

# Thank You WESMAR!

"If this were a camp meeting, I'd be saying 'Praise the Lord' and 'I've been saved' and 'Hallelujah!' But as a testimonial for your stabilizers, it seems a little much, but that is the way I feel. We were new to traveling with a trawler yacht last year, but came to it with twenty years of experience crossing the Gulf Stream on our way to and from the Caribbean, in a sailboat. Everything we read said, 'You are kidding yourself if you think you can get by without stabilizers,' but the previous owners of our boat said there were only a few times they wished they had them. The boat is a heavy steel 61-foot custom Krogen, with a deep draft for a trawler, and weight in the keel. So we figured, why not give it a try first?

"We were waiting out a series of predicted heavy wind days in Palm Beach when one morning started with winds in the fifteen knot and under variety. We knew we weren't going to cross as the winds were only down temporarily, but we thought it was a good opportunity to see how she would handle it. Out the harbor mouth in conditions that would have



*WESMAR's Hydraulic System The Feige's beautiful 61-Foot Krogen, Cloverleaf, is equipped with a WESMAR 25 HP bow thruster and stabilizers.*

seemed just dandy for the sailboat, and my immediate reaction was, 'Stabilizers for sure.' After a half hour of trying the boat on all angles of wave and wind, and after my husband started the old *de mer* routine, we headed back in and back to Barry Hewitson of Barry's Marine Hydraulics in Ft. Lauderdale, and our new, large WESMAR stabilizers were installed. The internal layout in the boat prevented them from being installed in the ideal location, and we know we aren't getting the full benefit they could give us, but we have found fifteen to twenty knot days, even crossing the Gulf Stream, are relatively easy. We've talked to other boat owners who tout the other brand as the best,

but we don't see them out there with us when the wind pipes up.

"So now I am another of the know-it-all captains who says, 'Unless you are willing to wait till the smoke from the smokestacks is going straight up,' as our previous owner used to do, 'you are kidding yourself if you think you can get by without stabilizers.' Think of them as an investment that pays off by increasing the number of days you can travel with your boat, and do it in comfort. Thank you Barry, thank you WESMAR. And thank you previous owner who had the foresight to install a powerful 25 HP WESMAR bow thruster that makes maneuvering in tight quarters also easy."



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