



Messing About In Boats

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

October 2020

Ahoy Mates,

September has been a pretty slow month for our chapter. We did have a fun run on Lake Gaston planned for the 26th but the threat of bad weather led us to postpone until October. We are leaving it up to you, the members, to choose whether we have it on the 10th or the 17th...whichever dates gets the most votes wins. So, this means you have to get back to me with your choice. BTW, the foliage should be in all its glory on either day so come on out and enjoy the views! If you have been trying to access our website the last week or so, we have been in ACBS server limbo....there are 6 chapters in the same boat as us (pun intended) and Dan at HQ is aware and the tech team is

working on it. Hopefully it will be resolved very soon. You will notice that this issue of the newsletter isn't quite as full as the previous ones and we had to add some filler penned by me. I sure would like to see a few of you send in something; I know there are stories out there waiting to be told. Feel like you're not that great a writer, don't worry. Send it in and we'll clean it up! Please help us out here!

I'd like to try something new as far as helping old boats find new homes. I will dedicate a space in the newsletter where there will be links for boats for sale, free or whatever. The link will take you to the trading dock on our website where you can view the details and photos. Hopefully this will be a

benefit to you no matter which side of the equation you are on.

The chapter continues to maintain a healthy membership status and I thank you for sticking with us. My hope is that this COVID-19 business will be past us in time to get back to more normal club activities. In the meantime, continue to exercise safe practices and go boat riding.

Best regards,

Alan

MEMBER TRADING DOCK

Items currently on this page include: FREE Barbour Boat & Trailer as well as a 1967 Pearson Commander Sail Boat—for sale. [Click here](#) to view.

FALL FOLIAGE FUN RUN AT LAKE GASTON



Due to iffy weather we cancelled the September 26th fun run on Lake Gaston. There are two potential reschedule dates and we'll select the one that the majority can attend. Options: Saturday October 10th or Saturday October 17th . According to the Farmers' Almanac, peak foliage dates for the coastal area are October 19th to November 4th. This event is being organized by Jim Alexander who has property on the lake. We know you'll be ready by then to escape from the barrage of political ads!

10:00 AM Splash in at the Morningstar Marina, Eaton Ferry,

Littleton, NC. Review the Lake Gaston map, identify obstacles, points of interest & landmarks Exchange phone numbers Note: \$5 fee for using the ramp. Pay in office trailer on the parking lot level. (ethanol free gas available here)

10:35 Depart

Heading West North West toward I-85 head to mile marker buoy 14, turn to starboard to Poplar Creek, & proceed up the creek to the Shady Shack Grill for lunch. (ethanol free gas available here)

11:30 +/- Lunch until about 1:00 Business meeting, chaired by Alan

1:00 Begin return to Morningstar between mile marker buoy 8 & 9 & pull the boats.

2:00/3:00 "Tall Tails" gathering at the Point Restaurant before departing.

RSVP your preferred date to President Alan Hills
ahills@suddenlink.net by October 3rd
with your name and number attending (for the restaurant).
If you need to hitch a ride, let him know that as well.

Just for Fun in 2020: Hunky Dory by Alan Hills

My love affair with boats started very early in my life. Our home in Centerport, NY was within walking distance to the harbor and I spent a lot of time there. I got to see many different types of boats and there were a few that really stuck in my mind as what I called “pretty boats”. I always had a favorite and in 1964 it was my buddy Nicky’s 22’ Chris Craft dory, a wooden lapstrake open boat that is believed to be the first mass produced center console inboard. The 283 would push her along smartly and she handled the Long Island Sound waters like a champ. I swore that one day I would have one of those!

Well, seven kids and life in general sort of got in the way of that plan. By the time I was ready to find one, there were few to be had. From 1964 through 1966 only 130 were made (and not that well I might add) so all I could find were a couple of really nice restored ones for more than I wanted to spend, or a worn out one that I could put lots of time and money into. In the 70s, the center console models took off in popularity; Mako, Aquasport and just about everyone else started cranking them out like crazy. Chris Craft, not being a company to miss out on a market segment, jumped in with the Tournament Fisherman for 1974, a fiberglass version of the wooden dory. They actually used an old wooden hull as a plug for the mold. The interior was reconfigured to conform with the style of the day. 377 hulls were built up til 1976. These models are commonly referred the dory. As these looked just as good to me and were more plentiful, I zeroed in on this model and in 2016 found hull number 34, a 1974 dory, in Yorktown, VA. We were pleased that she



falls into the ACBS “classic” designation and is eligible to be shown if we so wish.

After more work than I ever expected the boat to need (I may write about that another time) we finally had our dory in the condition we wanted her in. Naming the boat was rather anticlimactic. She had existed in my mind as “Hunky Dory” for many, many, years and so she finally came to be.

