



NC C&P CHAPTER
Antique and Classic Boat Society, Inc.

Messing About In Boats

Monthly newsletter

NC Coastal & Piedmont
Chapter of ACBS

July 2025



2005-2025

Ahoy, mates!

I sure hope that the dog days of June we've been experiencing isn't a sign of what we have to look forward to in the future. Hopefully we all were able to avoid the heat and stay somewhat comfortable. I have been busy getting the bugs out of my Cavalier after waking her from her 32-year sleep. I'm finally getting down to the nit-picky stuff and about to call it done.

Our chapter held a poker run in early June and it turned out to be quite the outing. I'll let you read about the details later in the newsletter. The following weekend was the Chesapeake Bay chapter show. Judy and I love attending this show because it held at the beautiful maritime museum in St. Michaels, MD, they put on a fantastic show, we get to see many of our friends from Maryland and New Jersey, and there are big cruisers on display. Our chapter was also represented by a couple of Jims, Hartman and Dean. Jim Hartman's Continental, Loon, won a platinum award in the judging. Congrats Jim! I was especially pleased to find that there was a wooden Jersey Speed Skiff present. This was great for me because my next project is just that. The owner is a long-time owner and racer of these craft and shared a treasure trove of useful information with me. That encounter really got my juices flowing! Just another example of why going to a boat show can be so fun and informative.

A big thanks to all of you who participated in the boat and animal photo challenge this month. I was a little disappointed that there were only dogs featured. Don't get me wrong, I love dogs, but I was hoping for a little more diversity. Like maybe a parrot or an iguana? But I digress.

Next month we will hold our quarterly meeting at Jordan Lake again. It's a late afternoon affair that starts off with a picnic, then the meeting, and then a boat ride around the lake. How good is that? It's open to all so do try to join us!

Yours in classic boating,

Alan Hills, President



Chesapeake Bay Chapter Facebook picture of Alan and the Jersey Speed Skiff owner.

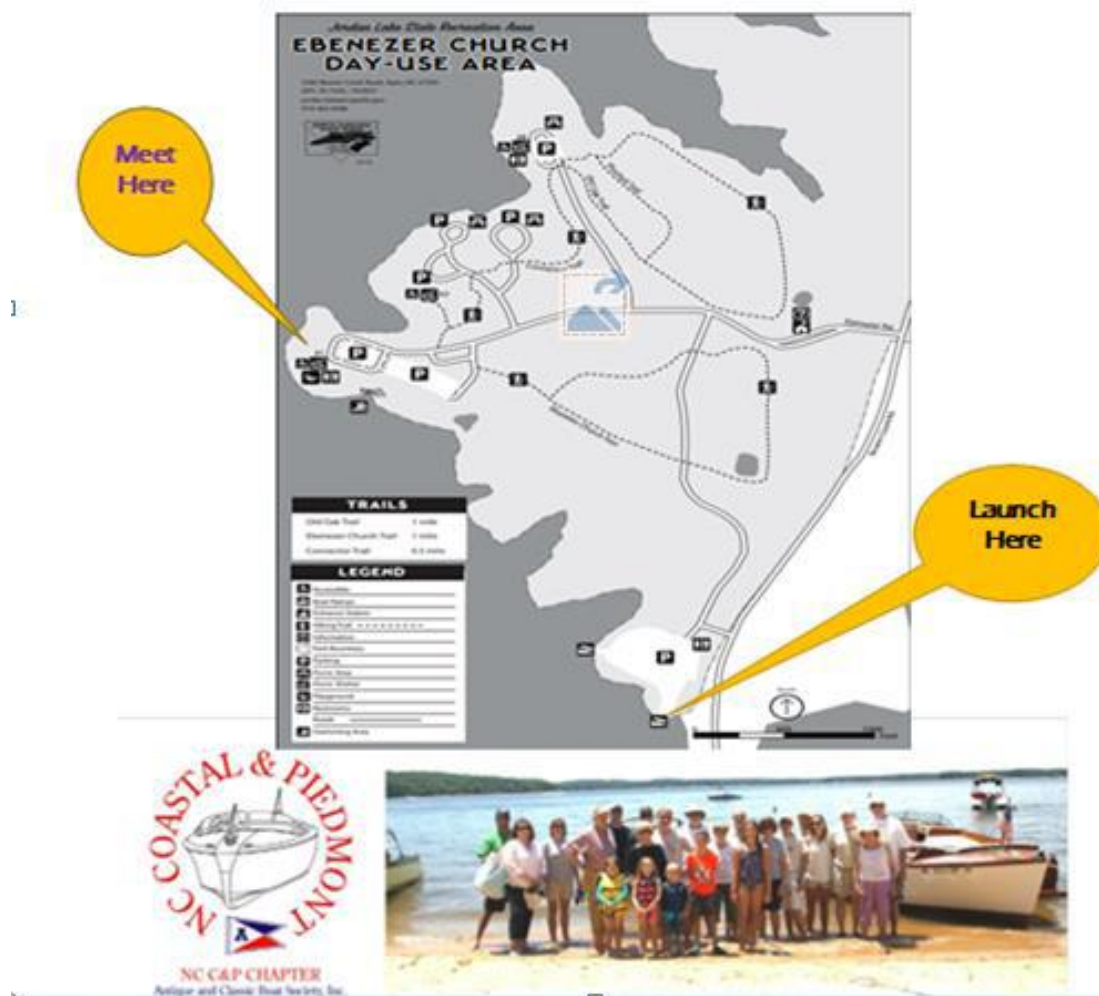
**Jordan Lake Board Meeting, Family Picnic & Run Wednesday
July 23rd at 4:00 PM
2582 Beaver Creek Rd. Apex, NC 27523**

