

# INLAND SCUTTLEBUTT



Volume 18, Issue 3

Inland Empire Chapter of the Antique & Classic Boat Society

Fall 2018

## The Third Generation at StanCraft

by Barry Provorse

Syd and Juliette Young had a big decision to make in 2003. Their son-in-law Robb Bloem, married to their daughter Amy, was on the phone asking Syd if the Youngs would consider putting StanCraft's future in his and Amy's hands. It was a family legacy. Robb had never built a boat, but without hesitation, Syd said "yes." StanCraft would stay in the family.

The Youngs had known Robb for a long time. He and Amy had been high school sweethearts. After Robb graduated from Coeur d'Alene High School in 1990, he worked in town, saved a little money, and contemplated his future. He enrolled in the University of Colorado, Boulder, in 1992. Amy joined him there a year later. Robb graduated with a degree in architectural engineering and married Amy in 1997, and then they



The 370 Rivelle was named after Robb and Amy's kids, River and Elliott.

(Continued on page 4)

## ACBS Chapter of the Year!

Congratulations, Inland Empire chapter members. You have won the ninth annual ACBS Chapter of the Year award. Out of 53 chapters and 11,000 members, ACBS has chosen the Inland Empire chapter for being particularly outstanding in development, activities, member participation, and other areas of improvement this year.

A special thanks to all of the work that Daryl Reynolds put into creating our nomination write-up. He would like to thank those folks who helped him do it: Chris Knapton, Don Robson, BK Powell, Jan Keener, Don Vogt, Dick Werner, John Whitcomb, and especially Carolyn Reynolds, who spent hours proofreading and correcting our detailed and thorough 2500-word nomination proposal—and any others whom I may have missed.

Thanks to every one of our members, you have made this possible by being involved and making our chapter successful. We will carry the trophy proudly this year.

— Petyr Beck



## 2018 Chapter Officers and Board of Directors



### Officers:

#### President:

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Sandpoint Show:	BK Powell	bk@officetechusa.com
CDA Show:	Jan Keener	keener@my180.net
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### MASTHEAD PHOTO:

2018 Dry Rot Roar Off, Elkins Resort at Priest Lake, Idaho, by Wes Yandt

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Jan Keener	keener@my180.net
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### Our Mission

To bring people together with a common interest in historic, antique, and classic boats, sharing fellowship, information, experience, and exchange of ideas.

To protect the heritage of boating by promoting, first, the preservation and, secondly, the restoration of historic antique and classic boats.

To promote, further, and encourage a love and enjoyment of all aspects of historic, antique, and classic boating.

To serve as a communication channel for our membership, the public, and any other entities regarding information relating to historic, antique, and classic boating. This includes serving as a clearing house and referral service for all information relating to historic, antique, and classic boating.

To serve as the governing body and parent organization for such chapters as shall be formed and created under our auspices; this includes providing support for and communicating with these chapters.

To inspire and support quality boat shows and related events among our chapters; to establish and maintain standards for classifying boats and conducting boat shows.

To educate our membership and the general public concerning safety and protocol as it relates to historic, antique, and classic boating.



## Year-End Celebration and Holiday Party

by Daryl Reynolds

This year, the holiday party and ACBS Chapter of the Year Award celebration will be held on Saturday, December 8th. The board meeting will start at 5:00PM and will be followed by a social hour from 5:30PM - 6:30PM with live entertainment provided by Terry Deems, AKA "Bone Daddy" and then dinner. It will be in the Redhead Room at Red Lion Templin's Hotel on the River, in Post Falls, Idaho. There will

be a no-host bar along with entertainment. During the dinner, there will be an election of officers and new board members for 2019.

Please RSVP to Carolyn Reynolds (crreynolds\_24@hotmail.com) or Anne Henshaw (annehenshaw1@aol.com) by November 24th. The dinner menu choices will be forthcoming.

I hope you all can attend. We have a lot to celebrate as the only west coast chapter to have been awarded the prestigious Chapter of the Year award by ACBS International.



