ANUARY / FEBRUARY 2022







GUINNESS WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT AUSTRALIA



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PRO WATERCROSS 2021 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS NAPLES, FLORIDA

Photo: Vicki Baker













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- SEASON END FUN AT CAMP FAR WEST BUDY BASH Photographer/Racer Kenny Wong organized the event for riders to practice for the upcoming 2022 race season.
- **CRAZY ULEATHER AND HYDRODRAGS COLLIDE** Racers and fans came in droves from New York to Puerto Rico to compete in this event going strong for 15 years.
  - For Andy Fonseca it began with his love for the outdoors especially everything related to the ocean.
  - PRESENTS FOR KIDS IN CARE AND GUINNESS RECORD ATTEMPT IN AUSTRALIA The Gold Coast saw 230 PWCs take to the water for a Guinness World Record attempt.
    - AQUABIXE'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON FINALE KUWAIT It was a good year for Aquabike riders a season of personal bests.
  - **COLLIER COUNTY REF RIDERS** David Mercado with the Collier County Florida Sheriff's Dept. shares how the group was formed.
    - **RBUNDANT TALENT FULL LINES LIQUI MOLY 2821 PRO UNTERCROSS UIORLO CHAMPIONSHIPS:** Riders gave it their all both physically and mentally. Many champions were crowned.
    - IF YOU BUILD THEM THEY WILL COME 35 Jet Ski Legend Robert Cohen built 10 Modsters simultaneously.
- **CONISTON POWER BOAT RECORDS WEEK UX** Drivers from 9 years old take turns on the water to break British and World water speed records.
  - **NEW TRACK INTRODUCED OF UR RACING** Summer in full swing in Australia great for running a brand-new track with an added joker lane.
  - HUNDREDS
     CONVERGE FOR ANNUAL DUNEOIN EXCURSION
     4.4

     Dunedin Excursion Winter Ride brought riders together to cruise the beautiful Florida Gulf Coast.
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  - **PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT MARKHAM PARK BUDY COURSE** Course provides a safe riding place that has contributed to multiple world and national champions.
    - meet luver perez new millennium custom wheels 🤤 🖅
- Faithful fan of watersports brings unique and functional touch to transporting skis.

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#### Note:

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.

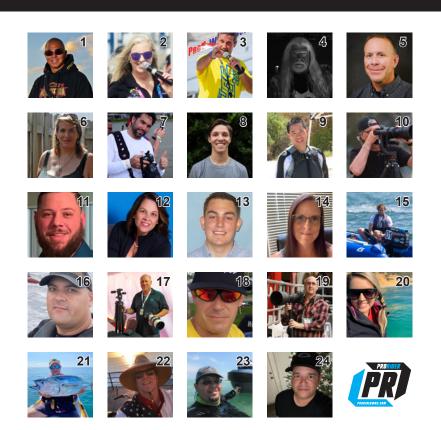
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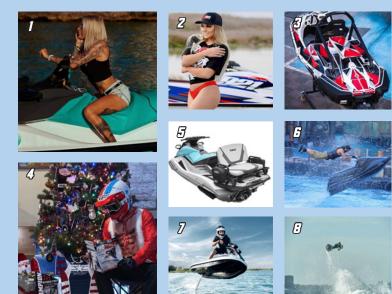






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- 2. "@rain\_porter turning up the heat!" Photo: @kdwsportsphotos
- 3. "@evojetae did a great job with the 2022 model!" Photo: @evojetfactory
- 4. "Dear Santa all I want for Christmas is to beat World Champs @deven. farthing116 and @ryder888 2022 season only because they are two of the best in the world." Photo: @riverdad23
- 5. "Your throne awaits. It's good to be the king. The all-new Yamaha RecDeck. Available for Yamaha FX Series WaveRunners." - Photo: @yamahaboating
- 6. "Superman the ATOL!" Photo: @action\_horizons\_stunts
- 7. Is this the future of stand up jet skis? Photo: David Vukovič
- 8. "Save a bull, ride a bronco!" Photo: @420 freeride, Rider: @701\_fryzie













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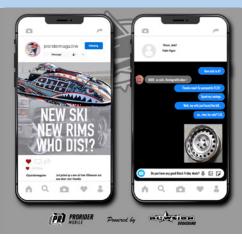
## THE MONEY \$HOT JANUARY/FFBRUARY 2022

The 2022 January/February cover shot goes to Speed Racing's Camden Powell and Zeke Keim, hard-charging teammates and lifelong friends out of Syracuse, Indiana. The cover images were captured through the lenses of Kenny Wong KDW Photos

(Camden #44) and Vicki Baker, Vicki Baker Photography (Zeke #4). These teens have acquired an impressive collection of hardware in multiple sports including jet ski racing, swimming, tennis, and more.









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## PRO RIDER JANUARY/FEBRUARY ISSUE Photos: Ryan Graham, Tayla Simmonds, Studio KSA







Scan to watch ultimate throw-down session with teammate Beau Arscott!



Correction: Pro Rider Nov-Dec 2021 page 48 photo of 155 Coy Curtis: Marc Hagest 24-7 Media Group

1: Pro Rider Toddler Division Aaliyah Rain Ratti on holiday | 2: PR Family | 3-5: Airing it out at Thunder Lake Action Stunt Show | 6: Showtime Entertainment Crew Playtime | 7: Pre-Show Posing – Stunt Performers: Michael Ratti, Beau Arscott, Ryan Graham

#### HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM PRO RIDER WATERCRAFT MAGAZINE!

elcome to the first issue of 2022 and the 64<sup>th</sup> print and digital issue of Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine! We are humbled and honored to enter our 11th year in production and grateful beyond measure to work and collaborate with industry leaders, racing and recreational event promoters, superior photographers, brilliant authors, dedicated riders, racers, parents, friends and all those who share a passion for and support the sport!

The 2022 January/February cover shot goes to Speed Racing's Camden Powell and Zeke Keim, teammates and lifelong best friends out of Syracuse, Indiana who are making quite a reputation for themselves on and off the water track. Photographer Kenny Wong KDW Photos captured the cover image of #44 Cam at the IJSBA World Finals in Lake Havasu City, Arizona and Vicki Baker, Vicki Baker Photography captured the image of #4 Zeke at the Pro Watercross World Championship in Naples, Florida.

Features include coverage from the Pro Watercross World Championship, QPWC Racing in Australia, Collier County Riders, NE Standups, Dunedin Excursion, Grand Prix of Kuwait, HydroDrags World Championship, Sea Xplorers Crew, Coniston Records Week in the UK, Camp Far West End of Season Practice, and Markham Park Buoy Course. Don't miss this issue's Future Threats, Rig of the Month, social media top spots, Gear Review, Safety feature, PWC Fishing and more!

Visit Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine on Facebook, Instagram at @proridermag, and online at www. proridermag.com for news, announcements, digital issue access and extras!

Sincerely,

Michael Ratti and the Pro Rider Team

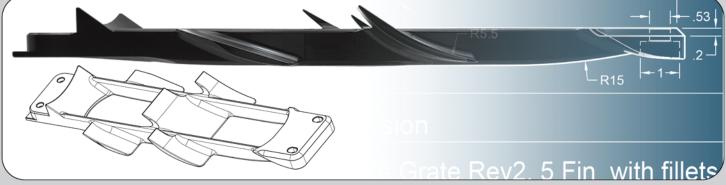


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#### DEAR PRO RIDER WATERCRAFT MAGAZINE,

Reflecting back during our short winter break here at Lake Norman, North Carolina, I look to the left of my desk and see five years of Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine! Looking through the stack of magazines reminds me of my own jetski journey.

My love for the sport started when I was 23 living in Long Island, NY. My friend Scotty bought a brand-new Kawasaki 650 SX from the dealership and I gave it a try. The challenge of learning how to ride a standup ski, combined with the adventures of travel, general beach lifestyle and I was hooked by my second ride. I had enough money saved to buy a used 89 650 SX and customized just about every aspect of the ski. I rode the heck out of that ski nearly 4 days a week and even in the dead of winter. Northeast weather was tough, but we found a way to ride for at least an hour before everything started to freeze. Riding the shores of NY, NJ and MD for a decade was a blast. Kawasaki was ride of choice. I had 650s and 750s during this time. When I met my wife Jennifer, who also rides, I remember saying, "it's not like I can ride these when I am 40, so I have to ride all the time now in my 20's and 30's".

Fast forward to 2021 I turned 50 and I ride a 2021 Superjet after riding the Kawasaki 800 SXR hulls for 15 straight years. Some weeks I ride 4 days after work for an hour or two. Other times I ride from morning to night. I live in Lake Norman, NC and ride with the same friends I rode with in my 20's and many others I've met along the way. My son started riding at 8 and is now 17. Our home Lake is LKN and we ride

all over the Southeast, FL, GA, SC, NC coast and many of the lakes in these states as well. My garage is loaded with skis that are ready to go and set for the next ride. It's amazing to think back on all the memories with friends and family that involved jetskis, likely a hundred trips up and down the east coast.

