



Wooden Boat News

Volume 2, Issue No. 4, 2011

Look Aft and Learn

1st Gala Fundraiser Sets the Bar High!

Gala Chair, Jennifer Green-Sheppard

Going once, going twice, SOLD! Our 1st Fundraising Gala and Auction "Only a Boat" held May 6th at the Holiday Inn was a huge success.

We filled over 250 seats, with huge corporate support of 11 tables and returning the museum a profit of over \$18,000. Our Master of Ceremonies for the event was Mark Critch and it is fair to say that everyone in the room were laughing and well entertained. Coupled with Chris O'Dea as our Auctioneer, we had a complete package for a great evening. To add to the evening we had music by Jim Payne and Fergus O'Byrne, as well as the Split Peas which rounded out the night.

Not only did we have great food, drinks, and entertainment but the items donated on live and silent auction were marvelous, a real mix of things from jewelry to artwork to ferry crossings to seafood. There are just too many donors to name, however as Gala Chair, I was overwhelmed by the support for the event overall.

As you know we are working hard to raise our profile in the community and province in general. Events like this, where we see such huge support, is very up-lifting as a group of dedicated volunteers give of their time in hopes to see a piece of our heritage persevered and passed on.

The Museum dedicated its first Gala to the late Fred Green, one of the key visionaries behind the formation of the Wooden Boat Museum of Newfoundland and Labrador. "Only a Boat" was written by Fred after he and his father built a Rodney using three piece moulds that had been in their family for generations. "Only a Boat" can be found on our website under the "About Us" section.

Again, thank you to our Gala Committee, Board of Directors, volunteers, donators and participants for your support. We are looking forward to our next Gala already and seeing you there!

In This Issue...

Traditional Boat Building Workshop - Flatrock - April 13 - July 3, 2011.....	3
Out and About.....	4



Mark Critch MC - Photo by Sharon Kennedy



Richard Green recites his father's poem "Only a Boat" - Photo by Sharon Kennedy





Wooden Boat
Museum
of Newfoundland
and Labrador

The Wooden Boat Museum of Newfoundland and Labrador archives, conserves, exhibits and transmits our wooden boat history and its contribution to the province's economy and way of life.

Board of Directors:

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Funding Partners:

Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency
(Government of Canada)

Department of Innovation Trade and Rural Development
(Government of Newfoundland and Labrador)

Website:

www.woodenboatnl.com

Membership:

Individual membership is \$30 and includes unlimited free admission to the Wooden Boat Museum in Winterton for one year (and 10 per cent discount on guest admissions); 10 per cent discount at the museum store in Winterton; and free subscription to Wooden Boat News.

For information on other membership categories and benefits, contact Beverley King. Phone 709-583-2070 or email bkingheritage@gmail.com.

Newsletter:

Wooden Boat News is published four times a year. Members contribute most of the information and photos for this publication.

Chief Editor:

Bruce Whitelaw, Chair/President

Inquiries and Mailing:

Beverley King, Secretary

Many thanks to our Corporate Sponsors who purchased tables at our Event.



Fred Constatine

The Wooden Boat Museum of Newfoundland and Labrador would like to express its sincere thanks to all the companies and individuals who donated items for our Silent and Live Auction.

Traditional Boat Building Workshop - Flatrock - April 13 - July 3, 2011

Jim Dempsey, Workshop Organizer and Participant

Since April 13, the Wooden Boat Museum has been conducting a traditional boat building workshop. Like the 2009 project held at the Museum in Winterton, the purpose of the workshop is to provide hands on experience to small boat enthusiasts. This year, one of the objectives is to promote our wooden boat culture to the north east Avalon, Every Wednesday evening and Sunday eight loyal participants come to the boat shed in Flatrock.

The project is interesting because it covers a combined experience in traditional and contemporary materials, design, and wood technology. The boat we are building is inspired by a half model of a Fogo Island punt as represented in a half model made by Frank Lane. Our resident builder, Jerome Canning, took the offsets for this boat from the model and passed them on to WBMNL Chairman Bruce Whitelaw who then used the museum's marine CAD program to create lines drawings. As part of the workshop, the students have used Bruce's lines to loft the boat design at full scale on the floor upstairs at the Flatrock boat shed.

