



Public Announcement

Date: 05 January 2019
Contact: Mr. Andreas Jordahl Rhude
Email: thompsonboat@msn.com

THOMPSON CLASSIC BOAT SHOW

The **THOMPSON ANTIQUE AND CLASSIC BOAT RALLY** will take place Saturday June 29, 2019. The gathering of boats will be at Nestegg Marine, 300 Wells Street in Marinette, Wisconsin on the banks of the Menominee River. Organizer Andreas J. Rhude indicated that past Rally gatherings have had up to 60 boats displayed.

The event celebrates the marine endeavors of Thompson Boat and all her related spin-offs. Thompson began building boats in 1904 at Peshtigo, Wisconsin and grew to become the largest maker of outboard powered boats in the world. Thompson Boat operated in Peshtigo until 1980 when the firm went bankrupt and eventually moved to St. Charles, Michigan. Cruisers, Inc. of Oconto began in 1953 under ownership of Ray, Glenn, Roy, Grant, Bob, and Ted Thompson. Yar-Craft Boat got underway in 1969 when Jack Dallman started the fiberglass boat firm in Menominee. He had been vice president and general manager at Thompson in Peshtigo prior to starting Yar-Craft.

Boats built by the Thompsons and their numerous spin-offs include:

Thompson Brothers Boat Manufacturing Co.	Peshtigo, WI and Cortland, NY
Thompson Boat Co.	Peshtigo, WI and St. Charles, MI
Thompson Boat Co. of New York, Inc.	Cortland, NY
Thompson Royal-Craft, Inc.	Cortland, NY
Thompson by Chris-Craft	Cortland, NY
Cruisers, Inc.	Oconto, WI
T & T Boats, Inc.	Wausaukee, WI
Yar-Craft Boats	Menominee, MI (moved to Wausau, WI in 2004)
Thompson Skis, Inc. (water skis)	Crivitz, WI

Of all these firms, Cruisers Yachts at Oconto continues to operate, making large pleasure yachts. Yar-Craft moved to Wausau in 2004 and then to Arkansas in 2011.

Wooden boats and canoes as well as classic vessels made of fiberglass will be displayed both in the water and on land. An informal swap meet will take place throughout the weekend. An in-water boat parade will be held on Saturday afternoon with boats plying the waters of the Menominee River and Lake Michigan's Green Bay. There will be plenty of time to share restoration stories with others and to go for boat rides. The Rally is a non-judged event.

Former workers of Thompson Boat, Cruisers, Inc., T & T Boats, and Thompson Skis are invited to attend the event.

Show hours are 9:00 – 4:00 on Saturday June 29th. It is free and open to the public.

Program subject to change. The Rally is a non-profit corporation.

For additional information contact: Mr. Andreas Jordahl Rhude
Phone: 612-723-8581 Email: thompsonboat@msn.com