

## RCR Yachts

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**From:** "RCR Yachts" <sail@rcryachts.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 02, 2010 1:20 PM  
**Subject:** Fw: RCR Yachts Sailor's News

# RCR Yachts Sailor's News, April 2, 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:** I am a bit jealous of those who have the day off and are outside enjoying this weather. There is activity in the boatyards, and today we launched our first boat here in Youngstown. We hope you all have a wonderful weekend, with maybe even some time to work on the boat.

We sometimes mention our friends and customers who have moved onto their boats to enjoy life on the water. Some do it for a few months at a time before returning to their working world, others have put that behind them and are living their retirement dream. We look forward to notes from our dear friends Hank & Ann, who are presently cruising southern waters aboard their 42' trawler. Just got this yesterday from Hank, they are currently in the Bahamas: "Great lunch at Nippers. A rockin' bar if I've ever seen one - funky, neat. Staying at Mangos Marina in Marsh Harbor for a few days to rest up, clean the boat, snorkel, etc. before heading on South. Life is good :) Cheers from QAR, Hank". They have worked hard and deserve the freedom and adventure that they have been living since pulling up stakes and moving aboard a year and a half ago. How about you?

Because we are into spring pre-launch season, we would like to provide some tips as you prepare your boat for another sailing season. Here are a few on the underside of your boat, and Tracy has some more further down in his column. If you have any concerns about your boat you should have a professional look at it to be certain there is nothing serious going on.

This is the season where people focus on the part of their boat that is below the waterline, which they normally only pay attention to in the spring. We are asked frequently about a few of the following problems, here is some insight into each:

**Crack at joint of ballast keel and fiberglass hull:** Most recreational sailboats have a metal keel (lead or cast iron) that is bolted to the hull. This is known as external ballast.

The bolts that hold the keel onto the hull are stainless steel, and under normal conditions...especially in fresh water...these bolts will last for a very long time, the useful life of the boat in most cases. There is a caulking material that seals the joint of the hull to keel to keep the water out. Finally, some filler is used to smooth the joint on the outside. It is very common for this filler to crack and people get nervous when they see the crack. It is, however, in almost all cases strictly cosmetic and not structural. But if you want to have a smoother bottom you can dig it out a bit to remove all loose filler, clean and sand the joint, and re-caulk. To keep this from happening again you can use a flexible material like 3M 4200 or 5200 which sticks very well and can be sanded and painted.

**Blemishes on the keel:** Keels are made of either lead or cast iron. Normally keels are cast in a sand mold. Some of the sand can get into the metal during the casting process and over time the sand will come out, leaving a hole in the side of the keel. You may see a blister or some fore-and-aft cracks in the lead. Dig out any loose material, clean and fill the void. Again, this is almost never structurally significant. Due to the cost of lead, and the negative environmental impact of this material, more and more boats are being built with cast iron keels. The main issue we see with iron keels is surface rust, which again is largely cosmetic. All you need to do is sand or wire brush all the rust off and spot paint with an epoxy primer such as Interlux Interprotect 2000. This will seal the water out and prevent further rusting.

**Rudder Cracks & Blisters:** While most of the problems with rudders can be easily repaired, we are now talking about a problem that can be structurally significant, as nobody wants to lose steering control without warning. Rudders are commonly made by bonding two thin fiberglass skins together and filling the inside core that surrounds a rudder post (or stock). Foam is the most commonly used core material. While the skins are bonded to the stock when new, over time, with heating and cooling and flexing under sail, the seam between skin and rudder post at the top will open a tiny bit, which lets water into the rudder. Once inside the water will freeze and eventually cause either bubbles on the side of the rudder or cracks. The severity of the problem varies from insignificant tiny bubbles to blow-outs where the rudder needs major surgery or even replacement. If what you can see amounts to more than a few small bubbles you are best to have someone with more knowledge look at it. Once you know what you are dealing with the repair is often not bad and can usually be done by the boat owner, but you need to be sure.

The other day I was at the Olcott YC and saw the extensive work they are doing to install a new steel bulkhead wall in front of their club. Great improvement!

**Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper:** I attended a lunch presentation at the Buffalo YC yesterday, hosted by the Riverkeeper folks. This organization is dedicated to improving the quality of the various local bodies of water. They have been toiling away diligently with the goal of cleaning up once polluted rivers and streams so that we may all enjoy a much cleaner environment in the future. Nice to see a number our customers there also. We'll have more to report in future issues.

**Dave Heitzenrater of Erie sent this along:** Need photo's of your boat? Check out these local photographers:

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

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

**Fire Extinguisher Tip:** We draw your attention to Tracy's RCR Erie column below. A reader mentioned that you should turn your extinguishers upside down to make sure the powder has not solidified inside, rendering them useless.

**Boat Sale Update:** We feel very fortunate that sailors are coming out once again and buying boats, both new and used, in very good numbers. We are way ahead of last year in terms of the number of boats sold as well as the average size and price of boats sold. There are plenty of good deals to be had so let us know what you are looking for and we'll match you up with the right vessel.

**Western NY BoomDays:** An annual celebration of the lifting of the Ice Boom and the advent of Spring. April 15-17, 2010 [www.boomdays.com](http://www.boomdays.com)

**April 17, BUFFALO SPRING SHORELINE SWEEP:** 9:00AM - Noon Over 1,000 hardworking volunteers will partner with Buffalo Niagara RIVERKEEPER™ to clean up the shoreline at 40 sites throughout the Buffalo Niagara region! Cleanup crews will pick up trash such as clothing, drinking bottles, shopping carts, mattresses, and car parts as well as perform community beautification projects. For more information or to sign up to volunteer, visit [www.bnriverkeeper.org/get-involved/cleanups/](http://www.bnriverkeeper.org/get-involved/cleanups/) or call (716) 852-7483.

**April 17, CELEBRATION @ Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park** 6:30PM - 9:30PM Celebrate the lifting of the Lake Erie-Niagara River Ice Boom and Western New York's unofficial start of spring with Buffalo Niagara RIVERKEEPER. Tickets are \$25 presale (by 4/9) and \$30 after 4/9 and at the door. For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit [www.bnriverkeeper.org/events](http://www.bnriverkeeper.org/events) or call (716) 852-7483.

- Live music from The Stonebridge Band
- Catering from Pearl Street Grill & Brewery
- Local wine and brews
- 50/50
- Poetry Contest
- Fireworks on the waterfront

**April 17, SATURDAY NIGHT CELEBRATION @ LASALLE YACHT CLUB**  
73 South 68th Street - Niagara Falls, NY 6:00 PM  
Free Admission - \$5 donation requested  
Food Service - Cash Bar

**Haarstick Sailmakers Spring Sail Pick-Up:** I will be delivering new and repair sails to RCR Yachts Buffalo Skyway Marina on Saturday April 17th and Saturday May 1st from 10 am till 12 Noon. Just let me know which date works best for you and I will see you there. I can be reached on my cell phone (716) 830-4598 during those days, if for some reason you are running late or can not make it.

Eric Christensen  
WNY Sales/Service  
Haarstick Sailmakers  
(800)342-5033

**This week's commentary is a continuation of my East Coast Tour report,** this week we'll report on Sabre.

**Now on Facebook:**  
**Schooner's Riverside Pub**  
**RCR Yachts**  
**J/Boats**  
**Beneteau**

**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

**Custom Sailboat Trailer for sale:** Will fit 26-32' boat (has been used for a C&C 29). Tandem axle, 6 uprights with adjustable screw pads, 3 custom mast brackets, electric brakes on both axles, 3 stabilizing jacks, wheel chocks, painted black, serviced 2009 with new wiring and battery, 4 heavy duty tires, built by Boyer Industries on heavy duty construction grade Hudson base, \$5,900, Youngstown [rick@rcryachts.com](mailto:rick@rcryachts.com)

**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](http://www.rcryachts.com)

**38' Hunter 38 2007 "Mac Daddy" *REDUCED*** to \$159,900. This boat is extremely clean and very lightly used, and has many popular features such as electric winch, windlass, in-mast furling, cruising spinnaker and much more. A big, roomy, stable boat with wonderful cockpit layout and rich interior.

