



Konza Sailor

Official Newsletter of the Blue Valley Yacht Club

Founded 1963

Post Office Box 961, Manhattan, Kansas 66505

<http://www.bluevalleyyachtclub.org/>

Volume 2009, Issue 3

Konza Sailor

July 2009



A bit of fog at sunrise. Photo by Ron Frey

Let's Go Sailing

Ron Frey, BVYC Commodore

Several days ago, I stopped at Bottgers in Junction City to get some boating supplies for our upcoming trip to the Apostle Islands in Lake Superior. I was reminiscing with the owner about his days when his business was located in Manhattan and he reminded me of how fortunate we are to have a lake close to Manhattan. And yes, we are fortunate to have Tuttle Creek in our back yard, making it convenient to enjoy our sport of sailing. I would imagine that many of us would not be sailing if it weren't for the lake being so close.

But it seems that the sailing activity at BVYC is down this year. There are always unfortunate things that happen to us, preventing us from sailing. Our lives get so busy with work and other family activities that require our time, thus interfering with sailing time.

Sometimes it doesn't take much time on our sailboat for Linda and me to satisfy our need to be on the water. We sometimes just go out to the boat, have coffee, read, enjoy a sunset, and that hour or so satisfies our need.

Several activities are planned yet at the Club. They are listed on the Calendar and through upcoming e-mails. We hope you can participate in those activities, but if you can find any free time, spend it sailing! The sailing season is probably about half over and hopefully we will have a beautiful fall, giving us three or four months yet to enjoy our lake.

Notes From Bob Mullen

SAFETY:

As the lake level recedes there is often a slippery surface at the water's edge. There have been past injuries from nasty falls and one recorded fall this year. Luckily there were not serious injuries.

A reminder--In case of minor injuries a first aid kit is located on the left (east) wall of the BVYC shed. Jane has updated it a bit and added a red cross for easier identification. We added several steristrips (butterflies) which can be used in place of or until stitches! We hope, of course, that it will be there for insurance and not really needed.

CLUB FOLIAGE:

The grounds always look so fresh after Ron has mowed and trimmed. But a word of thanks to a couple of Sea Scout parents who eliminated many of the pesky weeds from the flower gardens last weekend. Jen Martin, sower of the seeds, arrived as the helpful mom was tackling the entrance garden and together, the garden was put ship shape. Any person at the club can do a bit to beautify the grounds. A special thanks to those who do their part, especially the Scout Ship parents.

And by the way... the trees on the club grounds are really looking good. They were planted and nurtured by Teresa Yeary more than a dozen years ago. She is still a member in abstention who would be pleased to see the results of her labor.

Board of Directors

Commodore	Ron Frey 785-537-8464
Vice Commodore	Wayne Martin 785-468-3541
Rear Commodore	Matt Loyd 785-539-3156
Treasurer	Maarten van Swaay 785-539-5439
Secretary	Daryl Strouts 785-776-2005
Racing Chairman	Jonathan Mahorney 785-320-6791
Social Chairperson	Jim Crespino 785-537-2541

Newsletter Editor

Daryl Strouts
1608 Plymouth Road
Manhattan, KS 66503

Telephone: 785-776-2005
Email: dskcia@kansas.net

Unless carrying a byline or some form of credit to borrowed sources, all items in this newsletter are by the editor and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Club or the Board of Directors. All photos in the bulletin are by the editor, unless otherwise identified.

All members of the Club are encouraged to submit articles for inclusion to the newsletter.



Optis Under Construction

Many club members gather on Thursday evenings to build Opti-prams for the Blue Valley Youth Sailing Foundation. Here, four of the prams are on their sides as they wait for epoxy and fiberglass to be applied to the mast support.

There is still work to be done. Contact Matt Loyd for the next time and place and come help. Photo by Maarten van Swaay

Editorial

By Daryl Strouts, BVYC secretary

Many hands make the work light. We've all heard this phrase before. At the Blue Valley Yacht Club, it has truth.

I've noticed several things happened in the last month or two that may have gone unnoticed by many. That's because there are several silent sailors who just see something that needs to be done and they do it.

Have you noticed the flowers in the boat by the entrance or up by the shelter? It was hard to see that there were any flowers there because the weeds had grown so tall and thick. Not any more. Thanks to those that jumped in and cleaned up those areas for the enjoyment of all.

Have you noticed the poles holding up the BVYC sign near the gate? Probably not. The sign was still standing, but the poles had become rusted. Not any more. They are now sporting a new coat of paint. Thanks to the couple that ventured to the club one evening to accomplish this task.

Have you used the John Deere tractor lately? Earlier in the year it was unusable. Not any more. The brake lock has been fixed and it is back in service. Thanks to the club mechanic who got it going again and saved the club from investing in a replacement.

Have you used the new dock? Many club members joined in to overhaul the dock and launch it at the Spring Workday. As the water level changes, it magically gets moved in and out to keep it accessible and in water deep enough for boats to use it. Thanks to those that maintain the dock in a safe and useable location.

Have you been able to launch your boat without maneuvering around unattended vehicles and trailers parked near the ramp? Thanks to those who park vehicles north of the dinghy park, leaving the ramp open for others to use.

Have you been able to use the area south of the ramp to dry out your sails after an adventurous day on the water? Thanks to those that avoid parking here and leave this area open for sailors to use.

Have you stepped in any doggy-do at the club? Thanks to those that keep their dog on a leash and pick up after them.

