

WINTER 2015

The Range Marker

The Blue Ridge Chapter
Antique and Classic Boat Society, Inc.

acbs.org • blueridgechapter.com



Wooden Boats Return to Lake Norman

New venue brings new crowds

On a warm weekend in August, wooden boats returned to Lake Norman in Mooresville, NC. The 16th Annual Antique and Classic Boat Show was held at the new venue of Trump National Golf Club.

The 2013 boat show was cancelled because organizers could not find a suitable location. Through the efforts of one of our Blue Ridge Club members, we were introduced to the staff of the Trump Golf Club, and they worked with us every step of the way to produce an exciting show.

Due to limited dockage space, however, only 25 boats could be exhibited in the water. Another 25 wooden boats were successfully displayed on land.

The show events started on Thursday evening with an “early arrival” barbecue hosted by Sherrie and Pat Crusse at Cruisin’ Classics restoration shop. Registration, boat launching and cruises on Lake Norman were the activities for Friday, concluding that evening with a get-together at the home of Ed and Judy Longino. Judy and her crew served an unusual take on another barbecue. You can’t get more Southern than that.

Saturday morning arrived with sunny skies and warm temperatures. Boats were readied, and visitors started arriving around 10 a.m. Trump Golf Club personnel provided a cookout lunch, with tables clustered over the beautiful green lawn with a dramatic



Charlotte Boat Show has winner at Trump

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Chris Smith Museum, Michigan

Decades of accolades

In September Al Olsen trekked up to Michigan to pick up yet another “project boat.” While there, he had a special visit with BRC member Chris Smith, grandson of the founder of Chris-Craft Boats, at his home in Holland. Chris graciously gave him a tour of his extensive memorabilia museum, which resides in the basement of his home.

Not only did Chris have every imaginable award, he had pictures, posters and projects he had built throughout the years. Two items of special note were a little Riviera pedal car and a Chris-Craft baby bassinet he built for his first child.

In a cabinet that looks, of course, like a boat with a glass top, he had displayed an extraordinary collection of every Chris-Craft advertising brochure ever published.

Chris is doing well. He has designed “one more” dream boat that he would like to build.

Friends and chapter members are welcome to visit him in Holland and view this exceptional Chris-Craft collection. ◀



Chris Smith, grandson of founder of Chris-Craft Boats, gives a tour of his extensive memorabilia museum.

COMMANDER'S CALL



Gary Fesperman

Greetings from the Helm!

Fall is here, winter is upon us and the boating season has come to an end for another year. Now is the time to get those winterizations done and start working on your to-do list for your boats and trailers for the upcoming season.

Looking back at our yearly events, one has to be very proud to be a Blue Ridge Chapter member. The chapter had three great shows at Hartwell, Chatuge and Charlotte; we showcased our chapter at the Greenville and Charlotte new boat shows; we hosted a spectacular ACBS quarterly meeting in conjunction with our Chatuge show; we enjoyed a beautiful fall cruise on Hartwell with our annual meeting; we took a wonderful display of wood and non-wood boats

to the Hilton Head Motoring Midway Concours d'Elegance at Port Royal Golf and Country Club; and we ended the year with our annual Christmas party in Lavonia.

Our 2015 boat show and event schedule (see On the Horizon, page 6) went out to the membership in detail in November so that you could have plenty of time to plan your calendars for another great year of boating activities with your Blue Ridge Chapter family. Spring is just around the corner, so get in that garage and get working on that list!

Signing off from the Helm,

Your President, *Gary*

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view of the lake. Friends and guests made their way along the boardwalk to the docks to look at the lovely boats and talk to boat owners. Chuck Mistele graciously gave boat rides on Miss America IX.

