



Photo Contest Winner

Don Cragmyle

SV Alika dressed for the holiday season, North Saanich Marina.



Currents

November 2021

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Notice of BCA Annual General Meeting and Awards Gala (December 8, 2021)

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/news/notice-of-bca-annual-general-meeting-and-awards-gala-december-8-2021/>



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & AWARDS CEREMONY

Notice is hereby given to all BCA members:

Annual General Meeting and Election of Directors

Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Time: Meeting will open at 19:00 PST, 20:00 MST / AGM to commence at 19:30 PST, 20:30 MST

Place: Virtual meeting via Zoom (details to follow)

The business of the AGM will include a review of year-end Financial Statements for 2021, the adoption of the [Minutes of the 2020 AGM](#), as well as operations reports.

There will also be elections to the offices of:

- Commodore
- Vice Commodore
- Secretary

- Treasurer

Members interested in any of these positions are invited to submit their names to the Chair of the Nominations Committee, [Past Commodore Leslie Hansen](#). You can see the [current Board of Directors](#) and learn about the responsibilities of officers in the [BCA's Bylaws and Constitution](#), Part 7 – Duties of Officers.

In addition, the Calgary Chapter, Vancouver Island Chapter and Vancouver Chapter will each present a candidate for election to the office of Chapter Vice Commodore for their chapter.

Voting may be done virtually by those attending the AGM or by proxy. Members who are unable to attend the meeting are encouraged to submit a Proxy by mail to the BCA Administrator or by email to admin@bluewatercruising.org. A copy of the Proxy is available by clicking [here](#). Please note the Proxy must be received by the Administrator by **Noon, December 7, 2021**.

The AGM will be followed by an All-Chapters Awards Ceremony recognizing members' cruising achievements and service to BCA. We will also celebrate our connections and the wonderful support provided by BCA volunteers, whether here in home port or cruising in distant waters. More to come on what will be a fun and celebratory evening!

BCA's Board of Directors looks forward to hosting the evening; please show your commitment to the association by making every effort to attend and/or register your vote.

If you have any questions about the AGM, please contact [Leslie Hansen](#), BCA Past Commodore.

About The Author

Jennifer Handley

-

Jennifer Handley and 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.

Reflections on the 2021 Thanksgiving Rendezvous

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/articles/reflections-on-the-2021-thanksgiving-rendezvous/>



Shortly after the 2019 Calgary Thanksgiving Rendezvous, my wife Elaine and I were asked to organize the 2020 Rendezvous. Having never been to a rendezvous, this was not something that I was looking forward to. Everyone said how easy it was and that there was basically not much to do. The year 2020 came along and we had a reprieve; COVID-19 saved us from organizing anything, but really just pushed it off to 2021. The challenges of COVID of course remained, but we were much more determined to make it happen; we had all been away from our friends and social group for too long.

Living in the middle of a pandemic called for a change of format in 2021. A rendezvous anywhere that could be cancelled by COVID restrictions needed to be avoided. It was decided to meet at Montague Harbor where there is room for lots of anchoring. Montague Harbour Marine Provincial Park also gives enough space for social distancing. Requiring attendees to be fully vaccinated was both for everyone's comfort and to get ahead of any possible last minute changes in the BC Provincial Public Health Orders.

In order to help maintain some level of social distancing, Saturday was a casual meet and greet with a walk around the park. Despite the very real threat of rain, over 30 BCA members from all three chapters participated in the walk around Gray Peninsula.



An afternoon stroll around Gray Peninsula

The other format change was that we would not eat in a pub restaurant as was done in previous years at Thetis Island Marina. There was also a lot of hesitation about the idea of a potluck. Instead, for dinner on Sunday, we came up with the idea of a collective BBQ; everyone would cook for themselves but everything had to be prepared in tinfoil. To add a bit of spirit to the event, the BBQ became a competition: best appetizer, entree, and dessert.

The variety of meals that were cooked in tinfoil amazed everyone. As the official judge, I was “forced” to try most of the items. Everything was fantastic and judging was challenging. In the end, everyone won

as we all had an amazing evening together.

A big thanks to John Kortbeek, Calgary's Vice Commodore, for all the help and ideas.

Message of Thanks from David Mitchell, BCA Commodore:

“My sincerest gratitude goes out to the BCA Calgary Chapter for all of their efforts in organizing and successfully carrying out this year's Thanksgiving Rendezvous. During these times of the COVID-19 pandemic and varied opinions of how to navigate through the risks, they stayed course, working hard to provide many with a much needed, socially responsible event. Without doubt, Calgary far exceeded all expectations! Thank you!”

A small collection of photos from the Rendezvous can be found [here](#).

About The Author

Aidan Walters

Xiomara - X-Yacht 43 Sloop

Aidan and Elaine joined BCA in 2017 after a couple of years of chartering; they purchased Xiomara in 2020. A couple of years of getting to know her and they will be off to Maui in the Vic-Maui race and then sailing away.

Pandemic Presents Unexpected Opportunities

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/articles/pandemic-presents-unexpected-opportunities/>



It has been a year and a half since our friends badgered us into escaping the COVID movement restrictions on Mexico's Baja, and cruising over to the less strict San Carlos, Sonora Mexico area. We are so glad they did, and are so glad we listened. COVID has limited our movements a bit, but surprisingly has offered us many more experiences and opportunities that we otherwise may have missed. Sure there is mask wearing, social distancing and occasional crack downs, but generally it has been easy and safe here in Sonora.

The first two months at anchor in the bay were great. For us "new to cruising" Canadians, the warm weather, warm water, beautiful scenery, beaches and palm trees seemed much like the paradise we envisioned our cruising life should be. As June progressed, though, it started to get hot. Really hot. The water got to where jumping in made no difference. Locals warned us of the coming unbearable heat and humidity. What were we to do?

