

BOAT BASIN BULLETIN

Issue 7

All the news that floats we'll print

December 2008

Boat Basin Alumni Re-union attended by about 175

Ed Bacon
S/Y Prelude

The weather was perfect, the turnout was great and a good time was had by all.

Anyone else with re-union pictures? Other Basin pictures? Articles? Issues? News? E-mail them to ebacon@nyc.rr.com and I'll publish them in a future issue.

BULL is e-mailed to Basinites, Basin alumni, Basin staff and Basin friends. Because of anti-spamming restrictions, I cannot distribute BULL in one mailing and you'll only see all the groups' members every other issue. Please send me e-mail addresses for any additions to these groups.

-ED-

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PAST

There's an old saying about those who forget history. I don't remember it but it's good.

- Stephen Colbert

Lew Wood

On last month's anniversary of JFK's assassination, the newspaper "The Californian" ran a front page article on Lew Wood:

<http://www.nctimes.com/articles/2008/11/22/news/californian/riverside/z99d68390f403a2c288257504005e0a06.txt>

It was above the fold which was very important to an old (yes, old – he celebrated his 80th in September) newsman like Lew.

Life after the Boat Basin: Benno Van Noort

An e-mail from Harumi Hotta, Benno's wife:

I have great news! Benno won an award from the EPA for his architectural design. Life Cycle Building Challenge's Outstanding Achievement Award: Best Residential Design. (Please log onto <http://www.lifecyclebuilding.org/2008/winners.php> and scroll down to Spoor House.) He has a website, www.spoorhouse.com

I am very proud of him since I think he is the only non-architect who won an award in the contest. The judges apparently liked his design because every detail is thought through to make the building efficient. I think his training as a facilities director payed off because he understands design, construction and use of a building in a hands-on way.

Please share his website, www.spoorhouse.com with anyone who you might think would be interested.

Best,
Harumi



From spoorhouse.com

Another e-mail from Harumi:

Spoorhouse headlined today's Inhabitat!

<http://www.inhabitat.com/2008/11/14/prefab-friday-spoorhouse-lifecycle-building-challenge/#more-16267>

Best,
Harumi

An e-mail from Benno:

We were in the boat basin from 1989-1996. Our boat was called 'Miles to Go' [“Foxy Lady” before Miles and Julie bought it – Ed]. We started on C-dock, migrated to the outside of E-dock and retreated when ice came to the inside of E-dock. Harumi's father put a gun to her head and gave her a choice, and now we live in a tiny hamlet in Rockland County called Tappan (rimes with Japan).

Julia Jordan

Julia Jordan, formerly a liveboard on a 47' Drift-R-Cruz houseboat on D Dock and a 50' Hatteras on C Dock, has been touted as one of the top five female playwrights in the country. She recently organized meetings to address the problem of female playwrights getting their work produced:

[Bias Charged by Female Playwrights](#)

Jonathan Asch

Jonathan, formerly a dockmaster at the Basin, has landed the Greenwich, CT harbormaster post:

[Jonathan Asch, Harbormaster](#)

Cindy Kane

Nice write up of Cindy and her work: [Cindy Kane article](#)

Paul Minkoff

Paul, formerly a liveboard on an E dock houseboat, died this fall. Have no details yet.

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PRESENT

Things are more like they are now than they have ever been.

- *Gerald Ford*

Boat Basin Re-union

Thanks to the volunteers who assisted in setting up, serving, signing in arrivals and cleaning up. A special thanks to Michele Capozzi who not only assisted Phil Argiroff with the ice but helped in the cleanup of the dock. Thanks to Raquel and Werner Buhner for doing the lion's share of the shopping, to those who brought the potluck dishes and to Laura Zito, Leslie Day, Jim Marsten, Kendra Hegewald and Bill Reardin for the re-union pictures in this issue.



Photo by Leslie Day

Many of you have asked if the optional suggested contributions covered the expenses of the alumni re-union. Not only were expenses covered but \$364 contributions were made to both the Parks Department for the Boat Basin and to Riverside Park Fund for maintenance of our backyard, the park. Below is a summary of the contributions and expenses:

