



2025 ANNUAL REPORT



Message from Chapter President Alan Hills

Hello fellow members,

2025 was a banner year for our chapter, as you can see by this summary. Not only were we busy with in person activities, but we also grew in membership and upgraded our business model to meet the demands of our current financial position. We had many members participate in boat shows of neighboring chapters and beyond. We had a strong showing at the 50th year International Celebration. Member Rob Weller has been active in coordinating activities in the Lake Norman area, and Larry and

Eileen Lettick stepped up to help with River Cleanup Day and our boat show. Many thanks to our strong leadership group for helping us get so much done.

Looking forward to 2026, our focus will still be on member retention, (thanks Jim Alexander!), workshops and social activities, support for boating industry education and growth of ACBS as a whole. Please consider lending your support to help us achieve these goals!

Yours in classic boating,

Alan

Brief Chapter History

The Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill Triangle Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boat Society was officially formed on January 15, 2005, to provide a means through which individuals sharing a common interest in antique and classic boats can meet, share experiences and information, exchange ideas, and generate enthusiasm for all aspects of these unique boats.

Merl W. "Bill" Baldwin, Jr. a/k/a "The Helmsman" was the Founding President. (June 6, 1935-October 14, 2015) Bill wrote science fiction—specifically militaristic space opera. The Helmsman Saga (8 books) was his best-known work, hence his nickname. Bill worked at NASA at Cape Canaveral supporting Project Mercury and later as a contractor for the NASA Manned Spacecraft Center. He was also President of the Wooden Boat Association of North Texas and managing editor of The Brass Bell, the magazine of the Chris-Craft Antique Boat Club. Bill is fondly remembered by early chapter members.

New Name for Chapter

On March 21, 2019, the ACBS officially sanctioned the chapter's new name: NC Coastal & Piedmont Chapter. The new name better reflects the location of our chapter members.

Incorporation

On August 24, 2022, the chapter was incorporated in the State of North Carolina under its new name.

501(c)(3) Designation

On May 23, 2025, the IRS determined that the chapter qualified for 501(c)(3) nonprofit designation.

January

Member John Olsen who runs the Cape Fear Community College Boat Building Program, hosted our Chapter's workshop on electrical systems. We had 14 chapter members and 6 guests attend including the Sea Scout Ship, Dawn Treader, from Cary. The gals went across the street to catch up on retail therapy and lunch out.



February

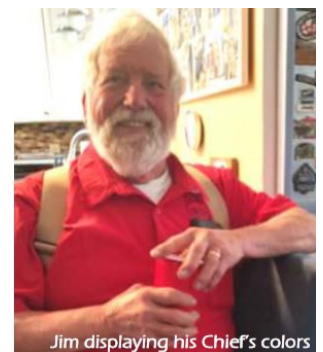
Our chapter held three regional meetings on the same day—February 8th. Alan and Judy Hills hosted in **New Bern** with nine attending.



Austin catching his prize



John and Kate exchanging recipes



Jim displaying his Chief's colors

Jim & Alice Dean hosted at their beach house in **Wrightsville Beach**. Eleven people attended.



Bob & Molly Banta hosted at their home in **Raleigh**. Ten people attended.



March

On March 8th the chapter held a workshop at the home of Robert & Patsy Blanchard in New Hill. Fifteen members and three guests attended. In addition to getting to poke around all the vintage collectibles on their property, we also had a workshop on Reto Mods.



Four members of our chapter also participated in the Sunnyland Boat Festival in Tavares, FL. They went on the pre-show cruise of the St. Johns River and the show itself.



April

We finalized the design of our chapter's burgee.



Laser etched, double sided (logo correct on both sides), 10 x 15

Fourteen of our members attended the Cape Fear Community College's Boat Show on the Cape Fear river on April 12th. Alan and Judy Hills brought Peanut. Alan had just finished varnishing the Chris Craft Cavalier—you could still smell it. There was no engine in the boat as that is still a work in progress. The boat showed well and won "Best Restoration." Jim and Alice Dean brought their C-Dory named C-Time. It won "Best Classic Fiberglass." Robert & Patsy Blanchard brought Lil' Rascal, their Chris Craft Sea Skiff that won "Best Powerboat." Joe and Bev Peacos brought two boats. The E.B. White named Sally G. won "Best Row/Paddle" and their Chestnut which won "Best Canoe." Our chapter was one of the show sponsors.



