

BLUE WATER LOG

Published annually since 1978, The *Log* is a prior year's archive of significant Blue Water Sailing Club educational events, cruises, social gatherings, and member contributions.

Full Sails Ahead!!!
Full Throttle Ahead!!!

Those words truly express the 45th edition of the 'Blue Water Log'.

2022 was a year of transitioning from the pandemic to a year of Full Throttle Ahead! While The Club continued to follow Covid-19 safety guidelines, there was a stellar number of Educational, Cruising and Social offerings. Members make our Club strong and vibrant, and this was all the more true during 2022.

Kudos to All Members, the Bridge, and Board. Your volunteerism, fellowship and camaraderie are the ingredients that make Blue Water Sailing Club exceptional.

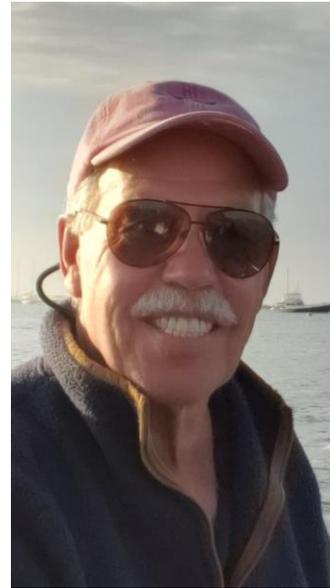
As this is my editorial debut with The *Log*, I extend my gratitude to my editorial predecessor, Mark J. Gabrielson, for his contributions over the years and for his guidance and assistance.

When you read through the Log this year, please pay special attention to the "youtube" video inserts. I hope that you will enjoy them as much as I do. I am very thankful for all the contributors to the 2022 *Log*.

Finally, to all our members please let me know what you like about the *Log*, what you would like to see more or less of, and how you feel the *Log* can be improved. Thank you!

Susan Greven Vayda
Log Editor and Club Historian

2022 Commodore's Report



This year, we turned an important corner from coming out of the COVID pandemic. Most notable was our ability to start having in-person meetings after 2 full years of absence. Thanks to our members who have been diligent in keeping up with their COVID vaccinations, and to their adherence to the COVID guidelines established by this Club early on in the pandemic, we were able to meet for our first in-person seminar and workshop in Newport, RI, our Spring dinner at the Davenport Event Center, and most successfully at the Annual Meeting at the South Shore Country Club with over 100 members and guests in attendance.

What defines the Blue Water Sailing Club is the satisfaction members experience in sailing together in Club sponsored and organized cruises, and the resulting camaraderie gained. We held several successful and well attended cruises including the southern cruise through Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New



York waters, the Maine cruise, the All-Women's cruise through Maine waters, and lastly, the Labor Day cruise in Maine. None of these organized cruises would be possible without the leadership and support from our members willing to volunteer extensive amounts of their time, to take the responsibility to research, plan, and lead these cruises to interesting ports and onshore gatherings.

Our club does not rest when we come ashore. Throughout the Fall, Winter, and Spring months, interesting and informative presentations were held via the Zoom video service. Topics ranged from worldwide sailing, offshore rallies, safety at sea, to steering systems and their maintenance. Our first in-person workshop since the start of the COVID pandemic was a very successful panel discussion on Cruising the Coast of Maine. The land events program concluded in the late spring with a demonstration program on boat damage control conducted by the US Coast Guard. Again, none of these events would be possible without the initiative taken and spirit of volunteerism demonstrated by so many of our members.

Finally, thanks to key members of our club including Bernie Coyne, Pam Lawrence, Ron Perkins, and Tory Leuteman, the Club completed a major redesign of our Club's website. This new look and feel, as well as a reorganization of information, documents and photo albums, have greatly improved the ease of navigating our website, and has provided a very professional appearance to our members and the public at large.

As a result of all the volunteer efforts of members, our Club was successful in attracting 13 new memberships, amounting to 23 new members. Thanks to the untiring efforts of our Membership team led by Steve Ricci, and the Club's presence on the web and through social media, our Club continues to be viable, well attended, and poised for greater progress and success in the future.

