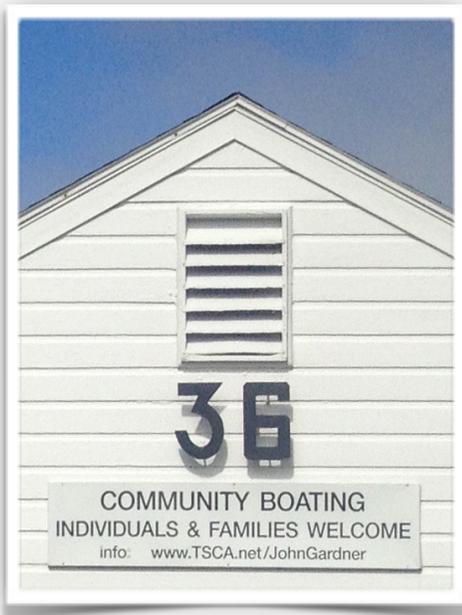


JGTSCA

John Gardner Chapter
of
Traditional Small Craft
Association



Welcome to John Gardner Traditional Small Craft Association.

Reminder: **our next monthly meeting is Friday, June 5th**; come early at 5:30 pm to share a pot-luck before the meeting. We are planning a Nautical Tag Sale **Saturday, June 6th**; stay tuned for details on that and mark your calendars for our TSCA Meet at the WoodenBoat show. A copy of the flier is enclosed; full information to sign up is on the Seaport website.

Whether you have an interest in traditional boatbuilding, messing about in small boats, or helping to preserve our maritime heritage come join us and share the camaraderie of kindred minds.

We invite you to attend one of our meetings, go for a row, or get involved with our next boatbuilding project.

VISIT US AT:

The Community Boathouse is Building 36, at the University of Connecticut at Avery Point or
<https://www.facebook.com/JGTSCA>
www.jgtasca.org

Boat of the Month: Traditional Chesapeake Bay Crab Skiff



Today at lunch we hard-working Seaport Boathouse Volunteers were enjoying the benches in the sun-warmed breeze overlooking the floating results of our winter labors when a pleasant fellow with a recognizable Maryland Eastern Shore accent stopped by to admire our bit of floating history. Seems he is a sportsman trot-liner who was bemoaning the loss of his "skaag-built" Privateer powerboat, sold, by the way, to a Down-Easter who drove all the way from Maine to trail it home. He was disappointed with his "skaag-less" replacement boat, even with its twin outboards because it tends to slide sideways and tangle props in the 5/16" trot line with chicken necks spliced in every six feet. Not fun to untangle.

I immediately suggested a new boat, a Chesapeake Bay Crab Skiff of, say, 15 feet with a fine, long skeg (we New Englanders pronounce it "skeg" for some unknown reason, but he did not mind) with a strong bow to handle that notorious Bay chop and a small sprit-sail to replace his two gas guzzlers. Its dead rise aft echoes the famous Skipjack stern and we all know how well they slip through the water, dredging under sail. He seemed dubious at first, but admired the idea of a rudder that ended flush with the skeg to keep from catching crab trap buoy lines.

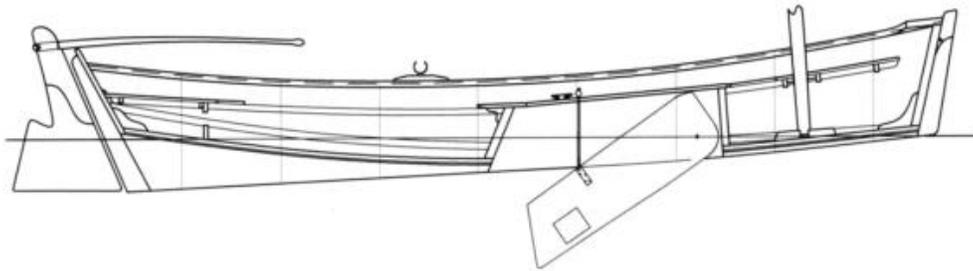
About that point in the conversation I had to go back to trying to repair a broken centerboard for Helen Packer, the Seaford Skiff anxiously waiting to get sailing again in time to entertain the weekend visitors, since the Boathouse Livery is now open weekends. Before parting, however, we exchanged emails and he expressed an interest in attending the St. Michaels Meet in October, a fine time

Continued on Page 2

Traditional Boat of the Month: Chesapeake Bay Crab Skiff: Continued from Page 1

for weather on the Eastern Shore. If he does come, I will introduce him to Karl Stambaugh who designed the beautiful Windward 15 Chesapeake Bay Crab Skiff which he later stretched to 17 feet, then enlarged to a 21 footer. See his "Windward Designs" booklet or visit his website at Chesapeake Marine Design www.CMDBoats.com and click Small Boats under 30'.

