



2012 PONTOON AND DECK BOATS



For more information on our boats, to check out our videos, or to find your nearest dealer, visit our website at

princecraft.com or call us at 1 800 395-8858

In Canada: Princecraft Boats Inc., A Brunswick Company, 725 Saint-Henri Street, Princeville (Quebec) G6L 5C2

In the United States: Princecraft U.S., A Brunswick Company, 1st Tennessee Plaza Bldg., Suite 1700, 800 S. Gay Street, Knoxville, TN 37929

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NEW
2012
MODELS

HOW YOUR
PONTOON
WAS BORN

Interview with
**PATRICK
LALIME**



By way of introduction...

Together

> When asked why they like to be on the water so much, most boaters answer that it's a place where they can get away from it all and feel free. Worries, schedules, and to-do lists stay at the dock. So it's not surprising that it's also a great opportunity to spend time with friends and family. But a number of conditions – space, comfort, safety, performance, and reliability – are required for everyone to enjoy their time on the water. With Princecraft pontoon boats and deck boats, these are all included in the trip so you can concentrate on having fun together.

We're also one big family!

Did you know that Princecraft boats are entirely designed and manufactured in Quebec? More than 200 people had a hand in designing, building, testing, and delivering your boat. Our 2012 models are once again in a class to themselves, and it is all thanks to this close-knit team. I would like to congratulate and thank them for their hard work!

Happy reading, and have a great boating season!

Donald Dubois,
President



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Summary

04
Navigating
through
time

04

05

PATRICK LALIME
Last one on the pontoon

07

HOW
YOUR
PONTOON
WAS BORN

12

Know
About
Deck Boats?

13

POST
CARD

10 tips

> to help you
enjoy your pontoon
to the max

14

16

ViolavsViola

New
**2012
models**

19

Navigating through time



Méridien 290

1987

> **IN 1987** Princecraft designed a luxurious, innovative pontoon boat called the Meridian. It was immediately popular, and was considered in the industry as a “veritable floating palace.”

THE CONCEPT? Combine the comfort of a cabin-cruiser with the roominess of a pontoon boat. The closed aft section housed a kitchenette, toilet, and dressing room. You could tan on the “sundeck,” and convert the modular armchairs into beds. The standard camper enclosure, with windows and integrated mosquito netting, provided protection from wind, mosquitoes, and rain.

Get out the punch, the Kik-Cola, and the Cheez Whiz–stuffed celery sticks: it’s a brand new kind of garden party!



SVX 29 I/O

2012

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS LATER, the current cream of the crop can now be summed up with just three letters: SVX. In addition to being supremely comfortable, everything is impeccably designed: pop-up dressing room and toilet, steering console with integrated icebox, kitchenette with optional refrigerator, and a sundeck that comes with a super comfy upholstered seat. In fact, it’s the best place to keep watch over your barbecue (Yes, there’s even space for a BBQ!) or the Fun Zone, a multipurpose platform where swimmers can play safely. Ready for some action? With its triple pontoon and lifting strakes, the SVX can go from lazy relaxation to adrenalin-pumping action in less time than it takes to put on your water skis!



PATRICK LALIME
***Last one
on the pontoon...***

TEXT AND PHOTOS: KARINE HUSSON

AFTER 12 YEARS IN THE NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE PLAYING FOR OTTAWA, SAINT LOUIS, CHICAGO, AND BUFFALO, GOALIE PATRICK LALIME HAS JUST HUNG UP HIS SKATES. HE HASN'T ABANDONED THE WORLD OF HOCKEY, HOWEVER. NOW YOU CAN HEAR HIM ANALYZING THE GAMES ON THE RDS NETWORK.

Nor has he turned his back on performance, a way of life for a professional athlete. He has a Princecraft SVX 25 I/O pontoon boat docked behind his summer cottage on the St. Maurice River.

“We had another boat before, but it wasn’t roomy enough. It was stressful because the girls were small and we were afraid they would fall in the water. Then Princecraft launched its SVX – exactly what we needed. I also like its sporty look. And since it was a Princecraft, we knew we were buying quality.”

Since then, friends and family regularly gather for a peaceful cruise – or a good dose of adrenalin. Patrick’s wife Marie-Hélène grew up in the area and has water skied since childhood. A sport she has handed down to her two oldest daughters and that Patrick is gradually trying to master. When I take off one of my skis to do tricks, the girls cry, “Wow! Mom, you’re better than dad at something!” laughs Marie-Hélène. Patrick quips that it’s because the skis aren’t stable enough. “That’s because he insists on using my skis, which are designed for a maximum weight of 180 pounds. A great excuse!”

