

Western Wood



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

Volume 36, Issue 4

Quarterly Newsletter

Fall 2018



Delta Cruise 2018





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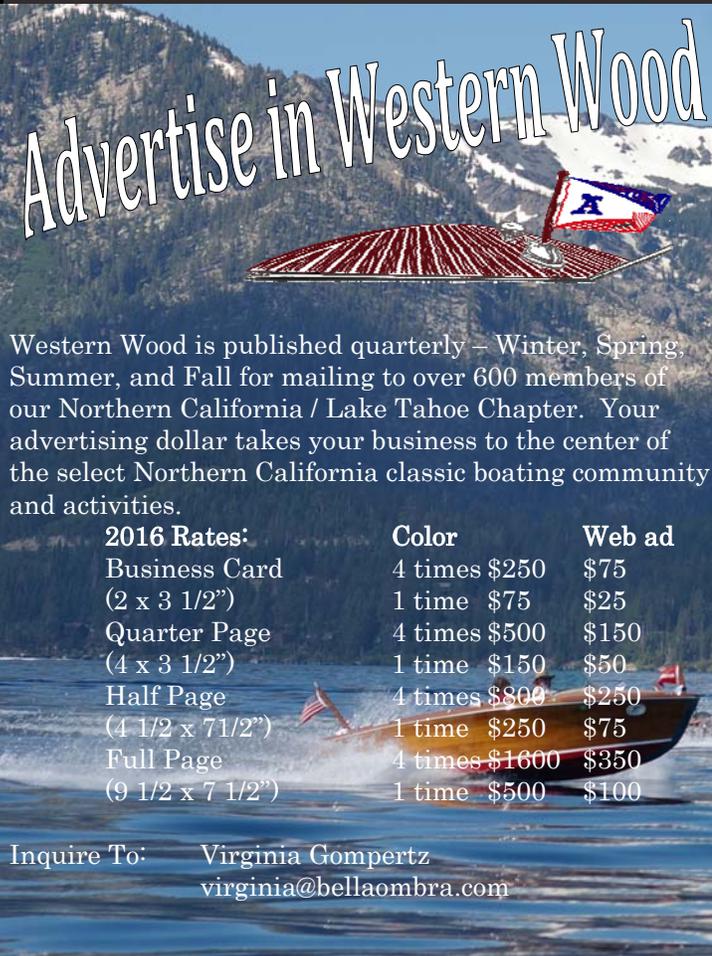
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- 1959 Chris Craft Silver Arrow, 19 ft. Quiver
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Somewhere Along the West Shore



You have probably heard the old admonition “if it ain’t broke, don’t fix it.” You probably also have heard of Murphy’s law “whatever can go wrong, will go wrong.” So, if you have acquired an old boat and you are trying to get it ready for use what do you do?

In my case, I started out with the “if it ain’t broke” approach with my most recently acquired boat, a Campbell. This lead straight to Murphy’s law, with everything that could go wrong, did. After a complete engine rebuild, patching the leaks in the bottom and some wiring issues I was ready to go. I didn’t do anything to the transmission because it was working

and after all if it” ain’t broke” ... I used the boat all summer, and it worked great.

It was at the Delta Cruise when the “unpleasantness” happened. We were cruising to Grindstone Joe’s when I noticed that the transmission was slipping. Then it started slipping badly. Then it made a clunk and stopped slipping. Great, right? Not so great, while it didn’t slip any more, it acquired a new feature of not shifting at all, neither neutral nor reverse, just always in forward, like a race boat. We were able to continue to Grindstone Joe’s, but docking was a bit of a challenge, having to cut the engine before I hit the dock too hard.

So, my winter project has been to pull the transmission and have it rebuilt. Interestingly, Pete, the mechanic who rebuilt the transmission, said that the spacer that set the clutch plate clearance was missing. With too much clearance, it’s likely that the clutch plates never fully engaged, resulting in a slipping transmission. The slipping clutch plates generated heat, which eventually was hot enough to weld the plates together. That, it turns out, locks the transmission in forward.

The rebuilt transmission is back in the boat and we are ready to go again, until the next thing breaks. I still don’t know where the balance is between “ain’t broke” and Murphy’s Law. I would like to think not everything on the boat will break, but I must be ready for Murphy to strike again.

Lee & Sandy Chase

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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...

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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...

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President's Message



Wow did that year go fast, but what a year it's been.

We have had some fabulous events in 2018, put on by several of your board members, and I hope all of our members got a chance to participate in at least one of them. The Chairpersons of these events put countless hours into making these events extra special for all of you. They then go and recruit several of the members to help in the events. None of these can be done without the tremendous amount of help that many people offer up and I would like to commend everyone that stepped up this year and chaired an event or offered assistance. We couldn't do any of these events without your help.

Since my last president's message, several members braved the smoke and headed to Lake Shasta for the Shasta Rendezvous put on by Rick and Laurie Gurries. Kelly and I weren't able to attend do to being in Michigan for the International Boat Show at Port Huron. Everyone that went though, advised how much fun the event was and I want to thank Rick and Laurie for all of their hard work. They really put on a superb event where you really get some quality time on our boats and get to know members in the club.

I attended my first International Show (besides the one that we hosted) and I can't tell you how much fun we had. Everybody was so friendly, and the boats were beautiful. The boat show was the largest ever with over 200 boats registered. The hospitality and boat rides of the pre-events couldn't have been better. The turn out from our members of the Northern California Lake Tahoe Chapter was a very good showing with about 18 or so. If you've never been to one of these shows, I really would encourage you to try and attend one. We came back from Michigan and Kelly and I immediately booked our room for next year in New York, hosted by the Thousand Islands Chapter. There has been quite a bit of talk amongst our members about next year and I think we're more than double the number of our members from this year that plan to attend. When we were in Port Huron, Mi, it was an honor to introduce myself to members from other chapters as the president of our great chapter. Thanks to Vice President Don Leutz and Past Board Member Tim Bush for representing our Chapter and being board members on the International Board of Directors. Don is going to continue in his role on the International Board and Tim is stepping up to the Vice President position of the International Board of Directors.

Wrapping up our boating season was the Delta Cruise. Again, it was a very successful event this year with a high registration of boats and people. Gene Dangel spokeup this year and volunteered to be my co-chair of this event. What a great addition he was and I look forward to him in the same role next year. This event continues to grow and next year I'm going to have to figure out where we are going to put everyone for the Saturday dinner (not to mention the boats) if it continues to grow. There is more about this event in this issue of the Western Wood.

It's great to see our Chapter growing in activities, events and shows. This year we added the new boat show at Stockton, "Runabouts on the River" and the Woodie Woopie at the Tahoe Maritime Center. I also love to hear about gatherings and get togethers of a few members. Things like a few couples getting together for dinner, a wine tasting trip, going to events and fundraisers for other organizations, members getting together to go boating. Rick and Annie Hill added another gathering of a little boat show "on the hard" at Folsom State Prison. We had about 6 boats and a great time at Folsom, and I anticipate this will also grow next year. All of these happened because you met each other in ACBS. So now we just need to add more members. Get out there and tell your friends and bring your families to all of these activities.

My last official event this year as president was the Annual Meeting. Thanks to Barbara Foster and Sandy Chase for organizing a fantastic weekend of touring the Winchester Mystery House and wonderful dinners at the Pruneyard in Cambell. If you weren't able to attend the actual meeting and dinner, you missed out on a Sea Scout Colorguard Ceremony, my "Year in Review" video, another video of our chapter since its inception, and the Past President's celebration. Not to worry though, you can see the past presidents video and the video of our chapter on our website, and you can contact me if you want to see my 2018 year in review video. Special thanks to Joel and Debbie Castro for helping me put the video together and their two sons, Mark and Sean, for doing all of the technical work of putting it together.

