



Messing About In Boats

Monthly newsletter

NC Coastal & Piedmont
Chapter of ACBS

October 2025



Hello Fellow members,

I hope y'all are doing well and getting ready to enjoy the cooler weather we typically see this time of year. September has been a busy month for Judy and I personally and for the chapter as well.

We paid a couple of visits to Bill Baker's shop to clean it up and catalogue the contents. We will be having a "friends and family sale" in the near future and invite you and anyone you know to attend and get some really good deals on tools, machines, storage cabinets, benches and supplies. I will be sending out a list of most of the items there as well as some photos later this week. Keep in mind that all proceeds from this sale benefit the chapter!

Judy and I had the pleasure of attending the ACBS Vintage Boating Week International Show and 50th anniversary celebration in Clayton, NY. Kudos to all involved in putting on a fantastic event that featured well over 100 boats, lots of cruises, lots of food and drink, lots of fellowship and a solid week of great weather. Our chapter was well represented with 14 primary members and 4 secondary members in attendance. Our chapter also won the coveted "Broken Gunwale" award for our poker run debacle. **Robert Blanchard** won a silver award from the judges for "Li'l Rascal", his 18' Chris Craft Sea Skiff. Member **David Printy** also won a silver award

for this boat "Reflections" in the antique restoration runabout class. **John Coffman** won a gold award for his boat "Made in the Shade." As the old saying goes, a good time was had by all!

Last but not least, we had our own chapter show on the 27th at the Cypress Landing Yacht Club in Chocowinity, NC. The show was largely the work of Eileen and Larry Lettick, and they did a fantastic job of bringing it all together. The plan was to have the local car club to display as well. All week long leading up to the show, we kept a sharp weather eye out. There was one active tropical system and a possible second brewing that were presenting all kinds of possibilities, none of them good. As the week progressed, it started to look like we could expect to get wet for a while but not totally washed out. Using the logic that boats are meant to get wet, the decision was made to damn the torpedoes and full speed ahead! We did have a little sprinkle in the first hour, it remained dry for the rest of the show. We ended up with a dozen boats shown on land, a couple of antique outboards, some wooden boat models and toy outboard motors. The only car that spent any time there was a miniature wooden bodied model A Ford that the owner/builder drove around in. Thanks to all of you who braved the weather forecast and made this event a success.

Yours in classic boating,
Alan Hills, President

50th Anniversary of ACBS Celebration and International Show

WOW! That about sums it up for the whole week of events including the spectacular fall weather that we had. It could not have been more perfect.

There were eight of us that rented a house on the St. Lawrence River: **Jim & Anne Marie Hartman, Alan & Judy Hills, Jim & Alice Dean, Jim Alexander, and John Dougherty.** It was a lot of fun to attend events with our chapter friends.

Others from our chapter attending included **Tammy and John Tinney, Robert & Patsy Blanchard, David Printy, Rob Weller, Alan & Jean Frederick and John & Beth Coffman.** That was quite a showing for our small chapter!

We went by the ACBS office to see our chapter's burgee hanging with those from other chapters and to say hi to Executive Director Lora Hansen.

The first event was the shakedown river cruise on Monday afternoon (9/15). We attended a traditional 1000 islands shore dinner later that afternoon. Never had a fried fatback sandwich (piece of fried fat with mayo, onion, lettuce, and tomato on a folded piece of white bread) before. They also had fried cod, and the fixings. Desert was interesting: French toast drowned in real NY maple syrup and Jack Daniels. It was quite tasty!

Tuesday was the up river cruise then lunch on the lawn of the Antique Boat Museum (ABM). Incoming ACBS President Ed Andrews invited our group to his BBQ party at the ACBS office. We reconnected with our ACBS friends.

Wednesday was the downriver cruise and visit to Boldt Castle and the Boathouse. Some of us went by land and took a ferry from the Boathouse to Boldt Castle. It was so nice because there were none of the summer and weekend crowds.

Wednesday evening was the welcome reception in a tent on the lawn of the 1000 Islands Harbor Hotel. They gave out the chapter awards.

Our chapter had applied for three awards and we got the Broken Gunwale award for our Poke Run misadventures.

Thursday Judy represented our chapter at the Roundtable and ACBS Board meeting. They opened the time capsule which was mostly old paper items.. We basically just hung out all day and enjoyed the water and the weather.

Friday we checked out the boats at the show and the ABM exhibits including the boats and motors at their storage facility. Friday night was the main event—dinner, more awards, live auction, silent auction, and fireworks on the river. Judy was acknowledge as giving the idea of making a quilt from chapter boat show t-shirts. They had received enough to make two quilts which brought \$3,600 each at the live auction. All auction funds go to the education fund.

Saturday was the main boat show day with show awards being presented after lunch. Our chapter had three boats at Clayton. **Jim Hartman's** boat Loon was at the show, but he elected not to have it judged. **David Printy and Robert Blanchard** entered the show and were judged. Both received silver level awards for their classifications. **John Coffman's** boat "Made in the Shade" got a gold award.

Saturday evening we decompressed and then hit the road on Sunday to return home.

