



NC C&P CHAPTER  
Antique and Classic Boat Society, Inc.

# Messing About In Boats

## Monthly newsletter

NC Coastal & Piedmont  
Chapter of ACBS

May 2026



Hello Fellow members,

I hope everyone is doing well. To me, this is one of the best times of the year for doing anything boat-related. First off, the dreaded pollen is about over, and it's starting to get warm but not roasting hot, which makes it nice for either working on your boat or going for a ride. For me, it has been mostly working with a little bit of sailing thrown in. Judy and I have decided to part with Hunky Dory, our 1974 22' Chris Craft dory this year. We no longer use her, so she's going to be the first to go as I thin out our fleet. We've had 10 great years with her but it's time for another steward to take over.

The spring shows are upon us with the NC Maritime Museum show on May 2nd. This will be the 50th year of the show and in honor of that, they have waived the entry fee! Also, Cape Fear Community College is holding their show on May 30th. There is limited space so register soon to assure a spot. By the way, our chapter is involved in the sponsorship of both of these events.

As you may have been following, our chapter has been left a substantial amount of money from the estate of Bill Baker. It was stipulated in his will that the funds are to be spent on education related to our hobby. A committee was formed to identify and communicate with potential organizations. As a result, the following institutions are being



considered for contractual agreements to be recipients of the Bill Baker Memorial Scholarships: Cape Carteret Community College, Beaufort Community College, and the North Carolina Maritime Museum in Beaufort, NC. We will also continue our student scholarship program with Cape Fear Community College. A big thanks to the committee, and especially Jim Alexander and Bill Conley for researching these.

Thanks to those who submitted entries to our monthly fun challenge and please try to involve yourself in some of the chapter's activities this year!

Yours in classic boating,

**Alan Hills, President**



## Abbreviated Minutes of 29 April 2026 Chapter Board Meeting

Welcome & call to order by President Hills.

Established a quorum, approved agenda, approved minutes of 28 January 2026 meeting.

Treasurer John Dougherty reported, \$10,818.30 in bank as of 3/31/26 (1st Qtr). Required IRS form 990 has been filed for 2025. Board approved \$250 scholarship for CFCC Show and \$500 for NCMM Beaufort Show paid.

Membership Chair Jim Alexander reported: 68 members as of end of April (54 primary + 14 secondary).

Scholarships: Board voted to fund \$2,000 each for the Carteret Community College Foundation and Beaufort Community College Foundation to fund new Bill Baker Memorial scholarships at each school as soon as funds become available, as discussed. Each school will establish two scholarships at \$1,000 each. These will be handled the same as they are for the Cape Fear Community College Foundation.

The Board voted to fund one tool at \$1000 for the NC Maritime Museum Boat Shop at Beaufort in honor of Bill Baker using funds from the general treasury (not from Bill's designated scholarship monies).

ACBS Headquarters—Judy reported that she assisted in the development and presentation of an ACBS roundtable on member retention. Several of the slides were examples used by our membership chair, Jim Alexander. It was well received.

Our Board voted via email to sign the ACBS Affiliation Agreement. ACBS never really had a signed agreement with the Chapters and felt the need to take care of this oversight.

John Justice reported that Bill Baker's estate will be finally settled soon. We do not know the exact amount the chapter will get, but John estimates about \$35,000.

The tentative June workshop may be a work party to help either Charlie Mansfield (Lake Gaston area) or Jeff Gelm (Pittsboro) work on their boat bottoms. They have identical boats. Details being worked out.

The Board decided to have the July 22nd Board meeting and picnic at Lake Jordan as we have in the past.

We plan to hold our annual meeting on Saturday November 21st. It will be a lunch meeting at a TBD location.

SAVE THE DATE: Our Christmas party will be at the new waterfront Fairfield Harbour Community Center in New Bern on December 12, 2026. It will be a catered dinner. Judy will make a list of accommodations and area events. Do make a weekend of it!

Do plan to attend the Cape Fear Community College Riverwalk Boat Show in Wilmington on Saturday May 30th. Show off your boat on Saturday June 6th in New Bern. The Great Trent River Raft Race will be held at noon so it will gain us exposure if we had several old boats running around.

Jim Alexander presented material from the Glacier Lakes Chapter's Buddy Program. The board agreed to let Jim take a run at this. Here is how it works: Each new member is assigned a volunteer "Buddy". That Buddy receives the new member's name, phone number, and email address and is encouraged to check in periodically over the next two years. The role is informal and flexible — inviting the new member to meetings, boat shows, swap meets, cruises, social events, answering basic questions about the chapter, and generally helping them feel welcome and connected.

