

The Ash Breeze

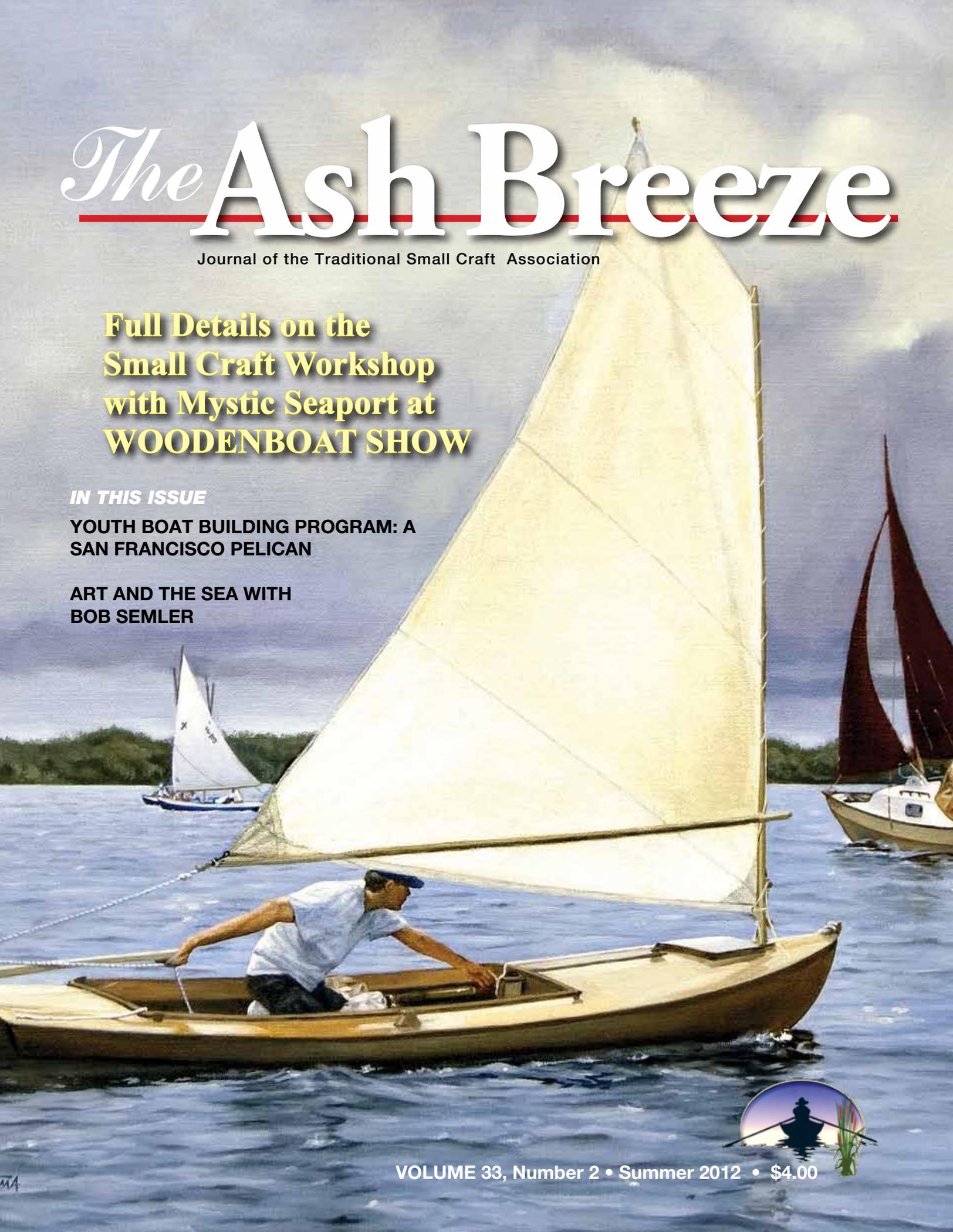
Journal of the Traditional Small Craft Association

**Full Details on the
Small Craft Workshop
with Mystic Seaport at
WOODENBOAT SHOW**

IN THIS ISSUE

**YOUTH BOAT BUILDING PROGRAM: A
SAN FRANCISCO PELICAN**

**ART AND THE SEA WITH
BOB SEMLER**



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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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Welcome Participants

John Gardner Small Craft Workshop at Mystic Seaport

Brought to you by TSCA, WoodenBoat and Mystic Seaport June 29 – July 1, 2012

Mystic Seaport is partnering with WoodenBoat and Traditional Small Craft Association to host the John Gardner Small Craft Workshop as part of the WoodenBoat Show. Participants can both enjoy the Show and follow John Gardner's example to show that traditional small craft are a practical and economical way to enjoy the water.

The SCW will be based on the Australia Beach where a string of floats will be provided for our use. The workshop will include display of selected participant's boats, shared use of participant's boats at the discretion

of the owner, demonstrations of small boat skills, a presentation on outfitting a small boat for safety, morning rows on Saturday and Sunday and guided access to the Mystic Boat storage area.

