

# BLUE WATER LOG

## INTRODUCTION

This is the 41<sup>st</sup> edition of the *Blue Water Log*. Published annually since 1978, the *Log* is a comprehensive archive of significant Blue Water Sailing Club land events, cruises, unique accomplishments by members, and a few facts and figures. I am very grateful to all the contributors to this edition.

Mark J. Gabrielson

*Log* Editor and Club Historian

## 2018 WINTER SEMINARS and EVENTS

### D.I.Y. Solar Panels and Refrigeration Systems January 13, Jubilee YC

By: Mark Gabrielson

Bernie Coyne discussed his recent project of adding solar panels and new refrigeration to his J/46 *Mystic Rose*. Topics included solar panel investigation, selection, installation and usage as well as 12-volt refrigeration selection, installation and benefits.

Bernie was joined by Steve Lee who discussed a simpler out-of-the-box approach to solar. Bernie and Steve were very enthusiastic about their DIY projects and shared how easy it is for anyone to accomplish some serious upgrades to their own boat.

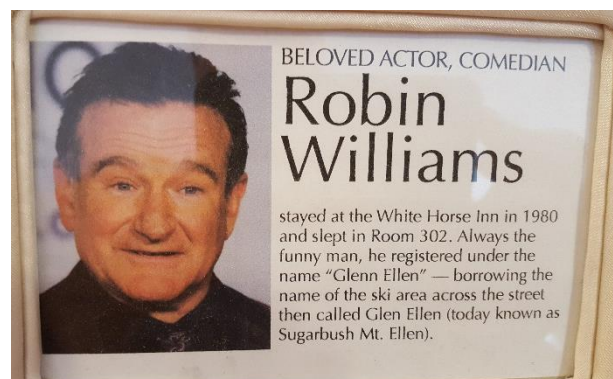
Click on the link to see the excellent [slides shown at the seminar](#). Member sign-in required.

### Annual Ski Trip February 9-11, Sugarbush, VT

By: Mark Gabrielson



The BWSC annual ski weekend was organized by Craig Spear at Sugarbush, VT. Most stayed at the cozy White Horse Inn which has hosted equally famous people in the past:





hosted the group, with a few Pelagic friends as well, at his ski house for a great Saturday evening dinner party.

### **Charlie Doane – Heavy Weather Sailing March 10, Kittery Point YC**

By: Jack Savage

There was literally a full-house for the Heavy Weather Sailing Seminar held on March 10, 2018 at the Kittery Point Yacht Club. In addition to a number of BWSC members, there was a significant non-member contingent. Many thanks to the Kittery Point Yacht Club and the Kittery Point Yacht Yard for hosting and sponsoring the event. Charlie Doane provided a very entertaining and informative seminar. More photos can be seen in the photo album for the event on the BWSC web site.



About the Speaker: Charlie Doane has worked on the staffs of three different boating magazines: *New England Offshore*, *Cruising World*, and *SAIL*, and currently serves as Cruising Editor for *SAIL*. He has been sailing on the coast of Maine since childhood and took up blue water sailing in 1992. To date he has sailed some 80,000 miles offshore, including seven transatlantics and a few singlehanded passages between New England and the West Indies. He has sailed in the Newport-Bermuda, Fastnet, and Sydney-Hobart races, among others. He is author of *The Modern Cruising Sailboat* (International Marine, 2010) and most recently *The Sea Is Not Full* (Seapoint Books, 2017).

### **Offshore Safety and Survival April 21, Tiverton, RI**

By: Dennis McKay

An in depth course on offshore safety and survival was presented at the facility of Life Raft and Safety Equipment, LRSE in Tiverton, RI. The course began with a review of safety equipment, emergency procedures, use of EPIRBs, May-Day calls, and life raft deployment. Outdoor demonstrations were conducted in the use of flares, and fire-fighting equipment. Participants were organized into groups of up to 10,



then rotated through several prepared instruction modules, each presented by LRSE personnel.

The course proceeded to in-water instruction for the deployment and proper use of life rafts. Participants donned their foul weather gear and PFDs and entered a swimming pool with a de-



ployed life raft. Righting and entering the life raft was practiced by all. The swimming pool was located in Newport at the Boys and Girls Club. Re-arming kits for PFDs were made available for purchase from LRSE.

Participants had the opportunity to view safety gear on sale at the LRSE facility, and to drop off any of their gear requiring periodic inspection such as life rafts and MOM modules.



