



Messing About In Boats

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

May 2021

Hello Fellow Members,

At last, the warmer weather has started to appear to us. Also, many of us have received our Covid-19 vaccinations. While things are not yet what I would call normal, we are hopefully starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

We have officially kicked off the year with a workshop at the Piglet on April 17th. As always, John Justice provided us with a lot of opportunities to observe and learn from 3 projects going on there. First, of course, was the 1928 26' Chris Craft that John has been working on that we have been calling "the skeleton". Well, she ain't a skeleton no more! New 5200 bottom, new topside planking, covering boards fitted; she's really starting to look like a boat. Jeff Gelm's "Sweet Pea", a 17' CC Sportsman, is getting a new bottom and occupying a building that has now been designated "The Peapod". She's getting ready to receive her new oak keel from stock cut from John's property. Lastly,

Michael Triplett's 17' CC ski boat's engine is getting re-blocked as a 350 cu. In. Naturally, Jeff Gelm grilled up the obligatory sausage from Ray's Market, along with some burgers and fixin's and it all added up to a great day.

In May, we have a "Get em wet" get together scheduled for May 15th at Hyco Lake, courtesy of Carol and Lonnie Sieck. We had a blast last year despite Covid and expect no less this year. See the notice in the newsletter for the details. I encourage all of you to consider attending for a fun boat ride, lunch, and fellowship.

As reported in the previous newsletter, our chapter has been invited to attend the Thomasville Vintage Power Show. The organizers reached out to me suggesting that old boats would be a fitting addition to their show, and I agree. Also, member Robert Blanchard will be bringing 2 authentic old west chuck wagons to the event and will provide free food to chapter mem-

bers who attend. I hear cornbread, beans and chicken-fried steak will be on the menu. Register on arrival and space is first come, first served. I know that Judy and I, as well as Joe and Joey Peacos will be bringing boats, and in Joe's case, his incredible Barbour Boat display. If any other members want to display, please let me know so we can tie up enough space for us to be together. I'm told this is a very interesting event with lots of different vintage power displays and demonstrations.

Looking ahead to June, the Chesapeake Bay chapter will be holding their show in St. Michaels, MD. On June 18th thru 20th. This is a major show and I highly recommend trying to get up there. The venue is fantastic, the program is well organized, and the people are wonderful.

(Continued on next page)

President's Column (continued)

We have a couple of new boats listed on our trading dock. As per our policy, they will be featured in the newsletter one time and remain on the website for 2 months. I happen to have seen these boats myself and feel they are certainly worth consideration if you are in the market for a nice boat.

That's all I've got for this month. I hope to see a bunch of you in the near future as we begin to venture out a bit more. In the meantime, go take a boat ride. It's good for you!

Best regards,

Alan

Chris Craft Riviera For Sale

1950 Chris Craft 16' Riviera, All Original 4 Cyl. Motor, Original Trailer Stored inside for past 25 years, Wonderful classic boat, \$18,500 Firm. Boat located in Wrightsville Beach, NC. Contact: Jim Dean 910-232-



Chris Craft U-22 For Sale

There's a reason the Chris Craft 22' Sportsman, also known as the U-22 and made from 1946-1954, was produced more than any other model. It is roomy and comfortable and generally easy to live with. All of the 1947 U-22s had painted topsides as there was a shortage of mahogany right after WWII. Spanish Cedar was substituted but it didn't stain well.

This 1947 Sportsman has a 5200 bottom (new frames, keel, chine, planking), all new topsides and decks. Under the painted topsides is very nice mahogany. A PCM 351W and Velvet Drive provide plenty of power. Tandem trailer is included. Nice, reliable boat. \$21k

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Minutes of Chapter Meeting 28April2021

Attended:

Alan Hills, President	Jim Alexander, Director
Jeff Martinson, VP	Bill Conley, Director
Judy Hills, Sec	John Justice, Director
Kevin Leiner, Treas	Jim Hartman, Member

Meeting began at 7:00 PM

Welcome and call to order by VP Jeff Martinson as President Alan Hills had laryngitis.

Motion made, seconded and unanimously passed to accept the agenda as presented.

