



# PACIFIC NORTHWEST THE WET EDGE

Antique and Classic Boat Society  
Pacific NW Chapter  
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[www.acbs-pnw.org](http://www.acbs-pnw.org)

NEWSLETTER OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER ANTIQUE & CLASSIC BOAT SOCIETY

OCTOBER 2010

ACBS PNW 2010  
Officers and  
Board of Directors

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## President's Message

### *The Beginning...*

Three years ago, I began my series of President's letters with a reprint of the first article I wrote for the ACBS-PNW newsletter - my recap of the resurrection of "Tango", the 1946 25' Chris Craft Express "Red & White" we had for so many years. This month, I end my time behind the gavel as we pass the job to another, to be named at the Annual Dinner on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

I've enjoyed my time as an officer of the club and am very satisfied that we have kept up a good level of enthusiasm the past few years despite the economic challenges, the lack of a good show venue for our kind of boats and declining membership. Those challenges are echoed throughout the country, and as we are unique in our tremendous year-round boating opportunities, the lack of a show is not as critical as elsewhere.

That said, it's still a goal to find a good show venue, and our past month on the water has given us a great glimpse of what we can do!

Last year we were consumed with producing "The Wet Edge" symposium, which was a true success and is still being referenced in ACBS communications as they plan future events. I am very proud that our chapter put together such an outstanding gathering. It was a true testament to the heritage of the NW boating community and the talent we have in this group.

This year, I issued a challenge to create "Compass Point Representatives" in an effort to provide variety in our standard monthly meeting locations, get us out of our lake and on to other bodies of water. We have had meetings in diverse locations and since June this year have boated with ACBS members on Lake Roosevelt, Priest Lake, Mason Lake, and Lake Chelan in addition to Lake Washington, Puget Sound, the San Juans and Gulf Islands. We have two of the four compass points filled... There's more ahead!

In the past month we had two boat shows that point the way to repeated and growing events in the years ahead. The new venue at Mason Lake is great and brought the entire community out, not only for boats but the local car collectors we there in force as well. This past weekend, we had the first annual "Mahogany and Merlot" vintage boat/race boat gathering on Lake Chelan, which exceeded all expectations. This is a not-to-be-missed event!

Your board has been busy as well, planning and producing the various activities and contributing to this letter as we continue to drive the club forward and keep it vital and viable. In that vein, I must speak to the most pressing challenge that this club faces over the next few years - finances. Costs have risen, membership is declining, and our reserve has been steadily eaten away - principally with reduced membership, but also because we have been rather generous over the past decade. In short, we have subsidized every event except "The Wet Edge" for many years, and can no longer afford to do so. The board has put in place that every event going forward must be priced to the membership at the break-even point. Any input and ideas that you as a member have to help us do this will be appreciated. My last request to the membership as your president is a familiar one: Get involved! (It really is a fun thing to do...)

The 24 years since I bought "Tango" and discovered the ACBS have been filled with great memories, major life changes, a bunch of boats and wonderful journeys, many in the company of our friends from this group. Looking back, we've come a long way. Looking ahead, there is still much to do. I'm looking forward to seeing what the future holds for ACBS-PNW. I hope I have served the club well.

**...the end.**

*Dick Dow*

# Mahogany & Merlot!

Well, the first annual Mahogany & Merlot was a HUGE success! We had about 15 boats, including some local boats. The Boat Show and hydroplane pit area was at the Lake Chelan City Dock/Park, which is conveniently located right next door to Campbell's Resort. Campbell's offered a special discounted rate and the facilities were excellent!

Plans are already being made for the 2011 event, and you need to make reservations NOW for next year, because there is a convention already scheduled at Campbell's for the first weekend of October 1 & 2. Rooms will have a discounted rate again, which is unknown at this time. Here's the number: 800-553-8225; and mention the "Mahogany and Merlot Boat Show".

What did you miss? The show was featured on the Woody Boater.com blog. Look down the left side of the web page until you find "Over 1,500 Woody Boater Stories By Date"; then look for the Lake Chelan stories for October 2nd and 3rd. Also, this is a great web-site to check on stories of interest to us, there is something new posted everyday. Also, look at "the vid" done by Rob DaPron's son Will on "You Tube":

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=13pf\\_Ezw0Cg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=13pf_Ezw0Cg)

Some of us arrived Thursday, anticipating a run up to Stehekin, some 50 miles up to the end of the lake on Friday. Thursday evening we enjoyed a BBQ at Jim & Susan Carver's home on the lake. Of course we went by boat, returning in the darkness admiring the Milky Way above!

Friday morning found us with another warm, beautiful summer day; and a calm lake as Dick & Kathy, Curt & Marsha, Ike & Greg, Tom & Janet and their guests headed out. Diane & myself enjoyed the hospitality of Dick & Kathy in "Sindbad". Upon arrival about two and a half hour later; we hopped on the National Park Bus for a ride to The Bakery for a great lunch. Some of us enjoyed the two mile leisurely walk back, others rode the bus. After fueling up, we headed back, again enjoying the calm water conditions as we watched the fjord-like scenery glide by on the way back to the city of Lake Chelan.

Friday night we were "on our own"; and even so, we managed to get 24 people seated in the restaurant at Campbell's for a nice meal. Barbara Bro coordinated the bill paying experience! The food and company was wonderful!

Saturday morning we were in "Boat Show" mode; with more 80 degree plus weather, and the running of the hydroplanes, truly music in those motors!

