

Mainsheet

Newsletter of the Delaware River Chapter, Traditional Small Craft Association

February 2005



The call of the conch: Unless you've already paid, your TSCA Delaware River 2005 chapter dues should be paid **no later than January 31, 2005** to continue your Mainsheet subscription. **Send \$20.00 today to Treasurer Ron Gibbs, 107 Orchard Rd., Paoli, PA 19301. Reminder:** Chapter dues are **separate** from the \$20.00 you may have sent to Mystic for National membership.

2005 Schedule

February – Ron Gryn/
Csaba Hanyi, Raid Finland;
plus Chapter incorporation

March – Sturgeon fishing
on the Delaware, with Dr.
David Orr. Dave is with the
National Park Service and
also teaches part time at
Temple University.

April – **NOTE:** we will **not**
be at Red Dragon this
month; the program will be
on boat modelling with Ed
Leaf at his home (directions
to follow).

May – Bid-and-Buy Auction

June – Pond boats; John
Gardner Weekend at Mystic
(first weekend of the month)

New: June 18, wooden
boat festival at St. Mary's
City, MD

July – Picnic and shanty
sing; Barnegat Bay sail on
Wednesday, July 6

August-December: stay
tuned for further updates

Hollow Sparmaking at Philadelphia Wooden Boat Factory



For the past two months, Delaware River chapter members have been making weekly, Wednesday-night treks to the Philadelphia Wooden Boat Factory, to help build hollow spars for

MARION BREWINGTON. ABOVE, real sailors read directions, as (from left): Mike Wick, Paul Skalka, Tom



Shephard, and Tom Etherington check the plans.

At left, worm's eye views toward each end of a birdsmouth spar.

Above, Mike Wick, Phil Maynard and Dan Noble begin coating the V-notches with epoxy.

Cont'd. on next page

Sparmaking, cont'd.



At a more recent session, Dave Robbie, Dan Noble (hidden), Tom Shep, and Paul Skalka mix epoxy batches (above), and coated the



birdsmouth notches again (below) for final glueup. The mast was then fitted with a preliminary set of pipe clamps (above) and given a final alignment (right). After adding more clamps (lower

right), filler plugs are inserted for strength.

Thanks to Al Moss for the photographs.



Spring Sail/Paddle Get-together

As many of you may know, for the last two years we have gotten together at Point Lookout MD. I would like an informal vote if anyone would like a change in location. Point Lookout has the best facilities with cabin availability, showers, clean rest rooms and fairly decent launch sites.

Alternative sites are \$30 per night at the MD state park at Assateague, with hot showers, modern toilets, and a launch site across the bridge where craft could be taken out daily. There is a dock. (However, I would worry about vandalism with the main road nearby). Assateague National Park has a more back-in-the-bush launch site at the old ferry landing. Boats may possibly beach and be left overnight at the canoe rental (although this is questionable, depending on time of year).

Cheaper at \$15 per night is Taylor Island Campground, SSE of Cambridge MD. Does anyone have other suggestions? They have good (if crowded) facilities, but it's been a few years since I've been there. However when we checked it out two years ago it seemed crowded.

One off beat spot that crossed my mind but is a distance and much cooler would be to make it to the No Octane Regatta in June at Blue Mountain Lake. I was there at the Museum this last summer and it's worth the trip. However this is the longest drive for most people & also the coolest location.

Lets here from all of you with ideas, different dates, or locations!!!!!!

Sincerely, Floyd Beam (j.beam2@juno.com or 215-245-4297).

From Tom Jones:

Dear Pete,

I am building a 16' cedar Garvey, similar to the Adams Garvey in my first boat book, *Low-Resistance Boats*. It's 20 years since I've had an order for a boat made of boards and I'm taking my time and enjoying it. One modern innovation is that I'll be rolling the cotton caulk with a pizza cutter.

Several years ago a bunch of the D.R. Chapter members came down to Tuckahoe to go through Yank's Boatyard. At that time he may have been started on his

largest project to date, a 145' dinner cruiser. That boat was launched a couple of weeks ago, but the amazing part was how it was moved sideways about 70' to the railway. A couple of kids in their twenties did it with little more than a couple of 40-ton jacks (the boat weighs 300 tons), some small rollers and a few I-beams. However, the guiding genius (and he really is a genius) was a house-mover named Tom who lives down near Delaware Bay.

Tom is too crippled with rheumatism, etc, to do anything but direct the operation. Preparations took several weeks, and the

actual moving about five hours. It was keen to see it happen, and stopped by often, but got there a couple of hours too late. Tom had gone home and the kids were wandering around, shaking their heads in amazement at what they'd done.

