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Pro Rider is proud to support and present coverage of the Sixth Annual Liqui Moly Pro Watercross World Championship starting on page 16! Pro Rider November/December 2020 cover shot rider Deven Farthing revs up on the starting line!

Photo: Vicki Baker















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Despite everything going on in the world the event had record breaking rider turnout. Lines were full, racing was close all week with countless examples of great sportsmanship.

PWC PLAYS CRITICAL ROLE IN EXTREME SPORT OF TOW SURFING 28 Tow surfing is a team sport. The PWC driver and the surfer must have a level of

trust that goes beyond any team sport. GREAT RIDE GREAT CAUSE : KIDS IN CARE CHARITY JETSKI RIDE AND GUINNESS WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT IN AUSTRALIA! 22

It was heart-warming to see the community come together for a great cause with

156 skis completing the world record attempt. Breathtaking pwc guided rides long beach to catalina island

25 Catalina Island rides are 60 miles round trip and geared towards advanced ocean

riders with amazing views of wildlife, and rock and land formations. 2020 13™ Annual Hydro-Turf Hydrodrag World Championships

26 — RECORD TURNOUT!

This was the largest turnout of the season with more PWC Clubs participating than ever before, teams like Matatanes and the Empire Jet Ski Club coming in full force.

British Freestyle Defies Couid with novel virtual format! 28

Records were broken in the first ever virtual British Freestyle Championships despite the backdrop of Covid.

CRUISING THE SPECTACULAR GREAT BARRIER REEF BY PWC 30

Pristine waters and stunning reef structures - the natural beauty of the Great Barrier Reef is amazing.

CALLING ALL POWERSPORT LOVERS — MEET NAMURA TECHNOLOGIES 32

Based in Minnesota, Namura Technologies offers a wide variety of pistons, rings, gaskets and bearings for today's MX, ATV, UTV, Off-Road and PWC riders.

COME RIDE WITH DFW SKI RIDERS

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The Dallas Fort Worth (DFW) Ski Riders was formed so people around the DFW area could meet up with others, ride and have fun.

FAMILY'S VINTAGE SKI COLLECTION FEATURES RARE MODELS 48

The Cognetta family shares their Vintage Kawasaki Jetski collection with readers.

APWC BOONDOOMBA OLD SCHOOL DAM RACING IN AUSTRALIA

The Queensland Personal Watercraft Club took racing back to old school with great racing and even better comradery.

ADDICTED TO RIVER RIDES POLAR BEAR BURGER RUN 44 PWC RIVER RIDING

If you are looking for your first river adventure, try a "Burger Run" down the Tennessee River a quick 48-mile ride including passing through a lock

Arnold Martinez — fit and fast at fifty-five 46

Arnold Martinez is a man on a mission returning to the water track testing his stamina and mental strength and proving, at 55, age is truly just a number!

TECH TIPS AND TRICKS: INTRODUCING GREG GRODIS AKA "HULK JUNIOR" SPONSORED BY: GREENHULK.NET DOWN THE PWG RABBIT HOLE WE GO! Growing up on the bayous of Louisiana, Greg Gaddis spent all his free time on the 48

water. On busy days with lots of speed boats, he'd pull out the high horsepower machines with hopes of being the fastest watercraft.

PLAYING IN THE WAVES — EXTREME STYLE

Adrenalin junkies love waves and surf, riding PWCs in extreme conditions.

57

SERHBURDS PRODUCTIONS AND PWC COMMUNITY: INTERVIEW WITH KERNY KOONGEKenny Koonge aka 'Ken KayGees' is passionate about PWC riding both on and off the water. He hosts a weekly live show, the Rec Ride Report.

Hane a go! Jet ski racing new Zealand introduces Novices to the racecourse

"Have a go" novice day introduces newbies to a racecourse without the intimidation of riding amongst more battle-hardened riders.

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WATERCRAFT MAGAZINE

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Much of the action depicted in this publication is potentially dangerous. Virtually all the riders seen in our photos are experienced experts or professionals. Do not attempt to duplicate any stunts that are beyond your own capabilities. Always wear appropriate safety gear.

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SOCIAL MEDIA













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- 1. "It's an X2 kind of Christmas!" Photo: @pete.burke.5
- 2. "Any guesses on what series of unfortunate events led to this moment?" - Photo: @wsmfreeride
- 3. "@quintenbossche98 putting in the heat on @agoethals5!" - Video: @quintenbossche98
- 4. "Clean @emefreestyle Roid hull in black/gold!" Photo: @emefreestyle
- 5. "@jjetrin ripping the 2021 @yamahaboating 4-stroke Super Jet! Check out our Super Jet feature article in the 2020 September/October issue, available at proridermag.com!" - Photo: @bombphotogrphy
- **6.** "Turbo Tuesday!" Photo: @mvp_production
- 7. "@ryan_razz_racing representing on the @seadoo RXT at @proridermag supporter @nielsen.enterprises!" - Photo: @ryan razz racing



















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- 1. @torrentpumps
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- 7. @gilbeurnier
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- 9. @mvp production
- 18.@riverdad23
- 11. @c57racing
- 12.@27 east
- 13. @yamahaboating



THE MONEY \$HOT JANUARY FEBRUARY 2021

The January/February cover shot goes to Pro Watercross Supercourse 200+ Champion Arnold Martinez of Beverly Hills, California. After being absent from racing for 20 years, Martinez returned to the water track testing his stamina and mental strength and proving, at 55 years young, age is truly just a number. The image of Arnold on his 2020 Yamaha EX



Custom Limited Tweak Studio Racing boat built by Cabrera Motorsports was captured by contributing photographer Glenn Christopher, Glenn Christopher Action Sports Photogra-

phy, at the 2020 Pro Watercross World Championship in Naples, Florida.

























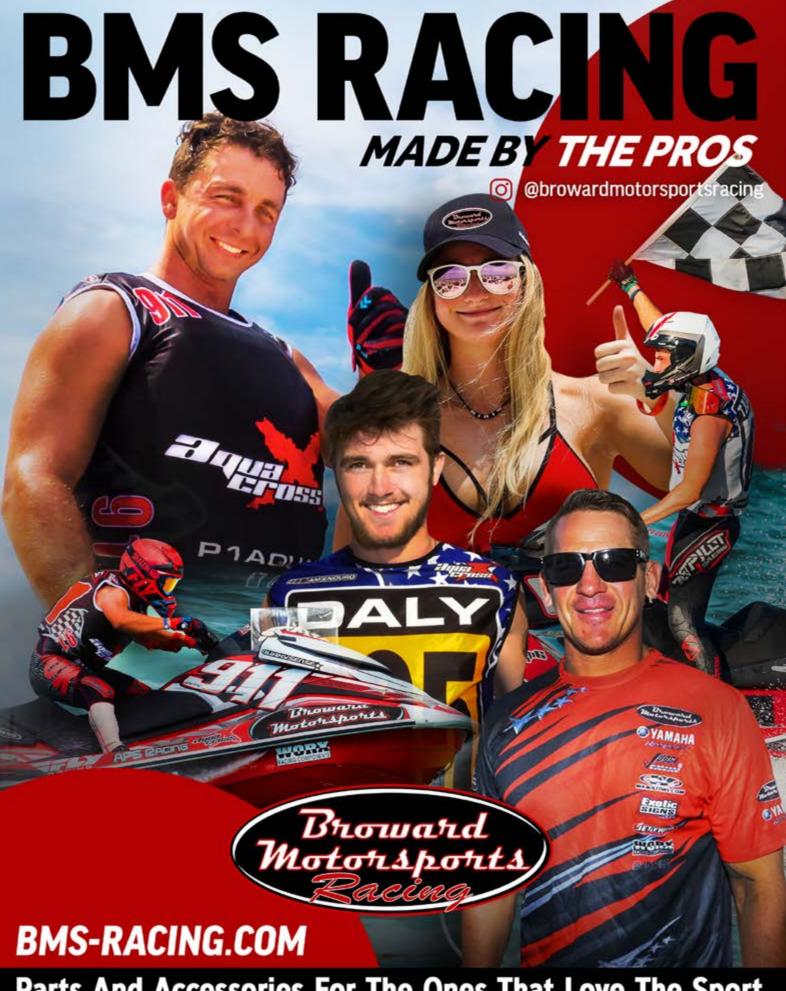




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- 21. Michelle Knobler WCWCC Ambassador
- 22. Carla McLennan Secretary/Treasurer QPWC
- 23. Paul Hewitt British Freestyle Championship
- 24. Jeff Lakeford Nautical Image





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Freestyle Championships, Gold Coast Australia Guinness World Record attempt, PWC Tow Surfing, West Coast Watercraft Club Catalina Island Rec Ride, Namura Technologies Business Profile, Great Barrier Reef Ride, New Zealand Racing Series, QPWC Dam Racing, and Wave Riding in Victoria! Don't miss this issue's Future Threats, social media top spots, Gear Giveaway Photo Contest presented by H2O Industries, Fitness, Tech, Safety Tips,

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extend our thanks and appreciation to everyone who makes it possible for us to provide this quality publication and work with such talented and passionate individuals. It is extremely gratifying to receive and share your letters, photos, event announcements

We hope you enjoy the 2021 January/ February print and digital Issue of Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine! PR

Sincerely,

Michael Ratti and the Pro Rider Team

O Instagram: @michael_ratti

HEADER "5050 Roll, a great trick for any occasion!" | 1-2: "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Pro Rider Division Editor Aaliyah and the Ratti family!" 13: "Happy New Year from the Showtime Thunder Lake Stunt Team!" | 4: "Cathy Rattilis a PWC fan and supporter through and through!" | 5: "Pro Rider tech editor Peter Ratti going through his checks." 16: "Driving for the first-ever ShowTime holiday ski pyramid with Braden Ellis, Abbey Hicks, Arne Van Male and Ryan Graham!"

Tennessee River Rec Riding, British Virtual

20 years, Arnold returned to the water track

testing his stamina and mental strength and

This issue features exciting coverage from the 2020 Liqui-Moly Pro Watercross World Championships, Hydro-Turf Hydro Drag World Championships, Dallas Fort Worth Ski Riders,

proving, at 55, age is truly just a number!



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PR LETTERS

DER PRO RUER MILETANE

Before this year I'd never really given personal watercraft any attention as I was immersed in the sports car and off-roading communities, but recently while looking for a new way to have fun on the water, I discovered Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine and the excellent photography, engaging articles and overall quality of the magazine stood out to me. I suddenly found myself down the rabbit hole of the jet ski world and was hooked. We have many beautiful lakes to ride in the North Georgia mountains, so I loved the article on the Lake Allatoona PWC tribe in the Nov/Dec 2020 issue. I'm currently looking for my first ski but proudly display Pro Rider stickers on my mobile toolbox and read every issue cover to cover. Thanks for making a great magazine!

Jesse O'Dell Clarkesville, Georgia





DEAR PRO RIDER.

I live in Denver and usually ride at Cherry Creek Reservoir; a National Tour stop from 1993–96. I also ride at Jackson Lake in Colorado or Lake McConaughy in Nebraska. I have a Yamaha Wave Blaster and a Kawasaki 800 SX-R, both built for Limited Class racing, when Limited Class was a thing. I used to race Blasters and standups on the Colorado tour (2000-2003) and then the Great Plains Racing Tour until 2009. Here's a few pics I could find. The black and white picture is my brother Chris Maddox in the late 80's riding through a flooded parking lot after a storm! It was on the cover of the Rocky Mountain News. I've had subscriptions in the past to almost every watercraft magazine made — from Personal Watercraft Illustrated to Jet Sports — but they all disappeared. I've been meaning to get a subscription to Pro Rider for years. Blowsion sent me the issue with Deven Farthing on the front with my recent order and I loved it! I got a subscription to your magazine because it includes the extreme part of the sport (standups, racing and freeride). I appreciate you guys supporting the sport with a magazine, as there are literally no more watercraft magazines! I will be ordering some back issues as well.

Joey Maddox Aurora, Colorado







DEAR PRO RIDER MAGAZINE

Our family is so happy to find there is a jet ski publication that exists in print! My husband, Nate, raced when he was young and saved two skis for 20 years in hopes he would have a child that would be interested. Our son, Rylan, recently started riding and doing mechanics. He refurbished both skis, the originals Nate and his brother, Brian, raced. When Brian was eight, he rode on his knees on the bottom of the ski with Nate. Our daughter, Natalie, is learning to ride this year and apparently, we've started collecting skis and parts, as we have two replicas of the ski Nate originally started on (1991/92 550sx). Additionally, Rylan is refurbishing (all the way to the paint) a 1993 550sx named "Arizona", all Kawasakis of course.

