

FOR RELEASE
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**33rd Port Townsend Wooden Boat Festival
Celebrating "Working Waterfront"
September 11-13, 2009**

How do you balance and sustain a vibrant working waterfront? In Port Townsend, at the 33rd annual Wooden Boat Festival (and frankly all year now) you can see and be a part of the effort. The Port of Port Townsend's Point Hudson marina, the City of Port Townsend's commitment to public access and the joint efforts of the Wooden Boat Foundation, Northwest Maritime Center and the decades long relationships with non-profits, educators, businesses, marine trades, boat owners and tourists, keeps this increasingly rare working waterfront thriving.

This year's Wooden Boat Festival will feature special guest world-renowned author Nigel Calder and a new Green Technology stage(thanks to sponsor Center of Excellence for Marine Manufacturing & Technology), Brazilian boatbuilder and author Luis Peaze, WoodenBoat Magazine & Wooden Boat Foundation Lifetime Achievement award recipients John Guzwell (circumnavigator and author of sailing classic *Trekka, Around the World*) and Dale Nordland, all-day demonstrations for "best boatyard practices" at the Sea Marine Boatyard Stage; the Edensaw Woodworking Stage with all-day demonstrations and "Ask a Shipwright" options for boat maintenance, traditional boatbuilding and all the latest on biodiesel to modern construction ideas, electric motors, composting toilets and copper free bottom paint.

With the grand opening of the Northwest Maritime Center and a nautical mile of Wooden Boats, the festival is expecting record crowds. "We're serious about our commitment to this place and the people who've worked so hard for decades to keep Port Townsend an active and authentic seaport," said Kaci Cronkhite, Managing Director for NWMC & WBF and festival director since 2002. "We are constantly trying to improve the environment, are providing more and more education and opportunity for the next generation of mariners and committed to preserving wooden boats and the skills and culture they inspire."

This 3 and a half-day educational celebration has grown through the years to include nearly 200 wooden vessels, on land and in the water. Surrounding the marina full of wooden boats are 70 exhibitor tents and at least seven demonstration areas: Edensaw Woodworking Stage & Family Boatbuilding, Kids' Boatbuilding, Music Stage, Sail Loft and Marina Room talks and all-day options to go sailing or rowing. There's something for everyone - for youth of all ages - with a love of the maritime culture.

Go aboard boats and meet the owners

At the Port Townsend Wooden Boat Festival, all boats in the harbor are available for you to go aboard. Owners, builders and crew are there to tell you about the boat and her adventures. The 136' Schooner *Adventuress*, Classic Yachts like *Island Runner* (Lake

Union Dreamboat), 100 year old Lotus (Victorian B&B motor yacht), Schooner Martha (oldest working Flagship of the San Francisco YC), expedition motor yacht Cap St. James and the restored Halibut Schooner Merrie Ellen are a few of the largest early registrants for the event. Small boats of all kinds, from rowing and sailing dinghies to Redfish or Pygmy Kayaks and Adirondack Guideboats are available to see and paddle. See a pod of Devlin designed boats, Pocock Classic Cedar Single rowing shells and a tug or two. Check out a full list of boats on our website all year, <http://www.woodenboat.org>

Learn About Boats, Cruising, Building

Exhibitors of some of the best hardware, boatbuilding supplies, tools, books, art and clothing for boaters, as well as an increasing number of maritime and environmental educational organizations exhibit and do presentations at the festival. Educators include North America's best boatbuilding schools, including the Northwest School of Wooden Boatbuilding, Landings School of Maine, Seattle Community College Marine Carpentry school, Skagit Maritime Center for Excellence and representatives attend from Gabriola Island Shipyard School, Center for Wooden Boats, Wooden Boat School of Maine and smaller programs internationally.

Dates, Times & Tickets

The 33rd Wooden Boat Festival officially begins at 9:00am on Friday and ends Sunday at 5:00. However, "locals" start early on Thursday evening as the festival boats and exhibitors are settling in. Music and beer are available that evening from 1700-2200. Day tickets are required for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Cost is \$12/\$6 for seniors and students. Evening entertainment is free. 3-Day weekend passes are \$24/\$12. There are plenty of activities for kids, including Kids' Boatbuilding, Fish Printing with the PT Marine Science Center, the North Star Stage and a Pirate Treasure Hunt on Sunday. There are rowing and sailing races (26' and Under Sailing, Festival Rowing Race plus the NW Schooner Cup) and the spectacular Festival Sail-by on Sunday at 1530.

For latest schedule and ticket information, go to <http://www.woodenboat.org> or call 360-385-3628, ext. 106. The Wooden Boat Festival is sponsored by and raises funds for The Wooden Boat Foundation. WBF supports sailing, rowing and maritime education programs at the Northwest Maritime Center all year-round.