

2014 Sail Chicago Candidate Fact Sheet

Name: Matthew Stuczynski

Sail Chicago member since: 2008

Personal/ Professional skills and interests:

I have been a high school Spanish and German teacher for 18 years at New Trier High School in Winnetka. I now work at the same school as a full-time librarian. I hold a B.A. in German, a Master's Degree in Education and a Master's Degree in Library Science. I feel that I am a good listener and a good communicator; both in person-to-person and written forms. I am the Sailing Club sponsor at the school.

Sailing experience:

I learned to sail as an adult through Sail Chicago. I received my skipper card in the second summer of sailing. Having the summer off from school, I have sailed a great deal in the summer months; as a skipper during private rentals, as part of a boat maintenance crew, doing Tiller Times, member cruise outings and instructing. This past Fall I received the U.S. Sailing Basic Keelboat Instructor certification.

Involvement/experience with Sail Chicago:

I started doing Tiller Times during my second summer as a skipper with Sail Chicago. I have regularly participated in work days, haul-outs, up-river trips and launches. I have volunteered for Social events/picnics. I have been part of a maintenance team on the Shields (Erica) and the Colgate (Albatross). I helped organize and clear-out/clean the former indoor storage facility at the Canal Street boatyard. I have been an instructor for Sail Chicago for the past two seasons. Last year I chaired a committee for instruction and curriculum that organized the Yahoo Groups Instructors pages and developed/updated the Basic/Intermediate/Skipper course curriculum.

Why would you like to be on the Sail Chicago Board?

As the new Lead Instructor for Sail Chicago, I would like to be on the board in order to become more familiar with the group's leadership, procedures and protocols. Being involved in the group's decision-making process would enable me to better execute the duties of Lead Instructor by being better informed of the policies, procedures and rules of the organization.

What is your vision for the future direction of Sail Chicago?

What appeals to me most is the group's clear educational mission to promote sailing and make sailing accessible and affordable for all those willing to give it a try and put in the effort. I would like to help uphold and strengthen this legacy and mission as well as expand it by increasing our efforts to reach out to a broader base of the Chicagoland community.

(Electronic) Signature: Matthew J. Stuczynski

Date: 12/19/13