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Subject: Fall Newsletter



Fall Newsletter



Fall foliage this October at the mouth of the Namequoit River.

First and foremost, all of us at Arey's Pond want to thank our customers for taking the threat of COVID-19 and our safety protocols seriously.

At the start of the season, we were concerned that many of our customers would not put their boats in, but the opposite happened. We had a full mooring field and a busy summer. We are so thankful that we were able to keep the boat yard operating and the entire staff employed.

Thank you!

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Our First Virtual Boat Show



In the Virtual Boat Show video on 14' Arey's Pond catboats, boat yard owner Tony Davis stands in *Bay Rose*, a 14' wooden catboat.

Boat shows are our favorite way to connect with new customers and catboat lovers alike. This year it was not safe for us to meet in person, so we gathered online. We toured the boat yard's various shops and covered topics including wooden boatbuilding and restoration, Arey's Pond 14' and 16' catboats, electric inboard engines, brokerage, and catboat sailing tips.

The week long online event was very successful and concluded with a Zoom Cocktail Hour where catboat owners, potential owners and onlookers chatted with Tony Davis.

[Watch the Virtual Boat Show on Youtube](#)

A Socially-Distanced Cat Gathering



The 28th Annual Arey's Pond Cat Gathering on Little Pleasant Bay. Photo by Nancy Bloom. [Click here](#) to view all of Nancy's Cat Gathering photos.

Despite the cancellation of sailing events all over the world, we were able to host our annual Cat Gathering with some adjustments for safety. We're very lucky that our event allows for participants to stay isolated in their own boats. Our skipper's meeting and post race awards ceremony were held virtually on Zoom and the reception party was postponed until our event in 2021.

We could not have had a successful Cat Gathering this year without the support of all of the participants, thank you! This year, proceeds from the registration feed benefited [Friends of Pleasant Bay](#) and the [Sipson Island Trust](#).

We exceeded participation expectations with 84 boats registered and 60 crossing the start line. But, this year did not come without difficulties. There was some confusion at the start line because Tony did not have his usual team of experienced helpers, instead he had all family members aboard the committee boat. They were a huge help as it all unfolded, with a storm on the horizon.

The start was delayed by an hour as the wind built, and finally after three years of light or no wind, we

had a steady breeze. The fleet had a great sail through the Narrows but once they passed through, the skies began to darken. A major thunderstorm threat caused the race to be called and sent the fleet into a frenzy to get off the water. Because of the concern for the entire fleet, the committee did its best to take results based on position at the time the race was called. No cannons or horns were used so sailors could focus on safety.

All in all it was a great time, the severe storm never materialized over Pleasant Bay, and we had no issues getting everyone back to safe harbor.

Mark your calendars for next year's Cat Gathering, 21 August 2021.

[View the 2020 Cat Gathering Results](#)

Sailing & Boating in a Pandemic



Catboats sail back to Arey's Pond at the end of a Wednesday Night Sail this summer.

This summer was one of the best ever for sailing on Cape Cod. Arey's Pond held our longstanding tradition of Wednesday Night Sails where catboats from all over Pleasant Bay sailed together on Wednesday evenings. This summer, the Wednesday Night Sails were extra special because they were a safe way for us to see each other from afar and gather in a shared experience.

For the first time since the tradition started six years ago, there wasn't a single Wednesday all summer that didn't have good wind and weather. Thanks to everyone who joined the fun. If you'd like to receive email reminders for next summer's Wednesday Night Sails, [send Haley an email](#).

Sunday racing with the [Namequoit Sailing Association](#) was a great time. This summer was especially successful for our [new version of the APBY 14](#), built as a wooden one off. Paul Desrosiers won the summer series in this new design, even with a handicap. Check out the article below for a deeper dive into this new design.

The Next Generation of Arey's Pond Catboats



The wooden 2021 14' racing catboat (left) and a 2019 fiberglass 14' racing catboat sail by Sampson Island on Little Pleasant Bay.