On April 26th the Peninsula Yacht Club sponsored a car/boat show at Lake Norman. Two of our members had boats in the show: Rob Weller brought his 1963 21' Lyman Runabout, and heard lots and lots of stories from former Lyman owners – he was awarded 2nd place in class. Rob is the second owner, buying and preserving/restoring her in 1987. Ken Fleming brought his very unique and rare 1957 Healey 16' Sports Boat 55. He took 1st in class, but more importantly, his boat won the Best in Show trophy for all the vehicles on display



May

Our chapter submitted five items to ACBS for inclusion in the 2050 time capsule.



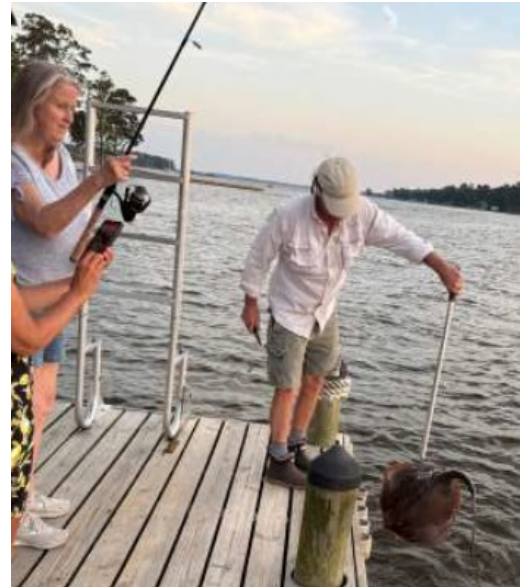
May 3, 2025 was the date of the North Carolina Maritime Museum show in Beaufort. We had 14 members attend. Our Chapter was one of the sponsors of this show.



On May 17th our chapter collaborated with the NC Estuarium, Sound Rivers (Riverkeepers), and River Vibes to hold a clean up of the Tar-Pamlico River in the waterfront area of the City of Washington. Eileen Lettick took point for the project and did a marvelous job. The Royal Rangers, a Christian based boy's group were actively engage in picking up trash from boats and kayaks.



Member Cindy Jordan opened her family vacation home in Bath to our members once again. Jim Alexander and John Dougherty took advantage of her offer and stayed there the weekend of the River Cleanup—May 16-19.



In preparation of receiving funds from former member Bill Baker's estate, we established our Chapter as a 501c3 nonprofit corporation with the IRS. We received that designation on May 23, 2025.

June

On June 7th we held a poker run on the Trent River in New Bern concluding with lunch at a waterfront restaurant in River Bend. It was an ill-fated day which won our chapter the distinctive ACBS Broken Gunwale award. [Click here](#) to read all about it. We had 21 members & guests.



Alan Hills towing Kevin Leiner's boat



Lettick's Trailer Tire

June 12-15 was the St. Michael's Chesapeake Bay ACBS Chapter Boat Show in Maryland. We had six members attend and show three boats.



July

Due to significant rainfall and flooding in the Piedmont area, we had to cancel our scheduled in-person meeting and run on Lake Jordan scheduled for July 22nd.

August

On August 16th our Chapter celebrated International Vintage Boating Day at the Wilmington Marina Center. Seventeen members attended. Although the day was hot, hot, hot, we did have a good time.





Member Rob Weller also hosted an IVBD event at Lake Norman. Five captains from our chapter brought four boats. The Denver, NC Sea Scout Ship scouts camped out the night before at a private home on the lake and the next day the leaders brought the scouts and four boats and joined the others for a run on the lake.