Other related news: We spied Jim Hartman's picture on the front page of the Watertown Daily Times. [Click here](#) and [here](#) to read. Jim Hartman's boat Loon

Continued on the next page

50th Anniversary Photos

made the header on Woody Boater during the show week. ACBS editor Amy Scanlin used a number of pictures taken by Judy Hills in both the WWW and the ACBS website. She also published an article written by Judy on story of

the Poker Run debacle—the reason our chapter received the Broken Gunwale award. [Click here](#) to read.

We had a marvelous time with all our ACBS family of friends!



50th Anniversary Photos



Chapter President Alan Hills With Broken Gunwale Award



Photo by Jim Alexander

[Click here](#) to read why we received the award

50th Anniversary Photos



Chapter Boat Show — Chocowinity, NC September 27, 2025

The weather forecast leading up to the chapter's show scheduled for Chocowinity, NC on Saturday September 27th was ugly. Participants were calling asking if we were going to call the show off. We made the decision to proceed—after all, boats are made to get wet.

The forecast did not change much on the day of the show. Those scheduled to show in the water had to launch 10 minutes away from the show venue, the Cypress Landing Yacht Club, so it was decided that they should show on land. All boats were left attached to the vehicles in case a quick exit was needed.

We had four exhibitors: Dave Mahoney showed the miniature engines and model boats that he builds. He also showed antique engines that he restores. The HOA had a display. The Royal Rangers Outpost 91, an adventure-based, merit-driven, faith-based program for boys, had a recruitment booth for their program. Cape Fear Community College's Boat Building program also had a tent.

The community car club was to have had a display, but only four vehicles showed up due to the weather and some only stayed for a few minutes. We did get to see one car made out of cherry wood. If it were amphibious it would have qualified as a boat—resto-mod perhaps.

We had the Jasmine Thai Food Truck which served delicious food with hot, hearty portions.

We had 14 boats entered but only 11 ended up displaying. Member **Richard Morlock** and his wife Gloria brought their boat *Glorious*, a 1985 Chris Craft Scorpion, all the way from Scotch Plains, New Jersey (510 miles) to be in the show. They received a plaque for most distance traveled. **Denny Cole**, who just rejoined the chapter after a number of years lapsed, brought

his newly acquired 1959 Volksboat for which he won a plaque for Best Non-Wood. **Joe Peacos** won Best Canoe/Paddle plaque for his beautifully restored Chestnut canoe. **John Dougherty** won Best Wood Outboard with *Green Flash*, his 1950 Wolverine Wagemaker. The Best Inboard plaque went to **Rob Weller's** 1938 Chris Craft Utility named '38 Special. **Dave Friedrich's** boat *Chinook*, a Fay & Bowen Launch which he recently purchased from the NC Maritime Museum in Beaufort, NC, received a plaque for People's Choice. It also got the Staging Award, which his wife, Beth, accepted since she is the one who staged the boat.

Member **John Olsen** who runs the Cape Fear Community College Boat Building program and who also judges several shows, led the Royal Rangers in evaluating the boats using a judging form that John helped to create. **Jim Hartman's** 1955 Chris Craft Continental named *Loon* won the Youth Judging plaque.

Between the visitors and the participants we estimate over 100 people attended, which was good considering the weather. As it turned out we had a few minutes where it sprinkled in the morning. We started shutting down the show around 1:30 PM as the radar showed a band of heavy weather coming in by 3 PM.

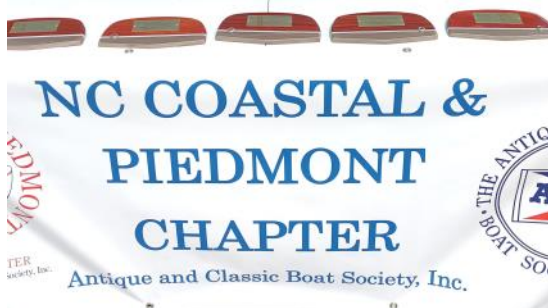
At the request of W/W/W editor, Amy Scanlin, we submitted an article and pictures of the boat show.

We thank all the hearty souls who turned out. A big round of applause goes to **Larry and Eileen Lettick** for orchestrating this event! A special thanks to the Cypress Landing Yacht Club for sponsoring our group. We presented Larry Lettick with a chapter burgee for the CLYC to hang in their facility.

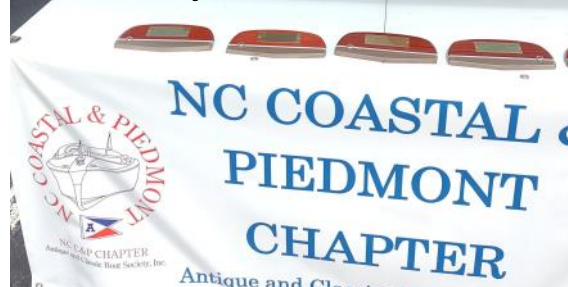
Chapter Boat Show — Photos



Jim Hartman—Youth Judging Award



Denny Cole—Best Non-Wood



Chapter Boat Show — Photos



Joe Peacos—Best Row/Paddle



John Dougherty—Best Wood Outboard



Rob Weller—Best Wood Inboard



Beth Friedrich—Best Staging



Dave Friedrich—Public's Choice for Favorite Boat



Richard Morlock—Most distance traveled to the show

Chapter Boat Show — Photos



Youth judging Jim's boat Loon
Photo by Rob Weller



Dogs voted—best boat show of 2025!

