

The Bilge Pump

41st Chapter of the Antique & Classic Boat Society

Rocky Mountain Classics

Spring 2007



Denverite Kit Phillips' "Tootsie," a 1940 23-foot Chris Craft barrelback triple cockpit, docked at Grand Lake.

Award Winning
Newsletter

And those running the ship

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The **Bilge Pump**



**Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Classics
Chapter of the Antique & Classic
Boat Society Inc.**

**Published quarterly by the Rocky Mountain
Classics, the 41st ACBS chapter.**

**Send ads and publishable materials to
President Michael Novick, 34676 Squaw
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michaelnovick@msn.com

Dear Fellow Boaters,

We will host a three-day get-together for our Rocky Mountain Classic friends and their families Labor Day weekend, Sept. 1-3, at Flathead Lake, in northwest Montana, between Missoula and Kalispell.

Flathead is the largest fresh water lake west of the Mississippi, measuring 30 miles long and seven miles wide. This beautiful emerald-colored lake sits just west of the Bob Marshall Wilderness Area, guarded on the east shore by the Mission and Swan mountains.

We own a wonderful property on the west shore of Flathead Lake, and want you to join us. Of course, bring your wooden boats. There is lots of boating to be done, along with golfing, swimming,

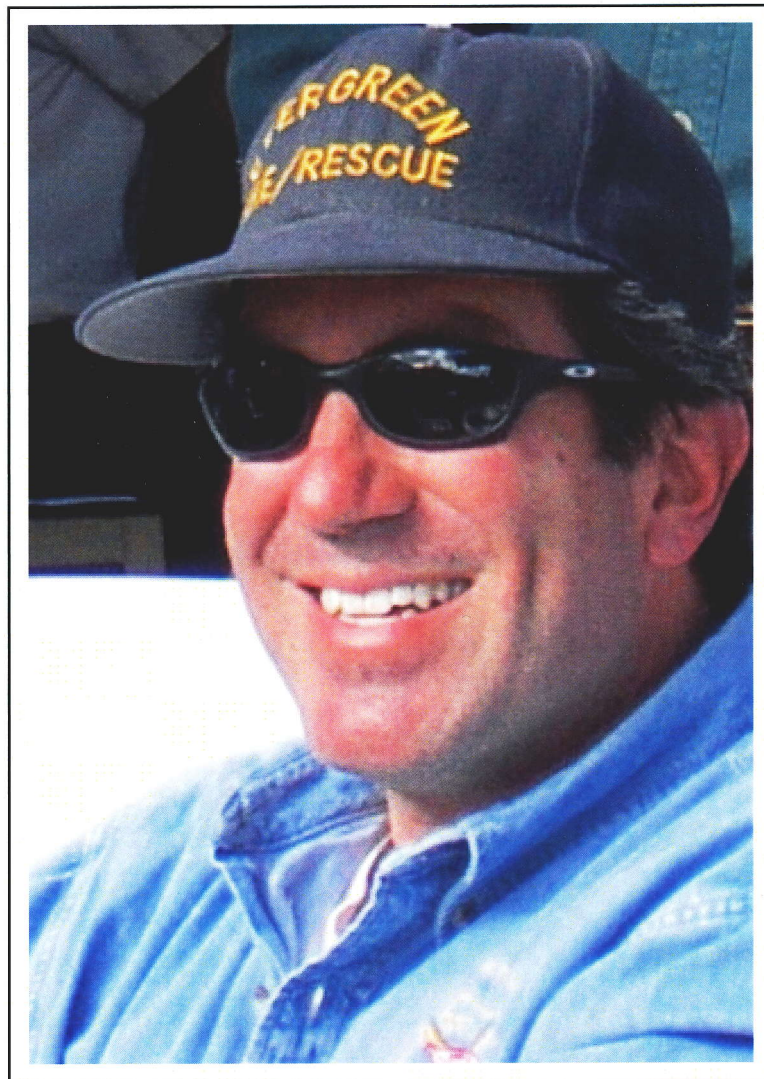
Continued on page 8

Greetings from the Helm

First, I take this opportunity to thank Bill Tordoff for his service the past year as president of Rocky Mountain Classics. Bill stepped up to the plate and did a great job to continue leading our organization. I also thank the other board members as well as all of the other extremely "active" members in our chapter.

