

WHO KILLED DON ARONOW? PART 2

100th
ANNIVERSARY

MOTOR BOATING

FISH CATCHING MACHINES

TESTED:
SEA RAY 31
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+ Best New
Fishfinders



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APRIL 2007
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**HEAVY WEATHER
BOAT HANDLING TIPS**

USED BOAT:
REGAL 38





PURSUIT'S SWIFT NEW C 310
CENTER CONSOLE GETS
GOING WHEN THE GOING
GETS TOUGH.

FLAT OUT

By JOHN CLEMANS Photography by FOREST JOHNSON

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YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE KINGFISH CRAZY TO appreciate speed in a center console. The new Pursuit C 310 tops 50 mph with a pair of smooth, quiet Yamaha 250s. While triple outboards have become common on boats that compete in the Southern Kingfish Association tournament circuit, fuel and maintenance costs usually relegate non-professional anglers to two power plants. As Pursuit's newest model proves, that much power is sufficient for most mortals. Besides, how often can you run flat-out offshore? Which leads to the indisputable axiom that a boat's construction and overall quality are more important than power when a sea is running. From this point of view, Pursuits are front-runners in any pack because they're built to standards that enable them to outdistance higher-horsepower boats in real-world conditions.

The C 310 is styled after Pursuit's C 340, but the 31 is narrower (and trailerable with a permit at 9'6") and is formed from only two main parts, while the 34 utilizes three. This makes it solid and free of squeaks and groans. Its 24.5-degree deep-V hull slices through waves to provide a soft, smooth ride—and a dry one as well. It was windy when I was on the boat, but when crossing big wakes in the ICW with the wind on the beam we took no spray.

It was also windy earlier in the day when the boat went offshore for a photo shoot with Pursuit's Jeremy Tessier

at the helm. Seas were as high as 10 feet, and spray couldn't be avoided, but the boat held its own, averaging 20 mph. Seaworthiness isn't sacrificed for speed. The day before, it returned from a fishing trip in similar conditions and everyone reported feeling safe. Sharp turns are exceptional—at top speed you can do a tight 360 without a hint of slippage. Time to plane is only five seconds. Although the engines are closely spaced, maneuverability is excellent—the boat turns in its own length using only the throttles. As for range, how's 400 miles at 35 mph?

Like the 340, the new 310 has a recessed bowrail, pull-up cleats and no pulpit, so nothing interferes with 360-degree fishability. Its uncluttered, unbroken sheer and angled transom give it a sleek, no-nonsense look. Its Bahama Blue hull (Fighting Lady Yellow, Runner Red and Flag Blue are other options) and black bootstripe add beauty to the beast. For family outings comfort is provided by a swing-down aft seat whose back also serves as a leaning bolster, forward seats and coaming, and by the helm seats themselves, which have fully padded arms and flip-up leaning sections. Good news: You can steer while seated without a long stretch. An electric head is optional, as are a six-CD changer, Sirius radio, dockside power, windlass, hardtop and drop curtains.

Anglers will want the sturdy hardtop, which offers overhead lighting (white and red) and storage, outriggers, spreader lights, radar and antenna mounts, extra rod holders (for a total of 16) and handy grabrails. Pursuit is synonymous with high-quality offshore boats designed for fishing, so it's no surprise that the 310's layout and fishing features are top-notch. The standard 52-gallon, lighted live well is almost round and painted light blue inside. Water level and aeration are adjustable, and it can be filled right to the top to prevent sloshing. This all adds up to fish living longer. Tackle trays and lure bags are built in at the transom—where there's a convenient rigging station—and under the helm seats. Hatch gutters and fish boxes drain into collection boxes to keep the bilge dry and keep through-hulls to a minimum. All plumbing

and wiring is accessible and installed impeccably with many components

PURSUIT C 310

SPECIFICATIONS

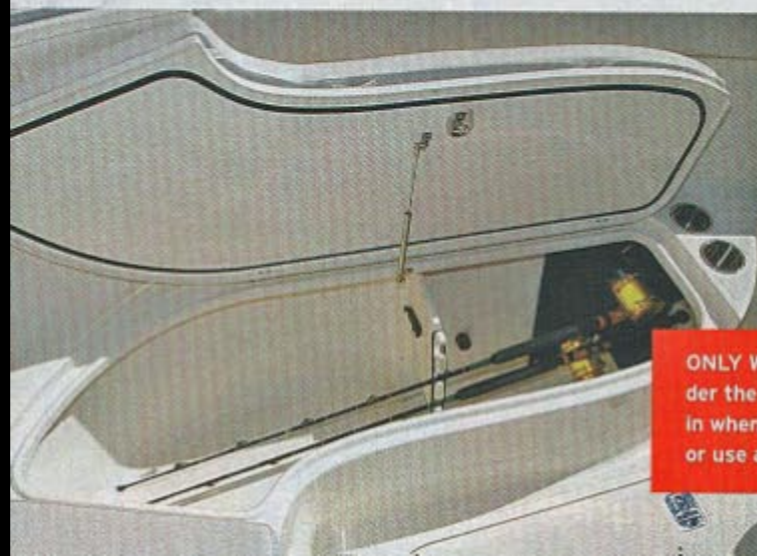
BASE PRICE (WITH TEST POWER): \$155,900
LOA: 31'2"
BEAM: 9'6"
DRAFT (DOWN): 2'8"
DISP: 8,900 lbs.
WATER: 20 gals.
FUEL: 260 gals.
TEST POWER: (2) 250-hp Yamaha four-stroke outboards.