**31' Dufour 31 1975 "Sloop Zoe" *NEW LISTING*** A Very Nice Boat! 25HP Volvo Diesel, Wheel, VHF, Compass, 110 Shore Power, Beautiful Joinery Below, NEW interior cushions, NEW, Bimini, Mainsail, Winch and Wheel Cover, Winter Cover, Steel Cradle, Awlgrip Painted Red Hull, Buffalo, \$14,900

**30' Pearson 303 1985 *NEW LISTING*** Wheel, Diesel, Knot, Depth, Wind, Roller Furler, VHF, H&C Pressure, 110V Shore Power, Very Roomy! Buffalo, \$29,900

**25' Cape Dory 25 1977 "Doris Eileen" *NEW LISTING*** Nissan 5 HP, Complete Refit including Imron Hull & Deck Paint, New Bronze Ports, 110V, Knot/Depth, Charger, Hood Furler, New Genoa, Inverter, etc. Erie, \$11,900

**22' Seaward 22 1986 "Dawn Treader" *NEW LISTING*** A very nice little pocket cruiser with 12" shoal draft and SS Centerboard. Tandem Axle Trailer, 6 HP Mercury, 4 sails including Spinnaker, 8 Foot Beam, VHF, Buffalo \$7,900

**46' Beneteau 461 2001 "Beach Buoys" *NEW TRADE*** Erie, PA \$179,900

**42' Catalina 42 2000 *UNDER CONTRACT***

**38' Hunter 386 2003 "Livin' Beyond Zero" *SOLD***

**37' Pearson 37-2 1990 *UNDER CONTRACT***

**36' Beneteau 361 2002 "Blue Moon" *SOLD***

**36' Beneteau First 36.7 2002 *UNDER CONTRACT***

**36' Catalina 36 *UNDER CONTRACT***

**35' C&C 35-3 "Allegro" *REDUCED*** Rochester, \$49,900

**35' J/35 1995 *UNDER CONTRACT***

**35' Schock 35 1991 *SOLD***

**35' Hunter 356 2002 *UNDER CONTRACT***

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

**35' Freedom 35 1996 "Sans Souci" *UNDER CONTRACT***

**34' J/34 1984 Soundwave" *REDUCED*** \$19,900

**34' Beneteau 343 2007 "Gatsby" *SOLD***

**34' Beneteau 34 2009 NEW TRADE** Ithaca, \$129,900

**34' Hunter 34 1983 *SOLD***

**34' Hunter 34 1984 *SOLD***

**34' Sabre 34 1981 "Carnival" *UNDER CONTRACT***

**34' Sabre 34 1980 "Suzy Q III" *UNDER CONTRACT***

33' J/100 2006 "Patriot" **NEW LISTING** Buffalo \$119,900  
 33' Precision 11M with trailer **SOLD**  
 32' Beneteau 323 2004 "Jersey Girl" **UNDER CONTRACT**  
 31' Dufour 31 1975 "Sloop Zoe" **NEW LISTING** Buffalo \$14,900  
 30' Pearson 303 1985 **NEW LISTING** Buffalo, \$29,900  
 30' Tartan 30 **REDUCED** to \$13,900  
 30' Pearson 30 1973 **UNDER CONTRACT**  
 30' Cal 9.2 1981 "Al Steamer" Buffalo **REDUCED** \$8,400  
 29' J/29 1984 "Thunder" Diesel, Fractional Rig Buffalo **REDUCED** \$7,900  
 29' Ericson 29 "Kokomo" **REDUCED** to \$14,900  
 29' Hunter 29.5 1994 "Skimmer" **UNDER CONTRACT**  
 29' C&C 29-1 1977 **UNDER CONTRACT**  
 28' Albin Cumulus 1980 "My Option" **NEW LISTING** Buffalo \$9,900  
 28' Classic Abbott 28 1967 "Salescall" **NEW LISTING** Buffalo \$7,400  
 28' S2 8.5 Meter 1982 **UNDER CONTRACT**  
 27' Catalina 27 1978 Inboard **NEW LISTING** Erie \$5,995  
 26' S2 7.9 Inboard 1982 "Cha Cha Cat" **SOLD**  
 25' Cape Dory 25 1977 "Doris Eileen" **NEW LISTING** Erie \$11,900

