

RCR Yachts

From: "RCR Yachts" <sail@rcryachts.com>
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2010 1:38 PM
Subject: Fw: RCR Yachts Sailor's News

RCR Yachts Sailor's News, February 5, 2010

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1972-2010 Serving Local Sailors for 38 Years!

Let RCR Find Your Next Boat, or Sell Your Existing One!

RCR
YACHTS

What's New? by Don Finkle: Next week will be a busy one as we will be working the Central NY Boat Show in Syracuse, please come see us. There is a new show in Orchard Park being held inside the Buffalo Bills fieldhouse next to Rich Stadium. RCR will NOT be in that show, but those looking for a powerboat might find something there. And if you are looking for a new car, you can always drop by the Buffalo auto show (we promised our friend and fellow sailor Trey Barrett we would mention this for him!). Find details for all below.

They are trying to drag me into the 21st Century, kicking and screaming, I can't keep up with all these changes in technology! Our own Rick Lenard has convinced me that RCR needs to get with the program on Facebook, but my concern was being able to maintain Facebook on top of all the other things we do around here. So naturally I told Rick that if he wanted to do the work it was OK with me. So he did. Knowing Rick and his high energy level and enthusiasm he'll be able to keep it current. If he doesn't you'll know who to blame:

RCR is now on Facebook! Anyone interested in becoming a "friend" of RCR Yachts, they only need to type in RCR Yachts in the "find friend" link.

Changes in the New Boat Business: We've mentioned this in the past but not sure everyone took it all in. Those boatbuilders who have survived have undergone a lot of changes during the last year to adapt to the economic downturn and resulting soft market. There was a glut of inventory, few sales, and so production slowed to a crawl for most factories until the inventory cleared out. Now for the most part that inventory is gone, but the builders have down-sized their labor forces to adapt to a slower and sustainable rate of production. Dealers no longer have as many boats in stock, partly by design, and partly because banks have become rather stingy (that's putting it politely) when it comes to loaning dealers money for inventory.

Our problem with sailboats was serious but for many powerboat builders it was carnage. We got dragged down along with them of course, and the banks looked at all "boats" as being the same. This has impacted both wholesale and retail lending. We're working through it, but as so often happens the pendulum has swung too far to the conservative side.

Here is where I am going with this. First, don't expect to walk in and buy a boat off the floor, you will probably have to order it like we did in the old days. Don't expect it to come next week. Plan ahead so you can get a boat for the season. As for financing, the rates are very good but the qualifications are tough. We have learned a lot about this new way of doing business and we can generally get the money for our customers one way or another. Let us help you figure out the best way to manage a boat purchase for your own personal situation.

What about prices? While it is true that the inventory "dumps" are history, builders and dealers alike have come to the realization that we need to be very competitive to make things happen. Fortunately the downturn taught all of us how to make do with less, and so we can sell ordered boats attractively.

Comments made by President Obama during his Tuesday town hall meeting in New Hampshire: "You don't go buying a boat when you can barely pay your mortgage". That one caused a considerable flap within the industry, since once again boaters are being looked at as fat cats, when in fact there are many other ways people can and do spend money that go beyond necessities. Anyone care to count how many people have lost their jobs in the marine industry?

I'm proud of our service staff, they continue to do excellent work. Recently we removed a deep keel from a J/100 we had sold to the shallow Gulf coast of Florida and sent it back to Mars Metal in Ontario to be melted down and made into a shoal keel. The new keel came back on Wednesday morning and they had it on before quitting time. The hardest part was getting the original keel off the boat, they are really stuck on very well!

The other evening I met with some of the key members of the Buffalo Maritime Center. These avid volunteers love boatbuilding, teaching the art, and restoration of historic vessels. Be sure to check out their article below. They serve the public of all ages, and on display in their shop are some very neat wooden craft of various sizes, mostly powered by oar, paddle or sail.

Feb 10-14, Please visit us at the Central New York Boat Show at the NY State Fairgrounds off I-690 in Syracuse. We will be exhibiting in the main Center of Progress building as usual. We have tickets which we will be pleased to offer, call Corbo at 585-752-2530 and he'll set you up.

Our display we will feature a new Beneteau 31 and our used boat boards.

Show Hours:

Wed 1pm - 9pm

Thurs 1pm - 9pm

Fri 1pm - 9pm

Sat 10am - 9pm

Sun 10am - 5pm

Adults \$9 per person, Children 13 and under FREE! (lucky us!)

Show website: <http://www.cnyboatshow.com/BoatShow/>

RCR staff cell phones, dial us as needed!

Don Finkle 716-695-4328 CEO

Rick Lenard 716-472-4702 Buffalo Sales

Corbo Corbishley 585-752-2530 Rochester Sales

Tracy Buczak 716-680-4554 Erie Sales

Bruce Lort 716-998-7545 Youngstown Service
 Darren Wright 716-572-2312 Buffalo Service
 Brian Buczak 716-799-4860 Warranty

The Miami Boat Show runs next week and several of our customers are headed down to check out the show and the new boats. Our builders will have:

Beneteau 46 & New 50
 Hunter New 39, 45CC, 49 and 50CC

33rd AMERICA'S CUP 3 race series in Valencia, Spain

RACE 1 Monday, Feb. 8th 3:45 AM, ET.

