

NORTHERN LIGHTS SAILING CLUB  
TWIN CITIES, MINNESOTA

# BEARINGS

## **Photo Contest Winner**

**Square Rigger**

**by Joan Gilmore**



# Photo Contest Second Place

## Fishing in the Sound

by Al Kracke



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**Scott's Scuttlebutt**

Ahoy NLSC Sailors!

As February unfolds, the sun begins to rise higher in the sky, our days begin to lengthen, and the bitter January temperatures begin to abate. Though we are still not free of winter's icy grip, many of us are starting to feel the itch to get back out on the water again. For some, we have already shortened the flip side of our sailing season by heading south for a warm weather respite or are planning to head to milder climes in the very near future. For others of us, we are beginning to formulate a plan of attack to get our sailboats off the hard and into the water as soon as the ice recedes and the marinas open for business. Still, perhaps there are a few of us that just gut it out and hunker down until the spring thaw.

Still... there is much to do in the cold months, even for a land-locked sailor. Perhaps it is a good time to brush up on your local boating regulations. For those in Minnesota, check out Minnesota's 2016 Boating Guide at: <http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/rfp/regulations/boatwater/boatingguide.pdf> . If you sail mostly in Wisconsin, their boating guide can be found at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/files/PDF/pubs/LE/LE0301.pdf>.

I have attended various US Power Squadron and US Coast Guard Auxiliary boating courses in the past. They are wonderful opportunities to educate yourself, as well as the whole family, at very reasonable costs... sometimes free. As most of these are taught by volunteers who have a passion for what they do, I always walk away from these courses with an added appreciation for the privilege to play in and around the Land of Ten Thousand Lakes. If you are interested, check course availability, locations, and times at: US Power Squadron courses - <http://www.usps.org/cgi-bin-nat/eddept/cfind.cgi?C> or CG Auxiliary courses - <http://wow.uscgaux.info/peclass.php?unit=113>.

Perhaps it's also time to plan a couple of summer adventures. For those with trailerable sailboats, the Minnesota DNR has a great site that allows you to get information on any lake in Minnesota, including a map showing the lake's location. If the lake is big enough, the map will also show basic bottom contour lines so you can familiarize yourself with the shallow areas. That site can be found at: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/lakefind/search.html?name=&county=27> . For those NLSCer's on Lake Superior, perhaps it is time to expand your horizons beyond the Apostle Islands or the Duluth Harbor. The Minnesota DNR also publishes a Lake Superior Guide covering the North Shore and can be downloaded at: [http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/education\\_safety/safety/boatwater/lakesup\\_boatingguide.pdf](http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/education_safety/safety/boatwater/lakesup_boatingguide.pdf) . Even if you do not plan to sail the North Shore, this publication has a very thorough water safety review,

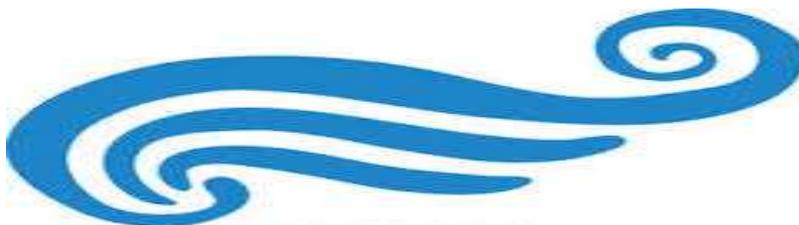
Finally, once we turn the corner and are able to get out on our specific body of water, here is an app that might come in handy. It was developed by the Coast Guard and has all sorts of resources for the boater. Check it out at: <http://www.uscg.mil/mobile/>

It's always a pleasure to start off a new year recognizing first-time members. Let me take this opportunity to give a hearty welcome aboard to Thom Burns, Michele Putahl-Burns, Bente Soderlind, Bruce Larson, Gerald Turbeville, Helen Turbeville, and Paul Maravelas. We truly look forward to seeing you and meeting you at our meetings and events!

