



The Smoke Signal



VOLUME 14 ISSUE 4

July/August 2008

Newsletter of the **BLACKHAWK CHAPTER-ACBS**

Restoration of THOR

by Lange Custom Woodworking

This is Thor Of Oslo, it is a thirty foot 1958 Norwegian Cruiser. Originally built in Oslo Norway. The original owner Harold Koch had the boat built for export to his home on Pewaukee Lake. Even at this time it was very difficult after the war in Norway to get motors for recreational use. Harold Koch flew to the states to acquire a motor for Thor, and had it shipped to Oslo for installation.



After Thor was completed in Oslo, it was shipped to Pewaukee Lake and used as the Pewaukee Yacht Clubs flagship for years until it fell into disrepair and the family sold the boat. The present owner Dag Dvergsten {Harold's Grandson} always dreamt of someday finding Thor, and bring it back to Pewaukee Lake. Dag searched unsuccessfully for years and turned his attention to purchasing the family's original home on Pewaukee Lake; the home is the oldest on the lake, and the Dvergstens restored the home back to it's original splendor. One more interesting fact is, Dag and his family live in Oslo nine months of the year and three months on Pewaukee Lake.

Back to the story, Dag received a lead that the boat was now in Lacrosse ,Wi.

(Continued on page 3)

17th Annual Minoquca Antique and Classic Boat Show

July 25-27, 2008

by Eric Moberg

Once again Gordon Moore mobilized the troops to put together a great weekend of fun and entertainment while raising funds for the fight against multiple sclerosis. Helping out with the expanded agenda this year was Dave Bortner of Mahogany Bay. Between the concessions, Tee shirt sales and donations, the show raised almost seven thousand dollars for MS.



This year's festivities started a little earlier than in previous years, with an organized cruise and lunch on the Minoquca chain on Friday. This was a great chance to get to see the many beautiful inter-connected lakes, bays and channels – and cool boathouses-without fear of losing your way or having an equipment failure by your self. Although some violent thunderstorms passed through the area all day, the boaters escaped the worst of it. An ominous sky also greeted the Friday evening boat parade that kicks off the Min-Aqua Bat ski show, but the rain mostly held off, allowing that tradition to continue. Each boat is identified to the crowd as it cruises past the grandstand.

Saturday and Sunday were an entirely different story, with gorgeous weather. By show time on Saturday, the docks and grounds of Bosaki's were filling up with mahogany and classic glass beauties and woody cars; and the first of a steady flow of hundreds of spectators.

(Continued on page 4)

BLACKHAWK CHAPTER-ACBS

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info@blackhawkacbs.com

Or, contact Matt Byrne directly at :

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Here we are the year of August, the registration are at thirty some odd boats and growing. The Geneva Lake Boat Show promises to be another great show with boats never before entered. If you haven't registered it's not too late.

Dick Werner of the Columbia Willamette Chapter will be our new President of the ACBS. This chapter covers the Northwest and particularly the state of Oregon. He has been on the International Board since 2003 we can expect more great ACBS leadership.

Every year in the middle of August, the American Power Boat Association holds The Race Boat Regatta in Clayton, NY which is the home of the Antique Boat Museum. Knowing little about race boats, my curiosity got the best of me and being in New York anyway, I convinced my son this was an opportunity to explore a sub culture we knew nothing about. It was only a seven hour drive to see what turned out to be NASCAR Racing on water. One thing I learned in a hurry was ear plugs were the order of the day and when these boats leave the dock (most have no gear box) they are "good to go" or "no go." Some have a thousand horse power. You get the feeling you're standing next to the Space Shuttle on lift off! Well the point is, these boat represents great engineering and design, so if you ever get close to the boat race you won't be disappointed. As an aside, each year the Antique Boat Museum is getting better and better. Certainly, a collection of marine that craft could not to be reproached. The acquisition of the 100 year old McNally House Boat has placed this Museum on the map. It's always worth the trip just to see what the Museum had been up to.