A good sport, Patrick admits that he still needs to practice, but he loves driving fast, towing the others behind the boat. “When I push the motor to the limit (about 225 hp) and the bow rises out of the water, you can feel its power. It’s a far cry from the traditional image of a slow-moving pontoon.”

“And since it was a Princecraft, we knew we were buying quality.”



What he appreciates most about his SVX is its roominess and comfort. While the girls throw pieces of bread to the ducks, Patrick and Marie-Hélène listen to music, discuss future plans, and enjoy the moment. Quality time the family can now enjoy more often. When Patrick was playing in the NHL, he had to leave before the end of summer to get ready for the upcoming season. Marie-Hélène, his partner for the past 15 years, would always pack up the kids and go with him. But for the first time last year, the entire family could admire the spectacular fall foliage along the St. Maurice. “We kept the pontoon boat in the water as long as possible in order to take full advantage of the season. Dressed warmly and with the camper enclosure, it was fantastic.” Wonderful memories that the Lalime family can take back to Ottawa and savor till the beginning of pontoon season in a few months.

THE THREE STARS OF THE GAME,

According to Patrick Lalime



3 Half an hour from here, to the north, there is a sand dune called Île aux Pas. It’s like a beach in the middle of the river. We and some friends gather there on separate boats, we play music and the kids swim and play ball. Someone always fires up the BBQ to cook some hotdogs!

2 We often take to the water with friends and a good bottle of wine in the late afternoon. The kids have fun because they can be active and play games. We have a drink on the pontoon and then go eat at a good restaurant after docking at the marina. A number of restaurants in the area, like La Maison Cadorette in Saint-Jean-des-Piles, serve delicious wild game.

1 It’s great to see my two oldest girls, Liliana and Rosemary, standing up on their water skis! Évangéline is only 3, but she loves being towed on an inner tube. They scream with laughter when I throw them off the bathing platform!

From idea to delivery...

HOW YOUR PONTOON WAS BORN

TEXT: KARINE HUSSON

Even before you first see your Princecraft pontoon boat, it already has a long story to tell. Here it is in a nutshell, from drawing board to delivery.

1. Designing the boat

Princecraft works constantly to improve its line of boats every year. Whether new or updated models, all our pontoon boats are the product of intensive teamwork. Beyond demonstrating our technical savvy, our first priority is to ensure customer satisfaction. In addition to our R&D specialists, managers, and sales representatives, Princecraft maintains a constant dialogue with its dealers and customers. Their comments and suggestions are also part of the mix!

2. Developing boat parts

For a pontoon boat to be worthy of the Princecraft name, each part must be optimized to meet rigorous performance, durability, and ergonomic criteria, as well as deliver good value.

We test various options, but keep only the best, and have them tested by subcontractors. Princecraft carefully chooses each of its partners and involves them in the manufacturing process right from the start. This results in long-lasting relationships that are profitable for all. Princecraft alone generates nearly 300 indirect jobs.

3. Building the models

Once we've decided on the parts to use, we develop the cutting plans, and then the models. These are full-scale models showing the exact position of each component. During production, the models ensure a perfect fit and finish. But they first serve to build a prototype of the pontoon boat.

4. Prototyping

A good pontoon boat must be, above all, well balanced. During prototyping, the vessel's stationary center of gravity must be calculated, then each part is adjusted until everything is perfectly balanced. This makes the pontoon boat easier to maneuver because it reduces the boat's tendency to put its nose in the water and allow air to get into the propeller. The challenge is to maintain this balance with a wide variety of motors, from 9.9 to 135 HP for double-pontoon vessels. (SVX, Versailles, and Vantage models equipped with more powerful motors can take a triple pontoon. For more information on the Performance Package, see pages 58 and 59.)



DANIS BEAUVILLIER, DESIGNER, AND ROBERT BOUILLON, R&D MANAGER, examining a 3D model of a console.



YVON GOSSELIN, R&D SUPERVISOR AND DANNY GALLANT, NAVAL ARCHITECT, evaluate a boat's ergonomics using a Styrofoam model.



ÉRIC HAMEL, HEAD OF R&D, poses next to a new headlight design.