Fair Winds,  
Scott

“Believe me, my young friend, there is nothing - absolutely nothing - half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats.”

— [Kenneth Grahame, The Wind in the Willows](#)



## February 16, 2016 Chester Bird American Legion



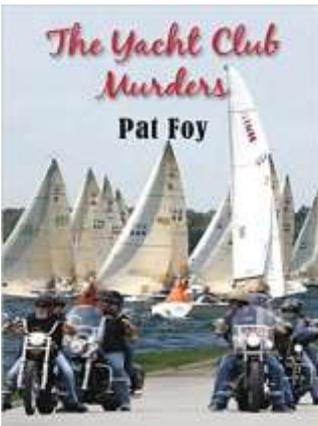
February's meeting presentation will be given by Cindy Kalow. Cindy and her husband Dick have owned Superior Charters since 2004.

Cindy will speak about the intricacies of chartering boats locally in the Apostle Islands as well as nationally and internationally. There will be time for questions about all aspects of a charter.

Don't miss this if you've ever thought about chartering.



## Recap of January NLSC Meeting By Jerry Sicard



During January's monthly meeting, we discussed some winter sailing getaways (check the website for details). Joan Gilmore told us about our booth and volunteer opportunities for the Minneapolis Boat Show being held later in the week. 4 Minutes 4 Safety by Paul Ciernia covered one of our favorite things – WIND- and how to measure it by observing wave conditions and heights using the Beaufort Wind Force Scale. Copies of the Power Point presentation are available by contacting Paul at [cierpc@comcast.net](mailto:cierpc@comcast.net).

Local sailor and author Patrick Foy Patrick shared some of his 3000 photos of Lake Minnetonka taken over his years of sailing and racing mostly with the Wayzata Yacht Club. Patrick told us how he wrote *The Yacht Club Murders* (his first book). He was a little mysterious in telling us about the plot as he didn't want to spoil our enjoyment of reading the book. The following is taken from Amazon's website:

“Set largely on the bucolic shores of Lake Minnetonka, and charged with the excitement of amateur regattas, *The Yacht Club Murders* soon brings readers face to face with a series of dark deeds involving murder, romance, motorcycle gangs, and drug deals gone bad, with the Wayzata police and the FBI never far out of sight. The sailing is thrilling, the love triangle is poignant and fiery by turns, and the mystery surrounding the discovery of a body buried on the yacht club grounds grows deeper by the page.”

## The Evolution of Risk Management By Scott Woolfrey, Commodore

The Northern Lights Sailing Club was founded in 1995 by a small number of Twin Cities' sailors who wanted to share their love of sailing and perhaps plan trips they could not otherwise afford or execute on their own. In the ensuing three decades, NLSC has grown to over 250 members who enjoy a wide variety of sailing related events locally, nationally, and internationally. Additionally, the club has accumulated considerable cash assets. Along with growth and diversity of sailing opportunities comes increased exposure to a variety of risks that could significantly impact the club as well as its individual members. Without the correct defensive plan in place, one significant event could tear apart what has taken many years to build.

As a result of concerns raised among members of the club and findings during a Club Operational Review, the Board of Directors has been consulting with an attorney and a number of independent insurance providers to research risk and liability mitigation approaches. After much discussion, a comprehensive, three pronged approach to mitigate harm to the club and its members has been approved by your Board. The first prong introduces a new, comprehensive disclaimer that serves to indemnify the club, its members, and its officers from legal actions that may be brought to claim in a court of law. The second prong reclassifies trips and events and how they are managed. And finally, NLSC now subscribes to a limited General Liability Insurance coverage plus a Directors & Officers Insurance coverage. Taken in whole, NLSC's new risk management program will better serve to protect our assets as well as protect individual members.

**Club Disclaimer.** Under the guidance of our lawyer, the club's disclaimer (Mutual Release of Liability) has been completely revised and is now much more comprehensive. The release will serve to increase protections for both the club as a whole and each member within the club. To ensure a member understands its significance, the disclaimer must be reviewed and signed annually (both members in a joint membership) to initiate or maintain membership in NLSC.