Minutes of January 27, 2021 meeting. Motion made by Kevin and seconded by John to accept as presented. Motion carried.

Finance Report—Kevin discussed the first quarter report (1/1 to 3/31)—no expenses and only income was from memberships (new and renewing). We did have some expenses in April which will show up in the next report: \$2,000 to the Cape Fear Community College Foundation to fund two \$1,000 scholarships to the students in the boat building program. John will be submitting his expenses for the workshop. We also took in \$125 for ship's store (sale of old logo merchandise). We had a brief discussion regarding the amount of scholarship money in future years. May or may not be able to maintain at that level of support.

Committee Reports—(see addendum)

President's Report—Alan: restated how much we all enjoyed the workshop in April and thanked John and Pam for their hospitality as well as Jeff Gelm for cook-

ing.

2021 Scholarships—Jim: Nothing else to add.

Membership—Jim: Jim believes that our membership will remain around 53 for 2021.

Website—Judy: Requested input on home page. Several suggestions to try: add some banners (Award Winning Chapter, Fun, Interesting), focus on our scholarship program and add new comments monthly from President.

Newsletter—Judy: Encouraged contributions especially of tall tales.

Old Business

Calendar of events 2021: We discussed the possibility of adding several events. Dates listed are tentative. Discussed that COVID-19 may still factor into outings through 2021. Definitely want to go to Wilmington (member Jim Dean)—tentatively in early November. Definitely want to see Bill Conley's garage Mahal—tentatively mid-summer. We will try to firm up some of these new dates. We try to avoid conflicts with boat shows within driving distance.

Workshop at Piglet on 17 April 2021: Wonderful, fun event. A good time was had by all who attended.

Sale of old logo items at Workshop: netted \$125.

Continued on next page

Minutes of Chapter Meeting 28April2021

May Hyco Lake Get 'Em Wet event 15

May 2021: Encouraged participation. Lonnie needs help with cooking. Flyer is on website and will be in the May newsletter.

June 11-12 Tractor Show at Thomasville:

While the event is for two-days, Alan will be there on Saturday and if he knows chapter members bringing boats, he'll save room so we can be together. Need to talk this up. Good opportunity to get new members. Member Robert Blanchard will be there with his chuckwagons and will provide a free lunch to chapter members. Wear your name tags! We will put additional information on this event in the May newsletter.

Chapter Business cards are available to help recruit. We have plenty. As requested, Judy will send cards to Kevin, Jim Alexander and John Justice.

New Business

Approval of the FY 2021 Budget. Brief discussion on proposed income, but agreed to leave as is for now. Motion made by John and seconded by Jim Alexander to approve as presented. Motion carried. (posted on website)

Idea for a "boat show" at Blackbeard Sailing Club: Judy discussed this concept. Not a real boat show—more or less a meet-up of powerboats and sailboats at Blackbeard Sailing Club in New Bern. We forget that sailboats qualify under ACBS definitions. Would be fun to give each other rides. Wanted consensus from the Board before ap-

proaching BSC with the idea. After discussion, we decided to pursue it. Alan is charged with presenting the idea to BSC leadership.

Member comments

Kevin has created a unique tool cabinet from wood reclaimed from a Sea Skiff. He'll send us pictures when it is done. He also has a 1963 Glasspar boat for sale. He'll send info on it to Judy for the website.

Jeff is selling a Sea Lancer and he will also send the info to Judy for the website. Jeff also had a story about a failed attempt to bend wood for a toe rail.

Confirmation of next meeting on July 28, 2021 (Jeff's BD). Discussed whether it will be live or via Zoom. We will try to find a location to meet a little east of where we had been meeting—if we do meet in-person.

Adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Board meeting schedule for 2021

28 July

27 October

8 December—Christmas Party (tentative)

Piglet Gam—April 17, 2021

For those not familiar with the nautical term “gam”, it is a gathering of ships at sea or in port for the purpose of exchanging news. This perfectly fits our meet-up at the Piglet this past month. There was no planned program—just catching up and viewing the progress of the boats at John Justice’s shop in Pittsboro. We felt the need to personally connect after this long stay of social distancing. Most, if not all of those present had been vaccinated and the event was held in the open air.

