

The Ash Breeze

Journal of the Traditional Small Craft Association

**TSCA to Co-Sponsor
Small Craft Workshop
with Mystic Seaport at
WOODENBOAT SHOW**

IN THIS ISSUE

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SOUTH AND IN BETWEEN**



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The Ash Breeze

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The Traditional Small Craft Association, Inc. is a nonprofit, tax-exempt educational organization that works to preserve and continue the living traditions, skills, lore, and legends surrounding working and pleasure watercraft with origins that predate the marine gasoline engine. It encourages the design, construction, and use of these boats, and it embraces contemporary variants and adaptations of traditional designs.

TSCA is an enjoyable yet practical link among users, designers, builders, restorers, historians, government, and maritime institutions.

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Over the Bounding Main

Ned Asplundh served the TSCA as editor of the *Ash Breeze* well and he made it look easy. Passing the helm of this journal was, however, no easy task—Beginning with an underestimate of the workload. So, this issue arrives a few weeks into the spring season. Future issues will be more timely.

The summer of 2012 brings the return of the small craft workshop to Mystic Seaport in conjunction with the WoodenBoat Show. There are messabouts happening all over the country. There is a new crew of graduates from the elite schools of boatbuilding—north, south, east and west. Small boats are being built, restored and spruced up in backyards all around the world.

I'd like this journal to be forward-looking, filled with lines and designs and commentary from our readers. But it's also your journal, so I need to hear your suggestions and requests for stories and beneficial content. Please speak up and drop me an email.

I finish my term on Council this June. It has been a pleasure to serve the organization and I look forward to editing the *Ash Breeze*. — Andy Wolfe

Nominations: TSCA Council 2012

Nominations for TSCA Council "Class of 2012" are open. Three seats will be open for the 2012–2015 term beginning 30 June 2012. Any TSCA member in good standing may serve on the Council. Self-nominations are allowed and encouraged.

Nominees are:

Frank Coletta, Texas Boat Crafters Chapter

Frank has been a boater for 30 years in Alaska, Washington State, and currently in San Antonio, TX. He has been building wooden boats for about six years. Frank was instrumental in forming the Texas Boat Crafters TSCA Chapter. Frank has successfully completed two Texas 200 events in 2010 & 2011.

Occupation: Safety Manager; Education: BA, Organizational Management; Boating Safety Instructor – U.S. Power Squadron, TX; Past President, Am. Society of Safety Engineer Chapter, AK.

John Weiss, Puget Sound Chapter

John is a founding member of the Puget Sound Chapter and served as chapter secretary and webmaster from 1997 to 2010. He served on the TSCA Council in the 2000-03, 04-07, and 08-11 terms, and as president from June 01-03 and 08-10. He has been the National Chapter and Membership Coordinator continuously since 2003. John is a retired U.S. Navy officer, currently works as a 747 Captain, raises puppies for Guide Dogs for the Blind, and messes about the Seattle area in his kayak, sailboat, and Adirondack Guideboat.

Pete Mathews, Michigan Maritime Museum Chapter

Pete Mathews is a lifelong boater. He spent 40 years in the marine industry, including four years in the U.S. Coast Guard. He retired to build and repair cedar/canvas canoes and small wooden boats. Pete is currently secretary of the Michigan Maritime Museum Chapter. He served on several maritime related boards including one hitch on the TSCA National Council.

If you are interested in helping to steer the future of your Association, contact the President and/or the Secretary: TSCAsec@attglobal.net or U.S. Mail: Secretary—Ballots, PO Box 350, Mystic, CT 06355.



Doc on the Docks at Chesapeake Bay



CBMM volunteer John “Doc” Hawkinson (center) speaks with participants in the Apprentice For a Day public boatbuilding program.

By Katie Willis

John A. “Doc” Hawkinson, MD, doesn’t need to head to Florida every winter. In fact, he says, “I’m perfectly happy staying through the seasons. I love it here.”

