



The Smoke Signal



VOLUME 13 ISSUE 6

November/December 2007

Newsletter of the **BLACKHAWK CHAPTER-ACBS**

Blackhawk Chapter Fall Dinner and Annual Elections 2007

The Blackhawk Chapter had its Fall Dinner, Board Meeting, and Annual elections this October 2007 at Dockers Restaurant in Fox Lake, IL.

The board had its quarterly meeting before the dinner. The president reviewed the years' previous activities, welcomed the new president elect, George Plamondon, and discussed future activities. In the past year, the shows and activities were well attended and contributed to the clubs' finances. George discussed his plans for helping the Muscatine show, and other activities and ideas for the club and the newsletter.

The dinner and view of Fox Lake added to the ambiance of the evening. The nominating committee presented the new slate of officers and all were elected by unanimous vote. There were numerous raffle prizes for both the ladies and guys. After the dinner, the past president thanked all for his support, the new president was



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BLACKHAWK CHAPTER-ACBS

Officers and Directors

President	George Plamondon (312) 787-7455 georgeplamondon@hotmail.com
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Secretary	Matt Byrne 630-236-7214 mattbyrne@mrbatch.com
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(Director at Large)	James Wilkin 312-951-8680 Don Taylor 630-632-9797
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Membership Chairman	Eric Moberg (815) 344-0060
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Newsletter Editor	Andy Ievins (262) 877-3953 aievins@charter.net

Visit the Blackhawk web site at
www.blackhawkacbs.com

Please send any info, comments or suggestions to:
info@blackhawkacbs.com

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

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Greetings Blackhawk members please let me introduce myself, I'm George Plamondon and I have accepted the chapter Presidency for the coming year. Let me tell you how this happened. Early this fall, I got a call from the nominating committee, not anticipating this was going to happen, my response was, "let me think about this." Twenty four hours later, I received a call from the ACBS nominating committee to join the international board. My response was the same; "let me think about this, that's a three year term." Then, I had to have a talk with myself. The rationalization is I love our boats and there is probably not a better way to spend some time over the next few years than to promote and enhance my passion. With that in mind, it seems I have jumped into this venture with both feet and I must say I have more than modest enthusiasm as I begin the adventure. There will be a number of exciting events planned and I look forward to meeting those of you I haven't met. We all need to recognize Andy Ievins, our past President for the marvelous job he did over the past few years in making the Blackhawk chapter what it is today.

The first event of 2008 will be Restoration Work Shop at Harrison Woodworking in Wilmot, Illinois. Dean Morris will conduct a session on boat re-furbishing to include wood and varnishing techniques. Ted Cartner will follow with a transmission adjustment and seal replacement session. The day will be concluded by a light lunch and allow our members to catch up with one another. Those that have seen Dean's operation know his work is among the finest in the Antique & Classic Boat Society.

Further down the road, and a wonderful way to start off the boating season, will be the "That was Then, This is Now Boat Show" in Muscatine, Iowa. I was there last year and it was an amazing turn out for a first year show. For those of you who subscribe to "Classic Boating," the fall issue has a great article about the event. Muscatine is a very picturesque Mississippi river town. They have recently restored the river front so it is an ideal setting for this year's show. In addition, the American Power Boat Association will be opening its racing season. This is something to see even if your interest is only marginal. It certainly is something I knew little of before my association with antique boating. This will be a great weekend and I hope we have lots of Blackhawk members participating. So mark your calendars for May 16th and 17th, there will be more Smoke Signal information as time goes by.

So this will be the year to be on the ACBS bandwagon. Our goal should be to expand our membership base. Tell your friends about the Blackhawk Chapter and the many benefits of being an ACBS member, including reduced boat insurance rates, rental car rates, and the list goes on.... Our organization has better than 8000 members and 55 chapters so lots are happening in this country and internationally. In addition, the Judging Committee will propose a category to recognize classic fiberglass boats at the January quarterly board meeting in San Diego which will be an added plus to our society, more on that later.

