

ROCKY MOUNTAIN
CLASSICS, 41ST CHAPTER
OF THE ANTIQUE &
CLASSIC BOAT SOCIETY



The Bilge Pump

Rocky Mountain Classics Chapter

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APRIL—SEPTEMBER 2011

RMCC Shakedown at Lake Loveland on June 11!



We wait for this every year. Done with snow skiing and eager to put the winter behind us, we look forward to the Annual Shakedown Cruise which truly marks the beginning of the boating season!

Again this year, Rich and Lu Ball are hosting the RMCC 2011 Shakedown Cruise on Lake Loveland on **June 11**.

This event has something for everyone. Not ready to put your boat in the water yet? Come anyway! You can ride in all of the other boats and still enjoy great food, great conversation, AND the famous Tiki Bar!

Launching starts at **8:30am** at the southeast corner of the lake, off U.S. Hwy 34 and Eisenhower by the Statue of Liberty Statute.

For more information, contact Rich Ball at rball@fwtb.com.

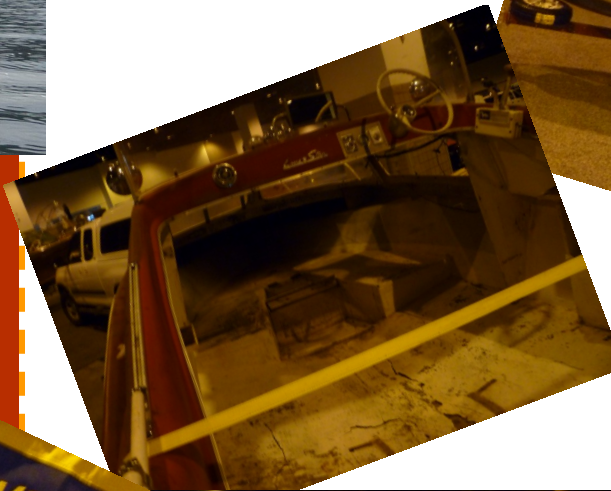


From the Helm by President, Maggie Woods

Maggie's "From the Helm" letter will be back next edition. In the meantime, enjoy these photos from recent shows!!



President, Maggie Woods on Grand Lake



PLEASE READ: MEMBER RENEWAL PROCESS

This is important. As of February, ACBS memberships run on a 12 month period, versus calendar year. If you join March 1, 2011 you need to renew March 1, 2012.



RMCC Exhibits at the 2011 Denver Boat Show

Again this year, Jeff Waco did a great job of coordinating the RMCC presence at the Denver Boat Show.



Water Dancer. 1956 Hackercraft owned by Bill Tordoff.

The RMCC section was centrally located, amongst the new boat/dealer exhibitor floor space.

Eight RMCC boats were on display this year. They ran the gamut from Bill Tordoff's immaculate 1956 Hackercraft OverNighter, Water Dancer, to Thad Bergh's 1951 aluminum Sea King. Wayne Spaulding brought his beautiful 1951 Hackercraft; Doug Brown brought the custom-built Chamade. Tom Lange's Loon was there, as was Jeff Waco's 1955 Chris Craft, Wonder Years.

Bob Phillips brought his 1900 Launch, the Shearwater, a perennial crowd-pleaser.

We even had Rick Peebles' fiberglass project boat. With its very dramatic lines, it looks like it's part boat, part car, and part spaceship. We can't wait to see that one finished!

As always, our boats garnered lots of attention. New boats are fun, but there's nothing like a CLASSIC BOAT!



Rich Peebles fiberglass Project Boat.



Tom Lange's Replica 1910 Launch, Loon



The wait to get in could be REALLY long. This guy, driving Wayne Spaulding's 1951 Hackercraft, should have packed a lunch!

RMCC at the 2011 RV Boat & Travel Show!

By Peter Woods, Event Coordinator

As with every show, the RV/Boat Show in March at the Western Complex was a testament to timing and logistics. Although not as crazy as the Denver show, it still has its own challenges, faults and foibles.

It seems we always have the same spaces every year next to the Shriners Trout pond. This is always a hoot and guarantees great traffic.

A huge thanks to Chris Ann Braaf. On top of the fact she is great ambassador for us, she also brought some copies of "Transoms...Painting Names on History." This is a great book of transom pictures with their boats names and history. This is a collaborative effort of Chris Ann's sister, Joy, brother Mark and his wife Alice, as well as her cousins Alan and Faye, Smiths one and all. Of course, Bob and Chris Ann are both represented nicely on the family page (pg. 70). You can also gaze on Mike Novick's vessels on pages 49,50 and Dad's boat on page 51.



Dragonfly, 18ft Chris Craft SeaSkiff, owned by Peter & Maggie Woods.

By the way, our own Maggie McNeill is the photographer of record for the photo of "One of my Girls" (Shameless plug!) Copies of the book are available for \$35.00+s/h. Contact either Pete Woods or Chris Ann Braaf.

Although, as busy as we were, we were unable to sign up any new members. However, Maggie and I did get a line on a very rare Century Viking. Its been in hiding in Shawnee for twenty years. It is a great project and very solid little boat, made even rarer by the fact she is a sidwinder. (Two helm stations.) If anyone is interested, contact Pete Woods.

