

DINGHY NEWS FROM GINGER...

By Ginger Martus

By the time you read this it will be well into the middle of winter -- or 'dullsville' in my case. But, we can always look forward to spring and another busy boat season. Looks like I won't be as busy as I used to be; you see, I flunked my 'bone density' test, which tells me I shouldn't jump around the boats like I used to. In fact, I should be thinking 'Geezerville,' but in the meantime I still like to talk 'boat talk' and participate as much as I can.



GINGER MARTUS
BONE YARD BOATS FOUNDER

The big news is that I was instrumental in finding a new home for AVOCETTE. This 1930, 48-foot Huckins was restored by the late Jerry Bass of New Jersey and went on to win many awards at classic boat shows. When Jerry Bass suddenly died in July 2005, his wife Bette became the owner and not being a 'boat person' like you and me, asked if I could find a new home for AVOCETTE. I made a few inquiries and later spoke with a trustee at the Museum of Yachting in

Newport, RI. This was before I knew of the merger with the International Yacht Restoration School. And so it came to pass that AVOCETTE departed New Jersey on November 15, 2007 at 7:30am and was trucked to Newport where she will be the Flagship of both organizations.

Briefly, what makes this boat so special is that she was owned for 52 years by one man, Fred Voges, who was Commodore of the Port Washington Yacht Club (1943-44) and kept her in pristine condition. Finally, at age 80 he had to let her go, and she went from bad to worse from then on until the late Bob Tiedemann saved her and brought her to Newport where she slept for several years until Bob heard that Jerry Bass (white night) was looking for his next restoration project.

So, if you see a 48-foot all mahogany hull with gold on her transom that says AVOCETTE and hopefully flying the Port Washington Yacht Club burgee at her bow, you'll know where she came from.

In December, I drove to Cambridge, Maryland, to visit my good friend Earl Brannock, and to see the 'work in progress' of moving his extensive nautical collection into the two-story brick building, which is now known as the Brannock Education and Research Center and is a part of the Richardson Maritime Museum. Yes, the two organizations merged in 2007. A formal opening is planned for this April. If you're in the area, stop by and have a look. Located at Maryland Avenue, Cambridge, MD. You can't miss it!

I have something that's too good to throw out, so it's up for grabs. First call gets it, and I'll mail it too (609-859-2370). It is a 6-page printout of 'WWII Construction Records' US Coast Guard Patrol Boats. Darned if I know how I got this. The Coast Guard bought 230 new wood hull patrol boats, all the same type and size -- 83 feet with 76 tons displacement. All built by Wheeler Shipbuilding of Brooklyn, NY. Includes the disposition of the boats. Photo of one appeared in the Jan./Feb. 2005 issue of Woodenboat magazine on page 136.

Guess that's all my Dinghy news that's fit to print right now. Hope to have more stuff to tell you about in the next issue or when we see the first crocus. David is doing a great job with the newsletter so when you see a boat in distress think of David and let him know about it. Hope 2008 will be a good, fun and safe boating season for you all.

**
Ginger*



By-The-Sea

www.by-the-sea.com

- Boat Dealers
- Boat Builders
- Marinas
- Boats For Sale
- Nautical Books
- Plans and Kits
- Weather Instruments
- Free Classified



Tel 508-240-2533 Fax 508-240-2677 Email: info@by-the-sea.com

1960 CHRIS CRAFT SKI BOAT 17'. Owner says, "Another easy restoration or use as-is. Original 283 engine. No known rot. Newer upholstery." Asking \$10,000. Contact Joel at 651-248-7314 or joel@classicboathardware.com (MN)



1952 CHRIS CRAFT DINETTE CRUISER 25'

1952 CHRIS CRAFT DINETTE CRUISER 25'. Owner says, "She's a great boat -- very solid but not perfect. She's been in Lake Shasta for her entire life. My every day boat...ready to use." Asking \$10,000. Call 530-529-4256 or email SCHMIDTCE@aol.com (CA 96080)



1968 OWENS 28'

1968 OWENS 28'. Owner says, "Make Offer, almost perfect classic double planked mahogany 28' Owens powered by twin 327 chevy inboards. Loaded with features. Unlike most boats of its age it has a very short list of imperfections and a long list of what's working like new." Asking \$7,500. Call Shane at 800-815-0580 or liquidator@bellsouth.net (GA)