June 12 Boat Basin Alumni Re-union Accounting

Date	Amt	Description	Comments
Receipts:			
6/13/08	1440	Sign-in table contributions bag	Counted by Ed Bacon & Chris Vallazo
6/13/08	100	Contributions after bag sealed	Ditto - Clegg, Weiss, Caruso, Sherman
6/13/08	65	Sale of 6 red wines, Harp beer to Jane Clegg	Left-overs sold at cost
6/13/08	281	Sale of 23 white wines, 6 red wines to Reg	Left-overs sold at cost
6/13/08	36	Sale of two 30-pak Buds to Miles Pincus	Left-overs sold at cost
6/15/08	40	Clodagh and Clive Green contrib	After countings above - cash
6/16/08	40	Hana Tominaga contrib	After countings above - check
	2002	Total receipts	
Expenses:			
3/14/08	25	Parks event permit	
6/10/08	77	Western Beverages-Werner and Raquel	beer
6/10/08	140	Costco-Werner and Raquel	water,soda,napkins,etc.
6/10/08	157	Pioneer - Werner	beer
6/12/08	17	Savin Printing-Frances	sign-in table supplies
6/12/08	37	Westside Market- Phil A. and Michele	20 bags of ice
6/13/08	811	Beacon Wines - Regina	7 cases of wine at 20% discount Frances Gaffney-decorated contribs
6/23/08	10	Shipping to drawing winner Susan Argus	bag
	1274	Total expenses	
Excess:	728		Receipts minus expenses
To	364	Riverside Park Fund	
	364	Parks for Boat Basin use	

Sign off:

6/16/08
6/17/08

Ed Bacon
Nate Grove

Re-union
Parks

SUCH A MEMORABLE PARTY!

Considering all the parties that take place at the BB - it was a big winner among thousands. These are the events that weave the fabric of our lives.

That bag was just beautiful. I admired it when I checked in. I'm thrilled to have won it.

Susan Argus

[The re-union party contributions bag that was decorated and graciously contributed by Frances Gaffney as a drawing gift was won by Susan. The scene painted on the bag was E Dock. How appropriate! Susan and Steve Salonites lived for years on E Dock in the 70's on a 34' Drift-R-Cruz houseboat and a Cal 39 sailboat. - Ed]



Susan Argus and George Rosen – photo by Leslie Day

It was wonderful to be back at my favorite spot on earth. How could we ever have left? And catching up with the rest of the old guard was a treat.

If any question remains about who the first boat basin baby was, let it be known that it was our son, Dana, born on January 16, 1973. (There was lively debate about this question at the reunion.)

[From the book "Girls like Us" by Sheila Weller: "Sally (Carly Simon and James Taylor's daughter) and her husband, Dean [formerly Dana] Bragonier, moved onto Carly's Vineyard compound...In early autumn 2007, while Carly was recording a new album of almost new songs, Sally gave



Frank, Penny and Monique Wood – photo by Bill Reardin

*birth to a son, Bodhi. “ Congratulations,
Grandma Penny -EdJ*

Andy and Connie Sferra's son Noah arrived in the spring of '74 and Lew and Monique's little girl a couple of years later.

Reg posted Dana's hospital footprints on the door of our boat to let everyone know that the fetus we'd been referring to as Mildew for nine months was now a full-fledged baby boy. We suspected that the evidence suggesting you really could have a family aboard a boat was not welcomed by new bachelors whose boats bore names like My Way and Second Life.

How great it is that a few of you originals are still there keeping our history alive!

A trillion thanks,
Penny Bragonier

The Greatest Reunion ever! Magnificent!

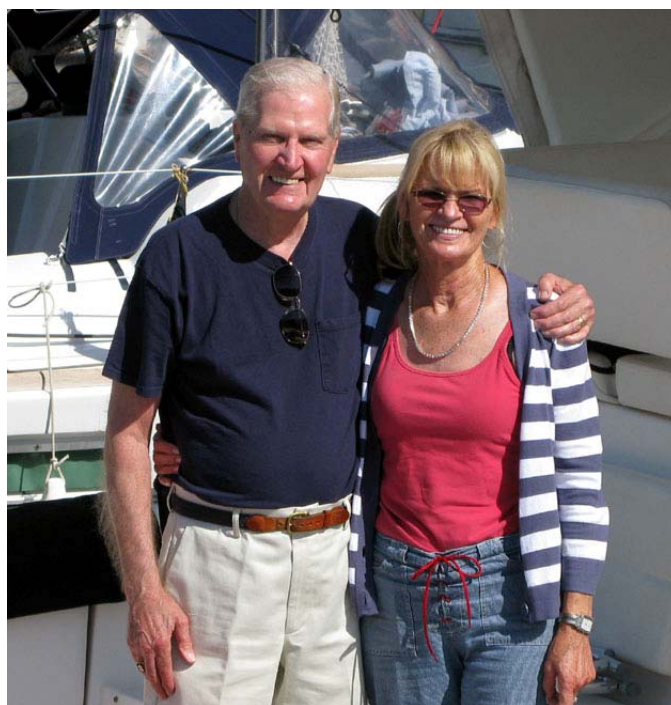
To not only see so many old friends, and make new ones, was a once in a lifetime opportunity.

