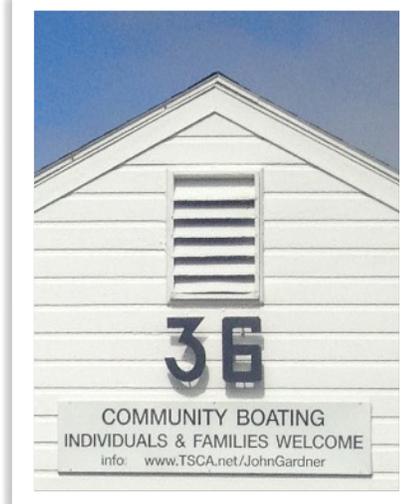


JGTSCA



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

Installing fully adjustable rowing positions in Chapter Dories
at UCONN Avery Point Boat House Building 36

Next Meeting: In Person Meetings will resume as Feasible
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.jgtsca.org>

National: www.TSCA.net

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.

Our in-person monthly meetings are on hold awaiting the latest COVID storm to blow over. We cancelled our January and February monthly meetings. President Brian Cooper will let us know by email when, in compliance with UCONN guidelines (see below), we will again hold meetings at the Boathouse. Make sure your dues are up to date to receive these and other emails. Fortunately, most of our activities are outdoors oriented. If you have an activity or event you would like to lead, email Brian at CooperBD@aol.com. Upon review, he or John Hacunda will post it to our Website Events Page. The Activity Leader will maintain a separate email list for the event. That will simplify communications as well as easily advise the specific group of individuals interested in the event of any updates or changes. Monitor our Events Website page to stay up to date at <http://www.jgtsca.org/events.html>. See this newsletter's next few pages for currently planned events (as of 2/25/22).

Brian advises that members are still able to visit the Avery Point Boathouse. UCONN COVID precautions are available at <https://covid.uconn.edu/campus-guidelines/>. Students are back on Campus. As of 2/25/22: Masking is required outside buildings where a 6 ft distance cannot be maintained, Masks are required when indoors with the following exceptions: for those working alone in an enclosed space, such as an office, lab, or while seated in a cubicle with walls that are five feet tall or higher; 50% capacity or 6 ft. spacing is recommended for indoor events. When eating indoors, 6 ft physical distancing must be observed. Avery Point Campus has had 0 reported cases since 12/28/21 and 95% of Students and 97% of Employees are vaccinated.

Upcoming Events:

May Shakedown Sail/Row: Sun May 1st 8:30am - 4:00pm

Barn Island Boat Launch, 249 Palmer Neck Rd, Pawcatuck, CT 06379, USA



Launch from the Barn Island Boat Launch

Arrive early enough to be on the water at 8:30 am (High tide at Stonington is 0943)

Barn Island to Napatree Point with a stop for lunch.

Return will be via Sandy Point and Stonington Harbor. (Approx. 10 miles)

For more information contact Matt McKenzie matthew.mckenzie@uconn.edu

Shop-to-Shop John Gardner [ersatz] "Classic"

Sat May 28th 8:00am - 5:00pm

Peruzzotti Boat Launch, 140 South Rd, Groton, CT 06340, USA



Arrive early enough to be on the water at 8:00 am (High tide at Noank is 0825)
Catch the east-running tide to Noank then ride the back eddies up the Mystic River to the John Gardner Boat Shop at Mystic Seaport's Australia Beach. Lunch break and folks can take part in the Seaport's "Story Boats" events until slack tide. Then we will run back down the Mystic River to catch the fair tide back to the Peruzzotti launch. (Approx. 20 miles)

For more information contact Matt McKenzie matthew.mckenzie@uconn.edu

SAFETY NOTE This trip will bring us into Fishers Island Sound for a good stretch. Participants should be comfortable with wind, chop, boat wakes and channel crossings.