Members present included our host and Board member John Justice, President Alan Hills, VP Jeff Martinson, Secretary Judy Hills, Board member Bill Conley, Board member Jim Alexander, and members Joe Peacos, Michael Triplett, Jim Hartman, Bill Baker, Jeff Gelm, Dan Bixler, as well as Jim Dean and his wife Alice. Joe and Judy took the pictures that accompany this article.

There were some additional benefits derived from this meeting. Alan transported an outboard engine from New Bern and delivered it to Jim Alexander. New Bern club member Dave Mahoney does repairs on outboard and he had worked on this engine for Jim. Jim Hartman picked up a generator from Jeff Gelm to take back to New Bern for repairs. Members consulted with Michael on his engine. Advice was given to Jeff Gelm regarding replacing the keel of Sweet Pea—his 1955 17’ Chris-Craft Sportsman that was having its bottom replaced at John’s. Jim Hartman is con-

necting John up with an acquaintance at the Clayton, NY Boat Museum for some specs John needs to get parts. And of course there was the usual BS’ing that goes on whenever club members get together.

Jeff Martinson’s hair had gotten very long and he was seen sporting a ponytail. He told us that his pre-teen kids were giving him a mohawk tonight. He planned to stiffen it with gel. We can’t wait to see those pictures!

One additional benefit, we were able to divest the club of most of the cache of paraphernalia with our old logo (jackets, hats, shirts, koozies, etc.) in addition to stuff from boat shows we have held in the past. Former Treasurer and past keeper of the stuff, Bob Banta, will be happy to know that donations for the goods netted \$125 which we will add to our account.

Those who were either present at or read about our last visit to the Piglet may remember the infamous grill fire. Given that Jeff Gelm was cooking again, we kept our eye on the situation. We were a little concerned when John affixed a can that had contained acetone to the grease outlet on the cooker. Several took a sniff of the can to make sure there were no fumes left. So this time there were no surprises. Look at the pictures of the scrumptious sausage that John got from a local butcher shop. They were divine! We thank John, Jeff, and all those who helped make the day very enjoyable. [Click here](#) to view the photo album of the event.



Piglet Gam—April 17, 2021



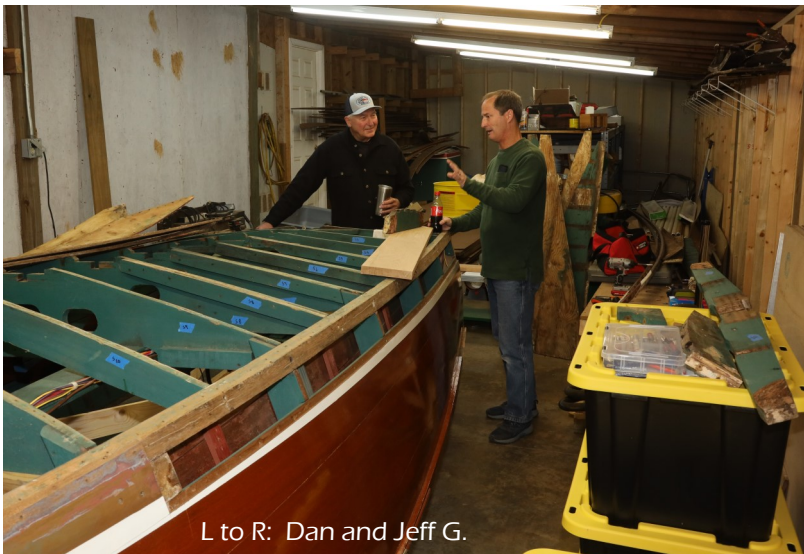
L to R: John, Bill C, Jim A, Dan, Bill B, Jim H, Jeff G, Judy, Alan, Alice, Michael, Jim D and Jeff M. Not shown, photographer Joe.



L to R: John, Alan, Bill C, Jim H.



L to R: Jim A and Jim H.



L to R: Dan and Jeff G.



Piglet Gam—April 17, 2021



L to R: Dan and Jim A.



THE PIGLET AT PITTSBORO



Jeff G.



