

# BLUE WATER LOG

## INTRODUCTION

This is the 40<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Blue Water Log*. Published annually since 1978, the *Log* is a comprehensive archive of significant Blue Water Sailing Club cruises, land events, unique accomplishments by members, and a few facts and figures.

I am grateful to all the contributors to this edition. I also want to thank my editorial predecessor David Kettner for his good work over the last few years, and for his help and guidance putting this 2017 issue together.

**Mark J. Gabrielson**  
*Log Editor and Club Historian*

## COMMODORE'S REMARKS

Commodore Aedan Gleeson spoke at the Club's Annual Meeting of Members on October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the South Shore Country Club in Hingham. It was a gracious farewell as Aedan capped off his year of leadership:



“It has been a great privilege to be your Commodore for 2017. In particular, I want to point out that we have a great Board of Governors. I would like to thank Roy Greenwald, Steve Ricci, Cynthia DeVine, Manny Hontoria, Stephen Lee, Roy Mayne, Diane Hontoria, Peter Dempsey, Wally Feldman, Ann Welch, Doug Robinson, Suzanne Struss, Peter Davidoff, Betsy Fermano, Dennis McKay, Gail Greenwald, Don Kaplan, Mark Struss, David Russ, and Brenda Miccio. These great people meet every month, looking after your interests as BWSC members.”

Aedan acknowledged the many accomplishments of the year. He highlighted the Club's success in the 2017 Marion-Bermuda Race:

“We had the most BWSC boats ever in the Marion Bermuda Race (9). Not only did they participate but won nearly every class including First Overall, won by Chip Bradish.”

Aedan also had the honor of presenting the 2017 Commodore's Trophy, the recipient selected by the Commodore in recognition of a special contributor to the club:

“I would like to present the Commodore's Award to someone who has given his time not in a public way but behind the scenes. His work includes phone calls, follow-ups, more follow-ups, follow throughs and more follow ups, As Chair of the Membership Committee he plays a vital role in the lifeline of the club. He brings new members through the process of becoming either Transitional or Regular members. It's a volunteer position that takes effort and consistency. I am pleased to present the 2017 Commodore's Trophy to Peter Dempsey!”



Aedan closed his remarks with a reminder that Blue Water Sailing Club is run and energized entirely by its members. He asked everyone to think of ways they can contribute their time and skills to make the Club even better:

“This is an all-volunteer enterprise. We always need more volunteers! Hopefully the following quotes will inspire you to get involved in your club –

*“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”* - Winston Churchill

*“The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away.”* - William Shakespeare

*“The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention.”* - Oscar Wilde.”

The entire Blue Water Sailing Club thanks Aedan for his great leadership in 2017.

## **WINTER SEMINARS and EVENTS**

### **Joe Harris’s Circumnavigation**

Another successful BWSC winter seminar series began on January 21 with a presentation by Joe Harris on his attempted fast circumnavigation aboard a Volvo Open 40.



In his report to the Board of Governors, Rear Commodore Steve Ricci wrote:

“Thanks to Catherine LaCause who organized this excellent session. A good group turned out to hear Joe Harris’s tale of his dream, preparations and adventures on his solo circumnavigation on an Open Class 40. Joe was well prepared with a dynamic presentation which generated a lively Q&A.

There were 17 paying BWSC members, three additional members who are also members of the Beverly Yacht Club, and approximately another 20 BYC members.”

Thank you to Joe, Catherine and our friends at the Beverly Yacht Club for organizing and supporting such an inspiring presentation.

### **Lisa Gabrielson at the 2016 Rio Olympics**



Holding aside this editor’s obvious biases, journalist Lisa Gabrielson gave an informative and sobering presentation on her experiences covering the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio, as well as the status of American competitive sailing. Lisa was the only sailing-specific reporter at the Games.



Steve Ricci wrote a summary of the event for the Board of Governors:

“The Seminar on February 4 was held at the Blackmoor Bar and Restaurant in Charlestown. Twenty-eight signed up to hear Lisa Gabrielson, Associate Editor of *Sailing World Magazine* gave a well-prepared presentation on her assignment covering the sailing events at last summer’s Olympics in Brazil.

