

SUMMER 2026

# Sheerline

Sunnyland Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boat Society



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Summer 2026 - Published by the Sunnyland Chapter  
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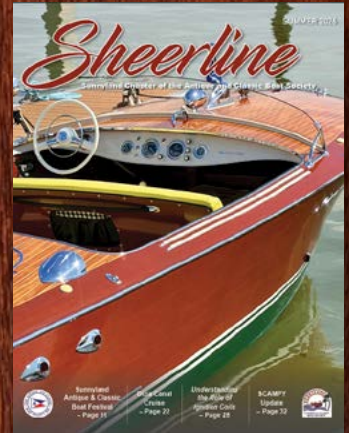


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*From the Editor*

# Jeff Funk

As I write this, the Sunnyland show is now in the rearview mirror, and summer is just around the corner. How did it get here so fast? It feels like just last month I was taking down our Christmas lights. There's a lot of truth to the saying, "time goes faster as you get older."

The Sunnyland show was a great success. If you attended, you saw docks filled with a wide variety of boats, thousands of spectators, and plenty of happy boaters. With the exception of some late winds on Saturday, the weather was nearly perfect. Walking the docks, I noticed people sharing hugs, handshakes, and boating stories. It was great to witness.

It seems that no matter what troubles we may face on land, once boats and boaters come into the picture, life just gets better.

The boat show committee, and the many, many volunteers, did an outstanding job creating a truly enjoyable event. That doesn't mean there weren't challenges, but the show team minimized issues and delivered

a very successful show. An event of that size is no small task, so kudos to everyone involved: the committee, the volunteers, and, of course, the many boaters who brought their vessels, often from long distances.

As many of us prepare our boats for the much-anticipated summer season, it's a good time to review safety procedures to ensure that our family and friends can enjoy a trouble-free time on the water.

Be safe out there,

*Jeff*

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## Attention Snowbirds

Are you a snowbird with two mailing addresses or are you moving soon?

Don't forget to send your updated address to ACBS.

[acbs.org/contact-us/](http://acbs.org/contact-us/)  
or email [Dan@acbs.org](mailto:Dan@acbs.org)





*From the President*

# Tom Drozd

---

Greetings Sunnyland Members,

The 45th Annual Sunnyland Antique Boat Festival is now in the history books and we hope you enjoyed the show. The weather cooperated and it was great to see both old and new friends. Mark your calendars for next year's 46th Annual Antique Boat Festival to be held March 18-21, 2027. Due to the Easter holiday, the date is scheduled a week earlier.

I'd like to personally thank all the Committee Chairs and volunteers for their part in the success of the show. First and foremost, we can't thank Terry Fiest enough for his years of leadership and expertise. Terry, along with Co-Chairman Howie Wanamaker, worked tirelessly to make sure every detail of this year's show was examined and perfected. Chris Youngblood is instrumental as he handles so many of the behind-the-scenes details and goes above and beyond the call of duty. A special thanks also goes out to Trudi Miklos for handling registration so proficiently and Lynn McFarlin for doing an excellent job as Membership Chair. This year, we welcomed our newest Committee Chair, Kelley Lesperance, who did a magnificent job managing the volunteers. And I can't forget to include Dock Master Danny Ross, Launch Ramp Chairman Ike Dilkes, Vendor Chairman Gabe Baker and Field of Dreams Chairmen Pete

DeVito and Bruce Kester. Without all of your efforts and willing to take on the tasks our show would not be the success that it is.

Next year's show will be reconfigured to move all aspects of the show to the west. Our boat show committee is working on details to rearrange the footprint with the opening of the new parking lot north of the railroad tracks behind the Citrus Motel. We are working on the logistics but are sure you'll appreciate the outcome.

The Scampy program has been a great success thanks to Jeff Funk. It has certainly gained momentum and the adult program enjoyed another successful season. The adults completed a Chris Craft Rocket which is now up for sale. The next boat they will work on will be a 25' Dodge triple cockpit runabout. Jeff Funk, along with his right hand men Frank Miklos and Herb Hall and the team of Sunnyland

volunteers, will be working on the boat next season so if you're interested in learning the craft, please join in on this incredible experience. Please keep in mind that the Scampy program is always looking for donations, whether it be a boat, wood working tools or even boat literature.

Scampy is looking for additional mentors to work in the youth program. We have plenty of young people waiting to get in the program, we just need more mentors to assist them in working on their boats. If anyone is interested, please contact Jeff Funk.

We have the largest chapter in the ACBS, but as many chapters attest, we always need more volunteers to keep the ship on course and to create and manage outings for our club. If there are any members who would like to organize an outing for our chapter feel free to contact me. We are always open for ideas.

Our Chapter is also looking for members to get involved as an officer in the club. If you are interested in learning how our club operates and would enjoy being a part of the team, I look forward to hearing from you.

As spring approaches and the snowbirds begin to head north, I wish everyone safe travels. Enjoy the summer months, have fun and safe boating to all.

*Tom*



*From Our Membership Chair*

# Lynn McFarlin

What an amazing Boat Festival we had, despite the heat and pesky blind mosquitoes on Friday and Saturday! I hope everyone enjoyed the show.

The Amphicar splash was truly incredible to watch; I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did.

Thank you to all the members who stopped by the membership booth to say hello, cool off, and grab some water and candy. It was wonderful to meet so many of you in person, renew existing memberships, and welcome several new members during the show.

I hope this year's layout made it easier to locate the booths you wanted to visit and more convenient to access the docks to view the

beautiful wooden boats.

