

SUMMER 2018

# The Range Marker

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

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## Lake Hartwell Antique Wooden Boat Festival - Reconnecting with Friends

by Bryan Leazenby

This year more than 3,000 people crowded the docks to view the 56 antique wooden boats, 35 antique and classic cars, and 24 arts and crafts vendors. We asked the people to vote on their favorite boat, and of the 48 boats in the water, 47 received at least one vote, so we had something for everyone to enjoy.

The Thursday early arrival welcome party held at the Hartwell Art Center was attended by 54 people. Fifty-two people riding on 25 boats enjoyed our hour long Friday lunch cruise to Harbor Light Marina.

More than 100 people attended the Friday night BBQ dinner at Julie & Dennis Moore's Boat Barn. Cedric Martin again was in charge of BBQ ribs. That dude knows how to work a grill.

My biggest recollection of the weekend is about the friendships among Blue Ridge folks and their hospitality toward

see *Reconnecting* PAGE 2



*Large crowds on the dock*

## 31st Lake Chatuge Rendezvous Hits High Marks in Water and Fun!

by Jerri Nowlen

Never a dull moment in the boating world! As of Wednesday morning, May 30th, there was a big question on whether this year's Rendezvous was going to be a land or water display. With torrential rain leading up to the event, the gangways were four feet under water, the highest the lake has been in 40 years. Never to be deterred, most boaters said, "Not a problem, I can swim!" With that spirit the Rendezvous was on! Mother Nature provided sunshine while all the gates of the dam opened to lower the lake levels in time for boaters to be in the water by Friday. Members began arriving Thursday and by that evening we had 51 chapter members reuniting at Fesperman/Harbin-Nowlen condo for a welcome party. This year, because one dock was still under water, we had all boats on the other dock. This was perfect as all 33 boats fit on the one dock. At the very end of the dock was *Rumrunner*, owned by Will Bates & Julie Stout who gave rides to the public all day long. We cannot thank them enough for making the trip from

see *Chatuge Rendezvous* PAGE 3



*Onlookers cheering young cardboard boaters*



*22' Donzi "That's Ma Boat" named Captain's Choice*

## COMMANDER'S CALL



*John Heiderich*

The year is off to a great start. I'm pleased to announce that Craig Miller has accepted the position of vice president for the remainder of the 2018-19 term. I'm looking forward to working with Craig on ways to keep our fine chapter moving

forward. The new boat shows in Greenville and Charlotte were well attended again this year, with many people stopping by the booths to let us know that we are one of the reasons they come each year. At Charlotte, we also sponsored a regional meeting for ACBS National. While we did not have as many members attending from outside the Blue Ridge Chapter, we still had a great discussion led by Dan Gyoerkoe, ACBS executive director.

As you will see on Page 1, the Hartwell Antique Wooden Boat Festival had great weather, great boats and cars, and more than 3,000 people coming out to view everything.

Dan Gyoerkoe attended the show, talked with many of our members and came away with an outstanding impression of our chapter. He wondered how we were able to pull off so many well run events each year. We told him it was entirely due to having a membership that was willing to be involved. I want to thank all those who were able to attend the show and to encourage those who were not to make plans for the weekend after Easter next year. We are still working on plans for a day outing on Lake Lanier this year, possibly the first Saturday in August. The proposed format would be to meet at the docks, visit, have lunch, tour the lake for an hour or so (led by Scott Turner), then pull out -- just a day of fun and the experience of exploring a new lake.

Please make plans to attend our scheduled events for the remainder of the year. I hope everyone can make at least one event. In closing, please plan on attending our annual meeting, which will be held in conjunction with the Sinclair show September 29.

Safe boating to all,

*John*

*Reconnecting continued from PAGE 1*

new members and the people attending the show as visitors. They helped everyone who put a boat in the water and offered rides to anyone without a boat. At several meals, I saw members make a deliberate attempt to sit with new people attending the event.

I have always felt that when the public is invited to a boat event, the owners of the boats should be there to answer questions and encourage people to look, touch and understand why we enjoy our classics. We should also listen to their stories when they relate their own memories of vintage craft from their past.

Our boat, *Eau! Canada*, was one of the first ones people came to when getting out on the docks, so we were the Welcome Wagon of sorts. I talked all day and really did not have time to take photographs of the great boats at the show as I usually do. As John Heiderich said, there was a wide variety of boats, enough so that nearly every boat got at least one vote in the People's Choice ballot box.

Even though the trip home was nine hours of driving through rain, it was well worth it, considering that we got to reconnect with good friends and to do so while floating on fresh, cool water.