One morning on the local VHF cruisers net, a local expat couple were looking for someone to house sit and feed their small pride of eight cats for the summer. Waterfront home, minutes walk from the marina

and best of all, air conditioning. The large space and forced confinement gave me the opportunity to complete lots of boat projects. There were several things I didn't get done before we left a year ago: new wooden ship's wheel, binnacle cover, hatch covers, Bimini, full set of shade tarps and dingy chaps.



House sitting offers space to sew some spiffy dingy chaps.

One pet-sitting experience led to another. Looking back it seems like we've spent more time on land in beautiful beach front homes than we have on *Galene*. It sure didn't take long to meet friends and create a group bubble. Our group started Thursday night rotating dinner parties; the local yacht club started up Wednesday beer can races, and there were water aerobics and poolside card games for Laurie. We even got involved in volunteering with some community groups.

Cruising offers a unique opportunity to meet many people and make plenty of new friends. The downside typically is that everyone is moving around so often, that people come and go frequently. Friendships are fleeting. But because of travel restrictions, we were all stranded in San Carlos. Cruisers and expats alike were mostly staying put. We met so many people and made so many good friends in this past year and a half.



New Year's Eve beach fire. Great times with waterfront homes and a fabulous bubble of new friends.

By spring, we were really in need of some water under our keel, and restrictions had been lifted. So in April 2021, we made a quick two-month excursion across the Sea of Cortez to Santa Rosalía and Bahía Concepción on the Baja. Everywhere we went was nearly empty. We couldn't help but stay for a week at each bay. Why leave when you have it all to yourself?



Swimming in the natural mineral springs with nobody around. A very rare treat.

By June, the year was starting to repeat itself and the heat got turned up a couple of notches. It was time for an exit strategy. We decided to use the soon-to-expire credits acquired from last year's COVID cancelled return home flight, and go somewhere cooler for the summer. So for July and August, we flew to Oaxaca City in the cool mountains of southern Mexico. With the remaining credits, we chose a two-week pit stop in Guanajuato. Wow! Both cities are UNESCO Heritage sites and rated some of the most 'Instagramable' cities of Mexico. As a retired museum curator, designer and educator, I was totally in my glory. The history and beauty of these areas is truly incredible. We got involved with local tour guides to explore and visit areas that have been closed to regular tourists since COVID started. Oaxaca had so much to offer. Those ancient valleys and hillsides are still farmed by the Zapotec peoples, much as it has been for the past 7,000 years. That predates Rome, any Chinese dynasty and even Egyptian Pharaohs. This area is the genetic birthplace of the world's tomatoes, chilies, corn and the creation of chocolate. With many of the typical tourist activities shut down, we were inspired to experience the much more rewarding activities off the beaten path. With the longer staying time, we had plenty of opportunity to ponder and more fully appreciate our surroundings and the local people.

We returned to San Carlos at the end of September, to dog and house sit yet another fine home with a view of the bay. It was a perfect opportunity to tear apart our electrical infrastructure and convert our house bank to lithium. With all this time on our hands, *Galene* is looking pretty amazing.



Dog sitting Diva and Oliver. Hard to decide who gets the better deal, the dog owner or us!

Most places we have been this past year and a half are really showing the economic impacts of the Pandemic. Cruising is a big part of the tourism economy and an awful lot of people rely on the cruisers and seasonal residents for their livelihood. It's been difficult to see people struggling and we try to help where we can. The Mexican people are as tough and resilient as they are warm and friendly. We have been welcomed wherever we go and invited to share in amazing experiences.

We realize that many people suffered great losses due to the Pandemic. We are somewhat embarrassed to say that it has been spectacular for us: cruising without the crowds, getting piles of boat projects done, lazily exploring places we wouldn't have otherwise visited, and making so many wonderful new friends. We are so lucky and thankful every day.

About The Author

Greg Yellenik

Galene - 1982 Cooper Seabird 37 Pilothouse

Greg caught the bug for sailing at age 16 when he left home in Montreal to live with his aunt and uncle in

Vancouver for a summer. He spent the next ten years taking opportunities further West until finally ending up back in Vancouver. Greg owned his own Windward 30 sloop for 11 years prior to landing Galene, a 37' Cooper Seabird Pilothouse where he and his partner of 26 years Laurie live aboard full time. Presently in Mexico after completing the 2019 Baja Ha Ha and placing second in their division with plans to slow way down and smell the roses, or whatever flowers they see.

Cruising to Haida Gwaii in 2022?

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/articles/cruising-to-haida-gwaii-in-2022/>



Jody Bissett, Interpretation Coordinator, [Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve, National Marine Conservation Area Reserve and Haida Heritage Site](#) would like to announce that Parks Canada has scheduled **virtual orientation sessions** again in the Spring of 2022.

As you may already be aware of, all visitors planning to visit Gwaii Haanas who are not travelling with a licensed tour operator must participate in the [Orientation Program](#). For the past few years (with the exception of 2021) orientation sessions were hosted in-person in Vancouver and Victoria or Sydney in March. These sessions were open to the public, but geared towards boaters planning on entering Gwaii Haanas from the south, and unable to attend an Orientation in Skidegate prior to entry.

Similarly to what happened this past Spring, in the Spring of 2022 the **mandatory** orientation sessions will be hosted virtually, due to the continued uncertainty around the Covid-19 pandemic. Parks Canada will be offering two virtual Gwaii Haanas Orientation and Q&A sessions in late March and early April. You will need to register prior to these sessions by contacting the Parks Canada office at 1-577-559-8818 or gwaiihaanas@pc.gc.ca.