Feet in the tray, hands on grips, electronics away and I am atmy best. Just ride! And read Pro Rider Magazine!

Sal Macaluso Lake Norman, North Carolina





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## RPM BEST OF THE WEST - JET JAM RACING SCHEDULE







2022 Schedule of Events:

- Round #1 March 19 & 20 "2022 Best of the West Series Kickoff" Crazy Horse Campground, Lake Havasu, AZ
- Round #2 April 9 & 10 "Nedra Atwood/Gary Hart Memorial"- La Paz County Park, Parker, AZ
- Round #3 May 7 & 8 "3rd Annual Huntington Beach Moto-Surf & Freeride"- Huntington Beach, CA
- Round #4 June 4 & 5 "Race for Cure" Crazy Horse Campground, Lake Havasu, AZ
- Round #5 August 20 & 21 "The Lake Elsinore Open of Water X" -Launch Pointe, Lake Elsinore, CA
- Round #6 September 16 18 "The 2022 Hydro-Turf & Hot Products Best of the West Series Championships" presented by Jettrim & Impros -Crazy Horse Campground, Lake Havasu, AZ

For More Information, please visit www.rpmracingent.com or Jet Jam Racing http://www.jetjam.racing or like us on Facebook and Instagram

Questions, please contact RPM Racing Enterprises (310) 318-4012 or Jet Jam Racing (360) 349-1341

#### FLORIDA SKI RIDERS SCHEDULE



### ELECTRIC 550 STANDUP JET SKI SCOOTER

#### Submitted by: Chris Hagest

This fun build was put together by me, Nick Ricchia and Brody

Shakely using an off-road skateboard by E-Glide. We added more batteries, finger throttle accelerator, LED headlight and taillights. This is a lean-to steer ride just like the 550. Our angle was to help 'Haulin' Harry Goatcher ride his way back into racing. Jet skis on and off the water is a fun lifestyle with great people. Pro Watercraft's goal is to help people see our sport and enjoy it! https://youtu.be/ID3gcFfbYv0





#### BRITISH VIRTURL FREESTYLE COMPETITION

#### Submitted by: Paul Hewitt

Who can believe "Virtual Freestyle" is into its third year? Run by British Freestyle, the 2022 Virtual Freestyle Jetski Championships will be screened



from the UK to a global audience 11 July. Registration opens in March and the filming window is 4-21 June. The event will stream on Facebook and Youtube simultaneously. The best homegrown and international freestyle talent will take part, scored by freestyle legends. Follow on Facebook and Instagram (@britishfreestylechampionship); visit https:// britishfreestyle.com. Companies interested in sponsoring send email to britishfreestylechamps@gmail.com.

#### PIRATE SHIP SKI

#### Submitted by: Dustin Kringer

The idea of building a pirate ship ski seemed cool. I received an old ski for next to nothing. It took me a month to complete the project, never being sure if it would roll over when launched. We live on Oneida Lake in NY so finding a place to launch and keep it was easy. Krnjak was

my family's ancestral name and it sounded "piratey". Like riding a bike, it was wobbly when going slow but easier the faster it went. The trim didn't work on the ski, so the bow was a bit high. If I were to build a newer better one (which I'm not) I'd use a 3-person ski for more stability.





#### JET RIDER NATION BEACON APP

#### Submitted by: Manny Arroyo

Jet Rider Nation, committed to making waterways safe for everyone and improving your experience, proudly presents the Jet Rider Nation Beacon App! Our app accomplishes 3 simple things to quickly access on the water: 1. Share your current coordinates; 2. Find the nearest boat ramp; 3. Find the nearest marina. There are other apps that do a great job helping you navigate areas. However, our app makes it easy for those who just want to share or receive information fast. Available in the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store. NOTE: This app is not a substitute for an EPIRB device. This is only meant



for use in areas receiving cellular signal and can connect to wireless data services. If you are traveling where there will be no service, carry an EPIRB or other satellite communications device.

## REBECCA MYER: FREESTYLE CALLING - AT 38!

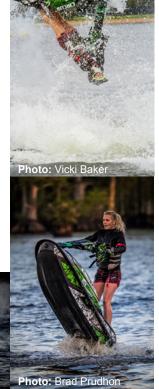
#### Photos: Brad Prudhon; Vicki Baker

Rebecca Myer had no intentions of competing as she and Phil Clemmons, P & P Performance arrived on scene at the Pro Watercross Championship in Naples. Amateur freestyle was warming up. "They talked me into competing after I said no 50 times," said Myer. "They put freestyle on hold, Phil got my ski off the trailer as I rushed to get gear on. My ski had new upgrades not even tested yet, I had no routine, no practice run. I was beyond nervous, couldn't breathe/speak nervous, but I pushed through, got out there and tried my best. In 2017 I got my first jet ski (Sea-Doo Spark) and instantly fell in love with the sport. 2018 I saw guys back flipping at our local lake, and said, "I want to do that!" Purchased my Circus that year, my first standup and what I learned to ride on. Everyone said I was wasting my money, that I'd never be able to do it. I turned negative comments into power to make my dreams a reality. In 2020 I learned to flat water flip on my stock 760/msd enhancer/stock carbs/ stock pump in my Circus, a complete stock ski everyone told me was

impossible to flat water flip, especially riding only one year. This was all possible because of Phil and P&P Performance gutting and rebuilding my ski and training me. Phil and I work together at P&P Performance building custom jet skis, tuning, developing the new Velociraptor Trim System and more. I recently upgraded some components, went to a mag pump/900/total loss, what a difference that makes from a stock ski.

I'm a mom of 5, my oldest is 20 and youngest are 8-year-old twins. I started riding freestyle at 38 and am proof you're only as old as your mindset. Always follow your dreams and don't let negativity hold you back from achieving something you know you can conquer!"





#### FULL THROTTLE WATERX SCHEDULE



### **2022 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

ROUND 1: MARCH 25TH-27TH - HAVASU LANDING RESORT & CASINO, CA Round 2: April 29TH-30TH & May 1ST - Nautical INN RESORT, AZ Round 3: May 20TH-22ND - Nautical INN RESORT, AZ Round 4: June 10TH-12TH - Camp Far West, Ca Round 5: August 5TH-7TH - Camp Far West, Ca Round 5: August 5TH-7TH - Camp Far West, Ca

NON-POINTS EVENT: NOVEMBER 5TH - PARKER, AZ (DUAL SLALOM BRACKET RACING, DRAG RACING, FREESTYLE COMPETITION)

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#### JET RIDER NATION RIDE SCHEDULE

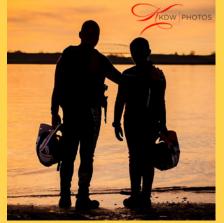






## SEASON END FUN AT CAMP FAR WEST **BUOY BASH**

Photos: Kenny Wong; Chris Liu



amp Far West Lake in Wheatland, northern California is well known among water sports enthusiasts as a welcoming place to enjoy fishing, wakeboarding, water skiing, boating, horseback riding, tubing, camping, and jet skiing! Kenny Wong organized an end of the year event at CFW to encourage riders to try racing in hopes they will participate in the upcoming 2022 race season. Don Werney, Jeremy Dixon, and Chris Heppe set up the buoy course which provided a chance for riders to race against each other on an actual course. Many members of the Sacramento Jet Ski Club attended, both new and veteran riders ranging in age from 10 to 61. The track accommodates practicing every aspect of racing including holding, starting, turning, jumping and freestyle. The event, which included pre-ride safety instruction, was a tremendous success! PR















# **JAMIE NOTT-BOWER**

HOMETOWN: BOURNEMOUTH, UNITED KINGDOM PHOTO: SNAP PHOTOGRAPHY LOCATION: HIGHCLIFFE, SOUTH COAST, UK

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JET SKIERS AND WATER SKIERS



By: Mike Young | Photos: Manuel Valdes MVP Production

he 2021 Hydro-Turf HydroDrag World Championships were held in, "America's Sea Plane City", Tavares, Florida on Lake Dora. It was one of the coolest days in Florida with temps in the mid 50's. However, the winds were blowing in the right direction and the event went off without a hitch. The water was cool making engines run better. New for 2021, RacerH2O.com's Jarred Romesburg conducted a livestream of the races which is available to watch in entirety. Also, new for 2021, Bobby Cardone, Cardone's Race Corner provided the live call.

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Racers and fans came in droves, from New York to Puerto Rico to compete in this coveted event going strong for 15 years. Starting with Pro Stock stacked with 10 competitors, Luis Marine faced off against Puerto Rico's Julio Rivera, early in the brackets forcing Julio to come through the consolation brackets. Angelica Gonzalez faced the same fate as Julio in the semi-final round and those two faced off with the winner to take on the undefeated Luis Marine machine. Angelica edged out Julio to make it to Finals, but Luis Marine brought their A-game and took the World Championship win in Pro Stock.

