



Messaging About In Boats

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

May 2020

Hello Fellow Members,

It's hard to express any thoughts about most anything without acknowledging the effects of the pandemic. For most of us, there has never been such a life altering occurrence in our lifetime. Personally, we nearly lost one of our family members in New Jersey, which really brought the COVID-19 close to home. Glad to say she is one of the few that was able to successfully wake up from the ventilator and will be going home next week. I hope our members and their families are all coming through this just fine, save for the inconvenience.

Another, less important, side effect has been the cancellation and or postponement of ACBS related activities; boat shows, workshops, meetings, etc. Hopefully, you have managed to stay connected via the ACBS weekly web report and our newsletter. Normally, this issue would be filled with arti-

cles about all the events that took place in this usually busy month. Alas, it will be rather sparse because there were no events to report on. I have found this to be a good time to do some deep cleaning around my home and shop which has resulted in less clutter, grateful recipients of the excess "stock" I had been saving for I don't know what, and the discovery of long lost items I'd given up any hope of ever finding. I'm sure you all have been doing something similar or perhaps getting to some work on your boats.

As May unfolds, we all hope to start putting this behind us. As the restrictions are eased, we may begin to get back to a more normal lifestyle. We have events upcoming in the next couple of months that may still be impacted by COVID-19 and time will tell how it will all shake out. In the meantime, I urge you to continue using safe practices and to resume

your favorite activities when you feel it is okay. Be sure to check the event calendar at the end of the newsletter and save the dates in the hope we can all get together again to enjoy our boats and fellowship.

Best regards,

Alan



Minutes of Zoom Meeting 29 April 2020

Welcome –Alan

Treasurer's Report–None

Old Business

- **Membership**—Want to thank Jim Alexander for his work on getting the seven lapsed members to re-join. National says we have one of the best retention rate of all the chapters—thanks to Jim's diligence. We have 56 members: 51 individuals and 5 others (companies, etc.)
- **Website hosting status**—We had issues with our website for several months because it was hacked. Jeremy LeRay who set it up for us worked tirelessly to fix the problem. He finally had to pull the site off the ACBS server and set it up for a time on his server. Several weeks ago, he was finally able to work with the ACBS webmaster to the site hosted back on the ACBS server. It is now functioning properly. Jeremy sent us an invoice for \$225. He deeply discounted the number of hours he spent working on this complex issue. The bill will be sent to Kevin for payment.
- **Website submissions**—Resources (parts, wood, vendors, etc.) The resource section of our website would be more meaningful to members if it was populated with information on suppliers, vendors, shops, etc. that provide the kinds of material and skills we need to work on our boats, motors and trailers. Please send that information to our webmaster, Judy at jahnbncc@gmail.com
- **Boat photos**—We'd love to have a photo of every boat owned by our club members on our website. We have done as much as we can using photos we have from events and shows. We'd like to impress newcomers to our website with these photos so please send them to Judy.
- **Trading dock**—Same for the trading dock. Got a boat, motor, wood, fittings, etc. to sell? Take a photo and send the description to Judy.
- **Newsletter submissions**—We generally have to get articles off the web to fill in the pages. Thanks to those who are sending articles on how their boat got its name. Do send along

material or even websites you think might have something we can use.

New Business

- **Boat shows**—Lots of cancellations—some are being rescheduled, some are not. Judy is checking on and reports the status of these shows in the newsletter.
- **Plating shop tour**—The tour of Phillips Plating in New Bern is still tentatively planned for Saturday May 30th. We'll confirm later this month. We plan to do lunch first then the tour—like we did with Budsen Boats.
- **Club Calendar**—We discussed the possibility of smaller regional groups getting together (e.g., Raleigh, New Bern, Wilmington). We need to identify an individual willing to pull together a workshop or meeting agenda. We suggest a meal be included. Would be nice to host at someone's home or workshop. All members would be welcome, but those who live closer to the site would have a shorter distance to drive. We did this successfully several years ago in New Bern. Alan is going to tap a person in each geographic area and ask him to organize the event for that area. We hope to do this over the summer.
- **Zoom**—Zoom worked well for this business meeting. If we are just holding a business meeting it is a good way to get more participation since there is no driving involved. Next time we'll invite all members to "attend." Jeff said maybe we could use Zoom for a "luminary"—a person renown in wooden boat circles—to give a talk. Another idea would be to use it for a specific workshop topic. We could view a YouTube video together and then discuss. Alan is going to pursue this with Jeff.
- **Other**—Bill reminded us that the First Mates (wives/SOs) are getting together tomorrow at 7 PM via Zoom. An email invitation was sent—please forward. Judy thanked Molly and Sharon for setting this up.
- **Good and Welfare**—Boatyards are still open.
- The fall Smith Mountain Lake Boat Show has been cancelled for 2020 and will resume in 2021.
- Thanks to Bob for organizing this Zoom mtg.