RACE 2 Wednesday Feb 10th 3:45 AM

RACE 3 Friday Feb 12th 3:45 AM if needed

Gary Jobson & Randy Smyth will provide the coverage on your computer at ESPN360.com
 Internet Service Providers include Comcast, AT&T, Verizon, Cox, Charter, Windstream, RCN, Insight, Frontier, Cavalier, Mediacom, Conway, Grande Communications. Time-Warner Cable does not carry ESPN360.com

(thanks to Dave Heitzenrater of Erie YC for this info)

The Adventures of MMW "Peaches": Buffalo sailors Margaret "Peaches" Wagner and Chris Flanders have taken their Beneteau 423 "Star of the Sea" south for the winter...and beyond. They are in Vero Beach, Florida. They are waiting for a weather window so they can sail to Miami. From there they will head for the Bahamas for four months. Those who would like to follow their trip may check out their blog at www.sailblogs.com/member/star (from BHSC e-news)

I guess we have to explain this again since not everyone seems to understand the process. We want your business! If you see a used boat advertised that looks interesting, please contact us before contacting the seller or broker. It costs you NOTHING to have us work for you, if you let us make the contact. I can guarantee you that we bring value to the process of buying (or selling) a used boat. Better yet, contact us before you start to look and we can save you time and aggravation, and usually money too.

WE NEED MORE BOATS TO SELL! Let us list your boat, or come see us about a trade-in. Call any of our sales staff for an idea of what your boat is worth.

Used Boat Updates: The following is only a partial list of used sailboats we are offering, those shown below are simply updates. For a full list of sail and powerboats currently available please go to www.rcryachts.com

65' Custom Passenger Ferry 1998 "Horizon" *NEW LISTING* 149 passenger fiberglass ferry, sightseeing, dive boat, tour boat etc. Surveyed recently. Twin 735 HP Detroit diesels. 2 decks, men's and ladies heads. Dunkirk, \$424,900

35' J/35C 1991 "Jibe Talkin" *NEW LISTING* Not to be confused with the older J/35 design, the J/35C is a completely different boat and newer design. The performance you expect from a J-boat but this model has a full cruising interior and wheel steering, traveler just forward of the helm. Only 36 of this model were built, only some of those had the deep keel that this one has, and even fewer can be found on fresh water. I sailed a sistership one summer as a demo and loved it. A rare find! "Jibe Talkin" has lots of gear and is a true dual-purpose boat. This model has done very well in PHRF racing. Rochester, \$99,000.

35' Freedom 35 1996 "Sans Souci" *NEW LISTING*, a very nice boat with excellent housekeeping and upgrades. Gorgeous New Dark Blue Awlgrip Hull, Bottom Epoxy Coated, Air Conditioning/Heat, Optional Teak Interior, Shoal Keel, Maxprop, B&G Electronics, GPS/Plotter, New Sails, New Stereo, Autopilot,

Electric Halyard Winch, Bimini, Steel Cradle, Winter Cover, lots more! The Freedom 35 has a very large interior for her length, plenty of headroom, sails beautifully, is stable and super-easy to handle. This one is a fresh water boat, second owners just moved up, priced right and seriously for sale. Will not last long! Youngstown, \$114,900.

31' Beneteau 311 1999 "Firefly" *NEW LISTING* Yanmar Diesel w/Geared Folding Prop, Refrig, H&C Pressure, Wheel, Cockpit Shower, Furler, VHF, Stereo, GPS, Knot, Depth, 110V Shore Power, Propane Stove, Battery Charger, Main, Genoa, Jib, Genneker, Steel cradle. The Beneteau 311 is really 32 ½ feet long. Large cockpit with swim platform transom. There's a lot of space below with a full aft private owner's cabin. Could be a good non-spinnaker racer or take the family and friends or to single hand, the B-311 is a beautiful sailing boat. Always freshwater sailed, low engine hours, ready for spring with storage and launch already paid! Youngstown, \$49,900 rick@rcryachts.com

29' Hunter 29.5 1994 "Skimmer" *NEW LISTING* Yanmar Diesel, Shoal Draft, Knot, Depth, Wind, Autopilot, Propane Stove, Microwave, H&C with Shower, CD Stereo, VHF, Fans, 2 New Batteries, 110V Shore Power, Charger, Dodger & Bimini, Winter Cover, Furler, Rod Vang, Great Cockpit, Swim Platform, Easy To Handle, Fully Found, Steel Cradle, Erie, \$37,900

29' J/29 1984 "Thunder" Diesel, Fractional Rig Buffalo *FURTHER REDUCED* to \$7,900. This one needs some love but look at the price!

