

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

Adjustable Seats 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.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.

Upcoming Events:

Our Chapter's signature event of the year is upcoming **Friday, June 24th - Sunday June 26th**, the **John Gardner Small Craft Workshop**. Sign-up is a bit convoluted (you go to www.MysticSeaport.org, Menu, Calendar, June 24th, click on the Small Craft Workshop and follow the prompts). We cut to the chase and provide you the details from the Letter to Participants:



Welcome Participants

John Gardner Small Craft Workshop June 24-26, 2022

Brought to you by TSCA, WoodenBoat & Mystic Seaport Museum

Mystic Seaport Museum 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.

WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES:

Questions? Please contact Bill Rutherford at smallcrafter@gmail.com

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 Boat House, the wearing of PFD's when boating is encouraged so please bring PFD's for yourself and your crew.

Mystic Seaport Museum Boat House Livery:

The Boat House sailing and rowing boats will be in operation during the Workshop at no charge. 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. If you would like to lead a demonstration or workshop, please email Bill Rutherford.

Get out on the Water Together:

Join us for a morning row departing from the Australia Beach at 8am on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Efforts will be made to place workshop participants who did not bring a boat a place on another attendee's boat or a JGTSCA dory. Additionally, at 4pm on Saturday, we will set out for an afternoon sail together.

Mystic Seaport Museum Watercraft Collection Open House:

The Museum's Watercraft Hall, 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 2:30pm 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 Potluck Dinner:

An offsite potluck dinner will be organized for participants. Details will be provided at the event.

WORKSHOP LOGISTICS:

Questions, please contact Sarah Clement at
sarah.clement@mysticseaport.org

Check in:

Check in at the WoodenBoat Credentials Booth on **Friday and Saturday between 7am and noon both days**. It is located near the big anchor in the courtyard of the south entrance to the Museum. You will get a wristband that will give you access to the museum grounds for the weekend. Proceed to the TSCA booth at the Australia Beach. If you are bringing a boat see the "Load in and out of boats" section below for times and access. *If you arrive outside of those times, please contact Bill Rutherford.*

Load in and out of Boats:

(Be sure to check in at the credentials booth first)

Car Top Vessels (and lift and carry small trailer vessels - Ed):

You can drive onto the grounds of the Museum on Friday from 7-9am and 6pm- 8pm, Saturday from 7-9am and Sunday from 5-10pm. Access is through the gate just north of the Tug Boat and the south entrance to the Museum). Due to activity around the Show, the Shipyard gate will not be available.

Trailerred Vessels:

You can also load in at one of the boat launch areas along the Mystic River. The Isham Street launch just south of the Shipyard is closed off to trailer launching (but open to car-top launching. Boat ramps are available near the Daniel Packer Inn on the West side of the River South of downtown Mystic and a steep dirt ramp just north of I-95 on the West side of the River. Contact Bill Rutherford for directions. - Ed).

Trailer Parking:

Please park your trailers at the Mystic Middle School, 204 Mistuxet Ave, Stonington, CT 06378. Offsite Trailer Parking maps will be at the Credentials Booth. This is a very busy weekend for the Museum, so there can be **no trailer parking allowed in Mystic Seaport Museum parking lots**. Leave your trailer at the Middle School and have use of your car for the weekend. Cars without trailers may be parked in the Museum parking lots.

Forklift Assistance:

Please contact us in advance if you cannot launch your vessel by hand or at the town docks.

Boats storage during the show:

We will have floating dock space along the Australia Beach as well as space on the Beach for boats.

Lodging:

Bunks are available on JOSEPH CONRAD for Friday and Saturday nights for \$20/person/night. They are NOT available on Thursday night. To reserve a bunk, please email reservations.desk@mysticseaport.org or call 860.572.533. There can be no food or drink stored or consumed aboard CONRAD. Please bring your own bedding. This is more appropriate for participants over 8 years old. There will be a mandatory orientation meeting onboard at 5:30pm on Friday and again on Saturday night. If you will not be here in time for this orientation, you must make arrangements for a late arrival.

