

JGTSCA



John Gardner Traditional Small Craft Association

Welcome to the John Gardner Chapter of the
Traditional Small Craft Association

Visit us at the Community Boat House: Building #36 UCONN Avery Point
1084 Shennecossett Rd, Groton, CT 06340

Complete New Tender Build as well as Winter Dory Maintenance
at UCONN Avery Point Boat House Building 36

Quarterly Business Meetings Sundays 1 pm Jan 14, April 7, July 7, Oct 6th. Weekly Work Meetings Fridays at 5 pm. Unless changed, all meetings at the Boathouse. Check Website & Newsletters for updates.
Rowing and Sailing gatherings occur during the three seasons with special programs and visits planned throughout the year. All are welcome.

Local: www.facebook.com/JGTSCA and <http://www.jgtsc.org>

News from around the Chapter

Welcome to the John Gardner Chapter of the Traditional Small Craft Association! Visit us at the Community Boathouse, Building #36, on the University of Connecticut's Avery Point campus in Groton, CT. We invite you to attend one of our gatherings, go for a row, a sail or get involved in our next boatbuilding project.

Upcoming Events:

UCONN Avery Point Coastal Perspectives Lecture Series

Please join UCONN AP and CT Sea Grant for their 28th season. This annual lecture series spans the breadth of human interactions with coastal waters, including speakers from the natural and social sciences as well as arts and humanities.

- **All lectures will be available online AND in-person.**
- **No registration is necessary to join the online meeting.**

Tuesday, February 6, 2024; 7:30 p.m.

The Development, Construction and Fisheries Monitoring of Orsted's South Fork Wind Farm

Developing and building an offshore wind farm in the US is a long, complicated process which entails years of permitting and site investigation before construction can begin. Orsted's South Fork Wind project will be the first commercial scale offshore wind farm to be completed in the US. This project took almost 10 years to complete from the time of the lease purchase to delivery of first power. Part of the permitting process is developing and executing a fisheries monitoring plan to examine the effects of offshore wind construction and operations on commercially, ecologically and recreationally important species. This talk will

provide a high-level overview of the development process and construction activities for South Fork Wind including a detailed look at the fisheries monitoring for the project.

Visit the website for more details on the presenters and their topics: <https://marinesciences.uconn.edu/lectures/>

Want to Join us at the Live Event, In-Person?

The event is hosted in the Avery Point Auditorium (AUD): [Directions](#) | [Campus Map.pdf](#). Parking is free after 5 p.m.; closest lots are near the library (LIB) or in Lot B. Enter from the Academic Building main entrance, the auditorium is on second floor at the end of the hall (mobility-disabled accessible); or enter through or near the Student Center and go up two flights of stairs.

Want to Join the Online Lecture?

Click to sign on: <https://uconn-cmr.webex.com/uconn-cmr/j.php?MTID=mc2942830413ac0a17ac284d44bacdb8f>

- Meeting number (access code): 2634 524 4333
- Event password: coastal
- Join the audio conference only:
- +1-415-655-0002 US Toll
- Use meeting number (access code) shown above.

UPCOMING COASTAL PERSPECTIVES LECTURES:

Tuesday, February 20, 2024; 7:30 p.m.

Patrick Lynch, artist | author | designer | photographer

A Tale of Two Estuaries

Tuesday, March 5, 2024; 7:30 p.m.

Maura Coughlin, Ph.D., Department of Art + Design, Northeastern University

Ramshackle Housing and the Erasure of Nineteenth-Century Atlantic Fishing Communities

Tuesday, March 19, 2024; 7:30 p.m.

Samantha Siedlecki, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Marine Sciences, University of Connecticut

Title coming soon! (topic: ocean acidification)

Tuesday, April 2, 2024; 7:30 p.m.

Michaela J. Thompson, Ph.D., Sustainability & Environmental Management, Harvard Extension School

Shadows in the Water: What Sharks Tell Us About Ourselves

Tuesday, April 16, 2024; 7:30 p.m.