7

5. Prototype testing in the water

When the prototype is ready, it is subjected to flotation tests. The pontoon boat is submerged in a tank by loading it with big concrete blocks. When the water reaches the bathing platform, the pontoon boat contains its maximum authorized weight. The objective is to make sure that the pontoon boat will stay afloat even after hours under these extreme conditions.

If everything works well, it's time to take a tour out on the lake. Among other things, the boat's performance with various sizes of motor will be tested. This helps determine the optimal power and placement of the propulsion system.

6. Unrolling and bending the aluminum

The aluminum used to make the pontoon boats arrives at the plant in huge rolls. Princecraft unrolls 5,000 km of aluminum a year, the equivalent of a return trip from Thunder Bay to New Orleans! The aluminum comes off the presses in sheets that are plasma cut into what will become tubes, cones, bulkheads, molding, rails – in short, all the aluminum parts of the boat.

7. Assembling the pontoons

Once cut out, the aluminum parts are organized into kits and sent to the assembly area. The first step is to assemble the tubes, with each section separated from the others by a watertight partition to make a series of bulkheads. Welding aluminum takes concentration and precision. It's one of the most difficult types of welding to do. A robot welder is used for the tubes, but the cones must be welded by hand, which requires considerable skill. The welds are then inspected one by one with an air gun to make sure the pontoons are completely airtight.

AND DON'T FORGET THE TRAILER!

Each pontoon boat has its own trailer. Dimensions, axles, tires, guides, winch everything is custom-designed with our partner, Remeq. When it comes time to tow or lift your pontoon boat out of the water, you will see how a perfect fit makes things much easier!



6

H36 IS DEMANDING!



To design the strongest, most durable pontoon boats on the market, Princecraft uses only H36, the best marine-grade aluminum alloy in the business. Although H36 is 25% stronger than the aluminum used by most other manufacturers, it is also harder to work with. For example, angles must be smoothed out very carefully, which requires state-of-the-art equipment and Princecraft's state-of-the-art expertise!



8 8

8. Installing the floor

We install the floor supports and Z-shaped cross-channels to strengthen the structure. We then put in the wiring, and finally the wooden flooring. The wood is pressure treated so it remains water resistant for years.

9. Installing the side panels

First the railings are installed (each type of boat has its own model). The side panels of the desired color are then selected and the decals applied before the panels are inserted into the railing's tubular frame. Using special equipment, the panels are bent to perfectly fit the pontoon's shape.

10. Installing the equipment

Now it's time to install the steering system, gas tank, storage compartments, console, and seats. Then, depending on the equipment chosen, the livewells, water skiing tower, sound system, kitchenette, and toilet go in next. The only thing left to do is to attach the motor.

SMALL DETAILS, BIG DIFFERENCE

What distinguishes a Princecraft from other pontoon boats? Lots of things, including the quality of the finishing: upholstery, seams, moldings, paint, you name it. There's also the durability of the materials and the ingenious design of the furniture. For example, our seats are not only elegant, they're also comfortable and provide excellent support.



11. Final inspection

Inspection time! The pontoon must not only be perfect to the eye, it must also meet all Princecraft quality standards. No exceptions! A complete electrical test is conducted to check that all parts are functioning. Only then are stickers applied attesting that official Transport Canada and National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) standards have been met.

12. Packaging

After the side panels are wrapped in plastic film, all surfaces are covered in felt, and the boat is wrapped in white plastic. When heated, the wrapping contracts and clings tightly to the boat, providing excellent protection.

13. Delivery

The pontoon boats are then delivered by truck to destinations in Quebec, Canada, and the United States. Apart from the pontoon boats picked up by dealers directly at the plant, Princecraft delivers thousands of boats a year to all its dealers. The company employs five truck drivers and has its own fleet of semi-trailers. Yet another guarantee of customer satisfaction, right to the end of the line!

