COLUMBIA-WILLAMETTE CHAPTER ACBS

THE HULL TRUTH

www.cwc-acbs.org

NOVEMBER 2026

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ADVENTURES IN BOATING by Michael Sheets









Top left: *On the CWC Chapter's "last hurrah" cruise in early October, Don Cameron unexpectedly lose control of his boat's rudder a few miles from the destination on Coon Island. Of course, no rudder means no steering or control.* ***Bottom left:*** *After an unsuccessful attempt at towing (see previous caption) Don's boat was lashed to the side of the Sheets' boat to continue to the picnic destination.* ***Top right:*** *Despite the spot of boat trouble, the picnic crew enjoyed some nice weather and good food at J.J. Collins Marine Park on Coon Island in the Columbia Channel. Pictured from left to right: Terry Romero, Bill Bowling, Liz Munnelly, Mike Patterson, Michael Sheets, Don Cameron, Rodger Wright, and Colleen Wright.* ***At left:*** *Don proudly shared his fallen rudder. Repairs will be made soon.*

The following tale exemplifies what helpful, knowledgeable, kind friends we have in our boating group. Sandi and I joined several others for a "last hurrah" cruise down the Multnomah Channel to Coon Island for a picnic lunch in early October. It was a great day on the water, with a little adventure thrown in for good measure.

The cruise was 26 miles one way, and it was just six miles short of our picnic destination when **Don Cameron** lost control of his rudder. We tried towing him behind our boat, but that didn't work as no rudder means no steering. We pulled alongside, lashed our boats together, and continued on to the picnic as a team.

After lunch, we carried our wounded comrade to the St. Helens Marina on the Columbia River rather than returning the long distance to his launch site at Cathedral Park on the Willamette River. From St. Helen's, he could trailer his boat home. I only wish I had taken pictures, because it had to be one of the most challenging boat landings I have ever seen, complete with river current, wind, rough water, and obstacles that included a Hobie Cat sailboat and a half-submerged dock sitting right in our path. At one point during the rockin' and rollin', My wife, **Sandi,** tipped over onto the floor of our boat and her smart watch registered it as a "fall" and summoned 911. The first responders were reassured that there were no injuries and Sandi that was safe.

Don's boat was then docked and awaited transportation home, thanks to the help of others in our group. **Rodger** and **Colleen Wright** were with us in their boat, and after the picnic, they took **Todd** and **Leanne Verboort** back to Cathedral Park. Todd and Leanne then drove Don's truck and trailer to St. Helen's to retrieve the incapacitated boat.

In the end, we logged around 60 miles on the water, ran the last leg on fumes, and spent many more hours than planned. Mechanical issues aside, it was another wonderful day spent boating with good friends who helped each other out, and enjoying everything that makes this boating hobby so special.

And the story continues ... upon arriving home with his trailered boat, Don touched the rudder and it fell off onto the driveway. Had the rudder fallen off during the cruise, the story would have included a hole in the boat and a much different ending.

CWC-ACBS 2026 - 2027 CALENDAR

Informal lunch every Thursday 11:00 AM at the Portland Yacht Club. Contact Jim West at 503-422-8104.

Watch your email for messages from "membership@acbs.org" for updates on events.

NOVEMBER

11/12 – Pearl Girls lunch at Kenton Station, 11:00 AM. RSVP: Wendy, 503-970-6636.

11/27 – National Leftovers Day

DECEMBER

12/4 – Christmas Ships viewing party. Watch email for details.

12/10 –Pearl Girls lunch at Kenton Station, 11:00 AM. RSVP: Wendy, 503-970-6636.

12/20 – CWC Holiday Party, Portland Yacht Club. Contact Doug Shone: 707-483-3311.

12/24 – Last-minute Shoppers Day

JANUARY

1/13 - 1/17 – Portland Boat Show at the Portland Expo Center.

1/14 –Pearl Girls lunch at Kenton Station, 11:00 AM. RSVP: Wendy, 503-970-6636.

FEBRUARY

2/5 - 2/13 – Seattle Boat Show. Details TBD.

2/7 –Crab Feed at Butteville General Store. Details TBD.

2/11 –Pearl Girls lunch at Kenton Station, 11:00 AM. RSVP: Wendy, 503-970-6636.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we look ahead to a new year, I encourage everyone to consider making a New Year's resolution to become a little more involved with our CWC boating family. Whether that means getting your boat out on more cruises, attending a few more club events, or volunteering your time, every bit of participation helps make our club stronger. I would love to see more boats joining us on the water next season and more members enjoying the friendships and fun that make CWC special. If you've ever thought about getting more involved behind the scenes, now is also a great time to start considering a position on the Board of Directors for 2028. Our club depends on members who are willing to step up and help keep the tradition going.