#### Power:

39' Rinker 39 2007 "Aqua Holic" **REDUCED** \$189,900  
  
 33' Egg Harbor 33 Convertible 1985 "Bomba Charger" **NEW LISTING** Near Bristol Condition, Chartplotter, Radar, Refrig, Depth, Flybridge Enclosure, Twin 454 Crusaders with 724 Hours, Erie, \$54,900  
  
 32' Halvorsen Trawler 2003 **UNDER CONTRACT**  
  
 31' SeaRay 310 Sundancer 1998 "R Time" **NEW LISTING** Loadmaster Trailer, Twin 5.0 Mercruisers, Genset, Air & Heat, TV, DVD, Windlass, New Camper Canvas, Erie, \$64,900  
  
 31' Silverton 31 1992 **REDUCED** \$32,900  
  
 30' SeaRay Weekender 30 1988 "Osmosis" **NEW LISTING** Always stored indoors, very nice condition, 500 hours, 5.7L 260 HP Mercruiser Inboards, not IO's, new canvas, AC/Heat, Erie, \$29,900  
  
 65' Custom Passenger Ferry 1998 "Horizon" **NEW LISTING** Dunkirk \$424,900  
 43' Bayliner 4387 1991 "Junkyard Dogs" **REDUCED** to \$95,000  
 40' Mainship 40 1994 **REDUCED** to \$89,900, Erie  
 39' Rinker 39 2007 "Aqua Holic" **REDUCED** \$189,900  
 36' Sportcraft Fishmaster 36 **REDUCED** to \$62,900 Will consider trades  
 34' Sea Ray 34 Express **SOLD**  
 33' Egg Harbor 33 Convertible 1985 **NEW LISTING** Erie, \$54,900  
 32' Halvorsen Trawler 2003 **UNDER CONTRACT**  
 31' Silverton 31 1992 **REDUCED** \$32,900  
 31' SeaRay 310 Sundancer 1998 "R Time" **NEW LISTING** Erie, \$64,900  
 30' Carver Santego 30 1989 **UNDER CONTRACT**  
 30' SeaRay Weekender 30 1988 **NEW LISTING** Erie, \$29,900  
 30' SeaRay 300DA 1989 **UNDER CONTRACT**  
 30' SeaRay 300 Sundancer "Red Dog Leader" **REDUCED** to \$72,900, Erie

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:**

**April 10, RCYC is holding a safety at sea seminar**, sanctioned by US Sailing. Attendance qualifies participants for Newport Bermuda and other offshore races. That said, the material is great for both racers and cruisers. The event takes place on April 10 in Toronto. I wonder if you could make a mention of it in your newsletter? We already have some folks coming up from the Buffalo area. Thanks to Val Matison. More info on the site: <http://www.safetyatsea.ca>

**April 15-17**, Buffalo Boomdays [www.boomdays.com](http://www.boomdays.com)

**April 28-June 30, USCG Sailing Skills and Seamanship Course:** 10 weeks each Wednesday from April 28 to June 30. The course will be held at the West Side Rowing Club at the Foot of Porter Avenue, from 6:30-9:30 PM.

To register or for more information contact:

Dan Massing at 716-799-7182 or at e-mail [flotilla33@verizon.net](mailto:flotilla33@verizon.net)

Don Hassenfratz at 716-684-5336 or at e-mail [dahazz\\_2@earthlink.net](mailto:dahazz_2@earthlink.net)

**May 8 & 9, RCR Buffalo Annual Spring Picnic:** Stop in for free food and refreshments, Saturday 11-5, Sunday 11-3.

**May 19, Schooner's Riverside Pub will open for the season**

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

### **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

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

**Schooner Spirit of Buffalo:** We are currently booking charters, public sails and education programs for 2010 so call today! For passenger sails please call 796-7210 and visit [www.spiritofbuffalo.com](http://www.spiritofbuffalo.com) . For education programs please call 796-8393 and visit [www.buoe.org](http://www.buoe.org) .