### **Presentation on Newfoundland 2017 October 4, Manchester-by-the-Sea**

Bart Snow gave a marvelous talk and slide presentation about his voyage to Newfoundland in 2017 at the Community Center in Manchester-by-the-Sea.

After racing from Marblehead to Halifax in 2017, Bart sailed with 2 friends, David Forness and Tom Toomey, on *Snow Cat* along with another boat with Jack Maull and Toy Fountain aboard, east to Cape Breton. They stopped in Louisburg and visited its impressive fort. They then sailed overnight to the French islands of Saint Pierre and Miquelon. They toured three islands and enjoyed the unique local French food. After clearing customs back into Canada in Fortune, Newfoundland they spent the next 26 days exploring the south coast of Newfoundland with its fjords, outstanding scenery and outport communities (no roads or cars). They sailed across the Cabot Strait, through the Bras D'Or Lakes, back along the south coast of Nova Scotia to Northeast Harbor, Maine.

A comprehensive album of Bart's photos from this 2017 trip can be found among the Club's photo albums:

[https://bluewatersc.clubexpress.com/content.aspx?page\\_id=187&club\\_id=168315](https://bluewatersc.clubexpress.com/content.aspx?page_id=187&club_id=168315)



## CRUISES

### Maine "Mini" Cruise July 20-28

By Bill Dobson

The Maine "Mini" Cruise was intended to be a smaller cruise for those boats not able to make the full Canadian Cruise, but still wanted the "Maine Experience." It also was a feeder cruise to bring boats near the Bay of Fundy Cruise departure point in Southwest Harbor.

The 10-day mini cruise was marked for its storms and consistent "Maine style" fog. Two weather days were spent at Robinhood Marine and Bucks Harbor to wait out storms and high winds. Rather than explore new territory, the cruise focused on old favorites: Robinhood, Long Cove (Tenants Harbor), Gilkey Harbor, Bucks Harbor, Perry Creek, Buckle Island and Greenland Cove. Despite the interesting weather a good time was had by all and the weather made many opportunities for cocktail hours and pot lucks, not to mention heroic tales to tell later!

### Bay of Fundy Cruise July 29-August 21

By: Dennis McKay  
(Photos by Jack Savage)

In late July and August 2018, some 20 boats from the Blue Water Sailing Club ventured down east to enjoy a delightful cruise up the Saint John river in New Brunswick, Canada.

The cruise began on July 29 in Southwest Harbor, ME with a well-attended kickoff dinner and skippers meeting at the Great Harbor marina. The following day, all boats proceeded east, most arriving at scenic Roque Island. Some proceeded further yet to the east. Day 2 had the

fleet dispersed between Campobello Island, Bliss and Dipper Harbors well into the Bay of Fundy.



On Day 3 the entire fleet entered Saint John harbor, and then negotiated the famous Reversing Falls. With excellent timing for the 2 slack tides, all boats transited the Reversing Falls without incident over relatively calm waters arriving at the first rendezvous at the Royal Kennebecasis Yacht Club located just off the Saint John river at the entrance to Kennebecasis Bay. The following day offered touring of the city of Saint John. That evening, the fleet was treated to a truly royal dinner hosted by the RKYC.

The fleet then began a 7-day cruise up the Saint John river. Gone were the persistent days of pea soup fog, chilly waters and dodging of



lobster pots. Instead, the fleet was treated to warm, sunny, and summer-like days with one beautiful bucolic scene after another of high hills, rolling meadows, and farm country with cattle bathing in the Saint John river. The river offers numerous creeks, and large bays to explore, and many waterside communities to stop and engage with the locals. Particularly enjoyable was the frequent swimming in 78 deg F fresh waters of the river, creeks, and bays.