In closing, I want to tell all of the members of this great organization, that it was truly an honor and a privilege to serve as your president this past year. It went by so fast and I know I'm going to miss it. I must thank my wife Kelly, who helped me with all of my events that I chaired this year, and supported me in my presidency.

I turn over my gavel and look forward to supporting my buddy, Bobby Gaestel in the coming year. I have no doubt that he, along with help from his better half, Teri Parker, will make an outstanding president.

Layne Davis



President Elect's Message



As I look towards the future of ACBS and this amazing Antique and Classic Boat hobby that we all so much enjoy, I can't help but reflect on all the many fond memories that I have made while enjoying being a part of the No. CA/Lake Tahoe ACBS Chapter. I have made so many friends, bonded by the same interests, at each ACBS event that I have attended. It's all about making friends while viewing some of the finest Antique and Classic boats on the West Coast.

I was so fortunate growing up with parents that loved the water and taught me how to snow ski at the age of 5 and how to water ski behind my grandparents 1953 Chris Craft at the age of 6. Each summer for 25 years my family always rented a cabin on the water at Lake Tahoe for our summer vacation between the early 1960's through the mid 1980's.

During that time I witnessed the transition from the wooden boat era to the more modern boat building materials. I figured that after seeing so many of the old wooden boats disappearing on Lake Tahoe and on the surrounding lakes in the Central Valley where I live, that these beautiful boats might be gone forever. Those were only memories until I joined ACBS. Now I see these amazing Antique and Classic Boats again after all these years at the many ACBS events that our chapter hosts during the year.

Becoming your 2019 No./CA Lake Tahoe President is an Honor and a Privilege for me and receiving the Ziggy Award all in the same night is something hard to describe, but is something that I will always cherish. I want to Thank our last years President Layne Davis and his wife Kelly for doing such a great job in 2018 and to all the Past Presidents of the No. CA/Lake Tahoe Chapter. Special Thanks to all our Officers, Board of Directors, Event Chairs and the many members and volunteers of the years past. Without you maintaining and restoring these amazing floating treasures, none of this would exist. I am looking forward to making 2019 another Fun and Memorable year. With all the early snow and rain that we have been receiving this year in No. CA, we should all have an amazing 2019 boating season.

So mark your calendar for all the Fun up-coming 2019 ACBS events...

Teri and I hope that everybody had a wonderful Holiday Season!!!

Thanks for keeping the dream alive!!!

All the Best

Robert L. Gaestel

Membership Corner

By Don Leutz, Membership Chair

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

Joseph & Paula Bullock – Loomis, CA

Bob & Barbara Irvine – Santa Barbara, CA

Brenda Portillo & Ron Tamez – Valley Springs, CA

Vincent & Rebecca Tabone – Discovery Bay, CA

As of this writing, we have 480 active members in our NC/LT Chapter. Although Membership Renewals occur year-round, they are many Memberships that expire at the end of the year. Please look for your Membership Renewal in the mail and also encourage your fellow members to renew their memberships when they come due so they don't miss out on our many fun activities. You can renew online at 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.

Although the Holidays may be over, why not make someone happy by giving them a Membership in ACBS and the Northern California/Lake Tahoe Chapter? Remember, one does not have to own a boat to become a member. There are many boating, and social events planned for 2019. Giving a Membership to ACBS allows new members to meet new friends at fantastic venues throughout the year. Youth Memberships are also available and very reasonable to give as well.

I would also like to remind you that Membership Packets are available to give out to any prospective new member. The packet includes the new Envelope-style Membership Application and Membership Business card. This information can be placed in a plastic Zip-Lock Bag and kept handy, and dry, in a glove compartment of a car or boat ready to give out when one asks about your boat or ACBS. These packets are also beneficial to hand out at other events such as car shows, parades, other gatherings, etc.

Should you wish me to send you some Membership Packets or if you have any questions concerning Membership, contact me at 916-681-4751 or leutz@inreach.com.

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Smoke Gets in Your Eyes



Gurries 2018 Lake Shasta Rendezvous VII

Written by Laurie Gurries

ACBS Classic boaters showed their determined spirit September 5-10, 2018. The day before the classic boat gathering began at Lake Shasta, the Delta wildfire started four miles north of Tsasdi Resort, Lakehead, CA in the Interstate 5 corridor. I-5 was quickly closed. On September 5th, early arrivals to the area launched their boats filled with all their belongings at the Centimudi Boat Ramp which is adjacent to Shasta Dam. Boat captains Gene Dangel and Dan Foster made their way to Lakehead where they offloaded their gear and food into a waiting trailer and SUVs. A friend of Gene's was kind enough to bring both of their rigs back to his home in Redding for safe-keeping. As the fledgling Delta fire grew into a full-on beast, I-5 was closed for five days from just north of Redding to just south of Mt. Shasta City. After the first few days, I-5 was opened periodically with travel restrictions on the highway.

Overcoming great adversity, 34 boaters tested their mettle in their determination to meet up with the Gurries to attend this year's 2018 Lake Shasta Rendezvous VII. We switched to Plan B and started thinking outside the box! Since I-5 was closed due to the wildfire,

Thursday's arrivals gathered at Jones Valley Public Boat Ramp at Lake Shasta, which is on the opposite side of the lake from Tsasdi Resort, Lakehead, the destination for the weekend's festivities. All gear, food, beverages and raffle baskets were stowed aboard their boats, their rigs were parked in the lot by the ramp and after a five hour wait for all attendees to meet there, the band of boats took off for the near hour-long boat ride for a Grand Adventure! With Rick Gurries, Gene Dangel and Dan



Foster escorting boats across the lake, the adventure was ON! When boat captains and their crew pulled up to the courtesy dock near the Gurries' cabin, they were met by Laurie Gurries and Tsasdi owner, Scott Schipper with his trailer and



their SUVs to transport all to the resort. Friday's arrivals were fortunate enough to drive up I-5 directly to the resort as some of the restrictions had been lifted by then.

Each morning the entire northwest end of Lake Shasta was blanketed in smoke. 'Smoke Gets in Your Eyes' was the theme for the weekend due to the inversion layer that happened each night. Once the breezes picked up in the afternoon, the air cleared, and the smoke was blown out. Rick navigated his way through the smoke each morning and only made a couple of wrong turns on the first morning trying to get to the other side of the lake. Let me tell you, it's tough to see land masses in the smoke! It is an eerie feeling to be out there on the water and see nothing but a whiteout, just like in fog!

All the drama made for a grand adventure, that's for sure. We still went out boating every day as originally intended and HAD FUN! We still had a BLAST on the lake. The weather was fine, and the water was warm! Each day we rafted our 13 boats together and went swimming, tubing, waterskiing and HAD FUN! It felt so great to play in the water and forget our cares! We had picnic lunches aboard our boats.

Friday, we had a special treat when Basshole Brews Restaurant delivered gourmet box lunches to us by boat at Jones Valley Resort. The Shasta gathering is a very relaxing, low-key function where

everyone brings potluck food items to share for two breakfasts and three dinners. If you went hungry, you had nobody to blame but yourself! Jim and Gretchen Deichler outdid themselves yet again by catering our entrees two of the nights!

The camaraderie that develops with being together all day and throughout the evening is so much fun too! We all stay in a group; Lake Shasta is a huge lake and it's too easy to get lost out there! The important thing to remember is that we HAD FUN!

Throughout the course of the weekend a raffle was held for the benefit of Layne Davis' Sea Scout Crew #145. They are such an awesome group of kids who believe in hard work and helping others. Remember them from the Stockton Boat Show?



Tsadi Resort owners Scott Schipper and Julie O'Loughlin took all our challenges in stride and bent over backwards to jump in wherever needed. We were in Lakehead with only our SUV as well as the resort's. Saturday morning, we shuttled members the 1 ½ miles to Basshole Brews for a tasty breakfast. With the knowledge that they could be turned back once they got to the I-5 blockade, Saturday morning a team of boat captains boarded Jim Deichler's boat and decided to try their luck with bringing their rigs and boat trailers back to



Lakehead from Jones Valley. Their plan to have Bill Kehoe leading their caravan paid off as Bill is known for his gift of gab. Luckily for them, it worked and all four of them made it through the blockade and on to Lakehead.

