

Trawler Talk

Trawlers on the Move

The month of May was full of activity and we'd like to share with you some of the interesting, fun, and exciting trips and re-locations we and other trawler owners of our brokered boats have experienced or are still experiencing.

We attended the PDQ University in Whitby, Ontario, on May 14th & 15th and then left on the 16th to cruise our new PDQ 41 Power Catamaran to Wisconsin. Four of the Great Lakes were crossed on this excursion. The story of this trip will be covered in this article next month. In addition to our boat, PDQ had seven other new PDQ 41's and 7 new PDQ 34's that left the factory on various flotillas to their home destinations.



The all new PDQ 41 Power Catamaran

Before leaving for their Flotilla, all the new owners participated in the PDQ University (PDQ U) program geared to familiarize new owners on the boat's systems and give them hands-on boat handling experience. PDQ U brought industry professionals and new boat owners together for an intensive 2-day orientation session covering major components on the PDQ Power Catamarans. From servicing generators and changing oil filters, to navigational systems and understanding electrical panels, all participants left the Whitby factory well versed on their boat's systems. Representatives from Yanmar engines, Raymarine electronics and Northern Lights generators held workshops during the course of the program. PDQ's electrician, ABYC certified, was also on hand and gave a presentation on basic operations and answered common questions on the electrical system. As part of the program, professional delivery captain Nanette

Kruze of Marine 16 held half-day courses on navigation for women and James Power, from PDQ or Dick Tuschick, Rhumblin Yachts, for men separately. These hands-on courses give new and experienced boaters the chance to practice docking skills, become familiar with navigational systems and brush up on boat handling skills.

Other trawlers “on the move” here in the Midwest included several new boats and quite a number of our brokerage boats.

Two new Ranger Tug 21’s were trailered to their new homes in early May. The white one, named “Lucy Day” was taken by its owners, Phil & Sarah Graves, to their home in Bowling Green, Kentucky. They will be boating on the Mississippi River as well as Kentucky Lake and the Tennessee River and we know they will be turning heads wherever they go.



21 Ranger Tugs “Lucy Day” & “August Windy”

“August Windy”, the one with the red hull, will be seen cruising the waters in and around Sturgeon Bay by its new owners, Dave & Jean Baumann. These neat little trawlers feature an inboard Yanmar diesel engine and the newly designed pilothouse cabin that is larger and accommodates a v-berth, seating at the helm and for the first mate, a stereo system, refrigerator, stove, sink, and a marine head & holding tank. Both have the stratos glass enclosures with screens for the cockpit which creates additional space for socializing. Aren’t they just too cute!!

Another one of our new boats, the American Tug 41, left on a truck for its new home in Oak Harbor, Washington. Her new owners, Bob & Kay Lundstrom will berth her on the Saratoga Passage located between two islands, Whidbey and Camano.



New American Tug 41 "Saratoga"

They will be proudly cruising their new trawler in and around Puget Sound and north to Vancouver, British Columbia and beyond. This boat features two staterooms, two heads, a large galley and comfortable salon. And they certainly won't be "roughing" it as this boat is also outfitted with a stereo system, flat screen TV, icemaker, washer/dryer, trash compactor, and even central vacuum. Just add friends and food and let the fun begin!

Some of the boats we are currently brokering are relocating and, much to our advantage, three of them are coming to Manitowoc. Along with our current inventory of American Tugs, Camanos, Ranger Tugs, and PDQ's, to show and the other events including our free in-water boat show in June and the PassageMaker University in July, these boats will get better exposure as they seek their new owners. It's also a plus that the Badger Carferry comes into Manitowoc. We will describe their pending trips and most likely all will be in port here by the time you read this article.

George and Jeanne Duranske of Bimidji, Minnesota, own a 2001 Nordic Tug 42 named "Heart Tug" and are cruising her from Brewerton, New York on the Erie Canal to Manitowoc, Wisconsin.



2001 Nordic Tug 42 "Heart Tug"

They have to wait for the Erie Canal to open. It was scheduled to open May 1 but due to high waters it will not be opening until May 14th. The Erie Canal enters Lake Erie at the northern end in Buffalo, New York. They will cruise south on Lake Erie to the Detroit River and then north on the river and across Lake St. Clair and north on the St. Clair River to Lake Huron. Then they will continue north on Lake Huron going under the Mackinaw Bridge and southwest on Lake Michigan to Manitowoc, Wisconsin. There's a lot of big water to cover, but this semi-displacement trawler is well-equipped and designed to handle many different wave and wind conditions.

In early June, another Nordic Tug 42 owned by Loren and JoAnn Mick from Waite Park, Minnesota, will be coming from Duluth, Minnesota to Manitowoc, Wisconsin. Loren and JoAnn have done a lot of fishing on Lake Superior with their trawler. JoAnn is a quilter and she has done a lot of sewing while onboard. They have been to Florida and back with their trawler named "Pocono".



