



Dear Members,

December 2013

We are off to a fast start this season regarding colder-than-average temperatures. Mother Nature is making ice early this year. Now is a good time to start to work on and/or finish up your latest project. We have another few weeks to go before the action begins!

As we all know, the people that comprise the WSSA are a friendly group and are always willing to help each other out. We respect all of the different classes of boats out there and welcome each of them to our events. If racing doesn't suit you, that's okay. Just bring your boat and cruise it. You don't have to race. The camaraderie of iceboating is part of what makes it so special. Our events are called-on the week prior, and their location matches the best possible ice conditions around. So make plans to travel to these different venues as the ice conditions will be good, and there is always increased safety in numbers. Hope to see you on the ice!

We would like to welcome the new members to our organization. Any members with boats need to give a ride to people interested in this sport so they can see how much fun it really is. Those with a boat need to bring it to the Annual Regatta to show it off. At the regatta we have a lot of fun sailing our unique craft and sharing our passion for this sport.

WSSA Commodore – John Isom

W.S.S.A. dues are \$20.00 and can be mailed to Andy Gratton at the following address:

W.S.S.A. c/o Andy Gratton
Secretary/Treasurer
2102 Doty Street
Oshkosh, WI 54902

WSSA Regatta

The 2013 WSSA Annual Championship Regatta was sailed on Lake Geneva, Fontana, March 23 and 24. The regatta was postponed a number of times due to poor ice conditions, then due to all the snow we kept getting. We had five boats show up at this late date. Some members of the Skeeter Ice Boat Club knocked down the ice shove on the beach so we could get onto the ice Saturday morning. Light winds were predicted with 36 degrees F. That softened the ice to ensure there was no sailing to take place on Saturday. The afternoon's entertainment was having the annual meeting on the ice with seating provided by Rosemary IV as shown on the 4LIYC website. John Isom was elected as the new WSSA Commodore. Andy Gratton remains as the WSSA Secretary/Treasurer.

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920-231-3015/abgratton@gmail.com**

Sunday was overcast, 30 degrees, and breezy from the east. Four boats raced, two C and two D. The third C boat declined to race. Steve Schalk was gracious enough to be the race officer. The first two races were won by Ace of Spades followed by Rosemary IV, Miss Mischief, and LaCinda Mae, then Miss Mischief, Rosemary IV, and LaCinda Mae for the first and second race, respectively. Shortly before finishing the second race the halyard on Miss Mischief parted and dropped the mainsail even though she was hot on overtaking Ace of Spades. Rosemary IV spun at the windward mark hard enough to send the rear seatback into orbit. In the third race Ace of Spades was leading at the first windward mark, hiked, and then spun hard. The plank sheared off at the starboard chock as the skipper slid out and down the side of the boat. At the third windward rounding Rosemary IV again spun allowing LaCinda Mae to catch and overtake for a short time only to be passed once Rosemary shook off the icedust and got rolling again.

All present had a good time. A big thank you to Steve and Mary Jane Schalk for setting the course, helping with trailers, and doing the scoring.

NIYA Regatta

The Northwest Ice Yacht Association called on their Championship Regatta for Green Lake, WI, March 15 to 17, 2013. This was the 100th anniversary of the first NIYA regatta. There were five separate starts in the race rotation including DNs, Renegades, A Skeeters, A through D Stern Steerers, and the B and C Skeeters. There were 69 boats entered in the regatta of which 11 were in the Stern Steerer class - one A, three B, five C, and two D. Two stern steerers with cotton sails attended. The Stern Steerers completed four races. Racing was in generally lighter wind though there were a few times that the wind cooperated and filled in nicely, for a while. The ice was hard but acquired a sticky snow layer a couple inches deep Friday evening. There were no breakdowns with stern steerers other than a small tear in a very old cotton sail. Some of the boats got around the course with apparent ease and little pushing, other boats balked at the thought of trying to sail in those conditions even though the crew was sweating from pushing so much.

If you know of a member that has moved, or may not be on the mailing list, please let the secretary know and that person will be added to the list.

