



THE COMMUNIQUE

Monthly Newsletter of the NorthWest Sailing Association

April 2024



Please join us for a “Pre-Glow” at Peggy Kinnanes. Enjoy camaraderie with fellow NWSA sailors at 8 N. Vail in downtown Arlington Heights 5:00pm-6:45 before the General Meeting! All members and their guests are welcome to enjoy some camaraderie. No RSVP necessary. Self-order and self-pay for a beverage a snack or dinner. Hope to see you April 15, 2024!

2024 NWSA Board Members

Commodore - Lorraine Klabunde
Public Relations - Jeanne Hedgepeth
Vice Commodore - Donna Prestel
Fleet Captain - Kurt Hermann
Yeoman - Linda Bezec
Purser - Joyce Clifford
Membership - Gordon Human
Technology - Robbie Leighton
Librarian - Maria Dahnke
Ship's Store - Hal Shanafield
Member At Large – Dan Jakubisin
Social Director - Almut Shanafield

We, the members of NorthWest Sailing Association, share our love for the sport through our quest for increased knowledge, improved seamanship, exchange of experiences, and the promotion of safe boating.





Commodore, Lorraine Klabunde

Ahoy! NWSA members. The weather is warming and the picture below, from Kenosha yacht yard, will soon be a distant memory. Many of our members have already started preparing and cleaning their boats, clearing out the bird nests and spiders for the big launch in April or May ?June. Many of our NWSA sailors have already renewed their memberships and recruitment is moving along well in great part thanks to our zealous ambassadors for NWSA. Credit go to Donna Prestel, Almut and Hal Shanahan, Maria Dahnke, and David Jacobson for manning the NWSA table at Crowley's and to Almut and Hal for talking up our club at Larsen's Marina. Strictly Sail was always a great recruitment opportunity but, now that it no longer around, our steadfast volunteers are spreading the message of NWSA. And...I hope you are also.

The sailing schedule is set thanks to Kurt Hermann, our Fleet Captain. He and our skippers have assembled a great number of sails which are now listed on the website, ready for sign-up, starting in May out of the northern harbors. Just click on the homepage, then click "register for sailing event", and finally click on the white arrow in the green circle. Three clicks will do it. Answer the few questions and you're good to go.

But...and there is always a "but" we need cruise captains to organize the sails. If you can use a computer and a telephone, you're in. And without the cruise captains, there are no sails. So, consider volunteering. Yes! This is a volunteer organization. You'll hear more about that from Kurt.

Meanwhile, the by-laws committee of Linda Bezec, Larry Makowski, Gordon Human, and myself is arduously working on the revision of the by-laws, last visited in 2009. More on that later. We have some great speakers/presentations this year, so if you haven't been to a meeting lately, consider joining us and share the camaraderie.

See you on the high seas. Lorraine Klabunde, Commodore





Vice Commodore, Donna Prestel

NWSA presentation at our meeting April 15, 2024 will be by Todd Basch, Quantum Sails, entitled "All Sailors: Cruisers and Racers". We've discussed different types of sails, maintenance, uses - bring your questions, because there will be time for discussions with Todd, whose specialty is all things sails!

Hal and Almut spearheaded our table at Larsen's Open House - thanks! I was traveling to view the total eclipse.

For anyone who wants to share the **Save the Lighthouse** initiative, there is another presentation at The Metropolitan Club (downtown) on Wednesday April 24, 2024 in the evening. Sign up on Eventbrite from the Friends of the Chicago Lighthouse website.

Humorous happening: I was at the lakefront with friends walking toward the shore. I felt tapping on both my upper arms from the back. Looking to my side to see who of my friends might be tapping me, I saw the extended wing of a goose! Yes, I was mounted on my upper back by a goose who was protecting a nest with eggs that I did not know was there! I can tell you more about it at the Pre-Glow! Please join us at Peggy Kinnane's, 5-6:45 pm. 8 N Vail, downtown Arlington Heights. Monday April 15, 2024 before our meeting. Enjoy camaraderie with fellow NWSA sailors. Self-order and self-pay - so it is up to you whether you have coffee, a glass of wine or beer, or dinner!" No RSVP.



Donna was there! Quite a week!!