This should be a great time to get together with like-minded traditional boat folks, to share our love and knowledge of traditional small craft with others and spend some quality time with friends new and old on the beach and underway. It is desired that all workshop participants volunteer to help out with one or more of these activities.

WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES

Display Boats: We plan to have a variety of boats on display on land to show casual observers some of the various types of traditional small craft that can be used, both of traditional (mechanically fastened) construction and modern (glued) construction. These boats will be selected for display from the boats brought to the show by participants. These boats can also be used if the owner desires. We will need volunteers to man the TSCA booth and be on hand to answer questions about the boats.

Each boat will have an 8.5" x 11" write up on the boat on a stand to be provided by Mystic near it with boat information on it

BOAT TYPES EXPECTED TO BE ON DISPLAY:

Boat Type	Construction
Flat skiff	cross planked bottom
Flat skiff	plywood
Dory	traditional
Dory	plywood
Peapod	traditional
Peapod	plywood
Whitehall	traditional
Whitehall	plywood
Decked canoe	traditional
Decked canoe	plywood
Scandinavian double ender	traditional
Scandinavian double ender	plywood

Continued on next page



Display Boats

Boats for Use:

These boats will be located on the beach or the floats at the Australia Beach and available for use by others at the boat owner's discretion. We will need volunteers to oversee the use of the boats. PFDs should be worn when out on the water to be consistent with the boat house rules, so be sure to bring your PFD.

Mystic Seaport Boat House Livery:

WoodenBoat has made the Boat House Livery available for you to try out a variety of rowing and sailing craft at no charge. The boat house rental boats will be in operation during the Workshop but at no charge during the weekend so feel free to experience any or all of their beautiful collection of rowing boats. The boat house will operate independently from the Workshop with their own rules.

Demonstrations and Workshops:

Several workshops are planned and participants are invited to suggest ideas.

Topics will include: Rowing and feathering, sculling, rigging, reefing, capsizing, and outfitting for safety. We will need volunteers to give these demonstrations.

The Museum's small craft collection will also be available for viewing at specific times.

Morning Row:

We will have a morning row starting from the Australia Beach on Saturday and Sunday morning at 9 a.m. One day we will do down river and the other we will go upriver. All workshop participants are invited to go on these rows; hopefully for those who do not bring boats to the workshop we will be able to find places for everyone on board a boat.

Mystic Seaport Small Boat Collection Tour:

Ben Fuller has offered to lead a tour each day into the boat storage area to see boats that are not available to the public. The time will be announced.

TSCA "GAM" Dinner:

On Friday night (after the show closes) under the white pier tent by Brandt Point Lighthouse for TSCA members, sponsors and guests. A short program will take place.

Gannon and Benjamin Tribute Dinner:

On Saturday night, WoodenBoat will have a dinner in the Boatshed honoring Gannon and Benjamin Marine Railway. If you would like to attend this dinner, buy tickets through the WoodenBoat Store website by noon on June 22nd.

Tickets will not be available on the day of the dinner.

WORKSHOP LOGISTICS

Check in:

Check in at the WoodenBoat Credentials Booth. It is located near the big anchor in the courtyard of the main entrance to Mystic Seaport. You will get a wristband that will give you access to the museum grounds for the weekend.

Proceed to the TSCA booth at the Australia Beach (#12 on the map). If you are bringing a boat see the "Load in and out of boats" section below for times and access. We will need volunteers to staff the booth.

Load in and out of Boats:

(Be sure to check in at the Credentials Booth first)

Car Top Vessels:

You can drive onto the grounds of the Museum on Thursday 5–8 p.m., Friday from 6–9 a.m. and 6–8 p.m., Saturday from 7–9 a.m. and Sunday from 5–10 p.m. Access is through the Galley Restaurant Gate. Due to activity around the Show, the Shipyard gate will not be available.

Trailer Vessels:

You can also load in at one of the Mystic town boat ramps. The most convenient is Isham Street, directly south of the Mystic Seaport shipyard.

Please obey local regulations and do not park your trailer or vehicle on Isham Street.

Forklift Assistance:

There will be a forklift in the Shipyard on Friday morning 7:30–8:30 a.m. and Sunday afternoon 5–6 p.m. to assist with launching and hauling. Your boat can be lifted by slings from the forklift, Mystic Seaport will provide the slings.

Trailer Parking:

Offsite Trailer Parking maps will be at the Credentials Booth. This is a very busy weekend for the Museum, so there can be no trailer parking allowed in Mystic Seaport parking lots.

Boats in the Water:

We will have floating dock space along the Australia Beach.

Boats on Land:

There will be land space adjacent to the Australia Beach and towards Lighthouse Point.

Lodging:

Bunks are available on CONRAD for Friday and Saturday nights. They are NOT available on Thursday night. Sign up for this on the registration form. The fee is \$15/night. There can be no food or drink stored or consumed aboard CONRAD. Please bring your own bedding. It is available after 5 p.m. on Friday, and there will be an orientation meeting onboard at 5:30 p.m. on Friday.

We suggest you make reservations early to ensure availability.



