



Prop Wash

www.acbs-pnw.org

Antique and Classic Boat Society
Pacific NW Chapter
23913 NE 54th Place
Redmond, WA 98053

January 2009

Newsletter of the Pacific Northwest Chapter Antique & Classic Boat Society

ACBS PNW 2009

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President's Message

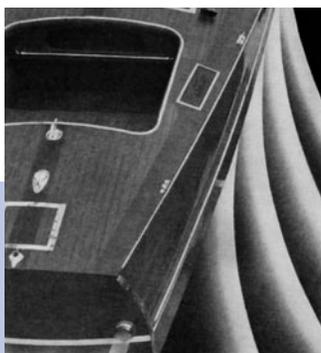
...Let it snow...

I hope everyone has had a great holiday, enjoyed the season as much as we did and you're looking forward to spring as much as I am. I think this was as much snow as I've ever had in a yard that I was responsible for. Slowed things down around here, didn't it?

Clearly, 2009 is going to be a year of challenges and changes in our world. My hope is that we can at least find healthy diversion in our boating activities, the projects that take us away to another place and time with the friends that make this all worthwhile.

So let's turn our attention to the year ahead. There's much to be done!

Dick Dow



**SEATTLE THE
WET
EDGE**

ACBS International Motorboating Symposium

The registration forms are to be included in the winter "Rudder", which will be in your mailboxes soon. Frank Gonzales did a great job putting together the insert, working with the graphics Chris Eden and his crew created. I hope that we see strong participation from around the country, and we're looking forward to providing an outstanding event for all who attend.

The committee will resume meetings this month, and will be very busy until after the event in April. If you can help out, please contact me.

Challenges and Changes

In nearly every communication from ACBS National Headquarters this past year a recurring theme has been the challenge of attracting and retaining new members. We are not the only chapter that has experienced declining membership and difficulty in getting people to volunteer and take on the events that keep this pursuit interesting and vital.

There are programs being developed to help get the message out, including an online “real time” membership application with the ability to input credit card information and confirm membership at the point of contact, be it at a meeting, boat show or some other promotional event. A boat show graphics package is being designed that will standardize presentations at public events while allowing local modification and contact info to be incorporated. There are efforts being made to improve the national website and those of the chapters that request help and we are looking at alternative sites that exist and can be utilized to attract the the community. ACBS has a very active youth program that includes scholarship/sponsorship opportunities for nominated individuals that show promise in the field of vessel restoration.

The inclusion of a widened range of boats into official/judged ACBS categories is another example of how the organization is stretching to accommodate new potential and encourage participation. We have a long way to go in erasing the perception of the ACBS as an exclusive old wooden boat group, but there has been a lot of progress on that front.

Clearly, there is a great deal of thought and effort being put into ensuring the long-term health of the ACBS. We can all help by being aware, active in the club and communicative with any who seem interested in these old boats.

Many of you are familiar with Fiberglassics.com, the premier website for the early fiberglass boat enthusiast. For the past five years, our local group, Fiberglassics Northwest, has been the largest chapter and often the most visible contributor to the site with well-attended, well-publicized events and huge participation in the online forum designed and provided by its webmaster, Kelly Wood. I’m bringing this up because Fiberglassics is a prime example of the effective channeling of enthusiasm via website. But it has always been the energy of the people involved that make these things work.

A huge shift has taken place with FGNW in the past month that proves to me that while ACBS is making progress, we are still lacking when it comes to attracting new, enthusiastic membership. The FGNW chapter recently met and elected to “go it alone” as a regional organization. In addition, the original Skagit Boat Club has essentially reformed as a stand-alone boating group. The result is two newly-formed organizations, the Classic Skagit Boat Club, www.classicskagitboatclub.com and the Northwest Classic Boat Club, www.classicboatclub.com. Between the two organizations there are already nearly 100 members, 70 that have paid dues to join the NWCBC group. The Skagit website has registered nearly 5000 hits since its launch on December 12th, and NWCBC was formed on December 14th! Don’t tell me the interest in messing about with old boats is waning...

