



North Coast Ohio “Beacon” ***February 2025***

‘FROM THE HELM’

The new year is off to a good start for NCO. Our first “Club Meeting” was well attended with 28 folks, including guests Gary Orloff and his wife. As president of the Western Reserve Antique Outboard Motor Association, Gary gave an interesting talk about their organization which started back in 1965 and currently has 3000 members. Next Bob Joynt, Treasurer of the outboard club and also member of NCO, displayed his recent restoration of a 1950’s Johnson outboard. In just a few minutes Bob took it apart and showed us the individual components of the engine and what special tools are needed. He also gave a little history on how Ole Evinrude developed the outboard into a mainstay of smaller boat propulsion and how today over 80% of boats sold are using outboards. Bob also talked about how our boats and even our trailers that are over 25 years old can obtain “Historical Registration” which is a one-time license that lasts 50 years. Obviously that avoids the every 3 year fee for new stickers and yearly renewals on trailer licenses. There are rules that say the boat is to be used for shows, which is primarily when our boats are in the water. Bob explained that usually we are preparing or working on our boats in preparation for shows and that watercraft officers are understanding that our occasional use is not like boats who stay in the water all season. To obtain the application form to change your boat’s registration call the Ohio Watercraft Division at 614-265-6480.

Other topics of the meeting were plans for NCO’s 50th annual Portage Lakes Boat Show. We already have a magnificent feature boat. Jack Beatley will display his amazing 1919 32’ twin engine Hickman Sea Sled which was a real show stopper at our show over 10 years ago.

We have had discussion with the Indian Lake boat show organizers to attend their show in July and hopefully have some of their members come to ours. Jack Beatley who has his collection of boats there has offered to give us a tour of his impressive collection which includes Best of Show winners from 5 ACBS international shows all across the U.S.

NCO has been invited back to Stan Hywet Hall to display some boats at the Father's Day Car show, June 21. More info will be forthcoming.

****THERE WILL NOT BE A FEBRUARY MEETING. THE NEXT CLUB MEETING WILL BE MONDAY MARCH 9TH AT A NEW LOCATION: THE CANAL GRILLE, 2223 LOCUST STREET, CANAL FULTON, OH 44614.****

A number of our members have requested returning our meetings to Mondays which were not open at the New Era Restaurant where we have had our last 3 meetings.

NCO had a hearty group of members brave the bitter cold and the threatened "Snowmageddon" to attend the open house at the Motor Boat Garage in Cincinnati. It was good to see Brian Keen's shop and staff and catch up with some boating friends from all around Kentucky, Indiana, and Ohio. Much progress has been made on Gil's Chris Craft Sportsman "Keeper" that needed some plank replacement and Bill Padisak's Chris Craft Super Sport that already has it's new bottom completed. A number of other projects were underway there including a magnificent Chris Craft Racing Runabout that was stunning.





Find us online at northcoastohio-acbs.org/



Find us online at northcoastohio-acbs.org/



[Find us online at northcoastohio-acbs.org/](http://northcoastohio-acbs.org/)



Find us online at northcoastohio-acbs.org/



Find us online at northcoastohio-acbs.org/



OTHER NEWS: A new antique boat brokerage has been started by long-time broker Andy Hoffman. He has acquired the www.antiqueboat.com website which was developed by the first national brokerage company over 25 years ago. Andy's new group of sales personnel are younger people who he hopes will bring a youthful generation's interest in antique boat ownership. They already have 130 listings and the website works very well. Check it out.

-Gil Maringer, President

Disappearances and Resurrections: The Dippy and The Loon

In the late 1800s, William J Johnston, Jr's The Johnston Boat Works Company built a small skiff out of Port Calling, Ontario. While the boat was originally built by Johnston Boat Works, and continued for decades, it was later produced by The Greavette Boat Company. The boat had oak keels and cypress planked hulls, but were really motorized canoes. They were a more economic choice for those that navigated Ontario's Muskoka Lakes in northern Canada. The shallow lakes have hidden granite challenges throughout, especially along their shores, as well as forested shoreline debris.

To overcome the Muskoka Lake challenges, Johnston invented what he called "the device." His patented design allowed the propeller to be raised. In normal motoring, the propeller would be in its normal, lowered position. But upon entering shallow waters with hidden underwater obstacles, the operator would raise the propeller with a handle, into a tunnel. The patented system was installed in Johnston Boat Works "The Disappearing Propeller Boat." Fairly quickly, the boats were dubbed "Dispros" or "Dippys," given the boat name and patented design. Approximately 3,100 Dispros were produced. Now, there are less than 310. ACBS has designated the unique status of the skiffs and designates the "Dispro" as a separate class in judged events with its unique propulsion system.

Jack Lynett purchased one of the 3,100 boats for use at his Lake Temagami cottage. Jack's was produced by The Greavette Boat Company in 1953. He named her "Loon" and she was his passion. She is a 1953 model and is 18 ft long. She hasn't been in the water for many years now. Last heard, "Loon" had leaked quite a bit of water. In addition, the twin, water-cooled Coventry Victor engine, putting out 4 hp, was said to be "finicky."

"Loon" has been acquired by partner Doug Brooks and myself, and are the "Loon's" restoration partners. She may be leaky. She may be finicky. Doug and I are up to the challenge!

-Gary Kosiba



**NORTH COAST OHIO CHAPTER
ANTIQUÉ AND CLASSIC BOAT SOCIETY
----- 2026 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS -----**

February		<i>No monthly meeting</i>
March	9	Monthly club meeting @ Canal Grille at 6pm. Doors open at 5:30pm.
April	13	Monthly club meeting @ Canal Grille at 6pm. Doors open at 5:30pm.
May		Monthly club meeting: Location and date to be announced
June	21	Stan Hywet Father's Day Car and Boat Show
June	26-27	Lake Chautauqua Boat Show and Tour of Lawson Center
July	17-18	Indian Lake ACBS Show
July		Monthly club meeting: Location and date to be announced
August	8	All Classics Festival in Huron, Ohio
August	21-22	50th Annual Portage Lakes Boat Show
September	13-20	ACBS International Boat Show in Port Huron, Michigan

(All events will be confirmed in future Beacon Newsletters)