## President's Message

October 2018



With fall here, it's time once again to reflect on another fantastic boating season here in the Inland Empire. The IEC kicked off the season in Whitefish, Montana, for Whitefish Woody Weekend. Tim, Deb, and crew did a fantastic job once again. If you have never attended this show, mark your

calendars to get your registration in early—in February or March—for this show sells out fast! The Sandpoint show was just as strong, with 50 registrations and more than 104 members and guests in attendance. StanCraft did a fantastic job with the children's boat-building program and has agreed to continue it in 2019. The Coeur d'Alene show was cool, windy, and smoky! This, however, did not lower the turnout or dampen the attitudes of attendees. Tayler Petticolas, show chair, put on a remarkable event and is already in the planning stages for 2019. We had captains and crews from 44 boats in attendance, with boats from Wyoming, Colorado, California, and Oregon. Priest Lake Dry Rot rounded things out this year with great success. Read articles in this issue by Kathy Fair and Wes Yandt for details on this year's show. With most chapters struggling to retain and find new members and to boost show attendance, you can see that the Inland Empire Chapter is way ahead of the curve.

In between the shows we had a BBQ/potluck social event, which over 50 chapter members attended. Wow! Talk about a full summer of boating fun. I don't think there is another chapter west of the Mississippi that crams so much into a short boating season. Then again, we have six months of winter to look forward to here in the Inland Empire! But on the positive side, this gives us a lot more time to work on our boats!

And in late September we found out that the Inland Empire Chapter won this year's ACBS Chapter of the Year award! We will celebrate the award at this year's holiday party, and you will hear more about it in the next issue of *Inland Scuttlebutt*.

Our chapter is in great financial health, thanks to the outstanding efforts of outgoing treasurer Mike Wilson. We have about \$22,000 in the bank with about \$6,000-\$7,000 in outstanding 2018 show expenses. Mike says we're solvent and stable as we pass the gavel to the new board in January.

Which brings me to the 2018 election of board members. Seats being vacated this year are president, 1st VP, 2nd VP, treasurer, and secretary, along with three additional general board positions. We have some current members who have agreed to run for some of the open positions. If you are interested, please contact me before November 1st to discuss requirements and responsibilities of the positions.

Lastly, the holiday party is scheduled for December 8th with a short board meeting at 5:00 p.m. for board members. A social hour from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. will be followed by dinner at Red Lion Templin's Hotel on the River in Post Falls, Idaho. Hope to see you all there!

Daryl Reynolds  
President  
Inland Empire Chapter  
ACBS



IEACBS board meeting at OfficeTech

**STANCRAFT**, *continued from page 1*

moved to Seattle. They found work and bought a home. Amy studied business administration, and Robb pursued an MBA and studied law at Seattle University. “I wanted to get any degree I could so I had the freedom to work anywhere in the world,” said Robb in a 2015 Spokane Journal of Business article. “Turns out,” he added, “anywhere in the world was here.”

In 1997, Syd and Juliette Young had sold their thriving boat restoration business, The Boat Shop, to Coeur d’Alene serial entrepreneur Duane Hagadone. The Youngs retained the StanCraft brand. Syd continued to restore old wood boats and occasionally construct a new one in a 2,000-square-foot shop behind the family home. (In 2002 he built a 34’ tender for Hagadone’s newly christened yacht, *Lady Lola*.)

Robb and Amy returned home in 2003, where they were welcomed into the family fold—and into StanCraft. Syd and the company’s only other employee, Tom Baldwin, mentored Robb, while Juliette instructed Amy in the art of family company administration. The Youngs and Bloems began rebuilding the business, but it was clear that StanCraft would need more than Syd’s shop space. Within a year, they had purchased nearby land and constructed a 7,500-square-foot workspace. Before they completed the company’s move, work was started on a second building. By the end of 2004, StanCraft filled 15,000 square feet of space.

StanCraft’s design catalog included the Beavertail, Speedster, and Torpedo, but it was a fast, sleek new design called the Missile that caught Hall of Fame quarterback John Elway’s attention. He ordered a 36’ Missile with a top speed of 85 miles per hour, and the sports world took notice. Ice hockey legend Wayne Gretzky soon purchased a low-slung 30’ StanCraft.

By then, StanCraft boats were transporting legends of the golf world between the Coeur d’Alene Resort Hotel and the Resort Golf Course. StanCraft’s client list continued to expand to include the up-lake developers of Black Rock and Gozzer Ranch Golf and Lake Club, a private golf-centric community that opened in 2007 at Arrow Point on the east shore of the lake.

In 2009, Syd and Julie stepped aside, and Robb and Amy bought StanCraft, lock, stock, and c-clamps. Robb was selling and building boats. Amy was the company’s chief administrator and mother to River and his sister Elliott.

Robb was very process-oriented, and the company’s



*The first StanCraft Torpedo was built by Billy and Stanley Young in 1945.*

business plans were based on growth. The company’s 2017 capital investment plan included \$2 million for technology that would reduce material waste and manufacturing time and would increase efficiency. Included in the plan was a robotic system for flawless applying finishes and an upholstery shop equipped with precision German-made sewing machines.