Hawkinson’s time on Maryland’s Eastern Shore began in 1964, when he moved from Philadelphia to continue his obstetrics and gynecology practice with the Memorial Hospital at Easton. From 1964 to 2000, Hawkinson delivered, to his best guess, around 3,000 babies—including the author of this article. Although his medical practice was a primary motivation for moving, Hawkinson’s love for sailing, and “messaging about in boats,” were also chief reasons. Since retiring in 2000, his love for boats brought him to the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum (CBMM) in St. Michaels, where he’s volunteered more than 2,000 hours

offering skilled assistance to the museum’s Apprentice for a Day (AFAD) public boatbuilding participants.

His fascination for boats began in Minnesota at age five, and continues with Chesapeake Bay cruising, off-shore sailboat racing, and log canoes. He spent two years in the U.S. Navy, and then studied medicine at Temple University in Philadelphia, where he received his training in obstetrics and gynecology, and completed his residency.

Hawkinson, his wife Marsie, and their three children moved to the Eastern Shore after medical school. He remembers a time when the only buildings on the museum’s Navy Point were a seafood packing plant and the three historic houses now serving as administrative buildings. After retiring in 2000, Hawkinson decided to take his love of boats to a new level, in what he calls, “the pendulum swing from sailing to boatbuilding.”

“There are always repairs to be made to a boat, so there can’t be much difference between repairing and building anew,” commented Hawkinson. “The concept of constructing a useful vessel greatly intrigues me—it’s always a pleasure to look at a boat and see her come together. If her sheer line is attractive, she’s most likely a good boat.”

Hawkinson’s and his dog Scout assisted local resident Sidney Dickson in building a new bugeye, the *Katherine May Edwards*. The project continued for six years. “Building a boat is one step at a time. Each time you get another board on it is rewarding,” he said. Once the *Katherine May Edwards* was completed in 2008, Hawkinson was ready for something new and began volunteering with the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum’s Apprentice For A Day (AFAD) program in 2009. His focus shifted from building a new boat in a private endeavor, to teaching the public how to build new boats, as well as assisting museum staff in the restoration of older wooden boats.

AFAD is held year-round and gives participants hands-on woodworking and boatbuilding experience. Novices learn the basics, while experienced participants take their interest to the next level or hone a particular skill. “AFAD gives participants reassurance and knowledge about boatbuilding and the tools used,” comments Hawkinson. “Some attendees are already skilled craftsmen and we often learn just as much from them as they learn from us.”

The participants in the AFAD program are building a North Shore Sailing Skiff. During museum hours on Saturdays and Sundays through May 27, participants are constructing the wooden boat under the guidance of the museum’s Boatyard Program Manager Dan Sutherland and decent volunteers

Continued next page



John Gardner Small Craft Workshop

June 29 to July 1, 2012

The John Gardner Small Craft Workshop, which reignited the traditional small craft movement in this country and started the TSCA more than forty years ago, will be revitalized this year with a workshop jointly sponsored by the Traditional Small Craft Association, Mystic Seaport and WoodenBoat.

The workshop will be held in conjunction with the WoodenBoat Show at Mystic Seaport from June 29 through July 1, 2012. This joint sponsorship will provide attendees with both new workshop activities and also attendance to all of the WoodenBoat Show displays and activities.

The workshop will include the gathering of small boat enthusiasts who bring their boats to use and share with others, but this year will also include a display of various types of traditional boats of both traditional and modern construction with volunteers available to talk about their characteristics.

There will also be demonstrations on how to use traditional boats and a daily boat parade along the Show's waterfront.

The workshop will be focused at the Australia beach near the boat livery right in the midst of the show. This will be a great opportunity for those of us in the TSCA to get together and share our love of traditional small craft but also to expose attendees to the WoodenBoat Show to the joys of traditional small craft and continue to grow our membership.

Volunteers will be needed to staff the workshop and give demonstrations. Please watch for updates on TSCA.net in the next several months.