James T. Carlton, Ph.D., Professor of Marine Sciences Emeritus at Williams College and Director Emeritus of the Williams College-Mystic Seaport Maritime Studies Program

Krystal Rose, M.F.A., Curator of Collections, Mystic Seaport Museum

Spineless: The Magical World of Marine Invertebrates, and Perspectives on our Finger on the Pulse of Changes in Coastal Invertebrate Diversity

Solstice Row Report

Phil Behney reports: "The Solstice Row did take place albeit with only one participant (Myself) and a change of venue. I did go and wait at New London ramp, but it was very windy there so I ended up at the Pine Island ramp. I was not alone, Lobster men and Duck hunters were active, but much calmer water. I wore orange so there was less chance of mistaking me for the ducks. I did go to Mystic and dropped a boat at the Mystic Shipyard East.

I then went to the Harp and Hound and found no familiar faces. I guess next year I will have to stick to the tried and true Tradition of a Mystic River Row and row home in the dark!"

Phil Behney, JGTSCA Vice President

Sad News: Sid Whelan's Passing

We lost a great and good friend of our John Gardner Chapter, National TSCA and an active Volunteer at the Mystic Seaport Boathouse for many years. He will be greatly missed.

This from his friend and fellow Gardner Grant Committee member, David Cockey:

"Sid Whelan, one of the founders of both TSCA and the Gardner Grants, passed away on January 27. Sid was 94.

In the 1970's Sid knew John Gardner who was concerned about the impact of the new Coast Guard regulations on small craft. Sid contacted a Coast Guard Admiral who had been a classmate which led to the interaction between John and the Coast Guard, and ultimately the founding of TSCA. Sid had extensive experience with non-profits and provided guidance on the organization of TSCA and obtaining 501(c)(3) status.

After John Gardner's death Sid and Ben Fuller got the Gardner Fund and Gardner Grant program going under the auspices of TSCA. Sid served on the Gardner Grant committee from its inception, and was always interested in grants which would involve youth with traditional small craft.

Here is a link to his Legacy obit."

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/theday/name/sidney-whelan-obituary?id=54262823>.

Minutes of Latest Meeting:

JGTSCA Business Meeting

McQuades Restaurant

Mystic, CT

01/28/2024

Present: Chris Vargas, Daryl Simmons, Brian Cooper, Dan Nelson, Phil Behney, Matt McKenzie, Tonya Sandberg-Diment, Ted Stanton, John Hacunda, Ellie Czarnowski, Ian Bradley, Victoria Burdick, Karen Rutherford, Peter Vermilya

President Ian Bradley called the meeting to order at 10:48.

Treasurer's Report.

Ellie Czarnowski reported that she had sent checks for \$150.00 to the New London Maritime Society and for \$1.00 to UConn Avery Point.

Boat Shop Report

Boat Shop Manager Matt McKenzie reported that:

Dan Nelson was successful in sawing his boat in two (on purpose) and that no blood was spilled, nor spectators harmed in the process.

Aiden Davis will be returning to work on his Gardner Dory project.

One Club dory is in the shop for repairs and a second club dory will follow it, also for repairs.

Matt said he will work on setting regular shop hours.

Also discussed:

Tonya Sandberg-Diment would like to use shop space to re-canvas her Beetle Cat.

It was agreed that a derelict dory in the care of the Club should be dismantled in a way that preserves the frames for possible future use.

New Business

Phil Behney reported that he has been approached by UConn to help organize a joint event hosted by UConn and JGTSCA which would take place on one of the Saturdays between 04/27 and 05/25 (final date to be determined). The 9am to 3pm (estimated) event would involve JGTSCA members (who are also competent rowers) teaching at risk kids how to row in the JGTSCA dories. The kids are transitioning from high school to college and the event is being funded by the “Upward Bound” program. Phil said that this kind of event is central to the mission statement of JGTSCA and asked that members who are interested in volunteering to please get in touch with him at flipbeh@gmail.com for further information. The membership present unanimously voted its support for this event and to empower Phil to continue talking with UConn staff.