By 2018, the StanCraft footprint had grown to exceed 215,000 square feet that included 12,000 square feet for computer-controlled milling equipment. The company also purchased a laser etching system for inscribing boat names and other highly custom touches.

The Bloems have also invested in human capital to enhance StanCraft’s in-house capabilities. “Our builders used to do everything except rigging, upholstery, and wiring. We had a few guys that could do everything, but now we have a bunch of guys who have very specific roles.”

Since 2009, the company has produced 150 custom mahogany boats and 30 smaller boats (14- to 17-foot) that serve as starter boats (starting at \$65,000) for very discriminating first-time boat owners. A significant portion of StanCraft sales is to repeat customers. This year StanCraft



will produce 22 custom wood boats, and its near-term goal is to manufacture 40 to 50 boats a year.

In late summer, StanCraft received a signed contract to design and construct what will be the largest, most expensive craft to date. Sold to a Seattle customer, it will be a 70' cruiser with distinctive StanCraft lines and finish quality.

Today boat building represents about 30 percent of StanCraft's annual revenue. StanCraft also completes about 50 restoration and refining projects. The company offers boat storage with a capacity of 500 to 600 units. A little over half of what they build stays in the Northwest.

In the past it was always Syd and Julie, and now it's Robb

and Amy. The two of them have worked together since college. "I've always been the outside sales guy, and she's always been the inside person. She really is a project manager. We work really well together. Her desk is really organized, and mine is chaos. I'm sort of 'grow grow grow,' and she's sort of pulling back on the reins."

Robb and Amy might have their own list of reasons for the company's success, which would probably begin with the employment of highly skilled craftspeople. (The company currently employs 70.) But clearly, it is their willingness to take risks, stay focused, and try new things that keeps them moving forward.

## CDA Show Recap

by Daryl Reynolds

This year's Coeur d'Alene Classic Boat Show was another success, with 45 boats registered. Skippers and first mates came from Florida, Oregon, Northern California, Washington, and Idaho to attend the show.

To kick off the show, Tayler Petticolas, show chairperson and member of Hagadone Marine Group, along with Todd Burke, manager of the CDA Resort Boardwalk Marina, and Jim Brown, manager of Coeur Customs, hosted the Friday night "welcome aboard" reception at the Boardwalk Marina. Despite the wind and smoke, the public came out in droves on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday to catch a glimpse of the boats and skippers making their way to their mooring locations. On Saturday evening, we held the awards banquet at Coeur Customs' wood shop at the Hagadone Marine Center on Blackwell Island. The dinner, as always, was fabulous. We concluded the evening with the presentation of awards. First up was People's Choice, a most coveted award in which the public picks the winner, won by Ralph Steiner from Spokane. Next was Skipper's Choice, chosen by all the skippers, in recognition of the best boat in the show. This went to *Patience*, a 1930 Dodge Triple Runabout, owned by Mike and Stephanie Magruder from Sausalito, California (see photo on page 7). Mike said that this chapter is the most friendly and accommodating group. He has already made reservations for both the CDA and Dry Rot shows next year.

This year the chairperson added a third award, the Chairman's Choice, which embodies the nature and spirit

of the show and the story behind the boat and skipper. This year's went to *Mollie*, a 1932 Garwood, owned by Nevin and Elizabeth Bryant from Coolin, Idaho.

### 2018 CDA AWARDS

#### People's Choice

*Morning Wood*

Ralph Steiner, Spokane, WA

#### Skipper's Choice

*Patience*

Mike and Stephanie Magruder  
Sausalito, CA, and Green Cove Springs, FL

#### Chairman's Choice

*Mollie*

Nevin and Elizabeth Bryant  
Coolin, ID



*Jefe leads the pack along the outer dock at the Coeur d'Alene Classic Boat Show, 2018.*

## Dry Rot 2018: A Heartfelt “Thank you”

Brian and I want to give a huge “thank you” to all who participated in the 2018 Priest Lake Dry Rot. The show was a huge success: the largest ever, with 46 boats, plus five more that signed up for Sunday’s show. The Poker Run had 28 boats, and everyone finished and had a chance to rest up before the Saturday night BBQ. And, boy, the weather couldn’t have been any better, with the recent rainstorm clearing out all the smoke from the summer fires.

