

PowerBoat TV Visits MLAOC Members

By Ken Kirk Photos: Sandy Kennedy & Murray Parnell

In early October, PowerBoat Television Producer Jake Thomas reached out to Murray Parnell, expressing interest in doing a TV segment on fibreglassics, their history, their restoration and their appeal. To tell the story Murray pulled together members of ACBS Toronto, the Trent Severn Antique & Classic Boat Association and the Maple Leaf Antique Outboard Club to be interviewed with fibreglass boats and vintage outboard motors from their respective collections.

The production began in Peterborough. Producer and Co-host, Drew McMillin, along with Cameraman Eric Schurman, interviewed Tim Jackson, John Gullick and Murray Parnell. The TSACBA had assembled nine boats to be filmed and discussed. The boats included Tim's Super Sidewinder, John's 1960 Leavens Victor and seven boats from Murray's fibreglassic collection, including a Checkmate MX13, two 1958 Glastrons and a very early Humber Jewel.

Next stop for the PowerBoat TV crew was the Canadian Hydroplane & Race Boat Museum in Peterborough and a visit with Randy Milligan. Randy had the opportunity to tell the story of his 1971 Staudacher built Unlimited Hydroplane with an Allison 12-cylinder motor. Although not a fibreglassic, it definitely captured the attention of the PowerBoat TV guys.

Then off to Port Perry and Wayne's World for interviews with Wayne Robinson and Ken Kirk and to film boats and outboards from their respective collections. Wayne did two segments, one on his overall collection with a focus on his award winning AristoCraft Boats and a second segment on Mini Boats and early incarnations of Personal Watercraft. Ken did a segment on the history of fibreglass boats and their development and another segment on vintage outboard motors focusing on the history of the Evinrude Brand.

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L-R: Cameraman Eric Schurman, Sandy Kennedy & PowerBoat TV Co-Host Drew McMillin.

Murray Parnell prepping to be interviewed.

Wayne Robinson looking good for the camera.

Ken Kirk talking Evinrude history.



Eight Mini Boats and Fibreglassics with Classic Outboards all lined up for the PowerBoat TV Cameras at Peterborough.

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Several weeks later the PowerBoat TV crew continued their pursuit of quality vintage boating content with a visit to Sandy Kennedy's Marine Motor Museum.

Sandy was interviewed regarding the history and development of the outboard motor and the rise and fall of OMC and the Evinrude brand. Lots of great "eye candy" at Sandy's to capture the attention of the camera.

Watch the program scheduling for PowerBoat Television in early 2021 to catch some of this great program content. The weekly show airs on Global, Saturdays at 11:00 am.

Go to powerboattv.com for scheduling and past episodes. You can also watch PowerBoat TV on YouTube.

Thanks very much to the good people at PowerBoat TV for continuing to support and promote our vintage watercraft hobby.

Thanks also to Murray Parnell for spearheading this initiative and to all those members who participated and put forward a considerable effort to make this all happen and to present our hobby in a professional manner.



Sandy Kennedy being interviewed at his Marine Motor Museum



John Gullick on camera with two of his Fibreglassics



Murray Parnell's row of restored Evinrudes helped to tell the Evinrude story.



Wayne Robinson talked about his collection of vintage mini boats (foreground), And award winning Merc powered AristoCraft Boats, (background).