If you ever find yourselves in Lakehead, make sure you stay at Tsadi Resort and stop in at Basshole Brews, which is a great bar and restaurant also owned by Scott and Julie. Their food is so yummy! Better yet, make sure you plan on heading up to Lakehead next September to take part in our Lake Shasta Rendezvous! You can find lodging at Tsadi Resort (530) 238-2575 or Sugarloaf Cottages (530) 238-2448. It is really a good idea to book your lodging now as the resorts fill up very quickly. For information about the weekend, Rick Gurries cell is (707) 484-0095 and Laurie Gurries cell is (707) 888-9171. Each year Laurie works closely with all attendees to



organize the food for the gathering. We hope to see you at Lake Shasta! California's wildfires this year have been tragic and unprecedented. There has been such a tremendous loss of life and

property. Our hearts go out to all those who have lost loved ones, their homes, their possessions, their livelihoods, and their very way of life. We are praying for a more prosperous new year and a time for healing for all of those effected by the wildfires.

CHAPTER ENDOWMENT FUNDS

It is wonderful that our chapter can give money to the Sea Scout troops, the Tahoe Maritime Museum, the Thunderbird Preservation Society, and other worthy non-profits. Each year we grant a portion of the earnings of our endowment funds to worthy groups, but we always have more funds requested than earnings available. We seek to grow the Endowment in order to increase grants in the future.



As stated at the Chapter Annual Meeting, we have one anonymous (and generous) member that is in the process of revising his living trust to leave at least \$10,000 to our endowment fund. Other discussions are ongoing about smaller cash donations.

We aim a lot of our philanthropic endeavors toward youth groups. They all deserve to have the equipment, facilities and supplies, etc. to succeed in their endeavors. At the same time, this exposes them to ACBS and we can be hopeful that some of them will grow with us and possibly be custodians of our antique and classic boats in the future.

If you would like to join with the others that are helping to build our endowment fund, there are several ways to contribute. For instance, you might have a required minimum distribution (RMD) from an IRA coming up and all or a portion of it could be directed to our endowment.



Here are a few ways that you can help us grow our endowment and possibly get a tax deduction for your generosity.

- 1. Straight forward donations are an immediate method of increasing our endowed funds. If they can be matched by an employer, all the better.**
- 2. Make an annual contribution to the Fund.**
- 3. Leave a gift in your will or trust to go to the ACBS endowment.**
- 4. Form a Charitable Gift Annuity.**
- 5. Make a gift of Appreciated Assets – Stocks, Bonds, Mutual Funds.**
- 6. IRA Charitable Rollover or a simple change in beneficiary in an IRA.**

A gift through your will or trust is a wonderful way of ensuring that support of the ACBS-Tahoe Endowment continues for future generations. If you already have a will, you can create a simple codicil to easily add a gift to ACBS. Your financial adviser or stock broker can make a simple change to your IRA. If you want to include ACBS in your IRA or will or trust please use our full legal name: Antique & Classic Boat Society, Northern California/ Lake Tahoe Chapter.

Feel free to contact Rich Fisher or Steve Caplan if you wish to discuss this further.

Rich.fisher34@yahoo.com scaplan42@gmail.com
1 925 525 5428 1 408 981 6996

Boating the Blue

ACBS International Meeting and Boat Show



The California crowd

Our chapter had a good representation at the ACBS International meeting and boat show this year at Port Huron, Michigan. Sandy and I along with Layne and Kelley Davis headed out early on a red eye to Detroit so we could participate in the pre-events. We arrived bleary eyed Sunday morning at 8:00 AM with all day to get to Port Huron. Since we had time, we stopped at the Henry Ford Museum on the way to Port Huron. This is highly recommended, there are no boats in the museum, but there are lots of cars, tractors, planes and many other interesting exhibits about the industrial revolution.



The hotel at Port Huron is located next to the Blue Water Bridge where Lake Huron flows into the St Clair River. We had a good view of the river where gigantic lake freighters navigated the channel towards Detroit.



Monday morning was rainy and cold for the first pre-event, a cruise on the St Claire river. On our way to the docks at Algonac, we stopped at the local Target store to buy rain ponchos. Despite the weather, there were few drop outs from the event. In fact, the locals thought the weather was pretty good. We were assigned to the smallest boat for the cruise, an 18 ft Chris Craft Continental. Fortunately, the captain was quite good, and we only got slightly soaked from rain and spray as we huddled under our ponchos and ploughed through the chop headed to Harsen's Island for a very nice luncheon at the "Old Club".



After our day on the water we were determined to find a good bottle of wine to take to diner. Our expectations were low since we know that the Midwest is not wine country. We saw a liquor store near our hotel and decided to try our luck. As we walked in, we explained to the lady behind the counter that we were California wine snobs in search of a decent bottle of wine. With a big smile on her face she said she needed to get the wine sommelier and called into the back room: "we have some California wine snobs in the store". The proprietor came out and showed us an amazing collection of wine from all over the world and yes, including California. We were surprised to



find that some of our favorite wines were available and he gave us a California wine snob discount. We also found out that he was going to be the bar tender at an ACBS event at the Fort Gratiot Lighthouse in Port Huron. He promised to bring some good wines to the event for us.

More pre-events included another cruise on the St. Claire river and a voyage in larger cruisers on Lake Huron. On the day of the Lake Huron cruise, the weather was perfect, sunny, calm, and clear. The cruise was beautiful. The boat captains were astonished that the lake was calm. For most it was the only time in their lifetime that they ever saw Lake Huron calm. They were totally unprepared for good weather. Despite this



we arrived safely at our destination, the historic town of Lexington. After a stroll around town and a catered lunch, we returned to Port Huron in a different cruiser from the out bound one. Since there was no danger of bad weather, we were assigned to the largest cruiser, a 50 ft Chris Craft Constellation. Interestingly, the yacht owner is the current owner of the old Chris Craft factory building in Algonac. We spend most of the cruise sunning ourselves on the front deck pretending to have the lifestyle of the rich and famous.

Friday began the official ACBS International Boat Show. Because there was some



grumbling about judging in past years, the ACBS International board decided to adopt a judging procedure like that used at the Lake Tahoe Concours d'Élégance. To facilitate the transition

several of our chapter members who are familiar with Concours judging were recruited to help with the International boat show judging. Concours judging criteria are based on how



close the boat is to the original, as new, factory condition. This means that some very beautiful boats did not score well since the owners made modifications to meet their needs or tastes, but were no longer original. Most

owners were aware of this, but some were not. So, to some, we seemed to have unfairly downgraded a perfectly beautiful boat, resulting in a disappointed owner, especially since previously judging was lenient on modifications. But, for the most part the judging went well, and the owners accepted the judging as fair and enjoyable, since they got to show off their boats and discuss the fine details with the judges. That's the good part of

judging, you get to see great boats, meet some nice people and talk about boats. That's why we do it.

The final event was the awards dinner. Don Leutz our chapter membership chairman and International board member oversaw presenting the perpetual awards. Our chapter received 2 awards:



Layne Davis inspects a Pierce Arrow

1. **The publication award** for chapters with membership greater than 200 went to the Northern California/Lake Tahoe Chapter for their publication "**Western Wood**" – Lee and Sandy Chase, editors. We are very proud of this award and thank you to all who have contributed articles and photos.

2. **The Broken Gunwale Award** went to the Mezzetti family of the Northern California/Lake Tahoe Chapter. The Mezzetti's boat, an 18 ft Chris Craft Continental named Meset, has been in their family since new and still used on Clear Lake every summer. See the full story in the adjacent column.