Matt McKenzie spoke about the benefits to all from JGTSCA working with the Estuarine Research program at UConn. He said, for example, that JGTSCA members had the kind of boats which could take students much further upstream than the outboard powered boats usually available for students when testing water columns, etc. Collaboration is good. JGTSCA members present unanimously voted to encourage Matt to further pursue his inquiries.

Ian Bradley said he was working to establish communication with other New England chapters of TSCA. Of particular interest were the CT River Oar and Paddle Club and the Cape Cod chapter. Inter-club exchange of event and program information will benefit all chapters in addition to JGTSCA.

There was discussion of the possibility of building a rack for the club trailer which would allow several boats to be moved at the same time. There was also support for storing all the dories at the Club’s facility at the West Mystic Shipyard East location. A rack could be built which would allow storing the boats upside down, not tipped on their edges as is now done.

Dan Nelson suggested that members fill in a Shop logbook which would include time in/out and work accomplished. He also said he would re-hook up the shop dust collection system.

Karen Rutherford passed on her husband Bill's plan to update the shop library at the Boat Shop.

Events:

A possible launch at a Thimble Island site with a round trip out to the Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge. Possibly June 8th and/or 9th.

The Wooden Boat Show and John Gardner Small Craft Workshop at Mystic Seaport, June 28-30, 2024. Volunteers wanted for presentations and to staff the booth on the beach. Contact Bill Rutherford at smallcrafter@gmail.com.

A possible launch at the CT State launch site on the Four Mile River (Old Lyme). Up/down the river is a possibility. July or August.

For latest info on all events, please check the JGTSCA Newsletter: <http://www.jgt sca.org/events.html>

The meeting was ended at 11:45am

Respectfully submitted, Peter Vermilya, Secretary.

Have an idea for a Row, Sail or an interesting place to visit?

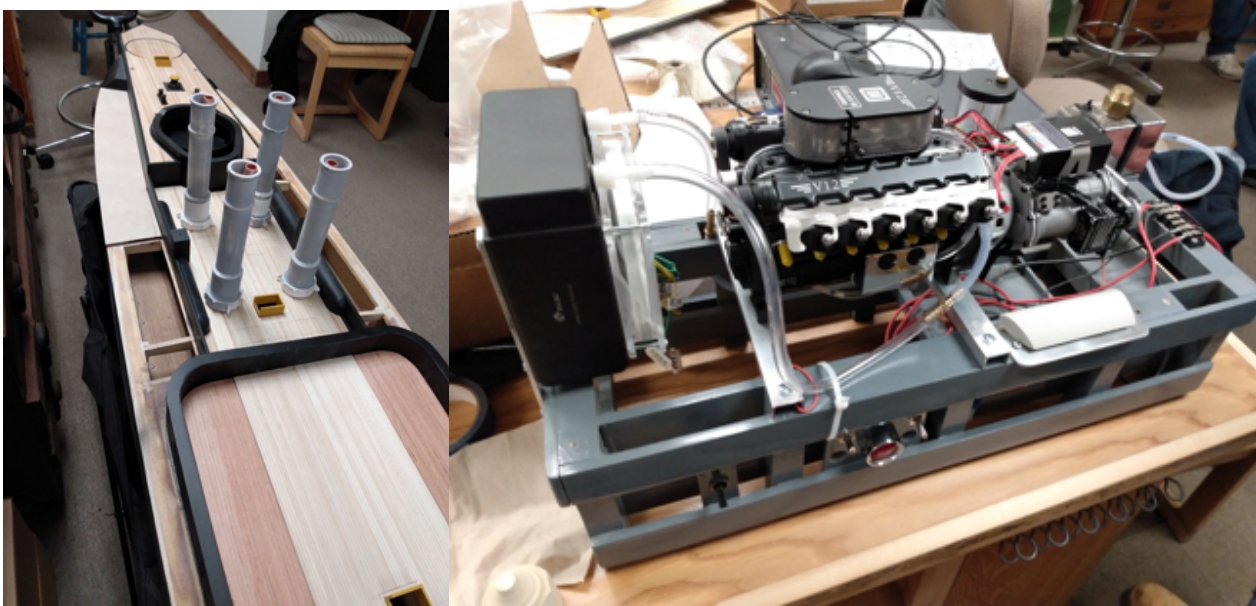
Contact Phil Behney flipbeh@gmail.com, Ian Bradley at iggbradley@gmail.com or Matt McKenzie at matthew.mckenzie@uconn.edu to set up a row and John Hacunda at john1hac@gmail.com to add it to our website's upcoming events.