Vincent Miccio wrapped up the session at the Blackmoor with a very helpful tutorial on how members can use the Club’s new website. The members present all agreed that the new website is an improvement over the previous version. Thank you to Vince and the entire website renovation team!

### **Annual Ski Trip**



Once each year, the BWSC becomes, in effect, the Blue Water Ski Club. The 2017 event was organized and hosted by Ellie and Richard Scherr. Ellie and Rich have spent the last 40 winters enjoying Waterville Valley in New Hampshire. Rich and Ellie opened their lovely home to the membership and arranged two receptions and dinners over the snowy February 10 – 12 weekend.



Rear Commodore Steve Ricci wrote:

“Ellie and Rich Scherr hosted our annual ski-weekend at Waterville Valley in the deepest winter weather of the season. Twenty members had planned to attend. From Ellie’s report:

*‘With 6-8 inches of fresh powder, great company, delicious food, how could it have been bad? It seems like everyone really enjoyed their outdoor experiences. Saturday night we had a cozy quiet room at the restaurant and spent a couple of hours sharing sailing stories! Always the best! The weekend went by very fast and appeared to be a great success’.*”

It’s difficult to thank the Scherrs enough for their hospitality. Everyone who participated had a fantastic time, and their generosity was amazing.

### **Biennial Marion-Bermuda Race Safety-at-Sea Symposium**

The 2017 Safety at Sea Symposium was held at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, March 11 and 12. It is a US Sailing sanctioned event. and is a collaboration among several organizations interested in promoting offshore safety for offshore cruisers and racers.

The Safety-at-Sea Symposium is sponsored by the Marion-Bermuda Cruising Yacht Association and run by BWSC, one of the three sponsors of the Marion Bermuda Race. The



others are the Royal Hamilton Amateur Dingy Club and the Beverly Yacht Club. The Marblehead to Halifax Ocean Race also has participated in the planning of the event and encourages their participants to attend.



BWSC member Ed Stott (above) chaired the symposium, and along with a vast team of volunteers, he made this complex event go exceptionally well. Nearly 300 people attended. It included presentations by a series of noteworthy speakers like Bill Biewenga, Michael Jacobs, M.D., Captain Henry Marx, and Frank Bohlen, Ph.D. On the second day, participants worked on practical safety training such as PFD and life raft deployment in the UMass pool.



Thank you to Ed and the other BWSC members involved who made the 2017 Marion-Bermuda Race Safety-at-Sea Symposium such a success.

## Near Shore and Offshore Communications

Dan Gingras organized and presented an expert overview of the latest telecommunications technologies available to cruising sailors at the Constitution Inn in Charlestown.

Rear Commodore Steve Ricci reported:

“We held the Near-shore and Offshore Communications Seminar on March 25. Dan Gingras did an outstanding job with a very comprehensive presentation. His slides which contain a lot of information are now on the website.”

Here’s a link to Dan’s slides on the Club website. You’ll need to sign-in first:

[Dan Gingras's Slides on Telecommunications](#)

## Annual Spring Dinner

*By: Pat Dieselman*

Once again Corinthian Yacht Club was the venue for our 2017 BWSC Spring Dinner on May 20. The event was chaired by Pat Marshall and myself. The evening started off with a New Members Reception in the Trophy Room with new members and their sponsors enjoying cocktails with our Flag Officers.

Over 100 members attended the event in the Ballroom where they enjoyed cocktails before sitting down to a wonderful buffet dinner.

The program for the evening mostly consisted of the Cruise chairs enticing members with plans for their upcoming Cruises. Allan McLean spoke about the upcoming Marion-Bermuda Race. Past Commodore Mark Gabrielson then presented current Commodore Aedan Gleeson with a yacht club-regulation “cover”



(hat) to wear at the Marion-Bermuda Race ceremonies at the Dinghy Club in Bermuda in June.