Dennis McKay
Commodore, Blue Water Sailing Club 2022

Tribute to Herb and Ruth Weiss

By Suzanne Struss



Herb and Ruth Weiss were spotlighted at the annual luncheon by the efforts of Deb Lee. On October 4th, 2022 Herb reached the age of 104. Ruth and Herb continue to grace their favorite harbors of Maine every sailing season and have for 40 or more years. I first met them on my first BWSC cruise in 2012 on their S/V *Windpower*. During a blustery evening in Southeast Harbor in Deer Isle Maine pelting rain and winds caused a few of the Blue Water fleet to come lose from anchor. Mark Struss woke at 4 am and saw two boats careening through the BWSC anchorage. Immediately the calling to the fleet came over the radio, lights came on and part of the fleet began to arise. When I saw that one of the boats was *Windpower* Mark and I jumped in our dinghy and came up alongside *Windpower* for our first time meeting Herb and Ruth. They both were up and at the helm firing up the motor and preparing to reset the anchor. Visibility was tough and very difficult. While alongside *Windpower* Herb steered her into the wind and at a



safe distance from the fleet where they could safely reset an anchor. *Qintescence* also broke lose and Jonathan from *Rejoice* boarded and helped them back to safe anchorage for the remainder of the evening. That first cruise demonstrated the camaraderie and the helpful character of the people that are such an amazing part of the Blue Water Sailing Club. Herb and Ruth are truly an inspiration.

Please enjoy below the Maine Boats Magazine article about Herb and Ruth.

<https://maineboats.com/print/issue-178/still-boating-after-all-these-years>



2022 Winter Seminars

“Venture Forth to New Horizons”

is the theme for the 21/22 BWSC seminar year. Whether you are a new sailor or seasoned cruiser, this year’s seminars will educate and inspire you to expand your horizon.

Vice Commodore Lisa Goodwin lined up a wide array of online and in person offshore seminars. They included the following:

January 13, 2022

Offshore Sailing Sooner than Later by

Hank Schmitt

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IULumYhM18Y>

Hank spoke about how you can learn to sail offshore on either your own or others’ boats. He started a crew networking service to help others and today there are over 3,000 members. Hank organizes the annual NARC Rally (North American Rally to the Caribbean).

January 20, 2022, March 10



Circumnavigation Part 2, 3 by Guy and Nina Jones



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ChSSIIRE2I>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0aC6nM2oFak>

This fascinating online slide show presented by the Jones aboard their sailing vessel Footloose continued with their voyage from Fiji to Darwin Australia, and finally Newport RI.

February 24, 2022

Steering Away from Trouble – Understanding and Maintaining your Boat’s Steering System by Lisa Goodwin, BWSC Rear Commodore.

March 5, 2022

Cruising Maine Workshop by the BWSC

In person panel of experienced BWSC cruisers shared everything they know about cruising Maine from dealing with lobster pots and fog to tips on provisioning, anchoring and sources for boat repairs.

March 24, 2022

World Ocean Experience

with Jeff and Molly Bolster

Online event featuring the Bolsters who sailed around the world with only themselves as crew aboard their 40 foot cutter. From New Hampshire to New Zealand, Molly and Jeff spoke about the challenges and satisfactions of a small boat voyage nearly half way around the world.

April 14, 2022

History, Current Re-fit, and Future of the

Schooner Online event by Captain Tiffany Krihwan

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SxBugV5Ep3A>



Since 1894 the legacy of the Ernestina-Morrissey is about people: fisherman to arctic explorers to WWII surveyors, Cape Verdean Immigrants and students. Ernestina-Morrissey has been in Boothbay Harbor, Maine being re-fit since 2017. She will be set sail back

home to the Massachusetts Maritime Academy in the Fall, 2022.

