

Western Wood

The Northern California/Lake Tahoe Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boat Society, Inc.

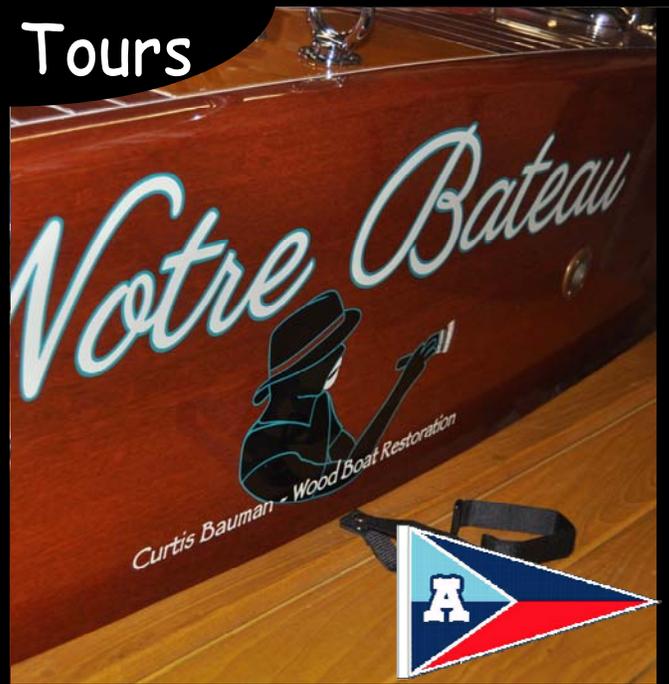
Volume 35, Issue 2

Quarterly Newsletter

Spring 2017



Spring Fling
Shop Tours



Event Calendar 2017

Bass Lake Rendezvous —page 8

May 19,20 & 21—Bobby Gaestel
Pines Resort, Bass Lake

Wood & Glory —page 4

June 1-4—Wayne Mooers & Jim Robello
Clear Lake

Woodie Whoopie

June 24—Rich Fisher
Mary-Jo Sheherd's, Homewood

Woodie Whoopie

July 14—Rich Fisher
Olympic Homeowner's Beach

South Tahoe

Wooden Boat Classic—page 12

Lee Dobbins
July 28, 29 & 30

Tahoe Keys Marina, Lake Tahoe

Woodie Whoopie -Irish

August 4—Rich Fisher
Bernie & Carol Atkinson's, Carnelian Bay

Woodie Whoopie -Clam Bake

August 18—Rich Fisher
Kay Turner's Playtime, Homewood

Lake Shasta Rendezvous

Rick & Lauri Gurries
September 7,8,9 & 10
Lake Shasta

Delta Cruise

October 6,7 & 8—Layne & Kelly Davis
B & W Resort, Isleton

Annual Meeting

November 3,4 & 5—Debra Dobbins
Aptos/Santa Cruz

2017 Board of Directors and Officers

Elected at ACBS Chapter Annual Meeting

At our Annual Membership Meeting in November, the ACBS NC/LT membership elected the 2017 slate of Officers and Directors as follows:

OFFICERS

President:	Debra Dobbins
1st VP:	Layne Davis
2nd VP:	Robert Gaestel
3rd VP:	Don Leutz
Secretary:	Jane Bane
Treasurer:	Jared Hein

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Immediate Past President:	Barbara Foster
Editors, Western Wood:	Lee and Sandy Chase
Director of Information Services:	Sandy Chase
Director of Advertising:	Virginia Lukkes
Director of Philanthropy:	Steve Caplan

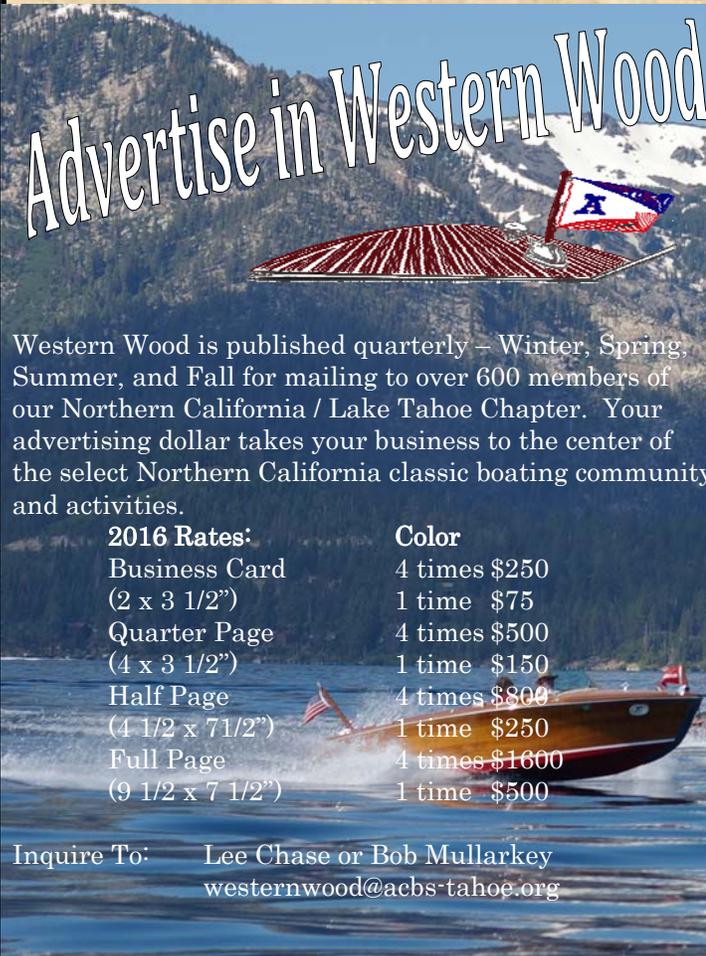
Class of 2017 Directors

Terry Clapham
Paul Campbell
Rick Gurries
Wayne Mooers
Class of 2018 Directors
Heidi Kashyap
Joel Castro
Annie Hill
Dave Lyon

Class of 2019 Directors

Miles Kashyap
Pat Butler
Bill Means
Gordon Kirkland

Advertise in Western Wood



Western Wood is published quarterly – Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall for mailing to over 600 members of our Northern California / Lake Tahoe Chapter. Your advertising dollar takes your business to the center of the select Northern California classic boating community and activities.