The evening passed by quickly with everyone trying to catch up with each other and hearing the latest news. For those of us who enjoy dancing, we danced the night away with the Don Kaplan Band! A good time was had by all.

Good Times! Good Sailing! Good Friends!



## CRUISES

### Women's Cruise

*By: Kiran Mundy*

The 20th Annual Women's Cruise took place this year from July 23rd-27th. *Iphigenia* started out in Salem on Sunday morning, with Pat (Dieselman), Ann, Kiran and Cynthia (DeVine) who was hitching a ride to Scituate to meet *Lambay*. We arrived at Scituate in the afternoon and were joined by *Sea Change* crewed by Kate (Mullins) and Linda (Allen). *Lambay*



arrived shortly afterwards with Bernie (Gleeson), Jane (Durna), and Cecily (Grable).



That evening we met up with Bonnie Dehner and her mother Harriet Goldman, who is a founding member of BWSC, at the Satuit Tavern for a cozy evening with excellent food & drink!



The next day we explored Scituate downtown, the interesting trinkets and beads stores and the harbor area. Those of us who had underestimated the overnight temperatures were lucky enough to find picnic blankets at the local CVS. The plan was to stay Monday in Scituate and depart on Tuesday for Provincetown.





Monday evening the weather turned rainy, stormy and windy. The *Lambay* and *Sea Change* crews made the prudent decision to return to their boats early, while *Iphigenia's* crew recklessly decided to stay on at the club house. Our reward was delicious appetizers/drinks rustled up by friendly crew relatives in Scituate and the launch captain was kind enough to drop us back to our boat afterwards.

The next morning boat captains decided to stay an extra day in Scituate and delay our Provincetown departure to Wednesday morning.



Some of us walked across to the lighthouse, enjoyed the views and the high crashing waves dashing against the rocks, glad we were not out there sailing. Our local

contacts helped us procure some fresh lobsters and we had an excellent lobster cookout on Tuesday evening.



On Wednesday we had a very calm and lovely sail across to Provincetown. We spent the day exploring the town and enjoyed excellent views from the library and the “surprise” inside. The final day was capped with a nice communal dinner at Pepe’s.





Thursday morning, we departed for home ports, where some of us had barely a few hours of rest before an approaching front forced an early departure to join the Maine Cruise.



Aside from the camaraderie & fun social evenings, one of the things I took away from the BWSC Women's Cruise was that I learned that I knew more than I thought about sailing. By the end of the women's cruise, I'd gained in confidence enough to take my 15-year-old and her friends out on a "girls cruise" on my own.

If you're like me and want to gain confidence in sailing (plus have fun doing it), I highly recommend captaining your own boat on next year's cruise.

## Blue Hill (Maine) Cruise

*By: Bernie Coyne and Starr Tofil*

# Blue Hill Cruise 2017

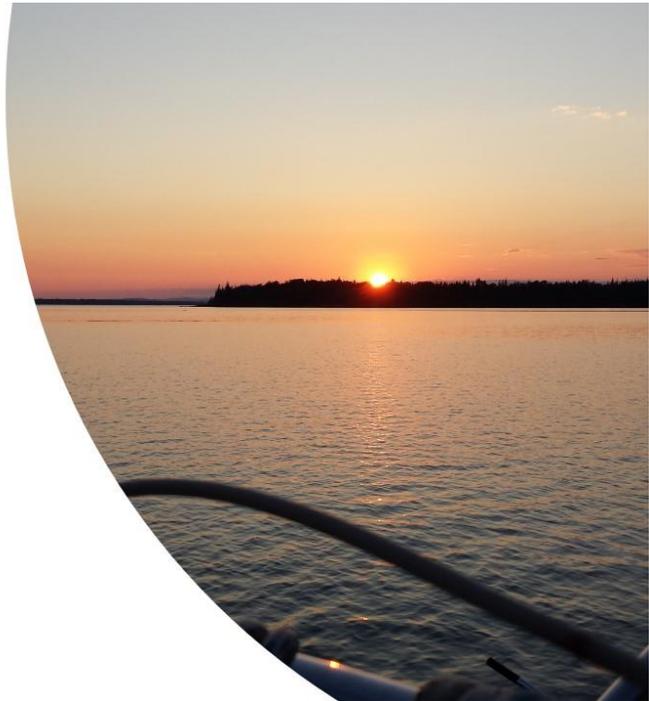
The goal of the Blue Hill Maine Cruise this year was to enable sailors to enjoy sailing from one harbor to the next rather than having long legs that required motoring to arrive before sunset. We also wanted to visit spots that were unfamiliar or rarely visited by members. Shorter legs also meant later morning starts, allowing the wind to fill in. We think we achieved this objective with almost all legs of the cruise being less than 20nm per day and 31 boats registered. Cocktail party socials were the norm most evenings.