Jerome has shown how this lofting experience allows us to set up construction molds in a survey grid that is based on the lines. All of the participants believed that they had enrolled in a project that would improve woodworking skills. From repeated returns to the loft floor, they all now understand that a boat is an interactive design and that lofting allows the builder to fair, adjust, and confirm the interaction of engineering and performance to create a vessel that is truly "suent". The old fellers used to call this "having a good eye".

Although we have been fortunate to inherit some seasoned materials from the museum's inventory, the design we have created can be built from materials carefully selected from any lumber yard. The backbone and frames are all Newfoundland juniper sourced from the forest by traditional suppliers. The planks for the hull and counter are kiln dried

clear pine purchased commercially. We initially built a stem from a grown juniper root. Selecting the grain and cutting it to the template was good experience but knots and damage left it okay at best. We then decided to make the most of our seasoned juniper by ripping it into thin panels and laminating the stem and all other curved frames and knees with slow-cure marine epoxy.

By lofting and laminating, this boat could probably be made much lighter than a traditional punt. The result would be a faster, more manageable small craft that maintains the performance and good looks of the traditional punt. The participants of the 2011 spring workshop have had the golden opportunity to appreciate Frank Lane's design, learn some traditional skills, and to think about what goes into making a small boat work from the builder's perspective.

Blogs and photos from each session can be found on our website.



Laying Down The Batten



Battening the shape of the boat with five molds



The Planking begins

Out and About

4th Annual Wooden Boat Conference – September 23-25, 2011

The 4th Annual Wooden Boat Conference will be held in Trinity September 23-25th, 2011. Workshops for the event will be hosted by Wayne and Henry Vokey. The agenda for Saturday's sessions includes The History of the Vokey Family Boatbuilders, a presentation by Dale Jarvis and an update on Henry's Schooner Build by Cle Newhook and Bill Coultas. A full spouses program will also be included in this year's conference.

Registration packages will be sent out by mid June and will also be available on our website – [woodenboatnl.com](http://www.woodenboatnl.com) – or by contacting Beverley at 583-2070 or email bkingheritage@gmail.com. Register early and take advantage of our early bird registration fee!

Summer 2011 Workshops

Eight one-day workshops will be held at the Winterton site beginning July 9th and will run every Saturday from 9 AM – 4 PM until August 27th. Topics for the workshops are as follows:



July 9th	The Backbone: Shaping the Stem and Keel
July 16th	The Backbone: Connecting the Stem to Keel
July 23rd	The Backbone: Shaping the Counter
July 30th	The Backbone: Connecting the Counter to Keel
August 6th	Setup and Frames
August 13th	Planking – Putting on the Sheer Plank
August 20th	Planking – Putting on the Garboard Plank
August 27th	Planking – Filling in the Hull

Pre-registration is required.

Members



Call For New Board Members

The Nominating Committee is accepting Expressions of Interest from Members who wish to serve on the WBMNL Board of Directors. Please forward your EOI, along with a brief Statement of Introduction to the Committee, c/o Beverley King, P.O. Box 59, Winterton, NL A0B 3M0 or email bkingheritage@gmail.com. The Nominating Committee will propose Board positions for election at the AGM to be held in Trinity on September 24, 2011.

Membership renewals are now due!

To maintain Museum Membership fees must be paid by June 30, 2011. Renewals can be paid on our website www.woodenboatnl.com through PayPal, or by cheque, Visa or Mastercard. - contact Beverley at bkingheritage@gmail.com or call 583-2070. Please take time to renew your membership!

Look Aft and Learn is our motto.

Seafarers commonly say “look aft” to mean look behind, to the rear and the wake of the vessel. As a wooden boat museum, we feel it is a fitting expression that shows our commitment to looking to our history and heritage as a means of learning for the future.



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Wooden Boat Museum
of Newfoundland and Labrador

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