Nearly 20 racers competed in Pro Spec, with that many racers there's bound to be drama, so let's get to it. There was a disqualification by tech inspector, Rene Mesa, for a racer that used an illegal supercharger wheel. Ernesto Calas, Calas Performance, took the top podium spot; joining him in 2<sup>nd</sup> was Julio Rivera and in 3<sup>rd</sup> Alfredo Goicolea, who won the HydroDrag Nationals in July.

Sunday began with Speed Alley (highspeed runs against the GPS). There is a new record in the Pro Stock Class by Julio Rivera, Jr. at 98.6 mph and a new Pro Spec World Record from Cuco Performance built by BK at 106 mph. Michel Lopez holds on to the SuperStock with 113.7 mph, and Jose Luis Hernandez maintains the Unlimited World Record at 135 mph.

Pro Superstock double-elimination, time to turn up the heat! More than 25 racers in the Pro Superstock, and Team CRT came out with weapons drawn, but DVT racer, Devis Romero, was not giving up against Carlito Del Valle and Michel Lopez. There was a moment of silence for #44/Roy Perozo, our great friend who passed away 2 years ago, a very touching moment as we all come together during tough times and remember forever. Romero faced Michel Lopez in the consolation bracket. Lopez had a great jump and never looked back as he would now have to face off against his builder Carlito. Lopez eventually took the win as Team CRT took 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>!

FL-5149 5X

In the always fun Unlimited Class, DVT Racing again proved he is one of the newbies to pay attention to, as he raced his way into 3<sup>rd</sup> behind Carlos Gonzalez, and the man who has been dominant as an engine builder and racer, Carlito Del Valle! Del Valle has come a long way in HydroDrag Racing and always brings something to the table!

Special thanks to Title Sponsor Hydro-Turf and Presenting Sponsors City of Tavares, Lake County, RIVA Racing, and Key West Resort and Co-Sponsors: Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine, MVP Production, OT Lounge, Tiki West, Fish Camp on Lake Eustis, RacerH2O.com, Florida Ski Riders, Matatanes, Lenny and the crew at the Empire Jet Ski Club, Hudson River Squad and all the great officials for their hard work all season! We are planning races in April and November 2022 in Tavares and working on new venues. Have a fun and safe offseason everyone!



or Andy Fonseca from Puerto Rico, it began with his love for the outdoors, especially everything related to the ocean. He owned a boat, was a kayak angler and avid mountain biker. After a mountain bike accident sidelined him, he turned to PWCs. That year, 2019, Sea-Doo introduced the Fish Pro that 'lured' him to this new hobby to fish, explore and meet great people. He bought a second PWC for his wife and now the whole family rides. He began recording their adventures and created a YouTube channel "Andy Great Outdoors."

## **PRO RIDER:** What motivated you to establish the Sea Xplorers Crew Group?

PR RECREATION

ANDY FONSECA: After a trip to the Florida Keys, I created a video, and we joined the Tampa Bay Riders to Silver Glen Springs, I started posting all future trips on Facebook. All those friends we met during trips became extended family. We meet and ride with many groups as a big family, Jet Rider Nation, Florida River Riders, Florida Ski Riders, Tampa Bay Riders, and others. The idea to create our own group came from conversations with my wife and friend Marisol Lopez. Always eager to explore new places, we decided "Explorers" had to be in the name. We love the sea and "SEA XPLORERS" was created. Our shirt's distinctive is the Alligator Reef Lighthouse, the first trip we rode together as SEA XPLORERS. We have been all over Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. Every year we go to the Keys to celebrate where everything started.

**FR:** Please describe favorite club rides.

- िद्हे Follow us at sea xplorers cre<u>w group on</u>
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- ▷ AND "ANDY GREAT OUTDOORS" YOUTUBE CHANNEL.

**IF:** We rode from Sarasota to Snake Island in Venice; it was a beautiful day and left us with a desire to return and keep exploring more south. 2021 was full of new adventures, Lake Jocassee and Lake Keowee with the Jet Rider Nation family, we had a blast. Along with the Florida River Riders, we rode the St. Mary's River which divides Georgia and Florida, the scenery is breathtaking! We visited Cumberland Island which is rich in history.

## **R**: What are your favorite riding locations and what advice do you have for riders?

**M**: Our favorite riding location is Tampa Bay; our meeting point is E.G. Simmons Park boat ramp. We ride from Tampa Bay to Beer Can Island, Clearwater, Sarasota, and Dunedin. For those who want to join any group my advice is always safety first and be informed: Is the ride according to my driving skills? Is it family oriented? Is extra fuel needed? Always contact the group administrators and get information from the right source.

Our group originated with 4 families: Fonseca, Cabrera, Torres- Lopez and Ramos. Our big accomplishment is in less than a year we reached 320 members on our page.



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## PR RIDER PROFILE

Photos: Kenny Wong; Vicki Baker Pete Keim; Tisha Powell

peed Racing teammates, co-captains of their swim team and best friends Camden Powell and Zeke Keim of Syracuse, Indiana both 17, are forces to be reckoned with in jet ski racing, swimming, tennis, cross country, and track. Racing together since 2017, they have acquired an impressive collection of hardware in multiple sports. Powell's dad Derek, who raced from 1992–2019 and holds multiple titles in Ski GP and Ski 4 Stroke Stock, had Cam on a sitdown with him at age 3 and it wasn't long before Cam was riding standups at 6. Zeke took to the water track at age 12; both boys quickly excelled in the sport.

ZEKE KEI

IDEN POUELL

When asked how it came to pass that Zeke raced as #4 instead of his usual #77 in Pro Watercross Nationals and World Championship, Derek shared, "Zeke ran the #4 a lot of the 2021 season due to boat issues. Thankfully we have enough skis that if there are issues, we have backups to keep

them on the track." Derek said "the most rewarding aspect of seeing Cam and Zeke involved in racing is just being together and creating memories. I've had a love of racing

forever and was fortunate to experience it at its peak. Now I am just trying to give the boys the best opportunity to have fun and experience something not everyone gets to experience."

#### 2021 Accomplishments Pro Watercross; PRO AM SKI GP

CAMDEN: 1st overall for season; 3rd overall World Championship ZEKE: 7<sup>th</sup> overall for season; 7<sup>th</sup> overall World Championship

#### SKI 4 STROKE STOCK

RACING

CAMDEN: 1st overall for season; 1st overall World Championship ZEKE: 2<sup>nd</sup> overall for season; 2<sup>nd</sup> overall World Championship

#### Camden 2021 IJSBA WORLD FINALS

- AM SKI GP 2 Stroke: World Champion
- AM SKI GP World Champion
- PRO AM SKI GP: 5th Overall

#### Plans for 2022:

Pro Watercross Tour: Great Lakes Watercross; P1AquaX and a few other events with a goal to attend 2022 Havasu World Finals and ultimately Thailand King's Cup.

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## 

By: Joanna Kristoffersen | Photos: Jeff Lakeford - Nautical Image

onquering numbers from the previous year, the Gold Coast saw 230 PWCs take to the water for a Guinness World Record attempt, while at the same time raising funds for a local charity for teenagers in care. Jeff Lakeford rounded up Jetskiers of Queensland to take part in this annual festive get together. It was incredible seeing the community coming together and helping each other at the event, something that will be remembered for years to come. The event raised \$14,000.00 for the charity 'Presents for Kids in Care' their major fundraising event of the year!

or Kids in Care

A previous Guinness World Record for Santas riding jet skis in a parade, sits at 129 people. Now the nervous wait for Australia, after authorities review the media and official videos organised by Nautical Image, to determine whether these bunch of Christmas jetskiiers will get their names published for the official world record! The record attempt isn't an easy one to coordinate; with organisers having to ensure the procession of 230 jetski sleighs stayed close together with no significant gaps at a safe speed of six knots single file, all while being captured by multiple drone flights, land and boat photographers and videographers.

Gold Coast residents and tourists lined the waterways saluting the aquatic parade of red and green as it travelled along the Gold Coast waterways in progression for the Guinness attempt, later congregating a few abreast for the remainder of the ride under the Sundale Bridge, around Chevron Island and back to land where the event concluded with a bulk number of Santas on the beach where the local news awaited to interview riders, almost a record in itself!

Nautical Image

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## PERSONALLY, THE BEST

## AQUABIKE'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON FINALE, KUWAIT

was a good year for Aquabike and its riders. This is the season that shall be dubbed "The Season of Personal Bests." The World Championship year ended in Kuwait City.

Let's talk about personal bests, starting with Ski Ladies GP 1. Jonna Borgstrom entered the race in Kuwait as points leader, Emma-Nellie ready to race after hospitalization two months earlier, and Jasmiin Ypraus fresh on the circuit after a month of intense training, and Benedicte Drange, just 15 years old in her first Pro race. Jasmiin showed strength early on winning the GP of Kuwait, her first ever World Championship win. This Estonian Tigress has found her footing. Emma-Nellie was her usual fierce self, but her pacing was 3 points short overall from Jasmiin. Borgstrom had one task: stay consistent and finish in the top three. But the wild card we were not expecting was Benedicte Drange. This rookie chased Jonna across the course once less than a second away from Jonna in the finish. Ultimately, Jonna pulled third in the final moto as the Borgstrom camp breathed a sigh of relief as she took the World Championship;

NSHIP

By: Dawn Dawson | Photos: Aquabike

her first ever and no doubt, not her last. Kudos to Lisa Caussin Battaglia and Janina Johansson who had their best finishes in 2021.