Being from Iowa, one of those replicas ("Pinky 2") resides at Lake Okoboji, where the love of standups began in 1987. We ride at Lake Havasu, Blythe and occasionally the ocean. Originally with the help of the late Aaron Cress RIP, as a mentor to Rylan, and currently with Sean Dunlap (Kawi 550 guru) and his family, jet skiing has become a big focus for the third time in Nate's life. The second time was when Aaron was in high school and we moved to Laguna Beach. Nate was beyond happy to ride in the ocean and finding Aaron 18 years later was serendipitous. This community is truly special. Thank you to Frank from Jettrim for introducing us to Pro Rider. We look forward to supporting PR for a long time!

Sincerely,

The Hunziker Family (Nate, Kristin, Rylan & Natalie) Ladera Ranch, California



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PR STARTING LINE

The state of the s JET RIDER NATION — CONNECT, RIDE, MAKE MEMORIES! JOIN THE NATION!

Story and photos: Manuel Arroyo, Founder Jet Rider Nation

Originally from Puerto Rico, I grew up around water, and love everything water related. My first PWC was purchased at age 20, a used 1995 Sea-Doo XP in the 90's before social media, only phones. My love for



PWCs continued although I left the rec ride world for several years. In 2019 I pulled the trigger on a 2019 Sea-Doo RXT-X 300. First time out, felt like that 20- year-old all over again. As a more mature rider, I took several weeks riding to become better acquainted with a much more powerful machine than what was offered when I left the sport. Upon my return, not only had the power and technology of PWCs changed, but also how riders gathered using social media.

After a year meeting great people and hosting many successful rides, myself and fellow riders traveled other states in search of great riding locations. However, we found it difficult to find groups online. Many websites and Facebook groups were shut down, or seldomly maintained. Some groups allow their events to be posted only on their pages, leading riders to miss out on great rides in their areas.

We have now created Facebook Groups for every state, open for all PWC Rec Ride Groups/Clubs, large and small, as well as individuals, to "Connect and Ride," our motto and mission, with every state having an equal communication platform for riders to meet, organize, and grow the Rec Ride community across the nation. "Connect, Ride, and Make Great Memories!" Please visit www.jetridernation.com and @jetridernation on Instagram.







THE COAST PWC MISSISSIPPI REC RIDING

Story and photos: Katelyn Turner, The Coast PWC

When my wife Sara and I bought our jetski we looked up different groups and found SOLA PWC and Bama Ski Riders for Louisiana and Alabama but were unable to find a Mississippi group. We created The Coast PWC group to network with local riders, plan group rides, learn the area and things about skis as this was the first ski we owned. Partnering with Mississippi Gulf Coast Jet Skis allowed us to grow



both groups. Currently we have 231 members. Our group rides the Gulfport-Ocean Springs River and back bay area with favorites being Bayou View or D 'Iberville. We encourage riders to just reach out, we joined every group we could find to build our network and learn as much as possible. For 2021 we plan to upgrade to the new Yamaha FX Cruiser HO and for the group several rides are being planned.

















PHOTO CONTEST WINNER

Congratulations to Jonathan Owens, Pensacola, FL on winning the Nov-Dec 2020 photo contest! These pictures of Jonathan with daughters Olivia, 4 and Victoria 6, were taken by Justin Clements on Old River in Perdido Key, Florida. "We ride together regularly whenever we can. Our favorite riding locations include anywhere fresh water, salt water, and surf," shared Jonathan. Jonathan will receive a round nose ski cover (BSX series) compliments of Jettribe!





Junior Stars of Florida Announces spring training event

Submitted by: Doug Underhill

Junior Stars of Florida will host a two-week safety training event



March 13-24, 2021 from 9 am - 4 pm daily with dinner served around the campfire. Event area will consist of the yard, ramp, beach and dock of 14306 River Road and adjacent waterway known locally as "Old River." All permits required for use of the waterway will be in place. An IJSBA regulation competition buoy course will be provided. Students may attend one day, every day, or any combination. Course Marshals Randy Scott and Drake Stanley will provide instruction following the E.D.G.E method (Explain, Demonstrate, Guide, Enable) which ensures students have information fresh in their mind before executing lessons on the course. Modules include: Safety: basic first aid, hypothermia, exposure, heat stroke, sunburn, crashing safely, crash recovery procedures; Starting Procedures: flags, dead start; Course Layout: starting lineups, holding your line, split and merge, log jump; Racing Strategy: passing safely and smartly, lap traffic. For more information visit Junior Stars of Florida FB page.

ALL STREET, ST BRITISH FREESTYLE ANNOUNCES Intention to Run Second Virtur FREESTYLE CHAMPIONSHIPS IN 202

Submitted by: Paul Hewitt. British Freestyle

For those interested in taking part please look at the 2020 event to see how it runs: https://www.facebook.com/9565089277782 67/videos/351261602880706.

Riders wishing to participate should prepare for a filming window in May and screening in June. As with last year, British riders will be filmed individually by us; International riders will submit footage of their best two-minute routine captured professionally during the filming window. Start thinking now about your rider profile, how you want to introduce yourself to camera, and in the case of international

riders, who can record your routine to a reasonable standard. Registration opens Spring 2021 and is subject to sponsorship support and a minimum entry number. Here's to an exciting 2021! Follow @BritishFreestyleChampionship for more information or send message to britishfreestylechamps@gmail.com.

WNY PWC OWNERS RUFF RALLY IS BACK FOR

The Ruff Water Rally is back for 2021! **Follow**



#2021wnywolfpack.

MIDWEST SKI RIDERS: RIDING IN HARMONY

Submitted by: Gregory Clay, Founder Midwest Ski Riders

My name is Gregory Clay, a 50-year-old PWC owner Midwest Ski Rider out of Indiana with a passion for jet skis and a wife, Pamela, that supports my hobby. A CNC machinist for over 20 years, I did my best to follow the order of a man's



life—college, marriage, house, kids and job to provide for family. At 48 I found myself an empty nester, idle after work. Do I buy a Corvette, a Harley? Driving to work, I often saw someone pulling skis and thought 'someone is about to have fun.' I love speed, touring and fishing so decided on the Sea-Doo RXTX 300. Being new and excited, I rode on Lake Michigan by myself, riding 40 to 50 miles, so focused on my new life as a PWC rider, I didn't realize there weren't many black people that rode. When I first bought it, I told a Hispanic friend whose response was "black people don't ride jet skis, only white people do." I laughed so hard I cried. To this day I still have the message. I had so much pride and joy in my return text stating "well this black guy does!" While riding I met Corey Jarosak, riding his 2019 Yamaha VX HO and we rode all summer. What I enjoyed about that friendship most was he's white, I'm black; he was 28, I was 49 and none of that mattered. The stereotype was lifted proving PWC fun doesn't come in the form of color, age, size, sex, race or disability. It's just pure fun! I started Midwest Ski Riders, posting riding videos enticing others to join. Today we have 239 members. One of my biggest rewards in creating the group was when a group of our members from Indiana, Chicago, and the suburbs all got together for a group ride. An overwhelming feeling of accomplishment came over me. The diversity was golden.

Our next big ride was unforgettable, to Navy Pier in Chicago. Four of us decided to ride to New Buffalo, Michigan, 120 miles crossing 3 states. Part of me couldn't believe the harmony of it all. That day I bonded with 3 fellow riders; we now ride together regularly. My greatest accomplishment was Lake of the Ozarks 31st Annual Shootout. With only three months experience on a PWC, unsure of the formalities of the race. all I knew is it provided for 32 charities. I was all in. As I looked around though, no one looked like me. I was so grateful the staff was so nice and friendly. My first pass I ran 68 mph the ½ mile; second pass 70 mph which took home the win. Spectators cheered and congratulated me. At that moment the stress and discomfort of not fitting in disappeared. I knew I made the right choice getting my midlife crisis PWC. Plan for 2021 - a new GTX 300 Limited from Nielsen Enterprise. This world is a beautiful place, viewing it from a PWC is amazing.





















LIOUI MOLY PRO WATERCROSS **WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP**

SIXTH ANNUAL PRO WATERCROSS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

-Featured on CBS Sports Spectacular!

Naples 2020 Road Trip

'm not sure if it was the months of lockdowns or the early northern winter, but I can't remember the last time I was this stoked for a cross-country road trip. The destination for Team Twangled was Naples, Florida for the Sixth Annual Liqui Moly Pro Watercross World Championships. The city of Naples has always been very accommodating and this year was no exception, once again lending Sugden Park which includes a private 60-acre waterway known as Avalon Lake to the successful Pro Watercross event that included

high-speed jet ski racing, HydroFlight and

SupXcross competitions and demonstrations.

Our favorite part about Naples continues to be the various ways we can turn this jet ski trip into a full-blown vacation. This year we avoided theme parks and beaches, focusing more on hiking and golf. Note: if you happen to be passing through Chattanooga, there are several scenic hiking trails to enjoy from beginner to advanced.

The annual vintage "throwback" day marks the start of the event. It is literally a "blast from the past" watching impressive 550s, X-2s and Sea-Doo X4s railing

HYDRO-TURE

with each other. For many riders, getting their vintage watercraft to both start and finish the race under its own power, is most of the challenge. This year I dusted off my old Superjet and hood-dancing shoes to join the growing crew of Vintage 800 Freestylers. It was a lot of fun pulling old school tricks like fountains, bulldogs and Hollywood corkscrews. This was an amazing way to mark my 300th career start!

Amateur, veteran and novice classes including Novice Sport Stock have become very popular in recent years. Talan Farthing swept all three motos to win his first Pro Watercross World Championship aboard his Farthing Racing WaveBlaster. The Amateur Ski GP class was packed and stacked, as Camden

Powell swept all three motos aboard his 1500 Bullet ski.

"Pro Day" was hosted and filmed by CBS with Pro Freestyle, Pro-Am Ski GP, Pro-Am Runabout Box Stock, and Sport Spec among the premiere classes captured for the CBS Sports Spectacular program. Freestyle was a crowd favorite with competitors dropping backflips, 360s and barrel rolls. Ryan Doberstein won both the Pro Freestyle qualifier and final on his way to the World Championship. Ryan's fun attitude and willingness to try new moves, like his patented no-hander to flip combo, keeps us all looking for moves to inject into our routines and enhance the assortment of tricks for fans

I am very pleased with the 2020 Liqui Molu Pro Watercross World Championship. Despite everything going on in the world around us. we had record breaking rider turnout. Lines were full, racing was close all week and we saw countless examples of great sportsmanship. We already have the dates posted for 2021 and look forward to returning to Naples for the World Championships.

> AJ Handler Promoter, Pro Watercross

inated on his 1500 Kommander K1 in Pro Ski GP winning his fourth consecutive World Championship in this class. Pro-Am R/A Box Stock class drew big names from all over the world and was possibly the most contested class of the week. Both Chris MacClugage and Brian Baldwin won a moto, but it was local favorite Erminio lantosca who took home the World Championship with a consistent 2-4-2 finish. The Sport Stock race was the biggest of the week and did not disappoint. After a few red

Dustin Motzouris dom-

flags and many battles, Christian Daly swept all motos enroute to the World Championship. Notably Christian went on to also clinch the Sport GP World Championship.

As the week ended, the packed Novice Ski Stock class was one of the final remaining classes yet to be decided. Shout out to Patrick Sarenich for winning the final two motos and clinching his first World Championship.

The stage has been set for the 2021 Pro Watercross World Championship showdown in Naples, Florida November 3-7, 2021.

Visit www.prowatercross.org. for full listing of results and upcoming events (races and recreational rides) or to get started in watercross racing! PR

By: Gary Burtka

Photos: Glenn Christopher: Glenn Christopher Action Sports Photography, Vicki Baker



2020 PRO WATERCROSS WORLD CHAMPIONS

Pro-Am Ski GP: Dustin Motzouris

Pro-Am R/A Box Stock: Erminio lantosca

Pro Freestyle: Ryan Doberstein

Sport Stock: Christian Daly

Pro-Am Ski Stock: Matthew Richuk

Pro-Am R/A GP: Tory Snyder

Amateur Ski Stock: Dustin Voss

Blaster GP: Deven Farthing

IROC Stock: Matt Brabham

Sport GP: Christian Daly

Novice R/A Box Stock: Jaymi Bohat

Novice Ski Stock: Patrick Sarenich

Veteran IROC Stock: John Block

Women's Ski Ltd: Jessica Wiebesiek

Women's RA Box Stock:

Valentina Lezcano

IROC GP: Juan Lezcano

Veteran Ski GP: David Cabrera

Amateur R/A SS: Andre Edmiston

Amateur Freestyle: Robert Walston

Novice IROC Stock:

Kenny Compton

Veterans R/A Box Stock:

Brad Bohat

Novice Sport Stock: Talan Farthing

Amateur R/A Box Stock:

Tory Snyder

Amateur Ski GP: Camden Powell

Ski 4-Stroke Stock: Zeke Keim

Ski Superstock: Martin Voss

Freestyle 800: Robert Walston

R/A 800 Ltd: Matt Brabham

R/A 800 SS: Jeff Stanley

Vintage Ski 650/750 Open:

Timothy Stevens

Vintage Ski 550 SS: Scott Hyke

Vintage X2 GP: Gary Burtka

Supercourse 200+: Arnold Martinez

Supercourse 300+: Andre Edmiston

Jr Ski Stock 10-12: Teagan Hill

Jr IROC Stock 13–15:

Kayden Baldwin

Jr Sport Stock 13–15:

Kayden Baldwin

















LAYS CRITICAL ROLE IN EXTREMESPOR

By: Drake Stanley, PWC Rescue Craft Operator

Photos: Jon Monroe @headstandphotography, Lydia Montre, RunAmuck Photography

y name is Drake Stanley and my involvement with tow surfing began 8 years ago. I was on the North Shore of Oahu, Hawaii when tow surfing pioneer, and big wave legend, Ken Bradshaw took me to an outer reef known as Phantoms where I was towed into giant waves for my first time. I fell in love with jet skis and tow surfing immediately. For me, the Jetski opened a whole realm of possibilities in the world of big wave surfing. I chased my dream with everything I had.

