

with Ginger Marshall Martus JUL 19 2006

Ginger Marshall Martus works diligently to save old boats. She started the newsletter, *Bone Yard Boats*, the only national newsletter listing abandoned and forgotten boats—large or small, power or sail. The publication is now headed by David Irving, who is keeping the spirit alive. For more information or to subscribe, call 843-469-7901 or write *Bone Yard Boats*, P.O. Box 831, Charleston, SC 29402.



## Two Days in Boat Heaven – Not Enough!



The transom of the winning boat, owned by Charlie Quimby.

I was finally able to drive to St. Michaels, MD on June 17 after a bout with a foot infection that kept me off my feet since June 10. I had planned to be there as I was scheduled to give a talk about the *Bone Yard Boats* newsletter as part of a seminar at noon on June 17, plus to present the annual Bone Yard Boat Award on Sunday. So I departed New Jersey about 8 a.m. and arrived in St. Michaels at 11 a.m., just in time to set up my display and then relax.

This was the 19th annual Antique & Classic Boat Festival held on the grounds of the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum. After I gave my talk, telling about the histories and background of several boats and showing photos of restored derelicts and answering questions, it was off to the Crab Claw for a bite to eat. On my way, I stopped to talk with Ira Black who was there with *Nor'easter*, and then I bumped into J. B. Currell and his son who were standing in line for the next table. J. B. is

with Mas Epoxies – that great stuff that makes today's boats strong. J.B. invited me to join them for lunch; thanks J.B.!

After that, it was off to visit Dan and Kathy Wilson on their 1932, 39-ft. Withrop-Warner boat, named Happie. Dan is the voice you hear over the loudspeaker announcing all the day's events – and you should hear him sing, too!

It was getting later and I didn't want to leave the boat, but it was time to check into the motel, change and get ready for the dinner reception under the big tent. I found myself sitting, among others, with Dennis Harnett who is assistant editor of the *ACBS* magazine *Rudder* and who came in from Seattle, WA and George Garrison, who was in charge of the seminars and was so helpful to anyone who needed help. He and his 1966, 48-ft. motoryacht, *Golden Parachute*, won the Bone Yard Boat Award last year.

After a few glasses of good wine and a good catered dinner, I spied someone that

looked familiar and, sure enough, it was Todd Warner who owns *Mahogany Bay* located in Minnesota. Todd is well known for buying, selling and restoring classic boats. He is also a Don Johnson look-alike and, while he was glancing through a few issues of *Bone Yard Boats*, he said, "Where is this one?" A few days later, I found the boat and passed the information on to Todd.

On Sunday, it was awards picnic time and I was scheduled to present the annual Bone Yard Boat Award. The previous day, I scouted around looking for a restored derelict and came across Charley Quimby and his spectacular *Chris-Craft* racing runabout; a 1938, 16 footer that took my breath away. She really sparkled and stood out from all the rest around her.

*Miss Miami V* is red, white and blue. All Charley needed was a pair of red shoes. This year's award was the book "Maryland's Vanishing Lives" by Jack Sherwood, a well-known journalist from Annapolis who autographed the book, too. Charley was also awarded the prestigious Chesapeake Bay Maritime Award for Best Amateur Restoration by John Ford. This is a finished piece of wood from the deck frame of the log hull of a 1909 crab dredger, *Old Point*.

Right next to the awards tent was Linda Nagle Warner with a most unusual display. About a three-foot model

sailboat on its own trailer with flowers at the bow. On the sail it read, "BridgeNorth Bailer." I asked Linda to demonstrate how it works. Not only is it a great boathook, but it balls even hard to reach places, shoots water over 50 feet and will clean your anchor line or deck in seconds. It has an automatic locking system, floats and comes in two sizes, 5-ft. and 8-ft., costs about \$60 and was selling like hot cakes. Really something new under the sun. If you want to know more, call Linda at 410-626-8716 or e-mail [mahoganyanut@aol.com](mailto:mahoganyanut@aol.com).

The model boat was made by Jim Shotwell who is president of the Chesapeake Bay Chapter of the *ACBS*, chief judge and owner of *James Craft*. At his booth, he sells exact reproductions of the *Chris-Craft* kit boats of the 1950s. See his ad in *Nor'easter*. If you want to know more, call Jim at 570-759-1290 or e-mail [kits@jamescraftboats.com](mailto:kits@jamescraftboats.com) or visit [www.jamescraftboats.com](http://www.jamescraftboats.com).

After the picnic and awards were presented, with special thanks to Maryann, the show chairperson, and Dominic Flascetti who handled all the electronics and the many volunteers, it was announced that Maryanne and her committee have great plans for next year, their 20th *ACBS* Boat Festival. Now it was time to head back to New Jersey, but I was glad I could be there.



The Bone Yard Boat Award winner *Miss Miami V*, a 1938, 16-ft. *Chris Craft* racing runabout.