I would also like to congratulate and thank our newly elected Board members: **Don Cameron**, Vice President; **Michael West**, Secretary; and **Maryanne Krumm**, Treasurer. Thank you for being willing to take on these important roles and contribute your time and talents to our Chapter. Please join me in welcoming them and offering your support as they begin their new responsibilities. A successful club is built on the involvement of its members, and I appreciate everyone who helps keep our organization moving forward.

While the boating season may be winding down, we still have some great opportunities to get together! Be sure to keep an eye on the CWC events calendar for details about our upcoming Christmas Boat Parade Viewing and the Holiday Dinner. These events are a wonderful way to stay connected, share some laughs, and enjoy the friendships we have built throughout the years. I look forward to seeing everyone at these upcoming gatherings and, before we know it, getting those boats back on the water for another fantastic season. Until then, enjoy the holidays, stay safe, and thank you for being part of the CWC Chapter!

-Michael Sheets, CWC-ACBS President

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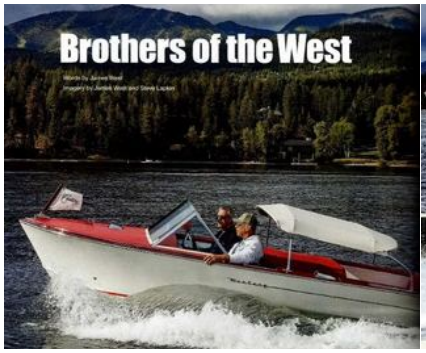
CWC-ACBS HOLIDAY PARTY

December 20, 12:00-4:00 PM at the Portland Yacht Club

Watch for an email including the menu and entrée choices, and details for the silent auction. Let us know before Dec. 4 if you can attend.
Contact Doug Shone 1956boater@gmail.com
$80/person payable by Dec. 4 to:
CWC-ACBS, 18090 Holly Lane, Oregon City, OR 97045

ON THE ROCKS by Sandee Barr







Top left: *Sally Hearl had the ride of her life on a high-speed raceboat on Lake Chelan during the Mahogany & Merlot show in early October.* ***Top right:*** *Brothers Jim and Michael West and their boats were featured in a recent issue of The Brass Bell magazine. See details below.*

The first weekend in October saw several members of CWC at Chelan, WA, for the annual Mahogany & Merlot boat show. This event is sponsored by PNW-ACBS and the Hydroplane and Raceboat Museum. **Bob** and **Wendy Nelson**, **Michael and Bree West**, **Jim** and **Sharon West**, and **Jack Coulter** make the trek to beautiful Lake Chelan with their boats, with **Pat** and **Sally Hearl** in their RV. Beautiful fall weather and calm winds made for excellent boating, with both classic boats and hydros.

Jim West and **Michael West** were recently featured in "The Brass Bell" magazine after they were interviewed and photographed by Steve Lapkin during Whitefish Woody Weekend 2026. It's not often you have two brothers with "sister" boats: Michael's 1966 17' Century Fibersport, "In the Red" (pictured above) and Jim's boat of the same model, "Classic Plastic."

An alarming water hazard was found during a recent CWC cruise (see "Adventures in Boating" on Page 1). **Terry Romero** spotted and filmed a submerged obstacle in the Willamette River (photo at right)while a passenger with **Rodger** and **Colleen Wright**. She called 911 to report the hazard and offered to send the video. The 911 operator declined receiving the video. She later found through the Oregon State Marine Board's website (marine.board@boat.oregon.gov) someone to accept a report. Her video was forwarded to The Multnomah County Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol, who agreed to personally check out the partially submerged object. You did the right thing, Terry, to persist



in reporting this waterway danger. Keep the following contact information available for future use under similar circumstances: Randy Sigman, Oregon Boating Safety Waterways Coordinator at 503-871-4941, the Oregon State Marine Board at 503-378-8587, or the local sheriff's office where the hazard is located. Washington water hazards can be reported to Recreational Boating Program 360-902-8555 or email boating@parks.wa.gov.

THE TRADING DOCK

For Sale: A 1989 Fletcher runabout "speed liner trophy." Has a15-gallon fuel tank with gauge and 2023 mercury 40 hp outboard. Selling as a package with all accessories and trailer. Asking $14,995. Contact Don at sheridon74@comcast.net. (Photos at top right.)