Please keep an eye out for a few upcoming items:

- Sunnyland Annual Meeting: This will be held in November. Please look for a follow-up email with more details soon.
- Century Boat Centenary: There will be two upcoming shows honoring 100 years of Century boats.

Happy Boating,

*Lynn*



## Welcome New Sunnyland Members

Douglas Spinks

Todd Stebleton

Byron and  
Lynne Tucker

William Leipert

## Sunnyland Past Presidents

1985-1986..... Gary Scherb

1987.....Riley Richardson

1988-1989..... Dale Tassell

1990-1991..... Barney Fielden

1992.....Wilson Wright

1993-1994..... Ron Hicks

1995-1996..... Lynne Shinn

1997-1998..... John Ross

1999-2000.....Bob McNerney

2001-2002.....Terry Fiest

2003-2004..... Pete Williams

2005-2006.....Gerald Dake

2007-2008..... Guy Marvin

2009-2010..... Lou Ronca

2011-2012..... Craig Hartwig

2013-2014..... Bill Hancock

2015-2016.....Pete DeVito

2017-2018..... Bruce Kester

2019-2020..... Joe Coleman

2021-2022..... Danny Ross

2023-2024.....Howard Wanamaker





# ACBS Sunnyland Chapter Members

## Will you be renewing your ACBS Membership?

Please take the time to renew your membership today or drop us a short email letting us know you have decided to cancel your membership.

### You have 3 options to renew:

1. Online through the Member's Portal, [www.myacbs.org](http://www.myacbs.org). Log-in using the email address you filed with your membership. When your profile opens, review your contact and boat information. Use "Edit My Information" to make any changes, then click SAVE. Once your profile page has been updated, click on the green "Renew" button (top right).
2. Call the ACBS Headquarters at 315-686-2628 during business hours, M-F, 8:30am-4pm
3. Mail the Membership Applications to:  
**Lynn McFarlin, Sunnyland Chapter Membership Chair**  
14174 Fort Worth Circle, Port Charlotte, FL 33981

When renewing your membership, please review your membership profile. If you have a seasonal address change, check that the mailing dates are correct. You may edit, delete, or add a boat(s) to your membership profile and you may add a picture and a short history of each boat. You can also add secondary Chapters to your membership.

As an organization, ACBS appreciates your membership.

Sharing your interest with others not only strengthens our organization as a whole, but also creates friendships that last a lifetime. Check out the ACBS Calendar to see all the local Chapter events scheduled in your area!



# Sunnyland Membership Application



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mate's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Yearly Dues

To join the Sunnyland Chapter you must also join ACBS. If you are already a member of ACBS enter your number \_\_\_\_\_ and pay Sunnyland dues only.

☐ New ☐ Renewal

☐ ACBS dues \$75 US

☐ Sunnyland dues \$25 US

Total - Make check payable to ACBS \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Boat Information

*List additional boats on separate sheet*

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Builder \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_

Boat Name \_\_\_\_\_

Length Overall \_\_\_\_\_ Hull No \_\_\_\_\_ HP \_\_\_\_\_

Engine Make \_\_\_\_\_ #Cyl's \_\_\_\_\_

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Builder \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_

Boat Name \_\_\_\_\_

Length Overall \_\_\_\_\_ Hull No \_\_\_\_\_ HP \_\_\_\_\_

Engine Make \_\_\_\_\_ #Cyl's \_\_\_\_\_



Membership dues include membership to The Sunnyland Chapter and Antique and Classic Boat Society (ACBS), plus you'll receive one-year (4 issues) of *Sheeline* and *The Rudder* magazines.

## Mail Completed Form with Check to:

Lynn McFarlin, Membership Chair  
ACBS/Sunnyland Chapter  
14174 Fort Worth Circle  
Port Charlotte, FL 33981





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Full payment must be received by the deadline date.





# 45th Annual Sunnyland Antique Boat Festival

*Story by Trudi Miklos | Photos by Eric Sojka*

**A** beautiful weekend, seeing old friends, and of course, beautiful boats! What more could anyone ask for the 45th Sunnyland Boat Festival, held March 27-29, 2026, at Wooton Park in Tavares? It was a nearly picture-perfect weekend, with clear skies for the most part and lots of sunshine, from the Thursday evening Welcome Reception through the Sunday Awards Ceremony.







This year, we welcomed 83 boats, filling EVERY slip available to us at the docks. Dan Ross, our Dock Master, and his amazing crew got everyone to the docks, including the eight boats on our waiting list. When you see Danny or any of

his crew, be sure to thank them for another fabulous job. Dan also arranged our boat on land displays, finding a spot for more than 15 boats.

Lou Jezdimir brought Bayhorse, a 1925 Chris-Craft Triple Cockpit,

our oldest entry, while our newest entry was a 2025 Western Shore Boat Works Cabin Launch. *Kingfisher*, at nearly 30', is a beautiful replica of the launches that graced so many lakes once upon a time. Centurys made an impressive showing as that brand celebrates 100 years of boat building this year. Of course, the show was filled with Chris-Crafts, Correct Crafts, Donzis, Rivas, Lyman's, and so many other amazing models.

Ike Dilkes ran the launch ramp like a well-oiled machine, as he always does. His crew not only got everyone launched, but due to a last-minute change by the city, managed to do so around our Field of Dreams boats. We truly boast the very best launch team with Ike and his folks.

Pete DeVito and Bruce Kester







organized our Field of Dreams, and despite a last-minute change due to unfinished construction, managed to fill the field with more than 25 boats. Some of those boats did find new homes by the end of the weekend.

