



## “Sabby the Lingo?” Maritime Language - V

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As noted prior, each discipline has a language and that language conveys competency to the listener. This column is part of a series of maritime vocabulary words. So you can sound like the salty ol' mariner you are... We'll run enough of these to get the major concepts and phraseology from Alpha to Zulu in front of you!

### B - Bravo

International Meaning: I am taking in, discharging, or carrying dangerous cargo.

Flown to signify fueling or other hazardous operation. Keep clear.

• **Bear**, to - The direction of an object from the observer's position.

• **Bear Away, Bear Off** - To turn the boat away from the wind. Also, Fall Off. The opposite of heading up.

• **Bear Down** - To approach something from upwind.

• **Bearing** - (1) A compass direction, in compass points or degrees, from one point to another. Relative bearing is the direction relative to the heading of the boat with the bow 0 degrees and the stern 180 degrees. True bearing is the direction from the ship relating to true north with north being 0 degrees and south 180 degrees. (2) Also, a device for supporting a rotating shaft with minimum friction, which may take the form of a metal sleeve (a bushing), a set of ball bearings (a roller ball), or a set of pins around a shaft (a needle bearing).

• **Becalm** - The act of blanketing a ship by cutting

off the wind, either by the proximity of the shore or by another ship. A ship motionless by the absence of wind is said to be becalmed.

• **Before the Mast** - Said of a man who goes to sea as a rating compared with officers, and lives forward. Forward of a mast.

• **Belay** - (1) To make a line secure to a pin, cleat, bollard, bitt, etc. (2) Command to stop or cease action, e.g. "Belay the last order".

• **Bent on a Splice** - Sailor's term for being about to get married, a splice being used to join two ropes together.

• **Berth** - (1) A place for a person to sleep. (2) A place where the ship can tie up or anchor. (3) A position of employment aboard a ship (4) A safe and cautious distance from which another vessel or object is passed, as in "giving wide berth."

• **Beset** - Said of a vessel when she is entirely surrounded by ice.

• **Bilge** - The part of the floors of a ship on either side of the keel which approaches closer to a horizontal rather than vertical direction. The very lowest part of a boats interior where water is likely to collect.

• **Bilge Pump** - A mechanical, electrical, or manually operated pump used to remove water from the bilge.

• **Bilge Water** - Water which runs down and collects in the bilges of a ship and usually becomes foul and noxious.

• **Bitt** - A vertical post extending above the deck for securing mooring lines.

• **Bitter End** - The last part of a rope or final link of chain. The end made fast to the vessel, as opposed,

to the "working end", which may be attached to an anchor, cleat, other vessel, etc.

• **Blue Peter** - A flag signaling that a ship is about to sail and that all should report on board. It is International Code Flag "P".

• **Bluewater Sailing** - Open ocean sailing.

• **Board** - To go onboard, to go into a ship.

• **Boatswain** - Also bosun, bos'n, bo's'n, and bo'-sun, all of which are pronounced bosun. The highest unlicensed rating in the deck department who has immediate charge of all deck hands, oversees deck crew, maintenance and upkeep of the ship except for the engine room and galley areas.

• **Bollard** - A large solid post on a wharf or pier for securing mooring lines; the same when constructed on the deck of a ship.

• **Bone** - Foam or spray which is thrown out under the bow of a ship when she is under way. If fast moving with a lot of spray being thrown out, the vessel is said to have "A bone in her teeth".

• **Bow** - The forwardmost or front part of the vessel. Opposite of Stern.

• **Bow Line** - A docking line leading from the bow.

• **Bowline** - A knot use to form an eye or loop at the end of a rope. A knot with many uses, it is simple and strong, its loop will not slip, and it is easily untied after being exposed to a strain. Said "bo-lin".

More in the weeks ahead...!

BTW, if you are interested in being part of USCG Forces, email me at [JoinUSCGAux2008@aol.com](mailto:JoinUSCGAux2008@aol.com) or go direct to Lisa Etter, who is in charge of new members matters, at [FSO-PS@emcg.us](mailto:FSO-PS@emcg.us) and we will help you "get in this thing..."

## Joan's View

story and photos by Joan Travan

## WEARING THE GREEN

Friends of Jack Eddington recently held a fundraiser at Cavanaugh's in Blue Point honoring him for his outstanding record representing his constituents in the 7th Legislative District.

Proud of his Irish heritage, the event had a special St. Patrick's Day theme with the wearing of the green, corn beef and cabbage and the very best Sheppard's Pie that is a must try at this quaint Irish pub.

In his few successful terms in the Suffolk County Legislature, Jack Eddington has accomplished much. Public safety has been a top priority and as chair of the Public Safety Committee he has sponsored bills that address directly citizen's safety; i.e. Eddington's quick response to the fatal February 2, Village in the Woods fire in Selden. The bill requires private communities to have their fire hydrants tested annually and must file those test results with the town, local fire department, and an affidavit with Suffolk County attesting they complied.

Others bills he sponsored include the outdoor wood burning furnace bill and motorcycle licensing bill. Also, Legislator Eddington has co-sponsored many bills seeking to monitor and control sex offenders. Additionally, with focus on the environment, he has sponsored and co-sponsored numerous bills acquiring sensitive lands and parcels in his district and the entire county. An example of one of the acquisitions adopted this past September, the acquisition for the Medford Gardens property, a 55 acre property, which is noted for being the hamlet's last known forest and a target for developers.

"When it means keeping the public safe and our environment protected, that's when I'll step up to the plate and work on laws. Otherwise, I follow the social work model and see my self not as a politician but as a social worker who happens to be working in politics," said Legislator Eddington.

Elected to his first term in 2005, Jack, as most of his constituents call him, has always brought an open door policy to his office with a work ethic that he credits to his boyhood spent growing up in the Queen's Bridge Housing Projects where life was hard and money scarce. Legislator Eddington learned early that success would require brains, hard work and tenacity and he credits his Irish roots for having the practical good sense to realize this fact.

The last name Eddington has its origins in England, but seven out of eight ancestors are pure Irish hailing from County Cork, Ireland said Eddington. Each and every one of my great grandparents immigrated to the United States. "The Irish blood runs thick in my family tree. It's a heritage I'm proud of," said Legislator Eddington.



Suffolk County Legislator Jack Eddington with Suffolk County Democratic Committee Chairman Richard Schaffer



Meghan Sheil, and Michelle Rueb (Irish Step Dancers)



Gail D'Ambrosio, SCAME President Cheryl Felice, Vito Dagnello (rear), Suffolk County Legislator Jack Eddington and Debra Alloncius



Suffolk County Legislator Jack Eddington with Presiding Officer Bill Lindsay



Kevin Gershowitz with Legislator Eddington



Amy Goldstein, Phil McGovern, Suffolk County Legislator Jack Eddington, Chris Cavanaugh (owner) and Tim Kelly