See Reconnecting Photos on PAGE 5



*Welcome at Dock*

Chatuge Rendezvous continued from PAGE 1

Florida and providing the ride of a lifetime to so many spectators. Friday was spent boating one of the most beautiful mountain lakes in the country. In the evening 88 of us gathered at the Hollis's Classic Car Station for live music by Gene Ponder and BBQ from the Happy Hawg. A big thank you to Wayne & Carolyn for such a wonderful venue for the Friday BBQ.

The 26th Cardboard Boat Build and Paddle was sponsored by Aristocraft Boats, with participants that were both members and spectators. Quinn Cunningham and his father smoked everyone with a magnificent design that was unsinkable. Ana Arce, who is not a current member but is definitely a girl with a future in boating, came in just behind. Ella Turner's design was a stunning

See Chatuge Rendezvous on PAGE 7



1972 Century Resorter



Kids crafting their cardboard boats



Public lined up for "Rumrunner" ride



BBQ night at Wayne's Station



Art Hampton presents Best First Mate to Gail Turner



1956 Chris-Craft Holiday

## THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### President

John Heiderich  
just2more@aol.com  
864-231-9616

### Vice President

Craig Miller  
cmiller@prosysis.com  
770-377-1297

### Secretary

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### Treasurer

Jerri Nowlen  
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### GA Director

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404-824-4645

### NC Director

Ed Longino  
704-873-3282  
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412-889-8589  
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### Membership Chairman

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### Youth Chairman

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### Webmaster

Terry Harbin  
tharbin@ellijay.com

## AHOY NEW BRC MEMBERS, WELCOME!



Bob Smith  
Chairman

Please join us in welcoming our latest members to the growing Blue Ridge Chapter fleet.

We all look forward to getting to know these new

additions and again welcome them to the finest Chapter in the ACBS.

Bob & Linda Smith  
Membership Chair

## BIG WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Walter & Jane Hardin

Paul & Molly Aiken

Thomas & Tina Dunn

Lee K & Ginger Williamson

Mark Murphy

Richard & Barbara Wigglesworth

Scott & Helen Vanvick

Mark & Janet Weinberger

Erik Bodor

Chase Fulbright

Charles & Evelin Graham

Carol & Wayne Brooks

Bob & Wendy Tettman

Denise Ferrara

Brad Tucker

Joe Bennett & Fred Borth

Clint & Kristen Wood

Charles & Ellen Wallace

Peter & Tina Anzo

Ham Ipser

## Congratulations to the Hartwell Show Winners!

On Saturday night at the Catechee banquet room, 80-plus people gathered to hear the outcome of the awards and bid farewell to their boating friends. Listed below are the award winners:

Skipper's Choice: *Ciao Baby*, a 1971 Riva Junior owned by Ed & Sarah James

People's Choice: *Sunburn*, a 1960 Dorsett Catalina owned by Stephanie Ryan

Best Runabout: *Miss Dot*, a 1941 Chris-Craft 101 owned by Terry Limehouse & Chery Woods

Best Utility: *Costa Plenty*, a 1947 Chris-Craft Deluxe Sportsman owned by Denny & Millie Cutler

Best Contemporary: *Double Take*, a 2008 Chris-Craft Cobra replica owned by Mark & Janet Weinberger

Best Antique: *Popeye*, a 1917 Truscott Launch owned by Al & Bonne Olsen

Best Classic: *Wooden Nickel*, a 1957 Correct Craft Rocket Skier owned by Brian & Sue Aiken

Best Outboard: *Glenn*, a 1956 Lyman owned by Glenn Perish

Best Century: *Riley Alice*, a 1958 Coronado owned by Ray & Della Glenn

Best Chris-Craft: *Smith Skiff*, a 1957 Chris-Craft Sea Skiff owned by Alan & Fay Smith

Best Non-Wood: *Sunburn*, a 1960 Dorsett Catalina owned by Stephanie Ryan

Perpetual Awards

Boat Enthusiasts: John & Millie Hawbecker

Old Boats, Old Friends: Edward & Sarah James

Fred Thomas Best Antique Boater of the Year: Bob & Dottie White

Best of Show: Stephanie Ryan for *Sunburn*



Ciao Baby



Sunburn



Ed & Sarah James



Stephanie Ryan



John & Millie Hawbecker - Boat Enthusiasts



Lunch cruise

Dan Gyoerkoe speaks to members

Boat Barn BBQ Dinner

## Lake Hartwell Antique Wooden Boat Festival 25th Year Anniversary

by Gail Turner

The year was 1993 when Mike McSwain planned the first Lake Hartwell Antique Wooden Boat Festival at Hartwell Marina in conjunction with the Hart County Chamber of Commerce. He chose the timing of the weekend with the idea that people returning from then Mt. Dora, Florida, would also stop over at Hartwell on their way home. Plans for the weekend included a lake cruise on Friday with dinner at the home of Mike and Sue McSwain.