Finally, I hope to see you in a couple of weeks at the show, it should be a good one.

George Plamondon

(Continued from page 1)

He flew from Oslo, to talk to the owner and was told the boat was not for sale. Dag told the new owner of Thor, "if they ever decide to sell Thor to call him", two weeks later he received a phone call from the owners wife who told him her husband had been unfaithful and the boat was now for sale; Dag immediately booked a flight and flew to Wisconsin to purchase Thor.

After a some unsuccessful attempts from other "restorers" Dag found Lange Custom Woodworking, and after the first meeting Thor was inspected to see if it was possible to restore it back to its original condition. Larry Lange of Lange Custom Woodworking went to Green Lake, WI to see the boat and found only a hull with nothing inside, no hardware, cabin top, motor, interior, flooring, NOTHING! Lange was awarded the contract to rebuild Thor with only a side view and top view drawing from the original builder. The rebirth of Thor started in October of 2007 with sketches to determine the basic layout; then they went on to full size mockups built from Styrofoam. They would then email pictures of the mockups to Dag in Oslo for approval, then full size fiberboard patterns would be made and installed on the boat; i.e., like the cabin sides, roof, and helm station.

After they determined that all the proportions were correct, they would then start cutting Mahogany. Lange's crew had to replace most of the side planking and all the top decking that was installed by the previous "restorer". The boat was completely assembled, including the hardware, and then taken completely apart for finishing. They applied 20+ coats of varnish to all the now loose parts and the hull. After the finishing was complete, the boat was re-assembled and then it was on to the upholstery and installing all the mechanicals from scratch. They chose modern power for reliability and brought the boat into the 21st Century, by adding a bow thruster, G.P.S. depth locator, V.H.F. radio, refrigerator, ice freezer, and state of the art sound system; all of which you cannot see because Lange & the Dvergstens wanted to keep the boat looking original except for the Teak flooring.

Thor of Oslo was launched July 23rd on Geneva Lake for sea trials, which it passed with flying colors. Then it was back to Lange Custom Woodworking on the 24th for the final installation of the Helm seating, rear seating, and flooring.

Thor was then delivered to Pewaukee Lake on the 25th, exactly fifty years from when the boat was registered in Wisconsin, by Dag's grandfather, Harold Koch. This was the first time Dag and his family had seen the boat complete. A formal gathering at the Pewaukee Yacht Club for 100+ people were invited to celebrate in Thor's return to the lake, where all were amazed at it's transformation. Dag made a wonderful heartfelt speech explaining the history of the boat, his personal reasons for having it restored and how Thor was the boat of Pewaukee Lake, and how so many of the residence had either been on Thor, or remembered it from when they were kids! Lange Custom Woodworking, Inc. was honored to have the opportunity to restore a dream to so many people. and as Dag said, "If you can visualize something, it can become a reality".



(Continued from page 1)

Saturday afternoon entertainment was provided by the voice and guitar of Ron Harrison, punctuated by the occasional growl of an old engine firing up. Equally entertaining was the concession area, staffed by friends and family of Gordon, who served up a steady flow of brats, beers, sodas, and one-liners all day both days.

To cap off an already great weekend, the famous Budweiser Clydesdales made an appearance on Sunday afternoon, strutting down the main drag of town and stopping in front of Bosaki's for photo opportunities for all.



The award winners were as follows:

- Best Outboard – Mike Porrey's 1958 Carver
- Best Century – Dave Bortner's 1961 Century Coronado
- Best Post-war Chris Craft – Ralph Marrison's 1956 Continental 26'
- Best Pre-war Chris Craft – Dave Bortner's 1940 Chris Craft
- People's Choice – John Kwitek's 1932 Gar Wood

The Minocqua show is one of our favorites, and we keep coming back year after year. The pristine waters, fresh pine-scented north woods air, friendly people and relaxed atmosphere make this show a winner. Add in the loons and eagles frequenting the dock area, and the wildlife visible on shore and on the nearby Bear-skin hiking / biking trail and you have a great getaway.

