



The Bilge Pump

Rocky Mountain Classics Chapter

JANUARY - MARCH 2013

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

RMC Cruises Into Denver for January Boat Show



BOARD MEMBERS

- **Bob Phillips, President**
- **Mike Rutkowski, Vice President**
- **Charlie Simons, Treasurer**
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- **Directors:**
- **John Stiller**
- **Steve Frasier**
- **Michael Vannier**
- **Doug Brown**
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- **Chip Taft, Director-at-Large**

The January and March indoor boat shows serve a dual purpose for our boat club. The shows give us an opportunity to make contact with other boat enthusiasts and potential new club members. But they also give current members two more opportunities to get together and enjoy club friendships while doing what we love – looking at and talking about classic boats.

Yes, boat shows are fun. But coordinating our display at these shows takes a lot of work, a lot of patience, and a lot of long hours. We are very lucky to have folks in our club who are willing to do it and who do it well!



Thanks to Diane Waco, a large banner invites people to discover Classic Boating.

Again this year, Jeff and Diane Waco earn kudos for coordinating our presence at the Denver Boat Show, January 11-13, at the Denver Convention Center. At the Convention Center, moving boats in and out is always a slow process, but this year it was relatively painless. Even the weather, for the most part, cooperated.

Our display area was slightly smaller than last year, about 1200 square feet, but with a good layout, it accommodated five classic boats and an information table.

Many thanks to the members who dis-

played their boats: Bob Phillips (1900 Phoenix Company Launch, "Shearwater"), Mike Rutkowski (1955 Chris Craft Continental, Kokopeli), John Stiller (1959 Biesemeyer), Kevin Anderson (1929 Chris Craft, "Just Lovely"), and Rich Ball (1962 Century, "Ball Four").



L to R—Ball Four, Biesemeyer, Kokopeli, January, 2013.

This year's show was surprisingly busy. Day 2 of this 3-day show was BITTER COLD, and it was also the day of the Broncos play-off game with against the Ravens. You might expect that both of those things would hurt attendance, but they didn't seem to. The good news was that



Bob Phillips and Linda Peak, January 2013.

From the Helm *by President, Bob Phillips*



President, Bob Phillips
Lake Loveland, June '11

Hello Club

Today is St. Patrick's Day, and my "green patrol" has reported that a disappointingly low percentage of you have been wearing the colors. I am ½ Irish, so I suppose we'll have to have a little chat about protocol. Not much greening of the highlands or the lowlands just yet, but the signs are about us. Tree buds are appearing, a noisy robin is making his presence (and availability) known, and I put my snow blower back in its shed for the moment.

Despite the recent snow events, the outlook for this year's water supply is not good. Already Denver Water has announced that water restrictions will be imposed. The snow pack is still low. Even the Colorado Kids section of the Denver Post for March 12 had an article on the situation. In that article there was a particularly ominous map that presented the national drought forecast for 2013. It's not pretty. Colorado is right at the center of the worst area with the total region spanning from southern California to the Missouri River and beyond. Wyoming through Texas.

With that sobering segue, I now come around to our boating season. We may very well have similar low-water issues to those of 2012, so please be prepared for changes and challenges and to be flexible. The two "sure" lakes on our agenda are Grand Lake and Alcova. Past that, we shall have to wait and see. Please be alert to future notices of event changes if they should be required.

Past our own boating interests, the possible continuing drought may be very serious and the effects will be far reaching. I leave it to each of you to be concerned for and respectful of our natural resources, which include water.

Sincerely,

Robert Phillips

President

RMC Cruises into Denver

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those of us at the boat show watched the game on a GIGANTIC screen at the front of the convention center. The bad news was . . . well, you know what the bad news was.



Kevin Anderson's "Just Lovely" at the 2013 Denver Boat Show.



1900 Phoenix Co Launch "Shearwater"; Owner: Bob Phillips



Jeff Waco chats with Charlie & Linda Peak.



No report on the Denver Boat Show would be complete without mention of the headlining attraction. It wasn't one of our classic boats; it wasn't a boat at all. It was Twiggie, the Water-Skiing Squirrel. If you think there's no such as a water-skiing squirrel, that this is some kind of a gimmick – well here's

the unaltered, photo evidence!