When I returned to California, I bought my first Jetski. I was already working as a first responder and EMT Lifeguard so the transition into Jetski rescue work came right away. I enrolled in K38 Rescue Watercraft Operations course and received my certificate as a PWC Rescue Craft Operator. After that I enrolled in many B.W.R.A.G. (big wave risk assessment group) courses and went to school for Red Cross Teachers credentials in CPR, First Aid, and defibrillator use. With these credentials I was able to make a living in the Jetski Rescue world and maintain my involvement in big waves.

Like any high-risk sport, it takes years of practice to get to the professional level we operate in giant waves of consequence. Countless hours have been spent on my ski working in big waves and training with other professionals. People call us "crazy" and in a way we probably are a little. It's that dangerously high level of "crazy" that brings me joy. I don't think of myself as crazy though; I consider myself a "calculated risk taker" because as a safety professional I do everything I can to mitigate unnecessary risks; and that can only be accomplished through hard work and training.

I am currently working as a Water Rescue professional for Mavericks in California and Nelscott Reef in Oregon with Mavericks Surf Awards and the Mavericks Rescue team and in Oregon with TowSurfer and Team Z-Land. Both locations are the West Coast's premier big wave breaks and on their biggest days they are where I tow surf. It is only on the biggest days that tow surfing happens because when people are paddle in surfing the Jetski can only be used for rescue. When it is too big to paddle into big waves on your own power the Jetski is used to "tow in" the

1800cc with a Lifesled Rescue Board. The "tow" board I use is a specially designed surfboard built for getting pulled into a wave from a PWC. The tow board has foot straps and is weighted

surfer into the giant waves. My PWC of choice is the Yamaha, high output

goes beyond any team sport. The surfer relies on the driver's knowledge and skill to not only get put into these giant waves but to be picked up as well. Most tow surfing teams take turns with driving and surfing. Just like the surfboard becomes part of the surfer's body when he is on a wave so too must the driver become one with the jetski in order to achieve success in huge waves. PR

at 15 pounds

giant waves.

to accommodate the

high speeds achieved on these

Tow surfing is a team sport. The PWC driver

and the surfer must have a level of trust that





PERSONAL WATERCRAFT PERFORMANCE PRODUCTS. >



UNLIMITED is a Japanese brand for watercraft parts and apparet that is involved in the design, development, manufacturing and worldwide marketing and sales of apparet, accessories, equipment and services.



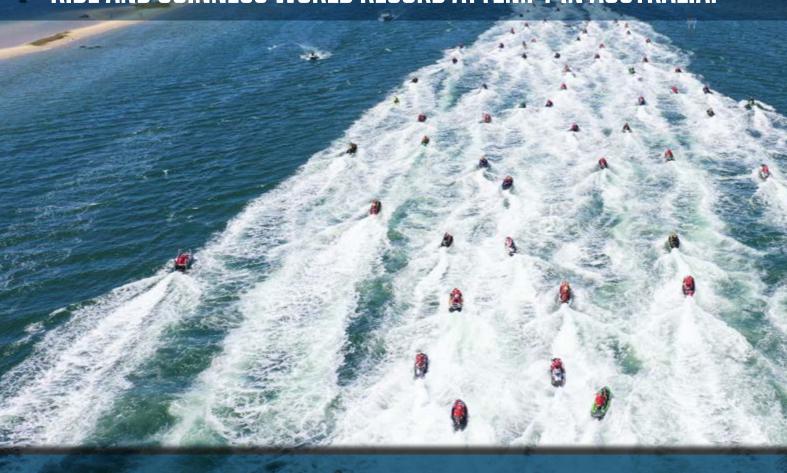
























Story and photos: Jeff Lakeford Nautical Image



ollowing months of planning a well-known jet skiing waterway, the beautiful Gold Coast Broadwater in Queensland, Australia was chosen for this amazing event! The ride proceeded south from the Broadwater into the river system that flows into the heart of Surfers Paradise where we were met with cheering crowds on the waterfront. Five months of planning went into the event after the initial call from Jane Padden who runs 'Presents for Kids in Care' based on the Gold Coast which provides gifts for children in transition to foster care whom are not yet homed with permanent families. She asked if I could help with the idea of a charity ride close to the festive time of the year with a plan of everyone dressing in Santa apparel to raise awareness and funds. It only took a minute to think about it and realise what an amazing organisation it is and lend my full support! A small organising committee of PWC related individuals offered a hand including Joanna Kristoffersen, Lisa Moore, Billy Briggs, Gabriella Brezovszky, Kellie Leon, Andrew Brezovszky, Tessa Whyte and myself.

Within minutes of posting on the Facebook group page 'Jet Ski Riders Gold Coast and Brisbane" we received a huge influx of support for the cause so much so that we approached Guinness World Records to see if we could get an official record attempt recorded! The current record is 129 skis in an aquabike parade in Dubai. With 150 riders expressing interest it made sense to join a world record attempt. Seriously generous donations began pouring in with prizes for a silent auction for the cause, it was quite overwhelming! Raymond Bennett, a NSW PWC racer donated a new wetsuit; Coca Cola donated \$3,000 AUD worth of drinks to hand out to participants and our local Coast Guard announced that everyone that purchased a ticket to join the day received a 12 month on water towing membership to the value of \$11,500 AUD! All up the charity received over \$30,000 AUD worth of donations and we raised just over \$10,000 in funds to help get those especially important presents for the kids.

The ride itself and the entire day ran like clockwork! It was very impressive to see how everyone went above and beyond to festively dress themselves and their skis. It was heart-warming to see the community come together helping each other on the day and will be remembered for many years to come. We ended up with 156 skis completing the record attempt; so right now, we currently have the unofficial world record. However, the evidence is in the hands of Guinness World Records which can take up to 12 weeks to get the official title declared with the video footage and photos currently under review.

The whole ride went off without a hitch and was a credit to the riders who participated. I am so proud to be involved in this event and so thankful to all the sponsors, riders and volunteers that came together for this amazing day. The 2021 ride will be even bigger and better!









PR VINTAGE CORNER

Story and photos:

Robert Sand | RS Vintage Motor Restorations

while back, I received a call from a potential customer about hiring me to build a replica racer jetski from the 1980's. Specifically, he wanted a "Jammin" Jeff Jacobs replica. After much discussion we decided on the PJS #51 Pro Rookie 550 modified. This was the jetski that Jeff raced as a Pro Rookie that year and was a very well-known and recognized ski!

We immediately got the ball rolling with industry painter "Joe Skier" who has painted many skis and was well versed. That's where I began. Having many old magazines and photos to look at we were able to get the info for a very close replica. After acquiring the necessary motor parts, hours upon hours of sourcing many of them as well as electronics I went to work. We decided to make this a show ski version, so the motor and internal parts were polished, and powder coated by hand as if it was off the showroom floor. Each nut and bolt was hand polished for the best result for the build. We displayed the replica at the IJSBA World Finals in Lake Havasu in the Jettrim Vintage Museum. It was a very gratifying day to say the least as Jeff Jacobs, the racer of this craft, came by and seemed happy with what was done and even took a few photos next to the ski. This was the only year the "Jammer" raced this ski as he won the Championship and went to a custom painted #1 PJS sponsored jetski! He never looked back. PR



The build consisted of the following:

- PJS stage 5 ported reed cylinder and head
- PJS full reed exhaust system
- OEM trued and welded crankshaft
- Dual Mikuni BN 38mm modified carbs
- PJS titanium flywheel and CDI ignition system
- PJS Worx rear exhaust system.

This is one of a few replicas that I have built and definitely one of my favorites! Until the next one.













PR RECREATION

BREATHTAKING PWC GUIDED RIDES LONG BEACH TO CATALINA

Story and photos: Michelle Knobler WCWCC Ambassador

new chapter of my life began when I discovered West Coast Watercraft Club (WCWCC) in 2019. I had been riding to Catalina Island regularly with a tour group, but always felt something was missing. After following jet skiers and PWC enthusiasts on social media, it was on Instagram I discovered WCWCC. All that was required to join was to have your own PWC and adhere to club rules, so at that moment without hesitation, I decided to get my very first Sea-Doo and a Silverado to tow it.

Lewis Lipstone hosted the first Catalina ride with the group, and I met other members who had been riding together for some time yet included me right away. Since then, I started hosting all the Catalina Island Club rides. As a former teacher of 17 years before I got into the car business 6 years ago, being a team player and leader came perfectly naturally to me, and Catalina Island was my playground. Our Catalina Island trip has been a hit and I have made some great friends who share a passion for the open ocean.

Our Catalina Island rides are 60 miles round trip and geared towards advanced ocean riders. One time, when ocean and wind conditions were favorable, we rode an additional 58 miles when we traveled around the backside of the island, a total distance of 105 miles, which included amazing views of rock and land formations. Members must sign a waiver and sign up on our Meetup App for each ride. The App includes trip details, related pictures (such as ocean/wind conditions a few days prior to the ride), and participants can ask questions or make comments. Participants must have a marine radio, GPS, insurance, and a desire for adventure!

The ocean is unpredictable and unforgiving if you are not prepared. Catalina Island is oftentimes not visible from Long Beach and having a GPS can save you from ending up on the wrong side of the island or in Huntington Beach instead of Long Beach. Many ask why I wear a helmet and I explain it makes me feel more secure and keeps my face safe, which I learned a couple years ago when a boat wake knocked me off my ski and my face hit the handle bars.

Our most memorable trip was in October 2020, when mid-way between Long Beach and the Island we encountered what was later confirmed to be a blue whale! Some of my club friends have been riding for 20-35 years and had never seen a blue whale up close like that. We immediately started filming to capture this moment of beauty. Generally, when a whale is spotted, it surfaces quickly then disappears, only to surface 10 minutes later miles from where it was originally spotted. This whale was just hanging out, going maybe 2 miles per hour surfacing various times, unafraid of us humans.

I have added more Catalina trips during the week, and now we have a member who will be co-hosting beginner to intermediate shorter

coastal rides for those not quite ready to cross the ocean with us. Being a committee member and co-host of the Catalina Division of WCWCC has changed my life and has been an honor, and I am committed to helping WCWCC grow even more.

Please visit https://www.wcwcc.com/ to learn more about the ultimate PWC experience!









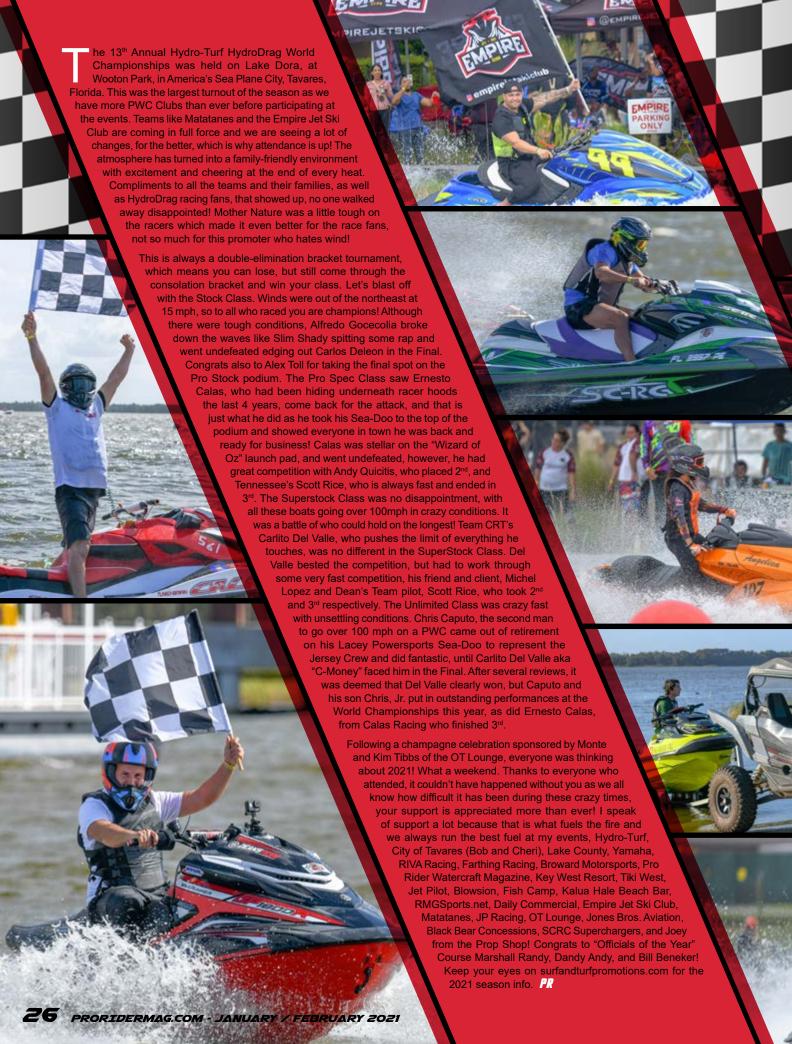






"Michelle Knobler joined West Coast Watercraft Club in 2019. She had extensive training belonging to another organization and brought her expertise with her to ride alongside seasoned watercraft enthusiasts from Long Beach to Catalina and back in one day, which is approximately 60 miles round trip. The ocean is not always a friendly place to be, but Michelle has proven that nothing will stop her from hosting these ocean adventures. WCWCC is very proud to have Michelle on board as our top female rider and co-host in our organization."