Always a big hit, the Amphicars put on an impressive show, with more than 30 cars traveling down the Dora Canal and coming ashore at the Seaplane

Tarmac. This was one of the largest collections of Amphicars we've had at our show! What an amazing site to see them all come driving up the launch ramp onto the tarmac!

This year, due to new construction around the park and stronger enforcement of the tarmac rules, the show migrated westerly, with more of the show attractions setting up closer to the docks.

The Ships Store, a new hospitality tent, all of our sponsors, and SCAMPY all were situated on the western end of the park, between the Kahlua Bar and the launch ramp. The flea market, food truck, ice cream, and our event tent remained on the eastern side of the park. Also on the east end of the park were our marque club guests, Glasspar and AOMCI.

AOMCI, the Antique Outboard









Motor Club, Inc., set up another beautiful and educational display of outboard boats and motors. Many of these motors have been lovingly preserved or restored to their original condition by this dedicated and talented club.

Glasspar had a beautiful display of its members' boats throughout the eastern end of the park, showcasing these boats so lovingly restored and maintained by this club.

We also saw some changes to our event lineup this year. Our Thursday night Welcome Reception at the Pavilion remains one of our most popular events. Approximately 250 people came out for a beautiful evening to catch up and enjoy hors d'oeuvres



by Pisces Rising. Dick and Peg Newcomb, as always, organized this event and did a remarkable job. Our SCAMPY team displayed some of the project boats for people to see up close. One of the favorites was the adult SCAMPY

project, the nearly-finished 1947 Chris-Craft Rocket, with its eye-catching bright blue hull. Also on display were an early 1960s Thompson, also done by the adult SCAMPY crew, and one of the youth-built boats.





Instead of a Friday afternoon picnic, Jeff Funk organized a no-host canal cruise over to Lake Harris for lunch at Ski Beach restaurant. This inaugural event saw 12 boats and 45 people participate.

The show officially kicked off on Saturday with the displays, the amphicar parade, a car show on Ruby Street, raceboats, and of course, all of our display boats in the water and on land. Saturday afternoon also featured our annual Ladies Luncheon and Fashion Show. This year, we held the show in the Pavilion, with lunch catered by Pisces Rising. Emz on Fifth hosted the event and provided the outfits, and our own amazing members showcased their modeling skills. These ladies should all be on Paris walkways!

Saturday evening, the Sunnyland Chapter hosted a Happy Hour event for show attendees with discounted drinks and an amazing spread of hors d'oeuvres. At the Happy Hour, the club raffled off the original show painting done by Frank Miklos. Gary Almgren, whose father owned a Century dealership in the 50s, won the painting. The SCAMPY program raffled off a 16' Acorn Skiff built by Tom Doyle. In a fun twist, the launch was won by ... Tom Doyle, no relation to the boat builder!

For Sunday morning, we invited all boat owners





to join us for a complimentary breakfast prior to the awards presentation. Picking award winners is always one of the hardest parts of any show, and we greatly appreciate our sponsors and marquee clubs for their award presentations.

Enjoy the selection of pictures that represent the Festival. As the official kickoff of the ACBS Boat Show season, it draws thousands of visitors and participants from across the country and around the world. Volunteers dedicate untold hours of their time and energy to pull this show together, and their hard work is obvious. This show is one of the best shows you will visit.

Watch upcoming issues of *Sheerline*, as well as our website, [acbs-sunnyland.org](http://acbs-sunnyland.org), for more information on next year's show, which will run from March 18-21, 2027. Be sure to note this date, which falls a little earlier than usual due to Easter at the end of March next year. Registration, as always, will open mid-January, 2027. Keep an eye on the website for that. We also encourage you to make reservations early as some of the closest hotels do book up early.

As we all head into the 2026 boating season, we wish everyone a safe and happy boating season! ✦







# 20 Year Show Participant Florida Glasspar Club

*By Vernon Turner*



This year the Florida Glasspar Club had another outstanding display of Glasspar boats and related memorabilia. 2026 marked over 20 years of participation for this tight knit group. This hard working group has consistently put together exceptional displays of their beloved boats. The club looks forward to many more years of attendance.







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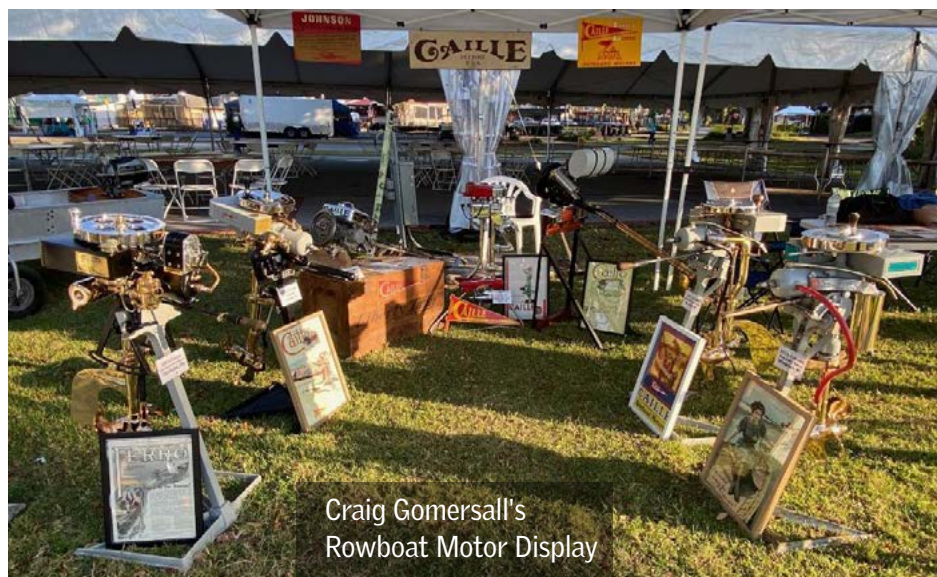
Sam Phelps  
Speedfour,  
Speeditwin and  
Wolverine boat



# At the "Other End" of the Show

Other end? Well yes, there was another section of the Sunnyland Show on the East end. Tucked under the majestic live oaks, both the AOMCI and Glasspar Club offered some fabulous displays.

