

The Bilge Pump

41st Chapter of the Antique & Classic Boat Society

Rocky Mountain Classics

September 2004



Three Generations of Novicks in "Charmed Cobra"



Rocky Mountain Classics Chapter of the ACBS



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On the Horizon

PAGE 3

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

October 9

**Annual mtg/
Election, Dillon**

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NAVAJO LAKE BOAT SHOW AND POKER RUN

The water level was good for boating and that we did! The Braafs, Swineharts, Wayne Spaulding and Bill Tordoff came early and enjoyed the lake Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The McGaughys, Zempels, Moharters, Rick Knight, John Schell, Scott Forbes, Doug Brown and Dennis Pierce joined them on Saturday.

We were very well received by the marina and state park staff and boaters who use the marina. They all enjoyed our boats, moving their houseboats and cruisers so we could put ours in place.

Mark and Karen Zempel hosted a delicious Bar-B-Q at the Ute Park in Ignacio. Mark arranged for secure parking for our boats and tow vehicles and rooms at a discounted rate at the Sky Ute Lodge and Casino. The lodge staff was co-operative as always and some even attended the show on Saturday.

A summer storm came up Saturday just as the poker run was finished, making us hurry off the lake. Waves lapped over the docks and even separated the dock access to shore for a short time. A couple of hours later the lake was smooth as glass and what a sight John Schell made as rowed around the marina in his hand crafted row/sail boat enjoying the calm of the early evening.

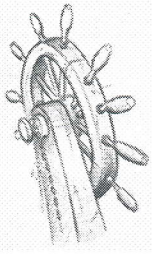
It always amazes me how we can enjoy the company of people from all walks of life, who all enjoy the boats we have. Rick Knight and his three sons were together and the young men enjoyed his boat *CRAZY* for the first time. The 1958 Continental owned by Bob Moharter and Mark Zempel made it's first appearance after a two year restoration

Wayne Spaulding won first place in the poker run with a pair of Kings. Dennis Pierce was second with a pair of Queens. The Swineharts were awarded last place with no matching cards at all! Paddles were presented to the three winners.

The Peoples Choice award was won by *SUNSPOT* owned by Steve and Regan Swinehart. The traveling trophy was presented to them at Dinner on Saturday evening.

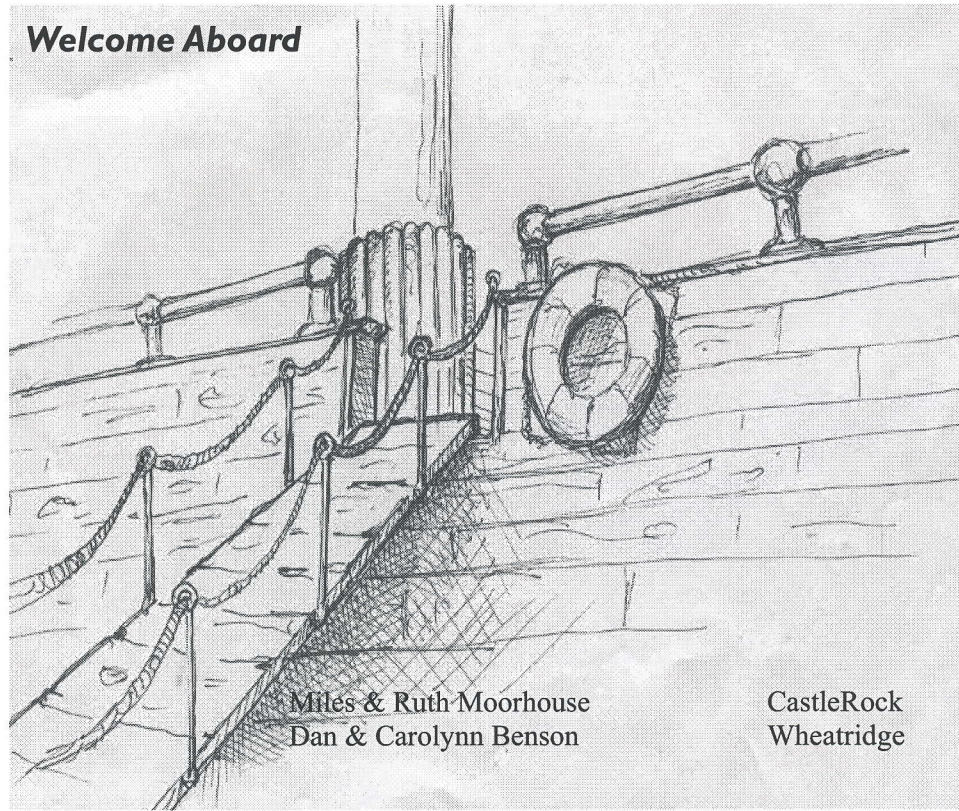
The Navajo Lake Marina has invited us back and looks forward to our return in 2005. Everyone who came enjoyed the water, friendship and fun of another boating event. The Ship's Store, managed by Rhonda and Jim McGaughy was present and showed well. Thanks to them and all who helped and for all the work they did to present the items. Show pictures by Bob & Chris Braaf are available on our website.

June Moharter



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FRISCO FROLIC

Wayne Spaulding and Bill Tordoff and Frisco Marina did a great job this year sponsoring a nice showing of boats for the public's enjoyment.