The Broken Gunwale Award

The Whole Story

The Broken Gunwale Award is donated by the Finger Lakes Chapter and chosen by the awards committee in the spirit of fun and good humor. A perpetual trophy is displayed with the names of each year's recipients at the ACBS International Headquarters.

On February 19, 1961 baby Jose Mezzetti was born. While mom was busy at the hospital... dad went out to celebrate the birth of his son by purchasing a brand new 18 foot Chris Craft Continental as a ski boat for his growing family and named it MEZET.

The following spring the young parents borrowed a station wagon from a local service station owner and towed their new boat over 100 miles to Clear Lake. After that memorable "One and Done" towing experience, the decision was made to leave the boat in the water at one of the local marinas... where it has remained for the last 58 years.

As the years went by, the family grew, but MEZET continued to be at the center of the family's weekend and summer days at the lake. She has been restored, patched and repaired numerous times. After MEZET's most recent and extensive restoration, the family looked forward to their 4th of July holiday at the lake. Jose and his brother, Rob, were boating with their families in Konicti Bay when a less experienced friend came zooming past on a watercraft. Thinking he would he would come by and say "hello", he turned toward MEZET still at a high rate of speed. He then let off the throttle, where he learned the hard way that he had lost all maneuverability, and crashed into MEZET, smashing a hole into the port side of her "Gunwale". How could there be a more deserving recipient of the "Broken Gunwale" award?

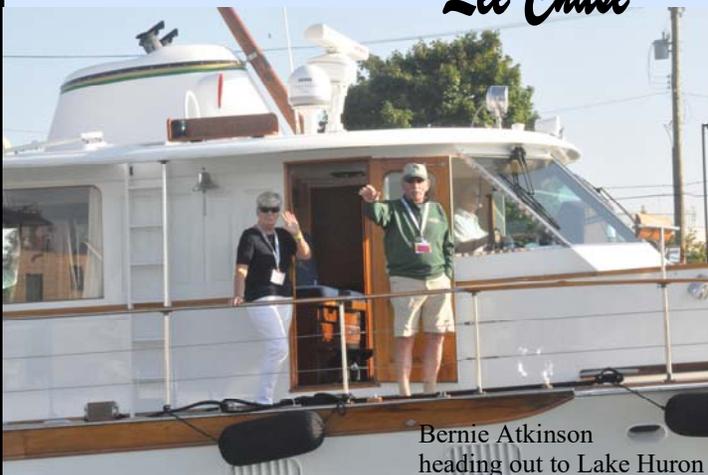
This story has a happy ending. The family was rescued, no one was hurt, and MEZET was once again repaired and restored and entered in the 2018 ACBS Wood and Glory Boat Show on Clear Lake where it received the 2018 Over-All Best of Show Trophy.

Congratulations to Jose, Robert, Constance, Gueta, Rob and all of the members of the Mezzetti Family ... the 2018 winners of the ACBS "Broken Gunwale Award".



We had a great time at Port Huron. It was almost like a religious experience to visit the old stomping grounds of boating legends Chris Smith and Gar Wood. We enjoyed the events so much that we reserved hotels for next years meeting at Thousand Islands, New York!

Lee Chase



Bernie Atkinson heading out to Lake Huron



Runabouts on The River

2018

The First Annual Antique and Classic Boat Show at the Stockton Sailing Club

“Boat Shows in Stockton?” The idea of a boat show at the Stockton Sailing Club had been discussed for some time by some of our chapter members. After the South Tahoe Show was cancelled for lack of cooperation by the Key’s Marina, the thought was that maybe this was the time to try Stockton. For one thing, the Stockton Sailing Club was enthusiastic about having an antique boat show at their marina and their docks are ideal for a show.

We had our doubts, of course. We expected hot weather and wondered if people would bring their boats and would the public come to see them. There was only one way to find out, that was to try it. The result was excellent. People brought their boats. The local Besotes club showed up in force. The Besotes boats were built in Stockton and the club saw this show as an opportunity to show off their beautiful locally built boats. There were Besotes in slips, Besotes on trailers and Besotes full of passengers roaring up and down the river. What a sight! We had 45 boats in the show including all makes of runabouts and some race boats as well.

The hot weather was mitigated by ample shade, plenty of cold drinks and cool spray from boat rides. Boat rides were given throughout the show, many people got a chance to ride in the boats and everyone could see boats in action from the river bank. This constant activity added an interesting element to the show that drew a lot of attention from the nearly 400 who came through the gate to see our boats.

While the show was not a judged event, prizes for Best Classic Glass, Best Utility, Best Runabout and Best of Show were given at the Barbeque after the show. The 100 people who attended dinner were treated to a truly magnificent sunset, partially

caused by smoky air from the wildfires up north. After dinner several boats went out for a sunset cruise, the perfect time to enjoy the river.

Runabouts on the River was a great success thanks to the efforts of Layne Davis, Joel Castro and Bobby Gaestel and others who made sure that all the many details were taken care of. This venue offers an excellent launch ramp nearby with ample trailer parking and well-maintained docks. If you missed this event, you should make sure you attend next one.

Best of Show
Miss Behavin’
Jim Codington



Best Utility
Foolish Pleasure
Mike Bosworth



Best Runabout
Tumblehome
Rick & Annie Hill



Best Classic Glass
Ol’ School
Jack McManus



Peoples Choice
Scouts Honor
Sea Scout Ship 145



Most Original
Rum/(Cabernet?)
Tim & Terri Bush



Lee Chase



Annual Meeting 2018

This year's Annual Meeting was held in the San Jose/Campbell area on November 2 & 3. It started out at the Rock Bottom Brewery in the Pruneyard. It was a fun, noisy gathering with friends and some great food.

Saturday started with a bit of a Mystery. We had a wonderful tour of the Winchester Mystery house. Thank you to Barbara Foster and Jane Bane for organizing this.

Saturday night was our annual meeting held at the Double Tree hotel in the Pruneyard. We not only installed our new officers, but celebrated our past Presidents. Barbara Foster had new nametags made for our past presidents, noting their date of service. This was a wonderful way of recognizing the people that have spent their time serving our ACBS Chapter. Sandy Chase put together a picture montage of all the past presidents and one showing pictures of past events from the 1990s to current day. Both of these movies are on our website, acbs-tahoe.org. Our rogues gallery of past presidents is on page 17 of this issue.

Joel Castro put together a movie for Layne Davis recapturing his presidency and events of the year.

Layne ushered out his year with the Sea Scouts performing their color guard presentation of the flag. This is always a



treat and reminds us of what a wonderful country we live in and how important our youth is. There were many hankies out discreetly wiping an eye.

Before passing the torch, Layne presented the Ziggy Award to Robert Gaestel for his creative trailer towing skills at the Stockton Boat Show. Sandy Chase was presented with the President's award for her service in 2018. Layne announced that our chapter was the recipient of 2 awards at the ACBS International meeting this year. Lee and Sandy Chase received the award for Best News Letter for the Western Wood for 2018. The "Broken Gunwale Award" was awarded to Jose, Robert, Constance, Gueta, Rob and all of the members of the Mezzetti Family for their boat MEZET. See the whole story on page 9 of this issue.

Layne then passed the President's gavel onto Robert Gaestel for the 2019 year.

Thank you Layne Davis for your service and Welcome Robert Gaestel and the rest of the Board of Directors. We look forward to another year of ACBS Northern California/Lake Tahoe Chapter of FUN!!



Board of Directors 2019

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 2nd VP - Virginia Gompertz
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Delta Cruise 2018

The Delta Cruise is the last ACBS boating event of the season and seems to be high on everyone's favorite event list. Kelly and I have been arriving at B& W Resort on the Thursday, the day before the event starts, for the past several years since I've been heading this thing up. This allows me to get a head start on everything and finish up any last minute details. The last couple of years however, more and more people have been showing up on Thursday to start they're fun early, so this year we decided to go on Wednesday. Much to our surprise, there had to be 8 or 9 other couples that came even earlier this year and arrived on Wednesday like we did. I guess they just can't get enough of the fun at the Delta.