In Ski GP 1, Nacho Armillas delivered good on his promise to dominate after a string of second place finishes in Olbia. Nacho raced as though his life depended on it and in a way it did. 30 surgeries, working overtime to fine tune that boat with his father, and push through the pain in his body: he HAD to win. The most talked about moment in the race-Nacho's mind-blowing passing of Kevin Reiterer in lap 4 Moto 2 when Nacho lunged forward across the choppy water and took the lead. The rivalry between Kevin and Nacho continued when Kevin pushed it to finish just seconds before Nacho. By then, the GP of Kuwait belonged to Nacho, but Kevin got the points he needed to take the World Championship. He dedicated his title to Nacho showing incredible sportsmanship, saying he would not be pushed to be a better racer if it were not for riders like Nacho. Kudos to Anders Keller on his personal best year, grabbing a third-place spot on the World Championship podium and cracking top 5 in

every race, and to Axel Courtois for the best racing he put forward this year.

Runabout GP 1 was about national pride for Yousef Abdulrazzaq. He won last year at the same stop and winning on home soil just hits different. He completely replaced the engine on his boat. It paid off as he cruised to the finish line first! Jeremy Perez seemed to be riding on a miracle boat. It kept stopping and starting, yet this talented Frenchmen took second for the GP of Kuwait to take the World Championship by two points. Alejandro Molina, a Spaniard on a mission, had every intention of racking up points. He took third and tied in points with Portugal's Lino Araujo, who is having his best year yet and finally was rewarded with a third place on the World Championship podium. Kudos to Anthony Radetic for a strong year, going from 28th in 2019, to 8<sup>th</sup> overall in 2021; an amazing rider!

Rashid Al-Mulla took his fourth consecutive World Championship win in Freestyle. Roberto Mariani leads the points for Freestyle in the World Rankings.

Aquabike will resume its World Championship season in 2022 with new stops, stay tuned!



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Photo: RonnyMac

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## NTRODUCING THE COLLIER COUNTY RIDERS

Photos: David Mercado

n a recent episode of the Yeah Buddy Rec Ride Report, viewers were introduced to David Mercado, Founder of Collier County Riders. Originally from Puerto Rico, David and his family moved to Florida when he was 10 years old. Mercado, a Corporal with the Collier County Florida Sheriff's Dept. shared how the group was formed and plans for 2022.

*YEAH BUDDY:* When did you become involved with PWCs and what motivated you to establish the Collier County Riders?

**DAUID MERCADO:** I got involved with jet skis in 2018. My first was a Sea-Doo GTI 155 and my first big ride was with Florida Ski Riders, that did it for me-everyone loves the same thing, and it is fun to ride with others and visit new places. There wasn't a group within the area where I live. After speaking with friends, we established Collier County Riders in 2018 to bring people together to ride in Ft. Myers, Lee County, Marcos Island, and adjacent cities.

**B**: What has been the most rewarding aspect of PWC group riding?

**DM:** Just being able to meet other people with similar interests and a passion for jet skiingit's also a great way for me to let go and decompress and relax, it's therapeutic.

> *B*: How many members do you currently have?

On IG we have 1,187 followers and our FB group has 261 members.

**B**: Please tell us about your group and recent rides.

**III:** Halloween was our most recent ride. We launched from Collier County Boat Park through Marco Island backwaters to the dome homes, Cape Romano, Dickman's Pass/Island, a 30-mile ride. 25 members attended complete with costumes. Riders came from Tampa, Ft. Myers, and Naples. We recently rode with Jet Rider Nation to beautiful Silver Glen Springs on the St. Johns Rivers with more than 100 members riding 50 to 60 miles.

**B**: What type of PWC do you currently ride?

Im: 2021 Sea Doo RXTX millennium yellow

**B**: Where does your group usually ride and what is your favorite place(s) to ride?

In Naples, Lover's Key, and Wiggins Pass in Naples and the Dome Homes / Marco Island, Kissimmee River, and the Keys.

**B**: What advice do you have for those who would like to get involved with PWC group riding? How do you ensure safety during rides?

> In: I encourage everyone to do their research and see what PWC best fits them and their family; read the Owner's Manual, understand your equipment, and learn basic boating rules, signs, manatee zones BEFORE you go out. Prior to launch, we have a briefing and discuss safety

issues. I always check the windfinder app and weather channel prior to rides to check for conditions and ensure safety.

**B**: What plans do you have for 2022?

PODUCTIO

We are planning several rides for 2022 including Wiggins Pass ride to the Gulf to Marco Island and the trails of Collier and Seminole State Park, 100 miles round trip. We plan to attend a meet and greet for the grand opening of JP Racing on April 2. Jet Rider Nation members are coming to Ft. Myers to ride with us April 22 in the Ft. Myers Takeover.

Club Sponsors: PWC Super Rack; Mastery Performance: Power Lodge Motorsports: JP Racing



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# ABUNDANT TALENT FULL LINES WELCOME TO THE LIQUI MOLY 2021 PRO WATERCROSS

By: Gary Burtka | Photos: Vicki Baker; Jessica Waters



## **WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS!**

s the end of October drew near, I packed as many skis as could fit into my enclosed trailer and headed south to Sugden Regional Park in Naples, Florida. For the first time in seven years, the Pro Watercross World Championships, which took place over four days, kicked off with the conclusion of the Amateur Nationals. Postponed from delays earlier in the season caused by Hurricane Ida in Lake Charles, twenty-three National Championship classes lined up Thursday preceding the Vintage classes. The Nationals racing proved to be a great warm up for many riders including Sophie Francis (#191) who went on to win a pair of National Championships before winning a pair of World Championships later in the week. While on the subject of fast ladies, newcomer River Varner (#23) was super quick in Amateur Ski GP picking up a 1-1 win while Hailey Compton (#113) pulled a National Championship in the Junior Spark Class. I always enjoy Vintage Day and this year was no different. To keep it fun, I brought back the nohanded fountain so everyone could remember how cool old school freestyle is! Race Director Robert Sand kept the races moving all week. while Paul Lehr kept everyone honest from the helm of the technical tent.

It was an honor to join Kurt Knollenberg in the Tower of Power to co-announce one of my favorite classes, Amateur Freestyle. Phil Clemmons, owner of P&P Performance, opened with a 50/50 and flowed through many combos all the way to his first Pro Watercross World Championship! Kyle Harris barely edged out Josh Lovejoy for second place, and newcomer Rebecca Myer left spectators talking about 'the girl that was backflipping the jet ski'.

Throughout the event, many personal stories unfolded. Not only did Deven Farthing (#116) celebrate his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday from the podium, but he completely owned all Sport Classes en route to winning three Sport Class World Championships. Madison 'Mad Maddie' Elders (#106), a young rookie from the Midwest, won her first PWX World Championship in Junior Spark while 12-year-old Coy Curtis (#155), from the west coast, won a record-breaking 4 World Championships including the coveted Pro Freestyle and Pro-Am Ski Stock classes.

Favorite feel-good moments from the week included watching many riders fight hard to defend their championships from the previous year. These riders put so much into the sport, both physically and mentally. Shout out to all the repeat Champions: John Block (#22), David Cabrera (#51), Kenny Compton (#17), and Jeff Stanley (#729) way to get it done!

A HUGE THANK YOU is extended to Pro Watercross Tour Promoters AJ and Jennifer Handler for their hard work and dedication to the sport and for once again delivering a world class event! For more information about the Pro Watercross Tour and World Championships visit prowatercross.org and get started, the time is now!

ARIHING







# PRO WATERCROSS WORLD CHAMPIONS

PRO-AM SKI GP	Matthew Richuk
PRO-AM R/A BOX STOCK	Troy Snyder
PRO FREESTYLE	Coy Curtis
SPORT STOCK	Deven Farthing
PRO-AM SKI STOCK	Coy Curtis
PRO-AM R/A GP	
AMATEUR SKI STOCK	
SPORT GP	
IROC STOCK	
SPORT OPEN	
NOVICE R/A BOX STOCK	Reniamin Mantel
NOVICE SKI STOCK	
VETERAN IROC STOCK	
WOMEN'S SKI	
WOMEN'S RA BOX STOCK	
IROC GP	
VETERAN SKI GP	Navid Cahrera
AMATEUR R/A SS	Stan Hightower
AMATEUR FREESTYLE	
NOVICE IROC STOCK	Kenny Compton
SKI 4-STROKE STOCK SUPERJE	
NOVICE SPORT STOCK	
AMATEUR R/A BOX STOCK	Chase Dutton
	Dan dal Dalamana
AMATEUR SKI GP Ski 4-stroke stock	Davia Labrera
SKI SUPERSTOCK	
FREESTYLE 800	
IROC 1100	
R/A 800 SS	
VINTAGE SKI 650/750 OPEN	Kevin Kowe
VINTAGE SKI 550 SS	
VINTAGE X2 GP	
SUPERCOURSE 200+	
SUPERCOURSE 300+	
JR SKI STOCK 10-12	
JR SPARK STOCK 13-15	
JR SPORT STOCK 13-15	Colton Gulatta









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# 

#### Photos: Robert Cohen

**PRO RIDER:** Please tell us a little about yourself including when and how you became involved with jet skis.

**ROBERT COHED:** In my early teens my favorite activity was riding and racing dirt bikes. At 15 (1974) I injured my knee while landing off a jump in a race and it took me out of all high school sports. By age 17 I learned of this new machine called a Jet Ski. By 1978 I bought my first 440. I could now jump a machine in the waves and have water to land in.