65' Custom Passenger Ferry 1998 "Horizon" *NEW LISTING* Dunkirk \$424,900

38' Sabre 386 2005 "Encore" *UNDER CONTRACT*

38' Hunter 386 2003 "Livin' Beyond Zero" *REDUCED* to \$129,900

37' Beneteau 373 2004 "Bella Sera" *NEW LISTING* \$139,900 Olcott

36' Catalina 36 "Windspinner" *SOLD*

35' J/35C 1991 "Jibe Talkin" *NEW LISTING* Rochester, \$99,000

35' Freedom 35 1996 "Sans Souci" *NEW LISTING* Youngstown, \$114,900

34' Beneteau 343 2007 "Gatsby" *REDUCED* to \$114,900 Rochester

34' Irwin Citation 34 1977 "My Colleen" *UNDER CONTRACT*

33' C&C 33-2 1985 "Chariot" *NEW LISTING* \$39,900 Youngstown

33' J/100 2006 "Patriot" *NEW LISTING* Buffalo \$119,900

32' Beneteau 323 2004 "Jersey Girl" *NEW LISTING* Rochester, \$79,500

32' Beneteau 323 2007 "Estancia" *REDUCED* to \$92,900 Erie

31' Beneteau 311 1999 "Firefly" *NEW LISTING* Youngstown, \$49,900

29' Hunter 29.5 1994 "Skimmer" *NEW LISTING* Erie, \$37,900

29' C&C 29 MKII 1983 *UNDER CONTRACT*

29' Bayfield 1988 "Tangled Up In Blue" *NEW LISTING* \$33,900 Rochester

29' J/29 1984 Fractional Diesel "Thunder" *REDUCED* to \$7,900

28' Precision 28 1999 Diesel, Trailer *NEW LISTING* \$45,000 Rochester

27' Catalina 1985 "Tom Foolery" *REDUCED* to \$11,900

27' Catalina 27 IB 1979 "Windsinger" *NEW LISTING* Buffalo \$7,400

27' C&C 27 "Armada" *NEW LISTING* Youngstown \$7,900

RCR will help you find the right boat for you! Our brokers will serve as "Buyers Agents" if you find a boat out of our market listed with someone else. We will protect your interests and represent YOU! It costs YOU nothing to use us...the seller pays our fee. We split the commission with the listing brokerage...just like in real estate. We do business in your community...our community...trust us to do the job for you. We've been doing it since 1972.

Let RCR Find Your Next Boat, or Sell Your Existing One!

Dates, News & Announcements:

Feb 10, Erie YC Racing Fleet presents Around Alone, 6:30 PM: "An entertaining program by Robin Davies who is one of a very few people to have sailed around the world solo but he has done it 3 times ! As Robin proudly proclaims "More people have been in outer space than the total number of people who have completed the 5 Around Alone Races". He has sailed the sail, and now he's here to talk the talk, bringing his unique and action-packed perspective on challenge though a riveting tale of life at sea that is punctuated by a spectacular slide and video presentation of adventure, sailing, the ocean and wildlife."

Feb 10-14, 2010 Buffalo Auto Show: Our theme this year is to "Reignite the Passion" in the Automobile and our industry. We will have some of the newest, high performance, fuel efficient, eye-catching, vehicles on display. There will be appearances by Gilbert Perreault, Buffalo Bandit John Tavares and Patrick Kaleta. Dora the Explorer will be there to meet & greet kids on the weekend. Guess what the "Clunker Cube" is and see what a super tailgate party looks like. Discount tickets soon to be available at Tops markets. Check for updates at www.buffaloautoshow.com.

Feb 10-14, Central NY show in Syracuse, COME VISIT US!

Feb 11-15, Miami International Boat Show & Strictly Sail (new Beneteau 50)

Feb 13-14, Mich-Ohio Sportfishing Expo, MBT Expo Center - Monroe, MI

Feb 13-21, Detroit Boat Show, Cobo Center

Feb 18-21, Buffalo Boat Show: to be held inside the Buffalo Bills Fieldhouse , 1 Bills Drive, Orchard park, NY 14127 FREE Admission, FREE Parking
Thu-Fr-Sat 10AM to 9PM, Sunday 11AM to 5PM www.buffaloboating.com

April 15-17, Buffalo Boomdays www.boomdays.com

July 9-11, Sabre & Back Cove 40th Anniversary Rendezvous, Boothbay, Maine

Buffalo Maritime Center News, by Chuck Meyer: Happy February 1st! All of us at the BMC want to say "hello" while sending along an update of upcoming events. Let us also say thank you for expressing interest. For those that were able to attend, we hope you enjoyed our Winter Bash last week. Thank you for taking the time and braving the elements to support us and help celebrate our efforts. If you were unable to visit up to now, please stop by and see us soon.

With a new month upon us, come new opportunities and activities at the Center. Beginning this week, we have 2 classes starting. Check out our Boat Building for Women class - meeting Tuesdays from 5:30-8:30. Pass the word along to all those interested. Even for those just curious, walk in and we will be there to answer questions and let everyone know more about the experience. It's a great opportunity! Makes a great gift, legacy for family members, new skill, self-esteem booster, family/team building activity, boredom breaker, and answer to that couch potato syndrome :) the list goes on.....

Thursdays, 5:30-8:30, starting this week is also our Build a Boat class for all those interested in being a part of the process. Many people are so in search of a winter activity and this is the perfect beginning to a spring/summer outdoor activity....

See below for more details and attached find more info. showing the boats -- share it with others. Encourage those interested to come to the outer harbor either Tuesdays/Thursday evenings or during our other open hours - see our website www.buffalomaritimecenter.org.

The BMC is also putting together materials and plans to build a Bateau. Stop by the center to find out more.....Word of mouth is so important, so please help us spread the word that we are here!

February

Boat Building for Women begins on Tuesday, February 2, at 5:30pm.

Participants will build a basic canoe or kayak in a class stressing basic skills and confidence building with tools and processes. Limited to 6 participants.

Build Your Own Boat begins on Thursday, February 4 at 5:30pm.

Participants will have the choice to build their own canoes, skiffs, pulling boats or kayaks. Limited to 6 participants.

