

Messing About In Boats

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

August 2020

Ahoy Mates,

I hope everyone is doing well and managing to have some sense of normalcy at this time. Fortunately for us, our hobby lends itself well to the restrictions the pandemic has placed on us. Boating activities, whether it be on the water or in the shop, enable us to enjoy our passion while limiting our risk of infection. The boating periodicals I read are saying that boat sales are way up for this time of year as boating is viewed as a safe way to enjoy leisure time. I only hope that if they are new to boating, they take a safe boating class. The dog days of summer are upon us now so remember to take precautions to prevent heat and sun exposure while you are out.

We have a workshop planned for August 22nd at

John Justice's place where he will go over how to properly winterize your engine or perhaps how to pickle it if the truly unfortunate (immersion) befalls you. We are planning to make this a swap meet as well, so start gathering all that stuff you won't be needing and maybe you will be able to swap it for someone else's. We also plan on having food there so why not come out and join us? I will send out an eblast with details soon.

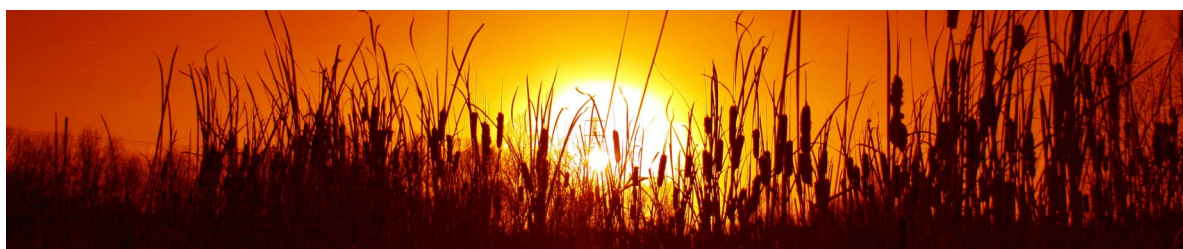
I hope y'all have been visiting our [website](#). We are doing our best to add new material and it is a great resource for keeping up with areas of interest. If you have a boat or any other item you want to sell, we will list it for you for free. If you would like to have your boat's picture added, please send us one. I hope you have noticed

that we have featured some tales of trailering woes recently, mostly tire related. Hot weather puts added stress on tires. If you are planning a long high-speed tow, take a few minutes to make sure your tires are properly inflated and free of cracks or other defects. And, carry a spare and the tools to change a tire.

Lastly, I would like to thank all of you who have contributed material for the newsletter. This is YOUR newsletter and YOUR input makes it more enjoyable for all. Please submit anything amusing, educational or informational. I hope to see a bunch of you at the "Piglet" on the 22nd!

Best regards,

Alan



MINUTES OF THE JULY 29th ZOOM MEETING

Editor's Note: This is a great way for our far-flung members to participate in the quarterly meetings. In addition to club business, there is an educational component.

Welcome: Alan Hills

Moment of silence in honor of Garfield Karpiak

Treasurers Report, Kevin Leiner: Current balance \$5,477.01 as of 6/30/2020.

Membership, Jim Alexander: Membership is holding steady. Jim is reaching out to those whose names appear on the failed to renew list and finding that most simply forgot.

Old Business:

- Secretary vacancy: Discussion on finding a replacement for Garfield. Alan will reach out to members directly to find a successor. Jim Alexander and Kevin Leiner volunteered to serve temporarily.
- August 22nd Workshop: John Justice will host a workshop at the "piglet" and will speak to us about either winterizing or pickling an inboard engine. A discussion about adding a swap meet ensued and it was decided that we will include that in the program as well as options for having a lunch there. Details will be announced via e-blast as date nears.
- Lake Gaston Poker Run: The Lake Gaston event will not include a poker run—it will just be a fun run. Several ideas were exchanged and details will follow as they become available.
- Scholarships to CFCC: Two \$1000 scholarships were offered to Cape Fear Community College boat building program for the coming year pending receipt of thank you letters from the recipients. Jim will provide the names of winners when available.

