



THE CLASSIC YACHT CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.

The Ancient Mariner

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35
years
of
classic
boating
1971 - 2006



A Classic Event at St. Michael's

by [Erica Lowery](#)

Last Spring, while perusing a list of upcoming yacht club activities in Spinsheet Magazine, I noticed an announcement by the Classic Yacht Club of America. As the recent buyer of a classic boat, I was intrigued; checked the web site and called the club secretary. The response was most welcoming. My husband Dick, boat and I were promptly invited to the next scheduled event. And so, we started touching up deck paint, varnish, and other bits.

As luck would have it, a nasty storm precluded putting ourselves or our “old lady” in jeopardy by cruising up the Bay for the rendezvous, so, with heavy hearts we drove our land barge from Annapolis to meet the group at Maryland Capital Yacht Club for the annual Flag Raising Event. Come to find out that many others also drove their cars not boats to the event. The camaraderie was great. Lots of chatting about boat restorations, electrical systems and varnish! Not to mention the good food and drinks.

Previous commitments kept us from attending the next couple of events, but we made sure to keep the calendar clear and, weather permitting, planned to be at the Annual Judging Rendezvous in September. This time, the weather gods were on our side. The trip from Spa Creek to St. Michael's marina was

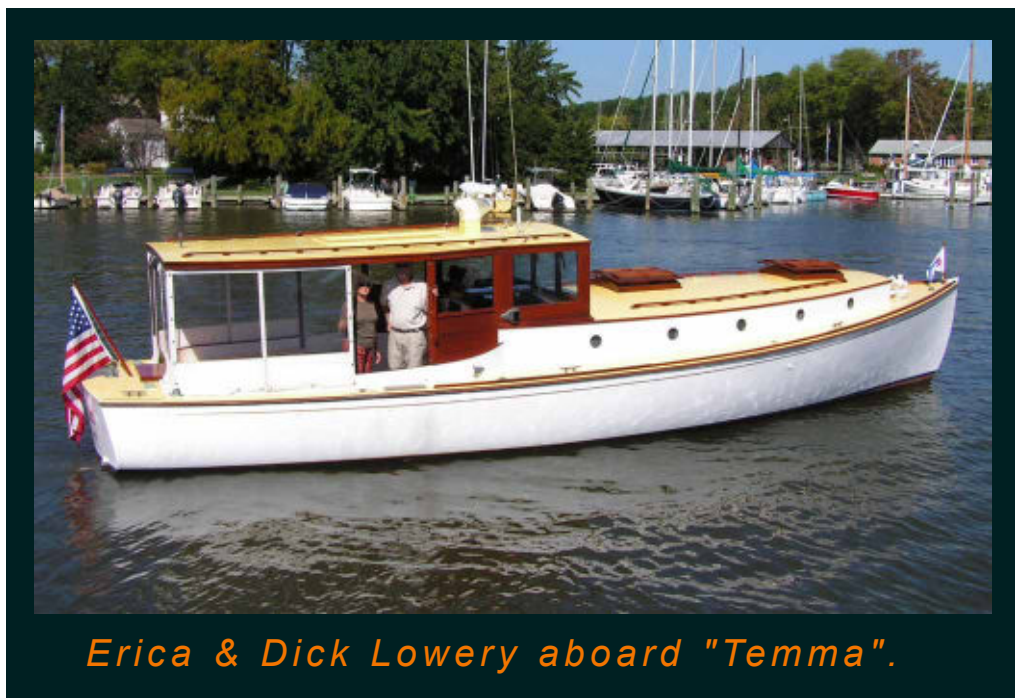
easy for our 1928 wooden boat. With burgee hoisted high, we crossed the Bay in about four hours (at seven knots.) Many willing hands helped us negotiate the crowded marina as we were eased into our assigned slip as the rain god announced his (her?) presence.

The early evening's Commodore's cocktail party can only be described as a most enjoyable "happening." The host was personable and welcoming; the member guests were chatty and interesting, while food and drinks were excellent and abundant. The ambiance was certainly delightful. It didn't matter that the rains were also in attendance.

The day of judging started at 9 am, with about a dozen boats in competition, and some 27 member boats in the marina. Lots of boat hopping and chitchat between crews and local visitors while dodging rain squalls, wiping/rewiping drips and leaks and mopping/remopping decks made the time pass quickly waiting for the judges to "do their thing." By day's end, excitement was high as all were eagerly awaiting the day's tally.

