



December 2024

Ahoy stern steer sailors!

Cheers to all who sail these wonderful relics and cheers again to you who sail a stern steer that is not older than you are!

The early cold snap and wind has cooled the water of many of the area lakes and some skeeters have been out already! Ice fishing reports on Lake Petenwell claim 2-4 inches with some large working areas, so I'm hoping with another week or two of cold weather conditions will be good to go.

While I'm excited to get on the ice as soon as possible, we're reminded not to be hasty like the fellow who made the news a few weeks ago when he drove his jeep on the ice at Lake Puckaway and broke through. Fortunately the driver was able to escape. The jeep was not so lucky. That report reminds me of a story filed under things one should not do if one wishes to live to fight another day.



I bought Wanton (now the LaCinda Mae) in the fall of 2009. After stripping the paint and making a bunch of repairs with guidance and help from Andy Gratton, we had a nice cold snap and I was ready for its maiden voyage with me as the caretaker. I scouted about a square mile of ice on Lake Petenwell and it was all between 5 and 6 inches thick, which I deemed safe for this approximately 600 lb boat. On December 13, my kids, Calen and Tristin, and I went out for the first time. We were having a blast skimming along and I was learning the boat's characteristics. After sailing for a while, I

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made the mistake of venturing outside of the area I scouted and managed to break through some thin ice near a pressure crack. I estimate we were doing about 35 mph and the boat came to a stop in about two feet. My daughter was thrown about 20', my son stayed on the boat, and I ended up going swimming.



Once out of the water, I was thankful we were all safe but devastated to see the hull broke in half and plank was almost completely split. Two months of work gone in about 45 minutes. Crying in my beer, I called Andy and he laughed and reminded me the boat was made out of wood and could be repaired. Andy was generous with his time and knowledge and with his help and help from my dad we got the boat repaired, but that's

another story.

My point is: Be safe and use your head before going out, scout the ice, know that ice conditions can vary, and have safety equipment. In addition to ice picks, I typically wear a lift jacket under my coat. It provides insulation, acts as a cushion, and keeps me afloat if I do go in.

Looking back on last year, I want to recognize the sailors who raced at the Northwest Regatta. Conditions were not great but it was great to see dedicated participants represent the stern steer fleet. The results are listed below in the newsletter.

If you have class business you'd like to address, please let me, Mike Kroll, or Andy Gratton know. I hope to see you at the WSSA regatta. It has been too long since we've been able to race. As extra incentive, all WSSA members in attendance will be provided two adult beverages at the banquet rather than the traditional one!

Sincerely,

Joe Terry
Commodore, WSSA

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WSSA Regatta

The annual Wisconsin Stern Steering Regatta was not held in 2024 due to lack of suitable conditions. Perhaps we will have better luck this year.

NIYA Regatta

The 2024 Northwest Ice Yacht Association Regatta was held Feb 23-25 at Lake Waconia, MN, with four stern steerers attending. Results:

2024 NIYA - Lake Waconia, MN

February 23-25, 2024

Results are provisional as of 16:32 on November 4, 2024

B SKEETER Fleet

Sailed: 1, Discards: 0, To count: 1, Entries: 5, Scoring system: Appendix A

Rank	Fleet	Sail No.	First	Last	R1	Total
1st	B SKEETER	I 234	Jim	McDonagh	1	1
2nd	B SKEETER	I 34	Jim	Smith	2	2
3rd	B SKEETER	I 564	Steve	Schalk	3	3
4th	B SKEETER	I 139	Dan	Morton	4	4
5th	B SKEETER	I 51	Chris	Hibbard	5	5

C SKEETER Fleet

Sailed: 2, Discards: 0, To count: 2, Entries: 2, Scoring system: Appendix A

Rank	Fleet	Sail No.	First	Last	R1	R2	Total
1st	C SKEETER	I 291	Pat	Heppert	3 DNC	1	4
2nd	C SKEETER	S 495	Bob	Crum	3 DNC	2	5

C STERN STEERER Fleet

Sailed: 1, Discards: 0, To count: 1, Entries: 3, Scoring system: Appendix A

Rank	Fleet	Sail No.	First	Last	R1	Total
1st	C STERN STEERER	C25	Mike	Peters	1	1
2nd	C STERN STEERER	C 22	Jay	Davis	2	2
3rd	C STERN STEERER	V8	Clint	Vars	3	3

D STERN STEERER Fleet

Sailed: 1, Discards: 0, To count: 1, Entries: 1, Scoring system: Appendix A

Rank	Fleet	Sail No.	First	Last	R1	Total
1st	D STERN STEERER	D74	John Jay	Davis	1	1

