

Messing About In Boats

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

March 2020

Ahoy Mates,

All the signs are here; azaleas, Bradford pears and daffodils blooming. New Bern's token snow for the year has come and gone and there's talk of boat shows starting to ramp up. I say "bring it on!" Of course, the official kickoff to the season is the Sunnyland show in Tavares, Florida. I had all intentions of attending but life got in the way. So...I am most definitely dragging the old Barbour down to the Cape Fear Community College show in Wilmington on March 28th. I encourage all members to attend and display here. We will get a chance to tour the shops and classrooms of the wooden boat building program that we endow and meet the students and faculty. Also, member Joe Peacos will put on a presentation of his Barbour Vacationer restoration and display his booth which is full of memorabilia from the Barbour Boat

Company. There are land and water spots available and there is a parking garage across the street. I also heard that John Tinney may have his 50-foot Elco Flattop there and she is a sight to behold. I also plan to have some sort of tent or something with materials on hand to talk up the club and maybe pick up a member or two. It would be really nice to have a few other members around to help man it. Please do try to get down there. For you folks in the Raleigh area, you just hop on Hwy 40 and head south. I hope to see lots of you there. BTW, member Jim Dean has a beach house in Wrightsville Beach which is just a short way from the show, and he is willing to rent it out to club members at a nice discount, so consider that. You can reach Jim at cap-tjim4@gmail.com or 910-232-1665. Also, the food and nightlife in Wilmington is

abundant and varied. Heck, we might even be able to have an impromptu "Boy's Night Out"!

At one of our meetings we discussed trying to display our boats at car shows. Well, I inquired about the possibility with the local AACA chapter and was told that it was not possible per AACA regulations. He steered me to a local hot rod club and their show is March 28th, the same as the Cape Fear Boat Show. So, scratch any AACA events we may have wanted to display at.

We had a very nice turnout for the Budsin Boat Co. tour. More about that in a separate article. That's it for now.

Best regards,

Alan

The "Blues" by Bill Conley

My boat naming has quite a bit of background. It all started with my first boat, a 20-foot Scout center console. I bought it in 2001 to use for fishing in the sounds and 'near shore' ocean at Beaufort, NC, where we had just bought a condominium. I was still working full time for IBM in Raleigh. In thinking about a name for the boat, two things came together in my thought process. I was catching a lot of Bluefish—in fact, early on, caught a really big one that stretched all the way across the boat bow seat.



Also, my use of the boat was on weekends, an escape from my daily duties at Big Blue (another name for IBM). The name with a double meaning came to mind, "After Blues." I created a picture of a Bluefish between the two words in the name on the boat, and the BLUE part of the name is done in the IBM logo.



My second boat was a 14-foot Penobscot sailboat that I built, and I still enjoy in the sounds around Beaufort. I wanted something to tie the name of this little boat to my larger fishing boat, so I named it "Little Blues."



I did the outline of a Bluefish with light color sassafras wood inlaid in mahogany in a plaque on both sides of the bow.



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The “Blues” by Bill Conley (continued from p. 2)

My next two boats were a pair of strip-planked touring kayaks that I built, a “Venture 14” for Sharon and an “Endeavor 17” for me. To keep the same word Blue in the name, I used a down east nickname for the small Bluefish caught there—Snapper Blue I and Snapper Blue II. There is an image of a bluefish on the bow.



When I started restoring my 1952 Chris Craft 17-foot Special Runabout, I wanted to keep the word Blue in the name, so I started studying things that were going on in 1952, looking for something that would have that word in it. I found the song that was the #1 hit, spending 38 weeks on Billboard’s national singles charts in 1952, was “Blue Tango” recorded by Leroy Anderson and his “Pops” Concert Orchestra. (here is a link to the original recording on YouTube. [Click here](#)) That fit perfectly in my family of boat names

I am not sure what the next boat or next name might be, but I will try to keep up the “Blue” thing.



Budsin Electric Boats by Alan Hills

The February 22nd outing to Budsin Electric Boats was, in a word, outstanding! We had good club participation, wonderful seafood meals at Blackbeard's Grill & Grog in Beaufort, a very accommodating host, and an interesting lesson in how one makes a classic electric boat.

Owner Tom Hesselink and two of his staff met us at Blackbeard's for lunch. He had arranged with the restaurant to open early for us so we had the place to ourselves. Eleven members made the trip: Joe Peacos, Leif Eriksson, John Justice, Jeff Martinsen, Jim Hartman, Dave and Marion Stowe, Jim and Alice Dean, and Judy and Alan Hills. We also had 4 guests; Jim and Alice Dean drove up from Wilmington with their friends Robin and Nancy Kanipe from Ashville and Susie Gunning from Greensboro. Leif brought his friend and boat-partner Dave Backus. This made a respectable total of 15.

