

Messing About In Boats

Monthly newsletter of the NC Coastal & Piedmont Chapter of the ACBS

April 2020

Hello Mates,

I hope y'all are doing well. I thought that in this installment I would be writing about the wonderful boat shows that had taken place, but alas, we have a new player in our midst that is wreaking havoc on life as we know it. All I'm going to say about that is PLEASE follow the safe practices protocols until this has run its course.

When life hands me lemons, I always try to make lemonade. If you have an old boat, I'm betting there is plenty of lemonade to be made! I have some task lists that have been staring me in the face for quite some time now that will finally get some attention; a couple of boat projects, clean and reorganize my shop, yard work (my favorite! LOL), and, well you get it.

On the subject of boat shows, the Cape Fear show has been postponed to an as yet unannounced date and the

Beaufort wooden boat show will be held on October 17. I know, this conflicts with the Georgetown show, but there were too many other issues to consider when selecting the new date. The show will not be held downtown Beaufort this time, but on the grounds of the future home of the museum on Gallant's Channel. I would really like as many of you as possible to attend this show. This venue offers a lot of space and more in water dockage than downtown. I think the intent of the museum folks is to move the show here permanently and there is enough space for our chapter to help the museum by coming out in force and showing our boats here. This could maybe become our de facto boat show in the future. So, mark your calendars and come on down. If you can't bring a boat, at least come to check the place out.

As far as our meeting scheduled for next month, I'm thinking a conference call meeting would be the way to go. I'll release details later in the month. Also, there is an article in here regarding a phone conversation I had with Stanley Struble, our ACBS liaison, about membership. Please do take the time to read this and look for a survey I will be sending out about the chapter and your feelings on a number of subjects that pertain to the club. The reason for this is to tailor our activities more closely to your desires.

That's all for now gang. Keep safe and I am expecting to see everyone's boats looking the best they have ever been next time we get together!

Best regards,

Alan

Just a Little Test of Your ACBS Knowledge

ACBS has a new website, so we thought it might be a good time to see what you know (or don't) about ACBS. The answers are at the end of the quiz. <https://acbs.org/>

1. ACBS was founded in:
 - A. 1969
 - B. 1971
 - C. 1962
 - D. 1975
2. How many ACBS members are there?
 - A. 6500+
 - B. 5750+
 - C. 7750+
 - D. 5900+
3. You must have a boat to join ACBS?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
4. Definition of an antique boat:
 - A. built up to and including 1918
 - B. built between 1919 and 1942
 - C. built between 1943 and 1975
 - D. A wooden boat built 25 years prior to the current year.
5. ACBS has how many basic classifications of boats (show judging)
 - A. Four
 - B. Five
 - C. Six
 - D. Seven
6. Only wooden boats can be classics
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
7. ACBS headquarters is in
 - A. Essex, CT
 - B. Traverse City, MI
 - C. Bath, ME
 - D. Clayton, NY
8. The name of the ACBS publication is
 - A. The Gam
 - B. Classic Boat
 - C. The Rudder
 - D. The Ensign
9. The current ACBS President is
 - A. Stan Struble
 - B. Timothy Bush
 - C. Rob Lyons
 - D. Dan Gyoerkoe
10. The name of the ACBS annual award given in the spirit of fun and good humor is
 - A. Broken Gunwale
 - B. Broken Cable
 - D. Blunder Bucket
 - E. Broken wheel

We hope you enjoyed this little quiz and that you went to the new ACBS website to look up a few of these answers.