PERFORMANCE

RPM	MPH	GPH	DB-A
1000	6.3	2.6	68
1500	8.8	3.9	70
2000	9.8	6.3	72
2500	13.5	9.2	75
3000	17.8	12.1	78
3500	28.9	14.9	81
4000	35.9	20.5	85
4500	40.1	25.3	91
5000	46.2	31.9	96
5500	51.0	38.8	97
5800	52.9	41.8	100

Speeds measured in the ICW off Ft. Pierce, Fla., with three adults aboard, full fuel and water.

Pursuit www.pursuitboats.com



ONLY WHEN NEEDED: The lockable rod rack under the forward seat swings out for use and back in when the compartment is needed for stowage or use as a fishbox. Note gas ram and gasket.



labeled for easy identification. Freeboard is ideal—high enough for you to feel safe in the cockpit, yet low enough to reach the water.

Forward of the console is a seat with an insulated cooler/fish box or stowage space, and beneath the bow V-lounge is lockable rod stowage. You can put an 80-pound yellowfin in here if it's too big for the cockpit boxes. Two crosslink poly fuel tanks are on centerline. At the helm, a Raymarine E-120 plotter and Yamaha Command Link gauges fit neatly at an angle for easy viewing. The Edson tilt wheel with rubber finger grips ensures a firm hold in wet weather. The stan-

dard Lenco electric tabs have LED indicators.

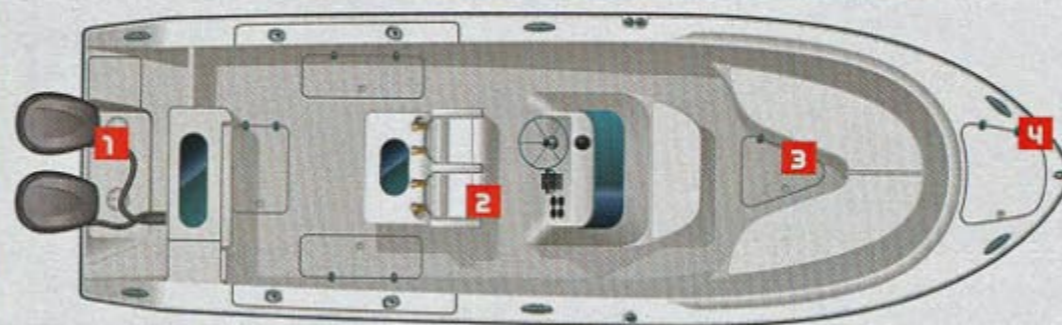
Pursuit also has a 30-foot center console that's a foot wider than the 310. However, the 310 has a more aggressive hull design to better attack rough seas and provide a softer ride. The feel of the boat is one of tightness—as if it's all one piece. Experienced anglers and offshore adventurers know the value of such solidity. The 310 is a superb boat from an outstanding builder. ↗

ON THE WEB

➤ To see more photos of the new Pursuit 310 Open go to www.motorboating.com

- HOT**
- 1 Excellent diamond-pattern nonskid.
- 2 Holders for pliers, knives and lures in two locations.
- 3 Concealed telescoping swim ladder.
- 4 Substantial gaskets on hatches plus gutter drains to keep the bilge dry.
- 5 State-of-the-art, 52-gallon live well.
- NOT**
- 1 Batteries are difficult to get to.
- 2 With optional windlass the anchor protrudes past the forward rubrail.
- 3 Lacks freshwater spigot for attaching a long hose.

THE LAYOUT: PURSUIT C 310



1 The nonskid-covered platform has a concealed, telescoping swim ladder and is accessed through a secure transom door that opens inward only. 2 Helm seats are especially comfortable and have swing up bolsters for standing. 3 The forward lounge has a bolster back, but neither it nor the bowrail protrude above the gunwales. 4 An optional windlass is installed under the bow hatch.