

# From the Galley Table

BY DAVID RAHN

## Splashdown

PHOTOS BY LORNA BARCHARD



Capt. Barb Howe watches as her new home hits the Fraser for the first time.



It takes heavy machinery to control the descent.



Maximum heel. A washer and dryer inside were well bolted down (the fridge was placed on its side for the occasion) and a piano which had been delivered just days before the launch was secured in the kitchen area with shrink wrap.



Success. Brent Mowat moves the CHALLENGER VI in to take over the tow.



*Deck Watch* columnist Capt. Barb Howe launched her new home into the Fraser River on September 22, 2008. It's a unique float-house consisting of a custom two-storey Pan-Abode on an International Marine Floatation Systems (IMF) concrete float. The components were constructed and assembled at the Vito Shipyard site on the Fraser River's South Arm. Mundies Towing provided the heavy machinery for the launch (with Jimmy and Mike in control) and Brent Mowat of Canoe Pass Towing skippered the tug CHALLENGER VI for the tow to the final destination in Annacis Channel. IMF provided champagne for the christening and friends and well-wishers provided extra for a launch celebration. Splashdown was fittingly timed for the September equinox to take advantage of a semi-diurnal tide with a small drop of just 2.5 ft between the highs (see Barb's *Deck Watch Quiz 11* in the November 2005 issue for more on tides). ◀



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