

RIVERSWEST NEWS

Summer



2013

www.riverswest.org

RIVERSWEST IS A SMALL CRAFT CLUB, WHOSE MISSION IS TO ENCOURAGE A MATURE INVOLVEMENT IN THE RECREATIONAL BUILDING AND USE OF LOW-IMPACT BOATS.

President's Corner

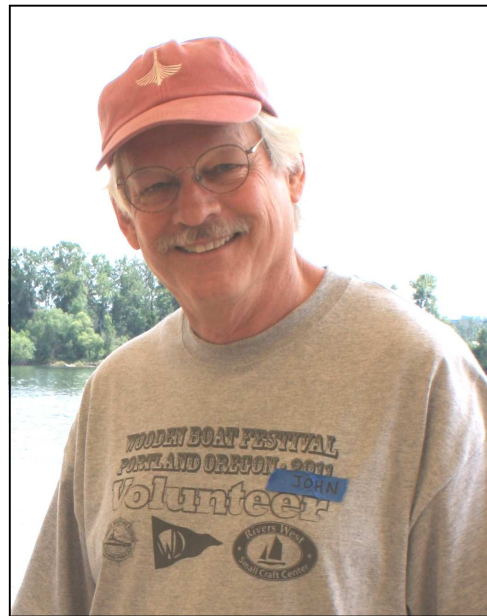
John Bouwsma, RiversWest Interim President

As most of you are probably already aware, Due to health issues Chuck Stuckey has stepped down as President and I have stepped into the position as Interim President. It is my hope that Chuck will be able and willing to step back in by the end of the year. But in spite of his absence we are pushing ahead with various activities. We are actively maintaining the momentum Chuck has given RiversWest through all our activities, many of which are described in other sections of this newsletter.

To paraphrase John F. Kennedy, "Ask not what RiversWest can do for you, but what you can do for RiversWest." And there are several things you can do. First, if you have not paid your dues, please do so. The dues are the lifeblood of RiversWest. Bay rentals more or less cover our rent but for all else we need the membership dues.

We have modified the membership policy and will be adding

PayPal to the web site to make this easier. Second, keep an eye on the workshops. If any interest you, sign up! The cost of these workshops is \$5.00 per person plus materials if



any. Many do not have materials. Again, information is available on the web site.

Speaking of the web site, we are actively soliciting photos of member's boats, either under construction or completed. Please con-

tact Craig at cdb_9554@pobox.com. Any comments on the site would also be appreciated. Also, keep an eye on the Buy/Sell/Trade forum, where you will see free stuff as well as stuff for sale.

Drop in on First and Third Saturdays. There is always a jovial group at the Boat Shop then, and excellent coffee and doughnuts. In fact some days there are more doughnuts than we can manage to eat, we need help!

Come and see us as well at the Hagg Lake Picnic in June, and at the Family Boat Building and Boat Show in July. More information about both of these is available on the web site and in this newsletter.

Thanks to all of you for your support over the years. Without all of you, there would be no RiversWest!

John Bouwsma
Interim President

Newly Updated and Expanded Website

If you haven't visited the RiversWest website at www.riverswest.org recently, you will be very impressed by what you see. Board member Craig Bryant has created a truly professional site with a lot of resources that can be used by everyone.

The new site is very easy to navigate, the sections are clearly labeled across the top of the home page, and the search function can find anything you may be looking for, including text in old newsletters, workshop handouts, etc.

The Photo Gallery section provides a very convenient slide show function, and can now handle short videos. There are videos from the Family Boat Building from the past two years on the web site for your viewing pleasure. We are expanding the photos of member's boats, and would greatly appreciate any pictures you may have of your boat, either under construction or complete.

The Calendar is on the

Home page. It has information about all events, including First and Third Saturdays, Workshops, the Hagg Lake messabout in June, and the Family Boat Build. This is a great way to keep informed of RiversWest activities. There is also a Blog section that includes news from the Board.

The Events section provides specific information about each of the workshops being offered this year. This includes dates and times, who is leading the workshop, the cost, the tools you should bring if you can, and in many cases the documents that will

One of the most important new sections is the Forum section. There are two forums, one a chat forum for people to exchange information about events, about their boat building activities, and especially to ask questions if you get hung up with your build. The expertise within the group is amazing...

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be handed out at the workshops so you can have access to them later.

One of the most important new sections is the Forum section. There are two forums, one a chat forum for people to exchange information about events, about their boat building activities, and especially to ask questions if you get hung up with your build. The expertise within the group is amazing; you may not want to follow all the advice you get, but it will broaden your perspective on the problem to see what others have to say.

