

Wolf River Resort

In 1944, Jimmy E. Adams bought the land in the upper area of the Wolf River. There was little more than a wagon road coming over the mountain, and the lake had not reached its full stages. Boats would be launched in Illwill Creek and brought around to his acreage. Jimmy and his son Jimmy Jr. started clearing the land and building the beginnings of his fishing camp. For nearly forty years, Jimmy Adams kept his marina in the Wolf River. In 1983, he sold it to Ewert Wilson and Ken Wittington.

Ewert Wilson and Ken Wittington owned the marina for a couple of years when Ewert's son was killed in a boating accident, here on Dale Hollow. After the untimely loss of his son, Ewert sold his half of the marina to Chuck Jones. Times were tough in the early 1980's trying to run a marina on Dale Hollow. After a couple of years, Wittington's share of the marina was sold on the courthouse square. Luther "Hoppe" Conner purchased his share on that day and kept it until the entire marina suffered the same woes. In 1995, Conner's and Jones' business again was placed on the auction block at the courthouse.

In 1995, Bruce Carrender bought the marina at the courthouse auction and began renting houseboats manufactured at his houseboat manufacturing facility near Albany, Kentucky. The purchase proved beneficial for Mr. Carrender...build houseboats at his facility when sales were slow and rent them until a buyer could be found. It was a savvy business move that kept his operation busy and kept his marina in clean new rental houseboats at all times. It also kept the cost of his rentals down and gave him a strong advantage in the industry. Mr. Carrender's shrewd business tactics paid off and his marina has become one of the largest full-scale docks on Dale Hollow. Russ and Debbie Flowers have been strong supporters and workers at the marina for many years, and helped track down the history that you are reading now. Mr. Carrender still owns and operates the marina in Wolf River on the border of Kentucky and Tennessee, and it remains in good hands.