This was the first time we were able to participate in this event in conjunction with the car show happening the same weekend. The folks who came through the marina got a real treat enjoying boats from many eras and having the opportunity to talk to our members and learn more about the hobby we love.

Several members were able to stay for a sweet afternoon of boating fun and delicious dining in Frisco's best eatery, the Boathouse.

Thanks to all who participated and attended.

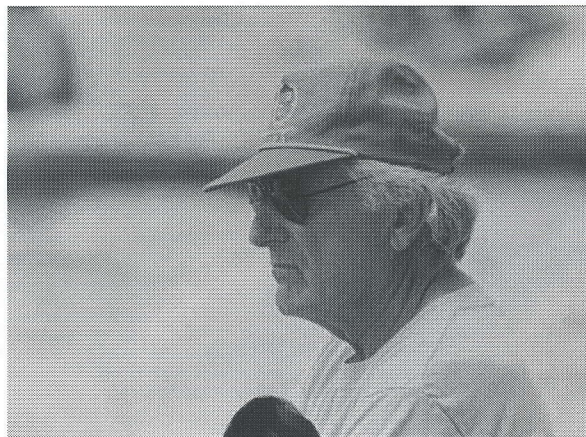
The Bilge Pump Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Classics

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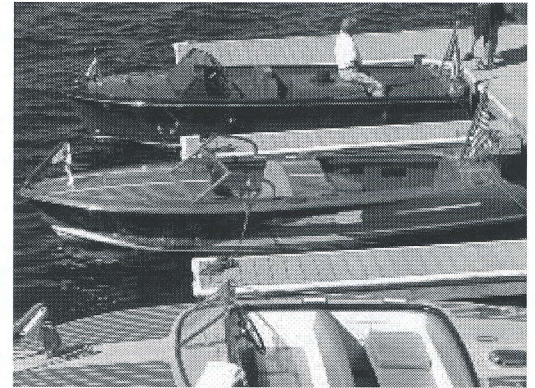


Jay Novick at Grand Lake

GRAND LAKE BOAT SHOW 2004

The Rocky Mountain Classics Chapter of the ACBS held their 7th Annual Grand Lake Boat Show in Grand Lake Colorado in conjunction with the Grand Lake Yacht Club on July 17th & 18th, 2004.

The Braafs and Moors treated members to another memorable weekend filled with great eats, wonderful weather and good friends. This year's show was extra special in so many ways. We were fortunate to have Chris Smith join us again this year bringing his most recent project, a 1949 Chris Craft Rocket. This boat was rescued from the depths of Lake Michigan and Chris restored it to his new Chris Smith design. The Rocket won 'People's Choice' for its great craftsmanship and terrific story.



Mike Novick invited his parents to join us this year, and they brought with them their 1955 21' Chris Craft Cobra. This boat has all of its original wood and the original Chrysler Hemi 200 HP engine. Jay Novick and 'Charmed Cobra' were awarded the 'Most Original, Best Preserved' award this year. It was so great to have the Novicks join us from Illinois and be able to get pictures of 3 generations of Novicks enjoying their wooden boats together. For them it is truly a family tradition!

Members from the new fledgling Chapter, the Intermountain Chapter joined us this year bringing with them their post war Higgins, their enthusiasm and an obvious passion for the boats we love so much. Those qualities will take this Chapter far and we are looking forward to joining them September 10-12 at Bear Lake in Utah for their first boat show.

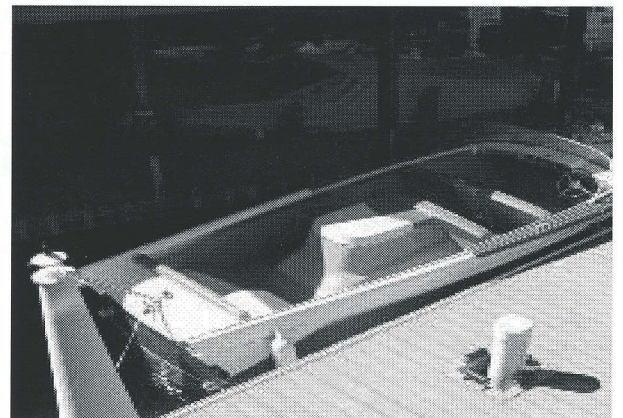
The Langes Falls Flyer was finally running right, and Kathy was able to give a few folks a 'Flying' trip around the lake. She was fortunate to have so many members willing to give her support and advise.

Paul & Debbie Langer debuted their Larson sedan cruiser at this show. She looked great and was really a pleasant addition to our group of boats.

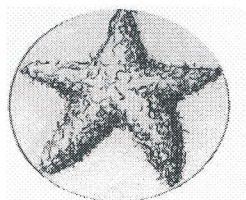


A member of the Heartland Chapter joined us with his 3 daughters and their beautiful, automotive-styled Chris Craft Continental. Members were treated to a slide show prepared and presented by

the girls who actually helped their dad restore the boat to original and were full of enthusiasm and excitement for what we do. The passion these young women projected was inspiring and encouraging for the future of our hobby. These young people are the future and they are a stellar example of what the future can hold.



