



The Smoke Signal



VOLUME 12 ISSUE 2

March/April 2006

Newsletter of the **BLACKHAWK CHAPTER-ACBS**

Road Trip to Norton's Boatworks *(Todd & Mary's Excellent Adventure)*

Last year Todd Hunter mentioned that he was buying a partially restored project Chris Craft in California and having it shipped to Wisconsin to have it finished.

It all started when he heard of a good boat that may be available near Oxnard CA. Todd convinced his partner in the project, Mary Panzer, that a trip to the wine country would be a good idea, and by the way there is also a boat they might look at while they're in the area.

Turns out for the last ten years or so a man had been restoring the boat but passed away before he finished. His workmanship was excellent in all respects. The woodwork, finishes, & mechanicals were all done with care and precision. After some lengthy negotiations with the family of the estate, Mary & Todd became the proud owners of a 1956 46' Chris Craft Corsair.

Now they had to move it cross country to Wisconsin. As luck would have it a trucker was found with experience in a route in which the trip could be made without removing the upper portion of the boat. But when they arranged to go pick up the boat there was a snag. The family said it was a package deal, the boat and all the materials stored at the boat yard had to be removed with the boat. This included a second Chris Craft, a 1956 26' Semi Enclosed Cruiser. This one, however, in not so good condition. But we all could use a much smaller second project, right? Todd along with Mike Garness spent a week making the boats ready for the trip. If you see Todd ask him about the trip moving the boats from California to Wisconsin, another whole adventure in itself, involving mismarked bridge heights, police, etc.

This brings us to Norton's. 19 people made the trip to Joe Norton's shop in Green Lake where the 26 footer is awaiting the decision on how to proceed. Joe and Tyler were kind enough to give us a tour of the shop and explain in detail their meth-

(Continued on page 7)



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BLACKHAWK CHAPTER-ACBS

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Or, contact Matt Byrne directly at :
630-236-7214(home) or 630-802-2698(mobile)

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Lets all welcome Spring of 2007. Finally its here! In my brief run around the Chain doing errands I see some boats already in the water. When I left on my last business trip, I still had a few hopes for one more try at ice fishing. Upon my return, the ice is gone, and some boats are on the water already. Over in McHenry, one unfortunate individual, was have difficulty getting his boat out, as he went too deep and got stuck in the mud. Another four wheeler had chains on him and was attempting to pull truck, trailer, and fishing boat up the muddy ramp. So as a warning to us, be careful. Make sure the water is high enough to cover the paved portion of the ramp, don't go too deep and get stuck as this poor guy did.

We had another successful shop tour up on Green Lake as you will read in this issue. Our thanks go out to Norton's Boat Works and Todd Hunter for organizing this event. Thanks also to Ted Cartner for helping Todd as due to an family issue at the last minute, I could not attend. I'm still looking forward to taking a personal trip up to visit with you Todd and see your projects. Thanks again.

This month in April we have the semi-annual symposium in Mystic Seaport along with a quarterly meeting of ACBS. I'll be attending as will a few of our members. Anyone that has not been to one of these, it's really worth the effort to try and attend one. We usually get lots of back room privileges to see some boats and have access to things not normally open to the public. I'll be writing up my review when I return. I urge all of our members to try and attend one of these sometime. It is worth using your travel points if you have them!

The next weekend, we will be having our Spring Dinner at Dockers' Restaurant in Fox Lake. For those of you daring enough, come by boat. Yes you Captain Ron, Gary, Ted and others. It would be a nice way to initiate the new season. I'd throw in my fishing boat, but unfortunately its' not a wooden one, so I'd be too embarrassed to show up in an aluminum boat! April 22nd, details are in this issue. If you can't mail in your registration, just leave me a message at home 262-877-3953, or just show up. The more the merrier.

For the board members, we will have a brief board meeting before the dinner at 4:30 to review the club status, and all the coming events. Please let me know if you'll be able to attend. Thank you.

Well, lets all get out, enjoy the great weather, and get ready for another season on the water. If anyone has any ideas for additional events or shop tours, please let me or anyone on the board know. Again, this club is for all of us to enjoy, learn, and have fun in our "Woodies". Please feel free to write for the newsletter, we will help if you are shy at the keyboard. We love to hear everyone's stories.

Have a safe Spring, good luck with your Spring commissioning of your boats, enjoy our club, and please, don't forget to check the bilge pumps! Woodies take a while to swell up. Have fun.

Sincerely,
Andy Ievins

PS
Don't forget the drain plugs either!!!