Participants in Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum's summer sailing program come from all ages and skill levels, and receive enriching, teambuilding and on-the-water experiences daily throughout the week-long classes.

Weekend sailing classes for adults and teens are also available at the Museum's waterfront campus.

The sailing program runs through Aug. 3, 2012. Visit www.cbmm.org to learn more.

Hagerty Classic Boat Insurance shares your passion

The more things change, the more they stay the same. That is especially true at Hagerty Classic Boat Insurance,

where owners of boats big and small receive the same great service and peace of mind they've been getting for nearly 30 years.

"It's about relationships—making them, building them, maintaining them," said Vice President Carla Gernhofer, who has been with Hagerty since the mid-1980s. "Whether you own a cruiser or a canoe, we treat you the way we want to be treated. And since we're classic boat owners too, we know value isn't just about quality and condition, but sentiment and nostalgia. We get it. It's in our blood."

The Hagerty family's love affair with wooden classics includes boats of all shapes and sizes, from runabouts and larger vessels to small craft, sailing dinghies and kayaks, some of which they built themselves. After a fruitless search for proper insurance coverage, they invented Agreed Value insurance for boats—now the industry standard—and started the business in the family's basement in 1984. From those humble

roots, Hagerty Classic Boat Insurance has grown to become North America's most experienced and knowledgeable provider of collector boat insurance coverage.

In addition to motorized boats, Hagerty provides affordable user/display insurance coverage for many non-motorized watercraft—including high quality home-built kits—as long as they are valued at \$3,000 or more. And the company is an enthusiastic participant in the classic boat lifestyle, offering support to self-builders, clubs and youth programs.

"Classic boat owners are very passionate," Gernhofer said. "And we're proud to share that passion and play a role in enhancing it."

Hagerty offers members of the Traditional Small Craft Association (TSCA) a 10-percent discount on their premium. For more information, contact one of Hagerty's experienced team members at 800-762-2628 or visit www.hagertymarine.com.

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A generation ago, the Hagerty family invented Agreed Value insurance for classic boats.

Today, we're helping grow a new generation of boat lovers. Through the Hagerty Youth Judging program – part of our *Operation Ignite!* youth initiative – we're sparking kids' passion for wooden boats. And if all goes as planned, their lifelong love of classic boats will keep the wooden boating community strong for generations to come.

Your business helps sustain our many hobby support programs. Call us at **800-762-2628** or visit us at hagertymarine.com for a quote.

COLLECTOR BOAT INSURANCE



OffCenterHarbor.com Takes Its Members Inside the World of Classic Boats

The folks over at OffCenterHarbor.com have been busy shooting videos in the boat yards around New England. In the past month, we've noticed that they've added eight new videos to the site.

Their recent videos include "Outfitting a Small Boat, with Geoff Kerr," as well as the "No Pressure Water System" used by Havilah Hawkins on VELA in Sedgewick, ME.

OffCenterHarbor.com is a new boating website started by several leaders in the field of classic boats, including Maynard Bray and Ben Mendlowitz. Members of the site get full access to all the videos and blogs on the site for \$29/year (less with the TSCA discount). Topics include boat-handling, boatbuilding, and introducing kids to boats.

"We have over a dozen videos from our winter shop shoots, and we're releasing about four to five new videos per month," says Co-Founder and filmmaker Steve Stone.

OffCenterHarbor.com plans for 2012 include broadening their focus to other geographies including the West Coast and perhaps international boating locations.

We've also noticed that 16 new blogs have been posted on the site by the "Guides"—a team of 20 leading professionals who regularly blog on the site on topics such as "The Three Boats I Lust After" and "Cooking at Sea."

We'll be watching the site, and updating occasionally on the happenings over at OffCenterHarbor.com.

To receive a 10% TSCA discount on membership, go to www.OffCenterHarbor.com/TSCA

Bayfront Maritime Center Hosts First Small Boat Festival

The Bayfront Maritime Center is hosting Erie's (PA) First Small Boat Festival, a weekend celebration of antique, traditional, and contemporary hand crafted boats. BMC's Small Boat Festival includes two separate events: BMC's 3rd annual Cardboard Boat Regatta on Saturday August 18th and the inaugural Presque Isle Bay Messabout, August 17th-19th.

The 3rd annual Cardboard Boat Regatta is a chance for families, students, friends and co-workers to build and race boats made from cardboard, paint, tape and glue. Teams compete in categories including: Fastest Time in each age group—adult (18+), teen (12-18) and youth (Under 12). Prizes are also awarded for Most Creative, Most Dramatic Sinking, and Crowd Favorite. Entry fee is \$30 before July 15th and \$40 after July 15th. Registration starts at 9:30 a.m., exhibition and judging of contestants begins at 10:00 a.m., and racing will commence at noon. See construction, registration, race rules, and event details as well as photos from 2011 by visiting www.bayfrontcenter.org/cardboard. Everyone is encouraged to build a cardboard boat, sponsor a team and cheer on local racers at this family friendly event!

