
SOUNDINGS

MARCH/APRIL 2022

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE COWICHAN WOODEN BOAT SOCIETY

EDITOR - MEL

Annual Boat Raffle

Our Annual Boat Raffle kicked off April 16 with its first off-site venue at Duncan Canadian Tire. Next off-site venue Country Grocer Cobble Hill, April 30, 9 to 3pm. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Mel.

Tickets are 1 for \$5 or 5 for \$20

Annual Marine Sale big success

Our Annual Marine Sale took place March 20th. With the hardships over the last two years it has been great to get a good fundraiser under our belts. Thank you for donations and volunteers.

Busy in the Workshop

Our workshop is busy with multiple members building or repairing boats. We have a cedar strip kayak build, a kayak refurbish and various other repairs on boats. Shop space is available to rent for members.

What better time to come down and get involved. Become a member and take advantage of all we have to offer.



Spring Break Camp A Hit

Throughout the year the Cowichan Bay Maritime Centre runs a variety of camps, courses and activities for child and youth. We have been fortunate enough to have our employee Daphne Hachey spearhead the planning of activities the children take part in for the last three years. Camps run for five consecutive days with each day having a different theme and lesson to keep young minds intrigued and having fun as well as making life long memories. The camps have become so popular that our three summer camp dates have filled up within one day of posting! If you are interested in activities for child and youth please visit our website and register early to ensure your spot.

Children and Youth Programs

This year the Cowichan Bay Maritime Centre will be running an abundance of programs for children and youth. Programs will include Pro D Day Camps, Junior Captain summer camps, Teen Woodworking, Youth volunteer programs, rowing lessons and more. For more information and dates please visit classicboats.org



Larval Dungeness Crab Monitoring with Light

The Cowichan Bay Maritime Centre is pleased to host Madeline and the crew from the Estuary Nature Centre, studies will be performed weekly throughout the summer.

Dungeness crabs are a critically important species with significant cultural, ecological, and commercial value. Like many species in the Salish Sea, Dungeness are facing a growing suite of threats and crab harvesters are reporting increased difficulty in accessing this important resource. As part of the Sentinels of Change project, we are using light traps to monitor Dungeness populations in the Salish Sea. By focusing on the early life stages of Dungeness, we can ask important questions about the ecology of these crabs and what influences their dispersal and survival.

Like many marine invertebrates, Dungeness crab have a larval life phase during which they disperse in the water column before being transported back to the nearshore environment to metamorphose into juvenile crabs and settle into life on the seafloor. The timing and spatial distribution of larval crab dispersal are key to replenishing populations, and the number of new recruits can be used to forecast adult abundance years down the line.

This project tracks Dungeness crab dispersal using light traps and a network of community partners. Like many marine invertebrate larvae, Dungeness crab larvae are attracted to light. Light traps take advantage of this behavior and allow us to track Dungeness megalopae, one of the late larval crab stages. This work will see light traps deployed across the Salish Sea, complimenting an existing project in Puget Sound that has a similar light trap network monitoring larval Dungeness crab.



Happenings



Tony Owen working on a customer's boat



Bev Thompson doing some glass work on her kayak



Mark Reuten instructing a tool sharpening course



Dragon Boat Season is here



John Waldin art on display



Dominique Eustace art on display



Gary getting the angle



Family Day huge success



Wednesday Knights

On The Horizon



May 1st - Patio Portal Grand Opening - Join us for a pancake breakfast, silent auction, plein air painting, children's boat building and activities, BBQ lunch and more. 8:30 am to 3 pm

May 6 - Pro D Day - Children ages 5 - 9 will take part in an event filled day of crabbing, beach combing, boat building and more. 9am - 4pm - \$50 per child

June 4 & 5 - Women's Woodworking - Learn to construct a quality built cedar planter box - 9 to 2 pm each day - \$155 per person

July 23 & 24 - Annual Wooden Boat Festival - (may be abbreviated due to Pier Rehabilitation Project)

Cowichan Wooden Boat Society Annual Boat Raffle

BC Gaming Event License #132743

4800 Tickets Printed

800 \$5 Tickets and 4,000 5 for \$20 Tickets



1st Prize: 10' Wooden Lapstrake Acorn Dinghy built at the Cowichan Bay Maritime Centre, Value \$6,500

2nd Prize: Hand Carved Cedar Chest built and donated by Don Knudson, Value \$2000

3rd Prize: 'Making a Splash' Original Painting donated by artist Dominique Eustace, Value \$550

*Draw: 11:00 am on Saturday, October 8, 2022 at the Cowichan Bay Maritime Centre



1st Prize



2nd Prize



3rd Prize

The "Pile Drive" Update - Sylvia Berryman Executive Director

A pile drive can mean a few things.

