

# INLAND LAKE YACHTING ASSOCIATION HALL OF FAME - 2012

The I.L.Y.A. Bilge Pullers presented the Hall of Fame Class of 2012 at the Winter Inland, February 11, in Hartland Wisconsin. The 2012 honorees are William "Smiles" Freytag, Jr. and Robert "Boober" Schneider.

Freytag was prolific in the C's and E's for three decades where he was awarded the Pillsbury Cup in 1952 and the Class C Championship in 1951 and 1952. In 1957 he was second in the Class C Championship. In 1958 he placed second in the Class E Championship and culminated his run in 1981 as the ILYA Class E Champion.

Schneider became known as the King



*Hall of Famer Bob Schneider sailing the Boober.*

of C's through the 1960's, achieving the Championship title in the ILYA Class C in 1967, 1968, and 1969. He was awarded the coveted Pillsbury Cup in 1967.



Boober Schneider - Okoboji - and William "Smiley" Freytag - Geneva (both C sailors) were honored by the fraternal organization, the ILYA Bilge Pullers. Shown here are Tom Freytag, Boober Schneider, Joan Freytag, Pillsbury award winner Willie Crary (White Bear) and Buddy Melges. Smiles was unable to attend due to medical complications but his wife and son graciously accepted the award. **Buddy Melges gave the presenting comments for his friends.** Melges kept the audience spellbound as he regaled us with stories of humor and skill. Both men have won the annual C championship multiple times with a total seven championships between them. Melges brought laughter to the audience, as always. What distinguished this year's events was the personal connection between Melges and the two honorees.

Tom and Joan Freytag accepted the award for Smiles. "T" recalled his childhood memories traveling for the Melges team. A longtime employee of Melges, Smiles is credited with receiving the directive to "stay out on the road until the boats are all gone." Buddy told tales but the real sense of their friendship is displayed with his account of a thrice-daily ritual meeting at the yacht club to watch the sailors as they prepare to launch - a habit that persists to this day cementing the lifelong friendship. Smiles' grandchildren are currently sailing on Geneva in X's and Optis.