

FALMOUTH CUTTER NEWS LETTER

May 1986

No. 10

An open letter to Paul Christensen:

Dear Paul: All of us thank you for your mostly unheralded efforts to keep our little newsletter going for the past few years. It seems a thankless task and I doubt you received enuf "beer money" to pay the postage. However, I know your letters were always eagerly awaited by owners who were keen to know what the other fellow was up to. A part of your rewards must come from the satisfaction of having fed and satisfied this curiosity. We thank you Paul, for your faithful service. Now we need a replacement. And we may have one in the person of Steve Willingham who has nibbled at the bait but has not yet been signed. He would be a great editor, I think.

Here are some bits and pieces which have been accumulating in the old mail pouch -- not necessarily in order of receipt.

B.C.C. and F.C. Race, Rendezvous and Pot Luck -- Sat.--Sun. June 14 & 15th at Dana Point. If you can come Friday so much the better. You'll get a better anchorage. Just bring a dish for the pot luck Saturday nite.

Larry Pardey has written an interesting article about the whys and wherefores of bowsprits. Look for it in a forth coming issue of Sail Magazine.

Gayle and Jim Hughes are still happily splashing about in Mexican waters and, if you would correspond, their address, until July 15th, is Yate "Popeye" Capitanía de Puerto, La Paz B.C.S., Mexico. They must be our most knowledgeable outboard motorists as they are now on their third -- (Seagull, Honda, Mariner). Here is an excerpt from their latest report. "POPEYE sails on.... We had many questions about spending the summer in Mexico. Where are the best anchorages? Where is it the coolest? Best facilities? Best fishing and diving etc? The most concern centers around the possibility of hurricanes between June and November. There is also the probability of chubascos, which can reach hurricane force but usually only last a few hours. Our choices were narrowed down to three: La Paz and Puerto Escondido in Baja or San Carlos on the mainland. La Paz has its nightly breezes and lively town with excellent facilities. The main deterrent is the dirty water which can't be used for dishes or swimming--and it's the most likely of the three to be hit by a hurricane. Puerto Escondido, which is totally landlocked except for its 50 foot entrance, is the best hurricane hole and has numerous anchorages in the vicinity with superb fishing and diving. It was very tempting, but it gets a lot of heat and the nearest town, Loreto, is 16 miles away. (Now there is a bus about 4 times/day for 50 cents one way). We chose San Carlos, 16 miles north of Guaymas, which is also almost landlocked but has a wider entrance. Fishing and diving is good, and there are markets, restaurants & the marina within walking distance. There are buses every half hour into Guaymas for 35 cents one way, so getting around is no problem. The main drawback is the heat and the humidity, rarely under 90%, but the daily breezes kept it tolerable. It was the windless nights that were the most uncomfortable, but our battery-operated fan and using towels for sheets did help. Our Norcold

refrigerator was greatly appreciated, and our mosquito netting came in handy in the evening when the little beasties would be looking for dinner. We spent 6 months in San Carlos, met very many friends and got to know the area well. So far we are very happy cruising in Mexico. For the near future we have decided to stay in this part of the world. We have been asked many times what it is that we like so much about Mexico. Without going into detail, Mexico has beautiful weather, very reasonable prices, great fishing and diving, warm and friendly people, arid or tropical landscapes and very secure all-weather anchorages with sandy, shallow bottoms every 30 to 50 miles.”

Jim Baker sends cards from Honolulu, to wit: “After one year in Baja and Mexico I decided I was tired of Coastal sailing and came over here to Hawaii in my Falmouth Cutter “Bosun”--Great Crossing. 30 days from Manzanillo -- 2 days becalmed and 2 days hove to in gale winds -- heading up to Alaska about 1 June”. I believe you have made the longest ocean passage thus far in a Falmouth Cutter. Congratulations Jim. If you are keeping records note that Jim has changed boats name from “Tullee” (her previous owner had her on the Calif. Delta).

John Ramos, another long time Baja Californian, is very proud of “Hay Chihuahua” as the two of them won a class “A” Beer Can event in Sea of Cortez Race Week, (class A?)

