

Trip Report—Shorewood Yacht Club Sail

The first “Up North” sail of 2008 was the Shorewood Yacht Club, Lake Minnetonka Ice Breaker on May 17 & 18. This trip almost earned its name, literally.

One month and one week before the weekend sail, Jeff Tam and I, trip co-chairs, attended the Shorewood Yacht Club Open House. We stood in the dining room looking out at the lake. A fellow walked the length of the dock with a sail folded and tucked under his arm. Upon reaching the end of the dock, he hanked on the sail and returned to the clubhouse. When he reappeared in view, he was wearing a PFD. He then proceeded to the end of the dock, got on his ice boat, and sailed over the ice and around the bay!

This was just over a month before the scheduled NLSC trip and Jeff and I looked at each other and said, oh-oh, we may be in trouble. Well the late ice out occurred on the Minnesota lakes, and we were able to have our sailing weekend as planned. Sailors could attend Saturday and/or Sunday. We had 25 sailors on Saturday and 21 Sailors on Sunday.

Our skippers who sailed their boats were Don McGrath with his West Wight Potter 19’, Peter Cotton with his Precision 18’, and Jeff Tam with his Weekender 16’. Don trailered his boat to Minnetonka from Willmar, MN, Peter brought his boat from Hugo, MN, and Jeff keeps his boat in a slip at Shorewood Yacht Club.



Peter Cotton, Joan Tam and Kees Hengeveld prep Peter's Precision 18'

We had 2 boats donated for our use by the Shorewood Yacht Club. Our host, and Shorewood Marina Manager, Mike Maloney, made sure they were ship shape and had good kicker motors. Jay Biggs and Scott Woolfrey volunteered to skipper the loaner boats. The Pearson Ensign 23's had big cockpits and full keels. They handled the weather and sailed fast.

The weather was a little unsettled on Saturday, and when the wind piped up over safe levels, the boats re-

turned to the marina a little early. The clubhouse was comfortable and appetizers were served, followed by our meal of beef kabobs and jumbo grilled shrimp. Joan Tam took on the role of Grillmaster and I helped out. Diane Carlson organized the meal and buffet line and was assisted by Judy Riese, Deb Woolfrey, Sharon Sorenson, Betty Lamb, and Barb Chapman. No one left hungry.



Two Galley Gals, Diane Carlson and Deb Woolfrey

Sunday was a little cool but we had a nice warm brunch to start our day. The steady breezes moved the boats around the lake spiritedly. The offering of 4 types of boats allowed sailors to try out their sailing skills on different boats. Sailing with different crews gave everyone the opportunity to learn from each other, and refresh sailing skills laid dormant over the winter months.



Gayle Huemoller, Bob Rouda, and Jay Biggs wrestle a sail onto the foredeck of a Pearson Ensign

Thanks to all the members who volunteered their time and talents, whether it be skippering a boat or helping serve meals, all was appreciated. And as we enjoyed each others company, and sailed and dined together, we thought figuratively, what a good ice breaker.

Submitted By: Ron Carlson, Trip Co-Chair