There are many local hotels and a few campsites. We suggest you make reservations early to ensure availability.

Mystic Seaport photographs and videotapes:

Occasionally the Museum will take photographs and videotapes of visitors while on its grounds for use in a variety of publicity and promotional materials and to advance our educational mission. We thank you for your cooperation and support.

Fees:

Registration for the Workshop also allows you admission to the WoodenBoat Show for all three days at no additional cost. Registration is \$20 for Museum Members and \$40 for non-members. Youths, age 17 and under, are \$10 for Museum Members and \$20 for non-members. Additionally, Workshop participants can register to stay on board the *Joseph Conrad* Friday and Saturday nights for a fee of \$20 per person per night.

To Assist in Staffing:

Indicate your interest in staffing the booth or demonstrating a skill on the registration form or contact Bill Rutherford at smallcradter@gmail.com or 860-222-5249. Call or email Bill with any questions. This is important to have things go smoothly. Open slots each day include: Staff the Booth (2 hour shifts), Beach Managers (to help people in and out of boats), Morning Row leaders, Afternoon Sail leaders, Small Craft Hall Tour leaders (Saturday & Sunday), Registration table at the South Gate (Friday & Saturday mornings) as well as JGTSCA Dory deliverers (Thursday evening) and returners (Sunday evening). The idea is to provide plenty of time for everyone to enjoy the Show, attend skills sessions and presentations as well as get out and enjoy the Boats.

This year's Theme is "It's all about the Boats":

Take every opportunity to share the story of your boat, whether you brought it or not, whether it is a dim memory or right there on the beach available to share. When you have time, plan to take in the Seaport's latest exhibit "Story Boats" in the exhibit hall at the North Entrance. You will be glad you did. All boats are especially selected from the Seaport's Small Craft Hall.

WoodenBoat Show Speaker Series & Skills Demos

This year we are partnering with WoodenBoat to closely coordinate our activities with their **Skills Demonstrations in the the Shipyard Paint Shop** and their **Speaker Series in the Masin Room in the Thompson Building at the North Entrance**. Presenters read like a Who's Who of traditional boatbuilding, small craft design and adventuring. Feel free to drop what you are doing, ask someone to cover for you or watch your boat while you take in these live presentations. Of note, our own Ben Fuller presenting on the "Peapods of Maine" Saturday at 10 am in the Masin Room. As a bonus, he has promised us a special emphasis on Peapods during that afternoon's tour of the Small Craft Hall.

Friday, June 24

10:00 a.m., Masin Room, North Entrance

SCUD Around the World

Mary Maynard Drake



A tale of how two young Midwesterners absorbed the maritime heritage of Noank, Connecticut, scrimped and saved to build a wooden engineless copy of Capt. Joshua Slocum's yawl SPRAY with a little help from their friends and neighbors, then circumnavigated with their three young children and the family dog from 1973 to 1978. Her article on building SCUD appeared in the March/April 1978 issue of *WoodenBoat* and also in *Wooden Boat: An Appreciation of the Craft* in 1982.

Friday, June 24

1:30 p.m., Masin Room, North Entrance

Restoring CIRRUS, a Herreshoff Fishers Island 31

Tommy Townsend and Ken Murphy



For 80 years, the 43'8" LOA yawl CIRRUS resided, under two successive owners, in Center Harbor, Maine. She is a Fishers Island 31 designed by N.G. Herreshoff and launched in 1930. In 2020, Ken Murphy acquired the yacht and took her to Thomas Townsend Custom Marine Woodworking in Mystic for a refit. During a 1980s restoration at Brooklin Boat Yard in Maine, her frames and floor timbers were replaced, and the structure was in good shape. In the round of work completed this year, her deck, cockpit, and her noteworthy red topsides were rejuvenated, including rebuilding two butterfly hatches.

Townsend found that the yacht was in remarkably good condition.