Back then I rode in Long Beach Harbor near the Queen Mary. One day there was this blonde hair guy on a jet ski ripping full throttle. I followed and watched his riding style. I watched him bunny hop 2 floating log barriers and head into a private lagoon. I hopped the logs and followed him as he did laps and turns around large orange buoys. He stopped and told me he raced jet skis and that I could also compete. Soon after I began racing my 440. That man's name is Steve Strickland, to this day I blame him for my getting involved with racing skis back in 1978. In 1987 I started Goodtimes Racing focused on building the fastest jet ski and created the Modster for 1989 World Finals. Modsters set records and won many races.

### **PR:** What motivated you to initiate 10 skis build project?

**RC:** This idea started in June 2021 while attending a jet ski charity event where I donated an X2 and my Modster theme as a main raffle item. There was a strong response. I placed a note on the ski mentioning I would offer 10 real Modsters as a numbered collector series from my hands.

# **PR:** Is each ski a replica of a ski from past years?

**IC:** I was offering 10 identical Modsters for a set price of \$10,000. All 10 spots sold out in less than 10 days. The 10 skis were to be built as close as possible to my first original Modster X2 (1989) with most of the stock parts modified. I hand-shaped the cylinder ports and crank cases. I first created my auto-tune exhaust chamber from the stock exhaust, redirecting water and drying the expansion chamber out. I came up with my dual rear exhaust system and twin can resonator. The jet pump system was also hand shaped and I made custom impellers.

### **PR:** Please describe the process of building 10 skis at once.

**RC:** To build 10 of anything the process is different than building one. Each area



must be approached as a sub-assembly to maximize time spent: 10 cylinders, 10 crank cases, 10 exhausts, 10 pump systems. Once all sub-assemblies were ready, then ski assembly began. I found it best to assemble 2 skis at a time.

# **PR:** What was the most challenging aspect of building 10 at a time?

**RC:** The most challenging aspect was owners wanting more than my original first Modster. Modsters 1-2-3-4-5 all were built as planned. The original Modster was a 650, many wanted bigger motors. This offering was to be single carb, pump gas friendly drivelines. By the time this article comes out I feel there will be some original collector Modsters available as I first offered.

### **PR:** What was the most rewarding aspect of completing the project?

**RC:** The most rewarding part was getting to be around the sport again after being away 25 years. Many old friends I've not seen in years came to show support to my plan. At the 2021 World Finals I had a booth called "Legends Lounge" and interviewed many legends from the sport and filmed them into new hologram technology so they can be back as a hologram for my Jet Ski Hologram Museum of the Future. This booth let me spend time with many pioneers of this sport. Some I raced with 40 years ago as this sport started.

# **PR:** How long did it take to build all 10 skis, and did you do all the wrenching yourself?

**R**: I figured one ski would take 45 days. I staggard the builds 2 at a time. On disassembly I had help. All assembly was done by me.

**PR:** How many hours a day did you work on them?

**RC:** My normal day starts at 6:00 am. I worked in 4-hour sessions. Some days ended after 10:00 pm.















# HUSBAND AND WIFE **FISHO' TEAM**

Story and photos: Lenny Osborne

e started on the PWC only just a few months ago, after 18 years of kayak and beach fishing we figured it was time we stepped it up a bit and try something new. We purchased a 2020 Sea-Doo Fish Pro locally. Being fitted out standard with the Garman sounder, cooler and rod holders the ski was perfect for me to get into my favourite sport of fishing with a game changer of the Fish Pro PWC.

00629

FOLLOLI

LENNY AND EM ON IG:

FISHON WITH LENNY

KISS AND RELEASE

Mackay, QLD in Australia is where we call home, so we have no shortage of amazing crystal-clear waters beautiful islands and the famous Great Barrier Reef, so along with some of the best fishing the world has to offer there is plenty to explore and see out and about on the ski.

My wife Em and I are both sponsored fishos, so we do lots of testing of new lures in the market and having the Fish Pro has opened a completely new level of awesome ability to get out and catch beautiful big fish and explore and most importantly spend time together.

We mostly chase the Mackerel, Mack tuna, long tail Tuna and Trevallies but on the little less fortunate days when the weather is not so kind the ski can sneak up creeks and inlets to look for Barramundi and mangrove jacks.

My wife and I usually fish on our own with the both of us on the one ski. Might sound a little tight for fishing however there is so much room on these PWCs you soon forget you are on a smaller vessel in the water.

One of the most important considerations with long distance fishing on the ski is the planning: checking tides, weather, wind, and distance is going to play the biggest part of a fun and successful trip; making sure we have enough fuel, checking the ski mechanically and making sure we have everything in case something does go wrong while on the water. We do as much as we can to be prepared. Once we hit the water, I feel more relaxed knowing I have checked and rechecked all these things.

My best advice for someone considering a PWC is don't wait! Go out test ride a PWC with a dealer or a friend and get into it! PR

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# Aquabikes Set World Records at Annual Coniston power BOAT RECORDS WEEK IN UK

By: Glynn Cunliffe, Comms Officer, Coniston Powerboat Records Week | Photos: Rob Clifford Photography www.rjc-photography.ifp3.com

ach year powerboats of all sizes, all classes from around the UK gather at Coniston Water for the Coniston Power Boat Records Week. Drivers from 9 years old take turns on the water attempting to break the British and World water speed record in their class. Records Week is an exhilarating spectacle that marks the finale to the British racing season with competitors and officials assembling for what has been a popular event since its inception in 1970.

Records Week is the only event where all disciplines of powerboat craft can be seen competing in the same event, making it truly unique. One of the most entertaining classes is always the Aquabikes, led by the everenthusiastic wetsuit clad jetski pilot Graham Leech. Leech (#1) set a new World & British National record in 2 classes, the Aquabike Ski Division GP1 at 73.35 mph and in the Aquabike Sport GP class at 70.55 mph. Jason Young (#88) set a new British National Record in Vintage 550 at 48.58 mph. The fastest Aquabike of the week was jetsport veteran, Alan Pickard. Pickard set a new World Water Speed record in Runabout GP at 88.10 mph and promises to be back next year aiming for the magic 90 mph.

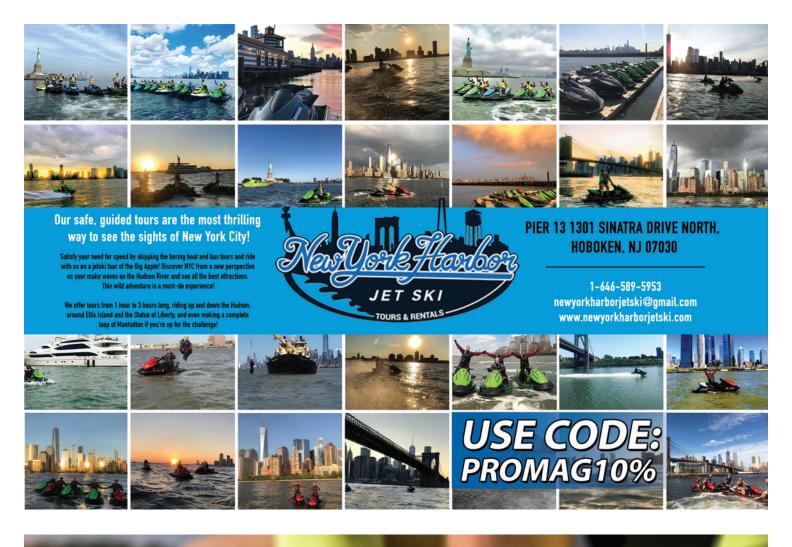
"Having missed a few years, it was great to be back at the iconic and legendary Coniston water. The last day, with very little wind and glass like water the stage was set, I knew this was going to be the last attempt. With temperatures at 6 deg C I headed down the run, throttle pinned hanging off the back. I beat my previous GP1 record by nearly 2mph to an average of 73.35 mph. As conditions were good, I ran the HX4 black edition and increased my previous record by over 4 mph to an average of 70.55 mph over the 2 runs, not had for a morning's work! I'd like to thank Jetshed and the Coniston team for the support and assistance and the organisers, officials and volunteers for such a great event."

UIM National and World Water Speed Record Holder

#### – Graham Leech

More information can be found at http://www.conistonpowerboatrecords.co.uk/.