Second, I would like to encourage you to get more involved in your chapter. Like most organizations there are about 20 percent of the members that do 80 percent of the work and participate in a majority of our events. We are very fortunate that our club has approximately 100 members and although some of those members live outside our region and belong to many chapters, I think it is unfortunate there are only a small group of members that are very active in the chapter.

This season will bring many of the same events we have had in the past. However we have had some discussion about a June or September informal event or gathering that might be at a new or different location.



President Mike Novick

**Upcoming board meeting dates throughout 2007
will be at the following shows/events:**

Colorado RV, Sports, Boat and Travel Show — Saturday, March 3, 6 p.m.

Grand Lake Boat Show — Saturday, July 21, 10 a.m.

Alcova Boat Show — Saturday, August 18, 10 a.m.

I look forward to serving as your president this year. We have a great chapter and I strongly encourage you to consider getting more actively involved in your club this season. If you have any questions, comments or ideas for improvement or future events, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Mike Novick
Evergreen, Colorado
'55 Survivor
One of My Girls
michaelnovick@msn.com
303-674-5524 home
720-244-3376 cell

Got some flotsam...

Let me tell you...how this club got started and some folks who made it happen. Lots of you have lived this or read it all before, thus, the title. (Title credit: Ogden Nash) To the rest of you folks who didn't or don't, please read on.

Founders

Rocky Mountain Classics is in its ninth year of our ACBS Charter, but thoughts of a boat club such as ours go back before 1998. The credit goes to Bob and Chris Ann Braaf. In the early '90s, Bob and Chris had a list of all ACBS members in the Rocky Mountain states and put out a letter of interest. Any luck? None. What to do? Telephone calls. Any luck? None. So, a bit perplexed, they continued to boat our mountain lakes and everywhere else ACBS clubs were gathering. And no wonder: Besides loving old boats, what else could they do, when Chris Ann's dad, Chris Smith (grandson of Christopher Columbus Smith, founder of Chris-Craft) beckoned?

And now, the rest of the story.

In August 1997, Bob and June Moharter and I chanced to meet at the Tahoe Boat Show. We mentioned that someone should try to put a club together in our area, and that we all thought "someone" had tried. We promised to meet back in Colorado and locate that individual. Well, we did, and we did. We needed that list.

Along with Bob and Chris's help, it wasn't rocket science, but rather timing. We didn't do the telephone-tag thing any differently. But, by Dec. 12, 1997, we had hooked Tom and Kathy Green, Charlie and Katie Geuin, Jim and Julie Johnson and Mark and Karen Zempel. What a deal. I guess we needed to begin organizing. Nah! Before any seri-



By Chip Taft
Round the Bend
'40 Chris Craft
Custom barrelback
.....
Chapter Historian

