



Newsletter of the Pacific Northwest Chapter Antique & Classic Boat Society

# THE WET EDGE

October 2023

Guest Editors: Rick Means, and Scott Mason

## Doing the Dry Rot!

By: Rick Means

Way out in Idaho, is a beautiful place just a few miles from the Canadian border called Priest Lake where they do an annual boat show called Dry Rot. This year brought 48 boats with 80+ attendees from four different



chapters: Inland Empire, Big Sky, Columbia Willamette and PNW. From the PNW group was Greg and Mary Batie's 1956 Century Resorter and Rick and Jan Means' 1970 Century Resorter. Century's were well represented at this event, as Tobler Marina on Hayden Lake was a major Century dealer in the area. There were other brands like Stan Craft, Dodge (1928), Hacker Craft, and of course Chris Craft too.



We clocked many hours of time on the water over the three days, attending various events on the lake. Saturday – It was a perfect day for a ride in At Last to Cavanaugh's for breakfast, which is also where the Poker Run would start. The poker run had us moving 20+ miles on the water to various spots on the lake. In the past Greg and I have done this event and got a pair of Fours, this year we improved our hand some to a pair of Aces, but still not strong enough to go against a full house! Oh well, we will keep trying.... Brian and Kathy Fair hosted dinner and 51 of us were shuttled on Kiniksu to their place.



Figure 3 Pre dinner at Fair's



Sunday – A bit cloudy in the morning but the afternoon was nice. At Last and Means to Ski motored to Elkins show in the morning and then paraded to Hill's for the Priest Lake Yacht Club's 'Gin Fizz' and boat show event that afternoon.

Figure 4 Elkins Resort



Figure 5 Hill's Resort



Monday – Rained overnight and the day didn't look too promising but Means to Ski pressed on to the upper



lake for lunch. Though cloudy with some sunbreaks thrown in, the winds were low, and 11 boats made their way through the thoroughfare. We beached our boats on the sandy shore, spending time for lunch and talking boats with the 25 or so who made the trek up. There was some time to play in the upper lake with Steve Lapkin (Brass Bell contributor/photographer) taking photos. It was time to head back, and as we came out of the thoroughfare, you could feel the wind was stronger and as we went around the breakwater, you knew it was going to take a while to get home as the whitecaps were plenty.

We tucked ourselves behind the Second Kiss to help cut the swells for most of the way. When they turned off to their dock, we were on our own for the last third of the trip. I tried to find the best way but there were not many options. We finally made it to Hill's, and while we all got wet, Greg and Mary got the shower they didn't plan on.



We trailered up our Thoroughbreds (Century speak) and headed out to our first layover stop as we began the trip back towards our respective home ports. Would we do the Dry Rot event again? Of course. And if you have not, you should!

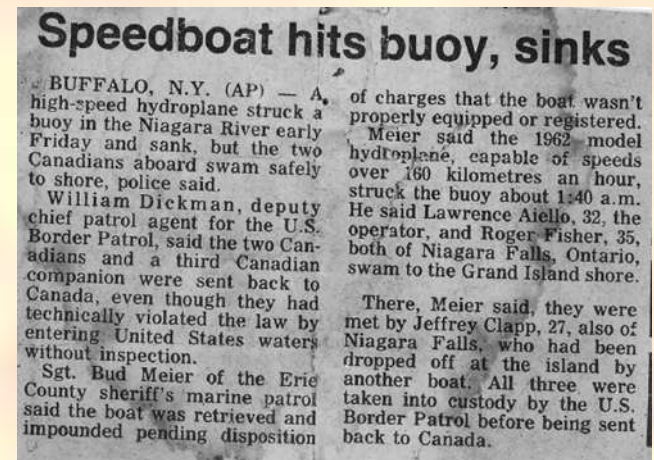
# Miss Shepherd

By: Scott Mason

Nobody would be surprised to learn that I am a follower of the Shepherd Boat Group Facebook Page. Almost a year ago now I saw the posting regarding Miss Shepherd.



buoy and sinking.



