

The Bilge Pump

41st Chapter of the Antique & Classic Boat Society

Rocky Mountain Classics

September 2005





Rocky Mountain Classics
Chapter of the ACBS

JOIN TODAY! ACBS & ROCKY MOUNTAIN CLASSICS
CHAPTER, ENROLLMENT FORMS AVAILABLE;
www.acbs.org



- 3 On the Horizon
- 4 Welcome Aboard
- 5 *Mr. Lucky*
- 6 Dovetailed Interests
- 8 Distant Shore...Their Baaaack!!
- 9 Boats & Folks—Navajo 2005
- 11 Boats & Folks —Grand Lake 2005
- 13 Boats & Folks —Alcova 2005
- 15 Rendezvous in the Rockies
- 16 The Ship's Store
- 17 Trading Post
- 18 The Grand Lake Experience
- 19 Perfection....Alcova, Wyoming
- 20 *Wetassagain*
- 21 Safety First
- 22 From National Headquarters
- 23 The Beacon

Osprey Adventures, Inc.
www.ospreyadventuresusa.com

Bernie Baltich
Elizabeth Baltich
Owners

P.O. Box 1937
Frisco, CO 80443
(970) 668-5573
Fax (970) 668-4502

Sales • Rentals • Service
Frisco Bay Marina • Lady Bug Lodge • Shaqawa Lake Marina

WOW!!!

The 2005 boating season has been fantastic!!

Hope you all had a great summer and enjoyed boating, friends and family.

Hope you enjoy this issue! To the many contributors to this issue, a hearty THANKS!

Make the most of every day and appreciate all the great people you are privileged to know...

Happy and Safe Boating to you and yours!!

Tom & Kathy Lange

On the Cover
Endangered Species, 1960 Higgins

On the Horizon

PAGE 3

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

2005 Show Calendar

September 17 Clement Park

October 8 Annual Meeting

Do YOU have a date you would like to have in the newsletter? If you have plans for a boating get-together this season, let us know and we will cover it. If you have a get-together with friends, tell us about it...we would love to hear!!

The following is the first a series of articles from Scott Forbes. This series will provide you with information, experience and entertainment following Scott has he restores his 1951 Chris Craft Riviera.

“MR. LUCKY”

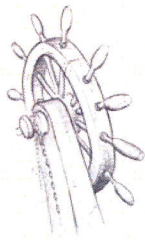
The dream becomes a reality

I thought to start this tonight as I had some time. Also figured it might go to press before I return mid-August. --

Following in the next couple of issues of our Bilge Pump, you should find a pictorial history, with text, of an amateurs first attempt at both a restoration of a classic runabout, and writing about it as well!



This is Mr. Lucky right after I peeled off a thick coat of fiberglass in Tucson, Arizona. All the stain and varnish, plus a few chunks of wood, came off with it. The wood was so dry and cracked I was afraid to leave it out in the sun too long for fear of instantaneous combustion. This is how he stayed for about 10 years, albeit a few bungs and screws. I probably could have floated him with the amount of beer and wishful thinking that passed around him in that time frame.



'Mr. Lucky' (continued)

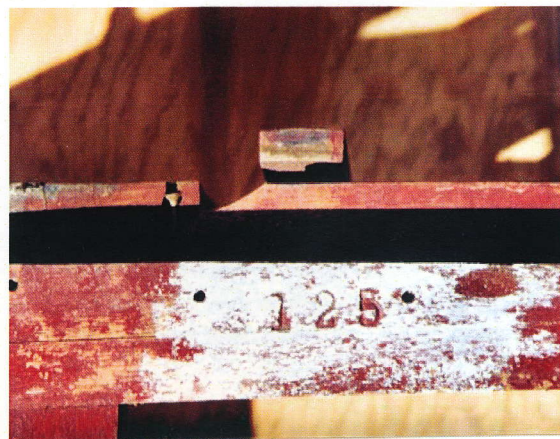
At the Helm Board of Directors

Chip Taft	President (303) 444-1474
Charlie Geuin	Vice President (303) 670-9415
Bill Mumma	Secretary (303) 973-3677
Cathy Green	Treasurer (303) 797-7630
Charlie Peak	Director (307) 358-6754
Steve Carmack	Director (303) 457-4903
Wayne Spaulding	Director (970)668-5110
Charlie Simons	Director (303)670-2807
Mark Zempel	Director (970)259-6546
Tom Green	Director (303) 797-7630
Bob Braaf	Membership (970) 887-2210
Lisa/Morrie Christner	Ship's Store (303)795-6884
Jeremy Smith	Safety (970)668-1805
Chris Braaf	Shows & Awards (970) 887-2210
Betty Moore	Historian (303) 761-4453



This is now in Durango and gettin' with the program. The first thing I did was to build two plywood boxes to rest him on as I flipped him upside down for a look see. I actually brought him up from Tucson in the back of a U-Haul moving van like this. The boxes sit on a 6x10 dolly with wheelbarrow tires that were half deflated to make for little shock absorbers. Simple, but it worked. One piece boat in the van, one piece boat out of the van 500 miles later. O.K. then, shot.

What's this? A number, looks important!, better take a picture.



This was as good as anyplace to start, doesn't look too tough, right? More measuring and

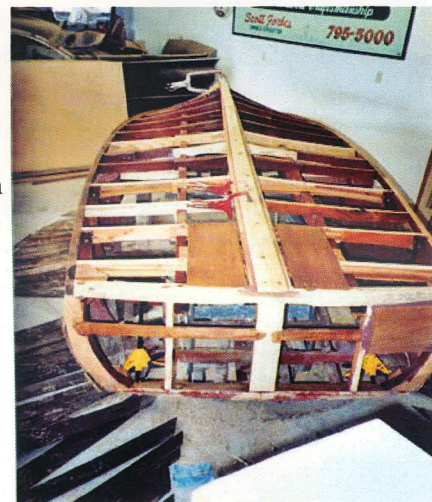


thinking than cutting and gluing at this stage for I did know one thing for sure, starting off wrong would haunt me through the whole job. Besides, Bob told me too! Also, here is a good shot of the boxes and dolly. The one box went through where the hatch cover goes, the other went up near the front of the cockpit.

**BE SURE TO CHECK
OUT OUR WEBSITE**

Rockymtnclassics.org

Just keep on keepin' on, and before you know it you've got something to look at! The keel was laid in two layers for a total of nearly one and a half inches thick of white oak. This way I didn't have to rabbit and bend, try and bend, the full thickness. Bob said, "any black or oil soaked wood has to go". I said, "well then, I'll see you in a month or two". Only about 4 frames remained original plus an extra one installed towards the bow because it actually looked like the boys forgot to put that one in!