1962 Century Dart, "Ball Four"; Owner: Rich Ball



You Got Mail!
Stay connected to the RMCC! We pull our roster with email addresses from the ACBS site, so please make sure your email is correct there. We use email to communicate important chapter information so don't miss out. Update your email today!

RMC Brings the Classics to the Progressive Show in March!

Progressive RV Sports Boat and Travel Show Wrap Up by John Stiller

while fishing with family and friends. See Page 11 for more pictures and information about those great old engines.

Other elements of our display this year:

Wayne Spauding's 1949 Century Resorter. This is a project boat that drew much attention because of its classic lines and retaining much of the original hardware. The instrument cluster is



Thad Bergh, Lisa Greenbaum, and John Stiller

Thank you all members and attendees of our latest successful boat show at the National Western Complex. What a fun way to get out of the cold and snow to a warm environment inside surrounded by our friends and expanding hobby!

A special thanks out to Jeff and Diane Waco, Jerry Ross, Mike and Vickie Rutkowski for their continued support and creativity for this event.

We had a terrific mix of wood, aluminum, and fiberglass boats in our show this year spanning the 40's and 50's. In addition to our boats, Jim McGaughy's 1954 Chris Craft Travel Trailer was a real hit as always.



2 views of Wayne's 1949 Century project



1954 Chris Craft Travel Trailer



One element that really set up our display this year was Thad Bergh's Outboard Engine Collection. Several of these had the original engine stands as well. Several stories came alive as people would talk about these engines

also very unique! I always promote the immense talent we have with several of our members' ability to restore these woodies to their former glory.

Jeff and Diane Wacos' 1955 Chris Craft 16' Kit

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RMC Brings the Classics to the Progressive Show in March!

Boat Cruiser. What a great all in one boat with the flexibility of a compact sleeping cabin, nicely displayed dining area, and the ability to tow skiers with its twin outboard 25Hp engines. This was found in nice restorable condition in the Front Range foothills. Jeff did a wonderful restoration job with displayed restoration progress pictures as well.



1955 18' Chris Craft Continental owned by Mike & Vickie Rutkowski.

Mike Rutkowski' 1955 Chris Craft Continental again drew a crowd with its broad beam, steeply raked windshield, and uniquely designed bow.

Thad Bergh's Aluminum Orlando Clipper with 75 hp Mercury 6 cylinder "Tower of Power" outboard was a true find and was new this year's show. Light weight, big outboard power, and a sleek hull design will surely make this a speed demon on smooth early lake waters this summer! Although often overlooked in the world of classic boating, these aluminum classics with hundreds of tightly spaced rivets and unique cast components are more interesting than ever!



1959 Biesemeyer gleams at the 2013 Progressive RV, Sports, Boat, and Travel Show.

My Biesemeyer 14' made an appearance as well in the fiberglass category. Look for a fun race this summer with Thad's Clipper!

We also had a signup sheet where over 15 people wanted additional information for our public displays and others who may be interested in joining our club!

Thanks again and contact me if you have an interest in joining this fun event next year.



Thad Bergh's Aluminum Orlando Clipper, March 2013

Hurricane Sandy Hits Home



Jeff Waco

On October 29, 2012 Hurricane Sandy hit the Northeast coast of the United States and went on record as one of the most disastrous hurricanes since the Great Hurricane of 1938. Sandy struck primarily the shores between New Jersey and Connecticut.

What made this hurricane the “perfect storm” was that it was fueled by two weather fronts that moved in at the same time. There was a nor’easter with high winds and a high pressure area that pushed the storm further inland.

When hurricanes come ashore, they lose their fuel supply which is the warm water off the Atlantic coast. The Gulfstream is part of the fuel supply. What made this hurricane particularly destructive was the timing it came ashore. It struck at the “Spring Tide” otherwise known as the “Moon Tide” when the tides are higher than normal during the full moon phase.

It was predicted that when the hurricane hit, the tide would be as much as

eight to nine feet above normal. It reached fourteen feet in certain areas.

