

BLUE WATER LOG

INTRODUCTION

This is the 42nd 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. As you'll see below, 2019 was an exceptionally busy year for the club. There were numerous events organized and enjoyed throughout the year. These included co-sponsoring the 22nd biennial Marion-Bermuda Race and 21st Marion-Bermuda Safety at Sea Symposium. This is a thriving club, and it's a pleasure to report on its successes.

Mark J. Gabrielson

Log Editor and Club Historian

2019 WINTER SEMINARS and EVENTS

Racing Single-Handed from Newport to Bermuda (And Double-Handed Back)

Roy Greenwald

January 12, Jubilee YC

Those who sail inshore often aspire to racing. And those who race inshore often aim towards offshore races. The offshore racers find themselves moving into multi-day ocean races. For some, the next step leads to a multi-day, single-handed offshore race. When the track runs from Newport to Bermuda, the challenges of the Gulf Stream and notorious temperamental weather systems also get thrown into the mix. Roy Greenwald shared his experience on what led him to think about sailing in the Bermuda 1-2 race, which is not only a single-handed race to



Bermuda, but also includes a double-handed leg back home. Roy discussed how he ended up making the decision to compete, planned for the race, prepared the boat, strategy concerns, sleep and safety management and the challenges of the race itself. It was a unique insight from one of the club's ocean racing veterans.

Cruising Lessons and Adventures; and Understanding Boat Electrical Systems

Nigel Calder

(A BWSC-organized event co-sponsored by Kittery Point Yacht Yard and DiMillo's Yacht Sales)

February 2, Kittery Community Center

(As reported by *Maine Boats Homes and Harbors* magazine)

Cruising on a sailboat or powerboat is a dream for many. World-renowned author Nigel Calder has made it his life.

Calder offered two presentations to a group that included many BWSC members in the audience at the Kittery Community Center.

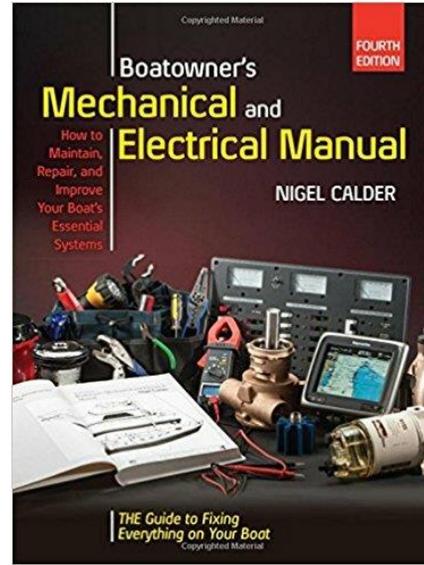


At 9 a.m., Calder talked about his early cruising adventures in the Caribbean and the lessons he and his wife learned, including voyaging with small children aboard. Based on his most recent book, *Shakedown Cruise*, he described his early years of cruising including getting run down by a freighter in the North Sea, finishing off a bare hull, and setting off for a round-the-world cruise with his wife Terrie, five months pregnant, and their one-year-old child.



Cruising on a boat is also sometimes referred to as “fixing your boat in exotic places.” In a separate afternoon session starting at noon, Calder offered a four-hour seminar on “Understanding Boat Electrical Systems.” Author of the best-selling *Boatowner’s Mechanical and Electrical Manual*, Calder led the audience through the core design and installation

requirements necessary to head off electrical systems problems.



Midweek Ski Getaway February 5-7 Waterville Valley, NH

Richard and Ellie Scherr hosted the annual BWSC ski event in Waterville Valley, New Hampshire. Folks arrived on Tuesday the 5th and enjoyed a potluck supper at the Scherr’s beautiful ski home overlooking the valley. The following day everyone worked up a thirst and appetite with downhill and cross country skiing. The event was capped off by a group dinner at a favorite local restaurant. It was good times, good skiing, good friends!



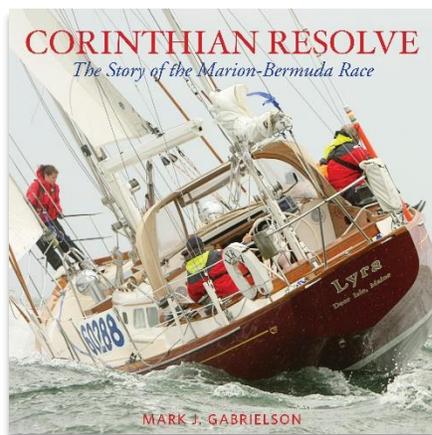


The Professor and the Pilot: The Story of the Founding of the Marion-Bermuda Race

Mark J. Gabrielson

February 24, Pequot YC

Mark Gabrielson gave a BWSC and Marion-Bermuda Race sponsored presentation to 60 members and guests of the Pequot Yacht Club in Southport, CT. The talk is adapted from his book *Corinthian Resolve: The Story of the Marion-Bermuda Race* published in 2015 in celebration of the 40th anniversary of the race.



The talk was part of the BWSC “Speakers Bureau” program designed to increase awareness of and interest in the club among sailors throughout New England.