I used the African mahogany on the bottom over one quarter inch 5 ply marine grade plywood. I cut the plywood into diagonal strips and drowned them in C.P.E.S. This was a feeble attempt to make the bottom appear original from the bilge side. The whole parade was bedded in the 5200, and man it oozed out everywhere. I spent more time cleaning than applying that stuff. Bob was ready. When he came to help he looked like he just came from that same job. There are clothes you work in, and there are clothes you 5200 in, it's just that simple!

Here Bob is holding the plank in place with ice picks while I aim and shoot. Note the three plastic milk jug bottoms all marked for different length screws. Pilot holes are drilled first when fitting the planks. Then, they come off for the 5200 exercise. When replaced, the rest of the holes are drilled as the picks center the plank, which is quite slippery at this stage. When you finish the bottom you also have a brand new set of 5200 work clothes that may only be adorned in a boat shop performing like and kind tasks.



I needed a break. Something simple with sheetrock screws and plywood. Now was the perfect time to build his cradle. Even the cardboard girl liked it!



This was a milestone event for me. An all new bottom, faired and bathed in C.P.E.S. and rolling over to start the parts that show!



Now he is sitting pretty on his cradle and chanting " boy are you in for it now pal". Note that the C.P.E.S. was kept at or below the water line. Any wood for staining and varnish has to look like your first sweetheart!

DOVETAILED INTERESTS

Reprinted from the Loveland Reporter Herald

Photos courtesy Kathy Lange

When a woodworker discovered boats, a passion was born. Doug Brown builds floating furniture.

At least that's what he likes to call it. Other people might just call it a boat.

Brown, owner of Loveland-based Dovetail Woodworking, unearthed a passion for boating about six years ago when a friend asked him to help him out with a 1934 wooden Chris Craft boat.

The boat was leaking pretty badly, and the owner looked to Brown's wood expertise for help. Brown helped him out, owned half the boat for a while, and then decided he wanted to build his own.

Over the years, Brown slowly became a local Mr. Fix-it for his neighbors out near Carter Lake. Now, there isn't a time when there's fewer than three antique boats filling up his yard.

"I didn't care about boats at all when I moved out here," Brown said. "When I saw that fellow's boat, I was interested by it—just the way it was put together, the shape and the lines."

For the last two years, Brown has been filling up his evenings and weekends sanding, cutting, steaming and staining wood for his own one-of-a-kind, personally designed, 1920's-esque boat, tentatively dubbed "*Sea Grape*".

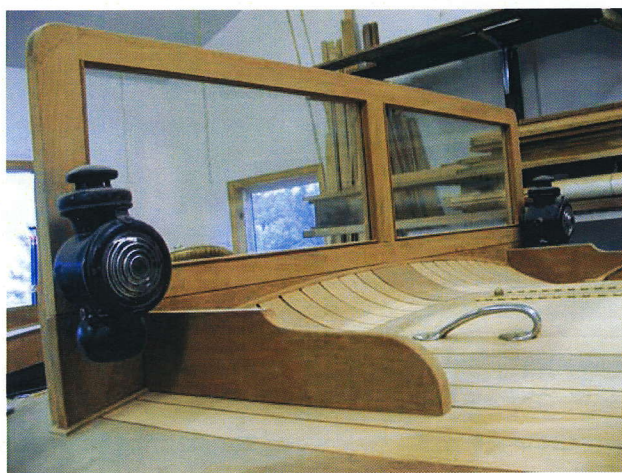
The *Grape* sits on rolling wooden planks in Brown's driveway—and he glows when he looks at it. "The joining and bending the wood, and turning it into something," Brown trails off as he gazes at his project. He's expecting to be water-ready by the end of the summer. He said he's just got to get in the water this year—he's waited long enough.

Tom Lange restores antique boats in Boulder goes to Brown for help with bigger projects. "Doug is majorly more talented than 99 percent of boat restorers I've ever met," Lange said. "He's probably one of the few people that I'd deem qualified to build one from scratch and then have a seaworthy vessel when you're done".

Brown built his plans for the boat like the blueprints for a house—looking down on it from above. He's made a few minor mistakes, but he's gone back ever so tediously and fixed them. He wants his *Grape* to be perfect.

The name *Sea Grape* comes from a kind of wood found in the Caribbean, where Brown and his wife go every year. The wood itself is much too heavy to build an entire boat out of, but he has a chunk of it on there, for sentimentality.

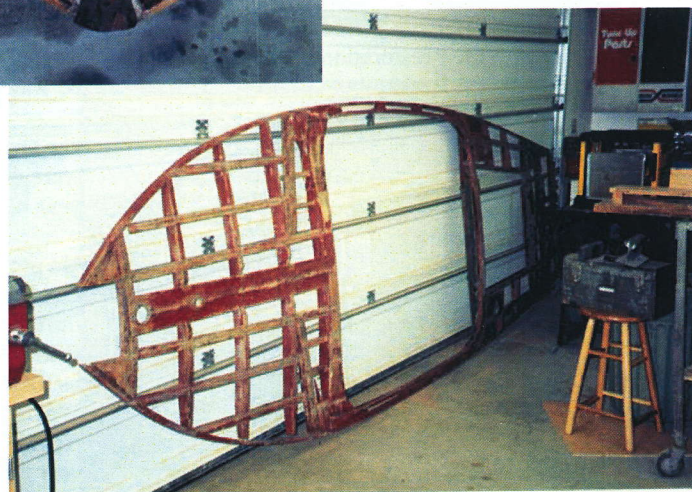
"This boat I wanted to be a statement," Brown said. "I truly love it"



This boat is a work of true art from the soul of an artist. The selection of exotic, beautiful woods that are a part of this creation truly take the breathe away. These picture can not do this beauty justice. We look forward to seeing the Browns in their Sea Grape next season.

'Mr. Lucky' (continued)

As this shot shows, the new battens and top shelves are installed. The top shelves are copied to white oak with the frames being sistered at the top for more strength and holding power. That's a Bob trick! The complete top framing assembly. Dried and split framing just won't hold screws well at all, no matter how many toothpicks you glue into it. This particular job wasn't too tough at all, but I had to be very careful, especially in one critical area. This is really where the top deck fairing issue comes into play. As you can imagine, these babies have to be perfectly crowned in sequence to get your best top plank fairing job. If not here, at the frames, then at the top planks -where if sanded too thin the problems that follow will put you in the Betty Ford Clinic! On that note, I'm getting thirsty! We'll continue on in the next issue.



Scott Forbes

Thanks to Scott for his contribution. I'm looking forward to the next installment!!

FROM OUR MEMBERS ON THE ROAD

Hey Tom and Kathy!!

