72/Cruising Designs by Benford 50' Florida Bay

Florida Bay Coasters

"Houses are but badly built boats so firmly aground that you cannot think of moving them.... The desire to build a house is the tired wish of a man content thenceforward with a single anchorage. The desire to build a boat is the desire of youth, unwilling yet to accept the idea of a final anchorage."

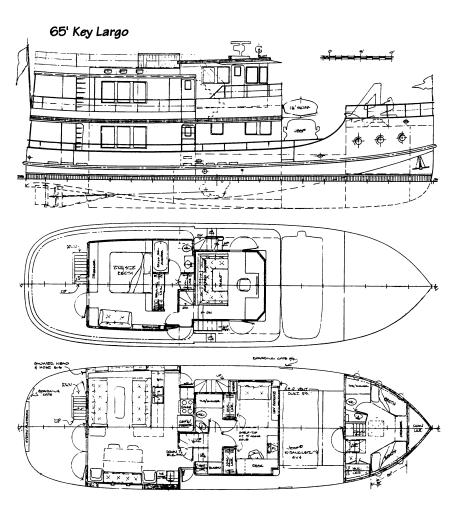
Arthur Ransome **Racundra's First Cruise,** 1923

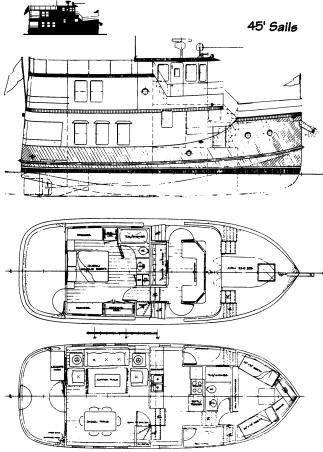
The designs on these two pages were originally done for the Florida Bay Coaster Company and licensed to them. With their company closed, we are now offering these plans to others who want to have them built.

The 50' **Florida Bay** was the first Coaster built and remains my personal favorite. I've generated a whole series of ideas on how to do a much improved version which retains all the charm and character of this practical and salty small ship.

The 65' **Key Largo** was built next, as a bigger version of the 50' **Florida Bay**, with more generous spaces throughout. She's currently in service as a charter boat, and available to anyone interested in trying out living on one of these great little ships. We've got lots of ideas for other 65-footer layouts drawn up.

The 45' *Sails* is the first of the 45' series built. They were done to provide maximized liveaboard space for people who did not need or want to carry a vehicle aboard. We've done a whole series of variation drawings on this size and their study plans are shown in our book, *Small Ships*.





The 50' **Seaclusion** is the first of the revised 50' series, done as an expanded version of the successful 45's, with an extra guest cabin or study just forward of the galley.

The 55' **North Star** is like the 50' **Seaclusion** series, with extra length at both ends and substantial additions to the accommodations. She shows the extraordinary amount of living space that can be built into these ships.

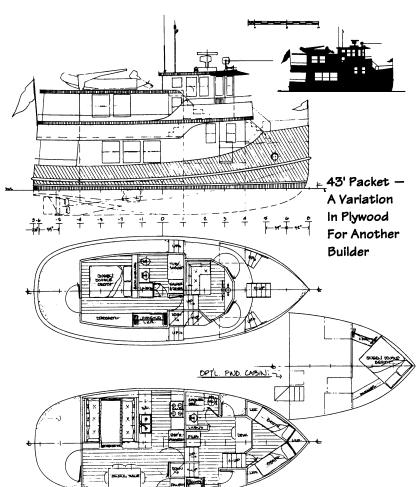
Study plans for these Freighter Yachts, and many variations on them, are shown in greater detail in our book, SMALL SHIPS. It has photos and more detailed information \$\displant \times \text{power}\$ about them and scores of our other power boat designs. For more information about SMALL SHIPS, see our price list, DESIGNS & SERVICES.

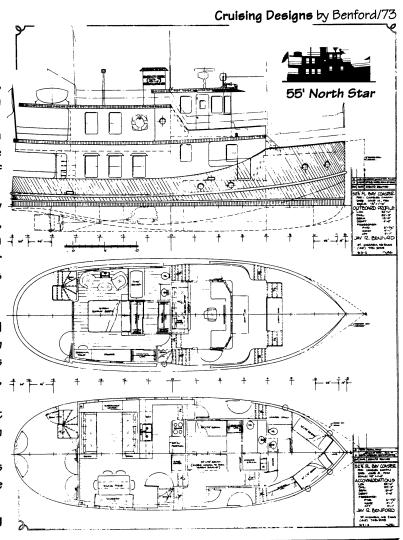
"...let me say that I have spent hours perusing Small Ships...to my utter delight. Here is Benford at his best with an infinite variety of arrangements and layouts on several series of working craft hulls including his Florida Bay Coaster 40, 50, and 65 footers built by Reuben Trane...

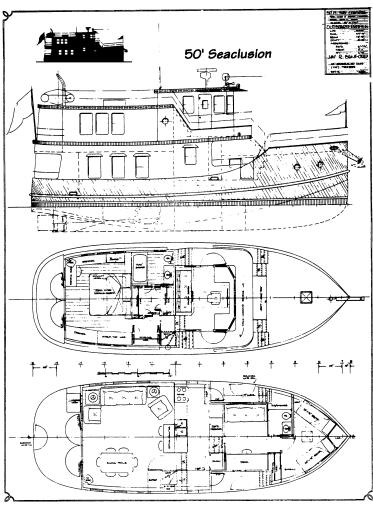
"...The varieties are endless, and if one of these doesn't start you dreaming of retiring to a life of floating luxury with your beloved, you're reading the wrong magazine....

"...original, fun, and thought provoking which is what makes this book worth owning, not just reading. It's a book which will be referred to again and again."

Ted Jones, Coastal Cruising







43' Freighter Yacht

Design Number 321 1992

This Freighter Yacht has an eight foot well deck, with room for a small (up to 2,000 lb.) vehicle to be carried on deck. By stacking the two berths on one side in the foc'sle, there's room for a complete head en suite.

The saloon has the living and dining room furniture. The middeck has a large galley plus an oilskin or coat closet.

The master stateroom is aft with an en suite full head. She has walkaround upper decks for that big ship feeling and practical ship handling.

The pilothouse has a good view over the skiff. The L-shaped settee is raised for visibility underway. The starboard aft corner is notched for the stairs to the boat deck.

The hold space shows an option for more berths if wanted, additional clothes lockers for out-of-season storage, and a fore and aft passageway from the foc'sle through the shop and laundry area to the saloon.

There is room for one or two small craft to be carried on top of the master stateroom, and a davit can be installed to lift them on and off.

The protective skegs under the rudders let the skipper feel there's no problem in going exploring in backwaters.

The rubber guard is the widest point of the boat, making for easy landings. This makes for a lot of peace of mind when making landings single-handed.

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Particular s :	Wood	Steel
Length over guards	44'-0"	44'-0"
Length-structural	43'-4"	43'-4"
Designed waterline	42'-6"	42'-6"
Beam over guards	18'-0"	18'-0"
Beam-structural	17'-4"	17'-4"
Draft, loaded	4'-0"	4'-0"
Freeboard: Forward	7'-6"	7'-6"
Waist	4'-1"	4'-1"
Aft	1'-6"	1'-6"
Displacement, loaded for cruising		
75	5,000 -	85,000 _
Displlength ratio	436	494
Pounds per inch imm.	3010	3010
Tankage, gals.: Fuel	500	600
Water	1,000	1,000
Stability - GM	4'	3.5'