Friday, June 24

3:30 p.m., Masin Room, North Entrance

Restoring the 1905 Herreshoff Yacht DORIS

David Snediker



The thorough restoration of the yacht DORIS began at Snediker Yacht Restoration in 2016. At 77'6", she is the largest all-wooden yacht ever built at Herreshoff Manufacturing Company in Bristol, Rhode Island. She is also the largest yacht restoration yet undertaken at Snediker's boatyard, based in Pawcatuck, Connecticut. The hull, which was badly deteriorated by years of neglect before she came to a new owner with a serious commitment to her restoration, has been entirely rebuilt to exacting standards. She now has purpleheart backbone timbers, steam-bent white-oak frames, and double-planking of cypress and Douglas-fir.



Saturday, June 25

10:00 a.m., Masin Room, North Entrance

Peapods of Maine

Ben Fuller

Fuller, a longtime maritime museum curator at such places as Mystic Seaport Museum and the Penobscot Marine Museum in Maine, is an avid small-craft rower and sailor. He lives in the heart of the coastline where the iconic Maine peapods were developed in the last half of the 19th century for lobstering under oars amid rocky outcroppings. Boatbuilders soon

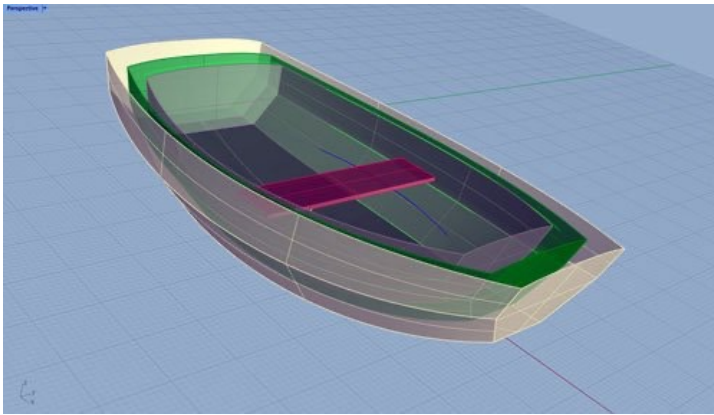
adapted the type for summer residents who recognized the boats' fine qualities, and peapods remain highly prized today for recreation. Working with David Cockey, an engineer who has used photogrammetry and computer design to take the lines off numerous peapods, Fuller has closely examined a wide variety of the boats to analyze their construction details, patterns of use, provenance, and the stories of their builders.

Saturday, June 25

1:30 p.m., Masin Room, North Entrance

Computer-Assisted Boat Design

Clint Chase and Walt Ansel



Chase is founder and president of Chase Small Craft in Saco, Maine. Ansel is a lead shipwright at the Henry B. DuPont Preservation Shipyard at Mystic Seaport. Chase has nearly 20 different boats available as complete kits and plans, from 7' to 20', for sail, oar, or motor. He uses Rhino 3d exclusively for all his design work and drafting, which dovetails neatly with the CNC programming and cutting. Ansel is not only a shipwright but also a recent graduate of the Westlawn Institute

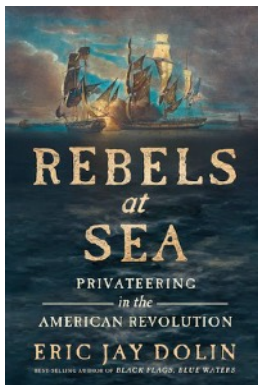
of Marine Technology; most recently, his East Passage 24 motor launch was completed at East Passage Boatwrights in Bristol, Rhode Island, and a second is under construction. Both Chase and Ansel are regular teachers at WoodenBoat School.

Saturday, June 25

3:30 p.m., Masin Room, North Entrance

Rebels At Sea: Privateering in the American Revolution

Eric Jay Dolin



A ragtag fleet of private vessels, from 20' whaleboats to 40-cannon men-of-war, truly revealed America's character during the Revolutionary War—above all, its ambition and entrepreneurial ethos. Carrying government documents granting them the right to seize enemy ships, thousands of well-armed privateers tormented the British on the broad Atlantic and in bays and harbors on both sides of the ocean. Though often seen as profiteers at best and pirates at worst, privateers were critical to the Revolution's outcome. Abounding with tales of daring maneuvers and deadly encounters, *Rebels at Sea*, the latest book by this prolific writer of maritime histories, presents the American Revolution as we have rarely seen it before.