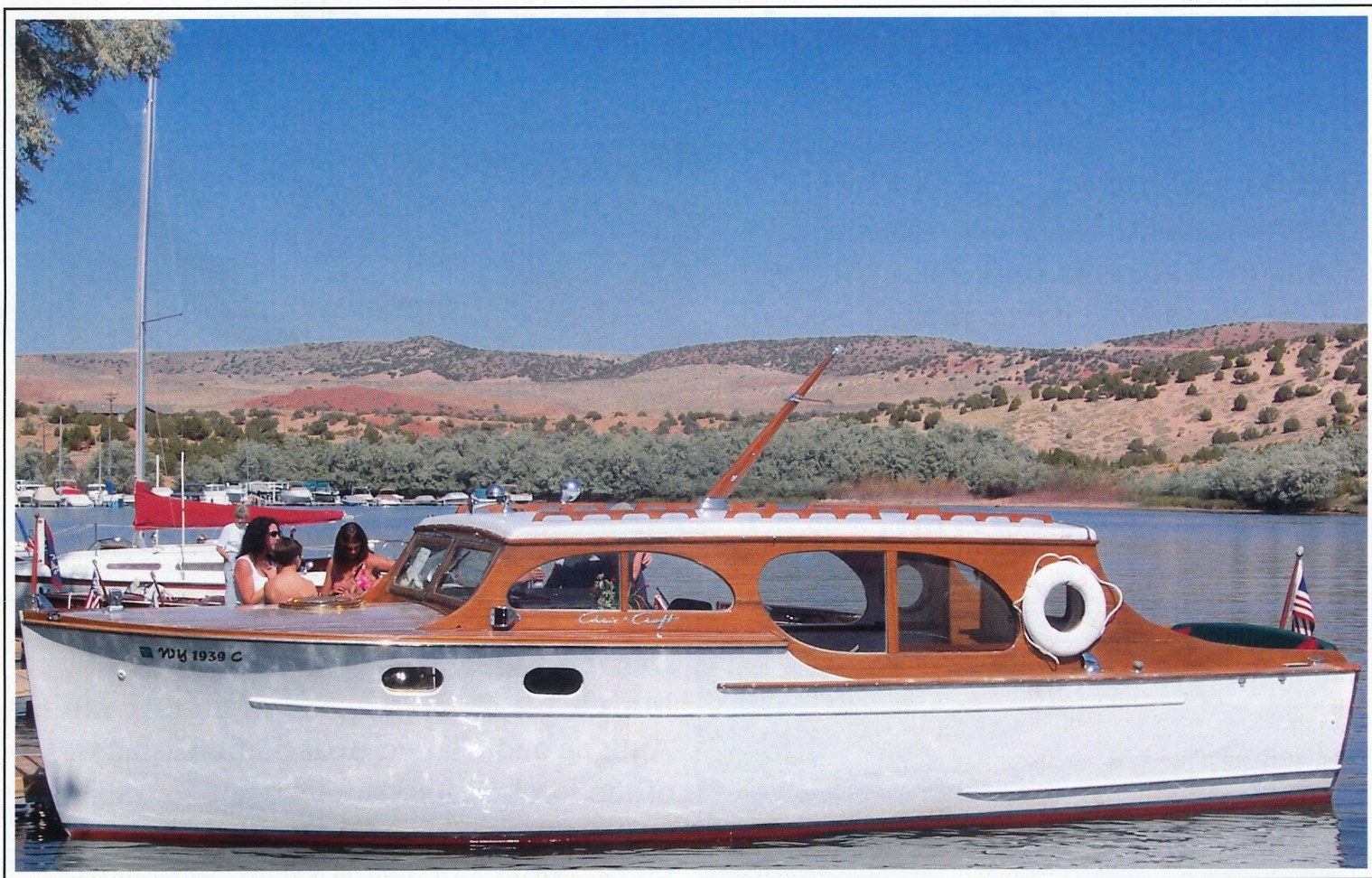
ous thing like that, let's show some boats. The January 1998 Denver Boat Show at the convention center seemed just the right venue, in amongst a whole bunch of modern plastic boats. This event for our chapter has occurred right up to 2007, due to the extremely hard work of Tom Green.

So, in January 1998, we showed three boats: my '40 CC Custom, Tom Green's '49 Century Deluxe and Jim Johnson's '57 CC Sportsman. What a deal, again. We stole the show, were interviewed on TV, signed up new members and came up with the name of our future club. We were not asked back for 1999. I'll tell you about that in a later rendering.

Organizing

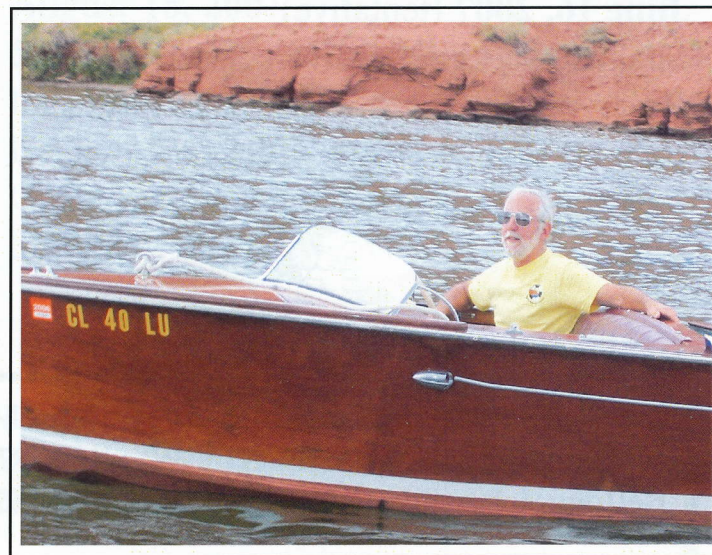
Our first meeting was at Tom Green's clubhouse at the Coventry. We selected officers and patterned our club after ACBS guidelines. Here starts an improbably hard task by two individuals who would work diligently for over seven years to cement the current success we enjoy today.

