



A Waterman's Life, Scott Todd, 6 September 2006

This oral history program in the South Dorchester Folk Museum series, offered in affiliation with the Dorchester County Historical Society presents Scott Todd, a fourth generation Dorchester County waterman. Todd talked about his and his family's experiences on Chesapeake Bay and share a collection of family photographs. One of Todd's "pond yachts" was on display during the talk.

One of Todd's grandfathers was Emerson Todd, who dredged oysters with the *Rebecca Ruark*. Built on Taylor's Island in 1886, *Rebecca* is currently owned by Wade Murphy of Tilghman Island and is the bay's oldest operating skipjack. The speaker's skipjack, *Lady Katy*, was constructed in 1955 by the late master boat builder Bronza Parks and is currently docked at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in St. Michaels awaiting restoration. Todd has also become active during the past few years in the American Model Yachting Association and is an approved manufacturer of the miniature boats. His models have become popular at regattas throughout the country.

Todd's other grandfather was Milford Elliott, a boat builder. "I guess it sort of trickled down," Todd said. "I'm just building a different type of boat than he did. I've adapted to the times. There's not much need anymore for a traditional Chesapeake Bay wooden workboat."



Lady Katie Awaiting Restoration