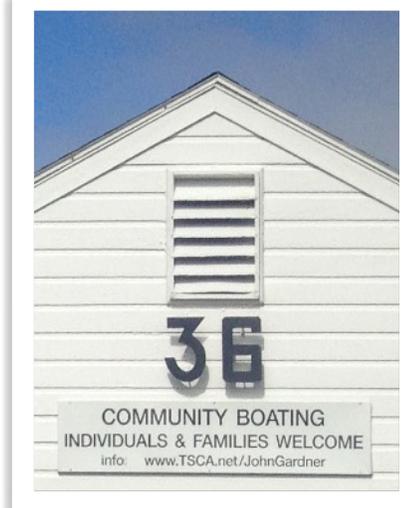


JGTSCA



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

Fall Maintenance on Rowing Craft
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.jgtsc.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.

Upcoming Events:

Narrow River Row or Sail:

Phil Behney, Roberta Engel and Matt McKenzie have been scheming another outing: **Sunday, October 16th at 0900 at the Pollock Lane Ramp/Narrow River Fishing Access**, off Middlebridge Rd. on Pollock Ave., **South Kingston, RI**. Email Matt if planning to attend: matthew.mckenzie@uconn.edu PFD's are required this time year. It could be either sail or row, and the plan is to go as far as folks want and then turn around. <https://www.google.com/maps/place/41%C2%B028'01.2%22N+71%C2%B027'00.8%22W/@41.467,-71.450222,204m/data=!3m2!1e3!4b1!4m6!3m5!1s0x0:0x0!7e2!8m2!3d41.4670056!4d-71.450213?hl=en>

Pawcatuck River Fall Colors Row/Paddle:

Dan Nelson's Pawcatuck River Fall Colors Row/Paddle **Saturday, November 5th at 10 am: Meet at the Bradford Boat Launch** and row or paddle upstream 3.5 miles (or as far as you would like) in **quiet water to a broken dam just above the Burdickville Road Bridge and return through undeveloped, wooded Burlingame State Park, RI**. We are holding this a week later this year, hoping for even more vibrant fall colors. Driving Landmarks: 0.4 mile south of where Route 91 and Route 216 merge in the village of Bradford, look for a sign for



"Bradford Landing" on the east side of the road, across from the inactive Bradford Dyeing Association. **Email Dan for additional details and to advise if plan to attend:**

dkenelson@att.net Dan suggests bringing food, drink, camera, etc. PFD's are required this time of year. (see photo fm Nov 19th, 2021 Newsletter). **For map of the area:** <https://www.google.com/maps/place/Bradford+Boat+Launch,+Bradford,+RI+02808/@41.4097108,-71.7350467,14.55z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x0:0x7e069ad6432667b6!8m2!3d41.4064301!4d-71.7482539>

Report on September 17th Oar, Sail and Paddle Outing:



As this track from Erik and Ann Singleman shows, we launched at Peruzzotti Boat Launch at Burrows BallField, rowed under the active Amtrak bridge and through the old trolley line bridge abutments to enjoy the lower reaches of the Poquonock River. There we found light breezes passing over Bushy Point to energize some of the the sailors of our group to explore out past the point and on around Pine Island in Fisher's Island Sound.

Erik posted this chart on our Facebook page: "Drove 3 hours from Albany to join the folks from the John Gardner chapter TSCA for their annual oar and sail. What a great group of people! Ann and I had a wonderful sail on a beautiful day yesterday down in Groton CT. Thanks again to the chapter members for making us feel so welcomed. We'll definitely be back!"

We had everything from traditional plank on frame dories to glued-lap skiffs and pea pods to canoes, kayaks and one traditional inflatable paddleboat. All enjoyed exploring the shallow waters alongside the airport and next to Bluff Point State Park.



JIM MULHOLLAND AND SON PIERCE'S WEE ELVER & ELLIE CZARNOWSKI PADDLES WITH OPHELIA



MATT MCKENZIE PASSES SOME CLAM DIGGERS & MEETING ON THE BEACH & PLAN SAIL TO PINE IS.



