Tell~Tale
NEWSLETTER FOR THE GEARY18 FLATTE SAILING ASSOC.

December 2008

Geary 18 IYRA
P.O. Box 4763
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From the Editors

The Set of the Sails
by Ella Wheeler Wilcox

One ship drives east, and another-west
With the self-same winds that blow;
"Tis the set of the sails
And not the gales
That decides the way to go.
Like the winds of the sea are the ways of fate,
As they voyage along through life;
"Tis the will of the soul
That decides its goal,
And not the calm or the strife.

Wishing Everyone Fair Winds for the Holidays and the Coming New Year

Check out the Geary 18 Website:
www.geary18.org

Don’t Forget To Pay Your Annual Dues.

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NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

The release in December 2008, of “Small Boats 2009” Volume 3 of the annual SPECIAL publication from WoodenBoat magazine, that includes a well written article about the Geary 18 along with great pictures provided George Cardas, has created a lot of interest. I have received quite a few inquiries about where to buy plans to build a Geary 18, or if there are any boats currently for sale.

Plans for the Geary 18 are included (along with a lot of other cool stuff) from the GIYRA by simply joining the Association for at least 1 year. Annual membership is only $40. A bargain at today’s prices. It is easy to join using the application on the website <www.geary18.org>, or by contacting our Executive Secretary, Debra Eckrote at: P.O. Box 4763, Federal Way, WA 98063.

If any one knows of a Geary 18 that is or may be for sale, please let your editors know so that we can assist in keeping the Geary family alive.

Just a reminder, that the Dues are payable on or before September the 1st and are delinquent after January the 1st. If the dues are not paid by January the 1st there will be a late charge assessed.

Happy Holidays to all.

Stephanie Thomas
Co-Editor
Geary, Leslie Edward "Ted" (1885-1960)

HistoryLink.org Essay 7292 :

Leslie Edward "Ted" Geary was a naval architect who grew up in Seattle. He designed and raced numerous competitive sailing vessels, and also designed commuter yachts, fishing boats, tug boats, and wooden hulled freighters.

Designing and Racing
Geary was born in 1885, in Atchison, Kansas, and moved to Seattle with his parents in 1892. He exhibited an early attraction to water-related activities. In 1899, at age 14, he, along with a friend, designed and built the 24-foot centerboard racing sloop *Empress.*

Four years later, with lifelong friends Dean and Lloyd Johnson, Geary designed and built *Empress II,* another 24-foot centerboard racing sloop. With Geary at the helm, she was never defeated in local races. While a sophomore at the University of Washington, he designed *Spirit,* a 42-foot LOA (Length Over All) racing sloop for the Seattle Yacht Club. *Spirit* would successfully challenge the Canadian Yacht *Alexandra* for the Dunsmir Cup in 1907. Geary’s success attracted the attention of several prominent Seattle businessmen who at Geary’s suggestion would finance his education as a naval architect at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Geary's Winners
Geary would design several more competitive sailing vessels and crewed on many others in his long career. Among his designs are *Sir Tom,* an “R” class boat that dominated the racing circuit along the West Coast for three decades; *Katedna,* later *Red Jacket,* a 62-foot LOA schooner which would enjoy unrivaled success in Northwest racing; and *Pirate,* another successful “R” class racer. In 1928 Geary would design the popular "Flattie," a one-design sail trainer that is now known as the Geary 18.

Ted Geary sailing *Sir Tom*
*Photo by Asahel Curtis, Courtesy MOHAI (Image No. 2002.3.1460)*
Sir Tom crew, L to R Andy Joy, Roy Corbett, Ted Geary, Swift Baker, 1927
Courtesy Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society

Portrait of Pirate and Sir Tom, both designed by Ted Geary, racing on August 9, 1927
Limited edition print taken from an oil painting by Patrick Haskett of Seattle’s Sea Commander Studios, Courtesy Center for Wooden Boats

This Essay was copied in part from a page published by HistoryLink.org. If you would like to read the entire essay, you can find it at: http://www.historylink.org
I'm Rory Martin, and in the late 60's and early 70's my brother Rick and I were pretty active in the Seattle Geary 18 fleet. Both of us at the time were sailing masters for the local yacht clubs, myself at Seattle Yacht Club and Rick at Corinthian Yacht Club. Our fleet sailed out of the Leshi area of mid Lake Washington, as well as the Laurelhurst Beach Club in the north end of the lake.

