



A model of the finished hull



The plywood molds in place



Fairing the hull with a longboard

The planing hull is strip planked with carbon fiber and light-weight fiber glass. The draft with fin and bulb is 10ft., and displacement is 1.162 kg.

Work on RF33 is well advanced and a major milestone was reached on October 31st when the completed hull was turned. RF33 is too big to maneuver within Rene's workshop, so this was a delicate operation that involved Rene and a small army of friends carrying the hull out of the workshop, turning it manually within straps suspended from a crane and then lowering it onto wheel blocks, previously attached to the hull, so that it can now be wheeled around the workshop with ease.

Now Rene's biggest problem is raising the US\$ 75,000 for materials for the project – his labour is free - so he and his wife, Daniela, have come up with a crowd-funding model to raise the capital required.

They are hoping to attract support from both local businesses and the growing number of sailing enthusiasts who visit Grenada for events such as Grenada Sailing Week – and also cruising visitors who might want to give competitive racing a try.

In exchange for sponsorship of US\$2,000 or more, Rene and

Daniela are offering the opportunity to sail on RF33 at one of the local regattas including onshore accommodation if they need it.

A local business, The Canvas Shop, Grenada, has donated support with equipment and the Froehlichs have already signed their first major sponsor, Hugh Pringle, a regular visitor to Grenada Sailing Week from the UK.

Explaining his decision to support the project Hugh said: "Because I have gained so much personal pleasure from racing – particularly in Grenadian waters – I am keen that young people here share in this experience. Not only will it help them build their confidence, teamwork and positive attitude, but it will also harness the enthusiasm of Grenada's up and coming sailing talent and enable them to develop their skills in a competitive international sailing environment."

And Grenada's junior sailors can't wait. Rene says teenagers from the Gouyave Sailing Club have already asked to book their place on RF33 and want to know whether it will be ready for Grenada Sailing Week 2015. Fingers crossed!

Find out more about RF33 at www.grenadateamsailing.com and on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/grenadateamsailing>