(cont. Page 18)



Editor's Note

Well folks, it's been nearly 4 years since I volunteered to do the newsletter. The fun I have had and the things I have learned, the people I have come to know and call friends and the appreciation I have received from so many of you has been wonderful.

I owe so much to so many people...for their friendship, for sharing their stories so willingly, for supporting me and my crazy ideas and for just enjoying my creation. It has meant so much to be able to do something I enjoy about something I enjoy.

My passion for classic boats has grown over the past several years, and I have come to a crossroads in my life both personally, physically and emotionally. I have struggled the past couple of issues to make the issue happen. I haven't gone out there and gotten the stories with the same enthusiasm. I hope the newsletter hasn't suffered too much from my turmoil. What has happened here is that I now want to be a boater *more* than I want to write about boating. Things that have come up that a year ago would have been nothing at all have become frustrating roadblocks...stories promised but not delivered, people needing reminders to deliver articles....all silly things that shouldn't matter but did. I decided 4 years ago when I took this project on that I would do it as long as it wasn't a second job. When it became a job, I would stop...and that's where we are today.

This decision was extremely difficult for me to make...I think it was an ego thing...but I must do what is best for me and best for the Club and people that have come to mean so much to me.

We are in the process of searching for someone to take the newsletter on...it has been one of the most rewarding things I have done, and my hope is that someone can take it and grow it into what this Club needs to keep growing. We have so much talent in our little group... so many untapped resources just waiting to be discovered. I had the privilege this summer to meet some extremely talented young ladies who are making a great contribution to their Club back in Kansas every issue. I was so encouraged talking to them, listening to their youthful exuberance and understanding their feelings about our hobby. We have people like them in our membership. ...people who still get excited about the wonderment that is classic boating and just being on the water.

Maybe there are several people who could make consistent contributions to the publication...that would make my successor's job so much easier! The months that other people provided me with articles and stories were great. I would write a couple of stories and put it together and I was done! If we all help and contribute, the task is so much more manageable. That's why I was able to do this as long as I was able...I had a lot of support.

I will be doing the final issue of 2004 in December. By that time I hope to have found someone to take the reins. I want to thank everyone who has contributed in any way to the publication, and praise the leadership for supporting the newsletter with funds and encouragement. This isn't the end of anything...it is a new beginning, and You will still see articles from me after a great show...because you know how I can't help but 'bubble'!! But you will see more of me on the water in future shows because that is where I want to be....and I promise that I will be the best skipper I can be and make you all proud of the part you played in making me that way.

Thanks for the opportunity to be your newsletter editor and publisher for the best little group of people around...the Rocky Mountain Classics Chapter...my friends in boating forever.

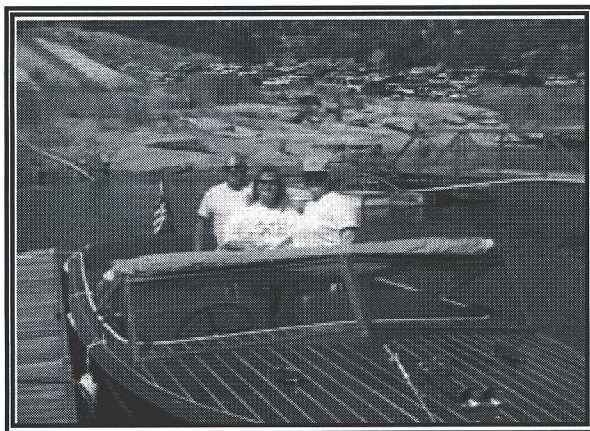
Kathy Lange
Editor/Publisher
The Bilge Pump

NAVAJO BOAT SHOW

Steve Swinehart

NAVAJO – The Party

The party started Friday night shortly after dinner, with Mark Zempel leading a conga line around the park just prior to the water balloon fights erupting. The people who came to the Navajo Show on June 18th and 19th have a lot more tales of the unexpected – but we're not telling. Let's just say you don't want to mention, "whipped cream" and "pie" in the same sentence around certain people. The only way you'll find out how much fun you can have at this show is to be there.



Wayne Spaulding's boat almost sank because the "cool repair" he made three years ago using silicone let go. We're all still wondering why Bob Braaf was up at 4:30 in the morning wandering around the marina when he found Wayne's boat with water above the floorboards. Luckily, for Wayne, Bob just happened to have his trusty, super-sucky bilge pump in his hip holster and literally bailed Wayne out from having a real problem. Of course, Wayne, echoing the sage advice of Anna Nicole Smith, still maintains, "Silicone's the *only* way to go."

Not stopping there, because the fun never ends at the Navajo Show, Bob towed a person (who shall remain nameless) that ran his boat out of gas (and couldn't diagnose the problem) back to the marina after the poker run. Bob gets the Tuffy the Tugboat Citation with Water Sprite Clusters for meritorious service. Being the magnanimous gentleman that he is – and never taking advantage of a situation – once the boat was safely secured to the dock, Bob immediately started negotiating for salvage rights. "It works fine as long as it has a little

gas," was all Dennis Pierce would say about it. A sentiment emphatically seconded by Scott Forbes.

One of the show's highlights is the Poker Run. From past experience, I can tell you that Mark runs a tight, professional event. It starts with a detailed pre-run briefing where he explains in concise nautical terms about the proper approach for getting your envelope containing the card – "Don't crash into my boat."