There are several factors behind the success of these two new groups, most significantly the individuals that are putting the time and energy into forming the organizations, Marty Loken with NWCBC and Bill Roberts with CSBC. The updated websites are key, with strong forum presence and participation, fostering communication, sharing tips, information and

providing advice and perspective as members dive into their projects and plan their adventures. These sites effectively build the excitement of belonging and communicate what is going on 24-7. They are easy to access, easy to use and current.

The ACBS was formed before “website” was in the vocabulary, and as a result our communication culture has remained a little more conventional over the years with the “Rudder”, chapter newsletters and mailings the primary media tools employed, plus the telephone. These are all still vital, and nothing beats a phone call when it comes to sharing information and enthusiasm. But we are well behind when compared to groups formed around websites in utilizing the tools that medium gives us.

I just checked our PNW website discussion board/restoration forum. From what I can tell there have been less than 500 postings in the past five years! Compare that with the sites mentioned above. I think a good part of it is habit, or lack thereof: Our members evidently do not visit ACBS websites regularly, though it seems we often look at the others. Why is that?

I confess, - I’ve rarely visited our site and those linked to it and can’t really say why. So I’m going to put it into my daily routine and challenge others in the group who are using computers regularly to do the same. Let’s see what we find out.

Somehow, we’re missing the boat.

Coming Events:

January 14 – Monthly Meeting: Center for Wooden Boats, 6:30 pm. All members welcome.

January 23- February 1- Seattle Boat Show: There is a chance we could end up with a last minute opportunity to show some boats this year, so we may be calling for volunteers to man a booth!

February 11 – Monthly Meeting: Center for Wooden Boats, 6:30 pm. All members welcome

February 28 – Sammamish River: The task force is doing the annual survey the last day of February this year. This is now a NWCBC organized event. Check the website for details.

March 11 – Monthly Meeting: Center for Wooden Boats, 6:30 pm. All members welcome.

(TBD) – Garage Tour: We are in need of a date and chairman for this annual event.

April 8 – Monthly Meeting: Center for Wooden Boats, 6:30 pm. All members welcome.

April 23-26 – “The Wet Edge” ACBS International Motorboating Symposium: South Lake Union Park and the Center for Wooden Boats.

May 1&2 – Opening Day: We need an organizing committee for this event!

Classifieds:

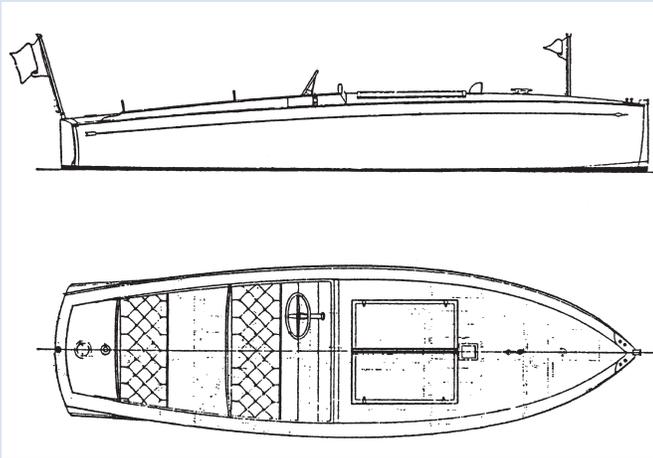


1945 -50 Osco Ford flathead marine V8 – complete – may even run with a little work. \$1000.00

6 frames, transom, and stem for Cushing designed “Imp”, early 1900’s runabout. Plans from Vol. 22 Ideal series - \$600.00

Anyone interested in building an older designed boat. I have many plans and have drafted frame patterns for several interesting designs, including several rare boats. Glad to share.

**David Berg, 360-714-6188
nberg65@hotmail.com**



IMP
 LOA 18'0"
 LWL 17'11 3/8"
 Beam 5'0"
 Draft 2'3"
 Freeboard
 Bow 3'2"
 Stern 2'3"
 Type Single cockpit
 Bottom V
 Planking Batten seam
 Power 25 hp
 Speed 18 mph
 Blueprints
 Scale 1"
 Price \$5.00
 Volume 22

Advertising Policy

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We also accept commercial advertising. A digital file that can easily be used is required. Contact Kirk for more information if you are interested. He will also quote you a rate.

We want you at this month's meeting!

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