After an enjoyable lunch, Tom led us to his factory in Marshallberg—about 20 minutes away. Like so many of the Down East boat building facilities—the “factory” was a collection of buildings and sheds on several pieces of property accumulated over a 30+ year period. What they might have lacked in modern, glitzy facility, they more than made up for in ingenuity and skill. We saw a number of boats in various stages of completion as well as the original vintage electric boat that was used as a model for the Budsin's. We learned how really tricky it is to balance the weight while building in creature-comforts and seaworthiness.

These boats are really well made. They offer a number of different construction techniques: diagonal laminated juniper strip plank-ing utilizing vacuum bagging. They are also building a 19-footer that has a fiberglass

hull and wooden deck and trim. There are many options available as well, including canopies, tables and stereo systems, to name a few. The workmanship we saw was superior. The brightwork was stunning—you could see your reflection in the deck.

Tom explained that many of the boats went to areas where gasoline engines were not permitted (e.g., lake that was a water supply). He also mentioned that parts of Europe are now requiring electric boats for canal systems as the wakes thrown by boats run with gasoline engines are causing damage as well as the pollution caused. It is a quieter, gentler method of boating that lends itself to wine & cheese interspersed with conversation. We can't argue with that.

All-in-all it was a wonderful, educational, and thoroughly enjoyable club event.

<https://www.budsin.com/en/>



Budsins Electric Boat photos by Joe Peacos & Judy Hills



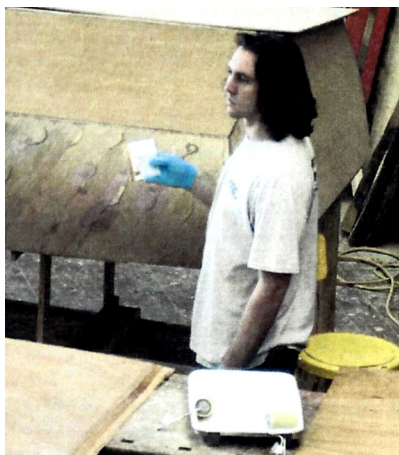
Budsins Electric Boat photos by Joe Peacos & Judy Hills



Scholarship Update from Jim Alexander

During the recent award cycle at Cape Fear Community College (CFCC), two students met our scholarship criteria for funding and were awarded scholarships (\$1000 each) from monies we provided. CFCC award memos and thank you letters from Shane Snow and Joshua Kofroth are attached. Shane is a disabled veteran and father of three whose goal is to start his own small business in wooden boat manufacture. Joshua also has a goal of owning his own boat building business. We hope that in some small way we have helped these two men achieve their dreams.

Below is a photo of Joshua working in one of CFCC workshops.



CFCC has \$500 of our money unawarded, so for us to sustain our normal \$2000 level of scholarship funding, we would donate \$1500 to CFCC this year. Recommend the membership consider how to proceed and discuss this and make our decision on funding at an upcoming membership meeting.

Dear Mr. Alexander

I was very happy to find out that I had been awarded the NC Coastal & Piedmont Chapter, Antique & Classic Boat Society Scholarship. I want to personally thank you for this scholarship. It means so much to my family and I to have your support.

I am currently enrolled in the boat building program at Cape Fear Community College and focusing on wooden boat building. I have just completed the final stages of building a 21 ft. center console designed by Salt Boat Works. This award will help me complete my second year of studies and reduce the financial stress of college tuition.

As I continue working to refurbish homes and continue my studies, the experience I am gaining will help me achieve a career in the boat industry. I plan to start from the ground up to understand each role within the boat building business so that I may establish my own company building yachts one day. Your support will help me achieve my career goals and provide relief for my family. Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,

Joshua Kofroth

Dear Mr. Alexander,

I wanted to take a moment to thank you and the generosity of the North Carolina Coastal and Piedmont Chapter, Antique and Classic Boat Society for the thoughtful scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.00. As you likely already know I am completing my first semester in Cape Fear Community College's Wooden Boat Building program. This program has been long in planning and consideration as I first served twenty years in the U.S. Navy.

I will use this training to transition to the next phase of my life. I have previously studied archaeology and am a member of the Maritime Heritage Chapter of the Virginia Archaeological Society. I intend to build and restore historically significant boats as well as continue on the long tradition of wooden boat building in my community and through Scouting programs. This scholarship will help fund supplies and expenses for the 2020 Spring semester.

This past Semester, under the excellent guidance of Mr. Mark Bayne, the Cape Fear Boat Builders lofted a simple flat-bottomed skiff as practice for our Spring projects. We will build a cold-molded motor yacht, a glued lapstrake centerboard sloop and a traditional lapstrake dinghy. I have been lofting and carving the keel of an Abaco Sailing Dinghy. Additionally, I have been practicing my half-hull modeling and recently built North Carolina's state Shad Boat as well as Virginia's Chesapeake Bay Deadrise. The modeling has been great exercise for the larger boats.