I hope you are both well! Yes, I have been a bit out of touch in the boat club this summer. OK completely out of touch! On a family trip to CA, I made it a point to go to Obexer's at Tahoe upon your advise. We headed up there to meet Jimmy Lane the Harbor Manager there. Great guy! He provided me the mini tour including some rare models. One was a 33' Scripps powered V12 that just sold for over \$300K. He was gracious enough to lift the covers and engine hatches to see that crown jewel of powerplants. BIG WOW! The wooden boats were stacked up like cord wood in the racks. Jim has a very nice Ensign as well. There was an unusual 26' ft Garwood Sport Fisher under restoration. I believe he said only 3 were produced and this was the only one known to exist. It was dressed in all new wood and ready for another fall session back in the shop. Plans were to complete it for the Gathering of the Garwoods this coming summer.

He was nice to offer an invitation to next summers "Gathering" promising to find a slip for another Ensign. Thank you for the recommendation!

BTW my motor goes to Don at Ram Boats on Sept 17th for a test run.

Take care!

John

DISTANT SHORES



Hello Wood Boat Buddies,

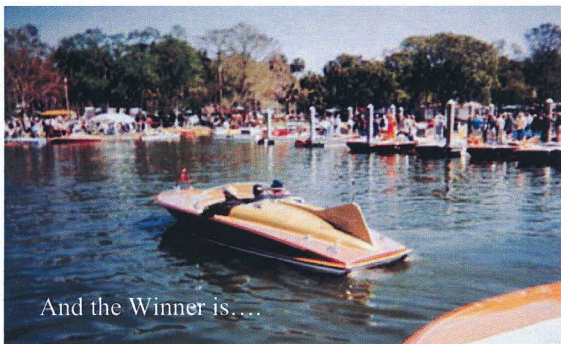
We're Baaack (on the mainland) after a 4 year hiatus in the Virgin Islands. We have moved to Central Florida, a wood boat mecca.

The Spring Mt. Dora show was awesome. The theme this year was the 50 year anniversary of the Cobra. Some beautiful representations were on display of one of the most unique boat designs ever, a testament to Chris Craft boats and their endless search of creative designs. The weather in March was up into the 70's during the days and we had 3 days of outstanding weather. Jen and I spent 2 days on the docks and on the grounds drooling over boats and vendors galore. It was a venue similar to Tahoe, but a much more relaxed and unstructured show. People were very friendly and engaging with their restoration projects and original boats. Hydros to Jersey Skiffs, racing runabouts to thundersnorts, amphicar, woody-wagons and everything in between. What a great way to start the season!!



My Beauty w/ original non-restored 21'...My choice!!

This was the first time we had been to the Mt. Dora show and I'm already looking forward to next year. Of course, the thing we were missing was our own boat. This was the longest stretch in our 27 year marriage without a wooden boat! The search was on!



And the Winner is....

No problem. One call to Wayne and he informed me of a '48 SeaMaid in Golden, CO owned by a gentleman named Robert Bernhard. After thirty-eight years in storage, a survey was ordered. Wayne Spaulding and Bill Tordoff of Wonderful Woodies provided a complete survey and gave us the thumbs up. A deal was struck. A couple of phone calls later and Wayne was able to deliver our prize to our new home just minutes away from Mt. Dora. Here we go again! The boat was stripped and is on it's way to being refinished. What a beauty! We all know busy hands are happy hands and we are both ecstatic. More on the SeaMaid later.

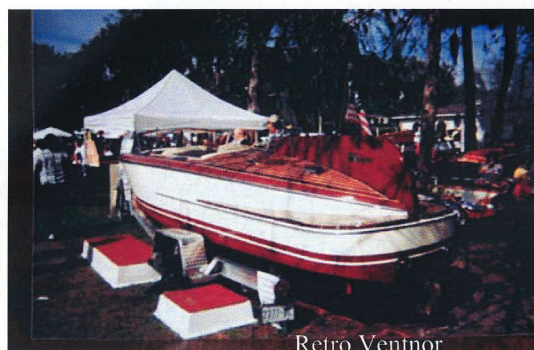
We hope everyone is doing well and we look forward to a quick visit to Colorado in July. Hopefully our paths will cross and we'll see you in the water. We would like to extend a welcome to all who would like to come down for the next Mt. Dora show. We have plenty of room for anyone needing a place to crash. So make plans now for next year. Send an email to geckonel-lis@comcast.net if you would like to part of the fun.

Until then, happy and safe boating from

Rom & Jen Nellis

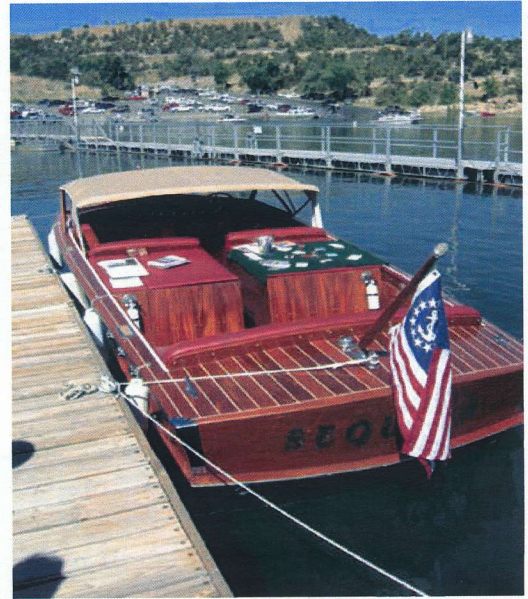
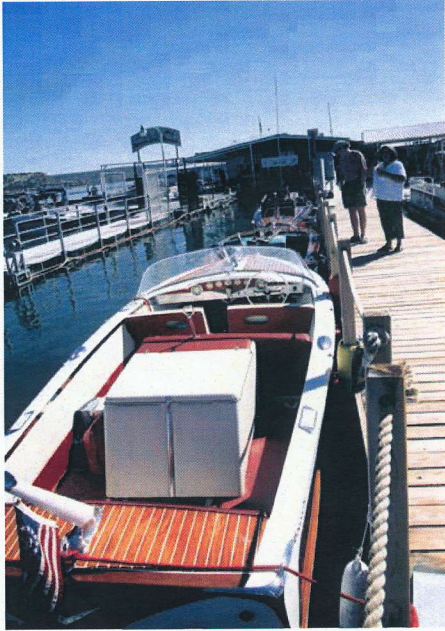


