





Volume 14, Issue 80 December 13, 2019

2020 Calendar

Mav

8 - Bilge Pullers North Meeting 9-10 Cedar, IN Icebreaker C Regatta 15 - Bilge Pullers South Meeting -Beulah 16-17 Lake Geneva Spring E and GLSS Spring X Clinic

June

12 - AJH Regatta - Cedar 13-14 - MIR C - Delavan 18-19 Quint - LaBelle 18-20 MC Masters - Clear 19-21 C Nationals - Muskegon 23-24 TRAP X - Pine 25-26 Lake Country X - Pewaukee 26-28 A Nationals - Green 29 - LBSS Opti - Beulah 30-1- Quad Lakes - Nagawicka

July

6-7 GLSS Dinghyfest X - Geneva 8-9 GLSS Dinghyfiest Opti -Geneva 10-12 - GLSS Dinghyfest - Melges 14 Nationals - Geneva 10-12 ILYA E Invite - White Bear 11-12 - ILYA MC Invite -Okauchee 13-14 X Treme - Oshkosh

18-19 ILYA C Invite - Pewaukee

1-2 Quad Lakes - Nagawicka

Give a gift of an ILYA Regatta



Registration is open for all Adult Regattas

Need a holiday suggestion for your sailor or a New Year's gift? The ILYA adult regattas are open for registration. The NoR and SI's are not posted as yet. You may always ask for a refund if something is not to your liking as we begin to post more information.

Okoboji - ILYA Championships

There are four classes: A, E, C, MC at this event. The home lake promises participation from its healthy C and MC fleet. They even have a couple new E scows. This is the most relaxing venue we visit. The large expanse of land welcomes after racing kibbutzing with a walk-up bar. Okoboji has the

25-26 WYA X - Pewaukee 27 - No Tears Opti - North Lake 29-Aug 1 - ILYA X Champs -Geneva

August

2-4 ILYA Opti Champs - Beulah
7-8 X Blue Chip - Cedar
7-9 C WYA - Delavan
9-11 Opti Blue Chip - LaBelle
12-14 ILYA Champs - A & MC --Okoboji
15 ILYA Champs Layday - Bilge
Pullers Annual Meeting - Okoboji
16-18 ILYA Champs C and E Okobji
19-22 MC Nationals - Geneva

September

12-13 Dorn MC - Beulah 12-13 Maxinkuckee C and MC 19-20 C Blue Chip - Okauchee 25-27 E Blue Chip - Pewaukee USODA Midwest Opti - Geneva 26-27 Nan Norris C Challenge -Beulah

ILYA Partners











meal package pricing set already. If your sailors is 25 or under at regatta time, there is a discount on the registration fee. A's and C's pay \$2 for the event registration and E's and MC's are half of the regular price. The regatta runs August 12-19 so our college-aged students can attend.

Regatta registration here.

<u>Meal pricing and packages here</u>. Feel free to add your own social attendance to your sailors at this time.

Consider attending if you have small children. The land is spacious enough to enjoy. Arnold's Park is an amusement park like of old. There are miniature golf courses - this is truly a resort town.

Invitationals - these events are held for E, C and MC sailors. The reduced youth pricing is applicable here also. E Invitational - White Bear July 9-12 (Sailing is Fri - Sun) C Invitational - Pewaukee July 17-19 (Sailing is Sat and Sun) MC Invitational - Okauchee July 9-12 (Sailing is Fri - Sun)

These three events do not have their social packages firmed up but regatta registration is open. The C's will attend for \$2 and the E's and MCs are half price of the full adult price.

E Scows - \$70 youth, \$140 adult. Register here C Scows - \$2 youth, \$105 adult. Register here. MC Scows - \$45 youth, \$90 adult. Register here.

You will need to join the ILYA in the Spring but you may enter now without renewal. Social packages for the Invitationals will be posted later.

Olympic Update

There will be no men's 49er competitors from the US in the 2020 games. Although the team performed well in the early days of the 2019 Worlds Championships, the end of the event saw the US team fall out of contention to qualify the country.

Roble/Shea are four spots behind Henken/Tobias for selection. The 2020 World Championships held in Feb will tell the story. Roble/ Shea had one subpar day and fought back with determination to get close to the now-top ranked team. Watch closely in Feb.

Clear Lake Faces Challenge with Courage

Starbeck Memorial Fund is Building

Many of you might have missed the obituary last month of one our young X graduates and coaches. The editor attended the









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funeral, came home and immediately wrote an article - unpublished after giving it some thought. It was cathartic just to sit and compose some thoughts. Today, Clear Lake has reached out to the ILYA. Their emotions are just as raw as a month ago. If you in the ILYA are so inclined, here is the address for donations which will be applied in some manner to enhance awareness of teen suicide and to mark the memory of a most unique young man who knew how to reach and teach our youth. Here is the info directly from Clear Lake Yacht Club:

Alex Starbeck's Memorial donations are still being accepted to a fund we intend to utilize to support many young sailors.

Donations can be made to the CLYCSS Treasurer. Contact:

515.554.2013 cell Andi_tisor@msn.com

Or

www.clycss.com

Clear Lake YC is working to define how the monies will be used, but most definitely towards the passion of young kids, developing interest in sailing through our sailing school, and promoting experiencing on and off lake regattas.

Alex was the coach and cheerleader to so many and we will do our best to continue his positive attitude and kindness he gave to beginner, intermediate and advanced sailors.