## Mon July 31 Long Cove / Tenants Harbor

This was the first stop on our way to our ultimate destination. Long Cove is a very large protected bay just beside Tenants Harbor but without the lobster boats ☺. We kicked off the first of the daily cocktail hours onboard No Hassel.



## Tues Aug 1 Barton Island, Vinalhaven

Most of the cruisers had never visited this beautiful spot. We anchored outside the Basin or between the small islands nearby. The adventurous took dinghy trips into the Basin and witnessed a boulder strewn bay that was the winter home of schooners in bygone days. We had a fun cocktail party on one of the rocky outcroppings.





## Wed Aug 2 Seal Bay, Vinalhaven

One of the most beautiful anchorages in Maine, with eagles, seals and lots of uninhabited islands to explore. GPS has allowed us to navigate deep into the Bay where most of us anchored. A group also hiked one of the rugged trails. The cocktail hour on Breakaway proved that C&C's can handle above their loaded rating.



## Thurs Aug 3 Camp/Devil/Bold Islands

Several anchoring spots were available among the large boulders and islands that made up this memorable area. Stonington was nearby for some exploring and provisions.





## Fri Aug 4 Pretty Marsh Harbor

This place lived up to its name! We had a wonderful potluck dinner at a public gazebo high on the cliff overlooking the harbor. MOB drill stories were told and lessons learned!



## Sat/Sun Aug 5/6 Blue Hill

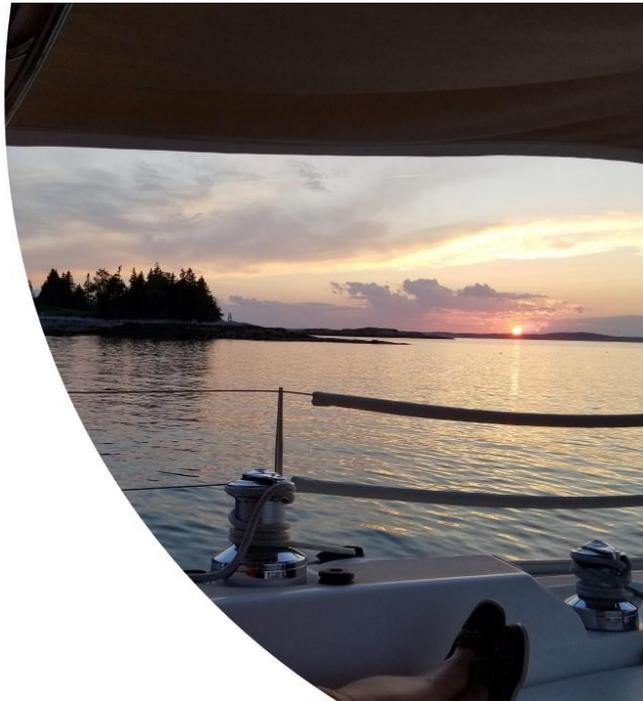
We were provided moorings by our generous hosts at the Kollegewidgwok Yacht Club who also loaned us their facilities for yet another cocktail party. Trips into town lined up nicely with the co-operative tides to help replenish groceries and do laundry. A few hardy sailors even hiked to the top of the Blue Hill.