To register or for more information contact Richard Butz at:

716-878-6017 or butzra@buffalostate.edu

Buffalo Maritime Center

901 Fuhrmann Blvd.

Buffalo, NY 14203

716-878-6532

www.buffalomaritimecenter.org

GET YOUR U.S.C.G. CAPTAIN'S LICENSE: If you have ever thought about getting that license, now is your chance. Sodus Bay Maritime Captains Association, a not-for-profit membership organization, has arranged with Sea Tech Marine Training to conduct a course leading to a U.S. Coast Guard Captain's License. Sea Tech Marine is a U.S. Coast Guard approved training school that is authorized to give the license exam locally. That is, you won't have to travel to Toledo, Ohio. The course will be held at Hampton Inn North, 500 Center Place, Rochester, NY according to the following schedule in 2010:

Saturday, February 20 9AM to 5 PM

Sunday, February 21 9AM to 5 PM

Saturday, February 27 9AM to 5 PM

Sunday, February 28 9AM to 5 PM

Saturday, March 6 9AM to 5 PM

Sunday, March 7 9AM to 5 PM

Wednesday, March 10 (Review) 6:30PM to 10 PM

Thursday, March 11 (Exam) 8:30AM to 3:30 PM *

* Date may change to accommodate students' schedules.

The price for the basic (OUPV or "Six-Pack") course is \$695. If you elect to step up to a Master's License (as most participants do), there are two additional class sessions, an additional exam and an additional fee of \$200.

DON'T WAIT - SIGN UP NOW. SPACE IS LIMITED AND INTEREST IS AT A HIGH LEVEL.

For further information and to sign-up:

Captain Chris Tertinek (585-746-5266) (cmt@rochester.rr.com) or

Captain Steve Heffron (585-370-8216) (dandsheffron@yahoo.com) or

Visit our web site at www.sbcaptains.org

First Mate Safe Return© Course: A boating safety course offered exclusively by the Sodus Bay Maritime Captains Association.

As a First Mate aboard your boat, just how familiar are you with its operation? What if the Skipper should become disabled? Would you know what to do? Would you know how to call for help? Would you be able

to tell rescuers where you are? Would you be able to navigate to a safe port?

The First Mate Safe Return course is designed to teach fundamental skills that will enable a First Mate to do the right thing if the Skipper should become disabled for whatever reason. The course will be taught by Coast Guard Licensed Captains and will include a half-day classroom lecture and on-the-water coaching and demonstration on your own boat. The schedule for the half-day classroom lecture is:

Date: Saturday, March 20, 2010
 Time: 8:00 AM to 12:00 N
 Place: Genesee Yacht Club, 10 Stutson Street, Rochester, NY 14612
 Fee: \$75

The on-the-water coaching and demonstration may be arranged at the mutual convenience of the First Mate and a Captain Instructor from Sodus Bay Maritime Captains Association or, at the option of the student, may be conducted by the student's Skipper.

If interested, you may register by contacting Captain Jack Morris (585) 703-4439, jmorris599@aol.com or Captain Bob Paiement (585) 377-6518, rpaiement@rochester.rr.com

Buffalo Winter Sailing Seminar Schedule 2009-2010

Sponsored by:

Obersheimer's Sailor's Supply 716-877-8221

and Ullman Sails Buffalo 716-447-9766

7:15 TO 9:30 PM, 1884 Niagara St. Buffalo New York 14207

Feb 4 Genoa Design and Trim, How to drive the boat up wind

Mar 4 Spinnaker Design and Trim, How to Sail Fast Down Wind

Mar 24 Basic Sail Trim, Basic crew work, China light

Apr 7 Using the Rules to Sail Smart, Optimizing the Boat Top to Bottom

Apr 8 Basic Boat Handling, Docking, Starting, Mark Rounding, China Light

Apr 21 China Light Organizing Meeting

Comments & Articles of Interest:

In Business for 40 Years - a few thoughts from Steve Haarstick: "I recently received a very nice e-mail from a customer, congratulating us on our upcoming 40th anniversary this March. While he enjoyed my racing memoirs over the past years, he really wanted me to describe how we have managed to remain a successful loft in this age of big name international lofts and the offshore lofts.

This got me thinking about those early years, where the survival of my little loft was a day to day adventure. While I like to think that my constant push to innovate and improve the product was an important factor, I think the main reason for our ability to stay a successful independent sail loft for all these past years has been due to the contributions of so many past and present employees. Without their help, we would never have developed so many dramatic innovations over the years, some of which have actually changed how sails are designed and built today: from computer cutting of sails in 1974, to our "Quilt-Cut" designs in 1979, to our unique "Impact Flutter" cloth testing, and many others, have all contributed to the uniqueness and continued success of our loft.

When our Pattonwood loft burned down in 1983, we were able to stay in business thanks to Stu Sill who turned his sail loft in Sodus over to us, twenty four hours a day, seven days a week until we were able to build a new loft on Clinton Ave that fall. He even installed an air conditioner, because it was too hot in the evening. When we finally moved into our new loft 10 weeks later, I had to virtually force him to accept one of the new sewing machines we bought, as he would not accept any payment for the use of his loft! I have

never forgotten his kindness and generosity.

Finally, the fact that we are still thriving as an independent sail loft is due to the loyalty of our customers for all these years. Without your support for these past forty years, we wouldn't be here. I am very grateful for all the years that I have had to enjoy what I like do best: designing sails, building sails, and sailing. I thank all of you for your support."