14. Launch

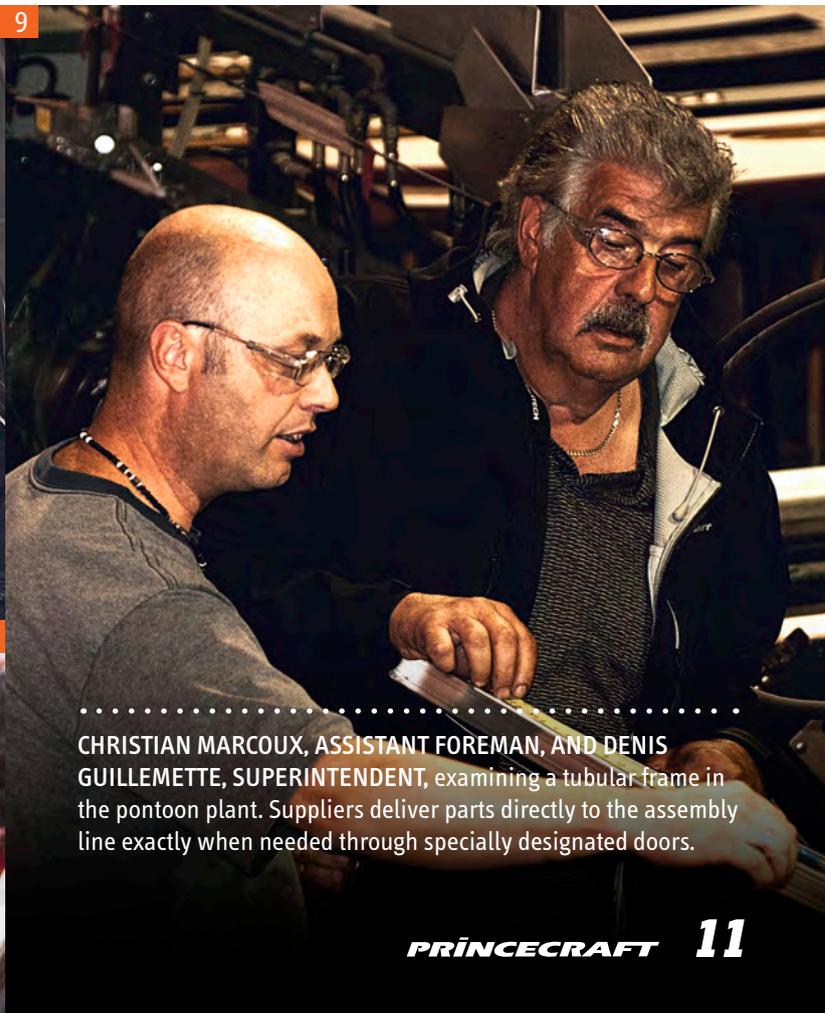
The dealer finally receives the pontoon boat and unwraps, inspects, and delivers it. Your pontoon boat is now ready to hit the water!



Sylvain Fortier, Warehouse/Delivery Team Leader:

“In the busy season, we fill three to four semi-trailers a day. We never have time to get bored!”

13 9



CHRISTIAN MARCOUX, ASSISTANT FOREMAN, AND DENIS GUILLEMETTE, SUPERINTENDENT, examining a tubular frame in the pontoon plant. Suppliers deliver parts directly to the assembly line exactly when needed through specially designated doors.



Know About Deck Boats?

Performance and drivability
of a boat



Space and comforts
of a pontoon boat



Deck Boat

They are an ingenious combination, but not all deck boats are born equal. Aluminum is stronger, more durable, and needs less maintenance than fiberglass. Princecraft is also a step ahead in terms of design and manufacturing quality. Compare, and you'll see the difference.

Get to the bottom of it. Princecraft deckboats have a high-performance, deep Vee hull that cuts through waves with a minimum of bumping. The reverse chine provides additional speed and agility and the wider hull increases your deck boat's load capacity and stability. It's just what you need to speed through the water over long distances or tow water skiers and other thrill-seekers.

Get comfortable. Your floating cottage has loads of floor space and numerous super comfortable seats. With their ergonomic design, luxurious upholstery, and top quality finishing, they are unparalleled for long cruises. Invite your friends—your deck boat is as comfortable as your living room. Some models even include a sink and icebox.

Clear the floor. The numerous practical storage compartments hidden throughout the boat leave plenty of room for you to move around, chat, fish, sunbathe, enjoy a snack or a drink, or simply relax to the gentle rocking of the boat.

Take control. At the helm, everything is within easy reach. The console, dash, wheel, and luxuriously-finished instruments have been arranged with care. The lines of sight have been precisely calculated.

Stand back and admire. Since it's a Princecraft, your deck boat has impeccable finishing. No visible wiring. No spaces between components. Perfectly smooth integrated side panels. Durable, top quality materials. And a super strong hull with a double thickness of H36 aluminum from the bow to the middle of the boat on all models. No wonder it has great resale value.