Thanks for the privilege of being your president. I look forward to learning even more about our hobby and here's to the boating fun we'll have in '08.Happy Holidays!

Best regards,
George Plamondon

The Book Locker

A review of

“Letters From The Lost Soul”

by Bob Bitchin

Ted:

Andy, this is an entirely different sort of book than the one we last reviewed. It is a contemporary but true account (obviously some parts of the book are less true than others) of a 5 year 45,000 mile voyage around the world in a ketch measuring 56' on deck. The book is entertaining, but some of it has to be taken with a grain of salt. (& what does “grain of salt” mean?)

Andy:

Ha ha Ted, yes, some of it can be taken with a “grain of salt”, but still it's a great adventure. Majority is true except for a few “embellishments” during some exciting moments. But I think we all dream of escaping and sailing away into the sunset and this book takes us there. For those of us dreaming of an escape, this is the book to read. So Ted, when are we going? What do you think of the boat, “The Lost Soul”?

Ted:

Ya, this is another story of an abused boat. The original owner had the boat custom built in Taiwan, but after the maiden voyage he didn't think it was fast enough so he took it to Hong Kong for refitting and lengthened both masts. The taller rigging made the boat heel over so that even in a gentle 15 knot breeze on the beam the rails hit the water. Not good. So he parked it and forgot about it. After being abandoned for 6 years, Bob bought the “Lost Soul” one day while he was hung over. Then the fun began.

Andy:

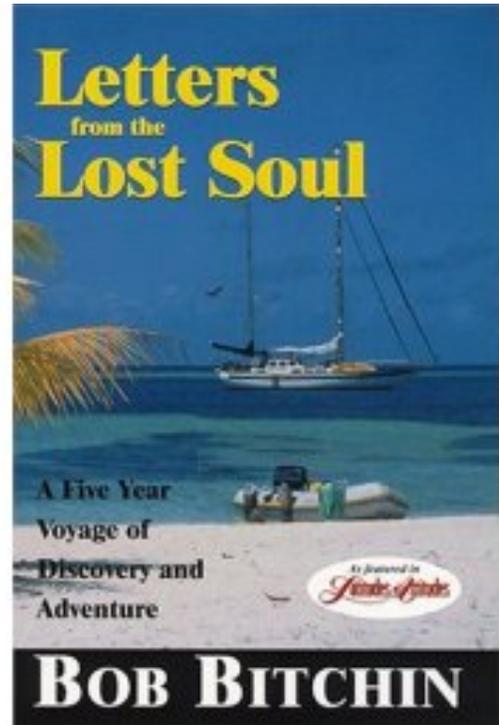
This boat is like an old pirate ship. Bob and Jody tried to sell it later, but then decided to have a complete refit that took over a year. She's absolutely beautiful now. Just like us in the club, we save old boats. I love the stories of all the exotic places they've been, and continue to travel to now. The many degrees of prosperity in sailors they meet is also fascinating. It proves that with desire, anyone can sail off into the sunset. As they frequently mention in the book, the hardest part is casting off. Does the adventure grab you to go? Now?!?!

Ted:

Most of us have a fairly myopic view of the world. In this book Bob shows us that with a little courage mixed with a bit of risk you can experience some of the wonders of the world normally outside our grasp. If you want to indulge in some of those places while sitting in your favorite chair “Letters from the Lost Soul” by Bob Bitchin can be found at Amazon.com or other book stores, or you could shop for the next fine vessel to add to the fleet. Saw a nice 46 footer the other day.....

Andy:

Yes, I saw a nice wooden schooner in Cleveland while visiting my dad. Let's go halves, and sail away. For those of you that can't just cast off those lines just yet, get this book, and sail away while reading it on your couch. Enjoy.