We had a great turnout from the Oregon Columbia Willamette Chapter. We know it is a long drive to Priest Lake, especially pulling a boat, but your chapter is such a welcome addition to our show. Tim and Deb Salt, representing the Montana Big Sky Chapter, thank you for always attending our chapter boat shows with the beautiful *Shady Lady*. And a special thank you goes out to Mike and Stephanie Magruder, from Florida (yes, Florida!), who heard about the Coeur d’Alene show, decided to attend, and then came to Priest Lake immediately afterwards, towing their beautiful 1930 Dodge, *Patience*. I so enjoyed getting to know this couple. I hope everyone had the opportunity to talk to them, too. They told me they have already booked their cabin at Elkins for next year’s Dry Rot. Yeah!

Glenn and Cathy Dutro happily attended the boat show and brought a boat! Glenn has been wonderful about helping



Ella Casparis (15 years old) parking Dad’s Riva for her turn at Poker Run.



Brian & Kathy Fair, sporting 2018 Dry Rot hats, head up to Upper Lake.

at all the IEC shows, and it was so fun to see Glenn and Cathy out on the water, enjoying their new purchase, the 1941 Chris Craft *Punkin*.

The next generation of boaters are in full force: Ella Casparis, 15, drove and docked the gorgeous *Riva Desafinado* in the Poker Run. Ella has been practicing all summer with the help of her dad, Chris. Great job, Ella! Ten-year-old Henry Rice entered his grandfather’s 1967 Century Resorter, *Rêve Du Papa*, and proudly talked to dock-walkers about his grandpa and his family boat. And no doubt Laura Boge, 14, will not be far behind Ella in driving her parents’ 1964 Century Resorter, *Mi Amor*. Finally, even though a little older, Sarah Hansen drove our 1954 Century Sea Maid, *Lady K*, in the Poker Run.

Brian and I are proud that the people who help put on the Priest Lake Dry Rot are IEC volunteers with lake cabins on Priest. We believe this is a big part of the Dry Rot’s success. Our love for Priest Lake is second to none, and we want to give a big shout-out to the following people:

**Dick & Kristen Winn** for your thankless task of picking up the rented tables/chairs, putting up and taking them down, and returning them to the rental company. In addition, you removed all the garbage at the Werners’ cabin—a very important task!

**Ron Yandt** for your continued assistance with the registrations. We appreciate your organization and communication.

**Michael, Anavel, and Laura Boge** for putting on the Monday Upper Lake hot dog roast. Unfortunately, the bees kept us from stopping on the beach, but your goodie



bags were the perfect surprise just before we turned around to go back down the Thorofare to the Werners' for a "bee free" hot dog roast over their fire pit. It was a good "Plan B" solution.

**Mitch Johnson** for taking videos with the drone. I'm anxious to see the photos you took—especially during the Roar Off from Elkins.

**Tim Murphy** for helping with suggestions for the Poker Run stops. We heard time and time again how wonderful the people were on the docks—helpful and excited to see the boats. Someone at one stop even wore gloves to avoid damaging the boats while catching them—how thoughtful.

**Fred Goughnour** for donating the wood and your labor to make this year's Captain's Choice award, which will be proudly kept at Elkins throughout the year.

Our daughter, **Sarah Hansen**, for helping me assemble all the show and Poker Run packets. Your sense of humor is endless and keeps me sane and on track. And **Nick** (Sarah's husband), thank you for your help running around and catching boats at Cavanaugh's for the Poker Run.

Last, but of course definitely not least, a generous thank you goes out to **Dick and Louise Werner**. They have had a lot on their plate this year, and Brian and I are happy to take a big part of the

Dry Rot show weight off their shoulders. They were gracious to open their cabin and dock to host three events: the Saturday night show, the Monday breakfast, and the revision of Monday's Upper Lake hot dog roast. Louise, I swear you are the Energizer Bunny and Martha Stewart, all rolled up into one. I'm proud to call you my good friend. Dick, what an endless supply of boat stories you have—so fun to listen to. I commend you on "rallying" for each event. I know everyone always enjoys your company. Rightfully so, Dick and Louise won the

new Captain's Choice award, which will be hanging in Elkins restaurant throughout the year.

I personally want to thank my husband, Brian Fair, for all his efforts and for running around to make the Dry Rot not just a "well-oiled machine" but full of new ideas each year: a different t-shirt and hat design, new awards (including ones for the Poker Run, made by his employees at Carlson Sheet Metal), and a new location for the Poker Run. These keep the show fresh and exciting. We already have some ideas to make the 2019 Priest Lake Dry Rot an even greater success.

As the Florida couple already has, book your cabin/room for next year now; you all know lodging fills up quickly!

Sincerely,  
Kathy and Brian Fair



Top: This year's Captain's Choice award.