## Peninsula Yacht Club Show by Rob Weller

Peninsula Yacht Club Lake Norman Car & Boat Show was held on April 25, 2026. Beautiful weather and a large crowd made for a nice Saturday Show at the Safe Harbor, Peninsula Yacht Club on Lake Norman. This show has been sponsored by the Yacht Club and a number of Charlotte area merchants for many years. There were lots of spectacular cars in many award classes, including Mustangs, Corvettes, Oldsmobiles, Porsches, (other) German Cars, American Muscle Cars, American Classic Cars, Exotics, and Foreign Cars. The Best in Class and Best in Show Awards went to a beautiful 1967 Jaguar XK-E.

The boat entries doubled this year to six, plus Jim Barrick's beautiful antique outboard motor display. The NCC&P and Blue Ridge Chapters were

represented, with Walter and Jane Hardin bringing both their 1974 Century Resorter with Chrysler 440 cid and 1955 Feathercraft aluminum outboard from South Carolina. Reggie Hart took third place for his 1964 Hydrodyne with OMC sterndrive, I received a second place for my 1938 Chris Craft Utility, and Tom Clarke took first place with his completely restored 1952 Chris Craft Racing Runabout in red & white with 158hp MBL engine. There was plenty of interest in our antique marine displays, and easy to lose track of how many times we heard "we had..., my father had..., or my grandfather had one just like this when I was growing up!"



More photos on next page

## Peninsula Yacht Club Show Photos by Rob Weller



## Sunnyland Boat Festival & Cruise in Tavares, FL March 2026

Normally we are more timely in publishing articles and pictures, but our April edition was already packed by the time we received pictures from our chapter members who attended this show and cruised the St. Johns River. **Jim Hartman and John Dougherty** took Jim's boat *Loon*, and **Jim and Alice Dean** brought their *C-Dory* to the show as well as doing the St. Johns River Cruise. Here are a few pictures from Jim Dean of their adventure.



## Sunnyland Boat Festival & Cruise in Tavares, FL March 2026

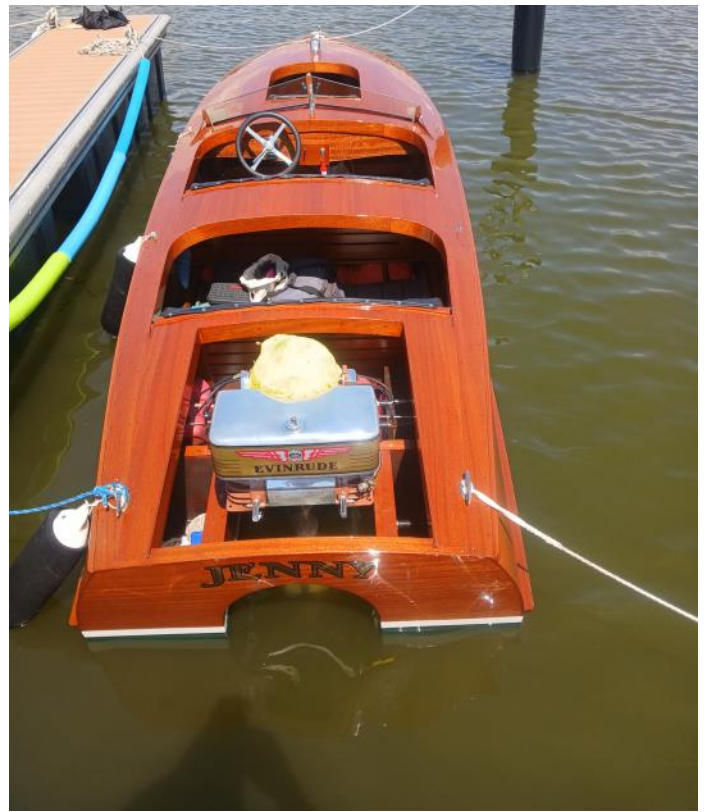
There is one canal off the St. Johns River where people have hung a plethora of birdhouses. Alan Hills built a birdhouse, Jim Hartman painted it, and those that attended the cruise hung it on the canal in honor of Bill Baker. These pictures were taken by John Dougherty.



Above: Bill Baker Bird House; Upper R: Jim Hartman at the helm of Loon; Middle R: Jim Dean at helm of the C Time, John Dougherty, and Jim Hartman. Below: bathing beauties?



## Sunnyland Boat Festival & Cruise pictures by John Dougherty



Pictured on the left is a vendor display of our member, Jim Barrick. His newest hobby is repurposing old boat items into clocks. Jim is also on the ACBS Board of Directors and is the chair of the ACBS Awards committee.