Yeoman, Linda Bezec

Here's some trivia from your Yeoman

Did you know that the oldest recovered boat in the world is the Pesse canoe, a dugout made from the hollowed tree trunk of a *pinus sylvestris* and was constructed somewhere between 8200 and 7600 BC. This canoe can be seen at the Drents museum in Assen, Netherlands.

Did you know that the invention of sailing is considered the most important event in the history of navigation. It most likely began in 3500 BC in the Red Sea or Persian Gulf.

And did you know that the minutes from last month's meeting are online! Please be sure to read them.

Linda



Purser, Joyce Clifford

NWSA STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES			
March 29, 2024			
Beginning Balance			\$7,187.13
Income			
	Membership Fees via Club Express		\$990.00
	Ship Store		\$3.00
	March 50/50 Raffle \$24 deposit in April		
	Total Revenue		\$993.00
Expenses		Check #	
	Monthly Hosting Fee		\$48.72
	Credit Card Processing Fees		\$33.24
	Arlington Heights Historical Museum - Q1	1283	\$300.00
	George Andersson - Transition Dinner Reimbursement	1286	\$124.21
	Total Expense		\$506.17
	Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets		\$486.83
Ending Balance			\$7,673.96

Another great month of Membership renewals! Let's hope this trend continues.

Thank You to the 41 of 81 households that have already renewed their memberships or recently joined!

Introduce yourself to our newest member: Warner Dundas.

9 memberships paid in advance during Q4 of 2023.

6 more dreamt of sailing during the wintery January weather & renewed.

February numbers were double of January at 12,

& another 14 in March as mother nature teased us with warmer temps.

Durring the 2023 Award Banquet, we announced a "thank you" to 7 highly active Skippers during the 2023 by way of a free membership for the 2024 season.

Of course, we look forward to seeing our 5 Lifetime households come back each year

We're hoping to welcome back the remaining 35 households before the first sail this year!

2024 Annual Budget

INCOME	
50/50 raffle & donations	400.00
Membership dues	4,810.00
Ship store sales	400.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$5,610.00
EXPENSES	
Fixed Costs	
Tiny cat subscription	36.00
AHHM Meeting room rental	1,100.00
IL SOS Annual Fee	6.00
Meetup fee	200.00
USPO Box Rental	182.00
Club express/Go Daddy website fees & credit card processing fees	1,230.00
Subtotal Fixed Costs	2,754.00
Discretionary Expenses	
2024 Annual Awards	175.00
Librarian Misc	50.00
Business Cards, Flyers, Directories, etc.	150.00
Bank Service Fees	0.00
Board Transition Dinner	480.00
Office Supplies	30.00
Postage	25.00
Zoom / Team Fee	0.00
Ship Store Supplies & inventory	400.00
Ice Cream Social, Pizza party, IWIWS party, general meetings refreshments	475.00
Guest Speakers	120.00
Photo contest gift cards (7 @ \$15) (2023 & 2024)	210.00
Subtotal Discretionary Expenses	2,115.00
Total Expenses	4,869.00
TOTAL (Revenue-Expenses)	741.00

Membership dues based on 74 of 86 current households are paying members plus 37 spouses

Annual Banquet: member payments (income) offset cost (expense) netting to zero even though a deposit is needed

AHHM room rental rate increased \$110 per meeting

We can reduce the cost of the P.O. box from \$116 per 6 months to \$91 per 6 months; In process as of 3/24. Paid through 9/2024.

Teams is free for 2024 & 2025 per Kurt (Maria also has an account)

Ship Store inventory costs will be offset by sales

Gift cards for the 2023 photo contest were not awarded in 2023 and will be paid out of the 2024 budget. Goal is to payout 2024 awards before year end.

Refreshments for general meetings allotted \$15 per meeting



Fleet Captain, Kurt Hermann

Hello NWSA Members –

As I write this article, I can see snow falling outside my window. But I have it on good authority that Spring has sprung and we're a little more than a month away from our first sail of the 2024 season.

Spring is probably the busiest time for Skippers. As much as we try to cover and protect our boats from the elements, they still get dirty and need a lot of TLC before launch. Once the cover (or shrink wrap) is wrestled off, it's time to start scrubbing, polishing, and waxing. Finally, a fresh coat of bottom paint is needed before the boat can be launched.