The excellent buffet dinner at the Town Dock restaurant was surpassed only by the awards presentation. Our vintage boat lady, the venerable m/v Temma, received four awards. We were thrilled. Those yellow ribbons coordinated beautifully with our yellow decks! We were so pleased that everyone liked our boat, and were so happy with the work we had done on the boat. To win Members Choice AND Judges Choice at our first judged event was very special. Thank you one and all - Patrick, Jim, Ed, Michael, Audrey, Judy, Eric, Dave, and everyone else.

Cruising by the fleet of racing log canoes on the Miles River as we left the marina was a sight we will long remember - a perfect finale to a wonderfully planned and "Classic Bay" weekend. We look forward to more events with the Classic Yacht Club.



Erica & Dick Lowery aboard "Temma".

Can it Really Have Been a Year?

by Fleet Captain [Mike Haines](#)

It seems impossible to believe that a whole year has gone by since I became the CYCA Fleet Captain. It's been a very busy and very enjoyable year. We've had some wonderful events and member participation has been really enthusiastic. Thanks must go to all of you who helped me during the year... you know who you are. And of course, to all you members who came to events... that's what makes this job worthwhile.

The Judging Event in St. Michaels last month featured some 27 Club vessels and more than 80 members and guests for dinner. The weather was typical for the Chesapeake Bay in September – clouds, sunshine, showers and clear skies. If you didn't like it, you waited 15 minutes and it changed!

Our last event of the 2006 season is the Annual Meeting and Change of Watch on October 21, 2006 at the Chester River Yacht & Country Club, Chestertown, MD. This is another event full of nautical pomp and circumstance, the presentation of awards to the



Rick and Diane Savage head home aboard "Sarannah"



Big & Little: Eric Horst & Rene Holsclaw




Dwain & Kay Watkins



Party time! Robyn Reynolds, Clara & Dave Ochipinti, Wanda & Chris Ulsaker. Foreground: L. Susan Haines and Lisa Max.

winners of the Judging Event, and installation of new flag officers and Board members. Cocktails begin at 6PM with dinner following at 7PM and dancing until 11PM.

If you are coming by boat, please note you must make your own arrangements for slips. Full service dockage is not available at the CRY&CC. The principal marina in Chestertown is Chestertown Marina, so check with them in advance, 410-778-3616. If you are driving and staying the night, check out places to stay using the Chestertown Web page www.chestertown.com which provides all kinds of information. Or call their Tourism Office at 410-778-0416. Chestertown is celebrating its 300th anniversary. If you can, come early and look around. It's a beautiful little town. See you there! 



Top: Mike & Joan Stevenson and guests
Center: Fleet Captain Mike Haines and his helper, Susan Haines
Left: The Harbor View, St. Michael's



St. Michael's Maritime Museum

Greetings From Your New Editor

Having now done a whole newsletter issue, I can fully appreciate how much work Fiona Hirschfeld did during her two years as the CYCA editor. Fiona did everything herself. I have a helper, Dyanne Delaney who does the actual layouts. Fiona and Bob have sold their boat and are now devoting their energy to trying to keep their town, Chesapeake City, a quaint place we will all enjoy visiting. Thanks Fiona, for all your effort.

Please feel free to comment about what you like or don't like in the newsletters. I would like to hear from you. How about writing an article? Do you have some historical stuff we can use? Got a story you can share? Have a subject you are passionate about and want covered? Email me anytime: SailingRose@verizon.net or Phone 610.269.6802. *If you have a problem opening the newsletter, let me know that too. I'm looking forward to a great year.*

Regards,

Cheryl Spaulding

The View from the Bridge

by Commodore **Patrick Dunlap**



It has been my privilege to lead our Club this season, and one of my final acts is to once again pay tribute to what makes our Club so special—its members. Each of you contributes to making CYCA the terrific and unique yacht club it is, whether your responsibility is planning club activities and events or simply showing up to enjoy them. Every member who attends a CYCA rendezvous—bringing your boats, your friends, your tips on restoration—helps further our cause of promoting the preservation and enjoyment of classic yachts. Thank you for helping to make the 2006 season such a fun and successful one.

I'd especially like to recognize this year's flag officers, governors, committee members and rendezvous hosts for volunteering their time and spirit to further CYCA's goals and bring greater value to Club membership.