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Jeff & Vicki Hagstotz
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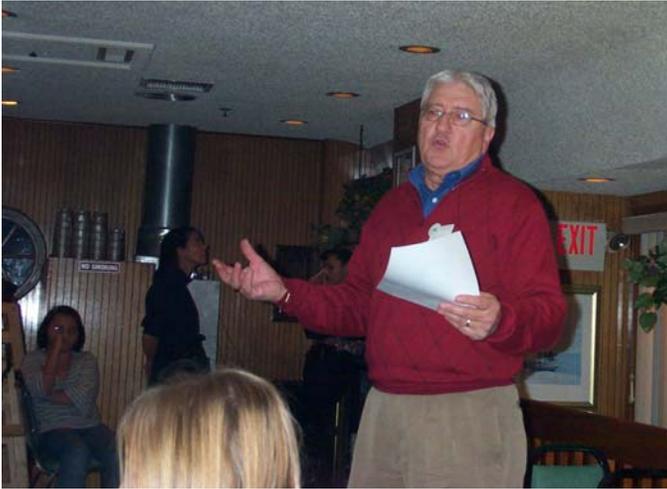
Ed & Sue Pavlis
Cary, IL

(Continued from page 1)

welcomed and spoke of his plans.

Then Wil Vidal gave an update for next years national quarterly meeting in Milwaukee Wisconsin. It promises to be a great event and all are urged to attend.

The evening ended with George presenting the past president with a nice gift and plaque for his past two years of service. It was a very nice and sincere gift and the past president is very thankful. A great time was had by all.



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Chapter Affiliation **Blackhawk Dues \$15.00**

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Boat Name _____

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ACBS, Headquarters

422 James Street

Clayton, New York 13624

315-686-2628 FAX (315) 686-2680

E-mail: hqs@acbs.org

Winter Tech Session

Staining, Scarfing and Transmissions

Saturday, January 19th, 9:00 am - 1:30 pm

Harrison Woodworking

Shop of Blackhawk member Dean Morris

30303 Hwy 'C' (1/4 mile east of Fox river)

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Dean Morris will demonstrate his scarfing techniques for joining long boards together, and basic staining techniques.

Ted Cartner will discuss Chris Craft Transmissions:

- How to Adjust the Clutches
- How to Replace Seals to stop those annoying oil leaks.
- Actual hands on demo of replacing the seals in a transmission from a K series motor.

Coffee, snacks, and a small lunch will be provided by the Club. For additional info and directions call Ted at 847-395-8902 or Dean at 262-862-9423. There is a \$8.00 fee. Please send your registration or call Ted by January 18th to:

Ted Cartner
PO Box 683
Antioch IL 60002

2008 Winter Tech Clinic

Send your reservation by Jan 18, 2008

Make check payable to:

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The S/V Denis Sullivan cruises against the Milwaukee skyline.



The Blackhawk Chapter and The Glacier Lakes Chapter invites you to the June 2008 Summer Quarterly meeting in Milwaukee, WI... the City of Gemütlichkeit

The following is a tentative schedule. Mark your calendar. This will be a great time.

WEDNESDAY, June 25, 2008-Out of towners, call The Astor Hotel, ask for ACBS block: Toll Free 800-558-0200

THURSDAY morning June 26th-There will be a launching of boats at South Shore Yacht Club. We will cruise the inner harbor and the Milwaukee River. You will enjoy lunch at one of the river front micro-brew restaurants. Ken Bourgeois is coordinating this part of the event. Boat mooring Thursday night will be available at Discovery World for Friday boating.

THURSDAY afternoon June 26th-

THIS MARKS THE OFFICIAL START OF THE ACBS QUARTERLY MEETING AND AGENDA

Depart for The Wisconsin Club for a magnificent dinner. This was the home of Billy Mitchell's Grandfather, a prominent banker. Billy Mitchell is considered the Father of Air Power. The evening will include a tour of this beautiful turn of the century mansion and a talk by John Eastberg, a noted historian about Milwaukee, the famous Milwaukee Beer Barons and Billy Mitchell. A sport coat is appropriate attire. You are in for a treat.