Tour of Beneteau factories in France, by Rick Lenard: "We left our hotel for a short drive to the first of the factory tours. Beneteau has 10 production sites world wide with over 2,200 employees. The first plant was in Saint-Hillaire-de-Riez. When we arrived they had coffee and pastry ready for us. After short introductions of plant managers and department heads we moved on to the tour. We started at the wood factory. Beneteau carefully inspects all rough wood before it even goes into any production. The new Alpi wood, which is a wood product made in Italy, comes in thin sheets. It is glued together, then put into forms, and by applying heat and bending in the forms many shapes are created as needed. The end result is stronger, lighter, more scratch resistant, and less expensive to produce and is better suited for environment concerns.

After seeing the formation department, we moved on to where they construct the teak cockpit and swim platform sections. The teak starts out in planks and is then planed down to sheets and milled to specific sizes, stapled together on the back and then caulked with black flex caulking. After the caulk is dry the top is sanded ready for installation. Most of the wood work and milling is done by CAD-CAM, computer designed and machined. Operators watch for quality control as most of the work is done by the automated machines. There is some hands-on cutting and sanding on more specific items where machines can't get to certain areas. Operators also do most of the assembly as machines can't get the furniture quality that a craftsman can when assembling the parts.

We moved on to the spray varnish area. There are 5 different color variations depending on which model the wood is for. Some are for the powerboats, some for the First Series, others for the Oceanis Series. After each stage, there is a quality control board describing what is acceptable and what is not, quality control is constantly monitored. Then there was a giant machine which took 4x8 sheets of marine plywood, sanded each piece, removed the dust, then sprayed a coat of varnish, heated it to dry, then added another coat, then dried again until it came out the other end as a completed sheet. I was told this was an Italian machine that cost over 3 million to design and build; it was over 40 yards long! Each sheet was then stacked ready for the CAD-CAM cutting.

All the furniture is cut from single sheets for each model, laid out so as to get the maximum usage from each sheet with minimum waste. Once the individual pieces are cut they go into a large bin on wheels. Each bin has the model size, hull number and color preference on the front. The factory floor is packed with these bins for each and every boat while in production. The bins go on for as far as you can see, row after row! The bins of produced wood parts, toe rails, interior cabinets, drawers, dinettes, bunks, tables, fiddles, steps, trims, bulkheads and other parts then get shipped to the other factories where the hulls and decks are produced for final assembly. Some of the wood gets shipped to the US factory in Marion, SC. Now that Marion has its own cutting equipment the finishing will be done here.

We moved on to another building where the hulls for the larger boats are produced. The giant molds are built so they can rotate 180 degrees. The molds are produced at another Beneteau factory and are carefully cleaned after each hull is removed. The waxed hull mold first gets covered in gelcoat, then resin is applied either by spray gun or by hand in the different layers of glass on one side and then the other by the mold flipping (rotating). End grain balsa is used in high stress areas for added strength. More resin is applied along with stitch mat and fiberglass roving in pre-cut pieces. The different fiberglass materials used are pre cut by a computer using traced out patterns for each model. The resin is sprayed and rolled into place by workers who go back and forth making sure all the resin is carefully absorbed into the fiberglass and any

bubbles rolled out. Samples of each batch of materials go through lab testing to assure consistent high quality; Beneteau is the only company to do this.

The same process is used for making the interior structural grid. When both parts are cured, the grid is popped from its mold and affixed to the hull while the hull is still in its mold so the shape doesn't change. The outer hull molds are made in two pieces so it can be opened to release the completed hull. The two piece mold is necessary because of the inward turning flange on the top of the hull, otherwise it couldn't be released from the mold. This flange is what the deck bonds to. The grid to hull assembly is done with a proprietary adhesive that is stronger than the fiberglass itself; it creates a solid waterproof bond between the two parts. The grid spreads the load throughout the hull and creates a conduit for plumbing and wiring. The decks are made using the same process of laying up the gelcoat, then fiberglass in layers, with the core in between.

After the hull and deck are released from the molds, the clean up of windows, port areas, cockpits, hatches and other openings takes place. From there, the boats go on an assembly line. The engine, hoses, wiring, water systems, and other utilities are installed. From there the wood interiors are assembled, bottom up. While this is happening, the decks are getting their fittings of windows, hatches, deck organizers, cleats, stanchions and pulpits. Once the interiors are fitted out the two parts are assembled. This is done with the same adhesive along with screws aligning the parts in pre positioned locations while the adhesive cures. Toe rails complete the assembly. The final part to go on is the keel. From there the boats go to an indoor test tank pool. The engines are started and the boat, engine and thru-hulls are checked for any leaks. Throughout this process on the assembly line, quality control managers watch to make sure the boats are built to the high standards that Beneteau is world renowned for.

We left that factory and went to another a few miles away. This is where they do the new resin infusion process. While the molds are similar, the process is different. The molds are in two parts, inner and outer. Once they are cleaned and waxed the fiberglass and core materials are all put in using a dry lay-up process. A series of air hoses connects to the mold at different spots. The air is sucked out and resin and hardener is infused by pressure. The amount is calculated so the same amount is used each time. This works well for one-design models like the First Series boats. They also use it for the powerboat line. The decks are done using the same method.

The assembly line looks like an auto factory with the decks and hulls moving along at different stages of assembly. The hulls sit on cradles with wheels. Along the sides of the line are removable platforms so the workers are at deck level. Also of note is the use of protective carpets and cardboards so the decks, hulls and interior components don't get scratched in the assembly line. The Swift Trawler and Lagoon catamarans are also built at that same plant. All of these factories were clean and environmentally friendly. Any unused product or by-products were sold to other companies for re-use. The chemicals used were re-used and then treated so as to not pollute the environment. Very little ends up in a land fill, even the saw dust is sold off for other by-products.