Continued on page 9



Alcova attracts range of vessels

Hosting the annual ACBS-RMC August gathering at Alcova Reservoir near Casper, Wyoming, were Linda and Charlie Peak. Top photo is of Casper boaters Flip and Jill Cooper's '39 Chris Craft 29' enclosed sedan cruiser. Bottom left is Capt. Ron and Catherine Ellis' '58 Dorsett Monterey. Bottom right is Jeff Dwight in his '55 Chris Craft Cavalier 17'.



Rocky Mountain Classics Chapter

Denver, Colorado

January 18-21, 2007

Antique and Classic Boat Static Display
of the Rocky Mountain Classics
ACBS Chapter at the Denver Boat Show,
Colorado Convention Center. Contact:
Tom Green at 303-797-7630 or at
j8tg@ix.netcom.com



Denver, Colorado

March 1-4, 2007

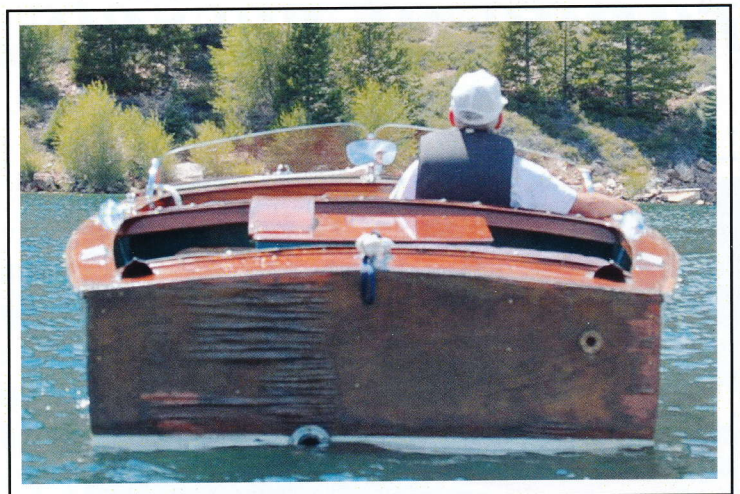
Antique and Classic Boat Static Display
of the Rocky Mountain Classics
ACBS Chapter at the Colorado RV,
Sports, Boat and Travel Show, National
Western Complex. Contact: Mike Novick
at 303-674-5524 or at
michaelnovick@msn.com



Fort Collins, Horsetooth, Colorado

June 16, 2007 (tentative)

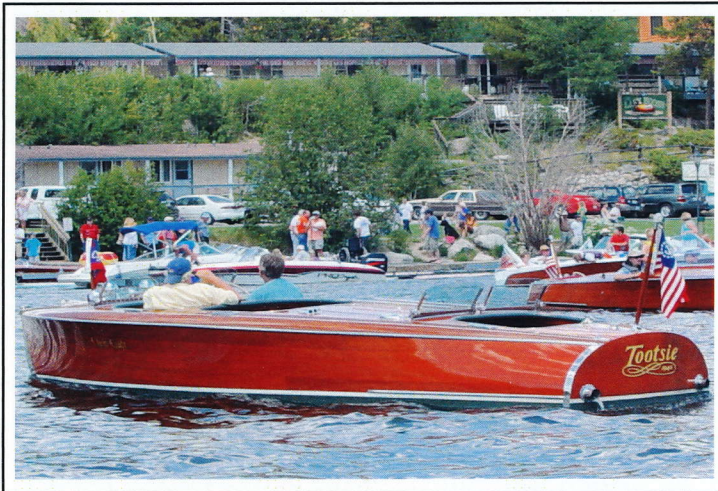
Shakedown Cruise at Horsetooth
Reservoir Sail and Saddle Club. Contact:
Richard Ball at 970-667-3965 or at
bglaw@comcast.net.



Grand Lake, Colorado

Top: Richard and Lu Ball's *Ball Four* Ford V-8 powered Century Dart in 20 feet.
Middle: Soon-out — Wonderful Woodies' '37 16' Chris Craft Barrelback Racing Runabout.
Bottom: Jeff Dwight's "user" six-cylinder '55 Chris Craft Cavalier 17'.

2007 Boat Shows and Contacts



Grand Lake, Colorado

July 21, 2007

10th Annual Antique and Classic Boat Show, at an elevation of 8,369 feet, Colorado's largest natural lake in the heart of the Rockies at the west entrance to Rocky Mountain National Park.