## Mon Aug 7 Buckle Harbor, Swans Is.

The homebound trip had to start sometime and our first stop was Buckle Harbor. Despite some concerns there was plenty of room for the fleet to anchor and explore.



## Tues Aug 8 Laundry Cove, Isle Au Haut

We had really fabulous weather and sailing conditions the entire cruise, except for the leg between Buckle Harbor and Laundry Cove where we encountered fog, drizzle but still had wind though.





## Wed Aug 9 High/Dix Islands

The plan for today was to overnight at Home Harbor in Muscle Ridge but with the large fleet mostly intact we opted for the larger anchorage of High/Dix Islands. We learned that High Island is for sale and the residents of Dix Island have a campaign to purchase and save it from becoming a private inaccessible island. Anchoring adventures were had by a few.



## Thurs Aug 10 Maple Juice Cove

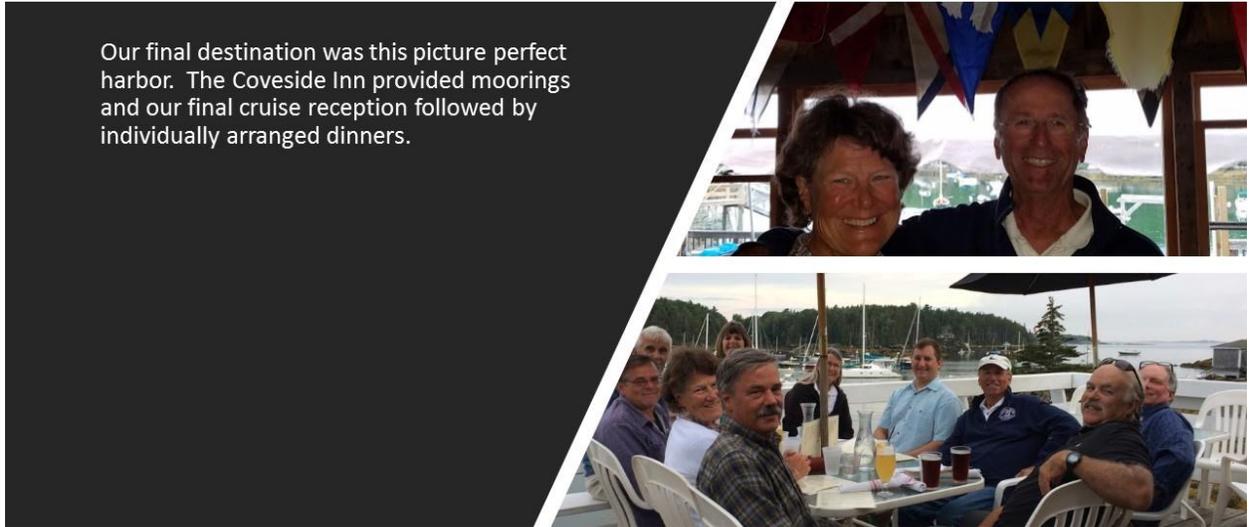
A popular protected anchorage featuring the summer home and final resting place of Andrew Wyeth. It is also the location of the Wyeth museum which several BWSC members visited.





## Fri Aug 11 Christmas Cove

Our final destination was this picture perfect harbor. The Coveside Inn provided moorings and our final cruise reception followed by individually arranged dinners.



