



Photo Contest Winner

Barbara Lyall & Brent Alley

This photo was taken of Marjorie Glacier at the head of Tarr Inlet, Glacier Bay. This glacier calves into the inlet at 59.2 degrees North. It is adjacent to the Grand Pacific Glacier that has now retreated into the Canadian side of the border that runs at the top of this part of Glacier Bay.



Currents

January 2023

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Time to Update Your Membership Profile(s) for the 2023 BCA Member Directory

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/articles/time-to-update-your-membership-profiles-for-the-2023-bca-member-directory/>



Make it one of your New Year's resolutions to check your BCA profile information today! This won't take a lot of your time, but will make the work done by the coordinators of the 2023 BCA Member Directory much, much easier. We need all members to review and update their personal profiles, along with those of their partner/spouse and/or boat(s).

Here's how to do that:

- Go to the [Bluewater Cruising Association website](https://currents.bluewatercruising.org) and log in
- Click on **Manage Profile** (upper right rail)
- Click on **Edit Bio** (found under "Information & Settings")
- Review / update the information and save changes (bottom of page); we will specifically be looking for your:

- Name
- Email
- Partner/spouse's name
- Mailing address
- Home and mobile phone number(s) and area code(s)
- Cruising/sailing website or blog address
- Yacht club membership
- HAM call sign

Once that's done, if you are the *primary* member (the one who pays for the membership), click on and update the **Sub-accounts** associated with your membership, i.e. your partner/spouse (the *associate member*) and/or your boat (also found under "Information & Settings"). Please make sure the following are updated:

Partner/Spouse Sub-Account:

- Partner/spouse's name
- Partner/spouse's email
- Partner/spouse's home and mobile phone numbers
- Partner/spouse's HAM call sign

Boat Sub-Account Info:

- Boat name (upper case)
- Boat type and LOA
- MMSI
- SSB (VHF) call sign
- Where Moored or Currently Cruising info

Contact [Amanda, BCA's Administrator](#), if you have any problems or questions such as:

- You do not remember your username and/or password
- Your partner/spouse and/or boat(s) are not listed as sub-accounts and you have problems creating them
- You need to delete or detach a sub-account
- Your sub-accounts are not linked to your account
- You have any other questions about updating your profile
- You want to renew your membership

Thanks for your updates and for making our work much easier! Your new Member Directory will arrive in your mailbox later this spring.

About The Author

Jennifer Handley

-

Jennifer and her husband, Campbell Good, sailed Camdeboo to the South Pacific in 2006 with their two daughters, a niece, nephew and Jennifer's brother. By the time Camdeboo returned to Victoria in 2011, she had 25,000nm under her keel, visited 14 countries and 27 people had come aboard as crew. Jennifer served as BCA Commodore 2014-2016 and Past Commodore from 2017-2019.

Tides and Currents

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/events/tides-and-currents-3/>



Open to all BCA members and non-members! Spend two mornings online with instructor-extraordinaire, Kevin Monahan, learning just how much you *don't* know about tides and currents! This seminar is must-do prep for your summer cruising so you can confidently tackle the tides and currents of our coastal waters.

Through this course you will realize that there is a lot more to learn about tides and currents than just reading the basic information on your tide table book or smart phone. You will find out the most reliable sources of information and why they are the best. Learn about tide and current effects from the North Coast to the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

Course Format

Each two hour presentation will be followed by ½ hour of questions. There is no need to subscribe to Zoom, just register for Tides and Currents and we'll send a link to you a couple of days before the course.

About the Instructor

Kevin Monahan is a retired Canadian Coast Guard officer with more than 20 years navigating the British Columbia coast as a patrol vessel captain. He has also worked on fishing boats, ferries, and coastal transports. Retiring from public service in 2012, Kevin now splits his time between publishing (*Ports and Passes*, *The Radar Book*, etc.) and teaching nautical subjects to commercial and recreational mariners. In

2013 he was awarded the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Medal.

Image credit: This file is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported license.

About The Author

Brent Alley

Pegasus II - Nordic 44

Brent has been member of Bluewater Cruising Association since 2014. Since joining BCA he and Barbara have sailed to Desolation Sound, Alaska, Haida Gwaii and most recently to Mexico.

