others are impromptu, when one boat owner says "I'm going..." and others join in or accompany them aboard as crewmembers or guests. Some flotillas are in conjunction with the Northwest Sailing Association, a similar club from the Northwest suburbs of Chicago.

Many members trailer their boats to nearby large lakes or distant waters - others use Pierce Lake at Rock Cut State Park or have moored boats on Lake Michigan.

A monthly meeting is held at the Harlem Township Hall in Machesney Park, IL (near the intersection of Hwy 251 & 173) generally on the third Monday of each odd numbered month at 7:00 p.m. Social events are held on even numbered months.

The meeting begins with a half-hour of eating and socializing, followed by the meeting which includes sharing of sailing experiences and a program. These meetings are usually over by 9:00. If you're running late from work - no need to rush home to eat first - we always have a hearty table set to share.

Above all, the Rockford Yacht Club is a social organization focused on enjoying the strong friendships that develop within the sailing community. RYC participates in the Winnebago County Adopt-A-Road program and other community service as well.