During August members worked on organizing the equipment and supplies in Bill Baker's shop so they could be sold to benefit the Chapter. Bill willed the shop contents to John Justice who took what he wanted and then offered the rest to the chapter.



September

September 15 to 21 was the big 50th Anniversary of ACBS in Clayton, NY. There were 18 from our chapter that attended the festivities. Saturday was the main boat show day with show awards being presented after lunch. Our chapter had three boats at Clayton. Jim Hartman's boat Loon was at the show, but he elected not to have it judged. David Printy and Robert Blanchard entered the show and were judged. Both received silver level awards for their classifications. John Coffman's boat "Made in the Shade" got a gold award. We spied Jim Hartman's picture on the front page of the Watertown Daily Times. Jim Hartman's boat Loon made the header on Woody Boater during the show week. ACBS editor Amy Scanlin used a number of pictures taken by Judy Hills in both the WWW and the ACBS website. She also published an article written by Judy on story of the Poker Run debacle—the reason our chapter received the Broken Gunwale award. [Click here](#) to read our award submission and [click here](#) to read our submission for Chapter of the Year. We had a marvelous time with all our ACBS family of friends..





September 27th was the Chapter boat show at the Cypress Landing Yacht Club in Chocowinity. Larry & Eileen Lettick were the show coordinators and did a fine job!



Several of our members attended the Smith Mountain Lake ACBS Chapter Show in Moneta, VA in September.



October

In October, through the ACBS Port Captain Program, hosted Bob and Cristina Hamilton of the Chesapeake Chapter. Larry and Eileen Lettick took the Hamiltons on a tour of Washington and Chocowinity. Jim Hartman, Alan and Judy Hills took them for a boat ride on the Trent River and lunch at the Saltwater Grill in River Bend. All had a wonderful time.



Eight of our members attended the Georgetown, SC Boat Show.



November

On November 8th, members Rob and Beth Weller opened their home on Lake Norman to host ACBS members and guests who lived nearby.



On November 15th the Chapter held its Annual Meeting and Elections at the Duplin Winery Bistro in Rose Hill. The food was delicious, the company superb, and the ambience lovely.



The Southport Boat Show was also held in November. Our member John Olsen was one of the show judges. Members Joe Peacos, Scott Tinney, and John & Tammy Tinney's boats won awards.





In November our chapter also awarded a scholarship to Daniel Benson, a student in the Cape Fear Community College's wooden boat building and boat manufacture and service programs.

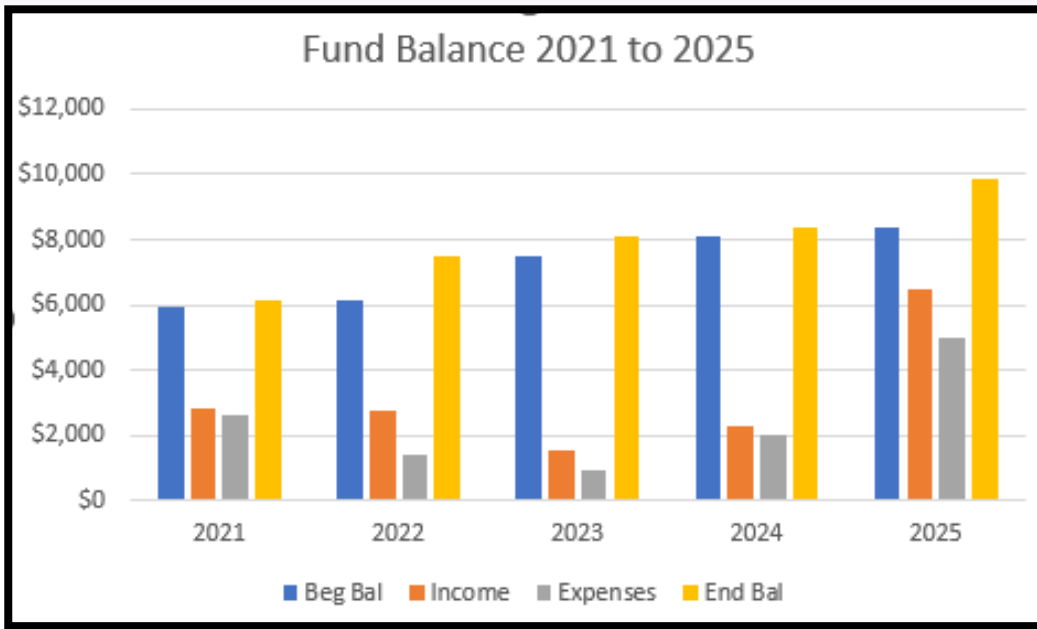
Members living in the New Bern area held a pop-up meeting and toured the Hatteras boat manufacturing facility. Member Austin Lewis is head of the facility maintenance department.