2016 Rates:	Color
Business Card (2 x 3 1/2")	4 times \$250 1 time \$75
Quarter Page (4 x 3 1/2")	4 times \$500 1 time \$150
Half Page (4 1/2 x 7 1/2")	4 times \$800 1 time \$250
Full Page (9 1/2 x 7 1/2")	4 times \$1600 1 time \$500

Inquire To: Lee Chase or Bob Mullarkey
westernwood@acbs-tahoe.org

Somewhere Along the West Shore



Spring is here and it's time to finish up your winter boat projects and get ready use them. I had my share this winter. First I had to fix the Chris Craft after hitting a log in the Sacramento River during the ACBS International meeting pre-events. That little incident not only broke the propeller but also knocked the prop strut loose. So, buy a new propeller (easy but expensive), reset prop strut (difficult but no cost) and replace the prop shaft for good measure (easy but expensive).

The Chris Craft done, it was time to start on a few issues with the Campbell. One gas tank (it has two) was totally contaminated with rust and goo. The only thing to do was to remove the tank and have it cleaned. This was not so easy. The tank is 9 feet long, 1 foot wide and about 6 inches deep and placed under the floor along the chines. There were about 100 screws holding the floor down, each slot totally filled with varnish and dirt. After hours and hours of working each screw out of the floor, I could remove the floor and reach the tank. Wrestling a 9-foot-long tank is not so easy but I finally got it out. A local radiator shop cleaned it out to pristine condition. To put back in the boat just reverse the above procedure. All done? No, wait there's more.

Time to check the motor out. A routine compression check revealed that two cylinders had no compression, damn! That's a big clue that something is wrong. It wasn't running really well at the end of last season, but I was hoping for a simple problem. Sooo... with the help of John Allen, we pulled the engine out, removed the distributor, intake manifold, exhaust manifolds and a bunch of other stuff that was in the way. Finally got the heads off and sure enough there were a couple of contaminated exhaust valves. We took the heads to a local head shop (not the pot head kind of head shop, the motor head kind). Now we waited for weeks, the shop wasn't swift but it looks like a good job. Putting the engine back together was so much fun that Norm Kitching came to help. He explained how I should do everything and then made me check everything three times to make sure it was right. It's now time to put it back in the boat, if all goes well I hope to have it ready for Wood & Glory.



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How did your winter projects go?

Lee & Sandy Chase

WESTERN WOOD is the Quarterly newsletter of the Northern California/Lake Tahoe Chapter, of The Antique and Classic Boat Society, Inc. and is published for the benefit of Chapter members. Publication dates are...

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| May-Spring | Deadline: April 15 |
| August-Summer | Deadline: July 15 |
| November-Fall | Deadline: October 15 |
| February-Winter | Deadline: January 15 |

The newsletter is available on our website: www.acbs-tahoe.org
Questions, articles for publication, advertisements and letters to the editor, etc. should be sent to...

westernwood@acbs-tahoe.org
lee.chase@comcast.net
sandy-chase@comcast.net

President's Message

We Love Snow !



While we are mourning the loss of this year's boat show we have many ideas about filling up this gap in boating fun. Including "Pop up Boat Shows" at various locations on the lake or Low & Slow boat parades down the West Shore of Lake Tahoe with sparkly lights all over our boats at dusk to draw attention to us! We don't want to be forgotten and it looks really cool! We could even have a boats on trailers show at the Tahoe Maritime Center. All these ideas are low key, fun to do activities that will keep our boats and club in the public's mind until we can resume having another grand boat show at Tahoe. You will be hearing more about these as the summer steps up to meet us.

On the mountains as it melts, that great Sierra Nevada reservoir of snow, Lake Tahoe fills up with beautiful clear cold water that we all enjoy roving and splashing over in our wonderful wood and classic boats! In California, all the rain we have been given, in this dessert state, has the lakes near or at full capacity for the first time in many years. What that means to us, is this year will be a fabulous year for boating! We, all the chairpersons, have a great summer of fun lined up for you to do some water related activities with the club.

Bass Lake has one of the most popular boating weekends we put on. It's not a big lake but it has a big heart. Bobby Gaestel and Teri Parker have been running this event for three years and have it down pat. All they needed was more water! They have it now, the lake is full! It is a credit to the Southern California ACBS chapter and the Lyons Club that there is a fun little boat show that we are invited to participate in every year at The Pines Resort on Bass Lake.

Our very next event is a weekend of BBQ & Boating on Clear Lake, just two weeks later. While we are it, there's a fun relaxed boat show with a car show conveniently located at the Konocti Vista Casino near Lakeport and it is included in this brilliant event. Bring your boat to this spit & shine boat show and have a good time. On Saturday night Maddie and Bob Mount will welcome you with open arms to the BBQ held at Boatique Winery in Kelseyville and is the finest part of the weekend. Your contacts and hosts are Jim Robello and Wayne Moers working hard for your pleasure.

In the meantime there are a few non-boating events called Woodie Whoopies. These are fun, bring your own BBQ meat, throw it on the grill and a dish to share kind of picnic. Woodie Whoopies are well attended events held in various locations on the west shore of Lake Tahoe on Friday evenings through July and August when the weather is at its best. Rich Fisher and Nancy Bartolomei lug around all the necessities out of the chapter trailer and could always use a hand. You might want to bring your own chairs too!

In the midst of all this, is the chapter annual member's picnic. Same great BBQ, same great people enjoying each other's company. This year we will be relaxing by the water at Sugar Pine Point or enjoying the fine collection of boats and history displayed at the Tahoe Maritime Center. This event is to be determined at the moment.

Marching on toward the autumn there we are, looking at Mt Shasta, a magnificent mountain, and a full beautiful lake to match. The Lake Shasta Rendezvous are the best words to describe the great event that Rick and Laurie Gurries have created up country in the spectacular Siskiyou Mountains. Great boat rides, pot lucks and just gosh darn fun. Lew and I are headed up there ourselves this year.

Next up is my favorite event of the year! The Delta Cruise at B&W Resort, near Isleton, is wonderful. 1000 miles of waterways to explore with sloughs, channels and lagoons. We have traditions here. The must have BBQ & pot luck on Friday night. Somehow there is always firewood for the BBQ pits with s'mores for the kid in all of us. Everyone is up the next morning for a light breakfast out on the levy and we are ready to ride in boats wherever we are led. Lunch at a private little club owned island called Grindstone Joes. BBQ whatever you bring & share some vittles with your neighbors. Very relaxing. Play a game of croquet on the lawn. On Sunday, after a group brunch, the ride to Walnut Grove for ice cream is a must!

November is here and it is the end of the year. Bring yourself over to Santa Cruz for a blow-out the year good time. We are still formulating the plan but you will know as soon as we are sure the BIG PLAN will work.

Have a fabulous boating season this summer & don't forget to eat ice cream at every opportunity!



