



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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Arlington, WA 98223
www.acbs.org
www.acbs-pnw.org

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Out with the old and in with the new.

November is a month of closure and new beginnings for the ACBS. As I write this letter, our traditional Annual Dinner is just one week away. The Annual Dinner is a time to celebrate the past and look forward to the new. We have had a good year. I have been pleased with the turnout for our monthly meetings and have very much enjoyed the varied content presented. I foresee little change in the upcoming year. Expect to meet bi-monthly at the Center for Wooden Boats with the remainder of meetings offsite at interesting locations. Soon our board of directors will be meeting and we will put together a meeting/topic calendar for 2014. When the dates, topics and locations are secured, I will let you know. Meanwhile, if you have any ideas for an ACBS monthly meeting location, please let me know. We are always looking for something new and different that we think our members would enjoy.

November is also a time of thanksgiving. I have much for which to be thankful. Odd being that I am not much of a "club person" but the ACBS has come to be a very meaningful group to me. I have met so many people, many whom I enjoy speaking with on a weekly basis. I am also thankful for my board of directors. For the past year this group of people have unselfishly volunteered their time, talent and effort, which in turn, has made my job so easy. Thanks guys. I plan to present the new board of directors more formally at our Annual Dinner along with a proper thank you to a couple of people who are resigning from the board after years of service. We will be presenting some special awards and I will present a vision for the new year. I do hope you will be able to attend.

Until then, enjoy the fall season and do not let that first freeze catch you (or your engine) by surprise.

Rob

DON'T FORGET THE MONTHLY MEETING!

Monthly Meeting Schedule

**November 9, Meeting will be
cancelled and conducted at
the Annual Dinner**

**December 11, We will
once again have a holiday
gathering at a location to be
determined.**



Things we should all be thankful for...

I guess with the backdrop of the upcoming Thanksgiving Holiday, combined with the people in our PNW Chapter, it hit me. There are many things that we should all be thankful for. You may be thinking, wow, what a brilliant concept of being thankful for our health, freedom and families that we love. At the end of the day, I believe we all are grateful for those things in our lives. What I'm talking about is realizing just how special the Pacific Northwest Chapter is that we all have the opportunity to be part of and enjoy. I've heard comments by a couple people throughout this year citing this very thing, but I wanted to try to put it in perspective on paper. This is not a complete list by any means, but just things that come to my mind.

Things we should all be thankful for...

1) The talent & skill level of those among us: For those that don't know, we have a wealth of talented individuals in our chapter. Seriously people, when you think of it, it's truly impressive. Here is a few examples that come to mind...

- *Ike Keilgas, Ken Muscatel and the Curtis V4 Engine:* Unless you've been hiding in the bilge of your boat for the past year, you should've at least heard of this story. This year was the year for the unveiling of the rebuilt 1916 Curtis Model V-4 V-12 race engine that was last run by Gar Wood himself in the 1918 Gold Cup that powered the "Miss Detroit III" to a victory on the Detroit River. This is amazing engine and is now in the Miss Detroit III replica boat and has made several appearances this year, in particular at the ACBS International Show in Coeur d'alene and Mahogany & Merlot in Chelan. If you have been on the Woodyboater site, you are probably aware that Ike and Ken are currently the reigning Woodyboaters of the Month. I think they're efforts which have spanned years to make this a reality are worthy enough to make them Woodyboaters of the Year. I don't have enough time and space to tell the whole story, but the point is, these guys are in our own backyard! They are making significant contributions in the world of Antique and Classic Boats and we are fortunate to be participants in this history with them. As impressive and significant as the Curtis V-4 race engine is, this is just one of many examples of the talent in our chapter.



- *The Pros:* We also have several accomplished restorers that do it for a living, who are as down to earth anyone you'll find. Rob DaPron, Bruce Bronson and Alan Thomle not only do great work, but they are very accommodating to the "Average Joe" who may have questions and may be looking for advice regarding a restoration project of their own.

