



Messing About In Boats

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

May 2023

Greeting Fellow Boating Enthusiasts!

Let the good times roll! The temps are up, the rain has brought the water up and it's boating season. Of course, for some the season never ends. That's certainly the case for those who head south for the unofficial opening act of the Sunnyland show in late March. Because the April edition of the newsletter went to press a little earlier than usual, we missed a report on that event, but all the news (that's fit to print) has been included here. Read on to learn about the "bucket list" cruise that Neal Keeter and John Justice enjoyed and their experiments at Ponce de Leon's Fountain of Youth.

Closer to home, a good sized group got together - despite the main event's cancellation - to "make lemonade". Alan Hills has written up a nice recipe below, complete with pictures of satisfied imbibers. This is definitely something we'll be preparing for as a contingency along with future events

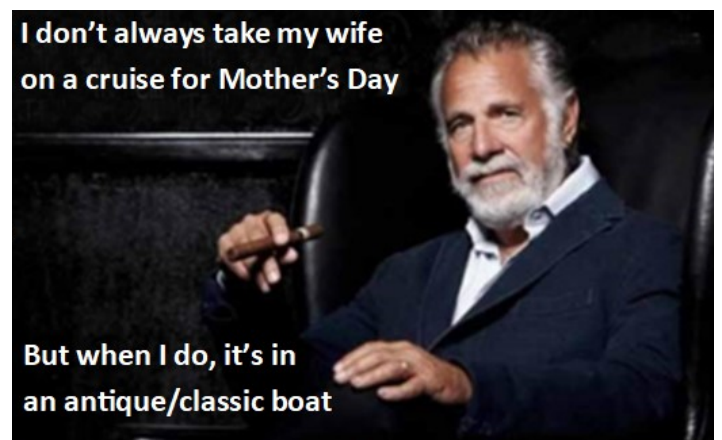
Speaking of future events, a great way to salute the start of boating season locally is with the North Carolina Maritime Museum Annual Wooden Boat Show. On May 6th, Beaufort will take on a festival atmosphere, with boats on display, boat building demonstrations, musical performances, historical presentations and, of course, lots of good food to eat and things to buy. If you show up, be sure to come by the ACBS NC C&P table!

But wait - there's more! Also occurring in May are the rescheduled Trent River Run in New Bern and the Annual Lake Lure Boat & Auto Show, two events sure to be lots of fun. Unfortunately, however, they're both on the same day, so you'll have to take your pick. Regardless of which you choose, be sure to also take your "pics" and send them to Judy Hills so she can include them in the next newsletter.

Finally, however you decide to kick-off the boating season, be sure to do so safely. Don't forget to tell someone your float plan, install your drain plugs (or remove them, whatever the case may be) and take your time getting your sea legs back. And always remember the old sailor adage: More haste, less speed!

Cheers,

Jeff



Minutes of the 26 April 2023 Chapter Board Meeting

The Chapter Board held a business meeting on April 26, 2023. Here are the key points from that meeting. The full set of minutes are available on our website.

- **Thursday May 18th has been set as a make-up date for the Trent River Run and Lunch at the Saltwater Grill.**
- Going forward, we will plan an alternative to scheduled chapter events should the weather not cooperate.
- Dan Bixler has volunteered to help design graphics for a chapter t-shirt and chapter cups & water bottles. He also agreed to design the 2023 Chapter Boat Show poster.
- Our website was down for a few days in late April due to an ACBS server issue.
- One change to the planned chapter events for the balance of the year: We eliminated the July 26th Chapter Board meeting and will hold it in conjunction with our July 11th lake outing.
- We encourage members to attend and support the NCMM Beaufort Boat Show on Saturday May 6th—with or without a boat.
- After hearing about liquor liability from ACBS insurer Doug Adams, we determined that from a risk management standpoint that it was not prudent for us to provide beer and wine at our boat show. We will invite attendees to BYOB.

Boating Safety

Some of our ACBS members have probably been associated at one point or another with the US Power Squadron or the US Coast Guard Auxiliary. Both these organizations are heavily involved in boating safety. Some of you might have noticed the picture on the cover of our Winter 2023 Rudder and gasped. If you did not, we encourage you to study the picture.

What might that captain have done differently and why? If you have not yet taken a boating safety course, we encourage you to do so. Some states are now requiring them. [Click here](#) for information on Boating Safety Courses. [Click here](#) for NC boating checklist from NC Wildlife Resources.

Bridgeton BlueberryFest by Alan Hills

The organizers of the [BlueberryFest](#) of Bridgeton, NC (near New Bern) has reached out to our chapter and asked if we would be able to provide a few boats to display there. The event will be held on June 17th from 9:00 – 4:00 at the site of the old elementary school. I attended their organizational meeting and we feel there will be room for up to 6 boats plus our tent. If any members wish to participate,

please contact me. I'm sure there will be plenty of blueberries there among other things!