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By: Carla McLennan, QPWC | Photos: Craig Milne, Zoomed Images

Australia we saw a sun filled day with flat inviting water, all great for running on a brand-new track with an added joker lane. Riders threw in all their skills to be on the podium, speed and wits were needed to come out on top.

Photo by: Kellie Leon

Along with a new amateur stock class, the end of year round started with a glimpse of the season to come. QPWC is taking fantastic foundations set by the previous committees of the years past and building new ways for both the club and the sport to flourish in the future. QPWC would like to shout out to our riders for making 2021 an epic year, and to all our volunteer lap scorers and flag wavers for keeping us all tallied, our safety guys who keep us safe on land and in the water, our committee for putting in the many hours to make these days possible, our race director for being firm but fair and leading the team on race days and last but certainly not least all the supporters for being behind us all year!

2021 was quite a year with many hurdles but out of it came a still strong club. We are all looking forward to the adventure of the seasons to come!  $\square$ 



Queensland Personal Watercraft Club









# HUNDREDS OF RIDERS CONVERCE For Annual Dunedin Excursion



PR REGREATION

Story and photos: Florida Ski Riders



t never gets old! The Annual 2021 Dunedin Excursion Winter Ride brought over 200 riders from Florida, Georgia, the Carolinas, Massachusetts and beyond to unite and ride the beautiful Florida Gulf Coast. YouTuber Brandon Jordon aka 'Jiggin with Jordan' joined us for his second Dunedin Excursion. Riders camped out the night before on the beach and connected with each other. It's always a great feeling for our team to meet and watch riders from all over connect and share stories. The morning of the ride at staging everyone helped each other to prepare for a 10 AM launch at which time hundreds of PWCs made their way under the Dunedin Causeway Drawbridge out to the Gulf of Mexico riding alongside Three Rooker Island which is accessible only by watercraft, over to Anclote Island with our first stop at the Anclote North Sandbar where we regrouped and relaxed for roughly 45 minutes. As the airhorn sounded it was off to the next stop at the amazing Three Rooker Island with beautiful clear water surrounding it. The last stretch of the ride was over to Caladesi Island with an optional fourth stop at Shephard's for food and live music. PR

" It's our mission to unite riders and bring unity to the community no matter what apparel you wear or sticker you have on your vehicle. We support all groups and clubs. It's our goal to bring people together and share amazing experiences on the water. #UnitedWeRide."

- Randy Cabrera





















# **SHELBY WARMAN / PRINCESS RACING**

Photos: Glenn Christopher, Sue Warman *OWINERS:* Jody and Sue Warman, Schenectady, NY *TOW VEHICLE:* 2019 Ram 2500 Power Wagon

#### TRAILER: 2021 Bravo 32ft Tag

**TRAILER SPECS AND MODS:** Custom built race hauler, LED Lighting inside / outside, custom cabinets, aluminum wheels and pink spiked up nuts! Custom wrapped to match my skis by the Wrap Junkies and Capital District Tint / Graphics. Still must finish outfitting to make loading easier. Currently carries my EX, GP1800, 2 Yamaha Wave Blasters and our Yamaha Grizzly 700.

TETRICO

TOURS: Pro Watercross

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an 315

**SPONSORS:** LiquiMoly, Cabrera Motorsports, PWC Doctor, Bomber Eyewear, FlowVision Goggles, WSM Jet Pilot, Hydro-Turf, Watercraft Network and Fly Racing

PR RIG OF THE MONTH

FAVORITE DESTINATIONS: Besides Key Largo for vacation, racing in Hartwell, Georgia and being able to hang with the Carolina Watercraft Club (Belly Buster event) and Pro Watercross World Championship in Naples

**TEAM MEMBERS:** Jody Warman (dad) Crew Chief / Team Manager, Matt Carrow (cousin, holder, and mechanic), Krista Carrow, Reis Newborn (team rider) and Troy Mandulak (team rider), Sue Warman (mom / controls the finances) and little Sully

Shelby ran Junior Sport in Region 8 from 12 - 15 years old on a Yamaha WaveBlaster. Decided to take a break from racing to finish high school and focus on continuing her education at the University of Kentucky (currently a Junior as a Public Health major and a member of Delta Zeta). Went on a trip with dad to Hartwell, GA in 2020 to attend the Belly Buster Recreation ride / PWX tour stop and got the itch to race again. Sold Spark to buy a new Yamaha EX and attended her first race after being away for 4 years at the 2020 World Finals in Naples. Now races IROC Stock and Woman's Runabout Box Stock. Looking to hopefully start

27 HEIRIG

ETTELENY WALKING

racing in the Ski class soon.

puncess

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# PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT:



#### Photos: David Rosenfield

hat do champions and champions in the making do when they are not racing? Professional racer David Cabrera, Cabrera MotorSports was instrumental in establishing a permanent buoy course at Markham Park in southeast Florida where it has served as a regular gathering place for jet skiers for many years.

David shared, "We have been working with the park for 15 years. We keep making changes and improving the track. We collect donations from riders to maintain the 32-buoy course. Each buoy setup is approximately \$300.00 for a total cost of around \$10,000.00 to have a track like this. It was an inconvenience to set up and remove a buoy track every weekend at some of the lakes we ride. Also, it is dangerous to have multiple boats, rec riders, and racers on the water at the same."

When asked if Markham Park is the east coast version of "Body Beach" David replied, "It's better than Body Beach because we can enjoy it all year round. We also have a full track with log jumps and splits. The only disadvantage is that our water is flatter than Body Beach.'

The primary function of the track is to provide a safe and family-oriented environment where riders can perfect their riding/racing skills and have a good time with friends regardless of whether they race or are weekend warriors. Said David, "At the same time, we use the site to have a controlled environment for Cabrera MotorSports and Broward Motorsports to develop, test, and tune new products." "We try to limit the lake to a group of racers or people interested in the sport. To ride, you must have all the protective gear used at a race, and you must learn the track."

Regarding the most rewarding aspect of establishing and maintaining the site for jet skiers, Cabrera said, "To have a safe riding place that has contributed to multiple world and national champions is very rewarding." As a multi-time Champion himself, Cabrera's advice for aspiring racers is "team up with somebody that can mentor and help you achieve your goals.

# MARKHAM PARK BUOY COURSE











# PR SAFETY

# An Ounce of Prevention

Photos: Jessica Waters; Ken Gallagher

ro Racer Arnold Martinez of Beverly Hills, California has been an advocate of personal safety gear for racing from day one. After missing 20 years of racing, Martinez, who races in multiple classes including ProAm Runabout Stock, IROC Stock and others, returned to the track in 2020 and was involved in a PWC accident. Shared Martinez, "I upped the standards from that experience to augment the usual safety requirements. I like sharing my experience to help fellow racers worldwide. Hopefully we can make it safer each year.'

**ARNOLD MARTINEZ:** DOT & ECE approved helmet with goggles, back protector, gloves with reinforcement and boots with solid front. I usually get custom insoles for comfort. Of course. PWC wetsuit. In addition to these requirements, I reinforce with a neck brace, chest brace such as roost vests, knee guards and elbow guards. Sometimes I wear a mouth guard in rough conditions.

Helmet to protect the head, neck brace to minimize neck injury, elbow guard to minimize injury during collision, knee guard to minimize knee injury during a crash, kidney belt to hold kidney intact during rough conditions, roost vest or rib protector to protect ribs, PWC shoes to protect your feet from debris, back protector is a must to protect your spine. Most racers use motocross helmets that are light and have lots of ventilation. I remove the visor on highspeed races to minimize neck rolling. It is important to make sure helmets meet safety specifications and are also up to date and not expired.

Enhanced safety gear only makes you safer. I like getting out of the watercraft now with less bruises than I used to. This season I'll be wearing a roost vest from EVS to help protect the side of my ribs since I fractured one at World Finals 2021 during practice.

> \*NOTE: Consult with your race tour/promoter for full safety requirements.

Hiverout.

ARNOLD MARTINEZ 88



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# Damaged Jet Pump Impeller - Not the end of the World By: Greg Gaddis Aka "Hulk Junior"

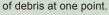
urprisingly, horsepower is only part of the equation to a high performing watercraft. Horsepower will only go so far when combined with a heavy, slow hull or a poorly designed jet pump. While there isn't much we can do about having a slow hull, we can improve and maintain jet pump efficiency to ensure our watercraft are performing at their best.

In most cases the stock jet pump impeller found in our watercraft is not the best for performance; we typically see speed, acceleration, and hole shot gains by

switching to a SOLAS impeller. These SOLAS impellers have a blade design optimized for performance and jet pump efficiency but even a SOLAS can see a decrease in performance after usage. Being that our jet pump impellers are exposed to the elements while rotating thousands of times per minute, impellers are subject to wear.