Perfectly restored antique and classic outboard motors ranging in production years as far back as 1915 and as far forward as 1957 were on sight for viewing. Craig Gomersall's displays this year included a very rare 1915 Ferro outboard among several early teens Caille Rowboat motors. The term "rowboat" comes from the earliest form of outboards



Craig Gomersall's  
Rowboat Motor Display

that were designed to fit boats of that period where the main propulsion was oars. The transoms of those boats typically were slanted and had all sorts of different transom heights. To compensate for those variables, the rowboat motors had adjustable driveshaft housings

and wider range tilt adjustments. The engines themselves did not swivel but rather had either a rudder or the gearcase would swivel. The engines Craig displayed had both types of steerage systems.

Alongside Craig, Phil Gatzow displayed "newer" outboards



from the 30's, such as an early Thor and an Evinrude Fishing Kit. The kit consisted of a carrying case that housed a single cylinder Evinrude outboard, gas can, and tool set. Everything needed to propel a boat for a day on the water! Phil also displayed a rare ELTO (Evinrude Light Twin Outboard) Cub, the smallest outboard made at ½ horsepower.

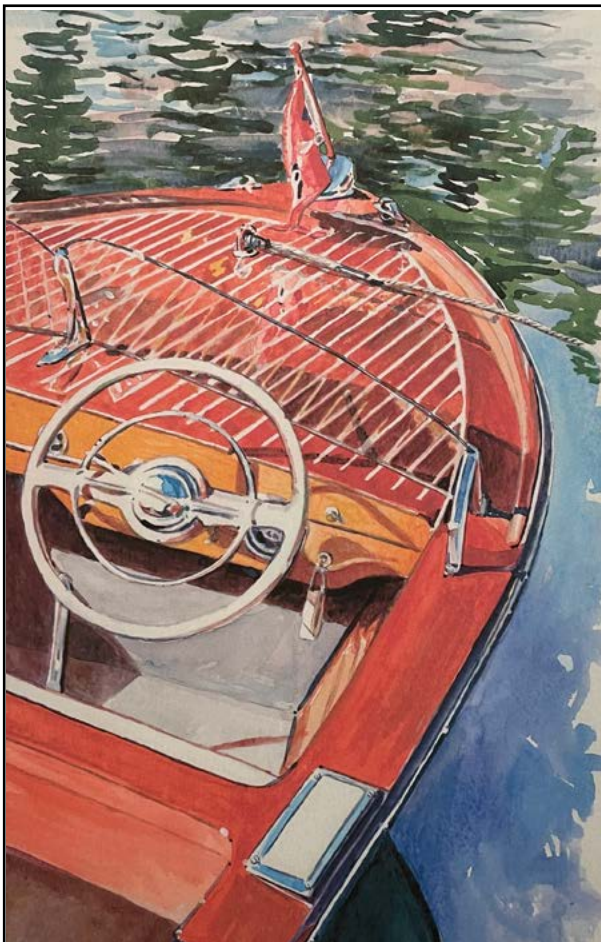
Across the sidewalk from Craig was Sam Phelps Wolverine boat and an Evinrude Speeditwin and Speedifour. Those engines were from the 1940's. The Speedifour was a 33.4 horsepower, 4 cylinder, opposed piston engine, and the Speeditwin a 2 cylinder 22.5 hp version. Boats on display were Ray Heurtin's fabulous Orlando Clipper, Gary Sandberg's Chris Craft kit boat, Bob and Valerie Smith's Aristocraft, Mike Sims "hanging" Feathercraft (the boat hangs from the trailer rather than sits on it) and various hydroplanes owned by Joe Fisher, Harry Brown and Rick Forum. Craig, Sam and Ray's displays received Sunnyland Recognition Awards.



Phil Gatzow's Display  
with Evinrude kit



Ray Heurtin's  
Orlando Clipper



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# Dora Canal Cruise

Beautiful sunny weather, calm waters, and a wide variety of boats made the first Dora Canal Cruise a truly memorable day. A dozen boats and forty-five boaters joined the scenic ride from Tavares to Ski Beach Restaurant.

With light traffic on the canal, everyone had the chance to cruise at a relaxed pace and fully enjoy one of Florida's most picturesque waterways.

Some participants even captured photos of a ten-foot alligator basking along the shoreline.

Ski Beach did an excellent

job accommodating our large group, providing plenty of space and serving everyone efficiently. While a few boaters explored on their own during the return trip, most headed back to Tavares together—smiles all around.

There's already talk of making next year's cruise even more exciting by coordinating it with a poker run. Stay tuned!