The inaugural Presque Isle Bay Messabout is a weekend long event featuring unique, hand crafted vessels. Traditional Small Boat Association (TSCA) members from around the United States and Canada will travel to Erie to spend the weekend sailing, paddling and motoring while competing in categories including: Traditional Design/Traditional Construction; Traditional Design/Contemporary Construction; Contemporary; Restoration; Paddling Craft traditional design; Most Contemporary Design; and Best in Show. There will be

demonstrations, presentations, and a catered buffet dinner Saturday Night beginning at 6 p.m.. TSCA participants may camp overnight Sunday on Presque Isle State Park, http://www.visiteriepa.com/presque_isle_state_park.shtml. Messabout participant registration—\$60 before July 15th, \$65 after July 15th.

On-site Camping is available; Waterfront RV camping with hook-ups minutes away at Lampe Marina Campground, <http://www.porterie.org/camping/>

Celebrate Erie is the same weekend with music, food, and family attractions four blocks (or free trolley ride) away. <http://www.celebrateerie.com>

For more about the Cardboard Regatta or the Presque Isle Bay Messabout and sponsorship information, visit www.bayfrontcenter.org, email info@bayfrontcenter.org, or call 814-456-4077.

The mission of the Bayfront Maritime Center is: to develop and implement unique, hands-on, maritime-themed, educational, vocational and recreational opportunities for the community in a universally accessible waterfront facility. Since 1998, BMC has worked with over 14,000 youth and adults to sail, paddle, row, and build 90 boats. It is home to the Bayfront Alternative Education Program for the School District of the City of Erie in collaboration with Sarah A. Reed Children's Center. BMC hosts the award winning Bayfront Migrant IU5/ESD Summer Program and Pennsylvania's only adaptive sailing program, the Erie Adaptive Sailing Experience (EASE) www.bayfrontcenter.org/maritime-education/adaptive-sailing/.

Proceeds from the Bayfront Maritime Center's Small Boat Festival help fund hands-on, maritime programs for the community.

BMC
bayfront maritime center

2012 Bayfront Maritime Center small boat FESTIVAL

August 17-19

40 Holland St • Erie, PA
East Canal Basin
42° 8.27" N 80° 5.19" W

8/18 3rd Annual
Cardboard Boat Regatta

8/17, 18, 19 Inaugural
Presque Isle Bay Messabout
(Traditional Small Craft Association Event)

For complete details and updates see: www.bayfrontcenter.org



Art and The Sea

by Andy Wolfe

The illustration on the cover was created by Robert Semler, the man who brought me to my first TSCA meeting some 20 plus years ago. Having several nautical ancestors (sea captains, ship builders, etc.) and a couple of artists in his family's history, it was only natural for him to fall into the wonderful world of maritime art.

Living in the Delaware Valley area of south Jersey for 55 years, he was an illustrator for a regional newspaper. On his own time, he specialized in maritime subjects through his oils and some watercolors. Bob also discovered the Philadelphia Chapter of the TSCA, late in life, and made many meetings when they were held at the Independence Seaport Museum in Philadelphia.

Semler decided to retire (or it should be, re-locate, since artists never retire), and discovered a Chapter of the TSCA nearby in the historic Village of Cortez, FL, hosted by the Florida Maritime Museum at Cortez.

Each year they host their 3-day weekend of small craft races, displays and general ambiance. Bob has been fortunate to go out each year, either on the museum-owned Boston Whaler or with a friend or two who own larger boats and generally go out to monitor the races. And each year comes up with



Robert Semler

more pertinent research material for paintings.

Whether the small craft be in the staging area, preparing for the race, or sailing along on open water, the photo material he has been able to gather has been a huge aid in completing these works, some of which were included in two exhibitions held at the Cortez Museum and were on display for a month during peak tourist season. Bob will also be in the show at Mystic Seaport in late July.

Bob has been a professional artist his entire life. With a career of illustration,

portrait and, of course, marine art, he has made a comfortable living for himself and his family. He is a longtime member of the NY Society of Illustrators, The Portrait Society of America, and COGAP—the art program of the United States Coast Guard. He is a Signature Member of the American Society of Marine Artists and has served as their president, vice-president and has been a continuing member of their Board of Directors for over 20 years.

His “pet” project is a series of paintings of the retired transatlantic liner, SS *United States*, and is dedicated to helping save and preserve the grand old lady of the seas as a charter member of the SS United States Conservancy.

His studio is now in Bradenton, Florida. You can see more of Bob's work at his website: www.rcsemmlerart.com.



A near perfect, Michigan fall messabout day

by Tom Jarosch

The Pine Lake Small Craft Association is a very loosely knit group of inveterate small boaters. We are in the center of Michigan and have a heritage of many varieties of small craft—sails, paddles and oars. We get together every September for a Saturday mess-about at the Lansing Sailing Club on Lake Lansing (formerly Pine Lake) in Haslett, Michigan. It's a tough schedule: we are in a university town (Michigan State) and need an away football game for a good turnout—it works. We have also learned that a free lunch makes a difference too.

