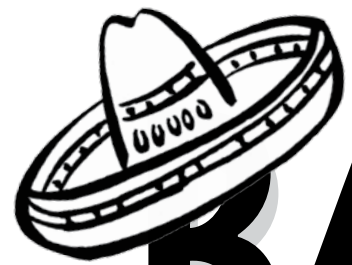




MEET THE FLEET



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— CRUISIN' TO THE CAPE —

If you're reading this, you are probably participating in the 28th annual Baja Ha-Ha cruisers rally — and by doing so, you've escaped from the rat race, at least temporarily. So, congratulations!

The Rally Committee produced this "Meet the Fleet" program as a memento of a bold adventure. If you are like most participants from years past, it will serve as both a souvenir and a resource for getting acquainted with other fleet members. We suggest that you keep it handy so you can read about the boats and crews you'll see out on the ocean during your voyage to the Cape, and later, in anchorages and marinas.

The mini-bios included here were first published in *Latitude 38* magazine, the Baja Ha-Ha's founding sponsor, and are used here with permission.

The *Latitude* staff joins the Rally Committee in wishing every participant a safe and fun-filled voyage through the sunny latitudes of Mexico. And the editors encourage you to keep in touch as you wind your way farther down the Central American coast or around the world, so that future cruisers can learn from your experiences.

We'd love to feature you, your photos and adventures in an upcoming edition of *Changes in Latitudes*. You can email your story and hi-res photos to: editorial@latitude38.com

Wishing you fair winds, sunny skies and excellent health!

— Baja Ha-Ha Rally Committee

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Welcome to the 2022 Baja Ha-Ha 'Meet the Fleet' guide.

Please understand there are going to be many inaccuracies in the guide because there will have been many changes in crew and even boats between the time the guide was published and the November 1 start of the rally. We appreciate your understanding.

Many of the mistakes in this publication will probably be the fault of the Grand Poobah, although in some cases he was given incorrect, vague, confusing or contradictory information. He did his best with what he had to work with and appreciates your understanding.

In some cases, the Poobah paraphrased words to sentences in the interest of clarity and frivolity. In all cases, the Poobah did his best to adhere to the author's intent.

CODE:

* Each asterisk means there is a 'kid' onboard. We define a 'kid' as someone chronologically, not just emotionally, 16 years or younger.

(W) Stands for white sails only, as opposed to sailing with a spinnaker or genaker.

Years, such as (2013) indicate at least the minimum number of times the skipper or crew has done a Ha-Ha.

Cities. In cases where two cities are listed, the first is the boat's homeport, the second is where the owner(s) receives mail and most likely lives or used to live.

Triggers. When the words 'wife', 'husband', 'spouse', 'children', and such are used in this guide, they are terms of endearment and respect, not ownership or lesser status.

If the male's name appears first, it's because that's how it appeared in the registration form. In cases where only the man's name was given, the Poobah, whenever it seemed called for, added the name of the wife/partner/significant other. More than a few of you guys 'owe' him.

Ages. The Poobah publishes the age of the men when available, but doesn't publish the age of women unless they are 35 or younger. This is sexist, of course, but the Poobah did it out of respect for women who are sometimes sensitive about their age.

A Cat's Paw — Sun Odyssey DS 44 Bernie Ross

Bellingham, WA / Vancouver, B.C.

Bernie, 59, is the CEO of a private company. His crew will be Rob Keith, 57, a School Principal; Stephen Hafner, 58, a Financial Consultant; and Sam Haffney, 59, a Social Worker.

Bernie has been sailing for 45 years, both in keel boats and dinghies. His most recent

sailing muse has been a Waszp, although he has owned 'The Paw' for nine years. "Normally these boats only get used as coastal cruisers," Bernie says, "but we've put a lot of effort in retrofitting ours to be able to go offshore safely. Our longest passage will be getting from Port Townsend to San Diego for the start of the rally."

The Paw crew is loaded with experience. Rob is a sailing instructor with yacht skipper credentials longer than a midnight watch. Sam is a lifelong sailor/racer/cruiser with over 50 years of sailing experience and a load of credentials. A member of the Royal Canadian YC in Toronto since the '70s, Stephen has sailed and raced from Lake Ontario to Florida to the Caribbean to the San Juan Islands.

Bernie's dream destination is Hawaii, his dream boat is the mythical boat that "cleans itself", Popeye is his sailing hero, 'shiver me timbers' is his favorite expression, and he prefers humble pie for dessert.

"I first heard about the Ha-Ha when I was a young guy crewing on a 63-ft trimaran doing the Van Isle 360 race. That was 20 years ago. Since it's taken so long, I'm really looking forward to the Ha-Ha. Once in Mexico, I'll keep the boat there for several seasons."



Akela - Joel

Akela — Bristol Channel Cutter 28 Joel Stone

Newport Beach / June Lake

Joel, 60, is a retired Attorney. Christine Romanski, "Competent Crew and Medical, too" will be his crew.

"I've been sailing since I was a kid at Boy Scout Camp," reports Joel. "Once I finished school I bought my first boat, the Wilderness 21 *Wild Child*. I got my first taste of cruising on her while singlehanded on up to week-long adventures along the coast

and around Catalina Island. I also raced her in Beer Cans and Catalina Island races. My next boat was *Eagle*, a Cal 25 that I raced in Long Beach and to Catalina. On other peoples' boats, I crewed offshore races and deliveries around the Channel Islands and down from San Francisco. My favorite cruise was with friends and multiple Ha-Ha vets Paul Ludgate and Glenn Twitchell, sailing from Auckland to the Bay of Islands in New Zealand. Needless to say, my cruising companions were quite difficult to get along with, so I look forward to more friendly folks on the Ha-Ha. Just kidding.

Crew Christine, a diver and motor yacht owner, has quite a bit of experience, too. She started in dinghies in Florida, then moved up to monohulls and multihulls at the Palm Beach Sailing Club. She's had a 50-Ton license for five years and has a longest passage of Cuba to Maine on a Valiant 40.

"My modified Bristol Channel Cutter 28 has been my dream boat for 30 years," continues Joel. "Mine has a hard dodger and hard bimini. A new member of the Blue Water Cruising Club, I enjoy my new home and family at Big Geiger Cove on Catalina. After the Ha-Ha I dream of exploring the Sea of Cortez. I also have dreams of doing a double-handed Pacific Cup, continuing on to my hailing port, and then cruising the San Juan Islands.

"My favorite dessert is Niederegger marzipan schwarzbrötchen from Luebeck, Germany. I originally discovered it, and windsurfing, while living in Germany as an exchange student."

Amatheia — Downeast 32 (W) Scott Maxwell and Linden Lampman Olympia, Washington

Scott, 66, is still working as an "Advisor", while spouse Linden is a retired Forester. Their son Colin, 37, a Biologist, will be their crew.

"Over the last 14 years, we have done mostly coastal cruising from Bella Bella in the north to Santa Barbara in the south. We're sure looking forward to cruising in warmer waters!"

"Linden first sailed on a West Wight Potter that she won in a drawing for charity. Scott's first sailboat was a Ranger 20 he raced in the Portland fleet."

After the Ha-Ha the couple plan to cruise the Sea of Cortez and mainland Mexico. Then they hope their path includes lots more sailing and adventure. Their dream destination is the United Kingdom.

For dessert, Scott craves rich dark chocolate cake while Linden much prefers sweet creamy vanilla ice cream, with toppings of course.

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"While Scott is a south-paw, Linden brings a right-hander's perspective to all things sailing. Between the two of us, we figure we have the bases covered."

Amatheia? Queen of Voice with great hair, one of 50 sea-nymphs, she was the daughter of Nereus, the 'Old Man of the Sea', and Oceanid Doris.



Amazing Grace - Kim

Amazing Grace — Island Packet 440 Kim Eddy Seattle, Washington (2019)

Kim, 69, is a retired Service Technician who did the 2019 Ha-Ha and the Nada Ha-Ha in the Covid year of 2020. Kim will be sailing with Lena Fluharty and Bret Hamilton, 65.

"I started sailing in 1976 and have owned five boats. I've owned *Amazing Grace III* since 2018, moved onboard June 2019, and have not looked back. I did the Baja Ha-Ha and spent the winter in the Sea of Cortez. I sailed back to Seattle in May.

"As Covid still had its grip on things in 2020, I sailed back down to Mexico as part of the Assistant Poobah Patsy Verhoeven's unofficial 'Nada Ha-Ha'. I got as far as Puerto Vallarta before sailing back to Seattle and making the mistake of wintering over in the wet Pacific Northwest. I'm currently wrapping up my time in Alaska, and can't wait to be in the sun again.

"I enjoy the ocean and all that it brings. I'm always exploring and seeking out new adventures. To that end, all my plans are written in the sand at low tide."

Andante — Hans Christian 40 Mottsin Thomas and Amber Scott Long Beach

Mottsin, 42, is a physician and psychiatrist, while spouse Amber is an RN. Their crew will consist of cousin Scott Crank,



Andante

48, who is in the Telecom World; and Dylan Jobsis, 30, who is in Information Technology.

'Capt Mack' has seemingly opposite hobbies. He's both a pianist as well as a Judo and Brazilian Jiu Jitsu black belt. "And I train often," he says. So, we assume if Mack can't use his psychiatric skills to keep you cool, he can subdue you.

Mack has been sailing for "roughly 10 years" during which time he's owned five boats. He's owned *Andante* for just one year. "Aside from being beautiful," he says, "there is nothing unusual about her." His dream destination is the South Pacific in general.

Charlie Munger, Warren Buffet's partner in wealth and the owner of that giant catamaran in Santa Barbara Harbor, came up with Mack's favorite quote: "Following the herd invites regression to the mean." And as a society, we don't want that.

Mack's favorite dessert is tiramisu and he's left-handed. First mate Scott, Mack's first cousin, lives in Bowling Green on the family farm and hopes to circumnavigate one day. Scott is right-handed and loves soup.

Andante means 'moderately slow', as expressed by an ABBA song of the same name.

"Take it easy with me, please,
Touch me gently like a summer evening breeze

Take your time, make it slow,
Andante, andante

Just let the feeling grow."

If the Poobah didn't know better, that song would seem to have sexual overtones.

Antares — Rafiki 37 (W) Jeff and Mary Liz Houseman San Rafael / Carmel

Jeff, 69, is retired from Landscape Construction, while Mary Liz is a retired Hospi-

tal Clerk. They will be joined by son-in-law Adam Roach, 43, a Tattoo Artist.

"My father was a sailboat enthusiast and yacht broker at Underwood's Landing on Shelter Island in San Diego," reports Jeff, "so I've been around boats my entire life. Going to Catalina Island was pretty much a yearly event, often on boats that clients or friends would lend my dad. Boats such as a Cal 40, various Kettenbergs, a Newporter, and the like. We also enjoyed cruising down the coast as far as Guadalupe and Cedros Islands. And I owned a Rainbow 24 that I happily solo sailed throughout San Diego Bay.

"After moving up to San Francisco Bay I rented boats from Cass' Marina in Sausalito, which allowed me to keep sailing without the expense of owning a boat. When I retired about five years ago, I bought my Rafiki 37. She's a perfect fit for my love of traditional, solid cruising boats. There have been windy days on San Francisco Bay that I've enjoyed solo sailing with a double-reefed main while those with lighter and faster boats elected to stay at the dock. The other thing that gives me confidence in *Antares* is knowing that she'd been through the Canal and across the Atlantic to Spain.

"I'll be assessing my sailing plans after seeing how I feel after doing the Ha-Ha. It could be the start of a beautiful relationship! I have friends in Sayulita and Hawaii, and even in St. Malo, France! It sure would be fun to drop in on them sometime! My dream boat would be similar to my current ride, but maybe a little larger for comfort. Something like a Hans Christian 43. Yes, I love canoe sterns.

"I appreciate the attitude and philosophy of Bernard Moitessier; who seemed to really connect with the sea. I also love the sentiment expressed by 'I am the master of my fate and the captain of my soul', which comes from the poem *Invictus* by Henley. It captures the attitude required to achieve goals.

I discovered that I'm not a racing-minded sailor. I love handing the tiller off to anyone interested and have been known to alter course to improve the angle of the sun reaching the cockpit on a chilly day. I look forward to a return to Guadalupe Island to see the great changes since the many thousands of goats were 'removed'. When I last visited, everything had been nibbled down to the ground."

Thanks to Disney's 1984 animated movie *Lion King*, many people associate 'rafiki' with anointing somebody by smearing oil over a human or animal's forehead. Over the years the word has taken on slang meanings. One is to lift something up to honor it, as in lifting a cake in front of a



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crowd. The second is to smear something across somebody's face, as in 'rafiki-ing' someone by smearing catsup across their forehead, usually not taken as an honor. It's also become vulgar slang for a sexual act we'll let you imagine. But please note, the Huntingtonford design is from the 1970s, long before the *Lion King* came out. Back then Rafiki was both a common name and meant 'friend' in African and Arab worlds.



August Dream - Alyssa & Jason

August Dream — Jeanneau 43 Jared, Jason, Alyssa and Corey Long Beach / Chandler / Boise, ID

August Dream is entered in the names of Jared Lee, 55, who is self-employed; Jason Bowman, 54, who is self-employed; Alyssa Bowman, also self-employed; and Corey Hanks, 46, the outlier in that he's a Facilities Engineer.

"I've been sailing for six years," reports Jared, "and am excited about the opportunity to participate in the Ha-Ha and visit the Sea of Cortez! This is the first boat I've owned, and my longest passage to date has only been from Long Beach to Ensenada. We plan to spend six months in Mexico before we return to Southern California.

"My dream destinations are the Med and the South Pacific. My dream boat is a Moody DS54, which I have on order. Construction should start by November.

"My only sailing hero is Richard Henry Dana, namesake of Dana Point, and author of *Two Years Before the Mast*. I'm right-handed and love Key Lime Pie."

Poobah's Galley Tip: Key Limes, also known as Mexican limes or West Indies limes — are small, spherical limes that are light yellow rather than green. Like some people, they are thin-skinned, which means they don't store well and are best used after two days. Key Lime juice is prized for being more tart and more aromatic than regular

lime juice. As such, they are ideal to use when making sweetened-up desserts — such as Key Lime Pie!



Avogato - Kathy & Richard

***Avogato — Amel Supermaramu 53 Richard, Kathy and Piper (12) May Albany, OR / Port Angeles, WA**

Richard, 52, is a Pilot, while Kathy works in Marketing and Development. Their crew will be daughter Piper a Student of Life.

"I sailed a Sunfish as a kid," reports Richard, "then crewed with my family during summers. I have been the skipper of our bigger boats for five years. My life-changing experience came at age 14 when I sailed and got to sleep on the deck with *Outward Bound*.

"Our ketch *Avogato* is the first boat we've owned, and we've had her for two years. There is nothing unusual about her, although it helps to know French if you need parts because Amels are proudly 100% French.

"We like our Amel Supermaramu a lot, so she's close to our dream boat. We've read all of the sailing guru John Kretschmer's books, so maybe he's our sailing hero.

"Favorite quote: 'Livin' the dream'. Favorite dessert? Creme Brûlée. And yes, I, Richard, am left-handed.

"My longest passage is six days. After Ha-Ha we plan to go through the Panama Canal to the Caribbean and the East coast of the United States, even though our dream destination is the South Pacific."

The Poobah can't recall another boat named after a fruit. *Avogato* comes from the Nahuatl Indian word "*ahuácatl*, meaning testicle. It is thought that the reference is either due to the avocado's shape or the fact that it was considered to possess aphrodisiac qualities by the Aztecs.

If anyone has been to Skopelos, Greece, they might easily confuse *avogato* with *avogato*, the latter being a is a spoon sweet made

from the island's famous egg-shaped plums.



Azure - Jane & Rodney

Azure — Cal 40 Rodney and Jane Pimentel Alameda

Rodney, 61, is a Civil Engineer, while Jane is in Solar and Tech Sales.

Rodney grew up sailing in Alameda and is an avid racer. "If there's another boat on the water, it's a race, is his way of looking at things," reports Jane. Rodney has done countless races, including three TransPacs and two Pacific Cups. In fact, Rodney and crew took Class and PHRF division in this July's Pacific Cup.

Jane isn't a racer, but she brings out the cruiser in Rodney. Together they've already cruised much of the world together during two 2-year adventures. The first was in 1996, a year after they married. That's when they sailed to Mexico and did the first Pacific Puddle Jump to the South Pacific. The culmination of that adventure was their son R.J. being born in New Zealand. Then in 2009 they bought a Leopard 45 catamaran and took RJ and his brother Leo to the Caribbean, the Azores, and across the Med to Turkey.

"There is one thing left to check off our sailing list," they say, "finally doing the Baja Ha-Ha. We've sailed to our other dream destinations, so Mexico is now it."

Azure is a Cal 40, one of the classic yacht designs of all time. When built in 1966, a lot of skeptics said fiberglass boats would never last. Ha! Not only did the Pimentel's Cal 40 win the Pacific Cup, Stan and Sally Lindsay Honey did the same this summer in the highly competitive Bermuda Race.



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Beso del Mar - Brad & Dan

**Beso del Mar — Hunter 46 (W)
Daniel Brock
Richmond YC / Sacramento**

Daniel, 65, is a retired Insurance Agent. He'll be sailing south with Jeff Smith, 65, who is retired; Dave Turner, 66 who is also retired; and Brad Hoff, 67, a retired Appraiser with 37 years of sailing experience in San Francisco Bay and the San Juan Islands.

I have owned two boats," says Daniel. "My current boat is in Seattle, and I have had it for five years. I have been reading about the Ha-Ha for many years, and this year finally decided it's time to go."

Daniel's longest passage was from Los Angeles to Seattle. After the Ha-Ha he plans to Bash back up the Baja and eventually to Marina Del Rey.

"My sailing hero is Joshua Slocum, desert by far is Häagen-Dazs chocolate ice cream, and I'm not left-handed."

Daniel likes the quote "Be careful what you wish for" and his dream boat changes daily.

**Big Baby — Hans Christian 38 MKII (W)
Chet Moody and Lynn McDaniel
Anacortes, Washington**

Chet, 66, is retired from the Military and from Baking. Spouse Lynn is a retired RN. They plan on doublehanding in what will be their first Ha-Ha.

"We've been sailing for over four years," the couple report, "and have owned two boats. *Big Baby*, a classic beauty launched in 1981, has been ours for just five months. She's our dream boat."

While the couple will cruise in the Sea of Cortez after the Ha-Ha, their dream destinations are French Polynesia and Australia.

'Severely left-handed Lynn,' like her husband, likes chocolate pie. Who doesn't?

"Don't sail where birds walk and never approach a dock faster than you want to

hit it," is not only their favorite quote, it's great advice.

Howard Blackburn is their sailing hero. Who? A Canadian-American fisherman, Blackburn lost his fingers and toes to frostbite in 1883 fishing out of Gloucester. Not only did he later go on to become a successful businessman, but he also overcame his disability by setting record times for singlehanding across the Atlantic Ocean, organized a gold-mining expedition to Alaska, and later did the Great Loop of the Eastern United States in a small boat. Blackburn should be much better known.



Big Fish - Ron & Carol

**Big Fish — Beneteau Oceanis 47.3 (W)
Ron and Carol Pierce
Marina del Rey / Paradise**

Ron, 73, is a General Contractor, while Carol is a retired School Teacher. But there is a lot more to their story.

"I was a Top Grand Prix and Superbike motorcycle racer," reports Ron. "I raced for every major manufacturer during my 16-year career. I had many big wins, including the Superbike in Daytona in 1979. I retired from the sport in 1981 after winning my last race at Riverside Raceway. I've also been a pilot and owned two small airplanes, my last being a Beech A-36. But I haven't flown my own plane in 20 years."

"Carol and I owned Breckenridge Hill Vineyards and Winery in Bakersfield, where we produced five wonderful red and three white award-winning wines. But we just sold it and purchased 232 acres in Oroville. We are preparing to build our new home on the property and possibly start a new vineyard and winery."

"We have owned a construction company for over 40 years, and are currently helping rebuild the Northern California town of Paradise. You'll remember it was almost completely destroyed three years ago, claiming more than 80 lives and over 14,000 homes."

"We don't have much spare time, but when we do we like to draw and paint."

"We only started sailing two years ago when we bought our Beneteau. Carol named her *Big Fish* after the 2003 Tim Burton comedy/drama. "I'm like the *Big Fish*," she says, "with lots of stories. But my stories are all true, not fantasy."

"This will be our first major passage, as our longest one to date has been from San Francisco to Catalina. We hope to do more Ha-Ha's in the future. Close friend and Ha-Ha vet Larry McKay is the one who told us about the event, and he'll be one of our two crew."

"Capt Ron is our sailing hero, both of us are left-handed, and the Ha-Ha is our dream trip. As much as we love wine, we love Pacifico Beer, too."

**Big Idea — Gemini 3200
Eric Smith**

San Francisco / Buffalo Creek, CO

Eric, 66, is a retired Airline Pilot. His crew will be John Kelly, a retired Airline Pilot, and Naval Aviator.

"I've been sailing for 45 years, and *Big Idea*, which I've owned for 20 years, is my third boat," says Eric. "My previous boats were a Cal 24 and a Catalina 27. After I bought the Catalina, a shroud chain plate pulled out of the deck on the way to my marina. That was exciting, as I was just barely able to keep the mast up while motoring to the boat's new home."

"My longest trip to date was taking the Catalina down the coast to Monterey. The wind picked up pretty good, so I went forward to reef the main. Just then the inexperienced helmsman broached. It was not fun."

"My dream destination is Tahiti, but I'll be staying in the Baja region after the Ha-Ha." 'It's all part of the experience', is Eric's favorite quote, while his favorite dessert is Key Lime Pie.

**Black Swan — Swan 46
Nadav Rozenberg / Ethan Barr
/ Ofir Aricha
San Diego**

Black Swan is a three-person partnership that "just closed on the boat to be a part of the Ha-Ha." The three owners are Nadav Rozenberg, 41, who is self-employed; Ethan Barr, 40, self-employed; and Ofir Aricha, 42, who, as you might expect, is also self-employed.

One of the owners, the Poobah believes it's Nadav, has been sailing for "about 20 years." This is the fourth boat he's owned part or all of. The Frers design that was launched in 1984 is so new to the partnership that as of late August, they hadn't even sailed her from San Francisco to her



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Black Swan - Nadav, Ethan, and Ofir

home port of San Diego yet. She's the trio's 'dream boat'. Small wonder, as the 46 is one of the most popular Swans ever built, with 109 sold between 1983 and 1997.

