

Wilbur Yachts builds couple's fifth cruiser

By Craig Crosby

SOUTHWEST HARBOR — When Jerry and Dianne Lynch went looking for a cruiser that would take them from their Cape Cod home to Florida and back, their search ended in the same place had it four times before.

Last week, when Wilbur Yachts launched Lonrach, a 38-foot Wilbur/Duffy, it marked the completion of the company's fifth yacht for the Lynchs, who keep coming back for the firm's quality and attention to detail.



Lonrach, a 38-foot Wilbur/Duffy cruiser, was launched in Southwest Harbor last week for Jerry and Dianne Lynch. It was the fifth boat Wilbur Yachts has built for the couple.

"We've had very good service," Mr. Lynch said. "Every time we've changed models a little bit, but we've found the Wilbur firm is very agreeable and very easy to work with and certainly they do quality construction."

Wilbur built the couple's first boat, the 34-foot Interim in 1988. Since then, two other 34-foot pleasure boats and a 38-foot Duffy flybridge, which Mr. Lynch uses to ferry passengers from Martha's Vineyard to Falmouth, Mass., have been added to the roster.

For their newest boat, the couple wanted a darker exterior, as evident by Lonrach's dark green hull. Because it will be used for cruising, the Lynchs also decided to eliminate the flybridge, which is typically installed on a 38-foot Duffy. Most importantly, however, the couple wanted a boat that was much quieter than normal.

"That is something we consider to be a very important aspect," Mr. Lynch said.

**"We've had very good service."
— Jerry Lynch**

**CRAIG CROSBY
PHOTOS**

Toward that end, Wilbur worked with Massachusetts-based Soundown, which specializes in mitigating airborne noise radiating off the engine transmission and exhaust and vibration noise emitted from the hull, to create a boat that will hit just 75 or so decibels at cruising speed. The techniques Wilbur learned from Soundown could become an important feature of future boats.

“A lot of the techniques we developed for this boat we’ll be putting into other boats,” said Wilbur Yacht’s co-owner John Kachmar.

The initial shakedown suggested the extra insulation and other secretive noise-suppression techniques had paid off.

“They found it to be very quiet,” Mr. Lynch said.

Lonrach – with a length of 38 feet, 6 inches, a 14-foot beam and a draft of 3 feet, 2 inches – is powered by a Caterpillar 3406E, which produces up to 800 horsepower. The boat is expected to reach a top speed of roughly 23 knots and cruise at approximately 20 knots. The boat was installed with twin 250-gallon fuel tanks.



The Wilbur Yachts crew joins Jerry and Dianne Lynch, center, before their new 38-foot boat, Lonrach, was launched last week. The couple hopes to cruise from their Cape Cod home to Florida.

The boat has a ZF 350A transmission with a ratio of 2.077:1, a Hynautic hydraulic steering system and a Sidepower SP 125T bow thruster.

Heritage Panels created the custom electrical center, which regulates the 12-volt DC power and 120-volt shore power hookups. There is a Northern Lights generator that produces 8 kilowatts for backup. The boat can hold up to 120 gallons of fresh water, which can be heated by an Atlantic 110/12-volt, 12-gallon hot water heater. Marine Air reverse-cycle air conditioning units pump out 12,000 BTUs of cold air in the forward cabin and 16,000 BTUs in the salon.

Two 10-pound propane tanks feed the three-burner Atlantic Princess stove and oven. The C-shaped galley also includes a Norcold DE490 refrigerator.

There is a split head and shower, which dumps into a 40-gallon holding tank, and a large forward island berth below.

Nautilus Marine Fabrication constructed the mast, bow bit, handrails, bow rail and davit.

Fortune did the cushion and canvas work, including the mattress for the island berth, cushions for the settee, helm and navigation seats in the salon, the shower curtain, throw pillows and bedspread.

Lonrach was taken back to Wilbur's last week where her propeller will be changed this week. The Lynchs plan to take over their new boat this winter and are anxious to get started with their newest Wilbur.

"Dianne and I will take a couple of quick trips around this winter," Mr. Lynch said.

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