

NACA CELEBRATES 30th ANNIVERSARY

As recalled by Tom Collins

The year was 1979 and predicted log racing groups throughout North America were actively running contests. We were coming together annually thanks to the North American Invitational contest which was begun in 1973. Our common organizational link was the American Power Boat Association (APBA). We were their Cruiser Division and Walter Del Mar had been the chairman (officially Vice President) of that division for two years.

There was, however, a problem in that not all of our regional groups choose to belong to the APBA. They thought that we were not being appropriately recognized by the APBA and they were right. The primary focus of the APBA was speed on the water and our kind of contests just didn't fit with that concept. We paid our dues, both individually and as member associations, but it didn't seem that we were receiving a fair recognition of our membership, either in publicity or annual trophies.

Walter had been the APBA Cruiser Division chairman for two years and had tried to remedy these issues with little success. So the idea of spinning off into our own organization took hold. It had been discussed amongst our groups and all seemed to be in favor. Walter, working with others from the various associations, drafted a set of by-laws and presented them to the attendees at the 1979 NAI in Detroit. The plan was met with overwhelming approval and the North American Cruiser Association became a reality.

The new Association consisted of 13 member organizations* from throughout the US and Canada. The rest is history. For thirty years NACA has been well representing predicted log racing interests.

Happy Anniversary NACA!

*They were: CYC, ECA (Eastern Cruiser Assn.), IPBA-GOG, IPBA-N, IPBA-S, NCA, NECA, PLRANC, SCCA, SDCA, SMBPF, SPYC, WLECA.