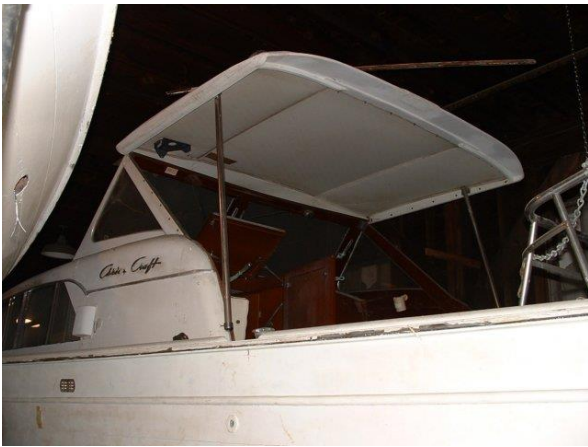


## How the FINLANDIA saga began.....

Several years ago, it was decided that since owning waterfront property was out of the question, that maybe a medium size power boat would substitute as a floating cottage. A good friend had a 26' Chris Craft Constellation for sale. It was worth a look.



Another look: she needed a bit of work but what boat doesn't?

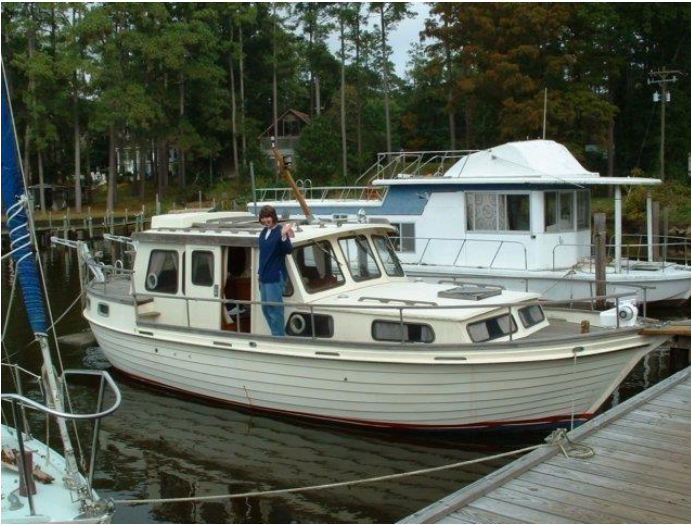


While still undecided on the 26 Chris, a trip across Lake Erie was scheduled aboard a C&C 42 sailboat. The 42 had starting problems so it was decided to go in a Bristol 42. To make a long story short, after the cruise, we knew the Chris Craft was the wrong boat and a trawler needed to be purchased.

There was an old cartoon published several years ago where an old salt on his knees praying. He was asking for forgiveness as he went for a cruise in a power boat and liked it. That is how I felt. Living space above the deck line, out of the weather when steering, lots of room, no draft or overhead clearance issues when cruising and 7 knots straight upwind. How can you not like that?



An Internet search eventually led us to North Carolina to look at a 30' Tristan (Finnish built) Trawler



The boat was in rough shape, to put it mildly.



The interior also showed its age, but the boat had a certain charm. The engine only had thirty hours on it even though it was a replacement engine and had been swapped out ten years earlier. After spending over one-half day going over every inch of her, we left for home (a fourteen-hour drive away) without even pulling her out to look at the bottom. We felt she was almost too far gone to want to deal with.





To make a long story short, we made a low (but fair) offer on the boat and she was ours. If she hadn't had foam cored decks and cabin tops, we wouldn't have even considered her. She made the trip up from North Carolina without incident.



Unloading



Waiting for the trailer to move her to where she could be worked on.



We convinced a friend to rent us space in his shop for \$X dollars/month and a half hull model of his C&C 39 sailboat. The image shown is the rough machining of the hull using a CNC router.





The finished hull before mounting.



Arriving at the shop.



Waiting to be moved inside.



Finally getting moved inside; now the fun begins.