Bottom: Mike and Stephanie Magruder's Patience cruises the Upper Lake.



## This Year's Dry Rot a Great Success

by Wes Yandt

On August 31st, close to 100 people converged onto Idaho's crown jewel for three days of boating enjoyment. The 2018 Priest Lake Dry Rot boat show and parade was one of the best in history. Organizers Brian and Kathy Fair, along with many volunteers, put together a great weekend of boating and camaraderie. At Friday's welcome dinner, Brian advised us: "Have a full tank of fuel when you show up for the Poker Run." He was not just fooling around! As the Yandt crew left the Poker Run starting dock, we anxiously read the first instruction. Sue looked at me and said, "First card stop is in the Thorofare."

"What? It sounded like you said the Thorofare," I snapped back at her. For those unfamiliar with the lake, the start was at the southern end, and the Thorofare is at the very north end of the 20-mile-long lake. Brian's gutsy Poker Run track ended up being over 50 miles (as reported by Skipper Tim Salt's GPS) when you considered the run to the start—but it

also turned out to be one of the most beautiful boat rides in recent memory. The lake was calm, weather beautiful, and the participating card stops very enthusiastic. Do you know what a "jello shot" is?

On Saturday evening, Dick and Louise Werner hosted all the hungry boaters for dinner. I never tire of seeing all of our boating friends gathered around on their beach with the majestic backdrop of Priest Lake and the Selkirk Mountains. Amazing! Several times during the weekend I heard from people outside of our group at how amazed they were with the people. "I have never met such a nice group of people who are so welcoming," observed Norm Kitching, from Los Altos, CA. This sentiment was reinforced by Brian Fair on Friday evening, when he told us all how much he and Kathy appreciated everyone making the effort to get to the show. "It's the people that come to the show that make it great," he said.

The boat show at Elkins Resort on Sunday was anchored with an impressive number of Century boats: 17 total, seven of them Coronados. But the highlight of the weekend was the Roar Off, north-Idaho-style. All of the boats gathered out in



Dry Rot participants gather at Cavanaugh's Restaurant on Poker Run morning.



front of Elkins Resort and, en masse, started across the lake, ultimately slowing to form a single file line to parade around the lake. Total pandemonium is the only way to describe 48 classic boats running across the lake, all vying for the same course. I would really like to see that from the air sometime. We probably did not make any friends when the entire flotilla passed close by a couple fishing in their little aluminum boat. Their perfectly tranquil morning was instantly transformed into chaos as they were overtaken by 48 boat wakes. *Sorry!*

On Monday morning, about 20 boats left the Werners' place for a run up to Upper Priest Lake. It was a beautiful

morning with flat water and warm sunshine. Upper Priest Lake is accessed through a 2.5-mile-long thoroughfare connecting it to the northern end of Priest Lake. The entire length is a no wake zone so it is a very peaceful 45-minute journey through spectacular forested scenery. As we slid through, some of the group even got to see a little black bear on the bank.

The weekend finished off with a good ol' fashioned wiener roast hosted by the Boge family at the Werners' beach. If you have not participated in the Priest Lake Dry Rot, you need to put it on your list.

## MORE PHOTOS FROM DRY ROT 2018



CLOCKWISE FROM THE TOP:

*A lively Poker Run stop.*

*Eric Thomas with Lucy, heading down from the Upper Lake.*

*The public showing on Sunday at Elkins Resort.*

*The ladies of Dry Rot 2018!*



## Murray Danzig

by Molly Beck

A colorful character, committed to the club, a fanatic for boats, on a first name basis with grocery store clerks and postal delivery persons, a real flair for life! While these words may describe more than one of our ACBS chapter members, there is only one who makes a real effort to get boats to all our shows and turns up in colors to match. You know the guy I'm talking about: Murray Danzig.

As it turns out, Murray's been messing around in boats for some time now. Growing up in Queens, New York, he spent a lot of time as a teenager exploring the sloughs and waterways of Long Island Sound. He recalled how a friend had been given a 10-horse outboard by his father, and he and his friend rented a rowboat, put that engine on, and went out and had a lot of fun. Murray was hooked. It's been a steady progression since then, from row boats to power, Whalers to wood, with sailing vessels thrown in there too.

When asked if there is one boat in particular that stands out in his mind, he is quick to respond, "my 27' Boston Whaler." He recalled how he and one of his sons were out on Coeur d'Alene lake in his 25' Sea Ray many years ago

when a storm came up out of nowhere. He pulled into the 11th Street Marina and asked if he could dock it for a while because of the storm. His friend, the attendant, said, "Why not go out? Give this Whaler a try." He did, and that's when he fell in love with Boston Whalers and would go on to own a number of them. In fact, he ended up buying that very same 27' boat he had taken out.

