|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Jones Valley Resort | Shasta Lake Resorts LP Reservations 530 275 7950  22300 Jones Valley Marina Dr. Service Dept. 530 275 7955  Redding, CA 96003 www.houseboats.com |

Voyager

Operating Manual



Table of Contents

.  
.  
.  
.  
.  
.  
.  
.  
.

Starting the Boat 1

Flying Bridge 2

Driving Techniques 2

The Generator - AC Electrical Power System 4

Generator - Main Breaker 4

The Inverter - DC Electrical Power System 4

The Water System 5

The Propane System 5

Air Conditioners and Heaters 5

The Propane System 5

Galley Appliances …… 6

Water Heater …. 6

Barbeque 6

Satellite System 6

Water Slide 7

The Septic System 7

Safety 7

Troubleshooting 8

Contacting The Marina 8

Returning to the Marina 9

Glossary 9

# Starting the Boat

Before Turning the Key:

1. Reduce the noise level, turn off the stereo during the engine start-up process.
2. **Post an observer** on the aft deck to watch for people in the water, approaching watercraft, and other obstacles. The driver and observer must communicate.
3. **Turn on the red Blower** switch at the helm panel to the right of the ignition key.
4. Run the blower for 4 minutes prior to the next step.

Throttle Position



1. Start with the throttle lever in the center neutral position.
2. Turn the ignition key clockwise one click until an alarm will sound. Wait at least three beeps to allow the control panel (MMC) to activate.

Control Button

1. Press the Control Button. This will deactivate the alarm, and the drive indicator light will begin flashing, then immediately shine constant.
2. Release the control button.
3. Press the control button and hold down while moving the throttle lever forward to the forward idle position. Drive indicator light will now flash.
4. Give the engine some gas by moving the throttle lever to full throttle and back to forward idle twice… then forward again - between idle and full throttle.
5. Continue with hand on throttle.

Now turn the key clockwise to start the engine.

Note: If the throttle lever is pulled back to the center position, refer to step 9 to start the engine.

## If the Engine will not start

* Is the light on the control box blinking? If not, begin again at step 5 above.
* Check your fuel gauges. You may be out of gas.
* Try again in fifteen minutes. The engine may be flooded.
* If no power, start battery may be dead or MMC breaker is tripped.

Note: Do not hold the key down for more than 30 seconds or you may damage the starter.

## After the Engine has started

Immediately after starting the engine, the drive indicator light will still flash indicating that the drive is still in neutral. At this point, the throttle lever only affects the idle speed of your houseboat motor.

* Check to make sure the blower is switched off.
* Allow the engine to warm up to 160 degrees.
* Put the throttle lever in the center position. The drive indicator light will change from flashing to constant.
* Pull the throttle lever back to back up, or push it forward to go forward.
* Forward idle is the first lever position forward. Reverse idle, first back.

Note: Maintain observer position on aft deck until the boat is clear of the shore or dock, and traveling forward in open water.

## Shutting down the engine

## Always end with both throttle levers in the center neutral position, and turn the engine off with the key at lower helm!

1

# Flying Bridge

The flying bridge allows you to drive the houseboat from the upper deck helm while cruising in open water… only. **Do not** drive from the flying bridge while docking, near shore, or backing up your houseboat - because you cannot see the front or back of the boat. Important to remember - When transferring control, you must be in open water.

To transfer control between helms, follow these steps.

## Always start and end at lower helm

1. Start up and shut down the engine at the lower helm.
2. Once the engine is warm, put the throttle in the center neutral position. The drive indicator light will shine constant.
3. Go up to the flying bridge and put the throttle lever also in the center neutral position.
4. Now, when the flying bridge control button is pressed, the drive indicator light will shine constant.
5. This completes the transfer. You can now drive the houseboat in open water from the flying bridge.

## From Flying Bridge to the Lower Helm

Return control to the lower helm in the same manner.

# Driving Techniques

Think Ahead. Be Calm. Be Safe. It’s Your Responsibility!

Key to safe handling of this boat is anticipation of speed and direction well in advance.