Lewis Lipstone, President and Founder West Coast Watercraft Club







BRITISH FREESTYLE

DEFIES COVID WITH NOVEL VIRTUAL FORMAT!

By: Paul Hewitt | Photos: Mark Povey; Ken Gallagher; Mark Curtis

ecords were broken in the first ever virtual British Freestyle Championships, despite the backdrop of Covid. Headlined by H20 Industries, this pre-recorded, compiled format proved a hit with riders, sponsors, and armchair spectators. The 2020 Virtual British Freestyle Championships hosted a record number of riders, a record number of first-time competitors, and riders from as far afield as the US, Russia, and Dubai, as well as from all over the UK.



The event was screened October 17th, using footage of the British riders filmed individually under competition rules during 1–20th September, and submitted footage from the international riders filmed during the same period. With demand coming internationally as well as close to home, the crew put on five classes — 800cc British, 900cc British, 1200cc British, 900cc International and 1200cc International — as well as a Best Trick competition.

With this being a virtual format, we were able to assemble the highest quality freestyle judging panel possible, and we are hugely grateful to Eric Malone, Vaclav Zacek, Mark Curtis, Keith Thomas and Martin Pearce for carefully studying and scoring the riders independently from their home locations.

As event day approached, the suspense was building nicely with no-one knowing the precise nature of "the competition" and where they had finished. The commentary was added after the judges had submitted their scores, with huge thanks to Tim Plumpton (Thumper). The 800cc class win was taken by Paul Hewitt by the narrowest of margins, in the largest and arguably most closely fought 800cc class in a decade. First time competitor Max Walker took the Novice 800cc title with an impressive display in his first event.

Adam Reynolds dominated in the British 900cc class, with a slick collection of combis and his trademark "sushi roll" and newcomer junior Connor Chorlton gave a confident display to take the Novice 900cc title.

The 1200cc British class saw the return to competition of pro fly boarder James Curtis, who took the win in assured fashion, and musician James Chorlton made his own music by taking the 1200cc Novice title.

The international classes were dominated by greatly talented US juniors the Jukish brothers, with Nolan Jukish taking the 900cc International title and Gabe Jukish taking the 1200cc International title. We ran out of superlatives when watching them!

Our International novice champions were Jarrett Steinmetz (900cc) and Renardt Esterhuizen (1200cc).

BEST TRICK WINNERS:

- 800cc British Dan Fitzpatrick
- 900cc British Adam Reynolds
- 1200cc British James Curtis
- 900cc International Nolan Jukish
- 1200cc International Gabe Jukish

Thanks to our sponsors H20 Industries, Maxx Products, Jettribe, Gecko Head Gear, Air Time Products, Owkay Clothing, and Olympian Media.

Full results and more information about future British Freestyle Championship events can be found on Facebook - @britishfreestylechampionship - or by emailing britishfreestylechamps@gmail.com.





James Curtis Best Trick 1200cc British





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THE ABSOLUTE BEST PLACE TO BUV/SELL USED SXIS OTHER

CRUISING THE SPECTACULAR GREAT BARRIER REEF BY PWC!

Story and photos: Mornê du Rand



or the past 3 years a group of close friends have made the 1,500 km road trip from the Gold Coast to Airlie Beach to explore the picturesque Whitsunday region of Queensland, Australia on PWCs with a close group of locals, including myself. Each year we attempted to venture out to the Great Barrier Reef, but bad weather hampered our efforts. Two years ago, we had 2 to 3 metre swells, which is not only dangerous, but nearly unplayable when travelling in a group as visibility between riders is nearly non-existent.

We have tried to get our travellers out to a small part of the Great Barrier Reef called Bait Reef, 70 kms out to sea and requires near-perfect weather conditions to make the journey enjoyable. We watched weather apps for two weeks to find the perfect day but 2020 was looking no different to previous years with very little hope of perfect weather conditions.

The night before our friends headed home to Gold Coast, we noticed the forecast changed and there was a small window of perfect weather the next morning. The news broke to the group with much excitement about a possible reef ride! We prepared the skis and headed out to the last group of islands to refuel our skis with the carry-on fuel needed for the 140 km round trip journey.

Sea conditions dramatically improved in the open water and the islands slowly disappeared behind us as our group of 6 skis headed for the Reef. On the way a 4 metre Tiger Shark circled beneath our skis. The shark sighting left us feeling a little nervous but nonetheless, we continued. This ride can be quite daunting at times with no visual markers. We had to trust our GPS and trip planning. After another 45 minutes of riding, the reef appeared, we made it!

We cruised around the reef to find the ideal anchoring location. To ensure no damage was caused to the Reef we tied our skis to each other and only used a sand anchor for the first ski, conscious of our surroundings to ensure the pristine waters and stunning reef structures were not affected by our visit. We also collected floating debris found on our way to and from the reef. The natural beauty of the Great Barrier Reef is amazing, and we were excited to see how the reef recovered after the effects of Cyclone Debbie three years ago.

After snorkelling for 2 hours it was time to travel home. It's a sombre trip home having to leave the beauty and tranquillity of the reef. No Group ride is complete without a group photo at the northern tip of Hayman Island.

On an average weekend, a small group of locals ride their skis around the Mackay and Whitsunday Islands visiting beaches, tourist spots and nearby reefs to snorkel with turtles and fish all in a bid to decompress from the hectic working week. We are so fortunate to live in the most beautiful part of the world with the greatest natural wonder on our doorstep, the Great Barrier Reef.

For more about our amazing adventures, check out my YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCS-4qAj4Xf45gkSYTy4fwGw

We welcome new riders and are happy to assist less experienced riders. For more info visit Jetski Mackay on Facebook.



PWG PERFORMANCE



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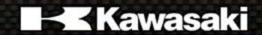


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CALLING ALL POWERSPORT LOVERS - MEET NAMURA TECHNOLOGIES!

Based in Minnesota, Namura Technologies offers a wide variety of pistons, rings, gaskets and bearings for today's MX, ATV, UTV, Off-Road and PWC riders. By pushing the envelope of conventional standards, they strive to provide superior products using the latest advancements in manufacturing techniques. Their philosophy is simple: deliver superior engine components that have more features than the OEM at a better price. Their lasting commitment to quality and integrity has been fundamental in their continued success. Pro Rider recently caught up with Ewa Kalinsky, Sales and Product Development Manager at Namura Technologies.

PRO RIDER: Please tell us a little bit about Namura and how it was established.

EWA KALINSKY: Our journey with powersports started in 1985 with a focus in the snowmobile market. After many successful years of supplying snow lovers with aftermarket parts for their machines, we wanted to expand our most successful line, pistons, to other growing powersports segments such as ATV and MX. This led to the creation of Namura Technologies in 2001. From the very beginning, Namura was the first aftermarket brand to be equipped with premium quality features such as MOS2 coated skirts, smooth machined and anodized domes to add strength and extend a life of your piston. With USA engineering and Taiwan manufacturing in 20 years of continuous work on growth we established a strong presence in powersports markets for engine internal parts for ATV/UTV and Motocross. And it was time to expand and give some love to PWC enthusiasts by offering them quality Namura products.

PR: What is Namura Technologies' focus/ specialty? Who are your primary customers?

in top end engine rebuild internals such as pistons, top end gasket sets, needle bearings and rings. As we continue to grow, so does our offering. Our offer currently includes case gaskets, full gasket sets, and top end repair kits which are your one time stop for everything you need to complete the top end rebuild in your bike, ATV or jet ski. These kits include piston kit(s), top end gasket set and needle

bearing(s) if needed – for desired application. Most recently, we introduced a connecting rod line starting with ATV applications and will very soon be expanding that line into PWC.

Our primary customers are ALL THE POWERSPORT lovers, from old-school machine owners to brand spanking new shiny ride owners. Since we are old-fashioned ourselves, we do not sell our products directly to Namura piston users. We value our traditions and sell our products through the distributor network and engine rebuilders as we have from the beginning. Our products are distributed worldwide by several of the biggest powersports distributors. So, for your all Namura needs, you can visit your local dealership!

What are your most proud accomplishments? What have been the greatest challenges?

EX: I think our biggest accomplishment is getting our customers back on the road/trail/water again every single day. We can do that because we offer quality products, as previously mentioned, at a very affordable price. We don't want the price to stand in our customers way of getting back out there and riding.

From a little different perspective, one of our biggest challenges and accomplishments at the same time is working on our offer to make sure we continue offering the widest application range of internal products in the powersports aftermarket industry. We constantly check on new trends, change in current demands, and work on developing new items which is our favorite challenge.

PR: Are you currently working with any jet ski racers or riders? If so, can you share who and in what capacity?

EK: The PWC world is fairly new to us and this is one of many reasons we are excited to work with you. Hopefully you will introduce us to the sport and community!

PR: Do you ride a PWC? If yes, please share with our readers what you ride and your favorite riding locations and what you like to do when you are not working.

a chance to play on PWC yet, with the key word being YET, because I really hope that will change soon. I can't say the same about the owner of the company, Dale Nachman, who unlike me and the rest of our team, has a lot of PWC riding experience on the coolest waters out there in Southern Taiwan and Maui!

As powersports lovers, our team has a lot of experience "land riding" on all sorts of machines. Here at Namura, we have a little of everything: motocross riders, snowmobilers, side by side lovers and as you already know, motorcycle fans. I feel the most comfortable on pavement especially on a closed road course like BIR (Brainerd International Raceway). For streets and public roads, I use my 125cc scooter!

PR: What is your best advice to PWC owners?

EX: Have fun, be safe and let us share our passion with you!



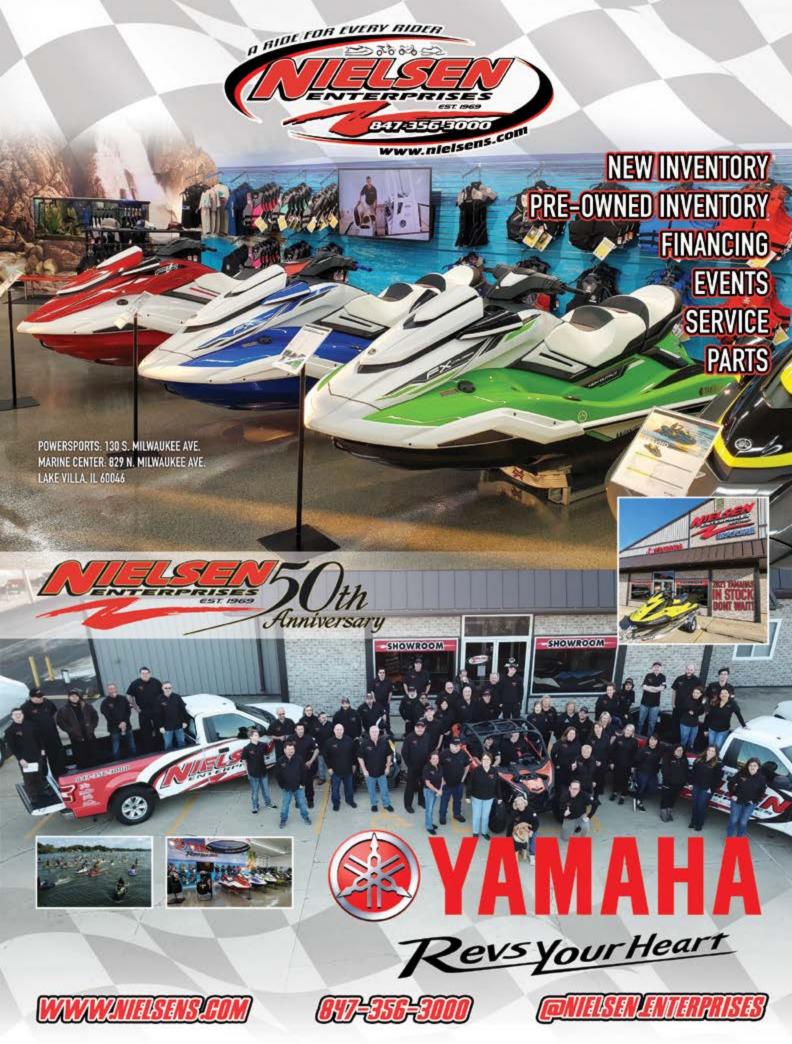








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PR PWC FISHING

FAMILY OF PWC ANGLERS GROWING RAPIDLY!