The virtual orientation sessions are scheduled for **1900h on Wednesday March 30 and Thursday April 7**, on Google Meets. The link to the meetings will be shared with participants when they register for the

session.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact [Jody Bissett](#) directly; she will be pleased to assist.

Also, if you are dreaming about or planning a trip to Gwaii Haanas, there is a lot of great trip planning information on [the website](#).

Feature Photo Credit: Sgan Gwaay Village (© Parks Canada/Maggie Stronge); Tufted Puffin (© Parks Canada/Carey Bergman); Mount Yatza (© Parks Canada/Charlotte Houston); Humpback (© Parks Canada/Daniel McNeill)

About The Author

Rosario Passos

Counting Stars - Whitby 42 Ketch

Rosario is a dreamer who wants to sail the South Pacific.... so far she sails the local waters of the Salish Sea to get as much experience as possible.

Hillbilly Air

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/articles/hillbilly-air/>



No, it's not what residents of the Appalachians get when they ski moguls. It's the jury rigging of cheap air conditioning on a sailboat for use dockside or when in storage in the tropics.

Avant was in El Salvador for almost two years; we determined that for our comfort aboard, and more importantly for the condition of the boat and gear when stored unused for two summers in El Salvador, that air conditioning would be a giant plus. The heat and humidity in the off-season in the tropics is intense, and temperatures in a closed up boat can reach 48°C (120°F) when stored in the water, and 65°C (150°F) when stored on the hard. Coupled with humidity in the 80-90% range and rain (sometimes inches per day), the mischief this causes to fabrics, plastics, wiring, sails, books and paper goods, and general household items is incredible. Mildew, oxidation, and general degradation are inevitable, but with air conditioning the rate is greatly decreased. With air conditioning, you can reduce the humidity to somewhere in the 50-60% range, and the temperatures to a much more benign 25-30°C (77-86°F).

If you can get power at a reasonable cost, fitting an air conditioner is not too hard or expensive.

There are three main options:

- built-in (maximum cost, convenience)
- floor-standing units
- window mount units

Built-in Air Conditioner

Cruisers with built-in air conditioning systems report blocked water inlets for the raw water cooling systems, and these need to be cleaned out at least monthly, making their long term use while the boat is unoccupied more difficult to achieve. It's also near impossible to get and install one here in El Salvador, so if you didn't install one before you left, you're probably out of luck.

Floor-standing Air Conditioner

Some cruisers here bought floor stand models, but found they were less than optimal as they 1) took up a fair amount of space inside the cabin, 2) needed external ventilation, 3) produced heat inside the boat, 4) were larger than similar powered window units, and 5) had to have water reservoirs emptied regularly (when air conditioners reduce humidity they produce water, and the water has to go somewhere!).

Window Mount Air Conditioner

On *Avant* we bought a simple 5,000 BTU window mount unit and fashioned a fitted plywood companionway board to hold it. We added a drain hose to the existing drip hole (push fit vinyl/PVC hose from the hardware store), and another overflow fashioned from a cut up milk carton (and more press fit PVC hose) in case the primary somehow became blocked. The hoses lead to a cockpit scupper, preventing the drips from the water produced from forming little algae pools on the deck. We added a snappy aluminized deflector shield (cut from a dollar store folding car window shade) to keep the cold air off the bottom of the sliding companionway hatch, as the cold air was causing condensation on the outside of the hatch and we didn't want the extra moisture running on deck.



Hillbilly air, external view. Note drain hoses and custom-fit external catchment basin. Companionway board is simple plywood cut to fit, with an internal 2×4 ‘shelf’ on the inside to hold the AC unit.

Other cruisers in the local fleet have made boxes that fit topside hatches and hold the units. This takes more storage space, is more complicated to make, can be difficult to make adequately waterproof in topical rains, and makes it harder to securely lock the boat up, but works fine and makes coming and going through the companionway easier.

One of the nice features of the window mount units is that all the heat producing components are mounted outdoors, so no heat is introduced below.



Hillbilly air, internal view. Note professional cord management with clothes pegs, and high-tech insulated aluminized deflection shield to direct air away from underside of companionway hatch. (All accessories purchased at ‘Dollarama’ El Salvador.)

We chose a simple all-mechanical unit so it would come back on after a power failure in our absence. The fancier electronic control units, while beguiling with their softly glowing LEDs, remote controls and myriad options, would not automatically restart after a power outage (and outages are common here). Fortuitously, this was also a cheaper cost option. There is no need for fancy temperature controls, we simply set the unit to ‘10’ (maximum cooling) and the fan to ‘High’ and leave it running. It never gets cold, or even really cool (by Canadian standards) aboard, but the difference in our comfort is great. The waste heat generated and blown into the cockpit makes the cockpit even hotter, though, so we switch it off if we’re going to enjoy evenings topsides. When we’re home in Canada, away from the boat over the summer, we add a small, cheap 120v fan to augment air circulation below.

While it’s a minor inconvenience to step over the unit when going below, the difference in comfort and the life of our equipment and interior makes it all worthwhile. As I write this on a hot tropical afternoon, it’s 27°C (81°F) with 55% humidity down below aboard *Avant*, while outside it’s 33°C (92°F) with 85% humidity.