New Business:

- Advertising boats for sale by non-members: Alan receives requests from non-members for "help" in selling or giving away old boats they no longer wish to keep and wanted a policy established for handling such requests. After discussion, it was decided that we would allow non-members to list their boat on our website provided the boat conformed to the ACBS classification as an eligible boat. The ad will posted in the Trading Dock section of our website for up to two months. The same applies to boat-related equipment and gear. There will be no mass mailings of the these non-member ads directly to our members. We will encourage these individuals to join.
- Bob Banta commented on how poorly ACBS handled moving the chapter websites to a new server. It required action on the part of the chapters to correct.
- Jeff Martinson ran Joe Peacos' video of the Hyco Lake outing to test our capability of sharing other media within our Zoom meeting. There were problems with the audio and there was a large gray bar obscuring part of the view. Good idea but we need to work on the execution.
- It was agreed that the chapter will hold Zoom meetings quarterly until such time we may resume our normal meeting structure.

Good and welfare:

- John Justice informed us that Harry and Rita Warren have moved to Wilmington, NC and have sold their boat and have not renewed their membership.
- We submitted our website and our newsletter to ACBS for judging for the 2020 awards.

Adjourned at approx. 7:40PM

GARFIELD KARPIAK (June 5, 1954 to July 1, 2020)

We lost a dear friend and member, Garfield Karpiak this past month. Our sincerest condolences to his wife Laura and his family. Garfield's obituary provided his basic history and we hope you read about his incredible life. This article recounts a few "Garfield moments" submitted by our members.

Garfield' used his superb carpentry and mechanical skills to build a 14-foot Glen-L design Zip boat from scratch. The Zip is one of the most popular designs for the first-time boat-builder. He named her "Zip Zip Hooray" and proudly displayed her at our 2016 boat show in New Bern.

Alan Hills: I first met Garfield at the 2016 New Bern boat show. Putting on this show was a first for my wife Judy and I and I was quite busy and a little nervous, running all over the place. As the day wore on, I got a chance to go look at the boats. Many were brought by folks I had never met and I tried to visit with as many as possible. Right away, Garfield stuck out to me. My first impression left me feeling like I had been talking to an old hippie who had built a beautiful little runabout and re-stored an old Mercury outboard to go with it. As time passed and I became more active in the chapter, I got to know him fairly well and really enjoyed being around him. He and his wife Laura hosted a Christmas party at their



GARFIELD KARPIAK (June 5, 1954 to July 1, 2020)

home that was outstanding. When I became president in 2018, Garfield volunteered to be secretary for us and he did a terrific job, always supplying the minutes, (accurate, no less) the next day. He brought passion, skill, wisdom and humor to our little circle and he will be missed. RIP my friend!

Judy Hills: I remember the first time I laid eyes on Garfield. This pony-tailed, hippie-looking guy showed up at one of our meetings we used to have in this restaurant in Durham. My thought was that he looked more like he belonged on a bike than in an antique/classic boat. But then I got to talking to him about Zip and realized his passion for the hobby. He was witty and well-spoken. I grew to respect Garfield's many talents and enjoyed talking to him.

Jim & Anne Marie Hartman: Garfield will be missed by us all. His input into our chapter was very much appreciated. He stepped up and did all he could to fill the voids and make us all feel at home. Happy boating to you as you cruise on in heaven.

John Justice: While I didn't know Garfield very well on a personal level I did admire his work and his work ethic. He was an interesting person and apparently was skilled in many ways. Enjoyed the Christmas party at his house, and believe that he put much more effort into the party than most of us realized. He left us too soon.

Jeff Martinson: It was hard to write this, as I don't think it does justice to the man. With that

said, here are few unworthy thoughts of a fellow traveller and righteous dude:

Garfield was a great guy, forever skillful and knowledgeable as well as helpful and kind. The first two qualities don't always go with the latter two, and I have to admit, I was a bit intimidated by him at first. Not only did arrive at the boat show with thick volumes of restoration photos and technical data, I thought he looked a little like a Hell's Angel! Would he suffer to a well-intentioned, but bumbling hack like myself? In fact, I soon found out, Garfield was as nice and approachable as they come. I loved hearing about his latest adventure, whether it was with his boats, his cabin or his Mini. I last saw him in mid June, when we – masked and standing 6 feet apart – looked over his latest project. He was so full of energy and enthusiasm it's hard to believe he's gone. Hopefully, we can all be a little like him as we go forward, challenging ourselves with new projects and disciplines, having fun and being supportive of each other at the same time.

Sharon Conley: I remember first meeting Garfield at one of the New Bern boat shows, where his boat was parked at the dock next to ours. I especially recall his great booklet about how his boat engine had served as a 'coffee table' for far to long, which motivated him to finally use it in a a boat!