- *Skillful Amateurs:* Speaking of the non-professionals, there are those among us who have proven to display great skill in boat restoration all while keeping their day jobs. Warren Olson is one such example that recently finished a beautiful restoration of his 19' Chris Craft Capri this year after 7 years of hard work, perseverance and patience. Bob Wheeler is also one who has done great work and has kindly shared his project experiences as a guest writer in The Brass Bell publication.

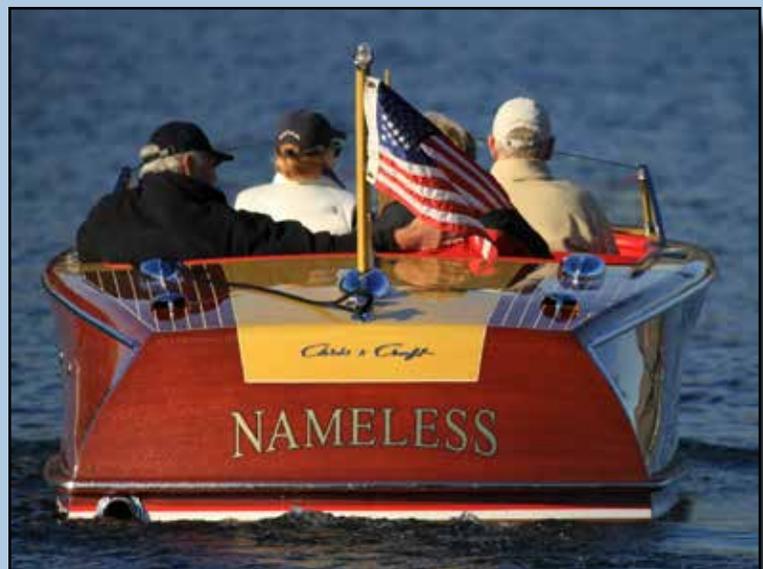
- *The Old Engine Gurus*: The depth of skill and experience in our chapter applies to engines as well. Many of us know who the “engine gurus” are around us and are familiar with their willingness to help with troubleshooting problems and giving advice. The depth and breadth of old engine knowledge that we have around us was on display several times this year.

- *Ike Keilgas*, with his involvement in the Curtis V-4 engine and the installation into the “Miss Detroit III” replica boat (as previously described).

- *Craig Magnuson* spoke on the topic of old engines on two different occasions at monthly meetings. One talk was specifically about the Curtis V-4 and the other was about engines used by Chris Craft from roughly the 1920’s through the 1960’s. If you were in attendance for either of these talks, you couldn’t help but thinking how fortunate we are to have someone with such breadth and depth of old engine knowledge. The resources don’t end there, as there are many guys in our local club that are quite knowledgeable and skilled.

2) Mahogany & Merlot

We should all be thankful for our Mahogany & Merlot event as it has essentially become our chapter’s boat show. This year’s M&M was the Fourth Annual event and each year seems to get bigger, better and give more exposure to our chapter. What an opportunity we have to take advantage of the beauty and charm of Lake Chelan, along with the uniqueness of having vintage hydroplanes and our classic boats in one show. For those that have attended M&M you’ve experienced what I’m describing. The show has the ability to continue to get bigger and our classic boats provide a great avenue for generating that growth.



3) We use our boats

Our local chapter seems to have a prevailing culture where members believe that our antique and classic boats are meant to be used. This philosophy is proven out in the events that our group has done over the years including;

- ***The Snake River Odyssey***

- ***The Lake Roosevelt trip***

- ***Annual runs from Chelan to Stehekin the day before Mahogany & Merlot***

- ***Annual Family Fun Day events***

- ***Lake cruises in the summer (Lake Washington has been the spot the last couple years)***

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Things we should all be thankful for...

(Continued from page 4)

There are many more people and accomplishments that are deserving of mentioning, but due to the constraints of space and time, I must bring it to an end. I'll leave you with this question to ponder of the upcoming Winter months... What one thing might you participate in next year to further add to the richness of our local chapter and take advantage of all that it has to offer?



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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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