

**NC Coastal & Piedmont Chapter of the ACBS
Minutes November 15, 2025 Annual Meeting
The Bistro at Duplin Winery in Rose Hill, NC**

Board present:

Alan Hills, President

Judy Hills, Secretary

John Dougherty, Treasurer

Jim Hartman, Director

Jim Alexander, Director

Bill Conley, Director

Members present:

Sharon Conley, Jim & Alice Dean, Ann Marie Hartman, Rob Weller, Doug & Nancy Jewell

Board members absent:

VP Jeff Martinson, Director John Justice and Director Kevin Leiner

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1. Welcome by President Alan Hills
 2. Call to Order
 3. We have a quorum (6 Board members).
 4. I'd like to make it clear that per our bylaws, any co-members who are attending have a vote on any motions before the Board today.
 5. Approval of Agenda. Motion to approve as presented by John Dougherty, seconded by Jim Hartman. Motion carried.
 6. Approval of minutes of the last meeting 23 July, 2025.
 7. Reports:
 - a. 3rd Quarter 2025 Financial report and bank statements submitted by Treasurer John Dougherty—These were sent via email.
 - b. Membership—Jim Alexander. Alan reported that our chapter had a membership count of 76 in October—the highest we've had. Jim reported that he continues to welcome new members and contact those whose memberships have lapsed.
 - c. Scholarship—Jim Alexander. Jim had some exciting news. A \$1,000 scholarship was awarded this month to CFCC student Daniel Benson. Daniel is in the Boat Manufacturing program. Jim advised us that this is the end of the funding we had allocated for scholarships and requested an additional \$2,000 be sent to the CFCC Foundation for new scholarships. The Foundation holds the funds until it finds students who meet our criteria. **Motion made by Jim Hartman to provide \$2,000 in funding to the Cape Fear Community College Foundation in 2026 for future scholarships. Seconded by Rob. Motion carried unanimously.**

d. ACBS Headquarters—Judy

- i. We nominated our chapter for the 2025 Broken Gunwale Award for the misadventures at the Poker Run. ACBS conferred this on our chapter at the Clayton, NY 50th Anniversary event.
- ii. Our Chapter's Boat Show was featured in the WWW on October 25th.
- iii. We had our first Port Captain visit from Bob and Cristina Hamilton of Gaithersburg, MD. The Letticks hosted them in Washington on 10/24 and Jim Hartman hosted them in New Bern on 10/25. Alan and Judy Hills also met them for lunch on 10/25.
- iv. On 10/30 we submitted the Port Captain visit article and photos to the WWW. It is scheduled to appear on 11/20/25.
- v. The ACBS Chapter Development Committee publishes a monthly Leadership Update. The new editor is one of our members, John Coffman. In his first edition this month, he featured two ACBS Chapter Presidents. One was our President Alan Hills and the other was Steve Dewire of the Blue Ridge Chapter.

8. Old Business

- a. Bill Baker's Estate update—John Justice and Neal Keeter are still working on selling the contents of Bill's workshop. A professional auction is being planned. No date has been set yet. John is having some health challenges and could not be with us today. For those who may not know, Bill Baker willed the contents of his shop to John. John took what he wanted and is generously allowing our chapter to have the proceeds of the sale of the remainder. We will be forming a committee to consider how best to use this money, given that Bill Baker wanted the funds to be used to create the next generation of craftsmen to work on antique and classic boats.
- b. Events
 - i. Working with member Mike Loch, we had the 2nd annual International Vintage Boating Week and Marina Day at the Wilmington Marina on Saturday August 16th. We had 15 members attend.
 - ii. Also on August 16th, member Rob Weller organized an outing at Lake Norman for the local Sea Scout Ship. He was assisted by Chapter member Randy Vogel, Ken Flemming, Jeremy Marlowe.
 - iii. Chapter Boat Show September 27th —Was held at Cypress Landing Yacht Club in Chocowinity. Larry and Eileen Lettick took the lead on this event. Youth Judging was coordinated by member John Olsen (he has judged shows) with the Royal Rangers participating (a Christian based boy scout-type unit). Even with the threatening

weather, the show went well, and we estimate an attendance of about 100.

- iv. We had 19 Chapter members attend the ACBS 50th Anniversary Celebration and International Show in Clayton, NY. It was an outstanding event.
- v. Rob Weller reported that he hosted a regional meeting of ACBS members and potential members living in the Lake Norman area on November 8th. They went for a ride on the lake and then had lunch at Rob's home. There were four members of our chapter that attended: Rob, Jeff Martinson, Jim Alexander, and Jim Barrick. Ten attended. We appreciate Rob stepping up.

c. 2025 Event Calendar—Judy

- i. December 13th Christmas party at Leiners in Wake Forest. It will be at 2 PM. This is a change from the 6 PM time previously reported I have reached out to Jen and provided her with information from the 2024 party to help her plan and offered to assist. Sharon has also volunteered to help. We will send out the flyer and the FAQ as soon as it is finalized.

9. New Business:

- i. We have a proposed Bylaw change regarding the number of Directors
 1. Current: "There shall be five (5) at-large Directors."
 2. Proposed: "There may be up to seven (7) Directors."
 3. Rational: We want to retain directors with the historical knowledge of our chapter while providing the opportunity to groom newer members for leadership positions.
- ii. If the above amendment passes, this would also mean a technical adjustment of Article VII. Terms & Limit on Number of Terms in Office
 1. Current: **Directors:** Directors shall be elected to a term of two years, with **two directors** being elected one year and **three directors** being elected in the subsequent year (staggered terms).
 2. Changed to: **Directors:** Directors shall be elected to a term of two years, with **three directors** being elected one year and **four directors** being elected in the subsequent year (staggered terms).
- iii. Motion made by Jim Alexander and seconded by Jim Hartman to make the two bylaw changes as reported above. Motion carried

unanimously.

b. 2026 Elections—the following positions are ending terms Dec 2025:

i. Current:

1. President Alan Hills (2-year term, 3 consecutive terms. Alan became President January 2024—under the new bylaws, he is eligible for two more, two-year terms as President)
2. Secretary Judy Hills (2-year term, unlimited number of terms)
3. Directors: Jim Alexander, Bill Conley, John Justice (2-year terms, unlimited number of terms)

ii. Slate presented by VP Jeff Martinson, Chair of the Nominating Committee. All have agreed to serve if elected.

1. President: Alan Hills (new term would expire 12/31/27)
2. Secretary: Judy Hills (new term would expire 12/31/27)
3. Directors for re-election (new terms would expire 12/31/27):
 - a. Jim Alexander,
 - b. Bill Conley,
 - c. John Justice
4. Per our new bylaws, we propose new two new directors for election:
 - a. Jim Dean (term expires 12/31/26)
 - b. Rob Weller (term expires 12/31/27)
5. Given that these candidates are unopposed, I'd like a motion to elect these candidates for the Board by acclamation. Motion to elect named candidates to the Board by acclamation by Jim Hartman with a second by Alice Dean. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Anyone have any additional comments/concerns/opportunities?

Please attend the Christmas Party on December 13th.

We need your input for events for the 2026 Chapter calendar. What should be added or deleted? Send your thoughts to Judy ASAP. We had varying opinions on having a boat show in 2026 primarily due to the lack of venues. Adjourn