

SCUTTLEBUTT

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New President Russ Fisher Offers Remarks as He Takes Office

At the Annual Dinner in November, outgoing President Sam Hoagland passed the gavel to Russ Fisher.



Joan & Russ Fisher

In his remarks as our newly elected President, Russ thanked the Chapter for our confidence and asked that if we feel that he is not doing his job right to please feel free to tell him. He hastened to add with his characteristic humor, however, that he doesn't take criticism well, so please be nice about it.

Russ listed three goals for his presidency. Firstly, when his term is up, he wants to leave the club in the outstanding condition that it is now in, with hearty and well-deserved thanks to Jerrie and Sam Hoagland. Secondly, Russ would like to bring young people into our club... our children... their children... people with boats we may look down on, but that they love. And his final goal is to do, in his words, the impossible; that is, to learn the name and boat of every member; and he asks for our help. Please wear your nametag, or say your name when you say, "Hi Russ, or if you don't know mine, ask".

Thanks to Jerrie and Sam
Hoagland

On the occasion of the completion of Sam Hoagland's term as President, I know I speak for the entire membership in offering our profound thanks to both Sam and Jerrie for a job well done! They have built on the foundation of those who have lead before them to increase the club's visibility, the membership, and perhaps most importantly, the fun levels of our club. As all who have served as President can attest, the Presidency is a multi-faceted challenge combining such lofty pursuits as visionary leadership with the more mundane chores of the administrative management of our events.....a Herculean task to be sure. Sam and Jerrie have distinguished themselves by doing both with their characteristic grace.

Thank you, Jerrie and Sam!

Sam's comments on the occasion of the completion of his term follow.

"The past two years as President of the Lake Hopatcong Chapter of ACBS just seems to have flown by. I have really enjoyed my association with everyone in the club as I have worked closely with so may of you. It has been very gratifying to see our club grow, and I am most encouraged by the good attendance at our monthly meetings. Seventy people attended our Annual Dinner and were rewarded with a terrific program put on by Marty Kane about old boats on the lake. Those who were unable to attend missed a great evening. Special thanks go to my wife, Jerrie, who did all my typing, editing, and organizing of events.

It is my hope that everyone will give the same support and help to Russ, our new President, as he takes the helm for the next two years. Let's keep that enthusiasm



building! I, for one, look forward to working with him as a member of the Board.

Again, thank you everyone for all your help for the past two years.

Hope you all have a happy holiday season."

Sincerely,

Sam

New Member Profile: Ken and Cindy Heaton



Ken and Cindy moved from Morris Plains to Lake Hopatcong in August 1999. They reside at the tip of Point Pleasant in a home which used to belong to Tom Wiss, one of the founding members of the club.

Ken's father had a house in the Lake Forest area, and Ken worked summers from 1974 to 1980 as a gas attendant at Smitty's. He also worked at Lee's park where he cleaned boats and ran a concession stand. Ken has had a long association with Lake Hopatcong.

Ken and Cindy met at the University of Delaware and were married in 1991.

Cindy grew up in Cherry Hill, NJ where she worked in a dance company. She has her brokers license and worked for Kidder Peabody, followed by a job with an advertising agency.

She is presently a vice-president at the Harrington Group in charge of business development. Cindy caught the antique boat craze from her brother who has a Fay & Bowen and a Hackercraft.

Ken, a 1982 graduate of the University of Delaware, is in his twelfth season at New Jersey City University as its winningest baseball coach. He formerly coached at the Delbarton School in Morristown where he taught physical education, health, and drivers education along with coaching varsity football, basketball, and baseball.

Ken and Cindy bought a 16' Rinker outboard with a 50HP motor and kept it at Arrowood. They have added two canoes and an Aquafin sailboat to the fleet. They are just beginning renovations to their boathouse into which they hope to place a wooden boat some day soon.

The Heaton's are members of the Lake Hopatcong Yacht Club and became members of the Lake Hopatcong Chapter of the ACBS in January of 2000.

Editor's Desk

I note with apology a longer than desired time from the last issue of Scuttlebutt owing to several uncontrollable variables on the part of the contributors.

It will be my plan to have an issue in the Spring, one shortly after the Boat Show, and one quickly after the Annual Dinner. The enjoyment of the readers will be well served by contributions from all of us, and I invite your participation,

In that regard, I am pleased that former SCUTTLEBUTT editor, Ed Seugling has offered technical support to help improve the form of future issues. Ed brings a significant professional expertise, having owned and run a printing business for many years.

New Officers and Directors
Elected at Annual Dinner

Over seventy people gathered at the Jefferson House to enjoy each other's company during an evening that saw Russ Fisher elected to head our club for the next two years.

The remainder of those elected along with Russ were:

Vice-President: Rich Salkewicz
Treasurer: Warren Bagatelle
Secretary: Kathie Summers

Directors: Betty Gantert
Win Ginter
Lee Kievit
Dan McCarthy
Pat Mueller
Gil Peter
Selma Reichert
Bob Rice
Martin Winkler

Special Director: Sam Hoagland

Life-time Director: Drayton Mook

Congratulations to all the members of the board!

