

Messing About In Boats

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

July 2019

As you will read in this edition, a fun time was had by all who attended the poker run we held on June 22nd. While we would have liked to have had more boats, we were pleased with the turn out. It was such a beautiful day for a run on the river. The temperature and breeze were perfect. Those who attended agreed it was worth doing again next year—at perhaps a different place.

Judy and I are taking our Barbour to the September 14th Smith Mountain Lake Boat Show in Huddleston, VA. We are going up on Thursday, heading home on Sunday and plan to stay at the resort. This is a wonderful setting for a show and the hosts are very accommodating. In addition to liking the venue, we want to support our neighboring chapter. They are really nice people. We encourage you to attend, even if you don't want to trailer your boat (or don't have one show-ready).

Our July meeting will be your last chance to purchase a share in the tickets for the big drawing at the International ACBS Show in September. John Justice and I have the tickets. The shares are \$20 each and we have two left to sell. If one of our two winning tickets are pulled, the chapter will get half the winnings and the shareholders of that ticket will split the balance. The grand prize is \$4,000—worth a shot!

If you have never gone to the ACBS International Show you really should consider going. Judy and I went to the 2017 International ACBS boat show in Racine, WI and we had a blast. There were boats there that we had never seen before—and we have been to a LOT of boat shows. This year's ACBS International Show will be at Alexandria Bay, NY—the Thousand Islands area. This region should definitely should be on your buck-

et list if you have not yet seen it. The show site is only 11 miles from the Antique Boat Museum on the St. Lawrence River in Clayton, NY which has a great collection of Garwoods.

Upcoming: Our next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday July 30th at Trali Irish Pub at 6:30 PM. Hope to see you there. We are going to cancel the plating workshop scheduled for New Bern on August 24th. We think it will be too hot in the building where the plating is done. There are no alternate plans for August. The next event will be a meetup at Lake Gaston coordinated by Jim Alexander. More on that next month.

Our new website is up. The URL is the same. Has a lot of new features (continued on p. 2)

President's Message (continued from p. 1)

that we hope you will take advantage of. The trading dock is a place where you can list boats or boating items you have for sale. The ship store is where you can find information about purchasing additional chapter name tags, ball caps, license plate, and soon—shirts. There are a lot of resources and we invite you to contribute more. We especially want to get more current photos of your boats and your projects. Send information to webmaster Judy Hills.

I want to remind you that you can reach out to chapter members for help. No, we aren't going to varnish your entire boat for you or install a 5200 bottom, but we help provide sage advice

(been there, done that!). This is a big benefit of membership.

Do send newsletter editor Judy Hills your articles and pictures. We would especially like to hear about how you have benefited from being a member. Did you enjoy the poker run? Let us know! Did you get some help or helpful advice? Send it our way.

Thanks again for all your support and let's continue to grow the chapter.

Best regards,

Alan

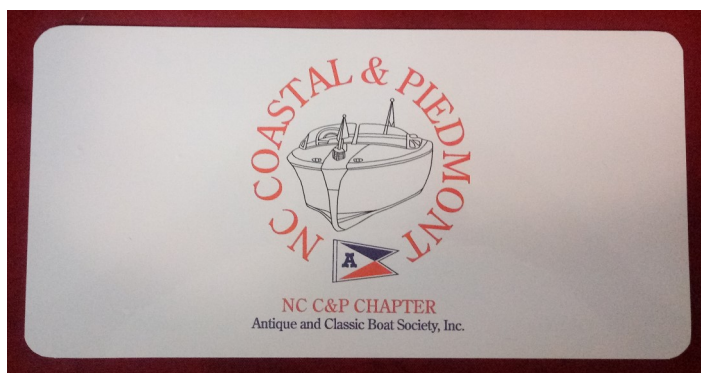
Chapter License Tags & Ball Caps Now Available

We now have our logo digitized so that we can embroider it on hats and other apparel. The New Bern Sports Shop has it ready to go. We had 24 caps made up (an initial minimum order due to supplier). They have a nice leather adjuster with a brass clasp. The caps are available from Alan Hills and are \$15 each.