June 12, 2022

Damage Control with the Coast Guard Wet Trainer

By USCG and Lisa Goodwin





This event was co - sponsored with the Quonset Davisville Navy Yacht Club in N. Kingston, RI. About 15 people participated in the flooding mitigation training using the USCG wet trainer and taught by BWSC member Lisa Goodwin. USCG Auxiliarist, Goodwin is not only an DC instructor for Sector Southeast New England, but she wrote the current curriculum. We are happy to report that no boats sank. Following the training, several members went out to lunch in Wickford.. Transitional member Ed Sitver secured his remaining sponsors.

December 7, 2022
2023 Marion Bermuda Race Presentation

Bob Kostyla from the Marion to Bermuda Race Committee provided an informational presentation on the 2023 Marion to Bermuda Race at the Jubilee Yacht Club, Beverly, MA. Discussion included how to prepare a boat & crew for ocean racing.

2022 Gatherings

February 1-3, 2022
Annual BWSC Ski Trip, Stowe, Vermont

By Arnie and Ronna Ziegel “Metaphor”
 On February 1, Stowe Vermont became a new venue for the annual BWSC ski trip. New members, Arnie and Ronna Ziegel, live in Stowe and were pleased to welcome a hardy group of eleven. We were still dealing with some Covid protocols, so dinners were held at two local restaurants. But Covid didn’t detract from the skiing/walking/snowshoeing. Thanks to all for joining us.



May 15, 2022
BWSC Spring Social and Meeting
 Danversport Yacht Club



After several cancellations and a long break from in person gatherings, BWSC kicked off the 2022 season with a luncheon on the water at Danversport YC. Festivities included a cocktail reception followed by a full course buffet luncheon. A special reception for our new members was held with the Officers and Membership Committee as well as sponsors and members. 89 people originally registered and 70 people attended. Of those not attending the majority had or were exposed to someone with Covid. Several had family emergencies. The event came in under budget. All 5 transition members attending now have full sponsorship.



September 30, 2022

Fall Pub Night

Hosted by Auguste and Oi Fortin, Amy Sorensen & Charles Wisniewski

Pequonnock Yacht Club, New Haven, CT

By Auguste and Oi Fortin



BWSC had an enjoyable Pub Night at the Pequonnock Yacht Club. Nineteen attendees swapped sailing stories while enjoying the view from the PYC clubhouse and a large variety of hors d'oeuvres. BWSC members came from as far as Massachusetts to talk to the potential members present. In addition to the hosts, BWSC members in attendance included Maryann and Tim Lynn, Mark and Sue Struss, Rear Commodore Lisa Goodwin, Greg and Yong Bader, and Bill Draper and Angela Shepherd. The night was a success and should stimulate other regional pub nights to get members and prospective members together. Thanks to membership committee member, Sue Struss, for planting the seed and to all the BWSC members who came out!

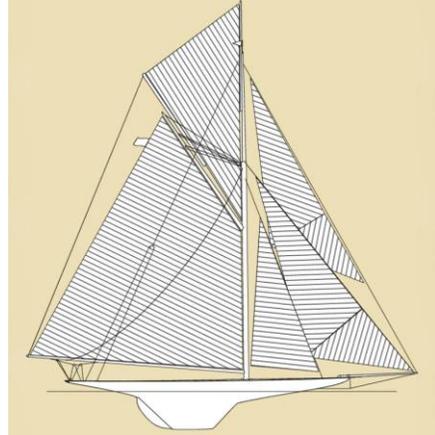
December 10, 2022

Boats, Friends, Fare and Festival

By Kevin O'Keeffe

On December 10th a gathering of BWSC members enjoyed a guided and lectured tour of the Herreshoff Museum / Americas Cup Hall of Fame in Bristol, Rhode Island. From designers and builders of 19th century steam-driven torpedo boats, the Herreshoff Manufacturing Company became, at the turn of the last century, the builder of the majestic J-Boat de-

fenders of the America's Cup. Nathaniel G. Herreshoff was one of the most technically advanced and influential yacht designer of the 20th century.



