

Chronological sailing CV

1957-1970 Beginnings & dinghy sailing

I grew up sailing with my father from about age 2 on a variety of small boats that he had. This was undertaken mostly on Broken Bay and Pittwater, about 30 miles north of Sydney, Australia. From about age six I sailed in a Sabot that Dad bought for the purpose and also for use as a tender. I sailed after school and in summer and the year I left High school sailing became a school sport so I sailed in the first High School sailing championships, in the Sabot.

1970-1980 Starting to race yachts

In 1970 I began Saturday handicap racing a Santana 22 on Sydney Harbour.

1973: Started working with Elvstrom sails, on and off for the next few years.

Started sailing Lasers, back on Pittwater.

1974: Sailed on a Half-Tonner in the 1974 Sydney-Hobart. Won class, third in fleet.

First non-Admiral's Cup contender in top ten of Admiral's Cup class boats in fleet.

Transited Bass straight under Trysail in 55 plus knots of wind

1975: Started sailing Finns in the State Championships & finished mid-fleet. Sailed

in 1976 Olympic trials/National championships, best finish in trials race was a 3rd.

Ended up 14th in the Olympic trials and mid-fleet in the Finn Gold Cup.

1976: Won the Finn State Championships and was 8th in Nationals.

1977: Selected to sail on Gretel 2 for America's Cup campaign as a grinder and sewer-man. On this boat I was the youngest crewmember.

1977: Sailed with Mike Fletcher, owner of Elvstrom Sails in the Half-Ton Worlds in Sydney, I think we were third.

1978: Finn State championship's but was unremarkable in a borrowed boat with no practice.

1979. Hired as the boat keeper/paid hand by Alan Bond's syndicate for the 1980 America's Cup campaign. Worked for the syndicate from June 1979 to October 1980.

Organized the boat and all logistics, boat movements (Perth to Sydney, Sydney to the US) etc. I was the second youngest crew and sailed as grinder and sewerman.

1980-1990 America's Cup and international racing

1980: America's Cup, Congressional Cup and worked on a refit of Tenacious after the AC.

1981: SORC as captain on S&S 46 Obsession, then various Long Is. Sound and local "race weeks".

1982: SORC on High Roler, which we won. Then became the paid hand and after we brought the boat up from Florida we sailed local races on LIS plus Onion patch.

Organized the boat to Italy for the Sardinia cup. The US team was 2nd.

1983: Tried out (unsuccessfully) on Australia 2 for Bond's Challenge. I got there too late from Italy the crew had already auto selected.

1983: Got my US green card & returned to the US and began working for John G. Alden Yacht Brokerage in Stamford Ct. More Long Is Sound racing.

1984: Started sailing regularly on Bill Tripp designed 37-footer called Breakaway. Spent the next 3 seasons winning or placing everything we went in. Block Is. Race, Vineyard Race, BIRW, etc.

1985: SORC on a Tripp One-Tonner named "Thumper".

1986: Started work for Hood Sailmakers as a sail consultant that included more sailing on the sound.

1987: SORC on Robin Ted Hood's own One Tonner, Robin

1988-1991: Sailed on Shamrock for the Endeavour V Shamrock in the "Return of the J's" regatta. Sailed in a 40-mile single-handed race out of Milford, Ct. Subsequently organized 18 boats to compete in the first double-Handed class in the Block Is. Race in 1990. In this race I sailed to first to finish with the late Bob Derecktor on his 80-foot cruising boat. Delivery back from Bermuda on Frers 65' Merrythought. Won the DH class in the Vineyard race on a borrowed Olsen 30

1990-2000 Deliveries and short handed sailing interests

1991: I left Hood and started doing deliveries and projects including a three month stint on a 65' schooner sailing to, and around, Hawaii, filming a TV commercial. I was mate under Warwick M. "Commodore" Tompkins Jr. In late 1991 went to France & joined the crew of Endeavour as mate. Sailed her around the Med. for the fall and then to Antigua for the winter season including some time under heavy weather canvas in a 50-knot blow SW of the Canaries.

1992: Left Endeavour and started work on my Mini-Transat 6.50 project. This took the next 3 years. Sailed the Onion Patch & the Bermuda race on the Tripp 47 Wonder and did some more deliveries with Tompkins, mainly to or from Hawaii.

1993: Won DH class and fleet on a Bill Tripp 37 (different one) in the Bermuda 1-2 return leg.

1994: Delivery from Japan to LA, again with Tompkins, aboard the 70 foot Holland ULDB Hatsu, ex Charlie. Spent four weeks in Japan preparing the boat and then made a 31-day passage. Went full time into my mini building phase.