Blue Water Sailing Club/Marion-Bermuda Race Safety at Sea Symposium

March 9 and 10

UMASS Boston

BWSC volunteers, led by member Ed Stott, once again organized and managed an outstanding Safety at Sea Symposium. A near sell-out crowd attended the Symposium at UMASS Boston. The event is in association with

the Marblehead-Halifax Ocean Race. The innovative two-day program included a one-day classroom program and a full-day hands on session. Both programs, taken together, qualified for the US Sailing International Offshore Safety at Sea Certificate. The Symposium fulfilled the requirements for the US Sailing Offshore Safety at Sea Certificate. Additionally, sessions were offered on *Weather and Gulf Stream* and *Medical Considerations in Offshore Sailing* which were not required for certificates but were well received.

A 4:00 minute video recap of the 2019 Safety at Sea Symposium follows:



Brad White (North Sails) on Sail Trim and Maintenance

April 13

North Sails, Salem, MA

Long-time service and sales rep Brad White of North Sails invited the BWSC and others to the North Sails Loft in Salem, Mass. He gave an excellent presentation on specific sail trim for downwind and upwind sailing including tips on hardware and systems to make trimming easier. He covered asymmetric and symmetric



spinnakers along with a discussion of the pros and cons of using a snuffer or a furler.

Brad also covered sail care and how to maintain sails over the long term.



Spring Dinner Dance

May 4

Corinthian Yacht Club, Marblehead, MA

Edna and Don Kaplan, and other BWSC volunteers, put on a wonderful spring dinner dance at the Corinthian YC in Marblehead. CYC Commodore and BWSC member Annie Harris gave a warm welcome to the group. Nearly 100 members and guests attended this traditional and popular kick-off to the sailing season.

2019 SAILING EVENTS AND CRUISES

2019 Marion-Bermuda Race

The 42nd Marion-Bermuda Race started on June 14 off of Marion MA. Co-sponsored by the Blue Water Sailing Club, Royal Hamilton Amateur Dinghy Club (RHADC) and by the Beverly Yacht Club, the 2019 edition was a resounding success, especially for the BWSC yacht entries



and crews. Club boats won 12 trophies out of 36 for which we could have competed, or 33% of the available haul! Most importantly, Gail and Roy Greenwald, along with crewmates Daniel Begg and Dana Oviat won the Founders Trophy as overall race winners aboard the Greenwalds' Valiant 42CE *Cordelia*. *Cordelia* was navigated using celestial methods by Gail Greenwald and won the coveted BYC Polaris Trophy.



Other BWSC fleet highlights included Bob Buck winning Class A with his Aquidneck custom yawl *Abigail* (designed by Buck himself), Peter Torosian winning Class C aboard his Tartan 4100 *Pinnacle*, and Anne Kolker again winning the Faith Paulson trophy for an all women crew aboard her Stellar sloop *Etoile*. The 2017 overall winner Chip Bradish again sailed *Selkie* in the 2019 race and won several trophies as well.



BWSC Southern Cruise **July 14-23**

Richard and Ellie Scherr aboard *Dark Star* organized the 2019 Southern Cruise. On the 14th the group rendezvoused in Marion harbor and spent a pleasant week cruising Block Island and Vineyard Sounds, as well as up to Jamestown Harbor in Narragansett Bay. A highlight of the trip was a fantastic lobster boil on Cuttyhunk hosted by Win and Martha Sanford at their home on the harbor, flying the BWSC burgee, no less!



Women's Cruise **July 27-August 3**

The annual Blue Water Sailing Club Women's Cruise was a great success in 2019. The trip focused on Maine's Casco Bay and Midcoast areas, taking in attractive harbors like Pemaquid



and Port Clyde at the tip of the St. George peninsula. The cruise was organized by Kate Mullins.



Maine Cruise **August 4-16**

Sue Struss aboard *Tomasine*, and Starr Tofil on *Lockwood* did a fantastic job organizing, promoting and leading the 2019 Maine Cruise. The 2019 cruise nearly set a modern participation



record with 66 members and over 30 boats involved. The itinerary was ambitious. A good stretch of the beautiful Maine coast was visited, mixing old familiar harbors like Belfast and Boothbay Harbor with some new ones like Stockton Harbor at the head of Penobscot Bay.

Lee Hirsch and Barbara Robertson organized a fun potluck barbeque on the deck at Front Street Shipyard in Belfast. The group also participated in flare and flare gun training on the beach in Belfast the following day.



Another highlight was a cookout in a lovely grove of pines sloping to Long Cove on Vinal Haven. The land is part of hosts Joost Vlassack and Kiran Mundy's new vacation home there.

For an 8:30 min. slide show of the entire cruise produced by Sue Struss click on the following:.



Labor Day Maine Rendezvous **August 30 – September 2**

Bernie Coyne and Lynn Squire aboard *Mystic Rose* led a short but fun end of summer cruise. About 15 boats joined the group for some or all of the trip. The cruise started on Friday August 30 in Quahog Bay at Snow Island



with a meetup for cocktails. On Saturday they sailed to a very popular anchorage known as The Goslings for a potluck on the beach. Then on Sunday they headed over to Great Chebeague Island for dinner at the Chebeague Island Inn.





Annual Meeting
October 27
Wellesley, MA

The club's Annual Meeting of members was held at the Wellesley College Faculty Club. Thanks go to Jack Savage who arranged the venue and to Jim and Debra Taylor who coordinated registration and logistics.

Outgoing Commodore Steve Ricci presided until the election of the new Bridge. Newly elected Commodore Peter Forte joined Bernie Coyne (Vice) and Dennis McKay (Rear) for a group photo.



Noted author and ocean sailor John Rousmaniere was the guest speaker. John gave an informative and motivating talk on long-term trends in sailing, including developments in safety at sea. Everyone enjoyed this marvelous get-together.