Big thanks, as always, to Jeff and Diane Waco for their heroics, when we had a spot open up at the last minute. Wayne Spaulding and Bill Tordoff were again well represented with the Century Palomino and Jeremy Smith's boat "Sweetie Pie". It also seems "Sweetie Pie" has been sold to a lucky gentleman at the Lake Dora boat show in Florida. Godspeed and happy sunset runs "Sweetie Pie"!

Once Again Jeremy Lang created quite a stir with the beautiful 1897 Courting canoe. This little cutie is a stunning slice of an era gone by and always a show favorite. In our ode to RVs, the camping arrangement added another dimension to our club display. Thanks and best wishes to Jim Mc Gaugh and his lovely bride Rhonda.

As always the Chris Craft Land Cruiser was the focal point that attracts everyone to this display. The display was also rounded off beautifully this year with the 1940's Woody Wagon, arranged by Jerry Ross, and Thad Bergh's 1951 Sea King UT-12. Thanks to all!

Everyone have a great & safe boating season and we'll see you in Loveland, June 11th!

RMCC
Display
at the
March
Show.



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Finding the Perfect Boat by Jeff Waco



So many boats, so little time—and money!

“Honey, it just needs a little TLC to make it perfect.”

At least I thought so at the time. . .

Let me go back some thirty-seven years ago—hard to believe that many years have passed under my keel! I was just married and had sold a 1950 33ft Owens sedan the year before. I had truly thought that I would be able to change my lifestyle from boats and cruising to something else. That something else never materialized.

Just before my marriage, my father called to say he had found the “perfect” boat to continue my insane and expensive lifestyle. Since I had absolutely NO money, he offered to buy this boat for me. The boat was a 1956 Chris Craft 38’ Constellation. I tried to hold off Dad until I had a chance to survey the boat to see if it was worth the asking price. It was to no avail—he bought the boat anyway.

Since both my beautiful new wife and I were school teachers, we had the whole summer to use the boat, cruising to some of my favorite places. What a wonderful way to introduce my wife to boating. Most of you reading this now know how that goes.

“Honey, it just needs a little TLC to make it perfect.”

I wouldn’t say that first summer of us working together on the “yacht” was a bust, but it certainly was an education for her.

When I first saw the boat, she was out of the water and my father was working on painting her up nicely. I appreciated what he tried to do, but he had made a mess of it. I straightened it out in that first week, and I must say, she looked good. However, upon closer inspection, I found the boat was full of rot! I tore out bulkheads, I tried to caulk the teak decks, but they were buckled from being cleaned with two-part teak cleaner. There was not enough teak left to re-bung. When it rained, the inside of the cabin got soaked. By the way, my wife and I were living on the boat at the time.

We spent several summers working on the boat, going out for a day spin every now and then, but we never visited any of those favorite cruising destinations. We spent our time keeping her afloat and nursing her engines since they were questionable. They were salt water cooled and were—well—tired. The boat needed to be re-powered and, having no money, I decided to sell her.

I never thought that I would get a buyer with one blown engine, but I did. When she was gone, I told my wife that I would try to pursue another interest instead of boating.

The following summer, we went to Europe and had a great time. While over there, we had visited every marina we could find—or actually, that I could find. During the visit, she tole me to buy another boat because living with me without one was too trying for her.

To Be Continued. . .

Some Tips for a Successful Boating Season

Boating should be fun, and it can be when we all follow a few simple rules.

Here are some suggestions from TREADLIGHTLY.ORG.



1. Travel only in areas open to your type of boat.
2. Always carry a Coast Guard-approved life vest (PFD) for each person onboard.
3. Always operate your boat at a safe speed.
4. Always have a designated look-out, watching for swimmers, skiers, other boaters, and debris.
5. Never jump a wake. If crossing a wake, do so at a safe speed and watching for skiers and toawables.
6. Comply with all signs and respect all barriers. This includes speed limits, no-wake zones, and underwater obstructions.
7. Make every effort to go boating with a partner.
8. Make sure your trailer is in working order. Ensure your lights are working and your boat is secure on the trailer before you head to your destination.
9. When trailering your boat, balance your load—including items stored inside the boat.
10. Don't mix boating with alcohol or drugs.
11. Respect the rights of others, including anglers, swimmers, skiers, boaters, divers and others so they can enjoy the recreational facilities undisturbed.
12. Be courteous to others in the ramp area. Launch and retrieve your boat as quickly as possible.
13. Keep the noise down—especially near the shore.
14. Educate yourself prior to your trip, researching rules and regulations, taking skills classes, and knowing how to operate your equipment safely.
15. Check the weather at your destination. Plan clothing, equipment, and supplies accordingly.
16. Make sure your owners manual and registration are onboard the boat.
17. Always carry a Coast Guard-approved fire extinguisher and warning flares.
18. Carry a GPS and know how to use it.
19. Pack in; pack out.
20. Make sure your boat is mechanically up to the task.. Be sure to carry enough fuel and oil.

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RMCC CLASSIFIEDS!

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 1946 Century Seamaid.
 Call Charlie Geuin for
 details.
 (303) 670-9415



1946 Century Seamaid



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Newsletter for the
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Mike & Vickie Rutkowski
4529 Mohawk Dr.
Larkspur, CO 80118
303/681-3329

EMAIL: ver3298@msn.com

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