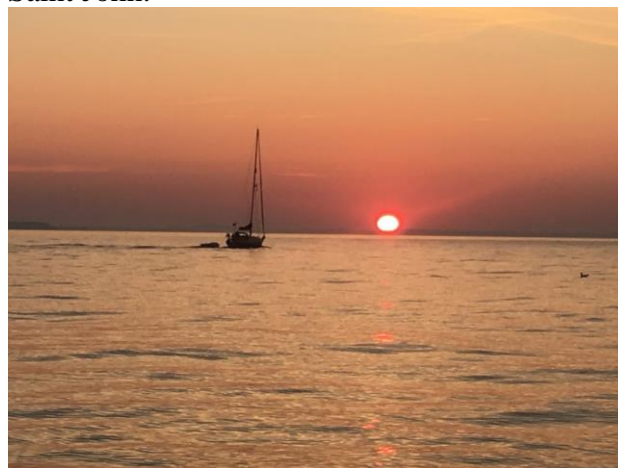


The next Rendezvous was held in Grand Lake at the Fredericton Yacht Club in Douglas harbour. The fleet was offered the exclusive use of the FYC facilities of which their barbeque and dining hall offered the means for a great pot luck dinner and member socializing.

The furthest point for the cruise up the Saint John river, about 50 nm from Saint John, was Gagetown. This is a charming historic community with many arts and crafts shops. A fleet dinner was held the following day by the very accommodating Creek View restaurant.



The remaining days were back down the Saint John river exploring even more creeks and bays. There is no shortage of opportunities to explore along the Saint John river, to enjoy, and relax amongst the quiet country scenes. A whole summer could easily be spent cruising these waters. The seventh and final full cruise rendezvous was held at the Saint John marina and restaurant in Grand Bay just short of the city of Saint John.



The next day was departure for most of the Blue Water fleet catching a morning slack tide through the Reversing Falls, and out into the Bay of Fundy. The remaining 6 boats stayed on to enjoy once again putting into the RKYC, with a very special dinner planned the following evening in downtown Saint John.

The remaining fleet departed Saint John the next day and enjoyed stops at Saint Andrews and Campobello Island. The final rendezvous was held in Eastport, ME where we cleared US Customs and enjoyed a wonderful Maine seafood dinner.

Although the cruise was very lengthy in distance and time, it was well worth the effort by all to have such an enjoyable and memorable experience.



## Southern Cruise – West August 12-19

By Roy Greenwald

The Club held a cruise from August 12 to 19 in the southwestern cruising waters of New England. Hence the name! We had our first rendezvous in Great Salt Pond on Block Island. On the first night the group all got together on *Cordelia*, Roy and Gail Greenwald's Valiant 42, for some pre-dinner "refreshments." Present were Aedan and Bernie Gleeson, Fred and Anne Kern, Richard and Ellie Scherr, and the Greenwalds. Although we had a good time under the canvas on *Cordelia*, more than a few of the group got a good soaking on their way back to their boats!

The following day everyone dispersed onto the island, searching for glass floats, which were stashed around the island. But alas, no one found any. There was also an art show at Old Harbor to visit. The night of the 13th Eric and Jacqui Pierce joined the evening get-together hosted by the Kern's aboard *Sea Hawk II*. The following morning the group headed off to Sag Harbor.

At Sag Harbor we all engaged in our own activities, with Fred Kern providing a pseudo-launch service with his mega-dinghy. Fred was kind enough to take on this chore for much of the cruise. We took a lay day in Sag and the next



day we made a short hop over to Greenport. This proved to be a fun stop. Jacqui pointed us all towards a local brewery and some of the group took part in visiting the *Draken*, which just happened to be in Greenport for three days as part of its national tour. The *Draken* is currently the largest Viking ship sailing in the entire world.



From Greenport it was off to Fisher's Island's West Harbor, another enjoyable, quaint, and entertaining stop.



What follows is Anne Kern's description of activities on Fisher's in which she and several others took part:

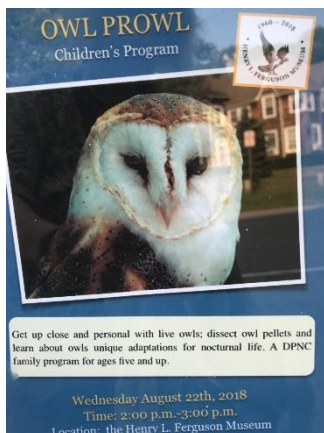
*"As we wandered through the town square on Fishers Island, a colorful poster advertising an Owl Prowl for kids caught our attention. We read that the program was sponsored by the Henry L. Ferguson Museum, and curiosity piqued, decided to check out the museum.*

*We were expecting one of those wonderful old late 19th/early 20th century local museums of the "cabinet of curiosities" type, with a hodge-podge of artifacts contributed over the years by residents--from locally found artifacts to exotics acquired in travel abroad. (think the Wilson Museum in Castine, Maine.) What a surprise to*