The awards banquet was held in the elegant clubhouse rotunda with a delicious dinner, plenty of old-fashion ribbing, and the presentation of awards, as follows:

Looks Damn Expensive to Me - Miss America IX, Diane & Chuck Mistele
Best Chris-Craft - Partners Choice, 1955 Chris-Craft Capri, Lee Hunt
Best Century - 1965 Century Resorter, Justin Longino & Beverly Vaughan
Captains' Choice - *Sliver*, 1920 Goodhue Hawkins replica, Carolyn & Wayne Hollis
People's Choice - *Legend Has It*, 2012 Tahoe 23 homebuilt, Gerald Hurst
Best Cruiser - 1958 Chris-Craft Cavalier, Marlene & Dana Anthony
Best Lyman - *Pointer*, 1963 Lyman Utility, Beth & Rob Weller
Best Classic Glass - 1967 Century Resorter, Ryan Cruisse

Best Replica - Linda Anne, 1975 Century Arabian, Linda & Bob Smith
Most Original Unrestored - 1936 Paddlewheel, Bette & Ceasar Cone
Best Outboard #1 - 1953 Feather Craft, Marlene & Dana Anthony
Best Outboard #2 - 51, 1951 Feather Craft Vagabond I, Marty Cheshire
Hard Luck Award - Jim Templeton Sportsmanship Award - Marshall Setzer
Long Haul Award - *Sweetie Pie*, 1947 Chris-Craft Deluxe Runabout, Sandra & Jim McDonald
Best of Show - *Glacier Girl*, 1956 StanCraft Torpedo Stern, Bobbie & Terry Fiest



Chuck Mistele educates young boater



Public turns out for boat show

OPEN POSITIONS

Board Secretary (*voting position*)

Need someone with basic typing skills to attend 2-3 meetings per year, take notes, type minutes for the records, and perform other duties as directed by the president.

Special Events & Children's Program Director

Need imaginative, energetic person to create and implement programs designed to further educate our chapter youth on boating activities with vintage watercraft.

Interested parties please contact Gary Fesperman at garyf@lavonia-ga.com

Blue Ridge Chapter Annual Meeting

A beautiful day on the lake

The 2014 Annual Meeting was held on October 17 & 18. Pre-meeting events included a cruise to and lunch at Clemson Marina as well as a dinner at J. Peters in Lavonia.

President Gary Fesperman opened the meeting with the customary committee chair reports. The minutes in detail are available on the website at www.blueridgechapter.com

Items of note under New Business included the following:

- A summary of the ACBS Annual Meeting. Congratulations went to Chuck and Diane Mistele in becoming the 2014 Hagerty Marine Hall of Fame Inductees.
- New judging rules at ACBS now allow for non-wood boats built thru 1987.
- The \$400.00 raised from raffle ticket sales at the Lake Chatuge Boat Rendezvous was donated to the ACBS scholarship fund.
- A new award, "Best First Mate," donated by Art Hampton, will be presented annually at the Lake Chatuge Rendezvous.



John Heiderich accepts President's Award from President Gary Fesperman

The issue of insurance liability for ACBS and BRC members participating in the Boating Bonanza event was raised. After lengthy discussion, a motion passed to no longer sponsor the Boating Bonanza as a sanctioned BRC event to avoid any litigation,. However, members may still participate as individuals.

Lastly, this year's Blue Ridge Chapter President's Award went to John Heiderich. John has gone above and beyond any expectation throughout the year in working closely with the president, coordinating events and showing true dedication to the Blue Ridge Chapter. ■



Cruising to Clemson, Pat & Dave Nisbett in Gad-A-Bout

Blue Ridge Members Celebrate the Season

Spreading the cheer

The annual BRC Christmas Party was held December 6 in Lavonia. The pre-dinner social was a singular chance to share fellowship with old friends and meet with new members. After-dinner games, directed as always by Julie Moore, introduced a challenge and a chuckle. But an unplanned round of members' boating disaster stories brought the house down with unfettered laughter and promises not to repeat them.



Christmas Party Dinner



Antique boats show off at Lavonia Christmas Parade

The next day four boats participated in the Lavonia Christmas Parade. Bright sunshine and large crowds presented an opportunity to promote the Lake Hartwell Antique Boat Show. Gary Fesperman hosted State Representative Allen Powell in his 1972 Century Resorter 16, John Heiderich brought his twin Hydro Mites, Al Olsen showed up with a new project boat, 1917 Truscott launch *Popeye*, and Dennis Moore entered *Screamer*, his Jersey Speed Skiff.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Special Events & Childrens Programs

Position vacant

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Terry Harbin
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AHOY NEW BRC MEMBERS, WELCOME!

By Scott & Sandy Snedden

Membership is the heart of any chapter, and boy does Blue Ridge Chapter have heart! Our chapter has added 27 new members (as of 11/2014), and we hope to continue growing. We are one of the largest ACBS chapters, known for our friendliness, willingness to help and support of other chapters in any way needed.

