



Dear Members,

December 2014

Welcome to the new iceboat season, it is off to a fast start with colder-than-average temperatures. Mother Nature is making ice very early this year. Now is a good time to finish up your latest project before you are late getting on the ice. We only have a few weeks to go before the action really begins!

It would be great to see all the stern steerers from the area on the ice this year at the annual regatta. Did you follow the activities on the Hudson River last Spring? They had one of the best showings of stern steerers in decades out there and it looks like they had a wonderful time. We can do the same thing here by gathering the boats together and creating a fun-filled time of sailing. Wherever the regatta takes place will have good ice, so bring your boat, even if joy-riding is all you do. Everyone in WSSA is friendly and ready to lend a hand setting up other boats. Bring your boat 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 Secretary/Treasurer

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 2014 WSSA Annual Championship Regatta was sailed on Green Lake, WI, March 22 and 23. The regatta was postponed a number of times due to snow that would not melt due to the deep freeze we were in. We had seven boats show up at this late date. Saturday morning came with plenty of wind, sun, and a high temperature just above freezing. Three races were sailed back-to-back. In the first race Ace of Spades was in the lead but lost the jib halyard before the first mark. Miss Mischief was still in the pits working on repairing last year's repaired halyard that had also let loose a second time. The second race was an exhibition of how to capsize at the windward mark, a technique demonstrated by Donkey right in front of Rosemary IV. Andy stopped to help Matt right his ass, then those two boats took off downwind with Spindler and Excelsior just ahead of them. The third race went off with less excitement although Spindler performed a flawless spin and hockey stop for a perfect score of 10. Spindler was doing a ballet during the races. One time she had a skate seven feet in the air, a rare occurrence. Sunday came with harder ice but fluffy wind (fluky and puffy). Sometimes the boats would be zipping along only to run into a hole and need pushing. The Green Lake B boat joined in for the

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exercise. Two races were sailed on Sunday though they took a while to finish. Some of us got plenty of exercise.

The Annual Meeting was held at Christianos in Green Lake. A few renegade iceboaters joined us as did some members of the Green Lake Ice Yacht Club. John Isom and Andy Gratton were re-elected (aka railroaded) as the WSSA Commodore and Secretary-Treasurer, respectively. New tee shirts were received this week and brought to the meeting. The Secretary noted that it seemed a higher percentage of dues were received from those that were still sent US mailings than those receiving emails. Postcard reminders will be sent out next year. All present had a good time. A big thank you to Mark Reilly, Marv Luck, and John Isom for setting the course, running the races, and doing the scoring.

NIYA Regatta

The Northwest Ice Yacht Association called on the Championship Regatta for Green Lake, WI, March 14 to 16, 2014. There were five separate starts in the race rotation including DNs, Renegades, Skeeters, A through D Stern Steerers, and then B and C Skeeters. There were 67 boats entered in the regatta of which 7 were in the Stern Steerer class - one A, one B, one C, and four D. The Stern Steerers completed four races. Racing was in lightening wind on Friday though there were a few times that the wind cooperated and filled in nicely. Friday the ice was soft. Donkey performed a picturesque capsize on the first leg of the first race. Matt was thoughtful enough to do this close to the pits so everyone could readily see. 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 the soft ice. Later on Friday the wind piped up to a small gale so further racing was postponed. Saturday came clear and windless with little teasers now and then but not enough to race. Sunday racing started earlier and was on hard ice with nice wind. Boats were going fast. The unfortunate event was the dismasting of Eric Sawyer's new A boat as they rounded the windward mark. The mast lost a number of feet from the butt end, spraying enough wood splinters onto the ice to build a DN with. Nobody was hurt but from a distance the boat looked like a high-speed Conestoga due to the battens holding the sail in a large curl above the boat.

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 10 and 11, 2015 as a two-day regatta. Regatta information will be available by Sunday evening, January 4, 2015. 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 8, 2015, with information being available after 1 PM 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 16, 17, and 18, 2015. 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 16, 17, and 18, 2015.

The Regatta Information Hot Line number is: 608-204-9876 after 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 11, 2015, or see www.iceboat.org. Final confirmation will be made at noon on Wednesday, January 14, 2015.

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 16, 2015. The entry fee is \$15.00 per yacht. Registration will be held at Regatta Headquarters on January 16, 2015, 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 2014.

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

WSSA Annual Meeting Minutes

The annual meeting was attended by XX members of the YY paid members of the WSSA.

For Sale

WSSA t-shirts, \$25.00 for long sleeve, slate colored. A colored 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. Send t-shirt orders to WSSA Secretary/Treasurer at:



front of shirt

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



back of shirt

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RIGHT OF WAY and SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

The Purpose of the Rules is to PREVENT COLLISIONS.



Rule B - RIGHT-of-WAY - Yachts must KEEP CLEAR as follows:

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1 <u>IN MOTION</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keep clear of <u>STOPPED YACHT</u></p> | <p>2 <u>OFF THE WIND</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keep Clear</p> | <p>3a <u>ON THE WIND PORT TACK</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keep Clear</p> | <p>3b <u>OFF THE WIND PORT TACK</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keep Clear</p> |
| <p>4a <u>ON THE WIND SAME TACK</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">WINDWARD YACHT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keep Clear</p> | <p>4b <u>OFF THE WIND SAME TACK</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">LEEWARD YACHT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keep Clear</p> | <p>5a <u>RIGHT - OF - WAY YACHT</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Do not alter course so as to mislead or prevent a non right-of-way yacht from keeping clear.</p> | <p>5b <u>FASTER YACHT SAME TACK OVERTAKING</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keep Clear</p> |
| <p>6 <u>TACK or JIBE</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">DO NOT IF COLLISION IS PROBABLE ←</p> | <p>7 <u>OBSTRUCTION</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Signal</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keep Clear</p> | <p>8 <u>ROUNDING MARK OUTSIDE YACHT</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keep Clear</p> | <p>9 <u>AFTER FINISHING THE RACE -</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>KEEP CLEAR of the COURSE</u></p> |



- REMEMBER -

PREVENT COLLISIONS

Use Your Parking Break!

Wear a Crash Helmet!

Use Common Sense!

Reproduced from NEYA
New England Ice Yacht Association

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- 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 offers will be entertained. Contact Todd Haines at 414-881-4119 or V115@mailbag.com
- 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. This boat can accommodate two sailors. Pictures of this iceboat are available for interested buyers. Located Michigan, on Lake St. Clair. \$3300, contact Mick 586-465-5915 or email at moby.mick@att.net
- Runner sharpening machines, for Sarns runners and custom made, 1.5 hp motor, call Bob Rast, 414-791-3056

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