**NLSC Trips.** In order to advertise a NLSC trip, the trip must meet all the requirements of a "Sponsored" trip as described on the NLSC website and be reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors. A "shared" trip (NLSC and another club join together for a trip) must also meet the requirements of a "Sponsored" trip before being offered to club members.

The major change in our trip management is that NLSC will no longer offer "Endorsed" trips. Recall that historically, "Endorsed" trips were approved by the Trip Chair and the Board of Directors even though they may not have met the stringent financial and safety threshold of those trips which were "Sponsored" by the club. Instead, many of these trips will be offered to NLSC members as "Sailing Opportunities". These trips do not meet the requirements of NLSC "Sponsored" trips and will not be reviewed or approved by the Board of Directors. Some examples of "Sailing Opportunities" may include:

1. A trip or event that is offered where the sponsor would receive compensation above reasonable expenses.
2. A trip that does not include sailing.
3. A trip that is open to non-members (other than a "Shared" trip with another sailing club.)
4. A trip or event that is offered by a sailing school.

These may be superb sailing opportunities; however, because the Board of Directors does not review or approve the trip, participants assume full responsibility for their decision to participate in the trip and absolve NLSC of all liability. At this time, the plan is for NLSC to only advertise “sailing opportunities” offered by club members in good standing. However, the NLSC Trip Chair and other committee members are currently reviewing trip policy that may include additional provisions in the future.

Posted “Sailing Opportunities” will be required to have a disclaimer. You will see the following disclaimer in this and subsequent issues of Bearings ahead of the “Sailing Opportunities” chart.

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### NLSC Sailing Opportunity Disclaimer

Northern Lights Sailing Club is neither endorsing nor guaranteeing any aspect of any Sailing Opportunity and accepts no liability. Any loss, damage, death, or personal injury that may occur as a result of your participation in these Sailing Opportunities is not the responsibility of Northern Lights Sailing Club.

Your decision to take part in any Sailing Opportunity is your responsibility. You are solely responsible for your own safety, whether afloat or ashore, and nothing reduces this responsibility.

- It is for you to decide whether the boat is fit to sail in the conditions.
  - It is for you to decide whether the skipper(s) and/or crew members are competent to sail.
  - You are reminded to always comply with the safety requirements commensurate with the sea area in which you intend to cruise.
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**Insurance Coverage.** To mitigate exposure to financial risk to the club’s assets, NLSC has purchased a limited General Liability Insurance policy. With this in mind, sailboat owners who use their own vessels for NLSC events should ensure that they have adequate insurance on their vessels. Likewise, any member chartering a vessel should ensure the charter company provides adequate insurance or the charterer should consider obtaining enough insurance to cover the event. In addition, the club has purchased a Director’s & Officer’s insurance plan to minimize risk and protect those individuals who volunteer in leadership positions.

Given the size and scope that NLSC has grown to over the past decades, the Board of Directors believes that this comprehensive three pronged approach to risk management will minimize exposure to legal harm as well as protect individual members thus positioning the club for many years to come, making your experience within the club enjoyable and worry free.



# Tri-Club Social Event by Joan Gilmore and Marilynn Kaplan



The place to be on Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup> was a really crowded, noisy condo party room in Uptown. The Twin Cities Sailing Club, Upper Minnetonka Yacht Club, and Northern Lights Sailing Club enjoyed a joint social event hosted by a member of the TCSC. The event was well attended with NLSC represented by over 20 members. Camaraderie was aided by a potluck buffet and lots of fun sailing stories. The UMYC presented a slide show on their programs, amongst loud heckling from the onlookers. Our NLSC members had a fun time mingling and spreading the word about the great trips

and fellowship that NLSC has to offer. Guests were particularly interested in our *Spar of the Moment* program. Putting members of three of the Twin Cities' most popular sailing clubs together generated plenty of energy and fun, even on this hard-water day in winter.