FREE FREE FREE: You can't beat the price. Photos at bottom right: 1) Shop cart built for a 19' racing runabout, but most boats could be fitted to it. 2) Motor cart used for a Chris Craft motor but could be modified for other motors. 3) Another beautiful motor cart with nice cast iron wheels. All come with a comprehensive three-step warranty: once the new owner takes three steps out of the shop, it's out of warranty! Contact Mike Mayer at mikem@loboat.com.











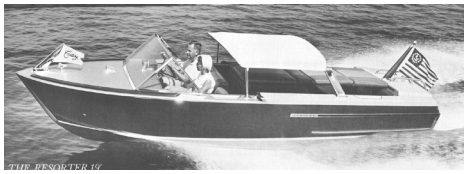




Top left: *The 19' Century Resorter as purchased.* ***Top right:*** *The state of the Resorter today. More sanding is needed, then a few more coats of varnish and a white boot top will be added before reinstalling the stainless-steel trim. Note the diagonal positioning of the boat in the garage – it just barely fits!.*

PROJECT IN PROGRESS: Refurbishing a 60s Century Resorter

The Century Boat company is celebrating its 100th year in business in 2026. From the Century Boat Club newsletter, "Thoroughbred", the business started in 1926 in Milwaukee, WI. The first model was a 13'6" outboard race boat called "The Century Kid." One of these boats won the APBA Class 'C' Harmsworth trophy in Detroit in 1927. The company production moved to Manistee, MI in 1928. Production continued during the depression and the famous "Sea Maid" model was introduced in the early 1930s. Pleasure boat production ceased during WWII. At this time, Century Boat Company built approximately 7,400 double-ended assault boats that were used to transport troops across rivers in Europe. Century was awarded the Army-Navy "E" Award for excellence in the production of war equipment for their work.





Top: *A 1965 catalog photo.* ***Bottom:*** *Deck seams were re-caulked using mahogany-colored Sikaflex.*

CWC members **Jack Coulter** and **Cheryl Wyborny** are refurbishing a 1965 19' Century Resorter. The boat spent much of its life in Washington state. The registration shows that it was last registered in the year 2000.

While the boat seems quite original overall, it received a new deck covering with mahogany strips replacing the vinyl. However, time has taken a toll resulting in the need for repairs. The boat had also shown wear on the keel at the bow, indicating it had been run on to a rough beach several times. Repairs to the damaged areas were completed by installing graving pieces where needed, made from the appropriate wood species (Sapele, Khaya and white oak) to repair the African mahogany planking.

The engine is a 285 hp Dearborn Interceptor (FE390) V-8. The engine tag and hull ID stamped into the transom lower plank match the builder's ID. The boat one of 39 built in 1965. The bottom is original and has been scraped, sanded, with seams recaulked, and primed. The hull will remain a "soaker" for the time being.

The interior is in decent condition and will be kept as-is for now. The boat has the hardware and frame for the sliding vinyl top but needs the vinyl. Replacements for the interior and vinyl top are available.

The plan is to launch the boat this fall to evaluate the hull and engine. The results will determine the next priorities. This boat will certainly provide Jack and Cheryl happy times on the waters of the Pacific Northwest.

For more information about the history and current models of Century Boats, visit its website: https://centuryboats.com.





ON THE LOOP by Mike and Linda Stevens

Our Loop journey continues. We left Canada on the west end of the North Channel and our first stop was Mackinac Island in Michigan on Lake Huron. It's a beautiful location to step back in time where only horses, carts, carriages, and bikes are allowed. We were joined by friends from Wilsonville for good food, horseback riding, cocktails on the boat, and touring the Grand Hotel.



Above: *Mike and Linda visited St. Louis and its famous Arch at the confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers.*

After leaving Lake Huron, we began our southward journey on Lake Michigan to a number of small towns along its eastern shore. As you know, it's like an ocean but what we didn't know is that there are lots of sandy beaches - great for bike rides and playing Frisbee. One town we visited was Saugatuck where we toured the Macatawa Bay Boatworks.

Our last destination on Lake Michigan was Chicago, IL, where we met my sister and her husband. We were impressed by the downtowns riverwalk, the lakeshore drive, the Magical Mile neighborhood, and the Field Museum of Natural History. We enjoyed cocktails on the boat, a fireboat tour of the Chicago River, the top of the Sears Tower and, of course, more good food.



Above: *Mike used pedal-power while checking out the famous Route 66, which runs from Chicago to Santa Monica. .*

A trip down the Calumet River from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi River via the 336-mile Illinois Waterway took us through the midst of industrial America. We continued another 200+ miles on the Ohio River before turning east. Now we're headed to Kentucky and Tennessee to see what this adventure brings us.

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