

## An invitation



We have an opportunity to preserve a unique part of Door County's boating history, the incomparable *Shadow*. This pristine 1929 Chris-Craft runabout has spent its entire life in Sister Bay, with only two owners. Please join us in keeping and caring for it here.



## Shadow's Story

On a warm summer evening in 1929, Charles “Chuck” Kimbell, owner of Kimbell Marine Corporation in Chicago, stepped down into the elegant interior of a 26-foot Chris-Craft runabout, turned the key and heard the engine leap to life. Chuck turned the boat into the Chicago River and passed through the locks into Lake Michigan. Surrounded by Honduran mahogany, deep green leather seats and silver trim, Chuck smiled with appreciation for this extraordinary boat and cruised off into the inky night, heading for Sister Bay and the boat’s new owner, Arthur Friedlund, 300 miles away. Chuck had another reason to smile: his future wife was vacationing with her family at their cottage just a mile north of Friedlund’s summer home, Shadow Lawn.

J. Arthur Friedlund was a prominent Chicago corporate attorney and sometime secretary of the New York Yankees. He had already designated his boat *Shadow*, and the name was emblazoned on the transom. With a house, a boat and even a horse by the same name, Friedlund was clearly fascinated with shadows.

Friedlund had contracted for the construction of a boathouse just for *Shadow*, at the water’s edge, and through the ensuing decades the boat became a familiar sight on northern Green Bay. For all who treasured classic boats, for all who appreciated extraordinary quality, for all who yearned to cruise in luxury, *Shadow* was an object of desire.

Young Jack Bunda, still a boy working at his grandmother’s Sister Bay department store, felt this desire more keenly than most. He knew Friedlund as a customer. “I will buy your boat someday,” he often told him.

He was right.

In 1972, after Friedlund died and his estate went on the market, Jack seized his chance and bought *Shadow*. He and a friend engineered a custom boathouse for her at his Bay Shore Drive home, built so that she would sit in a cradle on a concrete slab and launch via a motorized overhead monorail. The boathouse was dry, illuminated at night, filled with boating memorabilia and always spotless.

For more than 40 years, Jack and his son Kenan – a master carpenter – pampered and enjoyed *Shadow*. “You had to know Jack,” says Jack’s widow, Pat. “He was a sailor at heart. He had a love for classic cars and boats.” For him, *Shadow* was something to be cherished. “We only went out in perfect weather, perfect conditions. He did all the mechanical work. He was always looking for parts – that was part of the fun.” Remarkably, *Shadow* is still the same boat Chuck delivered to Arthur Friedlund: every plank and frame is original.

Ice hockey’s famed Stanley Cup had its own ride in *Shadow* in 2009. Ruslan Feditenko, winger for the champion Pittsburgh Penguins, brought the cup to Sister Bay, where his parents had a condo. Jack offered his house for a beachfront party, then took Feditenko and the Stanley Cup for a cruise to Pebble Beach, JJ’s and the village dock.

Jack enjoyed taking friends cruising; they loved the Gatsbyesque experience of boating from another era. In 2001, *Shadow*’s history came full circle when Jack took Mildred Kimbell Ball, Chuck’s widow, and their four progeny on a magical late afternoon cruise to celebrate Mildred’s 95<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Jack died in 2011, and his son Kenan died tragically of cancer in 2017. A group of local *Shadow* enthusiasts is hard at work to keep *Shadow* in Sister Bay, the only home it has ever known. The *Shadow* group seeks to raise at least \$400,000 to cover the purchase price, ongoing maintenance and a permanent facility to house and display the boat. The Sister Bay Historical Society, a 501(c)(3) organization with 25 years’ experience preserving Sister Bay history, has contracted to buy *Shadow*, and is establishing The Shadow Preservation Fund with the Door County Community Foundation for this project.

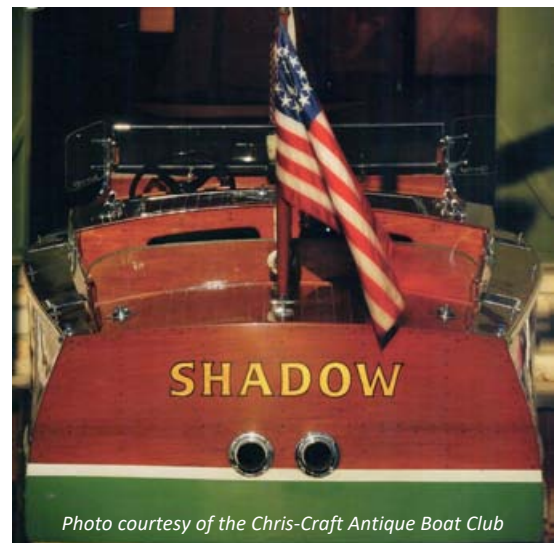


Photo courtesy of the Chris-Craft Antique Boat Club

Yes! — I would like to help preserve this unique part of Door County's boating history.