We chose a weekday evening in order to miss the weekend crowd and the hot day temperatures. We invite you to bring your family and friends. Pack a picnic meal and bring your own drinks. We'll grab a shelter, but you may want to bring your own chair. The business meeting will start at 4 PM and will be short. Then we'll eat and later launch our boats. No boat, no problem! There will probably be room, but it would be best for you to let Alan know if you need a ride. Just [email him](#) the details (number of adults and if special sizes of life jackets are needed for children). Leave early or stay late—your call. The park closes at 8 PM.

Meet at Ebenezer Church Recreation Area at the picnic shelter—just look for our boats at Ebenezer Shelter #1 near the lake on Ebenezer Road.

Launch from Jordan Lake Ebenezer Church Boat Ramp just off Beaver Creek Road.

Hope to see our “old” and “new” members there! This is your opportunity to meet fellow ACBS chapter members and their families.



Chapter Poker Run on Saturday June 7, 2025 in New Bern

We are going to tell this tale backwards, starting with the event at the restaurant, because everything went perfectly there.

Secretary Judy Hills arrived at the Saltwater Grill in River Bend around noon to organize the door prizes. The restaurant staff had our group set up in a separate room and were very accommodating.



Five boats arrived and docked: Hills, Peck, Dougherty, Hartman, and Leiner. In total we had 21 members and guests some of whom arrived by boat and some by car. **Alan & Judy Hills** came with their daughter and son-in-law (Stephanie and Matt Currier) as well as their granddaughter (Emily Currier) and her boyfriend (Tye Sasser). **Member John Peck and his wife Barbara**, **member John Dougherty**, **members Bill Conley and his wife Sharon**, **Member Kevin Leiner and his wife Jen** attended. **Member Jim Hartman and his wife, Anne Marie**, came with **member Jim Dean and his wife Alice**. Jim and Alice brought two guests. **Members Leif Eriksson and Austin Lewis** drove.

After we got settled and the staff took our orders, we had the drawing for the door prizes. Everyone attending got a ticket to win. Here are the winners: Barbara Peck won the garden flag. Tye Sasser won the Fireball (and

yes, both he and Emily are over 21). Jim Hartman got the Duplin Wine and two wine glasses, John Dougherty won the rum, Austin won the Basket—It's Summertime! and he shared it with Stephanie Currier. The two guests of the Deans each won a prize: a bottle of Chardonnay with two wine glasses and a Vivian Howard Cookbook with two pints of Nelson's blueberries fresh picked that morning in Bridgeton. Everyone seem pleased with their winnings.