September 17th was a beautiful day. Overcast early, blue skies opened up about 10 a.m. as members arrived. Four of us were there when the first boat went in the water. It was a Lightning, a remote control scale model that had just



been completed the night before. Built by John Hansen, our vice-president, this day was going to be maiden launch and sea trials. She performed admirably, although John said she had a little lee helm. John's wife, Isabel, got this picture of the boat.

More members continued to arrive.

We are on an inland lake a little more than a mile in diameter, so there is no long cruise and little heavy weather. Instead we go out for a while, sail or paddle or row, then come in and trade boats. Every get-together brings new

craft built or bought in the last year along with return-every-year classics. This year was no exception. Bob and Michelle Mills, new this year, brought their cedar-strip dinghy. Wayne and



Judy Loescher, Lansing Sailing Club members, are sailing their Point Jude, and John Hansen and Sandy Bryson are in a MacGregor sailing canoe.

Leading the sailing craft was none other than Ned Asplundh, former editor of *The Ash Breeze*, in his Michalak lady bug.

Newcomer Doug Johnson and long-time member Walt Peebles were there with their kayaks. Walt also had a new boat with wooden scantlings and a skin of canvas or linen treated with airplane dope. The boat is a Mead—OM2 and about 70 years old. The same company manufactured small airplanes. The skin was torn, but some sheets of plastic and duct tape soon made it seaworthy.

We had canoes too. Dick and Sharon Dodson brought their mid-1990s Cheemaun, built by Dick and his daughter, Kirsten. Several people went with John Hansen in the MacGregor canoe. There was also a cedar-strip canoe from a Ted Moores' class, built about a decade ago.

Jim Neal brought a 6-hour canoe he had built with his son and a classic Chris-Craft kit rowboat.

For the last several get-togethers, Walt has brought his son, Carl, and Carl's boat, an eight foot dinghy called a "sportser." It was built by the Hughes Aircraft Co. around 1947. Carl says that "My boat fits me just right." He is currently in the fifth grade. Carl's mom, Amy, stopped by to see how things were and join us for lunch.

We also had friends stop by. John Briggs is building a shellback dinghy. We first met him at the Quiet Waters Symposium, an annual event all about the outdoors. Genevieve Cottrell and her son, Shamus, stopped by to go out in Walt's Mead special.

Sandy Bryson (our secretary-treasurer) and his wife, Carol, were there. He took care of many of the arrangements, and the two together were responsible for a wonderful lunch.

We ended up with 11 boats and about twice as many people, and had a great



time. The day slowly came to an end around 5 p.m.. No rain, good wind, a perfect day.

Photographs by Isabel Hansen, Doug Johnson and Jim Neal.

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*Something else to
read at anchor...*



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SMALL CRAFT ADVISOR

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800-979-1930 www.SmallCraftAdvisor.com

Free daily events at CBMM this summer

The Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum (CBMM) in St. Michaels, MD, is offering a full roster of daily events for museum guests this Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Kid-themed, hands-on activities are offered on Thursdays and Fridays from 2–4 p.m. Forty-five minute highlight tours are offered Fridays and Saturdays at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., with docent interpretation offered every day at Watermen’s Wharf from 11 a.m.–3 p.m.

Stop by the working boatyard Mondays through Fridays at 1:30 p.m. for a demonstration, and learn traditional boatbuilding skills from a trained shipwright. On Saturdays, guests can visit with authentic Chesapeake people who share their stories, from 11 a.m.–3 p.m., or work under the guidance of a master shipwright to help rebuild the skipjack Rosie Parks in the Community Work Days Program, from 10 a.m.–3 p.m. All of these activities are free with museum admission.

For those wanting to get out on the water, the museum’s replica buyboat, *Mister Jim*, takes passengers on 30-minute

scenic cruises along the Miles River. Departing from the Hooper Strait Lighthouse and carrying up to 24 passengers, *Mister Jim* runs Fridays through Mondays at noon, 1 p.m., 2 p.m., and 3 p.m. through the summer. The cost is \$10 per person or free for kids 16 and under, with paid museum admission.

“Sailing Saturdays” are offered June 9, July 11, August 11, and September 15, with two daily sailing sessions from 10 a.m.–noon and 1–4 p.m. Participants can go out on Fogg’s Cove on one of the museum’s Apprentice For a Day sailing or rowing skiffs. The boats are perfect for up to two people, with instructions provided for beginners. The cost is \$10 per session, with reservations recommended or, on a first-come, first-served basis.

CBMM is open seven days per week from 9 a.m.–6 p.m. in the summer months. Admission is \$13 for adults, \$10 for seniors over 62, \$6 for kids ages 6–17, and free for members and kids under age six. Visit cbmm.org for more information.



CBMM’s Sailing Saturdays program is offered on select weekends throughout the summer at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in St. Michaels, MD. Participants can try their hand sailing the museum’s Apprentice For a Day sailing and rowing skiffs.

Pull for the shore

A rowing hymn

Light in the darkness, sailor, day is at hand!
See o'er the foaming billows fair haven's land,
Drear was the voyage, sailor, now almost o'er,
Safe within the life boat, sailor, pull for the shore.

Refrain: Pull for the shore, sailor, pull for the shore!
Heed not the rolling waves, but bend to the oar;
Safe in the life boat, sailor, cling to self no more!
Leave the poor old stranded wreck, and pull for the shore.