Murray's a man who just enjoys being on the water. Cruising along at about 2500-3000 rpm's is like a sedative to him. Sightseeing, taking in the shoreline, noticing all the changes, being on the lake when there's not a lot of traffic: it's all relaxing and therapeutic. His enjoyment of boats has changed somewhat over the years, transitioning from sailing to power boats to wood, and where he may have been more into speed at one time, both sailing ("Steal his wind!") and sometimes now "when I want to show off a little," taking a picnic dinner out spur of the moment with his Alice is his idea of a perfect evening.

In spite of all his boating experience, he has not been spared a few hair-raising events. Like the warm summer night he sailed his 32' Islander out and decided to jump in the lake and cool off (unaware that his life ring was not attached to the boat). The masthead light wasn't on, and all the running

lights were above the water line. It was pitch black out, and with just the height of a head above water, he couldn't see the boat. There he was in the middle of the lake on a night so dark he couldn't even locate his vessel. After floundering around and finally hitting his head on the hull, he was able to get himself aboard and home again. Then, like many of us, he's also had the "forgot to put in the plug" experience: making a quick trip across the lake and spending the rest of the evening bailing out the boat.

Murray's criteria for buying a boat are simple.



Murray shares some of his wisdom with Aiden Kennedy, grandson of CdA Show Chair Jan Keener.



“Number one, because I like it, I just know,” and “Number two, because I make excuses why I need it.” When asked if he’s ever met with familial resistance, Murray relates that he is fortunate in that he only gets a little backlash for about 24 hours, then after that it’s just occasional. And it gives Alice a little capital to be used when she deems appropriate. He and Alice have been married for 43 years, so they have obviously reached a certain level of détente when it comes to these matters.

Advice to boaters: “If you find a boat for \$20,000, plan on spending \$20,000 more. Don’t go for a bargain. You get what you pay for. Don’t have somebody do the finishing because their offer is half the price. You’ll get half the quality. And secondly, every boater should know something about the basic mechanics of a motor (or who to call) so you don’t panic when something goes wrong.”

Boats are only one of Murray’s passions. Antique guns, old cars (he loves looking at anything pre-war), and horses have all played a role in his life, although he admits he was not a great rider, and the horses always knew that. And, oh yes, dogs—he always had lots of pets. And we can’t forget single malt scotch. “When you say single malt, you show off your stuff.”

Murray shows off his stuff in such a congenial way. I watched him compliment a young woman (“you look lovely today, dear”), and she blossomed right there in the coffee line at the Coeur d’ Alene hotel. The three of us shared a sweet, human moment, and that’s what Murray is so good at, creating those moments. His son, Steven, said it took them an hour to go from the boat to the hotel because so many people wanted to stop and talk.

According to Murray, he reached a pinnacle and completed his bucket list with the purchase of *Jefe*, the Jerry Gilbreath 34’ custom-designed sophisticated performance boat built by Coeur d’ Alene Custom Boats. “It was my dream come true, the zenith of my boating career.” It’s been quite a journey from that 10-horse outboard on a rental rowboat to



*Murray with his 22' StanCraft Tutta Bella at the 2013 Sandpoint show, sporting custom canvas and pants.*

the masterpiece that is *Jefe*. When asked where things might go from here, his response was, “There’s only so much sand left in the hourglass, and besides, there comes a time in life there’s no place to put stuff.”

Always a man to surprise us, I imagine he will make the most of that hourglass and come up with an excuse why he might need something and a place to put it, when the right something comes along (for just the right price).



## Forty Boats and Eighty Degrees: The Sandpoint Boat Show

by Barry Provorse

Sandpoint seems to be blessed with fine weather just about the time of its wood boat show, and though there have been exceptions, July 2018 was not one of them. The launch crew waded in near 80-degree water at the City Beach put-in, and the dock masters were offered bribes for shady spots on the boardwalk. Show Chairman BK Powell may not have prayed for perfect weather, but he and the rest of us were blessed with three days of it.

It's no small feat to manage a boat show. BK not only had to secure the mooring, but he had to prove everything was insured, from the Ship's Store to the powerhouse parking. Dock masters Ron Yaunt and Glenn Detro laid out the show like precision engineers to ensure the classic and antique fleet fit comfortably along the Sandpoint City Boardwalk. Boats varied in length from just a few feet to the 34' *Pure*. "We used all of the available space along the boardwalk and along the Power House pier," said Yandt. "When laying out the dock space we don't pay attention to available cleats. They just seem to work out, but if needed we just add an eye-bolt."

