

TRADITIONS

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

SUMMER, 2017

A report from the
Puget Sound
Chapter of
The Traditional
Small Craft
Association

Our Chapter - this and that

Well, it has been a pretty weird weather year so far, but hopefully we will enjoy some mellow fall weather to messabout in. To that end we are organizing an area wide group of September messabouts, very local, pop-up type get togethers, I hope you will pick one close to you and join in. If there is not one close to you, why not set one up yourself, we all have some favorite close to home water, share yours!

On the list so far are:

- September 22nd – Fall equinox cruise, perhaps in the state of Montana, exact location TBD – hosted by Dan Rogers
- September 30th – Bowman Bay Fall picnic – hosted by John & Claire Acord
- No date yet - Ratt Island messabout – hosted by Marty Loken

Stand by for more information via the forums and websites

And, this is a good time to remind you that the TSCA_puget sound chapter does have a new website address: <http://www.tscapuget.org/>

Update your bookmarks in case you haven't done so already, and huge thanks to

webmistress Katy Liu for getting the website moved to a new host, and for her ceaseless work keeping our site updated and looking good.

Another reminder is that the TSCA-Puget Sound chapter annual meeting will be held on September 9th, on the commons at the Northwest Maritime Center during WBF, starting at 1600 hours. It will be brief!

And finally, you will find this summer edition of our newsletter is mostly devoted to asking questions. This is not being done in the spirit of impudence, but rather in an effort to dial in on the perfect small boating experience. After all investigative journalism is a good thing.

The questions are: do you spend too much time on the internet and not enough on the water? What do you look for when messabout 'shopping'? What weather conditions make an event a no-go for you? What have you done to make your boat a messabout palace? Each question has a separate article with specific questions. I hope you will find some time to add your thoughts to our collective body of knowledge.

And anyway, inquiring (read nosy) minds want to know!

Cheerio

Claire

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Annual Meeting
New date: 9-9-2017
New Place: WBF—
on the commons
New time: 1600 hours

FROM THE EDITOR

BY DAN ROGERS

This spring I've been privileged to have serious discussions with both Bob Hicks, legendary publisher of "Messing About in Boats," and the fellow I refer to as "Our Father Who Art in Harper," "Chuck Leinwe-

ber. I've solicited both the opinion and help from several other luminaries of our relatively small, but largely homogenous, coterie. The klatch we refer to as boatpeople. It boils down to a single observation, and a single

GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR TSCA-PUGET SOUND OFFICERS

- President [CLAIRE ACORD](#)
- Vice President: [MICHAEL BOGOGER](#)
- Secretary: [MARTY LOKEN](#)
- Treasurer: [SIMEON BALDWIN](#)

Webmistress: [KATHY LIU](#) Newsletter Editor: [DAN ROGERS](#)

From the Editor...

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question.

Participation in events where boats actually go into the water, and where folks actually use their boats in ways that they obviously envisioned when first buying, or building, them, has diminished markedly. Of particular note, Marty Loken, our National TSCA President took me to task, and pointed out that I had "...confused people with too many options." His stance was that I should simply come up with a single event to focus energy and attention upon. And, it's definitely hard to argue with his own success in attracting a wide range of boats and people to the Pocket Yacht Palooza—an event many of us have participated in. However, that really begs the question.

