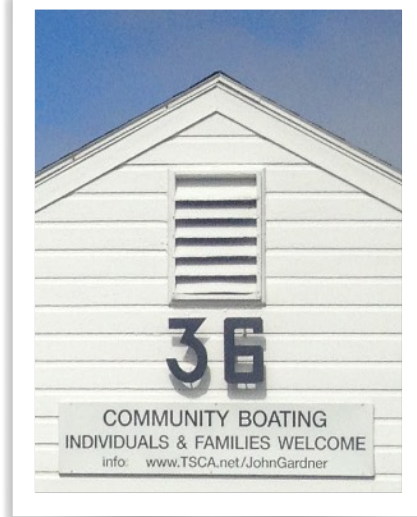


JGTSCA



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

New Tender Build as well as Maintenance on Rowing Craft
at UCONN Avery Point Boat House Building 36

Next Meeting: In Person Meetings as Opportunities Arise
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.

Activity Report: John Gardner Small Craft Workshop 2023

At Mystic Seaport during the WoodenBoat Show June 23rd - 25th



Isn't it great when old friends come back to mix and mingle with new folks and new boats to make fresh experiences? We last saw the Mohawk River Batteau people two years ago when just coming out of Covid. They joined us then to kick off a “normal” summer on a cold and stormy Memorial Day Weekend. This time around we had much warmer temperatures, some real sun and a whole WoodenBoat Show to share. Much more “normal”. What remained constant was their cheerful good spirits and period costumes.

Plus, Ben Fuller and David Cockey returned to reprise their last year's deep dive into Peapods, those versatile double enders that sneak into shallow, rocky areas to dip their gun'ls to land tasty crustaceans. This year they teamed with two Apprenticeshop apprentices to show and tell how the originals were built "by eye", wrapping sheer battens around a single center frame tied to a pair of stems and a flat plank keel.



Standing room only both in the Seaport's Masin Room at the North Entrance Building and again on the lawn outside where folks gathered around to poke and prod and question how such a beautiful boat could be built by such simple means. The proof was when the Apprentices and friends picked up the boat, carried it to water and launched it for a celebratory row.

New folks this year who quickly became friends included three generations of a family who proudly sailed and rowed all over the river in their 21 ft. Beachcomber/ Alpha circa 1910 racing dory. The senior member and his two sons were in the process of transferring ownership to their son/grandson who was proud as punch as they dexterously sailed the tippy, touchy craft as if it were as solid as one of the Boat Livery's big flat-bottomed skiffs. All of which was not lost on us Boat Livery volunteers who have been puzzling how to rig the myriad halyards, sheets and steering lines on our newly acquired Alpha Dory. No race resulted, but perhaps next year...



Reminiscent of Ringling Brothers, Barnum & Bailey we had at least three rings going at all times. Multiple presentations in the Masin Room including our own former Boat Livery junior volunteer, now Curator at the Herreshoff Museum, Evelyn Ansel, who waxed eloquent on a now timely topic, how at the end of the Age of Steam, the Herreshoffs successfully experimented with electric motive power.

In another ring at the shipyard end of the Campus hands-on demonstrations occurred almost hourly ranging from building Birds Mouth Spars, to bronze casting, to sharpening tools, oar making, steam bending, half-hull modeling, strip planking, glued lap boat building, and caulking traditional plank on frame.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, as they used to say, our TSCA Booth at Australia Beach welcomed visitors, explained TSCA, held demonstrations on the Mohawk River Batteau, which traversed the Mohawk River to and from Albany and Buffalo before the Erie Canal, rigged sail on the Good Little Skiff and visited the Seaport's Small Craft Hall to view progress on its major conversion from storage to public presentation.



In between times, we inserted morning rows up the River to search for the source of the Mighty Mystic as well as downriver through the two movable bridges to Six-Penny Island, once a source of colonial salt hay, now a hot spot for birding. Afternoons we launched and enjoyed leisurely sails on the River. Saturday evening we hosted an off-site potluck dinner anchored by hamburgers, hot dogs and Peggy Vermilya's famous potato and pasta salads. As we mixed and mingled new friends became old friends and neighbors were entertained by Pete Peter's latest Sea Chanty.

Big Thank You's to Mystic Seaport Staff including Sarah Clement, Waterfront Programs Administrator and staff who helped us set all this up including Friday and Saturday night accommodations on the "Conrad", to Nick Parker, Boathouse Livery Supervisor for his gracious sharing of Boat Livery boats (and life vests). More Big Thanks to John Gardner TSCA Chapter Members who made this all happen including Dan Nelson who anchored our Australia Beach Booth, Carl Kaufman who assisted, the Blackwell family, all four of them, Liz, Adam, Charlotte and Oliver, to Brian Cooper who staffed our table out front, brought our Club Dorries up River and Phil Behney who brought them back down. To Ned Lloyd who brought easily the oldest boat, a 100+ year old box keel Seabright Skiff that not only floated but took people for rides. Most importantly, thanks to the Participants, like Dick Sleeper and friends who let it all hang out in an 18 ft Cat-Ketch, lateen-rigged dory with a combination of Sunfish sail and a Tortoise sail which zipped up and down the River. Who says we're not supposed to have fun?

