

# HORSEPOWER *on the* HUDSON!

**August 7, 2021 • Castleton Boat Club • 92 South Main St, Castleton, NY 12033**  
**N 42° 31.700' • W 73° 45.530'**

In 2011 Jim Kelly and a few other members of the Castleton Boat Club were lounging on the party dock admiring a group of go-fast boats powering by. They would stand up and cheer the boats on faster, enjoying the sound of the engines throttling up.

There is no sound quite like a well-built motor hitting its sweet spot. It is the RPM where a lumpy cam smooths out, and it can still pull you back in the seat. The boat leaps over the waves and the prop churns up a rooster tail in response.

That afternoon, he had an idea. Why not invite the boats to come to the club? CBC would throw a party and have the boats do what they are doing anyway - flying by the club. The event would be nothing formal. Just a good time; On land there would be hot-rod cars, music, and burgers. Down on the docks there would be flashy boats, built engines, and bikini tops.

Jim remembered, "Year one we really had no clue if any boats would show up, if cars would show up or if any spectators would come. I had contacted Johnny Saris of Performance Marine in Bolton Landing, and he helped spread the word on the first Horsepower. The event was scheduled to start at noon, and at 11:45 we had one boat." Jim was a little concerned. "Then, at exactly noon, about 12 go-fast boats all pulled in together. As we tied them up a few more came from the south. Most of the boats we had never seen in front of the Club. That first year, the colors, the loud engines, and the speed – it was absolutely amazing! So amazing that it doubled in size the first 4 years to become what it is now."

The atmosphere is casual and fun. Horsepower is the perfect way for Captains to show off the work they put in their boats. There are no classes or restrictions. Pontoons, party cats, vee-hulls, twin engine, or outboard; all are invited. There is no pressure or points; they can run if they want, or just show off at the dock. It is a chance for captains to compare notes on their set-ups, or just catch up each year.

Horsepower is in the planning stages for 2021, and all CDC guidelines will be met come August. We all look forward to having a fun and safe event and to see everyone again this summer!