# Annual Cruise & BBQ/Wine Tasting

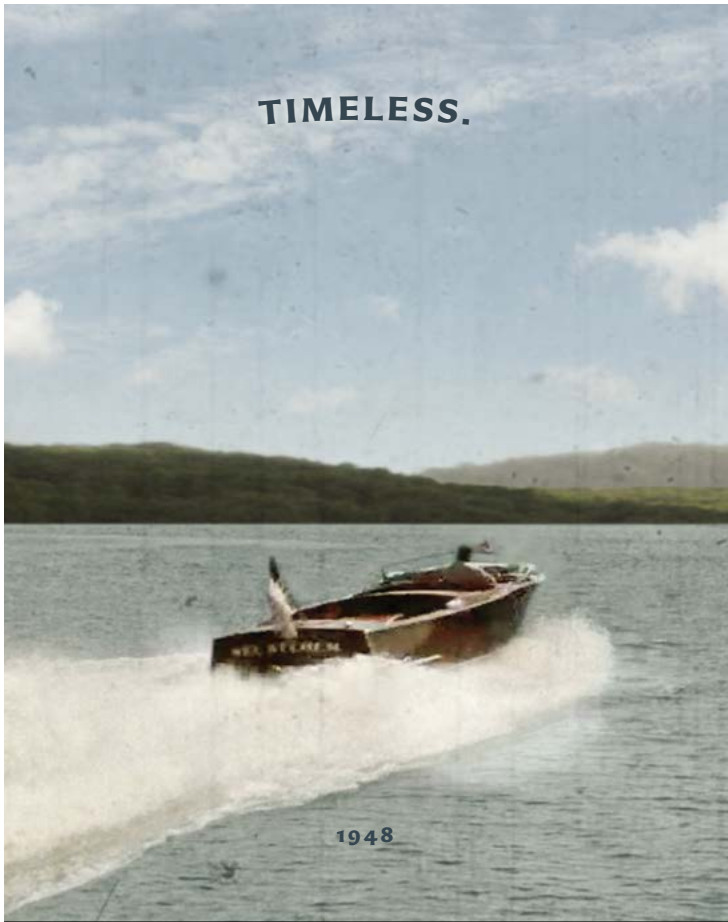
The Annual Cruise and BBQ/Wine Tasting event was held February 21, 2026, at Hickory Point, as always. Organized this year by Tom Drozd and Debi Weinert, with guidance from Jack Bingham, we had more than 90 people attend. Lunch was catered by Oakwood, and wine was provided by Maggie's Attic in Mt. Dora.











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THE MEMBERSHIP THAT MATTERS





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Our activities are enjoyed by hundreds of people from around the  
country – and the world!**

If you've ever participated in our St. John's River Runs, our Annual Meeting weekend, or, of course, the Sunnyland Boat Festival, you know what a great time everyone always has. We also run the SCAMPY programs for both youth and adults, and both are strong and growing. We have a barbeque and wine picnic every February. We participate in the Lake Mirror Classic. We have members in AOMCI and the Glasspar clubs, and those clubs both run multiple events every year. It's truly a full slate of activity, and that's with half our membership being snow- or sunbirds!

These activities, while fun, require a great deal of preparation. Our list of volunteers is getting smaller, even though our membership continues to grow every year. We need some help! Although we have over 400 members, we have only 30-40 who volunteer and run our events. To continue to host

these activities at the high level everyone has come to expect, we need more people to help out.

The following are activities that need chairmen and/or additional help. Almost everyone who currently volunteers does so as a part-time resident of Florida, so please consider helping regardless of where you permanently reside. Almost everything is handled via phone, email, and Teams/Zoom, so your location doesn't matter.

- Serve on our Sunnyland Board. We need Directors.
- Organize our participation in the Lake Mirror Classic (October) – contact Dan Ross at 203-808-2192 for more information.
- Boat Festival help – contact the number shown or Terry Fiest at 407-351-3424:
  - Sponsorship chairman: We need someone who can manage our sponsorships, which provide the money

needed to host this show.

This person needs to stay in contact with our existing sponsors to ensure continued participation and to reach out to other potential sponsors. Contact Tom Drozd at 312-907-5779 for more information.

- Land Display Coordinator
- Happy Hour Coordinator
- Coordinator: Woody Cars, Exotic Cars, Amphicars (could be one or multiple people)
- Tractor Coordinator: Manage tractor usage for launching and moving boats around the show site.
- Other small jobs
- Organize other activities throughout the year

Most of these jobs can be done by one person or a small team to split up the work. But we need your help to make these events happen!. ✦



# Ignition Coils

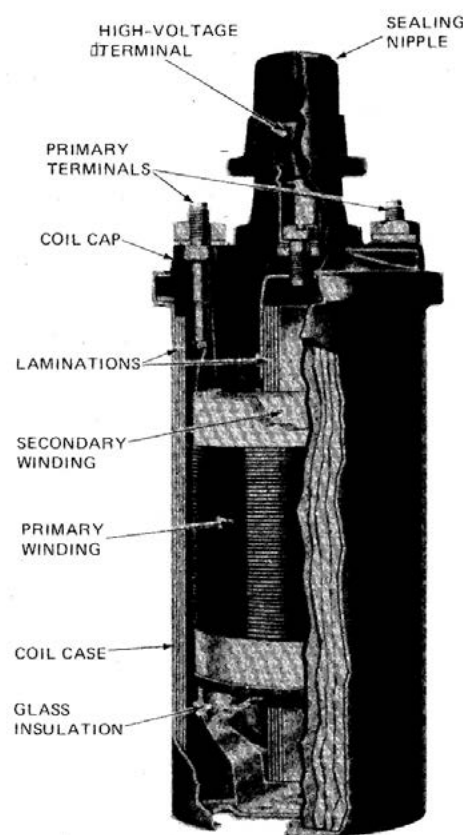
To many, the ignition coil is a somewhat mysterious sealed unit that cannot be repaired and either it works or it doesn't. The ignition coil provides the spark needed to initiate combustion in an engine, by creating extremely high voltage to ignite the air and fuel mixture compressed within the combustion chamber. For example, at 2,500 rpm while cruising on a lake, the coil is supplying about 10,000 sparks per minute. But how does this happen?