The next day we drove to the Beneteau corporate headquarters located on the route to the train station. The R&D office for Beneteau, Lagoon and other products of the Groupe is there. Also located there are facilities for tooling production and prototype construction using 5 axis digitally controlled machining. It's a large complex of buildings and offices. This is where the molds and machining tools are built for all the different boat designs. There were 3 other sites we drove by where different aspects of Group Beneteau had operations.

With all the constant innovations, available technology, use of the best naval architects, (Farr, Finot) interior designers & innovating styling (Nauta), rich boat building history, along with the resources at hand, it is no wonder that Beneteau is the number one sailboat manufacturer in the world.

Beneteau is the choice of charter companies, racers and live aboard cruisers. The quality is exceptional, the designs stunning, the performance exhilarating, the value breathtaking. See it for yourself; you'll be glad you did!"

For more information of the rich history of Beneteau:

<http://www.beneteau.com/en/sailboats/beneteau/history.aspx>

<http://www.beneteauusa.com/index.html>

A Used Boat Story, by RCR's Rick Lenard: "Last March a boatyard customer of ours came in to my office to ask me what to do about his boat. He had moved out of the area and the boat had been stored at the far end of the yard and not looked at in over a year.

The boat is a Pearson Triton, 1966 #623 "Circe". He was interested in possibly listing it for sale. "Sure, let's go have a look-see" I said. We walked down to the far end of the yard where "Circe" had been stored for the last 2 winters. I scavenged a ladder and we both climbed up to the cockpit. EEEWWWW, the scuppers were plugged and the cockpit was filled with yucky brown water! After opening the companionway slide, the interior was completely filled to the windows with that same brown water. Apparently the scupper hoses froze and cracked and water was leaking in over the past two years. Everything was now shot, the engine, sails, cushions, bunks, bulkheads, galley and electronics, everything! We knocked out the knot meter thru-hull and water gushed out draining the contents. (It took over 24 hours till it stopped) "Now what do I do?" Well, you could sign over the registration to RCR and pay us to remove it (crush and dumpster), donate it to a sailing school, although I highly doubt they want it in this condition, give it to a restoration school as a teaching project or, have it restored by a highly skilled yard or professional, albeit at great expense. The owner understood and thanked me for the input. Too bad, this was once a nice boat.

Later in the summer the mast was un-stepped the boat loaded and shipped off to a specialist in Maine.

Darren Wright, RCR's Service Manger, gave me the link to the yard where the boat was shipped to. I started to follow the step by step of the re-hab for the boat. The company is called Northern Yacht Restoration. The owner Tim Lackey is a one man show, he is an expert on restoring classic boats both power and sail. The website has links to other restorations Tim has completed and future projects. Tim is a Boatwright whose work is of the highest caliber, he is slow, meticulous and his craftsmanship is beautiful! He does everything himself in a backyard shop he built to his own design.

His daily logs show the boat when it first arrived, removal of every exterior and interior piece, and the amazing re-birth of a classic yacht. He removed every bit of hardware, wood, engine, wiring, plumbing and electrical right down to the bare hull. His process results in a ground-up rebuild and is amazing. It started last July and is still ongoing with a completion date somewhere in March 2010.

To see the restoration click on; www.lackeysailing.com then on the right side of the webpage click on current projects.

The daily logs, complete with photos and analytical descriptions of what was done and why it was done that way, are extremely informative. I have no idea what the end result will cost, but "Circe" is now a restored classic yacht in every sense of the word. She'll be sailing out of New England somewhere turning heads wherever she sails! Rick"

New Boat News:

RCR is a Beneteau Platinum Dealership! Beneteau has created a program that ranks all of their dealerships on a variety of factors, one of the main components being customer satisfaction and service. RCR has attained the highest ranking, the Platinum level. This comes on top of winning the President's

Service Award from Beneteau in October. Congratulations to our staff for a job well done, and thanks to our loyal customers for your support.

New Boats Available for Viewing at RCR:

Beneteau 31, 34, 37, 40, 43, 46

Beneteau First 10R, First 36.7

Hunter 27, 31, 33, 36, 38, 41DS, 45CC

J/100

Sabre Spirit 36, 386, 426

Back Cove 26, 29 Hardtop Express

Don't forget that RCR handles both sail and power.

We have financing rates that will beat the other guys, exclusive to RCR!

RCR Yachts of Erie News by Tracy Buczak:

Iceboat Flea Market: DN ice boat for sale - contact Jay Little, 814-474-4918, WK 814-455-2061. Send me a list of ice boat gear that's been gathering dust in your basement or garage. One man's clutter (something I'm an expert with) is another man's treasure.

Here is an interesting link to EYC's web site on Iceboating:

<http://www.erieyachtclub.org/sailingfleet/iceboating.htm>

Last Sunday was a great day to be iceboating except for 1 hard water sailor. He went trough the ice and was standing in waste deep water while he awaited rescue. BRRRRR! He's OK thanks to several other boaters and was taken to Hamot as a precaution.