Once we were through the pre-run briefing, we all set off on the Poker Run. Mark finds out-of-the-way places to park, like up a side canyon about two miles, where you're wondering if you could turn a canoe around. On the way out, you're trying to remember "red right returning?" or, is it "green going in?" following the buoys. Wayne was just chortling because he was always the first one out of the canyons. Of course, he made sure he got his card first – but, he wants you to believe his boat's faster... (Century's RULE – according to Wayne).



Okay, enough of the fun stuff. Let's get down to awards. Wayne (how many times do we have to talk about this guy?) because his boat is faster, *and* he got there when all the good cards were available – won the Poker Run. His prize was a GIANT paddle. Dennis Pierce got the second prize, the middle size paddle; and the Swinehart's, once again, doing what no one has done before – won the People's Choice Award plus the worst poker hand, and the teeny-weeny paddle. Don't you just love people who can encompass the entire spectrum from best to worst in a single event?



For all the people who believe "Navajo's just too far," if you don't show up you won't know how much fun this show can be. In all seriousness, a big thanks to Mark and Karen Zempel for an extraordinarily good picnic Friday night, and for organizing the show. For all of you who didn't show up – there's always next year. The water is clear, the lake is big – it's all downhill from the Denver area – and, don't you want the satisfaction of beating Wayne out of a canyon just one time?

Disclaimer: not all of the article is strictly factual, but remember - you read it here first.

Navajo Lake

I don't even remember saying anything about Navajo Lake being one of my favorite lakes, but it sure must have made an impression on me. While talking with my boss not too long ago, he said his brother-in-law and families were going to my favorite lake-Lake Navajo.

Rhonda and I got a late start that Friday, but we got on the road for our first visit to Navajo. June is one of those tricky weather months and our first stop was La Veta pass where we were caught in a large hailstorm. So we sat out the severe hail on the side of the road all the while worrying about our boat. Yes, the boat was fine through it all.



We finally got to town and found the casino and the park where the BBQ was being held. As we pulled up late, all the food and drinks were being packed up. But being the great club members and friends that they are, as soon as everyone saw us unpacking began and we had a great meal in the park.

We checked into the casino hotel after dinner, what a great place to stay. The casino had a large patrolled area for our boats-looked like a static show in the parking lot.

Saturday morning was great; the Zempels pointed out the area at the docks -the perfect location for the "Ships Store". We put boxes and racks in everybody's boats and motored out to set up shop. Bob and Chris Ann Braaf had their cruiser there, Wayne Spaulding had Pegasus running great and Bill Tordoff had his Chris Craft spit and polished. Bob and June Moharter were busy as ever helping Bob Fine tune boats and June helping Rhonda and I with the "Ships Store". Special thanks to Steve and Regan Swinehart; our large box of shirts fit right into the back seat of their Chris Craft. Thanks again to June and Regan for helping with the "Ships Store". Rick Knight's Sportsman was definitely being eyeballed by the folks visiting, nice work thanks to Doug Brown.

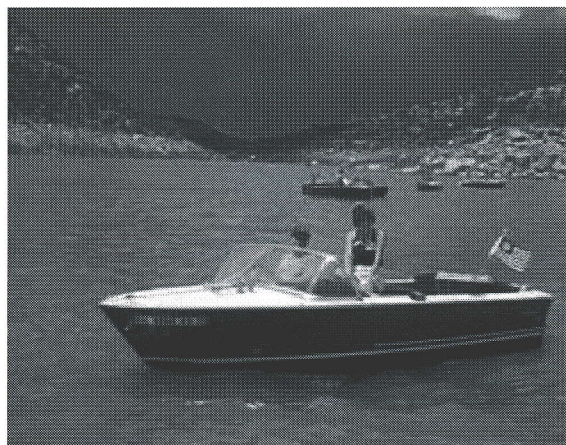
Saturday afternoon wrapped up with a fun poker run with Mark Zempel and Doug Brown holding all the cards in Mark's Century Sea Maid. Ask Mark about the patrol boat joining in our poker run next time you see him or Doug. Dennis Pierce and Scott Forbes joined in on the fun in Dennis's 1942 Utility and the Moharters in their newly redone Continental.

We all had to wait out a late afternoon storm at the docks, which gave us all a chance to retell stories of the great day we all had. Saturday night wrapped up with a wonderful private banquet-good steaks and great conversation. Some fun awards and raffles concluded the festivities.

Sunday morning found Wayne and Gregory Spaulding and Rhonda and I out patrolling the waters and coves for the elusive Braafs and Chris Craft II whom we found on a lake of glass in Francis Canyon. Bob does cut a stunning look in a cowboy hat and swim suit. We almost had some rare photos for "The Bilge Pump", a Chris Craft towing a Century. But just then I heard someone said "he'd cut the rope or his wrist's first"; so there are no photos only memories in my mind.

Next year please try to fit Navajo into you schedule-you'll love it and have many fond memories as Rhonda and I have.

Jim McGaughy
Colorado Springs, CO
Happy Boating!