Untamed Cobras



Retro Ventnor

BOATS & FOLKS



Sequoia



Sequoia & Finally Floats in the poker run

2005 ZAVAZA POSITION

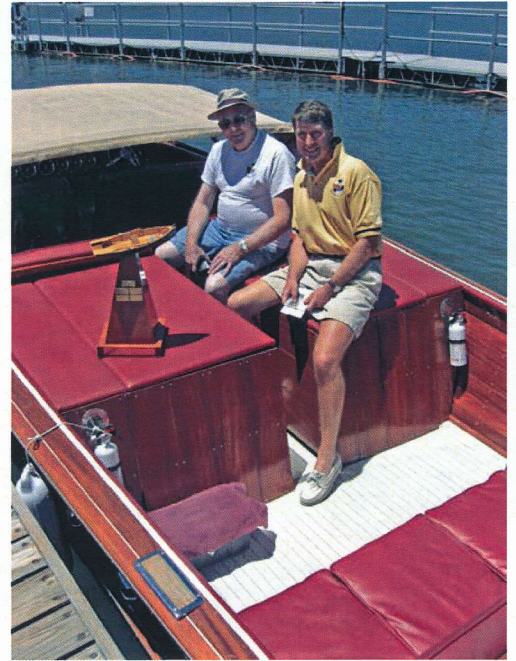


Sunspot & ?? at the dock

BOATS & FOLKS



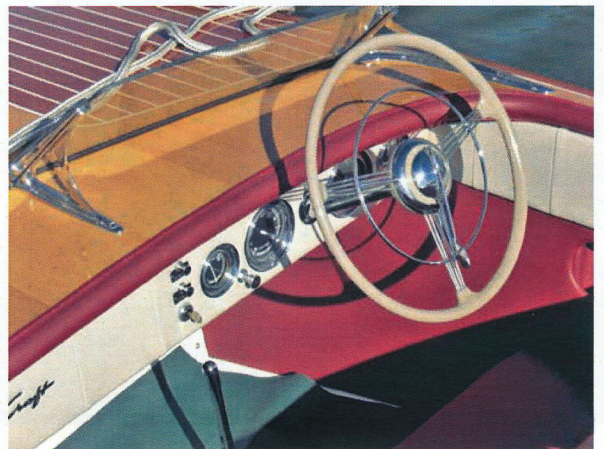
Chip Taft's 'Round the Bend' in the



People's choice, Mark Zempel and Bob Moharter in *Sequoia*



Music on the docks at Navajo



Mr. Lucky interior



Best hand in the Poker Run went to the Swineharts and *Sunspot*



Sequoia display

GRAND LAKE 5002



BOATS & FOLKS



Jersey Girl 1947 Ventnor, 1 of 3 still known to exist. Restored by Lange Boats with deck by Doug Brown



Men with a common interest
Chris Smith, Bob Moharter, Doug Brown & Tom Lange



Most Original, Best Preserved *Ruth J*



Ventnor display at show entrance for *Jersey Girl*



Kokomo & Ohana with new skipper Wade Johnson

BOATS & FOLKS



Anejo owned by John Ross from Sarasota, FL



Charlie Peak presenting "Best Preserved, Most Original" ward to John Ross for *Anejo*

A
L
C
O
V
A

2
0
0
5



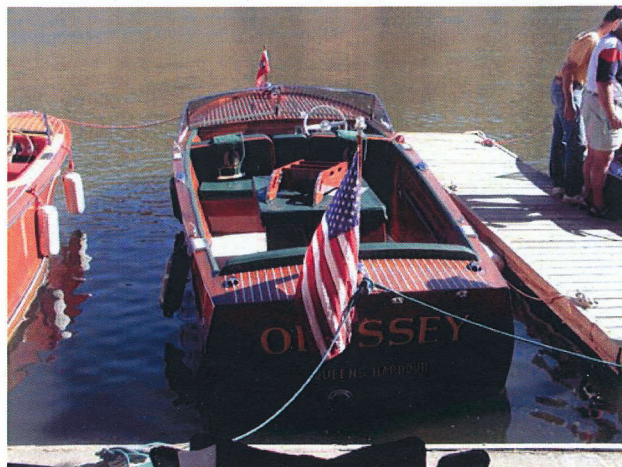
Our Florida guests join members for dinner



1960 Higgins Mandalay *Endangered Species* from the Intermountain Chapter

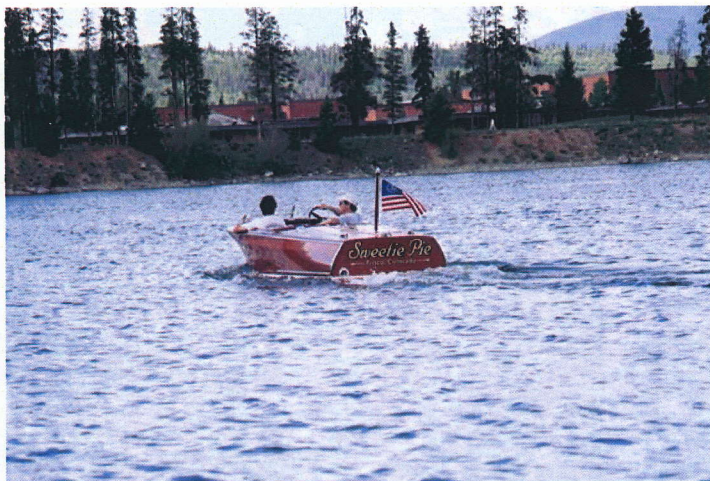


Virgil and Jean Clear's sweet 1960 Century Reporter...owner restored



Odyssey from Jacksonville, FL, owned by Katy & Gerald Dake

BOATS & FOLKS



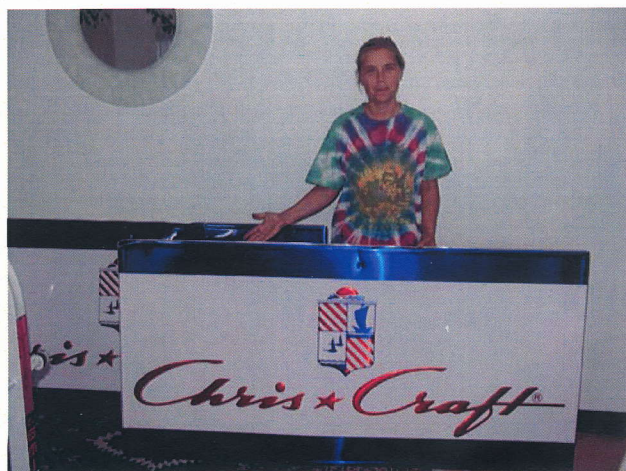
Sweetie Pie, owned by Jeremy Smith



Playing at Alcova



Christner's sleek *Finally Floats*



You just never know what you're going to find in someone's garage!!



Jersey Girl

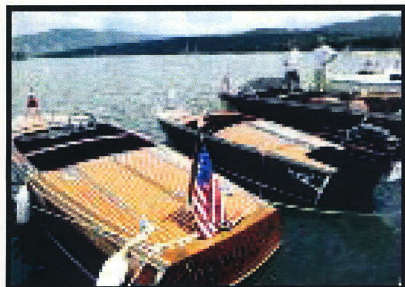
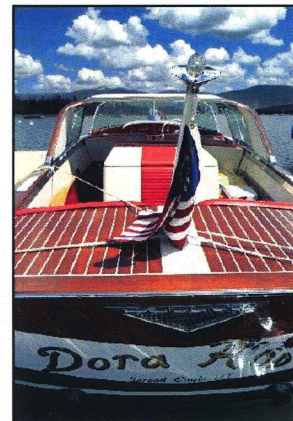
Rendezvous in the Rockies

Reprinted from the Rocky Mountain News 'Spotlight'

A 1956 Century Coronado is among the boats displayed at the Rendezvous in the Rockies classic-boat show in Frisco last month. Steve and Teddy Carmack, of Broomfield, own the 21 footer.