Blackhawk Chapter ACBS
presents

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- SKIPPERS CUP
- SPECTATORS CHOICE

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Schedule of Events:

LAUNCH / SET UP- TIME 7:00A.M -9.30 A.M

VIEWING 10:00A.M -2:00 P.M

TROPHIES 2:00 P.M

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY; _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ EMAIL _____

TELEPHONE: (day) _____ (eve) _____ fax _____

MFG OF BOAT _____ MFG OF ENGINE _____

HP _____ MODEL _____ YEAR _____ LENGTH _____ BEAM _____

Yes, I wish to register my _____ Boat/Boats @ \$15.00 = \$ _____.

On land space for sell, swap and trade after July 4 Boat or Booth @ \$20.00 = \$ _____.

I will need a Waterway Sticker In advance only \$10.00= \$ _____

CHECK AMOUNT ENCLOSED COME JOIN THE FUN RAIN OR SHINE NON REFUNDABLE

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C/O Fox River Valley Boat Company

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2007 Geneva Lakes Boat Show Preview

Planning for the 2007 Geneva Lakes Boat show is well under way. This years show will be held Sept 28-30 at the Abbey in Fontana on Lake Geneva. Details are starting to fall in place as we have tentatively planned the following for the Geneva Lakes Boat Show...

Friday mid-morning you will board the steamboat Louise at the public dock in Fontana to cruise to the Black Point Mansion. After viewing the mansion for approximately one hour you will board the Louise and cross the bay to Gage Marine for a box lunch and tour of Gage Marine. The Louise will take you back to the Fontana public docks disembark at approximately 1:30p.m. This will allow time for the rest of the afternoon to get settled in and if you so choose to boat on your own the waters of Lake Geneva.

Launching at the Abbey will be available prior to the cruise or when we return from Gage Marine in the afternoon.

Friday evening we are tentatively planning a "welcome aboard gathering" for the weekend at Gordy's Cobalt Lounge on the shoreline of Fontana.

Saturday the Boat Show will start at 10:00a.m.followed by a dinner banquet at the Abbey.

Sunday the Boat Show will commence at 10:00a.m., the Awards Ceremony starting at 1:00p.m.

Black Point is an estate on the south shore of Geneva Lake, built in 1888 as a summer home by Conrad Seipp, a beer tycoon from Chicago.



The main feature is a 13-bedroom Queen Anne style mansion with a nautical-themed four-story "crow's nest" observation tower. Its collection of antebellum Chicago-style furniture has been called the world's largest. It is included in the National Register of Historic Places. The wooded six-acre estate has 600 feet of shoreline.

The present owner, William Petersen, who is a descendant of Seipp and still has a home on the property, has worked

with state officials since the 1990s to turn the house into a museum. These negotiations were hampered by the corruption investigation into then-Wisconsin State Senate Majority Leader Chuck Chvala, who at one point solicited a bribe from a lobbyist hired by the museum backers. Chvala was later convicted. Eventually a lease-back arrangement was agreed to, where the property would be transferred to the State of Wisconsin, with a long-term lease to Petersen. State funding was finally approved in August 2005, and the Black Point Historic Preserve, a non-profit conservation organization, will manage the property and renovate it for public tours. After needed structural repairs, the Preserve plans a visitor center ready for group tours in spring 2007.



We will transported to Black Point on the Steam Yacht Louise The Louise, built in 1902, her charm comes not only from polished brass and gleaming mahogany, but also from the engineer operating a vintage steam engine as you glide across the water. The Louise has two decks furnished with clear side curtains for inclement



weather and an enclosed cabin area with wet bar and head. Treat you and your guests to an extraordinary experience aboard the Louise!

For more information on Black Point Estate visit: www.cruiselakegeneva.com/bptours.php



Annual Father's Day Port Edwards Champagne Brunch & Fox River Cruise Sunday June 17

The Blackhawk Chapter is pleased to announce the annual Father's Day Cruise to Port Edwards Restaurant in Algonquin for the sumptuous Sunday champagne brunch. For those of you not familiar with this cruise, it's not one to miss. The lower Fox River is always calm, the brunch at Port Edwards is extraordinary and the atmosphere is very nautical. This is also a good early season shakedown in the company of helpful companions.

The cruise will start with a free launch at Turnkey Classics in Burtons Bridge, Highway 176 and the Fox River, courtesy of member Chuck Kelley.

Plan to be launched and ready to run by 9:30, at which time we will head south to Algonquin. We will be seated for brunch around 11:00. After gorging ourselves, we have the whole day for the leisurely trip back north. Cost is \$22.00each, includes coffee, brunch, champagne...the works! Please mail the sign up form by June 4.