Our boat was one of the first fiberglass boats build by Don, Dave and Dennis Clarke of the Clark boat company (famous for the C-Lark 14). We reserved sail number 1234 (Yo-Yo II) and eventually sold our boat to someone in either Coos Bay or Fern Ridge. I also crewed extensively for Felix Moitorett (1111 - Whippet III, which was the hull that the Clarks took the mold from) in San Luis Obispo Worlds in 1966 where we took top honors for the series as well as the Crew division.

Rick and I were thought to be a bit radical at the time, and were the reason trapeze's were adopted in the fleet. We actually rigged up a double trapeze for practice so we could sail in even more extreme weather. We also got into sail making and developed our own championship sails, and with the help of Felix we convinced the rules committee to adopt rudder foils to improve handling. I've got pictures of Felix Moitorett testing a couple sets just before heading to Worlds.

In any event, if you'd like I'll rummage through my old photo albums and see if I can add something to your history page.

*And that he did...I contacted him and said we would be very happy to see his pictures and any information he may have about them.*

Next Page for great pictures
Wow...all ahead full on the wayback machine. I'm attaching a few images from the 1966 World Championships in San Louis Obispo (Felix Moitoret took first place), as well as a couple of Felix preparing Whippet III for Worlds in 1973. Felix was never shy at making 'improvements' in this case adding auto bailers. Sad we weren't into taking pictures in those days or I would offer more. I don't remember all the players from 40 years ago, but can offer the following:

1111 Whippet III - Felix Moitoret and Rory Martin, 1966

Felix preparing for the Worlds, 1973
1155 - Bruce and Charlie Stocker (Seattle's Corinthian Fleet)
Red Hull - Dave and Dennis Clark (In one of their fiberglass models)
Finale - Don Campbell and Rick Martin (Don was a long time racer from Laurel-hurst Beach Club in Seattle)
Blue Hull/White Deck - Emily Campbell and her dad.
And the Beat goes on…2008 Geary 18 Internationals, Coos Bay Yacht Club in Lakeside, Oregon

**GYRA Champion of 2008**
Thad Vincent and Crew, Emily Vincent

Left: Tom & Anjo Mills,
Right: Tim Mills in Whippet 111,

Below: The Randle brothers create another OMG moment!
MISSION BAY FLEET

Just a note to let you all know the dates of the MID-WINTERS at Mission Bay Yacht Club. In 2009 they are the weekend of the 21st and 22nd of February. Last fall I got a call from Tim Mills who wanted to know the dates because he thought that a group from Coos Bay might be coming down.

If anybody is planning on sailing please let me know as soon as you can so that I can give the club a heads up and they will have the Gearys on their list of fleets to start.

Hope to see a bunch of you,

Bud Busch

NEWPORT FLEET

Here is my NYC report: There seem to be a lot of boats for sale at the docks near the financial district and wall street and prices keep dropping...are there any Geary sailors looking for an upgrade? :)

Also, I am not sure if this fits into the mold but wanted to report (if my family has not already) that my brother will be hanging up his tell tales for a while. He is going to be a peace corps volunteer for 2 years in Guyana. He leaves in February.

happy holidays to you!

Alexandra Olin
COOS BAY FLEET

All is quiet on the lake this time of year with our Gearys tucked away for the winter, but here are the results of the CBYC Geary 18 2008 series:

Summer Series
1. Mills
2. Vincent
3. C Cardas
4. Scott Randle
5. George Cardas

Sundowner
1. Mills
2. Scott Randle
3. Sean Randle
4. C. Cardas
5. E. Vincent

Fall
1. T. Vincent
2. C Cardas
3. Sean Randle
4. Scott Randle
5. Mills

Spring
1. T. Vincent
2. C. Cardas
3. Mills
4. Sean Randle
5. Scott Randle
In This Issue... Partial essay from HistoryLink.org on Ted Geary – Flashback from a Geary Sailor