## How Ignition Coils Work

The ignition coil operates as a step-up transformer composed of two windings: a primary and a secondary, both wrapped around a laminated iron core. When the contact points in the distributor are momentarily closed, they act as a switch, allowing the 12V battery current to flow through the primary windings and generate a magnetic field that saturates the primary coil. When the points open, the magnetic field collapses, causing electromagnetic induction which

transfers energy from the primary to the secondary windings, allowing induced current to flow to the coil's center terminal. The secondary contains many more windings than the primary, thus multiplying the induced voltage to between 25,000 and 40,000 volts. These secondary windings terminate at the coil's center terminal, which is connected to the distributor cap by a high-voltage wire.

The distributor then performs two functions: it acts as a switch to control the current flow to the primary windings and then directs the resulting high-voltage current to the appropriate spark plug based on the engine's firing



order. As engines have increased compression ratios and cylinder pressures, higher voltage is necessary to produce a spark capable of jumping the plug gap.

## Spark Plug Gap and Voltage Reduction

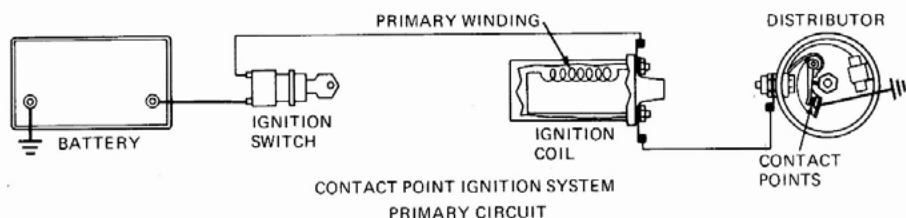
Spark plugs typically have a 0.032-inch air gap between the center terminal and ground, forcing the current to jump the gap as a spark. Once the engine is running, maintaining a strong spark is less difficult because the hot, turbulent fuel-air mixture is



By Bill Hancock | Assistant Editor

Bill is a retired engineer with extensive experience in auto racing, engine design and problem solving.





easier to ignite. This allows the voltage supplied to the coil to be reduced, lessening coil's internal heat while reducing the load on the charging system. Many systems achieve this reduction with a bypass circuit located in the key switch. During starting, the coil receives the full 12 volts for a hotter spark, improving ignition of a cold mixture. After the engine is running and the key is returned to the run position, voltage is fed through a resistor, typically reducing it to 9 volts.

## Common Coil Issues and Diagnosing Engine Problems

Ignition coils rarely fail outright, but over time they can become weak. When an engine fails to run, a rational diagnostic approach is recommended. After checking obvious factors such as fuel supply and loose wires, open the hatch, remove the flame arrestor, and perform the FAST (Fuel-Air-Spark-Timing) check. Rapidly opening and closing the throttle should produce a small squirt of fuel from the accelerator pump into the carburetor's main venturi indicating adequate fuel. While the flame arrestor is removed, check for airway obstructions. If fuel and air are present, the remaining issues are spark and timing. Replace the flame arrestor and run the bilge fan before proceeding.



Fig.1 – Special insulated spark plug wire pliers make grabbing a hot, high-voltage wire near the exhaust manifold easy. Once you use them, you won't return to the bare-handed method.

## Testing for Spark

*Caution-Before attempting this, verify there are no gasoline fumes in the surrounding area.*

To quickly verify spark, remove the coil wire from the coil to the distributor. Using insulated pliers, hold it near a metallic, unpainted part of the engine.



Fig. 2-A special test spark plug simplifies checking for spark. Attach the clip to a good ground and connect the plug wire.



Fig. 3-Another tool, an inline spark plug tester, makes testing for spark easier.

A special test spark plug with an attached alligator clip (see Fig. 2) allows you to connect an individual spark plug wire to the test plug and conveniently clip it to a ground. These are available at auto stores or online. There is also a spark diagnostic tool (Fig. 3) that connects between the plug wire and spark plug, lighting up when spark is detected

## Old School Spark Testing

A quick, crude method is to insert a Phillips screwdriver into the coil wire's terminal and hold it near a ground. Have a friend turn on the ignition and engage the starter. As the engine spins, you should see sparks between the screwdriver blade and ground. If there's no spark, three possible causes exist:

- Coil is not getting voltage
- No signal from the distributor
- Defective coil

## Using Test Lights for Diagnostics

Test lights are handy diagnostic tools everyone should carry. They allow you to check for electrical voltage at various points in the system. While they don't measure voltage quantity, they confirm voltage presence. Always check the test light itself before using by connecting it to both battery terminals to ensure it works.



Fig. 4-A simple 12V test light quickly locates or confirms 12 volts. It's one of the first tools to have in your boat kit.

A simple 12V test light can be invaluable. After confirming your light works, check the coil's positive + terminal (often marked "Bat") for power when the ignition is on. Attach the test light's ground wire to the coil's positive terminal and touch the probe to a clean ground; the light should illuminate if current is present. With the ground wire still attached, touch the negative side of the coil with the probe and have a friend engage the starter. The light should flash, indicating the points are opening and closing.