Mystic Seaport Ship Modelers:

There were ten of us at the January meeting in spite of the early rain and flooding in some low areas nearby. After a pretty short update on business--mainly that the Tug Show (and railroad show) for sometime in June is still being scheduled, and I'll let you know once I know the dates. Otherwise, we'll be setting up the display in the John Gardner starting on about April 15th.

At the meeting we had a lot of projects shown and described. Hans showed us the Canterbury J sailboat hull he's modifying as an R/C demonstrator for our John Gardner display. Ian Sanderson showed us photos and information on the model of the Africa Queen he's building. I brought some plans I drew up for Jim D. for a 1921 racing boat called the Dixie Baby that he

wishes to build. We're also going to re-start work on the group project model of the Kingston II tugboat. Justin M. brought his huge SMS Bayern armored Corvette from 1877-8:



And a new V12 gas engine was shown by Jim Delaney, one of two he's gotten for a new model of the Miss America IX he's going to build.

Cheers! Bob Andrie, Mystic Seaport Ship Modelers mysticseaportshipmodelers@gmail.com

At the Mystic Seaport Museum Shipyard:



L.A. Dunton

Strategic demolition and cataloging

The lifting of the bow continues and is progressing well. Milling for new construction is now underway.



Catherine M. Wedmore

Stern and port side framing

Work on re-installing the shaft and rudder is up next. Work has started on the stuffing box.



Sharpie

Trevor is now working on the decking.



Mayflower II

Work has begun on seam maintenance and topside painting as well as laminating wood to be used to fabricate a new mizzen mast. The worm shoe is being replaced and the sea chests are being built.



Charles W. Morgan

The main deck skylights are continuing to be refurbished in the paint shop by our volunteers.

Wintertide Returns!

Presidents' Day Weekend | February 17–19

Shake off that cabin fever and celebrate the great outdoors in New England with three days of frosty fun at Mystic Seaport Museum! Bundle up to meet reindeer and winter working dogs! Check out ice sculpture demonstrations and family activities like games, crafts, and kid-friendly live music. Tickets are available [here](#).

Mystic Seaport Museum Upcoming Events:

Join us on Thursdays at 1:30 and 7:00 p.m. February through April as we continue the 2024 Adventure Series exploring the worlds of extreme racing and daring voyages and the indomitable human spirit necessary for both. From rowing across vast oceans to pushing the boundaries of technology in racing, these speakers have conquered challenges that most can only dream of.

Thursday, February 15: 87-Days Alone Rowing the Pacific: Lia Ditton's Record-Breaking Voyage from California to Hawaii

Thursday, March 21: Sam Greenfield: Along for the Ride with the World's Best Sailors

Thursday, April 18: Cole Brauer: A Journey Across Oceans and the Making of Maritime History

From the Mailbag:

Sharon Brown advised that “Jim Keefe organized a get-together at McQuade’s on Saturday December 16 for a group of Mystic Seaport Museum Boathouse colleagues. Despite busy holiday schedules ten gathered for food and good cheer. Their friendship and continuing support of The Boathouse spans decades. Whether there in person or not, they are emissaries in support of the goal of putting people out on the water in traditional small craft. The construction, maintenance and use of small wooden boats on the river was the initial focus and drawing card, but the camaraderie, developed over years of dedicated customer service, respect for and reliance on one another, the bond that resulted (L to R: Joe DeGange, Carmin Cimino, Steve Telsey, Max Maxwell, George Hess, Jim Keefe, Joyce Coleman, and Brian Hill; Rob Pittaway joined us briefly); Sharon Brown Photograph.”