What I learned on a cold day in Iowa - November 11, 2019 - an editorial

From the instant I heard of the passing of one of our ILYA sailors, I knew this was a door of darkness I had left closed all my life. I come from a generation who views suicide with some sense of need for privacy. Maybe it's our German

heritage (I am not German); perhaps the stoicism (no, not me either); perhaps from a religious perspective (yes, that's me) - somehow there was a perception (of unknown origin) that I should not announce this in Scowlines. I chose counsel wisely who agreed with my choice to give this family the time and privacy they needed.

But the week unfolded - first a note from a sailing school director who asked me to share this, to open the door. I tentatively began to remove my blindfold. I listed the obituary (in anguish and with the wrong name which probably demonstrated my angst, my pain, the incomprehensible acceptance). It was all so unknown to me; too much hurt to



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process how to tell our youth and parents that one of the most lively, creative, fun coaches lost his battle with depression.

ANYONE of us - those who knew him well or those of who knew him from a distance, saw him every day or only annually for the greatest gathering of the best sailing youth imaginable - ANYONE of us would have reached out, embraced him as though our touch could cure his anguish. There is just a lot of love and how did we not express it? But as I listened I began to understand - it is not enough to some minds. There is a force here that is formidable.

The Starbecks are a family who I have never seen without broad smiles - all of them - Billy and Danny sailing around that race course laughing with their crew, Ana leading the young Optis again with a spirit that is only Starbeck. Have you met Mike and Lexa? I sense she has to curb Mike with his shenanigans but she smiles and tries to lasso all this energy in this wild, engaging family. Now how will this look? It was too much for me to grasp but instantly I knew I had to go express the love for this large sailing family and from this large sailing family. Of that I was certain. Everything else was at this point a mist in my mind. What to say, will the sadness be too much, how will I contain my emotions at a time when the family must need folks with a stalwart appearance?

Fortunately for me, I found a most compassionate mate to travel with me. Chris Allen felt that same magnet pulling him to Clear Lake, Iowa. His friendships dating back to the '90s when he spent a summer on Clear obligated him to go also. He had to go. And so we did.

What can I relate after that drive to join 2000+ people in two days who reached out to this family? Mostly I learned. What our youth today understand much better than we adults, I learned for the first time. I learned of a yacht club who is so solidly behind this family and the commitment to support suicide prevention. I saw a yacht club - the whole yacht club family - who is addressing this head on, openly talking about suicide prevention. No stoicism here - there were tears, sobs, chests heaving. The wound is open. No guarded privacy here -CLYC passed out decals supporting suicide prevention as though declaring Alexander Starbeck is only one and they will be there to help ALL. There was courage I have not experienced. I cannot be the only one who has felt uncomfortable with this topic. But this yacht club is 10 days ahead of me. In ten short days, just ten, they were lightyears beyond my comprehension.

But truly, now I see. I saw two of our young sailing girls stand before 1000 and watched as the onlookers began to see the curtain lift on the power of depression. So eloquently they



Join the ILYA

Register for Dues

related Alex's words and Alex's impact on his family, the Clear Lake Yacht Club and this town. They did not falter for a second; their resolve was firm. Alex was a bright star now somewhat dimmed. But the brightness of his passing and their words shone brilliantly in this large Surf Ballroom. It was an epiphany for more than just me I imagine.

There were experts in suicide prevention there. Can you fathom someone saying that? The pastor understood the grief in the room but issued encouragement for us all. He encouraged us to take a few words from the service with us invited us to jot down thoughts on our phones as we listened. At the end of the service, he invited us to share our thoughts with the Starbeck Family through a phone number. He was from a generation who understands how our voung people operate. He left us with hope and (for those of you who are religious, most poignantly shared with us a photo of Alex asking to be baptized at age fourteen) assuring us of help that can rescue. There was a high school teacher who shared his faith in His Savior and his connection with Alex. These folks have gone down this path before, hurt with each one but willingly shared an open discussion of suicide prevention. They have covered the large holes left behind with scar tissue, stronger and less elastic. They have developed a strength to face this head on and to lead us to an open door. There were decals for us to take using the symbol of suicide prevention, which unbeknownst to me is a life ring. Fittingly, it was a reminder of Alex's love for sailing but our reminder of the turmoil and chaos depression causes. It was all so revealing to someone unaware or untouched by the experience.

There were stories told by those who attended the service: the story of a Clear Lake family who wanted their two autistic children to learn to sail. Alex was Clear Lake's chosen instructor. He understood. There was a little boy who came through the visitation line. As Mike leaned down to ask the child's name, he could see a most uncomfortable mom with him. The child told Mike that Alex had been his instructor and he had to come and say goodbye. The mom related she wanted no part of this but her son kept insisting. This is the impact of Alex Starbeck. All of us left with sense of an impactful young man in so many arenas.

Lastly, to Mike Starbeck and his family: thank you for your brave transition as you so eloquently told me. You were a man who knew "Starbecks are tough; they can withstand anything" as you expressed how you approached life before one Saturday in November, 2019. Thank for your open relaying of how you learned in ten days how deep is the chasm but how quickly we all need to embrace the help we can give --- or receive. To

Clear Lake Yacht Club, we mourn with you but celebrate with you as you stand eyes open as you embrace mental health and its effects. To a person, you all were a solid front for this family. You welcomed Chris and me with such open arms, such strength. You are a unique group who allowed us to see you at your most vulnerable and yet at your bravest, cohesive moment. You shared your love and compassion broadly. We saw you at your worst loss and at your best "wholeness". Our most sincere love from the Inland.

Thanks to Mary Berg who urged me to open my thoughts to others. Our youth understand this topic so much better than our adults I would guess. They are facing it with regularity and openly are attacking the issue. Thanks for the encouragement, Mary.

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