Come join us next year.

A few additional photographs:





- Photo by Jack Huckel of the Mohawk River Bateau with crew David Manthey, Kevin Richard-Morrow, Bill Manthey, and Peggy Huckel with DeSager, a Mohawk River bateau from the Schenectady County NY Historical Society.
- Beachcomber-Alpha Dory “Share Alike” built back in '83-'84 for two friends to share during the season, now being sailed by three generations of the same family led by Mark Hopper on the right, Ed Sutherland, Alex Sutherland, and Judah Sutherland on the left.
- Ben Fuller and David Cockey on the lawn after their presentation review the details of constructing the Maine Peapod “By Eye”.
- Oliver Blackwell, 9 years old, rowing the Natoma Skiff during the Sunday morning row downriver to 6 Penny Island, about to pass through the Amtrak Swing Bridge.
- Photo by Roger Mennillo of Liz Blackwell in the Natoma Skiff with daughter Charlotte and son Oliver exploring the shallows around 6 Penny Island during the Sunday Morning Row.
- Photo by Robert Mennillo of Adam Blackwell and daughter Charlotte (11) in a Lawley Tender borrowed from the Seaport Boat Livery, just after passing beneath the Mystic Bascule Bridge on the Sunday morning row to 6 Penny Island.
- Dan Nelson’s 100+ year old Morris Canoe lovingly restored - that’s Dan’s varnish job...
- Dick Sleeper’s 18 foot Double Lateen Cat Ketch Rigged Dory coming back from a fun afternoon sail. Aboard are Roger Mennillo, Ben Fuller and Dick Sleeper. Note float on rudder to mark it’s location, just in case...

Upcoming Events:

Up for a Summer Row or Sail? Contact Brian Cooper at www.cooperbd@aol.com or Matt McKenzie at matthew.mckenzie@uconn.edu to set up an activity and add it to our website's upcoming events.

Fall Oar, Sail & Paddle Outing Save the Date: Saturday, September 16th 10 am - 2 pm at Peruzzoti Boat Launch near Burrows Ball Field off South Road on the way to Groton Airport.

Ready to Celebrate Stonington's Blessing of the Fleet?

ST. MARY CHURCH STONINGTON BOROUGH

The Blessing of the Fleet

Thursday, July 27, 2023

5K FUN RUN / 2m Walk
through Stonington Borough
6 pm Town Dock
Pre-Registration: runreg.com/blessingofthefleet5k

Saturday, July 29, 2023

Great Portuguese Food & Music
Portuguese Club 4pm - 8pm
26 Main Street Stonington, Ct

Sunday, July 30, 2023

Fisherman's Mass
10:30 am St. Mary Church
Procession following the Fisherman's Mass will start at the Town Dock and proceed through Stonington Borough
12 noon to 4 pm
Food, Beverage & Music at the Town Dock

Avery Point Boathouse:

This just in from Phil Behney: For all to know, there are **two Dorries at the Avery Point Beach for use**. Please be sure to relock the the boats upon return. (Combination: 1967) Also remember that the sailing program has preference for the beach, so if they are sailing please be cognizant of their needs. Thanks Phil Behney

Dan Nelson is building a CLC Passage Maker pram: He it picked up from Chesapeake Light Craft at the WoodenBoat Show (they brought it specifically for him). Photo one is what Dan calls the “pincushion stage”, sent on the 4th of July. The three photos came in yesterday and show the assembly sequence. Stop by and cheer him on; bring your sanding clothes...



Mystic Seaport Boat Livery:

The latest News: Dion Dory has a new balanced lug sail! It sets beautifully, easily and is fun to sail. Built by Traditional Rigging in Appleton, Maine to specifications from Boathouse Supervisor Nick Parker, it was a hit during the WoodenBoat Show as it sailed easily up and down the River. Here Volunteer and Chief Boathouse Rigger Steve Telsey proudly takes it for a ride. The tiller was rebuilt by Volunteer Tom Wunder to stay inside the boat - much less drama..



Upcoming Mystic Seaport Museum Activities:

[Antique and Classic Boat Rendezvous and National Woodie Club Meet](#)

Saturday, July 22 | 10:00 am–3:00 pm



Join us for the Antique and Classic Boat Rendezvous, a dazzling display of high-quality antique and classic vessels. Approximately 25 boats create a colorful gathering along the Museum's waterfront all day Saturday. In the afternoon, the vessels will make their way down the Mystic River in a jubilant, three-mile parade.