We all had a hot, bountiful meal. After the lunch, anyone who wanted to play a poker hand had to pay \$20 which we used for the winnings. We had six players. The beginning pot was \$80 for the best hand and \$40 for the worst hand. We played 5-card poker with Jokers wild. After the players opened their five cards that had been sealed in envelopes, they had the option to buy additional sealed cards for \$5 each. We sold three. We added that \$15 to the winning hand pot—for a total of \$95. Alan won the best hand with three kings. John Dougherty won the losing hand with two 8's.

As we were all leaving everyone was saying how much fun they had and how they loved the food.

As John Dougherty said in a follow-up email after the event, "Thank you for the poker extravaganza. I've never felt so good coming in last place!" PS: John had just won a ticket to the NCMM Boat Shoes and Bowties event (\$125 value)! We might have to start restricting his winnings! LOL

And as radio personality Paul Harvey used to say, "And now for the rest of the story..." (on page 4)

Chapter Poker Run on Saturday June 7, 2025 in New Bern



Upper L: Austin Lewis,
Lower L: Tye Sasser & Emily Currier;
Right (L to R): Alice Dean, Jim Dean,
Leif Eriksson, and John Peck



I Was Dealt a Bad Hand at the Poker Run

And so our tale begins—at the start.

We credit the title of this section to Larry Lettick.

All week we had been watching the weather forecast. It started out awful and got better as the week went on. Saturday morning and early afternoon turned out perfect with bright, sunny skies and a slight breeze. Those seven boats attending headed to the boat ramp in New Bern.

Poker Run Sad Story #1: Larry Lettick.

My friend Bill and I were looking forward to trying our luck at the Poker Run that was organized by Judy Hills, on Saturday June 7. We loaded "Sweetie Pie" onto her trailer Friday evening in preparation for the drive down Route 17 to New Bern the next morning. Maybe we would win some money to pay the fuel bill! Alas, it was not to be. The bad news is we did not win any money. The good news is we didn't use any fuel either. The worse news is we made it only about five miles before we felt the sickening rumble of a flat tire behind us. The worst news was that the flat was caused by a broken leaf spring that allowed the trailer wheel to wander from side to side.

With a collapsed suspension it was impossible to fit the bottle jack (which I now carry since a three-flat-tire-trip to Lake Norman two years ago) under the axle of the offending wheel. While this octogenarian and my septuagenarian friend stood uselessly staring at this hopeless situation, a pickup truck pulled to a stop across the road, and out stepped our personal Batman. I could almost hear the music *"Here I am to save the day"*. Bryan, a strong 23 year old logger from Pantego, accompanied by his fiancée, figured out that if he lifted the wheel and broken suspension I would be able to fit the jack under the axle. The deed was done and a spare tire was fitted, so off we went . . . back home. Bryan at first refused any payment until I immodestly attempted to slip a bill into

his fiancée's pocket. He was a gentleman as well as a bona fide good Samaritan. This world needs more Bryans.

My hope is that we actually will attend the next local chapter event from beginning to end without any drama, and instead get to enjoy the camaraderie of our fellow members.

Poker Run Sad Story #2: Sharon Conley

The weather was beautiful, my T-shirt said 'LIFE IS GOOD.' We had seven boats meeting in New Bern to follow Alan Hills along the peaceful Trent River. We would pick up poker cards at 5 venues that were carefully arranged by Judy Hills. Slight mishap: Larry and Eileen's boat trailer had a flat tire. They couldn't make it. 'Is Life Good?'

The remaining boats were launched: John Dougherty, John and Barbara Peck, Jim and Anne Marie Hartman, with John and Alice Dean and their two friends. We were heading for a delightful adventure when, suddenly, our boat stopped about 50 yards from the dock. No amount of 'coaxing' could get us moving again. 'Life is Not Good.' Kevin and Jen Leiner insisted on towing us back to the dock, trailing our boat, and insisting that we ride with them to gather our poker cards.

Getting off to a rather late start, we picked up our second poker cards at Leif Eriksson's dock, handed to us by Austin Lewis. 'Life is Getting Good?'

Our group was to meet at the Saltwater Grill at 12:30. Due to the delays, our ride in Kevin's sea skiff felt like traveling in a hydroplane! Finally arriving at our destination, we enjoyed a delightful lunch with Judy's door prizes and the long-awaited poker game. 'Life is Good.'

