



**Ken Kelly** has collected wooden canoes since 1993 and currently has 16 in his fleet.

Ken's canoe interest has evolved to focus on the long-deck 'courting' canoes popular in The Charles River 'Lakes District' (Boston) from 1905 through 1920s.

Courting canoes were high grade models, that cost 50% more than standard canoes, with very distinctive 3' or 4' mahogany decks.

The long decks created a much smaller seating area

that assured the passengers would be close together. Besides these canoes, Ken collects photographs, postcards, sheet music and other material from this period. These 'views' of social canoeing on The Charles River make up the presentation he will share at QWS.

Ken is a member of the Wooden Canoe Heritage Association and currently serves as a director on their board. He is also on the board of the West Michigan chapter (Water Wonderland) of the Antique and Classic Boating Society,

Ken is a marketing consultant and wine distributor based in Grand Rapids. Wife Mary, and sons Reed & Ian appreciate and support his canoe interests as long as he doesn't make them get too directly involved