Cape Dory 25 Cradle

I took the lines from the remnants of the original cradle that came with my boat and another that I found in a boat yard. Both were the same minus the makeshift repairs that were caused by wear and rot. I assume that they are the original shipping cradle design. I drew the plans from the measurements I took off the cradles. Last fall I built a cradle to put my CD25 on for winter storage. The one I made worked out well and the guy from the boatyard must have approved of it also as he put my boat on it and placed it next to other boats in the yard.

I built the cradle using pressure treated lumber and plywood, bolts (3/8x8" SS)
I built the 4x4 bottom frame upside down first. This way the nuts end up on top (facing up) so they can be tightened every year. Then I turned the frame over and made the upright sections.

The three upright sections are made up of the plywood bolted and screwed to the two upright 2x4's. The completed sections are then bolted to the frame, both to the cross member 4x4 and the 10' length of 4x4. The upright sections are cut from a ½ sheet of PW and are 4' wide. (I tried to cut it out of one sheet by cutting each of the center and stem sections as two separate pieces but needed another ¼ sheet to do that). So it would be just as easy to cut a sheet in half, trace the pattern and cut it out as one solid piece and attach the up right 2x4's with screws and then bolt the unit to the frame. Bolt them together with the plywood sandwiched between the 4x4 cross member and the 2x4 upright.

The upper side rails get bolted on next and then the diagonal support side rails. The diagonal rails are attached to the port and starboard sides in the opposite way.

Cutting out the plywood was the most difficult because of the shape and not having a cross section of the boat at that point to trace them out but, the important part is getting the slots cut wide enough as the boat really sits on its keel and **not** on the plywood.. If you cut it short it's OK as you could just put a wedge between the frame and the boat.

