

## DINGHY NEWS FROM GINGER...

By Ginger Martus

"How did it get so late so soon?"

The above quote is from a Dr. Seuss book and expresses my sentiments. By the time you read this it will be well into fall, and where did the summer go? Here is a recap of some of the classic boat events I attended.



GINGER MARTUS  
BONE YARD BOATS FOUNDER

First, it was on to Mystic, CT for the three day WoodenBoat Show over June 29<sup>th</sup> to July 1<sup>st</sup>. Wow, what a great event! I saw lots of my nautical friends and had a great time, especially when I met JB Currell (MAS Epoxy) who was talking to big bad Bob Bitchin (Lats and Ats Magazine) while a cameraman was in the background doing his thing. Seems JB and Bob have a program in the works about "This Old Boat," similar to the TV show, "This Old House." Great idea & it's about time.

Later JB invited me plus Bob and his wife, Jody, and others to a cocktail cruise in a beautiful newly built launch. It was a fun ride, and Jody did the honors of passing the cheese and crackers from one of the cardboard flaps from a box that held the booze, used as a tray. We arrived back at dockside in time to attend the clambake buffet dinner with special guest, Phil Bolger, who spoke about his designs and boats. The three days went by too fast, as they tend to do lately, but the weather was perfect, lots to see and do, and I had a good time. This event will be held at the same place over June 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, 2008; see more info at [thewoodenboatshow.com](http://thewoodenboatshow.com). Go, you'll have a good time, too.

Then, on July 14<sup>th</sup> I attended the 31<sup>st</sup> Wooden Boat Festival at Toms River, NJ, where I presented the "Bone Yard Boat Award" to the 1924, 30-foot WHITECAP, where the former owner, Charles Temple, was there to receive the award. This now beautiful boat is owned by John and Gretchen Coyle of Beach Haven, NJ. It was designed by Charles Mower and built by Morton Johnson. The Coyles found the boat in terrible condition in Florida, had her trucked back to NJ where it was restored by Bill deRouville and his crew. This boat has won many awards in the past few years. I also helped Stu Sherk and Joyce Turner who had a booth for the Antique & Classic Boat Society (ACBS). Stu is president of the Barnegat Bay Chapter, and he and Joyce attend many classic boat and car shows from Florida to Newport, RI. This is a good show with lots of boats, food, art, and flea markets and vendors, too.

Next was the 32<sup>nd</sup> Antique & Classic Boat Rendezvous on July 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> at Mystic, CT. Yes, I went to Mystic Seaport three times this year. It's a long trip from where I live but worth it. This year the show was dedicated to the memory of Bob Tiedemann. His wife, Elizabeth, came with the 1911, 40-foot launch FAWAN, one of many boats in the Tiedemann collection. Dana Hewson, Director of watercraft and a judge, was chairman of the awards committee and presented a 'special citation' to Elizabeth - a large framed Benjamin Mendlowitz photograph of FAWAN that was used extensively

in media promotions for this show.

In 2006 the Tiedemanns were awarded the Ray Thombs Award. Ray Thombs was Captain of the 1930, 75-foot JESSICA for many years and the award, made possible by Ted Valpey, "exemplifies the standard, skills and dedication associated with a yacht under his command." In 2005, Captain Kirk Reynolds was awarded this honor for the many boats under his care, which now includes the famous 1937, 74-foot APHRODITE. Captain Reynolds said I have a lifetime invitation to be onboard APHRODITE, plus joining the crew for the awards dinner and boat parade.

In between shows, I received a call from Pat Wells, the chairperson for the Antique & Classic Boat Show in Salem, MA, asking me to be a judge for their August show. I was flattered to say the least and recalled when my late Uncle Monty said to me one day, "Well, you look like you know what you're doing." I thought it over for a few days trying to figure the easiest way to get there. I don't like to fly, train goes to Boston then a change, too long of a drive. I called Pat and said it would be too much of a hassle to get there, so I missed this one.

Closer to home was the Tuckerton Seaport over September 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. The Seaport is part of a large complex with many buildings, exhibits, gift shop, and even a restaurant called Skeeters. At the gift shop, I bought two copies of the book 'Shipwrecks of the Jersey Shore' to present to the next two winners of the 'Bone Yard Boats' awards. At this show, the winner was John and Gretchen Coyle. Yes, it was WHITECAP again, and the Coyles donated this handsome yacht to the Tuckerton Seaport.

The next boat show I attended was the 25<sup>th</sup> Antique & Classic Rendezvous held at the Johnson Brothers Boat Works in Bay Head, NJ. This is also where the Museum of Boating is located. On September 15<sup>th</sup> the other book went to Andrew Murray of Brick, NJ for his 1965, 22-foot beautiful launch called ANNA BELL. There were many awards plus a group of classic cars to view. The boats were open to the public, and Bette Bass, the owner of CIGARETTTE, asked me to be a 'tour guide' on the boat. This fabulous yacht is the 1929, 75-foot 'commuter' that was a total basket case at the International Yacht Restoration School in Newport, RI until the late Bob Tiedemann contacted the late Jerry Bass who had the yacht cut in half and trucked to NJ and restored to perfection, including the claw-footed cast iron bathtub.

Best I sign off now before David runs out of space!

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GINGER



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