I also pointed our visitor to Doug Hylan's 15 foot Chesapeake Crab Skiff which is featured in a beautiful OffCenterHarbor.com video, sailing and rowing around a Maine Lakes fishing camp. A Maine designer and boatbuilder, he must have been smitten with Chappelle's crab skiffs on his way down to his Georgia winter home. He started with a 13 foot skiff which grew to 15 feet, my personal preference. I purchased a set of plans; I admire the simple sprit rig with its light mast that even a young guy like me can simply walk forward and step. If that old catboat mast gets any heavier, I may have a new crab skiff on my mooring. See it on www.dhylanboats.com. Click on Stock Plans and go to the Little Crab design and click on 15' Crab Skiff design.



Construction of these two skiffs is plywood screw and glue which could be modified to stitch and glue if you enjoy sanding fillets. Beam is 5 ft. or less so they row easily and move right along with a small outboard or even better with an electric trolling motor. There is a slight vee to the bottom forward that increases aft for quarters that slide by with minimal wake. Nice boat for a sail to Bluff Point beach, a moonlight sail in Stonington harbor or leave the sail home for a wine and cheese electric cruise to Sandy Point. (Photo and plan from Doug Hylan's website)

Fair Winds and put a bottle of Chablis on chill.
Regards, Mr. Cleat

On a Lighter side:

Why are portholes round? So when a wave comes, it does not hit you square in the face...

Haiku from Peter Vermilya:

**Summer
So short
So quickly gone**

Better spent in a good boat!

In the Feedback Booth:



More on Punts: they seem to be more common than we thought. Here is a photo of our George Spragg his personally built rowing punt of his own design, rowing this May using his forward facing oars to good advantage. Creativity based on a ubiquitous design.

For those of you who enjoy OffCenterHarbor.com, a punt is featured in their recent video from Tasmania. It is a lap streak butt ended boat with buoyancy enough forward to stand and fend off giant Huon logs but light enough to be dragged up rushing river gorges. Often they were built up in the mountains by the loggers themselves. They often had three layers of garboard streaks to fend off rocks. Tough guys in tough boats.

Feedback from New Zealand: from a reader of our webpage, a query regarding Mr. Cleat's experience rowing and sailing a Bolger Harbinger Catboat. I know he took Cactus Wren, at least twice up on the Maine

Island Trail and plans to do it again this summer so I'll try to find Cleat and get him to reply. I know he was in upstate New York opening his camp but he should be back soon.

Keep those comments coming, Regards, Padeye

Around the Boat Shops:

At our own **Avery Point Community Boathouse** the "Nina" skiff is progressing nicely. Led by George Spragg with Andy Strode, Rob Pittaway and your Editor working on Wednesdays and assisted by the general membership on Friday evenings, the rub rails are on, thwarts and spars varnished and painting commenced. Centerboard and rudder are under construction by Bruce Cresser and John Symons, respectively, soon to be installed. The goal is a launching at the WoodenBoat Show. Come join the fun.



At **Home Boat Shop**, **Peter Vermilya** has his Ducker in frame with planking about to start, **George Spragg** has the first of two fishing boats built on spec about done with a second not far behind and your Editor has finished wrestling with the odd bevels for the skirt pieces on his grandson's sea chest. Progress is being made on all fronts.

At the **Seaport Boathouse** excitement prevailed as catboat Elvira G Tucker was launched after seven years of intermittent construction! Led by Jim McGuire, staff, and volunteers Ed Rothman and Ted Stanton with name proudly painted by your publisher, Karen Rutherford, Elvira is now afloat, mostly, as she soaks up in readiness to participate in the Tuesday night Beetle Cat races, starting in June. Fourteen boats are in the water at the Boatyard floating docks with another three on moorings. Catboat Breck Marshall was rigged and ready to carry visitors last week; this week she is hauled at the shipyard for bottom and top sides paint. The Boathouse is now open weekends with every day duty scheduled to start the third week in June. Plan to come try out the Livery boats courtesy of WoodenBoat magazine during the WoodenBoat Show, the last weekend in June.