## Testing Coil Resistance

Next, use a Digital Volt Ohm Meter (DVOM) to test the coil, measuring internal resistance of both the primary and secondary circuits. The test light is a go/no-go tool for voltage presence, while a DVOM can measure voltage and resistance. If resistance is high, not enough current reaches the coil for effective spark. A DVOM is another essential tool.



To measure primary winding resistance, set the DVOM to the 200 Ohm setting and connect the leads to the coil's positive ("Bat") and negative terminals. Compare your reading to your engine's published specs; primary resistance typically ranges from 1 to 3 ohms.



Fig. 5-A Digital Volt Ohm Meter accurately tests DC voltage, resistance in ohms, and continuity.

To test secondary winding resistance, connect the probes between the "Bat" terminal and the secondary terminal in the coil's center cavity. Resistance typically ranges from 15 to 20 ohms.



Fig. 6-Testing resistance between the positive and negative terminals of the primary winding circuit.

## Distributor Timing and Retiming

Sometimes an engine with fuel, air, and spark won't run because

distributor timing has been lost—often due to distributor movement. In such cases, the engine requires retiming.



Fig. 7-Testing secondary winding resistance. The reading of 17.35 indicates a good secondary circuit.

**Helpful Tip - When tuning an engine, get in the habit of marking the flange of the distributor adjacent to the block with two witness marks after timing is set and confirmed. Later, if you suspect the distributor has moved later, these marks will allow quick realignment for proper timing.**

Retiming a previously properly running engine is straightforward. Identify the #1 cylinder, remove its spark plug, and the coil wire from the coil to prevent sparks. Cover the spark plug hole with your finger and have a friend rapidly engage the starter on and off until you start to feel or hear air rushing out of the cylinder. Stop. Using an appropriate tool, continue to slowly rotate the engine by hand until timing marks line up at the specified advance setting. Remove the distributor cap and verify the rotor's alignment with the #1 terminal on the cap. Attach a test light to ground and touch the wire

to the coil's negative or "Dist" terminal. Slowly rotate the distributor housing until the light turns off and tighten the clamp. Finish setting the timing with a timing light once the engine is running.

## Bench Testing the Coil

Functional bench testing is accomplished by connecting a battery, switch, and coil as shown in Fig. 8. Attach a coil wire to a test plug and use the switch to energize the coil, simulating the distributor by switching it on and off. The capacitor, or condenser shown in the schematic, prevents switch contacts from arcing when current backflow occurs.

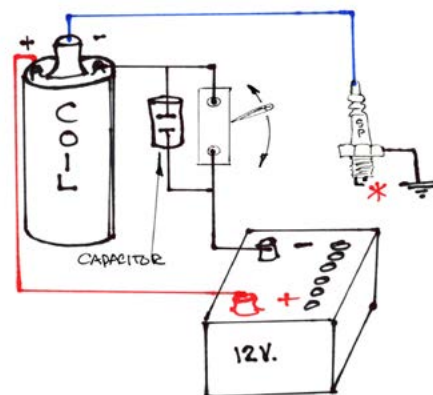


Fig. 8- Schematic for a quick coil test. Cycling the switch simulates the distributor and produces sparks at the test plug.

## Maintenance and Reliability

Ignition coils are simple components with few things that can go wrong. They are typically considered disposable and not worth rebuilding. For reliable performance, keep them securely mounted in a cool location, and ensure all connections are clean and tight. ✦

**Happy Boating.**





Models for our Ladies Luncheon and Fashion Show. Left to Right: Betsy Sandberg, Georgia Raymond, Teresa Kehr, Meladee Tuzinowski, Cathy Stout, Laurie Yahn, Bobbie Fiest

## Sheerline Magazine



Every organization needs a way to communicate with its members and Sunnyland is fortunate to have people who can put together a great magazine about antique and classic boats for the benefit of our members.

The *Sheerline Magazine* is written, photographed and edited by members and then professionally laid out and printed. It's supported by our advertisers and membership dues.

### ADVERTISE YOUR SHOP OR SERVICE

Would you like to support *Sheerline Magazine* and reach 500+ fellow Sunnyland members with your advertising message - contact Don Taylor at 630-632-9797 or email Don at [drtaylor@me.com](mailto:drtaylor@me.com).

The *Sheerline Magazine*, published 4 times a year, is a privilege of Sunnyland membership.

### SHARE YOUR STORY

If you have a great idea for a story contact Editor Jeff Funk at 260-414-0016 / email [funkfamjj@gmail.com](mailto:funkfamjj@gmail.com) or Assistant Editor Trudi Miklos at 724-312-3993 / email [tmiklos4@yahoo.com](mailto:tmiklos4@yahoo.com).

### IT'S EASY TO JOIN

Aren't a member of the Sunnyland Chapter of ACBS, it's easy to join. Simply fill out and mail the Membership application form on page 9 of this issue of *Sheerline Magazine*.





# SCAMPI

## Update

By Jeff Funk

The year is only half over, but what a remarkable year it has already been.

The adult program recently completed the restoration of a 1947 Chris-Craft Rocket, and the results have exceeded all expectations.

This very unique 16-foot runabout, designed by renowned Chris-Craft Vice President of Engineering Bill Mackerer, turned out beautifully. The Rocket went on to earn the prestigious “Chris-Craft” award at the Sunnyland Show in March, a true honor given the many exceptional boats in attendance. The boat will now be sold, with proceeds supporting the SCAMPY program.