Burgeses, Ensigns, Flags and Pennants

This article was previously run on the ACBS website. Author: Judy Hills

Have you ever given thought to the burgeses, ensigns, flags and pennants that we fly on our boats? Did you consciously select yours or did you just copy what you saw someone else doing? What do you know about nautical flag etiquette and usage? This article addresses this topic.

Burgee—a burgee, according to Wikipedia, is “a distinguishing flag, regardless of its shape, of a recreational boating organization. In most cases, they have the shape of a long, tapering, usually triangular flag.” On another page, Wikipedia goes on to say, “Members belonging to a yacht club or sailing organization may fly their club’s burgee both while underway and at anchor (however, not while racing). Sailing vessels may fly the burgee from the main masthead or from a lanyard under the starboard spreader on the mast. Power boats fly the burgee off a short staff on the bow.” Here are some burgee examples:

Example of a club burgee:



Example of a manufacturer’s burgee (swallow tail design):



Example of an organization’s burgee (swallow tail design):



Ensign—an ensign, according to Wikipedia, is “the national flag flown on a vessel to indicate nationality. The ensign is the largest flag, generally flown at the stern of the ship.” According to the US Power Squadron, the national ensign should represent the registry of the vessel, not the nationality of the owner or operator. When in harbor the ensign should be hoisted at 0800 (called “making the colors”) and lowered at sunset (called “striking the colors”), weather permitting. The ensign is the first flag hoisted or placed and the last flag lowered or secured.

While one generally thinks of the flag of the United States as the ensign being discussed here, in practice, the ensign widely flown by most U.S. pleasure boats is the red and white stripes of our national flag, but with a fouled anchor in a circle of thirteen stars as the canton (box in upper left corner). There was a time in our history when the US Yacht Ensign was only flown by registered yachts over a certain tonnage, but that law was repealed in 1980.

According to the US Power Squadron, “Flags are often too small...The national ensign flown at a flag staff on the stern of your boat should be one inch on the fly (long end) for each foot of overall length.”

United States Ensign:



Burges, Ensigns, Flags and Pennants (continued)

United States Yacht Ensign:



US flag flown on a classic boat:



Flag—One class of flags is called the “international maritime signal flags.” According to Wikipedia, there is a signal flag “for each letter of the alphabet, and pennant for numerals. Each flag (except the R flag) has an additional meaning when flown individual, and they take on other meanings in certain combinations.” For more information on the meanings of international maritime signal flags [click here](#). It is more common to see the international maritime signal flags displayed on sailboats than pleasure power boats.

There are any number of other types of flags (generally rectangular) that might be flown on a boat and we have seen them flown in a number of different places (other than the stern). They could be a personal flag that represents the boat owner. Flags representing

the make of the boat or port-of-call might be flown. One very popular example is the jolly roger flag:



Here is a flag representing New Bern, NC:



Pennant—a pennant is used on ships for signaling or identification. They can be triangular shaped or have a swallow tail. Many fun pennants can be seen on ves-



Burgeses, Ensigns, Flags and Pennants (continued)

Did you know?

- The word for the scientific study of the history, symbolism and usage of flags is vexillology.
- The position of honor on a ship is the quarterdeck at the stern of a ship, and thus ensigns are traditionally flown either from the ensign staff at the ship's stern, or from a gaff rigged over the stern.
- The general rule that no flag is flown higher than the national flag does not apply onboard a ship. A flag flown at the stern is always in a superior position to a flag flown elsewhere on the ship, even if the latter is higher up. (Wikipedia—maritime flag).
- If you take your boat to international or foreign waters, the traditional United States ensign should be flown.
- You should avoid flying more than one ensign from a single halyard or antenna.
- Massachusetts and Maine are the only two states with their own maritime flags (special versions of the state flags for use afloat).
- There is an international burgee registry. [Click here](#) to see.
- To learn more about maritime flag etiquette [click here](#).
- If you are into vexillology and want to see some really weird flag designs, [click here](#) or [click here](#) to see vexillology Youtube videos. [Click here](#) to check out the National Maritime Museum's historical collection of flags.



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 "Sweet Pea"

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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.

10/10 or 10/17—Fall Foilage Fun Run on Lake Gaston (**rescheduled from 9/26**)

10/17 NCMM Wooden Boat Show in Beaufort, NC at Gallants Channel location **Cancelled**

10/17-18 Georgetown SC Wooden Boat Show—**Cancelled**

10/28 NC C&P Chapter meeting via Zoom at 6:00 PM

10/31 Roanoke Island, Manteo, NC Wooden Boat Show—**Cancelled**

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.

Boats classified as Historic up through Late Classic will be judged separately as Preserved or Restored boats. For more information [click here.](#)