

## **Our New Family Member**

We got a chance to take our new Regal 2000 Bowrider out last Sunday and I thought you might be interested in my experience. Although I've been a boater for many years, I was a bit nervous about the boat, this is the first bowrider I've owned and moving to a 20 footer from a 17' 6" fish and ski is a whole different ball game. Plus the fear that I might have made a poor choice made me even more nervous.

If you remember I had some pretty specific requirements for this boat. My family had become more water sports oriented than fishing so I needed a boat that would accommodate skiers, tubers and wakeboarders. With that shift in interest and our other commitments, we now make day trips instead of camping for the weekend and the need to be comfortable all day is a must (FYI, we were considering a new deck boat as well). My teenage sons are really men now, one over six feet, the other approaching six feet, our 85 pound black Lab, my wife and I make a pretty good load and take up quite a bit of room, plus they have friends. I still like to hammer the throttle on occasion so flat out performance is a real concern. I definitely wanted a power plant that was at the upper end of the recommended range and that had fuel injection for resale value, reliability and ease of maintenance. I wanted a good looking boat that I could hang on to for years. This is pretty tall order for any boat. My expectations were very high.

Sunday morning we packed the removable cooler at home. Loaded an extra small cooler in the storage behind the bow seating. Stowed some food for lunch and snacks and were on our way. There were five of us including a friend of James.

We trailered the boat to Green River Lake. Although the boat is wider than I had been use to pulling, it tracked perfectly and the disc trailer brakes provided excellent performance. I knew the boat was heavier than my old one, but that was never really an issue.

My wife has always unloaded the boat and she was very nervous with a new boat. I backed in, she started the fuel injected v-8, much easier to start than our old outboard, slid off the trailer and gently eased up to the dock to pick me up. Piece of cake. High marks from Beverly right off the bat.

On the water, even at rest this is a beautiful boat. Very nice lines, sporty and elegant. The color scheme is definitely classy. Not a better looking boat on the water that day. More high marks.

As we idled out of the marina, I realized that there were no hatches bulging, overstuffed with life jackets, no bags with towels stuffed behind seats or even a cooler on the floor. We had stowed every thing that we brought on board and had storage to spare, with one exception. We couldn't fit the wakeboard in the floor locker. I tucked in out of the way along side of the drivers seat, a compromise that I happily made. Again, high marks for storage.

I ran the throttle up and we were on plane quickly. Different from my old boat, but very good performance. We cruised a few miles up the lake at moderate speeds enjoying a very comfortable and remarkably quiet ride. Green River Lake can get very rough around the State Park and the Regal handled the chop terrifically. Chop that would have pounded us in our old fish and ski, and it had a decent ride. Later, we managed 49 MPH indicated at 4500 RPM, even at wide open throttle we could carry on a conversation over the nice rumble of the v-8. Remember this is a fully loaded 20' bowrider, 5 adults, an 85 pound Lab, two coolers, skis, wakeboard, tube strapped to the sunpad and 3/4 full of fuel, very impressive.

Beverly quickly found her spot in the bow seat. She really likes the bow filler cushion as it allows her to stretch out and sun. The boys settled in the passenger seat and the stern seat, our dog found his spot next to me with the wind whistling in his ears.

Time for water sports. Michael the younger at 14 was ready to try the new wakeboard that we got the boys for Christmas as an excuse to buy a new boat, apparently that works. The swim platform makes it especially nice for putting on the wakeboard, getting in and out of the water or just dangling your feet. We pulled the 180#, 5'10" teenager up with out a problem. I kept the boat on plane at a low speed and created a nice wake for him to play on. James was next on a pair of skis. James is a 16 year old, 6'2" high school defensive lineman. After a couple of attempts to knock the rust off him, he was up and skiing like a champ. Beverly was next on the wakeboard. She's slalom skied for many years and wanted try wake boarding. She got up but, prefers skis. Daniel was next and even as a new skier was able to get up on two. I was content be the

driver. I ski once or twice a year, so I'll go next time. Overall the performance was good considering the load. It's a little tough pulling up skier's slalom unless they are experienced, with this typical for us load. I've ordered a stainless prop hoping for a little better hole shot. Still I was happy with the overall performance. I'll let you know how the stainless prop works out.

We'd been on the water for a few hours and every one was getting hungry. We found a nice spot along a high wall and dropped anchor. I opened the Bimini top in literally 60 seconds or less and was pleasantly surprised that it covered almost the entire cockpit. The boys, dog and I could retreat to the shade while Bev lounged in the bow in the sun. Lunch was really uneventful and it should have been. We all had plenty of room to move around or stretch out and talk. The extra space that a 8 \_ foot wide, 20 foot boat afforded is very nice. The radio/CD is a very nice feature. The remote control on the swim platform caused a good natured battle for control between my son and I which I eventually won. Not much station choice at Green so we are debating adding Sirius service versus burning some boating CD's. More high marks.

More water sports, swimming, cruising and enjoying followed. Approaching five hours on the engine we went on another hard run up the lake at WOT. 49 MPH on the mark, great ride at speed. Solid handling, good ride, strong confidence inspiring performance that brings on a ear to ear grin. What an awesome machine!

The little details are equally impressive. Pop-up cleats, pop-up bolsters, gas struts for the engine compartment and floor locker, the magnetic catches for the doors and windshield to keep them from bouncing around, the bow scuff plate, built in armrest for the driver, and the integrated trailering lights are all valuable benefits to owning a Regal. I could easily go on and on. Very well appointed and thought out.

Time to go. Bev nervously drove the boat onto the trailer. I made one mistake in not backing the trailer deep enough, but still no problem. We were up the ramp in a few seconds, tied down, wiped down, covered and on our way. A little tired, very satisfied with our new family member.

The bottom line, this boat more than met my expectations. I really thought that they were pretty unrealistic for a single boat. I guess a specialty boat would be better in each different area. Not many of us can afford three or four different boats. This is a great family boat that excels in many areas.

Scott Pullem (VP Sales KYS), kept mentioning family and looking at the boat as a family member. I had almost forgotten what he was talking about. We owned our last boat almost 16 years. James was a new born baby, our daughter, now a college student, was four and Michael was just a dream. Our family has made many wonderful memories on that old boat. Makes it pretty hard to think about selling it. While there will never be a substitute for the old one, this new Regal has already earned a spot in our family. Beverly and I can envision a time in the future where the next generation of our family can make memories on board this boat.

Lastly, I want to thank you, Scott, Cheryl, Gary and the rest for helping make this addition to our family such a wonderful experience. It was obvious to me when I stopped by, you all were as excited and eager to hear about our experience, good or bad, as I was to share it with you. Feel free to use me as a reference. I look forward to being a customer and a KYS friend for life.

Thanks,

Jim & Beverly Bozarth  
Proud Regal Owners

Crew:  
Christine  
James  
Michael  
Burleigh