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# SOUNDINGS

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January/February 2022

The Official Newsletter of the Cowichan Wooden Boat Society

[classicboats.org](http://classicboats.org)

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## Spring Break Camp

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The Cowichan Bay Maritime Centre will be running one camp this year, March 21 - 25

More details on page 5

## Facility Rentals

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Our Mezzanine (the upstairs of the main building) has been overlooked by many. The space offers a capacity limit of 65 for parties, meetings, courses, school programs, etc. We also offer shop space at a monthly rate for your projects such as household projects or maybe you want to build a boat? Inquire with Mel or Tony on your options.

## Traditional Lapstrake Course Returns

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The lapstrake course has been postponed for the last two years and has finally made a comeback. The course runs 8 days ( Sunday to Sunday) With a extensive waiting list it makes for a popular choice within the many courses put on by the society. See more page 2.



## A Dream Come True

Over the course of a month, grandparents Briyan and Carol made their grandson's dream a reality. Hunter, the proud new owner of this beautiful vessel, was over the moon with joy Christmas morning when he was gifted the polliwog called "The Little Crab". This stitch and glue Devlin design Pollywog rowboat was feverishly worked on every weekend and finished just in time for Christmas.

Pictures on page 3.

Shop space is available for rent if you have a boat-build or project. Inquire within.

# Traditional Lapstrake Boatbuilding Course

After two years of continuing to postpone the boat building course it is officially underway. The course runs 8 days, Sunday to Sunday. We welcome our new Shipwright Mark Reuten. Mark is a master shipwright and owns Nomad Boatbuilding based out of Victoria, BC.





# Polliwog Build - The Method

The Stitch and Glue method uses wire sutures to hold panels together until they can be joined permanently with epoxy and fiberglass tape. The outside of the hull is completely coated with fiberglass or Dynel cloth sheathing. All exposed wood is coated with epoxy to encapsulate the boat from sun and sea to retain the excellent characteristics of wooden boats without the drawbacks of traditional building methods. Finally, the boat can be finished with high quality marine paint to finish the whole project in a mirror sheen. For small boats, the Stitch and Glue method can be built on a pair of sawhorses in one bay of a household garage. For larger boats, the construction mold is designed into the actual boat. The parts that ensure you build a straight and fair boat are the same parts that become permanent elements of the unified structure, yielding an exceptionally strong and long lasting result.





# Happenings'



*Women's Woodworking*



*New Board of Directors*



*Santa makes an appearance*



*Shavings going to the horses*



*CWBS Christmas Tree Winner 2021 - Bluenose Marina*



*Charlie securing the last strip on his stitch and glue kayak*

# On The Horizon



**February 5 & 6 - Women's Woodworking** - This course is focused on beginners in the workshop. You will learn to use and become comfortable with the machinery in the workshop as well as build a garden/herb box. Course fee is \$155 plus tax and \$35 membership fee. Class is 9 - 2pm each day

**March 21 - 25 - Spring Break Camp** - Our Nautical Spring Break Camps give children the opportunity to learn new skills. Activities will include maritime-themed crafts, beach walks, outdoor games, scavenger hunts, a woodworking project, crabbing and more. Each day will be jam-packed with fun.

Ages 5 - 10 / \$225 per child / Register early as camp fills up quickly

**February 21 - Family Day Scavenger Hunt** - Grab the family and make your way down to the Cowichan Bay Maritime Centre for a great family event. Stay tuned for more info.

**Annual Wooden Boat Festival** - July 23 & 24. Live entertainment, salmon dinner, children's fishing, seagull races, classic wooden boats on display and more.

## DESIGN A T-SHIRT

CWBS members have hinted interest in new clothing merchandise. We need to fly our flag, toot our horn, be seen! And so we offer this fun challenge - design a simple, stylish, colorful t-shirt that members can proudly sport around. Send your submissions to Soundings, Box 22 Cowichan Bay.

Deadline is April 15, 2022  
The winner will be announced in the May/June issue.

## RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Family - \$50  
Single - \$35  
Student \$10

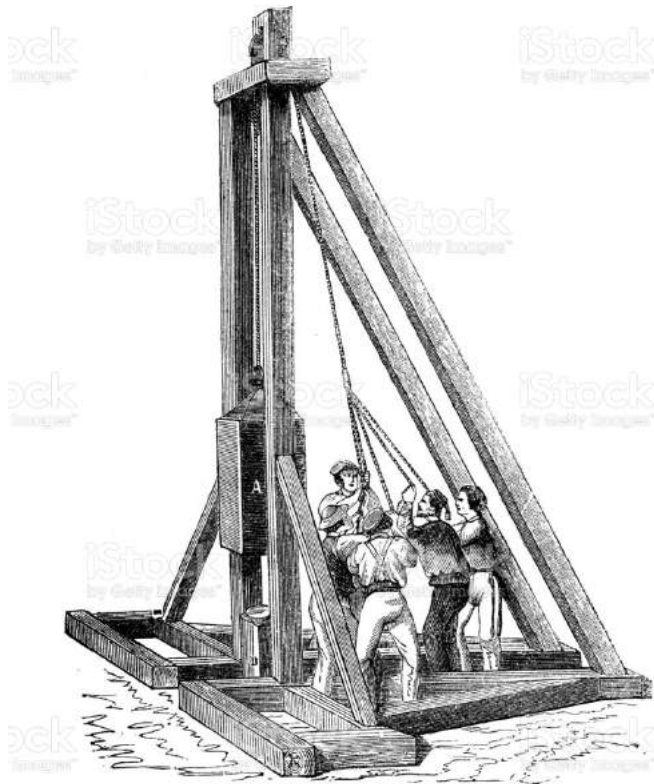


## ADVERTISING FOR MEMBERS OR BUSINESSES

The Cowichan Bay Maritime Centre will be running Soundings Bi-Monthly. Our Newsletter will be available in hard copies at reception as well as electronically to a much bigger audience. Would you like to purchase a spot to showcase your business? Do you have marine related items for sale? Become a member and receive a discounted price for ads. Contact Mel for more information.



# "The Pile Drive" Fundraiser - Sylvia Berryman Executive Director



The Cowichan Bay Maritime Centre's Pier has been enjoyed by the community and visitors alike for many years. Although the Maritime Centre including the new oceanfront Patio Portal remains open, the beautiful long pier that leads out over the ocean was unfortunately closed to the public, when engineers determined that the 97-year old pilings that support the heritage pier needed rehabilitation. The Directors and Staff have started a fundraiser "The Pile Drive" in order to raise funds to get the pier rehabilitated for the community to enjoy for many years to come. The Heritage Pier promotes the area's maritime history and is an important tourist attraction. The structure hosts many Cowichan area celebrations, meetings, maritime recreation and educational presentations for groups and individuals including our Annual Wooden Boat Festival, North America's first "Cittaslow" community and the Cowichan Valley Dragon Divas dragon boat team. In 2015, the Cowichan Valley Regional District added the Cowichan Bay Maritime Centre's pier to its heritage registry. In three years the Heritage Pier will be 100 years old. Please consider supporting this project with a donation. To help preserve the iconic maritime heritage pier in Cowichan Bay for generations to come you may go to our website at <https://www.classicboats.org/> and click on the Donate button.



# President's Report

QR Code to questionnaire



Happy 2022 to everyone.

What 2020 and 2021 have taught me is that the CWBS chugs along in spite of what nature throws at us. General fund raising has been severely affected by covid. Restrictions have curtailed large events and limited visitors. We gladly accept donations and items for future garage sales

In 2025 our beloved pier will celebrate its 100th Anniversary and our Society its 37th. In preparation for that event and others leading up to it we are launching the "The Pile Drive" a multi-pronged fund raising initiative to rehabilitate our Heritage Pier. This is not a new project. We have been working on our pier structural plans a number of years now. In 2018 we secured funding to add steel piling under the Pavilion and thereby stabilize the entire pier. We expect to hear shortly from our major grant applications whose funding will allow us to replace our tired creosote wooden pilings with steel ones.

The workshop has been busy with personal new boat builds and restorations. Our woodworking courses and clinker boat building course taught by Mark Reuten have recently managed to run smoothly even under covid protocols. Just goes to show that with good planning, attention to details and cooperative people we can pull off any project.

Our newly opened Patio Portal promises to be a visual link to the water and a meeting place for individuals and public area for special events. We welcome your ideas.

The Board of Directors has launched a Questionnaire for our Society members and the Cowichan community. The gist of our questions is quite simple:

“ What does our membership and the surrounding community want to find at the Maritime Centre that isn't available now?”

I am hoping that many people of all ages will take the time to answer our questions and add their own personal thoughts. The survey is available in hard copies at the Maritime Centre and online as a link or QR code (top of this page). Check out this edition of Soundings, our website, Facebook or Instagram.

As a thank you for your efforts we will hold a gift giveaway at the end of the survey period. The winner chosen from participants will receive a yearly family membership and ball cap or toque. We look forward to the creative input and the guidance it will provide to the Board of Directors.

2022 will be a very busy year. Please join us for the ride!

President

Ron J.E. Parsons