If you want a shirt (other than a T-shirt) to be embroidered, you may select one from their collection or you may supply your own to them and they will embroider it. Here is their URL: <https://www.nbsports.net/> or call them at 252.638.1136.

The license tags are available from the Alpha Graphics shop in New Bern. [Click here](#) to access their website. They cost \$23 each.

If you order any items from these New Bern merchants before the July 30th meeting, I'd be happy to pick them up and deliver them to you at the meeting. Just give us adequate notice. (Alan Hills ahills@suddenlink.net)



Blue Tango Gets Dunked—Again by Bill Conley

Blue Tango is a 1952 17-foot Chris-craft Special Runabout that belongs to Bill & Sharon Conley. For the past 7 years, Bill has worked very hard restoring the boat and the engine. Blue Tango was first launched on Falls Lake in early 2016, and used for the next year, but the engine never ran very well and there was always a small hull leak. In 2017, Bill and John Justice tried to tweak the engine running issue, but the engine blew (cracked a cylinder wall). 1½ year later, 2019, the boat engine was rebuilt, and Bill had put a new bottom on the boat. At the second splash-in by Bill and John at Lake Jordan on June 3rd, the engine started fine, but the hull leak was much worse. They did not dare go out on the lake to fine tune the engine under load. Bill continued to work on the leak problem, thinking it was a poorly sealed exhaust exit at the transom. On June 20, after fixing the exhaust issue, Bill, Sharon, and Garfield Karpiak put her in Falls Lake. Unfortunately, the leak was still bad. Bill found a bad crack in an original bottom side planks near the transom. He is working on fixing that, but as a result, Blue Tango was not ready for the Poker Run. Bill and Sharon brought her to be on display at the Blackbeard Sailing Club but rode along with Jim Hartman for the run. Bill hopes that this is the only leak left to fix so he can get the engine fine tuning done and begin enjoying the boat soon.

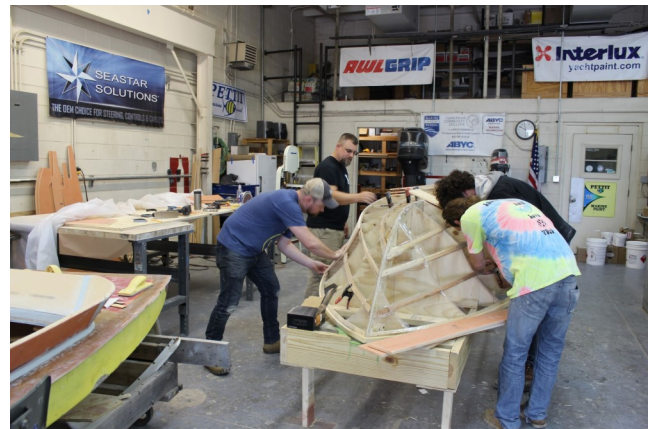


Scholarship to Boat Building Program Student

Most of you know that for some years now we have given a scholarship to a student in the Cape Fear Community College (Wilmington) Boat Building Program. This is to help ensure a future workforce to help preserve and restore antique and classic boats. CFCC has just awarded \$1,000 to Mark Wagner.

Here are some photos of the program and last year's awardee Shane Horton working on a sail for the boat he made and showing the oars he constructed.

Jim Alexander is our point of contact for this program. We thank Jim for his involvement. If you have any questions, please direct them to Jim.



Poker Run Was a Winner

June 22nd began as a cool, overcast day. The temperatures were predicted to be in the mid-80s, great for a summer day on the water. Union Point Park at the confluence of the Neuse and Trent Rivers in downtown New Bern was the site of the Great Raft Race. There were throngs of people and a large number of boats anchored individually or rafted up to see the race. There was a nice breeze, but not so much that it caused whitecaps. All-in-all a perfect day for our planned poker run.