One thing's for sure, your Princecraft deck boat will provide excitement, escape, relaxation, and lots of memorable moments with your loved ones, not to mention pure driving enjoyment.

See pages 24 to 31 to choose the model that best suits your needs.



Our deck boat can take up to 12 people, so we can go boating safely with our children and grandchildren. It's really well equipped, and we especially like its roominess, the many storage compartments, pop-up dressing room with chemical toilet, aft sundeck, integrated icebox, sink, great sound system with MP3, large bathing platform at water level, and front and rear ladders. The quality of the materials and assembly is impeccable and the seats are very comfortable!

Some of the options we like most are the five-liter, 260 HP, MPI motor that is both powerful (top speed close to 80 km/h) and economical. This is partly due to our deck boat's light weight since the hull is made of aluminum rather than fiberglass. It also has a full camper enclosure, which allows us to prolong the season, a towing tower for waterskiing, and Smartcraft gauges that provide loads of useful navigation information.

We go boating with the family almost every weekend to enjoy the scenery and admire the beautiful lakefront properties. We also waterski, and the youngest children love been towed on an inner tube! Often we'll drop anchor in one of the lake's many bays and soak up the sun, swim, listen to music, and eat a snack.

One of our favorite activities is crossing the lake to Newport, Vermont, for a good meal at the East Side Restaurant. There's even a marina where we can dock nearby.

Since Lake Memphremagog is a huge expanse of water with a lot of boat traffic, there are often some good-sized waves. But we always feel safe on our deck boat. We hope to keep it for a long time because it meets our needs to perfection!



Réal Héту,

Owner of a Princecraft deck boat

Post Card

.....

"We bought a condo on Lake Memphremagog in 2010. We also decided to buy our first boat so we could enjoy this spectacular 42 km lake. My wife wanted a boat for speed and waterskiing, but I wanted a pontoon boat for space and the possibility of having several people on board. We finally found the ideal boat, a Princecraft deck boat.

.....



10 Tips

> to help you enjoy your pontoon to the max

1. Choose the right motor

Your pontoon boat is designed to handle motors of various different sizes. To choose the right one for you, you should first assess your needs. A big motor allows you to tow water skiers, while a smaller motor provides ample power for boating with friends or going exploring for a few days. Choosing a motor that's right for your lifestyle – and the size and configuration of your pontoon boat—will guarantee long-term savings and years of satisfaction.

2. Back up, but not too much

Many boaters back up their trailer too far into the water. When you back up your trailer, make sure that the guides remain clearly visible above the water surface. That way your pontoon boat will line up easily with the trailer and will be well supported, preventing breakage. (Plus you'll show off what a great driver you are!)

3. Start the motor before detaching the pontoon boat

When launching your pontoon boat, start the motor before detaching it from the trailer. This prevents your pontoon boat from drifting if the motor doesn't start.

4. Master the art of trimming

By raising or lowering the motor in the water using the jack plate, commonly called "trimming," you can change the pontoon boat's trim to increase its performance and navigate more easily in rough water. Unfortunately, the ideal trim varies, so you have to adapt it to each situation. For example, if all your guests are sitting in the bow, you have to increase the trim to compensate for the load.

Go slowly, testing the pontoon boat's response. If you raise the motor too much, the propeller will start to lift out of the water, making the pontoon boat hard to steer. On the other hand, if there is not enough trim, the pontoon boat will have a hard time advancing, thus straining the motor and consuming more gas. It becomes easier with practice, but a trim indicator (a little dial showing the motor's position in the water) is a handy tool.



5. Use the storage space

Princecraft pontoon boats have loads of storage compartments. In addition to freeing up space, they prevent accidents. Ask your guests to put their drinks in the cup holders and their personal belongings in the compartments behind or under their seats. They will be more comfortable and will have less chance of seeing their favorite magazine fly off with a gust of wind.

6. Have fun safely

Being towed on an inner tube is lots of fun. But for it to be safe, you must make sure that the person wears a life jacket and sits with their legs crossed or on their knees in the middle of the tube.

Never tow someone at night or in conditions of reduced visibility. Make sure to use the right type of rope for each activity. Ropes for towing inner tubes have rings at each end for easier attachment, while waterskiing rope has a certain elasticity for making tight turns, and wakeboarding rope has no elasticity, thus preventing the pontoon boat from bouncing dangerously.

