



THE WET EDGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER ANTIQUE & CLASSIC BOAT SOCIETY



Antique and Classic Boat Society
Pacific NW Chapter
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www.acbs.org
www.acbs-pnw.org

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President Letter

MAY 2014

Guest Editor - Richard Dow

Another Opening Day is in the bag. As Mr. Dow will report inside in this issue of our newsletter, we once again had a successful Opening Day weekend. Being a northwest native, I have seen and been a part of the celebration of the beginning of boating season for many years. I believe the first Opening Day I participated in was in 1968. My observation, about one out of every five years the weather cooperates. Although we had a very promising midweek composed of sunshine and warm temperatures, the weekend turned out to be one of those wet off years. However, being a native one learns to deal with the wet and have fun regardless. Looking ahead to 2015, rumor has it that the National ACBS will be conducting their quarterly meeting in Seattle during the Opening Day festivities. We have hosted the quarterly meeting a couple times the first week in May in the past and in both cases, the weather has been perfect. A couple of people from headquarters have even accused us of exaggerating the damp reputation of the Northwest for all they have seen is sunshine and blue skies. Perhaps the National gang will once again change the weather patterns. Let us hope.

Being that it is spring, the boaters in our region are starting to crawl out from under their moss-covered tarps busily getting ready for the summer season. I was getting some varnish the other day at Fisheries Supply, the day after a sunny weekend and you would have thought that the zombie invasion had taken place - the shelves were empty. The gang behind the checkout counter said the store was a zoo all weekend. Yep, boating season is here. It is a busy time of year: plans need to be made for future outings (hint, reserve your room for Mahogany and Merlot,) the yard needs tending, and as always, that winter boat project that never quite got finished needs to be tackled. All is good.

Big thanks for all that helped make Opening Day happen. Our group is like a well-oiled machine, people pitch in, take responsibility and events happen. I will say this again, we are part of a great group of people. As always, if you have questions, concerns or ideas please give me a call or shoot me an email.

Rob.



Toys Ahoy!

By Richard Dow

We got a little wound up last weekend...

Opening Day 2014 has come and gone and even though the weather was not particularly ideal, we had a great theme and a wonderful time! We had six boats giving rides at SYC on Friday, a good group that evening at dinner and fifteen boats for the parade on Saturday.

This first boating event of the year is typically well attended and I encourage you to put it on your calendar every year. We always have room for more and it is a great chance to meet new people and get the winter doldrums out!

Brian Franchini set up the Friday dinner with Buca di Beppo catering. The food was great and given the weather, the warm, Italian fare was perfect. However, this is where we need more participants so the rest of us don't eat so much!

George and Peggy Corley again provided the goodies and coffee on Saturday morning and the toy decorations for the Friday evening dinner came from their collection as well. Some were George's childhood treasures! - Opening Day just wouldn't be the same without them.

Curt and Marsha Ericson outdid themselves with the wind-up decorations, cleverly engineered to be secured to the lifting ring and flagstaff on our boats. The big wind-up keys got constant comments as we cruised the logboom and put a smile on everyone's faces.

As someone said: "Marsha is the Martha Stewart of the ACBS". She has been responsible for nearly all of the iconic skit decorations/hats/props we have enjoyed through the years - we can't thank her and Curt enough for all they have done and continue to contribute to this club.

We ended the day at UW Conibear Shellhouse, our traditional rest stop and this time were a bit early, so a few got to witness the celebration as the crews received their awards and threw their coxswains into the drink, as is the custom...

Warren Olson won Best Antique Runabout for "Blondie", his beautifully restored Capri, and the club brought home Third Place trophy in the Novelty Decorated class.

A big "Thank You!" to Steve Snider, our event chair and everyone who worked so hard to put the weekend together.

All in all, another great Opening Day!



I Have a New Transom!

No, it's not what you may be thinking... From the time we bought the Tollycraft, my intent has always been to return the transom to the varnished mahogany finish these boats were delivered with, but using a more conventional approach.

Tolly built this era of boat with high-quality plywood: Fir for the hull sides and bottom, mahogany for the transom. On the transom they used a single layer of fiberglass, fully saturated, allowing the wood to show through. The owner's manual recommends varnishing it at least once every other year. That works pretty well until someone decides to change the name - when you pull the old lettering the wood underneath has not faded in the sun, and you have no way to bleach it out!

I decided to put the boat on the hard in Everett where they have a new, covered work area. Alan Thomle agreed to do the transom and build a new, larger swimstep while I worked on installing dripless shaft logs, repacking rudders, setting up a new transducer and other things that were on my list. He found some beautiful Sapele mahogany up at Edensaw for the transom and some nice teak for the swimstep and we went to work.

The original plan was to leave the fiberglass on the transom and go over it with the 5/8" Sapele. That changed when Alan grabbed a loose corner of the glass and easily pulled it off, exposing the plywood underneath. Several needed repairs were completed, the surface faired and sealed. Then the new transom was fully bedded and screwed into the frames and plywood underneath. Custom hinges were made for the transom door, which required major rework to fit correctly and ensure that it will not fall off again. - (That's another story!)

Alan did a great job. I am very happy with the result and looking forward to having a re-christening ceremony in July so we can bring back the name of our first family boat and put it on the Tollycraft, which was my Dad's suggestion and gift to us.

"Thisuldu"



May General Membership Meeting

We have a special treat for everyone this month! The meeting is at Brad Green's remarkable home in North Seattle, in his shop where a number of classic cars are stored and "on display". If you can only make one meeting all year, this would be a good one to attend. Brad and Peggy are wonderful hosts and the atmosphere of this place is truly unique. Wednesday, May 14th 6:30 pm. 12303 Pinehurst Way NE, Seattle, WA, 98125. See you there!

Edmonds Waterfront Festival

We are going to display at this event again this year, so come on down May 30th thru June 1st and enjoy the amenities the Edmonds area has to offer at this traditional community gathering! Lots of booths with food, arts and crafts and things you just have to have, plus live music! "Sindbad", "Huckledybuck", "Racer's 19" and Brian Flaherty's 17' fiberglass Chris Craft are scheduled to be there. Rumor has it a "Blondie" may show.



Classifieds:

Buy - Sell - Trade



1961 CHRIS CRAFT 19' RUNABOUT

Chevrolet 350; fresh water cooled; completely restored in 2009; 1200 hours; all new mahogany, 5200 bottom; gauges refitted/re-chromed; new upholstery, flooring, windshield; 3 speed heater. \$29,000.
Contact: Ed Tronca 253-905-1717

1955 CHRYSLER M-4-S HEMI MARINE ENGINE WITH GEAR BOX

Complete and operational. 270 cu. in. 155 hp. 2bbl carb. LH rotation. Factory maintenance manual. Some spare things. Make Offer.
Contact: Tom Carlin 425-318-2119

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Ways to stay connected online



Just wanted to remind everyone that Facebook is being used to facilitate more social interaction both within the club as well as with potential new members. This site provides means to publish events, share pictures, and invite new people to join us. Please take a moment to check out our Facebook [ACBS - Antique & Classic Boat Society (PNW)] site. While you are there sign up for our group and even better, become an assistant organizer and help keep our group up to date. Contact Frank Gonzales (gonzalesfa@hotmail.com) if you have any questions or can help.

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We want you at this month's meeting!

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