We were fortunate to be able to use the Blackbeard Sailing Club's facility. It was very convenient to be able to launch and retrieve our boats at their ramp and to be able to use their picnic shelter for lunch and dinner. It was a great set up for the event.

Six boats showed up: Alan & Judy Hills (Hunky Dory), Jim Dean (C-Time), Jeff & Amy Gelm (Sweet Pea), Dave & Deb Mahoney (Debbie Ann), Jim Hartman (Boo-Boo) and Bill & Sharon Conley (Blue Tango). Alan had asked Bill to bring Blue Tango, even though at the last minute Bill had discovered that the hull was still leaking after numerous hours chasing and "fixing" the cause. See the photos and you'll get the picture!

There was a total of 16 people. Alan and Judy were supported by daughter Stephanie and their granddaughter 15-year old Emily. Jim Dean brought a boatbuilder from Wilmington, Richard Reid. Jeff, Amy and Oliver Gelm; Dave & Deb Mahoney; Jim Hartman; Leif Eriksson; Bill & Sharon Conley; and new member Ken Shull came.

So, members and guests had a Subway sandwich lunch and a meet & greet. The boats were launched and everyone piled in and headed to the first stop—River Bend—a good run up the Neuse and then up the Trent River. The parade of boats got lots of thumbs up from those viewing the raft race.

Judy and daughter Stephanie handled the land side of the poker run and took photos. Granddaughter Emily took photos from Hunky Dory. Things did not start off well for Judy as she and Stephanie got all the way to River Bend and discovered that Judy had left the envelopes with the cards in them at Blackbeards. They had to ride all the way back to get them, so the boats had to pick up additional cards at the second stop—Eastern Carolina Yacht Club. Here we were assisted by Chuck Dail who hosted us when we used the Club for our boat show dinner. Then off to Leif Eriksson's dock on the Trent River, the Galley Store Marina where we had our boat show and the last stop at the Bridgeton Harbor Marina where we were to have had our boat show before Hurricane Florence did a number on New Bern. Then the long run back to Blackbeard's Sailing Club.

At BSC we pulled the boats from the water and got them

squared away. We awarded the pennant prize to the Conley's—the only ones who took the time to do it. As you can see from the photo, it was apropos to the boat! They won a tote bag with gourmet Hunter trail mix and a license tag with the chapter's new logo. The best dressed crew award went to Dave and Deb Mahoney (loved Dave's racy hat). They won a ballcap with the new chapter logo and gourmet Hunter trail mix. And the grand prize for the best poker hand (a full house!) went to Bill and Sharon Conley. You can see by the photo that it was a prize worth winning—wine, pistachios, crackers, M&Ms, a ball cap and a license tag. They graciously gave the second tag to Jim Hartman.

Alan cooked the burgers and dogs and we had the usual side dishes. Even the flies stayed away when we turned on the fan. We blew up about 100 water balloons. Nine-year-old Oliver Gelm, Emily, and Leif had fun throwing them at a target. We all remarked what a beautiful day it was and how much fun we had. Ideas were already being floated about next year's poker run!