Membership Corner

By Don Leutz,
Membership Chair



Please join me in welcoming our newest Members to the Northern California/Lake Tahoe Chapter of ACBS:

David & Sara Bradley – Sacramento, CA
Eric Leggitt – Woodland, CA
Steve & Lisa Willett – Burlingame, CA
Annette Chiara & Leanna Salavar - Sonora, CA
John & Kristin Iles – Clovis, CA
Rolf Kriken & Rita Abbey – Kelseyville, CA
David & Laura Nelson – Geyserville, CA
Fernand & Mary Ann Simoneau – Clements, CA
Cooper & Sue Pannier – Sacramento, CA
William “Will” Pannier – Sacramento, CA
Greg Smedsrud & Sue Martinson – Redwood City, CA

Currently, we have 493 active members and are the second largest ACBS Chapter in the country, behind Florida’s Sunnyland Chapter. If your membership is due for renewal, please take the opportunity to renew now on the ACBS Website, www.acbs.org, or give me a call at 916-681-4751 or email me at leutz@inreach.com and I will help you with the renewal process. Please encourage your fellow members to renew their memberships on a timely basis. Surely you and your fellow ACBS Members do not want to miss out on any of our many family oriented fun activities planned for this year.

ACBS is devoted to the preservation, restoration, and education of classic boating. It is a great organization in which to meet likeminded people. It is also a great opportunity to get young people interested and involved in preserving our antique and classic boats and history.

Remember The Member Challenge:

Please consider bringing in at least one or two new members this year. It would be especially great if we can attract and bring in youth members, especially in light of the new very economical Youth Membership. Might I suggest that you consider giving a “Gift Membership” to a friend or family member, or any acquaintance that has shown interest in our hobby, our events, and friendly membership activities. Remember, that there is no requirement to own a boat of any kind to join the Chapter. And, many Chapter members welcome an opportunity to give a new member a ride in a classic boat. The social activities of the Chapter will ensure that the recipients will have a lot of fun and meet a lot of friendly, new people.

As a member, you will receive a Membership Directory, in your choice of printed format or online. You will also receive not only the official magazine of the Antique and Classic Boat Society, “The RUDDER”, but our own “WESTERN WOOD” Magazine published by our local chapter. In these publications, you will find event calendars, articles regarding Classic Boating and history, photos of boat shows and other events, antique and classic boats for sale, as well as many other interesting articles, plus discounts on various goods and services from ACBS supporters. Members also have access to our local Chapter Website at www.acbs-tahoe.org as well as the ACBS International Website at www.acbs.org for additional information and photos.

Membership Dues:

Regular Membership: \$75.00
 (\$50.00 for ACBS International, plus \$25.00 for Northern California/Lake Tahoe Chapter)

Youth Memberships – for Youth under age 21:
\$20.00
 (\$15.00 for ACBS International, plus \$5.00 for our local NC/LT Chapter)

For additional information on Membership and application, check out local Chapter Website at www.acbs-tahoe.org or contact me at 916-681-4751 or leutz@inreach.com.

Spring Fling

By Annie Hill

It rained. No question about it. Not just light sprinkling, but full-on, gutter washing, steam swelling rain. But it was incredibly FUN!!!! Spring Fling 2017, hosted by our President, Debra Dobbins, her husband Lew, with assistance from the main planning committee, consisting of Virginia Gombertz and myself, was held on April 7th through 9th, in Grass Valley.

map and short instructions, then they were off and running (shopping) for the Treasure Hunt Tea. The goal was to get a raffle ticket from select shops, which could be entered into a drawing that would take place at Tofanelli's Restaurant. This is where we met later that afternoon for some light snacks, coffee, tea and a warm, dry space, because, as I may have mentioned, it was raining!



The festivities began on Friday morning with an "on your own" tour of the local boat restorers workshops located between Auburn and Nevada City. It was a chance to meet the master restor-

ers and see the shops where the boat restoring magic happens. Participating shops in the Auburn area included Northwest Classic Boats with Dave and Rudy, and Western Runabouts with Tony Brown.

In the Grass Valley area shops tours included Curtis Bauman Wood Boat Restoration, Bob Robertson's shop, and Lew Dobbins' Sierra Brass. Each of the shops featured boats and/or boat



motors undergoing all level of work ranging from simple maintenance to full bottom replacement and restoration. Did I mention that it was raining? No worries though, the gracious and informative hosts supplied plenty of warm beverages and treats as they shared their boat building knowledge and shop techniques.



Following the shops tours and treasure hunt, there was a short break to regroup and dry off before heading to Nevada City for dinner at Lefty's. As a matter of interest, Lefty's downstairs area has been flooded 3 times this past winter when the creek that runs adjacent to the restaurant swelled beyond its capacity. The hospitable and attentive staff at Lefty's easily accommodated our intimate, yet boisterous group of 81 seemingly without effort. The food and service were fantastic! And then it REALLY rained.....



Saturday, we were greeted with a bit of a break in the weather and we gathered in two groups to ramble the countryside to the North Star House, most famously designed by Julia Morgan. You might also know her as the architect of Hearst Cas-



At the risk of seeming sexist, the shop tours were mostly attended by the guys. For the ladies, check in at the Grass Valley Holiday Inn began about noon, where they were given a

tle. The house, built in 1905, served as the superintendent's house for the North Star Mine. It was one of her first projects and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in February 2011. It is currently undergoing significant restoration, as many years of neglect and vandalism have taken a toll. Fortunately, architectural plans are still available and the home is being returned to its original splendor. It was a really



neat treat to see the house and learn of its history. I have lived nearby all my life and had never heard of this important historical structure. History is all around us. We are collectors of history, so I know, all who went, enjoyed the tour.

Most of us continued the ramble through the countryside, which reminded me of Scotland. It rained again, even turning to sleet at times as we traveled to Penn Valley to the Lake Wildwood Community Center. Once there, we were greeted by Virginia and Michael Gombertz and their helpers, Dan and Casey Arena, for a warm lunch that included coffee and Bailey's (Great idea Virginia!).

A little time on your own was needed to rest up for the banquet, and by rest up, that could mean wine tasting. You know who you are.....

The Holiday Inn is where we came together for the banquet. The buffet dinner was, catered by Emily, a



local business. Throughout the evening, generous bidders plotted to top each other in order to take possession of

one or more of the treasures in our silent auction. The auction had items donated by our committee and other ACBS members. Some of the wonderful things that found new homes included 4 original drawings by master boat restorer Curtis Bauman, a wine basket donated by Boatique winery, a pre-war Stephens Cruiser model, and many other gift bags and boat themed items. By the time bidding had closed, a whopping \$1,813 in donations were collected. The evening was capped off by a fun "Last Man Standing" elimination game and yummy ice cream desserts by Lazy Dog, another local



shop. This was an excellent way to end 2 days of fun and friendship.

Sunday the sun did shine!!! The second board meeting of the year took place and while we had tons of things to discuss, Madam President kept it under control and under 3 hours. Thank you!!!