Finally, we have added PayPal capability to the web page so we can take memberships on line. We will also be able to use this capability at boat shows and other events by plugging a small card reader into a smart phone. Yes, RiversWest has entered the 21st century!

This has been a major accomplishment since our last newsletter. A big thank you goes to Craig Bryant for his efforts in creating our new site.

Hagg Lake Summer Picnic and Messabout

Sunday, June 23rd

Save the date and watch your email for more information

New Membership Policy

Starting from the beginning of this year, memberships will run for 12 months, starting when the dues were paid and ending at the end of that month a year later.

The RiversWest Board has reviewed the membership policy and

decided to make a significant change. Starting from the beginning of this year, memberships will run for 12 months, starting when the dues were paid and ending at the end of that month a year later. We are having new membership cards printed that show the expiration date. Because some of you have the older version of the cards we are sending out new cards to all current

Boat Shop Activities ...something for everyone

There are several activities going on at the RiversWest Boat Shop:

One is the Workshop classes, which are continuing, and by now many are repeats of Workshops held last year. They are becoming more organized and there is a lot of information on the web site. This information includes dates and times, lists of tools needed, photos from previous workshops, and links to the handouts.

Another is the continuing renovation of the Hall Templeton. Bob Meehan is leading this effort. He meets with whoever is interested at 11:00 AM on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The Family Boat Building event will be held in July. Preparations and kit building have been going on for months and are nearly complete, under the leadership of shop manager Russ Smith. Russ is also coordinating the Family Boat Build with our co-sponsors Oregon

Maritime Museum and the Wilamette Yacht Club (who will be providing the venue).

RiversWest members have begun a major shop cleanup. Russ Smith began by doing a wonderful job of cleaning up and organizing the shop, but this uncovered the fact that we have a lot of stuff in the shop that we do not, and never will, actually use. Yes, it adds nautical flavor, but it is starting to crowd us out. Also, some of it is really obnoxious.

We also have more boats than we are likely to use. Some of them ...we are planning to sell... So, again, stay tuned. They will be offered first to members on the Buy/Sell/Swap forum on the new RiversWest web site.

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members. This new policy should remove some of the confusion about whether you are current.

We have added another new enhancement to the RW website, adding PayPal, so members can pay their dues or make donations directly on the website with credit cards, rather than by mailing checks.

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For example we sorted through all the PFDs and found that some had become homes (with indoor plumbing. . .) for small rodents. We still have approximately 75 PFDs, in great condition, so we are planning on selling some of them. The first shot will go to members, so stay tuned!

We also have more boats than we are likely to use. Some of them have historic value, those we will keep, but we are planning to sell some others. So, again, stay tuned. They will be offered first to members on the Buy/Sell/Swap forum on the new web site. Many people who have built boats at RiversWest have left behind their forms, in case anyone else wants to use them. We have identified many of these and, again, they will be offered on the Forum, free to members. Once the members have had a shot at these items we will move on to Craig's List.

It Takes Two Nymphs to make a Schooner



“Wild” Schooner

Designer: Phil Bolger

Builders Bob Young and Bernie Wolford

Launched: 1993

One Schooner = Two 8' Nymph dinghies optionally joined.

(They have since been decommissioned)

Hello from way out in Tigard. We have enjoyed the RiversWest emails these past months and had intended to attend the Annual RiversWest meeting February 23rd, but some convalescent obligations will be in the way. No traveling for a little while. BUT, we will be there in spirit.

Attached with this email is a boat picture that was discovered in my files.

In 1993 Bernie Wolford and I (and others) got this wild idea to follow Phil Bolgers challenge and use his designed "connection" to fit

two Nymph dinghies together. I had just built one Nymph for a friend and Bernie already had one. So we built the "connection", connected the two boats, hoisted sails and there we are in the picture. Actually the “craft (s)” sailed quite well -- both individually and

connected. It was fun. After proving we could do it, the two boats went their individual ways.

So maybe this photo will be kind of interesting at the meeting. I hope so. I should mention that Bernie Wolford was a special kind of guy. As you may know, he was in a wheel chair paralyzed from the waist down. This the result of a hang gliding accident in South America.

Bob Young, Past President/Historian

Bernie was a wild type that would try anything. He skied, swam for records, drove wild cars. He graduated from the University of Oregon and was very active there.