Story and photos: Kacper Witkiewicz | Doo Diligence Fishing

s the sun breaks over the horizon and warms the glass-like water on the misty lake, boats come out to to cast their lines. Breaking the silence, a different kind of PWC emerges from the mist fully equipped with rods and gear. As quickly as it arrived it pulled out a decent pike and then was gone across the lake and out of site.

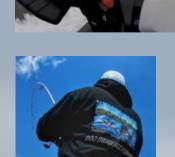
With a passion for fishing my entire life, the passion was elevated with the discovery of PWC fishing. The release of the Sea-Doo Fish Pro opened a new world of possibilities for fishing but lacked the power to satisfy the adrenaline rush of flying across the water like a rocket on days the fish didn't bite. The solution to this came from a quick call to Energy Power Sports in Oakville, Ontario, Canada who let me be their guinea pig and built me a custom Fish Pro from a GTX230. With the beautiful color, all the limited and Fish Pro options and supercharger beneath the seat I was ready to explore this new world. Whether a simple day trip to a random lake or a multiple day journey across Ontario waters to remote destinations most boats cannot access, the feeling of catching fish on a PWC is second to none!

On the PWC you are closer to the water and excitement when pulling in your catch. As the sport evolves so do our machines which enhances our fun and ability for successful fishing. The Garmin 63v helps find fish and helps us get through tight passages in search of undisturbed waters. Trolling features for when you want to explore but still want to keep your line wet add to the excitement. These machines are built for fishing and do what they are supposed to. The only thing better than the machines themselves is the company you keep on the water. I'm fortunate to have my best friend Mark from YouTube's Forrest Sound next to me on his GTX 155 where we explore all the waterways we can access. Most trips are documented on the Doo Diligence Fishing YouTube channel where we can be found crossing the Trent Severn Waterway and its locks or getting deep into back country. The type of fish you can target from PWC fishing is endless. Our primary targets change depending on season and location but include Northern Pike, Musky, Large Mouth Bass, Small Mouth Bass, Pickerel, Bowfin, Catfish and a whole list of pan fish. With curiosity expanding we see more ideas come to life with custom additions like electric trolling motors and hopefully soon some ideas on down rigger installations will let me add big Lake Trout to my list of species caught from the PWC.

PWC fishing has been around a long time but has picked up in the last few years. The







attention is growing as demonstrated by how often I'm stopped on the water by someone with wide eyes and a hundred questions. Nothing makes me happier than to answer and help someone join this family of PWC anglers. Another perk is when not fishing you can drop off your gear and join

the rest of the PWC family on the water for a day of fun ripping across the water. With all of us on the water it is important to look out for each other, stay safe and be courteous. PR











- knee guards
- Ski Module
- sound when fishing.
- Fish Pro but in black
- Garmin 63v with Active Captain Maps and Charts for
- Rear extension deck

- 2019 Sea-Doo GTX 230 · Fish Pro Seat to allow sideways seating and ease of sliding
- Added the factory bilge pump Ram mount on Garmin housing but since it was wired to to hold phone which is constant power, installed connected to Navionics and a switch in the storage Bluetooth to the BRP speakers compartment to be able to Fish Pro 51L cooler with 4 rod turn it off and stop the humming holders; typically used for 2 rods, a net and an umbrella -Gunwale footrests like on the -Fuel caddy and dry storage
 - to clip in behind the cooler allowing me to bring camping and fishing gear, anchor, safety kit, first aid kit, spare battery

CHECK OUT OUR ADVENTURES ON INSTAGRAM AND YOUTUBE O'





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Live. Ride. Escape. Jet Pilot Helmsman Vest Review

Story and photos: Johnny McEarchern | AquaX Marshal

ince their inception in 1986, Jet Pilot has been the go-to name in personal watercraft racing. A reputation forged by crafting the most technically advanced wetsuits, vests and apparel inspired by the worlds of PWC and Moto X is maintained with that same passion all these years later. Jet Pilot's connection to the roots of racing has kept them on the cutting edge of product design and technology geared toward safety, style and comfort. With the development of their newest Live. Ride. Escape (LRE) Division, they're doubling down on safety.

The LRE division features a new line of vests, wetsuits and jackets designed with an important new goal in mind: staying out of and/or getting out of the water when the situation might be

out of your control. Features like grab handles, reflective back and shoulder tape, utility pockets, and integrated whistles make these a purposebuilt line with a serious mission.

At the pinnacle of the LRE division is the aptly named L.R.E. Helmsman vest, Coast Guard Approved made of Jet Pilot's durable lightweight and soft Pure-Lite neoprene and is filled with a one-piece PVC free Aero-Jet flotation foam. Design is based on function and the comfort of the wearer when things go south. Features like self-locking zippers, multipurpose d-rings, and multiple utility pockets make this an optimal vest for both the rescuer and the rescued

As a safety marshal for P1 Aqua X some of the features of the Helmsman I'm stoked for JETPILOT E



are the velcro radio strap and clip loop, Molle webbing on the outside of the main pocket. and the copilot grab handles. When a racer needs help, having purpose-built gear is a game changer. The ability to comfortably carry the tools needed to do the job makes one less thing to worry about when decisions get crucial. A simple pick up and drop off after a rider goes in is always the best-case scenario but if it gets wild out there having everything at hands reach is paramount. The removable 4-way GoPro mount gets front row footage to break down what went right with every grab. An integrated whistle with a lanyard is icing on the cake. PR

For a more in depth look at the entire Live. Ride. Escape Division product line visit jetpilot.com.













Jet Renu founder: Nanette Defalco-Moreno Personal Quote to live by: "The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall."

How was Jet Renu born? I tossed ideas around with a late childhood buddy of mine, "how to clean and shine a jet ski/boat in one product" (PINK+ was born) (1) product idea birthed (18) products to the "Jet Renu" line... I have always been an female entrepreneur – Enterprising from the age of 7.

Experienced any hardships being a woman in a more male oriented business? Yes. I've built my way up to the top, from every brick that's been thrown at me one brick at a time – "Building blocks of success."

Which product is your favorite, why? Jet Renu- Advanced Hand Sanitizer! This one product kept our manufacturing facility open & thriving during the outbreak from COVID-19.

What's the most memorable lesson that you have learned? Never give up oneself - the impossible is always possible! What are you most proud of? Myself, for having the balls to keep going and to manifest dreams into reality – when the odds are slim.

How did Covid-19 affect your company? Creating JET RENU Advanced Hand Sanitizer during the outbreak made us an "Essential Business" our employees were able to stay working when their spouses were laid off and unable to afford their (2 person household expenditures.) We were able to give our existing employee's over time and give temporary employment to their spouses and teenage children. Also, giving our distributors the resources to remain open by selling hand sanitizer to local businesses and obtaining large accounts and contracts.. Becoming a Certified Registered FDA Facility because of Renu Hand Sanitizer and lastly, helping the community, bringing businesses together and helping friends and families thrive...

THIS ISN'T OUR FIRST RODEO!

COME RIDE WITH DFW SKI RIDERS!

Story and photos: Reece Reeves, DFW Ski Riders, with Ken Kgees

he Dallas Fort Worth (DFW) Ski Riders was created on June 8, 2019. It was formed so people around the DFW area could meet up with others, ride and have fun. Also, we found like-minded enthusiasts who could talk about new products and help others. Initially we were small, and rides were about 3 or 4 individuals. In August 2019 we put together a larger ride at Possum Kingdom Lake with 25 riders in attendance which included a huge dinner for all to join in. The event was so much fun we began scheduling events all across Texas, and as you know, it's always bigger in Texas!

From June through December we rode 32 times. On these rides we would get stopped by people asking, "who are you?" and "how do I join?" At one restaurant we frequent, they dubbed us the Hell's Angels on Water and when we arrived everyone would come to say hello! In 2020 our first ride ended up essentially "in the dirt" with the Covid pandemic impacting events and get togethers everywhere. However, we still were able to ride that day with 19 skis. Even with the pandemic, the DFW Riders completed 44 rides in 2020. All our events start with a full homecooked Texas breakfast for everyone. We stop for lunch at a restaurant on the water and in the evenings we all work together to put on a good dinner. We like to brag it's the food and BBQ that attracts our riders, but

it's also the family that your friends become when you sit down to eat and share the day. Some of our events we do what we call lake splits—weekend -- Saturday at one lake and Sunday at another lake.

The good thing about being in a club is we have so many great members to offer help. If one of us has a flat tire, there are 10 people or more to help. Once while riding at LBJ (Lake Lyndon B. Johnson) reservoir a new member, riding for the first time picked up a piece of plastic that wrapped around his driveshaft and impeller. Couple of our members realized he was not keeping up, so they went to get him, and found a boat lift to pick his ski up. We completely removed the grate and Andy Masters, founder of the club, pulled all the plastic out of his ski. For the next 2 days his ski ran flawlessly. That day, we all felt proud to be a part of the DFW Ski Riders!

DFW Ski Riders love to go all over Texas, Oklahoma, and other out of state rides. We are ready and raring to go, always meeting new riders and enjoying the fun; we can't wait to meet even more of the community! Find us on Facebook!



PRORIDERMAG.COM - JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2021







PR UINTAGE COLLECTION















FAMILY'S VINTAGE SKI COLLECTION FEATURES RARE MODELS

... And The Hunt Continues!

Story and photos: Christopher Cognetta

hank you for allowing the Cognetta family to share our Vintage Kawasaki Jetski collection with your readers. Our journey began in 1983 when I rode my first JS550 and was instantly hooked. Throughout the years, marriage and kids, we had several skis come and go. I knew when the kids hit their teen years it would be time to get them into water sports. I found several JS550s and began to build two JS550 twins working with Minnesota Marks (minnmarks550s.com). Once the kids started to ride, I got the itch and started off on the collection and bought a ski for myself to ride. After a few JS purchases, I wanted to move up into the reed skis (91-95sx) for more power. I'm 6'4" and 265 lbs. so these stock 550s can have a hard time pulling me out of the water. After building some custom skis, I decided to work on the collection starting with the '82 JS550 the first 550 ever made. Then I proceeded to find the '83. the '90 and the '76. About the same time, I started to read about the ultra-rare 1973

V-hull (WSAB). Kawasaki only made 600 skis in 1973, 300 V hulls, and 300 WSAA; all the other skis used that hull design. I located one in Texas and a deal was struck. The early skis have hand laid fiberglass, delivered straight from Japan. There are very few that survived and to get one in all original condition was a blessing. We continued looking for '74s and soon after we found a yellow '74 less than 50 miles from our home in Tampa, Florida. In a period of 3 weeks, 3 more '74s showed up, all yellow. Little did we know that one of them was painted and was really green hiding under all that paint. This is one of 8 known to exist right now, so it's rare.

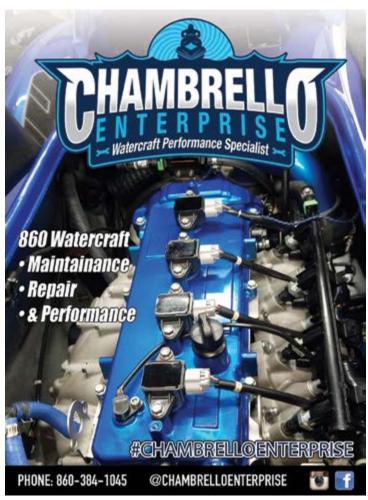
As I was reading more and more about Kawasakis, I started to focus on the last 550s ever made. I thought it was 1995 but I was partially wrong. 1995 was the last year for USA, but Kawasaki made a Japan only SX550 in 1998 called the Memorial Model, (1982 to 1998). Only 300 were made. I searched for months, talked to people all over the world,

and finally came across one. It took almost a year to coordinate, purchase, crate and ship the container from Japan to the United States. And to top it off, the last week before it was supposed to ship, a Japan only 1995 model appeared. So, we got both into the container in record time!

As the hunt continued for skis and parts, I always wanted an SXR. But not any SXR, I wanted the last model made. This ski/color combo was made for Canada only, and is called the 37th Anniversary Edition. It represents the last Kawasaki 2 stroke ever made. The hunt continues for skis and parts to complete the overall collection.