* SAFETY - Always use an observer on the aft deck when backing up, making turns in tight places or heavy traffic.
* SPEED - Maintain a slow, safe speed. Built for comfort – not for speed!
* BIG BOAT = BIG TURNS - The faster you go, the wider your turn will be.
* SHIFTING - Shift slowly between forward and reverse. Shifting quickly may stall the electronic shifting unit, and render the boat without directional power.
* DEBRIS - Always watch for debris in the water. If it is unavoidable, place the drive in neutral and coast past the object.
* WIND - Whenever possible, navigate into the wind.
* BRAKES - Think of reverse as your brakes. To slow your forward motion, anticipate and slowly shift into reverse.
* TIGHT AREAS - To turn the boat in a tight area;
* Go forward slowly. Then move the throttle to center (disengaged) position. While in the center position turn the wheel in the opposite direction. Slowly shift to reverse and briefly rev the engine. Then, return throttle to center position while turning the wheel back to the direction you want to go. Shift into forward and briefly rev the engine.
* Repeat this forward/reverse method until you have made your turn.
* If you lose control of the boat, try to stay calm. The worst you will probably do is damage the propeller. If the prop is damaged, the boat will vibrate in drive.

NOTE: If the propeller is damaged, secure the boat to shore. Turn off the engine and contact the marina. 530.275.7955

2

## Shore-Tie Your Houseboat

Your houseboat must be secured to shore (at least) every evening. Choose a good location that is protected from the wind and the wake of other vessels. Keep this in mind - your landing area must have clearance of at least one houseboat length on both sides so you will have enough maneuvering room.

*Never approach the shore or dock while driving from*

*the fly bridge.*



1. Choose a landing spot that is not too rocky so you will be able to drive your stakes into the ground. You need a shoreline that is steep enough so the bow of your boat will reach land before the bottom of the pontoons do.
2. Proceed at forward idle straight toward the shore. As you near the shoreline, use reverse to soften the landing.
3. After landing, steer straight into the shore with throttle forward at +/- 2,000 rpm. This will keep the houseboat perpendicular with the shoreline as a crewmember drives the stakes into the ground and secures the lines. Both lines are to be secured from the rear of the vessel to stakes at 45 degree angle.
4. The captain remains at the helm with the engine running and throttle forward until the entire tie-down process is completed.

Note: Check your lines and the lake level each morning and evening. You will need to adjust the houseboat and the tie lines.

## Backing off the shore or leaving the Marina

1. Post an observer on the back deck. Run the blower 4 minutes.
2. Quiet the noise level, and turn off the stereo.
3. Relocate personal watercraft, and anything else that is tied to the houseboat.
4. Start the engine and allow it to warm up to 160 degrees.
5. Engage the drive by pulling the throttle lever back to the center position. Throttle forward at about 2,000 rpm to hold the boat in place.
6. Untie the lines and secure them to the bow of the vessel. Put the ramp in place.
7. Remember to stow the 4 stakes and hammer on board.
8. Sound your horn three times and carefully throttle into reverse. Do not start your turn until you are in open water.

## If the houseboat is stuck on shore

Loosen the bow from the shoreline by wagging the tail of the boat. Do this while in forward. First steer all the way to the left until the boat is at a 45 degree angle to the shoreline. Then steer all the way to the right, to a 45 degree angle. Do this a few times. This should “walk” the pontoons down off the shore. Put the boat in reverse and back straight off the shoreline slightly increasing the rpm.

Note: If you are unable to get the houseboat off the shore with this method, contact the marina. 530.275.7955

3

# The Generator - AC Electrical Power System

The generator is the power source for the 110-volt system.

## Starting the Generator

AC/Generator

* Air Conditioner
* Dishwasher
* Flood Lights
* Microwave
* Non-inverter outlets
* Trash Compactor
* Washer/Dryer

On Inverter

* Oven
* Entertainment Center
* Toaster\*
* Blender\*
* Coffeemaker\*

\*when using inverter outlet

On Batteries

12v - Refrigerator

12v - Water pumps

12v - Lighting system

1. Turn on the generator blower switch located near the entertainment center. Let it run for a minimum of 4 minutes.
2. Press and hold down the “On” switch for a few seconds. Then, press down “Start” to crank over the generator. These switches are located on the generator panel. When the light shine steady, release both switches. If the light goes out, the generator has stopped.
3. The blower timer will shut off. Do not attempt to turn off.