Name _____ Number Attending _____

Name of boat _____

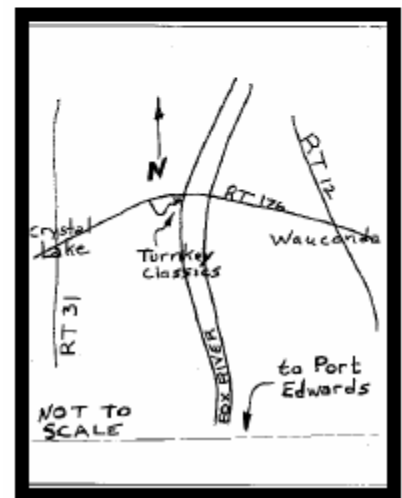
Total enclosed (\$22.00 x number=) _____

MAIL TO: Ron Van Horn
4232 Riverside Dr.
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
Phone 815-459-TREE

PS: DON'T FORGET TO GET A ONE DAY WATERWAYSTICKER!

If you would like a ride by boat, call Ron Van Horn or Ted Cartner.

If you have additional room aboard for our boat-less guests, let us know how many you can accommodate_____.



(Continued from page 1)

ods of repair and restoration. Joe has been in the business of working with boats of all kinds for a long time and his shop shows the lay out, tools, and vintage equipment of his experience. We would have liked to have spent a great deal more time there, but had to move on.



From Joe's we went to the Heidel House over looking Green Lake for lunch. The water was still hard but the view was great. Todd brought a cake for desert with a picture of a Chris Craft Cruiser printed on the icing with edible ink.



Then it was on to Port Washington to visit the star of the day, the 46 footer. Pictures can't convey the quality of the work done on this boat. The model CR-46 is one of 7 built, length 45' 7", beam 13' 10", 23,500 lbs, powered by two zero time rebuilt Perkins diesels. Just the thing for entertaining 30 or so. It has a long way to go before it's finished, but will be spectacular when done.



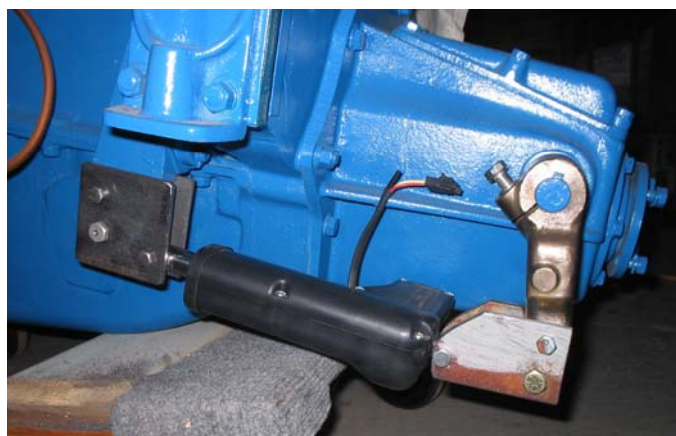
PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

#40 Update

by Ted & Cindy Cartner

We took advantage of a few warm days to work on the hull. In the photo you can see the steaming of a tricky bow plank which has both bend and twist. Also note the ax and hammer, recall the old saying; "if it doesn't fit, don't force it, just use a bigger hammer". Just kidding.

Originally this boat had some nice manual shift levers, which for some unknown reason were replaced with Chris O Matics. The Chris O Matic shift system worked very well when properly maintained, however they were seldom properly maintained. They used an electric hydraulic pump with attached reservoir, misc. lines and fittings, drum limit switch, hydraulic ram, two solenoid switches, and were controlled by electric switches at the helm. Over time various parts would become worn, weak, out of adjustment, etc. The result was that sometimes the system would take way too much time to shift, usually when approaching the dock a little too fast. Hence the nickname, "Crash O Matic". Then the Chris O Matics were removed and a system of cable shifting was partially installed sometime prior to us getting the boat.



It



was obvious that this cable set up would never work properly so we removed it. After not being able to locate the components to reinstall the original manual shift system, we opted to go back to a modified electric shift which we call the TED O Matic. With the exception of the original drum limit switch, we replaced all the old components with just 2 items. An electric linear actuator and one reversing relay. The photos show these parts as well as the actuator installed with some preliminary linkage. As we write this, there is still ice on the lake, but we're getting excited about launching. Maybe in time for the McHenry show.



Share Your Projects!

If you have a project you would like to share. Send text and pictures to MattByrne@mrbtech.com. We welcome all to share their experiences with the club.