2022 Skills Demonstrations

Note: Most Skills Demonstrations will be held in the Paint Shop in the Shipyard

Friday, June 24th

9:30 a.m. — **Blacksmithing with Mike Saari**, *Independent blacksmith*

11:30 a.m. — **Boatbuilding Woods with Graham McKay**, *Lowell's Boat Shop*

1:30 p.m. — **Steam-Bending Wood with Tom Daniels**, *Mystic Seaport shipwright*

3:30 p.m. — **Sharpening Tools with Warren Dolphin**, *Mystic Seaport volunteer*

Saturday, June 25th

9:30 a.m. — **Blacksmithing with Mike Saari**, *Independent blacksmith*

11:30 a.m. — **Viking-Age Tool Chest with Krit Singh**, *Mystic Seaport shipwright*

1:30 p.m. — **Anatomy of Caulking Mallets with Chris Sanders**, *Mystic Seaport shipwright*

3:30 p.m. — **Hull Half-Model Making with Roger Hambidge**, *Mystic shipwright and modelist*

Sunday, June 25th

9:30 a.m. — **Strip-Planking canoes with Rose Woodyard**, *Newfound Woodworks*

11:30 a.m. **Traditional Planking w/ Walt Ansel & Casey Cochran**, *Mystic Seaport shipwrights*

1:30 p.m. — **Glued Lapstrake Boatbuilding with Richard Honan**, *Owner-builder*



All Three Days - 10 to 4 Friday and Saturday 10 to 2 Sunday

Viking Age Boatbuilding Matthew Barnes, Tucker Yaro, and Anthony Daniels of Leetes Island Boatworks in Stony Creek, Connecticut, will work on their authentic reconstruction of the Gislinge boat, a 23' boat that Danish archaeologists have dated to 1130 A.D.

In Summary:

We hope you enjoyed this preview, but don't take our word for it, come see yourself. It is a great kick-off to Summer. **For more information:** <https://www.mysticseaport.org/event-directory/woodenboat-show-2022/> , <https://www.mysticseaport.org/calendar/> and

<https://webstore1.centaman.net/MYSTICSEAPORTMUSEUM/AdultPrograms/tabid/66/ctl/SearchResult/mid/407/TourTypeId/0/ViewAllDate/0/Default.aspx?StartDate=5/24/2022%2012:00:00%20AM&EndDate=5/24/2023%2012:00:00%20AM> .

For general information on the Wooden Boat Show: <https://www.thewoodenboatshow.com> and more information on the Skills and Speakers series at:

<https://www.thewoodenboatshow.com/speaker-series> and

<https://www.thewoodenboatshow.com/demonstrations>

Meanwhile, let's review a report on our Chapter's latest activity:



The Memorial Day Row:

by Matt McKenzie

“Plans proved dynamic this weekend”

Fog thwarted the plans for a long distance row on the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend. While the wind proved sufficient, the visibility did not, so the intrepid venturers (Me and Tim) opted for prudence over valor, and stuck to the Mystic River.

We put in at Steve Jones' yard in West Mystic, and beat up toward Noank against the light to moderate westerly wind. For all that has been written about the White Dory and its new rig, it proved no match upwind for Tim and his Shellback dinghy. With a professional deftness and light touch, Tim had his Shellback gracefully gliding to windward, while I and White Dory missed stays twice, and, well, slogged. I am not sure if I got the boat to sail to windward or if the outgoing tide pushed down toward Six Penny Island. Either way, with the last wafts of fog blowing off the water, Tim hove to and waited for me at the entrance to the little cove on the west side of Mason's Island next to the brown octagonal house. Then, putting the wind onto our quarters, we glided into this little piece of paradise, with birds calls and a light shoreside lapping drowning out what little boat noises our boats emitted. I was certain we'd have to row out, but again, Tim's skillful handling had his boat beating out, which meant I had to as well. And to her credit, the dory did it with no problem.