## Voy GIf the generator will not start

Try again in fifteen minutes. The engine may be flooded.

Note: Do not hold the switch down for more than 30 seconds or you may damage the starter.

## Stopping the Generator

Press down and hold the “Stop” switch. When the light goes out, the generator has stopped. This switch is located on the generator panel.

# Generator - Main Breaker

There is a main breaker located on the generator. This breaker controls the power to the 110 volt system. If this breaker trips - the noted appliances and outlets will not work.

## Check or Reset the Main Breaker

* Secure the houseboat in a safe location. The houseboat engine and the generator must be off to ensure safety of the person checking the breaker.
* Access the generator below the aft deck by lifting the motor pod hatch to the full vertical position. Have a buddy help lift and hold the hatch upright.
* The breaker is located on the port (left) side of the generator. The tripped switch will be in the off (down) position. Flip the switch to reset the breaker.

# The Inverter - DC Electrical Power System

## The DC system consists of a bank of batteries and an inverter. The generator does not have to be on to run these items. However, if the electrical panel switch or the inverter panel button light is off, these items will not work. If the cabin battery charge is too low, the inverter will automatically shut off and these items will not work.

On Inverter

* Oven
* Entertainment Center
* Toaster\*
* Blender\*
* Coffeemaker\*

\*when using inverter outlet

On Batteries

12v - Refrigerator

12v - Water pumps

12v - Lighting system

12v - Stereo

12v – Water Heater

## If one of these items is not working

* Check that the inverter panel / inverter switch is on.
* When the inverter is on – it flashes a green light.
* The inverter should be left on at all times.
* Check the status of the inverter/cabin batteries on the helm panel. If voltage is 11.5 or below, start the generator to recharge the inverter/cabin batteries.

4

# The Water System

There are two sources of water on the houseboat;

Fresh Water – the potable water tank is filled with

well water to be used only for drinking and cooking.

The distinctively shaped upside down ’J’ faucet at

each sink is clearly marked “Fresh Water”.

Lake Water - is drawn directly from the lake water

under the vessel. Lake water is plumbed for all use

- except the ‘J’ faucets. This includes; deck faucets,

standard sink faucets, water heater, dishwasher,

shower heads and tub faucets, the washer, waterslide,

and the toilets. Do not drink from the lake water faucets!

## If the faucet marked “Fresh Water” is not working

* Check that the switch at the galley sink is on.
* With the fresh water faucet on, you will hear the hum of the fresh water pump.

## If the faucet marked “Lake Water” is not working

* Check that the switch at the galley sink is on, and not in the neutral position.
* There are two lake water pumps installed on the houseboat. If one fails, you can switch to the other.

# The Propane System

The water heater, refrigerators, stovetop and oven use propane. The boat has 2 LPG tanks that hold approximately 7 gallons each. The LPG tank regulator will switch automatically from the empty tank to the full tank.

The barbeque unit has a dedicated 5 gallon LPG tank.

Note: If there are any issues, please call the Marina Service Department. 530.275.7955

# Air Conditioners and Heaters

The generator must be on to operate the air conditioner. All three of the A/C units must be OFF prior to starting the generator. The controls to the air conditioner are located on the face of the unit. It takes a few minutes for the unit to work effectively.

To use the air conditioner for cool or heat

1. All 3 of the A/C units must be OFF. If not, the generator breaker will trip.
2. Turn on the generator. Allow the generator to warm up prior to starting A/C.
3. Choose either the “Cool” or “Opt. Heat” setting.
4. Choose Low, Medium, or High for the fan.

## If the air conditioner will not start

* Check the main breaker at the generator.
* Make sure the generator is on.

The alternative heat source – the propane heater, does not use the generator.

To use the propane heater

1. Put the unit in the on position.
2. Set the thermostat to the desired setting.

## If the propane heater will not turn on

* Check the status of the cabin batteries on the helm panel.
* Check to see if you are out of propane by trying to light the stove.
* Check to see if LPG tanks are on. Lift /prop up staircase. Access tanks.

5

# Galley Appliances

The generator must be on to operate the items listed.