Small Craft Workshop at WoodenBoat Show Fri Jun 24th 9:00am - Sun 26th 4:00pm

Waterfront Boathouse, Mystic Seaport, 75 Greenmanville Ave, Mystic, CT 06355



The Small Craft Workshop will be held in conjunction with the WoodenBoat Show at Mystic Seaport. We will be planning rowing and sailing events, educational sessions, and other activities for small craft enthusiasts. The Small Craft Hall is planned to be open for Workshop participants as well as WoodenBoat Show attendees. For more information contact Bill Rutherford at smallcrafter@gmail.com

We are already looking forward to a fantastic weekend celebrating wooden boats! Please mark your calendars now for the 30th Annual WoodenBoat Show, **June 24-26, 2022!** Remember, your Workshop wrist band provides entry to all WB Show activities and presentations for all three days. For more details see **WoodenBoat Show**

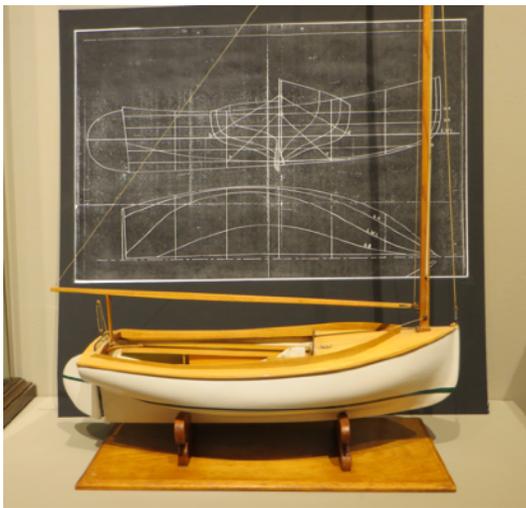
Escape to the Cape

by John Hacunda

Becalmed in the February doldrums. The cheer of the holiday lights has faded behind our transom and the prospect of warming seas and summer festivities still lies somewhere ahead on the horizon. When New England winter has us yo-yoing between a blizzard dumping over a foot of snow one week, followed by a spring-like thaw with temperatures arcing into the 50s, sometimes a change of scenery is in order.

A short drive from the Rhode Island coast and over the canal bridge lies Cape Cod – its mighty arm jutting out into the Atlantic – slumbering while it too awaits the onslaught of the summer tourist season. It may be quiet on the Cape now, but there’s still boatyards to explore in search of that “perfect boat”, hearty clam chowder to savor, and the wonderful Cape Cod Maritime Museum to visit.

The Cape Cod Maritime Museum located in Hyannis, MA contains an engaging collection of exhibits and artifacts celebrating the Cape’s maritime heritage. The museum provides educational programs, rowing opportunities, and boatbuilding courses.



Weneumet Kitten

A 13'6" catboat first designed in 1901 by Reuben Bigelow of Pocasset, MA. The first Kitten was built in 1935 by Reuben's son Cecil of R. Bigelow & Co. The Weneumet Bluffs Yacht of Pocasset has been racing its fleet of Kittens since 1942.

This model was built by George Jenkins of Pocasset in about 1947 as a 15-year-old boy.

The Quest for Cod

Learn about the changes to the fishery out of Provincetown over the past two hundred years. From wooden sailing boats to steam-powered vessels and modern diesel trawlers, there have been many changes to harvesting, processing, and the preservation of the fishery.





Beetle Cat under restoration in the museum's boatbuilding workshop. The Beetle Cat is an American sailing dinghy that was first built in 1921. It is a smaller adaption of the traditional Cape Cod catboat originally intended for fishing in shallow waters.



Bruce Colvin, the Boatwright & Facilities Manager at the museum. Bruce is very friendly and happy to share his knowledge and love of wooden boatbuilding with all who visit.

My spirits duly restored from my winter getaway; I feel confident that I can weather the remaining days of winter that Punxsutawney Phil has sentenced us to. Soon spring will arrive along with the prospect of another fun season of boating and outdoor activities.



