

FC News

Editor: Ron Walton

Winter 2002

As you have probably guessed, there was no Autumn 2001 issue of the **FC News**. I received no letters from the fleet after the Summer 2001 issue was published, until January. As I have said again and again, if you don't write, there will be no newsletter. So if you like receiving the **FC News**, please take some time and write. You all know my address, and if you have e-mail, I am sure you know my e-mail address as well. I am also sure that many of you have *news* you would like to share with the fleet.

On the news front, I have been informed by Karen Larsen of **Good Old Boat** magazine that the Falmouth Cutter will be a featured boat in the March 2002 issue. And, she has told me that one of Bob Grieser's photos of *Mijita* will be on the cover. Bob is the photographer who photographed journalist Dieter Loibner and I last April sailing *Mijita* on San Francisco Bay. Some of the photos Bob took are on the Falmouth Cutter website I have put together at:

<http://homepage.mac.com/rwsailor/>

Take a look if you haven't already. Also on the website are downloadable PDF versions of all of the past issues of the **FC News**. So, if you have lost an issue, or are a late comer to the fleet and have not received them all, you can download them with just a click of your mouse. You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to read and/or print them, available for free at <http://www.adobe.com>.

I want to add photos of other Falmouth Cutters to the website, but so far I only have digital images of *Mijita*. So feel free to send me photos of your boats. JPEG digital format is preferred, but if you don't have digital send me a print. I will scan the best photos for inclusion on the website.

I am also beginning a project to recreate, as PDF documents, all of the Falmouth Cutter newsletters published before my tenure as editor. Terry Hill of *Angelsea* has volunteered to help in this project. Basically we have to get the paper copies of the newsletters, which I have, into digitized form, which I don't have. Hopefully, in a few months this will have been done and you will all be able to read those classic newsletters again.

As I said above, there are two letters from the fleet, from the owners of *Angelsea* and *Francesca*. They are published below.

I am also including with this issue the annual roster of Falmouth Cutter Owners. You will note that I don't have current addresses for several of them. If you meet any of these lost souls on the high seas, please ask them to pass along their current addresses, including e-mail if they have it. The same goes for you if your address has changed.

Note: For those concerned about computer security/privacy, the roster will not be posted on the website, so your e-mail addresses won't be publicly available.

Finally, Sam L. Morse Co. is just beginning construction of a new Falmouth Cutter, hull # 38. I don't yet have an owners name, but understand he is a new shipwright at Sam L. Morse Co.

Thank you. Fair winds and following seas.

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Angelsea, FC #19

Happy New Year!

I hope the New Year finds you safe, happy and healthy. The website looks terrific. Great job. The archived newsletters are great too. It was fun to read some of the issues that came out before I was an owner. Thanks for putting that together.

I don't have much to report. I did complete three major projects on Angelsea during 2001. I put in new plumbing, seacocks, etc. That was fun. I also finished all exterior teak; stripped to bare wood, cleaned, sanded, then applied ten coats of Bristol Finish. I'll let you know if the Bristol Finish works any better than varnish. Finally, I finished installing a new Yanmar 1GM10. She had one year ago but the previous owner had it removed and had glassed back in the shaft. I ground the prop area back out, put in a new shaft, cutlass bearing, pss shaft seal, engine, exhaust, seacock for cooling intake, new diesel tank, etc. Big project, took two and a half months to complete. It is wonderful to turn a key and be able to steam back home because of my schedule. It is also nice not to be lugging that heavy Yamaha 9.9 Longshaft outboard on the stern.

We have had pretty decent weather in the southeast until last week. My wife, and my two daughters Tara 6 and Rachel 3, went out sailing in 18kt winds (lot for us) on Christmas Eve. That was fun - it was great because we haven't really had a day with that much wind since the springtime.

I have plans to trailer *Angelsea* down to Florida this spring and do some coastal cruising or possibly run over to the Bahamas. We'll see. Problem is getting enough time away from work to make it worth the effort. If anyone is ever in Atlanta let me know, I'd love to meet up with any owners and go sailing.

Thanks for keeping the newsletter up. I enjoy it tremendously. Oh, one last thing, I heard that **Good Old Boat** is doing or did an article on the Falmouth Cutter. Have you heard anything about that?

Fair winds,

Terry Hill

Sounds to me like you had a lot to report. The projects you did are all major projects and I bet Angelsea looks great. And I am sure any Falmouth Cutter owner or enthusiast who finds himself/herself in Atlanta would certainly like to check out the sailing in Georgia with you. So, as representative of the fleet, thanks for the invitation.

*Yes, **Good Old Boat** is doing an article about Falmouth cutters in the upcoming March 2002 issue. It is by John Vigor, author of the book **Twenty Small Boats to Take You Anywhere**. He has been republishing each chapter of the book in **Good Old Boat** magazine, with revised text and photos.*

Ron Walton

Francesca, FC #28

Thanks for keeping up the newsletter for all of us. Nothing new to report on the boat. I still own my Falmouth Cutter which I consider a big plus! The boat is about 70% completed now and I will make the big push to get her in sail-away condition this summer so that I can go sailing. What make me think that I will actually have a shot at it? Well, I quit work this past year after working for Intel for 23 years and I've returned to school here in Oregon. As you know students have lots of free time to drink, chase women and build boats; yeah, right! But I do plan to use this next summer to work on her. I will send you some digital photos when I take up the quest again.

As for my future plans. After spending 2 years here at Western Oregon University ("the big WOU" - Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan: Joe Verses the Volcano) I plan to head out to Hilo, Hawaii and attend University of Hawaii. Those are my plans. I don't know what my confidence level is, but

I figure I got this far so I know that things can happen if you want them enough!

Keep up the good work and thank you so much for your effort and your success keeping all of us informed and together. Your effort is not wasted on me and I do appreciate all the hard work.

Ron Whitsel
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PS I'm going to change the name of my boat (I guess that's ok since it has never been christened) but I'm not sure what it will be. I will e-mail you the information when I make up my mind.

PSS Please change my e-mail address to rwhitsel@hotmail.com

Thank you for your letter. I look forward to hearing more from you about your progress on finishing Francesca; I didn't realize she wasn't completed yet. I don't know if there is any special ceremony for renaming a boat that has never been commissioned. Probably not. Just don't launch on a Friday, I've heard that is bad luck. As is departing port on a Friday.

Ron Walton