When the generator is on, these items operate in the same manner as a household appliance.

AC / Generator

* Air Conditioner
* Dishwasher
* Flood Lights
* Microwave
* Non-inverter outlets
* Trash Compactor
* Washer/Dryer

On Inverter

* Oven
* Entertainment Center
* Toaster\*
* Blender\*
* Coffeemaker\*

\*when using inverter outlet

On Batteries

12v - Refrigerator

12v - Water pumps

12v - Lighting system

## If one of the items will not work

* Check that the generator is on.

## See section; AC - Electrical Power System

# Water Heater

The water heater for the cabin is automatic. The switch is on the right wall facing the galley sink. When the heater is working, the red switch light is OFF!

## If there is no hot water in the cabin

* Turn the “Water Heater” switch off. Wait a minute. Turn it back on. Wait for the red light to go off and stay off.

# Barbeque

FOR OUTDOOR USE ONLY - Operates like a residential gas barbeque.

## Igniting the grill

1. Open the lid during lighting.
2. Start with all valves in the OFF position.
3. Start the flow of gas from the LPG cylinder by slowly turning the cylinder valve counter-clockwise.

WARNING: Do not lean over the open barbeque! Keep your face and body at least one foot away from match light hole when lighting the barbeque.

1. Push Front Burner control knob down and turn to START/HI.
2. Push the igniter button several times, so it clicks each time.

WARNING: If the burner does not light, turn the Front burner control knob to OFF. Wait 5 minutes to let the gas clear before you try again. Open lid.

1. After the FRONT burner is lit, you can turn on the other burners.

## To extinguish

1. Push down and turn each burner control knob clockwise to the OFF position.
2. Turn gas supply off at the source.

# Satellite System

Please consider that satellites are elliptical orbiting, and that you may experience signal loss in some remote areas of the lake. To establish a signal, go to Menu:

* + - 1. Scroll to and select “Parental controls, Favs & Set-up”
      2. Scroll to and select “System set-up”
      3. Scroll to and select “Satellite”
      4. “View signal strength” and select
      5. Scroll to and select “Signal meters”
      6. Use compass to direct the dish to 134 degrees
      7. Slowly turn dish to the right or left until the audible signal beeps rapidly
      8. Continue refining signal strength to 70% or better
      9. Press ”Exit” at highest signal strength reading
      10. Wait a few minutes for programming to load

6

# Water Slide

Be sure to wet the surface of the water slide before use. There is a faucet at the top of the slide for this purpose.

## If the faucet at the top of the waterslide is not working

* Check that the Lake Water switch is on.

# The Septic System

The houseboat is equipped with a 300-gallon black water tank. After each voyage the vessel holding tanks are pumped out completely, and treated. Do not put anything in the toilet except human waste and the toilet tissue provided by the marina. If the system gets plugged, a service fee will be charged to clear it.

## The Head - Toilet

To flush the head, depress the foot pedal at the base. To fill the bowl with water, lift up on the foot pedal. Be sure to fill the bowl with water prior to each use. The vessel sewage system relies on liquid for treatment. Please remember to flush with plenty of water each time you use the head.

## If the bathrooms smell

* Open the window in the bathroom, and close the bathroom door.
* Fill the toilet bowl with water, then flush.
* Repeat this procedure a few times. The procedure may temporarily worsen the odor because you are opening the valve to the septic tank with each flush. Leave the window open with the door closed – to let it air for a while.

If the bathrooms still smell after completing the above procedure a couple of times, you may need to have your tank pumped out and retreated.

# Safety

Familiarize yourself with the safety equipment on your vessel before you might need to use it. Time is very precious during an emergency.

Carbon Monoxide Detector - Located in the galley area. If the alarm sounds, account for each person on the boat, open up all the doors and windows, get onto shore and call the marina immediately (530) 275-7955.

Distress Flag - Located in the galley drawer. In an emergency, display the flag on your houseboat where other boaters can see it.

First Aid Kit - Located in the galley drawer with the Distress Flag.

Fire Extinguishers - There are 3 fire extinguishers on the houseboat; located at the lower helm, at the inverter panel, and at the galley sink.

To use, pull the pin, aim at the base of the flame, and sweep from side to side.