John

April Workshop at the Piglet



Boatyard Walkabout OR A Tale of Two Classics by Alan Hills

It is a well-known fact to anyone in my family or who knows me well that I can never drive past a boatyard without sticking my nose in there to see what boats are in there and what is being done on them. Mostly I encounter the usual array of fiberglass boats that are either there for routine maintenance such as fresh antifouling paint on the bottom and topside polishing. Occasionally someone has got a bit more of a project going and I find it interesting to see what is being done and what methods/materials are being used.

My friend Skip had his sailboat hauled recently at a yard I usually don't frequent. It is strictly a DIY place that will either let you do your own work or allow you to hire outside contractors if you wish. As a result, one gets to see the full range of projects that are moving along steadily and those that have basically been abandoned. On this day I encountered both ends of that spectrum that involved a couple of what I would call classic wooden boats. Now, understand that a great many yards will no longer haul out a wooden boat for fear their yard will become the vessel's last resting place. Once in a great while I come across something that defies all logic; one of our subject boats will fit this category.

I'll start telling you about "Misty", a 1960 something 37' Egg Harbor flybridge sedan. She has been a fixture around New Bern for as long as I have lived here and I always admired her. As with most boats of this era and price point, this one wasn't built to last much more than 15-20 years. Single plank mahogany over white oak frames make up the hull with a lot of plywood used from the deck up. They also tended to hold rainwater in various nooks and crannies

and you know the result of that. Misty was lucky enough to be kept in a covered slip for many years which kept the rot issues in check somewhat. She was hauled out about 3 years ago to have some underwater leaky areas inspected and repaired. The report was not good....lots of places needed attention and the cost to "do it right" was deemed too high for an owner who did not do his own work. She was soon sold and moved to an outside slip and began to decline rapidly. After about 2 years, the new owner realized that a new person who had the drive and the skill to bring her back was needed.

Luckily a younger man from the west coast became the latest owner and he possessed all the attributes required to get her standing tall again. No task was too big or too expensive or too involved. In eight months, he has her very close to returning to her element as a beautiful and usable classic cruiser.

About two rows over in the same yard lies another project whose owner has taken a different approach. "Tropical Horizons" is an old Chris Craft that appears to be a 35' Constellation. I came upon her in one of my marina walkabouts and quickly noticed a boat that had been highly "customized" and kept afloat by frequent pumping. Viewing her from the bow, you would quickly notice that the foredeck had been modified to allow a kiddie pool to be sunken in there, flanked by two beach chairs, an umbrella, and a potted palm tree. Lots of string lights were festooned about to add to the atmosphere.

(Continued on next page)

Boatyard Walkabout OR A Tale of Two Classics by Alan Hills

Moving aft, the trunk cabin roof had been decked over in a fashion that resembled a plywood dance floor (maybe I'm stretching this a little?) that was "trimmed out" in what we refer to in these parts as Harkers' Island teak, AKA, pressure treated lumber.

Behind that, the bridge had been enclosed, sort of, in a crude combination of wood, plexiglass and canvas, the likes of which I have never before seen. Entry into this space is achieved via a sliding door that was hung using the trendy barn door hardware you see on those home remodeling TV shows. Last but not least came the swim platform. For whatever reason. It could no longer function as a free-standing piece. Not to worry though....a pair of dinghy davits mounted out back there were rigged to support it.

Every time I walked this particular marina, I half expected to see this poor girl on the bottom. This was truly the sorriest looking floating boat I had ever seen. Lo and behold, one day she was gone. There is a local guy who ends up with this sort of boat and salvages all the goody and cuts up the rest. Surely this had to be her fate. But, as Coach Lee Corso usually utters on College Football Game Day: "Not so fast, my friend!" There she lay on the yard with a shiny black hull (the rest of the boat was as I had last seen it). Curiosity having gotten the better of me, I had to check this out up

close. The black paint went from gunwale to gunwale, bow to transom. I'd never seen a boat painted this way before. But then again, I'd never seen a boat quite like this ever, so why should I be surprised? The paint had a different sheen and feel to it. I went back to Skip's boat to ask him what he knew about that and he told me that what I was calling paint was actually Flexseal! The entire hull! Believe me, I couldn't make something like this up.