Nadav's longest sail to date has been 26 hours from Israel to Cyprus. While the trio plans to keep the boat in La Paz for a few months after the Ha-Ha, their dream destination would be Croatia. If you've ever sailed Croatian waters, you'll know why.

The trio is fond of bread pudding, which is nothing like North American custard and mousse style puddings — but you knew that — and cheesecake.

Unsure of how to pronounce the name Ofir, the Poobah looked it up. According to Google, it sounds like 'O-Feel', not O-fur



Bseachamp - Susan & Dean

**Bseachamp — Island Packet 35 (W)
Dean Porter and Susan Hill (sister)
Portland, OR / Toronto, Ontario**

Dean, 61, is retired from Public Works, his specialty being "Grave Digger". Sister Susan, she's the one who lives in Toronto,

flies with Air Canada. The two are the only ones in this year's Ha-Ha who grew up in North Battleford, Saskatchewan, Canada, which is just north of Battleford. Crew will be Drew Bielawski.

"I have been sailing for five years in the Portland area," advises Dean, "and have owned four powerboats and two sailboats. I've owned *Bseachamp* since February of this year. The previous owner had her shipped out from New Jersey four years ago. What's different about her? She has a drop keel.

"Susan was a total newbie to sailing until the trip from Portland to San Diego. Her sailing experience consisted of sitting on a seat at the back of a friend's boat sunning herself with a drink in her hand. She is looking forward to learning and helping as much as she can.

"My longest passage to date," continues Dean, "is from Astoria, Oregon to Port Angeles, Washington. Following the Ha-Ha, I plan on sailing up to La Paz and staying in that area for a few months. After that, I plan to continue south to Costa Rica."

A Poobah's word to the wise: once the first Norther or two roll through the La Paz area, usually in early December, the air temperature remains mostly fine, but the water quickly becomes too cold to swim in comfort until almost May.

What is *Bseachamp*? It's actually a person. Thomas Bseachamp is the one-legged Canadian hurdler who shocked the world by winning his event in the 1936 Olympics in Berlin. His feat was overshadowed by African-American Jesse Owens winning four gold medals.

Dean, who didn't specify any preferences for fruit, desserts, sailing heroes, or quotes, has a dream 'destination' of sailing around the world. "Many people think I'm crazy," he says, "and they might be right. But I think they should join me."

The Poobah might be able to help with the pronunciation of *Bseachamp*. In French, an 'm' followed by a 'p' is — for reasons known only to the French — is pronounced like an 'n'. So, there is no 'm' sound in Champs-Elysees or Champs de Mar

**Cubo Lista — Seawind 1160
Jim Hinkle
San Rafael / Willits**

Jim, 65, is a retired Cabinet Shop Owner. His crew will be his twin brother, Tom, 65, a retired Printer; Donny Parker, 55, a Boat Mechanic; and one more crew yet to be determined.

"I've owned my Seawind 1160 for 10 years, and the 38-ft cat is my dream boat," reports Jim. "I've taken her down the coast as far as Catalina twice.

"I grew up in LA, and my twin brother



Cubo Lista - Jim Hinkle

is a tiny bit older than me. Dad bought us an 18-ft Sol Cat, which we sailed and raced every chance we could get. We both love the ocean, surfing, boating, and diving thanks to our wonderful parents. Tom lives in Santa Barbara and belongs to Santa Barbara YC. Donny Parker belongs to the Marin YC.

"Just after getting out of high school, I had the opportunity to bring one of the TransPac boats back to the mainland. I took the opportunity. The boat was the Alden 97-ft schooner *Serena*, which had been built in 1917.


"My favorite quote is from Abe Lincoln: "In the end, it's not the years in your life that count, it's the life in the years." Or as Suzanne Sommers once said, "If we're not meant to have midnight snacks, why is there a light in the fridge?"




Dakota - Karen & Dave

**Dakota II — Bayfield 40
Dave and Karen Richards
Vancouver, B.C. / Victoria, B.C.**

Dave, 57, is a retired Paramedic, while Karen is a retired RN. The Poobah salutes



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these two noble professions!

"Dave has been sailing all his life, while I, Karen, started sailing 15 years ago when we met. We started with a Bayfield 25 but quickly moved up to our Bayfield 40, which we've owned for 12 years." She's a more traditional-looking boat than other 1980 designs but was made with then-modern materials. "We've been liveaboards for three years. Our dream is to sail around the world, but we want to test ourselves sailing to Mexico first.

"Our favorite thing while cruising is not just the warm sun and sandy beaches, but meeting other cruisers. But we have to warn future friends, we make a mean margarita. After a couple, you won't be able to stand. So, beware!"

Bayfield sounds like the name somebody would give to a tractor company, not a boat company. The explanation is the Bayfield boats were built in Bayfield, Ontario.



Dawn Patrol - Laney & Mark

Dawn Patrol — Outbound 46 Laney Gale and Mark Mazeski Seattle, WA

Captain Laney is a retired Registered Nurse who specialized in cardiovascular health. Her last job before retiring in July was nuclear medicine stress testing. Spouse and Chief Engineer Mark, 62, is a retired Regional Planner, who was pretty much in charge of making sure everyone in Washington had access to clean drinking water.

"We were both windsurfers in the '80s living in Hood River, Oregon," reports Laney speaking of her and her partner. "Mark was in Seattle in 2007 for a weekend work seminar at the time I brought my boat up for a race. Mark noticed my boat's Hood River hailing port — and the rest is history.

"After a couple of years of racing my Martin 242 *Steel Breeze*, we realized that the boat was not large enough for the two

of us and my Portuguese Water Dog. So, we bought an Olson 911 — in New Jersey! We trucked her to Seattle and because of her blue hull christened her *Blue Martini*. Most recently seen on San Francisco Bay, *Blue Martini* was our waterfront condo as we continued to live in Hood River, but drove 200 miles almost every weekend to either sail or race. *Blue Martini* was a very successful fully-crewed race boat, and the two of us did every double-handed race we could find.

"In 2018, after 10 years of racing and cruising in the Salish Sea, it was time to move up to the Outbound 46. We retired this summer, which allowed us to make the big left turn out of the Strait of Juan de Fuca looking for warmer weather. So, we've been working on making *Dawn Patrol* our retirement home.

"We're excited to join the Ha-Ha fleet, and after Cabo plan to explore the Sea of Cortez for a year. Then we'll work our way south to the Panama Canal and head east to the Caribbean, Florida and the East Coast.

"Our dream destination is anywhere warm although I have already sailed for weeks in the BVIs and Thailand. We own our dream boat. Jeanne Socrates, the relentless solo non-stop circumnavigator is our sailing hero. We both like tiramisu. We don't have nicknames, but everybody thinks Laney is my nickname instead of my real name."



Delaware Girl - Wendy & Charlie

Delaware Girl — Norseman 400 Charlie and Wendy Wyatt Oceanside

Charlie, 57, is a retired Civil Engineer. Wendy is a retired COO. They have two crew. Nephew Shawn Wyatt, 35, who is

self-employed; and Trish Ruebottom, a retired OT. The Poobah had to Google 'OT' to discover that it stands for Occupational Therapist. But you knew that.

"I've been sailing for about 10 years, and have owned two boats," reports Charlie.

Delaware Girl was launched in 1987, the year of Black Friday when the Dow Jones average crashed 22.5 percent in one day. The Dow closed that year at 1,938. It has subsequently 'recovered', to put it mildly, to as high as 36,799. In other 1987 news, inflation was 1.9 percent, the average new home cost \$92,000, and the average income was \$24,000 a year

Charlies' dream destinations are Chile and French Polynesia." Chile is not a popular place to cruise because it's, well chilly.



Dolfin - Patty & Bill

Dolfin — Crealock 37 Bill and Patty Meanley San Diego / Pacific Beach '09, '10, '12, '18

Bill, 76, is the semi-retired owner of Hammer & Nails hardware store in Pacific Beach, which has managed to carry on in the face of the onslaught of Home Depot and Lowes. Patty, who retired 10 years ago, has been with Bill for each of the four Ha-Ha's they have done. Their crew will be their daughter Kelly Meanley, who is an IT Project Manager.

"After my first retirement at 26 from Jet Propulsion Lab and the Space Program, I lived in a VW van all over Europe for a year. Then I migrated to Tahoe City and became a ski bum. Working as a dishwasher, for months. I unsuccessfully tried to attract a cute cocktail waitress. Finally, Patty succumbed and we've been married for the last 45 years. But we did build a cabin near Sunnyside while living there in the mid-'70s. We still own it and spend part of each summer living in it.

"In the 38 years we've owned *Dolfin* we've sailed her as far south as New Zealand and

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as far north as Desolation Sound, B.C.,” the couple report. In addition, Bill has done two Singlehanded TransPacs, and the couple have done countless trips to Catalina, their local favorite.

“We love the adventure of sailing to Mexico, the Mexican people, and the fellow sailors we meet,” they say. “We just hope for fair wind.” Speaking of fair winds, of the 81 Ha-Ha legs to date, the Poobah can only recall two that were upwind, so history favors the possibility of fair winds.

The Poobah has a vivid image of *Dolfin* from a Pirates for Pupils Spinnaker Run for Charity from Punta Mita to Paradise Marina on Banderas Bay a few years back. It’s a 12-mile pursuit race, and the bigger and longer *Profligate* overtook boat after boat. As the Poobah recalls, there was just one left, the beautifully sailed *Dolfin*. We never could catch her.

Dream — Sceptre 41

R.B. Ward and Susan McArthur Richmond YC / Point Richmond

Robert, 76, is a retired Carpenter while Susan is a retired College Professor. They will have three crew, Caitlin Robinson, Briana Biller and James Michael Robinson, 73.

“I started sailing at around eight years of age,” reports RB. “I’ve owned four boats; the Santana 22 *Carlos*, the Dogpatch 26 *Moonshine*, an Ericson 29, and now *Dream*, our Sceptre 41 that we’ve owned for six years.”

RB has done the Pacific Cup six times, and what really impresses the Poobah is that he did it twice on the no-frills ultralight 26-ft hotrod *Moonshine*. RB has also done the passage from Mexico to the Marquesas, which is nearly 3,000 miles.

The couple’s dream destination is the South Pacific, but this first season he and Susan will cruise the Sea of Cortez. Their dream boat? “We got it!” Can anybody correctly pronounce designer Hien Driehuyzen’s name?

The couple’s hero is the dynamic 45-year-old Isabelle Joscke, the daughter of a German father and French mother who grew up in Geneva and Paris but nonetheless became an ocean racing phenom. Racing competitively offshore in small boats since 2004, she most recently competed in the 2020–2021 Vendée Globe with the badass IMOCA 60 MACSF. Alas, she had to retire when approaching Cape Horn due to a failure of the keel ram. Check her out on Google and she’ll be a sailing hero of yours, too. No one-trick pony, Isabelle has a degree in classic literature.

RB advises that ‘the flogging will continue until morale improves’ — or perhaps until he’s served enough spumoni ice cream.

Drifter — Nauticat 38 (W)

Chris and Kelly McCall Portland, OR / Lake Oswego, OR

Kelly, 33, does Home Design for a small company in Portland, while Chris, 42, owns a Crawl Space company. Their crew will be Henry Hall, 39.

“*Drifter* is our first boat, and we’ve spent the last three years refitting the 1972 ketch in our driveway. We just splashed her two months ago. We documented the process on our YouTube Channel www.YouTube.com/SailingAdrift.

“We have limited sailing experience, but by the time we get to San Diego we expect we’ll be pretty salty.”

For folks coming down to the Ha-Ha start in San Diego from the Pacific Northwest — some the 1,329 nautical miles from Seattle, and some the 1,138 nautical miles from Portland — the legs to San Diego will almost certainly be more challenging than any on the Ha-Ha.

Kelly doesn’t really understand her husband being such a fan of *The Devil Wears Prada*, but he reportedly watches it “all the time”. Kelly says he’s a big fan of how it’s written.

Kelly prefers the movie, *French Kiss*. Not the French Rom-Com where a handsome but wayward boyfriend loses his cute girlfriend to an older woman who is happy to cook and clean. French as can be, he gets the girl back but has to share her with the woman. And they all live happily ever after. No, Kelly likes the Meg Ryan version about a woman who flies to France to confront her straying fiancé but gets into trouble when the charming crook seated next to her uses her for smuggling.

Chris is left-handed, and like the right-handed Kelly likes to remember the motivational quote: “There is always a reason not to do something”.

Having personally customized their boat for several years, *Drifter* is their dream boat. They would love to keep cruising Mexico after the Ha-Ha, but it’s uncertain because of Kelly’s work commitments.

Encore — Andrews 56 Zachary Singer and Sail MS Richmond / Santa Rosa (’05, ’06, ’07, ’09)

Zachary, 35, is a licensed tugboat captain who was diagnosed with MS and subsequently founded the organization Sail MS.

“After being diagnosed with MS I was unable to safely perform my duties as a vessel operator due to loss of vision. While partially blind, I was taught to sail by Eugenie Russell, my sea mama, who will be the captain of *Encore* for the Ha-Ha. Russell was the skipper of the boat that was sunk by a whale in the ’09 Ha-Ha.

Thanks to her leadership, and a great crew, all were plucked from their life raft by a Coast Guard helicopter almost 200 miles from San Diego.

“Learning to sail brought me back from a literally and figuratively very dark place in my life,” reports Zachery. “When my vision returned, I decided to found Sail MS and share my experience with others in the Bay Area living with multiple sclerosis. Fifty percent of our Ha-Ha crew will be people who are fighting the same battle that I am.

“Prior to purchasing *Encore*, I nearly bought a 62-ft cement boat that only would have been capable of eight knots if driven off a cliff. After doing nine knots upwind while sailing *Encore* offshore in questionable weather, and the boat not batting an eyelash, she has become my dream boat. In the nine months I have owned *Encore*, she has undergone an extensive refit performed by our very own Multiple Sclerosis Warriors.

“In addition to myself and Eugenie, our Ha-Ha crew will include Karina Velasco, my spouse; Francisco Ramos, 43, a Waste Water Engineer and co-founder of Sail MS; and Jerome Pinsonnault, 50, a Team Leader for Bombardier Jets.

“Following the Ha-Ha, we will be continuing on to La Cruz de Huanacastle for our winter time program with the support of the Nayarit Riviera Marina and the Vallarta YC, where we are all members.

“My dream destination is getting everyone to the next port of call safely. My sailing hero is Alex Thompson, the Hugo Boss Guy and Vendee Globe veteran. He is just a plain badass.

My favorite quote is, “We cannot control the wind, but we can trim our sails.”

“The *Encore* Ha-Ha journey will be the culmination of many difficult life-changing events and battles for the entire crew. Living with multiple sclerosis is a very difficult thing, yet when we come together as crew on a sailboat, we turn our disease from a curse into a blessing.”

Escapade — Sabre 40-2 Nick Sands and Renee Linde Sausalito (2017)

Nick, 64, is a retired Electrical Engineer. Spouse Renee is a retired Sales Executive. They will have two crew: Charlie Wood, 55, a Commercial Mariner, and Mauro Calvi, 64, a retired Executive who skippered *Belavia*, a boat he designed and built, in the 2017 Ha-Ha.

“This is our first boat,” reports Nick, “which we’ve owned since 2005. We sailed her down from Bellingham in the summer of 2006, and we have been racing and coastal cruising ever since, but never south of Monterey. I crewed on a Baja Bash

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Escapade - Renee

in 2019, so I know what the uphill trip is like. I'm looking forward to going downhill in the Ha-Ha.

"After the Ha-Ha we plan on sailing to Banderas Bay, and if possible, a bit further south." Poobah Tip: Banderas Bay has the most consistent sailing in Mexico, and it's all flat-water sailing. The wind is light in the winter and more breezy in the spring. Generally speaking, it comes up about 1 pm and dies about 5 pm. It's like it was made for sailing.

Nick and Renee's dream destinations are a boat in Croatia: Vis and Hvar.

Their dream boat? A Sabre 40-2 — and they just happen to own one.



Evening Sky - Joe & Jen

Evening Sky — Freedom 36 Joe and Jen Ruddy Charlevoix, Michigan

Joe, 51, is a retired Engineer/Project Manager, while Jennifer is a retired Teacher. Their crew will be Aunt Sheila Gordon, a retired Counselor and Artist.

Joe and Jen have been sailing for about

eight years. "We took lessons through Marina Sailing in Marina del Rey to see if we would like sailing, and it turned out that we did. So, we bought a Cal 29 and joined Buccaneer YC. There we started sailing on different types of boats, learning from experienced sailors, racing, and cruising to Catalina Island. We have cruised and anchored or moored all around Catalina Island, San Miguel Island, Santa Cruz Island, and San Diego.

But it's actually Aunt Sheila who has more experience. "I started sailing on the inland lakes of Michigan at age 17, where I participated in Sunday races. I moved to Miami at 25 and lived aboard a 1940 wood Marconi-rigged Atkin-designed Eric. I sailed her extensively in the Bahamas for seven years. Upon moving back to Michigan, I became the First Mate on a Columbia 36 for three years, then sailed a Tartan 26 on Lake Huron for five years. I currently own a Moody Primrose 40 with Joe, and we spend winters sailing the Florida coast and the Keys."

Back to Joe and Jen. "After a few years, we decided to get a larger boat. We found a Freedom 36, which we have been sailing for the last four years. It turns out that the boat is originally from Michigan, where Jen grew up and where she and Joe met. *Evening Sky* has been through the Panama Canal three times. Our longest passage so far has been from San Pedro to San Diego. After the Ha-Ha we plan to cruise the Sea of Cortez.

"Our dream destination is anywhere where we are together and enjoying life." Joe's dream boat is a Liberty 458. Our favorite quote is, "If it's going to happen it's going to happen out there." Joe loves flourless chocolate cake, and Jen loves any kind of pie. No south-paws on *Evening Sky*. "Our yacht club nicknamed us *Ozzy* and *Harriet*. We have two wonderful kids; Alison, who lives in Michigan, and Michael who is finishing college at UCSD. This year we both decided to sell our house in California and retire early to live on our boat and cruise full time."

Exit Plan — Lagoon 42 Cat (W) Brian Fox and Anastasia Hamilton Marina del Rey / Orange County

Brian is 45 and spouse Anastasia is 30. Their crew will include Ross Gardner, 35; Terri Walker, 30; and Steve Novins, who at 55 is the young 'old guy' on the boat. All are still actively working, although no careers were specified.

Sailing with his dad on a small boat is Brian's first boating memory. But he credits La Vagabonde's YouTube videos for getting him back into sailing. He bought his first boat, a Catalina 25, in 2014, and in

the next eight years bought six more boats. "It took a mountain of my savings to buy *Exit Plan*," Brian says, but he's now a happy live-aboard.

"My longest passages to date are only 70 miles, but a couple of them were night-time runs across to Catalina." His dream destination is the Bahamas.

"Adventure begins when everything else fails," is Brian's favorite quote.

"I throw like a girl when I try to throw left-handed," says Brian, "but I do enjoy margaritas for dessert."

Anastasia is a lovely name, isn't it? It means 'resurrection'. But you knew that.



Felicità - Tim & Gretchen

Felicità — Catalina 42 Gretchen and Tim Haines San Diego / Eagle River, Wisconsin

Gretchen is a Management Consultant, while spouse Tim, 62, is an Electrician turned Electrical Engineer turned Sales Engineer. Their crew will be Michelle Gorman, a Merchant Mariner; and Michael Thomas, 53, an IT Consultant.

The couple met while racing Rhodes 19s at the Chicago Corinthian YC. Buy Gretchen a Dark 'n Stormy and she'll tell you whether she or Tim won the most races. Gretchen and Tim have both logged a few 900+ mile passages in the Atlantic, Pacific, Caribbean, and Irish Seas — sometimes together, sometimes not.

Tim moved to San Diego and Gretchen followed him west. But it's been Gretchen's dream to head offshore, a dream since her first sailing trip when she was 23. Meeting Tim, "a great sailor", solidified those dreams.

"Together we've been working toward this getaway moment since we bought *Felicità* in 2018. We like to say we've spent the last year 'pimping our Catalina'.

"We will be two couples onboard who were brought together through sailing, as our

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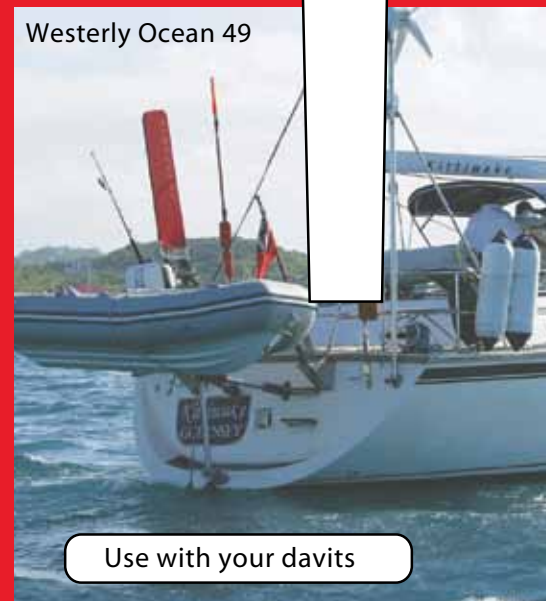
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crew, Michelle and Mike, met while in the community sailing club in Galveston. They joined forces and households, and recently bought a 1994 Caliber 40. Gretchen met Michelle on a sail training passage led by John Kretchmer in 2016, and we have had great fun cheering each other on as we subsequently met our sailing mates and bought our boats."

Festina Lente — Oceanis 45 Przemyslaw Karwasiecki San Francisco / Sunnyvale (2016)

Przemyslaw, 51, is a retired Network Engineer, unfortunately, spouse Aleksandra, a retired Geophysicist will not be making the trip. The crew will be Greg Brandysiewicz, 46, a Web Developer.

'PK' has been sailing for 12 years, during which time he and Aleksandra have owned two boats, and *Festina Lente* for the last 10. PK reports their boat has been "heavily upgraded" from Beneteau standards.

In addition to having done the 2016 Ha-Ha, PK also singlehanded from San Francisco to Hawaii. But after the Ha-Ha they might have their sights set on French Polynesia, the South Pacific being their dream destination.

Their dream boat is an interesting one, the French-built aluminum Boreal 47 centerboarder that had a large chart table inside the doghouse. Their sailing hero is also French, Bernard Moitessier. Gin and tonic is their dessert of choice.

Fidelis — Tartan 41 (W) Kenneth Brown San Diego / Redlands

"I grew up sailing in San Diego, current population 1,400,000 when the population was only 38,000," says Kenneth. How can that be? Because the Aircraft Maintenance Inspector, now retired, is 91 years old! The most senior Ha-Ha entrant ever.