In 1973, previous boat yard manager, Merve Hammett, built the first fiberglass Arey's Pond catboat. He used an Edson Schock design called Hortense, but instead of using a Marconi rig as Schock had done, he designed a roomy cockpit and gaff rig. A second redesign in 1984 included further changes.

In 1991, current owner, Tony Davis, purchased Arey's Pond Boat Yard and in 1996 he redesigned the 14' cat once again. The goal was to give the boat a faster look and feel, especially in light air.

Flash forward to 2019. An owner of a 14' catboat who was enjoying the weekend racing on Pleasant Bay approached Tony and asked for the fastest 14' catboat ever built.

Bill Nash and Tony Davis, the design team at Arey's Pond, answered the challenge. Their changes to the design include a flatter entry, less forward hollow, a fully battened sail, re-designed rudder, two part carbon fiber mast, and much more. Leslie Gouveia and her boatbuilding team at Arey's Pond built the prototype model out of wood composite.

She raced this summer and has been recorded at 13 knots in 18 knot wind. While we're not ready to call her the fastest 14' cat on the water, she has yet to meet her match.

The newest model will debut at boat shows in 2021, with hope that it will be the next generation of our fiberglass 14' catboat. Please [visit our website](#) for more photos and information.



A view of the varnished transom, redesigned rudder, and streamlined cockpit on the 2021 14' Racing Catboat. Pleasant Bay, MA.

AP 14 Worlds - Register now!

We are excited to present the first annual Arey's Pond 14 Worlds regatta. This regatta will bring together owners and racers of 14' Arey's Pond Catboats from across the globe.

This event will take place on Friday, the 20th of August 2021 (Sunday 8/22 rain date). Our annual Cat Gathering is the next day (August 21st); we encourage all participants to sail in both events.

The regatta will be the best of three US Sailing sanctioned races using a windward-leeward course. Two races will take place in Little Pleasant Bay, and one will take place in Big Pleasant Bay.

Our goal with this event is to work towards making the Arey's Pond 14' Catboat a US Sailing recognized one design class. We need a minimum fleet of 9 boats (only APBY 14's from any year) to hold the event. The sooner we hear from you, the better!

Thank you to the sailors who have already registered. You'll hear more from us soon.

Register for the AP 14 Worlds



The logo for the first annual AP 14 Worlds.

Boatbuilding Update



Our boatbuilding shop finishes planking the port side of the 22' racing catboat we're building this fall and winter. It is a new design that will debut in 2021.

Our boatbuilding shop has had a busy season, even with the limitations that come with working in a pandemic. This year our boatbuilding team has consisted of Leslie Gouveia, Dustin Page and Bill Nash. With some help from Tony, they built and delivered an Open 16' Lynx to Lake George, NY in early spring, they designed and built *Wolff*, our new Apby workboat, and built an Open 16' Lynx bound for Martha's Vineyard.

We also delivered two club model 14' catboats that spent the summer in Maine with the [Northeast Harbor Fleet](#). This was a great opportunity that was made possible by the head of the [MIT sailing and racing program](#). You may have seen the six Open 16' Lynx catboats that the MIT program keeps on the Charles River in Boston, MA.

Our boatbuilding team also did some major restoration work to Arey's Pond 14's and 16's that are now getting up in age and in need of some care. The original Lynx's are now approaching 25 years old

and some of the 14's date back to 1973.

We are very grateful to report that we are booked up with new builds and restoration work into 2022. In 2021, we will build two Cabin 16' Lynxes, three 14' Cats, a custom wooden racing 22' catboat (photo above). For 2022 delivery, we have two Caracal 19's in wood with electric inboard engines and an open cockpit 16' Lynx already scheduled. We are very excited about more orders coming in and hiring help once the pandemic is under control and we can have employees working in shops together.

Employee Highlights



Captain Karl (bottom right) tapes off the brightwork on a Herreshoff 12-1/2 in the Arey's Pond finish shop.

