



## Messing About In Boats

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

July 2021

Hello Fellow Members,

Happy summer everyone! A sense of normalcy is finally starting to take hold for us. Things are beginning to open up, we're hardly wearing masks anymore, and it couldn't have come at a better time! My family and I have been enjoying our renewed freedom by spending time on the water and in public places.

In June, some members of our chapter exhibited at and/or attended the Thomasville Vintage Power Show, which was enjoyed by all who were there (story to follow). Also, I am happy to share a success story regarding the efforts of yours truly and Joe Peacos in assisting a widowed lady

find new homes for two of her late husband's old wooden boats.

In July, we are having a low-key boat show at Blackbeard Sailing Club in New Bern. By low-key, I mean no judging, no awards, no t-shirts etc. Kevin Leiner, Leif Eriksson and myself are members of Blackbeard and are grateful that the Board of Directors of the club is allowing us to stage this event at their facility. We are advertising locally and have 20 boats committed thus far. How about YOU? This is a wonderful venue that offers us everything from a private launch ramp, ample parking and display area, bath house with showers, large picnic shelter with grills, plenty of

dock space for in-water displays, and access to the Neuse River via the lower Broad Creek. A very nice place to go riding around! I encourage you all to consider attending. Bring your boat or not for a fun day of fellowship with your chapter mates. I especially encourage the members who haven't actively participated in our past get-togethers to come on out see your fellow members and their boats. Further details and registration form to follow in the newsletter.

*Best regards,  
Alan*

## Special Request: Boat for Photoshoot During Wedding Near Oriental

This request came via Dan at ACBS: Pie in the sky request! We're getting married at [River Dunes Resort and Marina](#) in Oriental, NC on September 11, 2021. We love classic wooden boats and would love to take photos on one (like a Chris Craft or Century) during cocktail time.

Do you know of any in that area or have any recommendations? Thank you!

Allison Castellana 302-685-7115

Aaron Reed 843-800-8813

**Editor's Note:** It would be great if we can help this couple out! There is a boat ramp at Vandemere—which is close to River Dunes. [Click here](#) to access information. Make contact ASAP if interested and let us know if you do.

## T-Ville Vintage Power Show

The T-Ville Vintage Power show organizers reached out to our chapter inviting us to display our boats on Saturday June 12th in Thomasville, NC on the grounds of the Carolina Christian Academy. The thinking was that the people who attend these shows love all things old, and they weren't wrong. Mostly on display were antique motors and tractors with a showing of Studebakers and old trucks as well as all things of a bygone era. The boats fit right in and we had a lot of people stop to chat. They told us stories of boating with their families when they were kids and reminisced about the happiness they experienced on the water.

Chapter President Alan Hills (and his wife Judy) were showing their 1959 16-foot Barbour Silver Clipper—Clippin' Along, Board member Bill Conley (and his wife Sharon) were showing their 1952 17-foot Chris Craft Special Runabout—Blue Tango, Board member Jim Alexander was showing his 1957 14-foot Cadillac Custom, and member Joe Peacos

was showing his 1949 classic Barbour 14-foot Utility. Below is a photo. We had three other members stop by to see the show (Michael Triplett, Dan Bixler, and Jared Smith).

Member Robert Blanchard also attended, but he did not bring his 18-foot classic 1957 Sea Skiff. If you were there you would have seen him wearing trail clothes, a well-worn cowboy hat and boots, along with an apron. He'd be the one by the campfire of the chuck-wagon stirring the ham hock and beans and breading the pork cutlet. If you were an ACBS member attending the event, Robert provided breakfast and lunch—which were delicious, by the way.

As usual, if you weren't there, you missed a really fun time! But you can make up for it by showing up at Blackbeard Sailing Club on Saturday July 17th. Do come!

Below and on the next few pages are some photos of the event taken by Joe Peacos and Judy Hills.