BOATS & FOLKS



Moharters at Navajo



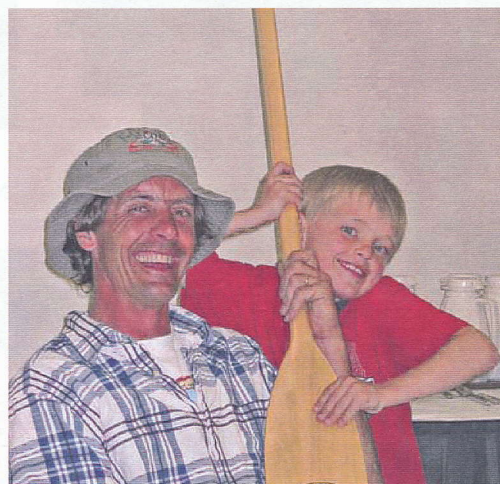
What a spread of food!!



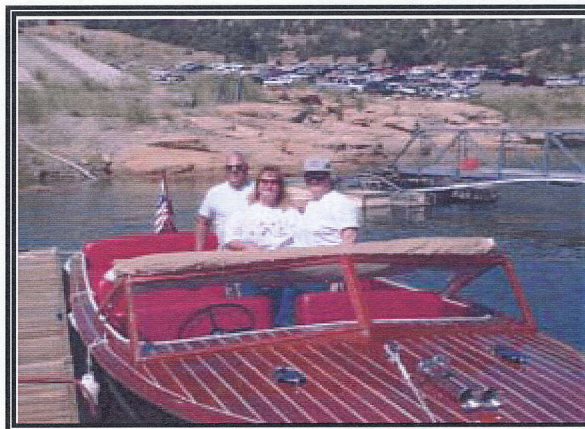
Zemples beauty _____



Regan Swinehart holds their award for last place in the poker



Wayne & Gregory Spaulding hold their award for the BEST hand in the Poker Run

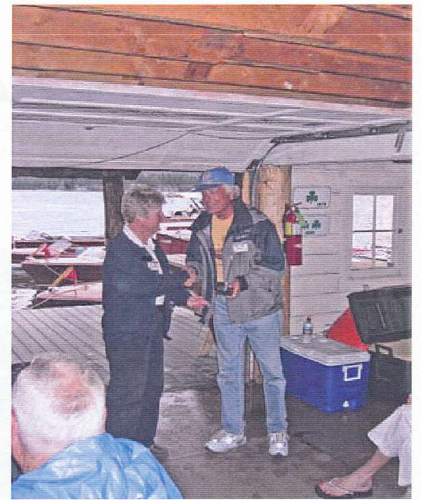




Chris Smith receives the "People's Choice"



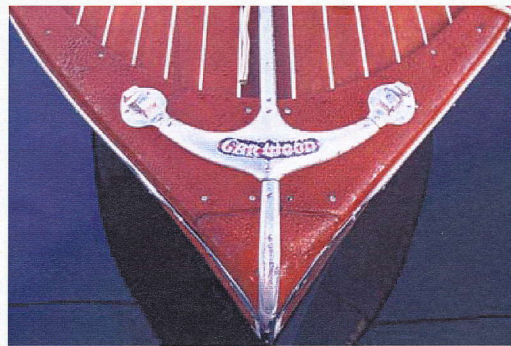
'Charmed Cobra', 21' Chris Craft Cobra



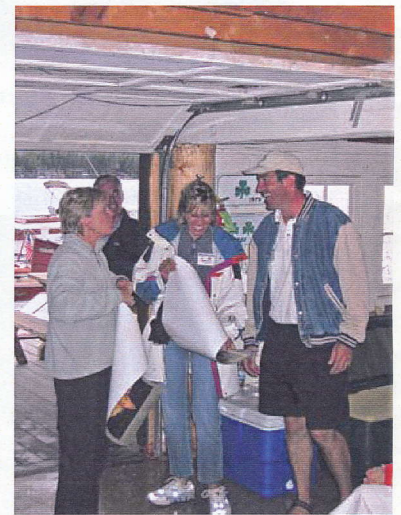
Jay Novick receives Most Original, Best Preserved for 'Charmed Cobra'



1955 Larson Falls Flyer



Morning dew on the Ensign



Lu Ball presents Loveland award to Novicks

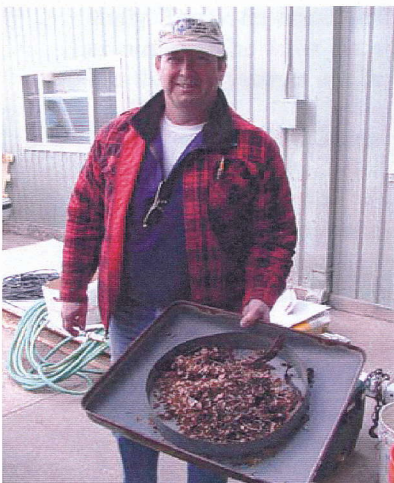


Moharter's Continental



Chris Smith's Rocket







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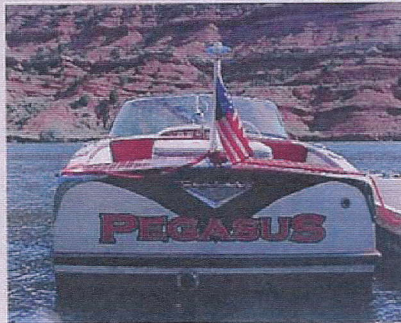
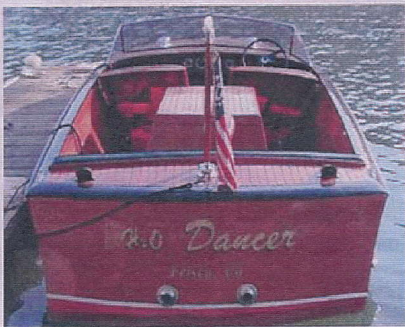
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FIBERGLASS CLASSICS

