



# WORLD PREMIERE

---

# THROWBACKS

## TO A GOLDEN AGE OF NORTHWEST BOATS

A Tribute to the Designers who Penned the Lines  
To the Builders who Bent the Frames  
And to the Owners who Labor in their Care

---

A DOCUMENTARY BY JOHN SABELLA & CARY SWASAND

---

PRESENTED AS A BENEFIT FOR THE CENTER FOR WOODEN BOATS

---

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2004

THE NAVAL RESERVE BUILDING AT SOUTH LAKE UNION PARK  
860 TERRY AVE. NORTH • SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

SOCIAL HOUR, 7 P.M.

FEATURE PRESENTATION, 8 P.M.

PANEL DISCUSSION, 9:15 P.M.

\$5 ADMISSION

FREE PARKING IN SOUTH LAKE UNION PARKING LOT WITH VOUCHER AVAILABLE AT DOOR

---

*Photo captions, from top: Samona, designed by the celebrated Ted Geary in 1922; Meander, built by W.R. Menchions in Vancouver, British Columbia in 1934; launch of the Gadget on Seattle's Lake Union waterfront in 1929; Virginia V, last steam powered remnant of the Mosquito Fleet, and Lake Union Dreamboat Winifred, resplendant for the Opening Day Parade; Kensington on the ways at Tony Jensen's boatyard; stern of the lavishly restored Malibu, designed by Geary and built by N.J. Blanchard*

---

Follow this link for driving directions to South Lake Union Park: <http://www.cityofseattle.net/parks/parkspaces/SouthLakeUnionPark/directions.htm>. Parking is available at the South Lake Union Parking Lot across Terry Street from the Naval Reserve Building. Free parking vouchers will be available at the door. To contact the Center for Wooden Boats, call 206 382 2628. To contact John Sabella & Associates, Inc., call 206 281 8626.

# THROWBACKS TO A GOLDEN AGE OF NORTHWEST BOATS

*A Tribute to the Designers who Penned the Lines,  
To the Builders who Bent the Frames and to the Owners who Labor in their Care*

For more than a hundred years, the Pacific Northwest has ranked as a world center for vessel design, construction and preservation. Beginning with the advent of the Pacific cod fishery in the 1880s, utilizing the raw material afforded by the vast Northwest forests, Seattle-area boat builders began creating one of the world's great fishing fleets. Soon, they would craft sailing ships to support the lumber trade, and work boats that sustained Pacific commerce.

Early in the 20th Century, a related industry took advantage of the same natural resources and human talent to design and build air ships. But the designers and builders of the Pacific Northwest didn't focus entirely on the business of transportation. Early on, they began crafting some of the world's most distinguished pleasure boats. The pre-World War II era ranked as nothing less than a *Golden Age* of boatbuilding in Seattle and the Pacific Northwest.

## Nautical Visions

*Throwbacks* is a documentary film that profiles the great naval architects of Seattle's early years, and the famous boatyards and shipwrights that applied world-renowned craftsmanship to their nautical visions. It follows the classic boats and yachts through the decades, the rowdy 1920s when *every man* dreamed of owning a boat, the grim Depression years when Hollywood wealth was all that sustained Seattle boatyards, the War-era when even the most lavish pleasure craft were pressed into hard military service, the decades of neglect when signature vessels languished in obscurity and the contemporary fascination with the restoration of these stylish relics of the bygone age.

Spend the afternoon at Toad's Landing, the secluded island in southern British Columbia where builder-designer William Garden still crafts signature vessels in a *Santa's workshop for older boys*. Take a ride aboard the steamers and paddle wheelers that comprised Puget Sound's *Mosquito Fleet*. Sit down with Norm Blanchard aboard the lavishly restored fantail yacht *Malibu* as he reminisces about the Seattle boatyard where his father and the celebrated designer Ted Geary collaborated on classic after classic.

## The Duke

Board the 86-foot motor vessel *Westward*, circa 1925, for an excursion with the rich and famous clientele that stalked big game as guests of Campbell Church, Jr.'s Alaska Coast Hunting and Cruising Company; meet Leigh Coolidge, the imperious *Duke* with the Homburg hat and

the Van Dyke beard who conceived elegant workboats, pleasure boats, rum runners and rum chasers. Marvel at the restoration of the *Glorybe*, one of the oldest classics of them all that burned to a cinder in the Seattle Yacht Club fire but will soon cruise into her second century on the Puget Sound.

Experience the luxury of the *Thea Foss*, christened *Infanta* after the first child of actor John Barrymore, who built her for his wife only to lose her when alcohol consumed his fortune. Meet Tony Jensen, the concert violinist who opted for the craft of boat building over music, and Ruth Franck, the grandmother who supplied the grit that kept the family boatyard in business after the death of her husband.

## Lake Union Dreamboats

Recline aboard the *Lake Union Dreamboats* that have supplied waterborne enjoyment for eighty years. Experience the mystical quality of the *Come to Jesus Boats* that ministered to the spiritual, medicinal and nutritional needs of the remote villages, lighthouses and mills along the British Columbia coast.

Listen to the rumble of the old Atlas engines as they wind out at 285 revolutions per minute. Take the wheel of the *Deerleap* or the *Blue Peter* or the *Argonaut II* or any one of dozens of historic yachts. Seat yourself in a deck chair on a graceful fantail where flapper girls once gathered. Meet authors Ron McClure and Steve Wilen, and maritime historians Rick Etsell and Scott Rohrer.

## High Seas Fishing Vessels

*Throwbacks* was commissioned by Seattle maritime enthusiast Cary Swasand whose Aleutian Spray Fisheries Company operates a fleet of high seas fishing vessels including the 240-foot *F/V Starbound*. The program was written and produced by John Sabella, whose Seattle firm has produced a series of award-winning documentaries focused on the maritime history of the Pacific Northwest and Alaska. Paul Sharpe of Seattle's Sharpe Productions served as director of photography and editor.

Copies of the hour-long program will be available on VHS videocassette or DVD at a cost of \$19.95 plus shipping. For further information contact the following:

John Sabella & Associates, Inc.  
805 W. Emerson St. • Seattle, WA 98119  
206-281-8626 • [info@johnsabella.com](mailto:info@johnsabella.com)  
[www.johnsabella.com](http://www.johnsabella.com)