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DN Fleet

Sailed: 2, Discards: 0, To count: 2, Entries: 26, Scoring system: Appendix A

Rank	Fleet	Sail No.	First	Last	R1	R2	Total
1st	DN	KC 5629	Robin	Lagraviere	1	2	3
2nd	DN	US 60	John	Harper	4	1	5
3rd	DN	US 321	Mike	Bloom	3	3	6
4th	DN	KC 5700	Paul	Chamberland	5	4	9
5th	DN	US 5687	Jeff	Roseberry	6	5	11
6th	DN	US 3433	Robert	Cummins	7	6	13
7th	DN	US 1576	Brian	Jones	8	7	15
8th	DN	US 5464	Steve	Swantz	9	10	19
9th	DN	KC 5247	Marzenski	Jacek	2	27 DNC	29
10th	DN	S 868	Csilla	Gal	27 DNC	8	35
11th	DN	US 3576	Bruce	Jones	27 DNC	9	36
12th	DN	US 1474	John	Stasieluk	27 DNC	11	38
13th	DN	US 5417	Scott	Wass	27 DNC	12	39
14th	DN	US 5630	Karen	Binder	27 DNC	27 DNC	54
14th	DN	US 5644	Morgan	Jones	27 DNC	27 DNC	54
14th	DN	US 5199	Mike	Boyle	27 DNC	27 DNC	54
14th	DN	US 5646	Matt	Meyer	27 DNC	27 DNC	54

Rank	Fleet	Sail No.	First	Last	R1	R2	Total
14th	DN	US 5871	Tim	Mower	27 DNC	27 DNC	54
14th	DN	US 445	Bob	Cave	27 DNC	27 DNC	54
14th	DN	US 5214	Jim	McDonagh	27 DNC	27 DNC	54
14th	DN	US 5358	David	Frost	27 DNC	27 DNC	54
14th	DN	US 5760	Noah	Jones	27 DNC	27 DNC	54
14th	DN	US 5914	Ed	Demerest	27 DNC	27 DNC	54
14th	DN	US 5224	James	Thieler	27 DNC	27 DNC	54
14th	DN	US 5252	Jake	Skala	27 DNC	27 DNC	54
14th	DN	US 1873	Martha	Croasdale	27 DNC	27 DNC	54

RENEGADE Fleet

Sailed: 2, Discards: 0, To count: 2, Entries: 8, Scoring system: Appendix A

Rank	Fleet	Sail No.	First	Last	R1	R2	Total
1st	RENEGADE	188	Mike	Derusha	1	1	2
2nd	RENEGADE	515	Doug	Kolner	2	3	5
3rd	RENEGADE	299	Michael	Maloney	6	2	8
4th	RENEGADE	123	George	Gerhardt	3	5	8
5th	RENEGADE	544	Scott	Shackelford	4	4	8
6th	RENEGADE	520	Daniel	Bierman	5	6	11
7th	RENEGADE	406	Peter Sarelis	Sarelis	8	7	15
8th	RENEGADE	210	Jim	La Fortune	7	9 DNC	16

E SKEETER Fleet

Sailed: 2, Discards: 0, To count: 2, Entries: 6, Scoring system: Appendix A

Rank	Fleet	Sail No.	First	Last	R1	R2	Total
1st	E SKEETER	M 97	Ken	Whitehorse	1	2	3
1st	E SKEETER	U 194	John	Dennis	2	1	3
3rd	E SKEETER	U 311	Jay	Yaeso	3	3	6
4th	E SKEETER	M 165	Paul	Krueger	4	4	8
5th	E SKEETER	V 738	Tom	Hyslop	5	5	10
6th	E SKEETER	U 111	Rob	Evans	7 DNC	7 DNC	14

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W.S.S.A. REGATTA NOTICE

Wisconsin Stern Steering Association's Annual Championship is scheduled for January 4 and 5, 2025 as a two-day regatta. Regatta information will be available by Sunday evening, December 29, 2024. See www.iceboat.org for ice conditions and tentative regatta sites. Final confirmation will be on Thursday, January 2, 2025, with information being available after 1 PM. If conditions do not exist the regatta will be tentatively rescheduled for the following weekend so stay in touch.

To those sailors not interested in racing, remember that wherever a regatta is held the ice will be good to sail on. Bring your boat, even if it is just to cruise and have a good time with iceboating friends. Don't miss out! WSSA even has a trophy for the winner of the "Cotton Sail" division, so please bring the old boats to the event!

N.I.Y.A. REGATTA NOTICE

The Northwest Ice Yachting Association 2024 Annual Championship has been scheduled for January 19 to 21, 2024. Watch iceboat.org for further information.

Hearst/Stuart Cups Challenge

The Hearst and Stuart Cups Challenge was not sailed in 2024.

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/ riteeng1@gmail.com
Dave Lallier, 920-921-8345/ dnfdl1@gmail.com
Erik Sawyer, 231-893-3921/ ecsawyer@charter.net

WSSA Annual Meeting Minutes

There was no annual meeting in 2024 because there was no regatta. At the last meeting, March of 2021, the elected officers are:

Joe Terry – Commodore
Mike Kroll – Vice Commodore
Andy Gratton – Secretary/Treasurer

Mark Wiener's last act as Commodore is to approve WSSA buying two drinks each at the next regatta instead of just one since we couldn't do that in 2021 due to Covid.