His crew will be Beth LaRock, an Airport Manager; and Gregg Landolt, 70, a Commercial Airline Pilot. This will be the first Baja Ha-Ha for all.

"I built my first wooden boat with my dad when I was six years old. I've owned several boats through the years and was a flag member of the Ancient Mariners Society. I purchased my current boat with the plan to sail in the Baja Ha-Ha."

"Semper Fidelis", Kenneth is a Korean War Marine veteran.

First Light — Island Packet 380 Michael and Cindy Reese Portland, Oregon

Michael, 64, is about to retire after 32 years in Public Safety. He served as the



First Light - Michael & Cindy

Police Bureau Chief of Police in Portland from 2010-2015, and the Sheriff of Multnomah County from 2016-2022. Talk about someone who is probably looking forward to more relaxing life! Cindy is a retired Teacher and Counselor who loves Pickleball. The couple have three adult daughters. The Reese's will be sailing south with friend Dirk Edwards, 67 and one other crew member.

"We have been sailing for 13 years. Our first boat was an O'Day 27 that we sailed on the Columbia River. Our second boat was an Island Packet 31 we sailed to Puget Sound and the San Juan Islands for several years. We purchased *First Light* an Island Packet 380 in San Francisco in June of last year. She has been in the South Pacific and Hawaii with previous owners. We enjoyed sailing her on San Francisco Bay before motor sailing to our home in Portland last September. That was our longest passage to date.

"After the Ha-Ha we will sail along the coast of Mexico until joining the Puddle Jump in April of 2023," reports Mike. "Although Cindy is more interested in traveling to France or Italy. As a teenager Mike became interested in sailing after meeting teenage circumnavigator Robin Lee Graham and reading his book, *The Dove*." Michael and Cindy's favorite dessert? "Anything chocolate!"

Folie a Deux — Jeanneau 42DS George and Ellen Slater San Francisco / Danville (2017)

George, 78, is a retired 'Hospitalist', while Ellen is a retired Dental Hygienist. Both crewed on the 2017 Ha-Ha. They will sail with four crew, among them, Michael Hutchison, 66, a retired Professor from UCSC.

"I love swimming, mountain biking, sp-

litboarding, hiking, and high-performance track driving," says George. Not surprisingly, he adds that he's "addicted to caffeine and sugar."

"Ellen loves cooking, skiing, running, riding our Cannondale tandem mountain bike, hardcore on the floor for her Peloton, and is the stoker on our Fatty 29er. She loves salmon and salads.

"We share nine grandkids and put on Slater Summer Camp each July for the older ones at our mountain cabin in Truckee."

Did any of you know that "splitboarding" is a thing? The Poobah didn't.

"A splitboard is essentially a normal snowboard which splits into two halves. These halves become skis for traveling uphill or touring. To enable the rider to walk uphill, adhesive-backed 'skins' are attached to the base of the skis to provide traction on the snow. Once at the top of the slope, the rider removes the skins, attaches the two skis together and it transforms back into a snowboard, ready for a well-earned descent through untracked powder." Alas, coastal Mexico isn't the ideal venue for the sport.

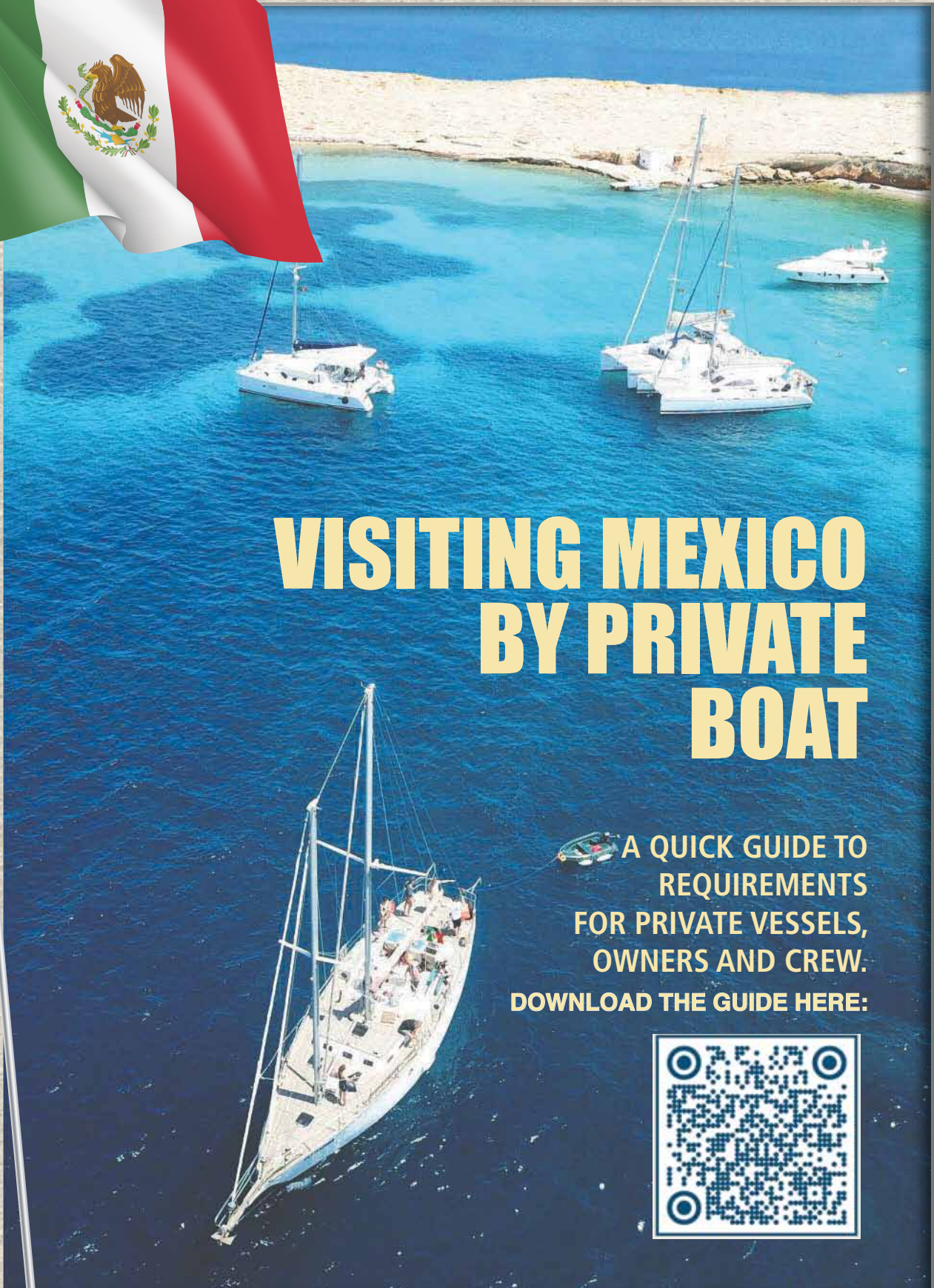


FortitudeX - Stefanie & Torsten

FortitudeX — Beneteau 423 (W) Stefanie and Torsten Schulz Vancouver, B.C.

Torsten, 57, is a retired Construction Manager, while Stefanie is a retired Executive Director.

"We met skydiving 35 years ago and have been on an adventurous journey together ever since. We were introduced to sailing back in Germany, and later bought a MacGregor 26 to become better sailors on Lake Wabamun in Alberta. Having spent the last seven years in British Columbia, we've been very fortunate to be able to frequently take *FortitudeX* out to explore some of the best cruising grounds on the planet.



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"Torsten has the most offshore experience, having crewed on the 2016 Victoria to Maui Race. Having both circumnavigated Vancouver Island, we're now looking to go south.

"Our favorite destination is wherever the wind takes us. If it didn't take us anywhere, we'd love Tuscany. So, it makes sense our favorite dessert is tiramisu. Our boat is our dream boat, but if we had an abundance of funds, there are some Scandinavian designs that would tempt us."

Boris Herrmann is their sailing hero. Who? From Lower Saxony in Germany, Boris had been a successful competitive sailor for 20 years. His worldwide exposure grew significantly after two recent events. In 2019, Boris sailed climate activist Greta Thunberg from Plymouth to New York City aboard his emission-free racing yacht *Malizia II*. Then in 2020/2021, Boris took sixth in the Vendee Globe Single-handed Around the World Race.

'Do or do not - there is no try!' is the Schultzes' motto.

Golden Heart — Island Packet 35 (W) Stephen Skogerson Brisbane / San Francisco (2014)

Stephen, 73, is a retired Teacher. He will be sailing south with Paul Skogerson, 52, a nephew who works for Xerox; Ha-Ha vet Danna Pomykal, and Jim Cranston, 52, who works in Construction.

"I've been sailing for about 15 years, during which time I've owned two prior boats. I've had my Island Packet for four years. The design debuted way back in 1988, and while no longer in production, 178 of them were built.

"My longest passage to date was crewing aboard the mothership *Profligate* in the 2014 Ha-Ha. After this year's Ha-Ha, I plan to continue up into the Sea of Cortez and explore that area for another year. Then I'll head southeast to the Canal, east to the Caribbean, and eventually north to the Bahamas. After that, who knows? Maybe I'll continue on to the Med, or maybe I'll make a left turn, pull into St. Augustine, and start playing shuffleboard.

"My dream destination is the South Pacific. My sailing hero is sailor/author Joshua Slocum.

Slocum is the Nova Scotian-cum-naturalized U.S. citizen who was the first person to sail around the world singlehanded. He started that trip in 1895 and after his circumnavigation disappeared at sea.

"Friends call me 'Skogie', and know my favorite dessert is cherry cobbler."



Good Times - Tom & John

Good Times — Beneteau 37 Tom Luneau and John McGee San Diego (2017, 2019)

John, 61 is an Engineer, while co-captain Tom Luneau, 64, is a Recovering Attorney who passes time contemplating metaphors for seniors. They thought it would be a 'cake in the park' to think up some simple phrases. John is the more serious of the two and says such contemplations are a waste of time, "and besides we could burn that bridge when we get to it".

Crew member, Myles Luneau, 34, is Tom's son and owns a company that converts Mercedes Sprinters into weekend campers. Tom thought the idea of senior metaphors was sophomoric, "You've opened a can of worms now you can lay in it." Myles' fondest memory of the 2017 season was when a crew member, assisted by Kirkland Scotch, spotted a UFO while on anchor in the Sea of Cortez.

The fourth crew member will be Kevin Milmoe, 61, a retired Counselor of Wayward Individuals. He had the same advice for all his clients: "Don't roll the dice if you can't pay the price." Kevin is the best angler on the boat and claims "If you give a man a fish, you feed him for a day. If you teach a man to fish, he will sit in a boat and drink beer all weekend." Kevin believes everyone is capable of becoming a good fisherman. "After all," he says, "it's not rocket surgery."

After the Ha-Ha, the *Good Times* will continue north into the Sea of Cortez, hopefully, further up than La Paz. "But we'll throw that one on the wall and see if the cows come home," says Tom.

Habibi — Gulfstar 37 (W) Hank and Su Kraus Oceanside / Valley Center

Hank, 67, is a retired Business Owner, as is Su. They will doublehanded the Ha-Ha. Hank and Su have been sailing for eight



Habibi - Su

years. They bought *Habibi* their first boat, a Gulfstar 37, three years ago, and have been actively preparing for the Ha-Ha ever since. Launched in 1979, *Habibi* is one of the many Gulfstar yachts that have proven themselves over time. Assistant Poobah Patsy Verhoeven's Gulfstar 50 *Talion* is 45 years old and still going strong.

Before purchasing *Habibi*, Hank and Su chartered sailboats around Southern California and the South Coast of England. They hope to spend several months in the Sea of Cortez after the Ha-Ha.

The name of their boat *Habibi* is Arabic for 'My Love'.



Halcyon - Richard

Halcyon — Hans Christian 38 Lillyin Love and Richard Weber Los Angeles / Lancaster

Owner/Skipper Lillyin Love, who has one of the all-time great names, is retired from the Coast Guard. Her crew will be fiancée Richard Weber, 58, a boatwright. The Ships Cat is Kikki-weekster

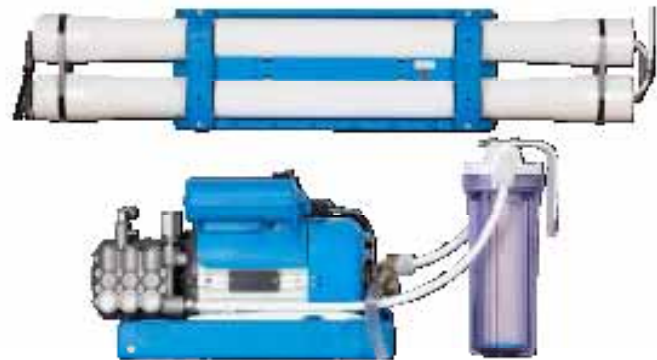
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a century of boating experience,” Richard reports. “We have cruised the entire Pacific Coast from as far north as Skagway to as far south as Acapulco. I’ve owned dozens of boats, but *Halcyon* is our pride and joy.

“Lilly served in the Coast Guard based out of Kodiak and was a Search & Rescue Swimmer. Both of us are scuba divers who love adventure. Our dream destination is anywhere we’ve never been — as long as there are new adventures and fascinating people.”

Their nautical heroes are “all the classics.” Ferdinand Magellan, the Portuguese explorer who was the first to sail from Europe to Asia. Many people incorrectly believe that Magellan was the first to sail around the world, but he was killed in the Philippines, and only several of his crew and one of his ships made it all the way around. Another of Love and Weber’s heroes is Ernest Shackleton. The Irishman made three voyages of expedition to Antarctica but is most famous for having to abandon his ship in pack ice and make a 700-mile passage in very stormy waters with lifeboats. Weber was also inspired by the solo circumnavigation of teenager Robin Lee Graham on his 24-ft boat *Dove*.

Lilly and Richard’s favorite quote — and boat name — comes from 1600s poet William Shenstone: “There came the *Halcyon*, whom the sea obeys when she her nest upon the water lays”.

Either Lilly or Richard is left-handed, but they’re not telling which.

Imagine — Davidson 44 Wyatt and Charlene Jones San Francisco / Sacramento

Wyatt, 60, is a Contractor, while Charlene is retired from an unspecified career. “I’ve been sailing all my life,” says Wyatt, “and have competed in two Pacific Cup races to Hawaii. The last one was in 2018 when we took 5th in our division.

“Charlene and I have been wanting to do a Ha-Ha for years. Cabo San Lucas is our go-to vacation spot, so we’re looking forward to sailing there instead of flying there.”

The fractional-rigged Laurie Davidson-designed 44 was an unusual IOR boat when launched in 1981, with high freeboard and a wide transom. As such, she caused a big IOR rating rule ruckus at her first St. Francis YC Big Boat Series. All these years later the Davidson design makes a great cruising boat, as proven by the Davidson 44 *Neptune’s Highway*, which recently completed an eight-year circumnavigation.

The Poobah has a vivid sunrise memory of a Davidson 44 from 41 years ago. We were racing our Freya 39 upwind and

hugging the shore between Frailes and Muertos during the ‘81 Long Beach to La Paz Race when a Davidson 44 appeared on the horizon behind us. They had no trouble passing us in the light air.



Island Nomad - David, Diane, Wayne & Francis

Island Nomad — Pacific Seacraft 40 (W) Francis Riegler Channel Islands / Malibu (2018, 2021)

Francis, 63, is a retired Physician. *Island Nomad’s* captain will be Diane Berol, a Professional Captain who has done two Ha-Ha’s. Francis crewed for Captain Diane in the 2021 Ha-Ha on her Pacific Seacraft 40 *Celtic Song*. Diane is returning the favor this year as crew and mentor.

The crew will be Eric Walker, 69, David Huffman, 70, retired from Marine Electronics, and Wayne Polek, 68, a retired Physician who did his Residency with Francis many moons ago. The Ha-Ha will be a reunion for them.

Francis reports that he’s been sailing on and off for decades and that *Island Nomad*, which he has owned since 2015, will be the only boat he’ll ever own. “If I don’t do everything I have ever dreamed of doing on a sailboat with this boat, it won’t be the boat’s fault!” he says.

Francis has previously crewed across the Atlantic and captained another boat in the Pacific Cup to Hawaii. “After the Ha-Ha we will cruise the Sea of Cortez and then return to California in the spring and prepare for Hawaii and the South Pacific.” His dream destination is Bora Bora and he owns his dream boat, so all his dreams may come true.

“My sailing hero is Dennis Johnson, the first and only other owner of *Island Nomad*. He did a solo 10-year circumnavigation.”

“Ha-Ha 2021 was a wonderful experience,” says Francis, “and I thank the Poobah and his crew for all they do.” It was

the Ha-Ha team’s great pleasure.



Island Summers - Kevin & Beverly

Island Summers — Jeanneau SO 440 Kevin and Beverly Summers Stanwood, WA (‘13, ‘14, ‘16 - ‘19)

Kevin, 64, is a retired Software Engineer, while Beverly is a retired Paralegal. The couple’s crew will be Serhad Atakturk, 69, who delivered a Pac Cup boat back to the mainland this summer, and Sue Drake, a vet of countless Ha-Ha’s, excellent spinnaker trimmer, and sister of the Assistant Poobah.

“The captain and first mate were raised around ski boats,” the Summers report, “but didn’t have sailing experience other than kiteboards and Hobie Cats. In 2014 we purchased a 28-ft powerboat to explore the San Juan Islands. After owning her for five years we decided we loved being out on the water but decided to switch to sailing. We took a few sailing classes and that’s all it took for us to become hooked.

“In 2019 we went completely insane and purchased a spanking new Jeanneau Sun Odyssey 440 — and then had to learn to sail her! After three years of sailing in the San Juan Islands, we felt ready to join the Coho Ho-Ho rally from Seattle to San Diego. We were lucky enough to talk two sailor friends, who had circumnavigated, into joining us.

“We like the quote, ‘You can’t control the wind, but you can adjust the sails’, because it applies to everyday life as much as it does sailing. Our goal is to explore destinations that you can’t get to any other way than by boat.”

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**Jamma — Hallberg Rassy 40C (W)
Janet and Martin McKeown
Vancouver, B.C.**

Janet is a retired Family Physician, Martin, 58, is a Neurologist.

"I have sailed dinghies since age 10, and began cruising keel boats in 2012," reports Janet. "*Jamma*, which we've owned for one year, is the second boat that Martin and I have owned. We've never done a Ha-Ha before, but we've heard great things about it.

"My longest offshore passage is eight days, sailing from Vancouver to San Francisco. After the Ha-Ha we plan to continue southeast to Panama and cross to England by July of 2023."

Jamma will have to be jamming to do that. After the first Ha-Ha, Capt Jim Drake took the Poobah's Ocean 71 *Big O* from Cabo to Europe, so it can be done. The biggest problem is getting through the Panama Canal in early December because once the Christmas Trades start to howl, it can be very difficult to make it the 1,000 miles across the Caribbean Sea.

"My sailing heroes are Tracy Edwards and her all-female crew, who in 1989 did the Whitbread Round the World Yacht Race," says Janet. Tracy mortgaged her home to buy *Maiden* the 30-year-old 58-footer. She and her 11-women crew won two of the six legs in class and finished second in class. As a result, Tracy became the first woman to receive — and this was a little awkward, the Yachtsman of the Year Trophy. She was also appointed MBE.

"Scandinavia and New Zealand are my dream destinations," says Janet, "so *Jamma* has a few miles to sail."

**Jan — Hallberg Rassy 48 MKII (W)
Giorgio and Jan Aru
Jackson, Mississippi**

Giorgio, 71, is a retired Cardiac Surgeon, Jan is a retired Registered Nurse. The couple will doublehand their 2018 German Freers ketch.

"I have been sailing since 1973 and have owned three boats," reports Giorgio. "We commissioned Jan at the factory in Sweden in 2018. Since then, we've covered a few miles, having sailed her across the Med, the Atlantic, the Caribbean, through the Panama Canal, to the Galapagos, French Polynesia, Alaska, and down the West Coast of the U.S."

Whew!

The couple hopes to complete a circumnavigation by 2024. Their favorite quote could be '*acta, non verba*,' deeds not words.



Jane 'O - Ron

****Jane 'O — Privilege 39 Cat
Ron Kuris, KK (13) and Connor (10)
San Francisco (2009)**

Ron, 57, is a Production Engineer, which is "a specialized software engineer, which makes very large systems run more reliably, faster, and at scale." His crew for this, his second Ha-Ha will be Dave Chenette, 70, an Engineer of Some Sort who also did the '09 Ha-Ha; and Ed Kuczynski, 66, a Manager.

Rounding out the crew will be Ron's grandkids, KK and Connor who are both Students of Life.

"Brought up in the Florida Keys, I've been sailing since I was a little kid," says Ron. "I've owned more boats than I can count. I've owned *Jane'O* for four years. My catamaran was launched way back in 1991, but we recently successfully sailed her to Hawaii and back, so she's an oldie but a capable goodie.

"My dream destination is always fleeting. I loved the South Pacific and I'd like to visit Isla Guadalupe someday. But anywhere on the water is fine with me. After the Ha-Ha we'll head down to Puerto Vallarta.

"I'm pretty happy with my current boat, but a new Privilege catamaran would be my dream boat. My sailing hero is Capt Ron. In fact, I dock my cat just like he did in the movie. My favorite quote comes from Capt Ron: "If it's gonna happen, it'll happen out there."

"My favorite dessert is a Klondike Choco Taco, "a fudge-swirled vanilla ice cream in a sugar cone taco with a peanut-sprinkled chocolatey that fortunately was only temporarily discontinued." Sorry Ron, but Klondike says it's not coming back despite consumer protests.

What's different about Ron's boat? "She's decked out with a Raspberry Pi, which is "a low cost, credit-card sized computer that plugs into a computer monitor or TV and

uses a standard keyboard and mouse. It is a capable little device that enables people of all ages to explore computing, and to learn how to program in languages like Scratch and Python." But you knew that.

Jane'O is also equipped with "excellent open-source monitoring tools," as Ron contributed to OpenCPN, which is free navigation software that runs on *Jane'O* as it does on many other cruising boats.

****Jedi — Beneteau First 435 (W)
Bryan, Alicia, Henley (6)
and Eloise (4) Souza
San Francisco / Hilmar**

Bryan, 31, is a Lab Technician, while Alicia, 30, is a Freelance Writer. Their offspring, Henley is a Student of Life as is his sister, Eloise.