Featured Used Boats here in Erie:

1994 Hunter 29.5 Skimmer- nicely kept family cruiser for those starting out. Roller furling, Yanmar diesel, Autopilot, tridata, windspeed, dodger, bimini & connector. Custom winter cover. New batteries, Jensen marine CD satellite and Ipod ready. \$37,900. look for details on RCR's site

2005 Beneteau 423 Northern Lights - lightly used, less than 100hrs, Raymarine Tridata, wind, Chartplotter/GPS, Radar, Autopilot. AC/Heat, custom cockpit cushions and custom salon cushions, 2 head-2 cabin layout, CD disc changer, electric windless, in-mast furling, RF Genoa, Asymmetrical Cruising Chute and more. http://www.rcryachts.com/pre_owned_detail.asp?sid=03575098X1K21K2010J1117I21JPMQ3655R0&veh=939135

1982 S2 8.5 Meter (28') Dolce Vita - new roller furler, Tac-tic wireless wind, tiller pilot, CD, easy to sail and ready for spring. Great family boat to get you started. http://www.rcryachts.com/pre_owned_detail.asp?sid=03326532X1K21K2010J1122I03JPMQ3655R0&veh=1453216

If you are in the market for a boat...especially if used...you have been surfing the net evenings and weekends. ("every waking moment," according to one of my clients and his bride). Very Important! If you find something interesting...have your Broker...hopefully RCR, make the 1st call for additional info.

RCR will help you find the right boat for you! Our brokers will serve as "Buyers Agents" if you find a boat out of our market listed with someone else. We will protect your interests and represent YOU! It cost YOU nothing to use us...the seller pay our fee. We split the commission with the listing brokerage...just like in real estate.

Why navigate the minefield of buying a boat on your own...risking not only you money, but your time and patience. Don't learn the hard way. Use a professional.

We do business in your community...our community...trust us to do the job for you. Since 1972.

The Erie Power Squadron will be holding their spring Safe Boating Classes

Starting March 8th and running through April 26th

Course will be held Mondays 7 - 9 P.M.

Bayfront Center for Maritime Studies
40 Holland Street (Behind the Library)

The Squadron's course will provide you with knowledge needed for recreational boating and will enhance your safety and enjoyment of the sport.

Course instruction includes:

Boat types and nautical terminology

Knots and lines

Adverse conditions and emergencies

Basic Seamanship and boat handling

Navigation rules

Marine radio

Trailing

Chart reading and basic plotting

Navigation aids

Personal watercraft operation

Federal, State, and local Laws and regulations

This is an ideal course for the new boater, someone who is considering their 1st boat purchase, or someone not familiar with boating in coastal or inland waters. The course is meant to interest the whole family.

Children over 12 are welcome.

The course meets Pennsylvania and National Association of State Law Administrators requirements.

A certificate will be issued upon successful completion of the course to operate a PWC in the State of Pennsylvania after you send in your application and \$10 registration fee to the PA Fish & Game Commission.

Most insurance companies offer a premium discount upon completion

Certified Instructors from The Erie unit of the US Power Squadron teach the various classes

The instruction is free. A minimal \$40 fee for books and material is required at the 1st class

For questions and pre-registration contact:

Erie Power Squadron (814)878-3636

Tony Kloszewski (814) 899 6204

akloszewski@roadrunner.com

A friend mentioned that there was a cozy new place that recently opened in town, not far from the waterfront...Lombo's Hideaway Café, 1402 West 10th Street, on the corner of Weschler, Avenue. I stopped the other day and found indeed a cozy adult tavern...completely redone.

Lombo's used to be a deli and Tavern and still houses the same...but neat and clean and brand new, save for that wonderful old mahogany bar and back bar, now moved to another side of the bar room. The deli has large windows facing both Weschler and West 10th and has a separate entrance from the bar room on W. 10th. Wonderful food in the deli cases...dieters stay away. Can you say DESSERT?

Down a couple of steps is the lounge and bar with new furniture and that famous bar. Restrooms are brand new and spotless. Servers friendly and knowledgeable.

The proprietors are Mary & Dave Lombardozi, who have both been in the restaurant industry for over 30

years each. "We decided to open Lombo's Hideaway Cafe when the opportunity presented itself. We have been looking for a nice place to open a more mature tavern, some place that isn't loud and filled with smoke. Our Menu is simple but delicious, our ambiance is open yet cozy, and our staff is just fun to watch. Primarily we wanted to fill the niche that "Sneaky Pete's" has left open for so long. The menu for Lombo's Hideaway Cafe is available on diningverse.com ... <http://diningverse.com/lombos>

OK Food again...

I'm looking for you favorite grilling recipes that you enjoy aboard or in the backyard. Send them to me and I'll share them with our readers and give you some kudos'. How about some prizes for the best? I tried a salmon recipe this week that was sent in. The griller asked to be anonymous.

Grilled Salmon Skewers

Salmon fillets 1 for each person...slice lengthways into strips wide the same as fillets thickness
Marinate in Italian dressing and juice of fresh lime for an hour or overnight if you are taking to the boat. I used a White Balsamic Italian.

Soak some wooden skewers in water so they don't burn

Place salmon on skewers and grill on hot grill...salmon can be delicate so don't try to turn the skewers for 3 minutes or so. The salmon won't stick and fall apart if you're patient. Turn once and grill for about 2 minutes more. I served with some grilled vegetables (Zucchini, onions, red peppers and mushrooms...big pieces). I also had some brown and wild rice as a side which you can prepare ahead and reheat at the boat...damn, I'm hungry.

Hunter unveiled their 2008 Winter Boat Show Special

FREE MARINER OPTION PACKAGE A great deal!