1999 Nordic Tug 42 "Pocono"

Now they will be cruising east on Lake Superior to Sault Ste. Marie to the Mackinaw Bridge and south on Lake Michigan. This is another "big water" trip but they will also experience many scenic ports along the way.

Coming across Lake Michigan to Manitowoc from St. Joseph, Michigan, is a 1979 Prairie Coastal Cruiser 29' owned by Bob & Betty Busker of Brownsville, Texas. They were on their way south via the inland route to Texas with plans to complete the Great Loop Cruise in 2005 when Hurricane Katrina hit.



1979 Prairie Coastal Cruiser 29'

On the advice of fellow loopers they aborted the trip and put the boat up for storage hoping to resume when conditions improved. They have since moved to Texas and have now put the boat up for sale. It is very well-equipped for cruising with the new auto-pilot and chartplotter, plus many improvements in the interior as well. A professional captain, Dan Cypher, from Tawas, Michigan, will deliver the boat to Manitowoc for this very nice couple.

So those are the ones coming into Manitowoc, but some of the other broker boats are also "on the move".

A 63' custom steel hull boat built in 2001 in the traditional Dutch fishing lugger style is owned by Gerald & Catherine Verlaan of Phelpsston, Ontario. They will spend the summer on Georgian Bay and then in late August will begin the Great Loop heading south through the Great Lakes to Chicago and down the river system to Memphis.



2001 Custom Steel Hull 63 "Rainbow Maker"

They will take a break in December and spend the holidays back home with their family and friends and then continue on to the Gulf and come up the east coast in spring to arrive back in summer of 2008. The boat remains "for sale" since Gerald is interested in building one more when this one sells.

Another boat that has already done the Great Loop left Manitowoc in fall of 2003 as it was purchased by Jeff and Ann Johnson, Muskegon, Michigan. After completing the Loop and spending a summer in Michigan, they again headed south to Fort Myers area.



2001 American Tug 34 "Foxy"

This winter, they cruised to the Bahamas and are now on their journey back to the Midwest. This boat will be available when it gets here in July.

Closer to home, John Cahill is cruising his 1985 Grand Banks 42 from Manitowoc to Fish Creek for it's summer home. The exterior wood trim and rails called brightwork was professionally refinished by the Manitowoc Marina this past winter so this classic trawler is looking very nice on the water.



1985 Grand Banks 42 "Annie Doyle"

John will be cruising north on Lake Michigan to Sturgeon Bay, through the Sturgeon Bay channel and north on Green Bay to Fish Creek. They will pass the ports of Two Rivers, Kewaunee, Algoma, Sturgeon Bay, and Egg Harbor as they reach their destination in Fish Creek.

Last Summer, the 1940 ex-US Coast Guard steel hull 40' vessel was here in Manitowoc, but the owner cruised her back to Marinette, Wisconsin to store for the winter and to show her there at the Commercial Harbor.



1940 Steel Hull 40 "Picket Bay"

This is a great project boat for someone who has the dream of turning an old work boat into a pleasure boat. When you step on board, you can feel the nostalgia and charm of a real classic trawler. You really wish the "walls could talk" as we're sure there would be many a boating story to tell spanning its 67 year history.

Speaking of "on the move", 1996 Great Harbor 37 owned by Jim & Karen O'Donnel will be cruising the waters of Lake Michigan this summer. This is a

very unique vessel being the first one manufactured as a custom boat in Gainesville, Florida, and was commissioned in 1996 at Green Cove Springs, Florida. Its shakedown cruise was north on the Intercoastal Waterway, a stop in Annapolis for a boat show then north and through the Erie Canal to Lake St. Clair north of Detroit. Its entire exposure to salt water was three weeks. It has been in the Great Lakes waterways ever since. It is however fully outfitted for long term salt water cruising and living aboard. It could leave on the Great Loop tour as soon as its new owners would be ready to go.



1996 Great Harbour 37 "Hemisphere Dancer"

After launching in Manitowoc on June 11th, they will head from Manitowoc to the south end of the lake and then up to northern Michigan through the summer and then Door County before returning. We can easily locate them for any serious prospects that would want to see the boat.

We have just added another boat to our Brokerage Listings and that is a 38' Holiday Mansion owned by Tom & Regina Tesnow . The boat is currently located at the McKinley Marina in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. They have recently added the enclosure for the flybridge and the upper deck adding a lot more liveable area.



She will be cruised to Manitowoc, Wisconsin, in September.

All of the Brokerage boats described above plus many others, can be seen on our website at www.trawlersmidwest.com for further details. Click on the red tabs for either New In-Stock or Brokerage.

Please direct any questions or comments you may have to:

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