

Submitted by Pacific City Dorymen's Association Scholarship Recipient:

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Is the Dory Fleet of Pacific Cit Important? Why?

As the fifth generation on our small family dairy farm in south Tillamook County, and also being an avid outdoorsman, the Pacific City Dory Fleet has always been a prominent presence in my life.

From a young age I can remember going to Cape Kiwanda and seeing the dorys come and go. I was always fascinated with the one-of-a-kind style of the dory and way they launched and returned to shore. I still am privileged to hear stories from my Dad and Grandpa about their experiences going on dory charters with Paul Hanneman. When I listen to them talk it is easy to tell that they will never forget the special fishing trips.

Fishing is one of my favorite pastimes, and the few opportunities I have had to go fishing in a dory out of Cape Kiwanda have been the most unique and memorable of my fishing experiences. Nothing compares with the splash of surf in your face as you launch, or the timing of the motor surging to the shore at the end of the day.

To me, one of the most interesting parts of the Dory Fleet is the boats themselves. Not only the specific styles of the dorys that have become a trademark of Pacific City, but also where the boats come from. Many of the dory's are locally made. Some are even made by those that use them. Their original names make them seem more than just a boat.

I believe it all begins when a person sees the boats coming and going at the Cape. Then they go on their first fishing trip or simply watch the boats come and go. No matter what the age, young or old, or where they are from, it creates a special memory.

The focus of the fleet has changed along with the changes in our society. No longer is commercial fishing the primary focus of the dorys. Recreation is probably the main emphasis of today's dorys. However, the fleet still remains a draw for those visiting and living in the Pacific City area. There are few places you can experience the uniqueness of salt air and wind on your face, the crash of the ocean and the launching of a boat through the surf. The beauty of Cape Kiwanda and the experience of watching the dorys create an atmosphere not found anywhere else. It is the unique experience and group of boat owners that help make the Pacific City area what it is. A beautiful place to come and fish, play or just relax.

Many will dream of one day owning a boat of the own. I am one of them. Those who are lucky enough to have their dream come true will become a part of the important tradition and unique culture of Pacific City, Oregon. Those who come here to observe this tradition can also feel a part of it. Is the Dory Fleet of Pacific City important? YES! I am proud to be able to say that my community is "The Home of the Dory Fleet."