We have a few new employees joining us in the service department this fall. Catherine Sawyer comes to us from the Cape Cod Sea Camps. This fall she is working as a Service Technician and she will help with varnish work over the winter. Brian Melanson from Cotuit, MA has also joined our team as a Service Technician and is interested in a career in the boating world. Former APBY boat building/canvas shop intern and IYRS graduate Bill Lynch rounds out the fall hires. He has helped us in the service department this fall and will assist with new builds in the boatbuilding department over the winter.

Visit the 'Our Team' page on our website to meet all of our talented team members.

[Meet Our Team](#)

Employee Spotlight : Dustin Page, Boatbuilder





Arey's Pond boatbuilder Dustin Page sails a 14' AP catboat on Pleasant Bay this summer.

Dustin grew up on Conanicut Island (Jamestown), RI, where he was literally surrounded by the ocean and maritime life. After taking a boatbuilding class in high school, his interest in wooden boatbuilding grew. He went on to attend the two year long wooden boatbuilding and restoration program at the [International Yacht Restoration School \(IYRS\)](#) in Newport, RI. During his time at IYRS, he restored a Beetle Cat and a Herreshoff S Boat, and learned to sail on Narragansett Bay.

Dustin was first introduced to Arey's Pond at an IYRS career day. After he graduated from his program in June 2016, he moved to Cape Cod to start as a boatbuilder at Arey's Pond. Now, Dustin enjoys his position as one of the lead builders for the Arey's Pond production line boats. He has worked under Head Boatbuilder Leslie Gouveia for over four years. Dustin lives in South Yarmouth with his girlfriend Haley, who also works at Arey's Pond. When he's not in the shop, he is often out boating, riding his motorcycle, playing the ukulele, or snowboarding.

Wolfi the New Work Boat



Wolfi is named in memory of a very special boat yard dog.

Our waterfront service team has been in need of a new work boat for hauling mooring and delivering and picking up boats across the bay. After considering options, we decided to design and build our own to replace our old Carolina Skiff.

The new [19' AP Workboat](#), designed by Tony Davis and Bill Nash, is based on the popular Garvey-style hull. It was built by our boatbuilding team using marine plywood and 10 oz. bi-axel fiberglass cloth at the chines and floor timbers. It was set up using vinylester resin. It will make a great work boat for our team, but would also work well as a family fishing boat.

It has a 90hp Tohatsu outboard engine that sits in a well. It is easy to maneuver in shallow water and can handle a following sea. It is named *Wolfi*, in memory of a very special and missed boat yard dog.

Keep an eye out for *Wolfi* on Pleasant Bay with catboats in tow!



The line up of APBY service boats. Keep an eye out for them on Pleasant Bay!



Geoff Cabral finishes installing the mooring hauling arm on *Wolfi*, the new APBY workboat.

News from the Sail & Canvas Shop



Sea Robin, a Downeast Lobster Boat, sports a bimini made by our Sail & Canvas Shop.

Canvas Shop Manager, Geoff Cabral, is busy this fall! When he's not washing and repairing sails and covers, he's working on canvas cushions and covers for our many new builds or biminis to install next season.

Sea Robin (left), is a Downeast lobster boat that lives in Arey's Pond. This summer our canvas department designed, fabricated and installed a new bimini. It has added lots of shaded area for guests on *Sea Robin*.

If you have any future projects you would like to talk to Geoff about you can email him by clicking the link below.

Contact our Sail & Canvas Department



Arey's Pond on a calm evening this past summer.

Sailing School Check In

Under the creative leadership of Head Sailing Instructor Harrison Ellis, Arey's Pond has found our new niche when it comes to teaching sailing on Pleasant Bay. The program has focused on private lessons for all ages, which differs from other programs on the Bay (Namequoit Sailing Association, Pleasant Bay Community Boating and Chatham Yacht Club).

Our private lessons were popular this summer as it became increasingly clear that the safest activities were those done outside in small groups. For catboat sailors with some experience, our fleet of rental sailboats were also popular. Our kayak and paddle board rentals, offered in conjunction with [SupFari Adventures](#), had a banner year and exceeded previous records.

Thank you for your continued support.

We wish you and your family a safe and happy winter.



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