About The Author

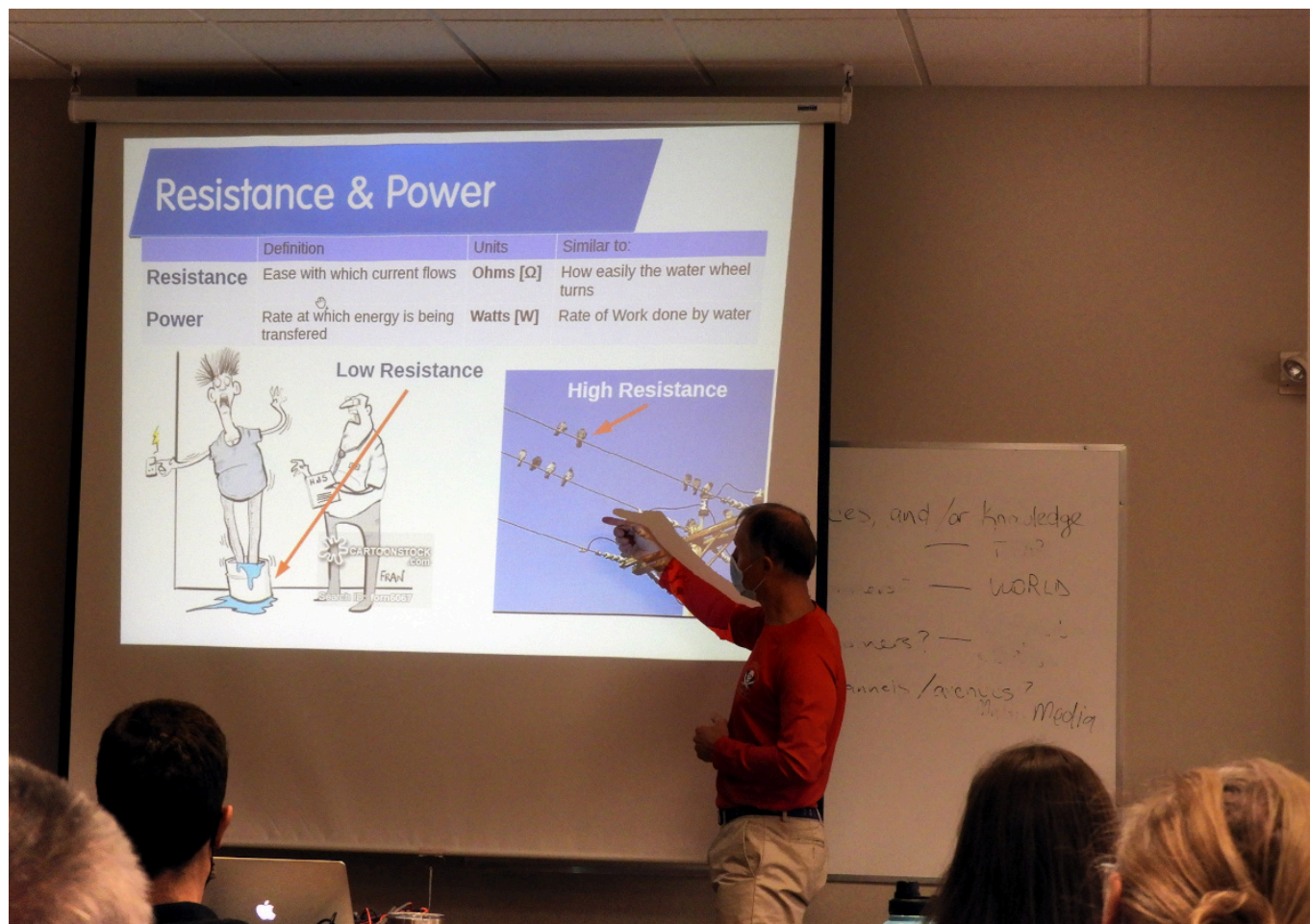
Rob Murray

Avant - Beneteau First 435 Sloop

Rob Murray and Debra Zhou are doers currently in El Salvador, Central America.