Trent River Run Outing Cancelled

We had to cancel the Trent River Run outing at the last minute due to predicted thunder storms. While the actual weather on Saturday April 22nd did not turn out as badly as predicted, what wasn't predicted was the 35,000 acre fire in the Croatan National Forest located between Havelock and New Bern. As of the 22nd, only 10% of it had been contained.



On Friday April 21st Alan and Judy Hills took their Chris Craft Dory for a spin in the New Bern area. Here is a picture of how the smoke made the sky look. It was also raining debris. Here is a picture of the boat cover which is dotted with ash. Air quality was bad, so it is just as well that we cancelled the outing. **(Rescheduled for Thurs. 5/18)**



Web Resource: DIY Wood Boat

In poking around on the Internet recently, I happened upon another web page that has material that may be of interest to our chapter members. DIY Wood Boat is maintained by "...an amateur wooden boat enthusiast simply writing in order to try to help other amateur wooden boat enthusiasts." The site appears to be a mishmash of material: how tos; blog; articles; books; Q&A; pictures; yarns; boat plans; and, well, you name it. Contributors are welcome. The webmaster is a little quirky as you can tell from his self-portrait. This makes it all the more interesting. So next rainy afternoon when you have nothing better to do than to look at boating sites on the Internet, check out [DIY Wood Boat!](#)



Making Lemonade by Alan Hills

Well, today was supposed to be our lunch at the Saltwater Grill and Trent River ride day. That was the lemons. I had chosen to postpone the event due to an unfavorable weather forecast, which turned out to be not so terrible. However, there has been a wildfire raging in the nearby Croatan Forest that has been producing an awful smell, a brown tint to the sky and ashes coming down on New Bern like snow. By Saturday morning, it was reported that fire was 35,000 acres big with 10 percent contained. The ashes were so thick that we had to be careful not to inhale them! Turns out that calling off the run was warranted, but for a different reason. We'll try to get the run in on another day.

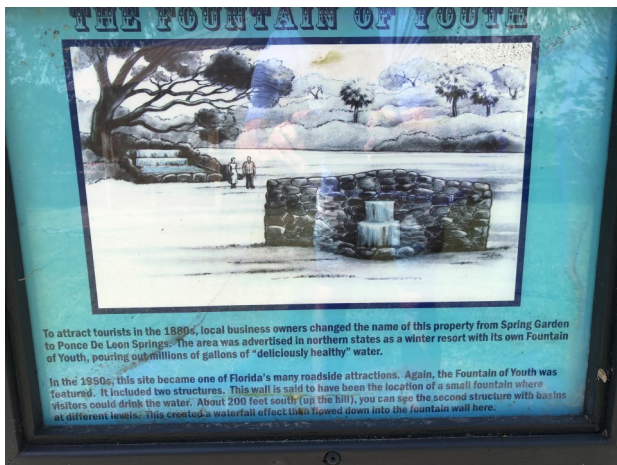
Jim Dean and his Wilmington cohorts, Richard Reed and Stan Thorpe, decided to drive up to New Bern anyway to pay an impromptu visit. They arrived at Leif Eriksson's place and were met by Leif and Austin Lewis. A tour of Leif's 36' Grand Banks "Trilogy" and Austin's Marine Trader "Alana" followed with some story swapping and information sharing. Luckily the wind had shifted slightly and the worst of the smoke and ash went somewhere else.

At about 11:15 Leif thought it was getting close to lunch time so we piled into Jim's van and headed over to Bear City Bistro where we were joined by Jim Hartman. We had a nice lunch there and headed back to Leif's. Now, you didn't think this story would end without somebody acquiring a boat? Jim Dean had been eyeing a dinghy that was leaning up against one of Leif's buildings and finally inquired about it. Leif said it was free for the taking, and well, there you have it. I'd call this outcome lemonade, huh?



Photos from Florida Cruise—Neal Keeter and John Justice

Submitted by Neal Keeter: John and I took part in the Sunnyland Chapter's after-the-boat-festival cruise. We had a great time and perfect weather. Day trips were from Palatka to Astor. We saw lots of small creeks with plenty of birds, turtles and a few alligators. Great lunch and dinner stops with a very friendly and lively group. One rather disappointing thing was that the Fountain of Youth (DeLeon Springs) effects didn't last. If you ever take your boat to the Sunnyland boat festival, we highly recommend you do either the pre- or post-show cruise.



John Justice Debunks Neal's Assertion about Fountain of Youth

You probably just read Neal's article on page five where he claimed that the Fountain of Youth didn't work. John has refuted Neal's claim and has the pictures to prove it. See below before (left) and after (right) pictures.



Cape Fear Community College Boat Show April 1st by John Dougherty

Here are pictures of the Wilmington boat show held on April 1st. In addition to myself, John Tinney and Jim Dean both showed boats. At the risk of tooting my own horn, I received award for "best boat restoration." John Tinney's Elco also won an award.

The USS North Carolina was not officially in the show but it made a good background, and the tour below decks was fascinating.



