




been so difficult to persuade we would have beaten them to the punch! We spoke to Carl Crammer, editor of *Wooden Boat*, who encouraged us to participate in a boat school weekend event. Joe Yousha, director of the Alexandria Marine Museum, who actually spearheads the whole family boatbuilding movement, welcomed us into the fold and provided valuable insights. In fact, he told us to come and build a boat. The *Today Show* was planning to film the event and he would try to get us coverage as a new start-up. After our arrangements were made, we went and built our floating memory, but were edited off the show.

We decided that we could do something similar and put our own thumb print on it by offering regularly scheduled classes to fit more vacation schedules, as well as overcome the excuse many people have: "I don't have the time!"

We began by offering a two-day row boat as well as a one-day pirogue—pronounced pea-row. It is shaped like a canoe and some people love it. At our very first class, PBS was here filming, and it has been going strong ever since.

Every event we host is like a festival here at our Grand View Farm. People thank us over and over again for the marvelous exposure to this type of work, for the memories of the best vacation they've ever had, for giving them one more weekend with the kids before going off to college, for teaching the younger kids about tools, how to work with them and how to take care of them.

Our boat school is all about reaching back to the kids. About giving the next generation the opportunity to enjoy the water as we all have. And it's about making memories so they, too, can reach back and help the generation after their's. 



To view photos and information about the Tennessee Boat School visit our website: TennesseeBoatSchool.com

To learn about other family boat building events go to *Wooden Boat* magazine's website and click on family boabuilding.

To view Karl's work visit our website: SandraLynnBoatWorks.com

Click on and say hello, or call us at 731.584.2103. We'd love hear from you.