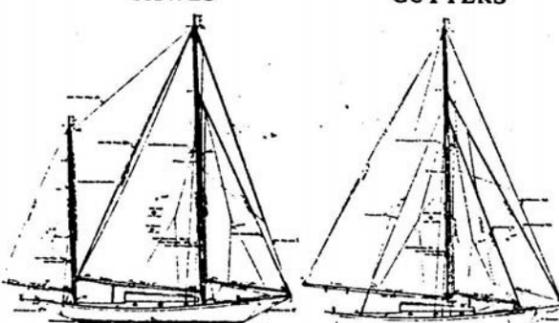


Other upgrades include a rebuilt transom, glassed deck, and rebuilt cabin interior (by the previous owner), and a rebuilt transmission.

VIXEN was finally relaunched in 1992. After cruising for a couple of months in the Boothbay area we headed out on the first of three trips to the Bahamas – Southbound via the ICW, northbound offshore to Beaufort and from Cape May to Buzzards Bay. Between these southern jaunts, and since the last one in 2001-02, we have cruised downeast every summer and plan to do so again in 2006. Though lacking most modern refinements, VIXEN is a competent, sea-kindly little boat. She will keep up with or pass most others of her size. And she is beautiful.

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Upgrades since 1992 include rebuilding the mast ('95), installation of the cabin heater and a new galley range (both Force 10 brand), replacement of the mainsail with a like-new second hand one from Bacon's ('96), plus all the normal scraping and refinishing demanded by any wooden boat. The fiberglassing has performed flawlessly except where it encased the toe rail, but I fixed that problem.

The engine runs fine and uses very little oil, but of course after 3000-plus hours, it must be getting a bit tired. The starter was rebuilt in 2005. The Loran (bought in '88, still works fine) goes with the boat. We also have a handheld, no-frills GPS and a sextant, which I will sell separately if they are wanted.



1966 CHRIS CRAFT Constellation 30'

CHRIS CRAFT CONSTELLATION, 1966, 30'. Classic wooden boat, runs well. FEATURES: All Wood - Teak & Mahogany, Twin Inboard gas Chevy 327 engines, 15 knot cruise, top speed 25 knots, 100 gal fuel tank, 10 gal holding tank, 20 gal water tank, sleeps 5, two-way radio, head, vee berth, dinette, couch in main cabin, carpeting, drapes, tons of storage space. GALLEY: fridge, freezer, microwave, sink, pressure water, dock water. MECHANICAL: bilge blower, bilge pump, fuel shut off, holding tank, head pump out, trim tabs. ELECTRICAL: 2 batteries, battery charger, shore power, AC/DC voltage, power cords. DECK EQUIPMENT: anchor and lines, dock lines, fenders, horn, navigation lights, wipers, swim platform with ladder. Asking: \$8000. Isleton, CA. Call Joey at 702-683-7968 or email to jlvideopro@aol.com



1960 CUSTOM CRUISER 20'

CUSTOM CRUISER, 1960, 20'. 8' beam. Designed by Wm. F. Crosby, editor of "Motor Boat" 1951. White oak frames & stem, spruce main & raised deck clamps, plywood. 1996 Honda 45 hp outboard; less than 10 hours/year for last 7 years. 116 hours total. VHF radio, depth sounder, fridge. Clean, good condition. Has had TLC over the years. Bottom and hull painted this spring. Bright work varnished. Needs little cosmetic work. READY TO GO! Asking: \$5490. (MD) Call Joe at 610-696-5224 or email: jdonia1@verizon.net

Continued on top of Page 5.

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It was getting late and I didn't want to leave the boat, but it was time to check into the motel to change and get ready for the dinner reception under the big tent. I found myself sitting with, among others, Dennis Hartnett, the Assistant Editor of ACB magazine "Rudder" who came in from Seattle, and George Garrison, who was in charge of the Seminars and ready to help anyone in need. He and his 1966 48-foot GOLDEN PARACHUTE won the 2005 Bone Yard Boat Award.



GINGER MARTUS

After a few glasses of good wine and a good catered dinner, I spied someone that looked familiar. Sure enough it was Todd Warner who owns "Mahogany Bay" located in Minnesota. Todd is well-known for buying, selling, and restoring classic boats. He is also a Don Johnson look-alike, and while he was glancing through a few issues of "Bone Yard Boats" he said, "Where is this one?" A few days later, I found the boat and passed on the info to Todd.

On Sunday it was awards picnic time, and I was scheduled to present the annual "Bone Yard Boats" Award. The previous day I had scouted around looking for a restored derelict and came across Charles Quimby and his spectacular Chris Craft racing runabout – a 1938, 16-fotter that took my breath away. She really sparkled and stood out from all the rest around her. MISS MIAMI V is red, white, and blue. The award was the book, "Marylands' Vanishing Lives" by Jack Sherwood, a well-known journalist from Annapolis who autographed the book. Charley was also awarded the prestigious Chesapeake Bay Maritime Award by John Ford for the "Best Amateur Restoration -- a finished piece of wood from the deck frame of a 7 log hull of a 1909 crab dredger named OLD POINT.



MISS MIAMI V – Winner of the 2006 Bone Yard Boats Award

Right next to the awards tent was Linda Nagle Warner with a most unusual display – a 3-foot model sailboat on its own trailer with flowers at the bow. On the sail, it read "BRIDGENORTH BAILER." I asked Linda to demonstrate how it works. Not only is it a great boathook, but it bails even hard-to-reach places, shoots water over 50 feet, and will clean your anchor line or deck in seconds. It has an automatic locking system, floats, comes in two sizes (5' and 8'), costs about \$60 and was selling like hotcakes! Really something new under the sun. If you want to know more, call Linda at 410-626-8716 or email: mahoganynut@aol.com.

The model boat was made by Jim Shotwell, President of the Chesapeake Bay Chapter of the ACBS, Chief Judge, and owner of James-Craft. At his booth he sells "exact reproductions of the Chris Craft kit boats of the 1950's." For more info, email: kits@jamescraftboats.com or www.jamescraftboats.com.



THE BRIDGENORTH BAILER with Jim Shotwell Model Sailboat

After the picnic and awards were presented – with special thanks to Maryann, the Show Chairperson, Dominic Fiaschette who handled all the electronics, and the many volunteers – it was announced that Maryann and her committee have great plans for next year, their 20th ACBS Boat Festival!

The Thompson Dockside, newsletter

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