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[www.spauldingcenter.org](http://www.spauldingcenter.org)

The Spaulding  
 Wooden Boat Center  
 is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt  
 California Public Benefit  
 Corporation



**HOW TO GET INVOLVED**

**VISIT US:** Scheduled tours Wednesday - noon to 2 p.m. or by appointment: call (415) 332-3179

**VOLUNTEER:** Do you have a special talent or interest? Teach a class, lead a tour or sail our boats. Come join the fun!

**BRING YOUR BOAT:** The Spaulding Boat Works has been providing high-quality boat maintenance and repair since the 1950's.

**SHOP:** The Spaulding Center now has caps for sale or free with a \$100+ donation.

**CONTRIBUTE:** We rely on the generous support of people like you who love boats, maritime history and youth educational programs. Choose one or more gift classes that suit you:

- SWBC Membership: \$35 supports all of our programs (receive a hat with a gift of \$100 or more)
- Founder's Circle: any gift of \$1,000 or more this year
- Friend of *Freda*: \$1,200 or more buys a piece of *Freda*, helps us finish her restoration and adds your name to a plaque as a "Friend of *Freda*" forever
- Commodore's Club: any gift of \$10,000 or more
- Spaulding Circle: cumulative lifetime gift of \$25,000 or more
- Business Membership

**MAKE A FOREVER DIFFERENCE:** We are looking for courageous people to make SWBC a premier maritime center. With any gift of \$1,000 or more this year, you will become a Founding Member and make a forever difference!

**APRIL 24<sup>TH</sup> - THE PARDEYS AT SWBC**

Cruising World Hall of Fame members Lin and Larry Pardey present their new seminar, "Sixteen Ways to Keep A Lover," and introduce the revised edition of their "Storm Tactics Handbook." Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 7 - 9 pm. Admission is \$15. Email [mwelther@spauldingcenter.org](mailto:mwelther@spauldingcenter.org) or call (415) 332-3179.

**THE SPAULDING QUARTERLY**

FOOT OF GATE FIVE ROAD, SAUSALITO, CA 94965 • 415-332-3179 • [www.spauldingcenter.org](http://www.spauldingcenter.org) • SPRING 2008

**YOUTH BOAT BUILDING**

Did you ever want to build and sail your own boat? Twenty local high school kids will do just that this spring and summer in the Spaulding Youth Boat Building and Sailing Program (YBBS). Gladys Spaulding's vision for SWBC involved educating young people. In summer 2007, SWBC piloted a woodworking program with the Marin City Recreation program (with a grant from the Larson Family Foundation). This year, we will expand upon this successful model and



build a boat while teaching woodworking skills. Thanks to a Leonard Kaprielian grant from the Sausalito Arts Festival Foundation and one from the Belvedere Cove Foundation, plus generous gifts from Richard Ponzio and Spaulding Board member Linda Swanson, the YBBS Program is fully funded and launched on April 5<sup>th</sup>. The program is a



collaboration with the Big Brother/Big Sisters of the North Bay and the 4-H. Volunteer Craig Southard is the program's Director, which is broken into three phases: (1) learning woodworking skills; (2) a group project building a 12' Norwegian Pram; (3) and learning how to sail this and other Spaulding boats, including the 34' 1906 gaff-sloop *Polaris*.

**FREDA & ARQUES UPDATE**

We are thrilled that the long-awaited move of the Arques School of Traditional Boatbuilding into SWBC will be complete by the end of April. And *Freda*, the 1885 gaff-sloop and oldest private sailing yacht on the west coast, changes every day as her restoration progresses. Bob Darr, Director of the Arques School, is using *Freda* as a teaching project. He and his staff are installing the new clamp and shelf which will join the deck to the new backbone and framing. They are also making the remaining sawn frames. In the meantime, we have purchased Douglas Fir for planking, thanks to a generous \$12,000 donation by the Master Mariners Benevolent Foundation. We expect to have *Freda* completed early in 2009.

You can literally have a stake in *Freda's* future by contributing today and becoming a Friend of *Freda*. Buy a frame or other part of *Freda* for \$1,200 or more and have your name included on a plaque that will permanently stay with the boat.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COLUMN



### Old Boats and New People

Some folks think that a maritime museum is mostly about boats. But, the best part of the Spaulding Wooden Boat Center is the interesting people we attract. Some have been in Sausalito for many years - boat yard Manager **Michael Wiener** grew up here and started working with Myron Spaulding in 1978. The Arques School's **Bob Darr** has been hanging out here since he was a teenager tagging along with his father, Captain Omer Darr.

The Spaulding Boat Works has always been a kind of magnet

- longtime waterfront characters drift in as they have since the yard was built in the 1950's. One is **Harold Sommer**, who is legendary as owner of the tugboat *Alert* and former owner of both *Freda* and *Wander Bird*. Harold, now in his 70's, drops by to see how we're progressing on *Freda* and to tell stories of how he restored her in the 1960's.

Retired businessman **Bert Damner** has sailed boats like the IOD for over 50 years, and owned two boats named the "Damn Near." Bert raced with Myron Spaulding in the 1960's and is now involved at SWBC. He is interested because "the Center is preserving an important

traditional art form and is a great platform for young people to learn."