On Saturday morning, an informational roundtable was presented with a wonderful group of “legends” in the hobby that included John Clark, Jimmy Potter, George Johnson and Frank Williams, all ready to discuss how they started in the business of boating with these antique and classic boats we so cherish. A BBQ dinner was held that evening to celebrate the weekend.

It was discovered in old notes and newsletters that our club had a prior gathering on the lake with a Lake Hartwell Rendezvous on July 17-19, 1987, at a different area, but it was the first Lake Hartwell Antique Wooden Boat Festival that Mike organized that has continued through today. What wonderful memories, experiences, and stories of boating have been carried forward through this event! Our chapter is fortunate for those that continue to step forward through the years to produce these wonderful events. The people, the activities, the boats, and the stories all evolve through the years and create a special gathering each and every time.

How lucky we are to celebrate the 25th Lake Hartwell Antique Boat Festival this year!



Mike McSwain addresses members



Boats displayed on water &amp; land

## INTEL FROM INTERNATIONAL

by Gary M. Fesperman, ACBS Secretary

The 2018 Boating Season is officially underway with the Tavares, Hartwell and Lake Chatuge boat shows already behind us. The ACBS Board of Directors had its first 2018 quarterly meeting during the Tavares show on Thursday, March 22. Membership retention and recruitment was once again a hot topic for discussion. ACBS is not the only organization currently having membership issues. Executive Director Dan Gyoerkoe put together some interesting membership trends for the meeting and showed comparisons to similar automobile, motorcycle, civic and fraternal organizations having the same issues as ACBS. Blue Ridge had 263 members at that time and was ranked sixth largest out of our 54 chapters. Committee and staff research continues, and many new ideas for securing and retaining members will be reviewed and hopefully implemented later this year. Due to an ongoing incredible stock market performance, ACBS investment gains are currently propping up the operating fund losses. Overall, ACBS is in good shape financially at this time; however, it was noted that total operating expenses for the next several years will have to be held in check until the revenue losses from membership dues and other miscellaneous income shortfalls have been overcome.

Noteworthy items of discussion during the meeting included the following:

- A continued tweaking of the judging rules by the ad hoc judging committee. The new judging format will be implemented at the annual show and meeting in Port Huron.
- An updated planning committee report regarding the future plans and direction of ACBS
- An overview of the marketing committee report on the successes of our increased social media presence and our increased website daily visits
- Nominations for the upcoming slate of ACBS officers and directors that will be announced at the ACBS quarterly meeting in June
- The new *Rudder* format
- A change in the bylaws regarding the number of nominating committee members due to the elimination of the second vice president position
- Approval of a new logo for the Harvey's Lake/Northeast Pennsylvania Chapter

The minutes from the Tavares quarterly meeting including all of the committee reports can be found in the Members section of the ACBS website. Pick out several boat shows to attend with our ACBS and Blue Ridge boating family and have a safe and wonderful 2018 boating season!



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!

## Upstate Boat Show - Greenville, SC

by John Heiderich

The Upstate New Boat Show is a great space for our "old" boats to be seen. This January, we had plenty of space and were able to display 10 boats with ample room for people to walk around admiring them. I would like to thank the following members of Blue Ridge for showing their boats: Tom Neff, Greg Jackson, Paul Gardner, Alan Smith, Bob Churchill, Gary Fesperman, Randy Cunningham, and of course me.



*Ju\$1 1 More*

Fox News did a remote morning news broadcast from the show on Thursday, and -- you guessed it -- they started with our display; and their last broadcast at 9:00 pm was again in our booth, showing our great boats. We had a number of people stop by during the weekend to let us know they saw the broadcast and came to the show specifically to see our boats.

One new boat did catch my eye, a big Mastercraft ski boat with all the bells and whistles. Then I looked at the price tag. OK, hold on to your hats; this boat can be yours for a low monthly payment of \$810 for (get this) 240 months. That is 20 years. Do you have any idea what a \$194,000 ski boat is going to be worth in 20 years? I know our boats will be worth more in 20 years than they are today, but I'm not sure about that one.

Thanks again to the members who displayed their boats and helped make this event a big success.