### Scholarship & Bill Baker Estate Update by Jim Alexander

We are still processing the portion of Bill Baker's estate that he left to us. We expect this process to continue for the immediate future before we will be in possession of money Bill directed to us. We will manage Bill's money separately from normal Chapter monies.

In the meantime, the Bill Baker Estate committee has:

- established contracts with two local colleges to establish Bill Baker Memorial Scholarships. Carteret Community College Foundation and Beaufort Community College Foundation have both agreed to establish scholarships which we intend to fund at \$2,000 annually using funds Bill left us.

These contracts specify selecting students enrolled in programs most closely related to the wooden boats we all love. The Board of Directors approved the contract terms prior to final signatures.

We continue to fund a \$2,000 annual scholarship from Chapter funds at the Cape Fear Community College.

- Solicited requests for funding to the NC Maritime Museum in Beaufort to provide funding in support of ongoing public programs. Two suggestions for shop equipment for use in public educational programs have been received and are under consideration.

## CFCC 2026 Riverfront Boat Show Saturday May 30th

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.

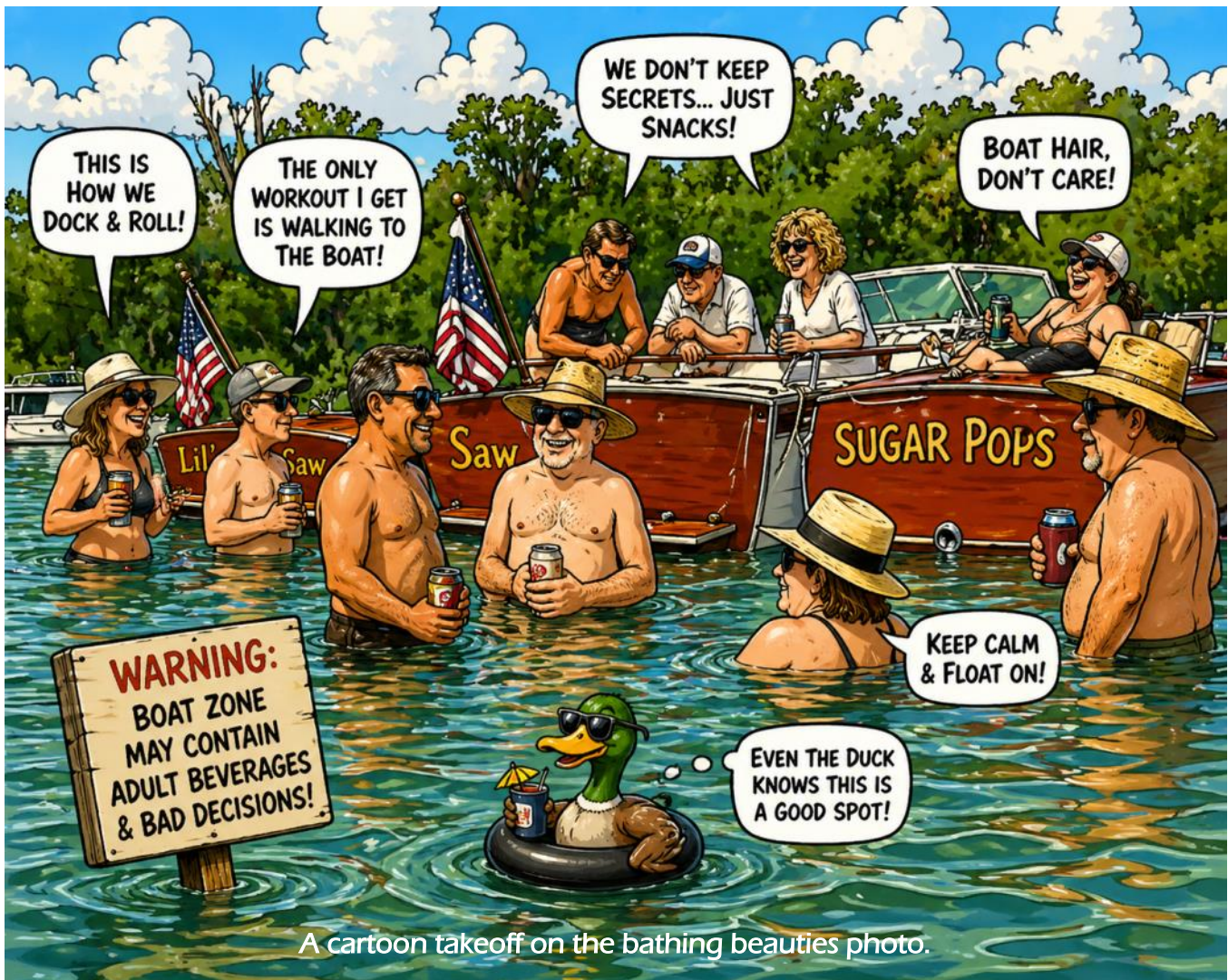
Hours: 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

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.