Despite the rain and the power outages at the Robertson's and the Dobbins', it was a fantastic weekend with fantastic people. If you didn't attend this year, there are tons of opportunities coming up to get your boating friends fix. First up is the Bass Lake Rendezvous, followed closely by Wood and Glory, a "boat load" of Woodie Whoopies, Shasta Lake Rendezvous, Delta Cruise and finally the Annual Meeting. There is something for everyone!!!

Come for the boats, stay for the friends... See ya on the water and don't forget the sunscreen!!!

DELTA CRUISE



SAVE THE DATE
OCTOBER 6, 7 & 8 - LAYNE & KELLY DAVIS
B & W RESORT, ISLETON



Boatique
WINERY

*A*ward-Winning Antique Wooden Boats
and Award-Winning Wines.

Tasting room and boat showroom open daily 11-5

Boats on Display:

- 1936 Ditchburn, 23.5 ft. Legacy
- 1938 Greavette Streamliner, 24 ft. Curvaceous
- 1947 Greavette Streamliner, 22 ft. Traveller
- 1947 Chris Craft Custom, 20 ft. Foxy Lady
- 1948 Western Fairliner Torpedo, 17 ft. Studebaker
- 1949 Ventnor Deluxe Runabout, 19 ft. La Fin
- 1955 Chris Craft Cobra, 21 ft. Touch of Glass
- 1959 Chris Craft Silver Arrow, 19 ft. Quiver
- 1963 Wickets, 18 ft. Race Boat
- 1964 Amphicar, Model 770, 7 knots/hr in water and 70mph on land
- 1976 Serenella Venetian Water Taxi, 30 ft. Boatique
- 1998 Van Dam, 33 ft. Alpha Z
- 2011 Van Dam, 30 ft. Madeleine (custom designed by Van Dam Boats)



Summer is coming soon and that means it is time for our frequent evening Woodie Whoopie gatherings at Tahoe. The first one is Saturday June 24th at Mary Jo Shepherd's home at 6220 McKinney Drive, Homewood, California. Their home is at the south end of Homewood across the highway from Chambers Lodge, on the west shore. The subsequent gatherings are on Friday evenings. All ACBS members and their friends are invited to attend these low key events.

We start about 5 PM and adjourn at about dusk. BYOB and bring a pot luck dish to share. We encourage you to purchase some raffle tickets during the evening as the funds allow us to purchase charcoal, ice and other supplies. We purchase gift certificates, wine and other items for the raffle and some wine and other items are donated to give the raffle some variety. Donations are always appreciated.

The Club trailer with our tables, BBQs and supplies will be at these events. Please bring some chairs if at all possible. We can always use some help with set up at 4:15PM.

We thank the homeowners for making the various facilities available to us.

Please mark your calendars:

**June 24 – Shepherd's,
6220 McKinney Dr., Homewood**

**July 14- Olympic Beach HOA -
Use the driveway across from
619 Olympic, Tahoe City**

**August 4 – Atkinson's-
4870 No. Lake Blvd, Carnelian
Bay. We encourage wearing
green for this Irish themed
evening at Bernie and Carol
Atkinson's home.**

**August 18 – Turner's -
4860 West Lake Blvd,
Homewood**

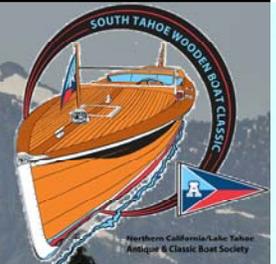
**Contact Rich if you have any questions
about the Woodie Whoopies.**

**Rich Fisher c. 925 525 5428
rich.fisher34@yahoo.com**



South Tahoe Wooden Boat Classic

We Went Out With a Bang



By Lew Dobbins

It does not seem that it has been ten months already, just ten months since we closed out our most successful boat show at the Tahoe Keys Marina. A fun show, not just for charity, but for the chapter members, the boaters, the public and the community that have enjoyed our show for nine years.

It is for all of those people that we are sad that the 10th Annual South Tahoe Wooden Boat Classic will not happen. Your show team of Sandy Chase, Steve Caplan, Jared Hein and myself had to make a hard decision. After months of trying to negotiate with the owner of the Tahoe Keys Marina, we had to call it quits. With the numerous changes, price increase issues and lack of confidence that we would be able to create a show of the same caliber as last year, the only choice was to NOT play their game.

But this article isn't about why we are not having the boat show in 2017. This is about the people and the success of the past show years. Did you know that over the course of the past nine years of our show, thanks to our corporate sponsor donations, we:

Raised \$85,000 for Tahoe Basin Not-For-Profit organizations.

Raised and deposited \$18,000 into our chapter endowment.

Raised working capital for the following year's show, every year except for one.

The organizations that received money were a mix of charities vs. boat/marine related preservation/historical groups. I'll bet that you did not know that we usually received something back in trade for the money we donated. For example:

Sierra State Parks Foundation has used the money they received from us to help rebuild the marine railway and foundation of the South Boathouse at Sugar Pine Point and rebuild their pier. This benefits all of the boaters. That is money that stayed at the lake and did not go to the California State Park's Sacramento General Fund. In trade, they allow us to hold our annual picnic on the lawn and pier.



A similar arrangement was made with the Pope Estate when we were holding our dinner there.



Tahoe Maritime Museum allows us to call their museum home for meetings and events at preferential rates. We wish to continue to partner with them and will be holding meetings and possibly our chapter picnic there.

South Tahoe Kiwanis Club and the Boys & Girls Club help us with parking and other logistical issues during the show.

In addition, do NOT forget all of the work that the Sea Scouts have done over past years!

When ACBS hosts a boat show, it is for a lot of different reasons. Some think it is for the profit as a money maker, others think we are required to do so to be an ACBS Chapter. But we do it for some reasons that we don't often think about. How about for education? Where can you go to see and learn about such a vast assemblage of types and ages of boats as we had last year at "Ladies & Gentlemen, You Have a Race!?" 92 boats registered for an amazing race boat themed show. We often have boats spanning 100 years of age too. The kids today do not get to see and learn about this kind of history in too many places, nor do the adults. The memories that are launched in the young and remembered with smiles by the older are worth a lot more than just the price of admission. And the stories.....



While the future of the Tahoe ACBS Boat show is uncertain at this time, what is for sure is that our chapter is made up of very social boaters. We love boating regardless of where and when we do, we have FUN! That will continue in the future, but let us not forget the fun, friends and successes of our past shows. Keep on Boating!





WOOD & GLORY XIX

JOIN THE PARTY

This year Wood & Glory is celebrating Carl Braitto as our Guest Of Honor on his 100th birthday! For the past 19 years Carl and his Braitto family have sponsored and supported your Wood & Glory Event. You're invited to cheer on the man and his story! Some of the "cuts" from Carl's colorful member profile stories include, yet certainly are not limited to the following moments. More will be shared at our Winery Dinner.