Poker Run Sad Story #3: Jen & Kevin Leiner

At about 3:30, weather reports encouraged us to head back to New Bern. Hydroplaning rather hurriedly in the Leiner's skiff, suddenly

I Was Dealt a Bad Hand at the Poker Run (Continued)

there was a catastrophic jolt, a screeching noise, and a radical change to our boat ride. We were less than a mile from our destination. 'Life is Not Good' Ultimately, Kevin's boat was towed to the dock by Alan Hills. (Kevin towing Bill to Alan towing Kevin!)

We may never know what caused this radical change to our day. However we were surrounded by supportive friends and dependable people who are always there for each other. As Anne Marie Hartman said, we had no injuries, we have good health, we're still here. Yes, 'Life is Good.'

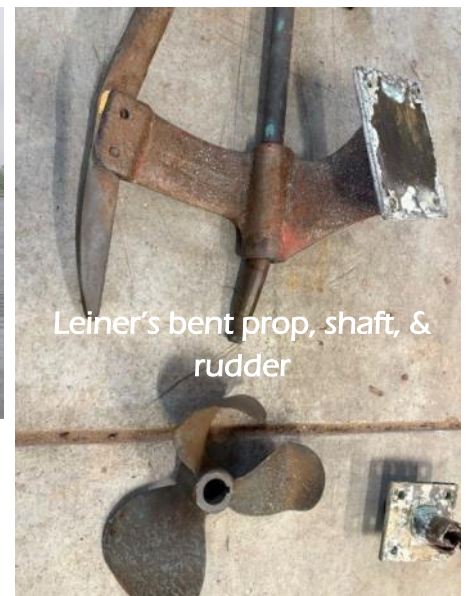


Lettick's tire



Alan Hills towing Kevin Leiner

Now we'll fill in a few gaps. Because of all the confusion at the launch (Where's Larry? What happened to the Conleys and the Leiners? Where is John going?) the group got a very late start. We were due at the restaurant by 12:30 PM. We initially intended to have five stops to pick up sealed envelopes with playing cards, but due to the boat traffic (Great Trent River Raft Race was being held) and late start, we deleted the first two stops and gave out the first card at the launch ramp and the second card at member Leif Eriksson's dock on the Trent River (with assistance from Austin Lewis). We were to have had one more stop, at the Eastern Carolina Yacht Club, but had to forego it as well due to the time. We distributed the rest of the envelopes at the



Leiner's bent prop, shaft, & rudder

restaurant. Once we got to the restaurant, all went well.

On the way back to the ramp, it rained heavily for a few minutes—just enough to soak everyone on the boats.

One other thing happened, just after we launched, member John Dougherty ended up doing a good deed by towing a boat with engine problems back to the ramp.

Another day of boating adventures!

We submitted this Chapter event for the ACBS Broken Gunwale Award.

Chesapeake Bay Boat Show June 13-15 at St. Michael's, MD

Chapter members Alan & Judy Hills, Jim Dean, and Jim Hartman attended the Chesapeake Bay ACBS Boat Show. It was great to see so many of the ACBS friends we have made over the years and the boats whose names we know by heart. BTW, when is the last time one of your boats was entered in a show? **Don't forget that our chapter show is September 27th in Chocowinity (near Washington).**

We all arrived on Thursday June 11th. We settled our boats in their slots at the show site and headed to the hotel to check in. We all agreed that the "hotel" had seen better days—but it was cheap! We all joined ACBS Board member Alicia Boardman, her husband Bob, several other ACBS members, and staff from the museum for dinner. Lots of laughs!

Friday was overcast with moderate temperatures. The water was calm. We spent the morning checking out the boats in the show. In the afternoon we were treated to a ride around Wye Island by Bob Hamilton, the Past President of the Chesapeake Bay Chapter, and his wife. That night there was a Captains' Welcome Party with some good seafood and drinks. We enjoyed reconnecting with our ACBS friends. Before we left the site, we covered our boats as it was predicted to rain (and it did).

Saturday was the show day for the public. It was brutally hot and mostly overcast with only a light breeze. The show was well attended by locals and vacationers alike. The members that paid the fee, had their boats judged using ACBS standards. We were all hot and tired at the end of the day. Again we covered the boats due to the predicted rain (and it did rain again).