BRIAN COOPER IN HIS SKIN ON FRAME WHITEHALL AND CHRIS VARGAS IN HIS NEW NE'R DORY



PINE ISLAND VIEWED OVER BUSHY POINT & DAN NELSON, W/ IAN & FRANCIS BRADLEY IN CANOE



GROUP GATHERS AT BUSHY POINT BEACH

All told, we had 14 People in 10 boats on a beautiful early fall day in a lovely location:

Erick and Ann Singleman from Albany, NY (“It was so close.”) in their Poduck Skiff

Chris Vargas from West Hartford in his new Nor’Easter Dory named “Social Distance”

Jim Mulholland and son Pierce from Salem, CT in their customized Wee Elver

Ellie Czarnowski with pup “Ophelia” on her traditional inflatable paddle board

Dane Rochelle (“I grew up here!”) and David Tang in their CLC Skeery

Ian and Francis Bradley out for an afternoon in their We No Ma canoe

Matt McKenzie (“I’m out here at least once a week.”) in his Fred Dion “White Dory”

Brian Cooper in his super fast skin on frame Whitehall

Dan Nelson (“I found a secret passage around Bushy Point!”) in his multi-colored kayak

Bill Rutherford in his Beach Pea Peapod w/ sail and oars

Plus Tanya and Jeremy Sandberg-Diment visited us at the Ramp, wishing they didn’t have a place they had to go.

Thanks to everyone for their beautiful photographs. Appreciate your sharing.

We have come a long way from many years ago when it was just Dan and I driving about looking for an open boat ramp. Thanks, Dan, for sharing your secret spot with us.

Avery Point Boathouse Activities

Monday evening, the 26th, Member and current Secretary of our Chapter, Cookie Wierski, held an Open Shop time to discuss their on-going varnishing project in support of the “Arabella” build project. Peter Vermilya and I took advantage of the opportunity. Beautiful work.



COOKIE SHARES HER INITIAL PREP FOR TWO CABINET DOORS BEFORE FIRST COAT OF VARNISH



In Cookie's own words: "On 09/26 Cookie Wierski talked through their process of an on-going cabinetry restoration happening at the boatshop. Cookie is working with the folks from [Acorn to Arabella](#) to restore the Honduran mahogany cabinets from the 100 yr old boat *Victoria*, to be installed in the new build *Arabella*. Topics of discussion included: assessing the project and repairs needed, surface preparation and the joys and challenges of working with vintage material. Additional debates with Bill and Peter included foam versus badger brushes and different brands of varnishes.

Acorn to Arabella is a boat building project taking place in Granby, Massachusetts being led by amateur boat builders building their own 38' wooden boat in their backyard: designer William Atkin's *Ingrid* with *Stormy Petrel's* gaff rig. You can follow their progress via their youtube channel."



Meanwhile, elsewhere in the Avery Point Boatshop, Matt McKenzie is entertaining his classes by lofting a copy of his Fred Dion Dory, as designed from Mr. Dion's frame patterns by John Gardner. This is Matt's personal "White Dory" which has gathered much attention at on the water events during the recent year since its rehabilitation and relaunching last November.

In the photo's background is Roberts Engle's "Shellback Dinghy with repairs completed; some minor assembly required and it will be ready for October 16th's Narrow River Row.

Standing alongside the Shellback is Member Charles Duncan Wright whose prose has graced these pages as he selected short sections of classic sea literature of special interest. In town for the weekend, we did a tour of our Community Boathouse which he thoroughly enjoyed, then caught a late lunch at Carson's Store over in Noank. He enjoyed the lunch as well as an impromptu meeting with Steve Jones, during which they exchanged many salty sea references. We look forward to more contributions from Duncan, both in words and in presentations at our JG Small Craft Workshops.

Remember Matt's professorial "Office Hours" to which we all are welcome, from 2 pm to 4 pm Tuesdays and Thursdays. Come and interact with the students and share the combination of working with both hands and mind.

Shop improvement projects hover in the offing: replacement windows and new front steps to complete the overhaul begun last spring. It's your 'Shop, too, so stop on by.

Mystic Seaport Museum Boat Livery



Take advantage of these last few weekends to take out the Livery boats. Fall weather is great for a row or a sail. Where else can you find such a diverse collection of traditional rowing and sailing boats? And right in your back yard. And free with admission or membership!