Back To School

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/articles/back-to-school/>

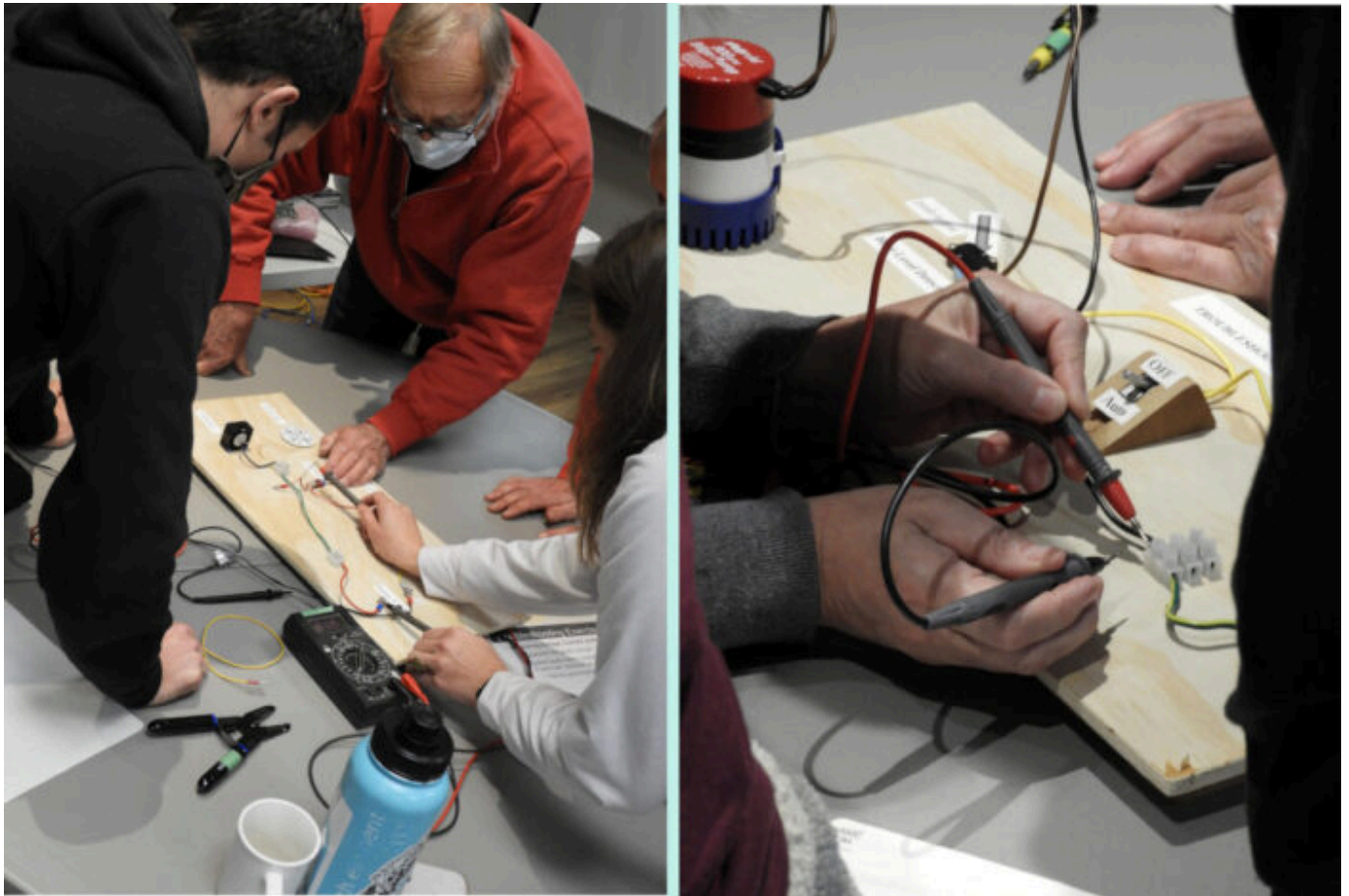


November 21, 2021 marked the return of students to the classroom. This first BCA post-COVID in-person event was the Electrical Skills for Cruisers class, instructed by Bjarne Hansen and attended by about a dozen members from the Island region. Lots of hurdles, such as the previous week’s record-breaking rainfalls, created high barriers to attending. Some road routes were closed and others were operating on an essential-travel basis. One student had woken up at 0330h to catch a ferry to get to Sidney in time for the course. Such enthusiasm!

Our VI Education Watchkeeper, Brent Alley, arranged for a large classroom in the Shoal Community Activity Centre in Sidney, and this proved to be a good venue. In addition to all students being double-vaccinated, we were able to work in small groups of 3-4, physically distanced and wearing masks. One week after the event, no COVID outbreak has been announced as a result of the class, so we’ll count the precautions a success.



The format of this class included lectures covering topics such as basic electrical theory, wire and connector selection, and troubleshooting techniques. To provide a break for the instructor's voice, after each section the students practiced their newly-learned skills using sample circuits laid out on plywood. In addition to sizing wire and crimping connectors to construct the circuits, intentional faults had been introduced to sabotage the boards, which the participants diagnosed using their multimeters and then fixed.



By the time we wrapped up that afternoon, no one had been electrocuted, and only one drink mug was misplaced. Thanks for enabling this successful event go to Brent Alley for arranging the course, to Barb Peck for cheerfully assisting during the practical exercises, to Chris Stask for delivering some of the audio-visual aids, and definitely to the students for their enthusiasm (and perseverance in getting to the venue!)

Photos credit: Barb Peck

About The Author

Barb Peck & Bjarne Hansen

Hoku Pa'a - Niagara 35

From 2004-2006 Barb and Bjarne sailed the South Pacific on Freya, their 30' Hunter-Vogel. Upon returning to Victoria they participated in the VI Watch and supported fleet members preparing to go offshore. After some wonderful local cruising they headed south again in 2015 on Hoku Pa'a, their Niagara 35. Once damage from an unfortunate encounter with Hurricane Newton was repaired, Barb and Bjarne continued their exploration of Mexico. Plans for French Polynesia were revised in response to the global pandemic; they sailed Hoku Pa'a back to Canada via the old clipper route and are looking forward to reconnecting with the beauty of BC.

Vancouver Island Fleet Report: November 2021

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/news/vancouver-island-fleet-report-november-2021/>



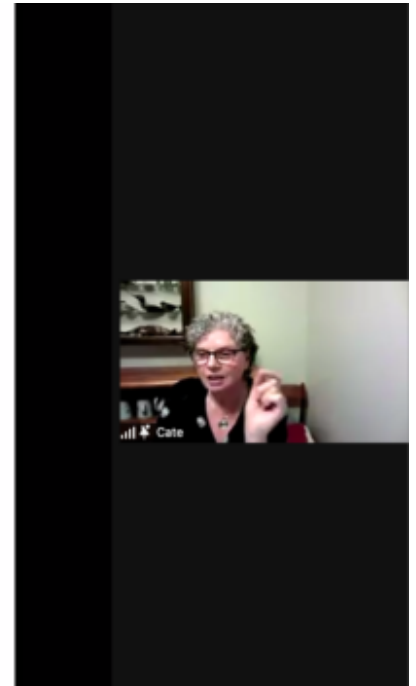
Fostering seamanship and friendship for people with an active interest in offshore cruising.