Yandt described the show's staging as aesthetic. "We dock all the boats in the same direction," said Yaunt. "This makes for a better-looking display and better picture-taking." The low-profile boats, like the outboards and racing runabouts, were placed on the low dock in front of the Power House. "The only other criterion for this cramped alley," explained

Yandt, "is the skipper's ability to turn his boat around in the available space." Crowd-pleasers, like StanCraft's *Moonshine*, Capt'n Dan's pirate ship *Wind Spirit*, and the elegant 34' Coeur d'Alene Custom Boats' *Pure*, were moored upstream on the boardwalk where larger vessels were more easily accommodated.

The Sandpoint Boat Show is praised for its organization and its gatherings



around dinnertime. Friday evening's menu featured pulled pork prepared by Daryl Kunni's Drummin Up BBQ, a noted Hayden, Idaho, food truck. Saturday night's awards banquet, catered by Sandpoint's Tango Bistro, was held in a new venue, the Heartwood Center, a former church repurposed for celebrations. Sunday morning was an all-out scramble for 23 boats, from the boardwalk to Oden Bay, for another feast: a beach-side breakfast prepared and presented by the Robsons.

Of the unsung tasks that make for a seamless show, many fall under the watchful eyes of Don and Emily Robson. While the rest of us were hauling boats behind our rigs, the Robsons' trailer held tables, chairs, and party supplies. It's club member involvement beyond tying up at the dock that makes the Sandpoint show special. It appears uncomplicated, but it is the result of over-the-top individual commitments, and it just doesn't get more personal than that. Thanks, everybody; it was a great show!

### Sandpoint Wood Boat Show Awards

The Sandpoint Wood Boat Show is the only judged show in the inland Northwest and one of only two shows on the West Coast where craftsmanship, authenticity, and aesthetics are judged using the ACBS 100-point system. (The other show is the Concours d'Elegance on Lake Tahoe.) Boats are judged on their fit, fare, and finish. The condition of the boat's chrome, and even the correctness of the wiring insulation covering and the color of the upholstery, is evaluated. The craft judged Best in Show is without question a remarkably maintained work of art.

This year there were two teams of judges who evaluated 23 boats and ultimately selected *Finito*, owned by Brett and Jodie Sargent, as this year's **Best in Show and Best Classic**. *Finito* is one of 15 of that model produced. Here are other notable awards presented this year:



StanCraft sailboats? Ask the kids; it's a thing.



**CAPTAIN'S CHOICE:** *Finito* (This award is judged by the owners of all the boats entered in the show.)

**BEST CONTEMPORARY:** 2004 Hackercraft *Sirius* (Murray Danzig)

**BEST CENTURY:** *Rob-your-Dough 4* (Tom Robideaux)

**BEST NON-WOOD BOAT:** Aircat Airboat *Hurricane* (Paul Neufeld)

**MOST ORIGINAL WOOD BOAT:** *Sentimental Journey* (Dick and Kristen Winn)

**BEST OUTBOARD:** *Nauti Gal* (Tom and Sheila Nelson)

**BEST CHRIS CRAFT:** tied between *Twin Finn*, the 57' Chevy look alike (Jim Atkinson), and *Alakazam* (Steve Schmidt)

**PEOPLE'S CHOICE:** *Garwood Misconception* (Greg True)

**YOUTH AWARD:** *Life o' Reilly* (Darryl Onia)



## That Little Sound Nobody Wants to Hear...

by Wes Yandt



As the Friday night welcome aboard party was coming to a close, the Yandt crew was heading to our boat for what ended up being an absolutely gorgeous evening cruise, when we saw something

very peculiar happening over on the “A” dock: Brett Sargent and his crew, including mine and Brett’s high school friend, were bent over, peering into the water behind *Finito*. We detoured over to see if we could assist in any way.

As we approached, it was obvious that something valuable had fallen in the lake, and somehow our high school buddy, Dave Gilchrist, felt responsible enough to have shucked down to his skivvies to go in after it. Dave has done a lot of things in his life, but apparently Olympic diving is not one of them; upon diving in, he proceeded

to shower the entire deck of *Finito* with his rooster tail—adding insult to injury. One of the crew finally explained what had happened: Brett was handing off the four-foot-long light pole to Dave, making sure to keep it horizontal so that the priceless little bushing, which closes out the hole in the top of the fin, would stay on the pole. However, Dave missed the instructions and promptly held the pole upright to get a look at the light. The bushing slid down the length of the pole and plopped into the five-foot-deep water. Hearing the pleasant little “kerplop,” everyone turned in unison and gasped...

