

We have been haunting the scratch and dent stores for months looking for a new refrigerator. The one that came with the boat is a GE side by side that is ten years old and really inefficient. We have been looking for a three door, stainless steel that has to be counter depth. We decided that for our wedding anniversary we would “bite the bullet” and buy a new one and not a scratch and dent one. Time for a big project! Of course we picked a weekend just after I had a little foot surgery and wouldn't be much help.



First thing to do is grab a couple of coolers and unload the old unit. Unidentifiable things are thrown out and some cleaning is done. Once Henry moves it out from its space it touches the counter across from it. He squeezes behind it and starts disconnecting the water line and taking off doors. Now he can wiggle it out into the open area, lay it on its side on a blanket and push/pull it up the

two stairs into the saloon. Now I can help slide it and lift it over the door jam and he can stand it up in the cockpit and we can plug it in and reload it. Okay, one refrigerator out!

Henry had picked up the new refrigerator the night before and it spent the night in the back of his truck backed up to the marina garage. Now he starts unpacking it and removing the doors and hinges....still in the truck. We aren't sure who is going to help get it on the boat. We have asked a couple of marina guys and made some phone calls but nothing seems to be working out. So we continue to do it ourselves....me as much as I can do.



Someone is looking out for us because our slip neighbor “Digger” and another guy stop by and ask if they can help. Why, YES YOU CAN!!! Henry has borrowed a hand truck and they slide it off of the pick up truck onto the hand truck. Rolling it down the dock is the easy part. Now we all stand there looking at the refrigerator



and looking at the boat and looking at the refrigerator and looking at the boat....you get the picture. Since the tide is low we all decide that lifting it onto the boat via the swim platform and over the “wall” is the best way. Henry pulls on the lines so that the boat gets closer to the dock. They lay the unit down and with two guys on the boat and me and the other guy on the dock we slide it toward the boat and the four of us pick it up and rest it on the “wall”. Then the three of them keep going into the saloon. Now it is time to lay it down again and slide it down the stairs into the galley. Voila! We have the new refrigerator in the boat...sans doors of course but on the boat.



Now Henry starts hooking up the water supply, putting the doors back on, and loading all of the food from the old one into the new one. It is just a little deeper than the old one so we will have to get used to a little less space in the galley. Finally, it is done and we love it!

It wasn't quite as big a project as we imagined. Another GH boat, Double JJ, replaced their refrigerator recently while "on the hard" and graciously gave us the details so we were somewhat prepared. And again we are grateful to our dock buddies who helped Henry with the heavy lifting.

We hope we have a "buyer" for the old refrigerator, still running in our cockpit. If he has changed his mind there will be a side by side refrigerator on Craigslist tomorrow night! Then another project will be completed! Whew.....



*Remember, the world is seven tenths water. We should spend seven tenths of our time on it.*