Clowning around in Conley's garage

GARFIELD 's OBITUARY NOTICE

Garfield John Karpiak
June 5 1954 July 1 2020

Garfield John Karpiak, 66, of Raleigh, NC died suddenly on July 1, 2020 at his mountain retreat in Banner Elk, NC.

He was born in Sudbury, Ontario, Canada to Nestor and Anne Karpiak on June 5, 1954. He graduated from Levack High School in 1972, and received a degree in Environmental Studies from the University of Waterloo, and completed a teaching degree and mechanics certifications too. Garfield spent 2 years in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, Africa teaching at the Training Institute in Sarugi through the Cuso International Program. He then taught for a year in Thunder Bay, Canada before he moved to Bermuda to teach Auto Mechanics at Bermuda College.

He met the love of his life, Laura Kleber, at the Bermuda Bridge Club. They married on December 12, 1997 at their home on Keith Hall Road overlooking the harbor in Bermuda. Garfield was a talented mechanic and carpenter. He taught auto mechanics at the Bermuda College. In 1998, Laura and Garfield moved to Little Rock, Arkansas, where he worked for a general contractor before going out on his own and starting his own small construction company.

Laura and Garfield moved to Raleigh, NC, in 2001. After working for several general contractors, Garfield became a general contractor and ran his own contracting business. When he wasn't working on other people's homes, Garfield creatively worked on his own home, and his carpentry skills are evident throughout their home.

Garfield was always helping friends, and in his spare time built a classic "Zip" wooden boat. He celebrated its completion on his 60th birthday taking it to their cottage on Windy Lake, Ontario. He was an active member of The Antique & Classic Boat Society, where he acted as Secretary the last two years.

He had a great love of classic cars, especially original Mini Coopers, and was fortunate to find, and had just finished restoring a 1990 Mayfair Mini Cooper, which he then enjoyed on the mountain roads of western North Carolina. Garfield was much beloved in his Five Points community for his generous advice and assistance to his neighbors and friends.

Garfield was preceded in death by his father, Nestor. He is survived by his much beloved wife, Laura, his mother, Anne, his sister, Beverly Gordon, his niece Dylan McEwen, and his son, Rodney Gravelle, and three granddaughters. A celebration of Garfield's life will be planned and announced at a later date when Covid-19 allows his friends and family to gather.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in memory of Garfield to the SPCA of Wake County, spcawake.org/, the Inter-Faith Food Shuttle, www.foodshuttle.org/, or the Shawneehaw Volunteer Fire Department, 171 Rominger Rd, Banner Elk, NC 28604. To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of Garfield John Karpiak please visit our Sympathy Store..

[Click here](#) to access.

GARFIELD IN THE ZIP ZIP HOORAY



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
"Little Fish" from Kevin
Leiner

Last Nickel by John Justice

There's a story or two behind every boat name? Well, here's the one behind Last Nickel. The easy explanation would be that as most owners know an old boat will get every nickel that it can. And that would be true of the Last Nickel. As my first attempt at wooden boat restoration I could have done a better job of selecting my first project. Something that needed fewer repairs would have been smart. The good news is that I figuratively went to school on that boat. I was able to save the stringers and at least one plank with the serial number stamped in it.

When my grandfather built his new Chevrolet dealership building in 1949 there was a buffalo nickel set in the concrete threshold of a door. Who knows how many people besides myself thought they'd found a nickel, which would buy a candy bar or soft drink at the time. When I asked my grandfather about it, he said that he put his Last Nickel into the building. Many years later a distant cousin told me that his father had done the masonry work on that building, and placing a coin in the fresh concrete was his 'signature'.

The Last Nickel perhaps should have been named Tuition. Sometime around September 2006, while we were preparing for the very first chapter boat show, Bill Baldwin and Mike Mayer agreed to buy a complete 1947 U22 from the Friends of the Museum in Beaufort. That it had been donated to the Museum should have been a strong hint but what did I know. Mayer was going to restore it for Baldwin. I had already bought a disassembled 18' Chris Craft Holiday that 'had the bottom done' and the engine had been overhauled. When I tried to wash the years of dust off the hull the



dust and the water ran out of every crack between every plank. I decided that I'd better start with a whole boat about the same time that Baldwin decided that he didn't need the U22. I towed it home from Beaufort and started inspecting it, preparing a place to work on it, purchased Don Dannenberg's book, and started paying tuition. I did everything by the book, plus a little more like plywood under the sides and decks. All new white oak framing, CPES everywhere, silicon bronze fasteners, case after case of 3M5200 - the works.