1903 America's Cup Defender *Reliance*, Designed by N.G. Herreshoff. Built for J. Pierpont Morgan and John D. Rockefeller

For a century the innovations of Nathaniel G. Herreshoff have influenced designers from Crowinshield and J.G. Alden to Starling Burgess and Olin Stevens. From J-Boats through the 12-meters to the present. The Herreshoff Marine Museum is a worthy part of our best New England traditions!



Our BWSC group boarded restored Herreshoff designs in the Hall of Boats, meeting for the first time or renewing friendships in the cabins of classics. Later we enjoyed appetizers and lunch at the Lobster Pot Restaurant in a private ocean-side dining room.





2022 Summer Cruises

July 9, 2022 to July 23, 2022

Southern Cruise

By Martha and Win Sanford, additions by Len Thibodeau



The Sanfords hosted a cocktail/dinner event at their Cuttyhunk house as a kick off to the cruise, on **July 9**. There were 28-30 in attendance. Good appetizers, dinners and desserts were shared by all.

July 10th: The next morning the cruise split, with some going directly to Block Island and others continuing onto Dutch Harbor. John and Lori Corbibley (*Stray Cat*) hosted cocktails, followed by an available grill at the Dutch Harbor Marina.

July 11th: Beautiful sail over to Block Island. Cocktails on *Dark Star*. *Breakaway* had sailed on to Fisher Island as there was a threat of weather on our trip the next day to Mystic.

July 12th: Can't say enough about the staff at Mystic Seaport. Brand new concrete docks. Dock master, Greg Zabel, and his assistants did an awesome job directing us and securing our lines.

Charlie Hodge (*Surprise*), and Auguste and Oi Fortin (*PAX*) joined *Kitty Hawk*, *Breakaway* and *Blue Moon*. The rest of the group stayed on Block Island.

PAX hosted cocktails that evening.



July 13th: Lay day in Mystic where we were treated to a 90 minute behind the scene tour of the waterfront and ship restoration facilities. John and Lori Corbibley (*Stray Cat*) had been delayed by one day in Dutch Harbor. Lisa Goodwin did a non-stop trip from Fairhaven Shipyard (Fairhaven, MA) to Mystic and arrived in time for cocktail hour on *PAX*. We were all happy to see her again.

July 14th: A majority of us left to catch the 8:40 AM opening of the Route 1 Bridge. *Surprise* headed to Stonington. Another beautiful day for a sail to Jack's Marina in Deering Harbor on Shelter Island. *Dark Star* joined us from Block Island. The McKay's hosted cocktails on *Blue Moon*. Future trips should remember there was (in 2022) a café with homegrown vegetables and other foods next to Jack's Marina.

July 15th: The Southern cruise split off in different directions. *Kitty Hawk*, *Stray Cat* and *PAX* headed for Brooklyn, NY, while the rest meandered back on their own agenda while some headed north to catch the Maine cruise. The first stop south was Fort Jefferson. It was a long day of 50+ miles (9 miles to go from Shelter Island out to Long Island Sound). Port Jefferson's mooring field was fine with views of the yacht club's sailing lessons, swimming off the boat and ferries coming and going. We went ashore to a quiet little part of the town. 1 ½ blocks of walking brought us to the ferry landings, hotels, restaurants and NYC/Long Island people. The port had a Martha's Vineyard/Nantucket feel and good ice cream.



Today they arrived from Charleston, SC. And were picking up a boat part, due to arrive in NYC. We witnessed a young man proposing 2 boats down from us: professional photographer and friends. Auguste and Oi hosted a pot luck dinner, followed by a good game of dominos.



July 19th: We had a 9:30 AM departure for going back through Hells Gate. We all left the marina 2 hours early to sail around the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, etc. What a fantastic time with views of lower Manhattan. We picked up the French guys so they could follow us through Hells Gate and points North. Their next destination was Pope's Island in New Bedford, MA - boat/sail repairs and one doing a quick home to France and back.

Our destination was Huntington Yacht Club (38 miles). Quite the area with large house and boats. The yacht club was very nice, but no meals to be served (again lack of staff). A distance into town, so no ice cream tonight.