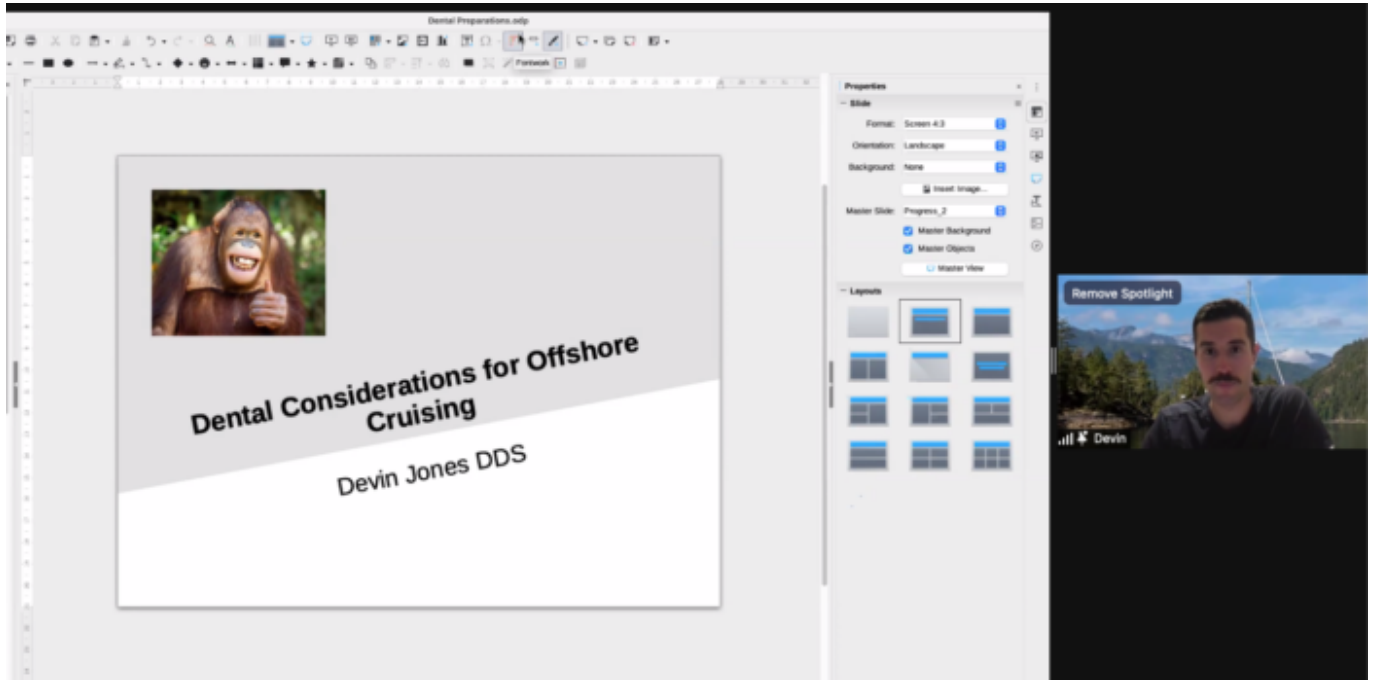
We had 24 sailors in attendance for the Vancouver Island Fleet meeting on November 16. The topic, Medical Preparations for Offshore, is always in high demand and there is always lots of material to cover (even without COVID-19 to consider). We are gifted on the Island to have Dr. Catherine Ascah with her history in family practice and travel medicine available to our group to enlighten us on the current state of medicine as it relates to our offshore adventures.

FIRST AID KITS

- **CONTENTS:** Not all of the medications and equipment discussed in the document emailed to you are necessary...only one or two drugs in each category need be carried
- **POCKET CPR MASK**
- **HAVE A THERMOMETER**
- **AED?**



This year we had a bonus opportunity with a dentist in our midst as Devin Jones supplemented the evening with a detailed look at dental preparations and emergency resources currently available. Devin deserves huge kudos for his efforts as he produced this detailed and lengthy report with only a week's notice while working full time and dealing with his vessel hauled out!



Beyond that Devin also participated in show and tell with his praise for Nigel Calder's books addressing boat systems. Rob & Charlene Cormack volunteered for next month's Show & Tell.

Shawn Wright volunteered to be the contact / coordinator for the growing group planning to circumnavigate Vancouver Island this year (many as a shake down prior to heading south). This group

may grow to include the V.I.C.E. adventure.

December 9 will see the perennial return of Tony Gooch discussing Heavy Weather Sailing.

Daragh and I are putting the final touches on this year's schedule.

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.

Updating Your Boat Profile - A New Video Tutorial for BCA Members

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/news/updating-your-boat-profile-a-new-video-tutorial-for-bca-members/>

The screenshot shows the Bluewater Cruising Association website. At the top, the logo is on the left and the tagline "Fostering seamanship and friendship for people with an active interest in offshore cruising." is on the right. Below the tagline is a navigation bar with "MY PROFILE" and "SIGN OUT" links, and social media icons for Facebook and Twitter. The main content area features a video player with a title "How to Update Your Boat Profile" and a thumbnail image of several yellow papayas. Below the video player, there is a "Welcome to our Bluewater Cruising Community!" section with text about the association's mission and membership. To the left of the video player is a sidebar menu with options like "Home", "About us", "COVID19 & Cruising", "Volunteer Centre", "Online Magazine", "FAQ", "Member Search", "Fleet Search", "Chapters & Groups", "Community Blogs", and "Education". To the right of the video player is a "MY PROFILE" section with links for "Profile Home", "Manage Profile", "Create Resumé/CV", "Groups", "Favorites", "Messages", "Connections", "Membership Info (Renew)", and "Refer a Friend". Below that is a "CALENDAR" section with a list of events including "Vancouver Club Night - Wild-er Alaska", "VI Victoria 2021 - Electrical Skills for Cruisers", "Vancouver 2021 - Survey Your Dream Boat Before You Buy It!", "VI Victoria 2021 - Diesel Maintenance & Servicing", and "VI Victoria 2021 - Basic Marine".