And thank all for their kindness to my niece and her husband, Janet and Dan. Knothe. They truly enjoyed being there and sharing in the fun. And to arrive on his Tiara 38 and being able to stay overnight, was a special treat. He now owns the original Hudson Harbor Yacht Club pennant and intends to fly it next time he stops there! We have viewed all of Marsten's and Reardin's photos, and enjoy the remembrances of a wonder reunion!

Monique and Lew Wood



Daria fane, Reuven and kids – photo by Laura Zito



Lew and Monique – photo by jim Marsten

That 79th St. Boat Basin Spirit still persists in all its glory!!!
So great to reunite with friends. It rekindled living aboard for Cassandra & Heather as well.
A perfect gathering.

Kendra



Cassandra, Kendra, Roger and Heather Hegewald

I am soooo glad we were able to get Mom back to the marina after so long. After the tears on the way over she truly enjoyed herself and had good memories of the people and the view of the beautiful Hudson and the way she used to live. . .

I think now that the ice is broken she will be able to come back and enjoy all her good friends without hesitation.

As for Tom and I, that night was so beautiful and we thank you very much for having us.

Love
Aleta Caruso and Tom



Gale Brewer, former Boston liveaboard – photo by Leslie Day

Home away from home. It certainly was a wonderful night seeing faces I haven't seen in twenty years. Goodness! Seems like yesterday I was chasing Ella down the dock. I can't wait for the next one. Cheers one and all.
Fay Simpson



Fay Simpson and Werner Buhrer - photo by Leslie Day

What a wonderful event, and what wonderful weather we had, and such a great turnout. It was so great to reconnect with so many old friends, meet so many young adults, who were conceived "at sea", and to meet new friends who lived at 79th Street before or after me. There is such a bond among the Boat Basinites. Only those of us who have lived there will ever know the trials and tribulations of living. I once again became envious of those of you who still call the Boat Basin home. I felt that I never left the Boat Basin. Let us all keep in touch. Should any of you be passing through Pompano Beach either by land or sea, please make it a point to stop in and say hello. I shall always remember the night of June 12th. Thank you all for making it possible.
My fondest wishes to you all.



Heather, Bill, Delta and Lynn – photo by Jim Marsten

Bill Reardin (1975-1984)

Thanks to everyone that worked on this – it was just wonderful!!

Marilyn, Gary & Leah Oppenheimer



Ken, Lucky, Marilyn, Big D, Kazumi and Jim – photo by Laura Zito

Wonderful time. It was good seeing some of the folks I knew in the old days and having a moment or two to catch up on what's been going on in the last 38 years. The weather was perfect . . . not sure how you arranged that but it couldn't have been better.

All the best,

Ed James



Ed James and Nathan Chess – photo by Leslie Day

It was great seeing everyone.

Thanks. Bonnie Saunders



Bonnie Saunders and Greg Smith – photo by Leslie Day

Oh well, life can be a long party ...
sometimes, often, always ...????!!!!
This one was great ! We will have more.

Ciao a tutti

Michele Capozzi



Michele Capozzi- by Laura Zito

David told me it was a great success!

Gabriel Barthlen



Dave – photo by Laura Zito

Last night was so sweet, so poignant, such an amazing gathering of old neighbors and friends. Wow, Wow,Wow!

Leslie Day



Leslie, Jonah and Jim

It was really great to get together again. Heather, Christopher, and Katherine enjoyed the event. Edward enjoyed the graduation affair he went to. He is happy. We are all happy.

I vote that we do this again in no more than four years.

Jim & Heather Marsten



Heather, Jim, Christopher and Katharine Marsten photo by Bill Reardin

A perfect evening. A truly magical evening.

Carol Benedict



Carol Benedict and Frank Marshall – photo by Bill Reardin

Thanks for a wonderful event. Susan & I truly enjoyed.

Dean & Susan Ferres....on Second Life II.



Lew Wood, Susan Argus, partycrasher, Dea, and Jim Marsten

It's reassuring to see all that vitality still at large down there.
Best regards,
Ann (Schloss Barnett)



Kirin, Bill and Jane Lewis – photo by Leslie Day

Great party!!!

