

## NEWS & NOTES

### A Krogen 44 Crosses the Atlantic



After a total of 26 days at sea and 3,885 miles of open ocean, the 44-foot Kadey-Krogen trawler *Le Reve* and her crew arrived in IJmuiden, Holland. The crossing was completed in

three legs: Atlantic Highlands, N.J., to Horta in the Azores; Horta to Plymouth, England; and Plymouth to IJmuiden.

How did this voyage come about? In July 2004, Bill and Joanne van Lenthe left their home waters of Lake Huron aboard their Carver 530 Voyager to begin the Great Loop. By the winter of 2005/2006, having made it to the Bahamas, they were truly hooked on the cruising lifestyle and began talking about a buying a boat capable of taking

them across the Atlantic to Holland, where they were both born.

Bill and Joanne traded their Carver 530 Voyager for a Krogen 44 in the summer of 2006 and

after getting to know her and making a few additions to her systems, Bill and his crew made the trip “across the pond.”

Bill says that vessel traffic was light and some days nonexistent, although this changed once they got closer to the English Channel, which is the confluence of ocean commerce to and from northern Europe. He reports that the North Sea was also very busy and that the crew had to keep an even more diligent watch there.

Bill notes, “The total duration of the trip was a little longer than I had expected. In early June, the part of the Atlantic we crossed—south of 40 degrees latitude—is usually fairly calm, with blue, sunny skies. We saw only a few such days.

“Most of the time, the weather was cloudy, foggy, and/or rainy, all accompanied by quite a bit of wind. I had expected that we would encounter some substantial waves but certainly not as often as we experienced.”

Bill goes on to say, “In spite of the mostly unfavorable weather during the crossing I could not have been more happy with the performance of the Kadey-Krogen. One of my crewmembers wrote in his log, ‘It is quite interesting to see these large swells towering above the stern of the boat. Just as the following seas are about to come into the cockpit, *Le Reve*, with little effort, lifts her big broad butt over the waves. She reminds me of the grace, lightness of foot, and elegance of a self-assured, heavy-set girl who dances well.’ ”

Bill and Joanne are now cruising aboard their Krogen 44 in Holland and plan to explore the rest of Europe for the next few years. In time, they want to do the northern countries (Scandinavia) and eventually end up in the Mediterranean. But, says Bill, “For now we will stay in Holland, where there are endless possibilities for cruising.”