Sunday dawned overcast, windy, and very cool—so cool in fact that Alan had to buy a long-sleeved shirt to stay warm. They had a breakfast for all captains and vendors. There wasn't much of a crowd due to the weather. At 11 AM they had the awards' luncheon. After another good meal, they handed out the awards. Jim Hartman's boat Loon, won at the Platinum Level (highest). He might have gotten a perfect 100 except that they took 5 points off because he had a non-original search light. We wrapped up the show around 3 PM. The two Jims headed back to NC. They got into some terrible weather and did not get home until almost midnight. Judy and Alan left on Monday morning and only ran into pockets of rain.

We are grateful to the Chesapeake Bay Chapter for their hospitality. Again we encourage any of you that have not yet attended this show to do so.



Chesapeake Bay Boat Show June 13-15 at St. Michael's, MD



Discussion: How to Sustain Our Boats in Perpetuity?

Judy Hills posted this on the Woody Boater forum on March 13th. The topic of the day was: "Is the Classic Boat Community Shrinking?"

Our ACBS Chapter was recently discussing the issue of how future old boat enthusiasts are going to be able to keep their boats running. As these boats age if one wants more than a museum piece to drag from show to show, one is going to be hard pressed to find parts to fix them. Locating someone knowledgeable to fix systems on old boats is going to be near impossible. Our chapter helps fund a scholarship to the boat building and marine systems program at a community college. We are having difficulty finding applicants. Who'll want to trouble shoot and work on an old engine that you can't find the parts to fix it with even if you were able to diagnose the issue? The newer systems are easier to diagnose and mostly fixed with plug and play electronics. Because students for the boat building program are getting fewer and fewer, the community college may be forced to close the program.

We have one member who is a very competent boat mechanic who is aging out and he can't even find someone to take over his business. We are aware of another who sold his business but had to take it back over. Even if someone has the mechanical skills, they may not have the business acumen to survive. This is a serious conundrum.

Young people are also not learning skills needed to maintain and repair these old boats. They hardly even wash their own vehicles.

There are many more costs and issues associated with owning an old boat besides the hull, acces-

sories, and the systems. You have to be able to store it. Many young people live in apartment complexes or gated/restricted communities which means they have to store the boat off-site. It also means that even if they were capable of doing maintenance and repairs—they would need a place to do it. If one lives in the northern climes—one has to deal with winterization and de-winterization. Even launching can be an issue in some places.

Personally we have seven children and five adult grandchildren who love to ride in our old boats, but who don't want anything to do with owning or maintaining them. This begs the question, will organizations like ACBS still be viable in 25 or 50 years?

Bottom line: the future will be exceedingly challenging for those who desire to see these wonderful pieces of history kept in Bristol fashion.

Any creative ideas? We'd love to hear them. [Email](#) Judy Hills. Do [click here](#) to read about McPherson College car restoration program.



June Contest: Animal & Boat Pictures Submitted

We have had more entries to this contest than all the others combined! We sure do love our pets! All are winners!



John Peck's dog, Ruby, riding on his boat. Submitted by John Peck



Surely you don't expect me to use that to disembark? Submitted by Judy Hills



Cappy navigating. Submitted by Judy Hills



"There was no sign saying that dogs were not allowed to board." Photo from our 2024 Boat Show at Blackbeard Sailing Club. Submitted by Judy Hills



Chrissy the Black Lab riding in a 1959 Chris Craft Cavalier named "Muddy Paws'." Submitted by John Coffman

June Contest: Animal & Boat Pictures Submitted



This was taken at the Smith Mountain lake show. It's Tammy and Bruce's dog ,Yoda.. Submitted by Patsy Blanchard.



Kevin & Jen Leiner's dog, Roddy on their Sea Skiff.