"I was born April 1, 1917 in San Francisco.... my father was Giovanni Baptist Braitto – a socialist from Northeast Italy. My birth name was Karl Marx Braitto" "I grew up in Vallejo with 4 brothers and one sister – all named after socialist leaders! I milked cows in the morning, but by the time I graduated from Vallejo High School in 1934, I was "rich" from plucking chickens for \$11 a week!"

"I got hired on by Pacific Bridge Company at age 19 and started working on the Golden Gate Bridge job with them. It paid a \$1 an hour, and now I was really rich making \$40 a week." "I stayed on with that bridge company for the next 18 years – I worked on building dry docks in San Diego and Hunters Point, San Francisco and spent some time on the big Grand Coulee Dam spillway project in Washington state."

"I retired from Pacific Bridge in 1954 and moved my family to Buckingham Park, Lake County. We helped develop the lake's properties with my Braitto Construction Company for the next 50 years including the Konocti Harbor Resort, Clear Lake State Park, Clear Lake Keys, and the Lucerne Harbor in 1967. We moved a lot of rocks! We also developed – starting in 1957 my families' Braitto's Buckingham Marina, now a 325 boat slip harbor and once a large Century Boat dealership."

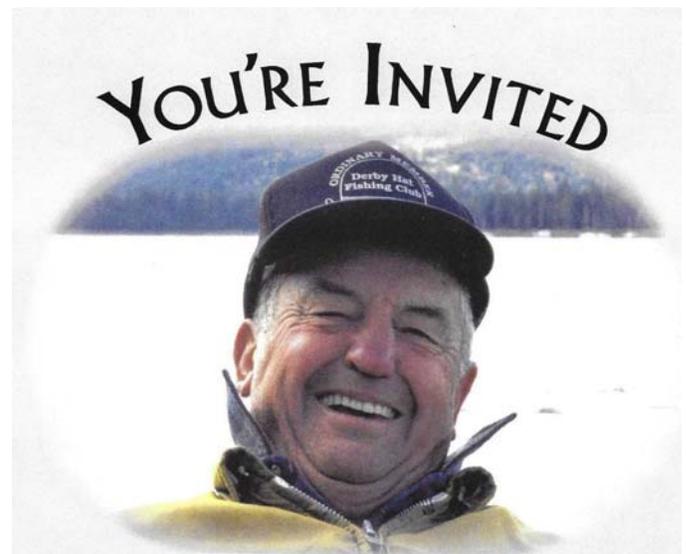
"In 1962 I was President of the Chamber of Commerce. We always have a big fire works show off Library Park every 4th of July. 1962 was the year that in addition to the volunteer fireman, a considerable amount of alcohol was aboard the wooden barge we used, along with the mortar tubes holding the fire works. That was the same year - 1962 we caught the old barge on fire during the display and a bunch of "happy" firemen burned a good part of it down to the waterline! The crowd thought it was just part of the display and cheered loudly!! For the next 37 years I donated my antique 65' steel barge with the 20-ton crane on it. It was fire proof!

Carl's stories and smiles will continue. Join the W&G party!

W&G Contacts:

Wayne Mooers, 925-788-5628; waynemooers@gmail.com

Jim Robello, 707-355-2311; jimrobello@gmail.com



Carl Max Braitto celebrates 100 years

ACBS CHAPTER MEMBER PROFILE

CARL BRAITTO

Born	San Francisco, April 1, 1917
Raised	Vallejo, California
Married	Anne Perry, Benicia, 1942. Deceased 2003.
Children	Carol Braitto Thompson, Bob Braitto
Grandchildren	Tony, Deric, and Whitney
Great Grand C	Arlo Max Braitto, born May 18, 2016
Employed	18 years with Pacific Bridge Company
Worked on	Golden Gate Bridge, Grand Coulee Dam and other large marine projects.
Move to	Lake County, Buckingham Park, 1954
Founded	Braitto Construction Company, Excavation, dredging, heavy engineering
Developed	Braitto's Marina into a 325-boat facility
Contracted on	Konocti Harbor Inn, Clear Lake Keys, Clear Lake State Park, Lucerne Harbor projects
	Countless residential projects, 1955 > 2006.
Recognitions	The Stars of Lake County, Lifetime Achievement Award.
President	Lake County Chamber of Commerce, '62-'63
Classic Boats	16' 1932 Dodge Runabout Built 21' Chris Craft Cruiser Kit boat 1951
Dealer	Century Boat Company, Top Dealer '64-92
Still owns his	19' 1967 Wood Century Arabian, which never has been sold or registered
Still Proud of	His "antique" 1940 65' steel barge. It was a two story floating "dance hall" on Clear Lake. Carl bought it in 1958, added a 20-ton Lorain Crane, and the rest of his colorful Carl Max Braitto's story just happened!

Presented by Wayne Mooers
Chapter Director & Historian, April 2017



Eight Bells

Hal "HO" Orchard

We lost an old time friend, early pioneer of boat preservation, this past March, Harold Orchard or most lovingly known as HO. In his 91 years on this planet he grew up around Buffalo New York, graduated from Michigan State with mechanical engineering degree, fought with the United States Marines in WW II in the South Pacific. He Married his lovely wife Nancy sixty three years ago and has a son, Jeff.

He worked as an engineer and became interested in antique automobile restoration and took that up in the late sixties early seventies focusing on Dusenbergs's. He restored at least eight of them for clients and began to focus on vintage boats in the eighties. He found and saved many boats that if not for his interest may have been lost to the ravages of time. Among them most notably would be Teaser, now at the Tahoe Maritime Museum, noted for racing the Train from Albany New York to Manhattan and beating it in 1925. He also saved a Bell Island Bearcat and other wood boats that are still with us now.

As noted in Tony Molica's Book on Dodge Boats, HO was an encyclopedia of knowledge contributing a wealth of information from his personal collection. He restored "Tempress", a 1930 25 ft Dodge and "Tango" his 1930 28 ft Dodge which is the only one of its kind in existence. He also liked the nice lines of the Garwood boats of the thirties. He scratch built a 33 ft Baby Garr from 1938. Although they never built one, it was offered in the catalog in 1938. Hal thought it had the best look and set about building "Bolero" from scratch, including a Liberty V 12 engine. He had one more project that he started on in his later years and that was a 28 ft Garwood triple, gray boat restoration.

HO was truly an iconic figure in the wooden boat world. He realized that these boats would be lost to obscurity if something wasn't done. He did it, appreciated them, and restored them, helping preserve what we will pass down to next generations. He will be missed.