Now I'm not against trying new materials or techniques, but I have my doubts about this idea. It will be interesting to see what happens when (and if) she get re-launched. Who knows, it might turn up on a future Flexseal TV commercial!



Boatyard Walkabout OR A Tale of Two Classics by Alan Hills



Row, Row, Row Your Boat A Parody

Row, row, row your boat,
Gently down the stream.
Merrily, merrily, merrily,
I can make you scream.



Darkside: a Partnership

Last month we reported that Alan Hills and Kevin Leiner had partnered to buy an Ensign sailboat which is being kept in the water at Blackbeard Sailing Club in New Bern. Kevin and Alan are both members of BSC. Well they finally got the initial work done on Darkside and took her on her maiden voyage (at least under this ownership). They were both pleased with how she handled and were very happy to be gliding on the Neuse River. On the right are pictures of the voyage.

And by the way, Darkside qualifies as a classic and is registered with ACBS. When we think of ACBS, our mind conjures up images of wooden powerboats, we rarely think of sailboats as fitting ACBS classifications.



2021 MEMBER CONTRIBUTION THEME: "TALL TALES"

In December we made this announcement. In case you missed it, here it is again. Well, not exactly a competition, just an opportunity for members to help add content to the newsletter each month. For 2021, you are invited to contribute your best "tall tale" of your adventures in boating. Don't have one, make one up! We just want to be entertained and we don't "fact check" submissions. Parodies and other funny material also come under this heading. The only criteria is that it has to somehow involve a boat. Send in your tall tale before the end of each month to [me](#).



T-Ville Vintage Power Show

We have been invited to display our boats at this show. No registration just show up one or both days. They suggest you bring a tent and chairs. A number of Chapter members are planning to take their boats. We hope you will support this show—if nothing more than to just come see it. Would be a nice day trip. Member Robert Blanchard and his wife Patsy will have their chuckwagons on display and in operation at the show. Wear your chapter name tag, drop by their display and they will treat you to lunch! And who doesn't like FREE FOOD!

FARM COLLECTOR SHOW DIRECTORY

FARM COLLECTOR
SHOW DIRECTORY

[Home](#)[2021 Online Listings](#)[Pre-Order the 2021 Directory](#)

3rd Annual Carolina Christian Academy T-Ville Vintage Power Show

June 11-12

Thomasville, NC

Directions/Event Address

Directions: Carolina Christian Academy, 367 Academy Dr., zip code 27360.

Contact:

Ben Rhoades

336-247-0936

Facebook: T-ville Vintage Power Show





HYCO LAKE GET 'EM WET CLUB EVENT
SATURDAY May 15, 2021 LAUNCH 8 TO 9 AM
 Launch from 205 Kelly Brewer Rd, Leasburg, NC
 Launch fee is \$25 per boat
RIDE THE LAKE 9-12
PICNIC LUNCH 12 PM at shelter #3



EVENT DETAILS

- There is generally heavy boat traffic on the lake on weekends. Strongly suggest you launch as soon after 8 AM as possible.
- Club will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, buns, chips, tableware, utensils, condiments.
- Members to bring: folding chairs, own drinks & ice, salad or side dish (last name A-M), dessert (last name N-Z)
- Kelly Brewer Rd. is off Hwy 57 north of Roxboro and opposite the Marina Country Store & Restaurant.
- If the weather does not cooperate, we'll make the best of it.
- No boat? No problem! We'll hook you up.
- RSVP via email to ahills@suddenlink.net by 5/5/21 please. Tell us how many as well.



**COVID-19 PRECUTIONS
 APPLY. SOCIAL DISTANC-
 ING OR MASKS, PLEASE!**

Lonnie contact info: cell 252 340-3310 Carol's cell 252 333-7042
 email : lonniesieck@gmail.com Street Address 276 Knolls of Hyco, Roxboro, NC 27574

Weekending...Exploring...Angling...Trawling...Gunkholing...

CRUISING THE CHESAPEAKE!

Featuring: Bay boating life with classic-style cabin and express cruisers & sport fishing boats.

