BOATS & NOTES January 2005

Article 1

Trawler Talk

Trawler Hull Design

The buzz word in the boating industry these days is TRAWLERS so we welcome the opportunity to share our views and experiences in this fine publication. The word trawler conjures up in most folk's minds the image of a sturdy, hard working fishing boat or tugboat. Modern day trawler manufacturers have taken these features and converted them to pleasure boats boasting efficiency, seaworthiness, and comfort. But how do they achieve this?

The hull of a trawler features an almost vertical bow entry, a full, deep keel with a large rudder and protected prop, and flat hard chines. This is what makes the boat efficient, seaworthy, and comfortable!



We tell our prospective customers that they should be considering the part of the boat below the waterline as much as what is above the waterline when making their choice. Opinions on what a boat needs from the water line up are quite subjective. Is the layout right for you? Do you prefer a raised pilothouse or a flybridge? Is the size large enough to accommodate you and your passengers? How many staterooms do you need or want? You can spend a lot of time touring the many different trawlers available and begin to visualize if it matches your dreams.

But the hull is much more difficult to understand and more variable than you may think. For the purpose of this month views let us just talk about the trawler versus a planing hull. EVERY BOAT IS A COMPROMISE IN SOME WAY! So do you want speed? Cruising 7 knots or 70 plus knots is the choice. Today trawlers have a cruise range of 7 knots to about 20 knots. If your need for speed is over 20 knots then a planing hull is for you. Don't forget the COMPROMISE (efficiency and comfort).

The saying "when I retire I'll buy a trawler" is an often heard phase. We believe that trawlers would be a great choice for folks of all ages. No one likes a comfortable ride more then the wife and kids. It's not just for the retired folks!

One way to get that solid good feeling of a trawler is to attend our Open House Demo Days, June 16th and 17th. We will be doing seatrials on Lake Michigan those two days for all interested parties!

Ken and Karen Schuler Trawlers Midwest Inc

Please direct any questions or comments you may have to: Phone: 920-894-2632 Email: trawlers@trawlersmidwest.com