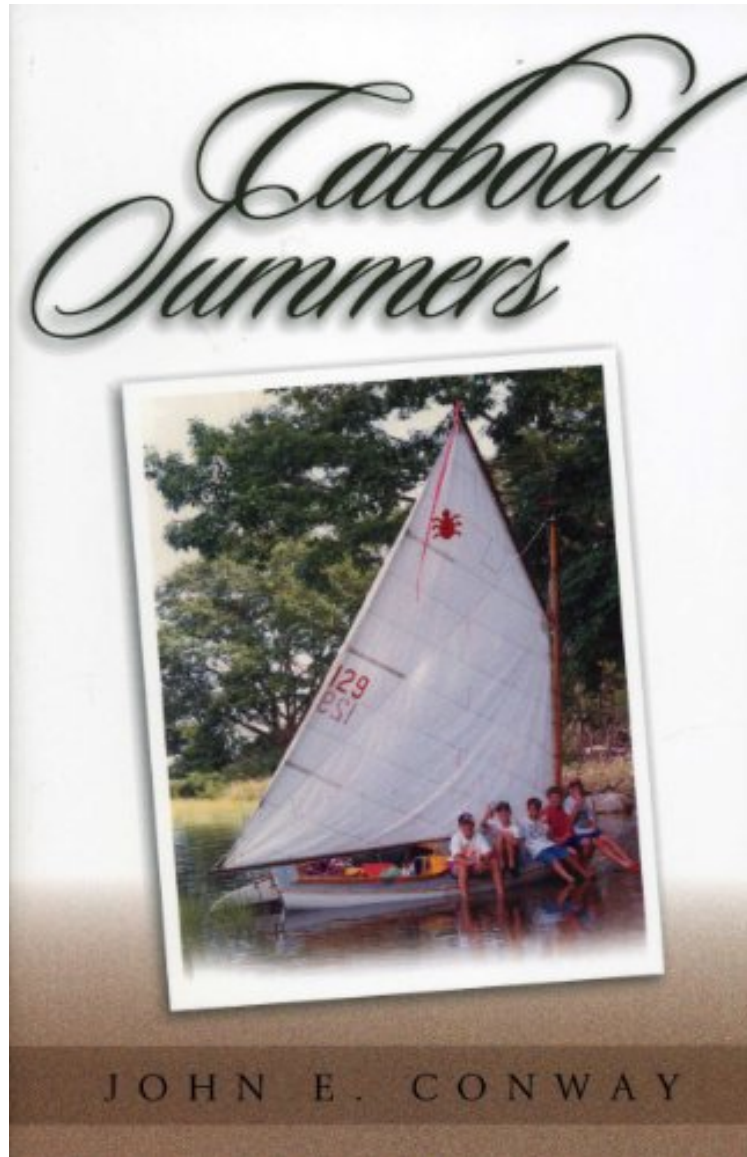


## Catboat Summers

*John E. Conway*

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**John E. Conway : Catboat Summers** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Catboat Summers:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A must read for catboat aficionados. By Seadog Engaging family adventures in a vintage wooden catboat. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I read it every winter. Excellent! By Jed Lavoie I have read this book 3 times to my daughter. We love it and each time I read it, I have to explain a little less of the terminology. We are cat sailors as well and can relate to the adventures. John has a very

clean and easy style of writing with a great sense of humor. A great read during those cold New England winters. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Sailing Along with Buckrammer By Grace E. Stevens Since we sail our Freedom32 in the very waters this book refers to - and actually live in Westport, MA, this book is pure fun to read. When we overnight at Tarpaulin Cove with guests aboard, we always read the "ghost" story! We enjoyed the adventures and the information about various locations in Buzzards Bay and the Sounds.

In the winter of 1993 our family did something impetuously reckless by purchasing BUCKRAMMER, an almost 100-year old leak- and rust-plagued, repair-hungry wooden boat. We then set about restoring the old bucket into our family yacht. What were we thinking? Catboat Summers chronicles a decade's worth of adventures in New England waters through a series of short tales, each recounting one of the Conways' many extraordinary experiences aboard their hand-crafted vessel. From the hilariously ill-fated participation of a fleet of catboats in Boston Harbor's Sail 2000 Parade to a chilling, phantasmal encounter amidst fog and darkness and even a pilgrimage to the yard where BUCKRAMMER was born, readers will be enthralled by Conway's compelling narrative and whimsical humor. First the good news: BUCKRAMMER was not in any immediate danger of sinking. Whatever had caused her to flood was no longer at work. On the downside, the electrical system was clearly shot. Sooner rather than later, I'd have to determine where the water came from in the first place. If this happened once, it most certainly could happen again. The pleasures of boating are indeed so many and varied. A useful and instructive appendix reveals the technical details of the ongoing restoration process, including the tools involved, the best sources of materials, and plans for some of the more challenging and rewarding additions (such as the binnacle, skylight, and fireplace).

In the winter of 1993 our family did something impetuously reckless by purchasing BUCKRAMMER, an almost 100-year-old, leak-and-rust-plagued, repair-hungry wooden boat... Sound familiar? We thought so. The humour with which Conway tackles family cruising aboard his 1908 24 ft. (7.3m) Charles Crosby Catboat is guaranteed to keep the reader chuckling, as he slides from past to present and back again, each time drawing in another catboat from his past with its own unique character. The narrative is real and unfussy and, frankly, funny as he chronicles a decade of cruising New England waters. The useful appendix at the end reveals technical details of the ongoing restoration process of BUCKRAMMER, including the tools involved, the best sources for materials and plans for improvements. Fun for all the family. (Classic Boat) In Catboat Summers, the anecdotes, discoveries, dangers, frustrations and laughter blend seamlessly together to form a poignant tapestry of boating family life. And it's easy to feel affection for this catboat. BUCKRAMMER grows in stature with every chapter, becoming a full fledged member of the Conway family in her own right. It takes a true craftsman to bring a boat to life on the page in all her throbbing color. (Sailing) This delightful book illuminates one of the least common and most involving of the potential pleasures available to adventurous boat owners the stewardship of a beautiful and noteworthy antique wooden boat. John Conway is a man who takes seriously his role as caretaker of an irreplaceable treasure. The author, through a process intimately connected to his personal and family history, acquired one of the historic catboats built at the Crosby yard in the early 20th century. Conway calls his boat a woodpile and refers frequently to the uncertainties and frustrations of maintaining a boat fast approaching its 100th birthday, but his affection for BUCKRAMMER shines from every page. (Living Aboard) About the Author John E. Conway has been sailing in New England since 1960, when his parents gave him an 8 pram with which to explore. Some of the stories in this book originally appeared as part of a regular feature in the magazine Messing About in Boats. Conway lives with his wife, children, and the 24 Crosby catboat BUCKRAMMER in Winchester, Massachusetts.