**Schooner Spirit of Buffalo is also looking for great people to join us for our 2010 sailing season and will be hiring part-time and full-time crew!**

If you are interested in applying for a position, please email or mail your resume and a cover letter stating why you are interested in this position to:

Captain Rich Hilliman

825 Ashland Avenue

Buffalo, NY 14222

[rich@spiritofbuffalo.com](mailto:rich@spiritofbuffalo.com)

## Comments & Articles of Interest:

**My East Coast Tour, by Don Finkle:** Next week we'll cover Sabre Yachts.

**Follow the Perry's Down South:** (S/V Autumn Borne)

[www.autumnborne.blogspot.com](http://www.autumnborne.blogspot.com)

**Read more about the travels of "Star of the Sea":** <http://www.sailblogs.com/member/star/>

## 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:** More new members for RCR's family of owners. It was a beautiful day yesterday and today promises more of the same. Covers are coming off... the buzzing sound of buffers can be heard at the clubs and marinas...could it be Spring?

Sales activity is still going strong and I've received new offers on some of our brokerage listings. Yesterday one of our newer listings, Frank & Janie's Hunter 29.5, went under contract to a Canadian couple. Their dollar is nearly at par spurring lots of activity from our northern friends.

**As you may know we participated in the Annual "Wine on the Lake Event at the Bayfront Convention Center Saturday.** Over 4,000 people enjoyed tasting Pennsylvanian wines and cheeses. The 2pm to 4:30pm session was great but the evening session was even better attended. We had, through the courtesy of Dog & Randy, their classy Back Cove 29 on display and a recent trade in, a 2001 Maxum 2100SC with only 177hrs on her. We set up just as we do other shows with our brokerage listings picture displayed and opportunity to board the boats and get excited about the upcoming season. Brian Lilly of Lilly Broadcasting, the events major sponsor, said having the boats here was wonderful...classy and hoped we would be attending next year.

My lovely daughter, Angela, will be celebrating a birthday Sunday...a BIG ONE...I have a 40 year old daughter? Holy \_ \_ \_ \_!

**Maintenance Tip of the Week: A complete Safety Inspection of the engine, hull, and other systems should take, at most, an hour or two. And attention to detail this spring can make the upcoming**

***boating season a lot safer and more enjoyable.*** (From Seaworthy)

- More on shaft stuffing boxes. The stuffing box SHOULD drip...the consensus is a drip every 2-3 minutes...this is necessary for lubrication of the shaft while underway. Many new boats have dripless shaft seals.  
PYI Inc. manufactures the PSS Shaft Seal Packless Sealing System. It's a mechanical seal that uses a self-aligning carbon-graphite stator to ensure a 100% watertight seal. This seal will eliminate shaft wear and minimize corrosion. PYI also distributes many other marine products including the Max-Prop, feathering props. Ask Kevin Dunn for more info and pricing for your boat. (716-745-3862 ext. 207) RCR is a PYI Dealer. Many marina mechanics I spoke to endorse this system. Visit PYI's web site. <http://www.pyiinc.com>
- Inspect fuel lines, including fill and vent hoses, for indications of softness, brittleness, or cracking. All suspect hoses should be replaced with Coast Guard approved J1527 hose. Check all joints for leaks and make sure all lines are well supported with non-combustible straps or clips without rough or sharp edges.
- Inspect all of the other components of the fuel system - fuel tanks, fuel pumps, filters - for leaks. A dry rag can be used at connections, or you can trust your nose. Clamps should be snug and free of heavy rust and corrosion.
- Replace fuel filters...I have found haul-out time is a good time for this.
- Clean and tighten electrical connections, especially both ends of battery cables. Loose connections can "arc" which creates a fire hazard.
- Cooling hoses and fittings should fit snugly and be double clamped. Hoses that show signs of age or rot should be replaced.
- Sailboat Rigging: Fittings, especially swage fittings, should be inspected for cracks and rust. Wire halyards and stays should also be inspected for "fishhooks" and rust, which snag fingers and is an indication the rigging is at the end of its useful life. Inspect spreaders and boots.
- Remove tape from turnbuckles and lubricate threads (preferable with Teflon lubricant). Give the turnbuckle a twist to help prevent mechanical freezing. Replace with fresh rigging tape.
- Chainplates mounted through the deck should be recaulked as necessary, preferable every 2 - 3 years. Leaks can cause problems, ranging from delaminated decks to rotted cores and bulkheads. Remove ALL of the old caulking.
- Check and replace fire extinguishers as necessary.
- Stoves and remote tanks should be inspected for loose fittings and leaking hoses.
- Clean the bilge. Inspect the bilge pump and float switch for proper operation.
- Replace outdated flares. Keep old ones as spares.