The young family has been sailing for 18 months, and this is their first boat. "We're the third owners since she was launched in 1984, during which time she's always been named *Jedi*. Our passage down to the San Diego start will be our longest before the start of the Ha-Ha. After the Ha-Ha we'll continue to cruise in the Sea of Cortez and beyond.

"Alicia is left-handed for writing, but golfs and bats right-handed."

The Poobah was born in Berkeley and lived in California for his first 70 years, but never heard of Hilmar. So, what's the deal? Hilmar is a township in Merced County 4.25 miles west southwest of Delhi, California, and 8,300 miles west of Delhi, India. Hilmar began as a colony of Swedish immigrants as early as 1906. For the record, it's 376 miles between Samoa, California and Hilmar.

For those who like the Poobah have never seen a *Star Wars* movie, the Jedi are a "noble order of protectors unified by their ability to tap into the power of the Force, and who are the guardians of peace and justice."

**Josie — Dehler 39
Jo Sandry and David Sandry (brother)
Sausalito / Santa Cruz (2021)**

Siblings Jo and David are co-owners and co-captains of *Josie*. Jo, the captain this year, is a Therapist. David, 51, an Auditor. Helen Schweitzer, a Project Manager will also be aboard.

Jo and David have been sailing since they were kids on the South Coast of Devon in the UK. They tease their parents that they often risked their lives crossing the English Channel, and have many sea stories from those times.

Since living in the Bay area for 20+ years, they've both primarily sailed smaller boats — Jo owned a Pacific Seacraft 25, *Abundance*, for many years. And David owns



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and frequently raced the classic wood Bear Boat *Puff*, a true labor of love.

Jo has made blue water deliveries across the Atlantic and in the Pacific Northwest. David taught sailing at Cass' Marina in Sausalito, "initially did to pick up women". But before long he was to meet his partner and eventual baby mama. These days he gets his adrenaline pumping by practicing Public Accounting.

David and Jo moved up to their Dehler 39 and did the Ha-Ha for the first time last year. They Bashed back up to the Bay right after. "It was tough with two people," they remember, "but we're doing it again so it couldn't have been that bad. Or maybe we have amnesia."

First Mate, Helen Schweitzer has sailed with the Sandry siblings for decades and considers them her bestest friends. Helen got her 50-ton Coast Guard captain's license in 2001 and has taught sailing and navigation in the Bay, Greece and Croatia. She learned the hard way to NEVER teach couples on the same boat. Helen survived a hurricane on her first long delivery, but her front tooth did not.

Jo and David report they are very excited to do the Ha-Ha again this year and are looking forward to gathering more sea stories with Helen. And they promise to be better about providing their position on time each morning.

Just Passing Wind — Sundeer 60 Jeff Wahl

Yankton, South Dakota (2005, 2019)

Jeff, 66, is retired from the Hotel Business and is a vet of two Ha-Ha's. He'll have two crew who were not identified as of press time.

"I started sailing in 1990, and have now sailed 21,000 miles offshore," reports Jeff. "I did my first Ha-Ha with a Wellington 47, a spacious and comfortable ketch that was on the slow side. So, I purchased the Dashew-designed Sundeer 60 *Just Passing Wind* in December of 2015, as she's the ultimate sailing boat designed to trot around the globe with just two people.

"Shortly after buying the boat, I sailed from Los Angeles to El Salvador to the Galapagos to the Marquesas to Tahiti. The plan for after this year's Ha-Ha is to return to the Galapagos by Christmas — which admittedly is a pretty fast pace. I'm looking for crew. After the Galapagos, I'll continue across the Pacific to Australia.

"My dream 'destination' is to continue my circumnavigation on my dream boat, the Sundeer, although my plans are written in sand at low tide. My sailing heroes are Lyn and the late Larry Pardey.

"I eat what's put in front of me, and I'll like it."



K2 - Bryan & Nancy

K2— Corsair F36 Trimaran Bryan Martin and Nancy Virostko Santa Cruz (2015, 2018, 2021)

Bryan, 67, is a Designer and Builder. Partner Nancy is a Clinical Social Worker. Both are still working. Their crew will be Jacqueline Annigoni, a retired Business Owner. Bryan has done three Ha-Ha's; Nancy two; and Jacqueline one.

Bryan has been sailing for 50 years, beginning as a child on his father's boat. His longest passage has been from the South Pacific to Hawaii. He has owned at least six boats, all monohulls until he bought an F31 trimaran in 2006. He is now a committed trimaran sailor. Nancy, who sometimes works remotely from Mexico, doesn't have as much sailing experience as Bryan, but she makes up for it with enthusiasm.

Bryan and Nancy bought K2 a year ago. K1 was Bryan's F31.

"After a frenzy of work on K2 last summer, we sailed the boat for the first time when we left Santa Cruz for San Diego and the Ha-Ha start," the couple reported. "After some mishaps, such as losing our steering off Ensenada, and sailing the rest of the way to Cabo and then La Paz with compromised steering, we enjoyed a wonderful six months in the Sea of Cortez. That place never gets old.

"We met up with four other Ha-Ha boats and made it to Bahia de Los Angeles, at which time we parted ways. We continued north to Puerto Penasco, where we pulled K2 out of the water and trailered her home to Santa Cruz. We definitely experienced more drama trailering K2 home than sailing her in the Ha-Ha.

"We were all prepared with our wide load permit, only to have a broken axle about 45 minutes away from the boatyard. We limped back to the boatyard where Bryan rebuilt the trailer. After that, we had a successful journey back to Santa Cruz.

Our plan after this year's Ha-Ha is to go to mainland Mexico and make our future decisions as we go.

"A Rapido 60 trimaran would be our dream boat. We have many sailing heroes, but we would like to give a shout-out to our good friend and accomplished sailor Tom Carr, who did both the 2015 and 2018 Ha-Ha's on his 17-ft boat *Bluebird*, the smallest to ever do the Ha-Ha.

"Mango ice cream is my favorite dessert," says Bryan.



Kokopelli - Kate, Addie & Ben

*Kokopelli — Hylas 46 Ben, Kate, and Addie (10) Davidson Vashon Island, Washington

Ben, 48, is a Fire Fighter, Kate is a Teacher, and young Addie is a Student of Life.

"Ben became hooked on sailing after his parents chartered a sailboat for his brother's birthday," reports Kate. "He immediately went out and purchased a boat to live aboard while going to college. Then he went sailing every day, rain or shine, off Bellingham to teach himself how to sail. I know of at least seven boats he has owned, but I'm sure there have been more.

"Ben hasn't always had boats as large and luxurious as the Hylas, in 2007 he sailed his diminutive Vancouver 27 from Washington to Zihuatanejo — and "had a blast". He met Kate in 2007, and they have been sailing together ever since, spending a few weeks most summers in the San Juan Islands. They plan to cross to the South Pacific in April 2023.

"Our daughter Addie is excited to get this cruising party started because she has been promised a horse when we return from our year at sea," says Kate.

Dennis Davidson, Ben's dad, is the source of the couple's favorite quote: "Sometimes the only way to do it, is to just do it." Nike made the last three words of it their own.



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When it comes to desserts, Ben likes beer, while Kate prefers cake, donuts, pastries and pie. Addie's choice is ice cream in a giant waffle cone.

Kokopelli — Santa Cruz 40 Kevin Rooney and Rachel Spencer Santa Cruz / Davenport (2004)

Kevin, 70, is a retired Set Designer, while spouse Rachel is a retired Mortgage Banker. They will have four crew, including Valerie and Gordon (58) Duncan. It's going to be a crowded boat.

"I have owned *Kokopelli* for 20-plus years," reports Kevin. "She's my second boat after a Catalina 27. Both were homeported at South Beach Marina during the '90s. We participated in the Ocean Yacht Racing Association series for three years as well as doing the Vallejo races, the Mid-Winters, South Bay Fridays, Bayview YC's Plastic Classics, and Monday Night Madness.

"Upon retirement, I set the boat up for cruising and did the 2004 Ha-Ha. We then began a cruise that brought us down the Mexican coast to Guatemala, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, through the Canal, and over to Cartagena. Then headed north to Ft. Lauderdale and up the East Coast. We did the 'Round Long Island Race' and wintered over in Montauk, New York. The next season we sailed up the Hudson River to the Erie Canal, to the Great Lakes, to participate in the Port Huron/Mackinaw Race. We finished up in Chicago and shipped *Kokopelli* back to Santa Cruz. We had wanted to do the Great American Loop, but *Kokopelli*'s 8.5-ft draft was too deep for the Illinois River. We then did the 2015 TransPac, returning via Seattle, where we spent two years exploring the Salish Sea.

"I have our dream boat. 'Keep It Simple Stupid' is our motto. We plan to stay in the Sea of Cortez for the next two years before making a decision on whether to continue on to Florida.

"Capt Ron has my favorite quote: "If it's gonna happen, it's gonna happen out there" and I guess Ted Turner 'the mouth of the south' is one of my heroes."

What Turner said was, "I bet you're all wondering what it feels like to be a billionaire. It's disappointing really. Great wealth isn't nearly as good as average sex."

Laissez Les Bon Temps Rouler — Santa Cruz 52 David Bennett and Amy Herrick Alameda

David, 53, is retired from the Wine Business, while Fiancé Amy is still active in the Medical Field. Their crew will be Brad King, 66, retired; and at least one other person not identified as yet.



Laissez Les Bon Temps Rouler - David & Amy

"I've been sailing since I was two," reports David. "My parents have owned all kinds of boats, and raced and cruised many of them. We have owned our SC 52 since Christmas of 2021. It was our Christmas present to each other."

When asked to describe the Santa Cruz 52, which was the much more luxurious descendent of the ultra-simple Santa Cruz 50, designer Bill Lee said, "We crossed a Swan with a rocket ship." Twenty-nine 52s were built.

"I have sailed in the Caribbean, to Hawaii and back, and done numerous offshore deliveries," says David. "We live on our dream boat, and our dream destination is the South Pacific.

"My favorite sailing personality was Tom Blackaller," the flamboyant and larger-than-life St. Francis YC and America's Cup legend who died decades too young at just 49.

We don't suppose anybody has to ask what David and Amy's favorite quote is, but it's French, and it's not '*Voulez-vous coucher avec moi ce soir.*'

Leglus — Van de Stadt 52 Solomon Ka'ne

Oakland / San Diego and Hawaii

Solomon, 53, is a General Contractor. He will have four crew including Noah Persin, 52, David Henry, 65 and Paula Anita Rosemarie Frank.

Solomon reports that he's been sailing for 15 years, during which time he's owned four boats. He's owned *Leglus*, a Van de Stadt 52 racer from 1984, for just eight months. What's unusual about her is that she has a deep keel, which is important because she's only 12'6" wide. A needle.

To date, Solomon's longest ocean passage has been from California to Hawaii. After the Ha-Ha he'll return to California and continue preparations for the 2023 TransPac. The South Pacific is Solomon's

favorite destination, while vanilla ice cream is his favorite dessert.

While Solomon is right-handed, he plays pool left-handed. So be wary if he tries to hustle you into playing pool by offering to shoot with his 'wrong hand'.

What does *Leglus* mean? Not even Google knows. But the yacht has an interesting history. She was built for the Osaka-Melbourne double-handed race in 1986 as Bengal II. She has since participated in the 1987, 1991 and 1995 Osaka-Melbourne races, as well as the 2001, 2003, 2005 and 2009 TransPacs and the 2002 Pacific Cup. She has crossed the Pacific Ocean, or at least half of it, more than 15 times, probably more than any other Japanese yacht in history.

Thanks to owner Hiroshi Tomikura of Tokyo, *Leglus* became the primary yacht of the Silicon Valley Sailing Club, which was formed to remove barriers for anyone interested in yacht racing by providing a friendly learning environment for sailors of all levels. But now she belongs to Solomon.



Malolo - Kelly & Tim

Malolo — Lagoon 42 Tim Dick and Kelly Hu San Francisco / Palo Alto (2018)

Tim, 60, is an Entrepreneur, while First Mate Kelly is an actress. *Malolo*'s other crew will be Evaleen Jones, 62, a Physician; Seamus Murphy, 60, a Navy Master Chef; and Tina Kalekini, a retired Administrator. All met in Hawaii and have strong Hawaiian ties.

"I've been sailing since I was six," reports Tim, "and have owned six boats. I bought *Malolo*, my dream boat, in 2016. I did the Ha-Ha with her in 2018 and loved the boat and the event. After this Ha-Ha we'll either head to La Paz or Puerto Vallarta. My longest passage to date is 600 miles.

"My dream destinations are Hawaii, where I lived and raced for many years, followed by Tahiti."

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BAJA HA-HA XXVIII

Dick's hero is Sterling Hayden, a true swashbuckling American actor, author, sailor and decorated Marine Corps officer who operated behind enemy lines in World War II. A leading man for most of his career, Hayden is best known for his brilliant portrayal of General Jack D. Ripper in Stanley Kubrick's *Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb*. Claiming to act only to pay for boats and voyages, Hayden most famously defied a judge's orders following a divorce in 1958 and sailed to Tahiti with his four children, and Spike Africa as crew, aboard his big schooner *Wanderer*.

When it comes to desserts, Tim, who says he's "up for anything", would like two servings of tiramisu, "please", because YOLO, 'you only live once.'

In Hawaiian, malolo means to rest from work for a time.



Mikmaks - Justin & Claire

Mikmaks — Stevens 47 Justin and Claire Waite Seward, Alaska

Justin, 50, is retired from an Unspecified Occupation, while Claire is a Doctor. Their son Jeremy 17 will be joining them. Crewing for the Waites will be Arthur Jesse Osborn, 45, a Consultant, and his spouse Samantha, who own a 50-ft yawl in Ireland that the two plan to sail across the Atlantic in the spring.

"We all met at the local yacht club in Seward and have sailed together for a number of years now," reports Justin. "Among our trips have been down the Inside Passage, from Port Townsend to Los Angeles, then last year's TransPac to Honolulu. Our longest passage was the 23-day trip back to California from Hawaii. It was a great trip.

"*Mikmaks* is our third boat, one we bought in 2016 and refit with a world cruise in mind. The most unusual thing

about her is her retro-fitted aluminum handrails, mast corral, stern tower for antennas, and transom ladder. They mark her as an exploration machine.

"We first heard about the Ha-Ha in Seward from another cruiser, and it's always been on our list of fun things to do. No one on the crew has ever done a rally or group cruise, so we're looking forward to the experience.

"After the Ha-Ha we plan to continue south to Costa Rica and then the Galapagos Islands. From there it's either south around Cape Horn or west to Australia. Tough choices, right? But our dream destination is Svalbard, Norway. It must be all the time we spent in Alaska. Everyone on the crew has a different dream boat, but Samantha insists that when it's time to retire she will buy a tiny dinghy and sail around the Keys in a bikini.

"Captain Jesse's hero is Roald Amundsen, captain of the first boat through the Northwest Passage.

"Our favorite quote: "It's 106 miles to Chicago, we've got a full tank, half pack of cigarettes, it's dark out, and we're wearing sunglasses. Hit it!" Our favorite dessert is Japanese whiskey."

Moon Child — Vagabond 47 (W) Arturo Kabona Aloha, OR / Bellingham, WA

Arturo, who was 'made' in Switzerland 58 years ago, is a retired Jack of All Trades. His crew will be Nick Sissine, 30, a Project Solutions Coordinator; and James Van Etten, 31, occupation not specified.

The highly-experienced and sea-savvy skipper and his crew are thrilled to have a musician/ deckhand earn his wage and grow some sea legs along the passage! Unfortunately, it wasn't specified which deckhand it is.

A self-described "Ha-Ha enthusiast", Arturo has sailed "almost anything that can set a sail," from a 13-ft sailing canoe to his heavy 47-ft ketch *Moon Child*. He's sailed on everything from freezing Swiss mountain lakes to the warm waters off Ixtapa, Mexico.

Arturo's plans after the Ha-Ha are to do more Ha-Ha's, "naturally". But his ultimate destination is Bora Bora.

You might have known there was an Aloha, Oregon, but the Poobah didn't. Sounds strange. Sort of like the name Arturo Kabona, which is indeed an alias.

Namowan — Tayana 48DS Kim Cunningham and Randall Brazzoni Ensenada / Calgary, Alberta

Kim still actively works in the Medical Field, while her husband Randall, 63, is

still active in the Healthcare Sector. They will have two crew: Allen Rees, 62, a Recreation Therapist; and Jacqueline Rees, no doubt Allen's better half, a Registered Nurse.

"This will be our first Ha-Ha. We only purchased *Namowan* in March, so we're working through some of the challenges that come with a new boat. We purchased her in the hope of traveling to faraway places once we retire."

In the Cree language, 'namowan' means the wind is favorable to us. Cree is a dialect continuum of Algonquian languages spoken by approximately 117,000 people across Canada, from the Northwest Territories to Alberta. But you knew that.

No Ties — Jeanneau SO 39 (W) Josh and Tonia Feinstein Vashon, WA (Three Ha-Ha's)

Joshua, 45, is an attorney, while Tonia is a Buyer. Sailing south with them will be Doug Lombard, 60, a Captain. He's a veteran of three Ha-Ha's.

"We've only been sailing a little over a year, but our five-year-old *Sun Odyssey* is our second boat," says Josh. "Our program is to do the Coho Ho-Ho, the Baja Ha-Ha, then cruise the Sea of Cortez until March."

(Poobah Tip: If you want to do any comfortable swimming in Mexico much after December 1, you'll probably have to go over to the mainland. It's just 200 downwind miles to Puerto Vallarta.)

"Our dream boat would be the 287-ft *Maltese Falcon*, but she's perhaps a little out of reach for us," says Josh. Having both attended the launch of *Falcon* in Italy and sailed on her, the Poobah encourages Josh and Tonia to go for it. It might stretch your budget a little, but in the long run, the grandeur will surely have made it all worthwhile.

"Tonia is left-handed, so she would claim to be the Better Half," says Josh. "And probably is. But we both like the attitude of *Carpe Diem!*"

No Worries — Jeanneau 45 Chris Maher and Mike Scheck Alameda / Walnut Creek ('95, '97, '98, '03, '06)

Chris, 64, a Marine Industry Professional, will be skippering owner Mike Scheck's boat down to Puerto Vallarta for him. As best he can remember, Chris has done the Ha-Ha in 1995, 1997, 1998, 2003 and 2006, but maybe other times, too. He's also done countless offshore races in Mexico, the Pacific Northwest, and the Caribbean. His longest passage is 2,800 miles in the 2002 Atlantic Rally for Cruisers.

Chris will be completing the last 90 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail this summer, culminating with planting a Ha-Ha burgee at



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No Worries - Chris & Mike

the summit of Mt. Whitney.

While he won't be skipper, owner Mike Scheck will be aboard as crew along with his son Brendon, 35, a Fireman. Another crew will be John Ross, 67.

If for some reason *No Worries* doesn't do the Ha-Ha, Maher says he'll do it with his Olson 34 *Keaka*, which he's owned for eight years, and on which the Schecks crew.

****Ohana — Beneteau 440 (W)
Jeff, Sarah, Josie (11)
and Louella (6) Orgill
Long Beach / Santa Monica**

Jeff, 54, is a Small Business Owner, while Sarah is a Teacher. Their crew will be daughters Josie and Louella, both Students of Life.

"I've been sailing for seven years," reports Jeff, "while Sarah began sailing in her teens. She had her own boat when we met, and since then we've owned two more boats. It was only a few months ago that we upsized to our current boat, a Beneteau 440, from a Cal 34.

"This will be our first Ha-Ha. Sarah was in the Navy, so she's done longer passages but aboard large ships. We plan to spend the next year sailing the Sea of Cortez, and perhaps beyond."

The family's dream destination is 'the world', and Sarah is Jeff's "dreamboat".

The Orgill's sailing heroes are explorer Ernest Shackleton and Capt Frank Worsley, captain of *Endurance*, for the Trans-Arctic Expedition of 1914- 1916. After the *Endurance* was trapped in pack ice, Shackleton, Worsley and two others set out on a stormy 800-mile voyage aboard a 22-ft lifeboat to get help. They succeeded and the entire crew was rescued.

Frenchman Bernard Moitessier, another of the Orgill's heroes, is an interesting case with a big Cabo connection. He was heroic

both for his actions in the 1968-'69 Golden Globe Around the World Race and his writings. But Bernard also perpetrated a giant fraud. As some will remember, his famous *Joshua* was one of the first boats that went ashore in Cabo during the freak but brief storm that hit in December of 1982 and left about 30 boats on the beach. The next day Bernard sold *Joshua* to a Swiss guy named Rado for \$1.

Moitessier would later make up increasingly more colorful and detailed stories about what happened, and how after a long time he managed to persuade his shipmate, rather crazy German actor Klaus Kinski, to abandon the boat and swim ashore. Moitessier would stay on the boat while the mast came down and she was driven up on the beach.

But according to Lyn and Larry Pardey, who were on the scene the next day, as was the Poobah, Moitessier immediately confessed that he and Kinski hadn't been on the boat at all, but rather drinking in a hotel room. He asked the Pardeys, his friends, not to reveal the truth, and for many years they didn't.

Anyway, you can see *Joshua*, looking better than ever at the Maritime Museum in La Rochelle, France, where she's been restored and is sailed regularly.



OutRun - Shane & Karina

**OutRun — Ericson 36C
Shane Engelman
Berkeley**

Shane, 33, is a Lead Software Engineer for an augmented reality headset company who hasn't retired yet. He will be double-handing with Karina Durand who is from Quebec.

"I've been sailing for six years, and have only owned one boat, *OutRun*, which I bought six years ago. My longest passage to date is San Francisco to Ventura, which we did non-stop in 66 hours.

"My goal after the Ha-Ha is to do the

Puddle Jump to the South Pacific. I don't have a dream destination because, like the saying goes, 'the journey is the destination', and I'm on it.

"I don't have to dream about other boats because I believe the best boat is the one you already have, and mine has everything a sailor could ever need. Plus, a PlayStation 5."

Shane's boat is an Ericson 36C, which was an unusual Bruce King design for the mid-'70s, as she features a traditional clipper bow, a transom-hung rudder, and a cutter rig. She's not to be confused with the more conventional Ron Holland Ericson 36s that were built two years later.

Since Shane is a software engineer, it's not surprising that he not only has an Iridium Go! but an Iridium sat phone, Starlink, and a "fancy 4G to wifi thing I made." He also has an SSB-capable ICOM UC-7300 hooked up to a 34-ft SSB antenna.

While his new watermaker is doing its thing, Shane wouldn't mind a little lemon sorbet.

"I don't drink, smoke, or party," says Shane. "The main reason for me going on the Ha-Ha is to meet fellow independent people and to kickstart the adventure of my lifetime, with my eventual goal being making it all the way around the world in about four years."

