

## Voyaging on MaaMalni - 2008-2009



April 20, 2008

### Name That Chicken

The problem is “stuffed chicken” is an inadequate name for this accomplished creature. Most people would agree that there is something special in all creatures great and small. Circumstance of when and where one exists creates opportunity for impact on the world stage. When mentioning the names of some great figures in history (George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Joan of Arc, Lassie, Sea Biscuit, Winnie the Pooh) many incredible stories come to mind. We have a current situation where our special stuffed chicken has amazingly performed near miracles in the past and is about to be thrust into a new challenge of extraordinary proportion aboard the sailing yacht MaaMalni.

**We seek assistance**, from all who are capable and willing, in naming our special chicken. On the following pages are brief stories about our special chicken and a description of the journey and task about to be undertaken by this amazing fowl. The purpose of these stories is to assist in finding the proper name befitting our hero and to inform the world about this larger than life story.

Please submit name suggestions to [craiga@weconnectu2.com](mailto:craiga@weconnectu2.com)



Keri Secord & Stuffed Chicken



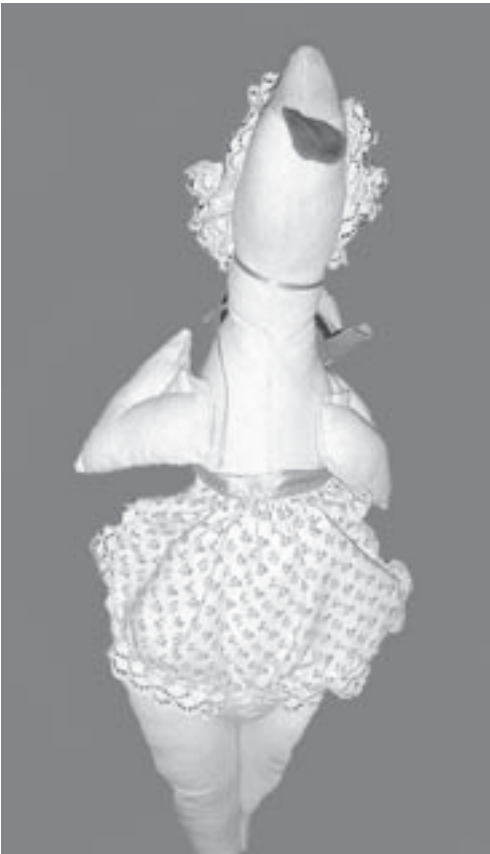
Stuffed Chicken

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In the beginning (date unknown, but approximate year 1993), the future wife of Charles B. created stuffed chicken (hereafter referred to as “**SC**”). The early years and activities of **SC** have not been recorded so little is known of its development into the accomplished hero we know today. If anyone is familiar with the early years of **SC**, we request that information be submitted to us for future generations to enjoy.

In 1997, Charles B. joined the company New Tech, Inc. (which I owned at the time) as a graphic production technician. One of his many duties was to perform daily and weekly maintenance on the imagesetter and film processor. To the delight of all involved the company was very successful.



Stuffed Chicken at ballet practice



Stuffed Chicken relaxing in the rocking chair

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Bright and early on day four, Charles B. brings **SC** to work with him. He hangs **SC** on a string over the top of the troubled equipment and goes about his normal daily duties. The equipment technicians arrived to begin attaching the problems anew and behold as soon as they started the equipment it ran perfectly. Nothing had been changed from the previous day except **SC** was hanging above. This is when all who were present recognized that **SC** was extraordinary.

Over the next four years many changes occurred at this company. New equipment was acquired. Older equipment needed to be relocated or retired. Charles B. and wife relocated to another part of the state. The very gracious Mr. & Mrs. B. decided that **SC** belongs with the friends and equipment at New Tech, Inc. Through it all, **SC** remained in an honored position above the main equipment room.

From time to time, mechanical and/or computer devices through out the building (not in the equipment room) would experience operational challenges. The people familiar with **SC** knew that as soon as **SC** was brought near the ailing equipment, the problem would be resolved. In some cases the problem was associated with a failing part that the operator finally recognized as the source when assisted by the presence of **SC**. Need I say more regarding the power of **SC**.

Whereas, **SC** became locally famous for its power, owners of equipment similar to that operated at New Tech, Inc. requested a picture of **SC** be sent to their establishments. These companies respectfully hung the picture on the wall in the equipment room. It has been reported by many to me that smoothness of operation had greatly improved with the addition of said picture. Although, in many cases the power transmitted via the picture was not enough to overcome complex equipment failures.

When it came time for me to divest myself of New Tech, Inc., I made arrangements for **SC** to accompany the original equipment for which it had developed its fame and power, to the equipments new home. The new owner is Secord Printing. May I say with a straight face, that the installation at Secord of the equipment began with placing **SC** above the new location and that said equipment was operational in half the expected time.

Additionally, Secord Printing found itself in need of a new facility. The location of **SC** at all times was carefully considered when planning the move. It was reported that the move went much better than anyone had expected.

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Another testament of the power of **SC** occurred in Virginia. In one of my next great adventures in life, I came to know a publisher of several newspapers in the Mid Atlantic region. They had a fire in their pressroom which shut down the entire chain for a couple days until other printing arrangements could be made. To be sure, the people served by this publisher were unhappy at not getting their community newspaper. When I heard of his plight, I made arrangements to loan **SC** to him for the duration of reconstructing the pressroom and printing press. Again, **SC** performed a near miracle. While hanging in the corner, the building repairs and getting their press running again was accomplished in record time.

This last story brings me to the current situation for the sailing vessel MaaMalni. My dear friends Mike Bell and his spouse Suzan Nettleship are on an adventure extraordinaire. They are sailing around the world, as members of the World ARC "Around the World Rally". I won't go into details of this event as they are available online at [www.worldcruising.com](http://www.worldcruising.com). What I will briefly discuss is my futile efforts to date at providing them a talisman of appropriate strength to ensure a trouble free experience.

I had a faulty belief that a common \$2.97 rubber chicken (hereafter referred to as **RC**), who has been introduced to **SC** and actually rubbed against **SC** (this is not a sexual event) would provide the desired results. Now I did provide **RC** to Mike and Suzan shortly after they acquired the fine yacht that eventually would be named MaaMalni. I observed **RC** being properly installed over the engine. HUMMMM!! We probably should have noticed little things that didn't go well during local sea trials and refitting of many systems on MaaMalni. But alas, we didn't pay attention. If you read the many log entries associated with the shakedown trip to Alaska in the spring 2007 and the accumulation of mechanical events that have occurred on the trip from Seattle to Galapagos Islands, fall 2007 to spring 2008 you will see a pattern of utter failure on the part of **RC**.

Mike and Suzan are now at wits end. Again many stories are properly recorded in the log entry copies available on this website. Please read to your hearts content, go to [www.weconnectu2.com](http://www.weconnectu2.com) near the bottom of the home page will be a link to MaaMalni.

Per their request and with the graciousness of Keri Secord of Secord Printing, **SC** is loaned to and will be transported to Tahiti, where it will be properly be installed on MaaMalni for the duration of their around the world adventure.