Photo credits: Stephanie Currier and Judy Hills











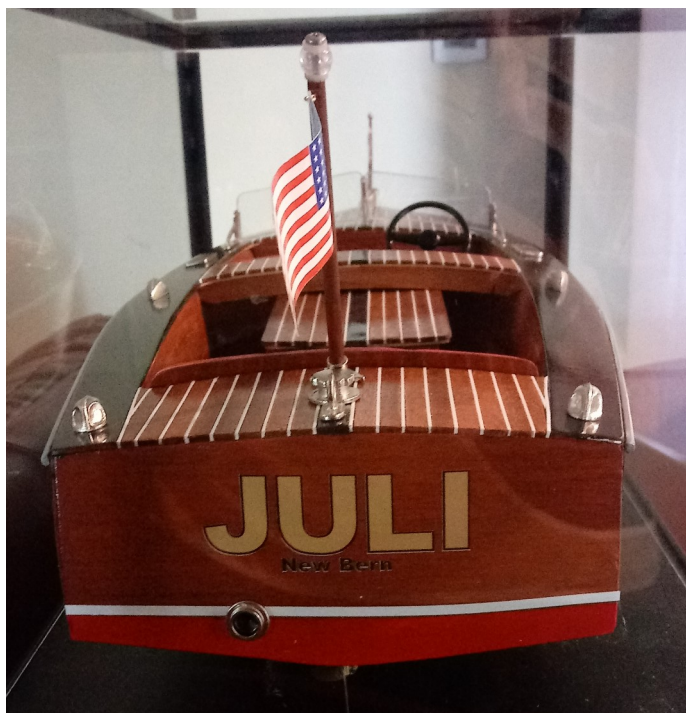


Model Builder Meets Real Deal by Alan Hills

I've known my 90 year old friend, Dick Fontaine since we were in the New Bern Flotilla of the Coast Guard Auxiliary together back in early 2000. Dick has been a model boat builder for a very long time and has created a number of works of art. He is now getting to the point where his hands are not steady enough to do the model work, but he wanted to build one last model—for me. So, I picked out a Chris Craft Special Runabout and together we constructed it. Dick mostly gave instruction and I did the cutting and gluing. Together we got it done and I built a display case for it. We

named it JULI for our wives (Judy/Libby). It sits proudly in my living room. It is something I'll always treasure as I do my friendship with Dick.

The model we built was a replica of the same boat owned by the Conley's. After the poker run, Bill had left the boat at Blackbeard Sailing Club. When Bill came to retrieve the boat the following week, I picked Dick up and took him to see the real thing. Below are photos of the model and of Dick Fontaine with Blue Tango.



Q: How many boaters does it take to change a lightbulb?

A: None, because the right size bulb isn't on board, the local marine-supply store doesn't carry that brand, and the mail-order house has them on back-order.

Q: What's the difference between a lawyer and a dock line?

A: One should be whipped at both ends: the other keeps your boat tied to the dock.



"You've been on our boat all weekend, eating, drinking and hanging out. Then it suddenly occurred to us...we have no idea who you are."

Poker Run—What We Learned

Gatherings of our chapter are more than just about a specific activity; they are also to build community. That community includes our members, our family, our significant others, as well as prospective members. We do that by interacting.

At the Poker Run, things learned included:

- That there is a really good frozen Angus 1/3 lb. hamburger
- That Judy Hills makes a mean potato salad
- That olive oil comes in a spray can
- That self-sealing water balloons can be blown up 30 at a time
- That Oliver Gelm can accurately hit a target with a water balloon
- That one of the boats had an engine that was running rough—help was offered to correct it
- That Dave Mahoney can really back a boat
- That one of the boats (other than the Conley's!) had a leak overworking the bilge pump
- That \$23,000 is no small price to pay to ensure that your boat's hull won't leak
- That the new chapter name badges with the magnets were a big improvement over the old pin ones
- That the new chapter hats were well received
- That a member (who will remain nameless) claimed that he had 5 aces, but folded when asked to show them
- That member Leif Eriksson had lost 50 lbs. (some of us were envious!)
- That a 50:50 mixture of vinegar and water sprayed on boats just pulled from the Neuse River (and then rinsed off) will remove the tannin (tan?) line
- That Bill Conley is a very, very patient man with regard to Blue Tango's engine and leak issues. Who else would bring a boat to a poker run with a hole in the side?

A little help from your friends in the chapter:

- Dave Mahoney brought Alan Hills some real Barbour Boat glassware
- Jim Dean brought some items for Leif Eriksson to take to a chrome company in New Bern for him
- Bill Conley brought Alan Hills some kayak molds and plans to give to Joe Peacos
- Jeff Gelm picked Leif Eriksson's brain about the new varnish Leif is using
- Dave Mahoney brought an engine for Alan to give to Robert Blanchard.