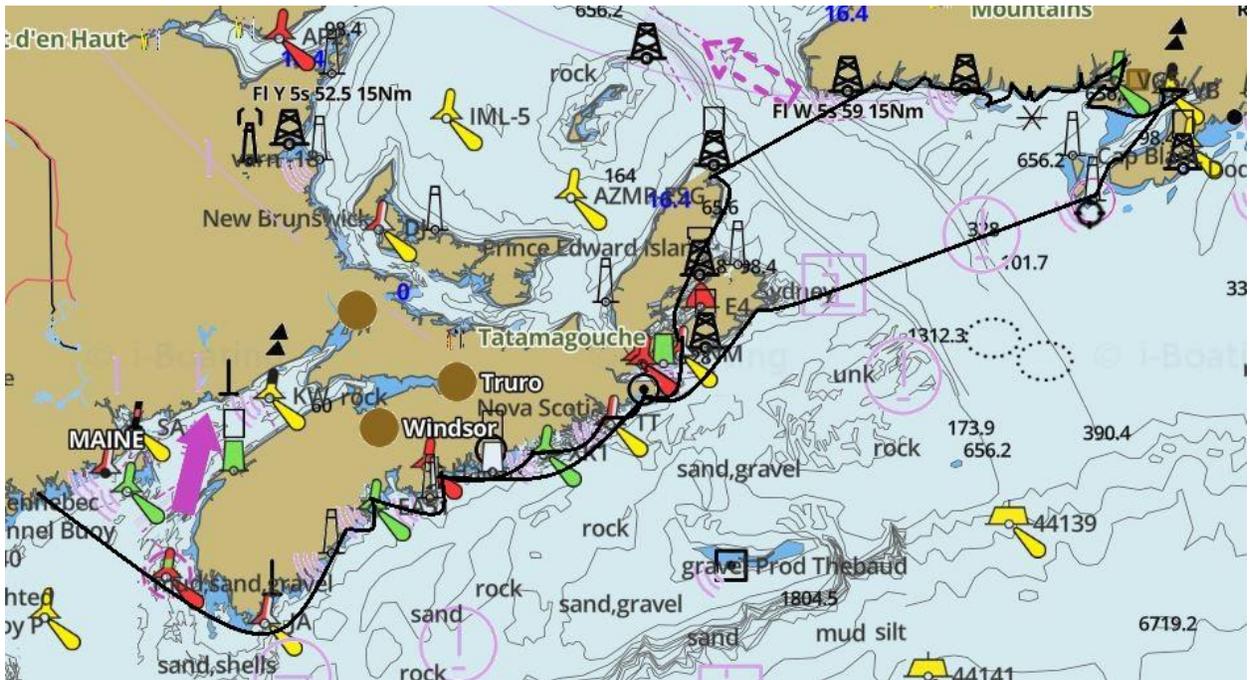
Thank you to Bernie Coyne and Starr Tofil for a great report for the *Log*, and for leading an amazing cruise to the Blue Hill Maine area!



## 2017 Newfoundland Cruise

by Bart Snow

The Newfoundland cruise began in Halifax, Nova Scotia on Saturday, July 15 and ended on Sunday, September 10 in Northeast Harbor, Maine. Bart Snow, Dave Forness and Tom Toomey on *Snow Cat* and Jack Maull and Toy Fountain on *Julia* did the entire cruise with Jill Wescott and John Bell on *Kiva* and Bill Bruce on *Jan-Les* joining for parts of it.



### Cruise Overview



At Yacht Club de Saint Pierre

After leaving Halifax we stopped in three lovely coves: Shelter Cove, Felker Cove and Yankee Cove. We never saw another sailboat and traveled mostly in fog, arriving in Louisbourg, Nova Scotia on Tuesday, July 18. We then had a nice broad reach and run overnight to the French islands of Saint Pierre and Miquelon in the Cabot Strait. We docked at the Yacht Club de Saint Pierre and exchanged burgees. After clearing customs we spent 3 days touring the islands and Isle aux Marins. The food was as good as its reputation.



**Rencontra East**

We spent a couple of days in Bay D’Espoir by taking the Little Passage inside Long Island to Conne River. The next day was beautiful and sunny with light wind and we sailed through Lampidoes Passage with its high cliffs to Little Goblin Bay, the prettiest secluded cove that was the highlight of our trip for me. My crew, Dave, commented that it was like sailing in a National Park without people. We followed a stream to a lake and went swimming in warm lake water.



**Little Goblin Bay**

*Les* joined us in Burgeo. We sailed to Grand Brit, a Town that was closed in 2010. The buildings are all still there, many are locked, have electric meters and are used as vacation homes. While there we did not see a soul.