Vice Commodore Jim Gartley was always at the ready in support of your Commodore and the gravitas he brought to the bridge was much appreciated. New members—with large boats and small—are not only growing the Club, but also helping to keep us more diverse and interesting than ever before. This year, we welcomed our largest boat—an 80' Broward owned by Tim Drake and Paula Harrington and one of our smallest—a 14' Chris Craft runabout owned by Dick Burkhard and Dale Maahs, each built in 1958! Thanks to you, our members, for introducing them to CYCA and to Vice Commodore Jim Gartley for making them feel welcome.

Rear Commodore Ed Rosenthal worked to put a fresh perspective on this year's Judging Event—or “the show” as some prefer to call it. Ever the optimist, his goal was to have every boat at the rendezvous participate.


Fleet Captain Mike Haines succeeded in bringing us “Back to the Bay” with a series of rendezvous celebrating the history, culture and pure enjoyment of the Chesapeake. Mike was supported this year by rendezvous hosts at each cruise to assist with implementing activities and to ensure things went smoothly. If you enjoyed yourself,

thank Mike and our rendezvous hosts. If you didn't, speak with me or Jim Gartley about how we can make next season even better.

And thanks to our other two flag officers who oftentimes perform their duties "under the radar" — Secretary Audrey Edwards and Treasurer Judy Willingham. These women expend lots of time and effort behind the scenes keeping the Club shipshape and financially sound.

Mike Thielke continued his strong commitment to his joint tasks as both Webmaster and Yearbook Editor with enthusiasm. Newsletter Editors Fiona Hirschfeld and Cheryl Spaulding collaborated on production of another great series of Ancient Mariners keeping you informed of Club activities and Bay-related interests. Many thanks to these critical support team members for their hard work.

This year, we welcomed Bonnie Heath as our new fleet chaplain. She gracefully stepped into the hard-to-fill shoes of Sue Max while bringing her own spiritual perspective to this post.

Thank you one and all for a great year! 



*Barbara & Joe Murray
aboard
"Widgeon"*



*Chaplain Bonnie Heath
&
husband Mason Craig*



Debbie & Jim Gartley, Judy Willingham



Boat Genealogy: "In The Mood"

This is the sixth in our series of articles that explore the history of the old boats we all love. We've begun with some of the oldest boats in the club.

In this case, the boat is "In The Mood", an 18-foot Chris Craft Runabout — one of the last seven boats built by Chris Craft before they turned their efforts to wartime production for WWII.

It's not a new phrase, but it surely is appropriate, "woody disease." Larry & Lane Page, the owners of the boat in this genealogy call it "termite-itis." Whatever you choose to call it, every member of CYCA recognizes it. You see it in the face of someone who looks with wonder and admiration at an old wooden boat. You will all remember that first blush of joy accompanied by that adoring look that appears at the sight of wooden boats followed by a crooked smile with appropriate drooling. You know someone has actually "gotten it" when they purchase one of these crazy old boats and decide to "fix" them. You know it's a serious case when they own more than one wooden boat. By all these definitions, Larry & Lane have a terminal case of the disease.

At one point, they owned six wooden boats — they now own four. A 25' Chris Craft Cruiser (fiber glass) built in 1974; a Century 16' Runabout built in 1947; an MFG Utility Runabout outboard skiff built in 1956 and "In The Mood", the subject of this genealogy profile.

"In The Mood", is an 18-foot Chris Craft Runabout. Although Bob knows little of her modern history, he was able to secure her original information from the Mariners Museum in Norfolk, VA. You may recall we have mentioned before that this museum is the repository of the entire collection of Chris Craft documentation provided by the company.


The boat was originally delivered to Buckeye Lake in Ohio, in July 1942. It was one of the last seven boats built by Chris Craft before their production facility was dedicated



to the production of boats for WWII. Although it was war time, these last few pleasure boats were produced and delivered by Chris Craft. It seems that President Roosevelt felt strongly that sports should continue during the war. Keep up the morale and all. One might wonder why boating would be included, until you recall that the Roosevelt family were well known yachtsmen of their day.



Larry replaced the original engine in the boat, which had ceased up. It now has a Chris Craft “K” 120 HP engine. He has also done lots of work on her, although she was in pretty good shape when he bought her in 2002 from the previous owner in Michigan.

