

The Museum Establishes The George Johnson Memorial Endowment Fund

In March of 2008 the Museum Trustees made arrangements with the New Hampshire Lakes Region Charitable Foundation to establish the George Johnson Memorial Endowment Fund. When George passed on in 2007, his wife Barbara, and his family started a Memorial Fund in his honor. Over time the donations have grown to the level of qualification for this Fund to be established at the Charitable Foundation, where it will receive a high level of professional financial management. Regular distributions from the fund will help perpetuate the Museum in the years to come. The fund remains open to new donations at any time in George's memory. Funds need to be donated to the Museum, and they will be transferred to the Charitable Foundation. *See Donation Form below.*

As a "founding father" of the Museum, George was always in the forefront, supporting and helping the Museum grow. He introduced and mentored literally hundreds of folks who developed into wooden boat collectors, many of whom have grown close to and supported the Museum over the years.



A Personal Perspective

By Hank Why

My family and I are just a few of the people who "learned the business" from George. I would like to share a few of my memories - I believe there are many others who were touched in a similar fashion by George over the years.

My first contact with George was at his old boat yard (now Sawmill Marina) back in the 70's. A few years prior I had purchased a "restoration project" - 16-ft Century lapstrake outboard - from Goodhue and Hawkins to work on with my two young sons. After a few summers it was up and running with a 10HP Mercury outboard it even made it to the Weirs show and won a prize.



That visit to George, with my sons, was the beginning of a long-term friendship. Of course he had the next restoration project ready for us - a 1950 Chris-Craft Special Runabout, of course, he would take our Century outboard in trade. We were off with another winter project. During subsequent boat restorations George was there with advice and parts. After each

completion we would go back to show off our efforts, and he would give us feedback on the quality of the restoration.

As many know, George was well known for taking back in trade anything he had sold, and moving you up to the next level. For several years I talked to him about acquiring a Chris-Craft triple cockpit. When he became convinced I would do a creditable job of restoration and promise to keep the boat, he agreed to sell me his 1930, 24 foot Chris-Craft triple cockpit, which he had planned to restore himself. It was in great condition - a perfect project. To this day it has the original bottom and does not leak. All during restoration, George provided advice and information on all the parts I would need. When launch time came in 1995, George was there at Sawmill to help christen *Hepcat!*

I am sure many have similar memories of George. He has left a lasting legacy with our entire family, including our grandchildren, as they grow to understand how all of these wonderful wooden boats came into being here on Lake Winnepesaukee. We will continue to honor George through his Memorial Fund.

George Johnson Memorial Fund

Yes, I would like to make a donation of \$ _____ to the George Johnson Memorial Fund

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Charge: MasterCard Visa Name on Card _____

Card # _____ Expiration Date _____

Check: Make checks payable to: NHBM - please note on memo line - GJohnson fund

Mail Form to: NHBM, PO Box 1195, Wolfeboro Falls, NH 03896