Have you enjoyed sailing this year? I have. Thanks to those that see something that needed to be done and did it. Thanks to those that were respectful of the Club and the other members by following the rules.

Just my thoughts

Club Social News

“A proper christening is important to the safety, security and well-being in the life of any boat and those that travel aboard her,” said Daryl Strouts as he began the June social event. “We know that the captain and crew are above any culpability for misfortune, so if anything goes wrong, it can always be blamed on an inadequate ceremony.”

On June 20, captains, crews, friends and families gathered on the dock of the Blue Valley Yacht Club to de-name, rename and christen six boats. From a Watertender to a Sabre 28, no boat was too small or too large, and over 130 feet of boats in all.

The attire was casual, bells were rung, ingots were dropped, wine was poured, offerings were made, champagne was splashed, tokens were accepted, snacks were served, and the mood was festive. What else could possibly be needed for a proper ceremony? Are you making plans to attend the next event? Come join in the fun.



Daryl Strouts leads the assembled captains and crews in a ceremony to de-name, rename and christen boats at the June social event. Photo by Bob Mullen



An offering to the gods. Photo by Bob Mullen



Captains ready the Champagne. Photo by Colleen Lindgren



Ron & Linda Frey break a bottle of bubbly across the bow of their Catalina 22. Photo by Bob Mullen



The Lindgrens and Mullens in the North Channel – 2006.
Photo by Bob Mullen



Opti-prams stacked and waiting for the next step in the construction process. Photo by Maarten van Swaay

For Sail

BVYC CLOTHING New tee shirts have been received in all sizes. The cost is \$13.00. The older shirts will be sold for \$10.00 while quantities last.

There will be a few hats available for \$15.00 and there is one burgee remaining in stock for \$18.00.

Call 539-4759 or check with Bob at the club.

Lindgrens and Ketelsens Depart; Lake Level Drops....

By Bob Mullen

Not a measurable amount but when two boats with a combined displacement of more than 7 tons are pulled from the lake the level should ebb a bit. And there is a noticeable vacant space in the mooring area where the Saber 28 and the Hunter 27 once tugged at their mooring pendants. The boats left the BVYC grounds on July 18th. In a couple of weeks the two boats will be heading for Michigan's Upper Peninsula and a month long cruise of the North Channel.

The North Channel is a premier cruising area in the northern part of Lake Huron. It is a protected area more than 100 miles long, 20 miles wide and adjacent to Georgian Bay, another huge cruising area.

Gene and Colleen Lindgren accompanied Bob and Jane Mullen on a cruise of the NC during the summer of 2006 and have been preparing for a second trip for 3 years. Steve and Sharon Ketelsen had planned to go in 2006 but had to cancel because of job restraints. Both the Lindgrens and Ketelsens, previous owners of 25-foot sailboats, purchased larger boats in preparation for the cruise and have been testing them on Tuttle Lake. They hope to enjoy the comforts of standing headroom, diesel power, wheel steering and more during the exploration of Huron's NC and Georgian Bay.

In 2006 the Lindgrens were introduced to the North Channel's scenic beauty, challenging weather, quaint villages, quiet anchorages and unique camaraderie of members of the Trailer Sailors Association. They are excited about their upcoming return to the NC with Steve and Sharon. In a quiet send-off at the BVYC shelter last weekend, the Mullens gave the two departing couples an envious farewell along with some last minute hints, ship's logs, cruising guides and Canadian courtesy flag.

Perhaps BVYC members can look forward to Colleen's artistic report when the two couples return in September.



Navigating the bridges at the Kent Narrows.



Henry & Suzanne Otto relaxing on Summer Place in St. Michaels, MD.



A restored skipjack sailboat at the maritime museum.

Charter on the Chesapeake by Daryl Strouts

It might have been with some trepidation that DeAdre and I accepted an invitation from Henry and Suzanne Otto to charter "Summer Place", an Island Packet 32, with them for 5 days on the Chesapeake Bay. We had minimal sailing experience and none on a boat over 18 feet; we had never spent the night on any kind of boat; and, spending an evening with friends is one thing; spending 5 days could be something altogether different. But something told us it would be fun.

The Otto's left a few days early to visit family in Pennsylvania and New York as well as former BVYC members John and Ann Murray in Maryland. We met up in Baltimore and soon arrived at Rock Hall on the east side of the Bay. Haven Charters provided the boat.

Under bright skies, we made our way south from Rock Hall, down the eastern side of the bay. Passing through the Kent Narrows, we passed under one bridge, but waited for another to be raised for water traffic on the half-hour. We had planned to spend the night in Crab Alley Bay, but a change in the wind caused a change in our plans and we motored south to anchor for the night.

We spent two days and nights in St. Michaels, exploring the town and visiting the Chesapeake Bay maritime Museum. St. Michaels claim to fame is that they fooled the British during the revolutionary war.

Sailing up to Annapolis took us to the western side of the Bay. Taking a slip at the City Dock put us right in the heart of the action. The US Naval Academy was just a few blocks away and plenty of shops and seafood within walking distance. (Even Prince Harry was there!)

No trip to Annapolis would be complete without stopping at Fawcett Boat Supply and picking up a few "necessary items." All too soon we were shuttling across the Bay to return "Summer Place" to her home slip and begin our journey back to Kansas.

We had a great time and discovered that chartering a boat is the best way to see cities on the Bay.



From our slip in Annapolis we could see Fawcett's, on the right.