



# Lake DuBay Sailor

The official newsletter of the Lake DuBay Sailing Association  
Spring 2012

## Club Officers:

Mike Koss, Commodore 715-359-4890

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Website: [www.SailDuBay.org](http://www.SailDuBay.org)

## Welcome to the 2012 sailing season.

This newsletter contains important information for club members including a roster, event dates, boat yard information, and membership information. The Lake DuBay Sailing Association promotes sailing activities and friendship through sailing. The club members strive to engage fellow sailors through all types of sailing events, including racing, cruising, trailer sailing, and day sailing. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions contact an officer and they'll try to help. Have a safe and fun 2012 sailing season.



## What is it about sailing?

By: Mike Koss

A few years ago, I found myself at a meet-and-greet business dinner celebrating the launch of a new enterprise. The wine flowed freely, and conversation turned to the things that we did as

hobbies or avocations, and there were two or three sailors in the group besides myself. A bright young fellow, a hard-charging MBA, a true type A personality and cigarette boat driver asked me, "Every time I hear some sailboat driver talk about sailing, they go all philosophical on me- so what the hell is it about sailing anyway?"

I thought a few seconds and replied, "You know, if I have to explain it, you wouldn't get it anyway." The couple of other sailors just chuckled, and the inquirer just looked perplexed.

So what is it about sailing, anyway?

Maybe its-

Launching off of five-foot waves on a close reach in Lake Superior in 15 knots of wind, when it feels like the boat wants to fly, then coming back down in a shower of sunlit spray, only to repeat again, with yourself wishing this experience would never end, the boat feeling like a powerful living thing.

Coming into harbor and the end of a cruise, and seriously considering loading up again with ice and groceries, taking another couple of days off, and heading back out where there is no cell phone coverage, no TV, no internet, no schedule- just a radio and one of the most beautiful places on earth that you seemingly have all to yourself- the light and space giving new meaning to the words "out there".

*What is it about sailing, continued on page 2*

*What is it about sailing, continued from page 1*

Anchoring in the clearest water imaginable, in a nook of a bay that is perfectly protected from the coming night's weather, not another boat in sight, with a clear view to the sunset over fifty miles of open water, and watching with awe the grandest sunset imaginable, where indescribably beautiful colors play out in the sky and on the surface of the inland sea, to create a visual memory never to be forgotten.

Heading out from the dock, turning upwind, raising main and jib, then going back to the cockpit to shut down the engine, savoring the sudden quiet, then bearing off to feel the draw of the wind in the sails, with water and wind the only sounds as the boat heels a bit to leeward, and you think, "It doesn't get any better than this"

For me at least, that's what it is about sailing. That and the fellowship of those who feel the same way about it.

And I think that's why if you have to explain it to someone, they won't get it anyway.

Mike Koss  
 BlewBoat  
 N44° 53.16'  
 W89° 39.86'



Sometimes sailors like to do it in the dark.

**Moonlight Cruises Scheduled:**

As part of the cruising series of events, LDBSA is proud to announce four moonlight cruise events. Bring your cruising boat or strap lights on your day-sailor and enjoy Lake DuBay on moonlit evenings. Perhaps even anchor out and spend the night. Events for 2012 are scheduled as follows, beginning 6:00 pm:

- June 1
- July 3
- August 3
- August 31

Contact Jack Thielke if you have questions.

**LDBSA Boat Yard:**

LDBSA leases the property we use as our boat yard from Consolidated Water Power Company. The yard is convenient, and is very affordable for club members to use.

While the location of the yard and the cost to the club is convenient, the yard is on land regulated by the federal energy regulatory commission and is "public access property". This means we as a club have the privilege to use the land to store our ready-to-sail boats, but with some limitations: We can limit vehicle access with a gate, but we cannot prohibit foot traffic. This does create some security concerns and some club members and the club boat have been victims of theft in the past.

The club officers have discussed several ideas for improving security and at this time have no cost effective solutions other than recommending members keep their boats and valuables locked and if your boat is equipped with an engine, remove it and take it with you if it's reasonable to do so. The club officers will continue to discuss security improvements, so if you have ideas don't hesitate to bring them to the table.

The Boat Yard opens on May 1st and closes on October 21st. It is each individual members' responsibility to keep your lot mowed neatly. Let's all continue to take great pride in our boat yard and enjoy the special asset that we have.



## Read Your Way to Racing Success?

By: Dennis Gamble

Wisconsin has produced a number of great sailors -- Buddy Melges for one -- despite the fact that you can only go out and practice sailing about 6 months a year. You might extend that to 8 months a year with a dry suit, but the fact remains that most of us have a 6 month off season when it's difficult to do anything to improve our sailing. One thing you can do from the comfort of your favorite chair, is to read one of the many books available on sailing and racing. Over the past few years, I've managed to accumulate quite a few books, some on boat building, most on racing.

I've heard it said that knowledge is power. It is probably more accurate to say that knowledge -- applied correctly at the appropriate moment -- is power. As I discovered several times last year, too much thinking on the race course can lead to indecision and poor results. Despite that, I can't stop buying and reading books on racing and tactics. I keep hoping that one day, I'll stumble across a magic paragraph -- a rosetta stone that will reveal the hidden secrets to racing success. I promise to share it with everyone if I find it.

