

VOL. 16 NO. 8

Houseboat

ALL ABOARD THE AQUA LODGE

Unique
Cruising
Cat For
Liveaboards!



HOUSEBOAT MAGAZINE'S

NATIONAL
Houseboat
Expo *west*

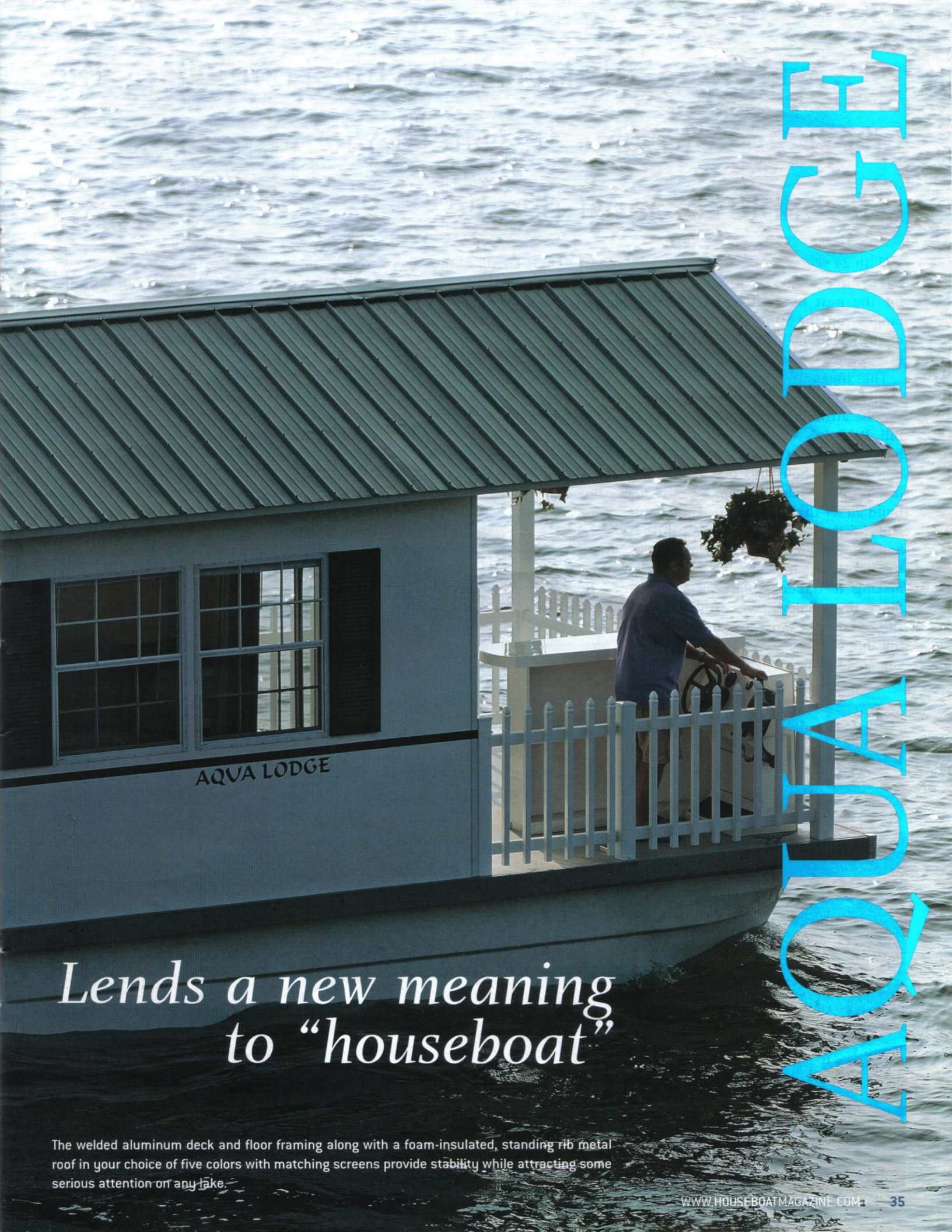
INDUSTRY
EXCLUSIVE

HOUSEBOAT MARINA RESOURCE GUIDE

- DETAILED FACILITY LISTINGS
- 20 MARINAS WE LOVE (AND 5 WE HATE)
- HOW TO FIND THE PERFECT SLIP



\$4.95 U.S./\$6.50 CANADIAN



THE
HOUSEBOAT
MAGAZINE

*Lends a new meaning
to “houseboat”*

The welded aluminum deck and floor framing along with a foam-insulated, standing rib metal roof in your choice of five colors with matching screens provide stability while attracting some serious attention on any lake.