Learn more about the Cape Cod Maritime Museum at www.capecodmaritimemuseum.org

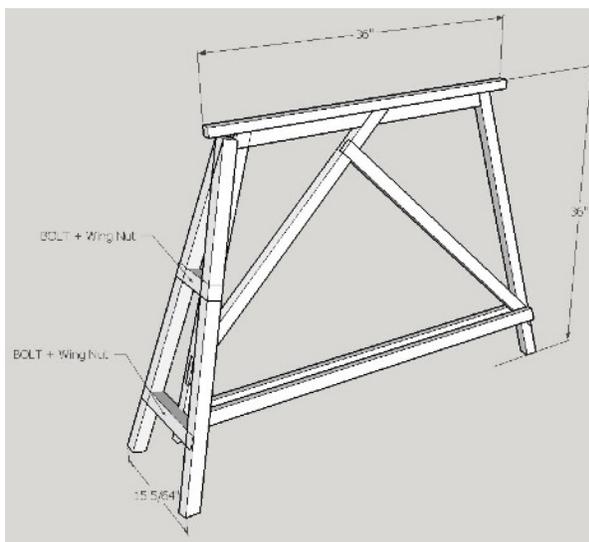
The museum also has an ongoing Lecture Series which are available for viewing at: <https://www.facebook.com/CapeCodMaritimeMuseum/videos/>

Thank you, John, for that Trip Report. The Cape Cod Maritime Museum capecodmaritimemuseum.org also hosts the Cape Cod Chapter of the Traditional Small Craft Association (CCTSCA). Their main project is rehabilitating an original 24-1/2 ft. Race Point Surf Boat that was donated to them by the Cape Cod National Seashore. Recently, they replaced the keel (no big deal, Right?....). See their montage of photos at <https://www.capecodmaritimemuseum.org/surfboat-restoration>. Among the volunteers is Avery Pond Boatyard's Owner/Designer/Builder Tony Davis. If you happen out Barnstable way let CCTSCA's Bill Stirling know at billstirling08@gmail.com and ask him about his replica Breck Marshall Catboat "Harbinger". Bill and his wife Shelly often attend our John Gardner Small Craft Workshops with their beautiful 13 ft. Doug Hylan Peapod.

We just received a note from Bill Stirling advising that **Cape Cod TSCA's Spring Meet is on at Kalmus Beach, Barnstable May 21st.** They will have their 27' Whitehall and 4 oared coxed gig available for anyone to row. Mark your calendars. Flier to follow.

Avery Point Community Boathouse

Brian Cooper has been busy building one of his collapsible saw horses for the AP Boathouse like the one he uses at our JG Small Craft Workshops to hold his work while he carves Greenland Kayak paddles. He starts with a sketch-up diagram which shows the long vertical section held in place by a detachable "A" frame leg. He then goes to his favorite lumber source, free pallet wood, and cuts lap joints with a router, adds spacers, nuts and bolts:



The next photo shows the assembled "Saw Horse", kayak paddle horse, whatever you want to call it standing on its own in the middle of our AP Boathouse floor. The long, low horizontal piece is for holding down with your foot while carving away with a spokeshave. Next to it is a chair seat Brian rescued and gave new legs. Stop by the Boathouse and check them out.



Bill Armitage's Driveway Shop:

Bill has been busy in his new digs down in Delaware. Here are photos of his latest, a come apart-able one person rowing boat. Note his foldable saw horses; multipurpose. We hope to hear of him being sighted rowing on the beautiful nearby Rancocas Creek.



Mystic Seaport Ship Modelers



This just in from Bob Andrlé, leader of the MSSM group: "Think about if/what/when you'd like to join us in the John Gardner Boat Shop during the season and if you have any ideas on displays etc. that we can include. (MSSM moves into the first floor of the Shop April 1st).

Also, my wife has graciously offered to fix up our website (<http://www.mssm.wildlifeofct.com/>) so if you have any especially nice photos of your models that you'd like to have posted please send them to me, along with a caption including the ship name, whether it is a kit, modified kit or scratch built, static or RC. Where did they get the plans, etc. And your name if you want it included, or specify not. I'd like to get a wide variety of models by type, skill level, etc. up there so that people find our site searching the web for whatever kind of ship model."

(This photo is of Bob and his latest Pinky Schooner - beautiful work.)

Mystic Seaport Boat Livery Shop



Things are flying along as we hit our stride this winter. We have half a dozen completed boats in under the Claggett Boat Shed ready to enter the Livery, three boats in the Livery Shop, two boats and lots of oars in the JG Boatshop and at least one boat in the Shipyard Paint Shop. New this year is a recently acquired 12 ft. Beachcomber-Alpha Dory which will be fun to sail.