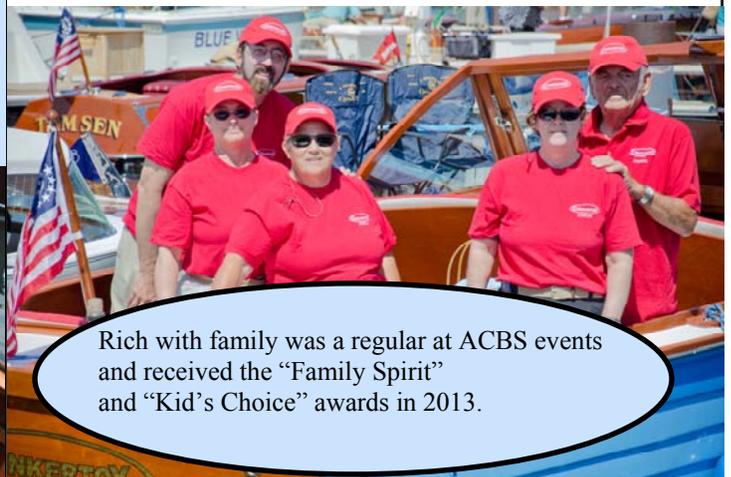
HO in Tango At South Tahoe 2011. HO was an early member of our Chapter and holds the record for the most "Ziggy" awards!

Rich "Chris" Christopher

After a long battle this February and March, Rich "Chris" Christopher died in the early morning hours of March 30. He was 88, and right up until the onset of the illness that took him, he continued to work on the classic antique wooden boats that he loved, in his tree-shaded workshop in Madera, California. He is survived by his daughter Renny, son Randy, daughter-in-law Lynn, grandson Robert, and sister Cheryl Reid along with a large number of great friends, especially Julia Balen, for whom he was a surrogate father, and who was always a member of the crew at the South Lake Tahoe Boat Show.

Chris truly loved his involvement with the boat association and attending the shows with the boats he had restored, the blue 1959 Sea Skiff "Clinkertoy" and the 1955 Continental "TymePast." The family always received many comments in recognition of the crew t-shirts and baseball caps they wore in colors matching the boats. Chris's shirt always said "Captain." He was recently working on restoring the boat which he thought he would be bringing to Tahoe for many years to come, a 1956[?] Chris Craft U24 that was to be called "Chris's Craft."

Chris served in the Coast Guard 1945-1947; when he came home we went to work on fishing boats operating out of Davey's Locker in Newport Beach. He married the love of his life, Bebi, in 1955, and after their first child was born, he started working more in boat construction than fishing. In 1967 the family moved to San Martin, and he turned to building houses. After his retirement at the age of 73, he turned to the restoration of classic Chris Craft powerboats. He lost his beloved wife to Alzheimer's in 2006. Every year since then the distinctive blue "Clinkertoy" has been a fixture at the South Lake Tahoe and Bass Lake boat shows. Chris loved sitting in the boat all day, talking to the people who came by about the boat's lapstrake construction, about the restoration, and about the good old days, when wooden boats thronged the waterways. He will be missed.



Rich with family was a regular at ACBS events and received the "Family Spirit" and "Kid's Choice" awards in 2013.

Exposé

By Lee Chase

What Happens When Avgas is Used in Boats

Over the years, I have heard old boat and car enthusiasts lament the banning of lead compounds in automotive fuel. The lead compounds increased the fuel octane rating and was credited with lubricating properties which helped to preserve valves.

While automobile fuel is lead free, aviation fuel (avgas) is not. Aircraft require high octane fuel to run the high performance high compression engines. Avgas contains a compound known as Tetra Ethyl Lead (TEL) which acts as an octane booster for the fuel. This begs the question of whether it would be a good idea to run Avgas in an old boat or car engine, if you could afford it.

The mechanic that worked on the Campbell boat I recently purchased proudly proclaimed that he filled both tanks (about 70 gallons) with Avgas and that would clean out all the deposits. The engine is now apart getting new valves. John Allen recently had to redo the valves on a Hispano-Suiza that had been completely rebuilt earlier. The customer had run only Avgas in it, after all it was an aviation engine before it was put in a boat.

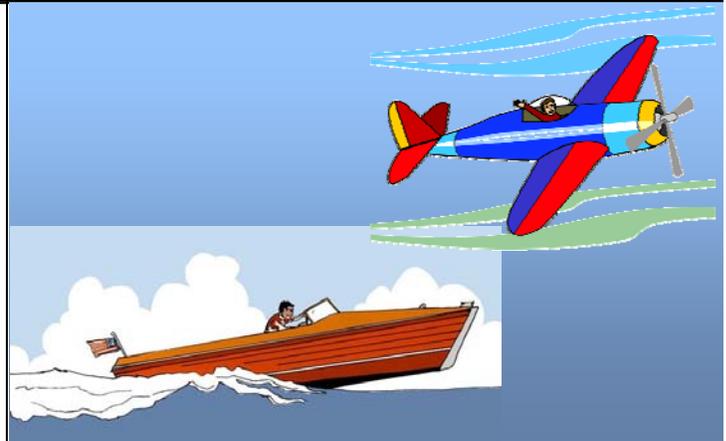
So, what gives?

Avgas has octane rating of well over 100 which is far higher than the comparable 85 - 92 octane of road fuels. To achieve this, a lot of TEL is used - around 5 times the quantity that was used in the old Leaded automotive fuels. The problem with using Leaded fuel is that it will always burn with more deposits than unleaded fuels.

The Tetra Ethyl Lead used for octane boost in the fuel naturally degrades to form Lead Oxide when it is burned. It is this transformation which gives the octane boost. Lead Oxide is a solid up to about 900 deg C which is higher than the wall temperatures inside a piston engine and can end up as a deposit on the cylinder walls.

To prevent these deposits from forming, a Lead scavenging compound is added to Avgas, Ethylene Dibromide. This scavenger is designed to react with the Lead oxide to form Lead Bromide which is more volatile, becoming a gas at around 200 - 250 deg C. This is a low enough temperature to enable the Lead to be removed from the engine as a gas. But for this reaction between the Lead Oxide and the scavenger to work, there needs to be a relatively high combustion temperature.

In the combustion chamber, Lead Bromide remains when combustion temperatures are low, which fouls valves and spark plugs. The temperature for Lead Bromide deposits to remain is most favorable on the isolated spark plug tips because the whole mixture cools them before the flame starts to propagate, and on the exhaust valves because the mixture cools after combustion and is pushed past the valves. The pale brown ash staining, that is often seen on the plugs and exhausts valves of engines running Avgas, is in fact Lead Bromide. The fouled valves do not seal properly and compression is lost.