Some people evacuated to go to higher ground, and others stayed put. People who live along the coast have been through this before, and they felt that this was another exaggeration. Of course, it was NO exaggeration. The devastation that this hurricane left behind has never been seen in that area in recent times.

The hurricane itself was only a category one with sustained winds of between 65 and 96 MPH and compared to others was quite weak. Comparing Sandy to Katrina, which had sustained winds of 125 MPH, Sandy was still more destructive partly because of the nor’easter and the high pressure area.

Another aspect of this hurricane, one that is seldom mentioned during hurricanes, is called “Integrated Kinetic Energy.” IKE is the distance the wind blows over the surface of the water, known as the fetch. The longer the wind blows, the bigger the waves, and the more water that piles up or that gets pushed offshore. Katrina blew across 300 miles of ocean, which is considered quite large. Sandy, on the other hand, blew across 900 to 1200 miles of open ocean. That was the dif-

ference in the hurricanes and why Sandy was more destructive.

On October 16, 2012, I had moved my boat from the summer marina to the winter storage area. Diane and I had spent the previous three days packing and storing equipment for the winter. We had moved the boat over about 11:00am. It went straight on the travel lift, and we were hauled out in just a few minutes. My wife and I climbed down. The yard immediately started washing the bottom to get the boat ready for winterization and shrink wrapping.

Then we got into our car and started our drive to Denver.

Hurricane Sandy went on record as the most destructive hurricane since the Great Hurricane of 1938.



Post-hurricane damage to Jeff and Diane Waco’s boat.

Mike's Mess: 1960 Chris Craft Cavalier Father and Son Restoration Project

by Michael and Jack Vannier

Early in 2012, I had an opportunity to acquire a Second Hand Rose, a 1960 Chris Craft Cavalier Custom Cruiser. As the story was told to me, a friend and member of our Rocky Mountain Classics Chapter of ACBS purchased her, intercepting her on her way to the dump. Circumstances enabled me to purchase her from him, and begin our journey of restoration.

work with Wayne Spaulding in his shop just outside Breckenridge.

Well, we purchased her in the state you see in the first two picks. Jack and I spent the summer commuting up to Frisco/Breckenridge from our home in Mead nearly every weekend this summer. Wayne Spaulding tutored us on the critical steps of disas-



Second Hand Rose (Mike's Mess)

Editor's Note: This article was first published in February, 2013 on Woddyboater.com

When I contacted the Chris-Craft Cavalier section on the Chris-Craft Antique Boat Club's Boat Buzz Forum, I received mixed messages of encouragement to move forward with the restoration. Right or wrong, while I had no link to her, and didn't know her story, I saw this as a project for my son and I to tackle. He very much enjoys working with me on our '49 Century Sea Maid, and often asked for opportunities to go up to Frisco, Colorado, and



A big step—new transom installed!

sembly, and we developed what I hope to be a good way to catalog and mark all the pieces and parts as we



A work in progress...



Mahogany plank deck is a BIG Improvement.

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Mike's Mess— Father & Son Restoration

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With the tear-down complete, Jack and I spent most weekends stripping and sanding, bringing supplies and materials up to the shop from Denver, and learning some very basics of what it takes to craft the new deck and transom you see in the pictures. No, we are not restoring her to original plywood construction, so we're not about to win any awards or anything. Let's just say we are taking the word "Custom" in her model name to another level of beauty.

As you can see, we have much work ahead of us. We know a little more about what we are currently calling her, "Mike's Mess", having received a packet from the Mariner's Museum. She was originally shipped to a Chris-Craft dealer in Sterling, Colorado. We haven't taken the research much further than that.

A local auto-repair and engine shop specializing in the restoration of early era automobiles is restoring her original Chris-Craft 283. Dale Kocian at Kocian Instruments has her instrument panel, and Jack and I have many months of work ahead of us.

Stay tuned. We'll keep you abreast of the journey.

Michael Vannier



Mike's son Jack, hard at work on the interior of the now less messy Mike's Mess.



From the web site of photographer, Rachel Olson.

Couple Surprises Wayne at the March Show

Last summer, Wayne Spaulding helped one young couple make their wedding extra special, by being part of their wedding party and photos.