On Lake Dillon, wooden boats commanded the water, just as they did before fiberglass became a popular boat-building material.

"Sweetie Pie," a 1947 17-foot Chris-Craft Deluxe Runabout owned by Jeremy and Kirsten Smith, of Frisco, draws an admiring glance.



Photos By Rick Giase © Special to the News

Vintage boats sit pretty at July's Rendezvous in the Rockies show on Lake Dillon. Wood was the preferred boat-building material before fiberglass took over in the 1950s and 1960s.



Wood craft Collectors keep vintage boats afloat
By Mark Wolf, Rocky Mountain News

August 22, 2005

FRISCO - Boats like Chip Taft's used to own fine varnished woods, they cut a sleek swath "They were built by craftsmen who had a flair They don't look like the plastic boats - they Taft, who bought his 1940 Chris-Craft Custom Bend, in 1996.



the water. Handcrafted from through the waves. for lines. They're so artistic. have a lot of chrome," said Runabout, named Round the

The term *plastic boats* (*Clorox bottles* in less fiberglass, which overtook wood as the preferred boat-building material in the 1950s and 1960s. And, wooden boat enthusiasts proclaim, boating hasn't been the same since.

Among the way-cool touches on Taft's boat is a Bugatti windshield of the type used on the company's race cars back in the 1930s.

"Chris Smith, the founder of Chris-Craft, fell in love with them in Europe," said Taft, standing on a deck at the Frisco Marina during the Rendezvous in the Rockies classic-boat show last month.

Taft and nearly 100 other members of the Rocky Mountain Classics Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boats Society (www.rockymtnclassics.org) are among thousands of vintage-boat owners who have turned yesterday's watercraft into today's collectors' hobby.

The regional group, of which Taft is president, sponsors several boat shows and competitions during the summer. Nationally, the society has more than 8,000 members, whose boats must be at least 25 years old. The group tracks more than 100 shows and competitions a year.

"There's a network out there, just like old cars," said Bill Tordoff, who organized the Frisco show and is partners with Wayne Spaulding in Wonderful Woodies, a boat-restoration business.

"I bought H2O Dancer for \$100 about five years ago. I've been working with wood my whole life," said Tordoff, a retired vice president of Ashland Chemical who moved to Frisco 10 years ago.

(cont. Page 14)

THE SHIP'S STORE




GREAT HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS FROM THE SHIP'S STORE CARDS AND MORE

Just in time for the holidays, beautiful **photo cards** featuring Chris Craft bow with wreath. Or choose from several other designs including sailing ships and lighthouses. Box of 12.....\$15

Notecards "Weekend Skipper" or "Loon Lake". Each package of 6.....\$8

FOR THE HOME

 Beautiful full color **2005 calendars** are still available while they last. Catch all the excitement of the past year with this unique calendar.....ONLY \$8

VINTAGE LOOK DÉCOR:

Peg racks featuring "Weekend Skipper".....\$20

Framed prints with "Weekend Skipper".....\$15

Magnets: "Weekend Skipper", "Lucky Lures".....\$4

A must have for any boater's haven or for that hard-to-buy-for wooden boat enthusiast. These absorbent **sandstone coasters and trivets** feature four different classic/antique wooden boat scenes. Very classy! Useful and a great conversation piece.

Coasters--set of 4 different designs.....\$20

Solid wood display rack for 4 coasters.....\$10

Matching trivet.....\$15 Special shipping charge if mailed.....\$5/item

Rendezvous in Rockies (cont.)

The old boats are moored to history and evoke memories.

"My grandfather had one just like this," Mike Novick says of '55 Survivor, his 1955 Chris-Craft Capri. "I've got pictures of me this high (his hand is about a yard off the deck) on it growing up. My dad found this one. It's been in the family for 15 years."

Once they're restored, wooden boats need no more maintenance than fiberglass crafts, Novick said.

"You put a coat of varnish on them every year, depending on how long they're out in the sun. A coat is usually good for 60 days of prolonged sun," he said.

Entry into the hobby can be as grand or modest as your seafaring budget allows. Small wooden outboards can be had for \$3,000 to \$4,000, many runabouts fall into the \$12,000-to-\$14,000 range and fully restored large boats can climb to six figures.

Charlie Peak's 26-foot Chris-Craft Triple Cockpit model was built in 1929, did time patrolling the Atlantic coast during World War II and was a ride boat at Lake George, N.Y. Peak bought it in 1995 and spent four years restoring it at his shop in Alcova, Wyo., 30 miles southwest of Casper.

He put a new bottom and a 375-horsepower Corvette engine in it. The instrument panel is sterling silver.

"It cost \$4,500 in 1929. In Denver you could have bought a city block for that," he said.

Vintage boats can "become something of an addiction," said Egbert Kamstra, who owns a 1952 Dunphy named Blue Gill with the trademark original green color on the hull.

"I take this boat anywhere and the old fishermen have to come up and touch it. It's much easier to have a metal boat. It's a love-hate relationship. When they work well, they're wonderful."

The 75-year-old semiretired psychiatrist and his wife, Hendrika, are from Holland, and the flag on the back of the Blue Gill is the Dutch Rebel Navy's flag from the 16th century.

"I've been rebellious enough in my life that it fits for me," Kamstra said.

wolfm@RockyMountainNews.com or 303-892-5226

1959/1960 Thompson 15' SeaCoaster lapstrake boat w/1960 50 h.p. Evinrude and 1960 Pameco trailer. Thought to be an all original package. \$250

CALL TOM 303-447-1738

CHARLES PEAK is now taking appointments for 2005 for your professional boat restoration. Peaks have years of experience and several happy customers in the Club. Give Charlie a call at 307-234-0362.

FOR SALE

1940 Chris-Craft Double cabin enclosed bridge. Hull # 33647, MR engine, rewired w/12 volt system, refrigeration unit, many originals. Originally from New Jersey. Brought to Colorado in 1995 on new trailer. Out of the water for 6 years.