It was getting on toward lunch, the wind was just beginning to perk up a little, and we opted to head back. Downwind, White Dory's longer waterline told, and soon I was well ahead. I figured I was far enough ahead to put into Steve's and use the shore head, and the be back out on the dock to see Tim on his way toward the seaport. I emptied tanks, then rushed out to chat with Tom Townsend while keeping watch. After half an hour of no Tim, I worried, and Tom was kind enough to run me out in his (GORGEOUS!) run-about; "it gives me a good excuse to go for a boat ride," he graciously replied when I offered him my earnest thanks.

With no sign of Tim down river, I began to feel a pit of worry grow in my guts, and we headed toward the Rt. 1 bridge. We were about to tuck under when I got word from the Seaport that Tim had already arrived—somehow, he shot past Steve's in the three minutes I was away from the dock, proving to me that I didn't have the lead I thought. Returning to Steve's, I jumped into the dory, and pulled like mad for the seaport. Once under the Rt. 1, I tossed up the sail, and. "like a Viking from a Monty Python movie," as Tim described me, I barreled toward Australia beach, finally catching up with him.

We had a snack, chewed some fat, then with a squall line inbound from Bridgeport on the radar, we pulled like mad to get back before the wind and rain. We arrived safe, pulled the boats, held the requisite post trip gab session on the beach, and put to bed a glorious day on the water, with old boats and new friends, that saw the last of a cold spring move on, and the first of summer come in its place.

Other News

A Radio Controlled (R/C) Model Sailboat finds a new home: Member Carl Kaufman donated an R/C model sailboat to the Mystic Seaport Ship Modelers (MSSM); Member Bob Andrlé, who also leads the MSSM, accepted the boat and promised to find it a good home. When next visiting Mystic Seaport Museum, and particularly during the WoodenBoat Show, make a point of visiting the John Gardner Small Craft Boatshop. MSSM has an exhibit of member's boats there, at least fifty strong, of all types and sizes ranging from Napoleonic War historical ships to operable power boats to racing sailers. They will be sharing Australia Beach with us at the WoodenBoat Show. In addition, Bob Andrlé will be bringing his full sized (9 ft.), custom designed and built trimaran.

Wednesday Night Races Commence June 15th in Stonington Harbor: A community event that was started by the Stonington Dinghy Club over 50 years ago (ask member Phil Behney how many years he raced Sunfish there) is open to any sailboat 20 ft. or less sailed by anyone of any age and any skill level. Wear your life jacket and bring whatever boat you have. You and your boat will be assigned to a class. There are no registration fees or requirements other than to check in with the Race Committee boat (a small outboard) on the water by 5:50 pm for your boats class and course assignment. The courses are all within the Harbor with the fastest classes starting first, sailing the long course so all finish approximately the same time. Expect to be off the water by 8 pm. There is an optional gathering after the races at the Stonington Harbor Yacht Club for a reasonably priced meal. What is unique about the course is that the marks stay in place all summer, so feel free to stop on by and practice a round at your convenience. Oh, and this is definitely a low key event....see www.sdcwednightrace.com

And speaking of Lap Strake boats,

A beautiful photograph by our Sharon Brown:



Tom Townsend of Thomas Townsend Custom Woodworking at the foot of Bayview Ave in Mystic, CT finished prepping this double ender for the 2022 season and secured her on a Trailex dolly at Steve Jones' West Mystic WoodenBoat. This 13 ft. peapod, a Doug Hylan designed "Beach pea," was built by the Landing School of Arundel, ME. She is fitted with a rudder, centerboard, and rig for sail if one is not tempted by the varnished and leathered 71/2 ft Shaw and Tenney spruce oars. In sparkling condition poised on the edge of the Mystic River, she is, as Tom notes, "Eye candy", and simply irresistible (Sharon Brown Photograph).

From the Side Deck:

Well, folks, that is about it. Hope to see you at the WoodenBoat Show/John Gardner Small Craft Workshop. Meanwhile, keep sending those cards & letters...Bill & Karen