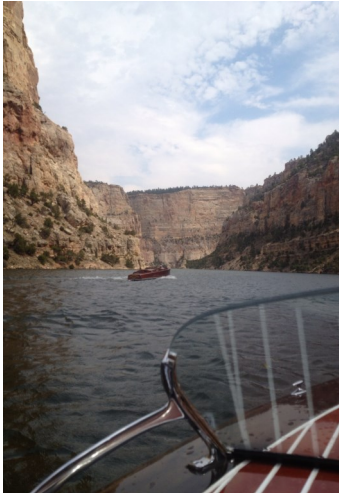
Anne & Adam were so grateful for that experience that they surprised Wayne on the last day of the 2013 Progressive RV, Sport, Boat, and Travel Show. They presented him with a photo collage featuring them with him and his boat on their wedding day.

Wayne was surprised and touched by this very thoughtful gift.



Anne & Adam present Wayne with a gift.

RMC Board Announces Changes to 2013 Event Schedule



Alcova Reservoir, Alcova, WY

The RMC Board is very pleased to announce the addition to our 2013 Event Schedule of a boating event at Alcova Reservoir.

Again this year, Charlie Peak is coordinating the event, which is set for August 23-25. As we did last year, the club is renting 10 docks at the public marina for Friday and Saturday nights, and there is space to raft off many more boats.

Plan to come Friday so you can enjoy Charlie's Friday night barbeque. It is NOT to be missed. Saturday we'll have an in-the-water

boat show, followed by a parade around the lake. Saturday night, it's dinner at the Casper Boat Club (at each member's expense). And Sunday – well, it's just more great boating on one of the most beautiful reservoirs in this region.

Alcova is always a good boating venue and particularly so this year. The water level is fairly constant so this event is a GO regardless of how much precipitation we do or do not get.

If you have not been to Alcova, you need to know that the options for overnight accommodations are limited. The campground right across from the marina is both nice and convenient. There are also two motels – The Sunset Grill and the River View Motel and Slone's General Store. They're small – if you plan to stay there, book early.

The Board also decided to remove the Horsetooth event from this year's schedule. We've not had great participation at that event in the past and with concerns about the water level there, the Board decided to make the decision to cancel it now versus later.

So the good news is, even if 2013 is a very dry year, we have two solid boating events – Grand Lake on July 10 and Alcova on August 23-25. For all others, we'll just have to wait and see.

One final update to the 2013 Schedule. ACBS has announced September 17 through the 23rd for the ACBS annual meeting at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. See ACBS.ORG for details!

Next Up for the RMC: Lange Boats Hosts 4th Annual Show on May 25th

BBQ, Beer & Boats!
SATURDAY MAY 25TH
And BOATNG GARAGE SALE!

LANGE BOATS IN BOULDER IS HAVING
 ITS FOURTH ANNUAL BBQ, BEER & BOAT FEST!
 5757 Arapahoe Ave, Suite C1 West
 Boulder, CO 80303

Arriving about 10:00; Serving at 12:00

If you haven't attended one of these events, here's what you can expect. There is a catered buffet (and I'm not talking cocktail weenies here – I'm talking really good food) in a facility that looks like a museum or a shrine to classic boating. There are liquid refreshments and plenty of tall tales and laughter.

This year Tom has a 3'x6' ORIGINAL Chris Craft Dealer sign AND a boat for sale. There will also be lots of other cool stuff for sale, and some of those proceeds will go directly into the RMC Treasury. Remember, since the Ships' Store closed last fall, this is one of the few remaining opportunities we have keep our Treasury healthy.

Bring a favorite dessert to share if you like and let's have our first summertime fun!

Please RSVP to tklange@msn.com or 303-641-3312 by 5/10 so we have plenty of food for all.

Please Take Note!

