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BANANA WIND

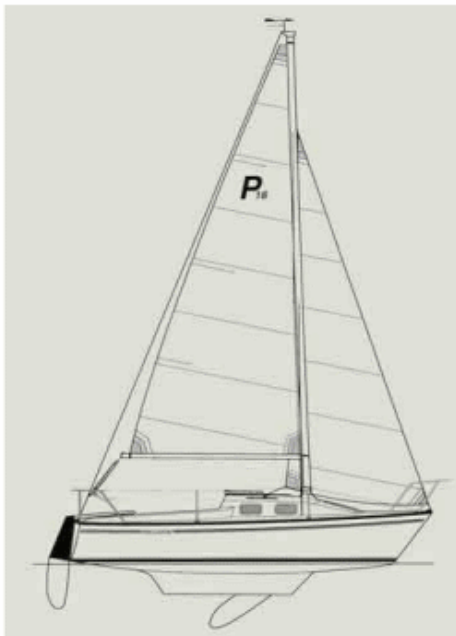
Boats are something more than the landsman comprehends.

- William Atkin

Commander's Fleet

Boats are like anything else. It's nice to have one for every occasion.

BANANA WIND



The *Banana Wind* was what I considered my "traveling boat." It was small, light, and easy to transport on a trailer. I could raise the mast, rig, and launch it myself.

Although not overly spacious inside, it was comfortable enough for one person to spend a few days on. I took some extended cruises with it to islands of Lake Erie and on the Chesapeake Bay. Unfortunately, due to movement restrictions after two hip surgeries, I was forced to sell it in 2005 because it became too difficult to maneuver around inside the cabin.

Photos

The New Banana Wind???

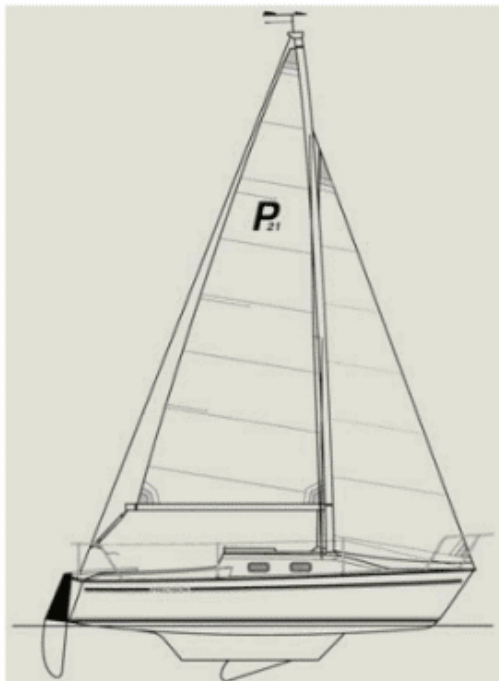
In the fall of 2008, I rescued a 19 ft. 1988 Seaward Fox that had fallen into disrepair. It has since become a restoration project that provides me with therapy to satisfy my uncontrollable desire to work on boats. (I ran out of things to improve on or add to the Banana Republican.) I have established a five-year project completion date at which time I hope to be able to take advantage of an early retirement. My



disdain for snow will undoubtedly drive me to Florida during the winter months to become one of the dreaded northern "snow birds" along the Gulf Coast. I will then have a small, nicely outfitted "day sailer" for fun in the sun if things work out as I hope they will.

She resides in my backyard under a green tarp as work proceeds. It's not fast work, but it is truly a labor of love.

Photos



The *Banana Republican* is only three feet longer than the *Banana Wind*, but it has considerably more interior space.

Although trailerable, I don't travel with the *Banana Republican* because it is a little too much work launching and retrieving it for a short-term cruise, especially when I'm cruising alone. Instead, I dock the boat at my home marina and use it to sail my home waters. Most of my summer weekends are spent on the *Banana Republican*.

Photos

Banana Republican featured in the [August 2004 issue of Sail Magazine](#)

