

DON'T STINK 4 WAYS TO BEAT
HEAD ODOR p.22

PEACE & QUIET ENGINE ROOM
SOUNDPROOFING OPTIONS p. 24

Sea®

AMERICA'S WESTERN BOATING MAGAZINE

RENDEZVOUS!

66

Places to see
and be seen

**FIND
THE
PERFECT
BOAT**

THE SCIENCE OF SEATRIALS



NEW BOATS

HORIZON 73
NORTH PACIFIC 38
VIKING 76
MCKINNA 69

1,000s OF NEW & USED
BOATS FOR SALE INSIDE

\$4.95 USA and Canada



seamagazine.com MAY 2010

Fever Pitch

The original plans for the DeFever offshore cruiser that spawned *Tonina* were featured in the December 1961 issue of *Sea* (at right).



Specifications

Year: 1964
Make: DeFever
Name: *Tonina*
Model: Custom Flybridge
Motoryacht
Engine: 270 hp Caterpillar D333
Turbo Diesel
Length: 60 feet
Cruising Speed: 8.5 knots
Material: Wood

THE FIRST TIME he laid eyes on *Tonina*, Rick Fricke knew one day the 1964 DeFever trawler would be his. He began his love affair with the custom flybridge around age 10 while visiting his parents' boat; *Tonina*'s design stood out among the hundreds of other boats moored at L.A. Harbor's Newmark's Landing.

Commissioned as a retirement gift for Frank Collbohm, founding father of the RAND Corp. think tank and subset of Douglass Aircraft Co., the 60-foot full-displacement yacht was christened *Tonina*, a Carib word meaning "dolphin." Built by Sugar Lindwall, the one-off hull was constructed of Douglas fir planking and Monel fasteners, ensuring its structure would last. With the head of an agency that brainstormed everything from interconti-

nental ballistic missile programs to military recon missions in space as a client, the builders put a lot of thought into the yacht's design. The plans for the DeFever were even featured in *Sea Magazine*'s December 1961 issue, highlighting the Pacific seiner-type hull.

With such a pedigree, *Tonina* has lived a charmed life, changing hands among top members of the Douglass Aircraft family who maintained it in

immaculate condition. Fricke bought the Bristol vessel at age 27 and has kept as much of the original equipment as possible while updating the galley, salon and two staterooms. Its teak decks and interior holly details have been restored, and the original Caterpillar D333 Turbo engine is still in place, giving the offshore cruiser a 5,000-mile range.

While Fricke mainly uses the boat to cruise Catalina with his wife, Merrie, *Tonina* has seen the Pacific from Alaska to South America, and is now moored in Alamitos Bay Marina in California. The yacht's superior construction has ensured its ability to stand up to heavy weather.

Recently, *Tonina* was given the star treatment. Spike TV's "Deadliest Warrior" used the boat as the setting for a staged battle involving actors portraying Somali pirates. But the boats in Fricke's family are no strangers to Hollywood; Fricke's in-laws, Charles and Bernice Licha, own *Portola*, a 1928 fantail motoryacht that starred alongside Marilyn Monroe and Tony Curtis in the 1959 classic "Some Like It Hot."

Fricke is grateful for the family memories that have transpired aboard.

"I have three boys and they've all grown up on this boat," he said. "They still love going out on it." ●



Owner Rick Fricke was first drawn to the lines of the 1964 DeFever offshore cruiser, *Tonina*. "A lot of friends come on board, and they say the boat just says, 'Cruise me. Just go,'" he said. "And that's what she was built for."