Exceptional contributions to the club for 2000 were recognized by Sam Hoagland's presentation of the President's Cup to Selma and Rich Reichert and the Tom Wiss Award to Pat Mueller. The Frank Scanlon Award was given to multiple honorees Brian Chaplin, Henry Budd, and Bob Rice.

The evening was highlighted by a presentation by the always captivating Marty Kane on old boats on the lake.

President's Cup



Selma & Rich Reichert

From the Historian's Desk:

Pat Mueller reports that ACBS national has announced that grants (see the summer issue of Rudder) will be given out to the chapters or individuals who can do research into the origins of the organization. We are planning to undertake this opportunity, but we need your help. If you have any documentation (newspaper clippings, photos, reports of meetings, newsletters and so on) that could help us, then please call: Pat at 973-663-9081, or bring it with you to the next meeting (all materials will be returned).

Tips for Antique Boaters

For those of us with 6-volt systems that at times may be inadequate for starting needs, Lee Kievit tells us that there are options to consider. There are systems that give 12-volt starting power to 6-volt starting and charging circuits without a need for rewiring. Thanks, Lee for the tip.

Founding Member Profile: H. Drayton Mook

This is the first of a series of articles focusing on the founding members of the Club.

There can be no one in our Club who is unaware of the truly exceptional, gracious hospitality of Greta and Drayton Mook, our hosts for so many Boat Show Picnics over the years at their beautiful lakeside home in Byram Bay.

What some of us may not fully know is the rich history that Drayton has at Lake Hopatcong. With special thanks to Greta, Sue, Bucky, and of course, Drayton, what follows is a look back at some of the highlights and vignettes of Drayton's Lake Hopatcong experiences.....experiences that give insight into life at the lake in days gone, as well.

Born in 1913, Drayton was at the lake at the age of three months, and he has spent every summer there since then, owning ten houses over those years. He is the third of five generations that enjoyed summers at Lake Hopatcong spanning a period of about one hundred years.

It all began around 1900 when Drayton's grandparents started vacationing at the "Mountain View", a hotel that was located on the west shore of the lake. It was about 1910 when the family bought their first cottage, "Tanglewood", on the site of what today is the State Park.



Drayton and His Mother in Early 20's

The family vacationed there until 1941 when the State took over the land to create the park. Those early years at "Tanglewood" were good, Drayton recalled, with the same families returning each year. It was a close-knit community of friends, a group which was still getting together decades later at the Mook family's Lakeside Boulevard home.

In 1923 at age ten, Drayton got his first boat, a rowboat built at his uncle's sawmill near Bound Brook. In addition to using it for such boyhood pleasantries like fishing, he used it for innumerable important missions to which we boat lovers can appropriately assign a high level of both responsibility and enjoyment for a young boy.....missions that give insight into life on the lake in those days as well.....missions like rowing to Landing for groceries and to the ice house for large blocks of ice for not only his family, but neighbors as well. As a teen, Drayton had developed into such an exceptional swimmer that when the boat was full, Drayton would tie a rope from the boat around his waist and swim to pull the cargo-laden boat behind him. Perhaps Drayton's robust health today is, in some measure, a product of his swimming.

The Mook family's first powerboat was a Mullins steel launch, "LUCILE", bought used in the 'teens. Today the boat is part of a dock foundation near the State Park.

During the early years of flight, an aviator built a seaplane on Bertrand's Island. On its first flight, it crashed on the site of Lover's Lane near the floating island in the channel to Landing. Drayton was the first one on the scene, only to find that the pilot had not survived the crash.

Drayton always enjoyed working in wood, and as a young boy, he built a number of beautiful sailboats. In his teens, his parents gave him money to buy a suit, but he opted instead to buy a wood framed mirror, an event that foretold of his prowess and enjoyment in restoring antique furniture, cars, boats, and homes.

In the late 1920's and early 30's, Drayton had a couple of race boats, first a Century "Kid" and second, a Flower Fallon.



Drayton's First Raceboat in Late 20's

As a sidelight of those days, Drayton notes that the restaurant that many of us knew as the "Ridge" in modern times was, during prohibition, a speakeasy. In post-prohibition years and into the 50's Drayton and his friends often enjoyed a night out in River Styx at "Sheppies" and the "Mad House".

It was in the 30's that Drayton built an iceboat that the family used into the 60's.....a boat that he still owns. The iceboat gave him a reason to come to the lake in the winter.

After World War II, the family bought their first new Chris Craft, a 17' Deluxe Runabout, a boat that would serve them into the 60's. The boat was named "SUDRAY" a combination of Drayton's children's names, Susan and Drayton II. It was in this boat that the family learned to water-ski; and Drayton's son, Buck, recalls many enjoyable family rides around the lake in this boat. But lest the reader relax too quickly into contemplating such a pleasant image, Buck recalls as well that in 1960 the boat exploded at the Lake Hopatcong Yacht Club, blowing the engine hatch cover off the back deck. Drayton remained in the boat and put out the fire. His wife and daughter were burned, but like the boat, they were as good as new by the end of the summer.

