

Lady Lois

Owner: Amherst Madison

Home Port: Port Amherst, WV, Kanawha River Mile Marker 64

Hull Type: Raked Bow & Stern

Hull Material: Steel

Length: 100'

Width: 20'

Draft: 3' 6"

Wheel Diameter: 13'

Wheel Width: 13'

of Buckets: 26

Engine Type/Size: Detroit Diesel Series 60

Drive Train Type: Twin Disc Model 514, and silent chain driven 200 double chain

Built By: Nashville Bridge Company

Built at: Nashville, TN

Date: 1928

Past Names (oldest to newest): Catherine D, C.A. Irvin, Graco, Mississippi, Lady Lois

Description and History: Originally named **Catherine D** and was built in 1928 by Nashville Bridge Company.

In 1983 the **Lady Lois** became a star with the Warner Brothers production, "**Mississippi**" TV series. She was leased to Warner Brothers, in Los Angeles for the filming of the TV series purpose only. This is when her name was changed to **Mississippi** for the TV series. The boat serves as the pleasure craft of Ralph Waite in the program. Waite, who was a star of the **Waltons**, portrays a Mark Twain enthusiast who became fed up with being a lawyer in the big city and bought the boat for his home as he defends people in cities and towns along the river. The sternwheel boat was purchased by the late Merdie Boggs in August 1975, and named for his daughter, Lois. She was sold to Madison Coal & Supply in 1996 and was completely overhauled to reveal her original beauty. Good worker!