Soon the boats will be pulled, scrubbed and temporarily stored until they are brought in, one by one, for fresh putty and paint (plus a few miscellaneous repairs). Contact the Seaport's mary.koehler@Mysticseaport.org to join the Volunteer team. Speak with Boathouse Supervisor Nick Parker to find out more about this year's emphasis on oars and new builds.

Mystic Seaport Museum Upcoming Events

Sargent, Whistler & Venetian Glass: American Artists and the Magic of Murano

Travel back in time to nineteenth century Venice. Exhibit opens in the Collins Gallery of the Thompson Exhibition Building on Saturday, October 15.

Produced and organized in collaboration with the Smithsonian American Art Museum, *Sargent* brings to life the Venetian glass revival of the late nineteenth century and the artistic experimentation the city inspired for visiting artists. It is the first comprehensive examination of American tourism, art-making, and art collecting in Venice, revealing the glass furnaces and their new creative boom as a vibrant facet of the city's allure. Members can visit this exhibit as many times as you like, for free! [LEARN ABOUT THE EXHIBIT](#)

Join us for Riverfest featuring Mystic Folkways

Friday - Sunday, October 8 - 10

Don't miss the second annual Riverfest! Enjoy three days of festivities with games & crafts, a beer garden, and live music including a special day of music produced in partnership with [Westerly Sound](#)! Mystic Folkways will debut Sunday, October 9, on the Village Green and feature live performances from John McCauley & Ian O'Neil of **Deer Tick** (acoustic), **Ian Felice of Felice Brothers**, **Martin Courtney of Real Estate**, **Nick Panken of Spirit Family Reunion**, **Tim Easton**, **James Maple**, **Karl Blau**, **The Can Kickers**, **Wildflower**, and **Sol/Rio Family Band**. Sunday's performances will run 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. [LEARN MORE](#)

Update from National TSCA

Chapter Coordinator John Weiss forwarded to us the latest TSCA Council meeting minutes (which are attached are to this newsletter's transmittal email) as well as an updated report of National Chapter Status. He notes "Chapters indicated in red for one of the criteria required by TSCA bylaws are non-compliant. Those with an entry in the "Current Roster" column have responded to requests for information. For others please send me your current roster, bylaws, and Chapter Rep contact info as indicated by the report as soon as possible, or if you have changes."

Two of our nearby chapters are currently not in compliance: Connecticut River Oar & Paddle and Thames River Chapter. Both are led by original members of our John Gardner Chapter. Obviously, we would welcome the back. Both John Stratton and Russ Smith stop by for visits and we rehab'd Russ' Cheticamp 19 (a sister ship to our Susan B. Holland) last spring at our Avery Point shop. If in communication with them, please reach out and let them know they would be welcome.

In other National news, we have a new Treasurer: David Deaville, who is taking over from our local Member Bill Meier, who is retiring after more than 10 years of service. Thank you, Bill, for all your efforts over the years!

National would like a local volunteer to pick up and resend mail from the West Mystic Post Office to the Treasurer and Chapter Coordinator. If interested in this worthwhile means of assistance, please let either Bill Meier tsca.treasurer@gmail.com or me smallcrafter@gmail.com know. Thanks!

Boats for Sale

A Joel White designed Haven 12-1/2 which is in beautiful shape for sale by Member Fred Fischer. Interested? Email me, smallcrafter@gmail.com and I'll put you on touch with Fred.

A Rob Pittaway light-weight skin on frame canoe. Perfect for the upcoming Fall Colors Row. End of season special deal! Email me, smallcrafter@gmail.com if interested.

Quotes of the Month

From our local Member Sharon Brown as quoted by Evelyn Ansel on sailing a traditional wooden boat: "Traditional wooden boats sail best when given the opportunity to breathe. Don't head up too high and don't sheet in too tight. Keep way on."

And, "The Boat Livery: A lending library of many representative types of small boats".

From the Side Deck

As the strong fall breezes blast across the river this afternoon, thoughts turn to again gathering on on this side deck surrounding a warm BBQ full of burgers and "hots" as Ellie calls them. If of similar mind, let Dan Nelson or Matt McKenzie know and perhaps we can make it happen.

Meanwhile, make plans to attend our upcoming rows October 16th and November 5th to enjoy the Fall colors and fun on the water. Remember Matt's Office Hours Tuesdays and Thursdays; hope to see you there. And keep sending those cards and letters, folks! Bill & Karen