CBMM volunteer John "Doc" Hawkinson (left) explains boatbuilding techniques to Apprentice for a Day participant Jermaine Thomas. [At Press Time we learned that Boatyard Program Manager Dan Sutherland (seen looking on) passed away.]

like Hawkinson. Participants of all skill levels are using traditional Chesapeake boatbuilding techniques to construct the vessel from start to finish. The North Shore Skiff is a 21-week project,

and participants can drop in for any class, or sign up early for specific classes of interest as listed at www.cbmm.org. The museum also offers a "Journeyman Special" package, which includes four classes at a discounted price and allows participants the opportunity to learn more diverse skills.

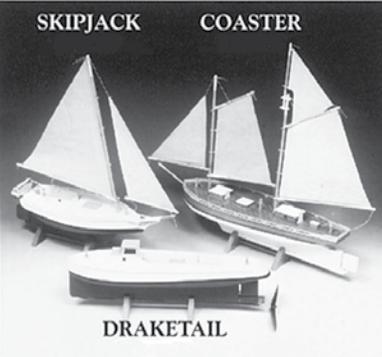
"Our Apprentice for a Day experience is truly enhanced through people like John," said Sutherland. "His dedication to our mission and enthusiasm for boats are infectious. I've seen many people come through the program—especially kids, who interact with John and go on to become museum members and boat builders. It's a great way to carry the time-honored tradition of wooden boatbuilding to the next generation."

For more information or to enroll in AFAD classes, call the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum at 410-745-2916. You can also download the construction schedule at www.cbmm.org/l_boatyard.

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A New Classic Boating Website

Most of us know their names, and we've been reading their columns for years. Now they have gone digital with a new classic boating website featuring a collection of high quality videos and authoritative blogs.

OffCenterHarbor.com focuses its camera lenses on well-designed boats with classic appeal. The videos have a wide range of topics that include boatbuilding, seamanship skills for beach cruising in small boats, and getting aboard legendary boats like the schooner *Malabar II*.

In addition to extensive video content, OffCenterHarbor.com has recruited an international group of knowledgeable and articulate "Guides" who write blogs on a wide range of topics that are of interest to boaters with an eye for graceful lines and exceptional seaworthiness.

"Nothing transmits what we have learned about these boats over our lifetimes as well as video," says Maynard Bray, world-renowned traditional boat authority and a Co-Founder of OffCenterHarbor.com.

In addition to Bray, the OffCenterHarbor.com founding team includes Ben Mendlowitz, whose Calendar of Wooden Boats has set the standard in boat photography for three decades; Bill Mayher, maritime author and regular contributor to boating magazines; Eric Blake, a talented young boat designer and builder, and filmmaker/entrepreneur, Steve Stone.

"We started out by shooting how-to-build videos in the shops of leading boatbuilders in the field," adds Bray. "Then we went out on the water to profile legendary boats, and we couldn't believe how the results jumped off the screen. I have been writing about techniques and designs for forty years, but these videos raise things to a new level."

"When we discovered the power of video to bring the world of classic boats to life, we created OffCenterHarbor.com to bring others inside." Maynard Bray

"Wooden boats, tool sharpening, how to sail, how to build a boat, beach cruising, boat repair, how to get kids into

boats; these are just a few of the topics we're covering, and we'll be bringing our members aboard boats and into boat shops that would be difficult to gain access to without this site," says Steve Stone.

"Sometimes when I'm shooting, I have to pinch myself. I get to learn from these leading experts in the field, in an up-close and personal way, and then we get to share that experience with our Members in the comfort of their own lounge chair or shop. How lucky is that?"

Two levels of memberships are available at OffCenterHarbor.com. An Annual Membership at \$29/year, and a Lifetime Membership for parents and grandparents to give their kids and grandkids (or for themselves if they're feeling especially good about their own longevity.