“...who hasn’t dreamt of having a cottage by the lake? But let’s face it, waterfront property is not affordable for most people.”

With 24 years of experience, Catamaran Cruisers always seems to be looking for the next innovation. Its portfolio ranges from the 30-foot trailerable land or sea Vagabond Combo, to its 62-foot luxury Aqua Cruiser.

The ingenuity that this southern, family-owned business demonstrates may be attributed to its owner’s vision. Bill Baldwin’s experience in the RV industry lends a unique approach to how he sees houseboating. His initial inspiration developed from a desire to build an RV that could be used on land and in the water. It was called the Scooter. Built in 1972, it featured plastic pontoons and retractable wheels making it trailerable, like a camper. Since then, Baldwin has continued to think above the water line, developing a full line of houseboat choices for consumers of all types.

Its newest creation, the Aqua Lodge, offers condo-style comfort for a relaxing on-water adventure. If not for its floating status, the Aqua Lodge might well be mistaken for a small home with its most noticeable feature being its cabin-like feel.

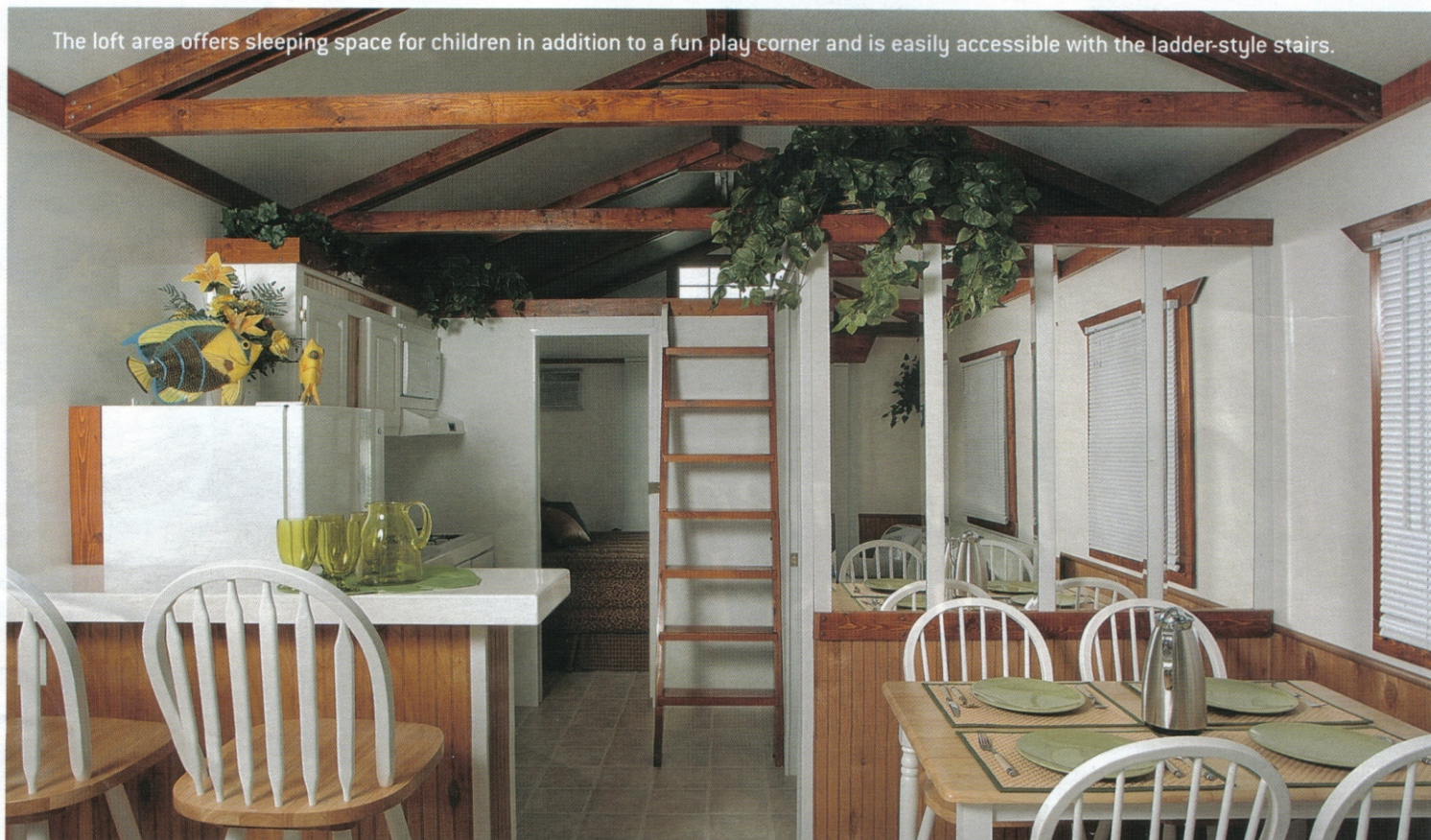
You may wonder what inspired this unique-looking houseboat.