Laura Jean Zito



Linda Reilly and Tony – photo by Laura Zito



Doron Katzman and Nice



Robin Raskin(?), Phil Sherman and Bear



Susan Argus and Reggie – photo by Jim Marsten



Tiffany and Kip colligan

Near sinking

Before dawn on October 29, a Basin vessel began to sink. The owner heard the water rushing in, the leak (the boat speed transducer had popped out of its thru hull) was found, a tapered wood plug was inserted, about a foot of water in the bilge was pumped overboard and a diver later plugged the opening. Some issues surfaced:

- You can't give the five blasts danger signal if your ship's horn and handheld horn don't work. Check them out.
- You can't call your neighbors and the dockmaster's office unless you have the contacts information handy. No time to wait until your computer boots up.
- If you're trying to get your sleeping neighbor's attention, don't just yell from the dock. Bang on the hull. Guaranteed to wake the soundest sleeper.
- If you hear the danger signal and you have a portable crash pump, be sure it's stored in a handy place so that you can quickly grab it and take it along with you.
- Make a sketch of all your thru hulls, both below the waterline and near the waterline.
- Ensure that the Basin's large pumps are brought to the scene. Your onboard pumps may not be able to keep up with the water flow from a 1-2" open thru hull two feet below the surface.

Lettie G Howard

The Lettie G Howard, the 1893 125' schooner at the end of A Dock for extended periods during the summer, and Denise Meagher, her captain who also is seen on the Argo at the end of C Dock for extended periods were in the NY Times: [Taking lessons and confidence from the water](#)

Susie Cordon

Susie Cordon, who lives on the houseboat Maybelle on D Dock, is stage manager for the current production of Equus on Broadway: [Equus review](#)

Queen Elizabeth II

How many times have we watched that city of lights, the Queen Elizabeth II, depart from the liner docks south of the Boat Basin? Well, watch no more - [QEII final voyage out of New York](#) On one trans-Atlantic voyage, Dick DeBartolo was giving presentations on Mad Magazine. No one had booked the \$22,000 executive suite so Cunard comped him. Now that's a POSH voyage. Speaking of Dick De.....

That's my neighbor? Dick DeBartolo

Dick De has been at the Basin since the 60's (although his re-union ID said "Forever") and he's Number 1 in seniority. For the few that don't know of Dick's accomplishments, see his bio on his Giz Wiz Biz website: <http://www.gizwizbiz.com/dickdealfrede/dickdesbio.html>

This has not been a great year for Dick at the Basin. First, the Staten Island Ferry, on a rare run up the Hudson on July 30, destroyed the port catwalk on his 50' Burnsraft. A few eyewitnesses claimed they saw surfers on the ferry's wake.

Then Parks began the Houseboat flipflop. First, it was non-running houseboats that had to leave by May 1, 2009. Then it was all houseboats. Then it was unsafe and non-navigable boats. Then it was "we'll decide on a case by case basis." Dick decided to throw his flipflops in the air. He donated his boat to Boat Angels, a charity, and a couple moved it on November 29 to Mill Basin, Brooklyn to live aboard. It's ironic that Parks, in its fervor to get rid of non-running boats, has a running, non-liveaboard houseboat as its first victim. See Dick's final homage to this great vessel:

[Dick De - Burnsraft Youtube](#)

Anyone that has moved off a boat knows that gear expands to fill every nook and cranny. Dick, the original model for Parkinson's Law, has a few items from the Burnsraft for sale....

For Sale

The Xantrex Freedom HF Inverter/Charger US\$449.99 and US\$599.99 respectively for the Freedom HF 1000 and Freedom HF 1800 models. For more information about the Xantrex Freedom HF Inverter Charger, please visit www.xantrex.com/freedomhf. Dick De: **New in box: \$449.00.**

Xantrex XC 5012 – Charger without inverter - \$512 here: <http://tinyurl.com/5e3r9d> Dick De: **New in box: \$299.**

CHARLES 30 AMP 125 VOLT 50 FOOT CABLE CORD SET YELLOW. List \$165. Amazon: \$90 at the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/55bz7p> Dick De \$60 each - **I have two sets new in plastic bags.**

The Honda EU2000i . <http://tinyurl.com/5toydv> Ebay \$888.00 + \$80 shipping – Editorial Price was \$748.00. Used half hour for Powerboat Magazine Test. No box. \$599.00

GoLight 12 Volt Spotlight with Wireless Remote Control Spotlight. List over \$350, \$255 on Ebay... Dick De \$175.00 New in Box <http://www.golight.com/products/stryker.html>

Email dick at dick@gizwiz.biz

[Note: For Sale will be a regular feature of the newsletter. If you have any gear you'd like to sell, you're welcome to advertise it here for free. – Ed]

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PFUTURE

The future is here. It's just not widely distributed yet.