Another Funky Contest—for November

If you are like me, you always notice the name of the boat. Sometimes we just have to walk away scratching our heads if the owner is not there to tell the story of how she got her name. The "Ming Toy" was in the ABM warehouse. What's the story behind her name? We invite you to make one up—the crazier the better! [Email](#) your story to editor Judy Hills by 11/25/25.



Spreading Bill Baker's Ashes—September

Our members continue to work together to clean up Bill's shop so we can hold a sale. The shop contents were willed to John Justice. John has taken the items he wants and had donated the rest to the chapter so the proceeds from the sale go to us.

On September 4th, the following members made significant progress sorting and organizing and tossing shop contents. These included John Justice, Neal Keeter, Alan & Judy Hills, Jim Hartman, Jim Alexander, Bill Con-

ley, John Dougherty, Austin Lewis, Robert Blanchard, and Bob Banta. Also helping, but not members of our chapter were Oleg & Anna Zuev.

We will be having a Friends & Family sale and then one to the general public. As soon as we confirm these dates we'll let you know, but in the mean time if you have someone wanting to make big tool and equipment purchases, [email John Justice.](mailto:johnjustice@comcast.net)





DATES TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday, November 8 at 12-3 PM

Regional meeting hosted by Rob and Elizabeth Weller
5026 Kiser Island Rd. in Terrell, NC (Lake Norman area)

[Click here](#) to reserve as lunch will be served. Members and prospective members welcome.

Saturday, November 15 at 11 AM

Chapter Annual luncheon meeting at The Bistro at Duplin Winery
404 N. Sycamore St. in Rose Hill, NC

[Click here](#) for the menu—pay for your own lunch
They have a big store on site—think holiday gifts!

Saturday December 13 at 1 PM

Chapter Annual Christmas Linner (lunch/dinner) at the Leiners
1505 Wildhurst Lane in Wake Forest

Chapter provides food and non-alcoholic beverages, BYOB

New Chapter Member: Denny Cole

Our chapter “membership guy” Jim Alexander sent a welcome email to Denny. Here is his reply. Hi Jim. Happy to hear from you. I enjoyed the newsletter and over time I'll fold into more of your meets. I am picking up a 1956 Aristo Craft Torpedo 16, built in 2020. The company still makes them! Same model, same materials and same design. I head to Atlanta tomorrow to pick it up Thursday. I have an appointment at the factory Thursday afternoon. I'll need to learn how you categorized yours. As you know, I've been an AOMCI member <since 1991>. And now that we bought this new old boat, Helen and I look forward to joining some of your wet meets and cruises with the Aristo Craft.

As far as hobbies go, I've always spent lots of time in the workshop. Mostly with wood. I restored my Standup as a COVID project. I recently cut back my outboard collection from well over a hundred, down to around

50. Our house is in downtown New Bern and I have a garage about 7 miles away, where all the boats and outboards are kept on display. I spend 3 or 4 days a week in a magnificent workshop here named SHOP CLASS. I've been a full time member there for two years and I spend most of that time building displays for my main hobby <Collecting Toy Outboards>. I started building displays of full sets of the toy outboards back in 2005. I thought I had accomplished a lot until 18 months ago when I took on Jack Browning's collection and merged with mine. And today I have the most complete collection in the world. Down to maybe a dozen motors that I don't have. I'm holding a personal toy outboard meet to officially roll out the collection in Oct 2026. And I have people coming from around the world.

Shop Class, Boats, Outboards, and Toy Outboards sum up my life now.



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: Denny Cole (New Bern)

Renewed: Samuel Stowe (Belmont, NC)

Welcome!

Total Membership: 73

NCC&P Primary Chapter: 61

Not Primary Chapter: 12

**NC Coastal & Piedmont
Chapter of the ACBS**

<https://www.vintageboat.org/>

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Treasurer@vintageboat.org

2025 Directors:

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[Bill Conley](#) (2025)

[Jim Hartman](#) (2026)

[John Justice](#) (2025)

Kevin Leiner (2026)

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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. 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:

10/17-19 [Georgetown SC Wooden Boat Show](#)

10/25 [Roanoke Island Maritime Museum Boat Show](#) at Manteo

10/30 to 11/2 2025 Hilton Head Island, SC [Concours d'Elegance](#)

11/1 [Southport, NC Wooden Boat Show](#)

11/8 Regional meeting at Lake Norman hosted by [Rob Weller](#)
12-3 PM with lunch included.

11/15 Chapter Annual Meeting & Lunch at [The Bistro at Duplin winery in Rose Hill](#) 11 AM booked. Order off menu.

12/13 Chapter Christmas Party (1 PM) at the Leiners in Wake Forest



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](#).