



I soon realized that Ode had a mind of its own and thought it would be excellent to see what the boat would do in the hands of someone familiar with its ways. That was when I set about trying to find the previous longtime owner. I knew the person was a woman with the last name of Fruean, and I knew she lived somewhere near Yarmouth Port. So I gambled that, even though there were a number of Frueans in that area, if I were to write a letter to one of them and ask that it be delivered to the owner of the boat, that I had a chance. And I scored. Joy Fruean got back to me. Almost the first thing she asked was had I changed the name. I told her of course not. I still thought of the boat as hers somehow. Besides, being a person who had studied about the Enlightenment it seemed quite wonderful to have a boat called Ode to Joy.

Next summer, Ode no longer needed to stay on my friend's morning. A friend who sails fast boats out of Padanaram had rigged us up a Maine off haul. It was time to call Joy Fruean and set a date for her to come for a sail. She came with her sailing partner. The two women showed me what Ode could do and not do that day on the Westport River. And then they dropped me back on shore and went out on their own for awhile. Before they left, Joy gave me a Beetle Cat t-shirt she had traditionally worn when sailing ... a symbolic handing over of the tiller.

Later on that summer as the usual suspects arrived for weekends and weeks, I discovered that my brother was not the only family member who could sail. Various others could as well, some after protesting that it had been long ago and they no longer knew how. Neighbors, seeing the boat, reminisced about their youthful experiences sailing Beetle Cats. Maybe they'll do so again.

Oh, and how is my sailing coming? Well I am definitely getting better. I can sail close to the wind and tack when I want to, most of the time. I rarely do an uncontrolled jibe or get into irons. I have learned where the islands are apt to produce lulls, the exhilaration of broad reaching below Gunning Island, and the work it takes to hold the tiller when Ode is on a good run home. There are of course misadventures. Once when I had stayed on shore with my grandson Sam, the sailors were held up off Upper Spectacle when the wind dropped as the tide was falling. Sam and I kayaked out to offer assistance but it was refused. They finally got in, centerboard lifted, with barely enough water to cross the cove. Once my daughter-in-law and I tried to go out with a northeast onshore wind at low tide and just slid sideways over and over again till we came to rest against our neighbor's dock. Fortunately she is an accomplished sailor, and instructed us to haul ourselves out further till we could put the centerboard down. We then had a memorable sunset sail. These adventures, perhaps even more than the perfect outings, are now part of our family lore of life with a Beetle Cat on the Westport River. It would have been wonderful to learn to sail at the age of six, but starting at age sixty five is a good thing too.

Elizabeth Grossman



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“Water”

Unscramble the words below:

1. etsuaatr _____
2. udledp _____
3. rnai _____
4. eibrn _____
5. paslsh _____
6. aqua _____
7. broko _____
8. lofod _____
9. trusioem _____
10. gulf _____
11. anlva _____
12. sae _____
13. neaco _____
14. oopl _____
15. elka _____
16. doretpl _____
17. otnunhsmie _____
18. ybdo _____
19. taauncil _____
20. lewl _____
21. rtciac _____
22. oseh _____
23. skoa _____
24. egtiarri _____
25. oaglno _____
26. iatqauc _____
27. imduh _____
28. ariietmm _____
29. tadryeh _____
30. qdilui _____
31. udfil _____
32. mretas _____
33. bylsasa _____
34. virer _____
35. reeovris _____
36. pshsal _____
37. rpsay _____
38. twe _____
39. prkesinl _____
40. leif _____

Answers:

1. etsuaatr is saturate, 2. udledp is puddle, 3. rnai is rain, 4. eibrn is brine, 5. paslsh is splash,
6. aqua is aqua, 7. broko is brook, 8. lofod is flood, 9. trusioem is moisture, 10. gulf is gulf,
11. anlva is naval, 12. sae is sea, 13. neaco is ocean, 14. oopl is pool, 15. elka is lake,
16. doretpl is droplet, 17. otnunhsmie is nourishment, 18. ybdo is body, 19. taauncil is nautical,
20. lewl is well, 21. rtciac is arctic, 22. oseh is hose, 23. skoa is soak, 24. egtiarri is irrigate,
25. oaglno is lagoon, 26. iatqauc is aquatic, 27. imduh is humid, 28. ariietmm is maritime,
29. tadryeh is hydrate, 30. qdilui is liquid, 31. udfil is fluid, 32. mretas is stream,
33. bylsasa is abyssal, 34. virer is river, 35. reeovris is reservoir, 36. pshsal is splash,
37. rpsay is spray, 38. twe is wet, 39. prkesinl is sprinkle, 40. leif is life.

Association members:

We appreciate that you keep your membership up to date. If you, or someone you know, would like to presently continue their N.E.B.C.B.A. affiliation, please send the following information to:

Sueanne Bouchie, Treasurer
P.O. Box 1102
North Falmouth, MA 02556

Primary Mailing Address (name, street, city, state, zip, phone).

Secondary Mailing Address (summer).

E-mail Address.

Family Members.

Beetle Cat Boat Info (boat name, hull number, sail number, home port, year first launched).

Yacht affiliation, if any.

Check payable to **NEBCBA**.

Individual membership	\$10.00
Family membership	\$15.00
Contributing membership	\$25.00

Application forms can be printed from the association’s website:

<http://www.beetlecat.org/membership.html>

Thanks:-)



Marion

Our Beetle Cat "Marion" was built in 1980 and spent twenty six years with us in Waquoit Bay, Waquoit, MA on Cape Cod. She was raced for about twenty years at the W.B. Yacht Club and the rest of her time with us bobbing at the mooring with an occasional sail. We moved to Charlotte, Maine on Lake Pennamaquan and although it was a beautiful lake to sail on (watch out for the rocks), as we got older and stiffer we decided to sell her as she needed to be with her own kind. We knew that Center Harbor Yacht Club had a large fleet so we put an ad on their bulletin board and subsequently got a call from Rick Sirois, a summer resident in Center Harbor (Brooklin, Maine). The Sirois family now owns "Titania", formerly Marion, and daughter Margot races her during the week with crew, Ben Parson and is learning the ins and outs of sailing a Beetle. There are about twenty-five Beetles in the fleet. We were invited this summer for lunch and to watch the Beetles and twelve and a halfs racing in Center Harbor, a beautiful area for racing small one design boats. She has had a new duralon (we think that's the material) deck, refastened throughout, and a new centerboard box by Eric Dowd, a builder of the "Haven" Class in Brooklin, Maine. She looks great and we are happy she is still going strong! Our best to the association which we were a part of for many years and our club at Waquoit which hosted the Telesmanick for several years.



Bob and Joan Bradley
Charlotte, ME



In this on-line article regarding Catboats, exceptional techniques are provided for sailors to utilize in a multitude of situations, particularly Catboat Sail Trim:

http://www.sailingmagazine.net/technique_0107.html

We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop.

Mother Teresa

Check out the Forum at www.beetlecat.org!

I must go down to the sea again to the lovely sea and the sky and all I ask is a tall ship and the star to steer her by.

John Mansfield



Photos by Roy Terwilliger and Michelle Buoniconto

