

THOLEPIN SPECIAL EDITION — ERICA SPLASHED!

Old Anacortes Rowing & Sailing Society Newsletter

June 2016

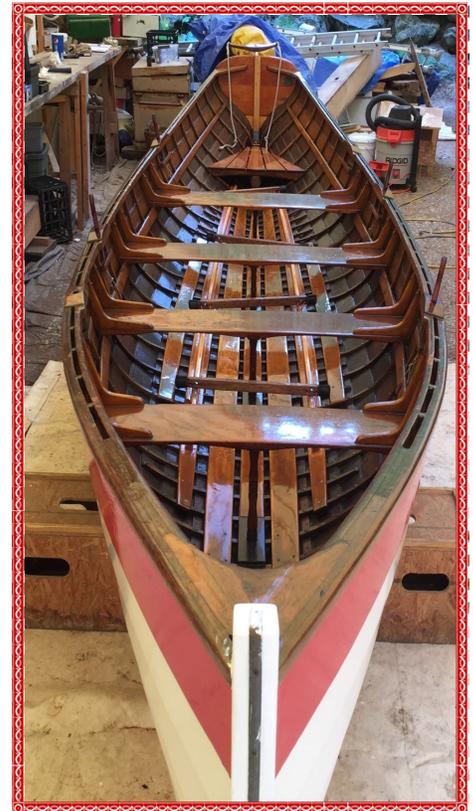
The Erica Has Been Repaired And Re-commissioned

I am happy to report to the OARS' membership that our fleet is once again complete. The Erica is the oldest boat in our service and is now available for our rowing pleasure. She looks beautiful and slips through the water with ease.

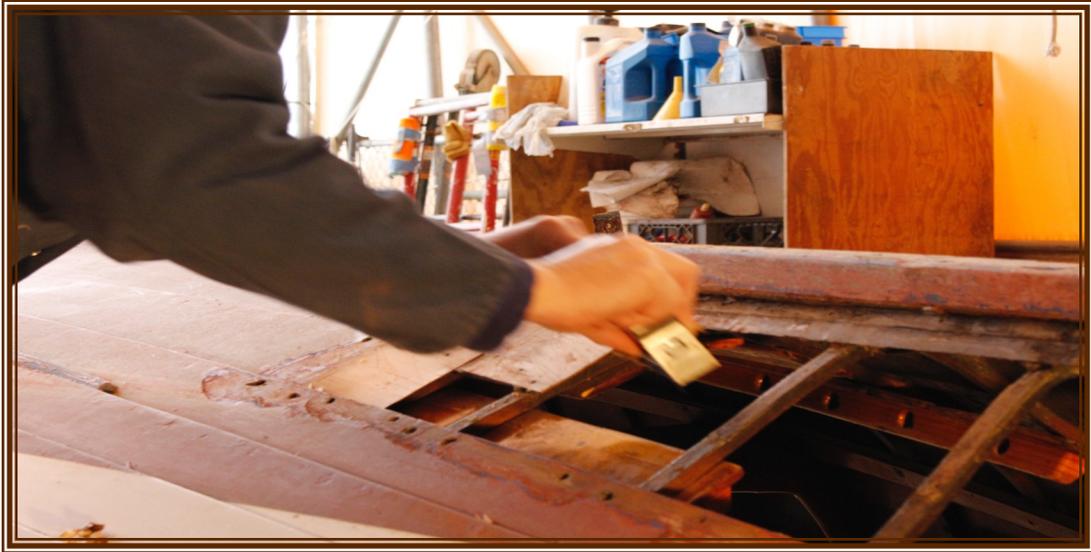
Thanks go to Andy Stewart, our master boat builder from Emerald Marine, David Jackson, our master boat surveyor, Marty Foot, our Maintenance Supervisor, and the crew members who helped in bringing the Erica back to her former glory after almost 3 years in dry dock.

We will be able to enjoy the Erica for many years to come.