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The Mary B Foundation is willing to take donations to the restoration and upkeep of the Mary B iceboat. See IceboatFoundation.org. There is a 45 minute documentary available of the boat called *Mary B: Madison's Legendary Iceboat*.

If anyone has a good story or interesting historical information to share in this newsletter, please send it to the secretary. See the footer for the email address.

For Sale

- 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 \$6900
Call John Stanley, 414-418-1635 or windspread@hotmail.com
- There are a number of very nice stern steerers for sale on the 4LIYC website, www.iceboat.org
- Two sets of 440C stainless insert runners for a stern steerer. One set is 90 degrees. The other is 105(?) degrees. Both sets are 6 feet long. The bodies are mahogany with carbon fiber reinforcements buried in the bodies, so they look like traditional cast iron runners. \$5,000 spent on the stainless, hardening, & machining. \$5,000 price. They have not been assembled and never used. 2" wide, could be changed. Brand new. Dan Clapp 732-673-7702 or danielclapp@aol.com Photo below.

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- Stern steerer in Minneapolis area, 1937 Johnson Boat Works B boat with D sail plan, 28' LOA, 19.5'+ newer plank, 24' x 2' S&R glass wing mast, 3 sails, 2 booms, plate and slush runners, trailer with storage box. \$500 or least offer.
Kurt Martinson, 612-388-6009 or Kurt.r.Martinson@gmail.com
Photo below.



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- Class A, Leaping Lena, 36'10" backbone, 34'6" mast, 18'3" boom, 22' plank, 2 sets of plate runners, 1 set of slush runners partially rebuilt, cotton sails plus original gaff rigged sails. Older trailer, \$4800. Contact Dan Bierman at 920-299-0773, Green Lake. Photo below.



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- **FREE** - 18' Madison style side-railer, 11' plank with partial wooden hobbler, sails, needs TLC, Andy has free runners that might fit. Madison, WI, contact Brett Hulsey at 608-334-4994 bretthulsey1@gmail.com **Soon it will be burned.**



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WSSA long sleeve t-shirts, \$25.00 each plus shipping. Choice of three colors – charcoal, medium blue, and forest green. Sizes in stock are medium, large, XL, and 2XL. 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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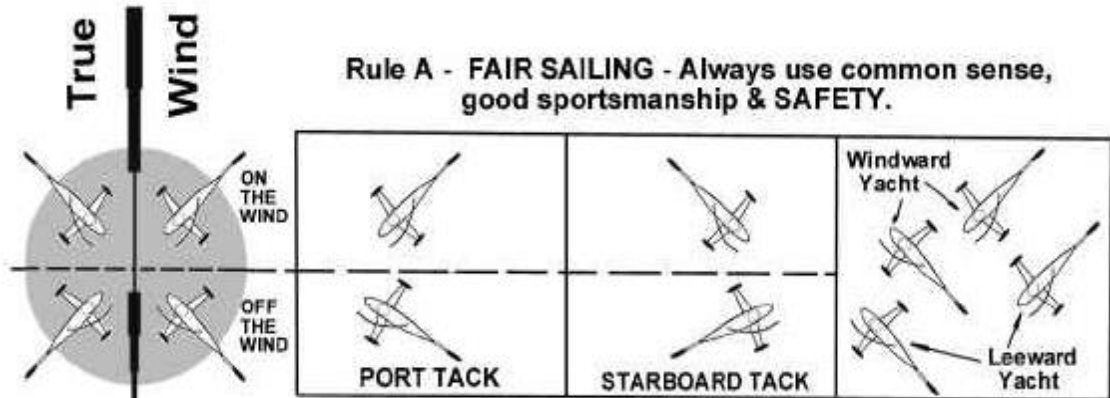
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RIGHT OF WAY and SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

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>Keep Clear</p>	<p>3a <u>ON THE WIND</u> <u>PORT TACK</u></p> <p>Keep Clear</p>	<p>3b <u>OFF THE WIND</u> <u>PORT TACK</u></p> <p>Keep Clear</p>
<p>4a <u>ON THE WIND</u> <u>SAME TACK</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">WINDWARD YACHT</p> <p>Keep Clear</p>	<p>4b <u>OFF THE WIND</u> <u>SAME TACK</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">LEEWARD YACHT</p> <p>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</u> <u>SAME TACK</u> <u>OVERTAKING</u></p> <p>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>Signal</p> <p>Keep Clear</p>	<p>8 <u>ROUNDING MARK</u> <u>OUTSIDE YACHT</u></p> <p>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</u> of the <u>COURSE</u></p>



- REMEMBER -

PREVENT COLLISIONS
Use Your Parking Break!
Wear a Crash Helmet!
Use Common Sense!

Reproduced from NETA
New England Ice Yacht Association

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WSSA Membership Form

WSSA membership dues are \$20.00

Make check out to WSSA, send check and this form to:

WSSA

C/O Andy Gratton

2102 Doty Street

Oshkosh, WI 54902

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Boat name and class _____

Boat overall dimensions _____

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