

Princess Margy

Owner: Brannon Eads

Home Port: Dunbar, WV, Kanawha River Mile Marker 54.2 RDB

Hull Type: Scow Bow

Hull Material: Steel

Length: 80'

Width: 20'

Draft: 40"

Wheel Diameter: 13' 6"

Wheel Width: 12'

of Buckets: 16

Engine Type/Size: 6V-71 200 HP Detroit diesel engine

Drive Train Type: Hydraulic

Built By: Pete Grassie

Built at: Dunbar, WV

Date: 1975-1980

Past Names (oldest to newest): Princess Margy

Description and History: Pete Grassie started building the all steel sternwheeler **Princess Margy** in 1975 at Dunbar, WV, the site of his successful family-run manufacturing business. When about 75% complete, the hull of the **Princess Margy** had to be transported by house movers from Dunbar to Charleston across the Patrick Street Bridge and back down MacCorkle Avenue to South Charleston so that she could be launched. With this task completed, she made her way down the Kanawha River to her new home in Dunbar at the Grassie residence. By 1980 the Princess Margy was complete.

Princess Margy can hold 1,000 gallons of water and 1,200 gallons of fuel and has a 20 KW GM-Delco, 2-71 generators. The wheel shaft sprocket is 45" with a 6" shaft.

The **Princess Margy** is a three level self-sufficient live-aboard vessel. The first level consists of a lounge, full-size kitchen and half bath. On the second level are a bedroom, bunkroom, full size bath, and a utility room with full-size washer and dryer. Enclosed areas are comfortably heated and cooled year round with a 3 ton electric heat pump. The third level is comprised of the pilot house and a large deck. No longer at forward of the third deck is a 36" muzzle loading, black powder cannon. Firing blank charges, this impressive firearm is used mainly for starting races and on other special occasions. Sorry, but the infamous cannon exploded upon use in Charleston, WV in 2009.

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Princess Margy (continued)

Atop the pilot house are a 38" three trumpet Kahlenberg air horn, a 1939 model 14" Carlyle Finch carbon spot light, and a #3 heavy 12" brass bell. Decorative, yet functional, wrought iron railing borders each level complimenting Pete Grassie's original steamlined design of the boat. The **Princess Margy** remains docked on the Kanawha River at Dunbar. In 2019 **Princess Margy** was sold from Alice Grassie to Brannon Eads.

