



ZINN FAMILY REALTORS



2011 Inland Lake Yachting Association Championship Regatta



August 11-21 ★ Lake Minnetonka ★ Deephaven, MN

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Minnetonka Yacht Club to Host Largest Minnesota Sailing Event in 129 Years

Lake Minnetonka to See 200 Boats & 1,000 Sailors - August 11 – 21st, 2011

MINNEAPOLIS – February 4, 2011 – Minnetonka Yacht Club today announced the honor of hosting the Zinn Family Realtors 2011 Inland Lake Yachting Association’s (ILYA) Annual Championship Regatta this summer. The event, which started in the Twin Cities in 1897 on White Bear Lake, boasts some of the top champion sailors in the world, including America’s Cup sailors, Olympic Gold and Silver Medalist sailors, and even head coaches of the U.S. Olympic Sailing team and U.S. Junior National Team.

The 11-day regatta will determine the top Scow class racers in the United States in four classes of yachts – A (38 feet), E (28 feet), C (20 feet) and MC (16 feet). These boats are some of the fastest mono-hull sailboats in existence. “We’re thrilled to be hosting this event for the first time in ten years,” said Rick Kotovic, 2011 event co-chair and member of Minnetonka Yacht Club (MYC). “It’s a testament to the commitment, rich history and unmatched enthusiasm Minnetonka Yacht Club has for the sport of sailing.”

Lake Minnetonka long ago established itself as a top U.S. venue for competitive sailing and the Minnetonka Yacht Club continues to grow the sport by teaching more youth, high school and adult students than anywhere in the country through the Lake Minnetonka Sailing School. In addition, MYC has developed more world-class and national championship sailors than any other U.S. inland lake.

“This is truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for Twin Cities’ residents to experience a sailing event of this magnitude right here in their own backyard,” said Tony Jewett, co-chair of the event and member of MYC. “The excitement and views from the starting line and mark roundings are unforgettable for sailor and non-sailors alike.” There will be spectator boats available for race fans to watch and experience the competition throughout the event.

Sponsors are critical for the success of an event of this magnitude. Sponsorship opportunities are welcome and still available at a variety of levels.

“We are excited to have Zinn Family Realtors be the title sponsor of the 2011 Inland Lake Yachting Association Championship Regatta,” said Carl Zinn of Zinn Family Realtors. “This is a major event in the world of sailing and we are elated to help bring this prestigious event to our community.” Current sponsors include:

- Title Sponsor:** Zinn Family Realtors
- Presenting Level:** Regan Investments Inc./Erle Savage III, The Brost Clinic, Dimension Polyant Worldwide
- Platinum Level:** Ameriprise Financial Wayzata/Paul Rampetsreiter
- Gold Level:** General Mills, Agency Trading Group, National Class A Scow Association (NCASA)
- Silver Level:** Open
- Bronze Level:** Boyer Building Corp.

Fans and sailing enthusiasts can follow the racing action through on-water updates on Twitter at (www.twitter.com/ILYAScows) and on Facebook at (www.facebook.com/ILYA2011). **For more information about registration and the event, visit <http://www.ilya.org>.**

ABOUT MINNETONKA YACHT CLUB

In August 1882, the Minnetonka Yacht Club by-laws and sailing rules were drawn up at Lookout Point. Starting with 25 members, the sailing was social and easy going. Within 5 years, the fleet and membership had more than doubled. The original multi-level clubhouse was built in 1890 on Light House Island, where it burned down in 1943. The replacement clubhouse was built on the island where it stands today. The large 3-story clubhouse, built on Bug Island, burned down in 1904. Sailing was temporarily suspended during World War I (1917-1919), with the A and C fleets being the survivors. In 1923, the E class was introduced. However, it didn't catch on until 1945 after the Depression and World War II. The 1950's saw the club move more towards competitive sport and less social. Today, the club has more than 500 members and hosts the A, E, C, M17, MC, Yngling, J22, Laser, X, Optimist, Open Fleet, and Classic Boats.

ABOUT INLAND LAKE YACHTING ASSOCIATION (ILYA)

The Inland Lake Yachting Association was formed in 1897, and since that time has overseen the development of the scow classes of racing sailboats, designed for the protected waters of inland lakes. Today, 51 member clubs participate in racing scows and junior boats under the umbrella of ILYA.

ABOUT ZINN FAMILY REALTORS

The Zinn family of Excelsior has a rich tradition in competitive sailing. Beginning in the late 1800's, the Zinn ancestors began sailing scows on Pewaukee Lake in Wisconsin, a four-generation Zinn tradition that continues today. Carl Zinn, his father Donald and his Grandfather Carl all raced scow-designed sailboats and served as Commodores of their yacht clubs. For 25 years Carl, Ali and sons Max and Hans have been the real estate sales leaders in Minnetonka, specializing in residential real estate in the southwest shore area of Lake Minnetonka.

Media & Sponsorship Contact

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