Come up for next year's show, scheduled for July 24-26, 2009, and you too will be hooked.



WHAT'S IN YOUR OIL?



Last spring during the Tech Session someone asked about whether I had heard about recent problems with engine oils. I hadn't, and replied that the worst oils today are better than the best oils 50 years ago. We'll, I was wrong. After looking into what's been going on in the world of engine oil, it seems we who have older engines, now have to be careful of the oil we use.

As the oil companies are not readily publicizing the changes being made, the facts are a bit murky. The situation seems to be continually changing, but I'll try to explain it the way I understand it today.

For a long time engine oils had an anti-scuffing additive (ZDDP) composed of a compound of zinc, phosphorus, & sulphur. This additive protected high pressure contact areas of older engines, such as gears and in particular cam lobes and lifters (flat tappets).

Since auto manufacturers are now required by law to guarantee their engine pollution control systems for a given length of time, and since ZDDP degrades catalytic converters, the auto manufacturers have asked the oil people to greatly reduce the Zinc compounds in the oil. The result has been a rash of cam and lifter failures in the type of engines we have in our classic boats.

These newer oils most commonly have the API Service Mark "SM". That mark is in the little donut on the oil bottle. Stay away from these "SM" oils. So why don't the engine manufacturers have problems with these oils in their newer engines? Most new engines do not have flat tappets anymore. Older oils, such as SL, SJ, & SH are OK if you can find them.

Many "off road" oils such as racing oils, Castrol GP, Pennzoil Z-7, etc. have good amounts of the needed anti-scuffing additives, these do not have the "SM" mark. But some also have added "friction modifiers" to make the oil very slippery. Friction modifiers are OK if you have a later hydraulic transmission (reverse gear), but not so good if your boat has a manual shift transmission.

Since "wet clutch" transmissions with manual shift, such as all the Chris Craft flat head sixes, share their oil with the engine, friction modifiers can cause the trans to slip, especially the older ones with worn clutch plates. So now what?

If your boat does not have a manual shift transmission, there are lots of choices. For now the oils mentioned above, as well as Shell Rotella T and other heavy duty diesel and racing oils will be OK. Although catalytic converters are now showing up on some diesels, so be cautious in the future.

Some of these may (or may not) be OK for the wet clutch transmissions that share the engine oil, for these the choices are far fewer. Right now, and I don't know for how long, Shell Rotella T seems OK. And there are a few oils that are specifically noted to be good for "wet clutch" applications, these are usually motorcycle oils. My next oil change will use one of these motorcycle oils.

If anyone out there has more to add to this story, let us know.



Antique & Classic Boat Society January 2009 Board of Directors Meeting at Sea.

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*Prices are per person, cruise only, based on double occupancy and in U.S. dollars. All itineraries and prices are current at the time of printing and subject to change without notice. Certain restrictions may apply. Government departure taxes and fees are additional. ©2008 Royal Caribbean International® ships registry: The Bahamas. 08011342 • 4/24/2008

Fall Dinner & Meeting

Blackhawk Chapter

A.C.B.S

Sunday, October 26th 4:00 P.M.



at

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Please RSVP to George Plamondon

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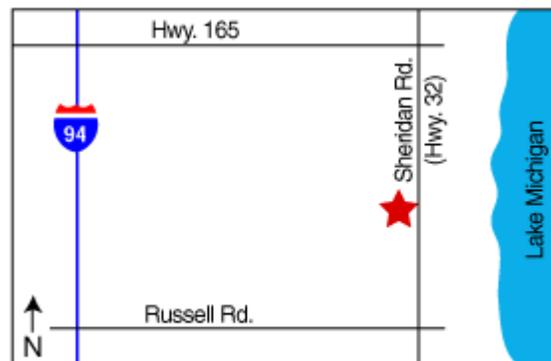
(312)-505-5455(mobile)

[georgeplamondon@hotmail](mailto:georgeplamondon@hotmail.com)

Direction

From I-94: Exit Hwy. 165 and drive east to Sheridan Road. Turn right (south) on Sheridan Rd. (Hwy 32 - A Wisconsin Scenic Lake Drive) and drive 1 mile. You'll find us on your right on the west side of Sheridan Road.