The event officially began Friday night, October 5th, however even more members showed up Thursday and the boat slips were probably 80% full with our beautiful antique and classic boats by Thursday night. A group of us took a boat ride to Korth's Pirates Lair for lunch. Unfortunately, one of our members had some boat trouble and had to be towed. Thanks Gene King for being there to rescue me (who would've known it was only the first of two times he had to tow me that weekend). Friday morning, several more boats started rolling in and everyone was getting ready to head out on their own for lunch. Some folks went to the traditional Giusti's, while others went to Wimpy's, Rosa's and even all the way to Windmill Cove. Then it was back to B&W to get ready for the Potluck BBQ and actual start of the weekend.

The tables were all lined up along the levy, overlooking the boat slips that were now getting filled up. The BBQ's began to smoke, wine corks began to pop, people were helping members dock their boats, and a large number of the 159 people registered began to enjoy the leisurely pace of delta life. If you've never been to the Friday night dinner, it really is the perfect time for meeting new friends, mingling and chatting with old friends, and enjoying a very casual wonderful evening.

Saturday morning started off with a great breakfast on the levy put on by lots of hard work from Laurie Gurries, Carol King and Joy Taylor. Everything was eaten and all of the coffee drank just in



showing up on Thursday to start they're fun early, so this year we decided to go on Wednesday. Much to our surprise, there had to be 8 or 9 other couples that came even earlier this year and arrived on Wednesday like we did. I guess they just can't get enough of the fun



Woodies at Giusti's



The Line up on the Levy

Mike Magruder's 1930 25 ft Dodge *Patience* (a 20 year restoration project)

time to get your map from the Poker Run Organizer and Cruise Director Tim Stapleton. Tim led us once again on a great poker run covering as much of the delta as he can while avoiding as many as possible 5 mph zones, all while trying not to get lost. Tim says that our last u-turn he led us on



wasn't because he went the wrong way, "He just wanted to see all the boats behind him". Thanks to Gene and Sue Dangel, Greg and Micki Joseph, and Doug Shone and Rainee Stahr for sitting out in their boats handing out cards at the stop locations. We made it to the private island of Grindstone Joe's for a picnic lunch, lawn games, and more of that "relaxation". I love watching all of our old and new friends hanging out on the deck just above all of our beautiful boats at the docks.



Handing out cards



Boats began leaving one by one on their own back to B&W. As we were getting ready for dinner, some folks were napping, some relaxing and others carrying on even more conversations.



Ronda Little was hard at work decorating the tables with her wonderful wooden boat decorations floating in real water. OK maybe they were painted plastic, (which Ronda painted every one

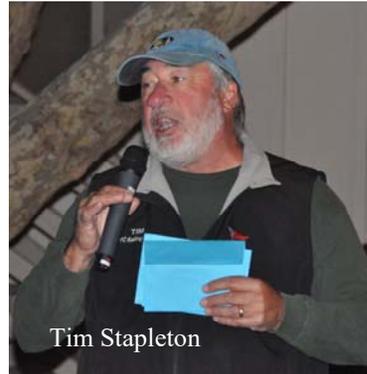




Layne Davis & Chuck Stevens (caterer)

of them) but they looked like wooden boats. I even think I saw one of "Matchbox" being towed, but that's another story. I want to thank Ronda and her helpers for she has always done an excellent job on the table decorations. She informed me this year that she is going to

retire so we need someone to step up for the table decorations next year. Food was catered and prepared on sight by my good friend Chuck Stevens out of Lodi. The feast of Tri Tip and Chicken was outstanding. Tim Stapleton announced the winners of the poker run with Jim and Gretchen Deichler, on their boat "Harvest Moon", having the best hand. I presented them with a basket of goodies, including wine, snacks and a set of "spooky" Halloween decorations.



Tim Stapleton

Sunday morning we woke to windy cloudy skies with chance of gusts to 50 mph but that didn't stop this group. We had about 20 boats cruise to brunch at Moore's Riverboat Restaurant while others



Bloody Mary Bar

were able to drive there for the fantastic meal and incredible bloody mary bar. This was not the final event though for those still wanting more boating. After filling our bellies, we headed out on our Sunday cruise for ice cream with Gene Dangel leading the way with about 8 or 9 boats. We made it through the Mokelumne, past Giusti's, Walnut Grove Marina, thru the cross channel gates and got all secured to the Walnut Grove City dock. Only a few hats blew off along the way that we had to rescue. Bobby Gaestel actually wrestled through and made it all the way down thru the thorny bushes on the side of the levee to rescue Dan Foster's hat that had blown off while he was just standing on the gangway in Walnut Grove. We finished our ice creams and



Moore's River Boat



headed out to the boats. We traveled down the beautiful Georgiana Slough and back to B&W. What a way to wrap up our weekend and end our boating season.

I really need to thank my committee for putting on such a great, relaxing event. Gene Dangel and my wife, Kelly Davis, helped me with everything else all weekend that is not mentioned in this article. All of our ACBS events require lots of volunteers and we're always looking for more. If you're interested in helping at this event, or any other, contact me.

Save the date for next year's Delta Cruise of October 4, 5, & 6, 2019(always the first full weekend of October). Sign up sheets will be coming in a future Western Wood and will be on line. Remember to bring your families and recruit a friend.

Layne Davis
Delta Cruise Chairman

Relaxing on the River





When Time Began

(Well at least when our Chapter did)

The Northern California/Lake Tahoe chapter sprung from the rich boating history of Lake Tahoe in 1983. Our chapter currently has 5 families that were members of ACBS before our chapter existed, 11 that joined in 1984 and 12 that joined in 1985. But before we go there, a little history about ACBS International:

Since its founding in 1975 on the shores of Lake George, New York, The Antique and Classic Boat Society, Inc. (ACBS) has grown into the largest society in the world dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of historic, antique and classic boats. We embrace all styles of classic boats whether they are wood, fiberglass or metal.

Back to our History: In 1910 on Lake Tahoe, Tahoe City's own Ernie Pomin's 1906 home-built 22' iron plate boat *Summer Girl* wins the first trophy given at the first organized boat races on the lake. The Tahoe Power Boat Club, and later after a name change in the summer of 1938, the Tahoe Yacht Club, have their roots going back to 1925. The club sponsored the local regattas every summer that moved from course to course. The Chamber's course was a favorite but gave way to the Tahoe Tavern and Tahoe City (Tahoe Boat Co.) courses. The last years of the Regatta were on the Homewood Resort course. The TYC races ended in 1984 at Homewood due to liability insurance concerns. In the early days there were 2 regattas per summer giving the local "hotshot" favorites a second seasonal grudge match! The 1946/47 racing years saw people like Danny Foster, Dan Arena, R. Stanley Dollar, Ollie Meek, Morlen Visel (to name some of the Tahoe and Oakland/Bay Area boys) and others purchasing and converting the Allison and Merlin V-12 engines and powering their new step hull and 3-point hydroplanes. Speeds, excitement and fan participation were up in the last quarter of the decade of the 40s.

The post war years not only inspired the need for speed in more costly and elite racing scene, but also spilled over into every day recreation. A lot of wonderful things happened with the end of World War II. Our men and women came home from the far fields of war and we returned to a peace time economy and way of life. 1946 started the "Baby Boomer" generation that would continue into 1964. Leisure time was important for the parents of this new generation, and family boating became more popular than ever.

