



US 500

LAKE RONKONKOMA Iceboat and Yacht Club

November

<http://www.iceboatlongisland.com>

2019

From the Commodore

Hello everybody!! Now is the time to start thinking ICE! Before we start thinking ice, please take a moment to remember two prominent club members. We lost Howie Deitz in the spring, and Bob Reeves in the fall. I have known these guys for a very long time, the ice will not be the same without them. When you say your prayer for these guys, mention to please give us a great sailing season. I know they will watch over us. Now is the time to think SWAP MEET! Come to Weeks Yacht Yard on Saturday, December 7, from noon to 4. It is a great time to share stories, ask questions. We are planning on have some sort of tune up clinic with a boat set up. There will be people available to answer any iceboating related question you have. On Saturday, December 21, at 1pm we will pray to the ice gods for a great season. Ok, any excuse to fire off the canon. This will happen at Lake Ronkonkoma state boat launching ramp. There will be some more stories, and hot chocolate, maybe a few baked goods. As always, if anyone needs anything, please feel free to contact me at: dnus4925@yahoo.com. If you are like me, now is the time to get your iceboating projects done.

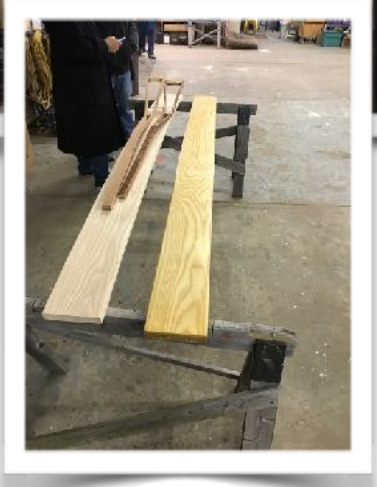
See you at the swap meet!!!
Your Commodore Scott



gretchendorian.com | 2019 DN Worlds

SWAP MEET, SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH - Noon to 4:00 PM

Officers Meeting, Chefs & Food, Story Tellers (how we should do it and how we used to do it), Stuff from the Attic. Don't miss the **SWAP MEET!**



LRIBYC Members at the NEIYC SWAP, Annual Meeting and Lunch in MA



Club Salesmen, one at the bow, one at the stern. HicDic SOLD



Annual NEIYA Meeting



Buffet Lunch

Robert C. Reeves Jr. of Orient, N.Y
Jan. 3, 1940 - Nov. 2, 2019
J14 #20

Bob was employed at Clinton A. Hommel Inc. Plumbing and Heating Supply for 49 years, the last 28 years as owner of the business.

Bob had been an active member of the Orient Fire Department since February 1958, and held numerous leadership positions over the years.

He was a co-founder and organizer of the Orient Fire Department Rescue Squad. He was a member of the Junior Order United American Mechanics since 1965. He was a past president of Orient Community Activities and a member of Orient Congregational Church.

His hobbies included hunting, fishing, ice boating, community service and being with and enjoying his family and friends.



Bob was the Commodore and driving force of the 100 member Orient Ice Yacht Club from its inception in 1991 until early 2019.

"The Orient Ice Boat Club was founded in the early 1990's by numerous ice boat enthusiasts in the area. Hallocks Bay can freeze over during cold spells and if it does it brings us some of the best local ice that you could hope for. The club has built a fleet of J-14s and other boats and annually join with the LRIBYC in their activities. Although the club is relatively new, the venue of Orient Harbor and Hallock's Bay has a rich history."

...B. Weeks

What Iceboaters have to say about Bob:

OIYC

What sad news...I've known Bob Reeves since 1973, when my family moved out here to run Coecles Harbor Marina. As we purchased supplies from Hummel's, Bob was always patient and taught me everything I know about plumbing. He always took the time to encourage me and talk me through the "in's and outs" of the trade...and have a good laugh at the same time.

When some years back, I expressed an interest in ice boating, he said "John, I've got just the boat for you. I have an extra J-14 the club built and you should buy it." I did that very afternoon. His enthusiasm was quite contagious!

That boat is now my wife's boat, and I have 4 more boats! I'll miss Bob dearly and express my sincere condolences to his friends and family.

John Needham
J-14 #28

Mike,

Thanks for that nice piece on Bob. He was, as you so aptly describe, a good man who wanted everyone or anyone to enjoy things that he did. I doubt he ever knew my name but he was always friendly and helpful with any question, whether naïve or not. Plumbing, in weird way, seems to generate guys that way. Ed (King) was like that too, if a bit gruffer. I've been enjoying the early dawn this morning feeling grateful for having discovered this place and people like Bob, Ed and a host of others who make it so special.