Thank you to my son Patrick, my daughter Ale, and my wife Carolina for putting up with all these skis and parts and not parking in the garage. This is a great hobby and I have made many friends on this journey. Hopefully we are inspiring a new generation of riders to restore, save, ride and help preserve these skis. **PR**







PWC BOONDOOMBA "OLD SCHOOL" DAM RACING .

LOSED COURSE AND ENDURO RACING IN AUSTRALIA

By: Carla McLennan Secretary/Treasurer QPWC | Photos: Photo by Skip, Carla McLennan, Tralee Cunningham





racing back to old school dam racing with some great racing and even better comradery. With two

full days of fast paced racing, riders came from near and far to compete, enjoy the company of friends and have fun!

With both closed course and enduro, against the beautiful backdrop of country Queensland, Australia, with the support of local Member of Parliament, businesses and locals saw not only a great turn out of riders but spectators were plenty as well.

A field of riders ranging from pro to beginners, runabouts and standups alike showcased what the true spirit of racing is all about. Our group dinner brought about tales of the day and friendly banter bringing all participants together as a united club. PR



QPWC 2020 SERIES RESULTS:

PRO/AM STOCK RUNABOUT

- 1st Paul Bazeley
- 2nd Warrick Brant
- 3rd Mitch Wayt

JUNIORS

- 1st Jaydan Sloan
- 2nd Jayden Richardson

BEGINNER RUNABOUT

- 1st Jason Mawbey
- 2nd Rob Scott
- 3rd Corey Brough

GP OPEN RUNABOUT

- 1st Bailey Cunningham
- 2nd Paul Bazeley
- 3rd Mitch Wayt

NATURALLY ASPIRATED

- 1st Warrick Brant
- 2nd Joel Batt
- 3rd Brett Whittaker

- 1st Bailey Cunningham
- 2nd Dale Burrows
- 3rd Troy Tsakissiris

ENDURO

- 1st Rob Scott
- 2nd Paul Leven
- 3rd Bailey Cunningham

800 TWO STROKE SKI

- 1st Connor Tsakissiris
- 2nd Cooper Beekman
- 3rd Damo Somes

- 1st Jake Beekman
- 2nd Tony Grey

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For more information and full list of series results visit QPWC on Facebook.

PR RECREATION RIDE Addicted to River Rides POLAR BEAR BURGER RUN - PWC RIVER RIDING

By: Jay Howell | ATL Jet Riders Photos: Jay Howell, Robert Perry

oving to Atlanta, GA in 1988, and being a water ski fanatic, I was super excited to be close to Lake Lanier. As I grew older and work became hectic, I drifted away from water skiing. Still a water lover, we bought a houseboat on Lake Lanier in 1990. While the adults enjoyed getting away from work and relaxing with friends, the kids grew restless and bored. My girls and I conspired against my wife and talked her into getting a jet ski! It was a one-year old Yamaha 650 we picked up a from a neighbor that was an absolute blast to ride. Fast forward 25 years and 11 jet skis later, I now own a pair of 2016 Yamaha FX HOs.

I am fortunate to live on this 33,000-acre lake with 600 miles of shoreline. However, the longest run you can take is about 40 miles, and, on the weekend, it can be as rough as the ocean. After 20+ years on this lake, the thrill was gone. I stumbled across a group called ATL Jet Riders posting about a ride on the Tennessee River from Chattanooga to Knoxville, 160 miles each way! There was no way I was going to pass on that opportunity. Heavy thunderstorms, a breakdown, delays for lock maintenance, and arriving at Knoxville at 9:30 at night — it was a disaster; however, I was hooked! Hello, my name is Jay and I'm addicted to river runs!

After several rides with the very active Allatoona PWC Tribe, I was brave enough to start hosting my own rides to share my addiction with others. One of my favorite rides is on the Tennessee River from Chattanooga to Goose Pond Colony Resort in Scottsboro, AL.

If you are looking for your first river adventure, join us for a "Burger Run" from Chattanooga and travel down the Tennessee River to Nickajack Lock and Dam. It's a quick 48mile ride and you get to experience passing through a lock. After locking through, it's a scenic 55 miles to Goose Pond Colony Resort in Scottsboro, AL. We fuel up and stop in the Bait Shack for an amazing cheeseburger! It is a scenic ride, with very little traffic and miles of glass smooth water. We've had as few as 3 skis, and as many as 33.

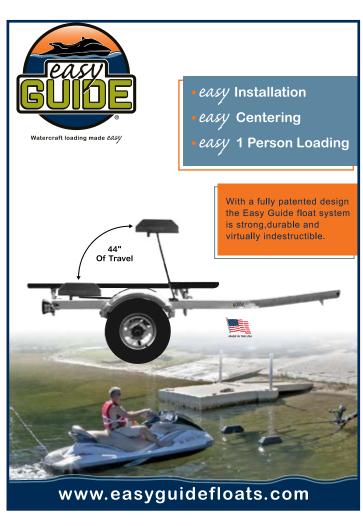
Our November 2019 Polar Bear Burger Run saw a chilly 38 degrees at departure. It was an adventure we all enjoyed and made us think we could tackle Antarctica if it weren't so far away. It's hard to describe, once you have been through a bone chilling ride like the first Polar Bear Run, we want it to be a little colder just to prove we can do it! Our 2020 ride was overcast and a "frigid" 62 degrees at departure. In all my years of boating, I've had one philosophy: "Don't ever cancel a trip until you get to the water!" I'm proud to say that axiom has served me well -until this trip. It was a good ride until 10 miles from Goose Pond when the bottom fell out. But it's okay, just one more adventure for the books.

For 2021, our group plans to venture into central Tennessee for Dale Hollow, Center Hill Lake and the amazing Cumberland River. We've met up with a group from Tampa and hope to join them on a few of their rides. Dates have been announced for a summer Miami to Bimini ride

If you have never been on a river ride, you simply can't imagine what you are missing until you experience it for yourself. I encourage you to reach out to local Facebook groups and see what rides they have planned for the coming year. I've met some amazing people on these rides and look forward to riding with them again. Come to the Tennessee River and join us on a Burger Run!









PR RIDER PROFILE

rnold Martinez is a man on a mission, and we caught up with him to find out why. After being absent from racing for 20 years, Arnold returned to the water track testing his stamina and mental strength and proving, at 55, age is truly just a number! Currently residing in California's famed 90210 zip code Arnold is confident, upbeat and aware, and amazingly humble despite his successes and is quick to praise others who have helped him along the way.

PRO RIJER: When and how did you became involved with PWC racing and who influenced and supported you?

ARROLD MARTINEZ: In 1995 a good friend John Marcelo from the Philippines invited me to the beach where I was first introduced to jet skiing. John had a standup and a WaveRaider and amazingly I was able to stand up and ride on the first try. He left the 701 WaveRaider in my garage as trade for audio equipment. At that time, I had no idea how to even get it to the beach, though I quickly learned! Without John I would never have gotten into the sport. He and his family supported me, and I am forever grateful. I raced in the Philippines with JSAP (Jet Sports Association of the Philippines) from 1996 to 2002 racing standups, sport, runabout and offshore endurance—I ran and did well in all classes except freestyle and was on the water as often as possible. I stopped racing in 2002.

Fast forward to 2017 I asked Paul Del Rosario while I was in Florida purchasing a PWC who I could ride with to get back into racing and he connected me with legendary racer Chris MacClugage who subsequently connected me with racer and tuner extraordinaire David Cabrera. That year I made a commitment to myself to return to racing and started working toward that goal.

PR: What class(es) did you race in 2020?

The first race I did after being out of the sport for 20 years was in Lake Hartwell, Georgia in the Pro Watercross Tour in the IROC stock class and box stock. During the first race second moto I collided with another racer which unfortunately resulted in being out of racing for several months. Later in the year I participated in two HydroDrag events, though still in pain from the collision, and raced stock 1100 and endurance class. Next stop was the 2020 IJSBA World Finals where I raced Pro-Am Runabout Superstock and took 3rd overall; Pro Am Stock 1100 where I took 4th overall; and Pro Endurance taking 5th overall, ending the year winning Supercourse 200+ at the 2020 Pro Watercross World Championship in Naples, FL.

PR: What has been the most rewarding aspect of participating in PWC racing and the most challenging?

Am: The reward for me was being able to prepare in a short period of time with the most reliable ski I could put together with my supporters and the feeling I got when pinning it on the track. Even without taking first place I feel I have won just by being able to participate. It has been rewarding to get back into the sport at my age and prove to myself that I could do it. Most challenging was getting in shape and regaining confidence

ARNOLD MARTINEZ FIT & FAST at 55!







Photos: John Huson, Aimz Media Production • Glenn Christopher, Glenn Christopher Sports Action Photography • Garrett Leland Hansen





and strength needed to race and putting in the time and practice. Another challenge was due to the circumstances this year it was not easy to find skis and parts to make my boat competitive. Trying to put my skill set back together after having been out of it for so long was challenging. Fortunately, I had the support and training from exemplary individuals in the sport.

PR: Please share your advice to those wanting to get involved in PWC racing.

Am: Very simple formula—safety first, get a good dealership and a tuner to work with and most importantly surround yourself with those who motivate and inspire you—those who are positive.

PR: Entering 2021 what are your plans?

IIII: Love, peace, happiness and unity within the sport—focus on getting into better shape physically and mentally and making the fastest boat for the class. I'd like to race the Mark Hahn, P1AquaX, Pro Watercross and the World Finals.

When you are not racing PWC what does your life look like? What do you do in your spare time and for fun?

My philosophy is "work hard play hard." I focus on my audio and video equipment business Tweak Studio and in my spare time play polo, tennis and work out all of which are great cross training for jet skiing.

PR: Who would you like to thank?

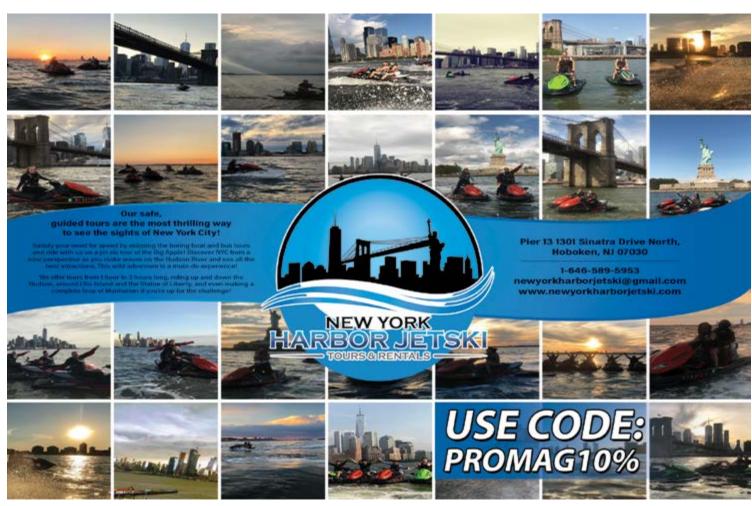
Family and friends from all over the world; Harley David, President of JSAP and its members for cheering me on, Pro Rider





Watercraft Magazine, and the following

Cabrera Motor Sports • Broward Motor Sports Exotic Signs
 Wet Spot Racing
 Palm Beach Watercraft • Liqui Moly • Wamilton • CEC • Tim Judge • Jet Pilot • Tweak Studio Racing









y name is Greg Gaddis, I'm 21 and personal watercrafts are my passion. My dad, Jerry Gaddis, is the founder of GreenHulk PWC Forum. In 2004, he bought the first supercharged Sea-Doo RXP ever released, our first family ski my brother and I famously named, "GreenHulk." Since then, PWCs have been a family-fun activity on and off the water. Dad's "need-for-speed" was passed down to me. As he began modifying his first Sea-Doo, I spent every moment I could in the garage with him watching and learning. From an early age, I wanted to know what he was doing, how he was doing it, and how much faster he could make the Sea-Doo go.

Years later, the wrenches found their way into my hands. At 16, I began modifying our brand-new Yamaha FZS SVHO with my father's guidance. On weekends, while friends were going to high-school parties, I was in the garage all hours of the night having my own party. My desire to test and push the limits in hopes of reaching max speeds resulted in countless hours spent learning this craft. I've had my hands on numerous watercraft trying to squeeze out every mph but that Ya-

maha FZS will always hold a special place in my life, as it was the beginning of my epic journey down the PWC rabbit hole.

Growing up on the bayous of Louisiana, I spent all my free time on the water. On busy days with lots of speed boats, I'd pull out the high horsepower machines with hopes of being the fastest watercraft. Those bass boat owners couldn't wrap their heads around a kid on a PWC flying past them. Often, I found myself tossing my tiny Yamaha Superjet into the bed of my old truck, with some friends, for an action-packed day at the camp. It wouldn't take long for my grandfather "Poppy" to show up anxiously watching from the dock waiting for an accident to happen. Fortunately, we knew what it meant to respect the water, and no one ever got hurt. A fun time should never jeopardize safety - safe practices, save lives.