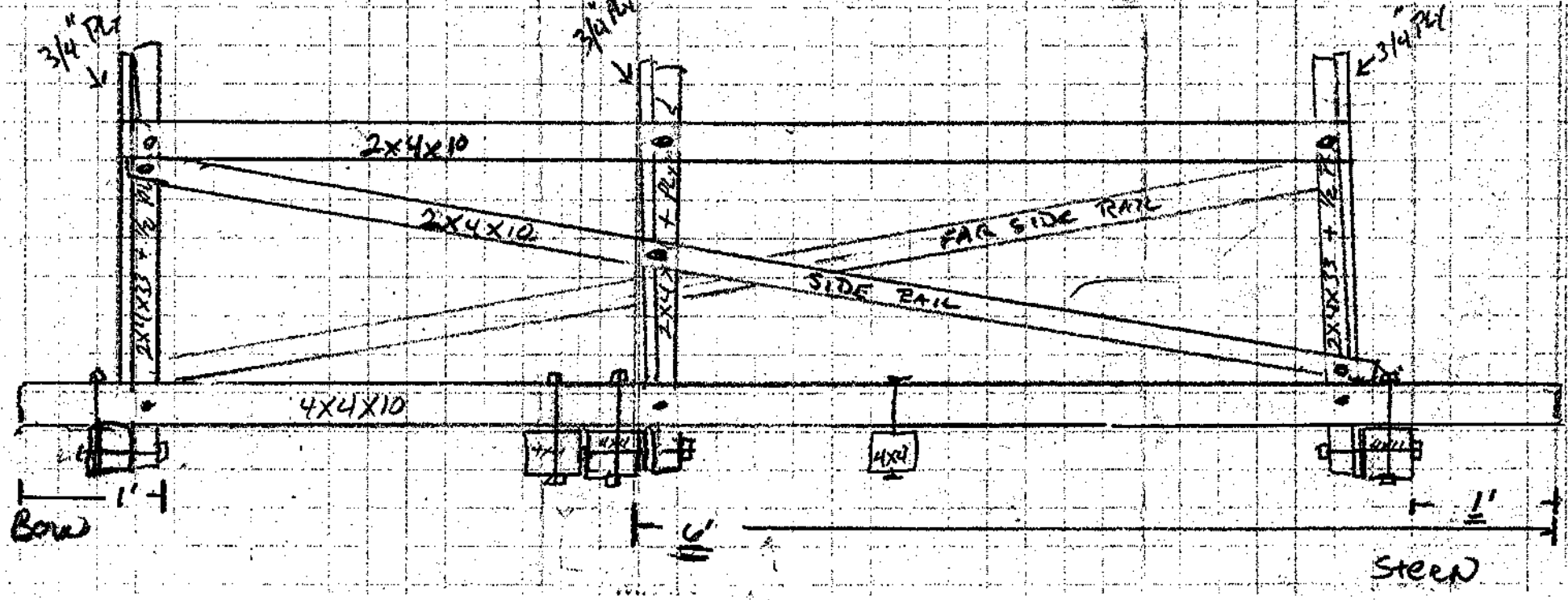
Good luck,
Brian McGowan

9/02

B. McGowan

CAPE DORY 25
Boat Cradle

SIDE VIEW

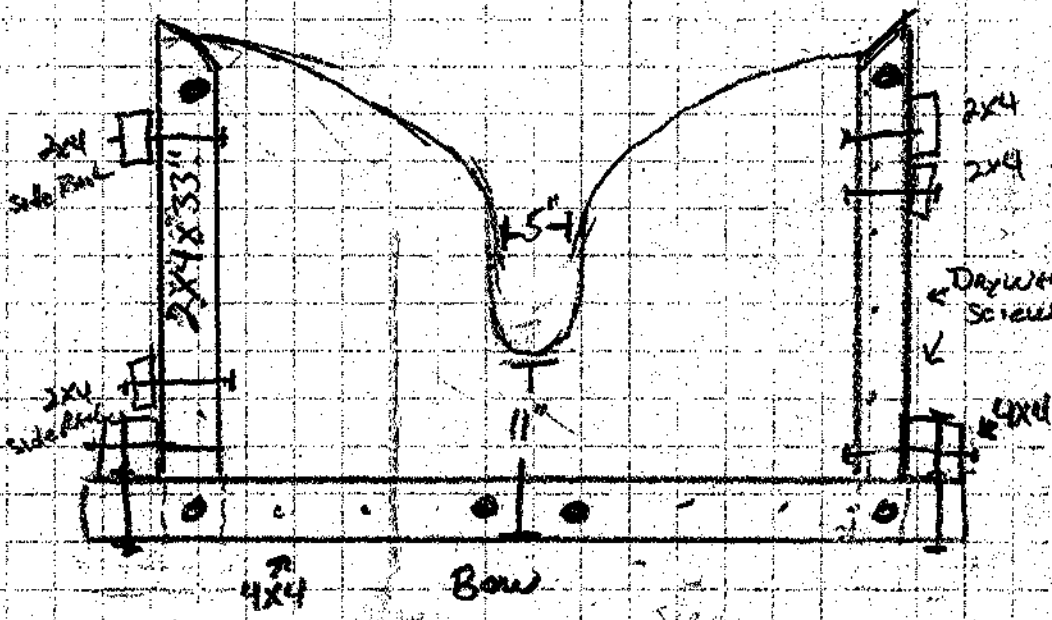


Supplies:-

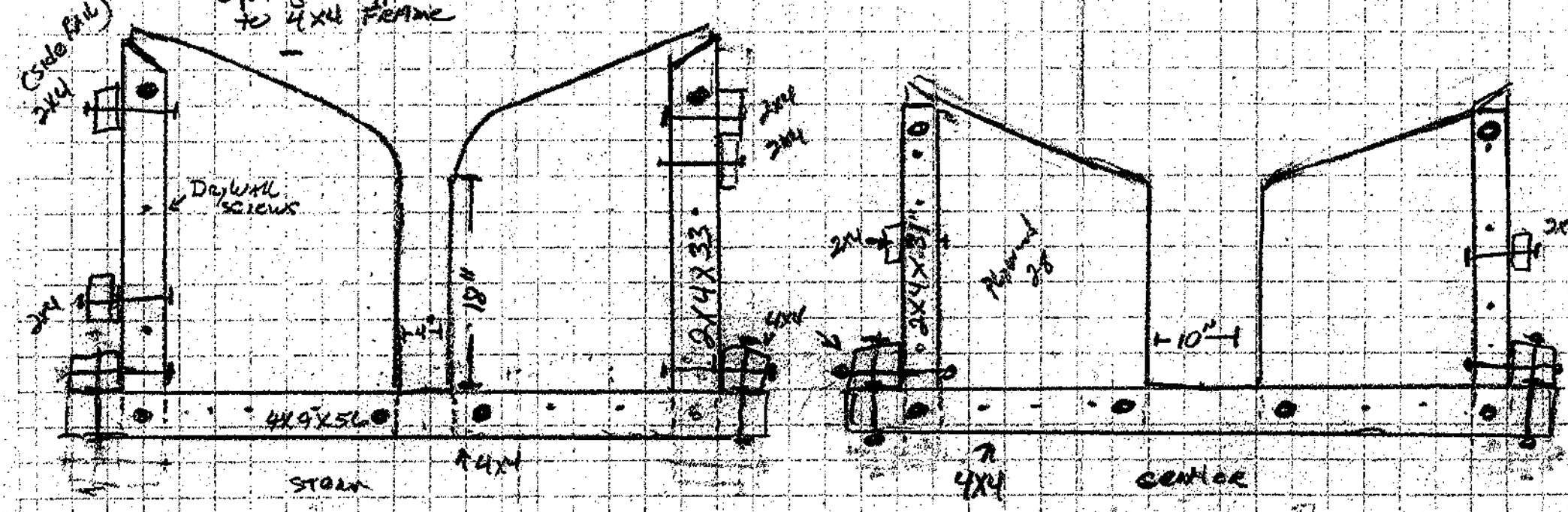
4 - 4X4X10 Pressure Treated
2 - 2X4X10
3 - 2X4X6
1½ - Sheets 3/4 4X8 Pressure Treated Plywood
38 - 3/8" Bolts
1 Box - 2" Deck Screws
1 - 4X4X6