Contact: Bob Moore at 303-761-4453 or RMoore7744@aol.com; Bob Braaf at 970-887-2210 or bbraaf@msn.com

Lake Dillon, Frisco, Colorado

July 28, 2007

Rendezvous in the Rockies at the Frisco Bay Marina on Lake Dillon at 9,017 feet above sea level. Rocky Mountain Classics ACBS Chapter. Contact: Bill Tordoff at 970-668-8213 or at AMSIINC@cs.com



Alcova, Wyoming

August 18, 2007

5th Annual Alcova Lake Boat Show at the Casper Boat Club at Alcova Lake.

Rocky Mountain Classics ACBS Chapter. Contact: Charlie Peak at 307-234-0382



Top: A full-on view of the Bilge cover boat owned by Kit Phillips of Denver.

Middle: Joe and Lynn Wagner of Denver entertaining on their '59 Thompson Sea Coaster.

Bottom: Charlie and Linda Peak's '26 Chris Craft 29' triple cockpit *Maximilian*.

Flathead from page 2

water sports, sightseeing, fishing and just generally having a good time.

If you can join us, or would like more information, please give me a call. My cell is probably the best bet until mid-April, but I will give you three numbers to call, plus an email address:

Cell 303-349-3194

Denver home 303-761-4453

Montana cabin 406-883-0187

email address

rmooore7744@aol.com

Looking forward to seeing you in Montana.

Bob and Betty Moore

Betty II

Englewood, Colorado

To Chapter Presidents and Officers:

It has been suggested by the board of directors to have the ACBS president write the chapter officers on a regular basis to provide input on topics of interest. With the RUDDER being a quarterly publication, there is much "dead space" between issues, and a letter is a good way to pass on information.

Today, I address the use of the ACBS International logo. In past years, the organization felt it necessary to "covet" the logo to protect its integrity and prevent improper use.

As you are all aware, the Ship's Stores activity from headquarters has been on a steady decline as chapters have found it more economical to develop their own line of merchandise and their own distinctive logo. Over time, the use of the ACBS International logo has declined, to the detriment of the organization.

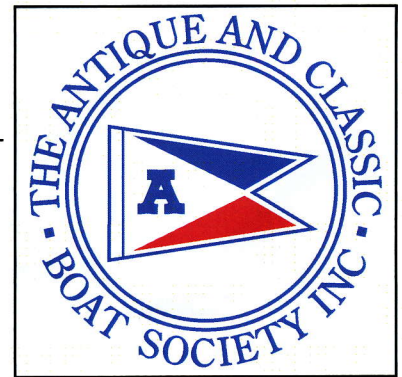
The constitution and by-laws specifically states in part: "Use and reproduction of the society's logo by its several chapters is granted as long as it is used in connection with Society-related or chapter-related business." This statement clearly gives you the green light to use the logo on your Ship's Stores merchandise, or anywhere else that properly promotes the organization.

I encourage you to use the logo — it's your organization.

I welcome your comments.

Bob Bush

ACBS President



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.....

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Two Charlies, Simons (left) and Geuin take a spin in the latter's '46 15' Century Sea Maid.

Continued from page 4

Bob and June Moharter truly raised this club, quadrupled it handedly. The rest of us pitched in. Many to a great degree, many others like myself, due to work constraints, somewhat inconsistently, though not without enthusiasm. Bob and June wrote our constitution and bylaws to conform to ACBS expectations and drafted our charter petition.

Acceptance

Our little group was invited by ACBS to present this petition at the National Spring meeting in Seattle, May 1998. Bob and June drove all the way out for this, I jump seated a commercial airliner and joined them.

On May 1, 1998, in stuffy coats and ties, and a nice dress on one of us (not author Chip), we presented our case and became the 41st Chapter of ACBS.

In the water

The first water event, "Woodies On The Water," was held on June 6, 1998, at Horsetooth Reservoir. This fun event of great expectation was hosted by Jim and Julie Johnson. Nobody sank — that day. Most of you folks don't know

this fine couple and their super family, as they moved back to Missouri a number of years ago. They are still members of our club today. Their enthusiasm was magnetic, rubbing off on all of us (like the bottom of one of their boats). I'll tell you about that in a later report.

Rafting up in one of the cove's for a hot dog BBQ was fun. Some of us were just getting used to being in the water, let alone, rafting up and having folks charge back and forth on our precious seats and decks. Eee-gads! We're working on returning to this lake again for the June shakedown cruise and another "raft-up."