For any parents reading, I encourage you to buy a PWC and get the whole family involved. The sport has made a tremendous impact on my family; it has been our favorite activity for over a decade that never fails to bring us all together. For younger riders looking to get into the sport, I highly recommend it. This hobby has challenged me to develop skills outside of school, manage time wisely, learn the value of hard work, and meet new people. Join our GreenHulk.net forum community. We have infinite resources and hundreds of members to offer advice and feedback to fellow riders. Whether you have an old, used 2 stroke or a brand-new flagship model, there's something for every budget. No matter what you ride, just get out there and enjoy!

Although PWCs are initially what got me started, my urge for more horsepower doesn't end on the water. I spend a lot of time hopping-up old hot-rods with my dad. My first truck was a 1965 Chevrolet C10. In true Gaddis fashion, we made modifications and improvements. By the time we were finished with that truck,

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it was making almost 400 horsepower! In addition to fixing up old vehicles, a good bit of my time is spent doing things that grow my mind: learning about stock trading, reading books about different religions, surfing the internet for new ideas. My mind is always looking for new ways to grow and improve.

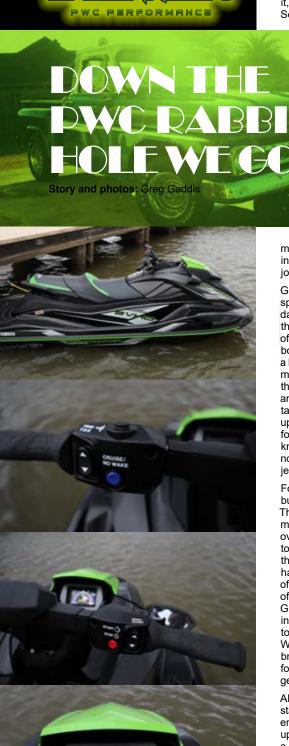
My current project is the all-new 2021 Yamaha GP1800R SVHO. Yamaha has raised the bar again; the all new GP1800R SVHO, in stock formation, is by far the quickest accelerating watercraft I've had the privilege to ride! Due to the relocation of the gas tank, an all-new intake grate design, and a 160-millimeter transom plate, Yamaha has created a whole new beast. With the addition of the new launch control and the industry's first autotrim feature, it has never been easier to do a 0-60 pull or take a high-speed turn. Even though this is Yamaha's highest performance model, it can be tamed for a family fun day on the water. With a push of a button, speed and acceleration can be turned down for less experienced riders. A very comfortable ride with cruise control, it's the perfect watercraft for a leisurely ride but still packs enough punch to fly past the competition. For me, fast is just never fast enough; I plan to modify the GP1800R starting with stage one kit and work my way up to stage three. These kits will offer a significant increase in speed and acceleration without sacrificing reliability.

In addition to performance modifications, I will be making modifications to the handling of the GP1800R SVHO. Straight-line performance is fun, but nothing beats carrying those high speeds through a tight turn! I will be kicking-off the handling modifications with Riva Racing sponsons; this upgrade will make the ski feel like it is riding on rails. The Riva Racing steering upgrade will be added to boost confidence and comfort. An addition to an aftermarket seat cover will allow for the extra grip needed when riding such a high-performance machine.

By the time I am done modifying the GP1800R SVHO, it will truly perform like a completely different animal. With the help of these modifications it will reach blistering high speeds in a matter of seconds. To top it off, those high speeds will be able to be carried through hairpin turns with ease! Modifications vary in cost, from a few hundred dollars up to \$5k in the GreenHulk store. Even with the higher price of some modifications, they are well worth it! Be sure to visit our YouTube channel, GreenHulk Garage, to watch the build process and see the outcome! Remember, the more boost you make, the more fun you will have!

I'm excited to be a part of Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine and provide quality PWC content as well as tips and tricks along the way. **PR**











PR RIDER TECH

Calling kids of all ages!

BUILD YOUR OWN 550 REMOTE CONTROL JETSKI MODEL!

Story and photos: Darren Hawes Jet Ski Army

have a confession to make. At 48 years old I am struggling to become an adult and as a long term 550 rider have always wanted to make my own 550 RC model jetski. We've all seen the old models sold in their time, but I wanted this model to be mine: modern build techniques, modern electronics and the gratification of making it.

In the making for multiple years, it wasn't until Covid-19 hit that I had time to invest heavily in designing, testing and building an iconic model. You too can have one of these, but you will need to build it yourself. Read on to find out how you can build your own 550 RC model jetski.

The first step was to create the model as close to the original as possible to ensure it floats and works like the real thing. I don't know if you have any CAD experience, but it is not easy to pull out the tape measure and start modelling. There are new modern ways - I chose photogrammetry.

Photogrammetry is the technology of obtaining reliable information about physical objects through the process of recording, measuring and interpreting photographic images and patterns of imagery. I took hundreds of strategically angled photos of the actual ski, then, using specialised software converted that into a model shape that formed a basic 3D shape for my CAD drawing.

Once I had the basic shape I started the tedious task of building up the model, printing off prototypes, comparing it to the real thing, adjusting and designing a 3D printing support structure that's easy to remove with least post processing as possible. This involved many hours reading and learning from the community to create a scalable model to 3D print. Printing the complete 1-piece model takes 4-5 days. I used PETG plastic for its strength and water/chemical proof characteristics.

Next: hardware. How would it fit? How would it effect the balance of the ski? What hardware should be used and from what source? As you would imagine Covid-19 shipping was ridiculously slow; with every new hardware came a months' worth of waiting for parts.

Eventually I found the right hardware and incorporated the "keel" into the ski to not only handle the large powerplant, but to assist with buoyancy and prevent capsizing. The pump was a 22mm hole turbo water thruster jet pump with a 26mm propeller and 2860 KV3400 Brushless Motor. A 90Amp marine 3-6s ESC was used as the controller.

With all the hardware, the 3D printed model was not as waterproof as hoped and small gaps required filling. With the first prototype I coated the hull, hood and pole in clear epoxy resin (leading to a second prototype tangent

of a thin fibreglass layer on the hull for added strength). After spray bogging, undercoating and painting it was ready for decals.

I reproduced an iconic decal design and printed using waterproof stickers.

Water test: Few adjustments and a tube of 1211 it floats and works! The ski sits in the water just like the real thing. Steering works well, and the water-cooling system is perfect. In fact, when water shoots from the pisser I get goosebumps. This thing is a ¼ scaled 550 RC jetski model!

Future enhancements include fibreglass hull, a rider that automatically responds to cornering or manually adjusted by the controller, larger power plant plus a more realistic pole and rider.

Although this model is not being mass produced, building plans are available at no additional cost to Jetski Army Patrons (\$3 per month). As a Patron, Jetski Army will share all files, manuals, decals and provide a support community to help with your build. Visit https://jetski.army/patron and start building your very own 550 RC Model Jet Ski now.



















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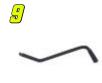












































PLAYING IN THE WAVES

EXTREME STYLE

Story and photos: Gary Zaradic

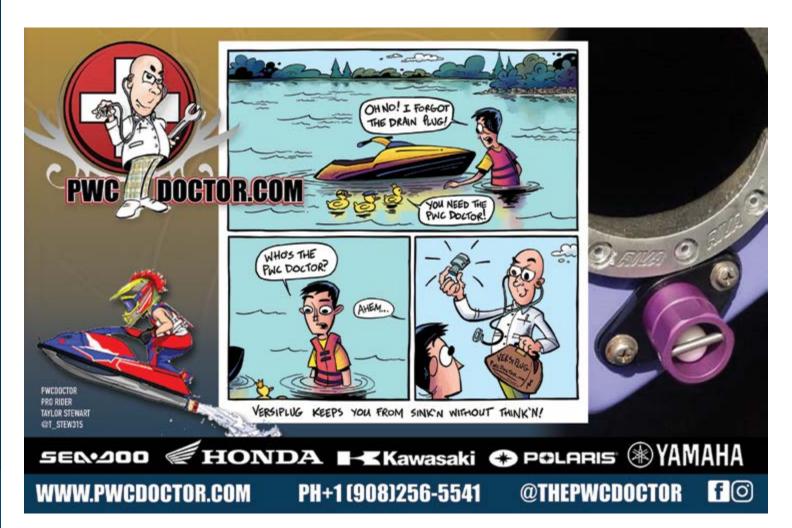
round 2005 I bought my first ski a, 2000 Sea-Doo GTX Di, and fell in love with the sport. With a motocross background I love the way the surf and waves mimic conditions we had on the dirt track but with less injuries and the same adrenalin rush. When I return from a ride physically and mentally fatigued, I know I had a great ride! I've owned and ridden most of the brands with Yamaha and Sea-Doo close to my heart. Can't leave out the Kawasakis I raced giving me podium finishes (race number 711, 117) and life-long friendships via the racing scene and pits. Presently I ride 2012 FX Turbo I built as well as my 2013 Sea-Doo RXP. Both skis are set for harsh conditions, trimmed and tuned to hookup best in choppy conditions.

Over the years you meet fantastic people through this sport and start riding with like-minded wave adrenalin junkies that love waves and surf. We have a small group that enjoys extreme conditions and riding weekly or at least fortnightly keeps us "rider fit"- less achy muscles post ride so we can quickly get out and do it again!

Around Melbourne in Victoria, Australia we choose where to ride by the weather conditions including direction and strength of wind, tide and swell. The final decision is made based on the skill level of the riders. We frequent the back-surf beaches of Sorrento and the surf beaches of Inverloch east of the seaside town of Wonthaggi. Anyone can join in pending weather conditions and rider competence with safety of all riders being the number one factor. One should never ride beyond their abilities. We equip ourselves with a safety tow rope with a quick connect buckle, mountain bike helmet, motocross neck brace, good gripping shoes, jacket in waterproof bag in case conditions change, lanyard on back of ski to grab onto in emergency situations, spark plugs, small assortment of tools to revive a drowned engine and a first aid kit. Depending on distance travelling we often bring spare fuel.

During rides, we have come across whales, seals, dolphins, jellyfish and stingrays. The dolphins find you and are very intuitive of where you are heading and anticipate your every move while the vessel is underway. You just must experience it! The coastline scenery is magical, we get to areas that are inaccessible by anything other than a PWC. 🎢





In Loving Memory Of Nedra Atwood

Personal Watercraft Racing's #1 Fan-Affectionately Known as the Cowbell Lady of Havasu

Photos: Ken and Geneva Gallagher

"The sport has lost an amazing icon. Nedra Atwood appeared on the beaches of race sites and made herself loud and clear - she was PWC's #1 fan and Founder of the Junior Stars program. Over time, racers and riders around the world grew to know her as the "cow bell lady" whose passion for our sport was an unwavering pillar. She watched and supported from the starting line as decades of world champions were crowned and put in countless hours to usher in new generations of young racers each year. Nedra is loved by many around the world and will be missed. Although she's gone, her legacy will *ring* on for generations to come. We'll continue to carry her torch of passion and dedication for the coolest sport in the world."

Anna Glennon, Pro Watercraft Racing Lake Havasu, Arizona



PRORIDER TIPS

*RX FOR HEALTH AND HAPPINESS:*GET UP, EXERCISE, AND GET ON THE WATER!

BINDSS TOE

Story and photos: Joseph M. Berning,

PhD, CSCS, FACSM Strength Physiologist New Mexico State University

In recent months, we all have been battling more than the normal day-to-day challenges with COVID-19. For many, the pandemic has uprooted lives with endless stories of financial distress, job loss, illness and unfortunately in some cases, loss of life. Daily operations have changed dramatically forcing people to often function in isolation whereby life seems to only exist via zoom. It is during these times we cannot surrender to this virus and the challenges put before us but instead, we must fight back. The situation is global and although we as individuals cannot change the world, we can affect and change our own world. It all starts with the person in the mirror. The best medicine we can take is daily exercise. It's a low-cost investment that pays huge dividends for a lifetime. So, I encourage all of you, no matter what, never give-up, but instead get-up, exercise and get on the water.

LATERAL RAISES-TRAINING THE SHOULDERS

DVERVIEW: Lateral raises target the medial (middle/side) deltoid muscle of the shoulder with adjacent muscle structures assisting in the movement as well as stabilizing the shoulder girdle. They can be performed with any weighted object (e.g. canned food, milk jugs, TheraBand) however they are most often performed with dumbbells.

BASICS: The exercise can be performed either seated or standing. Seated is often a little more difficult as it eliminates upright motion generated from the legs when standing. However, the primary movement is the same for both positions. Begin with the weights in hands with the palms facing the thighs (Photo 1). Raise your arms to your sides until your upper arm is parallel or just above shoulder level (Photo 2). Keep elbows slightly bent with knuckles pointing upwards (Photo 3). To maximize range of motion, keep elbows and pinkies high (Photo 4).