1995: Finished building the boat & was entered in the 1995 Mini-Transat when I left NY bound for France for the race. Discovered about a week out that I (and the boat) was woefully unprepared and reluctantly returned to the US.

1996: April-May: Qualified for Yacht master Offshore certificate in the UK. May-June delivered Quest 30 to the UK from Newport, RI for David Scully so he could race back in that year's OSTAR. Several deliveries up and down the East Coast, Annapolis, Charleston, SC, etc.

1997: Captain of Swan 53 on Long Island Sound including cruises up to Maine.

1998: Sailing master on Swan 68 for Bermuda race, then mate on the boat for delivery to and subsequent operations in the Caribbean.

1999: Hired as Captain of a Tripp 65 cruising boat under construction at Marten Yachts in Auckland. Moved to NZ for 8 months and was on site during the outfit and sea-trials. Organized (and then rode with) the yacht on a freighter back from NZ to US. Spent 30 hours on the freighter hove to 90 miles south of Hurricane Dennis 50 miles off C. Hatteras in August 1999. Delivered the boat to and from and around the Carib. that season

2000-Present Sailing

2000: The owner of the Tripp boat became ill so I returned to Hood Sailmakers (with wife and then 4-year old) various sailing on Narragansett Bay frequently on Thompson 35 "Rumours". Sailed in the New England Solo Twin three times.

2002 Chicago and Pt. Huron to Mackinaw as Navigator, sail trimmer and crew boss. Sailed also in misc. Block Is. Race weeks, Buzzard's Bay regattas, Vineyard race. Became more involved again in promoting the development of Double-Handed races mainly around Narragansett Bay, Long Is. Sound and further north into Mass Bay and Maine.

Sailed as co-skipper on J 105 "Jaded". Events successes included: a 2nd and 1st in Brooklyn Ocean Challenge Cup.

DH class in Halifax race on same boat, second in 2009, first in 2011, WDL near finish (medical problem) 2013.

2014: Retained as expert witness in sailing related law suit.

Related interests and sailing volunteer activities

In 1991 I convinced the Storm Trysail Club to offer a DH class in their annual Block Island Race. I organized 18 starters in this race and the DH class has since been one of, and on more than one occasion, the most popular (most entries) class in this race. Other clubs followed suite in offering DH classes in some of their races and one club has started a dedicated DH regatta weekend attracting often 20 plus boats.

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In 2016 there are 17 races between Larchmont and Maine with (mainly, there are a few solo events) DH classes and with 2 exceptions I have been involved with their development or advised the organizers on DH issues.

Sat on the Board of Directors of Sail Newport from 2002-Dec 2007

I still do occasional volunteer activities with SN

Created the Short Handed Sailing Association in Dec 2006 to promote the interests of, and be voice for, those who sail without “full crew” in other words shorthanded.

Long time volunteer at Newport Yacht Club for Bermuda 1-2 and related events

De facto elder statesman of the Mini sailors in the NE USA including helping getting the minis accepted into the Bermuda 1-2 in 2007 and dedicated a trophy for the Mini Class in that race.

2008 Elected VP of US Mini (6.50m) Class, served until 2011

Volunteered at Ida Lewis for first DH class than added youth challenge class—

Getting kids onto boats for 150-mile overnight race. Including leading members of the Prout Team in three different editions, two as master.

Volunteer for the STC Junior safety at sea program July 2009 at Sail Newport

Have been instructor since and event Chairman since about 2011

Have been the leading force in getting two new seminars up and running: One on the west coast and one in Portsmouth NH.

Member of the Bermuda Race Organizing Committee for the Newport to Bermuda 2014 race

Volunteer member of the Organizing Committee for STC Block Island Race week 2015. Duties were participation, getting boats to the regatta. Also led initiative for Clean Regatta Status for Race Week with Sailors for the Sea. Regatta was awarded Silver Status. Overall regatta was the most successful since metrics were started about 20 years ago.

Jan 2016: Presently self-employed as a sail and sailing consultant in Middletown, RI Clients included Hood Sailmakers, (assist with marketing and bringing business in), coaching individuals interested in improving their (own, crew's & the boats) performance, coaching high school sailing team.in

My wife and I have a Ranger 33 used for family cruising.

I still have the Mini presently, Jan 2016, another refit....

Married, with a 19-year-old son.

Member of Storm Trysail Club, Cruising Club of America and the Ida Lewis Yacht Club