Wanting to know more I sent a note to Ike, then to Joe Frauenheim....Here is that thread:

Wed, Jan 25 3:06pm

Joe,

*Ike told me that you knew Bob Schroeder.... As you know I have a Shepherd and as a result am a member of the Shepherd Boat FB page. A few weeks ago I saw a posting about a vintage hydroplane Miss Shepherd. My brother is involved in vintage hydroplanes and I sent him the posting. He immediately sent me some information he found on the boat. The boat was referred to as being a Bob Schroeder special. I'm guessing Bob Schroeder was the builder and perhaps owner/driver of the boat. Additionally, my brother sent me the obituary for Bob Schroeder. When I read that he was involved in the movie Madison I called Ike and asked if he knew of him. Ike said he met him a couple of times but you knew him quite well.*

Try as I might, it was hard to get any information from MB O'Howe who posted it. Finally I sent my brother the posting and asked what he thought of her. My brother is a member of the Region 10 Vintage Hydroplane Association. He did a quick search and found a reference to her and also the newspaper article about Miss Shepherd hitting a

*Thought this "stuff" might be of interest to you and I was curious if you know anything about him building hydroplanes. I would probably get a divorce if I purchased the boat, but I am intrigued because it seats two (tandem) and unlike most hydroplanes that are direct drive, this one has a velvet drive. That could be pretty darn cool to sneak out on Lake Tapps and give rides!!!! If you might know how I could find the owner I would appreciate that information. - Scott*

In short order, I received this reply:

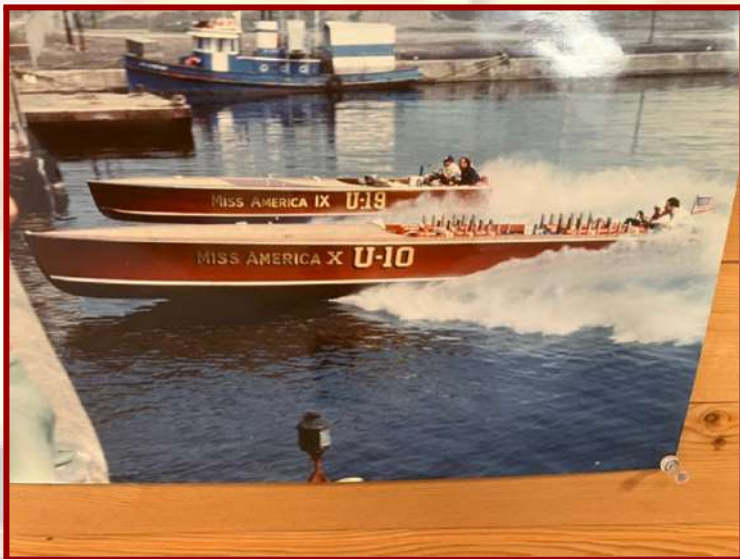
Wed, Jan 235, 5:55PM

Scott,

Bob's niece lived across the street from me when we were growing up. The boat builder was Bob's father Pop Schroeder. Bob was the driver and mechanic. I believe that the boat in the picture was owned by Larry Aeillo, one of Bob's cohorts. I would be happy to talk at your convenience

Joe

Joe helped fill in the gaps while I tried to contact the owner who I knew as Larry Aeillo. Joe sent this great picture of Miss America 8 and 10 and indicated that Larry was the driver of the Miss America X. He also said that the boat was built by Bob Schroeder's father who was the Shop foreman at the Shepherd factory. All of this information just kept me lusting for more about the boat and possibly try to buy her.



Finally after several attempts to IM O'Hare who made the original FB Post I soon got a phone call from the owner of the boat Larry Aeillo. We had a few really good conversations that included the following;

- He was the driver when it hit the buoy.
- She originally had a "NASCAR" engine and was capable of 140 MPH.
- He put a transmission in Miss Shepherd and unlike any hydro I've been around had forward, neutral and reverse

- She had a water pump for cooling until reaching a speed when the tube attached to the rudder took over
- MISS SHEPHERD IS COAST GUARD APPROVED!



I was thinking, how cool would this boat be on the lift alongside my 1961 Shepherd "Rhubarb"? How cool would it be to give friends a ride on Lake Tapps in a Coast Guard approved vintage hydroplane? How cool would it be to have the fastest boat on the Lake?

Well I finally called Larry and told him that at 70 years old it would be pretty stupid of me to purchase Miss Shepherd. His response was that he was 70 also and it would not be for sale if he wasn't developing some land in Mexico.

I haven't asked him the price.....Yet.



# Classified Ads

1955 14' AristoCraft Torpedo. Restored by AristoCraft factory (original builder) to show winning condition with like new 1955 Mercury MK 55E and trailer. First in class winner at 2008 Lake Coeur D'Alene ACBS International Show and 2010 Lake Tahoe Show. Still in like new condition. Engine would need a tune-up before running. \$15,000. Randy Mueller E-mail: matt42mtq@comcast.net or 253-858-2120 Located in Gig Harbor



## For Sale: Magazines

Our chapter is now a 501-C3, and eligible for tax deductible contributions.

Magazines are boxed and ready for sale, write your check to ACBS-PNW!

Includes free delivery to the next meeting!