So, new members, welcome to our boating family. It has been great to personally meet some of you at our events. All of us look forward to seeing each of you at future chapter events.

BIG WELCOME

NEW MEMBERS FOR 2014

Dan & Mary Boyd, Billy & Pamela Bowers, Sandra Diaz, Denny & Paula Freeston, Art & Paula Flatt, Gary Greene, Dudley Gunter, Jan & Peggy Hadley, William Harnaegel, John & Christine Heenan, Kirsten Johnson, Paul Ledford, Jimmy & Sandra Lewis, Brian & Janie Mahoney, John & Katherine Martin, David McCully, Donald & Alexa Murray, Norman Narmore, James Partin, Roger & Judith Seager, Bob & Linda Smith, Gordon & Dale Stubbings, Bob & Kanne Tidaudeau, Edwin & Catherine Wahlen, Jack Watson, Joan & Dave Wigfield, and Randy Wynn

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO OUR 30+ YEAR MEMBERS

Larry & Karen Snyder, Tom & Joyce Neff, Wilson & Pat Wright, Gary & Ingrid Scherb, Nan Jorgensen, Charles & Yetty Arp, Mike McSwain, James Hamrick, Leslie & Penny Rue, L.D. Jones, and Randy & Linda Cunningham

13th Annual Concours d'Elegance - Hilton Head, SC

Boating on the fairways!

By Jerri Nowlen

Old cars and old boats: They just go hand in hand. With that in mind, the Blue Ridge Chapter ACBS once again proudly displayed a number of our boats at the prestigious Hilton Head Concours d'Elegance at Port Royal Plantation. We presented a wide array of boats, from a humble plywood Sea Mac to a one-of-a-kind ACF Wason. Boats represented included Chris-Craft, Philbrick, AristoCraft and Century. Roger & Lisa Brown carried the GarWood torch by displaying *Lisa Marie*. The Heiderichs' fiberglass Mighty Mites were a huge hit with the younger crowd. As in prior years, our boats were placed in a prime spot on the motoring midway surrounded by multi-million dollar cars in a Concours dedicated to Jaguars. This gave us all an opportunity to have the parade come to us while we lounged by our boats.

Festivities began Friday night at a dinner gathering hosted by Charles & Diane Mistele at Belfair Plantation beginning with the famous Belfair Caesar salad and a made-to-order pasta bar which the head chef presided over himself. Dinner would not have been complete without the signature Belfair ice cream.

Saturday arrived brisk and damp, but spirits were not dampened, and we took advantage of the opportunity to test drive Jaguars, BMWs, Teslas and more. Complimentary breakfast and a most welcome hospitality tent were just steps away. Late in the afternoon we were treated to a wine and cheese gathering, after which most boaters returned to their condos to warm their toes and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow boaters.

Sunday dawned with warmer weather and sunshine, which bestowed a gorgeous day to stroll among hundreds of cars that recalled a bygone era. The crowds were much larger and the day quite festive. The Concours provided a complimentary brunch feast with foods from various local restaurants.

There were many highlights of this amazing event that cannot be covered in one article, but one of the thrills for me was to see a young attendee with his father, whom we met last year. His father proudly exclaimed that they would be building a wooden boat this year. Daniel, we are looking forward to seeing photos of your progress at the 2015 Concours!

The Hilton Head Concours is an amazing, not-to-be-missed event. Unlike any of our other events, there is no registration fee. There is some talk that the 2015 event will include vintage planes. For an event this size registration is early and by invitation. Please email Jerri at jnowlen@ellijay.com for an invitation to register and information on the great lodging opportunities. ■



Crowd loves the wooden boats.



Festivities begin with a feast.



Boats fill the fairways.



Search: Blue Ridge Chapter ACBS | Like us: Click the "Like" button
Updates will show up on your home page.

You can post a comment and add a picture of your own boating experience!

Chapter Visits

Dixieland/Alabama

Sister Chapter ACBS Dixieland held its 30th annual boat show this summer in Rogersville, Alabama. The show was held at Joe Wheeler State Park Resort on Wheeler Lake, July 17-20. Several of the Blue Ridge Chapter members attended to show support and join the celebration ~ Chuck & Diane Mistele, Art & Tater Hampton, Sandy & Scott Sneddon and John Heiderich. BRC also contributed to the Saturday night prize drawings, as well as assisting in unloading, docking and loading boats at the ramp.