From I-94 - South of Kenosha: Exit Russell Road and drive east to Sheridan Road. Turn left on Sheridan and continue north 1 mile. You'll see us on your left.



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GENEVA LAKES 2008 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS DESCRIPTION

-FRIDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

Friday launching is available all day from 9:00AM to 9:00PM. If you could come early this would be a good day to enjoy Geneva Lake on your own. For those wishing to visit the 75 foot "**HATHOR**" currently being restored at the **Walter Larkin Boat Houses**, the Boat Houses will be open from Noon to 2PM. You can arrive by either your boat or auto. Land and water directions will be available for those interested.

Friday evening Larry and Sue Larkin will be hosting Cocktails and Dinner at their home on Geneva Lake, starting at 6:00PM. You can arrive by your Boat or auto, docking space will be provided. Boat rides will also be available before dinner from the Larkin pier. Various boats will be taking people out including the 81 foot "**SEA LARK**", a re-creation of an 1890's steam yacht.

-SATURDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

Show Registration Packet & Docking Assignments will be available 7-9:30 Saturday at the Abbey Harbor House near the ramp. **Launching** is at the same time. Come in and pick-up your dock assignment **before** driving up to the ramp. A **complimentary continental breakfast for boat registrants** is available here until 10am.

Boat Show from 10 AM to 4 PM, free to spectators.

The **4pm Boat Parade** allows another opportunity to get out onto one of Wisconsin's largest and deepest lakes, enjoying the fall scenery. If taking your boat on the parade, be sure to attend the Skip-pers meeting @ 3:30 in the Show Tent.

Saturday's Cocktail Party and Dinner will be held at the Abbey Resort in the Sand Bar Room. Cocktails at 6:00PM., Dinner at 7:00 Awards will be presented at dinner.

-SUNDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

Sunday morning have a leisurely breakfast or go boating for the day, but be sure to have your boat out of the Harbor by the end of the day. There is no boat show on Sunday this year.

We look forward to having you join us for any of the activities. It's always been a fun weekend and we hope you'll leave with fond memories. See you in September!

For additional information: www.genevalakesboatshow.com
Chrysalis40@att.net
847-395-8902



The Blackhawk Chapter ACBS invites you to participate in

The Geneva Lakes Annual Antique and Classic Boat Show

At the Abbey Harbor, Fontana, WI Sept 27, 2008

NAMES(s) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL _____ FAX _____

	Number of Boats		Total Per Event
Saturday, September 27 Boat Registration			
"IN WATER" Boat Registration, includes launching and dock space for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.	_____	\$45 ea. Before 9/7 \$65 ea. After 9/7	_____
"ON LAND" boat registration	_____	\$30 ea. Before 9/7 \$40 ea. After 9/7	_____
Additional charge for "For Sale" boats.	_____	\$25 ea.	_____
Number of People			
Friday, September 26 Cocktails and Dinner hosted by Larry and Sue Larkin at their home on Geneva Lake	_____	\$40 ea. Before 9/7 \$46 ea. After 9/7	_____
	_____	Children under 16 FREE	
Saturday, September 27 Dinner: includes entrée, salad, sides, dessert, coffee, tea, milk, tax, and tip.			
	QTY		
Choose:-Grilled Mahi Mahi topped with Mango Pineapple Salsa and Ginger Wild Rice	_____	\$40 ea. Before 9/7 \$46 ea. After 9/7	_____
-Herb crusted Prime Rib w. Horseradish Cream Sauce and Rosemary roasted Red Potatoes	_____		_____
TOTAL			_____