Saturday evening was the awards dinner, with Alan & Yvonne Thomle winning "Skipper's Choice" with "Greyhound"; Tom & Kris Basset with their 1939 Chris



Craft 16' special race boat "Grand Rouge" winning "Kids Choice", and a Stancraft "Driftwood" owned by Mike Holmes" with a V-10 Viper engine winning "People's Choice". Mike needs to join our club!

Sunday we packed up and headed home, with another nice relaxing, great boating weekend behind us!

Ron Stevenson

# **Family Fun Day September 2010**

## **- aka Keels and Wheels Mason Lake style**

With the heavy rain on Friday, it was looking like we might not have a very good event on Saturday. But Saturday morning the sun was out, the temperature was right and the wind was calm, making for a very enjoyable day to be on the water.

There were 20 boats dating from 1928 to 1964, 16 to 28 feet in length. Most were on the water and a half dozen on trailer display. Next to the land locked boats were several dozen classic cars; 1931 Cadillac convertible, 1932 Lincoln Sedan, a MG, a Lotus, Corvettes, Tbirds, some trucks, and more, all from residents of the lake. There were lots of people that came down to the park to see all the wonderful wooden boats and cars on display. We even had some folks from the Portland chapter come up and Rick Means lent them his 1958 Coronado to join in the fun.

A majority of boats in the water by 11:00, so we paraded about the lake to return for a wonderful lunch of burgers, brats, ribs, potato salad, chips and Huckleberry cobbler that Maria Giesy made. Thanks to the great kitchen crew; Jan, Steve, Diane, Maria and Diane made lunch go smoothly for the 65 participants.

After lunch the Poker Run group gathered to get their instructions from Brian Franchini and off they went! Ike was the first one back with the answer; Sande Ace 1957 (I think he has played this game many times before). Those who didn't participate in the Poker Run were offering rides in their boats.

Bruce Bronson spent some time with two of his freshly restored boats; 1940 19' Chris Barrel back and 1955 19' Chris Capri, running them through their paces and making any necessary adjustments along the way. Steve Franchini had many lookers at his 1957 Century Colt with its inverted Faegol motor. Jim Giesy had to have his 1955 Cobra hooked up to a 1959 Ford Woody Wagon to create a classic combination.

The clouds were beginning to roll in so we made a final lap around the lake lead by a local resident Greg Suldin in his newly restored 1928 28' Garwood Triple.

As we closed the day around 4:00 and the rain decided to come back. We had fun while it lasted!





## **Family Fun Day**

# *Family Fun Day*



# 2010 Boating Season Roars to a Finish

After a so, so summer the 2010 boating season culminated with a threesome in rapid fire order. A number of ACBS-PNW Chapter members participated in the Columbia-Willamette Chapter's "Dry Rot Festival" over Labor Day followed by "Family Fun Day" on Mason Lake and culminating with "Mahogany and Merlot" at Lake Chelan, with the later two events covered separately in this issue.

The Cathcarts, Dows and Bros shared a delightful cabin on Priest Lake partaking in the full set of activities that were organized by the C-W Chapter. The "Dry Rot Festival" was the brainchild of Dick Werner almost 25 years ago that has matured into one the northwest's best attended and downright fun events.

We arrived Thursday afternoon in time to get our boats launched and find our way around the Lake to our digs for the weekend. Friday morning we took our time acclimating to not having to get up and go to work and to take a brief tour of the north end of the lake and catch up with our hosts who live in the estate next door. Priest Lake, for those who have never been there, is a lovely Lake in northern Idaho that is surrounded by a combination of State Park and National Forest land interspersed with pockets of vacation homes, condominiums and resorts. With a variety of boating destinations around the lake, it is a great place for boating and recreation. The "Dry Rot Festival" takes great advantage of all of these amenities which made for a great several days.



Friday night started with cocktails at the Werner Estate followed by dinner at the Grandview Resort, a great opportunity to meet old and new friends in a casual setting. Saturday, we motored down to Cavanaugh Bay Marina for lunch, which included Jello shots offered by a boat load of pirates, and instructions for the poker run. The windy weather made the poker run challenging for some of us who were new to the lake but, it was won by ACBS-PNW's own Alan Thomle in Greyhound. Dinner was at the Werner estate with Dick himself manning the BBQ.

Sunday, started with a breakfast and boat show at Elkins Resort followed by a boat parade (read rough water race) down to Hills Resort for a Gin Fizz and lunch. A few of us walked down to the local museum near Hills and picked up more about the local history around the lake. Alan Thomle and Greyhound also won the People's Choice award for the boat show at Elkins. Monday started with a light breakfast at the Werners followed by a cruise to Upper Priest Lake which is connected to the lower lake by a small channel. The upper lake is completely surrounded by National Forest and several boats made the trek where they beached the boats for a lunch before heading back where they were greeted by a moose in the river connecting the two lakes.

All in all a fun trip that will no doubt be duplicated again next year.



# The Annual Dinner coming up fast! October 23rd,

at the Hydroplane & Raceboat Museum in Kent.

No host Bar starts at 6:30,  
with the buffet starting at 7:30.

The \$50 fee covers the actual cost of dinner  
and the facilities.

The deadline for attending is October 15th,  
any questions please contact the Chairman Don Palmer  
at 253 863-9225.

We look forward to see you!



## Classifieds:

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The "Wet Edge" is published monthly on a volunteer basis. Each month a different board member (guest editor) puts together the newsletter. This allows for a wide variety of creativity and content. Classified ads are run for members free of charge. They are not automatically renewed.

Please e-mail your ads to Kirk Knapp (kirkknapp@aol.com). He will forward the ad to whomever is doing the next newsletter.

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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