TEN THINGS THAT CAN HURT YOUR WOODEN BOAT

This information was taken from an article from WoodenBoat. [Click here](#) to access the full article.

1. Sanding & painting when the hull is dry. Why? Because if the seams are open, dirt and sanding dust can work into them. As planks swell later, over a span of years leaks may develop.
 2. Additional caulking when the boat is dry. It may or may not be needed. Dried-out topsides treated with seam compound may end up squeezing out the extra. The beads will look bad—ruining that mirror-like paint job.
 3. Over caulking. Remove old stuff before driving in new caulking. Adding more caulk on top of what's already there is only going to damage the seams.
 4. Wrong fastening type or size. Screw holes can become fatigued. Threads may weaken and lose their grip. If you just jam in a larger screw—it may not countersink deep or wide enough. The new screw may be too long. Better to plug the old hole and then redrill a new hole.
 5. Inadequate varnish. Boats excessively exposed to sunlight need a minimum of six coats and preferably two maintenance coats of varnish per year. If your time or budget won't allow you to maintain your brightwork, consider oil or paint instead.
 6. Inadequate prep for paint. Prepare your surfaces properly. If possible, paint even what you aren't going to see.
 7. Inadequate pre-season launch cleaning. Get off as much grime off surfaces as you can and then vacuum plank seams and floor timbers with a crevice tool and brush attachment. After the boat is launched, keep her clean. When dirt accumulates in a crevice, it holds moisture which may lead to rot. It is amazing how much stray potato chips will plug your cockpit drains and scuppers.
 8. Freshwater washdowns. Fungus needs moisture and frequent freshwater wash-
- downs. Especially in concealed, poorly ventilated area can exacerbate rot. A cover helps to prevent large amounts of rainwater from finding it way into the boat, although if too tight—it can restrict air movement and encourage mildew.
9. Improper support on the trailer. Ask President Hills about the hook in his Barbour's hull. Make sure the weight is distributed evenly. Rollers are generally bad for planked wooden hulls as they tend to point-load the hull rather than distribute the weight evenly. Ratchet straps, while convenient, are powerful enough to split a plank. Don't overtighten. If your boat has a drain plug and is stored outdoors on trailer, pitch the hull so the plug is at the low point and any water will run out if your cover leaks.
 10. Improper storage. Properly prepare your boat for winter or long time storage. Wash and dry all surfaces. The four tenants of good boat health: support, shelter, ventilation and humidity. Support the hull properly—concentrate its weight along the centerline. A good shelter helps keep the boat swelled tight by maintaining adequate humidity. Best is a dirt floor. A wooden floor, and in worst case a concrete one, will draw moisture from the air—causing your boat to dry excessively. Focus on getting a balance of moisture both inside and outside the hull. Air must circulate around and within a stored boat. Humidity can be maintained if necessary with plastic drapes tenting the boat from toerail or waterline down to the floor.



Realized Medicinal Qualities of a Barnacle by Jon Homeister

I grew up around water and boats, they are a part of my being. The family boated in the summer, or ice fished in the winter, on the Detroit River, Lake Erie, and some of the many inland lakes of Michigan. We loved boats. First there was a T&T wooden lapstrake, then a fiberglass Slickcraft, then a Boston Whaler (still have it), a canoe, two aluminum fishing boats, a sunfish sailboat, and a Hobie Cat sailboat. But Dad never named any of the boats. I don't know why, but he just turned 88 and I should ask him before the answer is lost to history.