Make checks payable to: "**Blackhawk Chapter, ACBS**"
REGISTRATION, DINNER, & EVENT FEES ARE NOT REFUNDABLE

Please make hotel reservations directly w/The Abbey Resort, 800-709-1323

For additional info contact:

Web www.genevalakesboatshow.com
Cindy Cartner 847-395-8902
Chrysalis40@att.net

SEND REGISTRATION BEFORE 9/14 TO:

Blackhawk Chapter
C/O Ted & Cindy Cartner
PO Box 683
Antioch IL 60002-0683

**DEADLINE FOR ALL RESERVATIONS AND ACTIVITIES IS SEPT. 14th.
But some events may close before then as SPACE IS LIMITED**

**The Blackhawk Chapter 2008 Geneva Lake Boat Show
September 27, 2008**

BOAT INFORMATION

Make _____ Model _____

Name _____ Year _____ Length _____ Beam _____

Engine: Make _____ Model _____ HP _____

BOAT AWARD CATEGORY: Please check all that apply.

Wood _____ Fiberglass _____ Steel _____ Aluminum _____

Utility _____ Runabout _____ Launch _____ Outboard _____ Cruiser _____

Canoe _____ Sail _____ Rowing _____ Raceboat _____

Other _____ (please explain) _____

Would you like your boat to be judged for most Original/Unrestored? YES _____

I hold free and harmless the officers and volunteers of the Blackhawk Chapter and the Antique and Classic Boat Society, Inc., and the owners and staff of the Abbey Resort and Abbey Harbor, and Sponsors from any and all actions, claims, liabilities, assertions of liability which in any manner arise or be alleged to arise from any and all activities connected directly or proximately with the event listed above.

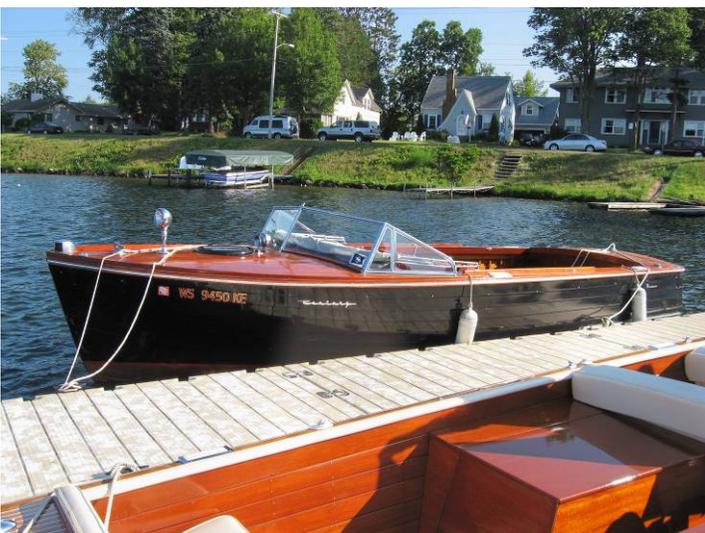
Signature: _____ Date: _____

This must be signed before entering the Boat Show area.

We need volunteers to help during the Show! If you can help please check here _____

**SPACE IS LIMITED, ALL REGISTRATIONS ARE ON A FIRST COME / FIRST SERVE
BASIS. RESERVATIONS DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 14th.**

More Pictures from the Minoquca Boat Show



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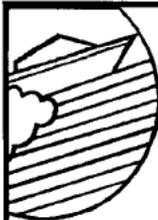
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FOR SALE: 1955 Chris Craft 20' Contental KLC-125 H.P. Convertible top, custom cover, original bottom tite, newer upholstery, single axel trailer \$25,000 Ron 708-442-9753

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The Smoke Signal

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Twin Lakes, WI 53181

