

In the interests of economy of scale, etc., Donald C. Strimbeck, Secretary-Treasurer of UMRA, has substituted this dog-free page for his traditional Grinchmas Calendar distribution.

Long-Range Daytime Round-Trip Boating Excursions on the Upper Mon in a Small Boat are Fun and Affordable!



Don Strimbeck at console and Larry Martin, July 2005, in new boat from BillsMarineService.com on 24 June 2005 *The Flatulent Jonpot* Fast Aluminum River Transport (16' Alumacraft jonboat plus 40hp Merc, \$9K cost, worthy successor to *The Flatulent Tossport!*), at Two Rivers Marina & Campground docks after great prime rib roast beast dinner at restaurant (<http://www.hhs.net/hsg>).

Low Cost, High Reliability & Performance = Lots of Use

From new boat launch until Bill's Marine Service pulled boat for winter storage on 19 October 2005, Larry and I put 972 miles and 69.3 hours on motor, 167 gallons of gas totaling \$430.

JONPOT cruises easily at 25mph with three folks plus all their stuff!

Larry & I made 14 round trips to Two Rivers to dine. Two Rivers is 10 miles north, from my Granville hovel on river bank at River Mile 99 across from WVU Coliseum, thru Point Marion lock. Round trip time including dinner is 4 hours.

We made 6 round trips 35 miles north thru Point Marion and Grays Landing locks to Maxwell L/D, then, had lunch at Riviera Restaurant in Fredericktown PA. Round trip time plus lunch 6-7 hours!

We made 5 round trips to Woods Boathouse on Tygart in Fairmont WV, 30 miles south thru Morgantown, Hildebrand, and Opekiska locks. Round trip time 5-7 hours.

Many dock-and-dine restaurants north of Point Marion L/D. NONE south!

BUT!! Thanks to a federal Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG), we will have docks at McQuain Riverfront Park in Morgantown, spring 2006, which will help with access to local restaurants! These BIG funds also will improve the great dock now at Star City, and allow folks to dine at nearby restaurants!

And, in 2007, the Platinum Properties "Waterfront Marina" docks just north of the Radisson Hotel should be open!!

Web pages you should check out in addition to those already noted in this calendar:

- (1) MonRiverSummit.org, especially ARCHIVES at bottom of home page, re Mon River Recreation & Commerce VISION 2020 Committee, Morgantown Area Chamber of Commerce;
- (2) AnchorsAweighMagazine.com, for great boating info for the Monongahela, Ohio, and, Allegheny Rivers located within the Pittsburgh District of the US Army Corps of Engineers. Read Captain George's column, and, check out this site's connections to Boaters are Voters, Pirates of the Allegheny, and, River Navigation Coalition;
- (3) The US Army Corps of Engineers Pittsburgh District website, <http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil>.