The first named boat in my life was a 1970s 15 foot fiberglass Sea Star. I guess it

would now qualify as classic glass, but it was a piece of crap that should have been long retired to the dump. Four of us in graduate school (1990ish) pitched in \$150 each to purchase the red Sea Star. One of the guy's family had a lake cottage about 30 minutes outside Ann Arbor. We kept the boat there in the water and skied a couple nights a week after work, and weekends. It had a 70 hp Evinrude on the transom that went through about one new Powerpack (the earliest electronic outboard brain) a year. The floor was rotten, and I suspect the stringers too - I wasn't brave enough to explore past the floor. Parts of the seats were rotten. We rebuilt them

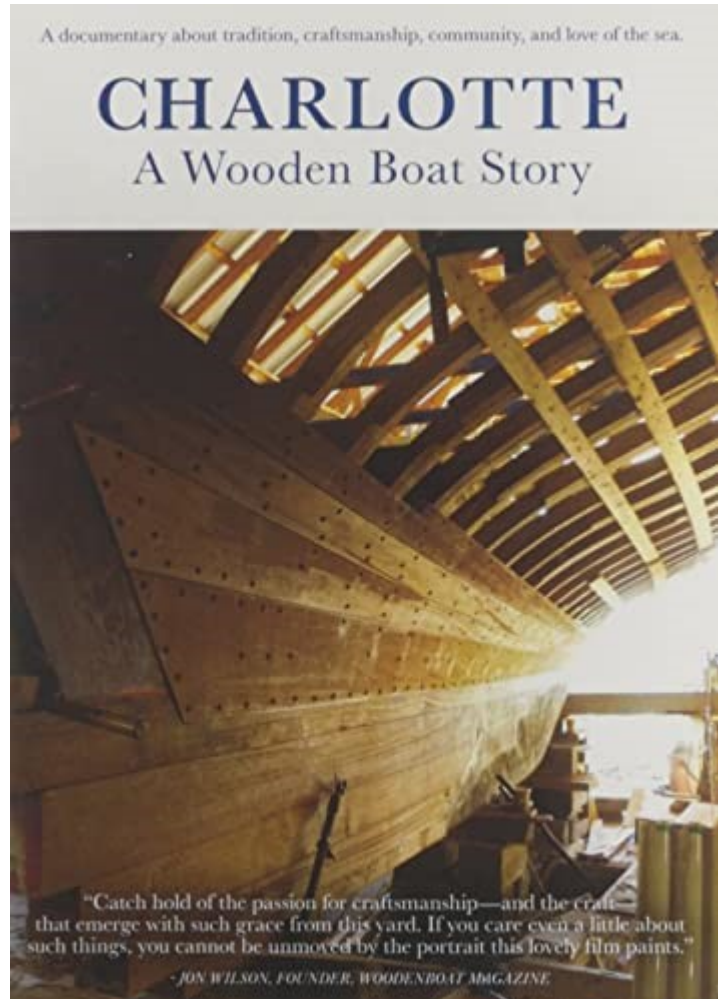
enough to be usable. The deck and topsides flexed horribly. The finish was chalked. The plexi windshield was so scratched it looked like someone tried to wash it using sand. It was overpowered and unstable, but we were testosterone-laden young men with little money, bent on skiing and having fun. One evening, after working on it a while trying to get it to start, I cussed at the "f***ing barnacle," and the name stuck. "The Barnacle" it was, my first named boat. It served our purpose for a couple years before I had enough and walked away, leaving my portion to the only interested remaining partner.

Below is "The Barnacle"



Charlotte: A Wooden Boat Story

Charlotte is a film about an extraordinary boatyard, the Gannon & Benjamin Marine Railway, located on the island of Martha's Vineyard, MA. Ross Gannon and Nat Benjamin established the boatyard in 1980 with the purpose of designing, building, and maintaining traditionally built wooden boats, and in the process they transformed Vineyard Haven Harbor into a mecca for wooden boat owners and enthusiasts. After a long career in designing and constructing boats for others, Nat embarks on building a 50-foot gaff rigged schooner for use by this family and friends. Her name is Charlotte. Through close observation of the everyday activities of the boatyard, the film emerges as a meditation on tradition, craftsmanship, family, community, our relationship to nature and love of the sea. Bonus material include interviews with Nat Benjamin & boatyard boatwrights; an audio commentary from director Jeffrey Kusama-Hinte and cinematographer Brian Dowley; plus additional scenes. (Available from Amazon Prime).



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 the Stowes

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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. **NOTE: Many events have either been cancelled or rescheduled due to the coronavirus.**

5/2 NCMC Beaufort Boat Show in Beaufort **Cancelled—rescheduled to 10/17**

5/30 **Plating Workshop—Phillips Plating— In 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**

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

9/14-19 ACBS International Show Coeur d’Alene, ID

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

9/26 **Poker Fun Run at Lake Gaston**

10/17 NCMC Wooden Boat Show in Beaufort, NC at Gallants Channel location

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](#).