Nautical Market Place:

**A Briggs & Stratton
4 hp, 4 cycle for \$200. See George Spragg.**

John Gardner Chapter
of TSCA
Officers for 2015

President: Ellie Czarnowski

Vice President: Bill Rutherford

Secretary: Peter Vermilya

Treasurer: John Symons

Web Page: John Hacunda

VISIT US AT:

<https://www.facebook.com/JGTSCA>

www.jgt sca.org

Newsletter: Bill and Karen Rutherford

View from the Side Deck:

May is an interesting month at the Shore; depending on the wind, or lack thereof, you can have fog in the still, early mornings as the relatively warm air full of moisture drifts over today's 55 degree water. Then, when the afternoon southwest breeze picks up, it can blow the fog away as whitecaps start appearing at mouth of the river. That is the way it is now, breezy but still cool as the water chills the wind. A few miles inland, people are mowing lawns in tee shirts but here, I think I'll step inside to don a fleece vest before sanding spars prior to varnishing. Inside Sandy's Chaisson dory is primed and ready for paint; through the open door I can see Andy rolling and tipping bright red paint on the Club skiff, hear Rob sanding the mast with his sandpaper-inside-a-mailing tube invention and George at the band saw trimming the the oar lock pads. I'd better go.

But first let me share with you some upcoming events, the first of which is our own **Annual Tag Sale** fundraiser. Bring your spring cleaning treasures to the Boathouse this week so we can price them after **Friday's Potluck Monthly Meeting which starts at 5:30 pm**. The **meeting date is June 5th**; the **Tag Sale starts at 8 am on Saturday, June 6th**. Nautical items preferred, but we define that very, very broadly.

The following weekend, **June 11th through 14th**, is **Sea Music Weekend at the Seaport**. Daytime concerts and workshops are included in museum admission; evening concert tickets may be purchased. Musicians are coming from all over the world and festivities include a Sea Music Contra dance, a style of partnered folk dancing traditional to New England.

The **Mystic Small Ships Modelers** will be out front of the **Visitors' Reception Center** on **Saturday, June 20th, rain date the 21st**, with a table of static models as well as operating radio controlled boats in the water. With 30 plus boats planning to attend, it should be quite a show!

And remember our own **John Gardner Traditional Small Craft Meet** scheduled for **Friday, Saturday and Sunday, the last weekend in June**. Bring your boat and participate in rows up the river Saturday morning and down the river Sunday morning. Great fun; two very different experiences. Presentations are planned for all three days; contact me if you would like to do one. Right now we have Tales of TSCA's First Meeting, Designer's Thoughts on the Oar & Sail Cruiser, "Robin", Hands-on Oar and Paddle building demos, How to Maximize Speed and Efficiency of your Sprit Rig as well as a Norwegian Cruising in a CLC Skeery (Hello, is this America?).

Afternoons we will be touring the Seaport's Small Craft Collection, which is not often open to the public, while throughout the weekend WoodenBoat makes the Seaport Boat Shop Livery available for free; come by and get the feel of that boat you have been wanting to build. Sign up on the Seaport website; included is admission to the WoodenBoat Show venues.

And it is with great anticipation that we expect the launching of our Club build, John Atkin's "Nina", at the June Meet. Come see what color Andy picks for the final coat.

Meanwhile, Fair Winds as you launch into a fresh Boating Season.

Best Regards, Bill Rutherford

2015 Calendar

JUNE

Friday June 5, 5:30 pm: Business Meeting & Pot Luck & Preparation for Annual Tag Sale

Saturday, June 6 (Sale starts at 8 am till Noon) Annual Tag Sale

Friday June 26 - Sunday 28: Small Craft Workshop
& TSCA Meet @ Wooden Boat Show

JULY

Sunday July 5: Beach picnic and row/sail.
The Ophelia will be available to sail. Time and place TBD

AUGUST

Sunday August 2, Business Meeting TBD

SEPTEMBER

Sunday September 6, 1:30 pm:
Business Meeting & Pot Luck

TBD:Row the Lieutenant River in Old Lyme, Lunch at the Morning Glory Café.

OCTOBER

Friday October 2, 5:30 pm: Business Meeting & Pot Luck

NOVEMBER

Friday November 6, 5:30 pm: Business Meeting & Pot Luck

DECEMBER

Sunday December 6, 1 pm: Annual Banquet & Business Meeting

John Gardner Chapter TSCA
UCONN Avery Point Club House
Regular Business Meeting
May 1, 2015
Draft Minutes

JGTSCA President Ellie Czarnowski called the Meeting to order at 5:50pm.

Introduction of Members

Members Ellie Czarnowski, Peter Vermilya, John Symons, Bill Rutherford, George Spragg, Andy Strode, Phil Behney, Bill Armitage, John Hacunda, John Stambaugh, Sandy D'Esopo and Sid Whelan were present.