July 20th: We all headed to Pequonnock Yacht Club in West New Haven, CT- home port of *PAX*. Auguste and Oi recommended stopping for a swim at Morris Cove on the East side of the entrance to East Haven. *Stray Cat* and *Kitty Hawk* each grabbed a mooring. We were welcomed for future stays by the young gentleman in charge of the waterfront

July 16th: off to City Island Yacht Club (1907), City Island, New York (40 miles). A jump off point to Brooklyn. Appetizers on the lawn of the yacht club. Auguste and Oi found the laundromat ½ miles away. Great town to walk the main street: large Marina and store, restaurants, etc.

July 17th: Win and I hit the laundromat. The yacht club allowed us to stay until 1 PM, the time to leave and catch the current through Hells Gate. (25 miles) What a fantastic ride we had to Brooklyn. No way to explain it. We arrived at One 15 Brooklyn Marina in the afternoon. As it was a Sunday, all sorts of people grilling on the public grills: amazing the cultures and languages. The Marina is part of an 85 acres public park located next to the Brooklyn Bridge. The video of the park is a must. With the help of visitors and cleanup crew, no trash anywhere. The marina office is tiny and part of the main building. One shower and several bathrooms. There is no laundry (I had checked earlier in the trip=City Island, NY). Auguste and Oi joined the family for dinner. John, Lori, Win and I ate at the restaurant next to the Marina. Watched soccer on the 3 lighted fields, following dinner.

July 18th: We all did our own thing of walking through the park, checking out the cafes, picking up food at the grocery store (farm grown vegetables), and lunch in another restaurant nearby.

In the late afternoon, a 33' boat from France tied up next to us. The 2 guys (28 and 30) had left France February 2nd. They had headed South for the winter.



and yacht club. We arrived at Pequonnock YC re-freshed. Auguste and Oi had made arrangements for us to have New Haven Pizza (THE pizza in town) at the YC. We were joined by Amy Sorensen and Charlie Wisniewski (*Halo*). What a fun night had by all, as it was a beautiful evening.

July 21st: *Stray Cat* and *Kitty Hawk* headed back to Rhode Island the next morning. We ended up sailing straight through to Dutch Harbor. As we headed north along Long Island, the thunderstorms followed us. Luckily, we stayed ahead of them all 13 hours on the “high seas.” Happy to grab the mooring at Dutch, as the light was disappearing.

July 22nd: Win and I sailed back to Cuttyhunk. Large sea swells all the way, but another gorgeous day. On our mooring at 1 and boat cleaned and unloaded an hour later. It was a great cruise to Brooklyn. We look forward to doing it again and finding new harbors and adventures.



July 17, 2022 to July 23, 2022

Women’s Cruise

by Starr Tofil

The Women’s Cruise began on July 17th with two boats, *Sea Change*, Cate Mullins, and her crew of two along with Cate's dog, Rosie. *Honalee* was the second boat, owned by Tory Leuteman and crew of three: Susan Cox, Pat Dieselman, and Starr Tofil. *Lockwood* was supposed to be the third boat but unfortunately was put out of commission two days before the cruise started.

There was a gathering at Dolphin Marina, where other BWSC members joined us.

July 17th Potts/Dolphin

July 18th - The Basin

July 19th - Love Cove

July 20th - Linekin Bay

July 21st - *Honalee* went to Round Pond, *Sea Change* stayed at Linekin Bay due to weather concerns.

July 22nd - All met at Robinhood for a great dinner.

July 23rd - All headed home a day early.





July 31, 2022 to August 14, 2022

Maine Cruise

by Barbara Robertson and Len Thibodeau

There were 27 boats, 5 who were on their first Blue-water Cruise. As is typical for a Blue Water Cruise, where boats go in and out, the leaders didn't join until the third day, in Linekin Bay. Len Thibodeau stepped up as assistant leader and made arrangements for first two nights and initiated the newcomers. John Garner, on *Christina*, did a memorable job one morning, with Reveille. Everyone pitched in, and a great time was had by all. Thanks to Jeff and Nancy Fitch for making arrangements for the tour of Wooden Boat School, the shed for the pot-luck dinner there and use of the Front Street Shipyard deck in Belfast for cocktail hour. Thanks to the entire crew for arranging to use the deck at Bucks Harbor Marina for cocktails.