Special Discount to TSCA Members

Website URL:

[http://www.offcenterharbor.com/
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This is the link for TSCA members.
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Buffalo Maritime Center

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Cleveland Amateur Boatbuilding and Boating Society (CABBS)

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www.cabbs.org

Connecticut River Oar and Paddle Club (CROPC)

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Southern California Small Boat Messabout Society (Scuzbums)

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annieholmes@mac.com

St. Augustine Lighthouse Chapter

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bburke@staugustinelighthouse.org

Texas Boatcrafters and Messers

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San Antonio, TX 78260
210-218-9961, coletta_j@msn.com

TSCA of Wisconsin

James R. Kowall, c/o Door County
Maritime Museum, 120 N Madison
Ave., Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235
920-743-4631

New Chapter Forming in Western Long Island, NY

Walter Connolly, owner of the New York School of Fine Woodworking and Woodcarving in Lindenhurst (<http://web.me.com/walterc530>), is branching out into boatbuilding with a Mantinicus Peapod project. He is also organizing a TSCA chapter for residents of Western Long Island and environs.

Connolly is negotiating with several government organizations to secure a waterfront building on the site of the former Floyd Bennett Field in Brooklyn for use by the Wounded Warrior Project and, hopefully, the TSCA chapter.

If you are interested in joining Walter, see the *Chapters Organizing* listing below for contact information.



Chapters Organizing

Green Mountain Chapter

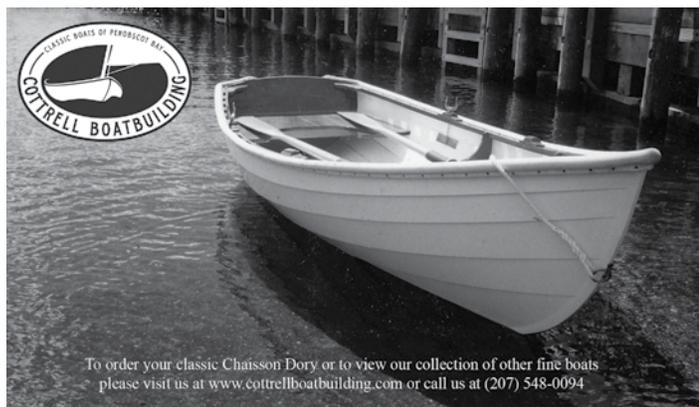
William Edwards, 220 Upper Turnpike Rd., Norwich, VT 05055, 802-649-2923, wedwards@me.com

Bayfront Maritime Center TSCA

Richard Eisenberg, 40 Holland St., Erie, PA 16507, 814-456-4077, rich.eisenberg@bayfrontcenter.org, www.bayfrontcenter.org

Western Long Island TSCA

Walter Connolly, 14 Jamaica Walk, Breezy Point, NY 11697 718-945-5302 walterc530@mac.com



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John Gardner Grant

“To preserve, continue, and expand the achievements, vision and goals of John Gardner by enriching and disseminating our traditional small craft heritage.”



In 1999, TSCA created the John Gardner Grant program to support projects for which sufficient funding would otherwise be unavailable. Eligible projects are those which research, document, preserve, and replicate traditional small craft, associated skills (including their construction and uses) and the skills of those who built and used them. Youth involvement is encouraged.

Proposals for projects ranging from \$200 to \$2000 are invited for consideration. Grants are awarded competitively and reviewed

semiannually by the John Gardner Memorial Fund Committee of TSCA, typically in May and October. The source of funding is the John Gardner Memorial Endowment Fund. Funding availability is determined annually.

Eligible applicants include anyone who can demonstrate serious interest in, and knowledge of, traditional small craft. Affiliation with a museum or academic organization is not required.