When riding it is not out of the ordinary to encounter "trash" in the waterways we are riding on; this can include weeds, grass, twigs, logs, trees, and more. While the possibilities are endless to what we may encounter in the water, anything other than water moving through the jet pump is doing harm to your impeller. Any trash that happens to pass through the jet pump will bend, ding, or wear down the impeller tolerance; even an impeller that appears to be in good condition but

is out of tolerance will result in all-around poor performance. Usually, if your impeller to wear ring clearance is greater than .010" you'll begin to notice a decrease in performance. The impeller creates pressure in the jet pump which in turn creates thrust to propel the watercraft; the slightest decrease in pump pressure hurts the pump efficiency and thrust created causing a loss of speed. If you never encounter any trash in the water, the life of your impeller can last the life of the ski, but many of us do encounter some form



If and when you damage a jet pump impeller, it is not the end of the world. Thankfully, impellers are repairable; you can save some money having your impeller GREENHULK.NE repaired versus buying a new one. However, it wouldn't be a bad idea

for someone that frequently rides in dirty water to have a spare impeller on standby. When riding, it's best to avoid shallow water, and avoid any debris spotted when possible.

High performance SOLAS impellers, performance parts, OEM parts, riding gear, PWC maintenance parts, and more are all available in the GreenHulk Store. Be sure to enter the coupon code 'greenhulk' to save 10% on most RIVA Racing products, all FIZZLE Intercoolers, and all WORX racing products! PR







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### MAKE 2022 AN AWESOME FITNESS YEAR STARTING WITH TRIED AND **TRUE: PUSHUPS!**

Story and photos: Joseph M. Berning PhD, CSCS, FACSM Strength & Exercise Physiologist

The time has come to start anew in January 2022 (no rhyme intended). Everyone is quite literally "done" with the confines associated with the pandemic. Everyone has endured various levels of frustration. set-backs and

"PUSH YOURSELF - BECAUSE NO ONE ELSE IS GOING TO DO IT FOR YOL — Пркроппр

challenges; we're ready to move past the pandemic pandemonium. This is a perfect opportunity to make 2022 an awesome fitness year! It's time to challenge and test yourself by "pushing" your limits to excel in everything you do.

Let's start this year with an age-old, practical, non-equipment, body weight activity we've all performed at one time in our life: Wide Stance Push-Ups. Push hard, push smart and push forward!

#### WIDE STANCE PUSH-UPS-CHEST. ANTERIOR SHOULDERS AND TRICEPS STRENGTHENING

BASICS: The push-up is one of the simplest, most practical exercises in existence, a mainstay in schools, gyms, military, home fitness, etc. Endless variations stress specific muscle groups more than others. The best part is you never need special equipment or a gym: all you need is you!

Wide Stance Push-Up is the core of all push-up variations. By placing your hands and arms straight out to your sides, the chest (pectoralis major) becomes the main muscle group stressed. To a lesser extent, the anterior shoulders (deltoid) and triceps play a role. Begin in an upright position, wide arm stance, back straight and feet on the ground (Photo 1). Keeping your head facing forward and up, lower yourself until your chest touches the ground or to within a fist distance from the ground (Photo 2). Push yourself back to the upright starting position. For beginners or those with a weaker upper body, Photo 3 illustrates shifting your weight to your knees whereas Photo 4 demonstrates the use of a pick-up tailgate.

PRECAUTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS: Keep your back straight, your head up and facing forward. Don't 'bob' or 'move' the head up and down as this becomes a 'head-up' rather than a push-up and decreases your range of motion.

Looking for motivation or a challenge? According to the Guinness Book of World Records, the greatest number of non-stop push-ups is 10,507 by Minoru Yoshida completed in October 1980!

EXERCISE RELEVANCE TO PWC: The chest, shoulders and triceps are major muscle groups controlling steering and stabilizing of the body for both standup and sit-down riding as well as physically moving PWC equipment. Any upper body pushing action requires chest, shoulders, and triceps action.

PRESCRIPTION: Wide Stance Push-ups are great pre-workout warm-up or stand-alone exercise

DAYS OF THE WEEK: 3-5 days of the week

<b>BEGINNERS:</b>	2-3 sets of 5-10 repetitions per day
INTERMEDIATE:	4–6 sets of 10–20 repetitions per da $\not$
ADVANCED:	6 or more sets of 20 or greater repetitions per day







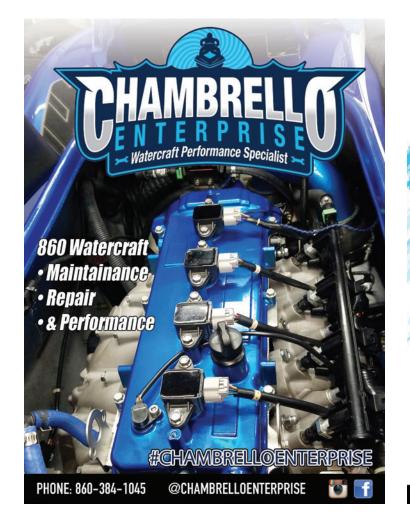


**Exercise Demonstrator:** James West Whetstone, Arizona





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# PR BUSINESS PROFILE



uver Perez, originally from Puerto Rico and selfdescribed faithful fan of watersports, grew up in a family of businessmen from his grandfather to his father who is his mentor. As a young businessman he enjoys a challenge and is always thinking of creative ways to design new and functional devices. Pro Rider recently caught up with Luver to learn more.

# **PRO RIDER:** What motivated you to establish Millennium Custom Wheels and when did you open for business?

**LUIER PEREZ:** In Puerto Rico I had a recreational equipment store Cristino Racing Tech for jetski and ATV components. In 2013 I moved to the USA where I started another business not related to watersports. Millennium Custom was born from a talk with my friend Luis Torres who questioned with my great knowledge in sports and business why I didn't have a business in watersports. I've enjoyed watersports since I was small, as well as extreme sports such as motocross. The idea came to me to bring something no one has done as I'm always watching owners and how they make changes to their machines, but something was missing – many riders forget the trailer which is the most important component for transporting your ski. New Millennium

# **WILLENNIUM CUSTOM WHEELS & ACCESSORIES**









LLC was created as the new millennium of trailers. From there we added everything, wheels and all the components and opened to customers in June 2019.

**PR:** What is your business's focus and specialties?

**LP:** We focus first on the security that each trailer we make is always 100% guaranteed, but always with a unique touch depending on the characteristics of each customer. Our specialty is wheels, we put wheels to anything that needs wheels per the recommended standards of each piece of equipment. The main customers are riders and connoisseurs of the sport, those who want to see a unique change to their trailer or any machine; after they see the result they are completely satisfied with the investment.

**PR:** What are you most proud of regarding your business?

**LP:** I am proud to see a satisfied customer, when they leave, they are happy!

**PR:** Please share with readers your riding platform and favorite riding locations.

**LP:** While faithful to Yamaha, I understand each brand has something specific and each rider has their own experience. Being from the Jacksonville, Florida area my favorite place to ride is Matanzas Inlet; Florida has many beautiful places to visit.

#### **PR:** Any special plans for 2022?

**LP:** Our plan for 2022 is to keep working and creating and contributing to the sport! As more ideas are born, I will bring them, I have no limits.

I want to thank Pro Rider Magazine for the opportunity to be in this edition, I am grateful to all those who have supported this path from the beginning. I'm very grateful to each one and the merit is well deserved. Thanks to Safaera Jetski, Los Del Chinchorreo 24/7, Los de la Presion Orlando, Jet Rider Nation, Sea Roach TV, MVP Production, Empire Jetski, H2O Addicts, Empire Jetski Miami, CRT, Cuco Performance, DVT Performance and Jireh Express for their support.







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#### PRESENTED BY:



# JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2022







#### Braxton Kulka

Photos: Shaelynn Kulka AGE: 11

HOMETOWN: Clarkston, Michigan

SKI: SXR 800 and 550

RACE/RECREATION/FREERIDE/FREESTYLE: Race, recreation, and freestyle

**RACE #:** 184

LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS: Learning to wrap around a buoy at full speed and learning to jump wakes. Stepping up and riding the 1100. Being able to be a part of and help set up Brave the Wave.

CRAZIEST OR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT ON THE WATER: Running the course with my dad.

FAVORITE RIDING LOCATION: Walters Lake, Michigan

SPONSORS: PWC Doctor, Brave the Wave

### Dylan Gancarz

- Photos: Tyler Lynch; Jonathan Gancarz **AGE:** 9
- HOMETOWN: Levittown, Pennsylvania

SKI: Kawasaki 550sx

RACE/RECREATION/FREERIDE/FREESTYLE: Race and Recreation RACE #: 112

**LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS:** I ran my first 5k on Thanksgiving in Ocean City, NJ for their annual Turkey Trot, finishing at 35:11. I participated in my first-ever jet ski race on September 12,2021 in Sylvan Beach, New York. I placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the "Biggie Smalls" class. I enjoy riding/practicing on the Delaware River with my dad and cousins. When I'm not on the river, I play soccer, basketball, and tend to my studies for school.

CRAZIEST OR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT ON THE WATER: While racing in Sylvan Beach, NY there were some rough waves and while coming off one to another I subbed my ski. It was a scary, but awesome experience.