T-Ville Vintage Power Show Pictures



## T-Ville Vintage Power Show Pictures by Joe Peacos



## T-Ville Vintage Power Show Pictures by Joe Peacos



## A Boating Tale Guided from Beyond the Bar? By Susan Watson & Alan Hills

To understand this article, we have to refer you back to the [March 2021 newsletter](#). There was an article about a friend of President Alan Hills who asked him to help a widow friend evaluate some old boats. One was a 1951 16-foot Simmons Sea Skiff and the other was a 1961 Barbour Silver Clipper. Since a Barbour boat was involved, Alan asked member Joe Peacos to accompany him to the warehouse in Kenly, NC where they were stored. We published their report on these two finds and referred interested parties to Susan Watson, the owner. Below is an email (paraphrased) she wrote to Alan in June.

Hi Alan,

I am happy to tell you the story! It is full of ironic happenings, but I think this is my Charlie (husband) helping us put the pieces of this puzzle together! In fact, I emailed you today as the last boat left the warehouse today.

Back in the fall, I contacted long time friend from Topsail Beach, Benny Herring to see if he had any idea who I might contact to sell the boats. He contacted Clyde Owen who retired from AK McCallum in Fayetteville. Clyde remembered selling Charlie the motor for the Simmons. Clyde got in touch Ed Doughty (from Blackbeard Sailing Club) who connected with you and you know the rest of that story. You sent me a copy of your March

newsletter and in mid May, I emailed Benny because I thought he might like to see your newsletter with the pictures of the boats. Benny contacted Jerry Dilsaver, who is a renown fishermen originally from Southport. Jerry contacted Tommy Robbins whom I believe is one of the founders of the Southport Wooden Boat Show. Jerry sent your newsletter to Tommy. Tommy once had an 18 foot Simmons, but in error, I had listed my boat as a 16 foot in the newsletter. When Tommy called me and found out it was an 18, he knew it was the boat he had saved from the graveyard. It had no bottom in it when he got the boat and grass had overtaken it. He had restored the boat and had always wondered where the boat ended up. He was happy to buy it and take it back home!

Charlie's cousin, who spent many hours with Charlie and the other cousins on a similar Barbour at Kennels Beach, wanted the Barbour but he did not have a place to keep it so was unable to take the boat.

To recap and omit details, the guy who had restored the bottomless T N Simmons boat (Tommy Robbins) and wondered where the boat ended up, found it as a result of your newsletter! Tommy's son-in-law bought the Barbour.

What a happy ending! Alan, I am so grateful to you and Joe. Thank you!



Alan Hills (L) & Joe Peacos (R)



## Mr. Woody Boater Opens His Reedville, VA Location to ACBS

For those of you that are not aware, Mr. Woody Boater, Matt Smith is the new curator of the Butler families, Reedville Marine Railway. [Click here](#) for the story.

Matt has spent the past several months sifting through the buildings, sorting, cleaning, restoring and will soon have the area ready for some visitors! SO.....Saturday, July 10 let's visit!

Via waterway; Lat/Lon: 37.840764, -76.277007 or 707, Main Street. Make your way to Cockrell's Creek, Reedville, around Omega Protein and the "Stack" Head for the Crazy Crab and Reedville Market Restaurant. Matt has several long docks in front of the Reedville Railway.

Via trailer and launch: head to **Shell Landing**, State Rte 692, Reedville, VA. Loose plans for now would be:

Launch when you can after 9, make your way around the point, up creek, to the docks.. Maybe we can organize a little creek tour, or splash party... Around noon, Tide-water ACBS Chapter will get a grill going for hot dogs. Please bring your own beverage and a side or dessert to share.

**PARKING IS VERY LIMITED AT THE RAILWAY. PLEASE LEAVE YOUR CAR LOCKED AT THE RAMP AND IF YOU ARE DRIVING, PLEASE TRY TO FIND A PARKING SPACE ON MAIN STREET.**

We'll firm everything up as we get closer.  
**THANKS MATT !**



Gotta' give NC Wildlife credit for good taste! This poster was seen at a boat ramp in Beaufort.