While the hull was being rebuilt I decided that the Chrysler flat head 6 cylinder with 115 horsepower just wouldn't be any fun. A

Last Nickel by John Justice

poor old crab scrape gave up its Chris Craft flywheel forward 283 to the project. A Chevy 350 was rebuilt to replace the 283. A Velvet Drive replaced the Paragon HF7 transmission. That should have been enough to make it fun. And it was.

As this was my first attempt, I didn't know what I didn't know. If I had to pay someone else to do the work it would have been a disaster. I did spend plenty on the materials and some tools. And it took a few years to complete. Even though it was as solid as a rock it wasn't a beauty queen. It was intended to be used. Besides, my skills weren't good enough to do show-quality work.

What did I learn? Perhaps what I should have learned was to not do that again. But I enjoyed the learning, the work itself, and using the boat. I learned how to disassemble and replace everything on the boat. I got lots of experience making things work. In fact I enjoyed it so much that I fixed the 18' Holiday and a few others. I got lots of help from club members, and like to think I've helped a few along the way. I've learned that I enjoy the restoration process enough to continue doing it as long as I'm able to do so safely. I've learned that I don't want to restore boats for

the public, but I'm willing to let them go when I have a replacement. I've learned that working on a boat is a great way to spend my retirement.

The Last Nickel appeared at several club shows as a work in progress. One year I brought the engine mounted on a boat trailer, complete with a barrel of water so it could run for a little while. Could have named it "Something's Missing". Another year it had some topside planks but no decking. I think it was the next year that it was hastily done enough to be in the water. One year I almost drained the 30 gallon tank of fuel taking show attendees around Lake Wheeler. At subsequent shows I'd rather ride around than show the boat. It did more than a few wine and cheese cruises on Jordan Lake, many auctioned at a fund raiser.

I decided it was okay to sell her as the 1958 Chris Craft 21' Continental "Fins" neared completion (it is still near completion...). The new owner has 4 sons that are going to really enjoy the Last Nickel. They are a little young right now with the oldest being maybe 6 at the time. But I believe she will be a source of fun and memories for the new family.



Fourth of July and Trailer Tires by Jon Homeister

Never had a problem with trailer tires until July 4, 2020. Before we get to that, let's back up for a bit of background. I have lots of history with trailer tires, starting as a kid on the grandparent's farms, and with family trailers of various sorts. I was taught how to maintain them, and monitor them for condition, inflation, tread wear, age, etc.

My current boat trailer is about 12 or 13 years old. I bought it specifically for my Chris Craft Continental. It came with bias ply tires that I used for 7 or 8 years without incident, and notably all my previous experience was also with bias ply tires. At about 7 or 8 years, I began to think about replacing them, especially because I noticed some unexplained (always correctly inflated, no axle misalignment, etc.) uneven tread wear. After talking to lots of folks and online research, I replaced them with Goodyear Marathon RADIAL trailer tires as they were highly rated, and supposed to overcome the tread wear issues 'common' on bias ply tires. During my research, there were recommendations to replace trailer tires every 3 years regardless of miles. That recommendation struck me as odd, as I've run hard plenty of way older trailer tires without issue.

So, on Saturday July 4 the radial tires are now 5 years old. We headed north to Michigan for vacation after checking tire inflation. Stopped at about 30 minutes to check the boat cover, tire and hub temperature, etc., and everything seemed fine. We made it to High Point and one of the tires disintegrated. It was about 11:00 am and we found one tire store open on the holiday, reduced hours. Swapped the spare on, went to the tire shop and got a new spare just in case – it's a long

trip to MI. We ate some lunch and got back on the expressway. Eight miles down the road the other 'original' tire disintegrated. Clearly these tires were at the end of their short lifespan. Fortunately the tire store was open another 30 minutes and had another tire (2 actually), so we put the new spare on, headed back to the store and replaced the remaining two old tires. The rest of the trip was tire uneventful. We were lucky, this could have knocked two days off vacation if we didn't find an open shop with in-stock tires and had to wait until Monday, boat and trailer stranded in High Point.

