

1947 Hunter

From my understanding this boat was built in 1942 as a prototype for the 22' model that was produced later. Hunter was just getting into the market of pleasure craft post WW2. The boat was put up for sale in 1947 and listed as the same year. Under the sub-floor board (UNDERSIDE) behind the drivers seat is the model and production number. According to a gentleman I talked to several years ago this boat was only 1 of 2 ever built. As far as he knew at the time none were in existence until I came forward. I don't recall his name, but I found him through Port Carling Boat club. He was one of the men who were employed by Hunter Boats and actually was part of the builder of this boat. I really wish I knew more about him or even had his name still.

The original owner that purchased the boat was Mrs. McCrae. She and her husband had the boat at their cottage on Lake Joseph until the mid to late 1970's when it was given to my Grandfather Orville Brown. My grandfather had maintained the boat and made sure of its launch and removal from the water every year since the boat was new. The boat was always store in a covered boat house at the McCrea's.

My earliest memories as a child of the boat were on Lake Joseph going for rides with my Grandfather around the bay. As I got older the Boat was given to my grandfather as Mrs. McCrea was to old to use and enjoy it anymore and her husband had passed away several years earlier. This as far as I can remember was around 1977-79. My Grandfather now had moved the boat to his place on Georgian Bay just north of Honey Harbour.

The boat needed a new motor because the original Grey motor had a cracked block. A 1969 Volvo was installed in its place. That motor was pulled out and kept in my Grandfathers basement shop every year after that until the mid 90's. The pulling of the motor and installation come spring is one of my fondest memories because it was me who had to go into the engine bay and crawl underneath and undo everything. I guess I was the only one small enough at the time. As far as I know the rest of the boat is original. During the early 80's the boat underwent a complete refinish. This was a lot of stripping and sanding. It was a whole family affair at this time. Everyone had to help at this project to get it back in the water before the summer ended. It was at the completion of this project that My Grandfather named the boat "LITTLE LADY" because this was his girl. Believe me there was friction between him and my Grandmother over this boat. I get a good laugh out of it now looking back. I swear a couple of times she said "It's me or that damn boat" well, the boat is still around.

In the mid 90's my grandmother was sick and passed away. My Grandfather was getting older and moved off Georgian Bay so the boat was in dry dock for a couple of years. It was at this point that he wanted me to have the boat with hopes I could refinish it. As time went on I realized that I was not going to be able to finish the boat. The costs and now having a young family I could not devote the time and money necessary to complete the project. I believed the boat needed some one who was willing to properly restore this beauty. It was now that through my Uncle and cousin that I heard of you (Mark) and your personnel love of the old wooden boats.

It's now the end of my era with the Old Girl and I am glad to be passing her along to you. In a small way through marriage she's still floating through the family tree. The best of luck to you with her. Enjoy...

Shawn Rogers

P.S. keep me posted of progression and If any further information comes to light I'll gladly forward it.



Sold November 27, 2010.

Shawn Rogers

Boat was launched at Fooks Bay at the tip of Lake Joseph, because the highway "69" didn't go any further, until years later. Many hours of enjoyment going out for boat rides on Lake Joe. When the boat was in Georgian Bay we even went water skiing behind it.

Original owner

Constance McCrae.

2nd

Orville Brown.

3rd

Shawn Rogers.