



December 2016

Good day fellow ice boaters,

I'm in hopes this letter finds all of you in good health, and of good cheer. The 2016-17 season looks to be a good one. I know of at least one if not two refurbished ice yachts to hopefully join our fleet this year. In an attempt to provide us good ice, the commodore of the Fond du Lac Ice Yacht Club provided a bag of ice at our annual meeting for all members to throw a hand full into the lake to help cool it down. The left over ice was taken home by members of the Green Lake club to help cool their venue.

The 2015-16 regatta was sailed late last season on what proved to be a very good site. It was fun sailing up and down hill as we went in and out of the pits. Saturday was tough sailing for some of us in light winds. Sunday proved to be a much better day as winds were higher, sometimes with gusts. The venue was great, the Lure Bar allowed us to use their beach for access to the lake and worked very hard to make us feel at home. Great food was served all weekend, and enjoyed on several occasions. We were happy to have gotten the regatta in as we were chased home Sunday night by an early thunder storm with heavy rains.

A motion was made and approved at the annual meeting to add a Vice Commodore position to our club to help things run smoothly in the absence of one of the other officers. This will require an update to the By Laws at the annual meeting, some other items will be updated as well. We hope to have a draft of the proposed changes ready for this newsletter.

Wishing all of you a wonderful Christmas/Holiday season with safe travels, good times with Family and friends, and an early freeze. Hoping to see all of you on the ice this year.

Commodore, Mark Wiener

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

If you would like to be removed from this mailing list, contact the Secretary below.

**Secretary/Treasurer: Andrew Gratton, 2102 Doty Street, Oshkosh, WI 54902
920-231-3015/abgratton@gmail.com**

WSSA Regatta

The 2015 WSSA Annual Championship Regatta was sailed on Lake Petenwell, WI, March 5 and 6. Six boats showed up in addition to a DN from Iowa that came to sail with us. Yachts sailing include: Spindler, Ace of Spades, LaCinda Mae, Rosemary IV, Excelsior, and Wisconsin. It was great fun. Taking the B class was Mark Wiener and Dan Tess, sailing Spindler. C class was won by Mike Peters sailing Ace of Spades with George Gerhardt. Class D was won by Joe Terry sailing LaCinda Mae. The overall was won by Mike Peters, and fastest yacht sailing cotton sails was Wisconsin, sailed by Mike Kroll. A special thanks to Ann Gratton, and Keith from Green Lake Ice Yacht Club, for handling RC duties. Also, special thanks to the Lure bar and grill for their wonderful hospitality, great food, and letting us access the ice from their private beach. On Saturday, light air plagued the fleet and only one race was sailed. The sailors had a great time looking at the iceboats, making minor changes, watching some RC planes and multi-copters, and after racing spending some time at the Lure enjoying the view of the lake and telling stories.

On Sunday we sailed four races in a nice 13-17 mph breeze with an occasional ripper to keep us on our toes. The Ace of Spades had a wild spin out at the first windward mark in the last race, and the 'new' mast on LaCinda Mae was fast out of the box as Joe chased Ace of Spades for the entire fourth race and pulled ahead of them after their spin in race 5 to hold them off for the remaining 6.7 miles to win Joe's first race overall ever!

The Wisconsin won its first trophy ever this weekend taking first overall with cotton sails. To our knowledge, no iceboat regatta has ever been sailed on Lake Petenwell, and this was Mike Kroll's first iceboat regatta. As the sailors packed up their boats, the ice surface was melting and the inevitable end of the season was at hand. Everyone is looking forward to new ice and being able to add Lake Petenwell as a potential venue for future regattas.

NIYA Regatta

Feb 12-14 on Lake Monona, WI. Eight stern steerers showed up for this regatta. Some launched at Tonyawatha landing, others at John Olin. Friday had plenty of wind to get in two races. Rich Sawyer seemed to like dancing with his boat as he spun here and there on the course. Others were happy just to get around the course without a mishap. There were some good blasts now and then coming over the buildings of downtown Madison. Friday late afternoon was very windy but a few boaters continued to sail. Joe Terry found the tensile limit of his mast and created matchsticks out of a good portion of it.

Saturday brought light wind with marginal sailing conditions. Some boats attempted to race but could not. Sunday brought moderate wind with hard ice, enough to sail two more races although the second race was in light snow. Ace of Spades showed superior speed throughout the weekend with Michigander close behind.