I'm left with several conclusions, and pondering several questions. 1) Do radial trailer tires have shorter lifespans than bias ply tires? Maybe older tires were just made better compared to newer tires, regardless of type? 2) Heed the recommendations to change radial trailer tires at 3 years regardless. Apparently they aren't made to last longer than that. 3) The trailer is single axle, rated for 3500 lbs. Tires are load range C (3600 lbs; 1800 each). Boat, motor and trailer are 3200 lbs. Am I too close to the trailer/tire rating? I wouldn't think so; tires were always warm but not hot. Of course, more trailer capacity isn't a bad thing. 4) What about the unexplained tire wear I mentioned on the original bias ply tires? It didn't recur with the radials, but did that indicate some problem I haven't figured out and that put unknown stress on the new radials?

Fortunately, there was no boat damage when the tires decided to retire, only minor trailer paint injury, light wiring disruption, and one disintegrating tire took out the license plate. On the bright side, I have three new tires and am good for three more years!!

KEEPING OUR MARITIME HERITAGE ALIVE

GEORGETOWN

wooden boat show

It's the 31st Annual GWBS! Please join us on October 17 and 18, 2020

The Georgetown Wooden Boat Show – always held on the third weekend in October – features one of the Southeast's best wooden boat exhibits with more than 100 classic wooden boats displayed on land and water, children's model boatbuilding, knot tying, maritime art and crafts, food and music. Check our **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**.



A special attraction is Saturday's **"Wooden Boat Challenge"** boat building competition (noon-4 pm) when teams of two race to build a rowing skiff within a 4-hour time limit and then test their boats for seaworthiness in a rowing relay (5 pm) on the Sampit River. Sunday is a fun-filled family oriented day that includes a **Corrugated Boat Regatta** (boat building 10 am-2 pm, regatta 2:30 pm) and a **Youth Sailing Regatta** (11 am).

The Wooden Boat Show takes place on the waterfront and along Front Street in Historic Downtown Georgetown. The Show is produced by the Harbor Historical Association, a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. All proceeds benefit the **South Carolina Maritime Museum**. Be sure to book your stay at **HammockCoast.com**. [CLICK HERE](#) TO ACCESS WEBSITE



Welcome to the Annual Wooden Boat Show!

Whether you're a boating enthusiast or prefer to keep your feet on dry land, the Annual Wooden Boat Show has activities for all ages. This free event, held each year on the first Saturday in May, celebrates the art of North Carolina traditional wooden boatbuilding and the sport of boat racing. Dozens of handcrafted wooden boats will be on display, along with nautical demonstrations, and activities for children.

The annual Wooden Boat Show has received top honors from the Southeast Tourism Society as a "Top 20 Event for the Southeast" four consecutive years.

Throughout the show, please feel free to tag your photos with [#BeaufortBoatShow](#).

[Click here to access website.](#)



46th Annual Wooden Boat Show — rescheduled to Oct. 17 at Gallants Channel

**NC Coastal & Piedmont
Chapter of the ACBS**

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

President:

Alan Hills

252-514-8525

President@vintageboat.org

Vice-President:

Jeff Martinson

919-760-2349

VicePresident@vintageboat.org

Secretary:

VACANT

Treasurer:

Kevin Leiner

919-368-3412

Treasurer@vintageboat.org

2020 Directors:

[Jim Alexander](#) (2 years—2021)

[Bob Banta](#) (1 year—2020)

[Bill Conley](#) (2 years—2021)

[John Justice](#) (2 years—2021)

[Lonnie Sieck](#) (1 year—2020)

Membership:

Jim Alexander

919-960-0838

DirectorJim@vintageboat.org

Scholarship:

Jim Alexander

919-960-0838

DirectorJim@vintageboat.org

Web Master:

Judy Hills

252-670-1913

Webmaster@vintageboat.org

Newsletter Editor:

Judy Hills

252-670-1913

Editor@vintageboat.org



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.**

8/22 Workshop at Piglet (John Justice's place) in Pittsboro—Lunch provided by club, swap meet (bring your stuff!) and lecture on either winterizing or pickling an inboard engine by John—watch for an eblast with details

9/18-19 Smith Mountain Lake Boat Show **Cancelled for 2020**

9/14-19 ACBS International Show Coeur d'Alene, ID **Cancelled**

9/25-27 Oriental Boat Show & Nautical Flea Market **Cancelled**

9/26 Fun Run at Lake Gaston

10/17 NCMM Wooden Boat Show in Beaufort, NC at Gallants Channel location **STILL ON AS OF NOW**

10/17-18 Georgetown, SC 31st Annual Wooden Boat Show
STILL ON AS OF NOW

10/28 Quarterly Chapter Meeting via Zoom 6:30 PM

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](#).