

Lake Pepin Sail on June 17 & 18

by Ron and Diane Carlson



It was a dark and stormy morning on Saturday, June 17. The lake Pepin Weekend sail started with the sky overcast and threatening rain. The marina was so dark, the automatic dock lights turned on at 9:00 AM!

Fortunately for us the sky lightened after the skippers meeting. About 40 crewmembers were assigned to 7 boats and we headed out onto the lake. The sun started to break out from behind the overcast, and a light breeze made for a pleasant sail the remainder of the day.

We had a cookout at Hok-Si-La Park north of Lake City. The rains again threatened when we warmed the coals and prepared for dinner. We had rented an enclosed picnic shelter so our meal was safe from mosquitoes or the rain. We thought the rain would hold off, so we carried some picnic table outside. After the tables were positioned and everyone was relaxed, you guessed it - the rain came heavy. It rained just long enough to chase us into the shelter, hauling picnic tables. Scott Woolfrey and Ron Carlson finished the grilling under a big golf umbrella.

Sunday was overcast and again looked like rain. A smaller crowd gathered at the marina. We enjoyed coffee and pastries while waiting for the weather to clear. Bob Rouda conducted the skippers meeting and crews were assembled.

Two of the boats from Pepin, WI, one skippered by Rod Martinson and one by Mary Mason sailed with a crew one-way back to their Wisconsin slips. Some skippers pulled their boats after they dried off a bit, and with the help of some other club members, were soon on their way. Thanks to Ilona Rouda, we also had an impromptu tailgate lunch before heading back to the cities.

The trip chairs want to thank all who made this another successful sailing event!

