

# Bob Gates Talks Back

The following are six questions that have been asked of Bob Gates in the last two months. He chose these questions as they are the most frequently asked. Please feel free to include any questions you might have with your next cruising letter and we will provide a special section for Bob to answer you.

Question: Can I install a hot and cold pressure water system in my Westsail 32 without affecting the manual system built by Westsail?

Answer: Yes you can. This installation has been done by several owners with good results. Westsail can supply the drawings necessary as well as all the parts.

Question: I've noticed on newer Westsails a stainless steel cross piece on the Boomkin. Can I get one and put it on my Westsail 32?

Answer: Yes. Installing it is usually quite simple. Occasionally the Boomkin wisker stays must be shortened but this is not a big problem.

Question: How can I help preserve the finish on my boat?

Answer: Maintaining a good coat of wax on the fiberglass will help it look great for a long time; however, DON'T WAX THE NON SKID AREAS or they will be "super skid" when it gets wet. The stainless steel should be kept clean and polished with a coat of wax also. The maintenance of teak will be discussed at great length in an up and coming Windbag article.

Question: I am thinking of modifying my Westsail slightly. Is there someone I could speak with about it?

Answer: Yes, call or write Westsail and ask for "Technical Assistance". We have a full staff of people who can help you.

Question: I would like to move up to a Westsail 43. Is it possible for me to obtain assistance in selling my 32?

Answer: Most Definitely! I will say however that with the few used Westsails on the market today you should have no problem whatsoever if you have maintained your boat properly. At any rate, your local representative will be most helpful in assisting you with the sale of your 32 in order to move up to a 42 or 43. Incidentally, six of the first twenty three Westsail 43's were sold to Westsail 32 owners!!!

Question: What type of wind vane will work on the 42 or 43?

Answer: We'd recommend either the Aries (which is not available right now) or the Sayes Rig, a servo pendulum with direct connection to the rudder. Write to Westsail for additional information.

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## LAST MINUTE NEWS !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The Women's Singlehanded Race to be held on the West Coast over the labor Day weekend in conjunction with the exclusive Westsail Cruising Ships Contest has had a slight change. We had originally planned for the winners to receive a "purse" (ie. money); however, we have since found out that the United States Sailing Association frowns on this as it makes women ineligible for future "amateur" races. We have therefore decided that that portion of the sponsor's money will be donated to the United States Olympic Yachting Team. The winners will receive a gift and a trophy.