Robin H. Pestarino, President, OARS



Repairing the Erica - By: Andy Stewart, Master Boat Builder

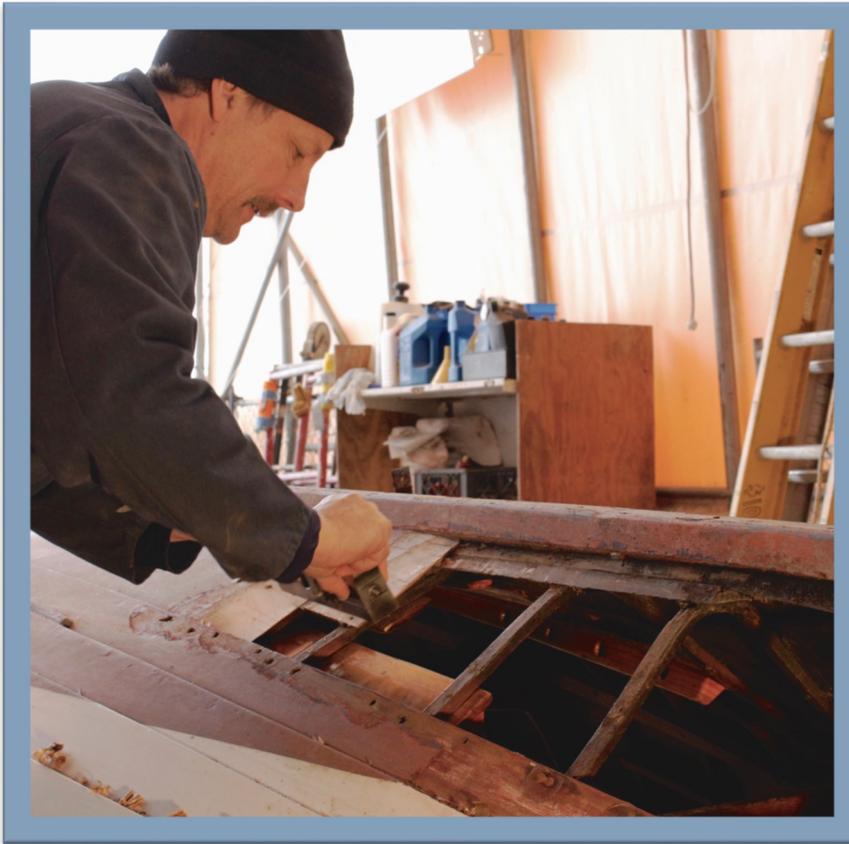


The gig Erica had been dropped while launching from the crane at Cap Sante's PQ dock. She landed on her bottom, stern first. The resulting forces split three planks at her stern; the garboard, first broad on the starboard side, and the first broad on her port.

Once shored up for repair and the bad sections of planking removed, it was discovered that her stern post had also broken at a point just below the transom. This piece was already made weak by over fastening and by the way its rabbet had been cut away. Also contributing to the failure was that the sternpost was made of Douglas fir, a soft wood. Replacing the stern post involved unbolting it from the stern knee, unscrewing from the ransom and using it as a pattern for a new white oak piece.

This was installed with new bolts and screws in such a way as not to weaken it excessively.





Andy Stewart working on the planking

The planks were cut out of carefully selected old-growth cedar and then steamed and bent to get the large amount of bend and twist necessary to conform to the boat.

Subsequent steam and heating with hot water and towels allowed the final shaped pieces to be fit home. The forward ends of these short repaired planks were scarph joined to the old planking with glue and rivets.

The last part of the structural repair was to rivet and clench nail the planks to the frames and each other.

The bottom plank of the transom was replaced as it had been removed to allow for access to the stern post. The new parts were all faired with planes, rasps and a variety of tools to accept the planking. Rivets and clench nails in the adjacent planking were cut and removed to allow for slipping the new planking into place.





Thanks to David Jackson who was an invaluable extra set of hands and a source of encouragement. Good job also to Marty Foot who organized and saw through the complete refinishing of the boat necessary after this repair and so much time out of the water. Thanks to the club for keeping this special boat around and in-service.

Long may she row!





These repairs seem deceptively simple, . . . but they're not. Note replaced portions of transom, the entire transom knee, and portions of 3 planks.



Note extensive repairs Erica's transom, stern-stem, and replaced planks.

The repairs are a tribute to the boatwright's art, in particular the talents of Andy Stewart of Emerald Marine & Carpentry. The repairs took careful deconstructing, steaming, bending, shaping, carving, scarphing, and meticulous fitting. The photos above, by Phil Eley, give an idea of how Andy's skills "made the Erica whole again."

Thank you, Andy!

From all of us in O.A.R.S.

By: Torgy Torgersen

Maintenance Update

Erica reconditioning has been completed and she was placed back into service on Tuesday, May 24. The Erica had been out of service since 2013. Repairs to the damaged stern were completed over the winter by Andy Stewart of Emerald Marine & Carpentry and are a tribute to Andy's enormous talent.

The reconditioning effort, which took approximately one month, was led by Marty Foot and supported by approximately twenty-five OARS members. When finished, Erica looked fabulous; one cannot tell she was ever damaged. Many thanks to all who participated.

Annie C is currently out of service for bottom Painting. She will be returned to the shelter after the Ladies race her in the Lake Samamish Race on June 11. At that time, Glide will be pulled and put into storage until she's reconditioned next year.

By: Marty Foot, Maintenance

Contact Us

Give us a call if you have any contributions to the next Tholepin Issue.

Deadline is the Monday before the first OARS meeting of the month.

Email: obrivi@gmail.com

Phone: (907) 250-3485

Previous issues of the Tholepins can be found on the website. OARSS.org



Re-commissioned Erica Splashed May 24, 2016



Final Painting of The Erica After Repairs