Bernie and I met at an early Portland Boat Show up at the Forestry Center where he was exhibiting his first boat -- the Bolger 14ft. yawl (name ???) with sleeping accommodations and out-board motor as well. I don't know where Bernie is now. He was in North Carolina and had gotten deeply into radio controlled airplanes.

Bernie was the second President of RiversWest and the two of us were the main drivers in getting Rivers West underway. Irv Jones followed Bernie as President.

Sorry for rambling on, but I'm now 88 years old and I seem to ramble a lot these days (ask my wife).

RiversWest is a very special organization to me and I truly appreciate the wonderful status it has maintained. All you guys do good work -- both with wood and with each other. I value receiving the honorary membership each year and

especially having the invitation to drop by anytime.

Thank you all,

Bob Young

(And thank you too, Bob, for your ongoing historical perspective. Keep on digging in that file cabinet!— Eds.)

**2013 PORTLAND WOODEN BOAT FESTIVAL
and 4th ANNUAL FAMILY BOAT BUILD**
Willamette Sailing Club July 13th—14th, 2013

4th Annual RiversWest Family Boat Build and Wooden Boat Festival**Ralph Cohen**

Again this summer on July 13-14, RiversWest participating with the Oregon Maritime Museum and the Willamette Sailing Club will host the Portland Wooden Boat Festival. Last year more than 1000 people attended the event on Sunday alone.

RiversWest provides boat kits, tools, and at least one knowledgeable boat builder to assist each of the pre-registered, participating families. The OMM coordinates funding from several local sponsors including Alaska Tanker, AllPorts Forwarding, Foss Maritime, Fred Devine Salvage, Portland Spirit, Edensaw Woods, Ltd and Ninkasi Brewing.

Willamette Sailing Club provides use of their wonderful facility on the river and space for the Wooden Boat Festival running concurrently with boat building on Sunday from 11 am – 5 pm. The Festival includes classic boats, sailboat rides, model boat building, live music, food, and more.

Twelve families will build and launch a paint-ready skiff on Sunday afternoon. Most participants have never built a boat before, but with only minimal woodworking experience plus excellent cooperation between husbands, wives, grandparents, friends, and children from about 4 yrs old to young adults in their early twenties, steady progress is made. When the boats are complete, each proud family is presented with oar locks and oars.

The boat design is the Salt Bay

Skiff, a 12' rowboat made from marine plywood, designed with chine logs, and held together with screws and



construction adhesive.

Volunteers from RiversWest create the kits for this event over a several month period beforehand. All the pieces are cut, most to the exact size needed, and the frames and transom are preassembled.

We also reserve a few “family” spots for organizations that want to use the boat and building

process to further their own programs. Last year a boat was built in honor of Lt. JG Thomas Cameron, United States Coast Guard. Thomas was a recent graduate of the Coast Guard Academy and their flight school. He and his fellow crew members perished when their helicopter crashed in the Gulf of Mexico in late 2011. He was a 2005 graduate of Cleveland High School here in Portland. A group of his Cleveland classmates formed a “family” and built a boat to honor Thomas. It was auctioned off at the annual Cleveland High auction.

For more information, please refer to these websites:

<http://willamettesailingclub.com/2013/03/wooden-boat-festival-2/>

<http://woodenboatfestival.com/>

www.riverswest.org (sign up form available online)



RiversWest Board

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Membership Form

RiversWest is a non-profit membership organization whose mission is to encourage personal involvement in the construction of small recreational wooden craft and their accessories.

- Members will receive the RiversWest News quarterly
- Invitation to RiversWest boating and social functions
- Use of RiversWest boat shop (space rental extra)
- Vote for RiversWest officers and board members
- Access to all RiversWest educational programs
- Receive RiversWest discounts at Crosscut Hardwood.

Our main support is the dues and donations from our members. Whether or not you are active at the shop or in our other activities, we hope you will want to support our advocacy for wooden small craft and their construction in the Portland area. Check out our web site at www.riverswest.org, where you can find sage advice as well as plans and materials for your next project.

Membership dues can be paid on our web site by credit card or by personal check to the address above.

() New member () Renewing member () Change of information () Additional donation

Name..... Home phone.....

Address..... Day/Cell phone.....

City/ ST/ Zip..... E-Mail.....

Dues: () Youth (17 and under) \$30.00 () General Membership \$50.00

Donations: () \$50.00, () \$100.00, () \$250.00, () other \$_____.

Memberships run for 12 months, starting when the dues are paid

and will expire at the end of that month a year later.

Dues and donations to RiversWest qualify for tax deductions. Ask your tax advisor.



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Please check your membership status; RiversWest needs your support.