If you're able to, please reach out to a skipper and see if you can help. This is a good opportunity for club members who are 'boat curious' to see what's involved in boat ownership and maintenance.

No matter what your skill levels may be, everyone has something they can offer. An extra pair of hands, or just some good conversation, is always welcome at the boatyard. Personally, I've found it helpful to have someone standing on the ground behind me when I wax the hull so they can point out all the spots I missed. And when my professional painter friend came out to help, I was in awe at how quickly and efficiently he was able to lay the edging tape to prep for the bottom paint.

I've started entering the sail schedule into the Club Express and have completed through July. Last year it seemed everyone was waiting until the last minute to sign up. Skippers waiting to see if crew signed up, and crew waiting to see if skippers signed up. If you can, please sign up early. The sooner the Cruise Captain and I see the demand for the sails, the more time we have to recruit boats or crew as needed.

Speaking of Cruise Captains, I'd like to send out another reminder that we're looking for cruise captains. If this is your first time or are unsure about the role, please review the cruise captains guide. You'll also have as much help as you need. Here is a link to the sail schedule and the current cruise captains. If you see a sail and would like to volunteer, either sign up at the next meeting or contact me at FleetCaptain@nwsail.com or 847-692-0086.

Kurt Hermann



Member At Large, Daniel Jakubisin

I'm not sure what got me thinking about my first awareness of sailboats, but this is what I came up with:

I grew up in Waukegan, the government pier and lighthouse were always there. My grandfather would take us perch fishing. This was before the marina was constructed. I remember the Waukegan Yacht Club and the relatively small number of moorings. I don't remember what docking was down behind Johnson Motors (Larsen Marine). That area was of little interest, even when I started driving and had access to the beach, we were more interested in "submarine races" than boats docked!

After I graduated from high school, I started working as US Envelope, at 10th St. and Sheridan Rd., the dividing line between Waukegan and North Chicago. When I was around 30 I had a boss that had sailed when he was a kid. If we worked on a Saturday we would meet at the McDonalds on Grand Ave around 6AM and then drive down to the marina. The marina was fairly new and totally unsecured. We would walk around eating our McMuffins and he would drool over the boats we saw. He kept saying "some day!". I don't ever remember talking to any boat owners, 6AM on a Saturday was probably not prime time. If we saw anyone, they were fishermen. Side note: my boss left the company a few years later and we fell out of touch, I don't know if his "someday" ever came!

Fast forward.....If I knew then what I know now about how friendly and welcoming sailboat owners are it wouldn't have taken 40 years for me to hitch my first ride. All it took for me was to say was "that looks like fun, I'd like to try that someday". Of course, I happened to say that to my grandkids after they had been out with their other grandparents, George and Sally Andersson, and boom, I got invited! But my point is, I'm sure there are many, many people that may have an interest in sailing and have no idea how easy it is to hitch their first ride!

God bless all you boat owners and all you do, along with NWSA, to promote the future of sailing!



Social Director, Almut Shanafield

We would love for you to bring a treat to share at our April 15 meeting!!

NWSA members Maria and Hal, speaking to interested Yachtapalooza attendees Saturday, March 24, 2024.

We spoke to many interested folk who we hope will come to the next NWSA meeting.



<https://abc7chicago.com/yachtapalooza-chicago-boat-show-crowleys-yacht-yard-sailing/14562224/>

Yachtapalooza, 1-day Chicago boat show on Far South Side, 'perfect for aspiring sailors'



By [Christian Piekos](#)

Saturday, March 23, 2024 5:38PM



CHICAGO (WLS) -- It might be a chilly spring day, but hundreds are getting ready to set sail at the 25th Yachtapalooza at Crowley's Yacht Yard on Chicago's Far South side.

Grant Crowley is the owner of Crowley's Yacht Yard.

"This is a get spring going for us," he said of the yearly one-day boat show.

Crowley is knotting together different sailing organizations from all walks of life stretching Chicago's nautical community.

From hands-on seminars and demonstrations, highlighting the vital how-tos of sailing, to budget-friendly boats on sale, organizers say Yachtapalooza is perfect for aspiring future sailors.

"We have 12 seminars going on. We even have sail makers here teaching how to trim your sails," said Crowley.