RANGE OF MOTION (ROM): Many people suffer from acute or chronic shoulder injury/pain. This often limits one's ability to move their arms through a complete ROM. In these instances, elevate your arms to the point of shoulder pain, stop motion, then return to the lower position. An optional movement is to hold on to a solid object (e.g. wall or pole) with one arm and raise the opposite arm. If you have suffered from an injury, start light, increase weight gradually over a few weeks/months with the goal of slowly increasing ROM. Performing shoulder stretches after exercise is also recommended.

EXERCISE RELEVANCE TO PWC: Riding any watercraft requires holding handlebars and controlling vehicle direction. When making a tight turn, the arm on the opposite side of the turn is usually held higher than the inside arm mimicking a lateral raise. In rough water, the shoulders move in a similar manner to a lateral raise allowing the body to move with the ski but independent of the handle bars in order to keep the rider in control of the watercraft. As you scroll through Pro Rider Magazine, look at racer's shoulder positioning.

PRESCRIPTION: Lateral raises should be part of a shoulder routine

DAYS OF THE WEEK: 2-3 days a week

BEGINNERS: 2–3 sets of 8–12 repetitions

INTERMEDIATE: 3–4 sets of 8–10 repetitions which is geared more towards

growth/size

ADVANCED: 4–5 sets of 6–8 repetitions which generates greater strength



THE MOMENT YOU GIVE UP IS
THE MOMENT YOU LET SOMEONE
ELSE WIN"

- KOBE BRYAN











PR RECREATION

YEAHBUDDY PRODUCTIONS AND PWC COMMUNITY:



enny Koonge aka 'Ken KayGees' is passionate about PWC riding both on and off the water. He's been busy this past year with a weekly live show, the Rec Ride Report, as well as connecting with and promoting PWC recreational riding clubs and groups. We caught up with Kenny recently to learn more about him.

PRO RIDER: Please tell us a little bit about yourself. What motivated you to establish Yeah Buddy Productions and the Rec Ride Report?

KENNY KOONGE: My wife Beckie and I live in the Washington, DC area. We have four kids, three girls and a boy - all young adults, our last one is in college. My daughters live close by, our son is in college and US Army Reserves in Fairbanks, Alaska. I've been in the logistics business for 30 years, my passion and hobbies include jet skiing and football.

I was motivated to establish my own livestream show in 2018 after meeting Kevin of Watercraft Network. I pitched to Kevin to bring me on to cover rec rides that were becoming popular around the country. It was an instant success. The clubs loved it; listenership grew. Later, I joined the Cardone Race Corner show for a while. In early 2020 several friends pressed me to start my own show dedicated to recreational riding and to highlight the people that came before us. I teamed up with Jason Frank from Jersey Shore PWC Riders who was pushing me to do a podcast. It all started however with Scott Morin, Carolina Watercraft Club, who told me back in 2018 during the development of the Belly Buster Charity Ride, that I should do my own show but I didn't get the motivation until one particular Cardone Race Corner Show where we brought rec groups on for a round robin and had over 200 people watching live! Views of the recorded video reached over 15k. Ultimately Jason was my motivation -- if I didn't do it, he would never let me live it down. I give him so much credit for that. Additionally, the show would not have gotten so far without master producer, Steven Reyes from Westside Media; we joined forces and the Yeah Buddy Rec Ride Report was born. We rounded out the cast with Jerry Gaddis from Greenhulk to talk tech and safety, Jerry's son Greg, and Tommy "the tech" Branella. My inspiration and 'manager" is my wife Beckie. As a show and a team, we continue to improve, and have seen views and shares increase each week with listeners from all over the world.

PR: What is your background in riding?

KK: It started on a Caribbean cruise in 1997, an excursion, a full day, full throttle jet ski ride in the Bahamas. It was the most beautiful experience ever, but it wasn't until 10 years later I bought my first PWC, riding solo until I joined a group, Jet Ski Junkies and later teamed up with a friend and put together the Jetski Fanatics. I met up with the founder of a veteran's group, Take Point Now, and helped build up the jet ski program growing the club to 2,000 members. During this time, we started work with Pro Watercross on an idea Kevin of Watercraft Network and I had been tossing around, a National Recreational Tour of ride

events across the country. Midway through, unknown to me, was a major life-threatening health condition forcing me to break from the community, focus on getting better, and when I came back, I decided to take my involvement in the PWC community on a different path.

PR: What are you most proud of as relates to jet skiing?

IXI: I'm most proud of the wide variety of projects and rides I've been a part of including military veterans and Take Point Now. With a service member in our family, it means even more when I see him serving our country. I led the PWC safety team for the March of Dimes Chesapeake Bay Swim. I also collaborated with Craig from WNY PWC on the Can-Am ride, and we created the coin concept for the ride. He told me how the military awards coins for major accomplishments; a challenge coin was created with one side about the ride, the other about the charity the ride was benefiting. I also am proud of turning an idea into reality with the National Rec Tour with six major recreational ride groups involved. I also am very proud of where the Belly Buster ride is today, merged with racing and Pro Watercross in Hartwell, Georgia. Finally, I am proud of all the friendships and people I've met as well as the riding knowledge they've shared.

PR: Please describe your favorite recreational ride.

KK: That's a hard one! Every ride I attend, I leave thinking that was the BEST.

PR: Please share what you ride, favorite riding locations, and what you like to do when not

KK: We ride the Sea-Doo platforms. Currently I have an RXTX and my favorite riding location is the Jersey Shore marshes. When not working I watch football and spend time with the family. I'm a huge longtime player of fantasy football.

PR: What is your best advice to PWC owners?

KK: My best advice for PWC owners is to take a safety course every year.

In closing, while this was a challenging year with historic pandemic across the world, it was an epic year of the community coming together with charity events, camaraderie,

and fun. 2021 will be even better-look for me on the water. This is a call to action- send me your events, you never know who might show up, ski in tow and camera in hand.







HAVE A JET SKI RACING NEW ZEALAND INTRODUCES NOVICES TO THE RACECOURSE

By: Diane Dale Secretary, Jet Ski Racing New Zealand | Photos: Holly Hartley, Breannah Wakefield

ith seasons directly opposite to the Northern Hemisphere, weather is getting warmer, days are getting longer, perfect for summer racing in New Zealand! It's an annual cycle this racing game. We're like family in many ways, meeting up at our regular events, ready to battle it out on the water, in a friendly, yet competitive environment. Riders, children, partners and friends all come together for high adrenalin action.

With COVID our winter racing rider numbers fluctuated in 2020. Some left the sport all together, others launched out and bought new skis, putting a few hours on the clock in preparation for summer.

Our race season includes seven rounds on our beautiful North Island lakes and beaches which started with limited numbers in November in the pouring rain. Though cold and wet it failed to dampen the spirits of those that braved the elements. Camaraderie makes every event special as friends finally meet up after months apart.

Rounds 2 and 3 will be held at the beautiful Lake Rotoma in Rotorua in January which falls in New Zealand's summer holiday season; we are hoping it will act as a magnet to new riders. Round 4 sees us returning to the Hibiscus Coast, north of Auckland, racing in the surf off Orewa Beach. Round 5 takes us back to Lake Rotorua while the final two rounds will be raced on magnificent Lake Taupo.

It's not all racing however, there are fun days included in the season, providing us occasion to play, take children for rides and entertain the community. These are great opportunities for our supporting dealers and sponsors to showcase the family side of their products.

This year we're holding a "have a go" novice day to introduce people to a racecourse without the intimidation of riding amongst more battle-hardened riders and the dealers are right behind it!

Jet Ski Racing New Zealand is a proud member of the New Zealand Power Boat Federation and internationally, the UIM, the world governing body for all powerboating activities. Currently we have one member, Kylie Ellmers, proudly flying the NZ flag and competing on the international Aquabike racing circuit.

All events are run strictly in accordance with UIM rules and racing categories thereby catering for all International Classes. In each class we also have a popular 'shop stock' category. With very basic (and strictly enforced) modifications allowed, this enables new riders to ride to their ability rather than their bank balance.

Many of our 'shop stock' riders have gone on to buy bigger skis or have heavily modified existing skis. Many hold dual memberships and race competitively in IJSBA events run by NZJSBA.

Covid has given the world a shake-up but jet skiers still want to go fast and test themselves against others. Racing is resuming around the globe and here in New Zealand, through Jet Ski Racing New Zealand, we are continuing to look forward planning a vibrant future for the sport!

O JET SINS FOR SALE

o list your jet skis for sale for FREE on Pro Rider, DM photos of your ski setup (ski, trailer or cart), price, location, description and contact info to our partner @jetski.sales on Instagram. It's that easy! If you are a private seller or consigner, listing is no cost and sales are protected. Only the listing IG account is tagged, all communication with a buyer is directed to the selling account, no middleman, no fees, no splits.

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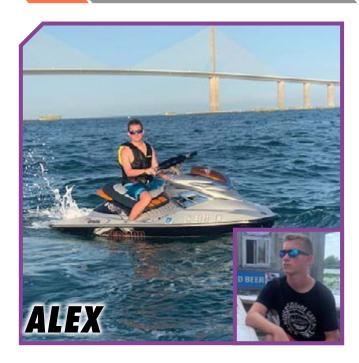














AGE: 16

HOMETOWN: Avon Lake, Ohio, USA

SKI: 2008 RXPX 255

RACE/RECREATION/FREERIDE/FREESTYLE: Rec Rider (will start racing

in 2021)

LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS: Currently 4.3 GPA Junior Year, obtained my driver's and boater's licenses; installed my own supercharger on my ski.

CRAZIEST OR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT ON THE WATER: The ride that started my passion for jet skiing happened at 6 years old on a private island in the Bahamas. My dad and I signed up for a jet ski tour that went around a few deserted islands. We had fun racing with our tour guide, Freddy, at the front of the group. We saw tons of sea life and I even picked up a starfish. After this moment, I had a never-ending thirst for speed

FAVORITE RIDING LOCATION: Downtown Cleveland, Ohio/Cuyahoga River, Lake Erie Islands, and Sandusky River in Western Ohio.

SPONSORS: Shorlock Anchors, YeahBuddy Productions.



ANNA BURK Photos: Chrystal Burk

AGE: 12

HOMETOWN: Mooresville, North Carolina, USA

SKI: Rickter Ninja X

RACE/RECREATION/FREERIDE/FREESTYLE: Freestyle

LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS: This is my first year learning standup jet skiing and being trained in freestyle by Freestyle Connection. I have learned several old school jetski tricks and hope to learn how to backflip in 2021. I have maintained straight A's every quarter in school. I also enjoy lacrosse and reading books with my pets.

CRAZIEST OR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT ON THE WATER: Watching grown up professional jet skiers ride my small Rickter Ninja X and actually be able to backflip on it. They looked like giants driving a toy car!

FAVORITE RIDING LOCATION: Behind my house on Lake Norman.

SPONSORS: Freestyle Connection, SquidMoose, JetLift, H2O Industries, and HighSideDesignz.

MALORY RHAULT

Photos: Roland Rhault

AGE: 15

HOMETOWN: McDonough, Georgia, USA

SKI: Kawasaki 650 SX

RACE/RECREATION/FREERIDE/FREESTYLE:

Rec Rider

LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS: Mastering standup riding and maintaining a 4.4 GPA. I am a 13-year dancer including ballet, tap, jazz, lyrical, pointe, and competitive dancing and I am an avid photographer. I photograph nature and have an Instagram I post the pictures on.

CRAZIEST OR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT ON THE

WATER: My first standup ride was my most memorable ride. I was very uncomfortable at first because it was something new. I was riding my jet ski and I remember the hardest thing was keeping my balance in turns. I am proud to say I was able to stand up my first try, even though I was nervous. I'm very happy I didn't give up and I have found a love for jet skiing. It is my favorite activity to do.

FAVORITE RIDING LOCATION: Jackson Lake, Jackson, GA

SPONSORS: Bank of Dad







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2020 PRO AM WOMEN'S SKI WORLD CHAMPION





PR PHOTO CONTEST

Pro Rider Jan / Feb 2021 Gear Giveaway

WIN THIS GEAR!

Starting the year with a big giveaway! This issue's photo contest winner will receive a custom red jet ski cover compliments of our good friends at H2O Industries! A revolutionary

new way to protect your ski, H2O Industries covers are designed and manufactured in the USA and are more than just covers, they make a bold unique statement. Their covers are designed to withstand highway speeds, below average temperatures, and just about anything you can throw at them! Visit www.h2oindustries.com to see covers and other products including haulers, apparel, and more.





PRO RIDER GEAR KEEPS YOU LOOKING FAST ON AND OFF THE WATER.*

*Individual results may vary

HOW TO WIN:

Submit your best high resolution PWC related photos to contest@proridermag.com with "Pro Rider Entry" in the subject line. Photos that have not yet been posted to any social media sites will have greater chances of winning. Open to amateur photographers only. Good luck!

*Products and sizes may vary.

Visit www.proridermag.com for more information and "like" Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine on Facebook.





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