The Board of Directors and the BCA Directory coordination team is pleased to introduce the first of a series of brief video tutorials designed to assist BCA members navigate the BCA website in order to keep their membership information accurate and up-to-date.

[Check out this 6-minute video](#) which shows how BCA primary members can easily and quickly update their boat profile, then go online and try it out; you'll be glad you did, especially if this is something that has been a bit of a mystery and/or a frustration over the years!

Since the video was "launched" during the November 10 all-chapter club night, a number of members have either updated or loaded their boat info for the first time (thanks to all of you who have done that!). Needless to say, this bodes well for a richer, more complete 2022 BCA Member Directory.

If you still have questions about the process after viewing the tutorial or if you need assistance signing into the website, please contact [Vimmy](#).

The Board is also pleased to announce the addition of a new custom field for a boat's MMSI number which will be included in next year's Directory. This addition has been repeatedly requested by the membership over the past few years and it is great to finally be able to include.



BCA Fleet Map as of November 2021

If your boat has an MMSI number and you would also like to participate in the new BCA Fleet Map which ultimately will show where BCA member boats can be found all over the world, please contact [Daragh Nagle](#) (VI Fleet Co-coordinator). Further information about the Fleet Map can be found in [this Currents' article](#).

About The Author

Jennifer Handley

-

Jennifer Handley and 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.

BCA 2021 AGM and Awards Gala

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/events/bca-2021-agm-and-awards-gala/>



All BCA members in good standing are invited to attend the **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** on **December 8, 2021**. The meeting will be held via Zoom, starting at 1930h PST / 2030h MST.

The AGM and election of officers for 2022 will be followed by an All-Chapters Awards Ceremony recognizing members' cruising achievements and service to BCA. More to come on what will be a fun and celebratory evening!

BCA's Board of Directors looks forward to hosting the evening; if you have any questions about the AGM, please contact [Leslie Hansen](#), BCA Past Commodore.

Image attribution: [Dimitris Siskopoulos CC BY 2.0](#)

Calgary Virtual Club Night - Quiz Night!

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/events/calgary-virtual-club-night-quiz-night-2/>



Please join Calgary Speakers Watchkeepers, Pam and Ted Simper, once again for an evening of good cheer!

Light a fire, grab a warm blanket and treat yourself to your favourite beverage as we get ready to toast the holidays with a feast of nautical knowledge. All BCA members welcome.

This will be a Virtual Club Night, on the Zoom platform. All BCA members will have received an invitation with links to the Zoom meeting and login details. If you are not a member (or if you did not receive the email) and would like to attend please email Ted & Pam Simper, [Calgary Speakers Watchkeepers](#), for details.

VI Club Night - Holiday Social

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/events/vi-club-night-holiday-social/>



The VI watch is thrilled to announce that it will be hosting an in-person holiday social this year!

Working within all provincial regulations and those of RVYC, all members of BCA are warmly invited to join the VI chapter in celebrating the holidays at our annual social at Royal Victoria Yacht Club on Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at 7pm.

We will have a brief report on the AGM and confirmation of board members, as well as a celebration of some of our members and their cruising achievements and contributions to BCA with an awards and recognition ceremony.

Of course, there will be plenty of time to socialize with other members and compare notes on this past season as well as sharing plans for the next.

The VI Watch will be providing appies, with the Chartroom open as normal for a no-host bar.

Festive dress is encouraged!

Please do join us for an evening of fun and friendship while lending your support to those who have won awards this past year!

There is no cost to attend this event; but we are limited to 100 participants and [registration is required via the website](#). Please don't forget to sign up and let us know if your plans change and you will

no longer be attending so that we don't keep spaces away from others who may wish to come. Either a provincial or federal proof of vaccination is required on entry and masks must be worn when moving through the space. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Our very best wishes for a happy holidays and amazing New Year!

About The Author

Dani Tate-Stratton

Easy Rider - Ranger 29

Dani and her husband Toryn live in Victoria and when they aren't redoing the interior of their sailboat, coastal cruise the Gulf Islands. Future cruising dreams include spending time in Europe, perhaps on the rivers and canals. In the meantime, they're learning as much as they can and very much enjoying listening to the Doers and Doners who generously share their fabulous stories.

Basic Marine Weather with Scott Crawshaw

<https://currents.bluewatercruising.org/events/basic-marine-weather-with-scott-crawshaw/>



An understanding of basic weather is an important attribute of seamanship. This 1/2 day course is aimed at the cruiser who will be sailing in internal/coastal waters and has access to VHF radio broadcasts and possibly even the internet.

Cruisers will be introduced to the fundamentals of weather, which include Air Circulation Patterns; Pressure, Temperature and Moisture; Air Masses; Fronts and Cyclogenesis; Fog, Clouds and Precipitation; and Interpreting Weather Maps

Instructor

Scott Crawshaw has sailed for over 40 years and has over 50,000 miles of ocean water experience. This includes skippering the Royal Canadian Navy's Tall Ship, *HMCS Oriole* and four years of offshore sailing with his family aboard *Peregrinata*. His qualifications include a Transport Canada Master Mariner, unlimited tonnage; a Navy Surface Command Qualification, unlimited tonnage; an ISPA instructor qualification and is a CYA Yachtmaster.

He has sailed extensively in the Pacific, twice to Australia and five times to and from Hawaii. He has participated in a number of international yacht races including four Victoria to Maui International Yacht Races where he was the winning skipper of the 2000 race and is the corrected time record holder. In addition, he has competed in numerous Swiftsure races and a Van-Isle 360. From 2002-2006 he cruised with his wife and two daughters down the coast of the Americas and across the South Pacific, including the Galapagos, to Australia.