Looking ahead, work will soon begin on a very rare 1931 25-foot



Adult Program 1947 16' Chris-Craft Rocket

Dodge Watercar. Once moved into the shop and turned over, the team will begin constructing a new bottom. This ambitious restoration will require extensive work and is expected to take up to three years to complete. Mentors and volunteers alike are excited to take on this rewarding project. Stay tuned for updates!

Mentor Scott Robinson and his youth program family have also recently completed their outboard project, which turned

out exceptionally well. As a reward for their dedication and hard work, the family will retain ownership of the boat. Many may not realize that these youth participants are building boats entirely from scratch, an impressive and meaningful accomplishment. Two additional youth projects are currently underway, and another family will soon begin their own build.

One of the program's current challenges is space. SCAMPY



1931 25' Dodge Watercar







**SCAMPY students Oliver and Henry Lunte**

continues to grow and has outgrown its existing facility. Generous contributions from Sunnyland members have helped move expansion efforts forward. Additional support has come in the form of donated boats, which are sold to help fund daily operations and the pursuit of a

larger facility. Lou Ronca and Jeff Funk are actively exploring opportunities to secure a location that meets both budget and program needs—no small task.

As always, if you are able to support the program with your time or financial contributions, it would be greatly appreciated.

Please reach out to Lou Ronca or Jeff Funk for more information..

✦  
Jeff Funk  
funkfamjj@gmail.com  
260-414-0016

Lou Ronca  
lgronca@gmail.com  
407-493-8553



SCAMPY adult program won 'Best Chris-Craft' at the Sunnyland Show. Shown is (L-R) Howie Wanamaker, President Tom Drozd, mentor Herb Hall, Neil Slattery of the Chris-Craft Club, SCAMPY Chair Jeff Funk, mentor Frank Miklos. Photo by Eric Sojka



## Remembering Barb Feikert

Barb Feikert, a longtime Lake Dora resident and devoted member of the Sunnyland Chapter, passed away in March. Barb and her husband Bill moved to Lake Dora in 1992 and quickly became active in the local classic boating community. While Bill owned several classic boats, Barb shared his passion and became deeply involved in supporting the community.

In the early 1990s, Barb took on the demanding role of managing show registrations for the Sunnyland Chapter, a responsibility she handled with dedication for twelve years. During that time, she also oversaw ordering Ship's Store apparel for the annual Sunnyland Boat Show. Drawing on her extensive bookkeeping experience, Barb stepped in as treasurer during a financially challenging period in the late 1990s, playing a key role in helping stabilize the Chapter. In recognition of her many contributions, she was honored with the President's Award in 2005. Her commitment extended beyond Florida as well, and contributed her time to the Antique Boat Museum in Clayton, New York, where she assisted with registrations.

Barb's spirit of volunteerism began long before her time on Lake Dora. Growing up in North Syracuse, New York, she was always eager to give back to her community. She volunteered at her local elementary school, served as PTA president, and worked as an assistant scout leader. In 1988, she was recognized as Woman of the Year by the Fair Haven Professional Women's Club, a testament to her dedication and generosity.

Barb is survived by her husband Bill and her two daughters, Wendy and Trudy. She lived a life of service, kindness, and commitment to others. A life well lived. She will be deeply missed. ✦



Bill and Barb Feikert



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## BOATS FOR SALE

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1941 Chris Craft 22' U-22 Deluxe - Easy restoration. Complete hardware, all instruments except tachometer. Has a Chevy V-8 installed. \$8,000.00

1942 Chris Craft 17' Special Runabout - Boat is in good condition, but bottom is weak. \$5,000.00

1950 Chris Craft 22' U-22 - Boat needs to be completed. \$6,000.00

1950 Greavette 18' Dispro - Boat and motor restored. Has won several first place awards and a People's Choice Award. Age forces sale. Price reduced to \$12,500.

1950 Penn Yan 14' Aristocrat - Complete outboard boat. \$800.00

1955 Feathercraft 14' Vagabond - Hull was painted, stripping not completed. Comes with a 50 HP Mercury 500. \$2,000.00

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1971 Thompson 18' Outboard Bowrider - Fiberglass Low hour 115 HP Mariner outboard, plastic fuel tanks, mooring cover, good bimini, perfect original interior, on a good trailer, fresh water use only, runs perfectly, all instruments work. There are no surprises. \$4,000.00

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### Contact Wes at 352-217-0292.

**Leave a message or send a text.** All boats are on some sort of trailer, but they are probably not roadworthy. All boats are stored under cover inside.



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## Upcoming Events

**May 17, 2026**

**Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting**

1:30pm | Teams meeting

**Nov. 6-7-8, 2026**

**Sunnyland Annual Dinner and BOD Meeting in Mt. Dora**

**Friday, Nov. 6**

Welcome Reception at the Mt. Dora Yacht Club; dock boats at the club.

Cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, 6-9pm

**Saturday, Nov. 7**

Activities to be determined. Watch for more information!

**Sunday, Nov. 8**

Annual Membership and Board Meeting -- Lakeside Inn, Mt. Dora

8 a.m. - Continental breakfast

9 a.m. - noon - Annual Business Meeting

**March 19-21, 2027**

**46th Annual Sunnyland Boat Festival**

Tavares, FL

Contact: Terry Fiest, 407-351-3424 or Howard Wanamaker, 757-339-0120

Frank Miklos, Chairman,  
Events and Activities Committee

See [acbs-sunnyland.org](http://acbs-sunnyland.org) for more information on events. Some forms are required for attendance and are provided on the website.

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