And a chance to meet some new people:


Jim Dean brought a friend, Richard Reid, who is a boatbuilder in Wilmington and newer member Ken Shull from High point and Oriental joined the party. Dave and Deb Mahoney are ACBS members, but have not yet joined our chapter. It was a pleasure to have these individuals with us for the day.

So, we encourage you to attend as many chapter meetings and outings as you can to get the full benefit of your membership.

Happy Independence Day!



INTERNATIONAL BOAT SHOW



10001000
ISLANDS MEMORIES
ALEXANDRIA BAY / NY



THE ANTIQUE AND CLASSIC
BOAT SOCIETY INC.

Gerald G. Hill

ALEXANDRIA BAY, NY.

Sept. 20th 9AM-5PM
Sept. 21st 9AM-4PM

Photo Caption Winners for June

We did have four entries, all worthy of winning: "And I thought I knew how far a chapter president would go to get attention!" submitted by Lonnie Sieck; "Captain Alan, Instructor for Trailing 101, reviews his notes" was submitted by Jim Alexander; "But the GPS said this is the place" by Jeff Gelm; and "Anywhere is a good place for a beer!" also by Jeff Gelm.

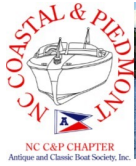
Now that we have poked fun at our illustrious President, the winner is: "Captain Alan, Instructor for Trailing 101, reviews his notes" by Jim Alexander. Actually Jim, he was reviewing the ingredients of his IPA brew while contemplating the lack of the necessary ingredient for towing a trailer—a vehicle!



Just for Fun: Caption for Photograph

On the right is a photo—send us your best caption. Judging will be done by President Alan Hills. We'll keep your names secret from him so he won't be prejudiced. We'll print the captions entries next month and the winner will receive \$10 towards lunch or dinner if he or she shows up at the very next chapter meeting or outing after the winning entry is selected—we'll email the winner. Email your caption or captions (submit as many as you like) to newsletter editor Judy Hills at jahnbnc@gmail.com. You are also welcome to submit photos for this column to Judy. This is all part of the "let's have some fun in 2019" initiative. **Captions due by 7/10** Collect your \$10 prize at our next outing. You have to show up to claim your prize!





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

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

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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 boat show dates, the places, dates and times listed for club events are tentative. Watch your email for updates. Please add these dates to your calendar and participate as much as you can! Chapter-sponsored events are in bold.

Jul 30 Regular NCC&P Chapter meeting at Trali Irish Pub 3107 Grace Park Dr. in Morrisville 6:30 to 8:30 PM

Aug 24 Plating Workshop CANECLED—No meeting/No event

Sep 13-14 Smith Mountain Lake Boat Show in Huddleston, VA

Sep 15-21 ACBS International Boat Show in Alexandria Bay, NY

Sep 28 Meetup at Lake Gaston coordinated by Jim Alexander

Oct 19-20 Georgetown Boat Show in Georgetown, SC

Oct 29 Annual NCC&P Chapter meeting and Elections at Trali Irish Pub 3107 Grace Park Dr. in Morrisville 6:30 to 8:30 PM

Nov 2 Southport Boat Show in Southport, NC

Nov 16 Workshop & flea market & pot luck at Robert & Patsy Blanchard's property in New Hill. Coordinated by Robert & Patsy Blanchard.

Dec 14 Chapter Christmas Party at Bill & Sharon Conley's home in Raleigh

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 1941 inclusive

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

Late Classic: A boat built 1977 to 25 years prior to the current year. This classification is not eligible for "best of show" awards and is neither restored or preserved

Production Contemporary: A production wooden boat built 1969 to present

Custom Contemporary: A modified or one-of-a-kind wooden boat built 1969 to present

Replica: A boat built in a non-production manner, intended to be a one-of-a-kind and usually an exact copy or duplicate of a boat previously built or manufactured.