Calgary Club Night - Vic-Maui 2022: Lessons Learned

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/events/calgary-club-night-vic-maui-2022-lessons-learned/>



Please join us for the 2022 Vic Maui Race! Calgary members, Elaine Dumoulin and Aidan Walters, will cover the preparation of *Xiomara* for this offshore race, the challenges of getting a team of 9 people together, the weather, challenges and successes, as well post race reflections.

Xiomara is an X-4.3, from X-yachts. She was “born” in Denmark in 2019 and completed in Vancouver early 2020. Vic-Maui 2022 was her first open water experience and it was the first open water race for her skipper Aidan Walters. Co-owned by Aidan and Elaine, both were on board for the race to Maui. February 7 will be your chance to enjoy the excitement!

A hybrid club night, all are welcome. Non BCA members are welcome to request the Zoom link by contacting [Calgary Communications](#).

Vancouver Club Night - New Zealand Aboard Traversay III

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/events/new-zealand-aboard-traversay-iii/>



We suspect the typical BCA member, if there is such a person, imagines a voyage to the South Seas perhaps via the Western USA and Mexico. Either during the planning stages or while sitting at anchor in French Polynesia the thought comes to one: “What will we do at the end of all this – or when hurricane season looms?” New Zealand emerges either as an answer to this problem or out of the genuine realization that it embodies greater variety, scenery and local cruising opportunities than all those other spots along the way.

Larry Roberts and Mary Anne Unrau say they were drawn to sail there nonstop the first time by a confluence of somewhat different reasons: They had a daughter studying not so far away at Australia National University in Canberra; retirement happened suddenly as the South Pacific hurricane season approached and good friends invited them to visit them for New Years in New Zealand.

New Zealand offers beautiful, relatively sheltered cruising along its north coast as well as in the Marlborough Sounds and Tasman Bay on the South Island. The SCUBA diving is astounding and the

mountainous hiking trails (or tramping tracks as the Kiwis say) are world class. Many cruisers buy or rent a vehicle and wander about the awesome scenery while their boat rests in a northern port like Opuā or Whangarei.

New Zealand offers something for everyone.

Hybrid Meeting Format

In-Person Attendees:

- For those attending in-person, the format will be very much the same as “normal”
- Doors open at 7:00 and meeting starts at 7:30.
- Cost: \$5/Members, \$10/Non-Members

Virtual Attendees:

Virtual club nights (via Zoom) have enabled BCA to continue our monthly meetings and presentations throughout the pandemic, with an added bonus of expanding our community to members and non-members across the globe. With the return to in-person meetings BCA has continued to provide a virtual component to our club nights as it has significant benefits to our membership. This however comes at a cost for the purchase of cameras, audio equipment and the lost revenue due to a decrease of in-person attendance used to off-set venue costs.

Zoom meeting invitation:

- Click [here](#) to register for and purchase your virtual meeting ticket and receive the Zoom meeting invitation.
- Please note that you must be signed in to the BCA website to get the member price.
- Cost: Members – \$5.00 per connected device; Non-Members, \$10 per connected device.

Note: Due to the small cost of virtual tickets, and an equal or greater cost, to BCA, of issuing refunds, no refunds will be issued unless Vancouver Chapter is unable to deliver the Club Night via Zoom.

