MLAOC at 2019 Toronto International Boat Show

Article: Ken Kirk



L: Ken Kirk with Sandy Kennedy & our display of 100 year old plus outboards.

Our Club was once again invited by the Antique & Classic Boat Society to participate with them and with the Trent Severn Antique & Classic Boat Association in a collaborative display at the Toronto International Boat Show, Jan. 19 to 27. The ACBS theme for 2019 is "Aged to Perfection.... A Celebration of 100 year-old Boats & Motors". In keeping with this theme we decided that our MLAOC display would be composed of outboards that were all more than 100 years old.

Owen Aho displayed his 1913 Wisconsin, Ron Stevenson showed his German built 1909 Effzett, Sandy Kennedy brought out an early Evinrude Detachable Row Boat Motor with the original wooden packing case and Ken Kirk displayed his 1914 Waterman Porto with variable pitch propeller and a 1915 Koban Twin. Many Show visitors had never seen outboards this old before and were amazed at their primitive appearance. Outboards from the 1950's were also represented in the overall display. Bill Sumner displayed his award winning 1959 Glastron fibreglassic powered by twin 1959 Johnson Super Sea Horse 35's.

John Gullick & Murray Parnell showed their 1958 Nordson with Johnson 35 plus the TSACBA Club project boat, HALF & HALF.



John Gullick & Murray Parnell's 1958 Nordson with beautiful Johnson 35.

Photos: Ken Kirk & Sandy Kennedy



Bill Sumners Glastron with Twin 1959 Johnson Super Sea Horse 35s.

This 1954 Lakefield "Seminole" cedar strip and Johnson QD, 10hp motor are restored on the starboard side and left in the original unrestored condition on the port side. Even the remote fuel tank is half restored. A real head turner. Also in the display was a unique "Rent & Ride" two person boat that was built in England by the British Motorboat Company. These boats were for hire, along-side canoes, in amusement parks, on ponds & on rivers, even the Thames, during the 1930's. This boat has a British Motor Company outboard motor mounted "through the hull" in front of the driving position.

We made a real effort to aggressively solicit new members at the Show this year. Our efforts paid off. A significant number of new MLAOC members signed up on the spot and Membership Applications handed out at the Show are still coming in.

In addition to those mentioned above, thank you as well to MLAOC Members Peter Johnson, Jim Greig & John Struthers for volunteering to man our display at various times during Boat Show Week. Also to Adam Gibb who was a big help with set up.

Special thanks to Ron Stevenson who took on the lions share of the effort to bring motors to the Show for set up and to pack up the display and move out the motors when the Show was over. Ron also did triple duty manning the display during the Show.

All in all it was a big effort, lots of fun and a great success.



Ken Kirk explains the mysteries of running an outboard that's over 100 years old.

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Photos: Ken Kirk & Sandy Kennedy



ACBS Toronto Past President Rick Terry with a 1954 Johnson QD 10hp.



MLAOC Member John Struthers with our 100 year old plus motors.

TSACBA half restored/ half original, Lakefield "Seminole". A great presentation of before & after restoration.







1931 British Motorboat Company "Rent & Ride" boat.
Only 8 feet long & powered by a BMC "through the hull" outboard motor.



Mercury Marine 80th Anniv. Display