The Wisconsin Club, formerly the Mitchell Mansion



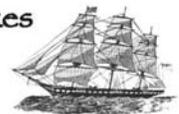
FRIDAY morning June 27th-Today will start Discovery World at Pier Wisconsin. Learn about "The Ghost Ships of the Great Lakes!" Speakers will include Steve Daniel, President of The Great Lakes Shipwreck Preservation Society, Kimm Stabelfeldt of The Great Lakes Shipwreck Foundation and Keith Meverdon of The Wisconsin Historical Society. Learn first hand from the divers who search for the missing ships. You've heard the famous Gordon Lightfoot song "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald". Ask the divers that have been there. After lunch, find out about the building of the S/V Denis Sullivan. You will also want to check out the aquarium and the various exhibits at Discovery World. A tour of the Pabst Mansion will be offered. Those wanting to take their boats out for a cruise will have that option in the afternoon after the speakers.



FRIDAY afternoon June 27th- After dinner you will return to Discovery World and embark on The S/V Denis Sullivan, a replica 19th Century 137-foot Great Lakes Schooner for a late afternoon cruise. It accommodates 50 people. Reserve early! Arrangements will be made for another wooden cruiser to make the trip onto Lake Michigan, accommodating any overflow.

Saturday morning June 28th-You'll start the morning with a "Newsletter Workshop". Find out how the various chapters put together their newsletters, magazines and special boat show promotion sections. Find out what it takes to get community and advertiser support. Also find out what it costs to put out a chapter publication. There will be lots of samples and "How To" information sheets. "How To Take Good Pictures" will follow. Jim Wangard of *Classic Boating* magazine will conduct this session. These workshops replace the President's Round Table. The Directors meeting will follow. Participation is welcome. There will be sightseeing for those not attending the sessions.

Ghost Ships of The Great Lakes



Saturday afternoon June 28th- About 3pm, transportation will be arranged to travel out to Pewaukee Lake for cocktails, boat rides and a cookout.

RESERVE THE DATE

More information will be in The January/February Glacier Lakes "at the Waterline" and The Blackhawk Chapter's "The Smoke Signal"

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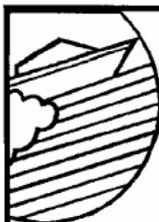
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FOR SALE: 1965 Chris Craft 21' Supersport, with the big 431 engine. Ran well when it was put into storage 10 years ago. Original and complete, but has had hard use. Needs to be restored including a new bottom. Two axle trailer included. \$5500 Ted 847-395-8902

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FOR SALE 1954 20' Chris-Craft Holiday. This boat has been completely disassembled and is literally a basket case pattern boat. All hardware and MBL engine is included. No trailer--flatbed truck would be needed to haul. Asking \$2,800.00 or trade for another boat. Bob Faetz (630) 963-7631. (01.06)

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)

Blackhawk Smoke Signal Advertising Policy

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.

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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

JANUARY

Jan 19	Blackhawk Winter Tech Session. For additional info and directions call Ted Cartner at 847-395-8902.
Jan 16-19	Chicago Boat Show —McCormick Place north. Visit www.ChicagoBoatshow.com for more details
Jan 24-27	Winter Quarterly Meeting of the ACBS Board of Directors; San Diego CA Yacht Club. Hosted by the Southern California Chapter. All ACBS members are welcome.

MARCH

March 27 - 30	Sunnyland Antique Boat Festival , hosted by the Sunnyland Chapter. Location: Lake Dora at Tavares, FL. 21st Annual Lake Dora Antique Boat Festival. Featuring large flea market, amphi-cars, woodie cars, jersey skiffs, waterski show train rides and much more. For more information, contact Terry Fiest at terry.fiest@cubic.com
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APRIL

April 19	Spring Quarterly Meeting of the ACBS Board of Directors; Madisonville LA, Hosted by the new Bayou Chapter. All ACBS members are welcome. Related events are planned.
April 26	Spring Tour '08 hosted by Toronto Chapter. Located in Muskoka, Ontario. Join us and see what Ontario's boat restoration shops have been working on this winter. Day includes a hot sit down lunch in Port Carling. Local accomodation is available. For more information, contact Tim Aikenhead at taikenhead@sportables.ca

May

May 16-18	Muscatine Boat Show Visit MuscatineBoatshow.com for for information
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