**Minneapolis Boat Show by Joan Gilmore**



NLSC members were out in force at our booth at the Minneapolis Boat Show January 20-24, 2016 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. We got many interested visitors, with nearly twice as many entries in our free membership raffle as last year.

Thanks to Jackie Carlson for lending her pond yacht to the display. Thank you Jean Van Tatenhove for providing the wonderful signage, including the new Tahiti poster. Thanks to set up and tear down crew: Nancy & Al Kracke, Jake Hipsman, Tris Tupa & Steve Loscheider, and Joan Gilmore & Jake Smith.

And thank you booth volunteers: Judy & Paul Mondloch, Daryl Clark, Kathy & Paul Cierna, Bill Graham, Debra & Scott Woolfrey, Margo Bles, Sharon Sorensen, Elliott Marston, Tom Embertson, Gary Charbs, Jerry Sicard, Kevin Shinler, Tom Cronmiller, Jennifer Adrian, Jose Ayala, Diana & Mark Abbott, Jay Biggs, Lary Flessland, Sara McGlynn, Dorothy Zimmerman, Lyle & Ron Carlson, Kim Wright, Tim & Rachel Suggs, Martin Zalusky, Claire White, Joyce Butler, Audrey Kramer, Mike Sawinski, Bente Soderlind, Jake Hipsman.



L to R: Audrey Kramer, Joyce Butler, Bente Soderlind, Mike Sawinski, Joan Gilmore



Captain Jack Sparrow attempts to shanghai NLSC member Jose Ayala.



**Winter on White Bear Lake**  
**By Marilynn Kaplan**



Those who sail on White Bear Lake during the summer months may be interested in what goes on during the winter. For 10 years, Art Shanty Projects has organized a month-long festival on a frozen lake. Fishing shacks become works of art. The 2016 Art Shanty Project is taking place on White Bear Lake every weekend during February, 2016. You can watch as artists transform their shacks into works of art and/or come to see the finished projects. The program is free and open to the public Saturdays and Sundays, 10am-4pm. Entrance to the exhibit is easy from the Ramsey County Memorial Beach launch near Hwy 96 and Hwy 61. For more info: [artshantyprojects.org](http://artshantyprojects.org)



Suggestion: Go in the morning. It gets very crowded by noon with limited available parking at the beach.

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**Save the date for our annual Trip Night!**



Our annual NLSC Trip Night is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, March 15. Members will have the opportunity to learn about many local and international trips being planned for the upcoming sailing year.

Please mark the date and join the organizers of the trips as they present details regarding each of these fun sailing opportunities.

## Membership Renewal **LAST REMINDER!!!**

For those of you who have already renewed your membership, you can stop reading!  
If you haven't renewed, you need to do it now to maintain your status as an active member for 2016 (exception: those who joined after Sept. 1, 2015 as their membership carries over through 2016).

Those who **have not renewed by February 28th** will have their names removed from the active list, as well as from the NLSC Yahoo Group (through which all Club communication takes place), and NLSC Meetup. Also, you will not be allowed to sign up for Club sponsored trips if you are not an active member. It also makes more work as you will need to fill out the whole application again, giving your information, experience level, etc.

**Note: February 28<sup>th</sup> will be the final day** that members can renew online and pay their membership dues via PayPal.

There are two ways to renew your membership:

**Online:** You can go on the Club web site at [www.nlsc.org](http://www.nlsc.org) and log in. If you don't remember your member ID/password, there are instructions in green on the login page to help you. When successfully logged in, you will see **New! NLSC Online Membership Renewal 2016**. Click on that link and you will be guided through the steps to renew.

**Paper:** If you wish to use a paper application to renew instead, click on [NLSC Membership](#) located on the left sidebar on the web site home page and you will find the printable application/renewal form in either Adobe pdf or MS Word doc format. After filling in your name and other information, if it has changed, sign the disclaimer (both need to sign if it is a dual membership) and mail the application in, along with a check for \$30 single/\$45 dual, to the P.O. Box address on the application.