1. Minutes for the April 03, 2015 meeting

The Minutes for the 04/03/2015 Meeting, as published on the JGTSCA Website, were unanimously adopted:

http://www.tscanet.com/johngardner/minutes_apr15.htm

2. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer John Symons reported that the JGTSCA bank balance was \$4151.19 as of 5/1/2015. Income for the month was \$95.00 while expenses were \$216.99.

3. Old Business

a. Membership Dues report.

Sharon Brown is now a paid up member of the JGTSCA for 2015.

b. NINA, Club building project.

Andy Strode stated that the spars were nearly finished and that the boat was ready to be turned right side up. The seats have received 5 coats of varnish and the stem 1 coat. The rails will be installed and the bottom painted.

c. Fleet Report and Club Fleet Maintenance.

Phil Behney reported that two club dories were now outside the Shop awaiting maintenance and that the SUSAN B. HOLLAND was ready to be placed in the rack on the west wall of the shop. Bill Armitage said he intends to install nylon cleats on her rails to allow the boat to be tied off. He has installed the foot risers.

d. Shop Queue

Discussion of the Shop queue was included with item 4b under New Business.

e. Mamacoke Island Row

Phil Behney reported that he was the only JGTSCA member to go on the guided tour of Mamacoke Island on April 26th. He said that some twenty people enjoyed a very informative hike, that the geology was interesting, and the island was very pretty. He suggested a JGTSCA row to the island, perhaps in the Fall when the foliage turns. There is a good landing place for small boats.

f. Pine Island Cleanup w/ UConn marine sciences students Thursday 9-Apr

Ellie Czarnowski thanked John Symons and Andy Strode for their help in providing food at the Club House for UCONN students after the Pine Island clean up. She added that this is the Club's opportunity to stay connected with the college.

g. Annual Tag Sale.

Ellie Czarnowski urged members to bring to the shop their items meant for the Annual Tag Sale, Saturday, June 6th prior to the event. Members are urged to show up Saturday at 6am, if possible, to help lay out the items on tables. The Sale will run from 8am to 12 noon.

The regular business meeting and pot luck supper will occur on Friday June 5th at 5:30pm and will be devoted to getting ready for the sale.

Bill Armitage reminded members that they should price their sale items in advance and that they will not be permitted to buy any items before the Sale opens on Saturday.

John Hacunda will list the sale in the Day, the Patch and on Craig's List.

h. Establishing a regularly scheduled event at a definite location:

No further developments were reported.

i. Non on-water excursions

No further developments were reported.

j. Communications/Outreach

Bill Rutherford reported that Mystic Seaport Museum has been very cooperative in publicizing the TSCA-run John Gardner Small Craft Workshop on the MSM website. See:

<http://www.mysticseaport.org/event/small-craft-workshop/>

The SCW will occur in tandem with the WoodenBoat Show (June 26-28) at Mystic Seaport June 27 and 28th.

k. JGTSCA logo and mugs, hats:

No further developments were reported.

4. New Business

a. JGTSCA Bank Account authorized signatures:

Bill Armitage moved and Andy Strode seconded a motion that “The names of Ellie Czarnowski and Bill Rutherford be added to the authorized signature list for the JGTSCA Bank Account at the Chelsea Groton Savings Bank and that the name Karen Rutherford be removed.”

The motion was approved unanimously.

b. Chaisson Dory and Shop Queue:

Sandy D’Esopo proposed that the Club sell his Chaisson dory at the June 6th Tag Sale for a set price of \$2600.00. Of this \$2600.00, \$1600.00 would go to Sandy and \$1000.00 would go to the club. The Club would then put its \$1000.00 toward the purchase of a Saw Stop table saw which would replace the present table saw. Sandy said that dory would need to be brought into the shop so that repairs could be finished before it could be sold. Sandy said that he and other volunteers would be able to accomplish this work by June 5th.

Considerable discussion occurred around issues of shop space, available manpower for this and other club projects, and the fairness of changes to the shop queue.

Bill Armitage made a motion, which was seconded by Phil Behney:

“That the Chaisson dory be brought into the shop, repaired, and sold at the June tag sale, and that the dory must be gone from the Club premises by the second week in June”

The motion was passed unanimously.

It was the sense of the members present that, to make this possible, the SUSAN B HOLLAND would be moved to the west racks and the NINA would be moved toward the east wall so that the Chaisson dory could be moved into the shop and that enough room would be available so that one of the Club dories could be moved into the shop for seasonal maintenance on an as-needed basis.