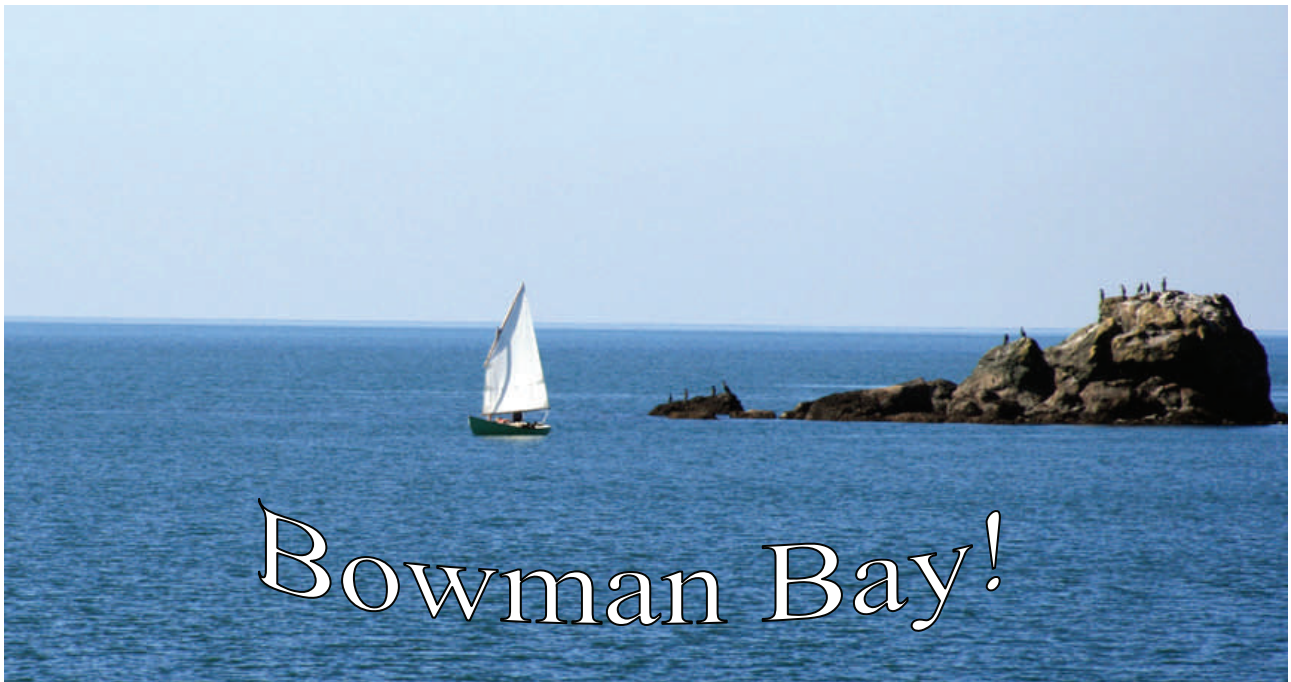
We store, perhaps make payments, maintain, and carry the responsibility for our boats year 'round. Year after year. Is once a year—or even not at all—really "enough?" This is the question. One that I have had the opportunity to ask here, and in other publications for quite some time.

This edition, we are seriously soliciting your opinion, your dreams, your failures even. We—all of us—would truly like to know what it is that you think would make for greater attendance at our scheduled events, and greater pleasure from being a member of TSCA Puget Sound.

It's your opportunity to sound off. Please!

Dan Rogers

DanAshore@conceptcable.com



Don't forget—super local pop-up messabouts!

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- September 30th – Bowman Bay Fall picnic – hosted by [John & Claire Acord](#)
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See you on the water!

The “how to build the best messabout ever” questionnaire

Rogers/Acord

Recently we sent out a questionnaire to folks who had attended messabouts, and agreed to let us ask them questions. Their answers are summarized below. If you want to see what we asked, and answer for yourselves, click [here](#).

The majority of folks answering our questions indicated:

Most likely to attend One day messabouts

Boating/sailing time should exceed driving time

Good ramps are a priority

A place to meet that is dry or a soft beach are very desirable

Spreading out messabouts across the region to avoid costly ferry rides is a consideration

Good planning to avoid really low tides is good

For those who sail to messabouts a challenging, but not super risky place to get to is important

Multi day events should have some good food options

Extreme Makeover or a Little Tweek?

Acord/Rogers

Last time I checked, I was about ten years older than I was a decade ago. Maybe you’ve had the same discovery? So, are most of our boats. I’m thinking that most of my fleet has aged more gracefully than I have. Sure, we all have those skin blemishes, and those soft spots. But, mostly, the boats are pretty much the way they were when built, bought, found, or even borrowed back ten, or more years ago.

Maybe it’s time to make some modifications? Get rid of those elbow bumpers, and head thumpers. Deal with a leaky hatch, or even build that cabin top you’ve been thinking about—every time you get caught out in the rain.

Most of us keep resolving to get out on the boat and enjoy life more. But sometimes, our small boats can lack the creature comforts that make life sweet. For me, having a comfy place to sleep is a must, an elaborate place to cook... not so much. After all, what are pubs for? Some folks want to make better storage arrangements, improve sea worthiness, upgrade hygiene facilities, turn more heads in the anchorage, or just make it possible to keep using our boats as we move into geezerhood.

How ‘bout you? What projects have you got on that To Do list? Maybe something’s been simmering on a back burner, maybe for a long time?

Our members have done the following things:

- Bought a bigger boat. Bought a smaller boat.
- Raised the cabin top to allow sitting room below.
- Put in a marine head and holding tank, no more lugging the odoriferous “suitcase”. Got rid of the holding tank, and bought a bucket.
- Made an open sailboat into a motor cruiser.
- Went from a small cabin boat to the same size open boat with a boom tent, no more standing up issues.