A reader dropped me an email with an important point I failed to mention regarding **fire extinguishers**. (Yes, someone else reads this as well)

"Tracy, Just one point that I would like to make sure everyone is aware of when it comes to fire extinguisher inspections. It is very important that when inspecting your fire extinguishers (hopefully every month during the season!) you rotate the extinguisher 180 degrees (upside down) and "feel" the extinguishing agent moving inside the canister. If you can't feel the powder moving inside the extinguisher, have it serviced or replaced immediately. The gauge is simply a measure of charge pressure and there have been many occasions, according to my fire suppression service technician, where an individual pulled the pin on a "fully charged" extinguisher, squeezed the handle and only got a blast of nitrogen because the extinguishing agent had solidified in the bottom of the canister. Not a good start to putting out a fire, especially on your boat!! Also, it's a good idea to practice with an old extinguisher from time to time just to be sure you are familiar with the proper use. When a fire breaks out is not the time to be trying to figure out how to operate the fire extinguisher. Read the instructions and invest in a new extinguisher after you use an old one for practice. If the YC has large extinguishers that are commercially serviced, the service provider would probably be glad to come in for a nominal fee and provide training and practice for those interested. The provider might even be willing to come in on a Saturday to do the training with the right incentive (a couple of

cold ones around a small fire is always fun!) We do recurrent training on an annual basis here and pick up some new knowledge every year."

Have a great, safe day, Jon Miller  
Thanks John.

### **Take the time to examine you docking gear -lines and fenders.**

#### **REPACE THEM IF THEY ARE WORN**

At the beginning of the season when boats are just getting in but folks aren't around much, our vessels are more vulnerable to damage. Some lines break for a few of you and fenders pop up and there is the inevitable chafe or "Dock-rash." I've always made a habit of adding a few extra lines when I know I'm going to leave the boat unattended for awhile. (Probably left over from when I traveled some distance and only used my boat on the weekends) That extra measure of prevention I'm sure saved the day many times.

I have a friend who lives just outside of Pittsburgh and is only here on the weekends. Some observations I've made from my experience and lessons I've learned from him I'll share.

#### **The A-B-C's of securing a vessel, so to speak.**

**A. Use the proper line for the job...**sized according to the vessels weight and size. Material...Nylon...why? It stretches to absorb shock loads. 3-Strand & braided are common. 3-strand stretches more, is resistant to abrasion and snagging and less expensive. Braided is stronger and has a better feel and is available in colors.

(DO Not use polypropylene...yes it floats and is cheap, is your boat? But UV exposure weakens it quickly and does not coil.

**Just as a guide...**use 3/8" for boats up to 25' or so, 1/2" for 26'-32' boats, 5/8" for boats up to 45', and 3/4" will do for boats up to 52'. Larger size lines will last a bit longer but stretch less. Larger size line may not work as well will the size of a given boats cleats.

**B. Protect your lines from chafe...the enemy.** Wrapping some leather or a piece of garden hose around a line where it passes over a chock or dock, or eye splices and shackles where the dock is equipped with rings.

**C. Use SPRING LINES...**I'm amazed at their lack of use. Spring lines not only aid you when you are coming into dock serving to stop you, but they help reduce forward and aft surge. They oppose the tension on the bow and stern lines. Properly tied they will allow the boat greater rise and fall during changes in water levels associated with storms.

**Spring lines run from a bow cleat aft to the dock or from a stern cleat forward to the dock or from mid-ship cleats forwards and aft to the dock.** They should be at least 2/3's to the approximate length of the boat. I find that buying a different color from the rest of your lines is helpful in identifying them.

**D. (OK, I added one)** Carry transient lines. Leave your permanently adjusted lines behind. Transient line should be equal in size but have some additional length. (2/3's the length of the boat. Have 2 springs and at least 4 bows and stern. They can be 3-strand to save a little money. **HINT...**when you approach a new slip or dock and help is there to assist, throw the spliced end to the person on the dock and ask them to place it on the cleat...you can then adjust the scope of the line from the boat.