Yachtapalooza also supports nonprofit organizations like No Salt Sailing that helps veterans heal from unseen wounds through sailing.

"Once you get out there and the sails are up, you turn off the motor, there's nothing like it in the world for tranquility," said No Salt Sailing founder William Shehan. "I've done meditation, I've done martial arts, I've done all those things and it is an act of meditation."

Mt. Carmel High School is also showcasing its newly-formed sailing program. They want to recruit young sailors eager to get on board.

"Just to see them accomplish things, watch them become more confident in what they do. Appreciating the value of teamwork, learning new skills, just the whole ball of wax," said Bob Szyman, Mt. Carmel Sailing.

The weather might be brisk now...but these sailors have their compasses set on a warmer horizon.

"There's nothing more sublime than being two miles out on Lake Michigan in a sailboat, beautiful day, sun's out and we've got our gorgeous skyline in the background. You can't beat it," said Szyman.

Recruiting at Larsen's Marina, April 7th open house.



Ship's Store, Hal Shanafield

Attending the April 15 meeting? Bring cash and buy shirts!!



Technology Director, Robert Leighton

Lost? Directions are Only a Click Away

Now that our web site is almost complete, I am improving the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ). This month are videos on how to sign up for a sail and for skippers on how to list a pop-up sail. Next month will be how to add your favorite photos to the site to share and to send out an email blast with and without attachments and links. If you have any suggestions for FAQ, please let me know. Lastly, many thanks to the committee (Gordon Human, Janet Diamond and Joyce Clifford) for their hard work and input.

Robbie, Technology Director



Librarian, Maria Dahnke

Ahoy Sailors! Join the First NWSA Sailing Book Club!

Love reading? Love sailing? Then why not join the new NWSA Sailing Book Club?

We will meet regularly to discuss and draw inspiration and ideas from a variety of sailing books. Whether it's a captivating story of an around the world cruise, or a terrifying story of shipwrecks and mutiny, we will have fun reading and discussing the books that we select!

If you are interested in joining our book club, please email me at Librarian@nwsail.com. Once we complete sign up, we will pick a convenient meeting locale and determine our reading list.

Books can be checked out from our NWSA library.

You can find the link at the bottom of our home page.



Library

Yes, Maria was on the news in the great city of Chicago but she still wants to be treated like a normal person. She will sign autographs during our break time only.



TRANSMISSION INTERRUPTED!!!



Ahoy Mateys! Greetings from the Southeast Sailing Association! Headquartered in luxurious Plant City Florida, we at SESA seek to share our knowledge and love for sailing by pretty much riding on the coat tails of other more popular sailing groups. (By we at SESA I mean “me” and sailing groups I mean “you” – but let’s not get hung up on semantics).

There is a lot of water down here in Florida to explore, and we don’t have the icebergs and arctic winds that you all love so much, so I have the entire year to do my exploring.

Sadly, like all great enterprises; we are off to a slow start. With work and all the nuances of “settling in” I have only been able to go into the bay two times. Tampa Bay (and the greater Gulf) are subject to both very high winds that are too dangerous to sail in, and annoying doldrums where all you can do is sing shanties and drink rum.

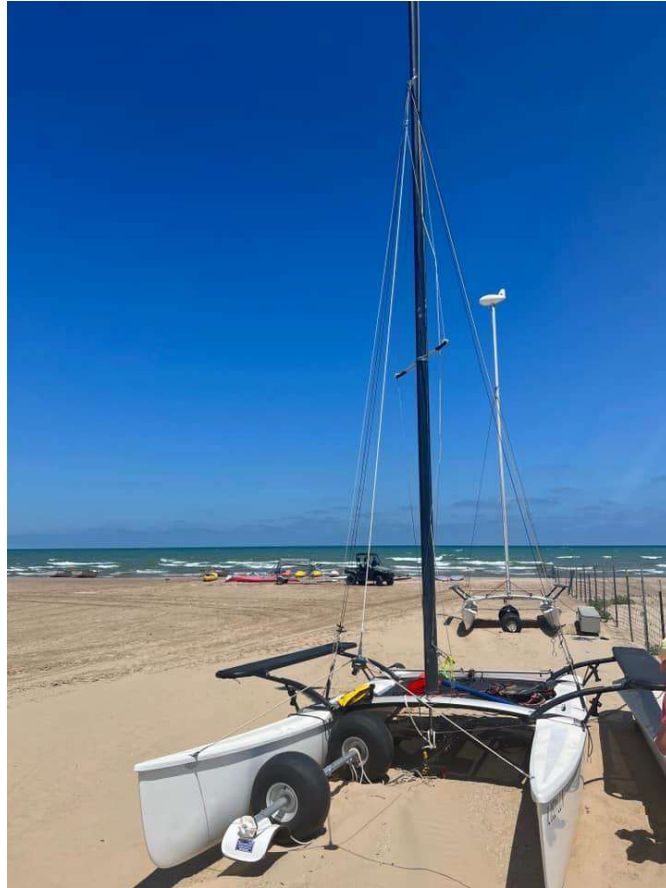
My first successful sail was on “Swish” (a Hunter 426)
A sunny day with winds reaching 9.2 knots – we hit max speed of 7.8

