

## Seattle Boat Show 2002: A Report

By: Thom Vetromile

The Seattle Boat Show for the past couple of years has been held in the Seattle Exhibition Center a smaller venue than the now imploded King Dome. This building has a warmer 'feel' with the boats on the main floor and the 'parts and pieces' for boats on the above veranda.



View from the upper balcony into the 'sea of boats' below. With the monotone of white for color, the comment was heard: "Looks like a bunch of new sneakers..."

On the other hand, the small boats were a profusion of color...!





The Easy Rider Company has been producing innovative kayaks and canoe craft for the past 32 years. Owner designer Peter Kaupat has put together a wonderful array of small craft that can be paddled, sailed, and rowed. His variations on the Kayak are most interesting: Imagine taking the 22'6" 2-hole Eskimo kayak that breaks down into 4 parts and with the 3 mast sailing rig--with the take apart 8 foot ama--boarding a plane for Belize. Hitting the beach, assemble the boat and set sail on gem green water heading for the outer islands.

Part of a "Take -A-Part" Easy Rider Kayak can be seen in the background—the white hull.



This lovely dog hardly moved during the whole 10 day boat show...!



Here is the Boaters World HUGE sand sculpt standing 20 feet tall, massive in size yet the up close detail was stunning.

Below: Nexus Marine Corporations new 34' Express Cruiser—in model form for testing.



Nexus Marine's 24' "Tye" This has been David Roberts and Nancy Sosnove's answer to power cruising the Puget Sound region. Nicely built and finished, glass over plywood with a 'soft' ride at speed.

The Puget Sound Maritime Museum exhibit. These folks will have a new location in the Maritime Museum Heritage Center in South Lake Union Park. Here will be housed paintings, artifacts and 70,000 historic marine photos.



The Center for Wooden Boats booth showed a skiff they now sell as a kit...

Gig Harbor Boat Works--New England Dory.  
15'8" LOA,  
BEAM 4'9",  
DISP. 250Lbs.,  
SA 89Sq.Ft.,  
DRAFT 7", 2'4"  
w/ board down.





Here is Gig Harbor Boat Works Auxiliary Motor. This is 44# thrust electric lower unit fabricated to a rudder. The battery is located in the boat under the forward thwart. There is a hand held remote unit to control speed.

This is a nicely shaped small boat, the "Orca" dinghy by Sunbacker Fiberglass, Inc. LOA 9' 9 1/2", BEAM 3' 11", WEIGHT 85Lbs. It is recreated from a Norwegian design built of wood in 1921. Alfred Lewis the builder states the rowing qualities are outstanding for such a short waterline boat.



This bronze propeller from Prop Scan was a visual stunner! Bordered on art. The back edge of the blades are as sharp as a knife. This is a fine example of marine engineering as practiced in the Puget Sound Cescent.

End.