Answers: 1D, 2A, 3B, 4B, 5B, 6B, 7D, 8C, 9B, and 10A

Chapter Analytics from ACBS Headquarters

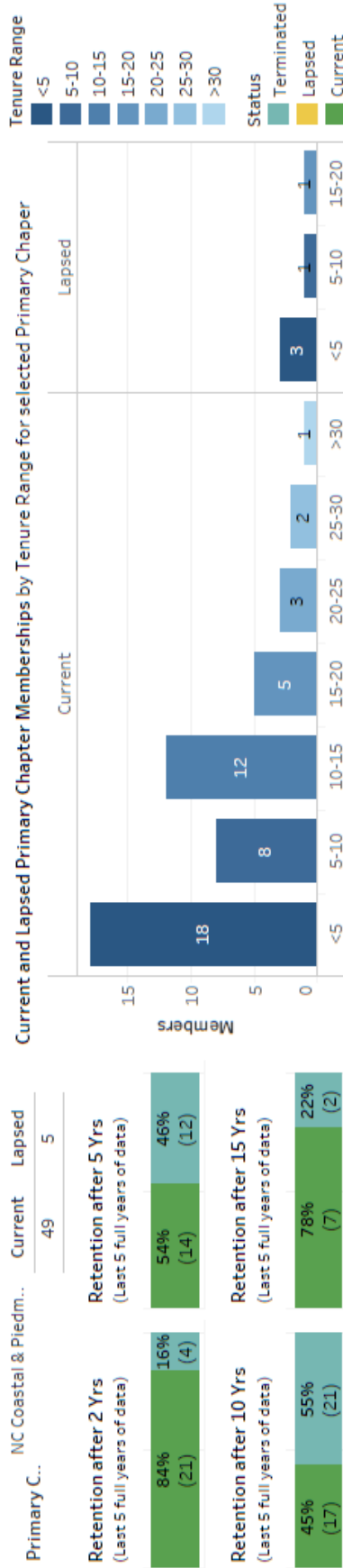
The ACBS Mission Statement calls for headquarters to serve our chapters by "...providing information, education and resources designed to promote, sustain, and grow the hobby..." The Executive Director just shared a new resource with us. Over the past year, they've developed a new Primary Chapter Dashboard, which takes myacbs.org membership data and turns it into graphical views of

growth, retention, and tenure. Copies of this report can be found on the next page.

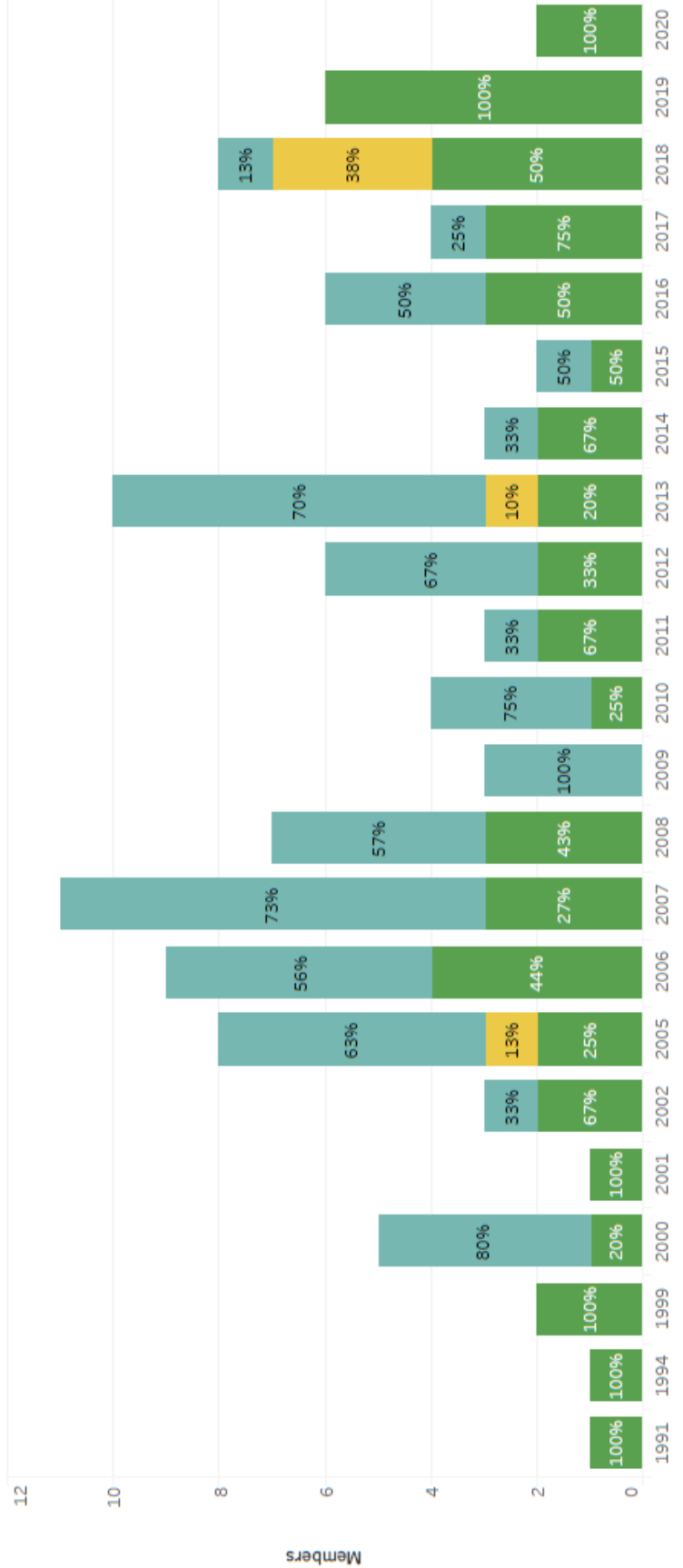
In a phone conversation with our chapter's mentor, Stanley Struble, we found out that our retention rate is one of the best! Kudos, especially to our membership chair Jim Alexander! The ACBS and our chapter's reports can be found on our [website](https://acbs.org/).

