

# TARTAN 28 PIPER

## Piper Sea Trials - An Overview by Charles S. Britton

"Sailing the **PIPER** development of *Tartan 28* was for me a discovery and very pleasant surprise in performance and handling. Conditions were right for trials as Tim Jackett and I sailed off Grand River for a couple of days in a wind range of 12 to 30.

**PIPER** is mannerly, fun and simple to sail; three characteristics that become more appealing for me every day. With the advent of Tim's beaver tail bulb keel, draft under four feet and increased area in the elliptical rudder, we discovered a boat that does not require a helmsman upwind in the full spectrum of wind and sea conditions. She tracks smartly to weather with five degrees on the king spoke "no hands."

The roller furling self-tacking blade jib needed a little coaxing initially to line up the car at 8, but we soon had it under control and were tacking effortlessly down Grand River without touching a sheet.

The boat is 1500 pounds lighter than her counterpart, the *Tartan 28*, with a bit less rig. The result is an easily driven hull with lower centre of ballast. She is amazingly stiff in 20 to 25 without reefing. It would appear the optimum has been found.

Though nowhere near geriatric, I have learned to appreciate a boat that is simple to handle. This one is effortless from getting underway through putting her to bed. Most important, she is a real pleasure to steer. Personal taste chooses a tiller but the wheel is responsive with a rudder that is always in command.

One will spend most of the time sailing **PIPER**, but I could find nothing below decks that was anything but positive, innovative and a welcome departure from the stereotype; a full, big boat, accommodating galley with the Origo stove which sets the standard. The great seat and its accompanying chart desk are subjects of much admiration. The readily converted double bunk in the main cabin and the engine accessibility with tool storage all participate in making this **PIPER** quite liveable and workable.

I asked why there weren't 50 orders on the books. I suspect it is only because no one has sailed the boat yet. She is a triumph in this area. Don't miss the chance.

**Tartan PIPER** brings the high level of Tartan quality and sailing performance to those who desire a yacht under thirty feet. Her design provides a fast and agile performer coupled with classic Tartan interior and external craftsmanship.

Ease of handling was paramount in the development of **PIPER** and is exemplified by the roller furl self-tacking jib, mainsail lazy jack system and light displacement.

**PIPER's** low CG shoal draft keel provides exceptional stability and access to secluded harbors, inlets and anchorages.

Included in her standard equipment are main and jib, hot/cold pressure water, shorepower, knot and depth meters, and six opening ports."

### VITAL STATISTICS

Sail Area (sq. ft.)	385.25
I - Foretriangle Height	36'0"
J - Foretriangle Base	11'6"
P - Mainsail Luff	31'0"
E - Mainsail Foot	11'6"
Bridge Clearance	40'0"
LOA	28'5"
LWL	23'8"
Beam	9'10 1/2"
Draft	3'11"
Ballast	2,300 lbs.
Displacement	6,300 lbs.
Diesel Power	15 hp
Berths	4