7. Get out your fenders

Before reaching the dock, take the time to get out your mooring lines and arrange your fenders. This may seem obvious, but many people forget. This oversight can leave its mark on the pontoon logs or damage other boats.

8. Take the time to close up shop

Finished your outing on the water? Before leaving the pontoon boat, take the time to check that everything is switched off. A glance at the dash will let you know right away if a light is still on. Since some indicators are located elsewhere, you should read the instruction manual or talk to your Princecraft dealer to avoid unpleasant surprises. The next time you take your boat out, your battery will thank you for taking this precaution!

9. Clean your pontoon boat, but not with just any product

Abrasive products and those containing ammonia can bleach fabric, weaken seams, and tarnish surfaces. When in doubt, you are better off using products designed especially for cleaning boats. Check the product label or ask your Princecraft dealer for advice.

10. Replace the anodes

To prevent corrosion, it is recommended you change the anodes on your motor once a year, or even more often if the water contains certain pollutants. Check your anodes frequently. This simple step will prevent corrosion of the aluminum surfaces and holes in the propeller. Check the motor from stem to stern once a year, and get a good oil change.

Roofs and Tarps



SNAP FIRST, THEN ZIP To install your camper enclosure, close the snap fasteners (below), and then the zipper (above). It is much easier than the other way around!

GET READY FOR BAD WEATHER When your pontoon boat is docked, put on its mooring cover or close the camper enclosure. Properly protected, your pontoon boat will keep its luster and value for years.

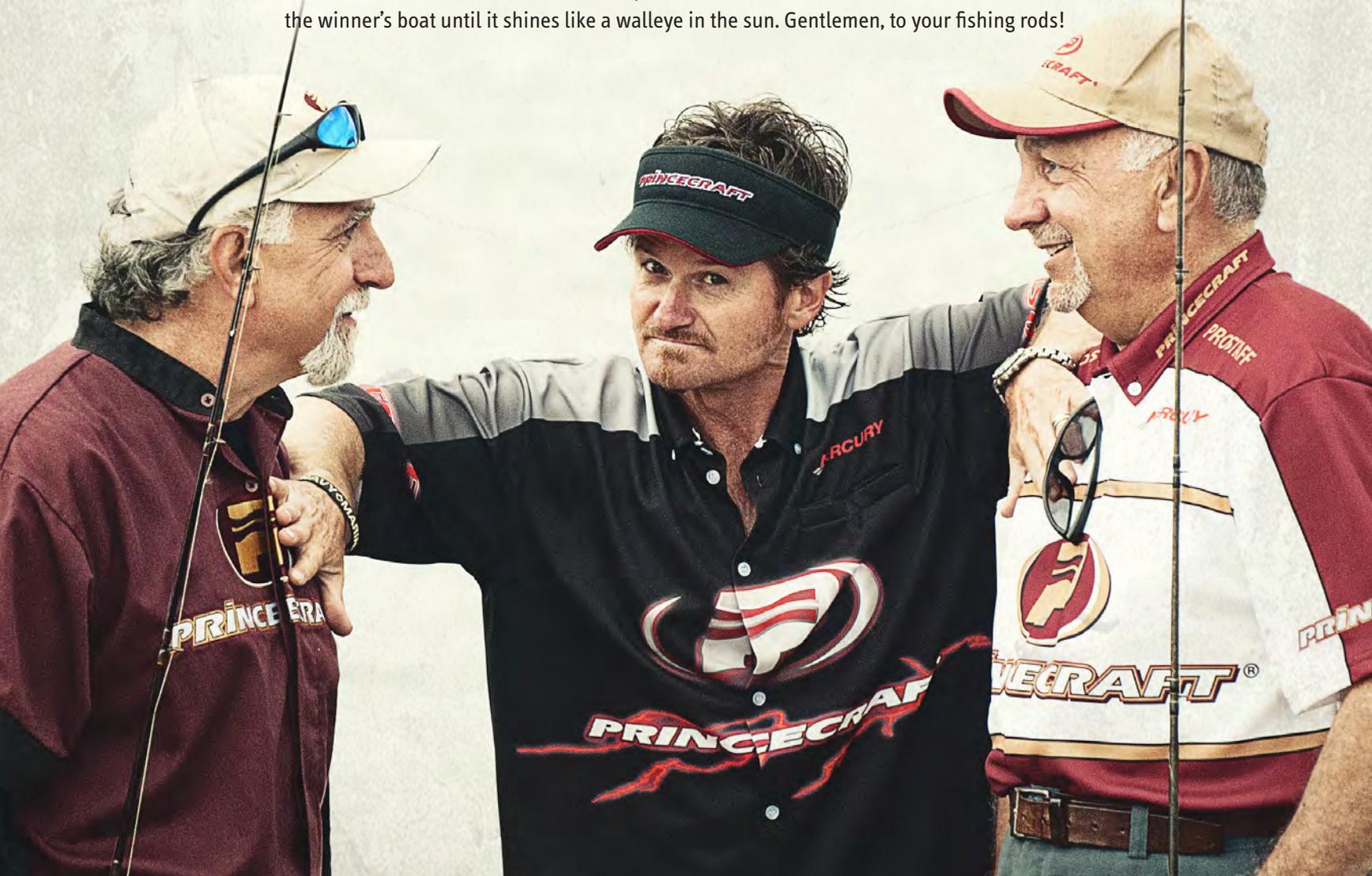
ROLL IT! Roll up tarps before putting them away rather than fold them, because over time the fabric can split along the folds. Store the tarps in a dry location till the next boating season.