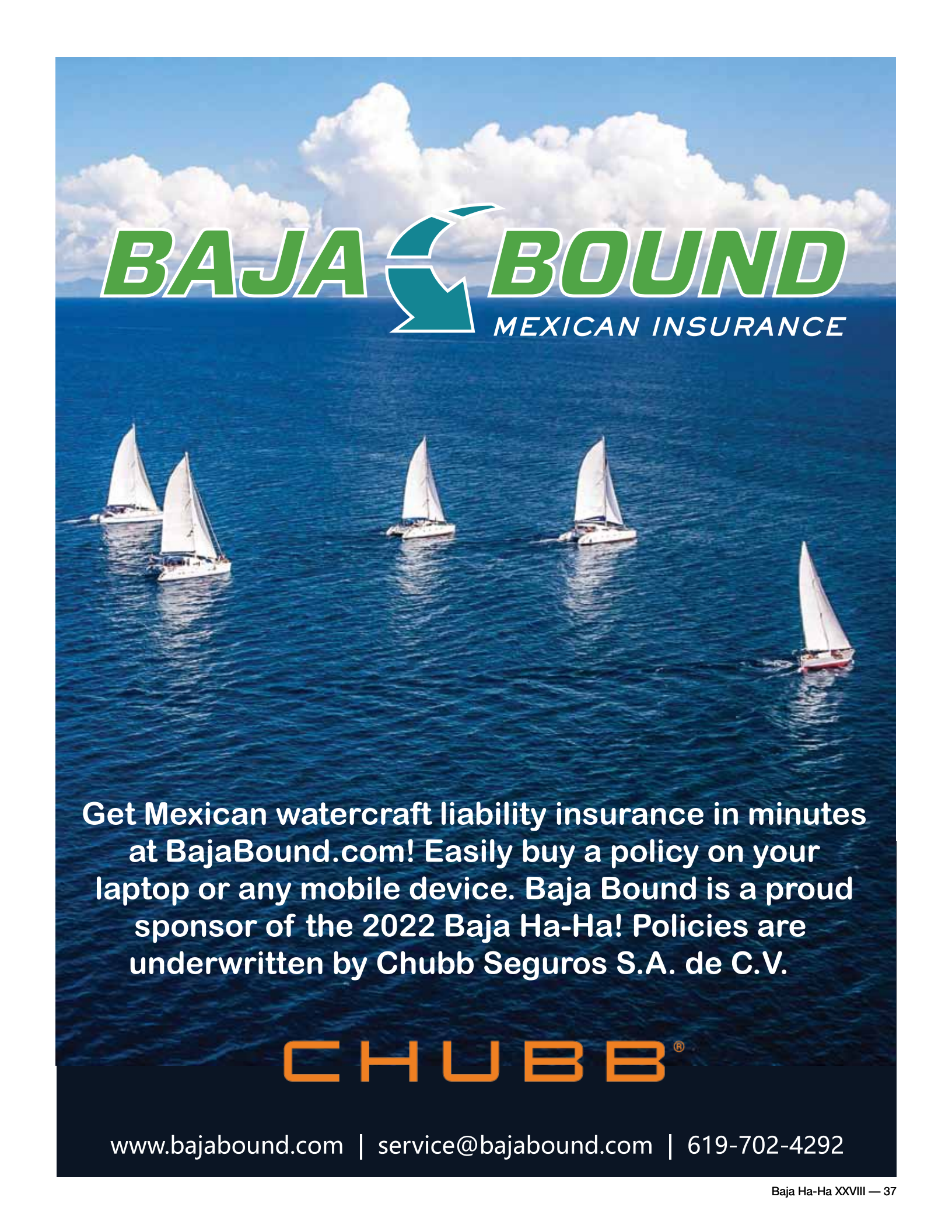


Oz - Susan & Steve

**Oz — Catana Bali 4.1 Cat (W)
Steve and Susan Warner
Seattle, Washington**

Steve, 57, is in Marketing, while Susan is a "Rover". But Steve has a lot of other skills. He's a former Navy Diver/Special Operation Lieutenant Commander, and a former PJ (Pararescue). Pararescue team members risk their lives, often in dire situations, to save other lives. Ballsy stuff.

"Susan and I have been married for 27 years," reports Steve. "We've lived all over the USA as well as in Thailand, Korea and Romania. We have three daughters, the youngest of which just graduated from college. So, we sold our home and are taking advantage of the opportunity to go on



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another adventure together. We're planning on taking a year, but we'll see how we feel after we winter over in Mexico. We might eventually go through the Canal and explore places such as Belize.

"I've been sailing off and on for 30 years, during which time I've owned two boats. We've owned our cat, a standard factory issue Bali 4.1, since 2019. We like her, but she's not our ultimate dream boat. We'll know that when we see it. While in Mexico I'll be looking for opportunities to make some spending money to supplement our savings. I can dive, and am handy with basic repairs and maintenance.

"Our longest trip to date has been from San Diego to Seattle with *Oz*. We don't have any sailing heroes, but we've watched a lot of *Delos* YouTube videos, in part because David is from Seattle and has been out there a long time.

"Whatever doesn't kill you makes you stronger," is our favorite quote. We're right-handed, don't have nicknames, and like Key Lime Pie, spinach and asparagus, and fruits such as red and white wine. Even rose. We like the Stones and The Who, and *Saving Private Ryan*."



Passing Wind - Corey

Passing Wind — Hunter Passage 42 Shawn and Jennifer Goit Oceanside (2016)

Shawn didn't list an age or occupation. Jennifer works in Customer Service. Their crew will be Dan Goit, Shawn's brother, who is 63 and retired from Construction; another brother Nick Goit, 53, who is the Maintenance Area Manager at Amazon; Robert Temple, 63, who is both a Plumber and Shawn's cousin; and nephew Corey Goit, 32, who says he's "Master Chief Engineer and Facility Manager at Amazon. My day job includes running a team of techs that maintain the infrastructure of Data Centers that provide a multitude of

internet services. Whether it be streaming movie services for your everyday families or deep quantum computing services for the hacker extraordinaire sifting through the matrix trying to find 'the one.'" Yeah, there are a lot of interesting people on the Ha-Ha.

"I've been sailing for 20 years and had powerboats for 20 years before that," reports Shawn. "I've owned 15 boats in all, 12 of them power, three of them sail. We've had *Passing Wind* for eight years, and did the '16 Ha-Ha with my son in the year he graduated from high school. Our crossing to Puerto Vallarta was our longest non-stop passage to date, in that it took three days. We might call on Puerto Vallarta again before returning to Oceanside.

"I owned my dream boat, but the Ha-Ha shattered my dream of sailing around the world. It made me realize that it would actually be a lot of work to go all the way around. 'Nothing can be easy,' my friend said I should change my motto, but damn, nothing is easy anymore.

"My son is my sailing hero, and I only wish he could make another Ha-Ha with us. I love ice cream, so if anybody has some in their freezer, I wouldn't mind an invitation. I go by Shawn, but have been called a Dick, possibly due to periodically having a less than ideal attitude."

Poobah Note: A lot of long-time cruisers will agree that cruising is never super easy, but the first couple of long passages were their most trying. Once you get your boat and yourself dialed in, things become a lot easier.

Pelerin — Ovni 435 Mike and Shirley Hiscock Lunenburg / Victoria, B.C.

Mike, 57, is a retired Pilot and Shirley is a retired Translator. They will be double-handing the Ha-Ha.

The couple report that they've been sailing "off and on" since 1999. The Phillippe Briand-designed Ovni will be one, if not the only, aluminum boat in this year's fleet. The couple have owned her, their third boat, for two years.

Mike and Shirley report their longest passage is 3,000 miles from Lanzarote, one of the Canary Islands to Antigua via Mindelo, Cape Verde.

After the Ha-Ha they will continue on to the Caribbean. Their dream destination is Nova Scotia via the Bahamas. And they hope to do it with *Pelerin*, their dream boat.

Mike's favorite quote: "Cost of doing business", Shirley's: "That's expensive"; Mike's worst sailing experience was getting stuck in the mud in a tight marina in 20 knots of wind, Shirley's, being way overcanvassed on their MacGregor 26. The Hiscock's hero is Bernard Mortessier.

A pelerin is a pilgrim traveling to a holy

place. It's also the name of a French weekly. But you knew that.

Pendragon — Davidson 44 Modified Ed Hoff

San Francisco / San Bruno ('01, '13)

Ed, 65, is both a proud seventh-generation Californian and an Analytical Chemist. Friend Laura Dyball, a Real Estate Relocations expert, will be his crew, along with Stephen Straw, a Carpenter; and Chandell Beeson.

Ed has been sailing for 46 years during which time he's owned five sailboats, including *Pendragon* for the last three years. The vet of two Ha-Ha's, one as captain and one as crew, has a longest passage of Honolulu to San Francisco. And he did that singlehanded!

While his dream destination is the Aegean Sea, he'll hang out in the Sea of Cortez after the Ha-Ha on *Pendragon*, his dream boat.

Hagen-Dazs ice cream is his favorite dessert, "just like what I enjoyed after crossing beneath the Golden Gate Bridge after solo sailing from Honolulu to San Francisco."

Ed believes one of two things happens each time you go sailing. "You either have a great day on the water or you have an adventure."

Praxis —Beneteau 57

Thomas Magee and Elizabeth Ugarte Marina del Rey / Pasadena

Thomas, 65, is a retired Doctor, while spouse Elizabeth is the CEO of an unspecified organization. Spencer Busted, 38, will be the Captain for this trip; and Spencer's wife Kelsey Roop, an RN, will be crew.

Tom and Spencer, the Owner and Captain respectively, have been sailing "since children". But everyone on the boat is a "Ha-Ha Virgin". Their big trips have been to Catalina.

Praxis is Tom and Elizabeth's second boat, a big Bruce Farr design they've owned for eight years. When asked if there is anything unusual about her, Tom replies cryptically. "She prefers the dock." The Poobah wonders if maybe she just hasn't had a chance to romp on the ocean.

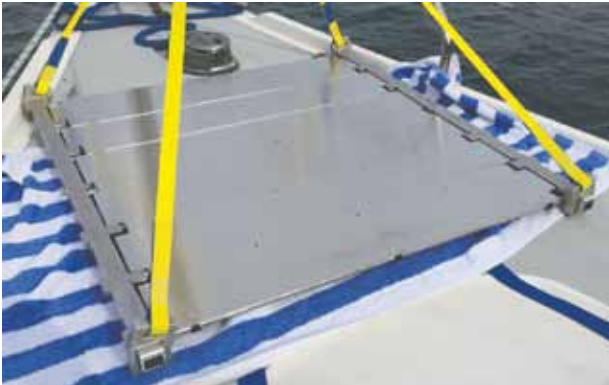
Thomas has a favorite quote, not surprisingly from the world of medicine. "He who studies medicine without books sails an uncharted sea, but he who studies medicine without patients does not go to sea at all.

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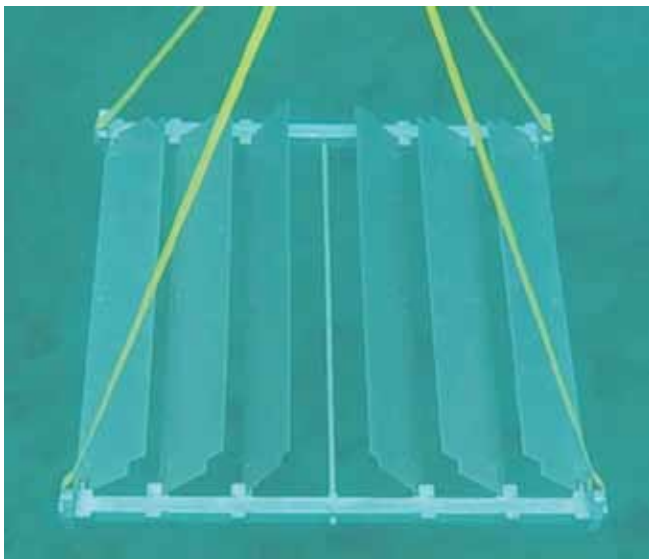
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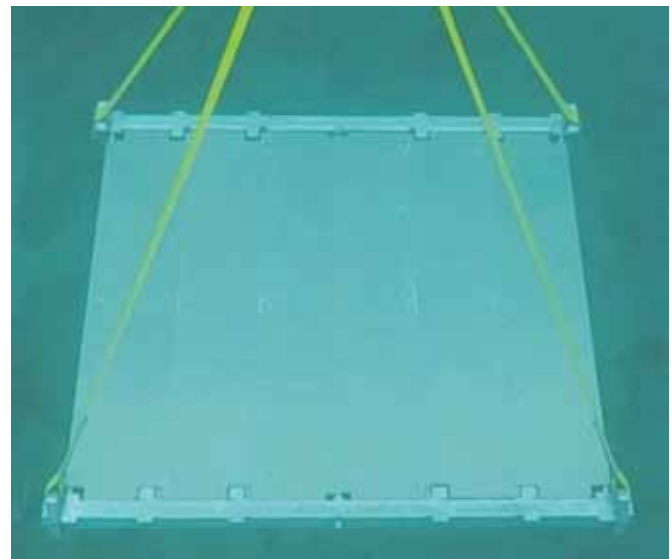
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Profligate — Surfin' 63 Cat Richard Spindler and Doña de Mallorca' La Cruz, Mexico

Richard, 74, was the founder and Editor/Publisher of Latitude 38 for 40 years, and after the founding of the Ha-Ha has been the Poobah for 26 of 27 of them. Doña is a Registered Nurse and Captain, and has done 25 Ha-Ha's and 22 Baja Bashes.

An eight-year former resident of Mallorca, Spain, Doña has sailed across the Atlantic twice, while Richard has only done it once. Richard and Doña met very briefly during an Antigua Sailing Week in the 1980s and were so unimpressed with each other that they didn't meet again for another 10 years. After 23 years of courtship, they got married a few years ago, although neither can remember exactly when.

They live three months a year each on boats in Paris, St. Barth, La Cruz, and Southern California. Hey, it's less expensive than owning a house and living in Coastal California.

Crew Chris Hunt is a Contractor in Sacramento who has done 19 Ha-Ha's on *Profligate*; Chuck Skewes owns Ullman Sails in San Diego and Seattle and has done five Ha-Ha's; Dino DiPasquale, a Painting Contractor from Colorado Springs, has done 15 Ha-Ha's; Paul Ludgate, from Newport Beach, owns a cat and leads llama tours in Colorado, has done four Ha-Ha's. Christian Holm Bombs Forest Fires from jets and has done five Ha-Ha's; Lynn Ringseis, a former Charter Cat Owner/Operator in the Caribbean, and currently a socialite, has done 14 Ha-Ha's on *Profligate*. Steve Mueller just retired as a Fire Chief for Cal Fire and is a Ha-Ha virgin, although he's done two Bashes aboard *Profligate*. Deborah Kirsten is a Consultant and sails on Lake Dillon in Colorado. There will be one or two more crew.

Profligate was completed by DENCHO in Long Beach in 1966 and is based on a Kurt Hughes 60-ft charter cat, but stretched three feet and modified tremendously by the owner. She is basically a day cat that can also sleep 14. She has done 25 Ha-Ha's as well as a trip through the Canal to the Eastern Caribbean and back. She's mostly made of Divinycell and Vynylester resin. Before she got loaded down, she hit 25 knots on both San Francisco Bay under white sails, and again under spinnaker on the Ha-Ha.

Richard has owned 19 boats over the years, including three Olson 30s and an Ocean 71 that he kept in the Caribbean except for a trip across the Atlantic and Med to Turkey and back. Having done six Antigua Sailing Weeks back when it was a huge week-long international event with over 200 entries, he's most proud of his

Ocean 71 *Big O* being declared 'Party Boat of the Week' three times in a row by legendary Joel Byerly, the 'Voice of Antigua'.

Richard and Doña are both proud to be 'regular people'. While they have been very, very fortunate to have been able to do a lot of things over the years, they don't consider themselves any better or different than anybody else.

"I was put on earth to try and help other people have a little fun before leaving this veil of tears," says the Poobah.

Queso Grande II — Seawind 1260 Cat Lance Lott and Sherri Benedict Semiahmoo, WA / Blaine, WA

Lance, 55, is retired from Airline Technical Operations Management, while spouse Sherri is retired from Human Resources Management. Their seven-year-old dog Maybel hasn't worked a day in her life.

Lance and Sherri have been sailing for six years, during which time they've owned two sailboats and some powerboats. They've owned their Australian-built Seawind 1260, which was built in 2021, for 14 months.

Their longest trip to date has been sailing from Seattle to San Diego, but they plan to keep on truckin' all the way around the world without looking back. This plan reminds the Poobah of Eric and Pam Selix of the Oregon-based Seawind 1160 cat *Pied-a-Mer*. Pam, then 66, had never spent a night on a boat or been out of sight of land before they started on the 2012 Ha-Ha. They later did a second Ha-Ha in 2014 before taking off around the world. Now '76 years young', they are cruising in the Red Sea and have probably reached Turkey.

Lance and Sherri's dream destinations are the South Island of New Zealand and Greece, which are pretty much on opposite sides of the world. Their Seawind cat is their dream boat. Their sailing heroes are friends Teri Mandemaker and Lee Locke, who circumnavigated with their Hallberg-Rassy 37 as part of the Blue Water Rally.

"There is always time to do it right the second time", is Lance and Sherri's favorite quote. The couple love fudge brownies, are ambidextrous and are open to being given nicknames.

Rachel Lynn — Fairweather Mariner 39 Robert Feld Billings, Montana

Robert, 71, is an Insurance Broker who will be doing his first Ha-Ha. As of press time he hadn't selected his three crew.

Robert has been sailing for 12 years, during which time he's owned two boats. He's owned *Rachel Lynn* for two years, having fallen in love with the design the first time he saw one.



Rachel Lynn - Robert

Although Robert hasn't done a Ha-Ha before, he has sailed from Hawaii to San Diego, which is nearly three times as long. But his dream destination is "San Carlos", although we're not sure which one. There are many.

'Bob' likes the quote "it will buff out" and carrot cake for dessert. But he has a strange desire "To grow up like the Grand Poobah." Just remember, Bob, things are rarely as they seem to be.

Resolute — Beneteau First 50 Peter Lane and Nicky Lecher Jamestown, RI / Park City, Utah (2021)

Peter, 57, is a Franchise Owner, as is significant other Nicky. Both did last year's Ha-Ha, and will once again be doublehanding the big 2007 Philippe Briand design.

Peter has been sailing for 50 years. Among the more than 12 boats he's owned are a Blue Jay, Laser, J/24, two match-racing J/22s, a Moth, a Melges 17 and 24, two J/105s, and three powerboats. Sounds like a pretty strong boat addiction.

Nicky has only been sailing for a few years, but really enjoyed cruising the Sea of Cortez after last year's Ha-Ha. She also owns an Ocean Alexander 52 motor yacht.

This is the couple's second year with *Resolute*, their dream boat. After the Ha-Ha, they plan to sail north to Loreto, then across the mainland to Mexico, down to Costa Rica, and eventually through the Canal to the East Coast. This even though their dream destination the Galapagos, is in the opposite direction.

Peter's sailing hero is his grandfather, with whom he built boats in his youth.

Nicky likes white chocolate for dessert, something Peter can't "fathom". But they both live by the open-ended adage, "Nothing is half so much fun as... (you fill in the blank.)"

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BAJA HA-HA XXVIII



Resolute - Nancy & Scott

**Resolute — J/122
Scott and Nancy Wildman
Long Beach / Palos Verdes Peninsula
(‘17, ‘18, ‘19)**

Scott, 67, is a retired Aerospace Mechanical Engineer who has done three Ha-Ha’s as crew. Nancy is a high school Chemistry Teacher, who will be doing her first Ha-Ha. Their crew will be Louis ‘Frank’ Zankich, 61, an attorney; Stephanie Zankich, a Teacher; and Dixie Yeck, an Investment Broker who races out of King Harbor.

“Frank and Stephanie are the new owners of a Tayana 55 in Florida,” reports Scott, “and the Ha-Ha will help them decide if they are cut out for boat ownership.” Although cruising on a fairly luxurious Tayana 55 is a rather different experience than cruising on a performance J/122.

“I started sailing after high school and haven’t stopped,” reports Scott. “My first sailboat was a trimaran on the hard in Wilmington. We fixed her up and sailed her to Catalina with a backpacking compass and an Auto Club map. When I met my wife, we purchased a Tollycraft powerboat, also on the hard, restored her, and enjoyed boating with her for 11 years.

“We purchased *Resolute* just two weeks before we signed up for the Ha-Ha. The thing that stands out about this design is that she was the top American double-hander in the Bermuda 1-2 in 2014, and competed in Fastnet Race 2015.

“After my past three Ha-Ha’s, I promised myself that I’d do the next one on my own boat. My longest passage to date is 17 days, helping deliver the *Andrews 61 Medicine Man* back from the *TransPac* in 2019. After the Ha-Ha some of the crew will return to the States, while new crew will show up to head up into the Sea of Cortez to swim with the whale sharks.

“We have been to the Caribbean, Seychelles and Tahiti on 50-foot bareboats skippered by me, the ‘Wildman’. Our new

boat is very close to my dream racer/cruiser. If I could name a sailing hero there would be many from racing and cruising years, based on how well they handled themselves in adverse conditions.

“My favorite dessert is a *paleta*, the frozen Mexican natural fruit treat similar to a popsicle. And I hold it left-handed.

“I just completed hiking 1,300 miles, which is half of the Pacific Crest Trail. On the trail, I am known as ‘Wildman’. From running out of water in the hot desert sun to being drenched in the freezing mountain rain, or taking a knockdown on a boat, it’s important to keep your wits about you.”

The Wildman’s favorite quote comes from crewmate Dixie: “We only have about 19 summers left so; I say stay on the throttle.”



Rosemullion - Nic, Nikki, Tony & Neil

**Rosemullion — Catalina 36 MKII
Tony and Nikki Hutchinson
San Diego / Laguna Nigel (2008)**

Tony, 65, is retired from Global Strategies, which could mean a lot of things, while Nikki is a retired Librarian. Their crew will be sister Nic Wilson, a Marina Secretary; and Neil Wilson, 66, brother-in-law and retired Veterinarian.

“I’m originally from Cornwall,” reports Tony, “where sailing is a big part of life because the beautiful area of South West England has water on three sides.” While Tony is a lifelong sailor, Nikki only started when they met. “It was that or the relationship was, no pun intended, dead in the water,” she reports.