Our Chapter board voted to be a show sponsor at the \$250 level. We will be featured on the 27th anniversary t-shirt. All sponsorships benefit CFCC boat building student scholarships.

We strongly encourage our members to support this show by signing up to show your boat. [Click here](#) for more information and driving directions.



## Welcome New Member Jeffrey Brown by Jim Alexander

This month we welcome a west coast phenomenon to our chapter. Jeff & Karen Brown live in San Diego but have a second (soon primary) home in Wrightsville Beach area on the ICW.

Jeff spent 22 years as a Naval aviator, learned to love NC while at Cherry Point, raced sailboats all around the world & established one of the top sailing schools in the world in San Diego.

Jeff is in the boat business and owns boat dealerships and boat yards on the West Coast and the Mid Atlantic as well. We are super pleased to welcome Jeff, Karen & his 1968 Super Florida Riva to our chapter.

Below is a picture of a similar Super Florida Riva. Welcome aboard Jeff & Karen! We hope to see you when you get settled in North Carolina!



### CROSSING THE BAR

It is with a heavy heart that we share the passing of **T. Stan Thorne**. Stan was active in our chapter in the Wilmington area and was confined to a nursing facility the last months of his life. His obituary (do read it) reflects his love of boating and his legacy of that love through his children and grandchildren.

“So, in honor of Thomas Stanley Thorne, get out on the water in any boat that will float, take a ‘Side Trip’ drive with the windows down on a winding country road, regale a loved one with a long (long!) story, or sing a Gospel tune at the top of your lungs to cherish the memory of our Wikipedia-GranStan-Bob! ‘May the circle be unbroken; by and by Lord, by and by.’”

“Memorial gifts may be made for Fishing Projects (please designate Project # 013755) to Samaritan’s Purse at P.O. Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607, or to another charity of your choice.”

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/clayton-nc/thomas-thorne-12832717>

## April Contest Entries



Submitted by Jennifer Bower, courtesy of AI



### GPS leads member Jim Dean astray

Now at one time or another, each of us has probably been taken to the wrong place by our GPS unit. This **true tale** is a slight twist on that misadventure. As told by Jim, he was taking his GPS unit off his

boat when it fell into the water during the St. Johns River Cruise. There was a strong current that bounced it along eluding Jim's attempts to snag it. In desperation, Jim stripped down to his skivvies, dove in, and swam after it, finally grabbing it. Jim tried unsuccessfully to swim against the current to return to his boat, but was making no headway. Another ACBS cruiser, Dave Bernard (Mid-Atlantic Chapter), took pity on him, threw him a line, and drug him back to his boat. And we have this photo to prove it.

So there we have it. The story of a man (Jim), a tool (GPS), and an antique boat.

## April Contest Entries



Back in 2011 Phil Jones, ACBS member from the Smith Mountain Lake Chapter, provided an unplanned demonstration in emergency seamanship while visiting the Lake Hartwell boat show.

While enjoying the event in his classic Shepherd Boat, Phil discovered his boat was taking on water at a rather alarming rate. Fortunately, the local hardware store had generously included five gallon buckets in the captain's goodie bags, a giveaway that suddenly became far more valuable than anyone anticipated.

As Phil's boat headed for shore under tow,

he went to work bailing like a man possessed. Witnesses report his bucket technique was nothing short of remarkable. In fact, it may have set a new standard for manual bilge pumping. It turns out there's no bilge pump on earth faster than a terrified boater with a five gallon bucket and a strong desire to keep his boat above water.

Thanks to quick thinking, strong arms, and one very useful free bucket, Phil and his boat lived to cruise another day.

The Blue Ridge Chapter recently (April 2026) gave the new owner of Phil's boat these framed pictures as a keepsake to the boat's past.

Submitted by John Coffman (Chapter member) Smith Mountain Lake Virginia

## April Contest Entries



It won't take long at all to scrape this whole boat.  
Submitted by Aan Hills

## ACBS REMINDERS

ACBS needs your input! Please complete the Judging Survey developed by the ACBS Judging Committee. The information and link were posted in the WWW on 3/21/26. [ACBS Judging Survey](#)

Details & pictures are needed for your online profile of your boats & motors.

This information can come in handy should a co-member need to sell because the member is unable to do so. It is also useful to other members seeking assistance with their project boats as well as to its next owner. CHECK YOUR LISTING NOW and add the missing photos and information. And remember to update as the information or ownership changes.