Reprinted from 'On Boats' by Pete Barthelme

GIVE A TEEN A BOAT

A modest proposal; Turning your kids onto boating may be the best parenting advice.

My three children would make Norm Rockwell hum loudly with joy. That's today. They're clean and blond and tanned and employed they have steadily played out the American way of life and won. That's now. They are 2/3 married and 1/3 about to be married and all marriages/relationships are still running clean and strong. But again that's right now.

During their teenage years, I sometimes wondered if my kids had been imported from Mars or another inhospitable planet. They could be monsters. Like a cruel pack of wolves, they would gang up on the weaker parent (which happened to be my wife #1) metaphorically rip her to bloody shreds.

Many of their transgressions are mercifully cloaked in secrecy and silence and hidden by the passage of years. Their rap sheets are non-existent, thank goodness. Actually, as I understand it, they were not even particularly vile specimens of teenagerhood. And we always had boats and fishing and salt water to which to retreat. This brings us to one particularly modest proposal.

Before parent-child conflicts are set into granite and locked with glue, give the kids a boat. If you give the kids a car, hoping that the gift may magically smooth out parent-child negotiations or at least get the rug rats out from underfoot, you are opening all sorts of avenues of freedom and temptation that best stay closed.

If you give the kids a boat, you are also offering freedom, but in a different venue—a venue with a tendency to reinforce concepts of responsibility and being careful and watching out and planning ahead and all sorts of good parent things that you wish you had taught the little buggers but apparently haven't. A boat and the water that one uses a boat upon offers a venue that is massively indifferent to the agonies of the often painful teenage years. The water will teach it's lessons, learned hard or soft, quickly or reluctantly. The water doesn't care, won't shout back, is never unreasonable and doesn't need to use paltry punishments like groundings or curfews. The water just is. Your children will learn from it and grow around it. And the risk of drowning is relatively minor, far less than the dangers one finds on highways and city streets.

Yet the possession of a boat offers young people a freedom, a responsibility and a sense of determining their own future that is hard to find anywhere else.

I can assure you that your kids will abuse the boat and be reckless with the water and disregard your cautions and take risks. I can further assure you that they won't get away with this sort of thing indefinitely. I would suspect that they will scare themselves (and never, ever admit it), I guarantee that they will have 'incidents' and bang up the boat and bust a couple of things.

But they will learn. The water and the physics of boating are universal, and people of any age can learn both. And in the learning comes pride and confidence. (If they should be boating around here and persist in the kind of rude behavior that seems somehow epidemic between 12 and 19, I know a few sausage-finger shrimpers and leathery crabbers who would be glad to point out the error of their ways. That's a lesson, too.)

I truly believe one of the reasons my kids managed to weather the tumultuous years as well as they did was because a high percentage of our free time was spent on the water; the parent-child pressures get subordinated to dealing with a common adversary. If you give your kids a boat, they can learn some important life lessons by dealing with that adversary on their own.

THE SHIP'S STORE



Were you at the last event and want a souvenir? Did you miss it and wish you hadn't? Not too worry! You can now catch all the action with this **Boating Days CD** of all the weekend's events. No more wasted time, money, film developing and trips to the photo store. Print your own photos at home from this CD with over 260 pictures!

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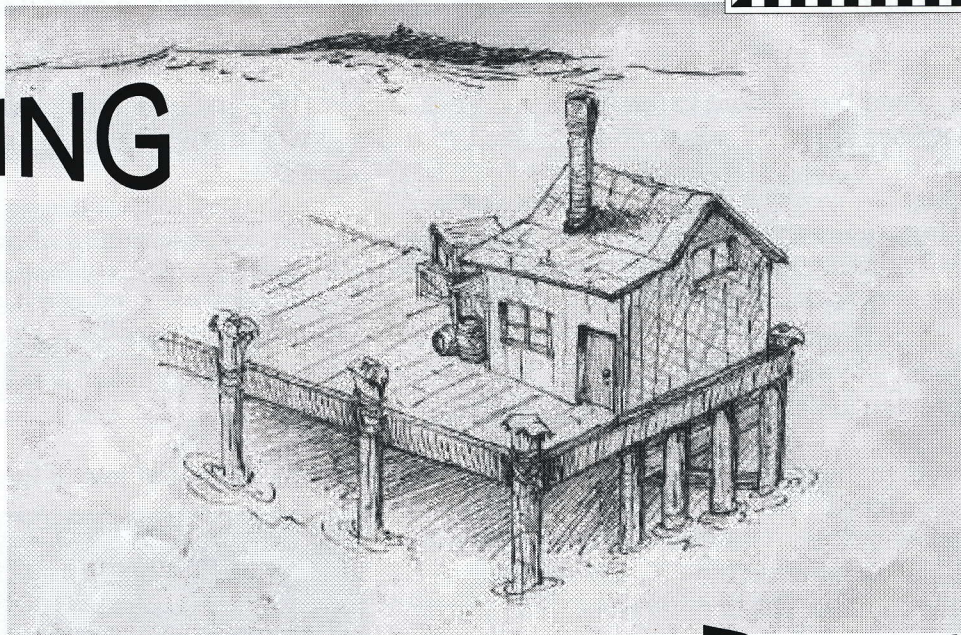
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CALL TOM 303-447-1738