The couple have owned five boats of various sizes to date; four Catalinas and one Ericson. The most unusual thing about *Rosemullion*, which they have owned for two years, is her name. *Rosemullion* is a family-run craft distillery set in the rural Cornish countryside that is being overrun by Londoners.

Nikki was crew on the Catalina 42 *Stargazer* in the ‘08 Ha-Ha and enjoyed “a fantastic experience.” Tony missed out on the fun part but did do the Bash back from Puerto Vallarta.

After the Ha-Ha the couple plan to enjoy the Sea of Cortez, then head across to Riviera Nayarit Marina on Banderas Bay. Their dream destination is “anywhere with clear, warm, aquamarine water, white sand beach, and a lovely sailing breeze.”

The couple’s favorite dessert is anything with crunchy meringue and/or chocolate — with an extra layer of chocolate. While they are happy with their Catalina 36, Nikki reports that Tony turned “a nasty shade of green” upon learning that his brother had just bought an Oyster 53.



Salt Whistle - Rob & Robbie

**Salt Whistle — Catalina 34
Rob Simonds and Dawn Wilson
Richmond / Camino**

Rob, 63, is retired from High Tech Sales, while spouse Dawn is a retired Teacher. Son Robbie Simonds, 26, will be their crew.

Dawn has sailed since she was a kid, racing Lightnings with her dad on Long Island Sound and later on Lake Michigan. Wayne, Dawn’s dad, once won the award for being the oldest participant in that year’s Ha-Ha. Rob only started sailing when he and Dawn got together — it’s a great story — nearly 15 years ago.

“We sail most weekends in the San Francisco Bay,” the couple report, “and have bareboat chartered a half dozen times in the Caribbean. In fact, our *Salt Whistle* is named after the gorgeous bay at Mayreau Island in the Grenadines.

“We’ve owned two boats over the years, not including the two Lasers for sale in our backyard, and bought *Salt Whistle* in 2019. We do have a print of a Jim DeWitt painting of Dawn’s dad sailing under the

Golden Gate in the boat. The original hangs in our house.

“Our longest single passage was from Tortola to Antigua with John Kretschmer, our sailing guru, aboard his boat *Quetzal*.”

Dawn wants to sail the Seychelles while Rob wants to sail to Greece. They’ll have to work that out. No matter where they sail, they’d like to do it aboard a Hylas 46. But the reality is that after the Ha-Ha, they’ll sail the Sea of Cortez for several months.

Both are right-handers, but it’s chocolate for Dawn and Crème Brûlée for Rob. He answers to Simesie, while she responds to Dawnie.

Saty — Cal 2-46 (W)
Dave Talton

San Francisco / Emeryville

Dave, 71, is retired after being both a Mortgage Broker and a Yacht Broker. This will be his first Ha-Ha. His crew will consist of friend Bobbi McElravey, a retired Entrepreneur and 14-year resident of Baja; Larry Jacobson, 67; and Patrik Hendrickson, 54.

“I’ve been sailing San Francisco Bay for nearly 50 years,” reports Dave, “and have chartered all over the Eastern Caribbean and Bahamas. I have a USCG Master Mariner 100-Ton license and am a Coast Guard Auxiliary member and a coxswain.

“I’ve owned two boats in my life, a Pearson 38 and my Cal 2-46 that I bought in 2010. Launched in 1975, she’s from the glory days of Lapworth-designed Cal yachts. Given her age, I’ve done an extensive refit on her. While I’m happy with *Saty*, I’ll take a Hylas 56 if they decide to start giving them away.

“My dad is my sailing hero, and I agree that it’s “better to remain silent and thought a fool than to speak and remove all doubt.”

After the Ha-Ha Dave plans to winter over in the Sea of Cortez, even if it means he won’t be able to find his favorite dessert, Mitchell’s Chocolate Crackle Crunch ice cream.

A left-hander, ‘Capt Dave’s’ dream destinations are the South Pacific and the Philippines.

The word *saty* has several meanings. One is slang for ‘silent all these years’, another is ‘open-mindedness’, while a third is ‘uncontrollable sexual desire’, coming from the Greek word satyriasis. But you knew that. We’re guessing it’s number two.

Scapa Flow — Jeanneau SO 42
Frank Quinn
Santa Cruz / Sunnyvale (2018)

Frank, 59, is a Realtor. His crew will be Bruce Bacon, who is in the High-Tech world; Pat Evans, 60, who is also in High Tech; and Michael Todd, 41.

Frank has been sailing for 20 years, and *Scapa Flow* is his third boat, one he has owned for four years. In addition to skippering her in the 2018 Ha-Ha, he and a crew sailed to Hawaii in 17 days.

Cabo is Frank’s dream destination, and *Scapa Flow* is his dream boat. He likes “everything” for dessert.

After the Ha-Ha Frank will bring his Sun Odyssey back to Santa Cruz.

Scapa Flow is a curious name for a boat. It’s the name of a British Naval Base in Scotland’s Orkney Islands, famous as being the place where the German Navy surprised England’s Royal Navy by scuttling 52 of the 74 German ships held captive there during the final months of World War I. But you knew that.

Seaquester — Beneteau 423
Bill and Cheryl Leone

San Diego / Denver, Colorado

Bill, 65, is an Attorney. He’ll be sailing south with spouse Cheryl, who is Retired; son Corey Smith, 41, a Paralegal; daughter Teresa Leone, 30, a Consultant; and Jacin Steele, 40, a Software Engineer.

“I’ve been sailing for 16 years and have owned three boats, *Seaquester* for the last three years.”

Having done five San Diego to Puerto Vallarta and L.A. to Cabo races, Bill knows the Ha-Ha course well. He’s also a vet of the Newport to Bermuda Race, as well as the 2019 TransPac. Those are a lot of competitive ocean miles under his keel.

The Leones own their dream boat in the 423, and their dream destination is the Galapagos, just 2,081 miles from the Ha-Ha finish in Cabo.

Bill’s heroes are explorers in general, and recommends that people ‘Don’t let the perfect be the enemy of the good’. Chocolate is his favorite treat. That’s no big surprise, as chocolate is the “most craved” treat in the world.

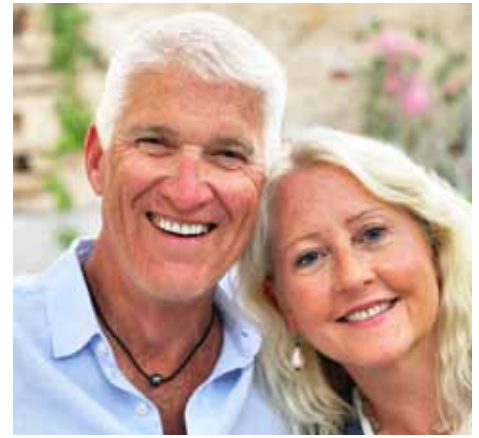
After the Ha-Ha the Leones hope to see some of the Sea of Cortez and possibly continue down to Puerto Vallarta.

SeaWings — Catalina Morgan 440
Brian and Jean Morse

San Francisco / Windsor

Brian, 61, works in Mortgage Banking, while Jean is an RN. Their crew will be sister Linda Bryan, a Dental Assistant; and her husband Norm Bryan, 75, a retired Dentist.

“I’ve been sailing since 1990,” reports Brian, “and we’ve chartered annually throughout the Caribbean as well as three times in French Polynesia and in Croatia. We’ve been sailing San Francisco Bay since 2006, and owned a Catalina 310 from 2006 to 2012. Then we bought *SeaWings*. We’re looking forward to the Ha-Ha and spending



SeaWings - Brian & Jean

the next sailing season in the Sea of Cortez, and thereafter destinations beyond.

“Our dream destinations are anywhere there is warm sun, warm water, and cold drinks.”

Brian and Jean’s favorite quote is, “I know we’re almost there because when we left, we had just enough fuel to get there, and we’re out of fuel.” Spoken, of course, by Capt ‘If it’s gonna happen, it’s gonna happen out there’ Ron.



Second Verse - Jen, Sally, Bill & Mike

Second Verse — Hylas 54
Bill and Sally Andrew
Reno, Nevada / Galway, New York
(2021)

Bill, 65, is retired after spending 30 years ashore working as a Marine Engineer with Chevron Shipping Company. Sally retired from Purchasing at Bechtel Construction in 1986 to be a mom, a professional volunteer, and a dog walker. Both did last year’s Ha-Ha with their crew for this year, Jennifer Cole, a Fiduciary; and Michael Sitts, 64, a Captain.

BAJA HA-HA XXVIII

"My wife and I have been sailing most of our lives," reports Bill. "I grew up racing on San Francisco Bay, and Sally sailed small boats during the summers on a lake in upstate NY. We've owned our Hylas since 2018. After buying her in Vancouver, B.C., we spent two summers cruising the San Juans. Then we did a year on San Francisco Bay, and another year traveling around Southern California before heading to Mexico on the Ha-Ha in 2021. Our Hylas has been great, being both very solid and very fast.

"We've been enjoying retirement since 2018," says Bill, "and had a great time doing the Ha-Ha in 2021. We're looking forward to another fun trip south. After the Ha-Ha in 2021, we used La Paz as a base and explored the Sea of Cortez as far north as Loreto. We enjoyed the islands and sailing with friends that we'd made on the Ha-Ha.

"We did our Bash in late April and had an uneventful but windy voyage north. We had one afternoon of 40-45 knots of wind and rough seas, but the boat held up great and we made it from Cabo to Ensenada in just under five days.

"After the Ha-Ha this year we want to work our way farther north in the Sea, then get over to the mainland, eventually ending up in Banderas Bay."

Bill's favorite dessert is strawberry rhubarb pie with vanilla ice cream, and Sally makes a mean one. Her favorite food is farm-fresh Upstate New York corn on the cob, where the farmers take such pride in the freshness of their corn that they won't sell it to you unless you swear you've already got the water boiling on the stove. We both love being on the water and meeting new friends, so cruising in Mexico has been great."



Serindipity III - Jim & Pat

Serendipity III — Hunter 420 Jim Mason and Patricia Brogan Coronado Cays

Jim, 73, is retired from Finance, spouse Patricia is retired from the Software world. They will have two crew, neither of whom had been identified as of press time.

"We have been sailing together for the last 10 years," the couple report. "Patricia has spent many years racing on Hobie Cats, Santa Cruz 27s, and crewed on the Caribbean 600. Jim spent those years as a general aviation pilot.

"*Serendipity III* is our fourth boat, and we've owned her for two years. We have sailed her from San Diego to San Francisco and back.

"This will be our first Ha-Ha, and we expect to spend several months exploring the Sea of Cortez over the winter. We enjoy traveling to any part of the world."

Shades of Grey - Oceanis 48 Eric Coyle Channel Islands / Eden, UT (2019)

Eric, 47, is an Electrical Contractor in Southern California, unfortunately spouse Katie and the kids, Ethan, 12, and Tyler, 11, won't be making this trip. But they all want to nip a few questions in the bud. "NO, the boat name is NOT 50 Shades of Grey. And NO, she doesn't have a 'pleasure room' down below."

Now that we've got that out of the way, Eric, who has been given the nickname 'MacGyver' for his ability to troubleshoot and fix just about anything with nothing more than a knife and chewing gum, wants to introduce the crew.

First, there is Jeff Hancock, 55, who was crew with Eric in the 2019 Ha-Ha on another boat. "He brings decades of sailing experience, a wicked sense of humor, and an impressive drinking tolerance to the crew." Next, Capt Steve Ferdinando, 54, "whose expertise in sailing in Mexican waters is priceless, and whose incredible dance skills will entertain the crew". Nick Lentini, 54, "has OCD tendencies that will keep everything organized, tidy, and on schedule, but he can also pour a mean cocktail." Last but not least, Sean Debley, 53, "who has been on the water most of his life, and whose fishing skills will hopefully keep the crew happily fed since this bachelor boat will likely only be provisioned with beer and a few cans of beans."

The wives of the entire *Shades of Grey* team lovingly ask the Ha-Ha fleet to keep an eye on these boys. No wonder Katie and sons Ethan and Tyler won't be joining the boat until she gets to Mazatlán. All three have explored the Channel Islands with Eric on *Shades of Grey*. Eric is a long-time boater. He mostly owned power boats until the technical aspects of sailing attracted

his interest 10 years ago.

Eric likes rum and coke for dessert; Jeff likes vodka and diet coke; Nick likes good sipping bourbon; Steve will take anything cold; Sean? Like the rest of them, he'll drink whatever you've got.

After the *Ha-Ha Shades of Grey* will head north to Puerto Escondido to spend some time exploring the islands.



Shoofly - Keith & Linda



Shoofly - Crista & Colin

Shoofly — Barnett Custom 42 Linda & Keith and Crista & Colin San Diego / Sequim, WA & Alameda

Shoofly is co-owned by two couples. Linda Bradford is a Property Manager; her "Squeeze" is Keith Love, a Marine Industry Professional. Crista Goddard is an Entrepreneur; her guy is Colin Taylor, 66, a Consultant.

"Our group has co-owned *Shoofly* for three months. She was broken down when we bought her three months ago. But collectively the four of us have 150 years — yikes! — of experience working on boats, so we took on the challenge of fixing her up in time to do the Ha-Ha.



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BAJA HA-HA XXVIII

"Colin has been sailing the longest, since 1979, and offshore since 1984. *Shoofly* is boat number six for him.

"None of us have done a Ha-Ha before, but collectively we've sailed to Hawaii or back 14 times on various boats, and sailed a lot in Mexico as far south as Manzanillo. After the Ha-Ha we'll keep the boat in Mexico for each couple to use.

"Collectively our dream destination is Mexico aboard the boat we now own."

The group's sailing hero is Ken Read, an East Coaster who is considered one of the world's most accomplished and celebrated sailors. He's won more than 40 World, North American, and National Championships in a variety of classes, been a helmsman in America's Cup campaigns and Around the World Races, and perhaps most famously, been the helmsman on Jim Clark's 100-ft *Comanche* and J Class *Hanuman*.

Strawberry Shortcake is the group's favorite dessert, while 'No drama' is their byword.

Silver Linings — Jeanneau SO 45.2 Mark and Robin LaFevers Channel Islands / Carpinteria (2019, 2021)

Mark, 67, is a Heavy Equipment Mechanic, who has done two Ha-Ha's, while Robin is a Writer. Their crew will be Scott Nordeng, 51, a Sailboat Rigger; and Abigail Convery, a Friend. All are Ha-Ha vets.

"I started sailing in 2016," reports Mark, "and I have owned *Silver Linings*, my only sailboat to date, for three years. I consider my boat as an investment in my love of adventure, surely a concept that isn't unusual in the world of sailing.

"Our longest passages to date have been the 2019 Ha-Ha, and the 2021 Ha-Ha, where we continued on up to La Paz. But our single longest leg was 900 miles offshore from our home port to retrieve a disabled Sailer in June of 2021." The Poobah is going to want to hear more about that.

"After this year's Ha-Ha, we'll head up to Bahía Concepción, spend time in the Loreto area, then return to the Channel Islands in December. We had excellent weather in the same time frame in the Sea last year, with only a few 'duck and cover' days.

"My dream destination is landing where we have more in common with people than we have differences, and do it with *Silver Linings*, my dream boat.

"Horatio Hornblower, the fictitious British sailing officer during the Napoleonic Wars in C.S. Forester's novels, is my sailing hero. It was he, or more accurately Forester, who got me interested in the history of sail through story. He and Popeye

the Sailor Man.

"I'm only left-handed when needed to balance a margarita. I enjoy using my right-handed skills in creative projects both on and off the water. My working career as a heavy equipment mechanic and metals fabricator helped complement my woodworking hobbies to make improvements on various boats over the years. An example would be my solution to converting a dining table into a bed: a push button 12V scissor lift mechanism that's a lot more user-friendly than locking post mechanisms.

"My favorite desserts are Key Lime Pie and peach and berry cobblers."



Sonho - Aaron & Heidi

***Sonho — Tayana Vancouver 42 Aaron and Heidi Stagg and Cody Wood (10) Alameda (2005, 2021)**

Aaron, 58, is a retired Union Electrician. Heidi is the CEO of a Non-Profit and an Event Coordinator as well. She did the 2005 Ha-Ha on *Blind Luck* and both of them did the 2021 Ha-Ha on *Fundango*. Their crew will be father Jim Stagg, 77, a retired Union Electrician; and grandson Cody Wood, a Student of Life.

Aaron and Heidi have known each other since they were four years old, having been introduced to each other by their respective fathers at an Electrician's picnic. They reconnected 41 years later. Within four months of Aaron finding Heidi on Facebook, they moved on to Aaron's dad's Freedom 32, then bought *Sonho* three months later. They were married on Angel Island.

Aaron is an avid racer on the San Francisco Bay scene, while Heidi skips their Wilderness 21, *Slice* on Estuary Beer Can races with an all-women crew. Both have done the San Francisco to Cabo and back

run as crew several times.

They will winter in the Sea of Cortez after the Ha-Ha while they ponder their next destination. Aaron's dream destination is "wherever Heidi wants to go". Heidi is down with that.

Heidi's sailing hero is her dad, John Benson, who was one of several sailors lost at sea during the tragic 1982 Double-handed Farrallon's Race.

"Our favorite quote is our boat's motto: 'Vivo O Sonho.' It means 'Living the Dream' in Portuguese. 'Aaron is a Portagee,' says Heidi. They'd get on fine in St. Barth, where nearly half the population is now Portuguese.

Aaron and Heidi both love ice cream, which they rarely have at home because they don't have a freezer on their boat.

"We can't wait to have three generations onboard for the first leg of our journey to paradise!"

Stainsby Girl — Catalina 470 Garry and Cheryl Dobson San Francisco / Cold Springs ('94, '00, '01, '06, '18, '21)

Garry, 70, is a retired Real Estate Developer and Cheryl a Real Estate Broker. The crew will be Jim Painter, 64, an Engineer; and Karen Miller, an Executive Assistant who crewed on the 2021 Ha-Ha and is a longtime friend from the Stockton Sailing Club.

"I've been sailing for 37 years," reports Jim, "and *Stainsby Girl*, which I purchased in 2005, is my second boat. My wife and I have been together for 14 years, and this will be our second Ha-Ha together. Our longest passage has been San Francisco to San Diego. After the Ha-Ha, we plan to leave the boat in La Paz and use her like a condo.

"Our dream destination has always been my next anchorage. Our feeling is "If you're lucky enough to be doing the Baja Ha-Ha, then you're lucky enough."

Stainsby is located in the county of Derbyshire, East Midlands, three miles southwest of the town of Bolsover, six miles southeast of the major town of Chesterfield, and 126 miles northwest of London.

Stainsby Girl is the name of a hit song by Chris Rea.

*Some girls used to kiss and run
Never knew what they had done
Some girls always wasted time
Keep you hanging on the line
Some loved horses and always stayed at home
But the Stainsby girls loved the Rolling Stones*

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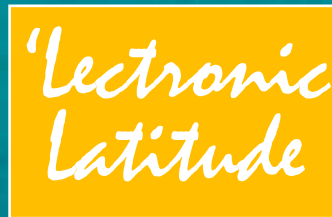
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BAJA HA-HA XXVIII



Swan Fun - Joe

Swan Fun — Nautor Swan 55 Joe Heinzmann Oakland / Concord (2021)

Joe, 52, is a retired Power Engineer. His crew consists of Rob Vellingor of IOD fame; Marine Consultant Paul Kamen, 72, who has done countless races to Hawaii, a number of Ha-Ha's, and will be giving celestial navigation classes in Turtle Bay; Jim Commins an LLNL engineer who can fix anything; Audrey Yen, seamstress extraordinaire and retired project manager from Proctor and Gamble; and Joe's daughter Catie who is an animal whisperer and a sailing novice.

"Swan Fun's crew consists mostly of creative engineers," Joe reports "who will be sailing *Swan Fun* south improvising repairs of all flavors on the way down.

"I started sailing 42 years ago with Hal Nelson, then owner of Nelson's Boatyard, aboard *Axel Heyst* and did the original Pacific Cup with him on that boat." Joe built and restored boats in the 80's before heading to the Cal Maritime Academy to receive his Mechanical and Marine Engineering degrees and Coast Guard certs.

"Hired by GE as a field engineer, I have developed products for critical power systems, Fuel Cell systems, and most lately helping bring the promise of large-scale batteries to utilities in California and around the world."

A bit of ironic history here. Joe's current boat was then called *Andiamo* and owned by the young Tom Harney. In that first Pacific Cup Harney and Nelson, with Heinzmann aboard the latter's boat, had a \$1,000 side bet. The Poobah can't remember who won. The Swan was later owned by Clay Bernard, after his intensive years of racing the Davidson 50 *Great Fun*.

In addition to having owned *Swan Fun*, a 1969 S&S design, for four years, Joe built a Mancebo 25 cat ketch, owned a couple of other sailboats, and restored the

tugboat *GoGetter*. Joe has sailed to Hawaii but has also been to Busan, South Korea and Vladivostok, Russia as part of his Cal Maritime Academy Training.

Joe answers to 'Joker', loves a spinnaker up with a light breeze and a gentle swell says the journey is more important than the destination, and that he's living the dream. Joe loves any dessert with rum, and as he's a "pretty good soft toss softball pitcher", is likely to relieve the Poobah during the Bazeball Game in Turtle Bay.

Joseph Conrad's *Victory* is the source of Joe's favorite quote: "Woe to the man whose heart has not learned while young to hope, to love — and to put its trust in life!"



Talion - Spencer

Talion — Gulfstar 50 Patsy Verhoeven

Portland, OR / La Paz (15 Ha-Ha's)

Patsy, aka 'La Reina del Mar', has been the tireless Assistant Poobah for the last six years. She is in charge of all the communications in addition to handling almost all the details, as the Poobah is a big-picture-only kind of guy.

Patsy is a veteran of the real estate world in Lake Oswego, Oregon, spent some time boatbuilding at Schooner Creek in Portland, and when not working on the Ha-Ha spends time as a webmistress.

Her Ha-Ha crew will include her guy Tim Horne, 64, a veteran Colorado River guide and current employee of the city of Aspen; nephew Elliot Drake, 32, who is in software sales for 8x8 Inc, a communications platform; John Cavanaugh, 70+, Charter Boat Captain at boatsafloat2.com; and picked up from the Baja Ha-Ha/Latitude 38 crew party Santa Barbara surfer dude, Spencer Lyon, 31.

Patsy has done every Ha-Ha since 2007 and is legendary for sailing all the way every year and being able to sail her

45-year-old Gulfstar 50 fast and deep. Not many sailors can do both well at the same time, and it's what much of the Ha-Ha is all about.