- William Gibson

Caroling

The Not Ready For Prime Time Carolers will serenade the Boat Basin community on Sunday, December 14 at 5:00 pm. The rag tag group will be uplifted again by D Dock's Linda Mays, who sings at the New York Metropolitan Opera. The annual caroling potluck party will be held afterward on Mary and Raj's floating home "Wasabi" on C Dock. BYOBB (Bring Your Own Booze and Bread). Boat Basin friends, staff, alumni, and summer season users are also invited. Due to space limitations, we ask you not to invite your outside friends. Those who would like to carol should show up at the Dockmaster's Office at 5:00. If you have any questions, contact Raquel at 212-873-8963 or raquelbuhner@mac.com or contact Regina at 212-873-7558 or ebacon@nyc.rr.com

Pfantasy Pfuture

Deep Boat, our mole at Parks headquarters, has come through again with minutes from a meeting held in the Mayor's Office. Attending were Mayor Michael Bloomberg, Parks commissioner Adrian Benepe and Parks Chief of Operations Keith Kerman.

Mayor: Well, guys, Parks is getting slammed in the media and I'm getting tarred by the same brush.

Commissioner: What? Our coverage lately has been great.

Mayor: Not this one. Have you seen this New York Post article?

http://www.nypost.com/seven/10262008/nNY_Post_World's_Fair_Marina_houseboat_eviction_article

Don't you guys realize that your evicting this family's houseboat is bad for my coronation, I mean, re-election. Why are we throwing this family out of their home, Keith?

COO: I don't like the looks of the houseboat. It's ugly! I have a vision of beautifying our Parks, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor: I don't care about its looks and you shouldn't. I'm running for my third reign, I mean, term of office, and this is costing me votes. I've also had complaints from the Boat Basin liveboards that you're kicking out a dozen families. Here, one of them looks as if he's ready to sue us:

<http://79thstreetboatbasin.wordpress.com/>

They're also mounting a media campaign before my coronation, I mean, re-election. Rumor has it that the Today Show is going to cover boats being towed out. They're calling the segment "Floating Foreclosures". Why, Keith?

COO: I don't like the looks of their houseboats. They're ugly! I have a vision,,,



From riversideparkfund.org

Mayor: Here you go again with your vision of beauty. Votes are beautiful and I need all the votes I can get. This will lose me the Boat Basin residents and the thousands that eat at the Basin Cafe and stroll on the promenade. Even worse, Jim Dowell of Riverside Park Fund called me to complain about your upcoming destruction of the Eleanor Roosevelt Monument in Riverside Park. What's going on, Adrian?

Commissioner: You've known about this. The COO here put it in this year's budget that you passed.

Mayor: But why?

COO: I don't like the looks of the statue. It's ugly! I have a vision....

Mayor: Keith, your vision of beauty is going to cost me the whole Upper West Side in the coronation, I mean, election. Look, you two, I want these evictions at the Worlds Fair Marina and the Boat Basin stopped NOW. Grandfather them! And leave Eleanor alone! Understand?

Commissioner and COO: Yes, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor: OK. End of meeting. Adrian, could you stay behind for a couple minutes?

[Keith leaves office.]

Mayor: C'mon, Adrian, don't look so down in the dumps. By the way, I think your COO is going a little COO-COO.

Commissioner: He did take it pretty hard.

Mayor: Yeah, you're right. What can we do? Wait a minute, I have an idea. How about a Peter Principle Percussive Sublimation? Let's kick him upstairs. Promote him to Deputy Commissioner.

Commissioner: Great idea. He'll be happy and we both know that a Deputy Commissioner can cause no harm since they never do anything.

Mayor: After my coronation, I mean, re-election, I'm going to get that pushover City Council to give me a lifetime reign, I mean, tenure. Then I'll take care of you, Adrian. You think Henry Stern was Parks Commissioner for a long time? Think Lifetime Commissioner.

Commissioner [bowing]: Thank you, Your Majesty.

[Keith Kerman, Chief of Operations was promoted to Parks Deputy Commissioner recently - Ed]

Parting proverb

... And though a man's mind might endow

Even a boat with some excess

Of life to which a man seems witness,

That life is not the life of men,

And that is where the joy came in.

- *Modified excerpt from "From a Window" by Christian Wiman, editor of Poetry magazine*

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