



Alaska Sailing Club, Inc.
Big Lake, Alaska

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The Sheet

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Spring Work Party Makes An **L**

By Paul Willing - Sheet Editor

A glorious morning broke over Big Lake on Saturday June 2nd with a clear blue sky. The weather was perfect for working and getting a great tan at the same time.

The lumber delivery arrived at 8:00am from SBS. Claiming to know the exact location of the Alaska Sailing Club, the dispatcher had sent the driver to Sail 'n Fun on Friday, so he had to reload it by hand Saturday morning, then deliver it to us. I gave him a hand unloading the truck and he seemed in a cheerful mood despite the extra labor of doing a job twice. Uhm... must be the weather, because it doesn't get much better than this in South central Alaska.

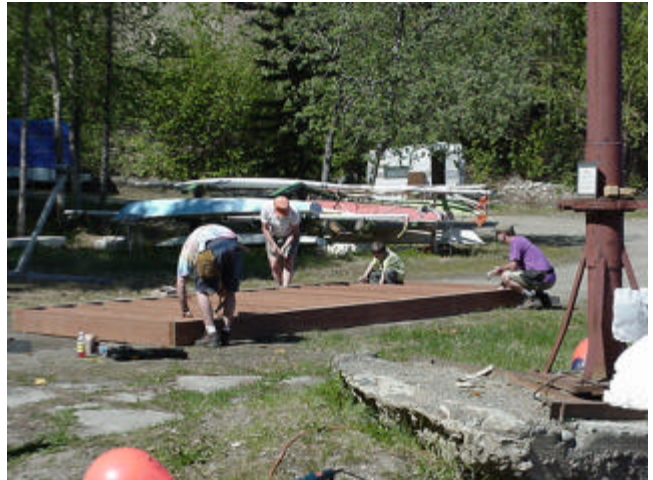


Out came the power tools as participants Dave Johnson, myself, Robert Pratt, Roberta Avila, Dan Crowell, Michelle Johnson, Ben and Birgitt Robar and Katy Yates swung into action. A dock was assembled while another fairly young dock had storm damage repaired. The top photo on page two shows first new section being framed.

Anchorage Daily News reporter Natalie and photographer Evan (hard at work by the RL in the lower photo on page2) paid a visit in the afternoon, so work progress slowed a bit as sea tales were told, club history recounted, photos were taken and we provided some short rides - if only some more wind could have filled in. Look for the upcoming article in the Outdoors section of The Anchorage Daily News.

Later in the afternoon, Jody Willing joined us. Her and Roberta Avila whipped up some excellent chow that provided the construction crew with a much needed second wind. We then completed assembly of the second section and gave both a coating of transparent stain for weather protection instead of 'barn red' paint. We should get a longer life out of this new stain.

Work continued until 9:00pm. While we hoisted complete sections into the water, Capt Dan C. skillfully piloted them into position and hinge bolts were installed. It sure felt good to connect the our old anchor chain where B and C docks used to be connected. Now we have an A and B again with a partial C on the horizon.



Special thanks to Dan and Katy, who put in a full ten hour day and they're not even members! Of course, we're trying to convince them to join up.

Special thanks is also due to Dave Johnson who graciously advanced the club the \$1,000 necessary to purchase the material required for the third and forth new sections.

Plus we really need two more, so we're soliciting extra donations from other members for dock sections 5 and 6. \$100 - \$200 donations would go a long way toward a section's materials (\$500 per dock section).

There's lumber and hardware for two more dock sections on site. If you missed the spring work party, plan on working to assemble these dock sections. If you lack the tools and skills to assemble a dock section, there are plenty of other chores:

- Clean the club house
- Rake leaves onto a tarp and deposit in the pile behind the big boat trailer parking area
- Mow or weed whack around the club house / BBQ / swing set area
- Sweep out the outhouses, add 5 gallons of water and some lime
- Attach fire hose chafe protection to the new dock sections (use roofing nails)
- Sand and paint the picnic tables that need it
- Gather firewood or bring out a load with you
- Clean and organize the shed

As a member it is your obligation to participate. If you see something that needs done - **DO IT!**

When you put in a full day's work and sweat building docks you tend to become a protective parent of your creation. So, it's a good time to restate a club rule here:

No unattended, overnight moorage on the docks - **BIG BOAT OWNERS READ AND HEED.**

Big boats put too much stress on this floating dock system. If you own a big boat, set a mooring you're comfortable with and maintain your own mooring tackle. Mat Su Valley storms can produce some strong winds and 3 to 4 ft waves on Big Lake, so rig it like you're on the sea coast. The other option is just pull your boat each weekend at the ramp, leave the mast up and park it at the top of the hill across from the outhouses. CAUTION - High Voltage power lines cross our driveway by the swing set and no boat at the club will clear them with the mast up.

And More trouble In Paradise

By Paul Willing - Sheet Editor

A microwave in the clubhouse I can live without (heck, there's always Jiffy-Pop the magic treat...) but sails for the RL - give me a break! That's right folks, despite a thorough search of the facility, no one can locate the sails for the RL. Now I hope some enterprising member took them home for a bath or hid them so well that they could never be stolen, but failing that, we're facing the unpleasant prospect of purchasing new/used sails that can run \$1,000 just for the main alone.

Armed guards, locked gate, massive padlocks, trained attack dogs, aerial surveillance, web cam... what's it going to take?

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