Personal Flotation Devices - **(PFDs/Life Vests) Stacked and** stored near the front slider in rectangular fabric cases.

Throwable Device - The throw cushion is located beside the lower helm. It is flotation device that may be tossed to a person in a water emergency.

7

# Troubleshooting

This quick troubleshooting guide addresses most common problems.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Problem | Possible Causes | Possible Solutions |
| Engine will not  turn over or start | Boat is not in neutral | Place drive in neutral |
| Battery issue | Contact Marina (530) 275-7955 |
| Low fuel; Check gauge | Check gauge |
| Engine starts, then dies | Flooded carburetor | Wait 15 minutes; try again |
| Boat vibrates while driving | Damaged prop | Get to shore. Turn off engine.  Contact Marina (530) 275-7955 |
| Generator will not  turn over or start | Battery issue | Contact Marina (530) 275-7955 |
| Low fuel; check gauge | Check gauge; Switch tanks |
| Generator starts, then dies | Flooded carburetor | Wait 15 minutes; Try again |
| Refrigerator will  not get cold | Over-filled; Opened too often | Rearrange / keep closed |
| Propane | Make sure LPG tank is on |
| Battery charge is too low | Turn on generator |
| Lake water faucets  are not working | Switch in neutral position | Turn switch on |
| Lake Water pump | Flip Lake Water pump switch |
| Fresh water “J” faucets  are not working | Switch is off at galley sink | Turn switch on |
| An appliance is  not working | Generator needed – and is off | Turn generator on |
| Corresponding switch on electrical panel is off | Turn on corresponding switch |
| Switch off at electrical panel and/or inverter panel | Check corresponding switch. Check cabin battery levels |
| Appliance circuit breaker tripped | Turn on corresponding switch |
| Main breaker has tripped | Reset generator main breaker |
| Battery charge is too low | Turn on generator |

# Contacting the Marina

In this binder and on your boat, there is a detailed map of the lake. Refer to the map often to know your exact location. Before contacting the marina, please know your location and vessel number.

If there is a problem, please contact the Marina (530) 275-7955. Describe the problem in detail, and the steps you have taken so far to remedy the problem.

If a service technician must respond to your boat, clear and detailed information will help us resolve an issue quickly.

You must stay with the boat at that location until the technician arrives.

Too often, houseboat guests requesting assistance are not at the given location.

note: GPS coordinates might not be exact – but, they could be helpful.

8

# Returning to the Marina

If you are checking out, we recommend that your gear is packed, and the decks washed prior to arrival at the marina. This leads to a more efficient checkout.

When returning to the marina, we will see your boat at the log boom and we will come out to drive it in for you. Upon arrival at the dock, please keep your gear on the front deck of the boat as QuadSquad is assigned to help transport your gear.

Do not place anything on the dock.

After the houseboat is cleared of your belongings and you have completed a general clean up, our crew will fuel the houseboat. A crew member will conduct a thorough check of the boat, and report the status to the marina store.

The checkout is complete after fuel and final charges are paid in the marina store.

# Glossary

**Aft** – The area of a compartment on a vessel or an object on a vessel that is closest to the stern in relation to another area or object on the vessel. The aft wall of the cabin is the wall closest to the stern.

**Bow** – The front of a vessel.

**Service Call** – Contacting the marina to request service assistance to your houseboat.

**Fore** – The area of a compartment on a vessel or an object on a vessel that is closest to the bow in relation to another area or object on the vessel. The fore wall of the cabin is the wall closest to the bow.

**Flying Bridge** – The helm on the upper deck of a vessel

**Galley** – The kitchen on a vessel.

**Head** – The toilet on a vessel.

**Helm** – The area from which the boat is piloted.

**Lines** – Often referred to as rope. Technically, large quantity of rope is spooled. Rope becomes line when cut, prepared and put to use. A piece of rope is made into a line.

**Port** – The left side of a vessel when facing the bow.

**Starboard** – The right side of a vessel when facing the bow.

**Stern** – The rear of a vessel.

**Tachometer** – A helm gauge that displays the revolutions per minute of the engine.

**Underway** – A vessel traveling through the water.

**Vessel** – A large watercraft.

9