Projects must have tangible, enduring results which are published, exhibited, or otherwise made available to the interested public. **Projects must be reported in *The Ash Breeze*.**

Program details, applications and additional information: www.tscanet.net/gardner.html

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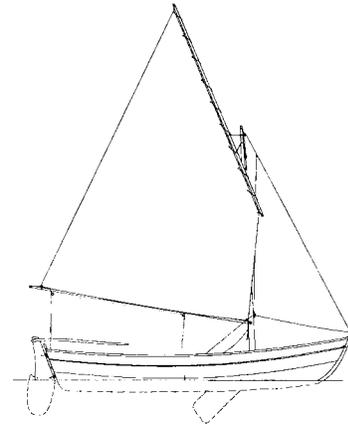
Michigan Classic Boat Show and Small Craft Festival Floats in South Haven, June 16

The 31st annual boat show at the Michigan Maritime Museum will be held afloat and on shore in conjunction with South Haven's HarborFest.

Classic and traditional small craft—row, paddle, sail and motor—will be featured with demonstrations and speakers throughout the day as well as toy boat building for kids.

For more information and registration forms contact the museum at 260 Dyckman Ave. (at the bridge) South Haven, MI 49090, Tel: 269-637-8078 or go to www.MichiganMaritimeMuseum.org. Go to the bottom of the front page and click on the Classic Boat Show link. Questions to boat show coordinator, Sandy Bryson, at sbryson@msu.edu.

31st Classic Boat Show & Small Craft Festival



Joel White's Pooduck courtesy of WoodenBoat Publications



South Haven, MI
michiganmaritimemuseum.org

Antique and Classic Boat Festival Celebrates Silver Anniversary in St. Michaels, MD

The 25th annual Antique and Classic Boat Show (ACBF) runs June 15-17, 2012, on Father's Day weekend on the grounds of the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum (CBMM) in St. Michaels, MD. In celebration of their silver anniversary, the festival will have a large collection of classic Chris Craft 19' runabouts on display throughout the event.

For lovers of old boats and all things nautical, ACBF has more than 100 classic boats on display from runabouts to yachts. Race boats, skiffs, launches, hydroplanes and utilities are also there, on land and in the water.

"The Arts at Navy Point" is a showcase of juried artists and craftsmen featuring their maritime-themed home, boat, and wall décor items. There are many activities for families and children, including the "build a little boat" craft project, and youth judging that educates children about the award-winning qualities of preserved and restored classic boats.

Great Lakes Boat Building School
485 South Meridian Road
Cedarville, MI 49719
906-484-1081
greatlakesboatbuilding.org





Yaquina River Halloween Float

The Western Oregon Messabouts, AKA Coots, gathered to drift down the Yaquina River the week before Halloween, 2011. The fall season is often oppressively cold, wet and windy in western Oregon, but not this year, so we resolved to drift down the Yaquina from Elk City to the Canyon Creek boat ramp, about six miles, on a seasonal high tide.

As the year wanes and the Northern Hemisphere tilts away from the sun, the tides become more extreme here on the shores of the northeastern Pacific Ocean. Along with dropping temperatures and increased rain come extreme tidal drops on local rivers, which coupled with normal outflow can create currents exceeding three knots.

Around Halloween each year, the spring tides lift the Yaquina River to its maximum level, then ebb to a muddy minus.

Since this coastal Oregon river has a tidal reach twenty-six miles inland, there is ample opportunity for some thrilling currents to ride in an oar or paddle powered boat. The scenery is just beautiful this time of year, with the late fall sun as a bonus.

During the millennia that humans lacked the technology to oppose nature there was no

question of working upstream against the tide.

At one time this river was a highway for settlers and indigenous villagers along its reaches and riding the tides was rhythmic as eating or sleeping.

Can you believe that for recent generations, the only people on this river are fishermen during salmon season? You get a puzzled look if you tell a curious fisherman that you are just going out for a row.

We embarked with the turn of the tide from Elk City. (Are there elk in Elk City?.....Occasionally.) Ten boats and fourteen Coots participated this year.

Six miles downstream is the Canyon Quarry launch ramp, which was just the right distance.

A lone gray heron sat on the bank and watched us pass, a statue but for his swiveling head.

If you have somewhere to go in your boat and all you have at your disposal is the 1/4 horsepower you can develop with

your own body, it's best to use the power of nature to aid your progress, don't you agree?