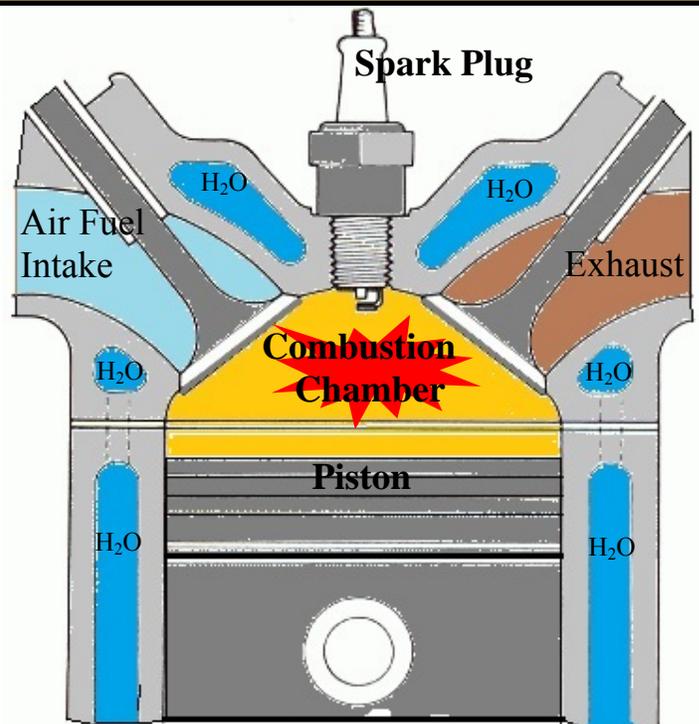


So, what about boats?

Air cooled aircraft engines barely get hot enough to run Avgas, so how can a boat engine that uses ice water to cool it get hot enough? Both my engine and the Hispano-Suiza had the telltale brown stains on the exhaust valve seats.

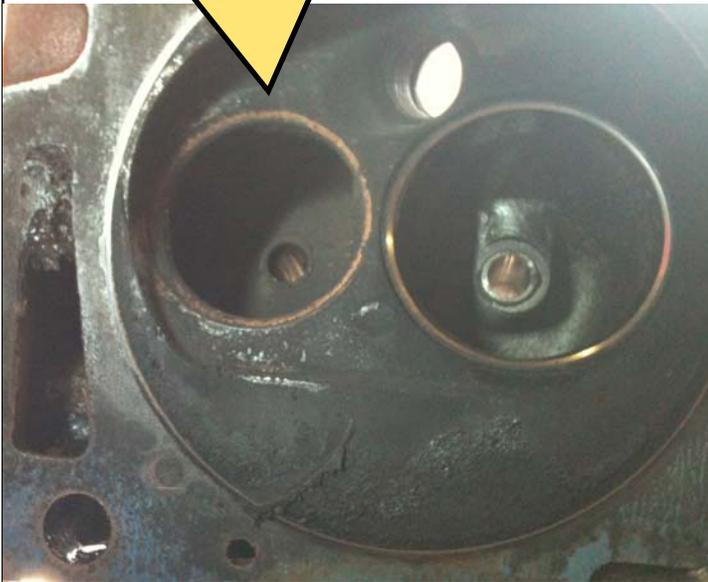
So here are the recommendations:

1. Stop complaining about unleaded gas.
2. Don't run expensive Avgas in your boat
3. Use the money you save to have your engine fitted with hardened valve seats.
4. Run unleaded automotive gas.
5. Bring your boat to all our ACBS boating events

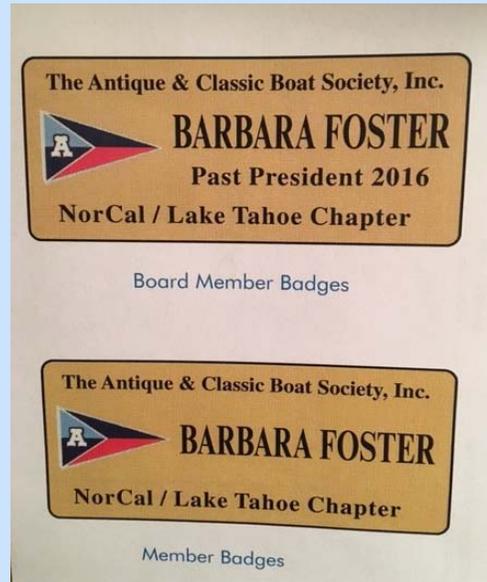


Many old boat engines run cold since lake water is pumped directly into the engine water jacket, usually without any thermostat or recirculation of water in the engine as is normally done in automobile engines. The colder operating temperature makes it unwise to use any leaded fuel in boats.

The brown residue on exhaust valve seat is most likely Lead Bromide from burning leaded avgas in a too cold combustion chamber.



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- Gordon T MacAulay, Tahoe Yacht Club Member

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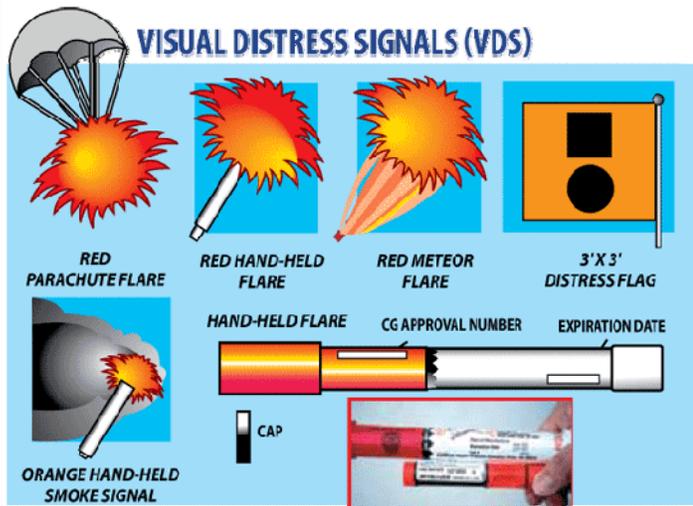
Safety First! – “Outfitting Your Boat”

By Captain Don Leutz

At the beginning of every boating season, you should check to be sure that your boat is outfitted with the required and other necessary items that will make your time on the water the most enjoyable and safe it can be. Use the checklist at right to be sure your boat is equipped before launching your boat:

It is also a good idea to check and test the following items before leaving the dock to be sure your boat is in optimal operation condition:

- Check to be sure any and all boat plugs are properly installed to prevent sinking
- Test and operate the Bilge pump
 - Check bilge for excessive water
- Check for proper engine/bilge ventilation
- Check for leaking hoses or connectors
- Open Hatch and check fuel system for any leaks
 - “Sniff” for any gasoline smell
- Check Backfire Flame Control
- Test navigation and anchor lights
- Test VHF Marine Radio
- Test Steering
- Check all engine fluids
- Check Electrical System
- Check for properly operating gauges
- Top off fuel with fresh gas
- Check the Weather Forecast
- File a Float Plan with relative of friend



A boat operator should never take a boat on the water with too many people or too much gear on board. Boats loaded beyond capacity will swamp or capsize more easily and will be difficult to control. Modern boats must have a “Capacity Plate” near the operator’s position or on the transom of the boat. However, many of our classic boats were built prior to the “Capacity Plate” requirement, so classic boaters need to use common sense or can

use the following rule of thumb to calculate the number of persons (weighing 150 lbs. each on average) the vessel can carry safely in good weather conditions:

Number of people = vessel length (ft.) X vessel width (ft.) divided by 15. (Maybe we should add a calculator to the supply list!). For example a 20 ft boat with a 6 ft beam has a capacity of 8 people. For more information on Safe Boating, visit: www.uscgboating.org.