Trust in the life boat, sailor, all else will fail,
Stronger the surges dash and fiercer the gale,
Heed not the stormy winds, though loudly they roar;
Watch the "bright and morning Star," and pull for the shore!

Refrain

Bright gleams the morning, sailor, uplift the eye;
Clouds and darkness disappearing, glory is nigh!
Safe in the life boat, sailor, sing evermore;
"Glory, glory, hallelujah!" pull for the shore.

Refrain

Chapters Organizing

Green Mountain Chapter

William Edwards, 220 Upper Turnpike Rd., Norwich, VT
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Western Long Island TSCA

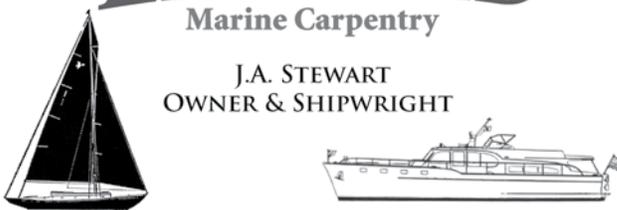
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In 1999, TSCA created the John Gardner Grant program to support projects for which sufficient funding would otherwise be unavailable. Eligible projects are those which research, document, preserve, and replicate traditional small craft, associated 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:

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San Francisco Pelican

For students in the Bayfront Alternative Education Program, shaping the boom for the San Francisco Pelican didn't seem like learning geometry and algebra; it seemed like hands-on carpentry in the Bayfront Maritime Center's boatshop. These teens have been expelled from high schools in the Erie City School district, and are continuing their education, learning



Building the centerboard truck

academic and life skills through boatbuilding, and changing their lives in the process.

Erie residents—particularly youth—have very limited access to the waterfront and activities such as sailing,

boatbuilding, paddling and rowing, even though they live on Lake Erie's Presque Isle Bay, the best natural harbor on the Great Lakes. The Bayfront Maritime Center, a not-for-profit, community-based organization, was founded to provide hands-on maritime experiences to community members who previously had none. BMC's mission is to: *design and implement hands-on, maritime-themed educational, recreational and vocational opportunities for the community in a universally accessible waterfront facility.*

Since beginning in 1998, the Bayfront Maritime Center has worked with over 14,000 youth and adults to build 90 boats including canoes, kayaks, dories, skiffs, iceboats, and the Erie Boat. The Erie Boat is the 29' cat ketch rigged reproduction of the sailing workboat in use when Erie, Pennsylvania was the freshwater fishing capital of the world between 1880 and 1920. BMC creates positive learning



Setting the gussets



King plank and deck beams aligned

experiences through boat building, sailing, studying chart plotting and navigation, and learning about the environment.

Construction of the Bayfront Maritime Center's 90th boat, a San Francisco Pelican, began in 2007. The Pelican is a 12'6" dory-pram designed to be sailed in the waters of San Francisco Bay, which is known for high winds and cold, rough water, a perfect fit for Spring and Fall sailing in Erie. It also is an effective Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math, STEM, learning project for high school students.

The Bayfront Alternative Education Program is a partnership between the School District-City of Erie, the Sarah A. Reed Children's Center and the Bayfront Maritime Center. The students are some of the hardest to reach and engage in the classroom. These students are the ones most likely to not graduate and subsequently suffer the lifelong consequences. They have been expelled for chronic classroom disruptions, fighting, weapons, drugs, etc. These are great kids, not always easy kids, but great kids who have made some poor choices and the Bayfront Maritime Center staff is privileged to work with them. Engaging these kids to become invested in school requires innovative methods. One method is boatbuilding and the construction of the San Francisco Pelican.

The BMC Boatshop is a big hands-on STEM lab based around a tape measure and an engaging project, whether it is building a boat, or designing and creating unique, individual projects on BMC's CNC Digital Fabrication Equipment. Students from the Bayfront Alternative Education Program carefully measured, cut, fit, sanded and made the spars for the San Francisco Pelican. While doing this they learned about fractions, geometry, algebra and physics. They also practiced effective communication, teamwork, problem solving, maintaining focus, disagreeing without fighting,

Continued on page 16



Ready for the water... A job well done

It looks like kids are building the boats, but really the boats are building these kids. The boatshop teaches vital life skills that keep kids engaged while developing a positive sense of future. "The maritime environment is infused with teamwork," stated Richard Eisenberg, one of the founders and Executive Director of Bayfront Maritime Center. "We set the bar pretty high for these students, and they are achieving great things." This is much more than just building a boat with kids. It is about building youth who have the tools and desire to strive for success.