The nation started back to work, and boat building was in demand. Chris Craft and other builders had been large wartime providers and, as early as January 1945, Chris Craft had started designs and preparation for building new pleasure boats. These boats were mostly equipped with the 158 H.P. Chris Craft MBL flat head six-cylinder engine. The decade of the 50s was filled with change and prosperity. The boats had more horse power from smaller and lighter weight engines in smaller boats and gave us more speed, and usually for a lower cost. Boating on Lake Tahoe became just as much of a sport for families as for racers.

Our 2 founding members, Steve Lapkin and Glory Beale, came from Tahoe boating families. Their love of boating, and good friends that encouraged them, got the charter signed for

our Chapter in 1983. Below is Steve's thoughts and memories on our beginning:

It is quite comforting to know that the Northern California/Lake Tahoe Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boat Society has grown steadily and is prosperous and vibrant. If it were not for having the fortune to meet and know Don Veihmeyer (in the late 70s), the Chapter quite possibly would not



Glory Beall and Steve Lapkin

have been considered and conceived. Don was one of the first wooden boat restorers/owners who participated in the annual Tahoe Yacht Club Concours d' Elegance. As was the custom back then, following each year's show, we would gather for fellowship and awards at the lakefront home of Glenn Wilson in Homewood. The pre-luncheon 'beverage hour' allowed for Don to share and describe the opportunities and benefits of The Antique and Classic Boat Society and its growth through

regional chapters in the United States and Canada. He introduced me to several ACBS figureheads, and with every ambition, Glory Beall and I set out to gather names for the Charter which we then presented to the International Board at the 1983 Annual Meeting convened in Williamsburg, Virginia.



Anne & Don Veihmeyer

I still recall the 'reception' we received at the Williamsburg weekend gathering. There were some 'veteran' ACBS East Coast Members who looked-us-over and whispered that we appeared to be "Hollywood Upstarts." Not exactly the impression we believed we were exuding yet our mission got accomplished and the Charter approved. Glory and I, too, had our first-impressions of those gathered at Williamsburg. But not withstanding the 'upstart' label, we were most impressed with the outgoing International President, David Kidd and the incoming President, Jay Higgins. They were most cordial and supportive of our efforts and the incorporation of the talents and assets within the Northern California area. Other significant persons present in 1983 were The Turcotte Brothers (Gar Wood Boats,) Mike and Ann Matheson of North Carolina, Syd and Mary Herwig of Eastern Canada, Mark Mason of New Hampshire and Wilson Wright of Florida. Indeed, Jay and Mark and Wilson would eventually come and visit us at Tahoe, often, for our summer events. The opportunity for exchanges and perspectives became a win-win achievement.

Fast forward, the enthusiasm of the Northern California clan has added immeasurably to the strength of ACBS International. The historical efforts to establish the Chapter should be shared so that our present membership has these perspectives. Indeed, the Chapter will have further successes by holding this history with due regard.

My best, Steve Lapkin

In the early days most of our events were held at Lake Tahoe, Boat Shows, Gatherings and picnics and Woodie Whoopies (pot lucks at various locations around the lake) and many still are. A number of our members grew up boating at

Lake Tahoe and have stories to tell. Maybe we can get some of these people to share them with us in an upcoming issue. Hint, Hint.

As our membership grew, so did our boating areas:

The Delta – somewhere between the late eighties and early nineties the Delta became an ACBS event. Below is Tim Stapleton’s recollections of the beginning:

“ Karen’s father, Neil Munro, was a member of the St Francis Yacht Club and was able to rent the lighthouse for a weekend. I think he started about 1987. He invited three couples that were old boating buddies from their days at Cal; Don and Ann Veihmeyer, Cece and Lois Marks, Alan and Ginny Firth (You May have heard of them). In 1989 (newlyweds) Karen and I got an invitation to join them. They really just needed a couple of youngsters to haul all the food and booze up to the lighthouse.



The Stapletons at B&W

We would spend the days boating around the delta and the evenings we would bbq and spend the evening sitting on the deck telling stories (ok we mostly listened). One year Don brought some old slides of the group boating and water skiing. They used to make their own skis. One picture I will never forget was Ann doing a beach start wearing a swim cap holding a cigarette. Neil decided to invite other ACBS members to come to the island for a picnic. Ann would cut almost all of the roses on the island to make center pieces. Glory Beal, Marty Feletto and Chuck Kelly were all early

attendees. They decided to make a weekend of it and started staying at B&W, playing poker all night and boating all day.”

The ACBS Delta outing started at Tinsley Island, then moved on to the Delta Yacht Club and are now

settled at Grind Stone Joe’s where the tradition of boating all day and enjoying ACBS friends company continues.

(Maybe we should bring some poker chips to the next outing.)

Bass Lake - Bass Lake started in 1990 as a joint boating adventure with the ACBS Southern California Chapter.

Wood & Glory – 1999 was the first Clear Lake event. Jim Robello and Jim Fentress, with John Lahti being the first to volunteer, were tasked to put on an event at Clear Lake. 2019 will mark 20 years for this event.

Lake Shasta – Rick and Laurie Gurries started the Lake Shasta event in 2011 in order to introduce Shasta boating our club.

Stockton Boat Show – 2017 was the first Show and a rousing success.



Spring Fling – I remember going to the Delta King in the Sacramento River in the 80s for Spring dinners. In the early 90s Lee and I helped change the dinners to a weekend event. Some of our early outings where the Wine Train in Napa, Tiburon and Angel Island and Monterey Bay Aquarium.

Annual Meeting – Both the Spring Fling and Annual meeting are events that move around to different locations and usually doesn’t involve using our boats but does sometimes involve being on a boat. Again, in the early 90s it went from a dinner to an event. We are just a fun group and love getting together to experience new places.

South Lake Tahoe Boat Show – In the mid 1990s Paul Mehus helped put together a boat show at the Keys Marina. It was a fun ACBS member event for quite a few years. We stopped for several years



and then it was resurrected with Steve Caplan, Lew Dobbins and others help. From 2008 to 2017 it became a wonderful Boat Show and Event for the South Shore. Unfortunately, due to a huge increase in fees by the marina we were unable to continue. Maybe someday we will go back.

Restoration Workshop – We have had different organizers of this event over the years, with the current organizers of Lew and Debra Dobbins. We are very lucky to have wonderful restorers involved on our ACBS chapter that have opened their doors and offered their expertise to make these a popular event. Thanks to: Sierra Boat, Northwest Classic Boats, Curt Bauman, Tony Brown and more.

Woodie Whoopies –These Lake Tahoe get together were started as a low cost way for people in Tahoe to come together and for a potluck/barbecue and enjoy each others company. I have spoken to several people and we can’t pin the exact date, but it was in the 90s and we think the Jim Thompson and Kelly Bane were some of the original organizers. We have been very fortunate to have members open their homes to us for many years for an event. Thanks to the Turner family, the Shepherd Family and the Atkinson Family.

We have had other events over the years that have come and gone and new ones always popping up. We are one of the most active clubs in ACBS. We have fun getting together whether it is on a boat or checking out a new areas interesting sites, museums or restaurants. This is a wonderful group of people that knows how to have a good time.

Annual Meeting 2018 -The ACB annual meeting this year not only installed our new officers, but celebrated the beginning of the chapter and all of our past presidents. For your enjoyment is a 9 minute picture montage of every one of our presidents since we became a chapter in 1984. The second picture montage is 30 minutes and Chronicles our ACBS events over as many years as I could find pictures for. The links to these videos are available on our website: acbs-tahoe.org.

Sandy Chase

The History of Lake Tahoe boating is from articles written by Lew Dobbins for Programs from the South Tahoe show.

Safety First! – “Grab and Go” - (Article #19) By Captain Don Leutz



When a boating disaster strikes, you need to be ready. Sometimes, that means you must abandon ship due to a collision, fire, sinking or some other cause. A “Ditch Bag” or Abandon

Ship Bag has long been an important piece of equipment for boaters to have on board, especially when traveling in the open sea. However, even while on a calm lake or inland water way a serious problem can occur with your boat or the weather which might necessitate an “Abandon Ship.”