About The Author

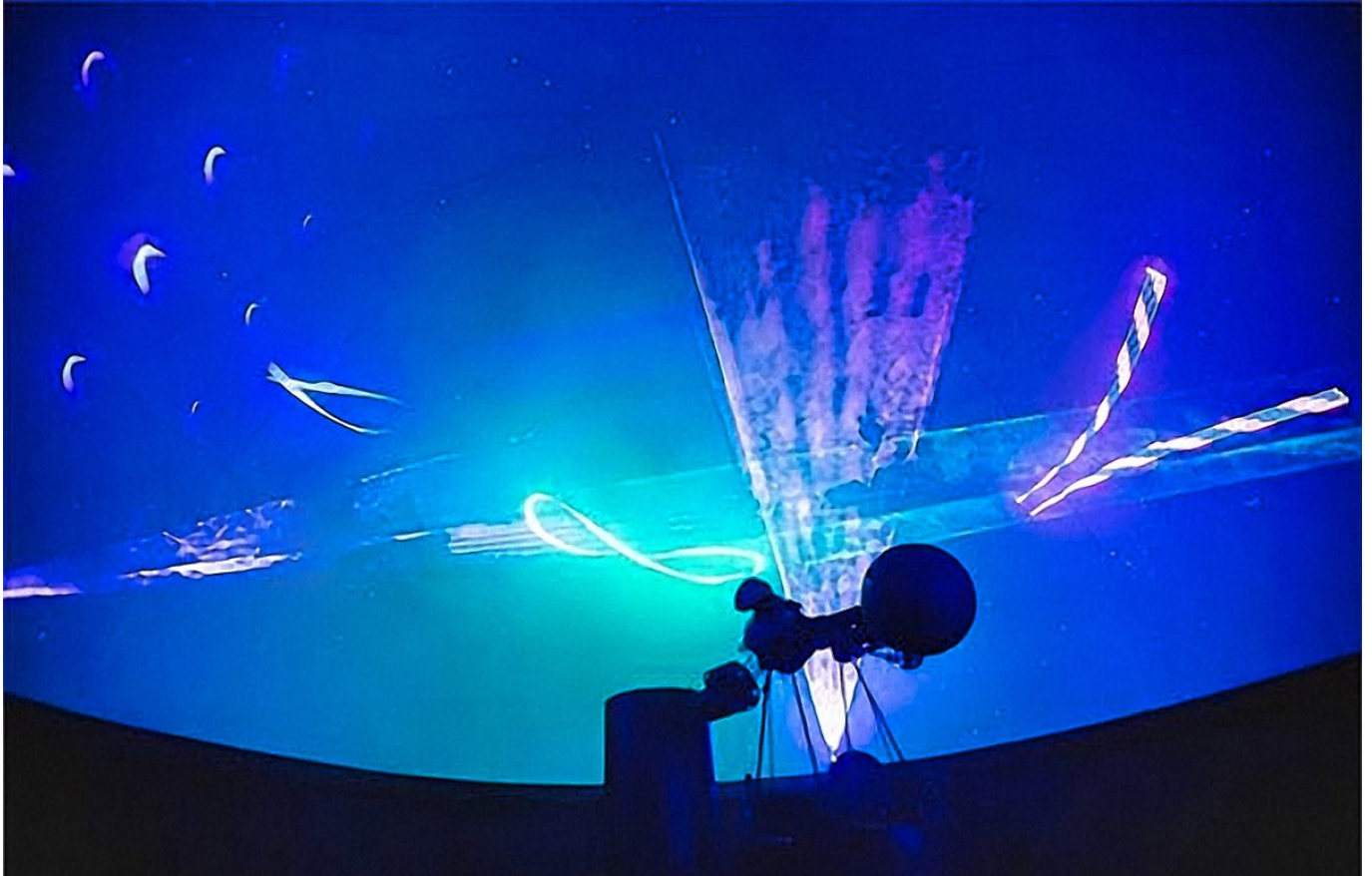
Heather Marshall

Mischief - Catalina 27

Bluewater BCA member Heather Marshall first fell in love with sailing as a teenager. She sailed to the Mediterranean and back aboard a Bavaria 38 sloop, 'Sea Otter of Canada', with her former husband. Heather single-hands 'Mischief' to destinations in the Salish Sea.

Our Planetary System From a Sailor's Perspective

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/events/our-planetary-system-from-a-sailors-perspective-2/>



This in-person presentation at the BCIT Planetarium is for everyone and anyone who has looked at stars and wondered how anyone could use their location to navigate with.

About the Presenter

Bill Burnyeat is the resident astronomer at the British Columbia Institute of Technology. He has operated the in-house Planetarium there since 2005. Bill has also been the outreach astronomer for many years, with such groups as Canadian Planetariums and Canadian Telescopes. In the 1990s, he conducted tours of BC Parks with a telescope, seeing more than 100,000 campers over 20 years.