All the best,
Tom Jones



National TSCA Wares

In Spring 2004, TSCA National entered into an agreement with Alex Bridge of **NORS Gear** for TSCA wares:

PO Box 143
Woolwich, ME 04579
207-985-6134
207-985-7633 fax
www.norsgear.com
norsman@care2.com

You can send e-mail or use the form on the NORS web site to request a catalog.

Currently, direct order from Nors is available for shirts and hats only.

Hats: Cotton ball cap style with adjustable band - \$16.00

T-Shirts: Grey cotton with small TSCA logo on front breast and large logo on back - Med, Large, XL - \$16.00, XXL - \$19.00

Shipping: 1 item - \$4.75, 2 items - \$5.75

Call NORS for larger orders

Decals and patches are available from Tom Shephard.

The above info on the availability of TSCA wares is also on the web at: www.tscanet/wares.html.

Wares sales benefit both TSCA and NORS — a long-time TSCA supporter. Proudly show your support for traditional small boats!

From the Philly Seaport:

Chinese New Year (a PECO Family Saturday Program) February 5, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Come celebrate the Year of the Rooster at the Seaport Museum! Enjoy performances, activities, and crafts celebrating Chinese New Year. Get your name printed in Chinese calligraphy, make a Chinese lantern, and make your own dragonhead to take home! At 2 p.m., enjoy a music and dance performance in our concert hall—see a lion dance by the Philadelphia Suns Asian Club, watch the Jade River Dancers perform traditional Chinese dances, and listen to Chinese Musical Voices as they sing traditional and contemporary Chinese music. FREE with admission or membership.

Deep Sleep 2005 Friday, February 11, 6:30 p.m. - 10 a.m. Have you ever wondered what the Seaport Museum is like at night? Pack your sleeping bag and join us on an incredible overnight adventure that's boatloads of fun for groups and families alike! Visitors ages 6 to 12 years old can spend the evening doing fun activities like going on a scavenger hunt, learning about how people survive underwater, and playing a game about ocean life. Then see performances by the Drama Gills. After sleeping in the museum exhibits, wake up and tour Cruiser OLYMPIA and Submarine BECUNA in the morning. Come aboard for a sleepover adventure of learning and fun! This program is jointly run by the New Jersey Academy for Aquatic Sciences and Independence Seaport Museum. For more

information or to make a reservation, call 856.365.3300, ext. 330.

Lecture: The Mystery of the USS ALLIGATOR Wednesday, February 16 6:30 p.m. The Union Navy's first submarine was built right here in Philadelphia. Even before the world knew of the CSS HUNLEY, Brutus De Villeroi constructed a 47-foot long submarine to counter the threat of the Confederate Navy. Called the USS ALLIGATOR, this new submarine had hand-cranked, screw-propulsion, an air purification system and a diver lockout chamber—all revolutionary ideas in 1863. While being towed south by the USS SUMPTER to participate in a mission to capture Charleston, South Carolina, violent storms forced the crew cut its tow from the SUMPTER and the ALLIGATOR was lost. Today, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is leading the effort to find Alligator and bring its story to the public. Catherine Marzin, National Partnership Coordinator of the National Marine Sanctuary Program, will detail NOAA's efforts to find this important piece of history. Craig Bruns, ISM's Collections Manager, will discuss ALLIGATOR'S Philadelphia connection. Reception to follow. Reservations required, call 215.413.8658. \$10 for non-members, FREE for ISM Members.

Deep Sleep 2005 Friday, February 25 6:30 p.m. - 10 a.m.

Survivor- Maritime Style! (a PECO Family Saturday Program) March 5 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Learn the skills you would need to survive at sea in a storm! What

are the international signals for distress? Learn about signal flags, and make your own to take home. Try on life jackets and learn about personal floatation devices. Learn to tie a bowline, a lifesaving knot, and use it to save someone in distress. FREE with admission or membership.

African Mariner Days Co-Sponsored with ODUNDE, Inc. Saturday, March 12 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Explore the world of the ancient mariner by learning the skills sailors needed to sail around the globe. See how James Forten, an African American sail-maker, had a profitable business in Philadelphia in the 1700's. Test navigation equipment and see a performance of music and dance from cultures around the world with a maritime heritage. Program is also available for school groups, Wednesday through Friday, March 9-11, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; call 215.413.8630 to book your group. Free with museum admission or membership.