Ditch Bags are compact floating bags designed to hold critical items that you might need in an Abandon Ship emergency. The primary purpose of a Ditch Bag is to carry devices that help you communicate with and be seen by rescuers.



With a pre-prepared Ditch Bag, a boater can easily and safely leave the boat quickly in an emergency and have the satisfaction of knowing that the Ditch Bag contains all of the important items needed to survive and speed their rescue.

I would suggest that you first start by purchasing a bag specifically made for the purpose. They are generally waterproof and will float. There are numerous companies that sell such “Ditch Bags” (search for “Ditch Bag” online) and most have numerous pockets and pouches to keep items safe and organized for quick retrieval. The bag should be pre-packed so that it is always ready to “grab and go.”

While there are many items that could be put in the Ditch Bag, here are some of the essential items recommended.

- EPIRB – Emergency Positioning Indicating Radio Beacon which can notify Coast Guard and local search and rescue teams of your emergency and provide your GPS position. Or, if an EPIRB is not available, a PLB – Personal Locator Beacon.
- Emergency Handheld VHF Radio – one that floats and is waterproof. A cell phone will also come in handy, especially for lake and near shore cruising.
- Handheld GPS – waterproof and floating unit preferably which gives boaters the ability to pinpoint and report their position with ten-foot accuracy.
- Emergency Lights – specialized lights designed to help rescuers spot victims. Some lights are combo lights with a strobe



light and flashlight built in. Many activate automatically in water. Solas Grade Flares are preferred because they can be seen for the greatest distance.

- Low tech devices such as a compass, signal mirror, whistle, other noise making devices, chemical glow sticks, reflective tape, etc.
- Survival Supplies such as drinking water packets, duct tape, sunglasses, sunscreen, hat, Wet Ones Hand Wipes or hand sanitizer, food packets, knife, flashlight, cord, zip ties
- First Aid Kit, Space Blanket

Every Ditch Bag should also include a tether with a clip that enables you to secure the bag to yourself or to a life raft so that it does not drift away with the current or wind.

Keep in mind that your Ditch Bag needs to be maintained in order to be ready to go. Check to be sure the batteries are fresh and be sure any flares are not out of date. Also, check the dates on your water and food packets to be sure they have not expired.

There is no such thing as a one-size-fits-all Ditch Bag. Everyone is different, and every boating experience is different. For example, offshore cruising would necessitate additional items be put in the Ditch Bag. For other types of cruising one may not need every item listed in their Ditch Bag.

However, good seamanship means being prepared for all circumstances. A Ditch Bag set up and maintained properly is an essential part of that good seamanship.

For more information on Safe Boating, visit: www.uscgboating.org.

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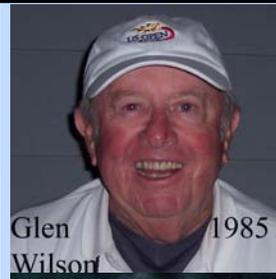
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Past ACBS Chapter Presidents



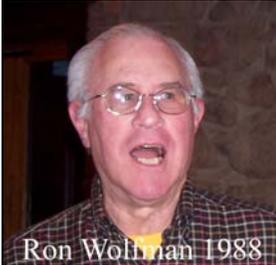
Glory Beall
1984 & 1987



Glen Wilson 1985



John Mitchell 1986



Ron Wolfman 1988



Ken Shutt 1989



Bette Shutt 1990,
1991 & 1992



Brad Hill 1993



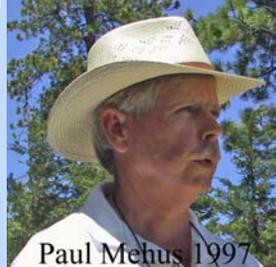
Kelly Bane 1994



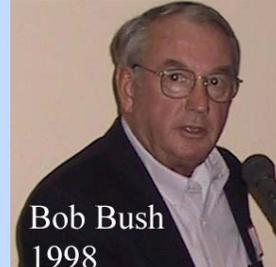
Lee Chase 1995



Anne Veihmeyer 1996



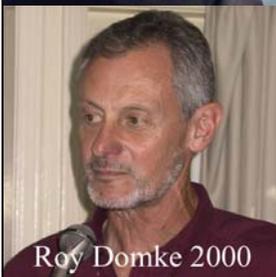
Paul Mehus 1997



Bob Bush
1998



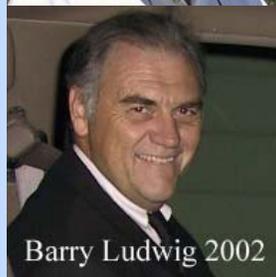
Marty Feletto 1999



Roy Domke 2000



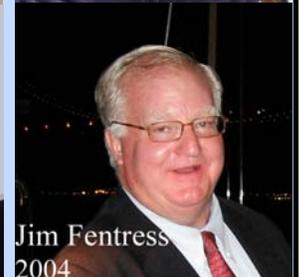
Jeff Peterson 2001



Barry Ludwig 2002



Kirk Pumphrey 2003



Jim Fentress
2004



Chuck Kelley 2005



Herb Hall 2006



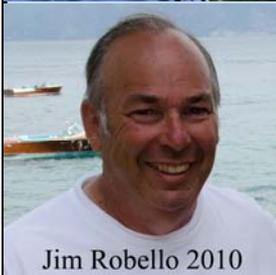
Norm Kitching 2007



Jack Bingham 2008



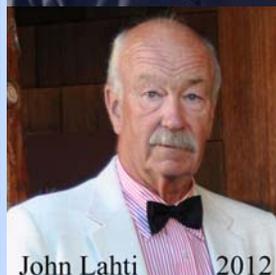
Dave Lyon 2009



Jim Robello 2010



Jared Hein 2011



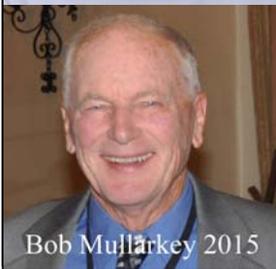
John Lahti 2012



Joel Castro 2013



Sandy Chase 2014



Bob Mullarkey 2015



Barbara Foster 2016



Layne Davis 2018



Debra Dobbins 2017



Robert Gaestel 2019

The Trading Dock

Please contact the editor at lee.chase@comcast.net to place or remove a Trading Dock ad.
Check the Trading Dock on our web-site at acbs-tahoe.org

For Sale

1948 vintage racing runabout, 17 foot dual cockpit. Hot Rod flathead engine, excellent condition, won awards at Tahoe, trailer and boat cover \$38,900 or best offer. Name 'Yo! Adrenne'.
 Contact David 916-984-3768 or DVD.Coolidge@yahoo.com.

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

1952 Philbrick double Hemi powered total restoration \$35,000.
1962 18' Philbrick runabout V-8 Buick powered like new \$35,000.
 Contact Joe at 925 234 6763 or joefanfa@gmail.com Pictures on acbs-tahoe.org

For Sale

1960 Chris Craft 17 ft Ski Boat.
 With Chevy 283 engine for sale. \$16,500 OBO.
 Contact Layne 408-234-7613 or Skip145@comcast.net

For Sale

1949 Philbrick 18 ft., Ford flathead engine. Restored several years ago, used twice and stored since. Custom trailer. \$8,500 or best offer.
 Call Aris or Diane at 415-717-5090

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

For Sale

1938 21' Utility Deluxe Chris Craft 158 HP with Trailer and Cover Many first of class awards, Best of Show – Wood & Glory
 Excellent condition – Seats 9 passengers \$50,000
 707.349.4787 or aanddthomas@gmail.com

You Bet There Will Be a 2019 Restoration Workshop!

Our chapter is pleased to announce that we WILL be providing a Restoration Workshop at Sierra Boat Company this spring. Friday and Saturday, March 29th and 30th will be the dates for another two day extravaganza that promises to be bigger and better than the one held there in 2016! We do have tentative back up / weather dates for the following weekend, April 5th and 6th.