NCMM Wooden Boat Show—Beaufort

THE 2023 WOODEN BOAT SHOW WILL BE HELD MAY 6, 2023! [REGISTRATION](#) IS NOW OPEN FOR EXHIBITORS.

Whether you're a boating enthusiast or prefer to keep your feet on dry land, the Annual Wooden Boat Show has activities for all ages. This free event, held each year on the first Saturday in May, celebrates the art of North Carolina traditional wooden boatbuilding and the sport of boat racing. The annual Wooden Boat Show has received top honors from the Southeast Tourism Society as a "Top 20 Event for the Southeast" four consecutive years.

Join us for the 47th Annual Wooden Boat Show, the longest running boat show in the southeast! Whether you're a boating enthusiast or prefer to keep your feet on dry land, the Annual Wooden Boat Show has activities for all ages. This free event, held each year on the first Saturday in May, celebrates the art of North Carolina traditional wooden boatbuilding and the sport of boat racing. Dozens of handcrafted wooden boats will be on display, along with nautical demonstrations, and activities for children.

Boat registration is \$30 for the first boat and \$5 for each additional boat. Registration includes an event T-shirt and admission to the opening reception on May 5 and the awards ceremony on May 6. To register one boat, complete the online form. For registration of more than one boat, call 252-504-7758. Online registration closes April 28. After that time, call 252-504-7758 to register.

BOAT SHOW SCHEDULE

8 a.m. – 10 a.m. BOAT CHECK-IN and SETUP

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. EXHIBIT OF WOODEN BOATS Be sure to vote for your favorite boat

BARBOUR BOAT OWNERS ASSOCIATION

1 p.m. – 3 p.m. GO SAILING IN A TRADITIONAL WOODEN BOAT Free, \$5 per person donation

Lake Lure Classic Boat & Auto Show—Blue Ridge ACBS

Lake Lure Spring Classic Boat and Auto Show will be held May 18, 19 and 20th, 2023 [The 1927 Lake Lure Inn and Spa](#) 2771 Memorial Hwy Lake Lure, NC 28746

Journey back in time as we gather for a social at a genuine Revolutionary War Fort. Saturday, May 20th our group will enjoy drinks and dinner on a lakeside peninsula that boasts 300 feet of waterfront and a Fort, built in 1775, that had an active role in our country's Revolutionary War. Please arrive at 6:30pm for a happy hour to kick off the evening. The property has multiple large outdoor decks and boardwalks for our group to enjoy. Parking will be limited so car pooling is imperative. There will also be docking available to a limited number of boats. Please contact James if you would like arrive via boat at brc-acbs@gmail.com. Slips will be given on a first to reserve basis. More Information about this years event – [CLICK HERE](#) Registration Form – [CLICK HERE](#)



Members who joined or renewed recently included:

New: T. Stan Thorne (Wilmington, NC)

Renewed: Bradley Hedrick, Wayne Kish, Alan Hills

Total Membership: 60 NCC&P Primary Chapter: 49 NC C&P Not Primary Chapter: 11

Welcome!

EMBROIDERED 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. The long-sleeved, light-weight fishing shirts to the right (men's and women's) are available at Academy Sports for \$25. Contact [Alan Hills](#) if interested. Get 'em before the boat show season begins!



Chapter Website Down in April



This site can't be reached

Check if there is a typo in www.vintageboat.org.

If spelling is correct, [try running Windows Network Diagnostics](#).

DNS_PROBE_FINISHED_NXDOMAIN

Reload

Always hate it when this message appears—especially for our chapter website! I went back and forth between our website designer and ACBS for a number of days in late April. Seems that ACBS changed some servers and that necessitated us to make some change. Member Bob Banta who was formerly our webmaster helped resolve the situation. As of Wednesday April 26th the site was functional. Thanks for the assist, Bob!

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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 dates, the places, dates and times listed for events may change. Watch your email for updates. We encourage you to support/attend these events! **Newsletter deadline is the 25th of each month.**

5/6 NCMM Boat Show in Beaufort. [Click here](#) to register

5/14 Mother's Day

5/18 Trent River Run & Lunch at Saltwater Grill 10 am [See p. 2 of April Newsletter](#) for details—same plan, different date

5/18-20 Lake Lure Classic Boat & Auto Show—Blue Ridge ACBS [Click here](#) for more information.

6/9-10 Thomasville, NC Vintage Power Show. [Click here.](#)

6/16-18 Chesapeake Bay ACBS Show. [Click here.](#)

6/17 Bridgeton Blueberry Festival. [Click here](#)

6/24 Chapter outing to Wilmington—TBD

7/11 Chapter outing evening picnic & run on Lake Jordan

7/22 Try your hand at sailing at Blackbeard Sailing Club in New Bern

7/26 Chapter business meeting

8/20 International Vintage Boating Day

8/20 Possible Chapter outing—Lake Townsend—Greensboro area

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.](#)