*Ema-Rold Craft*

## Wooden Boats at H2O Exhibit

by Al Olsen

At the end of April, several members of the Blue Ridge Chapter were invited to the Belton (SC) Area Museum, which was opening an exhibit called The Power of H2O. Members of the museum attended the Lake Hartwell Antique Wooden Boat Festival, admired all the antique wooden boats and invited us to bring boats to their opening. Butch & Karen Rubino, Dennis & Julie Moore, and Al Olsen were able to participate. It was especially nice to see the young children at the museum looking at the boats and enjoying them. One fellow from the shopping center across the street came over and said one of his biggest desires was to ski behind an old wooden boat. So we may be trying to connect with him at some point to fulfill his wish.



Youngsters checking out the boats

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Chatuge Rendezvous continued from PAGE 3



Randy Cunningham cruising in "Junaluska"



Kids set for the big Paddle

rendition of a Chinese dragon boat while Owen Turner added substantial power with twin outboards. After the build and paddle, John Heiderich and Owen Turner competed in a race to the gangway with their electric watercraft. While John gave it a valiant effort, Owen took the lead to victory.

Later in the day Aristocraft and Custom Cabenna sponsored a cornhole toss, with Richard & Barbara Turner winning a beautiful tray generously donated by customcabenna.com.

For more on the Rendezvous, please cruise on over to Woody Boater's website for more photos and a live-ish report by Michael Maddox.

At the request of some members, the banquet was pared down a bit and gave us a wonderful opportunity to socialize more both before and after the dinner. Awards this year went to:

Captain's Choice – *That's Ma Boat*, a 22' 1987 Donzi

– Kent & Tammy McLean

The "Randy" – Jerri Nowlen

Best First Mate – Gail Turner

The Shining Star awards were given earlier in the day to Quinn Cunningham and Ana Arce.

Thank you all for attending this year's events.

For 2019 we promise more excitement and adventure with our expanded team of chairs: The Fespermans, Hollises, Caldwells, Scott & Jenna Turner, Terry & I. We can't wait to see you all again at Lake Norman August 24th weekend.

## Mid-Atlantic Boat Show - Charlotte, NC

by Dana Anthony

The Mid-Atlantic Boat Show was held at the Charlotte Convention Center over the weekend of February 10th. Although there was only space for two boats, show visitors were plentiful, asking questions and admiring Ed Longino's *Lisa Ann* and Dana Anthony's '57 Chris-Craft Cavalier.

ACBS headquarters hosted a seminar Saturday for chapter officers to learn more about their duties and the workings of ACBS. As in past years, booth volunteers handed out hundreds of "save the date" postcards promoting the Charlotte show held each year in August on Lake Norman at Trump National Golf Course.



The Longinos' "Lisa Ann"



Dana Anthony's Cavalier

## ON THE HORIZON - 2018

### Charlotte Antique Classic Boat Show

Aug 24-25 | Mooresville, NC  
Trump National Golf &  
Country Club  
120 Trump Square  
Contact: Ed & Judy Longino  
704-871-7747  
boss@longinodist.com

### Lake Sinclair Cruise & Blue Ridge Chapter Annual Meeting

Sept 28-29 | Milledgeville, GA  
Contact: Tom Neff or  
Brenda Highsmith  
912-614-1337  
njoyce07@gmail.com

### Hilton Head Island Motoring Festival & Concours d' Elegance

Nov 3-4 | Hilton Head Island, SC  
Contact: Jerri Nowlen  
706-273-6495  
jnowlen@ellijay.com

**Note:** See website for event details

## CHURCHILL'S TIDBITS & TIPS

### Wear It! It Saves Lives!!



Bob Churchill  
Safety Chairman

The following facts were extracted from the 2016 US Coast Guard April/May monthly report.

- 4,463 accidents were reported in 2016.
- 701 were deaths
- 2,903 were injuries
- \$49 million in damaged property
- 80 percent of the fatal boating accidents were from drowning.
- 83 percent were due to not wearing life jackets!
- The four contributing factors related to accidents were operator inattention, operator

inexperience, excessive speed, and machinery failure.

As Safety Director, the one I focus on the most is 83 percent not wearing life jackets. By law you have to have enough proper-fitting life jackets for everybody on board. Children age 14 and below have to wear their jackets when you are under way.

I know that everybody has a mental checklist of things to do before putting the boat in the water. Here are a few things that should be on that list: Make sure you have a working fire extinguisher (rechargeable are the best in my opinion; you can have them checked every year). Check the navigation lights, (red, green and white), oil, gas, and, oh yes, do make sure the plug is in. However, the most important checklist item is the life jackets, which should be US Coast Guard approved and in good working condition.