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> Date: Tue, 09 Aug 2005 19:40:48 -0000

> From: "Jim Fuller N43-09" <summerskis@earthlink.net>

> Subject: Commissioning in Stuart, FL

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> Jim & Marge Fuller's comments on the commissioning process in Stuart.

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> Summer Skis - N43-09 arrived in Stuart on June 3, 2005. It was  
> originally scheduled to be delivered in April. The April date was a  
> guestimate given to us when we signed our contract in 03.

> I drove to Stuart from our home in Rhode Island arriving on June 5  
> with a number of items to be installed during the commissioning  
> process.

> Upon arrival in Stuart I found the boat to be in acceptable  
> condition considering that it had just arrived and had traveled  
> nearly halfway around the world.

> From day one the staff in Stuart were busy going over their check  
> lists that occupied many pages of a three ring binder. Their  
> dedication to "doing it right" was evident from the outset. When  
> necessary I was consulted and asked to participate in decisions that  
> would effect the asthetics of the finished product.

> I had to return to Rhode Island on June 13 to take care of routine  
> business. Prior to leaving, my salesman, Ray Danet and John Hoffman,  
> the commissioning manager sat down and agreed on a course of action  
> and time table to complete the commissioning in a timely manner that  
> would allow us to have the boat in transit to Rhode Island within  
> the timeframe that was acceptable to my insurance company due to the  
> approaching hurricane season. It was agreed that Marge & I would fly  
> back to Stuart on July 5 and we would complete the commissioning  
> process. In the meantime, we had coordinated with Larry Smith  
> Electronics to have ALL of the electronics installed while the PAE  
> commissioning team was doing their job. This aspect of the process  
> could have been a nightmare. Fortunatly Jon Thaw of Larry Smith and  
> the PAE staff in Stuart have a good working relasonship. They worked  
> well together and with the use of the internet we were able to  
> accomplish over 90% of all tasks that required owner participation.  
> Once Marge & I arrived on scene the PAE staff put us to work to  
> accomplish those tasks that needed on site owner involvement.

> Between July 5 & 13 we (PAE & Larry Smith people) were working 10-12  
> hour days to meet the schedule that we all were shooting for. On  
> July 11 & 12 we did PAE sea trials which included some "driveing  
> lessons" for both Marge and myself. On July 13 Jon Thaw and myself  
> brought Summer Skis to Vero Beach for provisioning in anticipation  
> of a departure on the 16th of July. During the run from Stuart to  
> Vero Beach Jon and I went through the electronics and what I did not  
> understand I knew where the book was for additional advice. This 5  
> hour trip was a very steep learning curve but invaluable. As we  
> approached the departure date I had requested, and received approval  
> from PAE to have a member of the commissioning staff "ride along"  
> for a few days. Rick Geriard was the person that we selected and was  
> a "God send" as a confidence builder to one who has never owned a  
> powerboat over 18'. Rick took us through and oil change, spotted a

> potential problem in the steering assembly before it became a  
> serious problem and was all in all a great help and crew member. We  
> did an overnight from Palm Coast to Charleston which gave us the  
> confidence and experience to run extended passages overnight.  
> Marge & I left Charleston and did the ICW the balance of the trip to  
> Norfolk and then the Cheseapeake Bay, Delaware Bay, Jersey coast,  
> Long Island Sound and home to Tiverton, RI.  
> The entire trip took 19 days, covered 1531 Miles.  
> WE DID NOT HAVE ANY MAJOR PROBLEMS !!!!!  
> The commissioning staff in Stuart is to be comdended for completing  
> the job on time and correctly.  
> We did have 2 small oil leaks that were managemable. Larry Smith  
> Electronics staff completed their project on time and under budget.  
> Summer Skis in now on her mooring in the Sakonnet River and ready to  
> take her place in a couple of boat shows as she returns to Florida  
> for a winter of cruising in the Bahamas and the west coast of  
> Florida.  
> If all goes, as is currently being suggested, we will travel in  
> company with some other Nordhavns from Florida to Bermuda to Newport  
> in the spring of 06. This idea is being worked on by Ray Danet in  
> Stuart and if there are any interested owners or others that want to  
> crew on this trip please let Ray know: ray@nordhavn.com. This trip  
> is in the formitive stages so we have not made any definitive plans  
> yet.  
> In closing both Marge and I have the highest praise and respect for  
> the PAE staff in Stuart for getting Summer Skis commissioned on time  
> and correctly the FIRST TIME. To run a boat this complex for over  
> 1500 miles with only 2 minor oil leaks is a testament to John  
> Hoffman's staff and their dedication to delivering a quality product.  
> The cooperation between PAE and Larry Smith Electroics is also a  
> statement that when properly coordinated outside vendors can work  
> together with the builder.  
> Again thanks Ray, Geri, John, Rick and the entire staff at Nordhavn  
> Southeast.

> Respectfully submitted  
> Jim & Marge Fuller.

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