Another highlight of our very successful 2022 Maine cruise was the camaraderie of our long-time members and friends Ruth and Herb Weiss who joined us for two days in Belfast. Herb will celebrate his 104th birthday this year and is still going strong. "More power to you both. You are an inspiration to us all." New members Jeff and Martha Wootan on Sheekasay referred to the experience as "magical" sailing with so many like-minded sailors.





During mainsail hoist ops, on the first hint of wind out of Maple Juice Cove, *Avocet* hooked a lobster pot. Down anchor in 80 feet of water; snapped a line under the boat to give Peter McCarthy a quick route down to the prop. Success! By John Slingerland



Maine Cruise at Wooden Boat School

Videos: <https://youtu.be/HLbVHw4U7h4>

<https://youtube.com/shorts/fje0nWF8YbA>

<https://youtube.com/shorts/JL41E1yAkZQ>

<https://youtu.be/M61Eg671rtw>



September 2, 2022 to September 5, 2022

Labor Day Cruise

By Kate Mullins

The 2022 Labor Day Cruise was a big success this year. We had 9 boats participating including: *Lockwood*, *White Heat*, *Good Trouble*, *Maine Sail*, *Affinity*, *Avocet*, *Sheekasay*, *Breakaway* and *Sea Change*. Highlights were the excellent weather, a dinghy round up and “cruise” around Love Cove ending in a gorgeous sunset, and lobster rolls at Erica’s Seafood next to the Dolphin Marina in Harpswell on our last evening. Good weather, good sailing, good fellowship and good food! Great combination for a late summer cruise.



Happy Hour aboard Lockwood at Snow Island. There were 13 people in that cockpit!





**The Officers and Board of Governors
of the
Blue Water Sailing Club
Cordially Invite You to Attend
The Annual Meeting and Luncheon**

**Sunday, October 16th, 2022
12:30 PM – 4:30 PM**

**Raffael's at the South Shore Country Club
274 South Street
Hingham, Massachusetts**

**RSVP BY OCTOBER 1st
Event Information Attached**

On Sunday, October 16th, 2022 Lisa Goodwin, Rear Commodore, welcomed everyone to the Blue Water Sailing Club Annual Meeting at Raffael's at the South Shore Country Club. Lisa introduced our Commodore, Dennis McKay who called the meeting to order.

Dennis welcomed everyone to the meeting. He recognized the members we have lost over the past year. (Please See Below)

Dennis reviewed the annual reports which were on every table for members to review. Stephen Lee, Treasurer, spoke about the financial health of the Club.

*“Good times! Blue Water Sailing Club is financially sound!
Good sailing! And we are prudent in our spending,
Good friends! But still recognizing this is a club that exists for
you. My friends.
Thank you.”*

Dennis made a motion to accept the four annual reports found on the tables and on the website. Peter Forte moved the motion and Len Thibodeau made the second; the motion was approved unanimously.

Sue Struss was invited to introduce new members that were in attendance, and as their names were read, she asked that they stand. Sue thanked all new members for attending and encouraged them to continue to participate in Club sponsored events.

Dennis spoke about the highlights from the past year that included in person social gatherings and meetings, an extensive educational program via Zoom, a robust cruising program, and a major revamping and rollout of our website.

BWSC Officers and Board of Governors were cordially thanked and recognized for their service. Cruise leaders were similarly thanked for their generous efforts and presented each with a BWSC canvas bag with their boat name embroidered on it. Similarly, Land Event leaders were recognized for their contributions and for volunteering, and were presented with a BWSC canvas bag with their boat name embroidered on it.

The Russ Kingman Award, a Chelsea Ships' Clock, was presented by the Board of Governors to Brenda and Vince Miccio, for their “Spirit of Volunteerism.”

The Commodore's Award was presented to Bernie Coyne for his contributions to the Club that were “above and beyond the call of duty.”

