100th Anniversary of the African Queen

Article compiled By Todd Moen

The African Queen, the historic vessel from Humphrey Bogart's only Oscar winning performance, has been resurrected and restored by a movie-loving Florida couple. The 100-year-old steam boat, named after its starring role in the 1951 hit movie of the same name, provided the setting for the classic picture that told the story of a Canadian steam boat captain and a British missionary working in German East Africa during the First World War.

Built in 1912 at Lytham Shipbuilding Yard in England, the vessel was originally named the Livingstone and served as a cargo vessel for the British East Africa Rail Company.

It spent most of its first 50 years operating in the waters of the Ruki River in the northern Democratic Republic of Congo where (cont. on page 4)

Schedule of Events:

-Open Boating every Tuesday and Thursday 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. and every Sunday 4:30 - 9:00 p.m.-
May 15, Tuesday .......................... 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. ............................... Membership Meeting
June 10, Sunday .......................... 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. ................................. Parade Of Boats
June 19, Tuesday .......................... 7:00 p.m- 9:00 p.m. ............................... Membership Meeting
Last month’s program was very interesting. I never knew just what the Corps of Engineers was involved in here in the Twin Cities area. Thanks to Captain Dave for getting the speaker for us.

I am writing this before the 3 pond race has happened as it’s been rescheduled twice because of weather. There will be no program for May as the thrust of the meeting will be to get ready for the Parade of Boats in June. Again I am asking if anyone has access to TV channel personnel that might get us some coverage Sunday morning of the Parade. My contacts don’t seem interested. Dick Walker will chair the event again this year. Call Dick and offer to assist in any capacity where he needs help. Each year we get some new members from this event because it is interesting and well run.

It was nice to see so many boats on the pond this Thursday, the 3rd, and it was a great evening to be out. See you at the meeting. -Wayne

Special Thanks...To members that contributed to this issue: Dale Johnson, Al Bickford & Wayne Snyder. A special thank you to Capt. Edward Montgomery for his contribution.

**At the April 17 Meeting**

Frank Star gave a very informative presentation on the history of the upper Mississippi and St. Anthony locks. Many questions were raised about the individual locks and their operation. A special thank you goes out to Capt. David Robb for arranging to have Frank come and speak to us. Discussion related to the 2012 Parade of Boats was held when Dick Walker reviewed last years Parade Of Boats. -Todd Moen

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**COMMODORE’S CORNER**

By Wayne Snyder

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In honor of the 100th Anniversary of the African Queen, here is a listing of boats that were in the movies. Match the boat names to the movies listed below.

3. The sub in the 1958 movie “Run Silent, Run Deep” starring Clark Gable. C. The Black Pearl
4. Jeff Bridges’ brigantine boat in the 1996 movie “White Squall”.  D. Cotton Blossom
5. Humphrey Bogart’s boat in the 1944 movie “To Have and Have Not!”. E. Albatross
6. Humphrey Bogart’s boat in the 1948 movie “Key Largo”.  F. USS Stingray
8. Boat name in the movie “Showboat”.  H. USS Nerka
9. Boat name in the movie “King Kong”.  I. Antonia Graza
10. Johnny Depp’s boat name in the movie “Pirates of the Carribean”. J. USS Caine
12. Captain Quint’s fishing boat in the movie “Jaws”.  L. Queen Louisa
13. The submarine stuck on an ocean ledge in the movie “Gray Lady Down”. M. USS Caine
15. Russell Crowe’s boat in “Master and Commander”. O. SS Venture

Answers to the April Know-It-All Questions
1. The shipyard Harland & Wolff built the Titanic’s sister ships Olympic and Britannic.
2. The 40,000 ton RMS Olympic collided with the 7,350 ton cruiser HMS Hawke at Southampton, England in September 1911 on her fifth voyage.
3. The Britannic was launched in 1915 and was requisitioned by the British Admiralty as a hospital ship, and her interiors were altered to accommodate a large quantity of beds, medical equipment and medical staff.
4. In 1915 the Olympic was requisitioned by the British Admiralty and was converted from a passenger liner to a troop transport ship. During the war she carried 150,000 troops, about 40,000 other passengers, and steamed over 180,000 miles.
5. In May 1918, during her 22nd troop-carrying voyage, Olympic was attacked by the German sub U-103. She avoided the torpedo fired by U-103 with evasive action and then turned on her attacker and rammed it.
6. The hospital ship HMHS Britannic sank near the Greek island of Kea in the Aegean Sea on November 21, 1916 in about 55 minutes. Various sources report the number of deaths as between 21 and 41, all of which occurred when two lifeboats were shredded by the still-turning propellers on the upended ship.
7. Violet Jessop was a stewardess for first-class passengers on the Titanic when it sank in 1912 and was one of 102 nurses on board the sister ship that was converted to a hospital ship when it sank in 1916. Violet Jessop died in England in 1971 at age 84.
she was used to transport a mixture of big game hunters, mercenaries and cargo.