Although Dave admits it had been a few years since he did any real swimming, he was able to dive down to the bottom. However, the murky water and lack of light kept him from finding the bushing. Several times he surfaced with something in his hand, but our excitement was squashed when it turned out to be a rock or water-logged stick. Things did not look good until Brett had the brilliant idea of placing his docking pole in the water near the bushing so that Dave could then follow it down. This did the trick, as Dave was immediately able to pull the bushing from the bottom.

We all had a great laugh, and the Yandt crew went on to enjoy a beautiful ride in *Uncle Bob*—and *Finito*’s flag pole still has her priceless little bushing.

## The Perfect Campsite

by Molly Beck

It was the perfect campsite, our own little beach snuggled in beside a rock that would make a nice breakwater to the north, fabulous sunset view, lake like glass, a positive NOAA weather forecast. We could tie the bow off onshore, unload the gear through the bow hatch, anchor the stern out, good depth, plenty of clearance. Let's chance it, we said. If something kicks up we can always take her around into the Clarkfork, tie up at the dock behind Lee's Point.

We could have chosen any one of the mooring campsites in that section of Lake Pend Oreille: four mooring buoys at Long Beach below Green Monarch Mountain, two mooring buoys at Whisky Rock (although vulnerable to storms coming in from the northwest). We might have anchored in Button Hook Bay adjacent to Farragut, but it gets crowded there sometimes, or we could have chosen one of the scenic sites on the west side of the lake: Evans Landing Picnic Ground (two mooring buoys), Maiden Rock (three mooring buoys), or Green Bay (three mooring buoys). But no, we wanted the sunset view and a spot closer to the mouth of the Clarkfork. We wanted to camp on this little beach.

After securing the vessel, we set up the tent (our boat might be called a "Sleeper" but in our experience that's a bit of an exaggeration), pulled out the camp chairs, and started thinking about the gin and tonics. As the alchemy of the evening (and the spirits) worked their magic, we prided ourselves on our rugged independence and fine choice in picking this spot. The sky colored up and became seeped in shades of crimson, peach, and fuchsia. I took some stunning photos of my husband skipping rocks into the sunset. It was with deep satisfaction that we settled into our sleeping bags that night, surrounded only by the wonders of nature and sounds of the lake.

SOUNDS OF THE LAKE! Didn't know what time it was, but suddenly the sounds of nature were not sounding so friendly. A breeze had picked up, and it was coming in from the southwest. Actually it was more of a wind, and we were getting a lot of action in the trees overhead as well as the water slapping angrily on the stern of the boat.

Do you have any idea how quickly a tent, tent poles, bags, pads, and various sundries can be stuffed through an 18-inch bow hatch (our only access due to the steep drop of



the shoreline)? Well, neither do we, but I can tell you it took some doing, and we were plenty relieved to finally be out of there and safely secured at that dock behind Lee's Point in the sweet embrace of the Clarkfork River, as the storm raced through the cottonwoods above, barely rocking the boat. Yes, we were cramped in that bow bunking space, the gear was a bit wet, and there was a mosquito or two to deal with, but the vessel was secure, and there's a lot to be said for "shelter from the storm." We had plenty of good photos that would be enjoyed for years to come, ample provisions to tide us over, and a few hearty laughs (after the mosquito bites healed), but I must admit, our "rugged individualism" and "wild sense of abandon" would thereafter be a tad challenged when it came to boat camping.

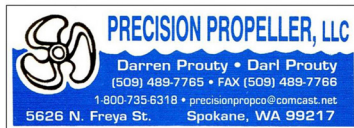
And when a memorable wind and thunderstorm struck the North Idaho Panhandle a number of years later on August 2, 2014, we were grateful that our lesson had been learned under more forgiving circumstances. Gusts reaching 70 MPH were recorded in some places, downing power lines, trees, and causing significant damage. Swells hit the six- to eight-foot mark, enough to partially swamp a fire boat trying to rescue two boaters north of Lakeview. A Bonner County sheriff's officer had to rescue the four firemen and two boaters, leaving their boats mostly sunk and tied to the shoreline overnight. Now there's a story I wouldn't want to have to tell *my* grandchildren!



This *Inland Scuttlebutt* newsletter printed by



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*Having fun with our woodies...*



*A quiet moment at the 2018 Priest Lake Dry Rot.*