Looking forward to pirating your Communications next time!
Jason – Founding member of of SESA (and only member)



Paul Del Monaco

I'm looking forward to yet another summer of sailing
my Hobie 16 off of Montrose Beach.
Paul Del Monaco (NWSA since 2007)



I would like to invite club members to join me. One of the best kept secrets is, that the Chicago Park District has for many years allowed folks to store their beach boats and a sail box on the beach at Montrose. Last year we only had 6 boats. It's getting to be another one of those "use it or lose" deals! So, Let's go sailing!



I just recently received the 2024 beach storage form:

"Hi Paul,

I hope you're well!

Here is the 2024 beach storage form.

Feel free to forward it to any one else who is interested.

Thanks!

and...

Hello Boater!

Thank you for your interest in the Chicago Park District's summer beach storage.

We are looking forward to a fantastic summer sailing season.

In order to provide boat storage on Montrose Beach for catamarans,

we ask that every one work together to make sure that all rules and guidelines are followed.

Your continued support will aid us in providing

more access through out the lakefront for our city's small boaters.

I look forward to seeing you on the water!

Sincerely,

Joey Harris

Manager of Sailing

Chicago Park District

Judd Goldman Community Sailing Center "

Nota Bene!

(Catamaran: \$357.00 Resident, \$446.00 Non-Resident)

Willmet residents only are paying \$1000/yr to keep their beach cats.

Evenston has a long waiting list.

Glenco good luck!

North Western Univ. -not any more.

Take Action:

1. Contact me for the rest of the details and get your boat on the beach.

or:

2. Cover the fee and ask me to get my other cat on the beach to try, buy or just use for the season.

or:

3. Just arrange to meet me at the beach and go sailing.

(by the kayak rental and beach house. *Dinner, beer and music at "The Dock"*)

or:

4; Wait till my boat goes out to tag the the others on a club sail and sign up.

or:

5: Just wish me well on facebook at;

Montrose Beach Hobie Cats

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1297141754227170/>



April is Keep America Beautiful Month

Keep America Beautiful Month in April is inspired by a non-profit organization dedicated towards improving our public spaces through action and education. With over 40,000 national events, there's plenty of opportunity to roll up your sleeves wherever you live. End littering, start recycling, and show visitors how stunning your city can be. From Boston to Seattle, we celebrate this month by beautifying communities in this great land of ours. [Keep America Beautiful - Keep America Beautiful \(kab.org\)](http://kab.org)

Riddles for April Fools (Not you of course) ☁️💧

1. Why is everyone so tired on April 1?
2. What's the difference between Thanksgiving and April Fool's Day?
3. Why did the math book look so sad?
4. Why don't scientists trust atoms?
5. Why did the chicken cross the playground?
6. Why did the chicken cross the road twice?
7. Carrie's birthday is in April, which is in the fall. How is this possible?
8. What 5-letter word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it?
9. Henry's mother had four kids. The first three were named April, Fools, and Day. What was the fourth one named?
10. When written forward, this word is heavy. When written backward, it is not. What word is this?

And don't forget EARTH DAY.....