Photo Credit: Used with permission from BCIT Planetarium

About The Author

Kit Griffin

SWAN - Pacific Seacraft 34

Christopher "Kit" Griffin is a retired adventure equipment consultant and photographer living in

Vancouver, Canada. He's lived in Australia for most of his life, however his childhood was spent on Vancouver Island as his grandfather (and father) worked for Cable and Wireless until the Cable Station closed in 1959. Kit credits his family and Bamfield for a deep affection for the ocean, diving, and sailing. At the start of 2020 Kit bought SWAN, a Pacific Seacraft 34, in Tahiti which he'll be sailing back to Canada in April 2022 COVID-19 permitting. In the meantime, Kit volunteers for Bluewater Cruising Association in Vancouver Education Watch and sails a Catalina 28 locally.

Offshore Charting and Dead Reckoning

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/events/offshore-charting-and-dead-reckoning-2/>



The Vancouver Chapter is pleased to offer this one day course on Offshore Charting and Dead Reckoning (DR) at Jericho Sailing Centre, instructed by veteran offshore sailor, Malcolm Wilkinson. This is an excellent precursor to taking a Celestial Navigation Course, as practical knowledge of chart usage and position updating is essential for offshore sailing.

Regardless of your onboard electronics, noting your DR regularly is an essential back-up plan that will help estimate distance traveled over a known period of time — ideal for passage planning and making landfall.

Instructor:

Malcolm Wilkinson has been sailing for over 65 years and has been using Celestial Navigation for over 50 years. Malcolm raced sailboats successfully for many years, both locally and offshore before sailing with his wife Darcy, some 16,000 nautical miles to the South Pacific and return aboard their 44ft sloop *Meridian Passage II*. He is passionate about and has taught many celestial navigation courses to BCA

members.

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Making and Storing Power at Sea

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/events/making-and-storing-power-at-sea-3/>



BLUEWATER CRUISING ASSOCIATION

Making and Storing Power at Sea

Saturday, February 18, 2023
9:00 - 12:00

Presenter: Bjarne Hansen, M.E.Sc.

IV curve
The short circuit current, I_{sc}
The open circuit voltage, V_{oc}
Power from the solar cell
 $P = V \times I$
Panel 2
Panel 1
 V_{MP} I_{MP}
 P_{MP}
Voltage

This three hour seminar course is for any cruising crew, not just skippers, wanting to learn more about marine systems for electrical power generation and storage.

It focuses on safety, theory, and best-practices to help you understand, select, and troubleshoot the major electrical generation and storage components seen on sailboats. The lecture portion uses slides as well as several show-and-tell items to present the material in a non-intimidating manner with lots of examples.

Particular topics include:

- solar panels and charge controllers
- lead-acid and lithium batteries
- alternators
- power budgets
- measuring instruments, and
- troubleshooting approaches

Instructor

Bjarne Hansen trained as an electrical engineer and early in his career worked with radar, radio, and other airfield equipment in the RCAF. More recently, he has been designing medical equipment at a local engineering firm. A BCA member since 2003, Bjarne cruised the South Pacific for two years in 2004 – 2006 and spent winters 2015 – 2019 sailing with Barb in Mexico.

About The Author

Brent Alley

Pegasus II - Nordic 44

Brent has been member of Bluewater Cruising Association since 2014. Since joining BCA he and Barbara have sailed to Desolation Sound, Alaska, Haida Gwaii and most recently to Mexico.

Celestial Navigation

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/events/celestial-navigation-2/>



The Vancouver Chapter is pleased to offer a 2-day Celestial Navigation course, instructed by Malcolm Wilkinson. The course will be offered over two consecutive Saturday evenings.

Learning to use a sextant for navigation is a great skill to have. Simply put, a sextant is a tool used to measure the angles between celestial objects such as the sun, moon and stars (and the horizon). These results may be used to determine one's position on the earth — in much the same way you would use land based objects to create a “navigational fix”. In other words, a sextant allows sailors to accurately measure their latitude and longitude, enabling them to know their exact location at sea. There are other benefits:

- **Navigation in Remote Areas:** A sextant can be used in remote areas without relying on any external navigational tools, such as GPS or radio signals — where they might not be available.
- **Practical Experience:** Learning how to use a sextant provides a hands-on experience that can be useful in a variety of navigational contexts.
- **Historical Significance:** Sextants are a reminder of the historical importance of navigation for maritime travellers and explorers.
- **Fun:** Learning to use a sextant can be an enjoyable and rewarding experience.