Scott has a degree in Physics and Physical Oceanography from Royal Roads Military College. He currently lives in Victoria, with his wife Sonia, and has recently retired from the RCN and has become a full time grandpa.

Note: Do *not* register for this course if you have already signed up for or intend to take Scott's [Intermediate Weather Course](#) since **Basic Marine Weather** is included as part of that course.

About The Author

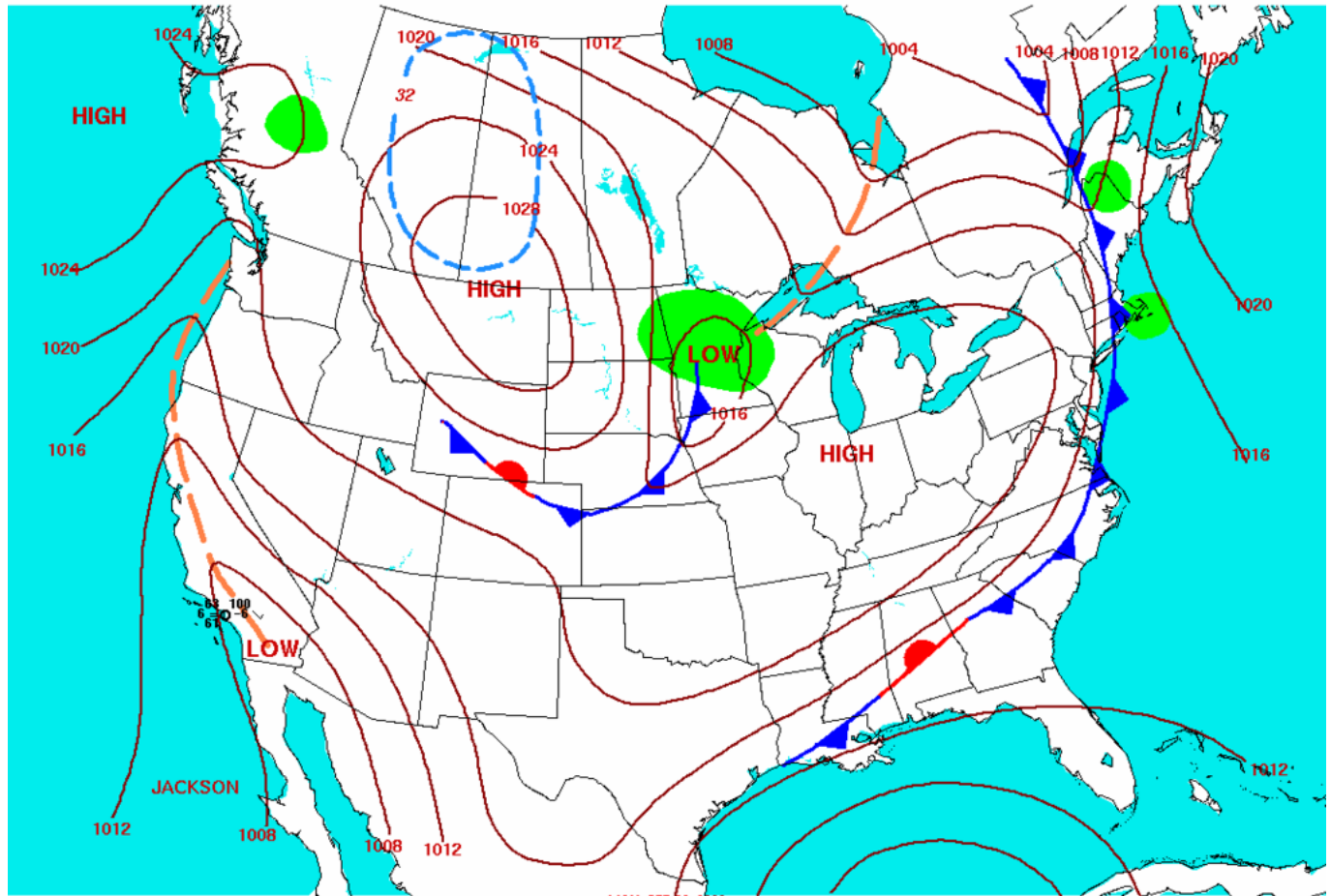
Brent Alley

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.

Intermediate Marine Weather with Scott Crawshaw

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Surface Weather Map and Station Weather at 7:00 A.M. E.S.T.

Forecasting weather conditions is a major aspect of cruising under sail and power. This course is aimed at the cruiser who aspires to head offshore and includes a virtual planning of the Vic-Maui route, a race that presenter Scott Crawshaw won in 2000 with Navy training vessel *HMSC Oriole*. Participants will learn relevant information that will ensure their enjoyment and safety at sea in both foul and fair weather.

This two day workshop begins with the fundamentals of weather (see [Basic Weather with Scott Crawshaw](#)) and shows how weather satellites and technology have transformed forecasting to show cruisers the best way to combine their own observations with technology. Building on the lessons learned, this course focuses on Anti-Cyclones; Swell & Sea Waves; Surface Water Circulation; Upper Air Charts & Satellite Imagery; Gap & Promontory Winds; Tropical & Sub-Tropic and more.

In the practical exercises for the virtual Victoria to Maui transit, students will plot their positions, review weather products and determine the best tactics / weather routing.

Note: Participants registering for this course *should not* register for **Basic Marine Weather** as the **Intermediate Marine Weather** course fee covers both.

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Currents Bluewater Cruising

The Bluewater Cruising Association

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