"I have owned *Talion* since 2000 when I bought her to replace my Columbia 43 that had blown up in a propane explosion. I've sailed north to Alaska, south to Costa Rica, west to Tahiti, and east up seven locks on the Columbia and Snake Rivers to Lewiston, Idaho.

"I've lived aboard for well over 30 years, and for the past 15 years primarily on the hook in Mexico and Southern California.

"My dream boat would be one that requires no maintenance and one on which nothing breaks. Ha, ha, ha.

"My favorite dessert is red wine with chocolate, and I am left-handed.

"I'm proud to be the Poobah's only employee since he sold *Latitude 38* and married Doña.

"My goal," says La Reina, who frequently singlehands her 50-ft boat, "is to do whatever I can to enable others to enjoy the cruising lifestyle."

Be nice to La Reina, she's doing everything she can possibly do for you.

Teal — Hans Christian 38 (W) Richard Kaeser Vallejo / Benicia

('06, '07, '10, '13, '14, '19, '20, '21)

Richard, 68, is a retired General Contractor. He will be sailing with Erik Kragas, 57, a semi-retired Consultant and Pat Williams, 58, a retired Police Officer who has done seven Ha-Ha's as crew and one as captain.

"I've been sailing for 15 years in the Bay and along the California coast. I've owned two boats. An O'Day 37 for nine years, and *Teal* for six years. There is nothing really unusual about my current boat other than it being a little on the heavy side and having a lot of wood.

I haven't done a Ha-Ha before, and plan to sail up into the Sea of Cortez afterward.

"I have no dream destination or boat. Anyone willing to just get out there and do it is a sailing hero to me. I'm a left-hander who likes the following quote from T.E. Lawrence:

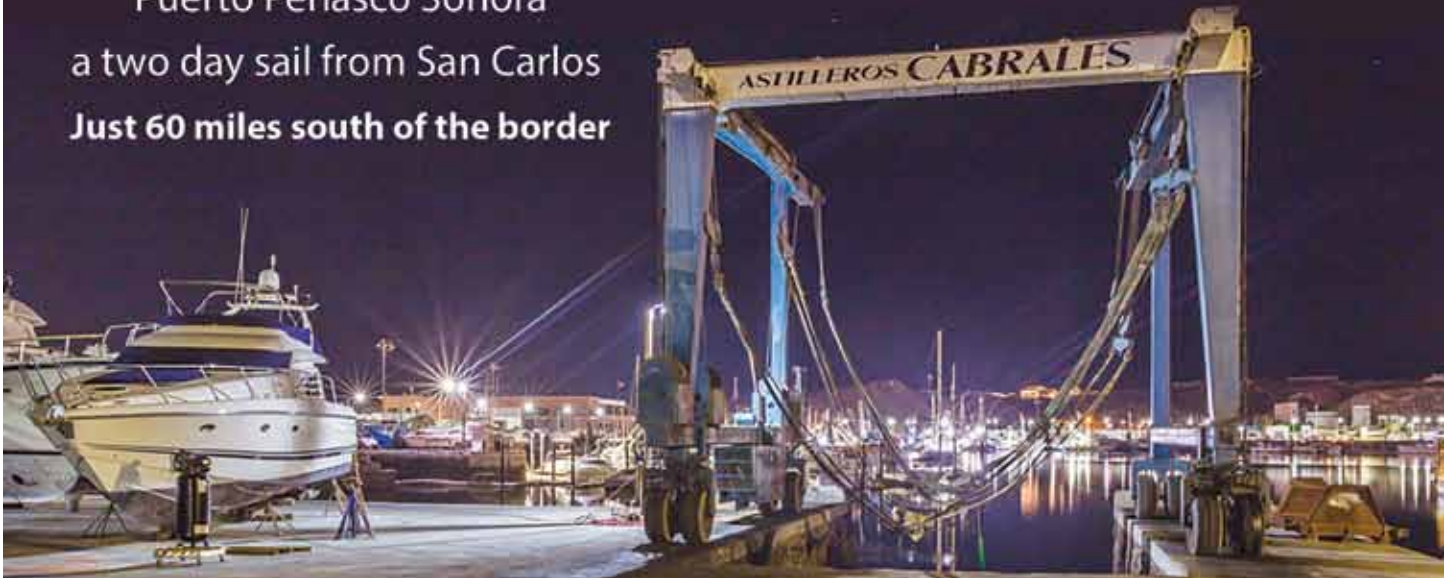
"All men dream; but not equally. Those who dream by night in the dusty recesses of their minds wake in the day to find it was vanity, but the dreamers of the day are dangerous men, for they may act their dreams with open eyes, to make it possible."

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BAJA HA-HA XXVIII

Teaser II — Cal 33 Kirk Utter Seattle, Washington

Kirk, 63, retired from Sales, will be sailing south with Frank Ervolino, 70, a still practicing Physician.

"I've been sailing my entire life," reports Kirk. "In that time, I've owned seven boats, and *Teaser* for the last five years. I've sailed to Hawaii three times and made three delivery trips back to the mainland. I've also done the 1,500-mile trip from Antigua to Rhode Island.

"After the Ha-Ha I plan to cruise Mexico for two or three years, then head to the South Pacific."

"My dream boat would be a big, fast catamaran. Seattle's Bill Buchan is my sailing hero." He won three Star World Championships, and with Steve Erickson took the Gold in the Flying Dutchman class in the L.A. Olympics in 1984.

"Oatmeal raisin cookies are what I like for dessert."

There were two Cal 33 designs. *Teaser* is one of the original Jensen Marine Cal 33s from the early 1970s with the familiar look of the Lapworth-designed Cals. In the mid-'80s, long after the Jensen Marine days, Raymond Hunt did a more modern version. But hey, the original Cal 33 set a class record in the Fort Lauderdale to St. Pete Race of the old SORC. Anybody remember that once great series?

Tempest — Jeanneau 45.2 Owen Provence and Bill McNamara Alamitos Bay / Huntington Beach (2018, 2019)

Owen is retired from her Public Relations business. The name Owen means 'well born' or 'warrior' in Welsh. You probably gotta be a warrior in the PR industry. Bill, 61, is a retired Electrical Engineer who teaches STEM classes to middle schoolers.

Both Owen and Bill are lifetime sailors. Owen has done six Newport to Ensenada races as skipper of all-women boats and is a Staff Commodore of Shoreline YC in Long Beach. Bill is currently Jr. Staff Commodore of the Southern California Yachting Association, Race Committee Timer, 'Voice of the Newport to Ensenada Race', and is a member of ALYC.

Both Owen and Bill are active members of landed clubs: BCYC, SYCLB and Corsair YC, and less active as members of numerous other yacht clubs and yachting associations in the United States and Mexico. Whew! How many hours are in their days?

After retiring, Bill did the 2018 Ha-Ha, while both Owen and Bill both did the 2019 Ha-Ha. "We loved doing the Ha-Ha on our Catalina 355 *Moonlight Lady*," they report. "After the Ha-Ha we cruised up into the Sea of Cortez, planning to Bash in March

of 2020. Oops, Covid! So, we ended up in Southern California and the boat in Mexico for a year.

"Having cruised our 35.5 for three months, we realized that 'we're gonna need a bigger boat'. So, we bought *Tempest* in 2021 and have been getting her ready for this year's adventures, the highlight of which will be the Ha-Ha. We'll spend the season in Mexico, then either Bash back or find a place in Mexico."



Tenacious - Alec

Tenacious — Beneteau 44 Alec Charters San Diego / Ogden, Utah

Alec, 57, is a Dietary Supplements Manufacturer. He will have three crew: Brian Bales, 66, a retired Electrical Contractor; Andrew Parker, age and occupation unknown; John Saboll, 66, an Engineer of Some Sort.

Alec has been sailing for 30 years, during which time he's owned three 'Charters' boats. He's owned *Tenacious* for six years. The red boat should be easy to spot on the mostly downwind Ha-Ha, as she carries a custom Superman spinnaker. Alec's longest passage to date has been 145 miles, so the Ha-Ha will be a big step up. After the Ha-Ha, his plans are to spend a few days in the Sea of Cortez, then return north to San Diego.

The South Pacific is the dream destination of many Ha-Ha participants, including Alec. But he's the only one who sees a Club Swan 50 as a dream boat.

Alec doesn't really have a sailing hero, but he enjoys seeing that sailing legend Dennis Conner is still racing and on the water around San Diego.

'FITFO' — figure it f—k out — is his favorite quote. The right-hander loves ice cream and goes by Alec rather than his legal name, Alexander Crane Charters IV.

The last line of Alec's entry form came

as a shock: "My dad, who inspired me to live large, died today. The Ha-Ha will be a memorial to him."



The Irish Rose - Derek & Rachael

The Irish Rose — Catalina 34 (W) Derek Ohlson San Diego / Chula Vista

Derek, 24, is both a Marine Mechanic and the youngest entry in the Ha-Ha. His crew will be friend Rachel Mirth; and Bill Ohlson, who is "family".

Derek reports he's been sailing since "childhood", and has owned two boats, *The Irish Rose* for the last three years. He says the most unusual thing about her is that "I'm aboard".

His longest passage to date has been two days. After the Ha-Ha the right-hander plans to continue cruising in the Sea of Cortez.



Thursdays Child - Ray & Debbie

Thursday's Child — Outbound 46 The Ray and Debbie Torok Family San Francisco / Los Altos (2018)

Ray, 71, is a retired Engineer; Debbie is a Programmer; son Garrett, 32, is an Engi-

CRUISIN' TO THE CAPE

neer; and daughter Dana, 31, is a Teacher. All are vets of the 2018 Ha-Ha.

"I raced dinghies — OKs, 505s, Fireballs, etc. — from 1967 to 1984," reports Ray, "and from 1980 to 1982 was a partner in a Traveller 32 cruising boat. We sailed her from Hawaii to San Francisco in 23 days, my longest passage so far. When I married Debbie in 1984, we swapped dinghies for a Cal 20. From 1986 to 1988 we cruised the Med on a Maxi 95, which is a 32-footer.

"In 1990 we switched to El Toros and kids' soccer games. With the kids growing up, we started sailing keel boats again. We bought *Thira* a Catalina 38 that we sailed in the 2018 Baja Ha-Ha. Getting older and wanting more creature comforts, we moved up to our Outbound 46 when we returned home. Now that Debbie and I are retired, we're heading to Mexico and beyond. Maybe Fiji.

"The 505 has been my favorite boat, and Paul Elvstrom is my sailing hero for having won world championships in seven different boat classes. I like mocha almond fudge ice cream and the quote by Harry Selden: "Violence is the last refuge of the incompetent."

Who? Seldon is a mathematics professor at Streeling University on the planet Trantor and develops psychohistory, an algorithmic science that allows him to predict the future in probabilistic terms.



Tiamat - Stephanie & Owen

*****Tiamat — FP Orana 44 Cat
Owen, & Stephanie Anderson with
Olivia (8), Archer (5) and Elena (9)
San Francisco / San Jose**

Owen, just 35, is a Software Engineer, as are so many of the young cruisers these days. Stephanie is also an Engineer. A Domestic Engineer, one of life's most important but least appreciated careers. Offspring Olivia and Archer are Students of Life.

The Anderson family has signed on two crew. Nine-year-old Elena Elliott and dad Adam, 41. Both are Bay area sailors. Elena loves the sun, swimming, fishing, and adventure. Lemurs are her favorite animal. Dad likes sashimi, killer tacos, and is looking forward to a fun run south. Wait, one more crew on the big cat, Sandy Lazzari, a long-time Bay sailor.

The Anderson family has been sailing *Tiamat*, which has already done a circumnavigation, around San Francisco Bay since buying her in 2018. In addition, they've been refitting the cat, practicing home-schooling, and generally have been working toward the dream of "sailing away to a tropical location in pursuit of a grand family adventure". They plan to spend at least a year in Mexico, then hopefully continue on to the South Pacific, their dream destination.

The family's favorite quote is, "You can't direct the wind, but you can adjust your sails" — as read by Leonard Nimoy in the game *Civilization 4*.

Owen is hoping to make Ha-Ha history as the first concertina player to make the voyage. He's been practicing his sea shanties, so guard your ears!

Tiamat is a primordial Goddess of the Sea in Mesopotamian religion, who mates with Abzu, God of Groundwater, to produce younger gods. Mesopotamia is a historical region of Western Asia situated within the Tigris-Euphrates River system in the northern part of the Fertile Crescent. Some of the major Mesopotamian civilizations include the Sumerian, Assyrian, Akkadian, and Babylonian. Evidence shows extensive use of technology, literature, legal codes, philosophy, religion, and architecture in these societies. But you knew that already.

**Touché — Jeanneau 42DS
Pip and Jill Ziman
Alameda / Fremont (2001)**

Pip, 58, is a retired Human Relations Leader who did his last Ha-Ha 21 years ago. Jill is a retired Jewish Temple Administrator. Pip has been sailing since he was five, while Jill began when she met Pip at age 19. The couple will have two crew, and there's a story behind it.

"Forty-five years ago, Pip worked at Oljato, the Boy Scout Camp on beautiful Huntington Lake. The camp staff in the late '70s bonded over what, judged by today's standards, would be totally appropriate behavior. Nonetheless, the core group of over 20 guys has continued to meet up for three to four camping trips a year. Over the years fellow staff members started families and have had shockingly successful careers. We've grown closer and found even more time for each other's families as we become empty-nesters and start to retire.



Touché - Jill & Pip

"Two of my fellow Eagle Scout camp staff sailing friends, Dave Christofferson from Bend, a former Thistle owner, and Steve Dickson, 62, from Bellevue, a former Banshee owner, will be joining us on the Ha-Ha. Jill is perfectly comfortable with Dave and Steve on the boat, as over the years she has learned to appreciate their smart and fun-loving spirits."

After retiring from a tech career three years ago, Pip got his captain's license and started teaching sailing at Club Nautique and running charter boats. "I tell my passengers and students that I'm done trying to make money, now I want to make memories."

Jill's best quote. "I did everything but teach and preach."

Pip's best quote: "You can "change" the people or you can "change" the people" The Poobah is confused.

"While Jill and I are planning on spending the winter in Mexico," says Pip, "we need to fly back in December as our daughter is going to have a baby."



Tranquility - Beth & Tim

**Tranquility — Hunter 41 (W)
Tim Watkins
Chula Vista / San Diego**

Tim, 61, is retired from Aviation Security. His crew will be Beth Leatherman, a Flight

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Attendant; brother Melvin Watkins, 64, retired from the U.S. Army; and Lorilee Cadwell, a Flight attendant.

Tim has been sailing for six years, during which time he's owned *Tranquility*, his only boat to date. His longest sail has been from Los Angeles to San Diego.

While he'll stay in the Sea of Cortez for the season, his dream destination is the Med with a Leopard 50 catamaran. He answers to 'Skipper'.

Tritium — Customized Orma 60 (W) Scott and Vidi Rhoads USVI / St. Petersburg, FL

Scott, 57, is the Director of the Ultimate Adventure Academy. Vidi is an attorney. Their crew will be Sage Epic, a 29-year-old male Consultant; and Ian Moore, 17, a Student of Life. But there may be more crew, for as Scott wrote: "A couple of others may join us as we are open to friendly pick-up crew. We have a large vessel and room for cool folks that add flavor without turning the flavor bitter."

"Vidi and I have been sailing together for 10 years around Hawaii, the Caribbean, California and the Med," reports Capt. Scott. "I have been a professional sailor/educator for nearly 30 years. With the school, we have owned over 250 boats all over the world that range from Lightnings and Windmills, that we build at the Academy, to a 110-foot schooner and everything in between.

"We've owned *Tritium* for six months. First launched about 35 years ago as an ORMA 60, and constantly upgraded and lengthened by 12 feet, she is one of the fastest boats in the world. She was built to smash world records and did so before becoming a test boat for the America's Cup with foils for flying the hulls. But we're not using them. *Tritium* is a carbon fiber monster. Even the spokes on the wheel are carbon fiber.

"I have lost track of all of my sea miles," continues Scott. "I stopped counting them after it reached a point that most folks couldn't believe them anymore anyway. This will be our first Ha-Ha, although I have wanted to do one since the first. Alas, the challenges of running the school have conflicted every year until this year. We are excited to come play!

"We are going to explore the Sea of Cortez after the Ha-Ha and then head for the Caribbean. My dream destination is always the next one. We have sailed all over the world and have loved almost everywhere.

"We are excited to pick up a boat that is being donated to our school in New Zealand, and then push her against the breeze to Fiji, Tahiti and then Hawaii. Our next big boat, which has been my dream

boat all along, is a square rigger. I can't disclose any details until the paperwork is done.

"My dog is my sailing hero. What a trooper! Nobody comes aboard without a burger for him.

"My wife makes the meanest tiramisu on the darn planet. If someone has a bigger fridge than we do — everyone does — I will talk her into making it for us. Such goodness. It will ruin you for all other tiramisus.

"I'm only left-handed when hanging onto a line being pulled behind the boat holding the watermelon in my right hand," says Scott. "By the way, I'm actually not that friendly, but my wife Vidi makes up for it by far, so everyone will be okay."



Truly - Scott & Cindy

Truly — Nordhavn 40 M/Y Scott and Cindy Smith Astoria, OR / Ontario, OR (2014)

Scott, 63, a retired Sales Manager, and Cindy, a Rural Mail Carrier, did the 2014 Ha-Ha as co-skippers. Marshall Peabody, 60, retired from Sales, and also a vet of the '14 Ha-Ha, will be their crew.

"We've been sailing and boating full time since 2013, and did the '14 Ha-Ha with *Velvet Sky* our Island Packet 38 — and our then four-year-old grandson. We purchased *Truly* in February of this year and are ready to go again. But this time we'll stay in Central America for the season, then transit the Panama Canal in order to start the Great American Loop the next year."

What's the Great American Loop? In no particular order, it's the Intracoastal Waterway, the Chesapeake Bay, the C&D Canal, the Atlantic Ocean from Cape May to New York Harbor, the Hudson River, the Erie Canal, the Oswego Canal or Lake Erie, Lake Ontario, the Trent-Severn Canal, Georgian Bay, Lake Michigan,

the Illinois River, the Mississippi River, the Ohio River, the Tennessee River, the Ten-Tom Waterway, Mobile Bay, the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, and the Okeechobee Waterway. The whole thing is between 5,250 and 6,000 miles and can be done as quickly as two months or as long as forever.

The couple's favorite dessert is cherry pie, and their dream destination would be the rivers and canals of Europe with a Nordhavn 47 — although that design's air draught would limit some of the places they could go, such as the Ardennes Canal and the Canal du Midi.

Uki Waza — Beneteau 47.7 First David Bothell San Diego

David, 64, is a retired Mechanical Engineer. He will be sailing with his sister Pam Mayo, a retired Accountant; Pat "Woody" Wiodarczyk, 61, an IT manager; Julie Wiodarczyk, retired from the U.S. Navy; Barby Valentine and Stan Valentine, 60 a retired Audit Manager.

Uki Waza — the name comes from one of the original Judo 'throws' developed by Jigoro Kano — is David's first boat. She was designed by Bruce Farr and built in 2002. David bought her in 2020 in Seattle and moved her to San Diego. His longest sail with her so far has been the Coronado Islands, but back in 1982, he was the First Mate on a corporate yacht that made the trip from Seattle to Cabo San Lucas and back to Seattle again.

'DB' says his goal is to "get off the dock and go sailing", although in his dreams he'd do it aboard an Oyster 54.

'Pay attention and try to keep up' is the right-hander's favorite quote.

Vanadium — Beneteau 41.1 (W) Michael Brost and Catherine Brown Newport Harbor / Anaheim Hills

Michael, 62, is in IT Tech Sales, while spouse Catherine is retired after a career of being Self-Employed.

Having been sailing since his teens, Michael is skilled, Catherine only started sailing in 2018 when she met Michael. So, she's still learning.

The couple purchased *Vanadium*, their first boat, in late 2018 and have it in the Sail Time program out of Newport Harbor.

"We have sailed to Catalina many times and twice to the Channel Islands, but this will be our first Ha-Ha," report the couple. "We're very excited, as this will be a test trip for us. If all goes well, we plan to buy a larger catamaran and join the Pacific Puddle Jump fleet to the South Pacific in 2024.



Vanadium - Michael & Catherine

"Fiji is our dream destination, and our dream boat getting there would be a McConaghy 55 catamaran that is as luxurious as it is fast.

"Neither of us our left-handed, but we like dark chocolate and cherry pie for dessert. Captain Frank Worsley, Shackleton's captain, is our sailing hero.

"We both love adventure, travel, sports — and each other. Mike's nickname is Broda, a hybrid of Brost + Yoda. Catherine was nicknamed Kittie by her family."

Vanadium? It's a hard, silvery-grey, malleable transition metal chemical element with the symbol V and an atomic number of 23. It's used in nuclear power plants, but is also essential in humans, although only in tiny amounts. But you knew that, didn't you?



Venture - Michael

**Venture — Jeanneau SO 49
Michael Chobotov
San Diego / Carlsbad**

Michael, 61, is a retired Engineer — in

aerospace, electric and hybrid vehicles, and medical devices. "I spent a long time learning to be an engineer and now don't know how not to be one." He's also an Entrepreneur who loves watersports, boats, cars, cycling, and wine.

His crew will be brother-in-law Alan Beaulaurier, 66, who is a retired Pilot; Eric Brown, also a brother-in-law, who is a retired General Contractor; and Craig Urasaki, 64, occupation Unknown.

Michael has been sailing on and off for 50 years, and consistently for the last 20 years. He's owned three boats, including *Venture* for the last 17 years. What's special about her? "She's my well-loved dream boat. When I'm not sailing her, I often dream of sailing her.

"My dream destinations are anywhere downwind, warm, with following seas, such as Cabo San Lucas and a Pacific Cup I did to Hawaii. But to me, it's more about the sailing than the destination.

"Experience is what you get when you don't get what you want," is his favorite quote. Sounds like something an engineer and entrepreneur would say.

"Dark chocolate gelato, with a chocolate topping if the flavor isn't intense enough, is my favorite dessert. I believe in contingencies."

Michael has a "deep respect for sea creatures, wildlife, and animals of all kinds." He was also in the garage band Hojo and the Blowhards while in college.

**Viva — Amel Super Maramu 52
Pierre Blouin and Marie-Josée Dion
Portland, Oregon**

Pierre, 55, is a retired Engineer, while spouse Marie-Josée is a retired Pharmacist. They will doublehand the 52-ft ketch. The couple's first date was on a sailboat, and they've never looked back.

