

MELVIN VILLAGE MARINA NEWS

JANUARY 2010

NOTES FROM THE HELM....

2009 lays behind us, while 2010, like an unknown path, lays in front of us. The past year has been a challenging one for all of us in different ways. For me, it was the first year running a company which I have been a part of my entire adult life. I have to admit, if I had to pick a year to take over, 2009 would probably not have been the one. However, I am a firm believer of making due with the cards you're dealt, and all in all, we made a pretty good hand of it.

After 29 years my father finally has the time to do the things he wants to do. He still comes in a few days a week to make sure things are running smoothly, and I am proud to say we haven't let him down.

This past summer my children Landon and Julia became Melvin Village Marina boaters. As familiar as boating and Lake Winnepesaukee is to me, it is a wonderful experience to see it through the eyes of my children. Although Landon has been my fishing partner for a couple of years, this summer was Julia's first experience.

Our main boat line Four Winns, has a new owner. Platinum Equities took over January 7th, and it is business as usual with the same faces we have known for years and we anticipate the transition to be seamless. The past year has taught me that an important aspect of business is the relationships you form with people, and that it counts for more than contracts or written agreements.

I look forward to the 2010 boating season. We have retained the same great staff and will strive to improve our facilities and our capabilities. We look forward to serving you for years to come. -Matt Young



MVM Service Department



Matt Young and son, Landon

DOCK REPLACEMENT

The work has begun! Twenty-five years ago my father and then Service Manager Jerry Heald, replaced the docks over the winter months. Though it seems like just yesterday to my father, time has marched on and they are showing their age. The new docks will be identical replacements with the addition of composite docking material. The new material will be splinterless, cool in the summer and more attractive. It will take us several years to complete the entire marina. Please be patient if your dock is not done this year. We will also be moving to a standardized bumper system so everything looks neat and clean. The gas dock will also be receiving a new addition as well for 2010, a lake gauge will be installed that shows water elevation in the spring.

WEBCAM

For years we have been wanting to install a webcam that would look over Melvin Bay. We still have a few technical challenges to overcome, but hope to have it up and running by this spring. If successful, you will be able to check out the conditions on the north side of Winnepesaukee from the comfort of your own home. You will be able to access the webcam from our website at www.melvinvillagemarina.com.

BOAT SHOW DATES AND PROMOTIONS

The season is upon us. It comes every year after the holidays, just like clockwork. Boat Show Season! For many it has become a yearly ritual, and a chance to escape the cold and envision the warmer times. A chance to daydream about the coming season, as well as a great activity for the whole family.

If you're shopping for a boat, it is an opportunity to see the new 2010 products. Due to the limited space at the show, we will not have all models available. Please contact us ahead of time if you are looking for a particular model. We can always show you something here at the dealership.

New England Boat Show-We will again be in Boston from February 20th-28th for the New England Boat Show at the Boston Convention and Expo Center! Visit www.naexpo.com for more information, directions and show hours. At the show, we will have the following Four Winns on display: V358, F244, F224, H260, H240, H220, H210, H200, H190, H180 and the all new H180LE.



Great Northeast Boat Show- This is a new show being held at The Hampshire Dome in Milford, NH April 9-11th. The Hampshire Dome is a beautiful facility that has over three times the space of the NH Armory in Manchester and is conveniently located less than an hour from Boston. We are planning a large display of Four Winns and Key West for you to peruse. Visit www.greatnortheastboatshow.com for a discount admission coupon and more information.

NEW BOATS

We have a few left-over 2009's in-stock and plenty of 2010's available. Almost all of the 2010 Four Winns we have in stock are pre-catalytic converter models. Due to new EPA regulations, most new boats will be equipped with catalytic converters along with a \$1,800-\$2,400 price increase. As of January 1, 2010 we can no longer get non-catalytic engines, so get yours while supplies last.

Current Leftover Inventory

Four Winns- 1 2009 H240 and 1 2009 F244

Lund- 1 2008 WC-14, 1 2008 1850 Tye GS, 2 2009 WC-14's and 1 2009 WC-14 DLX

Key West- 1 2009 152CC, 1 2009 176CC and 1 2009 186DC

Alumacraft- 1 2009 V14, 2 2009 Fisherman 160CS's, and 1 2009 Classic 165CS

WOMEN'S BOATING CLASSES

Several years ago we offered a few woman only boating classes. They were very popular, and we continue to get requests for them. We plan on offering them again this summer. They're scheduled for June 15th and June 17th from 4-6pm and another session on June 22nd and 24th at the same times. The classes will be limited to 10 women per session. If they continue to be popular, we may offer more.