Pat Dieselman, Nominating Committee member, presented the 2022-2023 Slate of Officers and Governors. Dennis made a motion to accept the 2022-2023 Slate as presented, Peter Forte moved the motion and Martha Sanford made the second. Motion passed unanimously.

Newly Appointed Positions were named and asked to be recognized.

Transfer of Flags were made to the new officers of the Club. Rear Commodore, Kevin O'Keeffe, Vice Commodore, Lisa Goodwin, and Commodore, Len Thibodeau.

Dennis McKay provided his outgoing Commodore's Remarks, thanking all who helped make the past year a successful one.



Len Thibodeau presented Dennis with a gift of appreciation on behalf of all the members of the BWSC. Len thanked everyone for their service in both on-water and on-land events. He spoke of being honored to become Commodore for 2023.

Lisa Goodwin, new Vice Commodore, will be in charge of summer cruises. She announced that Pat Dieselman and Bill Dobson will be Chairs for the Maine Cruise in 2023 and the Women's cruise will travel south.

Kevin O'Keeffe, new Rear Commodore, will manage the winter seminars. A February ski event will take place at Waterville Valley and hosted by Elle and Richard Scheer.



Brenda and Vince Miccio, receiving Russ Kingman Award for their "Spirit of Volunteerism."



Finally, the Marion to Bermuda Race Update was presented by Roy Greenwald, Trustee of the MBR. The Business Meeting was adjourned by Dennis McKay.

During dessert, Stephen Lee, Pot Trophy Committee member, announced that Wally Feldman was not present and that he would present the award. The Pot Trophy Winner for 2022 is **Auguste Fortin**

Please See Videos of the Annual Meeting
<https://youtube.com/shorts/GgkoR5xaBPA>
<https://youtu.be/qPdmq5IdQnI>
<https://youtube.com/shorts/YL-gHUyL2s8>