Please join us in this easy-to-follow course, where the assumed complexities are made clear.

Instructor

Malcolm Wilkinson has been sailing for over 65 years and has been using celestial navigation for over 50 years. Malcolm raced sailboats successfully for many years, both locally and offshore before sailing with his wife Darcy, some 16,000 nautical miles to the South Pacific and return aboard their 44ft sloop, *Meridian Passage II*. He is passionate about and has taught many celestial navigation courses to BCA members.

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Weather Strategies for the Inside Passage

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/events/weather-strategies-for-the-inside-passage-3/>



Spend two mornings online with well-known instructor Kevin Monahan learning about the unique weather patterns of the west coast, and how to make decisions based on weather forecasts. Once you understand the dynamics of the most common weather patterns that occur in the region, you can develop strategies that take advantage of the weather patterns for a more comfortable and more enjoyable cruise.

Participants will be introduced to key concepts of mid-latitude depressions, offshore highs, and inflow and outflow winds, and their interactions with the geography of the Inside Passage.

Open to all BCA members and non-members; for a detailed course outline and to register, [click here](#).

Note: The seminar is not intended to teach actual forecasting of large scale weather patterns. Participants

will be shown how to apply the information in weather forecasts and local weather reports to better understand actual conditions in specific locations on the water.

About the Instructor

Kevin Monahan is a retired Canadian Coast Guard officer, with more than 20 years navigating the British Columbia coast as a patrol vessel captain. He has also worked on fishing boats, ferries, and coastal transports. Retiring from public service in 2012, Kevin now splits his time between publishing (*Ports and Passes*, *Local Knowledge: A Skipper's Reference (Tacoma to Ketchikan)*, *The Radar Book*, etc.) and teaching nautical subjects to commercial and recreational mariners. In 2013, he was awarded the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Medal.

About The Author

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Pegasus II - Nordic 44

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BCA Annual General Meeting (2022) Report

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/news/bca-annual-general-meeting-2022-report/>



The Bluewater Cruising Association AGM was held on December 8, 2022, via Zoom, with 61 members in attendance and 23 proxies received, for a total of 84, exceeding the 72 required for a quorum.

Commodore David Mitchell reported on the years activities, the highlight being the Strategic Planning Session held November 25-26. (Details on this session will be covered by a separate article in *Currents*.) An important outcome of the session was a new Value Statement that was proposed and then passed by the Board of Directors. The attendees at the AGM passed a vote of confidence for the adoption of the new Value Statement: Caring: Respecting our environment, the communities we visit and each other.

Treasurer Darryl Lapaire presented the Audited Financial Year End Statements. Even with the pandemic, revenue exceeded expenses by \$5988. BCA is “weathering the storm” he advised. The statements were accepted as presented.

Secretary Dee Logan reported that all reporting required under the BC Societies Act is up to date, with the filing of the 2022 Annual Report to be filed within 30 days of the AGM. Significant 2022 motions passed by the Board of Directors included:

- COVID-19 Protocol
- Confidentiality and Privacy Policy
- BCA Awards Policy
- BCA Course List
- BCA Value “Caring: Respect our environment, the communities we visit and each other.”

Dee also reported that the BCA Governance Manual was updated and can be found [here](#) on the BCA website.

Jennifer Handley, speaking on behalf of the Directory Team, reported that the 2022 Directory was successfully published and distributed. The team is in place for the 2023 directory. Members are requested to review and update their profiles and that of their boats before February 28, 2023 in preparation for its publication.

Jennifer Handley, acting for **Currents** Managing Editor, Rosario Passos, advised that:

- **Currents** has 1328 subscribers
- Received 88 photos for the 2023 **Currents** PDF cover contest

The **Currents** editorial team encourages BCA members to [submit articles](#) to the association’s official publication. There is a financial credit towards your annual Membership fee for every article published.