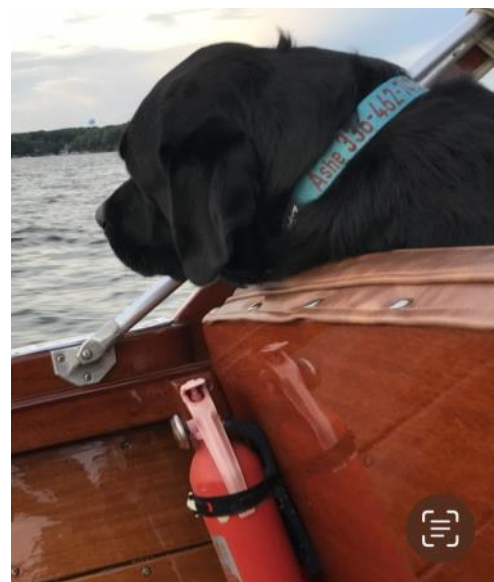
So there was this man who loved his dog and his boat.. The dog can probably be seen swimming in the Trent as the man accused him of giving out too many cards on the Poker Run! But pretty sure they are together again and a good time was had by all. Submitted by Anne Marie Hartman (Photo of Austin Lewis & Frank the dog)



Dixie Flyer was raised on a Monk 36 and is the perfect boat dog. Agile, smart, and attentive. This is her maiden voyage on her new* boat, a 1911 Fay and Bowen. Submitted by new member Dave Friedrich. (Dixie is in the bow)

June Contest: Animal & Boat Pictures Submitted by Rob Weller

Our two dogs loved cruising in the Lyman - unfortunately we lost both of them this past year, but a puppy is likely in 2026.



"On Facebook, 273 people know I'm a dog.
The rest can only see my limited profile."



June Contest: Animal & Boat Pictures Submitted by Austin Lewis

I have been taking pictures of my dogs on boats for a long time and would be proud to have any of these photos considered.



June Contest: Submissions by Jim Alexander



L to R: Jim, Sidney the dog, and Will



Maggie and Me



Maggie and Me



Chapter Burgees

We have four chapter burgees available for sale at \$35 each (\$40 if mailed).

They are 12x18, laser etched, double sided (logo correct on both sides) and made of a durable material. See photo at right for style and colors. If we sell out the first order, we'll place a second order so that we have some on-hand.

[Contact](#) Alan Hills to buy a burgee.



EMBROIDERED CHAPTER LOGO SHIRTS

Now available. We have our logo with an embroidery company in New Bern. For \$8 each we can get almost any cloth item embroidered. You pick the shirt or other item. [Contact](#) Alan Hills if interested.



Name Tags—Don't have one? The First One is Free!

Please remember to wear your name tags at chapter events so we can get to know you. If you have never received a name tag—the first one is free to those who hold primary membership in our chapter. The chapter pays and will have it shipped directly to you—you just need to ask for it. You may request additional name tags or a name tag for a co-member. [Click here](#) to read information on how to order. **We also have chapter logo ball caps for \$30.** [Email Alan Hills](#) if you want one.

Members who joined or renewed this past month include:

New:

Welcome!

Renewed: Ed Chewning (Elizabeth City, NC), Jim Quinn (Wilmington), Royanne Gornto (Milton, FL), John Tinney (Wilmington), Larry Bower (Reidsville, NC)

Total Membership: 70 NCC&P Primary Chapter: 59 Not Primary Chapter: 11

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

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

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[Bill Conley](#) (2025)

[Jim Hartman](#) (2026)

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Kevin Leiner (2026)

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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. On May 23, 2025, the IRS designated our chapter a 501c3 nonprofit.

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.

Please note that dates, the places, and times listed for events may change. Watch your email for updates or check the [home page](#) of our website. **Newsletter deadline is the 25th of each month.** Please mark these dates on your calendar:

7/23 Picnic, Chapter Board Meeting, and cruise (Jordan Lake) 4 PM

8/16 International Vintage Boating Day & Marina Day at Wilmington Marine Center

9/12-13 [Smith Mountain Lake ACBS Boat Show](#)

9/15-21 [ACBS International 50th Anniversary](#) Clayton, NY

9/27 Chapter Boat Show in Chocowinity

10/30 to 11/2 2025 Hilton Head Island, SC [Concours d'Elegance](#)
Deadline to enter the show is July 1st. [Click here](#) to apply.



What are the ACBS Definitions of Antique or Classic Boat?

Historic: Any boat built up to and including 1918

Antique: Any boat built between 1919 and 1942

Classic: Any boat built between 1943 and 1975

Late Classic: Any 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, Restored or Resto-Mod

Resto-Mod: Any historic, antique, classic or late classic boat that has been restored and modified with non-original parts and technology.

For more information [click here](#).