

17th Annual Minoquca Antique and Classic Boat Show

July 25-27, 2008

by Eric Moberg

Once again Gordon Moore mobilized the troops to put together a great weekend of fun and entertainment while raising funds for the fight against multiple sclerosis. Helping out with the expanded agenda this year was Dave Bortner of Mahogany Bay. Between the concessions, Tee shirt sales and donations, the show raised almost seven thousand dollars for MS.



This year's festivities started a little earlier than in previous years, with an organized cruise and lunch on the Minoquca chain on Friday. This was a great chance to get to see the many beautiful inter-connected lakes, bays and channels – and cool boathouses-without fear of losing your way or having an equipment failure by your self. Although some violent thunderstorms passed through the area all day, the boaters escaped the worst of it. An ominous sky also greeted the Friday evening boat parade that kicks off the Min-Aqua Bat ski show, but the rain mostly held off, allowing that tradition to continue. Each boat is identified to the crowd as it cruises past the grandstand.

Saturday and Sunday were an entirely different story, with gorgeous weather. By show time on Saturday, the docks and grounds of Bosaki's were filling up with mahogany and classic glass beauties and woody cars; and the first of a steady flow of hundreds of spectators.

Saturday afternoon entertainment was provided by the voice and guitar of Ron Harrison, punctuated by the occasional growl of an old engine firing up. Equally entertaining was the concession area, staffed by friends and family of Gordon, who served up a steady flow of brats, beers, sodas, and one-liners all day both days.

To cap off an already great weekend, the famous Budweiser Clydesdales made an appearance on Sunday afternoon, strutting down the main drag of town and stopping in front of Bosaki's for photo opportunities for all.



The award winners were as follows:

- Best Outboard – Mike Porrey's 1958 Carver
- Best Century – Dave Bortner's 1961 Century Coronado
- Best Post-war Chris Craft – Ralph Marrison's 1956 Continental 26'
- Best Pre-war Chris Craft – Dave Bortner's 1940 Chris Craft
- People's Choice – John Kwittek's 1932 Gar Wood

The Minocqua show is one of our favorites, and we keep coming back year after year. The pristine waters, fresh pine-scented north woods air, friendly people and relaxed atmosphere make this show a winner. Add in the loons and eagles frequenting the dock area, and the wildlife visible on shore and on the nearby Bear-skin hiking / biking trail and you have a great getaway.

Come up for next year's show, scheduled for July 24-26, 2009, and you too will be hooked.