2013 Event Schedule Changes

Horsetooth (date was TBD) is OFF the schedule for 2013

Alcova Event ADDED for August 23-25

ACBS Annual Meeting dates SET for September 17-23



2013 RMCC Event Schedule

Dates	Event
January 11-13	Denver Boat Show/Colorado Convention Center Coordinator Jeff Waco at jeff54@earthlink.net or 303/421-3141. If you'd like to show your boat or work the show, contact Jeff today!
February 28-March 3	56th Annual Colorado RV, Sports, Boat & Travel Show National Western Complex, Denver, CO; Coordinator: John Stiller at john.stiller@qwest.com or 303-670-6837. If you'd like to show your boat or work the show, contact John today!
May 25	Shake the Dust Off Your Cover , Lange's Boat Shop, Boulder Colorado Coordinator Tom Lange, at tklange@msn.com or 303/447-1738
June 8	2013 11th Annual Lake Loveland Regatta / Lake Loveland, CO Coordinator: Rich Ball at rball@fwtb.com or 970-667-3965 RSVP required.
July 13	Grand Lake Antique Boat Show /Grand Lake, Co Coordinator: Chris and Bob Braaf at bbraaf@msn.com or 970-887-2210.
August 10	Frisco Boat Show/Frisco, CO Coordinator: Bill Tordoff at amsiinc@cs.com or 970-409-9224
August 24	Alcova Reservoir/Alcova, WY Coordinator: Charlie Peak at newt4854@gmail.com or 307-234-0382 or email Vickie @ ver3298@msn.com RSVP required.
September 17-23, 2013	ACBS, Annual Meeting Coeur d'Alene, ID www.acbs.org/annualmeeting.html for details
TBD	Sloan's Lake Rendezvous/Denver, CO Coordinator: Mike Novick at michaelnovick@msn.com or 720-244-3376

In their own words. . .Classic Motors Speak



1957 OMC Buccaneer

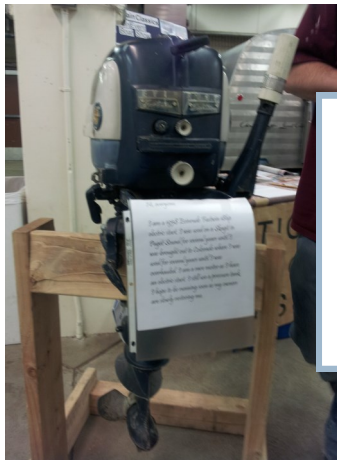
Classic things from bygone eras speak to us, and that was never more true than at the RMC display at the 2013 March RV, Sport, Boat and Travel Show.

Here, from that show, some of Thad Bergh's classic engines tell their stories in their own words.

*Hi, everybody!
I am a 1957 OMC Buccaneer which was the lower priced engine from OMC. My model is a 12d15b which is a 12 hp engine with a short shaft manual start. I was purchased by a*

family in 1957 with the stand I still stand on. I have seen very little use - less than 15 hours from a few family trips on Lake

Michigan. I have never spent a night outside. I am ready to go anytime I am needed. I also have a fuel pump from a time when Johnson and Evinrude still used a pressure tank.



1958 Evinrude

Hi, everyone.

I am a 1958 Evinrude Fastwin 18hp electric start. I was used on a

Skagit in Puget Sound for several years until I was brought out to Colorado where I was used for several years until I was overhauled. I am a rare motor as I have an electric start. I still use a pressure tank. I hope to be running soon as my owners are slowly restoring me.



1951 Seaking 5hp Deluxe

*Hi, everybody!
I am a 1951 Seaking 5hp Deluxe which includes a neutral gear. I was built by Outboard Marine Company by the Gale Division which is the division that sold engines badged under the company that sold them. I was purchased by a gentleman in Lakewood, Colorado with a Seaking boat and was used for several years until I was parked in the corner of the garage until 2004. I was then rescued and used again. I still sit on my original stand.*

FOR SALE: Own a Unique Water Craft

1906 Dan Kidney & Sons fan tailed picnic launch replica for sale. Yes time for Loon to find a new home. She just is not getting enough use anymore. Original 1910 C.T. Wright 3 h..p. single cylinder hand crank motor. Asking \$4,000.00. call Tom Lange in Boulder 303-641-3312 tklange@msn.com



The Bilge Pump

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

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More Boating Fun Inside!



You can find the RMCC Facebook page at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Rocky-Mountain-Classics/127798033976751>