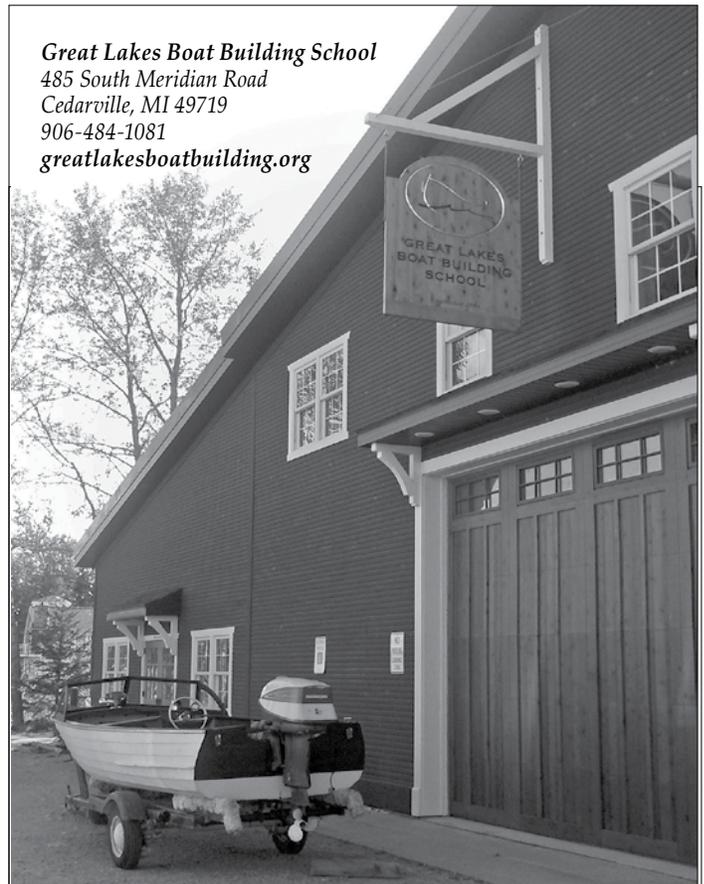
See more of the San Francisco Pelican construction at: <http://www.bayfrontcenter.org/the-boat-shop/san-fransisco-pelican/>, and find BMC on Facebook or follow our progress on Twitter.

and perseverance, all while building the boats. These are characteristics important on every job site.

Construction involved hundreds of students, from across Erie County, including kids from Millcreek Township School District, Bayfront Alternative Education students, Bayfront Migrant Summer Program kids and Project SAIL apprentices. Many students had never used hand tools or power tools before. Students started by building the construction jig and strongback. They laid out, made, and installed the keelson, laminated lumber then shaped and installed the chines, cut and installed the bow and stern transoms, sides and bottom. Jigs were made to glue up laminated deck beams. From the plans students built thwarts, the rudder, centerboard and trunk, mast step, and all of the other parts.

Students learned the traditional process of making a tapered, round, spar, while making the gaff, boom, and mast. The plans show rectangular spars. BMC staff followed the advice of Erie's gifted local sailmaker, David Bierig, and made them round. The process uses math, algebra and geometry, while using a compass and batten to lay it out. Hand planes were used to make the spars eight, and then sixteen sided. There are a lot of steps, they all take time, and they all need to be done with precision.

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The 7th Annual Small Craft Festival of the Florida Gulf Coast TSCA is History

by Doug Calhoun

It started out at its lowest point on Friday when Bob Pitt the Boat Builder for The Florida Institute of Saltwater Heritage, but really employed by the county, called all the volunteers together to announce that he is quitting. His last day would be Thursday, May 3. His resignation has been accepted. This news stunned everyone. Suddenly each of us felt as if we were attending a wake and had suffered a personal loss. Well, we had, and we will.

In spite of the fact that Bob has dedicated nine years of his life (he volunteered at the Florida Maritime Museum at Cortez before he was hired as Boatbuilder), worked many hours beyond those required for his paycheck, and encouraged volunteers to help him create a Boat Shop that has built several prize winning wooden boats that Cortez and the entire community can be proud of, he, apparently, felt he could no longer endure the pressures generated by the politics in the F.I.S.H./Manatee County atmosphere. The Museum is under the control of the Manatee County Clerk of the Circuit Court by way of his Historical Resources Department.

If you are confused by references to three seemingly separate entities referred to above, you are not alone. Until a couple of weeks or so ago, we, the FGCTSCA, felt we were closely attached to the Maritime Museum and thus the county. Recently we learned that we had to take our records from the Museum, could no longer use the very able assistance of Ted Adams, the Museum Clerk who had shepherded us through six previous Small Boat Festivals functioning as the main contact, or their facilities, and that we now had to attach ourselves more closely to F.I.S.H. if we were to survive at all. This off hand treatment occurred despite the fact that over the years our volunteers had literally built much of the interior of the Museum. Ted was not prevented

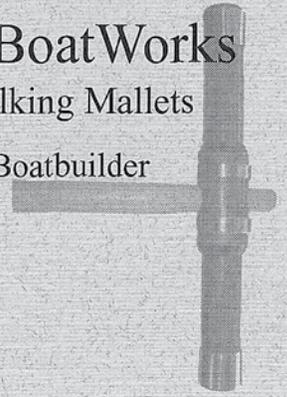
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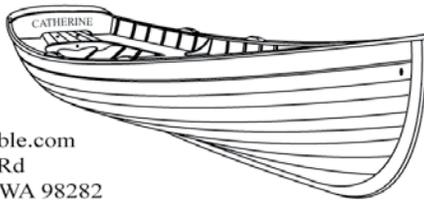
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Doug Calhoun photo

The were no on the water activities due to the weather

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*The 7th Annual Small Craft Festival of the Florida Gulf Coast
TSCA is History, Continued from page 17*

from answering questions and was very helpful. F.I.S.H. had already committed funds to make the festival possible and the treasurer, Jane Von Hahmann helped too.