“There were actually two motivating factors. Feedback from our customers indicated a majority of their time aboard was spent dockside.” Said Baldwin, “and who hasn’t dreamt of having a cottage by the lake? But let’s face it, waterfront property is not affordable for most people.”

In addition to comfortably accommodating an entire family, Catamaran includes extras like picket fences on the bow and stern, which create a “front porch” feel. The wood beamed cathe-

dral ceilings feel homey and comfortable for a weekend away and the three separate areas can accommodate up to 10 people overnight. This unique live-aboard boasts other comfort amenities as well. The interior design offers an amazing feeling of spaciousness. The private master stateroom features mirrored closet doors and a queen size bed. The salon sofas convert to sleeping for two more people. Bathrooms have full-sized showers and plenty of space for dressing. The kitchenettes offer double bowl sinks and upper and lower cabinets with a built-in microwave oven. A three-burner gas cook top and under-counter refrigerator is standard.

The Aqua Lodge can be customized to meet your individual needs with wood interiors for a cabin appeal or liveaboard insulation and heat. This boat can be used independent of dock



The loft area offers sleeping space for children in addition to a fun play corner and is easily accessible with the ladder-style stairs.



The use of propane for cooking and water heating eliminates the need for additional electric power.



Optional outboard power allows these units the mobility of a houseboat with the comfort of a floating cabin anchored off shore in your favorite quiet bay.

utilities when self-contained, and features a 100-gallon holding tank for a multiple night's stay aboard. You'll find the deck areas perfect at different times of the day for sunning or shading, and because of its home-like appeal, the Aqua Lodge is like having year-round waterfront access.

The layout and amenities of this houseboat optimize comfort for living aboard. Standard Aqua lodges are designed for use in temperatures above freezing. But for use in sub-freezing conditions or liveaboard use, there are several options like additional insulation, gas or electric heat and insulated doors and windows. If you are interested in investing in a second home or a rental unit, the Aqua Lodge is ideally suited for both and qualifies for second home tax savings. For boaters concerned about high gas prices, this houseboat is an economical choice. Additionally, it meets applicable Coast Guard standards and can accommodate everything you'll need for a little recreational fun.

Visit Catamaran Cruisers' website at www.catamarancruiser.com or call 800-365-1255 for the dealer nearest you. ■



SPECS

- Fiberglass multi-compartment hulls
- Hulls bulk headed on four-foot centers
- 18-foot draft allows use in shallow waters
- Seamless fiberglass exterior
- Welded aluminum deck and floor framing
- Ideal for use in salt water
- Propane gas or electric water heater
- Can be enjoyed with or without outboard power
- Step flush water saver toilet with 100-gallon holding tank
- More space than most luxurious motor homes
- Available options allow customizing to meet individual needs
- Foam insulated roof
- Molded top bathroom vanity
- Seamless Armstrong vinyl floor
- 30 AMP electrical system