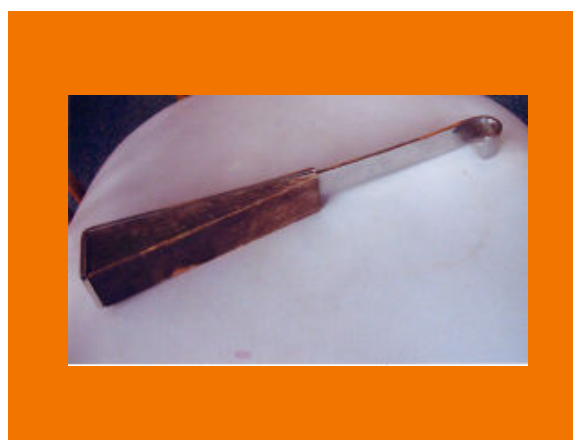
“In The Mood” is harbored at Harbour Cove Marina in a shed boatel, in Deal, Maryland. 

What's This? Answer

We had a couple of guesses, but nobody figured it out. It does look like a step, but it isn't.

The item featured in the previous issue is found on Mark Stevenson's "Victoria". It is used to help grab stern lines on a fully enclosed aft sun deck cruiser. The tool is slid thru the hawse pipe. The wedge prevents it from going too far. The line is then lowered over the hook, then the tool is withdrawn, and the line is made fast. Pretty clever, eh?

Have something you think can mystify members? Pass it along for "What's This?"
Email: SailingRose@verizon.net



First Cruise on the Chesapeake

by Dale and DeeAnn Harris

This is a short story about our first real cruise on the Chesapeake and our impressions of the trip. We are “Delaware River Rats” with no real experience on “The Bay” even though Dale back in the ‘70’s had cruised the channel around Turkey Point and up the Northeast River.

We arrived at 8:45AM at Shelter Cove Marina on Thursday the 14th, and were promptly greeted by our hosts, Jim and Debbie Gartley. The Gartleys had generously invited us to cruise with them on their beautiful 1966 Hatteras “Cherokee Lady” to the St. Michael’s Rendezvous and stay aboard with them during that time. Due to some last minute mechanical glitches, our 1955 Chris-Craft Cruiser, “Mon Ami” was not ready for the trip even though it had finally been launched after two and a half years in dry-dock. After a good-natured reprimand by Vice Commodore Gartley for our slightly late arrival, we

proceeded to prepare to cast off and get underway along with the Gartley’s dock neighbors Mike and Susan Haines on their Chris Craft Cruiser “Magnolia”. It was clear we were in good hands from the start.

Conditions were not the best and stormy weather threatened. Out on the Northeast River, a constant

drizzle set in and there was a slight chop. We found ourselves immediately dodging crab pots and driftwood of various sizes that were really hard to spot in the chop. When we arrived at the mouth of the Sassafras River, we were joined by Dave and Clara Ochipinti and their gorgeous Chris Craft Roamer “Bella Nave”. What an amazing lineup of beautiful classic boats! As we were arriving at the “Narrows”, Captain Jim noticed his starboard engine running hot. After some quick detective work, he discovered a small hose to the engine water filter had given way and had a substantial leak. While Debbie manned the helm and circled near the Kent Narrows Bridge, Jim fixed the leak while Dale filled the coolant tank. It’s amazing what a screw and some electrical tape can do in the right hands! After about an hour, we arrived at St. Michael’s. It was certainly a




Photo of "Bella Nave" and "Magnolia" from onboard "Cherokee Lady"

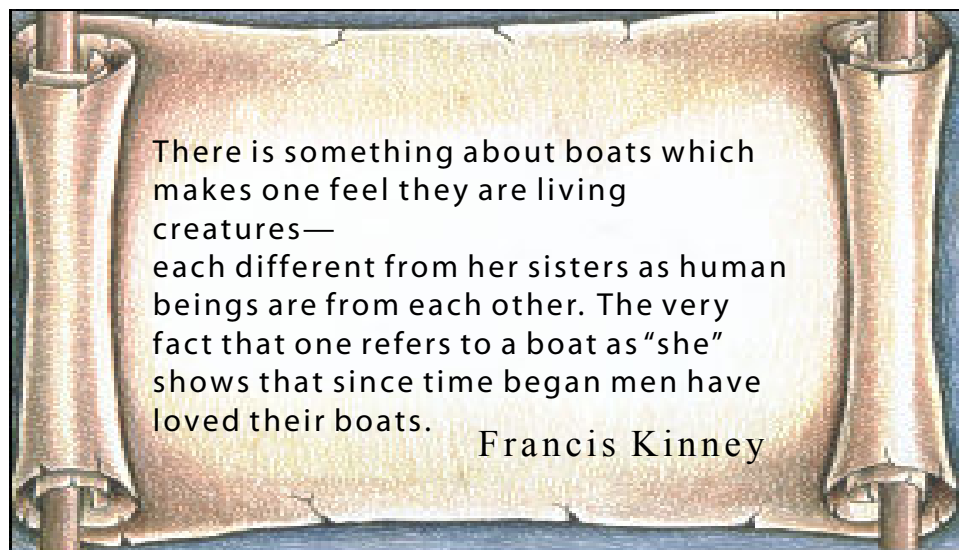
different view for us to arrive there by water! In due time, we were nestled in the marina and rafted up with the Haines'. In spite of the fact that it rained for three days, it was still a lot of fun. It was really nice to see all of the beautiful classic boats as they arrived and sandwiched themselves into their respective slips. A lot of first rate docking maneuvers were witnessed during that time. On Saturday, we had an enjoyable lunch with Jim and Cheryl Spaulding and got caught up on each other's lives. We thoroughly enjoyed the entire rendezvous during which we received our "baptism" in selling 50/50 tickets at the Saturday evening dinner. We also enjoyed several club members' hospitality onboard their boats.



