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^**Hinckley Picnic Boat** Designed by Bruce King, this extraordinarily handsome 36-footer made its debut in 1994. Since that time, Hinckley has sold more than 365 of these boats. This breakthrough design spawned imitations from builders in North America and Europe. The style is as appealing today as it was upon its launch.

>**Lyman Islander** This shapely 18-footer, built in the clinker fashion from 1947 through 1960, was a favorite companion to families on Lake Erie for gunkholing, picnicking, fishing or simply being on the water. Handsome and full-bodied, Islanders were roomy, seaworthy and dry, having been designed for the nasty chop of that big lake. We find lots of restored Islanders still in use near Sandusky, Ohio, the traditional home of Lyman.

BENJAMIN MENDLOWITZ

<**Nordhavn 46** Looking every bit the small ship she is, the Nordhavn 46 has inspired owners to cruise great distances, across wide oceans. "Why?" is a logical question. This model is stoutly built, roomy beyond imagining, seakindly, seaworthy and economical to run. Paravane stabilizers (shown here) and active fin stabilizers reduce the rolling that's typical of rounded-bilge displacement hulls. Owners may have all the comforts of home without degrading the yacht's speed or handling characteristics.

<**Dyer 29** This is the quintessential New England bass (as in sea bass) boat. Designed more than 40 years ago for the boisterous waters of Buzzards Bay and surrounding areas, the solidly built 29 inspired so much confidence in its owners that they'd take the 29s out in almost any kind of weather. The Dyer's good looks, pleasant ride and seaworthiness attracted more than 400 buyers. The boat remains in production today.