Boat Building 101: Everything You Need To Know To Build Your Own Boat Saturday, March 26 (9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.) & Sunday, March 27 (12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.) AND Saturday, April 2 (9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.) & Sunday, April 3 (12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.) This two-weekend, hands-on class takes the new builder through all phases of boat building: getting the most out of a set of plans, building the backbone, steaming frames, planking, spar making, interior joinery and more. While you will not build a

boat in the class each student will make the most difficult pieces and learn enough to proceed alone with confidence. All tools and materials provided. \$275 for non-members, \$245 for members. To register or for more information call 215.413.8630 or email: Ihollingsworth@phillyseaport.org. The class is offered by ISM's Workshop on the Water in cooperation with the Philadelphia Wooden Boat Factory (PWBF).

Become a Deck Officer (a PECO Family Saturday Program) April 2 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Take an imaginary journey aboard ANNAPOLIS, Philadelphia's historic schoolship, and become a deck officer. Learn to navigate up river with a compass and sextant. See how a compass works, and make your own sextant to take home. FREE with admission or membership.

Half Model Making Saturday, April 9 (9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.) AND Sunday, April 10 (9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.) For centuries, the half model was the Master shipwright's first step in constructing a ship or boat. In this two-day class, students will each model their own Delaware River Shad boat. Take home a finely crafted piece of maritime art and learn something from the architect's, modeler's and historian's points of view. \$180 for non-members, \$150 for members. To register or for more information call 215.413.8630 or email: Ihollingsworth@phillyseaport.org. The class is offered in cooperation with the PWBF.

Boy Scout Workshop Saturday, April 16 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Fulfill your Cub and Boy

Scout requirements for knot tying and orienteering at ISM in this two-part hour workshop. At 10 a.m. learn important knots such as the clove hitch, and the bowline. Then, stay and try techniques in navigation and orienteering. All activities go towards badge requirements. Registration is necessary; call 215.413.8630. \$6 per program or \$8 for both. FREE for members.

OLYMPIA Living History Crew Weekend Saturday, April 30 and Sunday, May 1 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Celebrate the anniversary of the Battle of Manila Bay on Dewey's Flagship of the Spanish American War, Cruiser OLYMPIA! OLYMPIA's Living History Crew will bring the ship to life with six-pounder gun drills, tours of the engine rooms, and performances by the ship's band. Interact with crew members and see what it was like to be a sailor on this great ship. FREE with admission or membership.

NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS! For a listing of all activities at ISM, check our website www.phillyseaport.org or call the 24-hour Programming Hotline at 215.413.8621.

Independence Seaport Museum is dedicated to exploring the maritime history of the Delaware River, Bay and tributaries. The Museum is located on the Penn's Landing Waterfront at 211 South Columbus Boulevard and Walnut Street. Easily accessible by car via I-95, Exit 20, bus, rail or ferry. The Museum is also just a short walk from Independence Park and the Liberty Bell. Parking is available at several lots nearby Penn's Landing as well as a number of garages within three blocks of the

Museum. The Museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

ADMISSION PRICES Ticket prices, which include admission to the Museum and the Historic Ships, are as follows: \$9.00 for adults (ages 13-64), \$6.00 for children (ages 3-12) and \$8.00 for seniors (65 and older). Children 2 and younger are free.

The Museum offers FREE admission on Sunday mornings from 10a.m. to 12p.m. Free admission on Sunday mornings is not applicable to groups.

CityPass tickets including admission to Independence Seaport Museum and Historic Ships, Philadelphia City Trolley Tour, The National Constitution Center, The Franklin Institute Science Museum, the Philadelphia Zoo and Academy of Natural Sciences Museum are available at the deeply discounted rate of \$36.00 for adults (ages 12 and older) and \$23.00 for children ages 3 - 11. Children under 2 are free.

Special "Valid All Winter" Promotion: Typically, a CityPass booklet is valid for nine days from first use; the Valid All Winter program gives both visitors and residents a chance to spread cultural entertainment over a period from December 15, 2004 to March 31, 2005.

For more information about Independence Seaport Museum call 215.925.5439 or visit the Museum's website.

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c/o 2400 Ayresdon Avenue, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006-6102

How to get in touch with us:

Chapter President:

Pete Peters, lupinelady777@aol.com, 215-493-8440

Chapter VP & National President:

Tom Shephard

thomas.shephard@solvay.com or tsshep41556@aol.com,
856-691-4053

Treasurer:

Ron Gibbs, RNgibbs@snip.net, 610-296-9843

Editor:

Ned Asplundh, nasplundh@yahoo.com or
asplundh3@comcast.net, 215-947-2052

Website:

www.tasca.net/delriver/index.html

Word Has It...

Lois Bannan and Alan Capron left Florida early in January, spent several days in and around Bimini and were last seen at anchor in Nassau. The poor folks are missing all of our good weather.