## Members Sell Their Boats

Member Jeff Gelm bought member Bill Baker's 1947 22-foot Chris Craft Sportsman—U-22.

## 2021 MEMBER CONTRIBUTION THEME: "TALL TALES"



Very few members have contributed. We know every one of you have at least one tale to tell. Won't you please take the time to share your story?

## Chapter Collaborates with Sailing Club on July Event in New Bern

The Board of Directors of our ACBS Chapter and of Blackbeard Sailing Club (BSC) in New Bern have agreed to hold “a showing of antique and classic power and sail boats” at the BSC facility 1215 Barkentine Dr. (in Fairfield Harbor) on Saturday July 17th 10 AM to 2 PM.

### Purpose:

- 1) foster closer relationship between NC Coastal & Piedmont Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boat Society (ACBS Chapter) and Blackbeard Sailing Club (BSC);
- 2) give BSC the opportunity to show facility to prospective members;
- 3) demonstrate that sailboats meet ACBS classifications;
- 4) recruit new members for ACBS chapter;
- 5) give ACBS and BSC members the opportunity to show their boats to the public in a low-key setting;
- 6) give exposure to boats for sale (BSC and ACBS Chapter); and
- 7) give exposure to Edward Teach Youth Sailing Association (ETYSA).

Our chapter will take the lead and coordinate the event. New Bern members Alan and Judy Hills will take point assisted by member Leif Eriksson and Treasurer Kevin Leiner. All of these individuals are also members of BSC.

Chapter members will be allowed to:

- Use the BSC grounds and facility (with the exception of the clubhouse) from Friday to Sunday for land and in-water display of boats (and overnight storage)
- Moor overnight (Fri/Sat) in assigned slips and berth on the vessel if desired
- Launch boats on the BSC ramp
- Camp on the BSC grounds (tent or camper)

on the Fri/Sat of the event

- Use the BSC bath house. May enter the BSC clubhouse only if accompanied by a BSC member.

Since you can leave your boat safely at BSC from Fri to Sun afternoon, this would make for a nice weekend trip. We will need you to “register” for the event so we can plan out the land and in-water space needed. If your boat is operational, we hope you will give rides. We will encourage rides on BSC member boats as well—if the wind cooperates. We anticipate that ETYSA youth will be there demonstrating and giving rides to kids in the sailing camp boats.

We are still in the planning stage for the extras. Right now all we definitely have planned is for a 3 PM gathering on Saturday of those who registered for the event. We'll have beer, wine, soft drinks and snacks provided by our Chapter. This will be a great opportunity to mingle and discuss mutual interests. **20+ boats coming!!!**

So we hope you are as excited as we are about this great opportunity for a “low key” boat show that has the potential to be a lot of fun. Specific details will be provide in the July newsletter. In the meantime do check out the BSC and ETYSA websites:

[Blackbeard Sailing Club](#)

[Edward Teach Youth Sailing Association](#)



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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. Chapter-sponsored events are in bold.. We encourage you to support/attend these events!

7/10	Reedville, VA visit to Matt Smith's Facility
7/17	Chapter "boat show" at Blackbeard Sailing Club New Bern 10 AM to 2 PM—then social hour
7/28	Chapter business meeting—Zoom 6:30 PM
8/21	Housewarming for Bill Conley's new shop—Raleigh (See <a href="#">Dec 2020 newsletter</a> for photos)
9/11	Reedville, VA Classic Boat Show
9/18	Smith Mountain Lake Boat Show —Huddleston, VA
9/16-18	ACBS International show—Coeur d'Alene, ID
9/24-26	Oriental, NC in-water boat show
9/25	Wings, Wheels & Keels Show in Topping, VA

## New Forum on Facebook for ACBS Members

Have a question about your project? Not sure how to fix an engine issue? Join the ACBS Members Group on Facebook! [Click Here.](#)



Request to Join

### 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.

**Contemporary:** Any wooden boat built within the last 25 years.

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