See you on the Water!

Boat Equipment List

- | |
|--|
| Personal Floatation Devices (Life Jackets) – enough for each person on board. Be sure they are the right size and type for the boating being done. |
| Throwable Type IV Flotation Device |
| Visual Distress Signals – including Coast Guard Approved Pyrotechnic devices (Flares), Orange Distress Flag and/or Distress Light, Mirror |
| Sound Producing Devices – Whistles and Horns |
| Fire Extinguishers – Coast Guard approved for your boat size and type |
| Back Fire Flame Control |
| Pollution and Garbage Placards |
| Registration/Documentation/Certificate of Insurance/Display of Registration Numbers |
| Basic Toolkit |
| Anchor(s) and Anchor line and rode |
| Dock Lines |
| Fenders and Boat Hook |
| Marine VHF Radio and/or Cell Phone |
| First Aid Kit |
| Sun Screen – SPF 30+ |
| Nautical Charts |
| Magnetic Compass and/or GPS |
| Spare parts and engine oil |
| Spare Prop/Shear or Cotter Pins |
| Alternative Propulsion – paddle or oar |
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| Extra Clothing for Foul Weather |
| Food and Water |



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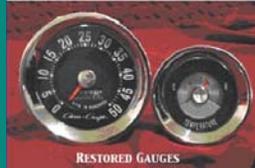
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For Sale

1954 20' Chris Craft Sportsman (Utility), Gray Marine 327 ci, 220 hp engine, dual battery system, added seating in front of engine box, carpeted, nice condition, needs bottom paint. Asking \$18,900 (includes trailer), Contact Jim at 775-831-3060

For Sale

1937 Gar Wood 25 ft Triple Cockpit Runabout. Sierra Sue Hull #6110, Concourse de Elegance "Best of Show" 1999, new Volvo Penta 454 engine, original Chrysler Majestic engine available, **Price greatly reduced to \$150,000.** Contact Don at 916-765-1517 or smithdon1315@gmail.com.

For Sale

1960 Chris Craft 17 ft Ski Boat.
With Chevy 283 engine for sale. \$19,000 OBO.
Contact Layne 408-234-7613 or Skip145@comcast.net

For Sale

1938 Chris Craft 21 ft Sportsman.
70% newly restored from top to bottom. West System bottom. Boat is in a bare wood condition. Hull and decks are skinned. All new book-matched solid 1/2" planking throughout. New dash. Most hardware present and re-chromed including windshield frame. Underwater gear present. Needs motor.
Curtis Bauman 530-477-6702 or cbwoodboat@sbcglobal.net

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Call Marty Feletto at (916) 765-1234.

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1949 Philbrick 18 ft., Ford flathead engine. Restored several years ago, used twice and stored since. Custom trailer. \$12,500 or best offer.
Call Aris or Diane at 415-717-5090

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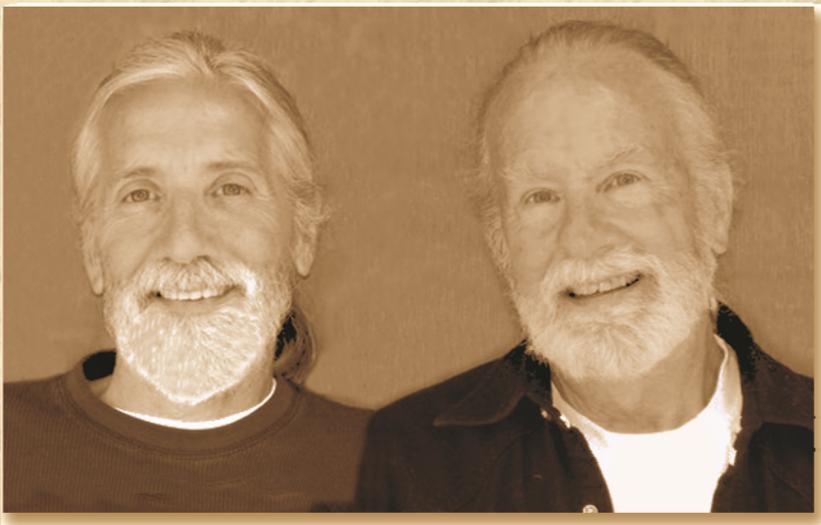
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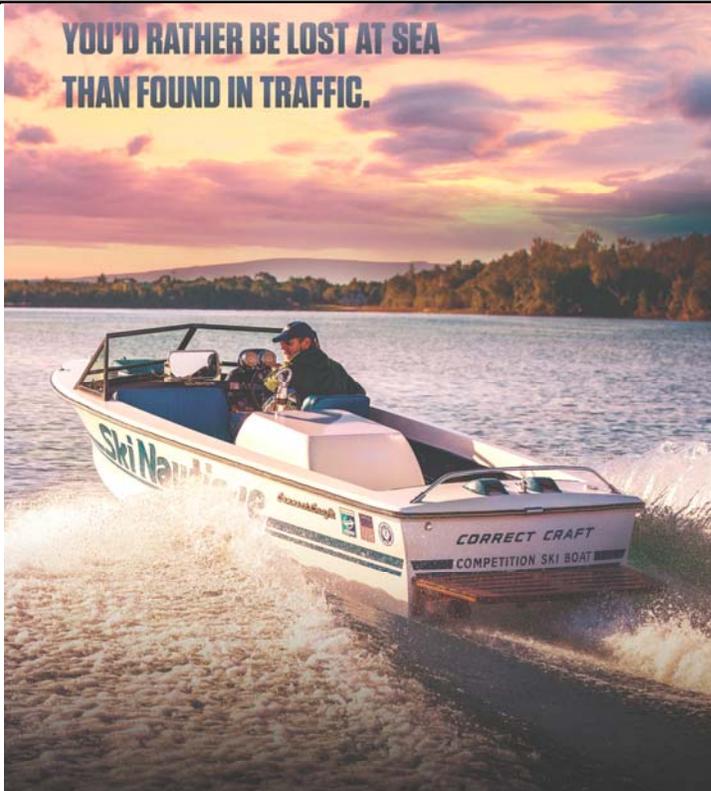
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