

Livingston Dock

In the late 1950's and early 1960's, a bank had unwillingly acquired a business resting on the shore of Mitchell Creek. For the lack of a name, it became the Livingston Dock. Since a Livingston bank owned the business, it seemed a sensible name for such a venture. The bank hired Bedford Beechboard to oversee operations. Over the years, he built a number of cabins on the shore of the point overlooking the merger of Mitchell Creek and Carter Creek. Time passed and the bank eventually found itself some buyers. In 1964, Mr. Junior Bowman and Robert Cook purchased the marina and eagerly began business. After four or five years, Junior bought out Robert Cook and became soul owner of the marina. The marina found itself in the hands of a very resourceful and vibrant man. Junior Bowman built a number of rental houseboats and rental boat slips, and became one of the very elite of the early docks on Dale Hollow. His marina flourished in these years as a dock, boat and motor dealership, and rental cabin retreat.

Junior was always enthused with the speed and raw horsepower of the bass boats and speed boats of the era. Few had any more knowledge of outboards than this man in this particular time. He studied these early high-horse powered machines and held an understanding of their nature and mechanical makeup. He sold boats and motors and rented his machines to fashion himself a living here on Dale Hollow. By some strange twist of fate, in the winter of 1976, Junior lost his life when one of his boats experienced a steering problem, causing the boat to capsize in the cold winter waters. Dale Hollow lost a special member of its early history, here in its own crystal waters. Junior's wife passed away in 1985, leaving the marina in the hands of her sons, Steven and Randall. It rests in their name to this very day. After over forty years, the Bowmans still hold their family tradition here in this marina, and life passes there much as it has since the time of Junior. Those old Johnson outboards still purr as they did way back when, and the time ticks along much as it has for decades. And, the Bowmans are quite happy with it that way.