On Tuesday, July 25 we sailed about 25 miles to Fortune, Newfoundland, cleared customs into Canada and were joined by *Kiva*. We sailed in Fortune Bay, stopping at Corbin Bay and Rencontra East, our first of many “outports” (a town without roads, serviced only by ferry). We stopped at Harbour Breton and motored up the fjord for a night in Balden’s Cove, where *Kiva* left us. We had a nice sail in Hermitage Bay to beautiful Sam Hitches Harbour with its waterfall.



**Lampidoes Passage**

We left Bay D’Espoir and sailed to Hare Bay, anchoring in Morgan’s Arm, where we tied our stern line to a tree. We spent the next morning hiking the Morgan Falls for a great view. We motored to Francois and hiked its cliffs to the top. We anchored in the NE Arm of LaHune Bay where it rained overnight and the waterfalls on the sides of the fjord were spectacular in the morning.

We anchored far in the Grey River, visited Ramea Island, and reprovisioned in Burgeo, the only town in the middle of the south coast with a road, 80 miles to the trans-Canada highway. *Jan-*



**'Snow Cat' in Morgan's Arm**

dinner with friends in Chester, staying 2 nights. On September 9 – 10 we sailed overnight and arrived in Northeast Harbor about 6 PM and cleared customs and we were home. We had a fantastic time, saw unbelievable scenery and met many wonderful, helpful, and friendly people.

We stopped in La Poile, Rose Blanche, and Isle aux Mort where we picked Bake Apple, also known as Cloudberry. On Saturday, August 19, we crossed the Cabot Strait, about 70 miles, to Dingwall, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia. We spent about 2 weeks cruising in the Bras D'Or Lakes exploring its small coves and restaurants in Baddeck and Saint Peters with its Celtic music. We left the Lakes on Friday, September 1 and arrived in Halifax on Sunday, September 3, where we reprovisioned. We had



**Grey River**



**Squid Cove - Isle aux Mort**

**For more spectacular photos of this amazing trip copy the following and paste into your browser:**

**<https://1drv.ms/f/s!AghCMN3jVijhTB31FKCp782rNE4>**



## Columbus Day Weekend

*By: Bob and Barbara Cavanaugh*

SATURDAY OCTOBER 7<sup>th</sup>

We began our weekend with pea-soup fog on Saturday morning. This hindrance prevented some members from bringing their boats. However, we are not ones to give up easily. Perseverance is part of who we are.



We held our lobster boil on Third Beach and some of our BWSC friends came by land – by car or by bike. and two by sea!

We had quite the banquet with an array of delectable foods in our lobster



buffet: Lobster and corn aplenty, pasta and potato salads, shrimp, fresh baked bread, and an assortment of delightful sweets.

The sunshine joined us for a wonderful afternoon of relaxation, getting to know one an-



other, enjoying the beach,



and FEASTING!



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8<sup>th</sup>



Sunday was a wet, rainy and windy day. So we resumed our celebrating with a dinner at Anthony's Seafood Restaurant!



## Annual Meeting

Commodore Aedan Gleeson presided over the Club's 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting held at the South Shore Country Club on October 28, 2017.

Meeting Minutes will be posted on the club website. What follows is a montage of highlights.

It was an immensely enjoyable meeting and social event with a great turnout. Congratulations and thanks especially to Gerry Ricci who did most of the heavy work for the event!



**A great turnout at the 2017 Annual Meeting**



**Aedan Gleeson (I) and incoming Commodore Roy Greenwald**



**The New Bridge: (left to right) Peter Forte, Steve Ricci and Roy Greenwald with outgoing Commodore Aedan Gleeson**



**Former Commodore and Nominating Committee Chair Cynthia DeVine announcing the Kingman Trophy winners Betsy and Mark Gabrielson (below)**





**Marion-Bermuda Race Executive Director  
Allan McLean discusses the 2017 race success**



**Wally Feldman conveys the most "Pot  
Trophy Worthy" stories of the 2017 sailing  
season**



**2017 Marion-Bermuda Race Overall Winner  
Chip Bradish**



**Good-natured Jack Savage,  
winner of the coveted 2017 Pot Trophy**