Call Mike Noland (H) 303-789-5206
(W)303-331-0400

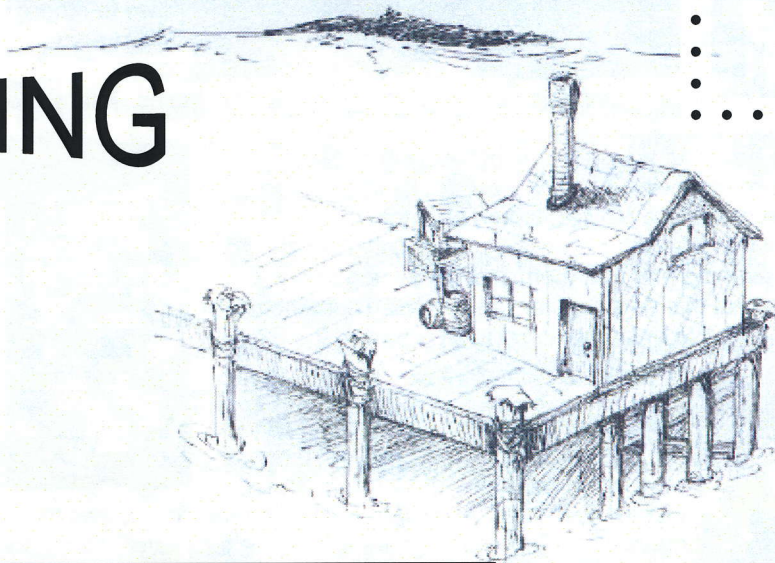
1961 Chris Craft

CALL Jason Jarvis 303-366-9179

OR

John Jarvis 303-755-3101

TRADING



FOR SALE

**24' triple cockpit FS Crate
Asking \$75,000.**

1949 Higgins, 17' Sport Speedster, 1955 Deerbom Interceptor V8 312 ci. Great Condition, very fast, great ski boat. Rebuilt trailer, very sound and clean. Ready to go!! Please call or email for price and more information.

Also have 1950 18' Chris Craft Riviera. Matching Hull #'s, Engine #KL 53630, 98% new wood (Retro Nautique) new upholstery, new wiring, reconditioned gauges, all hardware refinished, refinished steering wheel, 17 coats of finish and new tandem trailer, perfect condition.

Ken Clifford
801-502-9390
Dfi1@qwest.net

DOCK

FOR SALE

1963 Glaspar, 16' 85 hp Merc outboard. In water approx 10 times. Stored 40 years. Tilt Trailer. Runs, looks like new. \$3,000.

CALL Allen Major 303-674-2332

The Grand Lake Experience

Grand Lake and the Grand Lake Yacht Club once again welcomed our Club to it's shores. This year was blessed with excellent weather and a great turnout of members and visitors.

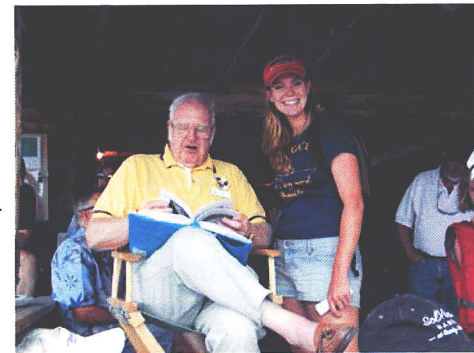
Chris Smith joined us again with his beautiful Chris Craft Rocket, *Odyssey II*. We had several boats join us this year that we had never been seen before at Grand Lake. Jeremy Smith joined us with his 1947 Deluxe, *Sweetie Pie*, Wade Johnson brought his 1959 Borum, Miles and Ruth Moorehouse brought their 1964 Thompson, Steve Carmacks Coronado was there and another sweet little Thompson we had never seen before.

The Ship's Store did a great business and was able to find a home for most of the remaining shirts in their inventory (great job Christners!!) They offered several new items including some photos by Steve Swinehart.

There were so many boats this year!! Riva, Chris Craft, Ventnor, Larson, Borum, Garwood, Owens, Thompson....what variety!!! Visitors were greeted at the gate with a wonderful display by Tom Lange of his 1947 Ventnor and a table of items showing how they had been manufactured and explaining a little more about this rare boat.



Inside, the Sailing School people once again did a great job of greeting visitors and making everyone feel welcome. They did a healthy business in shirt sales to their credit. The docks were filled with classic boats from 1929 to the early 60's. Something for everyone!! Chris Smith took the time to share his experiences and listen to others stories. Everyone who meets this man feels privileged and he puts everyone at ease.



Chris and Bob Braaf fed us well and had lots of help this year from many of the Club ladies. Thanks to all!!!

We were very fortunate this year to have the young ladies of the Club cooking and selling cookies during the show. Morgan Novick, Mikayla Novick, Kristin Ito and Megan Ito, all under the supervision of Kendra Novick, baked and sold over 200 cookies and made \$98 that they gave to the Club. President, Chip Taft, recognized their efforts at the dinner Saturday evening and told them that we all hope they will train their own replacements to continue this as a regular Club event. Thanks girls for being such a great addition to our Club. We enjoy having you as a part of the Rocky Mountain Classics!!



Raffle items were extremely nice this year. Doug Brown donated an original piece of artwork he had done of Chris Smith on *Odessey*. Names were drawn and Kendra Novick was the lucky recipient. She quickly had him sign it and will treasure it for ever. Tom Lange donated a framed poster of the 25th Anniversary Toronto Show which went to the Tafts.

People's Choice was awarded to Chip & Helen Taft for *Round the Bend* and the Best Restored, Most Original went to *Ruth J* owned by John and Judy Brooks.

The parade was ...interesting... at best. Next year the littlest boat gets to go first! Ha! Ha! (Kathy about drowned in her Flyer when everyone throttled up!)

The Rocky Mountain Classics is very fortunate to be allowed to use the great facility that the Grand Lake Yacht Club provides. Many don't realize what a privilege it is to be able to use this facility on such a beautiful lake. Next time you are there be sure to thank the Sailing School kids or a Yacht Club member....they deserve it!!

The Yacht Club has welcomed us again next year, but plans for Friday night are yet to be determined and will be included with the registration for next year's show. We look forward to another great show next year and hope that all of you can join us to make it the best one yet!!

PERFECTION

As the sun shown down on the bright red cliffs, I gazed upon the palette that lay before me filled with people, water and a beautiful spread of classic boats....is there anything finer?

The Casper Boat Club and the Peak family once again gave us a big Wyoming welcome to Alcova complete with sunshine, no wind and great friends. There were some of the usual attendees like *Maximillan* (who won People's Choice), *Pegasus*, *Legacy*, *Chris'Craft II*, *Finally Floats* and Jeff Dwight and Jim Huff. In addition, we were joined by Charles Anderson and *Three Rivers*, Jim Thorgen and *Thor's Wake*, and Virgil and Jean Clear and their newly restored Century Reporter.

Marci & Keith Rasmussen from the Intermountain restoration of an extremely

The Sunnyland Chapter was Dake from Jacksonville Florida. *Anejo* owned by John & Ann 'aged in wood'. Gerald is Chapter and John is past Priest Lake, Idaho and desuch a pleasure to see out-

The Casper Boat Club was, event. Members were service the entire weekend. Store was able to set up

made the day more perfect. The lake was excellent the entire weekend with many members making the run back up the canyon to experience the imposing and beautiful cliffs and the peace the canyon affords. Several visitors were treated to 2 perfect moonrises over the water to rival any imagination. The evenings were shrouded in the moonlight with the laughter of adults and kids alike as the nightly conquest for crawdads began!