16th Annual Minocqua Antique & Classic Wooden Boat Show

Event Starts Friday 7/27/2007 ~ Ends Sunday 7/29/2007

An entire weekend of fun!

The weekend starts with a wooden boat parade Friday night (6:45 p.m.). Saturday offers antique & classic wooden boats & woodie cars displayed at Bosacki's Boat House, People's Choice voting, concessions, and live music. The awards ceremony on Sunday serves as the show's finale. -- The Minocqua Antique & Classic Wooden Boat Show benefits the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

For more information contact:

Minocqua-Arbor Vitae-Woodruff Chamber of Commerce at 800-44-NORTH or or
Gordon Moore 985-792-1109

2007 Spring Dinner Meeting

Docker's in Fox Lake

Sunday, April 22nd, 4:30 p.m.

Second floor party room, overlooking the water

Docker's is located at 33 W Grand Ave in Fox Lake (at the corner of Rte. 12 and Grand, go West two blocks to the water). The cost is \$16.00 per person. You will be able to order off a menu of several items, including :

- 1/2 Broasted Chicken
- BBQ Ribs 1/2 slab
- Broiled Salmon
- London Broil 9 oz.
- Parmesan Chicken
- Broiled Cod

Cash bar will be open



2007 Blackhawk Chapter Spring Dinner

Send your reservation by Wednesday April 18th, 2007

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

ADULTS ATTENDING _____ X \$16.00= _____

NUMBER UNDER 18 _____

Dinner Choice:

- ☐ 1/2 Broasted Chicken
- ☐ BBQ Ribs 1/2 slab
- ☐ Broiled Salmon
- ☐ London Broil 9 oz.
- ☐ Broiled Cod
- ☐ Parmesan Chicken

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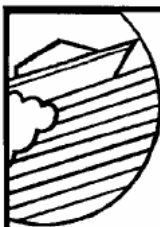


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FOR SALE 1936 Dunphy motor-rowboat in restored condition. It has the original Dunphy decal on the rear side Asking \$1200.00 including matching oars and trailer. Jerry & Gail Miers 630-231-0174 (10/05)

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Individual Blackhawk Chapter members may run a single complimentary non-commercial advertisement in any issue of the Smoke Signal. Individual advertisements will not be rerun unless the editor is notified prior to publication of the following issue. The editor reserves the right to edit if necessary to fit available space.

Commercial Advertisements

Commercial advertisements will be run in each issue published during the course of the year unless prior arrangements are made. Six issues per year are published. The following rates apply for commercial advertising, on a per year basis. Contact your editor for more information:

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BLACKHAWK CHAPTER-ACBS

The Smoke Signal

2201 E Lakeshore Dr..
Twin Lakes, WI 53181



Calendar of Events

APRIL	
April 13-15	Spring Quarterly Meeting in conjunction with the ACBS Symposium and Marque Club Summit. Location: Mystic Seaport, Connecticut. Further information TBA
April 22	Spring Dinner Location: Dockers in Fox Lake 4:30 PM
May	
May 19	2007 Eastern Iowa Boat Show . 1st annual, check http://www.muscatineboatshow.com for details
May 20	14th Annual Swap Meet in Oconomowoc, WI, sponsored by the Glacier Lakes Chapter. For information contact Frank Pertan 262-284-3650
June	
June 17	Annual Father's Day Port Edwards Champagne Brunch & Fox River Cruise for more information contact Ron Van Horn 815-459-TREE
July	
July 21	23rd Annual Antique And Classic Wooden Boat Show at JOEY T'S on The Fox, McHenry IL for more information contact Tom Wagner at 815-385-0454
July 27-29	16th Annual Minoqua Antique and Classic Boat Show on Lake Minocqua, Wi. All proceeds go to the Multiple Sclerosis Society. Contact Minocqua-Arbor Vitae-Woodruff Chamber of Commerce 800-446-6784 or Gordon Moore 985-792-1109
July 26-29	Summer Quarterly Meeting hosted by the New England Chapter. In conjunction with the Lake Winnepesaukee Boat Show. Hotel: The Margate on Lake Winnepesaukee. Inquire about ACBS room rates. Call (603) 524-5210; website www.the.margate.com
September	
September 26-29	Annual Meeting and International Boat Show , hosted by Adirondack Chapter. Host Hotel, Fort William Henry. Call for ACBS group rates: (518)668-3081.
September 28-30	Geneva Lakes Boat Show Hosted by the Blackhawk Chapter . At The Abbey Resort in Fontana WI. For more information contact Ted Cartner 847-395-8902