December

Our big event in December is our Christmas Party and Awards dinner. This year Kevin and Jen Leiner hosted us at their beautiful home in Wake Forest. [Click here](#) for awards & recognitions.





2025 CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

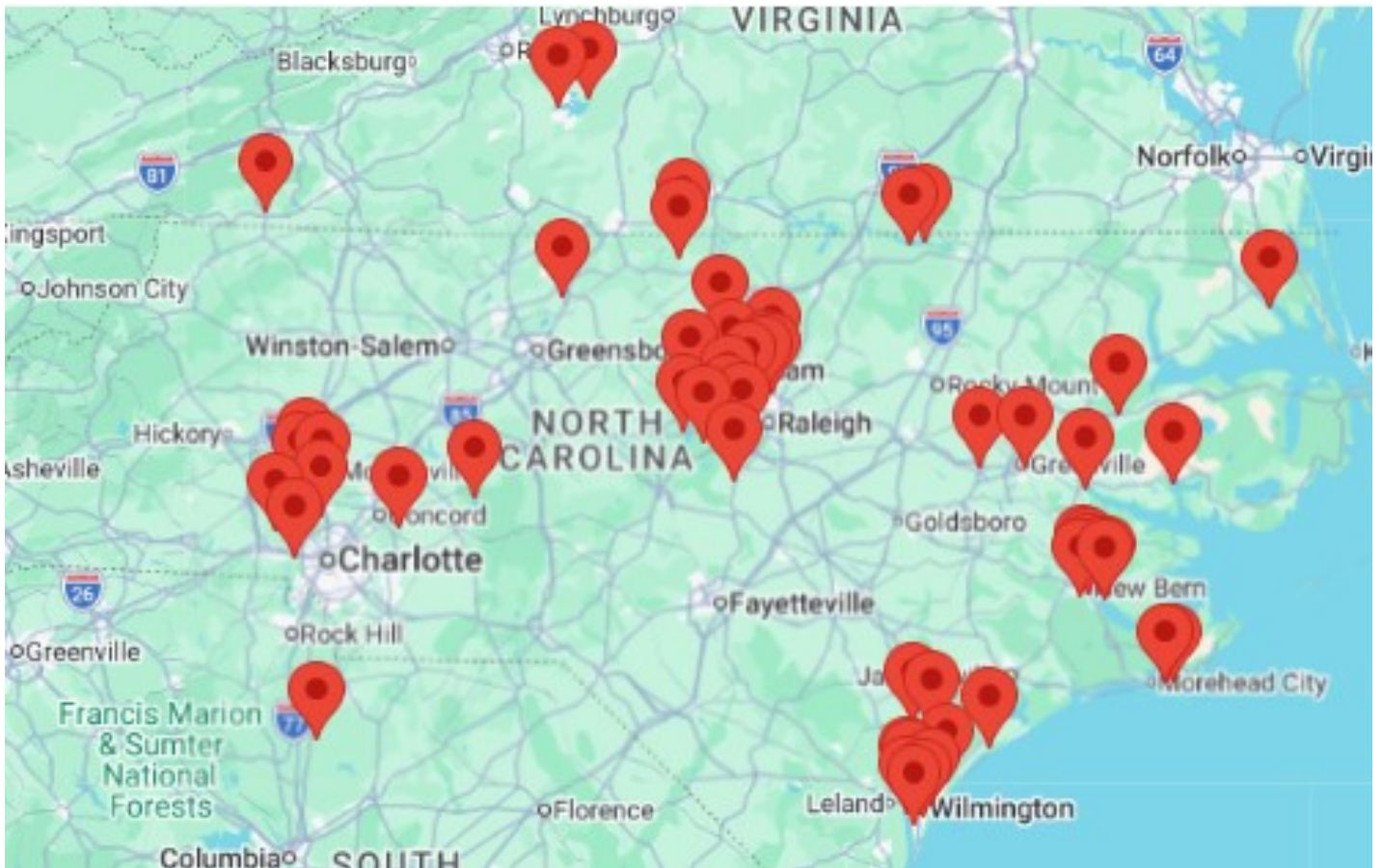
Month	Primary	Secondary	Total
JAN	60	10	70
FEB	60	11	71
MAR	60	11	71
APR	56	11	67
MAY	60	12	72
JUN	59	11	70
JUL	61	12	73
AUG	60	12	72
SEP	61	12	73
OCT	63	13	76
NOV	62	12	74
DEC	61	12	73
TOTAL	723	139	862
AVG/MO	60.25	11.58	71.83
Note: 2024 total avg. was 64.6			