After two hours of drifting on the river, everyone was relieved to see the landing. Time for a late lunch of BBQ ribs at the local brewpub.

Photos by John Kohnen, Mary McCall and Andrew Linn, (but we don't know which)





Amazing Discovery: Antique Canoe Given to Museum Preserving Canoeing Heritage

By Brian Burton

Making headlines for the Canadian Canoe Museum (CCM) was the recently discovered 250-year-old canoe built by Maliseet Indians of New Brunswick that was found stored in a barn in England. The boat was brought back to the UK by a naval officer and has now been donated to the museum.

The Canadian Canoe Museum is a unique heritage centre exploring the canoe's enduring significance to the peoples of Canada and North America.

The CCM is the only canoe museum and the history of canoeing and kayaking is recorded and displayed with remarkable detail. The museum holds the world's largest collection of canoes, kayaks and paddled watercraft with more than 500 boats and 1,000 related artifacts. The collection is situated on an eight acre site in two refurbished buildings totaling 140,000 square feet.

The collection is displayed according to a historical sequence illustrating the European experience since they reached North America.

The amazing collection features examples of Aboriginal craft including great cedar whaling dugouts, fine bark canoes, and skin kayaks.

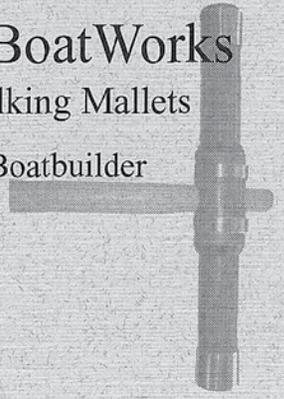
Indigenous inhabitants of countries like New Zealand, Australia, Britain, Scotland, Brazil and most of the countries in Africa and Asia have used canoes and kayaks for transportation since antiquity.

One of the original Gloucester Gulls, designed by Bolger and built by Dynamite Payson is for sale. It is described as in good, sound, original condition, needs a new coat of paint. Located in New England. \$1,000. Call 860-536-6200

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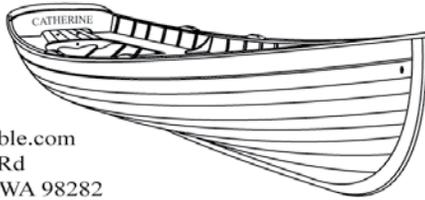
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Working Waterfront Messabout, Music and Environmental Festival on Hudson River

Clearwater's Festival (Great Hudson River Revival) will take place at Croton Point Park, Westchester County, NY, June 16–17, 2012. This year the festival continues spectacular celebrations of solar-powered stages, diverse performance arts, crafts, environmental exhibits, food, and Working Waterfront. The focus is the Hudson River.

Working Waterfront is an ongoing feature of the Revival with many activities to get people on the water in small boats.

Clearwater, founded on the water, wants to make festival attendees aware of its roots. Working Waterfront expects to present representative vessels for visits and use. These boats are traditional and contemporary vessels, all active in historical, recreational or commercial service. The boats and the grand sloop Clearwater will be on the Hudson River, some with scheduled sails. A fleet of small boats will be available in which to Messabout.

The Messabout is a major Waterfront feature that gives owners, builders and users of small boats a chance to meet and swap rides and stories. The public attending our festival will be invited to join, in boats, on the water. The intimacy of being on the water and working or playing with small boats draws people into a natural environmental advocacy.

A performance area will be on shore near Working Waterfront. Several instrumental and vocal musicians are scheduled, offering a wide variety of selections, including sea chanteys.