FAVORITE RIDING LOCATION: Delaware River

SPONSORS: Still working on that, but for now mom and dad.

### **Gavin Berglund**

Photos: Brandy Fraley **AGE: 12** 

HOMETOWN: Omaha. Nebraska

SKI: Yamaha Superjet stock (racing)

#### RACE/RECREATION/FREERIDE/FREESTYLE: Race

#### RACE #: 31

**LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS:** Raced in the NautiWater Regional races in Branched Oaks, Nebraska and Pomona Lake, Kansas. Playing football for Jr. Warriors, active in Boy Scouts and student council member for the last 4 years.

**CRAZIEST OR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT ON THE WATER:** Racing along with my grandfather Scott Wilson (59) in regional races in 2021. My grandfather, uncle, cousin, and father have competed in jetski World Finals in Lake Havasu.

FAVORITE RIDING LOCATION: Papa's pond

**SPONSORS:** Wilson Premier Powder Coating, All Seasons Motorsports, Painting by William Wilson, and Papa (Scott Wilson)





DAN SWARTZ, WAVEDAZE EVENT PROMOTER **PHOTO: JOE WORST** LOCATION: VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA

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## PR PHOTO CONTEST Pro Rider Jan / Feb 2022 Gear Giveaway

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This issue's photo contest winner will receive a pair of Wave Runner Aqua Sneakers in their choice of color from our good friends at Wave Runner Sport! The Wave Runner Aqua Sneaker is perfect for any activity in or around water. Wave Runner Agua Sneakers offer protection and comfort and provide great traction on any surface, making it easy to navigate through slippery terrain. waverunnersport.com







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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 or "like" Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine on Facebook.



ody Johnson, from New Hampshire, cars, snowmobiles, go-karts. A college student, money is tight, so he never considered buying a jetski. He learned how to ride a family friend's JS300. Determined to understand the craft and conquer it, he bought his first ski, a JS550, learned how to maintain it, mod and upgrade it, and most importantly how to ride. He became heavily addicted to the sport, buying and selling parts, skis, and hulls. Through these activities he created relationships. **PRO RIDER:** What motivated you to establish Northeast Standups? **CODY JOHNSON:** My cousin and I wanted to bring together people who shared similar

passions in our area, which originally was just New Hampshire. We realized to grow, we needed to include neighboring states NH,MA,ME,CT,VT,NY,RI, and PA. Most rewarding about establishing the group is the number of people and relationships you make. Northeast Standups currently has 600 members and is growing.

#### **PR:** What do you ride?

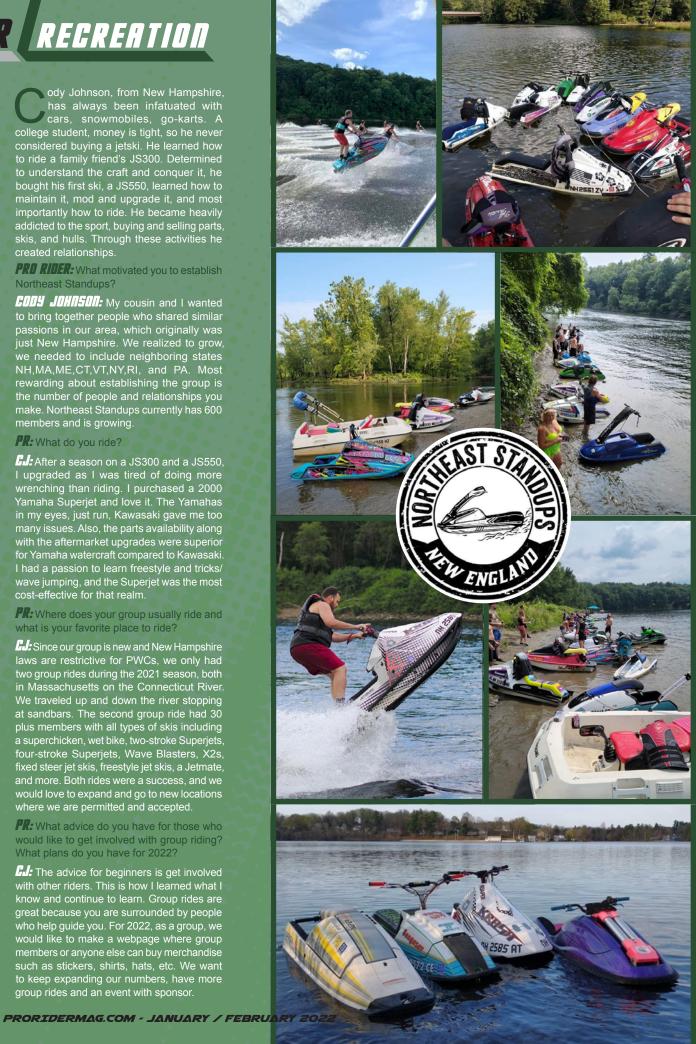
**LJ:** After a season on a JS300 and a JS550, I upgraded as I was tired of doing more wrenching than riding. I purchased a 2000 Yamaha Superjet and love it. The Yamahas in my eyes, just run, Kawasaki gave me too many issues. Also, the parts availability along with the aftermarket upgrades were superior for Yamaha watercraft compared to Kawasaki. I had a passion to learn freestyle and tricks/ wave jumping, and the Superjet was the most cost-effective for that realm.

#### **FR:** Where does your group usually ride and what is your favorite place to ride?

**CL**: Since our group is new and New Hampshire laws are restrictive for PWCs, we only had two group rides during the 2021 season, both in Massachusetts on the Connecticut River. We traveled up and down the river stopping at sandbars. The second group ride had 30 plus members with all types of skis including a superchicken, wet bike, two-stroke Superjets, four-stroke Superjets, Wave Blasters, X2s, fixed steer jet skis, freestyle jet skis, a Jetmate, and more. Both rides were a success, and we would love to expand and go to new locations where we are permitted and accepted.

**PR:** What advice do you have for those who would like to get involved with group riding? What plans do you have for 2022?

*LL*: The advice for beginners is get involved with other riders. This is how I learned what I know and continue to learn. Group rides are great because you are surrounded by people who help guide you. For 2022, as a group, we would like to make a webpage where group members or anyone else can buy merchandise such as stickers, shirts, hats, etc. We want to keep expanding our numbers, have more group rides and an event with sponsor.







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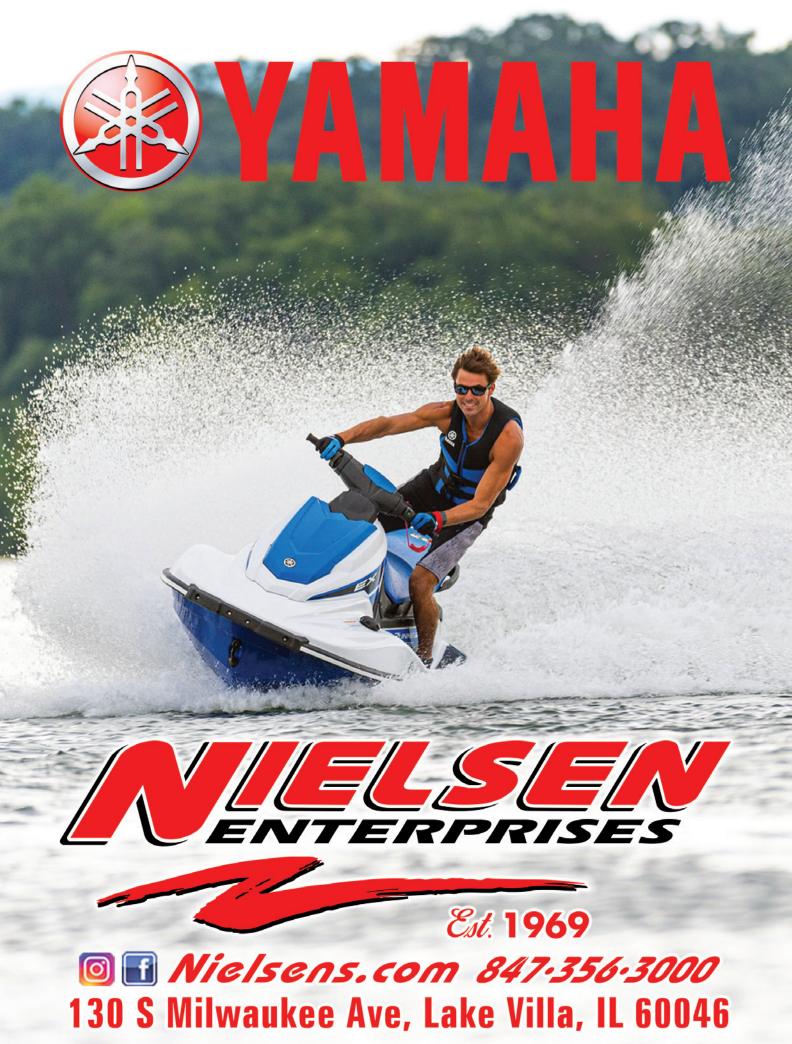
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