## Chapter Burgees

We have three chapter burgees available for sale at \$35 each (\$40 if mailed).

They are 12x18, laser etched, double sided (logo correct on both sides) and made of a durable material. See photo at right for style and colors. If we sell out the first order, we'll place a second order so that we have some on-hand.

[Contact](#) Alan Hills to buy a burgee.



## EMBROIDERED CHAPTER LOGO 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. You pick the shirt or other item. [Contact](#) Alan Hills if interested.



## Name Tags—Don't have one? The First One is Free!

Please remember to wear your name tags at chapter events so we can get to know you. If you have never received a name tag—the first one is free to those who hold primary membership in our chapter. The chapter pays and will have it shipped directly to you—you just need to ask for it. You may request additional name tags or a name tag for a co-member. [Click here](#) to read information on how to order. **We also have chapter logo ball caps for \$30.** [Email Alan Hills](#) if you want one.

Members who joined or renewed this past month include:

New: Jeffrey Brown (San Diego, CA—Primary chapter is So Cal)

Renewed: Wayne Kish (Manakin Sabot, VA), Dick Kish (West Chesterfield, VA), Bradley Hedrick (Beaufort, NC), Charles Mansfield (Littleton, NC)

*Welcome!*

Total Membership: 68

NCC&P Primary Chapter: 54

Not Primary Chapter: 14

NC Coastal & Piedmont  
Chapter of the ACBS  
<https://www.vintageboat.org/>

**President:**  
**Alan Hills** (term ends 2027)  
252-514-8525  
[President@vintageboat.org](mailto:President@vintageboat.org)

**Vice-President:**  
**Jeff Martinson** (term ends 2026)  
919-760-2349  
[Vice-President@vintageboat.org](mailto:Vice-President@vintageboat.org)

**Secretary:**  
**Judy Hills** (term ends 2027)  
252-670-1913  
[Secretary@vintageboat.org](mailto:Secretary@vintageboat.org)

**Treasurer:**  
**John Dougherty** (Term ends 2026)  
321-662-6838  
[Treasurer@vintageboat.org](mailto:Treasurer@vintageboat.org)

**2025 Directors:**  
[Jim Alexander](#) (2027)  
[Bill Conley](#) (2027)  
[Jim Hartman](#) (2026)  
[John Justice](#) (2027)  
Kevin Leiner (2026)  
Jim Dean (2026)  
Rob Weller (2027)

**Membership Chair:**  
Jim Alexander  
919-960-0838  
[DirectorJim@vintageboat.org](mailto:DirectorJim@vintageboat.org)

**Scholarship Chair:**  
Jim Alexander  
[DirectorJim@vintageboat.org](mailto:DirectorJim@vintageboat.org)

**Web Master:**  
Judy Hills  
252-670-1913  
[Webmaster@vintageboat.org](mailto:Webmaster@vintageboat.org)

**Newsletter Editor:**  
Judy Hills  
252-670-1913  
[Editor@vintageboat.org](mailto:Editor@vintageboat.org)



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. On August 24, 2022, our Chapter was incorporated as a nonprofit in the State of NC. On May 23, 2025, the IRS designated our chapter a 501c3 nonprofit .

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.

**Please** note that dates, the places, and times listed for events may change. Watch your email for updates or check the **home page** of our website. **Newsletter deadline is the 25th of each month.** Please mark these dates on your calendar:

### May

- 1 to 3 Atlanta Motoring Festival Concours d'Elegance. Lake Lanier Islands [click here](#)
- 2 NC Maritime Museum Boat Show 50th annual! [Click here](#)
- 9 [Lake Rabun Wooden Boat Show](#)
- 16 National River Cleanup Day
- 30 Cape Fear Comm College Boat Show [click here](#)

### June

- 6 Chapter Workshop (TBD)
- 19-21 [Chesapeake Bay ACBS Show](#) at St. Michaels, MD

### July

- 22 Picnic, run on the lake
- 22 Chapter Board Meeting

### August

- 15 International Vintage Boating Day—get out there on the water!

### September

- 13-20 ACBS Vintage Boat Week in Port Huron, MI

#### What are the ACBS Definitions of Antique or Classic Boat?

**Historic:** Any boat built up to and including 1918

**Antique:** Any boat built between 1919 and 1942

**Classic:** Any boat built between 1943 and 1975

**Late Classic:** Any 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, Restored or Resto-Mod

**Resto-Mod:** Any historic, antique, classic or late classic boat that has been restored and modified with non-original parts and technology.

For more information [click here](#).