To sign up for a class please email Erin at melvinvillagemarina@roadrunner.com or call 603-544-3583.

TECH TIP-ROUTINE BOAT TRAILER INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE

Boat trailer inspection and maintenance is often overlooked as a part of your standard boat maintenance schedule. Even if you only trailer your boat a couple of times a year, there are some basic checks you can make that will avoid problems down the road.

Basic Trailering Checklist

Before towing, the trailer should be inspected for the following:

- Check tires (including spare) for proper inflation. Under-inflated tires heat up rapidly and may blowout or cause uncontrolled swaying.
- Check tires for cracking on the sidewalls. Tires, when exposed to the sun, dry out over time.
- Check lug nuts for proper tightness.
- Check the springs and under carriage for loose parts.
- Be sure the coupler is secured to the trailer hitch and safety chains are attached.
- Be sure trailer tail lights and turning signals are operational.
- Check the brakes for proper operation prior to departure.
- Check tie-downs and make sure boat is secured to the trailer.

If you are towing long distances:

- Carry a spare tire for both the trailer and towing vehicle.
- Check the wheel hubs during stops at gas stations, restaurants or other places. If the hub feels abnormally hot, the bearing should be inspected before continuing the trip.

Don't forget to check the boat:

Close and secure all hatches, doors, and windows. Securely store all equipment and canvas. Installed tops, side curtains, and aft curtains can be damaged while towing.

Boat Trailer Maintenance

If you are not a Do-it-Yourselfer make sure you schedule a trailer inspection when you bring your boat in for winterization or spring launch.

The bearings and hubs are the most problematic parts of the boat trailer. They are packed with grease to reduce friction. Tremendous heat builds up in the bearings at highway speeds, which results in grease breakdown. Water from repeated submersions will also flush grease from the bearings. As grease breaks down, heat is increased resulting in the bearing locking to the spindle, ruining the hub, and possibly the axle. To prevent bearing lock-up, bearings need to stay full of grease. Bearings can be greased thru the grease fitting on the end of the hub.

Tires need to be inspected for tread wear and separation before each use. They need to be properly inflated, including the spare. Periodically check the torque on the lug nuts as well. Boat trailers equipped with trailer brakes need to be monitored for brake shoe wear. Make sure everything inside the drum remains free. Trailers are submerged in water repeatedly and may rust or lock-up inside the drum. Replace any worn or needed parts.

Other aspects of the trailer that require attention are the runners and rollers. Check these for breaks or cracks and, if necessary, replace with new equipment. Broken rollers or runners can cause problems launching and loading the boat and may cause damage to the hull.

Always keep the winch in proper working order. Pay close attention to the winch strap or cable. If the strap or the cable is worn or frayed, replace it. Worn or frayed cables and straps can break causing injury or damage.

If you have any questions about your trailer needs, refer to your owners manual or give us a call.

-Thank you to Dave Carle for his article submission

GARDENERS WANTED

By customer request we are making vegetable garden areas available for our slip and local customers. Last summer the marina kept a small vegetable garden in the field behind our showroom. As summer went on it provided a seemingly endless supply of corn, tomatoes, peppers, zucchini, pumpkins, beans and eggplants.

The marina will provide the soil, preparation, and the water source. We will also mark off the garden plots, all at no charge. If you are interested just let us know and it will be ready for you this spring.

What you plant is completely up to you but if you want some advice on what works best, our expert gardeners, Tom Young and John Perkins will be available.

MELVIN VILLAGE MARINA YARD SALE-MAY 1ST-8TH

Over the years we have accumulated a huge amount of overstock items! Items range from canvas, upholstery, props, electronics, office furniture and accessories. In order to make room for new inventory it all has to go. On May 1st through May 8th from 9-4 each day we will have our first ever Melvin Village Marina Yard Sale. These items will be sold at a fraction of their original price. If you want to check on the availability of a particular item or preview an item, please call Chuck Glidden, Parts Manager at 603-544-3582.



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