*find a very modern museum with a purposefully local focus--engaging new exhibits showcasing the flora, fauna, and ecology of Fishers Island. In addition, there were exhibits on the archaeology of the early native peoples, and on historical times as well. One section of the museum was given over to the 2018 annual photographic exhibition celebrating the work of local photographers: "Photographers of Fishers Island, Part Two, 1940s to Date".*

*We were fortunate to have arrived in time for the lecture on The Great New England Hurricane of 1938, given by HLF Museum Director Pierce Rafferty. We quickly called other participants in the BWSC Southern Cruise and are happy to report that our group constituted a very enthusiastic segment of the audience. We heartily recommend the Ferguson Museum as a not-to-be-missed stop on any future BWSC visit to Fishers Island."*

The entire group reconvened for a pizza dinner at the Pequot Inn, a very informal but friendly restaurant. At the Inn we made a spontaneous decision to modify our itinerary and head off the next morning to Stonington, CT, rather than back to Block Island. It turned out to be a good decision with fair winds for the sail over. Everyone except the Pierce's made this leg and we all coincidentally ended up at the Water Street Café for dinner, despite some of us having made separate plans. It was a good find and we all came away pleasantly sated.





The following day the cruise split up with the Gleasons and Scherrs heading home, while the Kerns and Greenwalds shared one last night back in Block Island. Overall it was not a large group, but everyone agreed that it allowed us to get to know each other well, form some new or deeper friendships and to make some new memories. We also enjoyed the complementary gifts from Blue Water. Good Times! Good Sailing! Good Friends!



## **Annual Meeting October 28, Framingham, MA**

By: Mark Gabrielson

Camaraderie, refreshments, good food and wonderful presentations marked the Club's 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting held at Ken's Steakhouse in Framingham. Chosen for its central location, Ken's put on a fine banquet for us.

Outgoing Commodore Roy Greenwald opened the meeting with some warm words and presented the special trophies and awards. He especially thanked Debra and Jim Taylor, Rear Commodore Peter Forte, and past Annual Meeting organizer Betsy Gabrielson for their great

work arranging the meeting venue, meals, and program.



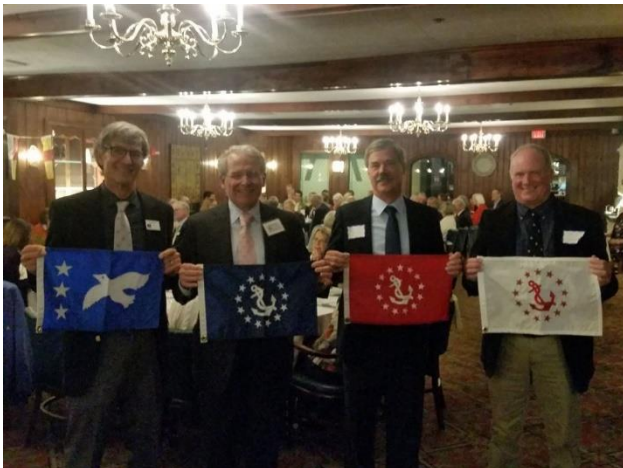
Roy also thanked the many club volunteers for their hard work organizing and running the various seminars, events and cruises through the year. The award winners are listed in the 2019 club Yearbook, but one is worth mentioning here. The Club awarded the prestigious Kingman award, given to a member or members who have made extraordinary efforts on behalf of the Club, to Doug Robinson. Doug has put in countless hours running the Club's digital communications and web sites, and with his wife Tory Leuteman participated in too many events to count. A mere six weeks after the meeting, on





December 12, 2018, Doug passed away after a long and courageous battle with cancer. The Club will never forget Doug.

Incoming Commodore Steve Ricci outlined 2019 plans. He focused on upcoming seminars, general cruise plans, and also highlighted the 2019 Marion-Bermuda Race. Blue Water is a co-sponsor of the Marion-Bermuda Race. Steve noted that as of the meeting, at least five Blue Water boats planned to race, including himself and crew in *Pouchy* and Roy and Gail Greenwald in *Cordelia*.



The last item of business was to elect the 2019 Officers and Governors. Pictured above is the 2019 Bridge (left to right):

Roy Greenwald – Immediate Past Commodore  
Steve Ricci – Commodore  
Peter Forte – Vice Commodore  
Jack Savage – Rear Commodore