

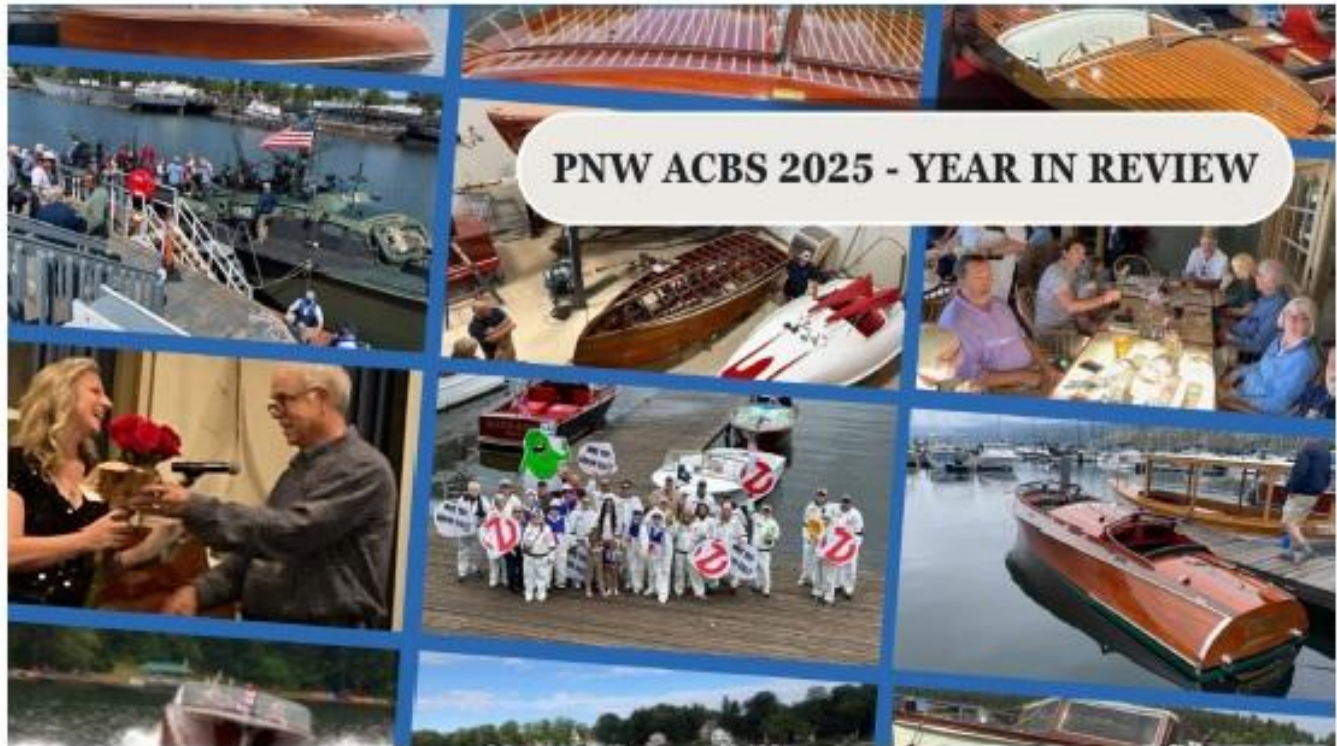
# Opening Day 2026

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2026

## ABOUT THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER OF THE ANTIQUE & CLASSIC BOAT SOCIETY

The Pacific Northwest (PNW) chapter of the Antique & Classic Boat Society (ACBS) connects people who love and enjoy vintage boats.

[Click here for the chapter's latest newsletter.](#)



## ABOUT OPENING DAY

Seattleites consider Opening Day their own special tradition. That's when families picnic along Montlake Cut, parents pointing out to their young children Seattle's colorfully decorated yachts, ranging from rowboats to tugboats and Coast Guard cutters. Large boats perform precise maneuvers in the narrow Montlake Cut as they compete for the Wilson Trophy, and rowing crews work their oars in their streamlined shells and sculls for the rowing races. Over the decades, the Seattle Yacht Club's Opening Day has become the nation's largest regional celebration of spring and the beginning of the boating season. The Opening Day Parade starts at noon on the first Saturday in May with the blast of a cannon and the raising of the Montlake Bridge. Participating yachts are decorated according to the year's theme: World Regatta (Also USA 250 as mentioned by Opening Day Committee)

[Click here for more information about the Seattle Yacht Club and Opening Day.](#)



## PNW-ACBS Opening Day SPIRIT CLASS Skit:

"Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness," Celebrating the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, featuring Members of Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and Sons of the American Revolution (SAR)

The Skit:

- Approximately 10-12 beautifully restored PNW-ACBS open-cockpit boats with SAR & DAR members in Colonial costume
- PNW-ACBS skippers to wear tricorne hats
- ▲ Ideally, the lead boat will have SAR and PNW-ACBS members dressed and in position at the time of passing the Seattle Yacht Club officers as to mimic the signing of the Declaration of Independence ▲
- PNW-ACBS will provide: the tablecloth, signing documents, oversized quill, and Declaration of Independence display for the lead boat; flags for each boat with either a ~2x5" white "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness", or "America 250" flag, which will be attached to ½" x 48" wood dowels; beverages, snacks, and lunch for SAR and DAR guests
- SAR & DAR members may bring chapter flags
- PNW-ACB skippers and first mates may decorate their boats in as much red, white, and blue as they like, avoiding anything political.



From the Seattle Yacht Club Website:

"Spirit Class – Any fleet (fleet = four or more boats), which exhibits crowd-pleasing spirit AND enthusiasm in attire, decorations and actions. Each fleet will be considered one entry. Only one entry will be accepted from any yacht club, boating organization or group of individuals. Each entry will be judged on the following categories: crew and guest actions, attire, fleet spirit, fleet seamanship and fleet overall look."

### OPENING DAY SCHEDULE

10:00 am	Meet @ <a href="#">Fisherman's Terminal</a> marina
~11:00 am	Boats depart for Elliot Bay
12:00 pm	Opening Day Boat Parade begins from Elliot Bay
~1:30 pm	▲ PNW-ACBS boats pass SYC officials ▲
~2:00 pm	PNW-ACBS boats go through the Montlake Cut
~2:30 pm	Lunch @ UW rowing facility (Conibear Shellhouse)
~3:00 pm	End of Boat Parade
~4:00 pm	Montlake Cut open to marine traffic: SAR & DAR members transported back to Fisherman's Terminal

The Opening Day Awards Ceremony at 6:00 pm on the Seattle Yacht Club lawn will be attended by PNW-ACBS Chapter President and a representative of SAR or DAR.