As Sue and Buck reached ten years of age, Drayton would row them to Bed Bug Island and have them swim home.....about one mile. Once they accomplished this, he let them go anywhere they pleased. Even the dog got a chance to prove himself!

In 1948 Drayton bought his first antique car and in 1952, his first antique boat, a 1905 Palmer. The boat was restored at their Metuchen, New Jersey home with all family members sanding and scraping and Drayton laying on the final varnish and paint. The boat was then returned to the lake where it remains today. This is just one of the twenty-seven wooden boats that the family has collected over the years.

Many of us recall fondly the powerboat racing that was one of the highlights of summer at Lake Hopatcong. In the 50's Drayton and Buck participated successfully in both the Fay and Bowen and the "Bang and Go Back" races.

Not limited to just powerboating, Drayton was an adept sailor as well, first with a sailing canoe, and later with a Snipe, and a Jet 14. He also bought and restored a catboat in the 70's.

Son, Bucky, shared that one of his fondest memories of growing up at the lake was the family ritual on his birthday of all of them paddling the lake in one of two sailing canoes, both of which are still in Drayton's collection.

In 1962 Drayton bought the second new Chris Craft, a "Ski Boat" with a V8 283ci 185 HP engine, a boat he named SUDRAY II. Late in the 60's he traded the Ski Boat in on a 1929 26' Chris Craft Triple Cockpit Runabout, the boat that we know today as the "Mady M".

It was in the late 60's as well that Drayton bought the Maxim Drive home at which Greta and he currently reside, the home at which our club has enjoyed their gracious hospitality at so many parties. Unrelated to our club, but further testimony to Greta and Drayton's generosity in opening and sharing their home is the fact that they have welcomed hundreds of wedding parties to their beautiful grounds for picture taking....often several groups on a given Saturday. One can only guess at the number of lives they have so nicely touched.

As the age of fiberglass boats seemed to be taking hold, many of us will remember the early 70's as a time when the wooden boats that we so cherish today were being routinely chopped up or burned. Tired of seeing these boats go to this sad end, Drayton organized a club at the

lake to preserve the wooden boats. What we know today as the Antique and Classic Boat Society was founded the following year, a founding in which Drayton played a major role. He served as Vice-President of the newly formed national organization and as President of the Lake Hopatcong Chapter. Drayton has remained an active, major contributor to the ACBS and to our Chapter, and for his exceptional contribution, he has been honored as a "Lifetime Director", the highest award we have to give, and an honor bestowed only one other time in our Club's history.

Today Drayton is eighty-seven and retired...and he and Greta are enjoying every day at the lake.

A Boat Story

Russ Fisher

In the spring of 1962 I spotted a 24' Chris Craft in Lakeland Marine's back yard. After much discussion, Al Calvano convinced me it was worth the \$360.00 he wanted for the boat, delivered to my shop in Fairfield! When it arrived I was all prepared. I wanted to hear the engine run before I paid. That was okay with Al, so we filled up the gas, checked the oil, hooked up the water, and fired the big LM Chrysler up. My God what a racket! It shot flame out of the carb and tailpipe and sounded like a junkyard rolling down hill. Well I told Al that I wanted to back out of the deal (I really didn't, but Al believed me). We settled for the price of \$300.00, knocking off the \$60.00 delivery charge. As soon as Al was gone, we pulled the head and side cover to see how many valve springs were broken....six all together. Believe it or not, Mack Boring had all the other parts we needed in stock, but no valve springs. I ended up having the springs made,

and it cost me more than the \$60.00 I had saved. The happy ending was that we refinished and repaired the 1927 24' Chris Craft "triple" that we called "The Full House" (three boys and two parents), and we enjoyed many seasons on the lake. I often wonder where it went. Does anyone recall a 24' Chris Craft with a gas pedal on the floor?

Names

Apropos of President Russ Fisher's third goal, he shared for SCUTTLEBUTT, "A Little Story About Names"

In 1950, with very little military training, I was sent by my National Guard unit to Ft Knox as a Master Sergeant. When I arrived, I was assigned a platoon of eighty men, most of them misfits from other outfits all over the United States.....some of them veterans from World War II....some draft dodgers from the National Guard. It took me two weeks of hard work to learn all of their names. But I did, and even today, I can name them all after a half a bottle of Jack Daniels.

Hi Esmaro on Cover of Classic Boating

Lake Hopatcong Chapter member Jim Hassfeld and *Hi Esmaro* have again been honored. Co-winner of the Best in Show Trophy at our 2000 Show and winner of numerous awards at other shows, *Hi Esmaro* was the cover photograph of the November-December 2000 issue of *Classic Boating*. It was also the focus of the "Feature Boat" article in that issue with the fascinating chronicle of its history being written by Jim. Congratulations, Jim!