The weather worsened through Friday with strong winds and some rain. By Saturday morning everyone believed the Small Craft Warnings and the boat races were cancelled. Those registered displayed their boats close to the Boatworks and the day's rain made a new record for the date.

During brief periods of sunshine crowds of local people came to see the boats. Rick Stewart was also able to manage detailed judging of the entries.

For previous dinners we had used the Banquet Hall at the Taylor Boat Works, but now it is the Swordfish Grill. This year we decided to use the new F.I.S.H. Boatworks and created a Gulf Coast menu of fish chowder, cabbage salad, barbequed chicken, bagettes and for dessert brownies and an inspired pear, cream cheese and crumbled tart. Since we were on F.I.S.H. property and not the County's, people were free to bring their own beverages, including beer and wine.

By this time spirits began to revive somewhat. The after dinner speaker was Arnold "Soupy" Davis a long time Cortez resident. Using visual aids and charts. "Soupy" gave us an historical sketch of hand line fishing (as distinct from long line fishing) from his own experience at about eight years old until recent years when the powers that be caused drastic changes in commercial fishing in the Gulf.

By the end of the day, spirits were lifted a bit by the meal, the speaker and possibly some beverages. Still dazed by Bob's resignation many wondered what will happen to the wonderful boat shop. Perhaps F.I.S.H. can come to the rescue again?

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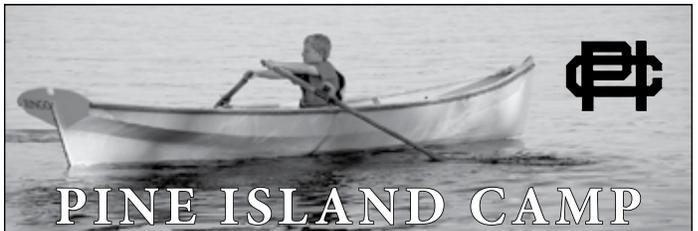
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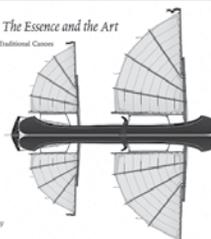
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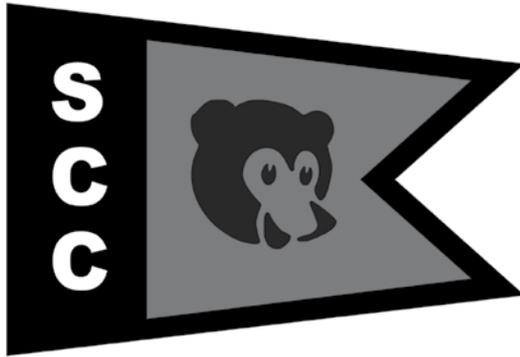
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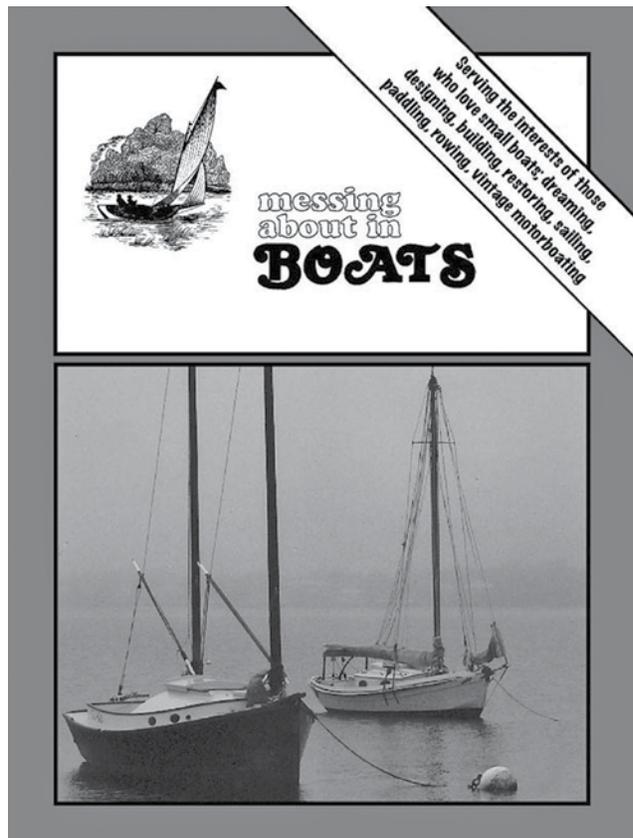
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The Ash Breeze

Fall 2012, Volume 33, Number 3

Editorial Deadline: August 15, 2012

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