Chris Craft Travel Trailer

When I asked Kathy if she was interested in selling her little aluminum travel trailer sitting in her driveway, she said no it's been in the family since the early 50's. Her dad, Dr. Phillips had built it from a kit, all by hand. She told me her dad had ordered it from back east some where and had built it all with just hand tools, no power tools. It had been delivered by truck line, all in large boxes. Her family took their vacations every summer pulling the trailer behind their family car.



Kathy and her husband Roy now used it each summer to go to Yellowstone and Rocky Mountain National Park. It was just the right size and always reminded her of her dad and his handy work. So, No, she didn't want to part with it.

I can remember peeking through the windows between the curtains and admiring how wonderful it looked inside. The wood interior was so bright and cheerful and the cushions and table looked so well kept.

That was in 1993 in Denver, Colorado, since then Kathy and Roy have gone their separate ways, but Kathy and I have stayed in touch even though she's moved to California. Whenever we would phone each other I'd ask her how the little trailer was doing and she'd tell me it's

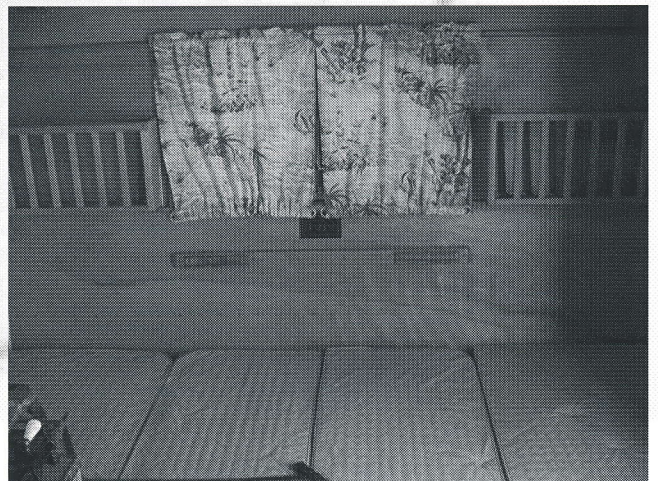
still sitting in the driveway in Denver, and I would always tell her to keep me in mind if she did decide to sell it.

Rhonda and I joined the Rocky Mountain Classic Boat Club in 2002 and after looking at a lot of boats decided to purchase a 1968 Chris Craft Ski boat. We told everyone about the boat even Kathy in California had to listen to me go on about our new Chris Craft wood boat.

In January or February of 2004, Kathy called me and asked about our boat and our boating excursions and shows. She also asked if I was still interested in her trailer and I told her that I was. She said, "I think you're going to be even more interested when I tell you that it is a Chris Craft Travel Trailer". At first I thought Chris Craft never built travel trailers, but I remembered a picture of one in the "Legends of Chris Craft" book. I looked it up on page 182 and there it was, the little aluminum travel trailer in the driveway I had been lusting after for so many years.

Our club purchased the trailer this year from Kathy Phillips-it is our pride and joy! It has taken some minor refinishing by those club members who were able to attend our work sessions. The club was surprised at how well the trailer had weathered the 40 plus years. Everything was in good shape, still original jacks, jack stands, stove, ice box and the list goes on and on.

The little trailer is our club project and we're having great times together figuring out what to do next. Our latest gift from the Phillips family just arrived last month. Can you imagine the family had kept pictures of some of their trips? Kathy Phillips has sent us family pictures of their trips along with all the original letters to and from the Chris Craft company, sales literature, invoices, packing slips, and the list goes on...



Jim and Rhonda McGaughy
Colorado Springs, CO

Brightwork

Hurrahs & Kudos



Wow to Mike Novick's '55 *Survivor*' and the great facelift done by Captain Ron Ellis.



Rumor has it that Tordoff and Spaulding have a new project boat



Thanks to all who participated in the cleanup on our new 1953 Chris Craft travel trailer...check it out!!



Congrats to Langers on their progress on the Larson sedan cruiser....great job by some very new members!!



Thanks to Doug Brown for his many contributions to Club members this past year



Thanks to all who survived the 'Survival Shakedown' this year!! Your help & support meant so much!!



Many thanks to the Balls for sharing their beautiful lakeside home with our membership at the Loveland event.



Kudos to all who have contributed time and articles to the newsletter. The members are what make this publication so great.



Thanks to all contributors of time, money and supplies to renovate our new Ship's Store trailer!



Rumor is that the Falls Flyer is finally running!! Watch for her at Grand Lake! Persistence paid off!!

Give a Teen a Boat (cont.)