The poker run was great! Several winning hands were awarded some terrific gifts, and all who participated came away with a smile and great memories.

This story of Alcova would not be complete without mentioning the great kindness that this writer experienced this year from each and every member in attendance. The Langes transmission failed 80 miles from Alcova. It was a massive undertaking, but so many people made it not only possible for Langes to get to the show, but made it a perfect weekend. Peaks, Simons, Spauldings, Jim Huff, Virgil Clear and so many others took care of us, got us out on the water and got us home safely. We feel very fortunate to know such wonderful people and like that we can call them friends. Thanks to everyone!

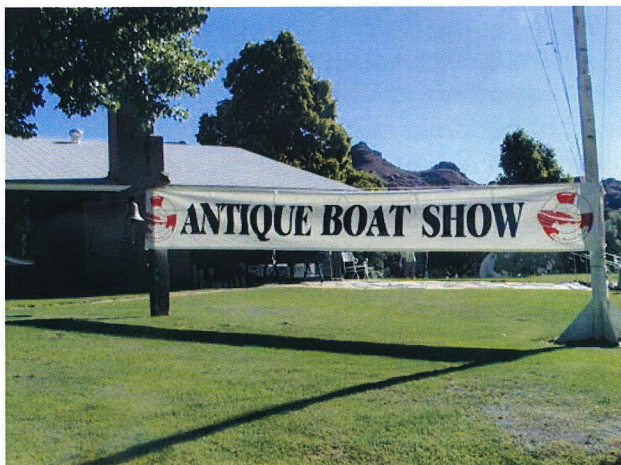
What a great time...make sure you make this one next year...it's well worth the drive



and *Endangered Species* joined us Chapter. This Higgins is a stunning rare classic.

well represented by Katy and Geraldida and their beautiful *Odyssey* and Ross from Sarasota. *Anejo* means current president of the Sunnyland president. They were on their way to cided to stop and join us. It's always of-area boats.

once again, the perfect host for this treated to delicious food and terrific What a great venue!! The Ship's down near the docks which just



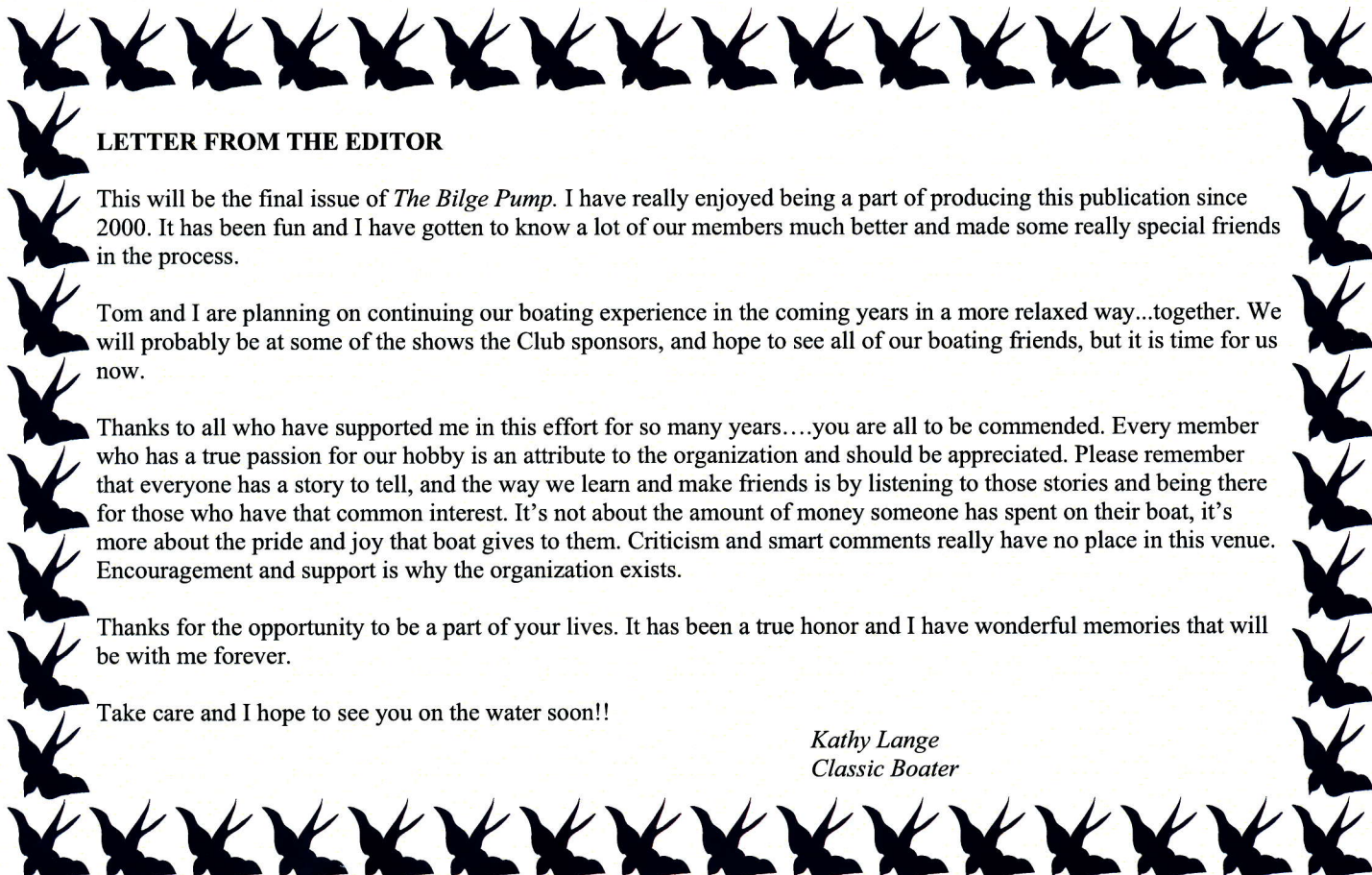
WETASSAGAIN

It was like one of those dreams I used to have concerning a barn full of antique furniture. About 20 or 30 years ago, I was involved in the buying, selling & restoring of old furniture. I was shoulder deep in old stuff trying to make my way back into the corner of Al Rittenour 40' X 100' storage shed to look at an old wooden boat Al called a "Wagemaker".

It was under a lot of "stuff", but you would expect it to be because Al put the boat in the corner in 1972. Al said the best part about this boat was that they had purchased a new motor in 1972 and only run it about 6 hours. There were 2 more motors that would be sold with the boat all for \$300. With that kind of a deal, it was easy to say OK.....like I needed another boat!!

