



Mantoloking's Kate Leigh Cutler creates a watercolor painting that will be given away at the 33rd Annual World Duckboat Championships on Aug. 24 at the Mantoloking Yacht Club. Ms. Cutler is the first artist to be asked to design a championship poster.

## Duckboat World Championships returns to Mantoloking Yacht Club

**Charities to benefit from each refurbished boat in this year's race.**

By Bill Miller

For the second year in a row duckboat owners that race their boats can qualify for donations up to \$5,000 at the 33rd annual World Duckboat Championships at the Mantoloking Yacht Club on Friday, Aug. 24.

Duckboats that have raced before and judged to be in Bristol condition will be eligible to earn a \$5,000 contribution to a charity of the racer's choosing. New boats who have never raced before and are judged to be in Bristol condition will be eligible to earn a \$5,000 contribution to a charity of the racer's choosing. Boats in Bristol condition that did not earn a \$5,000 contribution at last year's race will be eligible to earn a \$5,000 donation this year.

To receive the donation, duckboat owners must satisfy a three-man panel of judges that evaluate the work of the individuals refurbishing duckboats. Bristol quality, which is defined as the quality of a ship-shaped vessel in the British port of Bristol, means in impeccable shape.

Duckboats considered to be refurbished in the Bristol quality will then compete in the duckboat race.

Once the boat is determined by the judges to be in Bristol quality and is raced in the Duckboat World 2001 Competition, it is eligible for a \$5,000 donation.

The judging and the race take place on Aug. 24. Starting time is 9 a.m. The arena is Barge Bay. Judging and launching are at the Mantoloking Yacht Club.

Peter Kellogg, the sponsor of the event, said he has a goal with this event. He has noted that he is motivated by raising and reclaiming the awareness of the duckboat. That is the purpose of the refurbishing competition.

"I have an interest in wooden

boats. It's kind of fun to restore them and make them look good. It's even more fun to race them," said Mr. Kellogg.

"It's a pleasure," added Mr. Kellogg about sponsoring an event that is both fun for the community and benefits various charities.

Since each Bristol quality boat is awarded, if it is possible that, for example, if 20 entrants achieved Bristol quality in the eyes of the judges, the prize money would grow to \$100,000.

While duckboats from junior sailing groups of 14 yacht clubs, from boat yards and other sources are planning to enter, there is still time to enter the competition.

Any refurbished duckboat sitting in a garage or boat yard may enter the competition. Participation by young and old is traditionally encouraged in the Duckboat Worlds.

"Last year we had 11 entries. I'm hoping for more this year," said Mr. Kellogg. "I just hope people will look under the front porch for any old duckboats they have lying around because it could be worth money to some charity this year."

Mr. Kellogg has provided duckboats to be refurbished to several yacht clubs including Blackwood Island Heights, Lavallette, Manasquan River, Mendocino, Ocean Gate, Pine Beach, Seaside Park, Shore Acres and Toms River. The junior sailing groups at these clubs are assisting in the refurbishing under member guidance.

Also entering boats in this year's competition are the Bay Head and Mantoloking Yacht Clubs, the Toms River Regatta and the New Jersey Museum of Boating.

Contestants may enter the race as skipper of their own duckboat or may entrust their craft to an individual of their choice. The race will retain its same informal, traditional old-time format.

"It's not an Olympic-type competition. Everyone is going to have fun," said Mr. Kellogg about the race's informal structure.

For the first time a poster created by an artist that has been around sailboats for most of her life has been created for the race.

Mantoloking resident Kate Leigh Cutler, sailed a duckboat for many years and used those experiences to create this year's poster.

"My first boat was one of the actual dagger-hunting boats and I spent most of my time nose-diving," she said.

Later her father built a Phil Clark boat, which included a heliary of a splashboard. She sailed all over the bay and she remembers long tow rides home.

Ms. Cutler is the first artist to create the duckboat championship poster. The purpose of the poster is to serve as a collectible that can raise money for Save Raritan Bay, an environmental group based in Lavallette. A different artist will be chosen to design the poster next year.

"This is a creative project that has been an honor and fun. Having spent so many summers competing in this class, it is special to be a part of it myself," said Ms. Cutler about being chosen to design the first poster.



Duckboats are on the move in a scene from last year's race at the Mantoloking Yacht Club. The race returns to the yacht club on Aug. 24 for the Duckboat Worlds 2001 Competition. The race begins at 9 a.m.