For your records: Jennifer Firestone and Victor Stumpf have sold their Falmouth to Ross T. Bell Jr. -- Sheraton Plaza 6101 West Century Blvd., Los Angeles, CA. 90045. And Bell sold his 34 Morgan to Stumpf. Now there’s a switch!

Sam Lippincott, way back in New Jersey with “Jolly Dolphin”, had written a lengthy letter, which I won’t try to answer except to relay to you others that Sam and his wife first became interested in the little boat back in 1978-79 when she was being advertised as the “Nor’Sea 22”. He did not buy then but saw her again at the Annapolis Show in 1980 and says it was “passion at first sight” -- but again he did not buy. Much later in 1983 their paths crossed again when he was checking over used boat listings and came across “Jolly Dolphin” -- the same boat he had seen at Annapolis three years earlier. This time the magic must have worked because Sam has been sailing in her ever since. Sam would like some cruising company and we have good news for him. A playmate for J.D. may soon be on the way --Let’s keep our fingers crossed for a few more days.

John and Nancy Riebe, with “2nd Look”, made a trailer trip, last year, from their home on Lake Tahoe, north to the great state of Washington. They spent three weeks cruising the San Juans, Gulf Islands and the East side of Vancouver Island. A highlight was the Canadian city of Victoria where they were berthed directly in front of the Empress Hotel and were entertained every night by the musicians until 11. Long trailer hauls like this require some muscle up front so the Riebes have an F250 super cab Ford Truck with a 4:10 rear end. (Fastest Falmouth on the block).

Garry Adalian who is putting his best years into the building of “English Girl” will have to launch soon -- she’s old enuf to start school. This boat is really a knockout. Garry has done all manner of beautiful things and she is truly a sight to behold. We’re waiting Garry.

Since it isn’t every day one of our crew makes the newspaper. We thought we should pass on to you the complete story of Bob Davey’s crossing of the Gulf. One of lifes “never to be forgotten” adventures.

Will O’Brien and Kendall who have been training “Tomaquag” on Lake Union in Seattle will soon break out and sail south to Baja and Points far beyond. Will says they plan to do the whole Pacific Rim, and that is why Kendall, who is in publishing work, will be unable to edit our Newsletter. We should, however, get great stories from these two over the next few years.

Well now that wasn’t so bad was it -- Until our new Editor comes on the scene please mail your news to me. Sam Morse -- 1626 Placentia Ave., Costa Mesa, CA. 92627.

Sam

From: **The Rockwall Texas Success**
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Bob Davey Crosses Gulf Of Mexico In Sailboat

“Bob Davey, a resident of McLendon-Chisholm, crossed the Gulf of Mexico and back in a 22 ft. sailboat with a crew of one, December 27 to January 12... Davey works in Kaufman for Aberdeen Manufacturing. His wife, Vanda, is a CPA...”

“Bob reported that Vanda... is so busy that he did not make her priority list until the day he departed. However,... he made the top 10 list as he pulled the boat out of the driveway and headed for Houston.”

“The 3 1/2 ton 22 ft. Falmouth Cutter is named “One Trick Pony” after Paul Simon’s song... The trip over to Dunedin, Florida took eight days, and the return trip... took six days with the assistance of a storm with 40 mile-an-hour winds and 10 to 15 foot waves.”

“Interesting moments Davey recalls were: Two close calls of nearly being run over... A lightning storm where the 35 foot aluminum mast was the tallest object for 200 miles around... Two sets of Dolphins playing around the boat...”

“Food was... bread and water, due to sea sickness.”

“Satellite navigation was used to find their location and it worked perfectly... The boat averaged 100 miles a day and covered about 1,500 miles round trip. The seven horsepower diesel was used an hour a day to charge the batteries and to get in and out of harbors...”

“UFO’s and pirates and the feeling that the boat was sinking were imagined, but seemed very real at the time.”

“Sunsets were beautiful, but sunrises were ecstasy, recounts Davey.”

“Bob and Vanda... are the parents of Jill Davey, a sophomore at Rockwall High School, and ‘A’ student and member of the Stingerette Drill Team.”