Because our memberships run based on date we last paid our membership dues, it is difficult to compare our membership levels from year to year. This table shows what ACBS reported for the end of each month listed. At the end we figured the average number of members per month and then computed the average membership per month for the year. We compared that number to the prior year. So, our average in 2024 was 64.6 and the average in 2025 was 71.3. Using an online percent change calculator, it shows that **we had an 11.2% increase** in total membership between those two years.

Map of NC Counties in NC Coastal & Piedmont Chapter Boundaries



Location of our Chapter Members as of December 2025



2025 End-of-Year Financial Report

NC Coastal & Piedmont
Chapter of the ACBS

<https://www.vintageboat.org/>

2025 Officers & Directors

President:

Alan Hills (term ends 2025)

Vice-President:

Jeff Martinson (term ends 2026)

Secretary:

Judy Hills (term ends 2025)

Treasurer:

John Dougherty (Term ends 2026)

2025 Directors:

[Jim Alexander](#) (2025)

[Jim Hartman](#) (2024)

[Bill Conley](#) (2025)

[John Justice](#) (2025)

[John Dougherty](#) (2024)

Kevin Leiner (2026)

Membership Chair:

Jim Alexander

Scholarship Chair:

Jim Alexander

Web Master:

Judy Hills

Newsletter Editor:

Judy Hills



Balance (Jan 1, 2025)		\$8,379.13	
Receipts		2025 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET
Membership Dues		\$1,480.00	\$1,500.00
Donations		\$2,750.00	\$200.00
Ship's Store		\$350.00	\$60.00
Name Tags		\$14.00	\$60.00
Reimbursements		\$0.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous		\$1,350.00	\$0.00
Boat Show		\$550.00	\$500.00
	Total Receipts	\$6,494.00	\$2,320.00
Expenses			
	Operational		
	Awards	\$0.00	\$200.00
	Website	\$23.19	\$25.00
	Name Tags	\$114.05	\$125.00
	Ship's Store	\$0.00	\$120.00
	Miscellaneous	\$600.58	\$275.00
	Boat Show		
	Venue	\$0.00	\$200.00
	Advertising	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Food & Beverage	\$99.95	\$250.00
	Awards	\$0.00	\$75.00
	Sponsorships	\$550.00	\$550.00
	Miscellaneous	\$386.13	\$0.00
	Events & Workshops	\$1,209.68	\$1,000.00
	CFCC Scholarships	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00
	Total Expenses	\$4,983.58	\$3,820.00
Balance (Dec 31, 2025)		\$9,889.55	
	Trend:	\$1,510.42	\$(1,500.00)

Submitted by Chapter Treasurer John Dougherty