Launching through the Surf Traveling Exhibit Panel 05: Dory Derby

Tyrone Marshall  
*Linfield College*

Brenda DeVore Marshall  
*Linfield College*

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Launching through the Surf: The Dory Fleet of Pacific City

3rd Annual Dory Derby
Pacific City Schedules

Thousands See Events At Third Dory Derby

Fly-In Fish Fry cancelled

Dory Derby double-ender races in 1959

Skip Bailey and Lee Peterson compete in the 1972 Derby race

Fly-In Fish Fry, 1950s

Poster designed and printed by Paul Hanneman, 1962

The August 20, 1950, dedication of the Pacific City airport attracted 33 planes. By 1952, the then annual Fly-In Fish Fry attracted 65 planes and 1500 people who consumed more than half a ton of fish. The popular Fly-In was canceled in 1959, a victim of its own success as the number of planes and crowds had become too large for the small community to handle. Instead, Pacific City contributed to the state's sesquicentennial commemoration by inaugurating the Dory Derby. Like the dory fleet it celebrates, the festival has undergone various transformations and now continues as Dory Days.