To Your Fishing Rods!



Viola vs. Viola

Famous as hosts of the most popular fishing show in the country, The Fish'n Canada Show, Angelo and Reno Viola have accepted our challenge – a tournament pitting brother against brother, refereed by their favorite straight man, cohost Pete Bowman. To spice things up a bit, the younger brother will fish from a boat, and the older brother from a pontoon boat. At duel's end, the loser will have to wash the winner's boat until it shines like a walleye in the sun. Gentlemen, to your fishing rods!



TUESDAY

8 p.m. They were supposed to arrive at 5:00 p.m. Reno got there on time and Angelo – three hours late. “This is a good illustration of each brother’s personality!” laughs Pete Bowman, who has known the Viola brothers for close to 30 years. (Pete still hosts *The Fish’n Canada Show* and *Outdoor Journal* with Angelo, but Reno retired from the show a few years ago). “Reno is more intense, always doing several things at a time. Angelo is more relaxed and focused, and often late. Each has his own particular fishing strategy. And both of them are very good,” says Pete!

WEDNESDAY



6 a.m. Since Reno is the first one up (as usual!), he goes to pick up the bait fish. “In most tournaments, we’re not allowed to use live bait. But we’re spoiling ourselves today!” At the wheel of his truck, he weaves through the narrow streets so skillfully that we forget that he’s towing a 23 foot trailer behind. “That’s one of the things that most surprised me. I thought it would be more difficult to tow, that it would jerk when I accelerate, but not at all! With the customized, double-axle trailer, it tows just like a boat.”

7 a.m. After a pit stop (gas for the boats, coffee for the anglers), we arrive at the dock. This morning, the competitive spirit has taken over. The brothers even vie with each other as to who’s better at putting the boat in the water.

7:15 And they’re off! Equipped with a 115 HP motor, Reno’s pontoon boat speeds away. “Of course, you don’t get the same speed as with Angelo’s pro staff boat, but that would just mess up my hair. Seriously, 27 mph is fine for most anglers!”

7:34 Angelo checks his sonar for the submerged posts of an old dock he’d heard of. These porous structures harbor microorganisms that are gobbled up by small fish, who are eaten in turn by bigger predatory fish. Like the bass that Pete Bowman just caught. “Too bad the referee is not in the race,” he quips.

7:45 Meanwhile, Reno fishes while driving. Incredible but true, his brand new electric motor, bought specially for the occasion, is still in his truck. “If you had a bit more focus,” teases Angelo. “Hey, I did it on purpose. Had to give myself a handicap to make it a fair fight!” replies Reno.

7:48 Angelo’s first catch: a small-mouth bass weighing about six pounds. After carefully unhooking it, Angelo releases it back to the water. “Hey, Reno, I’m giving you a break!”

7:57 Reno’s first catch: a beautiful eight-pound walleye!

9 p.m. The two brothers meet with obvious pleasure. Beer in hand, they call up memories of fishing all over the world, teasing each other – like two brothers! Smiling, Pete observes, “I have two boys, age 6 and 8, and they’re just the same.”

9:15 Pete decides that it’s time for breakfast. “I make the rules, after all!” They put the boats side by side and compare the advantages of each, checking out the livewells. Angelo seems to be ahead for the moment.