Please include me as:

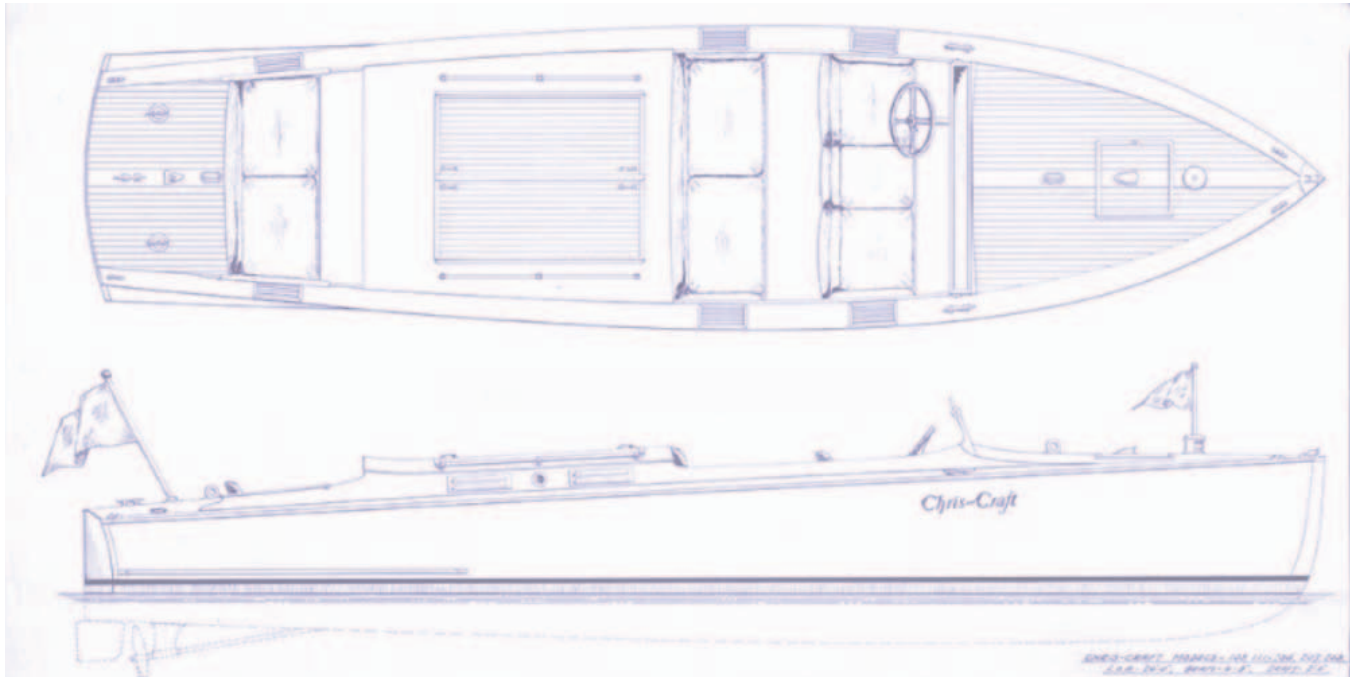
- Admiral (\$100,000 and above)
- Captain (\$50,000-\$99,999)
- Commander (\$25,000-\$49,999)
- Lieutenant (\$5,000-\$24,999)
- Ensign (up to \$4,999)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, state, zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Checks may be made payable to [Society of Seafarers](#) or [Boat Builders of Door County](#). If you are a [Society of Seafarers](#) member, please send checks to [Society of Seafarers](#), c/o [Seafarers House](#), 1000 [Society of Seafarers](#) [Building](#), [P.O. Box 1000](#), [Door County, WI 54801](#). If you are a [Boat Builders of Door County](#) member, please send checks to [Boat Builders of Door County](#), [P.O. Box 1000](#), [Door County, WI 54801](#).



**The *Shadow* Committee:** Fred Anderson, Russ Forkert, Lars Johnson, Mike Kahr, Alan Kimbell, Mitch Larson, Tim Hallbrook.