

Sailing Pawnee single handed.

In the 18 years I have been sailing Pawnee I have modified the boat and its systems to make single handing safer and easier.

I have added an additional 3 tons of lead ballast bolted on top of the keel wings. It makes her more stable, she seems to go faster, and surfs like she never did before. I've blown out the plastic strataglass windows on the Bimini three times, twice in the southern ocean and once south of the Windward Passage. Now I have fibreglass tops with laminated glass, and 7 mm acrylic in front. On top there are 1700 watts of 24 Volt solar panels, enough to be self sufficient at anchor, but they need help (motor or either generator) under way. The bimini tops also catch water.

Under sail I don't keep watches but have a very efficient radar system - Simrad 46 low draw with an alarm on a long cable, it detects everything including log canoes, ocean-going rowboats, and squalls (most important) so I sleep good!

Cooking I prefer to use an electric fry pan for breakfast then slow-cook meat or chicken with veggies in a crock pot run off the inverter for dinner.

My fridge is a house type double door with 3 freezer drawers below, which uses surprisingly little power and keeps fruit and veg fresh for weeks. I also have a topload freezer 220VAC/24VDC.

The water pressure system is also a house type 220VAC pump run from the inverter. It once ran dry for 2 days and is still OK! There is a backup 24VDC/110VAC pump. The Fridge, freezer, and water pressure pumps are all easily and cheaply replaced. No fridge techs at \$80 an hour.

Steering is cable and quadrant. There are two Raymarine 6000 autopilots with separate pumps and rams operating directly on the quadrant, giving three independent means of steering.

Sail handling

The main has Reekmann hydraulic in mast furling and outhaul units. The sail can be rolled out on any point of sailing in 20 knots plus winds, reaching actually helps it out. Furling in or reefing can also be done on any point of sailing but it is more prudent to go off the wind if it is above 20 knots.

Genoa furls out in any wind direction and almost any reasonable wind force, rolling in also by sheeting between times with the hydraulic sheet winch using your big toe on the button.

Staysail has a 24VDC electric furler with gear drive. Staysail should be deployed with wind forward of the beam inside the genoa.

When tacking I come into the wind, release the Genoa sheet and the sail passes through the slot between the forestays guided by the backed staysail. Then I tack the staysail. Staysail sheet winches are manual Haarken.

Reefing I come off the wind to blanket the foresails, reef the genoa and staysail, then lastly the mainsail.

Anchoring is easy after previously hanging the anchor over the stem fitting. Go aft and press the button when you reach the spot. Go forward and do the rest with the

forward remote. Main anchor is 50Kg Bruce with 16mm chain, second anchor 50Kg CQR with 16mm chain.

Cummins engine has a loud car horn alarm for low oil pressure/high temp.

Main bilge pump has a delay so that it keeps pumping for 30 seconds after the float switch turns off, preventing cycling when the bilge is sloshing. There are 2 Rule in the main bilge, 2 Rule in engine room, 1 Rule in bow locker, all are Rule 3700 24VDC submersible.

Pawnee has taken me to....

I am the second owner, I bought the boat in Guadeloupe in 2000.

Since then she has done the following trips, avoiding hurricane seasons, mostly single-handed:

2000: Guadeloupe, Florida, Panama, Galapagos, Easter Island, **Chile**, Chilean channels.

2002. Chile, Pitcairn, Tahiti, Cooks, Tonga, Fiji.

2003: Fiji, Galapagos, Panama., Dominican Republic, Venezuela, Antigua, St Maarten.

2004: St. Lucia, Germany, **Baltic sea**, Canaries, Cape Verdes, Caribbean.

2005. St Maarten, Mediterranean, Greece, Istanbul, **Black sea, Ukraine**, Italy, Spain, Canaries, Caribbean.

2007: St Maarten, Fortaleza, **Rio**, Caribbean.

2008: Caribbean circuit - ABC islands, **Mexico** Bay Islands, **Cuba**.

2009: **Solo round the world** - Panama, Peru, Tahiti, Cooks, Tonga, Solomons, Malaysia, Thailand, Mauritius, Madagascar, **S. Africa**, St. Helena, Brazil, Guiana, Caribbean.

2014/15: St Maarten, Uruguay direct, Buenas aires, **Southern Ocean at 45S**, S. Africa, St Helena, Brazil, Grenada.

2017/18: Caribbean, Faroe Isles, **Bergen Norway**, Ireland, Canaries, Senegal, **Gambia**, Cape Verdes, Caribbean.