9:25 The sky is getting darker so everyone puts on their rain gear. Far away, the river is pockmarked by the heavy rain. Angelo, who is used to fishing in all sorts of weather, skillfully casts his line. As for Reno, he takes a few minutes to install a roof over the pontoon boat (it’s easy, you just have to click a few snap fasteners), and teases his brother as he takes cover.

9:40 It starts raining harder and the wind rises. Suddenly, Reno grabs his rod tighter. Something big just bit! A huge carp! He starts giggling.

9:57 While Angelo gets ready to reel in a large-mouth bass that is leaping in the air, a loon joins in the game. Though the loon doesn’t quite manage to grab the fish, the bass uses the diversion to escape.

10:05 Time to go. It’s raining even harder, and the waves are getting bigger. Even at full speed, the boats remain stable. Halfway back, we meet a Coast Guard Auxiliary boat, there to lend a hand with a fiberglass boat.

10:22 Back at the dock, the threesome try to compare the fish in the livewells with an electronic scale. But the heavy rain complicates matters. Same number of fish for each brother, good catches, so Pete declares it a draw. After grumbling a bit, each being convinced he was the winner, Angelo and Reno agree on at least one thing: “OK, Pete, you’re the boss. But since that’s your decision, you’re the one that has to wash the boats—both of them!”

IN THE LEFT CORNER

Angelo VIOLA



Princecraft Pro 198 SC (ProStaff)

Main use:

Making episodes of The Fish'n Canada Show (fishcanada.com), broadcast on Global and WFN. When he has the time, Angelo also likes to take a few days off for some relaxed fishing without cameras and film crews.

What he likes about his boat:

VERSATILITY "It's the best fishing machine on the market! I can go anywhere with it, under any conditions, and fish any species of fish."

RELIABILITY "Princecraft means quality. They design boats for our water bodies. Planning a shoot involves a lot of people, who have to get there no matter what the conditions. We are demanding, and the onscreen result has to be very professional."

PERFORMANCE "With our 198, we cut through the waves. No bumping, no chine walk, even at high speeds. Last year, Pete and I entered a big tournament with 150 of the best bass anglers in Canada. It was in Valleyfield, but the good bass-fishing spots were around Cornwall, 100 km up the river. At first, the big bass boats took the lead. But the water was rough and we soon passed them. When we returned that evening, many said that they wouldn't do the tournament the following year because the water was too rough. They had sore backs, broken rods, etc., etc. But we were in great shape!" (big laugh)

THE LARGE FRONT DECK "The 198 has a large, roomy front deck from where two anglers can comfortably fish."

STORAGE SPACE "There's tons of handy storage space. We have a lot of equipment when we're filming or at a tournament. We have to be able to get at it quickly and the floor has to be kept clear. All anglers appreciate that."

QUALITY "I get a new boat for the show every year. But I use it as much as a regular angler would in 10 years! I often meet people I've sold my boats to and I can tell you the boats are just like new."



IN THE RIGHT CORNER

Reno VIOLA



Princecraft Vantage 23-4S

Main use:

Showing the general media the wealth of the water bodies between Montreal and eastern Ontario. Reno takes editors, journalists, and photographers on tours.

What he likes about his boat:

COMFORT "My guests really enjoy their time on the water. There's a sink, kitchenette, comfortable armchairs, and even a toilet, which is hidden away when not in use. You just have to unfold the panel to deploy the self-standing cover. It's kind of like a changing room."

SPACE "I can have nine people on board. Even with a full boat everyone has plenty of room and can move around easily. When my seven-year-old grandson Yohan joins me and gets tired of fishing, he plays with his games. I still have lots of space to continue fishing, and I know he's safe."

ROOF "Practical protection, rain or shine. I know my guests will be protected in all types of weather."

MANEUVERABILITY "Even with three-foot waves, my pontoon boat cuts easily through the water. It's also really easy to maneuver, and the motor is quiet."

TRANSPORT "With its two pontoons, it is even easier to lift out of the water than a boat. It balances perfectly on the trailer. And it's easy to tow, which is important since I often move from one body of water to another."

QUALITY FIT AND FINISH "It's a Princecraft – the name says it all!"

FISHING FACILITIES "It may be as comfortable as a living room, but this model was designed for fishing. There's room to move around on the front deck, swivel seats in the rear, two livewells, storage space for fishing rods. And with the electric motor, I can maintain my position more easily than with Angelo's boat."