In the early 1950's the ship was spotted by the director of the movie “African Queen”, John Huston, and pulled from service so it could be used in the movie, the Livingstone was then renamed as the African Queen.

By the late 1960's however, the African Queen had swapped the big screen and the rural hinterland of the Congo for the concrete jungle of San Francisco. An American businessman transported the ship to the Golden Gate city where he hoped to harness its Hollywood fame to operate it as a tour boat.

This idea proved unsuccessful however and the vessel then changed hands a number of times before coming to the attention of Florida attorney and Humphrey Bogart enthusiast, Jim Hendricks Sr. in 1982.

Hendricks Sr. eagerly snapped up his very own chunk Bogart movie memorabilia which he owned until his death in 2001.

During this period Hendricks Sr. took the African Queen around the world, gracing flotillas that marked the 50th anniversary of the battle of Dunkirk in the English Channel and the Queen Mother's 90th birthday on the River Thames. Once Hendricks Sr. passed away however, the vessel once more fell upon hard times, wasting away on a lonely jetty in southern Florida.

It was here that Suzanne Holmquist, herself a self-confessed Bogart and Hepburn buff recognized the boat. Late last year she made an offer to the owners to put it back in working order.

The ensuing restoration project has been a detailed and thorough process taking fully six months to complete.

The hull has been equipped with a new steel frame, a replacement boiler has been installed and
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the original black African mahogany wood decks have been repainted.

In order to maintain the boats worn and rustic charm however, Holmquist says it has been splattered with mud so as to make it look exactly like it does in the movie.

The ship has even had a special guest visitor- Humphrey Bogart’s son, Stephen, who gave the freshly completed restoration efforts his blessing. - From CNN News reports

Stephen Bogart, Humphrey Bogart’s son

For more information or to book your spot on a cruise aboard the African Queen, please call at (305) 451-4655.

Calling All Boats!

At last years Parade of Boats, there seemed to be a noticeable shortage of models that were on display, and on the pond. Please consider dusting off your extra boats and have them part of the event. If they are unfinished, we can always use them at the Builder’s Corner table.

If you have more than one operable boat, please consider having someone come with you to help with the running of them on the water.

Last year we seemed to have a shortage of skippers to operate the boats out on the pond, By having a “backup skipper” to run your boat, it will allow us more time to interact and respond to questions raised by the public.

- Todd Moen

The RC Model Kit is still available from Billing Boats

2012 Model Ships & Boats Contest & Display May 18-20

Enjoy the longest running ships and boats model contest in the nation at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum in Manitowoc, Wisconsin. For more information contact Wendy Lutzke at 1-866-724-2356 ext. 115

Club Shirts Hats Etc.
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Kevin Waldo (612) 789-7104

Cub Burgees and Stickers
Contact:
Mickey Kirihara (952) 881-2866
When I first saw her, I was impressed. Her name was "Patricia", and even from a distance, you could tell she was built really well. Not in a bawdy kind of way, but she carried herself in a rather more distinguished manner and anyone could see that she had class. Her complexion was flawlessly smooth and her shape was perfect. I really wanted to take her out and see how she operated - but she had arrived in Duluth with Paul Olsen.

So, like all the other vessel Captains at the International Ship Master's annual dinner, I had to marvel at this handcrafted, remote controlled, sailboat model. She is the latest handiwork from Mr. Olsen, a master machinist, pattern maker and boat builder for over 40 years.

Every part of this museum quality model was hand made by Paul, such as the minute cleats so small that three will fit into a thimble. He has put two years of work into this beauty and while the Ship Masters at the gathering were trying to impress each other about their particular vessel, none had any bragging rights over Paul's "Patricia."

Thanks for sharing your beauty with us, Paul!
After 2 consecutive rain-outs on the scheduled days, the 3 Pond Race was finally held on May 5. Wayne Snyder, Paul Olsen, Joe Steele, Larry Wheeler, & Jack Terry were this year’s Fairwind participants. Fred Ferris was the race coordinator. Larry Wheeler quickly took the lead early in the race, and crossed the finish line a full pond length ahead of everybody else. Wayne Snyder dropped out early in the race due to battery issues. The highly coveted DAL award for the last person to finish went to Jack Terry. - Todd Moen
**MAY MEETING**

**TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2012 7:00 P.M.**

**CENTENNIAL LAKES GARAGE BAND ROOM**

**AGENDA:**
- Parade of Boats Planning - Bring your suggestions
- Show ‘N Tell: Bring your building projects

**Special Interest Contacts:**

**Scale Boating:**
To Be Determined (Anybody Interested?)

**Sail Boating:**
Tony Johnson (952) 470-8818  tjohnson@emyc.org

**Fast Electric:**
Dan Proulx (763) 551-4953  dproulx@emyc.org

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