ACBS Membership Analytics Primary Chapter Dashboard

Data as of March 1, 2020



Current, Lapsed, and Terminated Primary Chapter Memberships by Join Date for selected Primary Chapter, 1990+



Keeping Spiders, Wasps, and Other Insects Out of Your Boat

This material was drawn primarily from Pontoon-Opedia. Insects, especially spiders, love a covered boat—it is really hard to keep them from getting in. They spins webs, leave trails, and drop their poop on your lovely seating. While there is no 100% fool-proof method for stopping them, there are some things you can try to help reduce the problem. We caution you to test a small area if you intend to apply the remedy to a surface.

There are those to advocate for peppermint oil, geraniol or rosemary oil. Apparently the smell alone help to deter the insects. Another trick is to use incense sticks. Light the stick and place it near areas where they hide—they'll coming running out. You can then catch or kill them. When putting the boat up for any period of time, some recommend spraying the inside with Black Flag insect repellent. Mix two ounces of it with a

gallon of water and then spray using a small spray bottle. This does not stain or smell. This will work for about two months.

If you keep your boat in a covered slip, in or out of the water, they suggest spraying the immediate area as well—especially overhead.

Another website suggest the use of mothballs, but we all know how bad those smell.

Experts do not recommend the use of foggers or bug bombs, especially in closed spaces. The smell may last for weeks and they are not good for the environment.

Insect poop on vinyl



seating and covers show up as small black dots. If not removed immediately, they can harden and permanently stain the seats. These can be removed with a Magic Eraser.

Cleaning and vacuuming your boat helps to reduce the number of bugs and helps to remove eggs and webs. This also helps to reduce their food source and deters them from moving in.

When possible seal off as many gaps and openings as possible. We found wasps getting in through the automatic winch for our anchor, so we plugged the hole.

There is also something called spider netting that acts like a physical barrier to prevent spiders and their droppings from landing on your deck.

So there you have it—some remedies for this pesky problem. Summer is prime time for arachnoids, so be vigilant and address the issue as soon as you identify it.



Rememberings: Marion & David Stowe's 1951 Chris Craft Special Runabout

Contributed by David Stowe. Our 17-foot 1951 Chris Craft Special Runabout, "REMEMBERINGS" was purchased new by my grandfather. The dealership, Creech Motorcycle Company in Charlotte, NC, represented Harley Davidson and sold Chris Craft boats as well.

The boat was docked in a boathouse on Lake Wylie, near Belmont, NC for 55 years. My father and his three brothers shared use of the boat and my sister and I and many cousins grew up learning to water ski behind her. The boat was one of very few inboard boats on Lake Wylie at the time.

The boat was stolen at one point, but recovered unharmed by law enforcement several

days later.

My father bought the boat from his siblings after my grandfather died. It remained in his boathouse until he, at the age of 92, discovered it missing! Upon further inspection it was determined that the hoist had broken and the boat was still in the boathouse, but on the bottom of the lake. My father felt so bad about the boat going under on "his watch" that my sister and I had it raised. The boat had been underwater for about a month and was providing a home to a five gallon bucket full of catfish!

