

## Paul Grimard

### **Basic Stats:**

- What is(are) your name(s)? **Paul Grimard**
- What do you do for a living? **Disabled**
- How many people do you/will be living in your tiny house? **1**
- What part of the country do you live in? **(I will answer all questions with mini camper first then the home I have designed) camper can sleep 3 but 1 will use./ House will have 2 bed rooms. Rite now in NY the house will be built in FL.**
- How many square feet is your house? **72/640**
- When did you start your build? **March/some time in 2014/15**
- Is your house complete? **Yes/planning stages**
- Have you been documenting your tiny house build and if so, where can people find that information? **Yes full camper pics including pre design are on my facebook page. (sorry it is not public) / house will definitely be.**

### **Background:**

- Why did you decide to build? **It was about 1/10 the cost and got what I wanted/ house will be the same as well as being container will be hurricane resistant.**
- What was your life like before your tiny house? **I lived in a camper for 3 years. Enjoyed life with less stuff.** Were you fairly active yes, have you always had 'projects' going on? **YES!!!** Were you fairly sedentary and looking for a change? **no** Did you tend to work too much? (This question is an effort at trying to figure out WHO gravitates to the tiny house lifestyle) **(I do to much work for my**

**disability I some times way over do the amount and pay for it the next couple days.**

- How did you come to hear about the movement, figure out it was right for you and and get started? **Being forced due to circumstance to live in a camper and ended up enjoying the life as well as the lowers costs.**
- What is/was your design inspiration? **They just come out of my head. Form and function. Several design ideas have come from Deek.**

***Technical:***

- How do/did you find the time to work on your house with a job, kid(s), relationships, AND building a house? Did you do anything special to keep the balance? **Lucky here disabled allowed me the freedom to work on it when I was able. Being single helped 😊. My daughter helped with some of the work as well.**
- Have you run into any problems with your local codes? How did you solve them? **Not yet. I am looking for property now for the house/community in FL that I would like to set up. It will have to be zoned to build tiny/container homes so that will dictate where I purchase the property.**
- Where did you get the tools that you use? Were they yours, borrowed, rented etc.? **Own all my own tools.**
- How long did (are you expecting) construction to take? **Camper took 5 months house should take about the same doing 90% of the work myself.**
- Have you/were you able to stay on schedule? **NO!!!**
- What is/was the most time consuming portion of your build? **The finish work. But the up side to that part is that every thing you do completes a portion. I think the most challenging part of the build with in-between putting up the main supports and the finish work as it just never seems to be going as fast as you would like and doesn't look like you get much done.**
- What is/was the most limiting factor for your build? **My physical ability to work. There were days I just could not work on it.**

- Is your house on a trailer? If yes, how do you attach to the trailer? How do you move your tiny house? (Do you have a truck, do you hire it done?) **yes for the camper no for the new planed house.**
- Do you have accessory houses/dwellings that you use to supplement storage/working/living? **No**
- Where did you get your plans? **Drew them my self.**
- Have you consulted any 'professionals'? (structural, mechanical, plumbing, design etc.)? **Yes (my father has been in construction all his life)**
- Are you insuring your house? With who? **No on camper and yes on house but will have to wait to find a provider**
- Have you been using any sponsorships to help fund your house? How do you go about finding that sponsorship? **No**

***Specifics:***

- What sort of items do you have for cooking? **LP Gas/ probably the same**
- Are you tied to the power grid or are you off grid? **Camper and house will be a Mix of both. Lighting and low wattage stuff will be off grid wile fridge/freezer and sensitive electronics will be on grid.**
- Are you going to have a washer and/or dryer? **No/Yes**
- Where does your water come from? **Holding tank/well**
- What kind of toilet are you going to have? **None/low flush standard**
- What do you use for a heat source if anything? **None/will have a small pellet stove for the 3-5 days where you need it.**
- What are some of the space savings tricks you used? **Leave no space unused. Under beds benches stairs shelves. Anyplace you don't put your feet you put storage.**
- What do you have for insulation? **1-inch urethane/ will have 6 inches min cotton batting.**

- Where are you planning to park your tiny house? **Camper I go camping in campground. The house I plan on setting up an area for 5-10 container homes and mini houses.**

**Personal:**

- How much will/did your tiny house cost? **600.00/15,000**
- What is/was the most expensive part of your house? **The lumber/appliances**
- 'Best' injury story (worst injury)? **I worked 2 days straight for 10+ hours each day. Wile not so bad in itself but with major arthritis I set off a flair up that lead to a massive fever from the pain. I learned that day to take it a bit easy hehehehe**
- What has been your biggest accomplishment with your tiny house? **Taking it out camping for the first time.**
- What is/will be the biggest benefit to living in a tiny house? **Having so much less to clean/heat/cool resulting in more time and money so less stress.**
- Is there anything you'll miss about living in a standard house? What will you miss the most? **NO!!!**
- What has been the scariest part about building your own house? **Wondering if you will ever finish (this will be my 3<sup>rd</sup> real house)**
- If you could change one thing about your house what would it be? **Location!!! To damn cold up here.**
- Did you have cash in hand to complete your build, pay as you go or take out a loan to construct your house? **Payed as I go/will have full cash to build next one.**
- Have friends and family been skeptical or supportive of your ideas? **Very Supportive.**
- Is there anything else you would want other people to know about your house and build? **Just to try and think ahead. One thing I did was to take chalk and**

**draw out the plans on a garage floor so I could walk around it and see how things fit.**