5. Correspondence

Nat Trumbell, Director of the UCONN Avery Point Maritime Studies program invited JGTSCA members to attend a student and faculty picnic which was held from 12:30 to 3PM on May 1, 2015.

Andy Strode represented the Club.

6. Other

- a. George Spragg said that there would be a Tag Sale at the Thames Yacht Club on May 2nd, 2015.
- b. Ellie Czarnowski urged members to suggest a speaker for the JGTSCA December meeting.
- c. John Symons said that he had placed a foot pump for inflating the air rollers in the garage at the Club site at the Mystic Shipyard East location.

7. 2015 Activities:

June

Business Meeting with a pot luck supper to prep for Tag Sale, Friday June 5th.

Annual Tag Sale, Saturday, June 6th, 8am to 12 noon.

Wooden Boat Show, June 26 thru 28th, Mystic Seaport

Small Craft Workshop, June 26th thru 28th, Mystic Seaport

July - August

Business meeting TBD

Sail and Row to a beach (TBD) for picnic and sailing the Ophelia (and the NINA)

September – October

Row the Lieutenant River in Old Lyme, Lunch at the Morning Glory Café.

8. Motion to Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was unanimously adopted at 6:31pm

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Vermilya, JGTSCA Secretary



Welcome Participants
John Gardner Small Craft Workshop
Brought to you by TSCA, WoodenBoat and Mystic Seaport
June 26-28, 2015

Mystic Seaport is partnering with WoodenBoat and Traditional Small Craft Association to host the John Gardner Small Craft Workshop as part of the WoodenBoat Show. Participants can both enjoy the Show and follow John Gardner's example to show that traditional small craft are a practical and economical way to enjoy the water. The Small Craft Workshop will be based on the Australia Beach where a string of floats will be provided for our use. The Workshop will include display of participant's boats, shared use of participant's boats at the discretion of the owner, demonstrations of small boat skills, morning rows on Saturday and Sunday and guided access to the Museum's boat storage area. This should be a great time to get together with like minded traditional boat folks, to share our love and knowledge of traditional small craft with others and spend some quality time with friends new and old on the beach and underway. We encourage workshop participants to volunteer to assist with one or more of these activities.

Please be sure to send in your registration form by June 19. Your registration fee includes access to the three day WoodenBoat Show.

WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES

Use of Participant's Boats:

Workshop boats will be located on the beach or the floats at Australia beach to be available for use by others at the boat owner's discretion. Participants will need to oversee the use of their boats. To be consistent with the rules of the adjacent boathouse, the wearing of PFD's when boating is encouraged so please bring PFD's for yourself and your crew.

Mystic Seaport Boat House Livery:

WoodenBoat has made the Boat House Livery available for you to try out a variety of rowing and sailing craft at no charge. The Boat House rental boats will be in operation during the Workshop at no charge during the weekend so feel free to experience any or all of their beautiful collection of rowing boats. The Boat House will operate independently from the Workshop with their own rules.

Demonstrations and Workshops:

Several workshops are planned on both land and water. Participants are encouraged to attend, suggest ideas and perhaps present topics which may include rowing and feathering, sculling, rigging, reefing, anchoring, sail setting, knot tying, making hardware or outfitting for safety. The plan is to have these presentations take place on Friday at 3pm, Saturday at 11am, 1pm and 3pm and Sunday at 11am and 1pm. Contact Bill Rutherford at smallcrafter@gmail.com with ideas or to volunteer.

Morning Row:

Workshop attendees who wish to join the cruise down the Mystic River to Mason's Island or up river to Old Mystic (the direction depending on favorable wind and tide) should gather at Australia Beach at 8am on Saturday and/or Sunday. Efforts will be made to place participants who did not bring a boat a place on another attendee's boat or a JGTSCA dory.

Mystic Seaport Small Boat Collection Open House:

The Museum's Small Boat Collection which is not normally open to the public will be open each day of the Show from 2:30pm to 4:30pm. It is accessed through the loading dock doors in the rear of the Collections Building across from Latitude 41. TSCA will offer a guided tour of the Collection leaving from the TSCA Booth at Australia Beach at 3:30pm both Saturday and Sunday afternoons. A few other small boats on display may be observed on the way across the Museum campus as opportunity presents.

Saturday Night Dinner:

On Saturday night, join other WoodenBoat Show participants in the River Room at Latitude 41 for dinner. Tickets for the Tribute Dinner must be purchased in advance of the Show by calling the WoodenBoat Store at 800-273-7447 or [online at the WoodenBoat Store](#).