All attending had a good time, enjoyed the Smoker put on by the Madison club, and told many iceboat stories. It was a good weekend. Remember, wherever a regatta is called on the ice will be good to sail. Bring your boat, even if it is just to cruise. Don't miss out!

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

W.S.S.A.-2016 REGATTA NOTICE

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Wisconsin Stern Steering Association's Annual Championship is scheduled for January 7 and 8, 2017 as a two-day regatta. Regatta information will be available by Sunday evening, January 1, 2017. 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 5, 2017, 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 20, 21, and 22, 2017. 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.

N.I.Y.A. 2014 REGATTA NOTICE

The Northwest Ice Yachting Association Annual Championship is scheduled for January 20, 21 and 22, 2017.

The Regatta Information Hot Line number is 608-204-9876. Tentative call will be available after 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 15, 2017, or see www.iceboat.org. Final confirmation will be made at noon on Wednesday, January 18, 2017.

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 20, 2017. The entry fee is \$15.00 per yacht. Registration will be held at Regatta Headquarters on January 20, 2017, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Starting positions for the first race will be by committee draw. See <http://iceboat.org/niya.html>

Hearst/Stuart Cups Challenge

The Hearst/Stuart Cups Challenge was not sailed in 2016.

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:

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 held at the Lure Bar and Restaurant on Lake Petenwell. There were 10 of the 25 paid members present. Mark Wiener was re-elected as WSSA Commodore; Andy Gratton was re-elected as the WSSA Secretary-Treasurer.

Mark and Dan put together a white strobe light system from a school bus for the windward mark. We will try it on Sunday.

Mike Peters brought an old trophy bowl that was last engraved in 1953 by his father. There was discussion about how it could be put to use. It was decided that the trophy will be awarded to the overall

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winner sailing with cotton sails. The finish of the bowl shall not be changed (it has a lot of patina). Dan Tess was given the task of making a base and carrying case for the trophy. See photo below.

There was a discussion about sail size limits (class limits) and the awarding of trophies as it relates to the NIYA races this year. A motion was made and passed that sets the minimum size for a class D at 50 ft². This allows those with E class stern steerers to race for a trophy in both the NIYA and the WSSA. Prior to this the smaller boats did not have a class at these regattas.

In an effort to make wording for award of the NIYA Stern Steerer Overall trophy more clear a motion was made and passed proposing that the registered stern steerer class sizes be ignored for this trophy, and that the minimum sail size limit is 50 ft². One opposed.

A motion was made and passed to propose a wording change for NIYA – that a boat must register in its class and is only scored for that class trophy when it is raced within that class.

Dan Tess commented on the need in the last five years for a Vice Commodore to step in if the Commodore cannot fulfill his duties. A motion was made and passed that we come up with wording to assign duties to a Vice Commodore position for the bylaws.



For Sale

WSSA long sleeve t-shirts, \$25.00 each plus shipping. Choice of three colors – charcoal, medium blue, and forest green. 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.



front of shirt



three colors



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 IN MOTION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keep clear of <u>STOPPED YACHT</u></p>	<p>2 OFF THE WIND</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keep Clear</p>	<p>3a ON THE WIND <u>PORT TACK</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keep Clear</p>	<p>3b OFF THE WIND <u>PORT TACK</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keep Clear</p>
<p>4a ON THE WIND <u>SAME TACK</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">WINDWARD YACHT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keep Clear</p>	<p>4b OFF THE WIND <u>SAME TACK</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">LEEWARD YACHT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keep Clear</p>	<p>5a RIGHT - OF - WAY YACHT</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 FASTER YACHT <u>SAME TACK OVERTAKING</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keep Clear</p>
<p>6 TACK or JIBE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DO NOT IF COLLISION IS PROBABLE ←</p>	<p>7 OBSTRUCTION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Signal</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keep Clear</p>	<p>8 ROUNDING MARK <u>OUTSIDE YACHT</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keep Clear</p>	<p>9 AFTER FINISHING THE RACE -</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 NETA
New England Yacht Association

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- C class stern steerer, C-3, tandem cockpit, about 28' x 32' tall. 2 sets 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
- Runner sharpening machines, for Sarns runners and custom made, 1.5 hp motor, call Bob Rast, 414-791-3056
- D class stern steerer, about 21' x 10' x about 15' tall gaff rigger, dacron sails. Nice boat, Located in RI though "T" comes to Midwest for DN races. \$2900 Contact James "T" Thieler, 401-258-6230 or t_thieler@yahoo.com

WSSA Membership Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Boat name and class _____

Boat overall dimensions _____

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