

## Episode 6 Summer of 1951

It's the summer of 1951. These two lovely sisters are about to begin a day down on "The River".



In the 50's (Lake Wylie) Lake Catawba was known locally by everyone as The River. There were virtually no full time lake residents in those days. Very few of the cabins, trailers, school buses with wheels removed or what-have-you had a full time resident living in them.

It was a long ride down Highway 49 from Charlotte for a day on The River. Many, if not most, boats were home built. As is the case with this lovely runabout. I don't know who built the one in the photo, but it looks like a good job was done. Although, by today's standards, it would be considered quite small. A pull cord and a strong arm cranked the engine.

I do know who those lovely ladies are. The pretty girl at the helm is my aunt Margaret Tanner, 29 years old at the time, and her lovely 27 year old companion is my mother, Ann Stephens. She's as lovely today, summer of 2011, as then.

Let's see ..... it's 1951 – I would be six years old come November. I was probably on shore nearby, River bottom oozing up between my toes.

Courtesy of Don Stephens  
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