For example, on the popular Hunter 33 it includes In-mast furling, Harken Traveler on the arch, hem sheeting, 29 hp Yanmar engine upgrade, refrigeration, ST60 Knot & Depth upgrade, Stereo w/CD Player including pod speakers, Lewmar folding wheel. That's a \$9,100 saving!

Tips, Products & Services:

Viking Trailers is offering a 10% discount on all Trailer parts and service

work. Just say "RCR Newsletter" and receive your discount. Viking also offers Sailboat Hull, Boot stripe and Topside painting, in house only.

Viking 724-789-9194

Interesting site: <http://www.canadianyachting.com/>

Nautical Trivia "The Sailing Board Game" www.usasummit.com 1-516-628-8486

Boat Canvas Work:

rblakley@rochester.rr.com Julie Blakely

Custom Covers & Canvas: 716-298-5946, Rich or John

Wilson Upholstery & Canvas: 814-474-3618 The lovely Phyllis

Great Sources for Vinyl Boat Names:

www.signdogs.com 585-748-7006

justyn@niagaragraphic.com

<http://www.huntgraphic.com/BOAT%20GRAPHICS.htm>

Beneteau Facebook Page: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Beneteau-USA/93010103950>

Interesting Website: Ken Palmer sent this: www.lakeontariosailing.com

<http://www.silverwaters.com/ed/entry.php?id=log&cnum=c1&topicno=10>

Great books about a Great Lake <http://chimneybluff.com>

THE LATEST IN BOAT EQUIPMENT: <http://www.MyBoatsGear.com>

USCG Captain's License Training: 877-883-9366 or seatraining@aol.com

BOATING DVD STORE: The list is endless! Go to www.bennetmarine.com

Viking Boat Trailers & Cradles: www.sailboats.vikingtrailer.com

Ship Model Site: <http://www.maritimemodelworks.com/>

Delivery Captain: Dave Block, 200 Tons Sail & Power, Mobile: 716.481.7245

Interesting Embroidered Gifts: www.boatpillows.com or 716-745-7291.

New Product Information: www.sailingscuttlebutt.com/forum/products

Flea Market & Small Boat Place:

Don, Just purchased a CD27 fixer-upper. Hull in great shape but needs equipment. Especially ST winches, traveler with line controls, wheel AP, chartplotter, vhf, dodger, etc. If you know of anyone who has equipment for sale from the area, let me know. Thanks, Ed Haley eghaley@twcny.rr.com

"Hi Don, I am a regular boater who is taking a summer vacation to Wilson, NY from the 23rd of June to the 3rd of July. I would like to rent a boat for our vacation to cruise the lake, fish with my son, and make a run over to Toronto for a day/evening. Could you post me request in your news letter as Rick suggests below? I am happy to give more info about my boating experience, as well as provide any other info needed. My cell number below or email address jeff.albee@gmail.com is probably the best way to reach me. Thanks"

For Sale: Two (2) Kasko De-Icers, $\frac{3}{4}$ HP, circulates subsurface water which is warmed to the surface to melt ice and prevent its formation. Can be hung from vessel or dock. The $\frac{3}{4}$ HP model keeps a 75' diameter ice free. Each assembly includes a 25' power cord designed for low temperatures, a zinc anode for corrosion protection and a grounded 3 prong plug. Used one season. New \$699 or best offer. Call Judy for info 716-839-1100 or 716-839-3552.

For Sale or partial trade: 2004 6hp Nissan long shaft...very low hours / stored indoors. Want short shaft 2hp for dinghy. jkrcrew@yahoo.com

Have an unloaded power boat trailer that needs to be brought up from St. Petersburg, FL to the Buffalo area in the spring. I'm seeking a "snow bird" returning to WNY that would be interested in helping out. Please contact Jeff at 585-880-8012.

For Sale:

1) Chutescoop, used very little, 30' long, 9" diameter - excellent condition, \$125

(For your info the following info is from the Chutescoop site : Chutescoops are sized according to sail luff measurements (use the "I" dimension of the boat if the sail luff is not known). Chutescoop sleeves are supposed to be shorter than the sail luff. On cruising spinnakers, use a Chutescoop that stops just short of the leech clew (unless the measurement between luff length and leech length is excessively long). On poled

spinnakers allow 3 to 4 feet of sail below the sleeve to permit the pole to be trimmed.)

2) Propeller, 3 blade bronze, 17 x 14, \$200 OBO

3) 2 Lewmar hatch trim and screen kits for #60 hatch (20" x 20") - \$50 for each or best offer, photo available upon request

4) 2 offshore orange PDF's, adult size, \$25 each or BO, photo on request
contact rwaller@twcny.rr.com or call Bob at (607)387-5207

Cleaning out the Basement:

28" diameter stainless wheel

34" diameter varnished teak wheel

40" diameter stainless wheel

Force 10 grill

33# Danforth anchor

Tbooth@k-100.com

For Sale:

Used Pathfinder 18" 2KW Radome \$400

brian@rcryachts.com

716-799-4860

Contact RCR Sales:

Buffalo 716-856-6314

Erie 814-455-6800

Rochester 585-339-9730

Sodus Point 315-483-2526

Youngstown 716-745-3862

Disclaimer: We locate info and event dates from a wide variety of sources, and we won't be held responsible if dates change or info we obtain turns out to be inaccurate. Please double-check any event prior to heading off to it!

In the event that you don't want to receive future issues, please reply to this message, and type Remove in the subject line.