



Dear Members,

December 2011

Next year, 2013, will be the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NIYA. It would be wonderful to see as many stern steerers as possible on the ice at the NIYA regatta since in the beginning there were only Stern Steerers. We are a friendly group and help each other out. We enjoy all the various boats. If racing isn't for you, remember that wherever we hold the Regatta the ice conditions will be best, so just bring your boat and cruise it, you don't have to race. Those that attended the regatta in Madison last March had a wonderful time not racing. The more the merrier! If your boat isn't ready this year, now is the time to start working on it. You have one year to finish the project! Bring your boat even if it isn't all spruced up.

We would like to welcome any new members to our organization. Any members with boats need to give a ride to friends interested in this sport so they can see how much fun it really is. Those that have 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.

New business: The NIYA recognized the need to make some updates to the scoring section in the NIYA Bylaws. The WSSA has been asked to make a proposal as to what these changes should be. The NIYA would like to discuss and vote on this issue at the NIYA annual meeting, expected to be held within the next few months at the Championship Regatta. The officers of the WSSA have put together a proposal that is attached at the end of this newsletter. It is hoped that these changes will 1) help clear up the definition of a complete regatta for the stern steerers; 2) present a participation award to those bringing the only boat in a class and thereby promote bringing another boat to race; 3) define how scoring should be accomplished for both the individual and overall stern steerer fleets; 4) define what a Competitor is to help clear up inconsistencies in the scoring methods used in the past. The proposed wording for the NIYA Bylaws is included so that the WSSA group may review the proposal before the NIYA annual meeting takes place. If you have suggestions for alternate wording or other methods to achieve the goal of the NIYA, please contact the WSSA officers. The proposed wording is not necessarily the final wording, but keep in mind the bow-steering fleets do not want any changes to affect them in the least way.

**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

**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**

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

The 2011 WSSA Annual Championship Regatta was not sailed for. The regatta was postponed a number of times with hopes that conditions would improve but the weather did not cooperate.

The Northwest Ice Yacht Association called on their Championship Regatta for Madison, WI, on Lake Mendota, March 4 to 6, 2011. Friday brought no wind all day but a good time was had by all. The Madison group put on a cookout lunch with brats and burgers. Erik Sawyer unveiled the newest Class A Stern Steerer in the world, a beautiful boat. The ice and scattered snow patches were melting in the warmth with the sun shining all day. The hope was for a melt on Friday, refreeze that night, and then race Saturday. It didn't freeze hard enough Friday night. Saturday started with nice wind but shell ice ½" to 1" thick over puddles up to 4" deep. This was disastrous for racing since steering a blade runner through the shell ice was impossible. Racing for Saturday was cancelled though many boats were able to joy-ride. Sunday was predicted to have light winds. Many boats made it out to the courses only to have the wind drop to nothing for the remainder of the day. So ended the 2011 NIYA Non-Regatta.

### **W.S.S.A.-2012 REGATTA NOTICE**

Wisconsin Stern Steering Association's Annual Championship is scheduled for January 7 and 8, 2012 as a two-day regatta. Regatta information will be available by Sunday evening, January 1, 2012. Call the 4 Lakes/WSSA Hot Line, 608-204-9876 Ext. 4 or see [www.iceboat.org](http://www.iceboat.org) for ice conditions and tentative regatta sites. Final confirmation will be on Thursday, January 5, 2012, with information being available after 12:00 noon at the above Hot Line number. The regatta is tentatively rescheduled for the following weekend if conditions do not exist so stay in touch. The N.I.Y.A. regatta is scheduled for January 20, 21, and 22. It will take priority at that time.

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

### **N.I.Y.A. 2012 REGATTA NOTICE**

Northwest Ice Yachting Association Annual Championship is scheduled for January 20, 21 and 22, 2012.

The Regatta Information Hot Line number is: 608-204-9876 Ext. 2 after 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 15, 2012, or see [www.iceboat.org](http://www.iceboat.org). Final confirmation will be made at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, January 18, 2012. The Regatta site of order will be: Toledo, Ohio, Gull Lake, Michigan, Sturgeon Bay-Green Bay, Green Lake, Madison, Fond du Lac, Menominee, Lake Geneva, Oshkosh, Pewaukee, Detroit, and Burlington Bay, Hamilton.

The first race will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, January 20, 2012. The entry fee is \$15.00 per yacht. Registration will be held at Regatta Headquarters on January 20, 2012, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Starting positions for the first race will be by committee draw. (NOTE: Class "A" races will be held separately in Wisconsin or Upper Michigan, if the NIYA Regatta is not held in that area.)

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## Hearst/Stuart Cups Challenge

The Hearst/Stuart Cups Challenge was not sailed in 2011.