00 AM "Six Chesapeake Harbors – Cruising Destinations to Explore, Dock, Dine!"

Special talk by Chris "Seabuddy" Brown

12:00 Noon "Downeast Style Boats: Origins, Development of Predecessors of Picnic Boats"

With John Shannahan, President, Oxford Yacht Agency

1:00 PM "American Design, Asian Craftsmanship – the Story of Grand Banks Trawlers"

Featuring John Shannahan, President, Oxford Yacht Agency

2:00 PM "Timid Tuna? Restoring Rybovich and Florida-made Sport Fishing Boats"

Presentation by Reid Bandy, Bandy Boats, Edgewater, MD

3:00 PM "Sailor's Style: Nautical Fashion and Yacht Club Attire"

Talk by June Berger Beard; Dressed Mannequins by Karen Brenner

Saturday, June 19 Seminars:

11:00 AM "Earliest Fiberglass Cabin Cruisers – Winner & Dyer to Hatteras & Bertam"

Presentation by Jeff Beard, Past President, Chesapeake Bay Chapter ACBS

12:00 Noon "The Transition Years – Stylish Chris Craft Cruisers of the 1950s and 1960s"

With Bill Bowman, Owner, Boathouse Marina, Colonial Beach, VA

1:00 PM "Jersey Boys – Boat Builders CP Leek, Egg Harbor, Pacemaker, Post, Viking..."

Special talk by Captain Ken Kreisler, Yachting Magazine

2:00 PM "Old Bay and Oy Vey...Interesting History of the Region's Favorite Spice"

Presentation by Deborah Weiner, Baltimore-based Author and Historian

3:00 PM "End of an Era of Steamboats on the Bay (Later than You Think!)"

By Chief Curator Pete Leshner, Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum

Seminars are FREE to all Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum Members, Antique Boat Festival Participants, and Visitors Who Have Paid Admission to the Museum Grounds

For more information, contact Classic Boat Festival Co-Chairman Jeff Beard (202) 651-0671

10 0 10 20 **2021 Antique and Classic Boat Festival**
Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum
June 18, 19 & 20, 2021



Featuring dozens of classic Bay cruising boats: Chris-Craft, Owens, Hatteras, Bertram, Rybovich, Egg Harbor, Century/Cruis-Along, Elco, Trumpy, Dyer, Lyman and other great classic marques.

Attend free talks June 18 & 19 from experts about *the Bay's Wonderful Harbors*, History of Downeast-Style Boats, *1950s Origins of Grand Banks Trawlers*, Restoring Rybovich and Florida Sport Fishers, *Nautical Fashion + Yacht Club Attire*, Early Hatteras and Bertam Designs, *Chris-Craft's Stylish 1950s and 1960s Wood and Glass Cruisers*, Jersey Boat Builders Egg Harbor/Pacemaker/Post, Viking, *History of Old Bay Seasoning (some free samples)*, and the End of Steamboats on the Bay (well into the 20th century!) [Click here](#) to view.



Harbor Shuttle: CH71, 410-924-2198, (Call for hours) Water taxi and harbor tours. Berthed at the end of Mulberry St.
Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum: CH16, 410-745-2916, cbmm.org - Mariner level and above members only dockage.
Higgins Yacht Yard: CH16, 410-745-9303, higginsyachtyard.com - Transient slips, marine repair.
Inn at Perry Cabin: CH16, 410-745-2200, perrycabin.com - Dockage for hotel guests only.
St. Michaels Harbour Inn, Marina & Spa: CH16, 410-745-9001, harbourinn.com - Transient slips, pool, rentals, shuttle.
St. Michaels Marina: CH 16, 410-745-2400, stmichaelsmarina.com - Transient slips, fuel, pumpout, pool, Gem car rentals.
 Free public docks: 4-hour maximum. No docking from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m.

For Visitor's Information and Dining, Accommodations and Shopping, visit www.stmichaelsmd.org

**NC Coastal & Piedmont
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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: COVID-19 is still impacting plans. These events are tentative—confirm before traveling.**

5/1	NCMM Beaufort Boat Show CANCELLED
5/14-15	Lake Lure Classic Boat & Auto Show
5/15	Hyco Lake Get "Em Wet Chapter outing
6/11-12	Thomasville, NC Vintage Power Show
6/18-20	St. Michael's MD Boat Show
7/28	Chapter business meeting

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.](#)