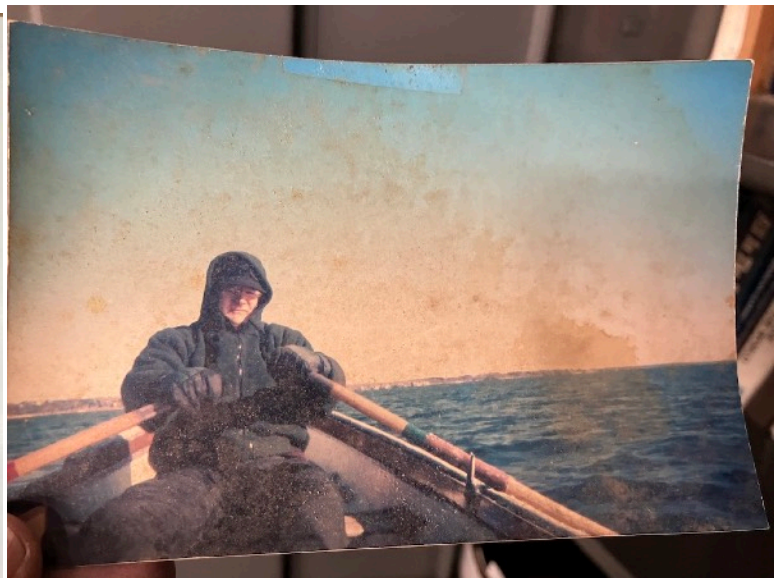
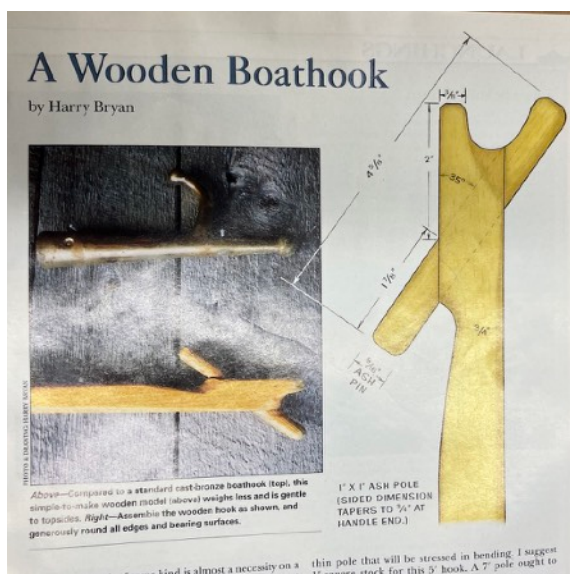
Mystic Seaport Boat Livery:



IT'S A WRAP: BEETLE CAT WILBUR LANGDON, SNUG FOR THE WINTER: L TO R: LARRY TYTLA, JIM MORROW AND MATTHEW STUART (BILL R PHOTO)

Avery Point Boathouse:


Meanwhile, over at our UCONN Avery Point Community Boathouse, your Editor has been organizing our "Library" (the olive drab metal cabinet in the far corner) while Dan Nelson is attempting to reassemble his Passagemaker Dinghy (after sawing it in half just prior to our January meeting). First, Dan's major boat surgery: see the whole gruesome sequence on our JGTSCA website under Scuttlebutt - photos by John Hacunda. It's worth it just to see Russ Smith show up with his tool of choice, a chainsaw.... <http://www.jgtsc.org/scuttlebutt> .