It was a great show despite severe weather. However, in the proper boating spirit, participants persevered and enjoyed the Friday night meet-and-greet. Saturday weather improved, and all were able to enjoy the show as well as a picnic lunch on the dock.

Saturday evening dinner highlights included Chuck Mistele's fabulous history of *Miss America IX*, including slides, original clothing, documentation and presentation. His presentation is highly recommended for any of the boating events next year!



Tater says to Art Hampton, "Oh please take me for a boat ride!"

Inland Empire /Sandpoint, Idaho

Approximately 52 boats lined the marina at the three-day gathering in Sandpoint, Idaho, July 11-13. An afternoon of perfect summer weather began with a cruise on Lake Pend Orielle and ended with a well attended BBQ dinner that included an array of local entertainment. On Saturday a boat parade led by a fireboat opened the showing for the public. The awards ceremony surprised BRC member Al Olsen, who received the Best Postwar Utility award for *Norwegian Son*.

Sunday capped a most enjoyable boating weekend with an island-hopping cruise, a stop for coffee and rolls, a slow cruise through the lowland islands along the Monarch Mountains, then crisscrossing the vast Lake Pend Oreille in "V" formation while aerial photos were taken by a chapter member from his airplane. ■



Sandpoint fireboat kicks off boat parade

CHAPTER CARE & CONCERNS

The Blue Ridge Chapter is saddened to hear of the passing of another of our beloved boat captains, Charlie Rook. Please keep Charlie's family and friends in your prayers. Additionally, we would ask that you keep Joyce Neff in your prayers during her illness.

Special note to members:

Wayne and I would like to thank our Blue Ridge family for their thoughts and prayers, visits, cards and telephone calls during the last six months and especially for the gift in memory of our beautiful great-granddaughters Adeleen and Leila. Your friendships are very precious to us.

Alice Forbis

ON THE HORIZON

Greenville Boat Show

January 22-25
Greenville, SC
Wooden Boat Display

Mid Atlantic Boat Show

February 5-8
Charlotte, NC
Wooden Boat Display

Lake Hartwell Boat Festival

April 17-18
Hartwell Marina
Hartwell, GA

Lake Chatuge Rendezvous

June 5-6
Ridges Resort and Marina
Hiawassee, GA

Charlotte Antique and Classic Boat Show

July 24-25
Trump National Golf and Country Club
Mooresville, NC

Lake Greenwood Boat Rendezvous

October 9-10
Palmetto Crossing
Greenwood, SC

Blue Ridge Chapter Annual Meeting

October 10
Palmetto Crossing
Greenwood, SC

Fall Cruise Event

TBD

Hilton Head Island Motoring Festival & Concours d' Elegance

October 31- November 1
Hilton Head, SC

Annual Christmas Party

December 5
Hampton Inn and Suites
Lavonia, GA

CHURCHILL'S TIDBITS & TIPS

Time to Winterize

by Bob Churchill



Bob Churchill
Safety Chairman

The following information is shared from several articles from Boat US and "Discover Boating."

1. Inboard winterization: Run the engine to warm the oil. This tends to allow impurities to be drained away with the oil.
2. Change the oil and filter in the engine and transmission.
3. Run fresh water through the engine, then put antifreeze through. Make sure you see it come out the exhaust.
4. Remove the spark plugs and fog the engine cylinders, then turn the engine over a little to evenly coat the cylinders.
5. Also fog the carburetor.
6. Fill the fuel tank to avoid buildup of condensation over the winter months.
7. Add fuel stabilizer.
8. Change fuel filter and water separator.
9. Hang a moisture-absorber bag such as those made by Starbrite. Rust happens.
10. Empty the fuel lines. While the engine is running, close off the gas line. When the engine dies, the fuel delivery components will be empty, preventing gums from forming in the stagnant gasoline lines, jets or injectors.
11. Seal all engine and tank openings.
12. Inspect the bilge and other spots that could have damage or rot.
13. Check fire extinguishers and replace if they are over two years old.

If you have any questions, contact me at 770-757-7327 or rac2565@gmail.com.



Looking forward to 2015 boating season!