R

Mike,

Thanks for letting us know. This is so sad. He really was so great, showing up for even the smallest amount of ice on Great Pond. I learned a lot about ice boating because he was so generous with his time and knowledge.

Heather L

Mike

I got to meet Bob Reeves about 40 years ago getting ready for an Eastern Ice Yacht Association Regatta on Great South Bay in Shirley NY. We had to buy some long wooden planks at a lumber yard to launch boats on the ice. The bay has a brackish water with rise and fall tides. That 30 minute truck ride showed me his friendly welcoming side, all-in attitude and love of iceboating.

Little did I know at that time, Bob had so many iceboats over the years. Last year in October going out to the Orient Point Cross Sound Ferry, I turned down his street. He was outside preparing one of his stern steerers for sale. He had owned in the past, skimmers, stern steerers, one over a hundred years old from his grandfather that sailed in Orient, a J14, and one of my dad's tall rigged skeeters named I-C-1. The attached picture I took on Lake Ronkonkoma probably 1990. My dad made all 3 boats. Dad on left, Bob Reeves in the middle with I-C-1, and I-C-2 on the Right with Ed Bonnebeiger.

I feel a double loss. Bob was a great friend to my father Warren Darress Sr. I missed many years of iceboating and club meetings due to work travels. Bob over the years recounted many stories of dad. Some good, some bad but funny. Many stories were of the LRIBYC "Point of Order" arguments. One recent story Bob recounted was telling me how Dad and Bob sailed on Lake Ronkonkoma in heavy winds, just using their mast and boom. Bob told me that story on

Mecox Bay ice January 18, 2018. The wind was howling and ice was wet and slick. That was such a funny unbelievable story I had to try that myself. It worked!!, I sailed about 10 mph and was able to come about and return back to the the launch area and told Bob. Thank you Bob, for giving me that.

I will certainly miss him selling our LRIBYC 50/50 tickets at meetings. He made us ALL WINNERS.

Warren Darress Cell 516-864-9669



Mike

Truly sad news. Bob was larger than life as you all know and a real friend to everyone. I always enjoyed chatting with him and will always miss his enthusiastic participation in all our club activities both on and off the ice.

PT

ALL,

Bob will be greatly missed by me and all his J14 friends, Stern Steer'ers, Scooter'ers, DN'ers, Skimmer'ers, and all who new him on the ice. His enthusiasm for ice boating was felt on many lakes, rivers, and bays! There is void in my life now, that



he has

sailed

on. Personally, I'll miss his friendly and funny conversations. I will always keep with me his story about selling a Skimmer to Billy Joel! Rest In Peace, Bob...

Peter Zendt

OIYC

Bitten by the ice boating bug after one sail on Coecles Harbor, I was soon in touch with Bob. I went to his house and was soon the proud owner of one of the most unique ice boats that I have ever seen. It was entirely home made right

down to the sail and runners. It's most outstanding feature was the single cylinder engine which drove a small aircraft prop and was mounted aft of the cockpit to power the boat through the doldrums. While I still have that boat affectionately named Ruby after Rube Goldberg, I have moved on to other boats, but I will always be grateful to Bob for taking the time to insure that I was completely hooked!

Thanks Bob, hope there's great ice where you are!

James

James W. Eklund



OIYC 2003: <https://vimeo.com/254116894>



Bob Reeves introduced me to iceboating many years ago when he asked for my help in building a fleet of J14's with a group of OIYA members. Although it took a couple of years working as a group on Friday nights we completed what was at that time the largest fleet of J14's.

Bob continued to call on me with Stern Steerer repairs and re-construction. Every moment with Bob was an iceboaters learning experience. After I built J14 #21 Bob convinced me to race in the Long Island Championships where he gave me a lesson on how to race an iceboat as I followed him around the course on his way to victory. He offered me constructive criticism on my tactics, explained the

nuances needed to race and was the first to congratulate me as I won the next years J14 Long Island Championships. He was proud he taught me well.

Bob instilled in me the philosophy about the need to travel and introduced me to the known haunts; Bantam, Winnepesaukee, Wentworth, Sunapee and others. I joined him for a Winni Spring Fling and drank with him in the Wolfeboro Inn where he told stories of sailing with friends who I never had the opportunity to meet. Bob was the first to set up, didn't sail until all "newbies" were up and running and did not leave until everyone was off the ice and he collected lost hats and mittens for the next day. In his memory he left us with lessons learned and a sound iceboating etiquette.

Mike Acebo, J14 #21, JX #242, MINI Mod #21