**Susan Lewin's** husband Chris was transferred from England to a job in Napa, and now the Lewins live with their three daughters in Ross. A year ago, Sue offered to volunteer wherever needed at SWBC, and in 2007, She contributed over 300 volunteer hours.

**Maurice and Janay** are Marin City high school students who learned to carve in the Spaulding Center's 2007 woodworking program. They were among 12 girls and 8 boys who participated. Janay told me that she didn't know that

girls could make things out of wood.

The Spaulding Center, despite being a boat yard, attracts artists, old salts, champion racers, students, retired bankers, famous cruisers. Some are drawn here by the boats, some by their history with Myron Spaulding, and others by their love of the working waterfront.

By the end of April, the Arques School will have moved in to SWBC and the new Youth Boat Building and Sailing Program will be underway.

The Spaulding Center needs your energy and financial support. I hope you will be one of the people who makes SWBC a "living" museum. It is becoming more of what it has always been - a gathering place for interesting people who love boats and the water.

- Mark Welther



## LIN & LARRY PARDEY INTERVIEW

*"Sailing is the most elegant way to travel. The best possible way. You don't have to carry bags, you just sail in and drop your anchor..."*

Larry Pardey

**(Editors Note:** *In 2007, internationally famous sailing couple Lin and Larry Pardey visited SWBC. Their expertise in small boat sailing has earned them membership in the Cruising World Hall of Fame. Sailing together since 1965, they hold numerous cruising records, including the smallest boat to circumnavigate contrary to prevailing winds around all the great southern capes, and the only couple to have circumnavigated both east-about and west-about on wooden boats they built themselves using traditional methods of navigation and with no engine. They are authors of more than twenty cruising books and videos. Below is an excerpt from the 2007 interview. The complete transcript can be seen at [www.spauldingcenter.org](http://www.spauldingcenter.org).*

Larry was born and raised in British Columbia, Canada. He built his first boat at age nine. When she met Larry, Lin was a "desert rat" raised in The Valley of Los Angeles where she was a pianist and accountant. Below is an excerpt from the 2007 interview. The complete transcript can be seen at [www.spauldingcenter.org](http://www.spauldingcenter.org).

**SWBC:** *You strike me as people who have lived your dreams. What is that like? What is your life like?*

**Larry:** Well it's been amazing. If anyone had told me forty years ago what I have done, what Lin and I have done, I would have said "Go on, couldn't happen."

**Lin:** Larry told me what really turned him on was the idea that an average person could go out and see the whole world for more than a week or two and work along the way. On our first day together, he took me up to show me his etchings: a thirty-foot long loft floor. He sat me down, and he said, "You're sitting in the cockpit. You see this line here? This is the edge of the deck. And here's the transom and if you look up here, this is where the bow is going to be and the bowsprit." And as he pointed, I could see him actually looking out into a distant future that to him was a very vivid dream.

By the end of the day I was absolutely entranced; it just sounded magic. So I said, "Can I come with you?" And he said, "Well, just stick with me baby, and we'll go a long ways." So yes, it was that whole dream of not always having to just work for the boss.

So the romance definitely caught both of us.

**SWBC:** *Lin, had you done a lot of sailing before that maiden voyage on Serraffyn?*

**Lin:** Well, that's the interesting part of it. Larry was very aware that he had destroyed one potential sailor, an ex girlfriend, with a frightful first voyage! So when I met him, every time I went sailing, he actually vetted the weather conditions and the boats and so I had the most positive, wonderful early sailing experiences.

**Larry:** Yeah, so she got her first trip on a coastal schooner, the *Agamemnon*, a 36 footer Murray Peterson. There was a Santana wind blowing...

**Lin:** Santana wind ... it was about 15 to 20 knots, off shore. It was the middle of winter, but warm ... a beam reach down the coast and, to me, it was the most romantic thing I'd done in my entire life!

**SWBC:** *You've sailed some 180,000 miles together now I think over 40 odd years. What does sailing that many years on the ocean do to a person, to a relationship?*

**Lin:** I would say it makes you impatient with what other people think is serious in life. One of the wonderful things that happens, when we're at sea, is we have time completely cut off from other people. We have time to talk to each other and plan and think about what we're doing and where we fit in this world. When we get back to shore, we see people squabbling, people coming to war, people rushing. Sailing puts things in perspective. Sailing has taught us to ask, "What are the basic things you need?" You need food; you need water. That's made life easier for us.

The other thing it does for people like ourselves, who sail together so much, is it shows you how much you can rely on another person. It teaches you how much you have to communicate with the other person. There is no ego between the two of us. We support each other. For example, when I began to write, Larry knew I was nervous and so told me, "Lin jump as far as you want and I'll catch you." He's always pushed me and caught me at the other end. So that's why we're pretty good partners.

**SWBC:** *Could I ask you what you think is important about centers like The Spaulding Wooden Boat Center?*

**Lin:** The important thing I see about the Spaulding Center is it is a working boat yard, where there's always a changeable situation and it's a real situation where people are using their hands. Modern life is stealing people's hands and this is something we've watched time and again. Furthermore, you're keeping a waterfront, the way a waterfront should be instead of being a luxury condo development or park because there's something happening here. People are killing their waterfronts. City after city has destroyed their waterfronts. In a way, The Spaulding Wooden Boat Center is a link to our past. It's a working link that's still alive and well worth preserving.