I would not suggest that you turn your kids loose with a \$20,000 worth of the latest and greatest in ski boats. That's not a learning experience, it's asking for trouble. No what I have in mind is considerably more modest.

Like a 14-foot jon boat with an 18hp motor. Something virtually indestructible, reasonably safe for reasonable waters, easy to clean and easy to maintain. Such a craft is capable of pulling a ski or a tube, has lots of range on little gas, can be banged into piers and drug up on beaches. You can fish out of it, haul all kinds of stuff in it, abuse it and enjoy it (I would stay away from PWC's at this point. They're an awful lot of fun, but we're looking for a more multi-dimensional—and considerably slower—craft for this opening chorus) Does it work? I had a sullen step-child, deep in the throes of some major teenage crisis, suddenly became practically a model child when offered the helm of my jon boat plus a fishing rod and a ski rope with tube on which to pull his younger brother. The two kids disappeared for all of a Saturday and returned both happier and seemingly content. I didn't ask, but whatever difficulties they encountered, they solved all by themselves. And now they always take the little boat out when they visit.

The kind of boat I am discussing, this craft that you're going to give to the kids, represents a couple of thousand dollars used or maybe twice that amount if you buy new. Used is actually better, I think. Used means the kids will have greater freedom to scratched and bang the hull and perhaps learn a bit about the internal combustion engine by keeping the motor running. Either way, it's a marvelous wat to grant freedom and learn responsibility.

The hardest part of this whole concept lies with the parents. A gift with conditions, limitations, by-laws and rules is actually no gift at all—in the eyes of a child. It doesn't matter that all of the above is motivated by parental concern for kid's safety. The gift you are giving is trust. No strings. And no need to pontificate about it. The unstated premise is that you are delivering the boat in acknowledgement of the kid's maturity and good sense. And they will grow into both, hopefully.

As a boater, it is presumed that you have access to the water. You know this environment offers many useful things to learn. The cost of the rugged little boat you are going to deliver into more or less eager hands is minimal. But the lessons to be learned, the pride to be gathered and the gift you are giving is beyond price. It'll be good for the both of you and I promise that those nails you bite while the kids are out will grow back —eventually.

(continued)

The rain came right on schedule at 4 PM on Saturday, but thanks to the foresight of Chris Braaf, members were able to adjourn to a presentation by Chris Smith. Chris spoke to all attendees about boat safety & operation, and shared his wealth of experience and stories that made the time melt away. By the time we had asked all of our questions, the rain had stopped and we were all able to wipe the boats down and go boating!

Braafs and Moores treated us all to great meals both Friday and Saturday evening, and the youth of the Grand Lake Yacht Club served us lunch both days. We are so fortunate to have the support of the Grand Lake Yacht Club and it's members. They really contribute to making this show one of the best.

The Kiwanas once again provided the Pancake Breakfast downtown, and the Buffalo Western weekend with it's BBQ and parade rounded out the weekend.

Thanks to all who attended, brought boats and supported the effort. You are the reason this year's Grand Lake Show was one of the best ever. Hope to see you all again next year!!

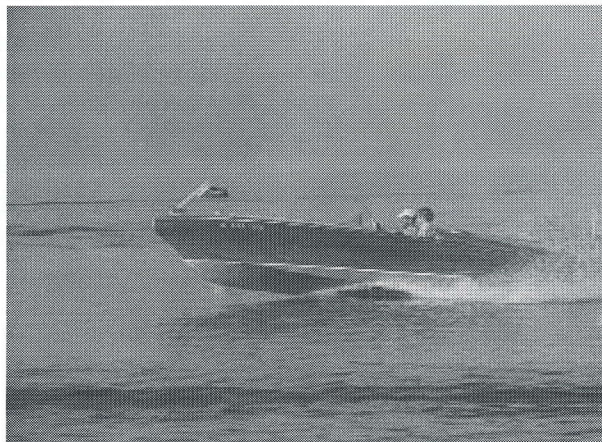
Kit Phillips & Tootsie
1940, 23' Triple cockpit
Chris Craft



(below)
Bob & June Moharter
newly redone
Chris Craft Continental



(above)
1950's Chris Craft
From Heartland Chapter



Jay Novick's
1955 Chris Craft
Charmed Cobra
Best Preserved
Most Original
Driven by Mike Novick



The Beacon

REFLECTION

I've learned that no matter what happens, how bad it seems today, life goes on, and it will be better tomorrow.

I've learned that you can tell a lot about a person by the way they handle three things; rainy days, lost luggage and tangled Christmas tree lights.

I've learned that regardless of your relationship with your parents, you will miss them when they are gone from your life.

I've learned that making a "living" is not the same as making a "life".

I've learned that sometimes life gives you a second chance.

I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands. You need to be able to throw something back.

I've learned that if you pursue happiness, it will elude you. But, if you focus on your family, your friends, the needs of others, your work and doing the best you can, happiness will find you.

I've learned that whenever I make a decision with an open heart, I usually make the right decision.

I've learned that even if I have pains, I don't have to be one.

I've learned that every day you should reach out and touch someone. People love the human touch, holding hands, a warm hug, or just a friendly pat on the back.

I learned that I still have a lot to learn.

People will forget what you say and what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.



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