That same evening, we held our first general meeting, at the lake's south end bar and grill (remember?) and counted 18 members. Hey, and dues were just \$5. Bob and Chris Ann said they would begin working on something up at Grand Lake, and Rich and Lu Ball offered their home on Lake Loveland for our first annual meeting. Little did they know how many "informal" meetings we would have there.



Chris Craft

1954

14' Travel Trailer Kit



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*“Now you can own your own mobile home. You can go wherever you want, whenever you like, without the fuss and bother of stopping in expensive hotels and restaurants. You can follow your heart to new fun and adventure-and take your home right along with you. *”*

This Kit-Built trailer was purchased and restored by the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boat Society during the winter of 2004. It is 1 of 5 known Chris Craft Travel Trailer Kits in existence in the U.S.**

The trailer features sleeping accommodations for 4, a galley and storage closet, as well as, “Stabilizers” that are extended from the tongue when the trailer is parked for the evening.

It came in a box, utilizes a steel frame, aluminum roof covering, aluminum frame windows (with screens), two wheels and a hinged door with lock.

The product was so unique that Chris-Craft formed the Land Cruiser Kit Division, just to accommodate the new product.

We hope you enjoy it!

** The Legend of Chris-Craft, p 182 by Jeffery L. Rodengen*

*** Chip Taft, Pres. Rocky Mountain Chapter ACBS www.rockymtnclassics.org*

Bilge Pump **Advertising Policy and Rates**

Historical productions cost of The Bilge Pump has averaged \$1200/yr (\$3/cc - 100ccsX4 times/yr). Membership fees of \$15/member has supported the cost since little revenue was generated through sale of ads.

Based on today's cost of \$6/copy (\$600/100 cc's) sale of advertising space will reduce the Chapter's publishing expenses.

It is therefore the policy that the Bilge Pump will make not more than 20% of printable space available to members and non-members for advertising and generation of revenue.

The following rates will apply (Charges are per-issue): (\$7/sq")

AD SIZE	Square inches	Cost Non-Member	Cost Member
1" X 2"	2	\$14	\$7
2" X 3"	6	\$42	\$21
3" X 3"	9	\$63	\$32
3" X 5"	15	\$105	\$52
1" X 6"	6	\$42	\$21
3" X 6"	18	\$126	\$63

Advertisements must be received 14 days prior to publication.
Advertisements shall be direct to the Publisher.



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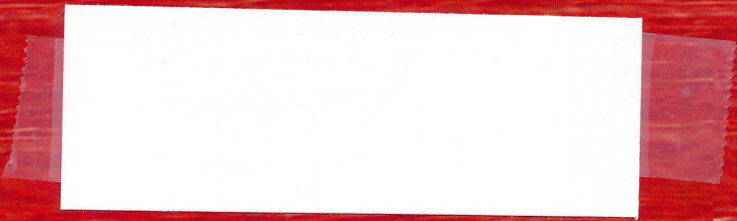
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Rocky Mountain Classics
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 Evergreen, CO 80439



For Sale

1937 16' Chris Craft
 Racing Barrelback
 (transom photo)

...

1947 17' Chris Craft
 Deluxe Runabout

...

1949 19' Century
 Sea Maid

...

1951 19' Chris Craft
 Holiday

...

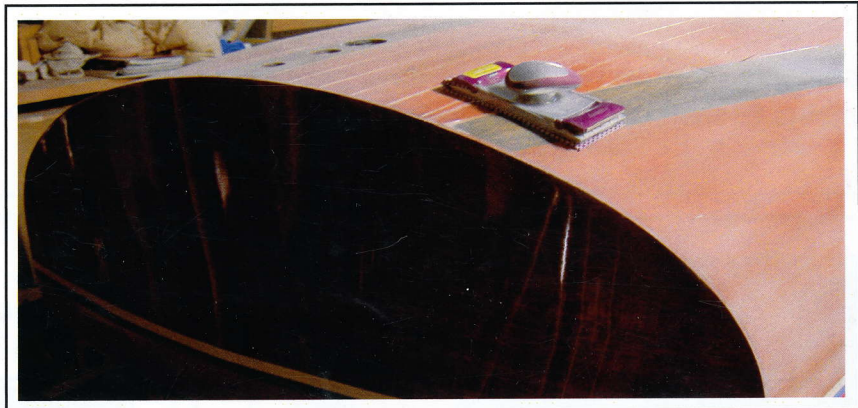
1958 17' Chris Craft
 Cavalier

...

195? 19' Century
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