We decided to have the boat completely rebuilt by Lowell Boats in Greensboro, NC. This extensive restoration process took two years, but the boat now looks like new.

We always called the boat, "the Chris Craft" as it never had a real name. My sister and I decided that the restored boat should be christened "REMEMBERINGS" as it generates a lot of memories for us and is now being enjoyed by the fifth generation!

The boat now resides on a trailer in a warehouse in Farmville, NC. We enjoy using the boat several times a year at club and ACBS gatherings and it has won Best Inboard, Best Restoration, and People's Choice awards.



Maintaining the Metal on Your Boat

TLC is needed for all metal on your boat be it stainless steel, bronze, aluminum or even galvanized. Hardtops, bowrails, cleats and chocks, electric horns and spotlights. Routine care is easy, but if you neglect maintenance, it can be rough going.

Corrosion-resistant stainless steel and aluminum only need soap, water, polish, clean rags, toothbrush for the corners, and elbow grease. If left unattended for a long, long time, the stainless will corrode away, more likely on components that are out of sight like fastenings for deck hardware. Water seeping under deteriorated bedding attacks the oxygen-starved stainless and eventually something gives. Whenever you see tarnish stains on fastenings, investigate further. You may need to replace the fastenings.

After cleaning, remove any tarnish with a commercial, appropriate marine cleaner and polish and then re-polish periodically. This should keep your stainless steel looking great for years.

Anodized aluminum is corrosive resistant, durable, and easily maintained. Washing aluminum surfaces when you wash your boat will keep



them looking good for years, especially if waxed or polished periodically. There are many products on the market but one author advises using Woody Wax. You just wipe this product on and let it dry—no need to buff.

There is a tendency for aluminum to corrode where it touches stainless steel. Salt will hasten this process, so regular washdowns are advised if boat is used in saltwater.

Chrome-plated silicon bronze hardware is considered top-of-the-line and only requires washing.

Lastly there is galvanized metal—ugly, but tough as iron. No maintenance required. [Click here](#) to read the full article.

Just for Fun in 2020: How Did Your Boat Get Its Name?

ACBS Chapter members' inquiring minds want to know! How did the boat get its name? It does not have to be a boat you currently own. It can also be a boat your family once owned. Every boat name has a back story. Submit yours by the 25th of each month.

Here is what we are hoping you'll provide: 1) Name of the boat; 2) Owned by; 3) Boat description; 4) Boat history; 5) How the boat got its name; and 6) Photo of the boat. Can't wait to see what you submit!



Last month's submission from Bill Conley

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The Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill Triangle Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boat Society, Inc. 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. On March 21, 2019, the chapter officially changed its name to NC Coastal & Piedmont Chapter.

We promote and sponsor classic boating events, as well as educate our membership and the general public about these great craft. We partner with other clubs and organizations to promote awareness and appreciation for the history, research, repair, and restoration of these grand old boats to preserve them for future generations.

Calendar of Events & Meetings

Please note that with the exception of the business meeting dates, the places, dates and times listed for events are tentative. Watch your email for updates. Please add these dates to your calendar and participate as much as you can! Support the boat shows listed and others. Chapter-sponsored events are in bold.

NOTE: Many events have either been cancelled or rescheduled due to the coronavirus.

4/17-19 Oriental Boat Show & Nautical Flea Market in Oriental—
Cancelled—rescheduled to 9/25-27

4/29 Chapter Business Meeting at Trali in Morrisville at 6:30 PM
May be held via conference call—stay tuned.

5/2 NCMM Beaufort Boat Show in Beaufort **Cancelled—rescheduled to 10/17**

5/16 Lake Lure Boat Show—Blue Ridge ACBS Chapter

5/30 Plating Workshop—Phillips Plating—lin New Bern



What are the ACBS Definitions of Antique or Classic Boat?

Historic: A boat built up to and including 1918

Antique: A boat built between 1919 and 1942 inclusive

Classic: A boat built between 1943 and 1975 (any material)

Late Classic: A boat built 1976 to 25 years prior to the current year.

Boats classified as Historic up through Late Classic will be judged separately as Preserved or Restored boats. For more information [click here](#).