MORSEL (FOREGROUND) AND RAVEN IN THE LIVERY SHOP



THE BEACHCOMBER-ALFA W/ FRESH TOPSIDES



THREE WILLIAMS-MYSTIC STUDENTS ASSIST

If you would like to volunteer at the Boathouse to assist with either winter maintenance or summer rentals, contact Carrie Moore, Assistant Director of Volunteer Services at carrie.moore@mysticseaport.org. We also could use some random tools for the shop, so if thinning out, please let Boathouse Supervisor Nick Parker nick.parker@mysticseaport.org know what you have.

Completed boats splash PILOTS weekend, the second weekend in May, in time for weekend openings starting in mid-May. Rental fees are anticipated to be waived again this year....

Mystic Seaport Museum

***Liberty* Cruises This Winter Through March 27**

Grab your blankets and get out on the water! We are offering *Liberty* cruises this winter, Thursday through Sunday from 2:45 - 3:10 p.m. Bundle up and enjoy a scenic cruise along the waterfront!

Liberty cruises require a ticket and are first come, first served. Tickets are free and available at the North Entrance Gate in the Thompson Exhibition Building.

GUIDED TOURS OF THE HENRY B. DUPONT PRESERVATION SHIPYARD & WATERCRAFT HALL, FRIDAYS and some SATURDAYS thru April; 12:00 pm-3:15 pm

Join us this winter and spring for small group guided tours of the Shipyard's machine shop, rigging loft, and interact with our skilled shipwrights as they describe the work they are doing on this winter's projects, including *Mayflower II*, *Sherman Zwicker*, *Star*, and more.

Following the shipyard tour join a guided tour of the Museum's Watercraft Collection. Housed in nearly an acre of the Rossi Mill building, the Watercraft collection is one of the largest and most diverse collections of its kind in the world. Including over 460 boats- mostly wood, and mostly American- going back to 1824, the collection includes vessels owned by a former president, prototypes of famous designs, and every outboard engine that you can imagine. Registration Required. Registration required at least 24 hours before tours. To register please call 860-572-5331 or email reservations@mysticseaport.org.

Plus Adventure Series the third Thursdays of March and April, as well as a Woodcarving Class Saturdays March 5th-19th from 1 pm-3:30 pm Register at

<https://webstore1.centaman.net/MYSTICSEAPORTMUSEUM/AdultPrograms/tabid/66/ctl/SearchResult/mid/407/TourTypeId/0/ViewAllDate/0/Default.aspx?StartDate=12/22/2021%2012:00:00%20AM&EndDate=12/22/2022%2012:00:00%20AM>

The Worldwide Classic Boat Show

A virtual presentation of Boats, Festivals and Presentations this week at classicboatshow.com

If you are like us, we have been binge-watching presentations all week. If you miss the live presentation, they are available as recordings. Organized by the Off Center Harbor folks (a subscriber collection of very interesting boating videos), visiting the Classic Boat Show is akin to walking the piers at Wooden Boat Shows in Mystic or Seattle. Here is a list:

- Rowing Across the Pacific
- Classic Boat Festivals of Europe
- Building Young People Through Building Boats
- Electric Propulsion & Solar Cruising – The Future is Now
- Classic Wooden Fishing Boats of the Vietnam Coast
- Small Boat Raids Around the World

You can find our page here: <https://classicboatshow.com/listing/traditional-small-craft-association-john-gardner-chapter/> Passes are free; look for the JG SCW and "Cactus Wren"

From the Mailbag:

From Russ Jinishian: See his Gallery's wonderful new paintings at *New Art at the J. Russell Jinishian Gallery*. If some are a bit pricey for this parsimonious yankee, others are worthy of consideration as an investment. For example this view of a Coasting Schooner of the rocky, fogbound coast of Maine:



**SCHOONER STEPHEN TABER OFF CURTIS ISLAND LIGHT, CAMDEN, MAINE BY NEAL HUGHES
OIL ON CANVAS, 18" X 24" \$10,500**

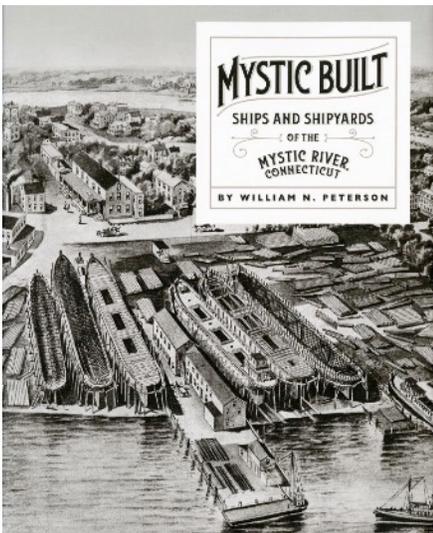
Thanks to Russ for sharing these views of artwork both classic and contemporary. His exhibition CONTEMPORARY MASTERS of MARINE ART at the Ocean House in Watch Hill has been extended through February. [see a brief video preview of the exhibit](#). You can also visit his Gallery virtually on Russ' website: www.jrusselljinishiangallery.com or by appointment at 52 Water Street, Stonington, CT. Check out the Schooner model in the window.

From WoodenBoat School, Mastering Skills: While we are in Maine, this program is in Season 2 doing Carvel Planking. Season 1 is also still available: www.woodenboatschool.org.



From the CT River Oar & Paddle Club's Jon Persson: "The New London Currach Rowers are planning **an Irish concert** to celebrate the start of the "Season" of Saint Patrick! T'will be a grand time of music and good spirit!! Musical entertainment provided by Diarmuid Hanafin's Irish musical group, "The State Street Saints, Saturday, February 26th, 4 PM at the Forty Thieves Irish Pub, 171 Bridge Street, Groton. Advance tickets are \$20 and may be purchased tickets [here](https://bit.ly/3LUCRRACH)."

From Member Sharon Brown: who advises that **The Custom House Maritime Museum, Library, and Shop** have reopened with regular hours: 1-5 PM Thursday thru Sunday and Saturday 10 AM to 5 PM, 150 Bank Street, New London, CT 06320 nlmaritimesociety.org



She also let us know that **the JIBBOOM CLUB** is starting back up again:

"The first JIBBOOM CLUB of the season will be held on Tuesday, March 22, at 1 PM at the New London Maritime Museum (free): Historian Bill Peterson will discuss the revised, expanded & reissued edition of his 1989 book "Mystic Built". For 135 years, from 1784 to 1919, yards along the six-mile tidal stretch of Connecticut's Mystic River launched well over 1,400 vessels. In ports around the world, "Mystic Built" became synonymous with the quality and beauty of Noank and Mystic vessels. In 1989, this book was chosen for the prestigious John Lyman Award as 'best book published in American maritime history'. We will have copies of the new book for Bill to sign."

From Member John Giuetti: "Thank you for letting me build my 19-foot Dory at UConn Avery Point two years ago. I have a full set of plans--never used--for the 17-foot Chesapeake Northeast Dory (including the table of off-sets & lines which cost me an additional \$60) plus other plans (still in original box) for a smaller boat. May I donate them to JGTSCA?" Thank you, John" And if anyone is interested let us or John know at jlgiulietti@comcast.net

And if you are tired of your own cooking: This just in from the Portuguese Holy Ghost Club, 26 Main Street, Stonington, CT 06378. "Good day folks, Fish and Chips Spring/Lent season is upon us. Running for 7 Fridays this year from Friday March 4th to April 15th (Good Friday)." And Lenten Lunches (Takeout) at Calvary Episcopal Church, 27-33 Church Street, Stonington, CT 06378 March 7th - April 4th. Different delicious hot meals every week. Just \$10 and all proceeds support charities. Show up at noon or call ahead.