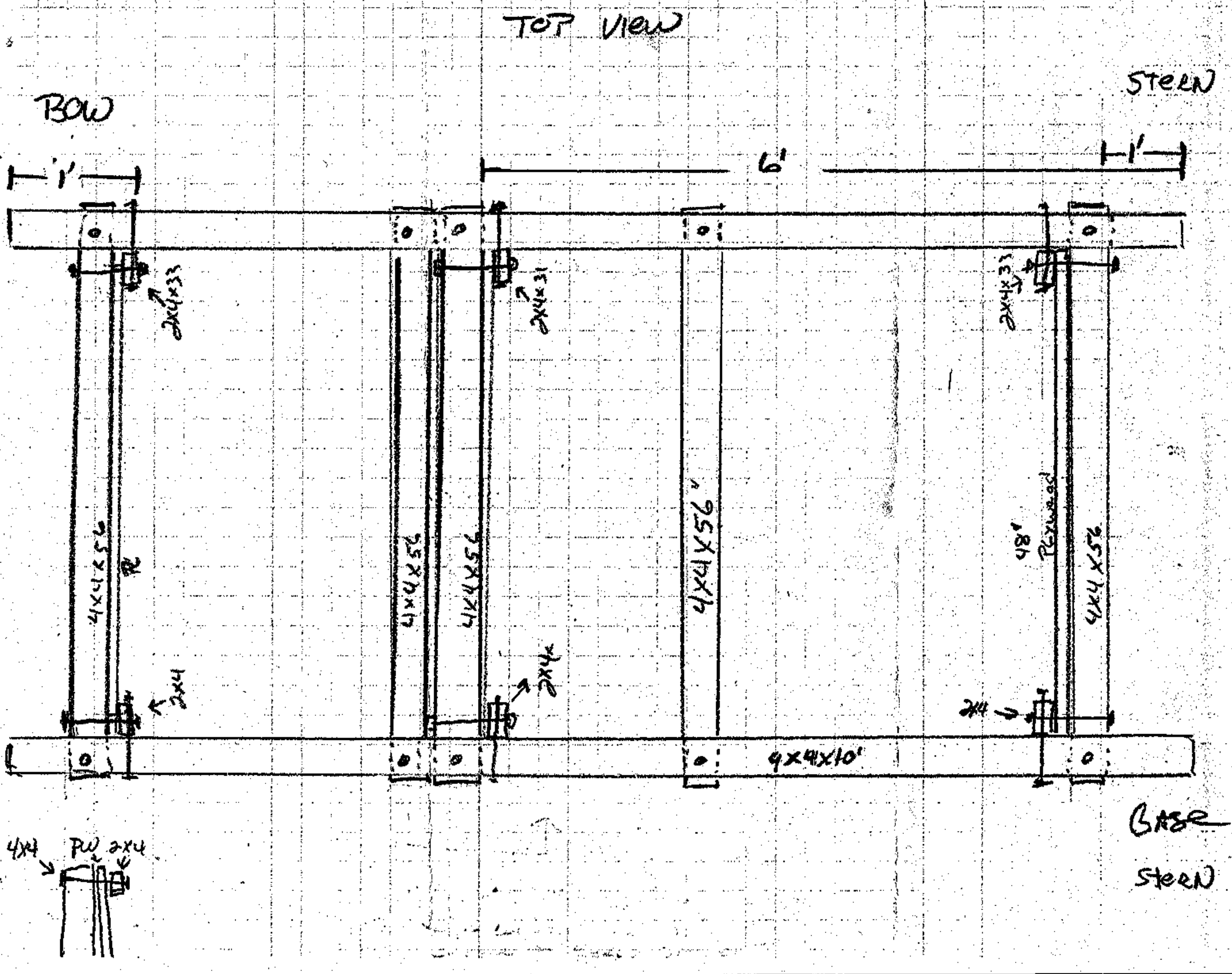
For UP Rights.
Sandwich Plywood Between 4X4 & 2X4's And Bolt

● - Bolts
• - Screws



- UP Rights Are cut out of ½ Sheet 4X8 Plywood.
- Each Section is 48" wide and Bolted/Screwed to 2X4's. UP Right Supports are Then Bolted to 4X4 Frame





TOP VIEW
BOW
STERN
1'
6'
1'
2x4x33
2x4x31
2x4x33
4x4x56
4x4x56
4x4x56
4x4x56"
4x4x56
48"
Plywood
2x4
2x4
2x4
4x4x10'
Base
Stern
4x4
PW
2x4