The 5th Annual Woodies at Mystic Seaport Meet will also be held on Saturday. Fifty or more Woodies of different makes and vintages will be on display on the Village Green throughout the day. There will be both National Woodie Club and Yankee Wood Chapter tents with members that can help with useful information and club merchandise. Visitors will have the opportunity to vote for the Favorite Woodie Award.

Between 3:00 and 3:30 pm the Woodies will parade around the grounds and leave the Museum. Listen for some of the unique horns as they depart!

Elsewhere Around the Museum (Click on an event title to learn more about it)

July 14th - [Flock Theater Presents: A Midsummer Night's Dream](#)

July 15th - [Newfoundland Dog Training on Australia Beach](#)

July 17th - [Talk & Signing: 20th Anniversary of "The Lighthouse Keeper's Daughter"](#)

July 22nd - [Woodie Cars on the Green](#)

July 29th and 30th - [17th Annual International Sea Glass Association Festival](#)

July 31-Aug 1st - [Moby Dick Marathon](#)

Other News Around the Museum:

The Museum will be participating for the third year in a row in the CT Kids Free Program which runs July 1- September 4th. The program gives free admission to CT residents aged 18 years old and under as well as one adult caretaker aged 19 and over. Tickets are now available online.



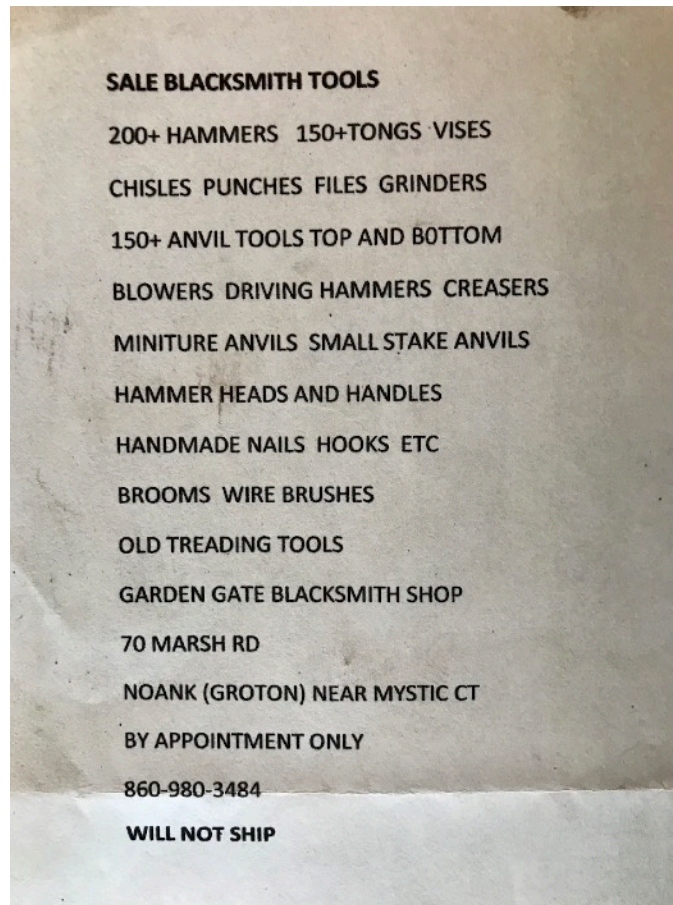
Photos:

Taken at the WoodenBoat Show: As Sharon Brown explains: "Kevin Rathbone gave me a beautiful tallow horn which he made. Much like the beautiful one he presented to The Boathouse decades back."

Items for Sale:

Blacksmith Tools, From a friend of Sharon Brown's:

A Lofting for a Hammond Dory: This just in from our sister Delaware River Chapter: On 3/4" 4x8 Plywood of the beautiful Swampscott style dory as seen in Chapter 12 John Gardner's Dory Book and in the Summer 2020 issue of the Ash Breeze. In northern Delaware; will help load into vehicle. To a good home. Dana Cooley 302-584-3591



From the Side Deck:

Thank You again for all the support and assistance in presenting the John Gardner Small Craft Workshop. It takes many hands, including those from nearby states to make it the success it was. Much Appreciated. Now on to Summer activities! Fair Winds! Bill & Karen

And Remember your Dues: Do it the easy way and let your fingers do the walking: for JGTSCA:

<http://www.jgtsca.org/join-us.html> and for National: <https://tsca.net/join-online/>

And here is an image to take with you, courtesy of Jack Huckel of the Bateau under sail:

