

SUMMER 2014

# The Range Marker

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

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## Hartwell Show—A Perfect Blowout

*Warm weather brings crowds*

This year the Blue Ridge Chapter partnered with the Hart County Chamber of Commerce to take the Antique Wooden Boat Festival to another level. Local organizers prepared a series of events and activities directed toward entertaining the registered boaters, the Porsche Clubs of Georgia and Carolina geared up to return for the third year, and the Chamber recruited 30 craft vendors and an array of food merchants. Such excellent organization and the boost of perfect spring weather combined to deliver an event that surpassed expectations, with a record turnout estimated at more than 3,000 attendees.



*Porsches on parade*

At 9:30 a.m., a police escort guided 42 classic Porsches through town in grand style to the Hartwell Marina parking lot. Opening flag ceremonies were enhanced by the voice of Brook Benton, singing the Star Spangled Banner. A series of welcome greetings by local dignitaries got the festivities under way.

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## Lake Chatuge Rendezvous Rocks

*ACBS Directors join in the fun*

Greetings, fellow boaters. WOW! Just WOW! What an amazing weekend we had at the 27<sup>th</sup> Lake Chatuge Rendezvous. Boaters and Board members began arriving as early as Wednesday June 4<sup>th</sup>, and by Thursday we were nearly in full swing. The weather was perfect, and the chance to meet the movers and shakers of the ACBS was great. What we discovered about the ACBS Board is that they are just as nice, warm and fun as the Blue Ridge Chapter members.



*Visiting ACBS Directors returning from a cruise*

We were thrilled to be joined by Kirsten Johnson, the grandniece of Garfield Wood, founder of GarWood wooden boats. Art Hampton gave her the first ride she has ever had in a classic wooden boat, and Charles Mistele gave her a ride in *Miss America IX*. A more in-depth story can be found on [woodyboater.com](http://woodyboater.com). We are hoping she continues to join us at gatherings, as she lives in Blue Ridge Chapter territory.

A delicious welcome dinner buffet for 75 was held at Café Portofino with local mountain trout as a special treat. After dinner we set out for an evening cruise of the lake led by Randy Cunningham. Mother Nature provided the sheer joy of a pop-up summer shower as we were coming back in. It made for magical memories we will not forget.

*continued on page 4*



## COMMANDER'S CALL



Gary Fesperman

### Greetings from the Helm!

Summer is here, and the 2014 boating season is well under way. The Lake Hartwell Boat Festival was a huge success—great weather, great boats and Porches, and the best public and vendor attendance ever.

Lake Chatuge was a spectacular event, according to all that attended, including the ACBS International Directors who were our guests in attendance for their quarterly meeting. **At the directors' meeting some important ACBS policy changes were discussed concerning the inclusion and judging of contemporary, non-wood boats. I will forward a detailed account to each member so that everyone is aware of these major changes.**

Our next BRC event will be the new Charlotte Antique and Classic Boat Show at the Trump National Golf and Country Club located on beautiful Lake Norman just

Northwest of Charlotte. Ed Longino has advised that docking space will be very limited and that some boat show attendees may be asked to display their boat as a land display this year. Please try and work with Ed this year until alternative plans for additional docking space can be made for future shows at this wonderful venue.

Our boat show committees have outdone themselves this year so far and have really set the bar high for future shows, so make plans to attend at least one of our remaining boating events. Fall is just around the corner, and it will be time to winterize the boat again before we know it!

Signing off from the Helm,

Your President, *Gary*

*Hartwell Show - continued from page 1*

Thirty-eight antique boats lined the boat docks with seven displayed on land. A noon visit by eight of the local Feathercraft aluminum boat club members added an extra component to the dock exhibition. Two vintage trailers at the entrance attracted their own flow of interested sightseers. Participating in the "Cardboard Float-a-Boat Challenge" were nine youngsters and their parents. When the boats hit the water, the organizers were surprised to discover all the boats met the "float" challenge, so the winner was chosen based on design. Young boat crafter Stella Long, 7, won the 1<sup>st</sup> Place trophy; the other participants received a tee-shirt.

Meanwhile, a group of six teens was being briefed for the youth judging endeavor, sponsored by Hagerty Marine Insurance. After their rounds of examining the antique boats, the winner was compiled from the young judges' worksheets and announced at the banquet.

Thanks to our generous boaters, numerous people who lined up at the end of the dock were given rides in the antique boats. All through the afternoon, Miss America revved up her engines and delighted viewers, with some folks lucky enough to catch a ride.



Pat Crusse's vintage trailer

The final event of the day was the Awards Banquet, held at Cateechee Golf Club. After beverages, a buffet dinner and camaraderie, the awards were presented by Julie Moore and Gary Fesperman.

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Youth judges on the job

Winners by category included Best pre-war utility—*Patty Ann II*, Jon Walters; Best reproduction—*Dragonfly*, Tony Griffith; Best post-war utility—*Brown Eyed Girl*, Craig Miller; Best post-war runabout—*Bad English*, Charlie & Caroline Dunn; Best contemporary runabout—



Ed James in "Ciao Baby" with a full load

Gad-A-Bout, Dave & Pat Nisbett; Best launch—*Foxy*, Tommy & Ginger Watson; Best decorated—*Christi*, Ron Nowak; Best user boat—*Handy Boy*, Scott Hibbs; Best canoe—*Square Stern*, Bill & Patty Lovejoy; Best classic glass—*Wild Cherry*, Gary & Mary Jo Fesperman; Best Garwood—*The Good Life*, Terry Harbin & Jerri Nowlen; Youth judging award—*Christi*, Ron Nowak.

Lastly, Best of Show—*Foxy*, Tommy & Ginger Watson. This was the Watsons' first entry at the Hartwell show. 🏆



Julie Moore presenting Best of Show to Tommy Watson

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Photographers, Sara James, Lee Mapp - Hartwell  
Bryan Leazenby - Chatuge  
Chatuge Story Contributor - Jerri Nowlen



# BIG WELCOME

## NEW MEMBERS FOR 2014

### North Carolina

William Harnagel  
Roger & Judith Seager  
Sandra Diaz & Jose Buxo

### South Carolina

John & Katherine Martin  
Bob & Kanne Tibaudeau  
Bob & Linda Smith  
David McCully  
Jan & Peggy Hadley

### Georgia

Norman Marmore & Robin Graham  
Jimmy & Sandra Lewis  
Randy Wynn  
Billy & Pamela Bowers



Brooklynn Gibson getting launched by dad

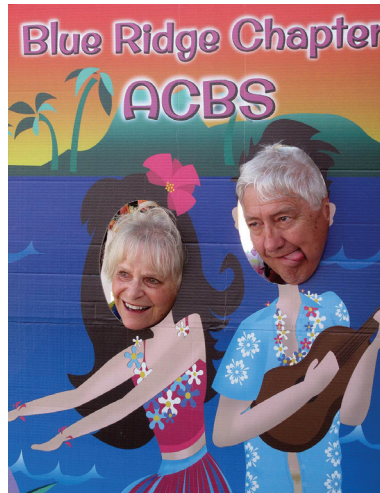


Randy Cunningham showing his award-winning aft pole

*Lake Chatuge - continued from page 1*

Friday began with the “You’re now in command” seminar presented by the Coast Guard. It was extremely informative in preparing captains and their first mates for unforeseen events that can happen while boating. We all joined the board members for lunch at The Oaks before heading out for more boating fun. Then all 140 of us donned our leis and headed to the Sand Bar Tiki Hut and beach for a luau which became the highlight of the weekend. Bare toes in the sand danced to beach music, and conversation was lively, to say the least!

Saturday we awoke to another amazingly beautiful mountain day. There were 45 boats from all over the country on land and two docks. The



Mary & Will Vidal kicking off luau night

art and crafts show was in full swing and Pirate Bob Churchill led his band of swashbucklers in building 15 cardboard boats. Brooklynn Gibson smoked the boys in her age group to complete the paddle in record time. Chris Smith, the youngest in boat building, was powered by H Craft ingenuity to win in his age group.

No one was ready for the weekend to end as we gathered for the Saturday night banquet. Through the generosity of Rich & Beth Lepping of the Glacier Lakes Chapter, we raffled a beautiful framed show poster.

This year we had a Crowd Pleaser award, and it was a tie! Kudos to Jack & Linda Bingham with CC Ryder and Charles & Diane Mistele with Miss America IX. Be sure to ask Randy Cunningham how he earned the “Most Expensive Beer” award. With excitement building, we announced our People’s Choice award. This winner has the honor of representing the Blue Ridge Chapter in the 2015 edition of the ACBS directory. It could not have gone to a more deserving person or boat, with Art Hampton and *It’s Someday* as the clear winner.

Once again we said our “til the next gathering” goodbyes to friends both old and new, already planning our next hellos. This year we hugged a little harder, felt a little closer, and reveled in being together once again. We look forward to seeing everyone again very soon. ☺



Charles Mistele sharing insights with Kirsten Johnson



Terry Harbin presenting award to Art Hampton, with his son Joel & grandson





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Updates will show up on your home page.  
You can post a comment and add a picture of your own boating experience!



*Old boats take stage at new boat show*

## Charlotte and Greenville: Great Winter Venues

*By John Heiderich*

For most of us January is a time when the boats are all tucked away for a long winter's nap; and we read the new issue of *Classic Boating* from cover to cover, wishing we could once again be with our boats on the water. Well, a group of us has found a way to enjoy our boats without getting them wet or un-winterizing the engines. For the last ten years the Charlotte, NC, Convention Center has given the Blue Ridge Chapter space to display our boats at the "new" Mid-Atlantic Boat Show. In addition, for the last three years our chapter has also had space at the Upstate South Carolina Boat Show in Greenville, SC. Both of these events are held in late January, so you see there is a way to use our boats in the winter without getting them wet. Both shows run from Thursday through Sunday and attract thousands of people who enjoy boating. At the Charlotte show we displayed five boats and at Greenville we had nine on display.

At each show we talk with a lot of people, answer all kinds of questions, listen to stories told to us or told to their families of how they rode with Granddad around this lake or that in a boat just like this one or was it that one... No matter, it was a wood boat and they loved it. Almost every story ends in "I wonder what ever happened to that boat." We even have a lot of people who say the reason they come back each year is to see the old boats, and they thank us for bringing them to the show. Shows like these give us a chance to promote our love of the old boats to a larger audience and just maybe obtain a couple of new members.

We have been invited back to both locations next year. If anyone wants to be part of a great winter event, contact either Ed Longino for the Charlotte show or John Heiderich for the Greenville show. ☺

## CHAPTER CARE & CONCERNS

The Blue Ridge Chapter has always been regarded as a family-oriented organization that considers our fellow boaters not just members or acquaintances but rather true family members! So when an unfortunate health-related issue arises, it is of concern to all of us.

It is a pleasure to report that your president, Gary Fesperman, is doing well following gall bladder surgery in January. We extend our care and concern to Bob Churchill, Joyce Neff, Wayne Forbis, Jon Walters, Jon Walton, Charlie Rook and Hal Crawford.

As a close-knit organization, we offer this column to express concern for our friends at challenging times and to allow members an opportunity to show their support with a call, card or email. Please know that we will respect everyone's privacy and will only include the names of those who give us permission to do so. As always, we extend our very best wishes to all.



## ON THE HORIZON

### Charlotte Antique & Classic Boat Show

August 22 & 23

Trump National Golf & Country Club  
Lake Norman, NC

### Blue Ridge Chapter Annual Meeting

TBD

### Boating Bonanza

Fall TBD

Sinclair Marina, GA

### Concours d'Elegance

November 7-9

Hilton Head Island, SC

### Chapter Christmas Party

December 6

Hampton Inn

Lavonia, GA



## Lake Hartwell Cruise

### Boats get a workout

Friday featured the Predicted Log Lunch Run. Each captain had to predict how long it would take to cruise from Hartwell Marina to the Clemson Marina. Each captain received a map, and at the appointed time everyone roared in unison down the lake. People on the shoreline waved with delight seeing and hearing the wooden boats. For the second time, Captain Terry Harbin won with a time of 1 hour, 14 minutes, 14 seconds, just a mere 4 seconds off his prediction. On the return trip to the Hartwell Marina, boaters encountered strong head winds that made the trip exceedingly slower.

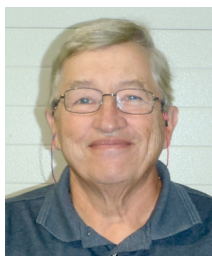


Hagar and Hilda Adventures

## CHURCHILL'S TIDBITS & TIPS

### Life Jackets Do Save Lives

By Bob Churchill



Bob Churchill  
Safety Chairman

I saw something very interesting while at the Hartwell boat show in April. We were cruising from Hartwell to Clemson, about 30 miles one way. On that trip we passed under a bridge. Painted on the bridge was "200 drowned on this lake." One has to wonder how many of those 200 people were wearing life jackets.

According to the Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources and the Coast Guard, there are five types of life jackets. Type 1 (offshore life jacket) is for rough or remote waters where rescue may be delayed. The person will float face up, even if unconscious. Type 2 (near shore vest) is for calm waters where quick rescue is likely; some designs may not turn someone unconscious face-up. Type 3 (flotation aid) includes vests or full-sleeved jackets for calm and quick rescue. Type 4 (throwable devices) are designed to be thrown to someone in trouble. Note: A line should be tied to the device so you can pull the person in or throw it again if necessary. Type 5 (special use devices) are vests, deck suits, and hybrid personal float devices (PFD) designed for specific activities such as wind surfing, kayaking or water skiing. For normal boating use, we use types 2 and 4.

Life jackets save lives when used appropriately. The five steps of correct use are as follows: **1.** Check the label to make sure the vest is Coast Guard approved **2.** Check for damage and repair or replace as needed. **3.** Fasten all the buckles, straps and zippers. **4.** Check for proper fit. A properly fitted life jacket keeps your head and shoulders above the water. **5. WEAR IT!** You must have the proper size for everyone on your boat. Also, those 12 years of age and under **MUST** have a life jacket on if you are under way. If you are giving rides to the general public and/or family members, make sure everyone has the proper size. An adult jack doesn't help a child. One final note about PFDs—all boats over 16 feet must have a Type 4 aboard.

By the time you read this, Safe Boating Week, May 17-23, will be history, but let's keep safe boating as a top priority throughout the summer. 🍷



And they're off!

Friday night dinner at the Moores' Boat Barn can only be described as lots of fun, plenty of food, renewed friendships and humorous frivolity. A self-serve bar and huge buffet table accommodated even the most voracious appetites. During the festivities, a Viking ship cruised in, bearing the infamous Hagar and Hilda. The familiar duo amused the guests with their outlandish rambling and antics. Wrapping up the night was a substantial raffle giveaway and the promise of another amazing festival. 🍷