A COUPLE OF GEMS FOUND IN THE LIBRARY: A FLOATING BOATHOOK (IT'S WOOD) AND A PHOTO OF BILL ARMITAGE ROWING THE SNOW ROW, YEARS AGO...

This just in from John Hacunda:

" Attached please find the following announcement for an Irish Musical Celebration to support the New London Currach Rowers. The group provides rowing and racing opportunities in the traditional Irish Currach."



Let's Be Irish for a Day!
IRISH MUSICAL CELEBRATION

by renowned local band
The Bards of Gungywamp

To benefit the New London Currach Rowers

SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 24 4:00-6:30 PM

with
 Performance by Spirited Soles Irish Dance Academy


The Stumble Inne Restaurant and Pub
 90 Halls Road, Old Lyme

\$20 Concert ticket
 Special pub food menu available

Purchase tickets through this
 Paypal QR code or
<https://tinyurl.com/NLCURRACH>

adding Paypal's nominal user fee, or purchase tickets at the
 door, or ask about sending a check: row.currach.nl@gmail.com
To find out more about the New London Currach Rowers' activities, please "Like" our Facebook page at:
<https://www.facebook.com/nlcurrachrowers>

Together, the New London Currach Rowers and the
 Ancient Order of Hibernians, John P Holland Division
 promote Irish culture



**ALSO - Start your afternoon with a family concert of
 traditional Irish folk tunes sponsored by the
 Irish Coastal Club irishcoastalclub.com
 1:00-2:00 Westerly Public Library--Free & open to the public**

And from the Portuguese Holy Ghost Society, 26 Main Street, Stonington Village - Spring's a-comin'...

Our Friday Fish & Chips sales start on February 9th, 11:00 am to 7:30pm and runs for 8 consecutive Fridays including Good Friday.

So please pass the word around and we hope to see you there at the best Fish & Chips, Scallops and Shrimp in New London County!

It's a New Year, Folks - Remember your Dues!

LOCAL CHAPTER JOHN GARDNER TSCA CHAPTER DUES:

Join and Renew Online www.JGTSCA.org

or Mail to the following:

JGTSCA Treasurer

Community Boat Building #36

UCONN Avery Point Campus

1084 Shennecossett Road, Groton, CT 06340

\$35 for NATIONAL TSCA MEMBERSHIP DUES: Join or Renew Online at www.tsca.net and receive a copy of the "Ash Breeze". While you're there, check out nearby Chapter activities.

National TSCA: Our John Gardner Chapter does not require National TSCA membership but we strongly encourage it. National TSCA pays for the insurance that covers all of our shop and on-the-water activities and events like the John Gardner Small Craft Workshop that attracts many visitors. Please consider becoming a National member if you're not already. It's still only \$35/year and you'll receive the Ash Breeze, our quarterly boating journal and help pay our for our insurance.

View from the Side Deck:

Saw a beautiful sunset earlier this week from the side deck outside our Community Boathouse. Bright orange with low clouds. A lit-up ferry passed by...

Come by the 'Shop when you can. View Dan's Passagemaker dinghy before it goes out the door. Check out the Library - we have some classics there, some new donations and lots of boat plans for winter perusal. And kick around ideas for summer gatherings/activities, or some road trips to nearby museums while it's too cool for wading around in the water...

Let us know what interesting hikes you've found. What projects you have in your shop...



Here's a little portable bench of pine and poplar from our home shop made as a gift to a house painter friend. The hand hold in the center makes it easy to tote around. The feet are wide for stability for standing on and the height just right to sit for lunch. Finish is easy-on/easy-off Wipe-on Poly. It's just screwed together; easy disassembly for delivery.

What projects are you working on? Let us know and we'll share with the group.

Meanwhile, put your feet up by the fire and dream about summer...Bill & Karen

smallcrafter@gmail.com