Cheryl & Jim Spaulding 'catch up' with DeeAnn & Dale Harris.

As luck would have it, the sun shone brightly on Sunday morning for the departure breakfast and the stage was set for an amazing cruise back home. At the appointed time, "Bella Nave", "Magnolia", and "Cherokee Lady" motored out of the marina and into the Miles River. Conditions were picture perfect: smooth seas, deep blue sky and big cotton ball clouds on the horizon. From "Cherokee Lady's" deck, Dale was able to take photos of "Magnolia" and "Bella Nave" under way. It was fun to listen to the radio

chatter between the three boats commenting on what a beautiful sight they presented. Upon reaching the Sassafra, "Bella Nave" left us for her home port and we proceeded without problems to Shelter Cove. 



Judges Shower Members with Awards!

by Rear Commodore **Ed Rosenthal**

Well folks, CYCA's 2006 Judging Event is now another entry in the Club's archives! Although participants had to "weather" on and off rain showers throughout the day on Saturday, it appears members who elected to participate in this year's Judging Event were amply rewarded for their efforts. Clearly, our Club's membership is committed to keeping their boats in good running order and outstanding appearance, despite the hard work and big bucks it takes to make it happen.

Thank you to our three-person panel of judges for lending their time and expertise to a careful and constructive critique of our vessels. A special note of gratitude goes out to Captain Harvey Cook who retires from the panel after three consecutive years of participation! Thank you, Harvey!

Most of all thanks to all of our members who attended the 2006 Judging Rendezvous in St Michaels, MD. And congratulations to all of this year's award winners who earned the recognition they and their vessels received! It was my privilege to serve as Rear Commodore this year and bask in the glow of so many members' fun and delight! And the awards go to...

Division I – Class 2: Best in Division and Best in Class

"Temma"

Captain Richard and Erica Lowery

Division II - Class 1: Second Place

"Juanita"

Commodore Patrick Dunlap and Jim Rodgers

**Division II - Class 2: Best in Division
Best in Class**

Loretta Mills Memorial Award

"Mon-Arque"

Past Commodore Robert and Renee Holsclaw

Division II - Class 2: First Place

"Magnolia"

Fleet Captain Mike and Susan Haines



Photos from top: Bob & Renee Holsclaw with Judges; Clara & Dave Ochipinti with Ed Rosenthal; Rachel Hanscom working for the judging; Classic Boats in the Harbor.

Division II - Class 2: Second Place

"Kassie B II"

Rear Commodore Ed Rosenthal

Division II - Class 4: Best in Division and Best in Class

"Finesse"

Captain Dan and Louise Sheedy

Best in Fleet

Best in Divisions I & II Combined

Weir Memorial Award

"Mon-Arque"

Past Commodore Robert and Renee Holsclaw

Division III - Class 1: Best in Class

"Miss Anne"

Captain Rick and Donna Clausen

Division III - Class 1: Second Place

"Pirouette Two"

Captain Mike and Joan Stevenson

Division III - Class 2: Best in Class

"Cherokee Lady"

Vice Commodore Jim and Deb Gartley

Division III - Class 3: Best in Class

"Miss Natalie"

Past Commodore Eric Horst

Division III - Class 4:

Best in Fleet - Division III

Best in Division and Best in Class

"Bella Nave"

Governor Dave and Clara Ochipinti

Division III - Class 6: Best in Class

"Sarannah"

Captain Rick and Diane Savage

Member's Choice Award

Judge's Choice Award

"Temma"

Captain Richard and Erica Lowery