If you have any questions, please contact: [Membership@NLSC.org](mailto:Membership@NLSC.org)

## Soggy Dollar Radio is Online



Soggy Dollar Bar is broadcasting the rhythms of Jost Van Dyke free online. If you need a break from winter, close your eyes, listen, and pretend you're lounging on a beautiful beach in the BVI.

[www.soggydollarradio.com](http://www.soggydollarradio.com)

The Soggy Dollar Bar is home to the original Painkiller drink - a delicious mix of pineapple juice, orange juice, cream of coconut, rum, and topped with fresh nutmeg. Most sailors access the beach by walking or swimming in from their anchorage (with soggy dollars in their pockets).



## Sponsored Trips and Meetings

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION
Club Meeting	Feb 16, 2016	7pm	Chester Bird Am Legion 200 N. Lilac Drive GV 55422	Club Meeting Cindy Kalow, Superior Charters
Board Meeting	Feb 23, 2016	6:30	Davanni's Golden Valley or TBD	Board meeting All NLSC members welcome
Club Meeting	March 15, 2016	7pm	Chester Bird Am Legion 200 N. Lilac Drive GV 55422	Club Meeting Trip Night

## Sailing Opportunities

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Your decision to take part in any Sailing Opportunity is your responsibility. You are entirely responsible for your own safety, whether afloat or ashore, and nothing reduces this responsibility.

- It is for you to decide whether the boat is fit to sail in the conditions.
- It is for you to decide whether the skipper(s) and/or crew members are competent to sail.
- You are reminded to always comply with the safety requirements commensurate with the sea area in which you intend to cruise.

Basic Cruising and Bareboat Chartering ASA 103&104	Mar 30-April 5, 2016	Departing from Tortola, British Virgin Islands	Joan Gilmore captainjoan@mac.com
Bareboat Chartering and Cruising Catamaran ASA 104&114	April 6-11, 2016	Departing from Tortola, British Virgin Islands	Joan Gilmore captainjoan@mac.com
Canal Boat Trip	June 18-25, 2016	Strasbourg, France	Jerry Sicard gtsicard@gmail.com
Apostle Islands	July 22-24, 2016	Depart from Apostle Islands Marina Bayfield, WI	Tom Embertson tembertson@comcast.net
French Polynesia/Tahiti trip	Sept 1-15, 2016	Departing from Uturoa on island of Raiatea	Jay Biggs Sailor1590@yahoo.com

**Let's Go Sailing!**

### NLSC Board of Directors



Scott Woolfrey	Commodore
Randy Baumgartner	Vice Commodore
Al Kracke	Purser
Kim Wright	Secretary
Joan Gilmore	Education Chair
Barbara Chapman	Membership Chair
Jerry Sicard	Meetings & Program Chair
Marilynn Kaplan	Newsletter Editor
Debra Woolfrey	Promotions and Marketing Chair
Jay Biggs	Trip Chair
Jake Smith	Webmaster
Robert Mayer	Historian

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Editorial contributions may be submitted by email to Marilyn Kaplan at [zypta46@gmail.com](mailto:zypta46@gmail.com). If possible, format should be MS Word, Times New Roman 12, with left alignment. Please embed photos and attach as jpg. Copy is due no later than the fourth Friday of the month for the next month's publication. Please include a phone number. Newsletter content, placement, and format of articles is at the discretion of the NLSC Board/Newsletter editor.

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Northern Lights Sailing Club meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m., January through May and October through November. The meeting location is the Chester Bird American Legion, 200 N. Lilac Drive, Golden Valley, 55422.

Summer meetings are potluck dinners held at members' homes. Meeting locations are listed in *Bearings* and on the NLSC website, [www.nlsc.org](http://www.nlsc.org).

E-mail us at [nlsc\\_mail@yahoo.com](mailto:nlsc_mail@yahoo.com).