I hear that a Coot once took out the forepeak lockers and installed a complete galley forward.

So, tell us, what do you ‘have to have’ on your boat to make it into a stately pleasure yacht? Or, more to the point. What do you think you should/will do to make your boat more likely to accompany you on your next outing? She’s really like an old dog. She only has one job. To please you. What would that take?

Is Constant Connectivity keeping you high and dry?

Rogers/Acord

In recent years social media platforms, photo sharing, blogs, etc. have been invented, have proliferated, and are enjoyed by billions. Some of those billions are even small boat aficionados. But, is living vicariously on your computer or mobile device maybe keeping you from finding the time and energy to get in your boat and get out on the water? I hope not, but I think that it might be a possibility. What do you think? Is it too easy to enjoy the R2AK tracker (just one instance of an addicting on-line temptation, and my personal big-time downfall) or surf boating facebook pages? If so, is this something that we want to change, or even can change? What will it take to make you want to turn off the computer and get out on the water?

We so look forward to hearing your thoughts.



Gulf Island Anchorage—Summer 2017

We hear that a new TSCA Chapter is in the making up in BC, is this the first International Chapter? If you are interested in joining, or attending their events contact:

Quill Goldman

barefootwoodenboats@shaw.ca 250-247-9646

SELECTIONS FROM THE SOUTH—WHAT THE COOTS ARE UP TO by John Kohnen

The boating season has begun and things have begun to happen down here! The Depoe Bay Wooden Boat Show in April was a success, with 38 boats on display and a decent crowd of boat admirers, despite typical Oregon Coast spring weather -- strong, gusty winds and horizontal rain. It was warm and sunny Friday... Ever since the 2008 Depoe Bay Show, whatever weather we've had we can say, "at least it didn't snow." The Depoe Bay Chamber of Commerce, the event organizers, made the exhibitors feel very welcome, and gave us a nice reception Saturday evening. The volunteers who set everything up worked hard and did a great job. The Crab Feed sold every crab and every piece of garlic bread. This year was the first time the Coots were actively in-

In May 12th Toledo celebrated the return of the Community Boathouse, which had been down at the shipyard for refurbishment while Depot Slough was being dredged, and the debut of a second Boathouse. Bud, the Port Manager, is always looking for bargains and got some dock floats cheap from a port way up the Columbia River, and the Port crew built the new boathouse out of lumber sawn from trees that were cut down when the Port's shipyard was expanded.

a small park across the lake. The turnout was modest, with only six boats showing up at the park -- two of them on trailers -- and another that never made it across the lake, but we had



Toledo old and new
Community boathouses



Dan & Miss Kathleen

The original boathouse will be used for boatbuilding and the new one will be used for the livery fleet and as a center for on the water activities.

A couple of weeks later, the Coots had our Spring Messabout on Fern Ridge Reservoir, near Eugene. Dan Rogers and his mate, Jamie, arrived Thursday from AlmostCanada, and we tried to keep him entertained through the weekend.

The messabout itself was Saturday, at



Boats taking a rest on the beach-Fern Ridge

fun. There was even a nice breeze in the afternoon for the sailboats, and a group dinner at a good restaurant in the nearby town of Veneta.

Upcoming events are the Triton Boat Show on Fern Ridge August 5th and the Cathlamet Wooden Boat Show August 5-6th -- an unfortunate conflict this year. The Toledo Wooden Boat Show is August 19-20th, and this year it's going to be a humdinger! The Show will honor "local legend" retired Master Chief Tom McAdams, legendary Coast Guard lifeboatman, who commanded the Cape Disappointment coxswain school and the Newport lifeboat station. The 52-foot lifeboat Victory from the Newport station will be an honorary wooden boat for the show, and a restored 36-foot lifeboat will also be on display. As icing on the cake, Bud managed to schedule a total solar eclipse for the Monday following the show, and exhibitors are being encouraged to stay over Sunday night to see it. Toledo is pretty close to the middle of the path of totality.

Information about upcoming Coot events can be found at WWW.COOTS.org .

All photos @ J. Kohnen, 2017

Don't forget to update your bookmarks for our new webpage
<http://www.tscapuget.org/>

involved in planning and putting on the show, not just turning up. Having the boat nuts work with the Chamber of Commerce worked out well, and I think the Boat Show has a bright future.