W.S.S.A.-2014 REGATTA NOTICE

Wisconsin Stern Steering Association's Annual Championship is scheduled for January 11 and 12, 2014 as a two-day regatta. Regatta information will be available by Sunday evening, January 5, 2014. Call the 4 Lakes/WSSA Hot Line, 608-204-9876 ext. 4 or see www.iceboat.org for ice conditions and tentative regatta sites. Final confirmation will be on Thursday, January 9, 2014, with information being available after 12:00 noon at the above Hot Line number. If conditions do not exist the regatta will be tentatively rescheduled for the following weekend so stay in touch. The N.I.Y.A. regatta is scheduled for January 17, 18, and 19, 2014. It will take priority.

We could use some people to volunteer to be on the Race Committee for the WSSA regatta. Many thanks to those that can do so.

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N.I.Y.A. 2014 REGATTA NOTICE

The Northwest Ice Yachting Association Annual Championship is scheduled for January 17, 18, and 19, 2014.

The Regatta Information Hot Line number is: 608-204-9876 ext. 2 after 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 12, 2014, or see www.iceboat.org. Final confirmation will be made at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, January 15, 2014.

N.I.Y.A. races will be held for Class A, B, C, D, E, Renegade, and DN. NOTE: Class "A" races will be held separately in Wisconsin or Upper Michigan, if the NIYA Regatta is not held in that area.

The first race will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, January 17, 2014. The entry fee is \$15.00 per yacht. Registration will be held at Regatta Headquarters on January 17, 2014, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Starting positions for the first race will be by committee draw.

Hearst/Stuart Cups Challenge

The Hearst/Stuart Cups Challenge was not sailed in 2013.

The William Randolph Hearst Cup and the F.A. Stuart Cup Series is strictly for Class A and larger stern steerers. It is independent from any other regatta. Further information about this event may be obtained from any of the three trustees listed here: (on next page)

Rick Hennig, 262-884-0133/ riteeng@wi.twcbc.com

Dave Lallier, 920-921-8345/ animae1@sbcglobal.net

Erik Sawyer, 231-893-3921/ ecsawyer@charter.net

For Sale

WSSA tee shirts, \$15.00 for short sleeve and \$20.00 for long sleeve. The WSSA logo is on the left side of chest, a stern steerer in a tall hike (thanks to Jeff Seeboth for the pose) is on the back. Shirts will be available in early January. Send tee shirt orders to WSSA Secretary/Treasurer at:



front of shirt

Andy Gratton
2102 Doty Street
Oshkosh, WI
920-231-3015



back of shirt

- The Mary B, maybe the most famous of all A Stern Steerers is looking for a new loving master. She was built in Madison in 1945 by Carl Bernard. She has won more titles than any other A Ice boat. She has been lovingly taken care of by the Haines family of Pewaukee for the last 25 years. The asking price is 30K and will entertain all offers. Contact Todd Haines at 414-881-4119 or V115@mailbag.com

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- C class Stern steerer, C-3, tandem cockpit, about 28' x 32' tall. 2 set of sails-1 set new, 3 sets of runners, trailer with plenty of storage in box, gin pole, new cushions, and all new covers. Location: Racine, WI \$7500
Call John Stanley, 414-418-1635 or windspread@hotmail.com
- Polar Bear 10 Meter stern-steerer iceboat. This iceboat, originally named "Red Bird", has been completely restored and is ready to be sailed. Most of the hardware has been replaced. Custom trailer and new tires. I am an avid iceboater and retired shop teacher who does this as a hobby. Pictures of this iceboat are available for interested buyers. Located Michigan, on Lake St. Clair. \$3800, contact Mick 586-465-5915 or email at moby.mick@att.net
- 28' gaff rigged stern-steerer built in 1915 by a local blacksmith for use on Lake Winnebago. Currently located in the Pewaukee Lake, WI area. This is a heavy 3-piece boat, 14' plank, cast runners, hand forged fittings, and repurposed 250 sq ft Dacron sails with reef points (I have the original cotton sails). Boat is in good condition, it just needs a good paint job. Last sailed January 2010. Asking \$2500 includes custom trailer.
Kevin Maltby at 262-628-1243 or 262-628-1243 kdmaltby@mmm.com
- 16' gaff rigged stern steerer, sloop, 16' mast, 9' plank, nice sails, cast iron runners. Epoxy coated wood, original hardware with square nuts. From Wrigley estate, now in a basement in Oconomowoc. \$1500
Call Bob Rast, 414-791-3056
- 1979, 24 ft Searay "Cutty", Chevy 350 in³ engine that needs work. Boat and outdrive in good condition. Interior in need of repair. Willing to trade for an iceboat. Contact Dennis Buetow 262-646-8897

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