"I've been sailing for over 40 years, starting with dinghies as a child," reports Pierre. "I moved up to a small monohull in the 1980s, and for the last 20 years have been doing charters in various places around the world. We've owned three boats: a Tanzer 22, a Jeanneau 36i, and our current boat, the Amel Maramu 52, which we've had for the last two years."

Amel, based out of La Rochelle, France, is a storied name in yacht building. Founded in 1964 by Henri Amel, they were innovators in the use of fiberglass. Unlike Beneteau or Jeanneau, Amel didn't introduce a lot of new models. Indeed, the Amel Maramu and Super Maramu, which became ubiquitous in the world of sailing, remained largely unchanged for many years. But thanks to a sheltered center cockpit, powered sail controls, a ketch rig, and a unique setup for sailing wing-on-wing, they had a near cult following. Their

boats are "proudly 100% French.

Pierre and Marie-Josée's dream destination is the islands of the South Pacific, which they'd like to see from the decks of their dream boat, which they already own. They don't have any sailing heroes but have great respect for French Oceanographer Jacques Cousteau.

"You only get one life to live," they say, so they'd like carrot cake for dessert. Their longest passage to date has been two days, so the Ha-Ha will be a move up. They intend to cruise Mexico into next year.

**Voyager — Hylas 54
Ed Lecco and Liz Barsell
Alameda / Danville (2021)**

Ed, 59, is a retired Navy P3 Flight Engineer. The Poobah bets he's got some stories to tell, as he "spent 10 years flying all over the Pacific and Asia on P3s during my naval career." He later worked for several enterprise software companies.

Liz is an Estate Attorney who is fairly new to sailing, but has taken some courses, loves going out on the Encinal YC cruises, and is super excited about doing the Ha-Ha. In fact, Ed and Liz are already planning to do the 2023 Ha-Ha, followed by a cruise to South America and beyond.

Their crew will be Mike Plowman from Hawaii and Edward Starr, 51, who is in Software Sales and is planning to do the next Ha-Ha with his own boat. Edward wants everyone to know that he plays guitar, bass, and drums. Anybody want to jam?

Ed bought *Voyager* earlier this year and sailed her down to the Bay Area from Seattle. He has sailed for 30 years and used to own a Hobie 16 that he sailed daily off Ewa Beach, Hawaii, before moving up to a Catalina 380 partnership and then on to two additional boats. After the Ha-Ha his plans are "to continue on to Puerto Vallarta and sail Mexico."

Ed's dream destination is Thailand, his dream boat a Hylas 70. John Paul Jones, who was born in poverty but became the so-called 'Father of the American Navy', is Ed's sailing hero. JPJ had a great quote: "I wish to have no connection with a ship that doesn't sail well, for I intend to go into harm's way." But Ed prefers the quip from Admiral Bull Halsey: "Don't be afraid to step on anyone's toes. If they were moving, they wouldn't get stepped on."

Mint chip ice cream is Ed's go-to dessert.

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Wanderer - Ingrid & Andrew

Wanderer — Beneteau Oceanis 41.1 Andrew and Ingrid Casey Seattle, Washington

Andrew, 50, is a Construction Project Manager, while Ingrid is a Technical Writer. They will doublehand.

"I'm 'Drew', and I started my sailing career in my preteen years purposefully capsizing a Sunfish because it was fun. I grew up racing with my family on a Baltic 35, and after that did some collegiate racing. Ingrid and I have finally realized our dream of owning our first boat, and it's been four months since we moved aboard. Getting to the Ha-Ha start from Seattle will be our longest passage before the start of the Ha-Ha. After the Ha-Ha we plan to explore the Sea of Cortez, and then head to the Bahamas via the Panama Canal.

"Our dream is to eventually do a Pacific crossing and meet other adventurers. If we win the lottery, it'll be aboard a Beneteau 51.1.

"Our current favorite quote is 'Feel the fear, and do it anyway.'" It's what launched us from dreamers to doers."

Wanuskewin — CS36 Michael Terides

Maple Bay, B.C. / Victoria, B.C.

Captain Michael Terides, 66, is a retired Chiropractor. His crew will be Kevin White, 60, a Small Business Owner; and Roberta Barolat.

"I started sailing at age 20 aboard a 46-ft steel ketch on Australia's Great Barrier Reef," reports Michael. "I spent four months as First Mate doing local charters while living aboard. Too many years later, after several power boats, I bought my first sailboat. I'm on my second sailboat now, and I've had my current boat for five years, so I've been consistently sailing the past 12 years. *Wanuskewin* is the first CS36T I've seen with a hardtop dodger, so that's what's unusual about her.



Wanuskewin - Mike

"I've never done a Ha-Ha but am looking forward to the experience. My longest passage to date has been circumnavigating Vancouver Island, which is approximately 800 nm, with Kevin. My current post-Ha-Ha plan is to explore the Sea of Cortez and the Pacific Coast, although my dream destination would be the South Pacific Islands. What's my dream boat to do it on? An Oyster 49.

"Kevin, my crew, owns both a Columbia 39 center-cockpit and a Hunter 30. He and his family cruised the Sea of Cortez in 2012 with the Hunter 30.

"I don't have a sailing hero, but I do have a favorite quote. 'Hindsight it's kinda like foresight but without a future'. I do have a favorite dessert: Creme Brûlée."

Wanuskewin is an archaeological site and non-profit cultural and historical center of the First Nations just outside the city of Saskatoon. But you knew that.

Way Mari — Westsail 42 (W) Jim Picerno Alameda / Union City

Jim, 70, is a retired IT Director. His crew will be Robert Mills, 74, who is retired from the "VP Service", Marc Osterhaus, 59, and Zachary Smith, 58.

The left-hander has been sailing for 12 years and has had *Way Mari*, his first boat, for 4 years. This will be Jim's first Baja Ha-Ha but his longest passage was from Florida to Maryland.

After the Ha-Ha he plans to cruise the Sea of Cortez while his thoughts will be on his dream destination, Rarotonga.

Jim's sailing hero is Eric Forsyth who circumnavigated twice among other accomplishments in his Westsail 42, *Fiona*.



Wild Grace

Wild Grace — Hunter 356 John Santon Dana Point / Vista

John, 64, retired from Engineering, like so many of the other Ha-Ha boat owners. John's crew will be Mark Giraud, 72; Shawn Knight, 58, who is retired from Medical Sales; and Woody Sutherland, 68, a retired Oceanographer. "I found my crew on the Ha-Ha Crew List," says John.

"I started sailing ocean-going sailboats in 2007 with a MacGregor 26 on a trailer," reports John. "After the financial crisis of 2008 a lot of boats moved out of Dana Point, so I put my name on the waiting list for both a 30 and a 35-ft slip. After a few years, I got a 30-ft slip and graduated to a Hunter 30. After a few more years, I decided to go on the Ha-Ha. But I really wanted to wait until I had a bigger slip and bigger boat. As it turned out, while I was preparing *Pure Grace* my Hunter 30 for the 2017 Ha-Ha I got a notice that I was on the top of the list for a 35-ft slip. So, I bowed out of the Ha-Ha and bought my Hunter 356.

"I registered for the Ha-Ha again in 2021, but three weeks before the start I fell and dislocated my shoulder. This year it's going to be the charm!"

"My longest passage to date was bringing my 356 down from San Francisco to San Diego in 2018. But I've cruised all five of the Channel Islands. And I've done the Newport to Ensenada Race a few times.

"I plan to get a slip in La Paz after the Ha-Ha and 'commuter cruise' over the winter. I'll be taking *Wild Grace* back north in May of 2023. But I always remember, "Wherever you go, there you are!"

****Wilder — Beneteau Oceanis 45 Josh Grillo, Natasha Risovanna, Jadson (10) and Maxim (8) San Diego**

Josh, 47, owns the National Branding & Digital Marketing Agency, which he runs

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Wilder - Josh & Natasha



Willow - Marin, Mae & Rose

from home. Spouse Natasha is not retired from her 'occupation' as mother and homemaker. Their crew will be offspring Jadson Grillo, a Student of Life, and Maxim Grillo, also a Student of Life. Fin, a black lab puppy, will round out the crew.

"Originally from southern Maryland, I learned to surf in North Carolina and moved to San Diego in 2000 to chase waves," reports Josh. "My family always had boats, so once I found Natasha, a partner in life who loves being on a boat, our sailing journey got started. We began with a Catalina 25, then a Beneteau Oceanis 35, and now have our Beneteau Oceanis 45.

"Natasha is from Kiev, Ukraine, and has lived in San Diego for over 24 years. We met at Coronado Dog Beach almost 15 years ago, and the rest is history. We love sailing around San Diego, the Coronado Islands, and to Catalina.

"I'm into surfing, sailing and fishing. Our sons are into those three as well as treasure hunting, reading books, diving, and playing in the sand. They most look forward to being out of the classroom this school year. Fin, our black lab, isn't quite a year old and is obsessed with swimming. He's a great companion on our boat.

"I'm left-handed and my dream boat is a Privilege 580 catamaran. If you see us out sailing, we'll be the ones with two poles in the water. We landed a 70-pound bluefin tuna while sailing back from Catalina last year."

*****Willow — Cal 2-46**

**Brian, Carolyn, Marin (9), Mae (8), and Rose (6) Kelley
Santa Cruz / Bucerias, Mexico**

Brian, 35, is a Product Manager, while Carolyn, 35, is a photographer. Their three children, who are Students of Life, will also be along. They are Marin, Mae, and Rose. Crewing for them will be Michael Murray,

36, an IT Professional; as well as Brendan Duggan, 35; and Ben Homnick, 36.

Brian has been sailing since 2005 and Carolyn since 2018. The couple bought *Willow*, their first boat, in 2018 and have been refitting her ever since. Their three children have been sailing most of their lives, and have been taking lessons at the Vallarta YC.

This will be their first time doing the Ha-Ha. They'd planned on doing it last year, but "an unfortunate accident involving an out-of-control powerboat and a five-figure repair bill" got in the way.

Brian and Marin have completed several coastal passages from the Santa Cruz area to the Santa Barbara, LA, and San Diego areas. After the Ha-Ha, the family plans to continue on to Puerto Vallarta, where they have been living part-time since 2019.

"Our dream destination is West Africa," the couple says, "where we met while studying abroad in college. Carolyn is the only lefty out of the five of us.

"Fun fact: Our kids only know how to sail in Spanish, due to the fact that their instruction has been done at the Vallarta YC."

Bucerias is between Nuevo Vallarta and La Cruz on Banderas Bay. It's where the Poobah got his first new hip, and where he'll get his second new hip just five weeks before the start of this year's Ha-Ha.

Zeus — Beneteau Sense 43 (W)

Paul Lauher

Alameda (2006, 2008)

Paul, 60, is an Attorney who did the 2006 and 2008 Ha-Ha's as crew. His crew will be Oscar Reyes, 31 who is in Operations/Purchasing/Logistics and Strategic Planning at Antibody Solutions and Roberto Fortes, 63.

"I've owned sailboats for the last 15 years," advises Paul, "but have sailed and raced all my life. My prior boat was a C&C 38, which I somehow managed to live on. *Zeus* is a more modern boat equipped with refrigeration, diesel heat, and other comforts. My prior Ha-Ha's were aboard the J/Boat that was hit and sunk by a whale in the 2009 Ha-Ha.

"A lifelong weather nerd, I served as part of the Hurricane Hunters in the US Air Force, flying C-130s into tropical storms and hurricanes. And yes, it was exciting! The best part of that was I got to spend lots of time based out of Antigua and Hawaii, as they are close to where the hurricanes are a threat.

"After the Ha-Ha I'm planning on spending some quality time in the Sea of Cortez thanks to Starlink's new roaming policy".



Zeus - Oscar, Paul & Manny

Latitude 38

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BAJA HA-HA XXVIII - ENTRIES BY DIVISION

Please note: This list was provisional several days before the Rally.
The Rally Committee reserves the right to make Division changes prior to, and even after, the November 1 start.

AGAVE DIVISION - MONOHULLS - WHITE SAILS ONLY

Amatheia	Downeast 32	Scott Maxwell & Linden Lampman	Olympia, WA
Bseachamp	Island Packet 35	Dean Porter & Susan Hill	Portland, OR / Toronto, Ontario
Golden Heart	Island Packet 35	Stephen Skogerson	Brisbane / San Francisco
Antares	Rafiki 37	Jeff & Mary Liz Houseman	San Rafael / Carmel
Big Baby	Hans Christian 38 MKII	Chet Moody & Lynn McDaniel	Anacortes, WA
Teal	Hans Christian 38	Richard Kaeser	Vallejo / Benicia

BURRITO DIVISION - MONOHULLS - WHITE SAILS ONLY

The Irish Rose	Catalina 34	Derek Ohlson	San Diego / Chula Vista
Habibi	Gulfstar 37	Hank & Su Kraus	Oceanside / Valley Center
No Ties	Jeanneau SO 39	Josh & Tonia Feinstein	Vashon, WA
Island Nomad	Pacific Seacraft 40	Francis Riegler	Channel Islands / Malibu
Vanadium	Beneteau 41.1	Michael Brost & Catherine Brown	Newport Harbor / Anaheim Hills
Tranquility	Hunter 41	Tim Watkins	Chula Vista / San Diego
Fidelis	Tartan 41	Kenneth Brown	San Diego / Redlands, CA

CEVICHE DIVISION - MONOHULLS - WHITE SAILS ONLY

Zeus	Beneteau Sense 43	Paul Lauher	Alameda
Jedi	Beneteau First 435	Bryan & Alicia Souza	San Francisco / Hilmar
Ohana	Beneteau 440	Jeff & Sarah Orgill	Long Beach / Santa Monica
Saty	Cal 2-46	Dave Talton	San Francisco / Emeryville
Beso Del Mar	Hunter 46	Daniel Brock	Richmond YC / Sacramento
Moon Child	Vagabond 47	Arturo Kabona	Aloha, OR / Bellingham, WA
Big Fish	Beneteau Oceanis 47.3	Ron & Carol Pierce	Marina del Rey / Paradise
Jan	Hallberg-Rassy 48 MKII	Giorgio & Jan Aru	Jackson, MS

DESPERADO DIVISION - MONOHULLS - WITH SPINNAKER

Akela	Bristol Channel Cutter 28	Joel Stone	Newport Beach / June Lake
Teaser II	Cal 33	Kirk Utter	Seattle, WA
Salt Whistle	Catalina 34	Rob Simonds & Dawn Wilson	Richmond / Camino
Wild Grace	Hunter 356	John Santon	Dana Point / Vista
Rosemullion	Catalina 36 MKII	Tony & Nikki Hutchinson	San Diego / Laguna Niguel
OutRun	Ericson 36C	Shane Engelman	Berkeley
Evening Sky	Freedom 36	Joe & Jen Ruddy	Charlevoix, MI
Wanuskewin	CS 36	Michael Terides	Maple Bay, BC / Victoria, BC
Good Times!	Beneteau 37	Tom Luneau & John McGee	San Diego
Dolfin	Crealock 37	Bill & Patty Meanley	San Diego / Pacific Beach

ENCHILADA DIVISION - MONOHULLS - WITH SPINNAKER

Halcyon	Hans Christian 38	Lillyin Love & Richard Weber	Los Angeles / Lancaster
First Light	Island Packet 380	Michael & Cindy Reese	Portland, OR
Rachel Lynn	Fairweather M 39	Robert Feld	Billings, MT
Way Mari	Westsail 42	Jim Picerno	Alameda / Union City
Dakota II	Bayfield 40	Dave & Karen Richards	Vancouver, BC / Victoria, BC
Andante	Hans Christian 40	Mack Thomas & Amber Scott	Long Beach
Delaware Girl	Norseman 400	Charlie & Wendy Wyatt	Oceanside
Dream	Sceptre 41	RB Ward & Susan McArthur	Richmond YC / Point Richmond
Sonho	Tayana Vancouver 42	Aaron & Heidi Stagg	Alameda
Willow	Cal 2-46	Brian & Carolyn Kelley	Santa Cruz / Bucerias

FRIOLE DIVISION - MONOHULLS - WITH SPINNAKER

Josie	Dehler 39	David & Jo Sandry (sister)	Sausalito / Santa Cruz
Escapade	Sabre 40-2	Nick Sands & Renee Linde	Sausalito
Wanderer	Beneteau Oceanis 41.1	Andrew & Ingrid Casey	Seattle, WA
Felicità	Catalina 42	Gretchen Hartke Haines & Tim Haines	San Diego / Eagle River, WI
Serendipity III	Hunter 420	Jim Mason & Pat Brogan	Coronado Cays
Passing Wind	Hunter Passage 42	Shawn & Jennifer Goit	Oceanside
Folie a Deux	Jeanneau 42 DS	George & Ellen Slater	San Francisco / Danville
Scapa Flow	Jeanneau SO 42	Frank Quinn	Santa Cruz / Sunnyvale
Pelerin	Ovni 435	Mike & Shirley Hiscock	Lunenburg / Victoria, BC

BAJA HA-HA XXVIII - ENTRIES BY DIVISION

Please note: This list was provisional several days before the Rally.
The Rally Committee reserves the right to make Division changes prior to, and even after, the November 1 start.

GUACAMOLE DIVISION - MONOHULLS - WITH SPINNAKER

Resolute	J/122	Scott & Nancy Wildman	Long Beach / Palos Verdes
Kokopelli	Santa Cruz 40	Kevin Rooney & Rachael Spencer	Santa Cruz / Davenport
Azure	Cal 40	Rodney & Jane Pimentel	Alameda
Shoofly	Barnett Offshore 42	Linda & Keith and Crista & Colin	San Diego / Sequim, WA & Alameda
Touché	Jeanneau SO 42 DS	Pip & Jill Ziman	Alameda / Fremont
Seaquester	Beneteau 423	Bill & Cheryl Leone	San Diego / Denver, CO
August Dream	Jeanneau 43	Jared, Jason, Alyssa & Corey	Long Beach / Chandler, AZ / Boise
SeaWings	Catalina Morgan 440	Brian & Jean Morse	San Francisco / Windsor
Island Summers	Jeanneau SO 440	Kevin & Beverly Summers	Stanwood, WA
A Cat's Paw	Jeanneau SO DS 44	Bernie Ross	Vancouver, BC

HUEVOS RANCHEROS DIVISION - MONOHULLS - WITH SPINNAKER

Imagine	Davidson 44	Wyatt & Charlene Jones	San Francisco / Sacramento
Pendragon	Davidson 44 Modified	Ed Hoff	San Francisco / San Bruno
Tenacious	Beneteau 44	Alec Charters	San Diego / Ogden, UT
Festina Lente	Beneteau Oceanis 45	Przemyslaw Karwasiecki	San Francisco / Sunnyvale
Wilder	Beneteau Oceanis 45	Josh Grillo & Natasha Risovanna	San Diego
Amazing Grace III	Island Packet 440	Kim Eddy	Seattle, WA
No Worries	Jeanneau 45	Mike Scheck	Alameda / Walnut Creek
Silver Linings	Jeanneau SO 45.2	Mark & Robin LaFevers	Channel Islands / Carpinteria
Tempest	Jeanneau 45.2	Owen Provence & Bill McNamara	Alamitos Bay / Huntington Beach
Kokopelli	Hylas 46	Ben & Kate Davidson	Vashon Island, WA
Thursday's Child	Outbound 46	The Ray and Debbie Torok Family	San Francisco / Los Altos

IGUANA DIVISION - MONOHULLS - WITH SPINNAKER

Black Swan	Swan 46	Nadav Rozenberg / Ethan Barr / Ofir Aricha	San Diego
Stainsby Girl	Catalina 470	Garry & Cheryl Dobson	San Francisco / Cold Springs
Mikmaks	Stevens 47	Justin & Claire Waite	Seward, AK
Uki Waza	Beneteau 47.7 First	David Bothell	San Diego
Shades of Grey	Beneteau Oceanis 48	Eric Coyle	Channel Islands / Eden, UT
Namowan	Tayana 48 DS	Kim Cunningham & Randall Brazzoni	Ensenada / Calgary, AB
Venture	Jeanneau SO 49	Michael Chobotov	San Diego / Carlsbad
Resolute	Beneteau First 50	Peter Lane & Nicky Lecher	Jamestown, RI / Park City, UT
Talion	Gulfstar 50	Patsy Verhoeven	Portland / La Paz
Viva	Amel Super Maramu 52	Pierre Blouin & Marie-Josée Dion	Portland, OR
Avogato	Amel Super Maramu 53	Richard & Kathy May	Albany, OR / Port Angeles, WA

JALAPENO DIVISION - MONOHULLS - WITH SPINNAKER

Laissez Les Bon Temps Rouler	Santa Cruz 52	David Bennett & Amy Herrick	Alameda
Leglus	Van de Stadt 52	Solomon Ka'ne	Oakland / San Diego & Hawaii
Voyager	Hylas 54	Ed Lecco & Liz Barsell	Alameda / Danville
Second Verse	Hylas 54	Bill & Sally Andrew	Reno, NV / Galway, NY
Swan Fun	Nautor Swan 55	Joe Heinzmann	Oakland / Concord
Encore	Andrews 56	Zachary Singer & Sail MS	Richmond / Santa Rosa
Praxis	Beneteau 57	Thomas Magee & Elizabeth Ugarte	Marina del Rey / Pasadena
Just Passing Wind	Sundeer 60	Jeff Wahl	Yankton, SD

KILO DIVISION - MULTIHULLS

Oz	Catana Bali 4.1	Steve & Susan Warner	Seattle, WA
Big Idea	Gemini 3200	Eric Smith	San Francisco / Buffalo Creek, CO
K2	Corsair F36	Bryan Martin & Nancy Virostko	Santa Cruz
Cubo Lista	Seawind 1160	Jim Hinkle	San Rafael / Willits
Jane'O	Privilege 39	Ron Kuris	San Francisco
Queso Grande II	Seawind 1260	Lance Lott & Sherri Benedict	Semiahmoo, WA / Blaine, WA
Malolo	Lagoon 42	Tim Dick & Kelly Hu	San Francisco / Palo Alto
Tiamat	Fontaine Pajot Orana 44	Owen & Stephanie Anderson	San Francisco / San Jose
Tritium	Customized Orma 60/72	Scott & Vidi Rhoads	USVI / St. Petersburg Florida
Profligate	Surfin' 63 Cat	Richard Spindler & Doña de Mallorca	La Cruz, Mexico

LANGOSTINO DIVISION - POWERBOAT

Truly	Nordhavn 40	Scott & Cindy Smith	Astoria, OR / Ontario, OR
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PROTEST NOTICE:

Complaints and/or Protests regarding Baja Ha-Ha XXVIII must be directed to: The Head Bartender, Squid Roe, Cabo San Lucas.
(After midnight only please.)

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