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

## For Sale

WSSA tee shirts, \$15.00 for short sleeves and \$20.00 for long sleeve. Sizes in stock are XL (black short sleeve) and XXL (navy blue long sleeve, black short sleeve). The WSSA logo is on the left side of chest, a stern steerer in a tall hike is on the back. 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

- 1979, 24 ft Searay "Cutty", Chevy 350 CI engine. Boat and drive system in good condition. Interior is in need of repair. Willing to trade for an iceboat. Contact Dennis Buetow (262) 646-8897
- C class Stern steerer, C-3, tandem cockpit, 2 set of sails-1 set new, 3 sets of runners, trailer with plenty of storage in box, gin pole, and new cushions  
Location: Racine, WI Call John Stanley, 262-554-1635 or [windspread@hotmail.com](mailto:windspread@hotmail.com)
- ECLIPSE - A Class Stern Steerer LOA 42' LOP 25' SA 315'  
Call for details, located in Michigan. Erik Sawyer  
231-893-3921 Home 231-740-5185 Cell
- Class D Skeeter-rigged stern steerer. Ready to race or enjoy. Very fast and very competitive. Extra parts. Located in Green Lake, WI. Tim [bluledge@powercom.net](mailto:bluledge@powercom.net)
- Siderailer Stern Steerer, 24 ft long, and in excellent condition. Located in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. \$1300 obo. RJ Gross 920-579-1510

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- 1930's B Class Stern Steerer built and sailed on Lake St. Clair in Michigan since the mid-1930's. A Marconi rigged boat for two adults described by a former long-term owner as a magnificent boat and easy to sail. Specifications: length 20' 9", cockpit 4' wide x 6' long, mast 19' 9", boom 12' 3", runner plank 13'. Boat comes with two sets of sails (a new set and a used set in good condition), two sets of runners (newer steel runners and original iron runners), new cushions for cockpit, covers for the boat and runner plank, and trailer (ready to take away!). Boat is in great shape, ready to sail! Asking \$3,500 Contact Ray Hartjen Tel 631-324-2490 rhartjen@hamptons.com East Hampton, NY
- Small Antique Stern Steerer. This boat was originally in the Wrigley Barn on Geneva Lake and is probably about 50 years old or older. All fasteners are square nuts. It was apparently built to fold up and car top. I refurbished it over the last few years. Hull 16ft, plank new 9 ft ash and basswood (old one was junk), boom 14 ft. Has 2 sets of sails, one smaller set. Main sail from All American Sail Co, Chicago IL: foot 14 ft, luff 8 ft, gaff 8ft, leech 17ft. Jib approximately 6ft foot, 8ft hoist. Wood and cast iron runners with all rigging. Ready to go, need new owner. \$1800 OBO Located in Oconomowoc, WI Contact Bob Rast at 414-791-3056 [Brastco@gmail.com](mailto:Brastco@gmail.com)

## Proposed WSSA Proposed changes to the NIYA Bylaws

11-29-10

### Article IX – Annual Regatta

Section 3, - The annual regatta shall be held on the third weekend in January for three consecutive days, i.e. Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. At least three races must be completed for each class at the annual Regatta before a championship or place can be awarded. In the event of an incomplete regatta for any class, all completed races for that class are cancelled and the regatta for that class starts from scratch on the later date. Any class completing 3 races will be considered complete and not rescheduled.

Add between the second and third sentences:

When the four classes A, B, C, and D race together, three races sailed by at least two of these four classes constitute a complete regatta for all four of these classes.

Section 7, Paragraph 1 – A yacht may race only in its class, except in the Championship race.

Change to:

A yacht may race only in its class, except in the Championship race and when classes A, B, C, and D race together for the overall Stern-Steerer Trophy provided by the WSSA.

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Section 7, Paragraph 2 –Classes A, B, C, and D may race at the same time at the option of the Race Committee. When Classes A, B, C, and D race together, each class shall compete for its own prize only.

Change to:

When classes A, B, C, and D race together each class shall compete for its own prize and for an overall Stern-Steerer Trophy provided by the WSSA.

#### Article XI – Trophies

Section 2, Paragraph 2 – Trophy Schedule – If only one boat competes in any class, the perpetual trophy will be awarded but not engraved.

Change to:

Trophy Schedule – If only one boat competes in any class other than Class A, B, C, and D, the perpetual trophy will be awarded but not engraved.

Section 3 – No prize or trophy is to be furnished for any class unless two or more yachts are entered, and actually compete.

Change to:

No prize or trophy is to be furnished for any class other than Class A, B, C, or D unless two or more yachts are entered, and actually compete.

Add:

If only one yacht races in Class A, B, C, or D, and that yacht is the only competitor in that class, then a participation trophy will be awarded, and the perpetual trophy will be awarded but not engraved.

If only one yacht races in Class A, B, C, or D but that yacht is not the only competitor in that class, then a permanent trophy will be awarded, and the perpetual trophy will be awarded and engraved.

Competitor – a skipper that has paid the registration fee, and has a yacht assembled and in a race-ready condition. Once Competitor status is attained, that status remains unchanged for the duration of the regatta regardless of the subsequent condition of the yacht. A competitor need not start a race or sail around any part of the course (DNC and DNS scores handle that situation).

#### Article XII – Scoring

Paragraph 7 – At least three races must be completed at the Annual Regatta before a championship or place can be awarded. If more races shall have been sailed, the championship or place is to be awarded based on all of the races completed.

Change to:

At least three races for a class must be completed at the Annual Regatta before a championship or place can be awarded for that class. If more races have been sailed, the championship or place is to be awarded based on all of the races completed.

Add:

When the four classes A, B, C, and D race together, three races sailed by at least two of these four classes constitute a complete regatta for all four of these classes, allowing places and prizes to be awarded.

When classes A, B, C, and D race together the finishing positions will be recorded as one large fleet to determine the overall Stern-Steerer champion. Also, each class will be scored as if the other classes were not present to determine the final positions of yachts in each class.

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