FINALLY, A PARTY BOAT WE CAN ALL GET BEHIND

Nr. Buffork Itasa Co.

BY MICHAEL RIETMULDER

THURSDAY, JULY 9, 2015 8 HOURS AGO



This DIY lake cruiser travels about as fast as a low-power fishing boat.

Aaron Rupar

Over Fourth of July weekend, Aaron Rupar was among the hordes of Minnesotans flocking to cabins under the guise of patriotism. Rupar, a former City Pages blogger turned DFL henchman, was enjoying High Life-aided R&R at his family's lake place near Bigfork, Minnesota, when he met him – The Common Man King of Lake Partying.

"I was just sitting on the dock, chilling out," Rupar innocently recalls. But as he gazed across walleye-rich Round Lake, something in the water near the opposite shore caught his eye. "I could see what looked like a picnic table, which is obviously a bizarre sight in the lake," he says.

Curious, he hopped on his Jet Ski to get a closer look. As Rupar approached this peculiar vessel, he saw a handful of people seated at a picnic table, sipping beers in the middle of the lake. Was it the divine hand of God that allowed this backyard lunch perch to float on water? Nay. Our lake party hero had fashioned a picnic table pontoon.

"All the summers I've gone up there, all the times I've been on a lake, I've never seen anything like that," Rupar says.



Aaron Rupar