I look forward to meeting you and fellow classic boat builders and enthusiasts at a future NC C&P event to personally extend my appreciation. Until then, please pass on to the entire Chapter my most heartfelt Thank You.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Shane Snow
11/30/2019

Sunnyland Boat Show in Tavares, FL

Every ACBS member should attend this show at least once. Wooten Park on Lake Dora in Tavares is as perfect a boat show location as one could conceive. There are many boats of all types, lots of exhibitors where you can find stuff you never knew you needed, and lots of knowledgeable folks to talk to. We encourage you go, with or without your boat. <https://acbs-sunnyland.org/boat-festival/>



Cape Fear Community College Riverfront Boat Show

SHOW HIGHLIGHTS

- Dock space on the Cape Fear River (Trailer spaces also available)
- Ten judging categories plus special Simmons Sea Skiff awards
- Knot-tying challenge

BOAT/VENDOR EXHIBITOR INFORMATION

Location: CFCC Wilmington Campus on the riverfront on Water St. (between the Hilton and Coastline Convention Center). Free parking in the CFCC Parking Deck on Nutt St.

Hours: All boats and vendors must be ready to display between 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 28, 2020.

Judging and Awards: Ten judged classes including special Simmons Sea Skiff awards.

Entry Fees: There is a \$35 charge for amateur boats and a \$100 for a commercial manufactured vessel or vendor. All amateur boat exhibitors and commercial sponsors get a free t-shirt and two tickets to the dinner after the show.



Sponsorships: Sponsorships are available at \$250 for businesses that will be featured on the 20th Anniversary T-shirt. Sponsors receive a text link on the official CFCC Boat Show web site, two dinner tickets, and recognition at the awards ceremony. All sponsorships benefit CFCC boat building student scholarships. If your business is interested in sponsoring the show, please contact John Olsen at jolsen@cfcc.edu or call (910) 362-7361.

<https://cfcc.edu/boat-building/cfcc-riverfront-boat-show/>

CONTACT INFORMATION

Mark Bayne, Program Director Wooden Boat Building
910.362.7151
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BOAT/VENDOR EXHIBITORS

If you have completed the online application, please submit the entry fee payable to the CFCC Foundation:

Marine Technology Department
Cape Fear Community College
411 North Front St.
Wilmington, NC 28401

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO ATTEND!



Older Trailers—What You Don't See CAN Hurt You! By Alan Hills

This past month, I performed a well overdue overhaul of Hunky Dory's trailer. I had been planning this for a while but something always seemed to get in the way of actually getting around to it. My trailering "adventures" have been well chronicled in previous newsletters and I reached a point where I didn't want to go through any more drama or receive any more awards for this topic.

Every time I launched the boat, I could see that the axles and springs were pretty darn rusty. The bunk brackets and attaching hardware were about the same. The rest of the trailer is aluminum and while it was no longer pretty, it was in sound structural condition.

I engaged Bridgeton Boatworks to lift the boat off the trailer for a quick bottom job while I tackled the trailer. I asked that they use their travelift to flip the trailer over for me so I wouldn't have to work on my back, much as you would to put a new bottom on your boat. Well, they did that and blocked it up about waist level so I wouldn't have to bend over too much. When all was ready, I went down to get busy. What a surprise

lay in store for me. The nuts that go on the u-bolts that attach the axle to the spring were 70% GONE! Had I been able to see this condition earlier, these repairs would have been done long ago. The mechanic at the boatyard was walking by and commented that the only thing holding the whole mess together was rust! I couldn't dispute that.

So, what did I learn here? First, I was one lucky son of a gun for not having the axles come adrift at an inopportune time, and look underneath where you normally don't see (use a mirror if it helps) and inspect that area as well.



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 Alan Hills

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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.

- 3/19-22 Sunnyland Boat Show in Tavares, FL
- 3/28 Cape Fear CC Boat show and Facility Tour in Wilmington
- 4/17-19 Oriental Boat Show & Nautical Flea Market in Oriental
- 4/29 Chapter Business Meeting at Trali in Morrisville at 6:30 PM**
- 5/2 NCMM Beaufort Boat Show in Beaufort
- 5/16 Lake Lure Boat Show—Blue Ridge ACBS Chapter
- 5/30 Plating Workshop—Phillips Plating—lin New Bern**
- 6/19-20 St. Michaels, MD boat show
- 6/27 "Let's Get'em Wet" at Hyko Lake in Roxboro**
- 7/29 Chapter Business Meeting at Trali in Morrisville at 6:30 PM
- 8/22 Workshop at Piglet (John Justice's place) in Pittsboro**

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.