

"GROOTE BEER"



San Francisco Masters Mariner Regatta in 1988. Photo: John Riise-Latitude-38

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This is about my involvement with Jan Willem Andre de la Porte's botterjacht "Groote Beer".

It came about through several co-incidences. My uncle Siebold de Vries built the spars and blocks for this traditional Dutch sailing vessel during the second world war. The "G.B." spent most of her, nearly half century, colorful American journey here in the Puget Sound. I managed to unravel the Hermann Goering fable and to shed light on the true original owner.



An article I wrote about this was published in a traditional Dutch sailing monthly, "Spiegel der Zeilvaart", in July of 2003. A shorter English version appeared in the November/December 2003 issue of "Wooden Boat". The translation of my more detailed version is accessible at: ["Groote Beer"](#) en [Het Hollandse artikel](#)

The [You Tube video on the 2001-2003 renovation](#) at the Nieuwboer Botter Yard, in Spakenburg



[Photo Album](#) [You tube Video of Bidders and "Groote Beer"](#)

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