If you would like to participate on the water with your boat, or with an on-shore boat-oriented demonstration, contact:

Stan Dickstein, (845) 462-3113 or

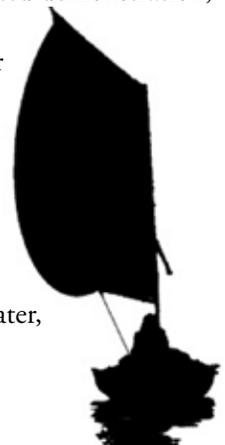
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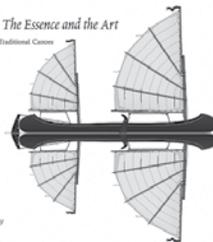


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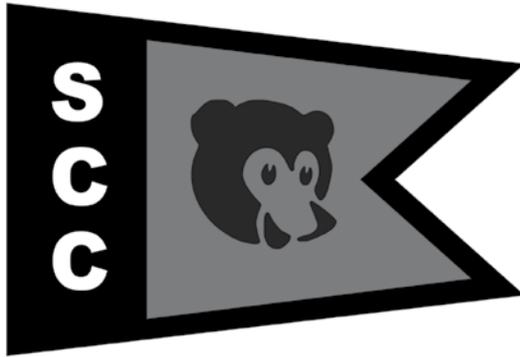
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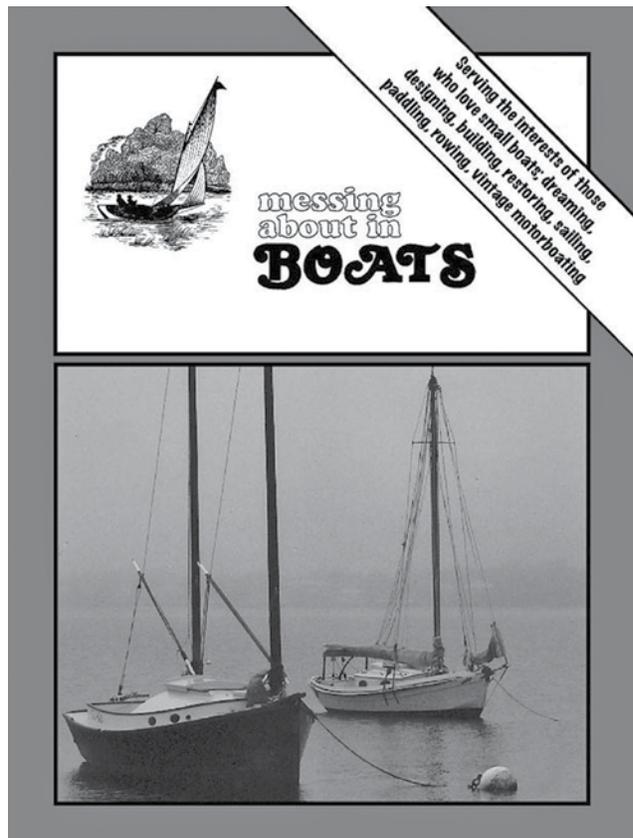
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The Ash Breeze

Summer 2012, Volume 33, Number 2

Editorial Deadline: May 15, 2012

Articles:

The Ash Breeze is a member-supported publication; members are welcome to contribute. **We strongly encourage you to send material electronically.** Send text in an e-mail message, or as an MS Word attachment. Send photos as e-mail attachments, in TIFF or JPG formats, as large and/or as high-resolution as possible. Please give captions naming people, places, and to whom photo credit should be given. You may also submit photographic prints, clean line drawings or *typewritten* material by U.S. Mail. **Please contact us IN ADVANCE if you must submit handwritten text, or material in another word processing or image format.**

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The editors reserve the right to refuse publication of any material deemed not to be in the best interest of the TSCA.

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F.I.S.H. Small Craft Festival, Box 606, Cortez, FL, 34215, or visit the Museum at 4415 119th St. West, Cortez, FL.



The FGCTSCA is affiliated with the Florida Maritime Museum at Cortez, 4415 119th St. West, Cortez, FL. The festival is a cooperative historical project of the Florida Institute for Salt Water Heritage and Manatee County Clerk of the Circuit Court, R.B. "Chips" Shore's Historical Resources Department. Delight in manatees, dolphins & egrets, sunning, shelling, diving, blue skies, cotton clouds and gorgeous west coast sunsets.