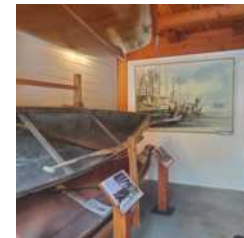


For the Cowichan Bay Maritime Centre, The Pile Drive represents our current fundraising campaign to allow the re-opening of our Heritage Pier. We are striving to do the necessary work on the Pier, the backbone of The Cowichan Bay Maritime Centre and the heart of Cowichan Bay, and redesign the Indigenous displays throughout the centre. This 89-metre long historical structure was built in 1925. The pier houses three small wooden buildings (pods) and a two-story wooden pavilion at its end, full of engaging exhibits.

We are well on our way...with the help of many donors! We managed to raise \$11,220 of the \$13,000 from donations since February 27. We were able to meet the commitment that was necessary to be eligible for two grants (yes, two).

The project has been awarded a total of \$942,000 through the Canadian Community Revitalization Fund, the 150 Time Immemorial Grant Program, and the money donated from the membership and other members of our community. The grants are independent of each other: the Canadian Community Revitalization Fund is through the Pacific Economic Development Agency of Canada (PacifiCan) and the 150 Time Immemorial Grant Program is through Heritage BC under the Province of British Columbia. It is looking like this will be enough money to rehabilitate the pier from the ground up to the underside of the decking, and upgrade the indigenous displays.

Part of the project, redesigning the Indigenous displays throughout the centre, will focus on the first pod on the pier that houses the majority of our Indigenous exhibit. It will be enhanced in recognition of the Hul'q'umi'num people to incorporate and recognize the local history. It is hoped that Cowichan Tribes will share stewardship of this display.



The structure started as a fuel-loading pier, but has morphed into the focus of much marine activity, boating, and community festivities. The various stages of the project will include driving new steel pilings to replace those that are now 98 years old, refreshing the wooden decking that lines the pier and adding to the Indigenous displays that exist on the pier.

With this kind of support, we hope that the Maritime Centre will be around for generations to come to showcase the exceptional maritime history of our region to all who visit Cowichan Bay, honor all who lived here, and to continue to offer a unique cultural experience.

It will be such a grand day when we can fully host the infamous Cowichan Wooden Boat Festival and bring back all the activities that bring so much life to our community. Children can once again throw their crab traps to the deep, Dragon Divas can practice their paddling, classic boats can return for visits, and celebrations can once again be held on the pier. The world class vistas from the end of the pier will soon be open for enjoyment: Mount Tzhouhalem, Cowichan Estuary, east coast sunsets down the valley, whales at play and dug-out canoe races. Neve a dull moment!

Please come and visit the Centre and see what is going on!

Presidents Report

Societies and similar organizations are odd. They aren't a typical workplace or entirely a social club. I think it is fair to say that to our staff it is more than just a job. Extra hours, unusual hours are just part of the varied environment they find themselves in.

Volunteers fill many roles in the Cowichan Wooden Boat Society. Our nine member Board of Directors are all volunteers. The volunteers you see helping maintain our buildings and docks come from all walks of life as is the person who greets you at the front door and those who help run our Garage Sale, Cowichan Wooden Boat Festival and our many children's programs.

What always impresses me is how approximately twenty paid and mostly unpaid volunteers can run this place. With our membership numbering 144 it appears that for anyone interested in doing volunteer work we can easily find something of interest to you. A perfect example is our new Patio Portal which needs volunteers with experience or a strong desire to learn to create, organize and schedule events which both assist with out fund raising and bring visitors to Cowichan Bay. Feel free to contact us if your time and energy is available.

Ron J.E.Parsons



Woodwork Instructor Joe Murphy



Gary Powe raffle boat construction



Don Feil Dock Hand



Bernie & Lew Children's Boats

Donations can be made by:

- E-transfer to admin@classicboats.org
- CanadaHelps website (search Cowichan Wooden Boat Society)
- In person via cash, cheque, credit or debit
- Over the phone by calling 250.746.4955

Thank you



Carol & Ron event cooks



Chris Lee children's play tug boat creator