

Katie H

Owner: Bryan Hughes

Home Port: Charleston, WV, Kanawha River Mile Marker 60.9

Hull Type: Scow Bow

Hull Material: Steel

Length: 80'

Width: 17'

Draft: 4'

Wheel Diameter: 15'

Wheel Width: 9'

of Buckets: 14

Engine Type/Size: Detroit 671N

Drive Train Type: Chain

Built By: Eddie Erlbacher

Built at: Cape Girardeau, MO

Date: 1932

Past Names (oldest to newest): Ouachita, CIS-5, Katie H

Description and History: The **Katie H** was built in 1932 at Cape Girardeau, MO, by Eddie Erlbacher. Christened the Ouachita (the original boat name was after the OUACHITA Indians in Arkansas) and later renamed the CIS-5, she worked the rivers as a commercial tow for the U.S. Steel, Clairton Works until 1960.

Vince Hammill, owner and captain, purchased the boat in 1962, reconstructed her into a sternwheeler and renamed her **KATIE H** after his mother.

The **KATIE H** is 80' long, beam 17' and the wheel is 15' x 9'. She is powered by a 238 HP Detroit diesel GMS engine through a 650 Allison automatic transmission and a 38,000 Rockwell differential. She is self-contained, has a full bath, galley and Texas cabin bedroom.

In 1984 the **KATIE H** was in the movie "Mrs. Soffel" with Diane Keaton and in 1985 she appeared in "Silent Witness" with Valerie Bertinelli and John Savage. In the Fall of 2019 she was sold to Bryan Hughes.