Earth Day 2024 falls on Monday, April 22. On this day, people around the world come together to raise awareness about environmental issues and advocate for a greener, more sustainable future. The theme for Earth Day 2024 is "Planet vs. Plastics." EARTHDAY.ORG is committed to ending plastics for the sake of human and planetary health. They are demanding a 60% reduction in the production of ALL plastics by 2040. The focus is on rapidly phasing out single-use plastics, pushing for a strong UN Treaty on Plastic Pollution, and calling for an end to fast fashion. Innovative solutions are being explored to build a plastic-free world.

[Earth Day 2024 - Earth Day](#)



Answers to the riddles

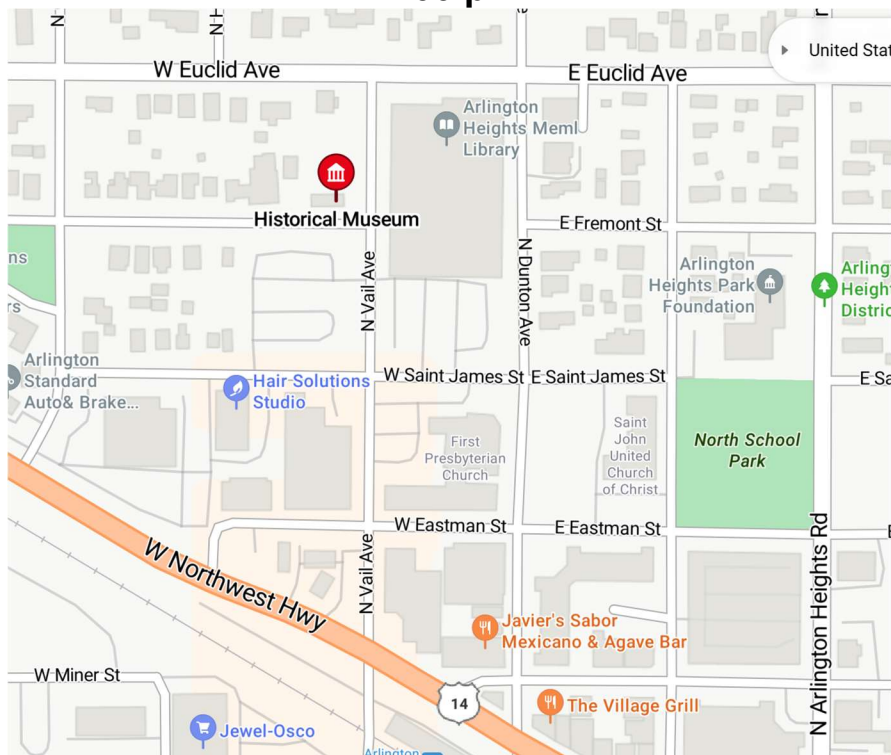
1. Because they've just finished a long, 31 day March!
2. On one you're thankful and on the other you're prankful!
3. Because the math book had way too many problems.
4. Because atoms make up everything.
5. To get to the other slide
6. To prove he wasn't chicken
7. Carrie lives in Australia
8. Short
9. Henry
10. Ton



JOIN US FOR GREAT SAILING AND GOOD TIMES!!!

Our goal as an organization is to bring together people who love to sail or who would like to learn. Members include anyone interested in sailing! Join as a family, a couple or individual. We appreciate skippers with any type of sailboats, large cruising boats, daysailers and trailerables. Our skippers appreciate anyone to help crew that has experience or simply a desire to sail. During the sailing season we bring crew and skippers together for sailing and sailing social events each week.

General Meetings
All interested are welcome!!
3rd Monday of the Month
January through October
Arlington Heights Historical Society Meeting Room
110 West Freemont Street
Arlington Heights, IL 60006
7:00 pm



Are you interested in sailing? Check us out and join us.

<http://nwsail.com>

A full-page photograph of a sailboat with dark sails and a white stripe, sailing on a deep blue ocean. In the background, a faint rainbow is visible against a hazy sky. The overall mood is serene and expansive.

Just you — and the world.



Our skippers are docked at Waukegan Harbor, isSouthport Marina in Kenosha, Montrose Harbor and Monroe Harbor, just to name a few.



Waukegan Harbor



Southport Marina Kenosha



Montrose Harbor Chicago



Monroe Harbor Chicago



Reef Point Marina Racine



North Point Harbor