From Cookie Wierski: Sent us notice of **Tom Clark's Coastal Perspectives Lecture:** Tuesday, April 5, 2022; 7:30 p.m: Thomas K. Clark, Woodworker I Clark Instruments: "[Building Solar Breeze – a Solar-powered Dory](https://marinesciences.uconn.edu/cplecture5/)" Info at: <https://marinesciences.uconn.edu/cplecture5/>
This should be a great lecture! Tom brought "Solar Breeze" to our Small Craft Workshop a few years ago; his low-key description of building his dory and its systems while standing alongside on Australia Beach held everyone's attention. In response to my question after, "How far will it go?" reaped the answer, "Europe, as long as the sun shines at least part of the time." He has a canopy of flexible solar collectors for the Torqueedo batteries. Go Solar!

President's Message:

Our website now has a calendar section. This is where the club will post information on events. There may be other events in the newsletter as well.

What you as a member should do:

- You should visit the website and see what events are scheduled.
- Let the organizer know if you want to participate.
- Provide your contact information so the organizer can contact you.

How to submit an event for the calendar:

If you want to organize an event then you submit your event to me and I will add it to the calendar.

Provide the following information in an email:

- the event name
- the location (address)
- the start and finish times
- a brief description of the event
- your contact information so members can contact you

Your writeup should be exactly how you want the words to appear. I will not be correcting spelling or reformatting the information. I will copy and paste what you submit into the calendar template.

If you have questions send me an email.

Brian Cooper
Windsor Locks
860-977-4951 (C)
cooperbd@aol.com

From the Side Deck

I write this having just come in from shoveling the ice and snow off our sidewalk. I gave up on the driveway; it will just have to melt. March is a frustrating month. The snow is no longer light and fluffy. Walks in the woods now encounter mud. Getting our boats in the water seems far, far away. We did, however, launch a boat at the Seaport Livery on an unseasonably warm Saturday morning. It is a good thing we immediately brought it back to the Boat Shed. It snowed the next day. So what to do? Get in some Shop Time and Plan for Summer.

That is what this issue is all about. Reports on freshly painted Livery Boats coming out of the Seaport shops, Brian's pallet-wood portable saw horse and three-legged chair and John Hacunda's scouting trip to the Cape Cod Maritime Museum in Barnstable, MA. Planning for Summer is underway. Just see the list on our website Events Section: Spring Rows, Summer trips and don't forget the John Gardner Small Craft Workshop which will again be held during the WoodenBoat Show the third weekend in June. Be thinking about which boat to bring and what to say about it. This year's theme will be, "It's All about the Boats".

To facilitate all this, Brian Cooper and John Hacunda have been working to streamline our communications (see Brian's "How to Submit an event for the Calendar" in his Message above). Go to our Events Page often: [JGTSCA.org/Events](https://www.jgt sca.org/Events) . It will automatically show you the events from "today" (for example, from February 25th) and on to the end of the year. Just during the time I have been typing this newsletter a new event appeared, the "Squam Lake Raid". If it interests you, let organizer Matt McKenzie know and he will add your email to his communications list so you are kept up to the minute on any late-breaking news. Another event in the works is a series of Shop Events; I understand Matt, Cookie Wierski and Phil Behney have been drafting an event listing to resume routine work sessions for Dory Maintenance and who knows, perhaps even some new projects. Check our Events Page early and often.

If we have learned anything from our forced confinement during Covid it is increased reliance on our digital connections. Our new events procedures provide the means to quickly conceive of, solicit interest and communicate plans (and changes to plans) in a very timely manner. No longer do we wait to convene in person to brainstorm outings, trips or projects. Now, the flip side is that if you "hear" of an activity or outing and fail to register your interest with the event's Leader, you may show up for a row to find it moved, postponed or cancelled. So it behooves you to sign up for an activity with the event Leader, share your email address and keep up to date. It takes a little effort and forethought but will be worth it in the end. We already have many more events planned (in February!) than in years past. Join one, think up one of your own and lead a few of our members, share a special stretch of river, a tour of your shop or a trip to an interesting museum and, who knows, gather at the end in your favorite brew-pub.

As restrictions relax and we become more comfortable in group gatherings, our Community Boathouse remains an excellent place to open the doors, gather on the Side Deck and meet in person. We look forward to seeing you soon and keep sending articles. Bill & Karen