Debra and I have worked with Herb, Chris and Bryan of Sierra Boat Co. and put our plans together. If you were there for the 2016 workshop, you know how we broke the group in to teams to rotate through 4 different topics over the 2 days. The Sierra Boat team of experts did a fantastic job and provided a lot of hands-on experience. And of course that was all punctuated with a LOT of great food!

We will again provide a polo shirt with our exclusive Restoration Workshop embroidered logo dated for 2019. In past years we put together a group dinner for the first night. Last time the dinner at hacienda Del Lago was a great hit.

This is your opportunity to ask questions or let us know what you would like to see addressed in this upcoming workshop. Feel free to send an email with your thoughts.

The fee for this year's chapter restoration workshop for four different topic classes, 2 breakfasts, 2 amazing hot lunches, commemorative embroidered polo shirt and a whole lot of fun is \$235. We will be sending an email soon with instructions and an application. But it may be easier for you to sign-up online on the chapter website: <http://acbs-tahoe.org/>

For questions or additional information please contact Debra at losthorsebooks@sbcglobal.net (530-263-3229) or Lew at l.dobbins@sbcglobal.net (530-263-0412).

For Sale-1946 20' Chris Craft Custom



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ACBS NOR CAL/TAHOE MEMBERS CRUISE A BIG ANTIQUE AND CLASSIC BOAT

ACBS Member Mark Manes emailed our President Layne Davis and asked if his sea scouts (Sea Scout Ship Challenger) would be interested in cruising on an old ship. Boy would we!

I had just met Mark this year as a new member of ACBS at the Bass Lake event. Bass Lake Chairman Bobby Gaestel, came up to me and said I had to meet this new member because we had the same interests and things. Bobby introduced me to Mark

Manes and we began to talk. Well, make a long story short, turns out, we know a lot of the same people, share a couple common friends and Mark use to



co-captain a tug boat with one of my best friends. We hit it off and have stayed in contact since.

Mark is a San Francisco Bay Bar Pilot. For those of you that don't know what that is, he is an extremely qualified licensed captain that is one of the guys that rides out in one of the small pilot boats to the Pilot Buoy, 13 miles off the Golden Gate Bridge, climbs aboard the big ships, and is responsible for piloting them into and around San Francisco Bay. So I when I received the email from Mark titled "Cruise Red Oak Victory" I quickly opened it up.

Mark advised that he had secured some spots on the Red Oak Victory for her cruise back to Richmond for 2 adults and 4 Sea Scouts. The SS Red Oak Victory, one of the last surviving ships built at the Kaiser Richmond Shipyards during World War II, was commissioned on December 5, 1944. The ship was an Auxiliary Cargo Ship and carried ammunition to supply the needs of the Pacific Fleet in WWII. At the end of 1946 she was turned over to the U.S. Maritime Commission and served the next 21 years under Merchant Marine Command in the Caribbean, Indian Ocean, and Korean War Service. Her last 13 voyages were in Vietnam from 1965 to 1968. In 1970 the SS Red Oak Victory joined the Ready Reserve Fleet better known as the "Mothball Fleet". She stayed there until she was rescued from there in 1998 by a non-profit organization, along with the City of Richmond, to become a restored WWII Victory Ship Museum. See their website for more info <http://redoakvictory.us>.

Earlier this year, the ship had been moved from her home port at the old Kaiser Richmond Shipyards to the California Maritime Academy Pier. You may have seen it in the news or read the news articles at the time explaining that this was to work on and fire the ship's boiler for the first time in 50 years. After several weeks there and a successful adventure, it was time to move her back to her home dock in Richmond.

I picked 4 of my most deserving scouts to be the 4 that got

to attend. I, along with one of my other leaders and the 4 scouts, departed my house on that August morning at 0400 hours (4:00 AM for you land lubbers). We headed to Richmond to drop the cars off and then catch an UBER (my first ever) to the California Maritime Academy in Vallejo.



We were welcomed aboard by the Manager of the SS Red Oak Victory, "Johannes" who welcomed us with open arms. After showing us where the coffee and breakfast treats were, we had to get to work seeing as how we became part of the crew that day. We were issued hard hats and lifejackets and quickly became the crew.

The ship was to be "Flat towed" using tugboats to tow her from Cal Maritime to the Graving Docks in Richmond. The crew needed to attend the training meeting.

Here were the instructions and schedule we were given:
AUGUST 16, 2018

- 0545** CMA Vallejo, ROV Crew on board, safety meeting for line handlers.
- 0615** Pre Job Conference, make up boats. Pilot on board, set up gear, pick up gangway
- 0645** Begin letting go lines
- 0730** Underway
- 1030** Line Crew ready at Richmond Graving Docks, Safety meeting. (We may get there ahead of schedule)

1130 Entering Slip at Richmond Graving Docks
1330 All Fast



The scouts, along with my other leader and me, got pretty much involved with everything from handling the lines, raising the gangway, and moving equipment. During the cruise and the approach into the graving dock, I got to be on the flying bridge, right next to Captain Manes, as he commanded

the whole show over a small handheld VHF radio. There was a tractor tug on the "hip" to port that was the main propulsion for the ship and two other tugs further forward alongside that were mainly there for the ride until we started into the graving dock. They then became the sideways propulsion into the very narrow slip that Mark had to get the ship into, but they also had to quickly get out of the way as the slip was only big enough for the ship.

It turned out to be a beautiful day and very memorable trip. ACBS Member, Captain Mark Manes, did a superb job commanding the tugs and ship for the entire voyage and docking into the slip. Johannes and the rest of the SS Red Oak Victory Crew were very appreciative for our help and invited the scouts back any time. I think I'll take them up on that and give the rest of my sea scouts a tour of the Ship. I can't thank Mark enough for making this happen and giving this great experience to the scouts and me. See, you never know who you'll meet at an ACBS event.



Layne Davis

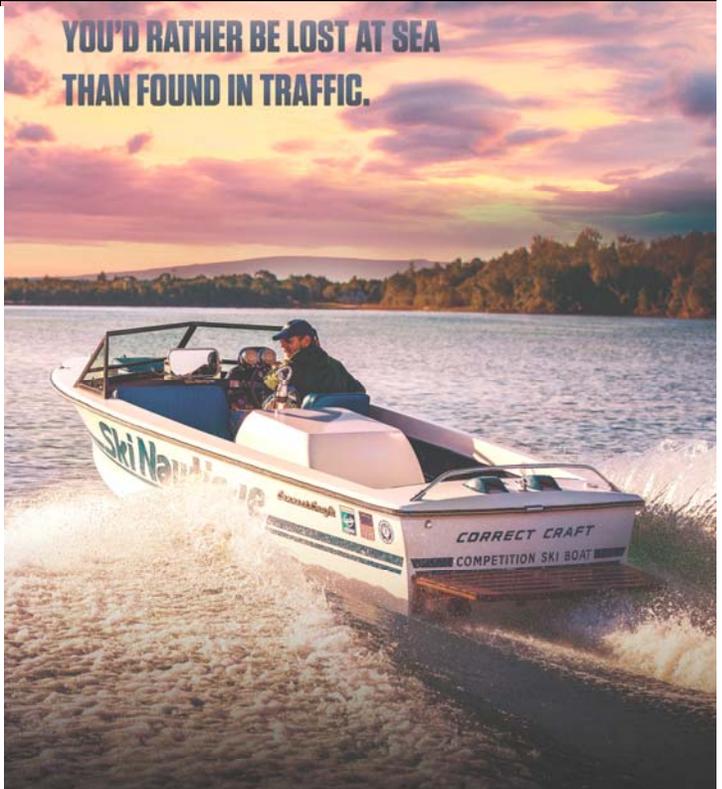


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