Commodore Len Thibodeau



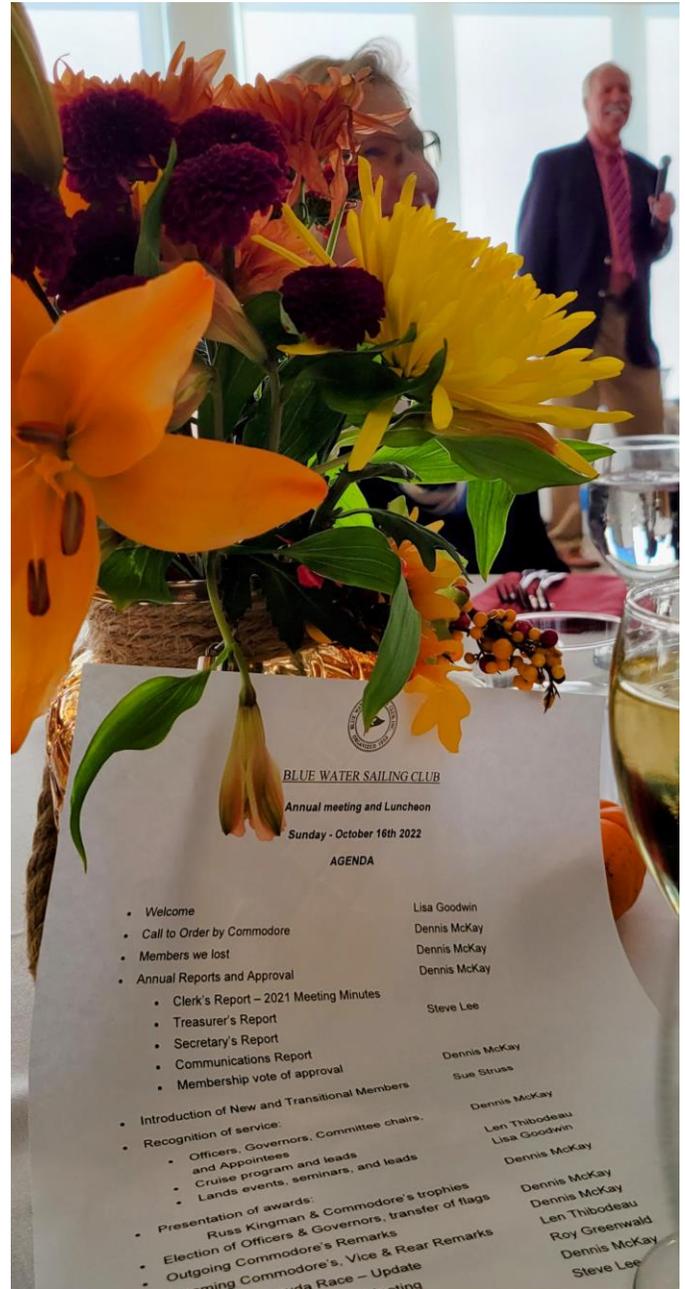
In Honor of Members We Lost in 2022

George Burnell, former Commodore,
member since 1996
David Hughes, member since 1985
Carol Kessler, member since 1991
Daniel Livingston, member since 2019

Introducing 2022 BWSC New Members

By Suzanne Struss

Greg and Yong Bader
John and Lori Corbishley
Anthony and Jaye Marie Ejarque
Charles and Susan Geffers
Celia Harrison and Andrew Bohm
Jim and Nancy Heagney
Christopher and Mary Howland,
Brian Johnson and Adrienne Mally
Peter and Angela Lacoste
Nancy LaFosse
Lee and Carolyn Libelo
Rick and Deborah Miles
William Munroe and Laura Wilcox
Mark and Lonise Touhey,
Charles Wisniewski and Amy Sorensen





Addendum to the 2022 *Log*

As this is my first year as Editor of the *Log*, I found myself looking for more “material” by asking members to submit cruise worthy experiences that they enjoyed during the past year. Our own Steve Shongut submitted the following from a cruise that he enjoyed in September. Thank you, Steve!

“After trying unsuccessfully three times to go on a land/cruise of Australia which was cancelled just when the pandemic started in March, 2020, we were finally successful this past September. However, our trip to Australia was now a 21-day cruise of the Mediterranean.

“Our trip started and ended in Barcelona with the first port visited being Gibraltar. Gibraltar is a self-governing British Territory, since the 1700’s, of only 2.3 sq miles with 30,000 inhabitants. The rock’s highest point is 1400 ft. It is connected to the Iberian Peninsula by a narrow causeway and has cultural influences from Morocco, Spain and Britain.



“We arrived in Gibraltar at 7am after a full day at sea and had to depart at 5pm. We chose to go to the top of Gibraltar by cable car and then walk down. Once you get to the top you have a choice as to whether you just want to see the views of Africa (only 8 miles away) and Spain or in addition walk thru the Nature Preserve. The Preserve allows you to visit a natural cave and manmade tunnels as well as the Apes Den.

“One of the more than 150 natural caves is called St. Michael’s Cave because there is a formation that looks like the Archangel Michael. There is even a light show that shows how the various rock formations look like St. Michael.



“Walking across to the other side of the rock we came across the Great Siege Tunnels. These tunnels were built during the American Revolution when Spain and France tried to seize upon the moment to take Gibraltar back. The tunnels seem endless with numerous chambers with many cannon batteries and ventilation shafts to exhaust the smoke.

“Further down the mountain are the WW2 tunnels which is an incredible network of tunnels that the Allies used as a place to seek refuge. It’s literally a city in which thousands of soldiers were living. All along the way down the rock we ran into Barbary Apes which sailors originally brought to Gibraltar from Africa around 700AD. The “apes”, they’re really monkeys, have no tails and can be aggressive but mostly leave you alone as long as you don’t present an opportunity for mischief. There are about 300 monkeys on Gibraltar.



“Our last stop before going back to our ship was a Moorish Castle. It was built in 1160 but later destroyed by the Spanish with only 1 tower remaining. Upon departing from Gibraltar, we were able to see the southernmost tip of Gibraltar called Europa Flats with an iconic lighthouse and mosque nearby.”

By Steve Shongut