Commodore David Mitchell thanked the current Board and Reports to the Board for their service in 2022. The following Members were then elected or acclaimed to the 2023 BCA Board of Directors:

- Commodore: David Mitchell
- Vice Commodore: Vacant (*those interested in serving in this capacity are encouraged to contact [Leslie Hansen](#)*)
- Secretary: Denise (Dee) Logan
- Treasurer: Darryl Lapaire
- Calgary Chapter Vice Commodore: John Kortbeek
- Vancouver Chapter Vice Commodore: Don Hutchison
- Vancouver Island Chapter Vice Commodore: Scott Crawshaw

The Board recognizes the ongoing support of Leslie Hansen in her role as Past Commodore and welcomes Dani Tate-Stratton as a Board Report for BCA Communications.

Commodore David Mitchell closed the meeting with a big: “Thank you to the 2023 Board of Directors and Reports to the Board!”

About The Author

K. Barrie Letts

Nearchus - Saturna 37 Sloop

Barrie and Sandra joined BCA Feb 2006, were part of the Fleet of 2007, and have received Coastal 999 and Offshore Awards. They spent 7 of 12 years offshore aboard SV Passat II, cruising the west and east coasts of North and Central America; transiting the Atlantic Ocean and cruising the North Sea, Atlantic, Biscay and Mediterranean coasts of Europe and North Africa. Now they cruise the BC coast aboard SV Nearchus.

Vancouver Island Fleet Report - January 2023

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/news/vancouver-island-fleet-report-january-2023/>



The January VI Fleet meeting began by extending a welcome to our new members, a past member Mel Finley, and one of our coordinators for next year, Campbell Good. Mel joined us before she heads off to join Morgan and their girls in French Polynesia. Unfortunately, Campbell's assistant coordinator, Bill Eisenhauer, had a previous engagement and couldn't join us this time. The usual announcements followed before Brent Alley reminded folks about the current Education offerings.

Shannon and Doran Jones then shared a look at three handy devices to have on board:

- a lead line to sound out your anchorage
- a range finder so your vision doesn't fool you about how close that other vessel or the shoreline is, and
- a Digital Inspection Camera to see what is really going on in that impossible-to-get-at hollow behind your whatever

Al Kitchen then presented a very short look at some of the safety gear available with sources to search out which device might work best for you. Some of these will be further examined at the Fleet rendezvous in April. This left loads of time for Jamie Cox to dig into his topic and share his onboard experiences from

his many offshore excursions.

The ten sailors who attended our January VI Fleet meeting in person and the fourteen with us on Zoom experienced a unique opportunity to hear from this presenter. Jamie is recently home from his amazing voyage from Victoria up the coast via Haida Gwaii and Alaska through the Northwest Passage to Greenland. He took a detailed look at safety procedures on board based on his crew briefing documents including many topics from watch procedures to Liferaft boarding.

When Jamie finished answering questions from the group and the meeting broke up, the discussions continued with sailors sharing their cruising experiences with others planning to venture to the same locations. It was uplifting to witness the mutual support this group offers to like-minded sailors pursuing their dreams.

On February 15 we'll have Debbie Warren talk about Weather Routing followed by Bjarne Hansen discussing Batteries and Charging Systems, two more topics of high interest to this group.

About The Author

Al Kitchen - VI Fleet Coordinator

Wyndspree - Huntingford 53 Ketch

Al Kitchen has been a BCA member since 2005. Al and his wife Gaye lived aboard Wyndspree (53' ketch) from 1996 until 2007 and cruised the BC coast throughout this time. Between 2006 and the present, Al crewed on different boats with fellow Bluewater members, including voyages from Victoria, BC to San Francisco; Gladstone, Australia to Fiji; New Zealand to Victoria, B.C.; and San Jose del Cabo to Hilo, HI. Al is now co-coordinating the V.I. Fleet group with Daragh Nagle.

Currents Bluewater Cruising

The Bluewater Cruising Association

PDF generated February 04, 2023 at 12:48 AM