You should see this little beauty. It has a "new" Johnson 35 H.P. electric-start motor, a deck that is planked with a nice rounded crown, a good windshield and bimini top, and apparently, it's original trailer. The hull has been fiber-glassed and painted, so it looks like we will just continue to paint. When they glassed and painted it, they covered up the name on the transom, but as we were pulling out of Al's driveway, he flagged me down to tell me that the boat's name was *Wetassagain*. We liked it and told Al that the name would probably stick.

When we got it home, we figured out that we had a 1958 16' Wagemaker Wolverine. We had decided some time ago that *Maximillian* wasn't really a good fishing boat, so *Wetassagain* may just have a future in our family.



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

This will be the final issue of *The Bilge Pump*. I have really enjoyed being a part of producing this publication since 2000. It has been fun and I have gotten to know a lot of our members much better and made some really special friends in the process.

Tom and I are planning on continuing our boating experience in the coming years in a more relaxed way...together. We will probably be at some of the shows the Club sponsors, and hope to see all of our boating friends, but it is time for us now.

Thanks to all who have supported me in this effort for so many years....you are all to be commended. Every member who has a true passion for our hobby is an attribute to the organization and should be appreciated. Please remember that everyone has a story to tell, and the way we learn and make friends is by listening to those stories and being there for those who have that common interest. It's not about the amount of money someone has spent on their boat, it's more about the pride and joy that boat gives to them. Criticism and smart comments really have no place in this venue. Encouragement and support is why the organization exists.

Thanks for the opportunity to be a part of your lives. It has been a true honor and I have wonderful memories that will be with me forever.

Take care and I hope to see you on the water soon!!

Kathy Lange
Classic Boater



Safety First

By Jeremy Smith

What a wonderful summer for boating this year has been! As new residents of Colorado, my wife Kirsten and I celebrated the magic of summer on Lake Dillon by purchasing our very first wooden motor boat: *Sweetie Pie*, a 1947 Chris Craft 17' Deluxe Runabout that had just been beautifully restored by Bill Tordoff and Wayne Spaulding. Little did we know at the time what a great group of new friends from all over the Rockies also awaited us through our new membership in the ACBS!

I was also very pleased and honored to have been asked by the RMC Board of Directors to assist the membership with boating safety. To be sure, boating on inland lakes and rivers at 9,000' is not without its own set of unique challenges. Notably, a working knowledge of how to safely trailer a boat from one body of water to another is almost indispensable for recreational boaters in our area.

In this regard, I would like to share with you some quick reminders about safe trailering, courtesy of the U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary:

TRAILERING CHECKLIST

1. Is boat securely attached to trailer?
2. Is ball locked in socket?
3. Are safety chains in place?
4. Is dolly wheel retracted?
5. Is electrical connection secure?
6. Do brake and turn signals operate?
7. Are trailer tires properly inflated?
8. Is trailer load properly balanced?
9. Is motor/stern drive unit in the "up" position?
10. Are antennas lowered?
11. Have the wheel bearing been checked recently?

PRE-LAUNCH CHECKLIST

1. Is boat "plug" in place?
2. Are straps unfastened?
3. Does battery have a fresh charge?
4. Are towing vehicles' brakes set and/or chocks in place?
5. Are appropriate lines attached to boat and adequately manned?
6. Is engine/stern drive unit in the "lowered" position?
7. Are all passenger/crew members out of boat?

Happy Trailering and Safe Boating!

FROM NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

A FULL PLATE AWAITS.



Come celebrate the 30th anniversary of ACBS. We'll have a full plate of events to enjoy. Seminars. Exhibits. Demonstrations. Award winning classic boats from across the nation. Roundtable discussions. Lake cruises. Libations on the waterfront at sunset. Delicious food. Shopping for your first mate. Even a silent auction. And, did we mention libations on the waterfront at sunset?

Hungry for more details? Just visit "Meet me in Missouri 2005" on www.acbs.org or contact Kathy Snyder, ACBS Headquarters:

315.686.2628.

30th International Antique & Classic Boat Society Annual Meeting & Boat Show

Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri

September 12-17, 2005



2005 PLATINUM SPONSOR



The Beacon

TREASURED MOMENTS

By Patsy Snell

Cruising the waterways with the one I love next to me
How much more blessed could a person be.

This morning the waters are smooth as glass
Maybe we should enjoy and not go so fast.

The ripples on the at another time of day
Show a million diamonds in full array.

The cool breeze and the warm sun on my feet
Springtime is such a wonderful treat.

**We may never again pass this way
So we will treasure the moments of this day.**

On the shore is a skyline of building made by man
Framed by sea and sky and the touch of Gods hand.

The waves roll in across the white sand
We really do live in a beautiful land.

As dark clouds gather beneath the sun
We will surely see rain before this day is done.

We'll find our port before the storm
And pray all boaters come to no harm.

**We may never again pass this way
So we will treasure the moments of this day.**

Early morning cruising on a sea of green
These beautiful clear waters are a sight to be seen.

Once out of the sight of land one has to guess
How in the world did Columbus make it without GPS?

Crossing the rough sea is not too much fun
We're always glad when that part is done.

The moon is so big and bright
I sometimes wonder how many people are watching this same
night.

**We may never again pass this way
So we will treasure the moments of this day.**

Along the banks we see the tangled roots of the mangrove tree
What a safe hiding place for little fish that must be.

On many channel markers the Osprey build their nest
And on many others the pelican rest..

We cruise slow for hours for the endangered Manatee
But I think it's a fable as we've yet one to see.

A dolphin jumps from the water with a 'smile' on his face
No wonder he is endeared by the human race.

**We may never again pass this way
So we will treasure the moments of this day.**

This ol' Chris Craft requires much tender love and care
But we treat her right and she always gets us there.

To Florida, to Bahamas, to Chesapeake and DC
And of course, New York to visit Lady Liberty.

Ah, Key West where at sunset everyone cheers like crazy
And all day long we just lie in the sun and be lazy.

In Venice we met with a ranger named Tim
If you're from Texas, stay away from him.

**We may never again pass this way
So we will treasure the moments of this day.**

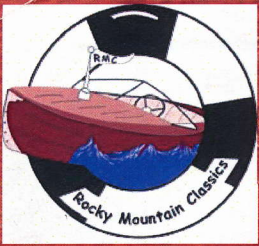
All the friendly, interesting people we've met
Who's friendship we'll remember but names will probably forget.

When we get 'old' and settled in our rocking chair
We will know we have followed our dream and taken the dare.

Perhaps we could have retired with a fine home and possessions
But we chose to follow our obsessions.

Lord, we thank you for the life we were given.
We believe you have shown us a glimpse of heaven.

Thanks to Chris Smith for sharing this with us



Rocky Mountain Classics
850 20th Street
#702
Boulder, CO 80302

★ ★ ★
FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO. 2155
4092 #00.83⁰ SEP 30 05
8852 MAILED FROM ZIP CODE 80303



IT GOES WAY BEYOND BOATS