

Diana Jean

Owner: Doug and Mary Ellen Lowe

Home Port: Marietta, OH, Muskingum River Mile Marker 172.2

Hull Type: Scow Bow

Hull Material: Steel

Length: 50'

Width: 18'

Draft: 16"

Wheel Diameter: 8'

Wheel Width: 8'

of Buckets: 10

Engine Type/Size: Chrysler slant six engine

Drive Train Type: Hydraulic

Built By: Bobby Curtis and G.D. Eddie

Built at: Pittsburgh, PA

Date: 1980

Past Names (oldest to newest): G.D. Eddie, Jody L, Little Dipper, Diana Jean

Description and History: Originally built in 1980 by Red Curtis and Eddie Darbous, she was named the G.D. Eddy at 25' long and 8' wide with a 5' diameter wheel and powered by a Redwing Marine engine. The entire boat and hull were made of wood. In 1983 she was sold to Joe and Dianne Lockhart and renamed the Jody L. In 1985 she was sold to Jim and Judy Linger and renamed the Little Dipper, where major changes were done. Expanding the paddle wheel to 8' X 8', a new steel hull replacing the wooden one, extending her to 50' in length and 12' width and powered by a Chrysler slant six engine. In 2009 she was sold to Robert McIntosh Sr. and renamed the **Diana Jean** in memory of his eldest daughter. In 2010 she took on a major renovation consisting of pine wood siding and pine wood floors all cut and planed from a friend's portable saw mill, the widening of the upper deck by 2' in addition to a generator and hydraulic steering with the help of family and friends. In 2013 captain Bob passed away and passed ownership of the **Diana Jean** to his youngest daughter and son-in-law Doug and Mary Ellen Lowe.

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Diana Jean (continued)

On January of 2016 the **Diana Jean** took on water and sank in the shallow waters on the Muskingum River, where she was moored. Once again with a lot of help from family and friends she was quickly raised and dry docked, now at Lang's Campground. She has been completely gutted inside and in the process of a complete renovation. The hull and upper deck will be expanded to 18' wide, using all new steel. The living quarters will be redesigned with a more efficient layout. A party barge will be attached to the front in order to accommodate family and friends who are putting in many long hours so the **Diana Jean** will be ready for this year's 2016 Ohio River Sternwheel Festival.