In the mean time, here is a list of books that I currently own, and would be happy to lend to anyone who would like to read them -- in no particular order:

- The Tactics of Small boat Racing - Stuart Walker
- Peter Isler's Little Blue Book of Sailing (Kindle book)
- Wind Strategy - David Houghton
- Championship Laser Sailing - Glenn Bourque
- Wind and Strategy - Stuart Walker
- Start To Win - Eric Twiname
- Sailing Drills - Rick White
- Single-handed Racing - Derrick Fries
- Championship Sailing - Gary Jobson
- Wind and Sailing Boats - Alan Watts
- Championship Tactics - Tom Whidden & Gary Jobson
- The Best of SailTrim
- Sailing Smart - Buddy Melges
- How Sailboats Win or Lose Races
- Expert Dinghy and Keelboat Racing - Paul Elvstrom
- Understanding the Racing Rules of Sailing - Dave Perry

*Use the club website to reference events and activities  
[www.SailDuBay.org](http://www.SailDuBay.org)*

## Fun Racing

By: Joe Terry



Over the past two years, we've had some sailors looking to spice up our racing program so we're trying a few new things this year to promote sailing for fun and competition.

- 1) There are no additional fees for the racing program. Any club member is welcome and encouraged to give racing a try.
- 2) The weekend races will include a long windward mark for "casual" or cruiser racing. The long course sailors will sail one long race while the short course sailors will sail three.

3) The Long Lake/Lake DuBay Butterfly club challenge will be raced in a new location (for us) - just northwest of the ShipYard grill. The racing will be viewable from the docks there and we'll be launching and recovering from that location. This is a fun event with no entry fees or take home trophies with the purpose of encouraging anyone wishing to race a Butterfly and belonging to either the Long Lake Yacht Club or the Lake DuBay Sailing Association enjoy some friendly competition for club bragging rights. The more boats a team has, the better.

4) The Governor's Cup will be a one-day (Saturday) only event. Two races are planned in the am, followed by a lunch break and two races in the afternoon. We'll sail from the East side of the lake and after we're done, we'll retire to the Shipyard for a relaxing evening of socializing.

5) Every racing event will be followed by social time. We've had a lot of fun meeting at the Shipyard and sometimes the dock talk is as much fun as racing itself!

I sincerely hope you all will try to participate in some of our racing events. It is a great way to improve your sailing skills and is lots of fun.

## Membership

Club membership remains an affordable \$15.00 for a regular membership and \$100 for regular membership including boat yard use. Family members (spouse and dependent children) are included in the membership fee.

One of the benefits of membership is having a network of fellow sailors to share information, comradery, and friendly competition. Don't be shy. Take advantage of the collaborative knowledge of your fellow club members. We're all here to help each other, so call, e-mail, or talk to members at the lake.

To access the membership list, click [HERE](#) and use the same password as is used for reviewing club minutes. If you don't know the password, contact our webmaster, Joe Terry at [webmaster@saildubay.org](mailto:webmaster@saildubay.org).

## Cruising Events:

We have a number of cruising events planned for 2012. Be sure to take advantage of some terrific opportunities to cruise on Lake DuBay and other areas.

6/1/12 6:00 pm. Moonlight Cruise (DuBay)  
6/9/12 1:00 pm. Poker Cruise (DuBay)  
7/3/12 6:00 pm. Moonlight Cruise (DuBay)  
10/6/12 11:00 am. Poker Cruise (DuBay)  
8/3/12 6:00 pm. Moonlight Cruise (DuBay)  
8/23-26/12 Apostle Island Cruise (Superior)  
8/31/12 6:00 pm. Moonlight Cruise (DuBay)

Contacts:

Moonlight Cruising: Jack Thielke

Poker Cruising: Chuck Jagodinski

Apostle Island Cruising: Mike Koss

## Racing Events:

See club website racing page for scoring, starting sequence, etc.  
Call Vice-Commodore Joe Terry if you have any questions or need any help

**Tuesday racing:** Portsmouth All boats welcome!

6/05/12 6:00  
6/19/12 6:00  
7/03/12 6:00  
7/17/12 6:00  
7/31/12 6:00  
8/14/12 6:00  
8/28/12 5:45

**Wednesday One-Design:**

Any 3 same boats form a fleet!

All fleets welcome!

5/30/12 6:00  
6/13/12 6:00  
6/27/12 6:00  
7/11/12 6:00  
7/25/12 6:00  
8/08/12 6:00  
8/22/12 6:00

**Weekend racing:** Portsmouth All boats welcome!

6/09/12 11:00 am (Saturday)  
7/08/12 5:00 pm (Sunday)  
8/12/12 5:00 pm (Sunday)

## Special Events

5/19/12 Syttende-Mai Regatta (Lake Kegonsa, Stoughton, WI)

6/8-11/12 Butterfly Single Handed Nationals (White Rock Sailing Club, Dallas, Texas)

**6/16/12 Long Lake/Lake DuBay Butterfly Challenge (Lake DuBay)**

**8/18/12 Governor's Cup Regatta (Lake DuBay)**

9/2/12 Barnum Bay Dam Race (Lake Petenwell)

9/9/12 LaCrosse Fishboil Regatta (Lake Onalaska)

We need help with race committee for all racing events as well as the bold-face special events. Please contact Joe Terry to volunteer to help