



Your 2014 YMMIFF Trophy



The YMMIFF Trophies were designed and produced by Tom Weber Jr, Sean Weber and Richard Weber of Tom's Marine & Sports in Fort McMurray (owned and operated by Tom Weber Sr). Although we supply boat users with various parts for their marine use, we also enjoy machining parts, pieces and many other projects that come our way. We tend to lean towards the odd and original when it comes to machining.

In the case of these trophies, it was more "Art then Part" which made it a little more challenging than the average machining job for us. There was a rather crazy amount of hours that went into these trophies to get them to the finished state. Much of it was a learning process as dealing with so many different materials and finishes, we certainly ran into some challenges; but as my brother Tom says, "If it were easy, everyone would be doing it".

These trophies are a culmination of resources. The top is made of 6061 Aluminum billet. The black colour was added by using a process called Powder Coating - the trophy is bead blasted and then powder coated via spray gun - electronically charged and then baked at about 500 Degrees Celsius. The paint then becomes nearly as strong as the material itself.

The machining was done on our Dad's Haas TM1 CNC Milling Machine. Each top plate has several hours of physical work to finish (They only require some polish from time to time. Windex will do). Each individual base was selected out of our Uncle Richard's private stock of unique and interesting rocks from our local waterways. A wide range of rocks were used to keep things a little organic. The rocks have been sealed with a varathane which also brought out many of the colours that were present. It also helps keep oils from staining the rocks from finger prints. Each rock has a different hardness level and drilling holes was all part of the experience as each one was different and reacted differently to the diamond drill bits. These bases also took several hours to complete the 'wet' look.

Levelling each trophy was done individually as each rock came with its own set of tricks to set up. One of the things we tried to incorporate in both the top and the base was the rougher finish of nature apparent in the rocks and the machined finish of different faces of the two materials used. The rocks have some choice surfaces shaped and machined to reflect the machining of the aluminum top. The name plate on each had their outer edges finished by hand to leave more of a brushed look instead of a tool machined look.

The overall shape of the trophy is much like the silhouette of Wood Buffalo standing on rocky terrain. Overall these trophies are very much a piece of Fort McMurray!