**E. (I know I added another one) Practice** these procedures with your mate or crew.

#### **Boat Re-naming ABC's**

**Springtime: Some new boat owners change the name of their vessel.**

**BE CAREFUL: There is a re-naming ritual that MUST be followed.**

<http://www.boat-trucklettering.com/rename.shtml>

**Happy Easter!**

**It feels like SPRING!**

The only thing in life we cannot replace is time

Let the people we love know it. Take the time to show it.  
Don't be afraid to express yourself.  
Seize the day!

*Wind...Water...Excitement...Exhilaration...Competition...Family...Friends... fulfillment...Time  
Together...Relaxation... Romance... memories for a lifetime...  
THAT'S SAILING!*

**Happy Birthday Angela!**

"The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist  
expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails."  
-William A. Ward

**Reminder: Let RCR help you with installs and service work.** RCR's staff in all locations can do a quality job for you. **Make your plans early** and get on the schedule before the Spring Commissioning season starts. Call me to schedule here in Erie. We can help you with bottom painting, buffing and waxing, bright work and more as well. ...But please schedule early. Schedules are filling up.

**Contact RCR Service:**

Buffalo Yard, Darren Wright 716-572-2312

Youngstown Yard, Bruce Lort 716-745-7545

Brian Buczak, Service and Warranty, 716-799-4860

**RCR Yachts of Erie will offer to set up a FREE VESSEL SAFETY CHECK for all boats we sell and any one interested in having a safety check done. (Did I Say FREE?) Contact me: [tracy@rcryachts.com](mailto:tracy@rcryachts.com)**

**Tips, Products & Services:**

**Product of the Week: Hickory Springs Memory Foam Toppers**, For A Good Night's Sleep On Board. The do-it-yourself memory foam topper kit from Hickory Springs Marine Group adds a more comfortable sleep-on layer to existing boat mattresses and creates comfortable sleeping space elsewhere on board. The conversion kit - available in twin, full and queen sizes - includes mildew-resistant memory foam, template paper and a cutting tool.

**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 Topsides painting, in house only.  
Viking 724-789-9194

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

**Nautical Trivia "The Sailing Board Game"** [www.usasummit.com](http://www.usasummit.com) 1-516-628-8486

**Boat Canvas Work:**

[rblakley@rochester.rr.com](mailto: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](http://www.signdogs.com) 585-748-7006  
[justyn@niagaragraphic.com](mailto: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.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](mailto:seatraining@aol.com)

**BOATING DVD STORE:** The list is endless! Go to [www.bennetmarine.com](http://www.bennetmarine.com)

**Viking Boat Trailers & Cradles:** [www.sailboats.vikingtrailer.com](http://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](http://www.boatpillows.com) or 716-745-7291.

**New Product Information:** [www.sailingscuttlebutt.com/forum/products](http://www.sailingscuttlebutt.com/forum/products)

**Flea Market & Small Boat Place:**

**Full Winter Fairclough Cover for sale**, custom fitted for 2005 Beneteau 393. Cover purchased 2006 at \$5300. for storage in or out of water and option for rig stored upright or alone. Excellent condition, located in Stamford, CT, priced at \$1800 plus factory pack and ship charge. Thanks, Tom 925-895-3660

**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](mailto: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](mailto:jeff.albee@gmail.com) is probably the best way to reach me. Thanks"

**New In Box:** 2005 West Marine 260 Lite RIB. L-8'6", Beam 5'1", HP Rating- 8hp, 3 Person Capacity. Will assist if freight drop is needed. Paid \$2k. Best offer. Located Rochester, NY. [jpboatworks@gmail.com](mailto:jpboatworks@gmail.com)

**Barient #10 Single Speed Winch** in great condition off J Boat. Located Rochester, NY.  
[jpboatworks@gmail.com](mailto:jpboatworks@gmail.com)

**3 Schaefer Marine** Part No. 71-91 Single Rope Clutches in original bags from 1986. Located Rochester,

NY. [jpboatworks@gmail.com](mailto:jpboatworks@gmail.com)

**For Sale:** Two (2) Kasko De-Icers, ¾ 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 ¾ 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.

**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:**

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

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

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

**Cleaning out the Basement:**

28" diameter stainless wheel

[Tbooth@k-100.com](mailto:Tbooth@k-100.com)

**For Sale:**

Used Pathfinder 18" 2KW Radome \$400

[brian@rcryachts.com](mailto: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.**