### CLASSIC BOATING (6/yr)

One set (from the beginning) 1984-2020 - 37 years \$400

One set 1988-2017 - 30 years \$300

Extra years - 1991,1992,1995 \$10/yr

### BRASS BELL (4/yr)

1986-2020 - 35 Years \$350

(Missing 4 - 1988 #1 spring, 2007, 2012, & 2020 #4 winters)

### RUDDER (4/yr)

One set 1990-2020 \$300 (Missing 1995 & 1997 winter)

One set 2000-2011 \$100 (Missing 2004 fall)

The best for last (very hard to find)

### RUSTY RUDDER - (became Rudder) \$200

1983 Vol 9 #3

1985 Vol 11 #1 spring, #2 summer (2), #3 winter, #4 spring

1986 Vol 12 #4 winter

1987 Vol 13 #2 summer, #4 winter

1988 Vol 14 #1 spring

1989 Vol 15 #4 winter

Please support your chapter with your tax deductible donation!

## Want ads? We Want ads!!

Your Ad here: Do you have something to sell? Email your descriptive text and photos to me and they will appear in our next newsletter.

Also: We can offer advertisement space to benefit our club! Do you know a business that would enjoy a little attention from our members? For \$100 per year, their advertisement could appear in the newsletter (12 months) and they could claim a tax write-off for sponsorship of our club. This money could be earmarked for a special purpose, or go into a special fund as determined by our board.

Contact Corrine Lucas for a donation form.



As the weather turns from balmy and warm to rainy and gray, many of us turn our attentions to our indoor projects and the quiet traditions of fall. Soup, sweaters, and back to school.

But wait! PNW ACBS has one last Hoorah!! Mahogany and Merlot is poised to be better than ever this year. Our numbers are back to pre-pandemic levels with an impressive 26 boats registered! Registrants will enjoy dinner with live music again, the Sunday brunch and poker run is on, and there will be goodie bags and special "side quest" activities. It looks to be sunny and mid 60's for the weather which is perfect for wine tasting and painting a-la "plein air". Registration is now closed, but you can join us Friday and Saturday to walk the docks, hang out with your members and hear the piston-boats run all weekend. It promises to be a great time!

In October, (the 11th @6pm) we have our Meeting at Ike's Garage-Mahal and a presentation by Jim Peters about Chris Crafts of the fiberglass type.

Dinner and drinks will be provided for the reasonable \$20 buy-in.

This autumn season is also a time to prepare for the year ahead. I would encourage all of our members to brainstorm new ideas for our club and generate excitement for upcoming events.

### **"Enthusiasm" is the word for the year!**

*In modern usage, **enthusiasm** refers to intense enjoyment, interest, or approval expressed by a person.*

*The term is related to playfulness, inventiveness, optimism, zest, verve, and high energy*

I would like to see us embrace our 501c3 status, garner advertising revenue and make donations of our own in furtherance of our mission. I would like to see renewed engagement of the ladies and children at our events. I would like to see a Houseboat trip, silent auction, ACBS Merchandise offered. These are just some ideas that have been floated to me. As you know, all of this cannot be done by one person alone. Enthusiasm loves company and hates isolation. Reach out with your ideas and let's see if any of these ideas can come to life. As you know, the president is there to organize, connect, and inspire. It is the membership and the board who decide the course of action and work to make ideas into reality.

There is always room on our board as we need to rotate at least two seats per year. Maria Wilson has expressed interest in becoming a board member, leaving at least one more seat to fill. Please reach out to Ron Stevenson (our nominating chair) before the end of October if you are interested in sharing your enthusiasm and serving on our board of directors. The slate will be decided by October 26th for electronic voting to be accomplished by November 2nd. The new board will be announced at our annual dinner on the 4th of November.

Please register soon to attend this celebration of another boating season in the books, and new beginnings for our club. Your invitation is coming soon, so watch your email!

**PNW ACBS**  
**Calendar of Events**

**October**

5-8 Lake Chelan Stehekin pre-event  
and Mahogany & Merlot (registration closed)

11th - Member's Meeting Ike's Garage-Mahal  
6pm.

Special Chris Craft presentation by Jim Peters.

**November**

2nd- Election day for PNW ACBS officer/board  
vacancies

4th - Annual Dinner at Tacoma Yacht Club  
Details 6pm-10pm

**December**

16th- Queen City Yacht Club lighted boat  
parade and MeetUP!

**January 2024**

10th - Business Meeting Corrine Lucas' house  
Snoop tour begins at 1pm, meal 2pm, meeting  
begins at 3pm. Calendar of events, assignment  
of committees. (*Board members only* for  
efficiency of planning) -of course your write-in  
contribution is welcomed - send in your ideas!  
(or better yet, become part of the board and get  
an invitation!)

**Pacific Northwest  
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of the  
Antique and Classic  
Boat Society**

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