



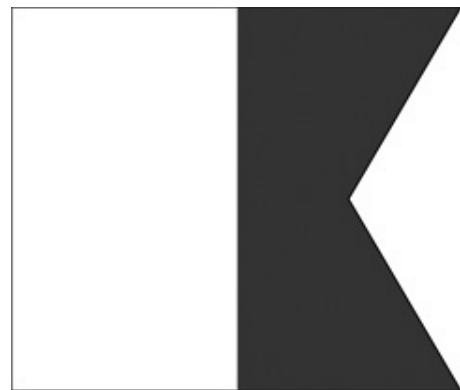
"Sabby the Lingo?" Maritime Language - IV

by VINCENT T. PICA, II

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As noted prior, each discipline has a language and that language conveys competency to the listener. This column starts 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!



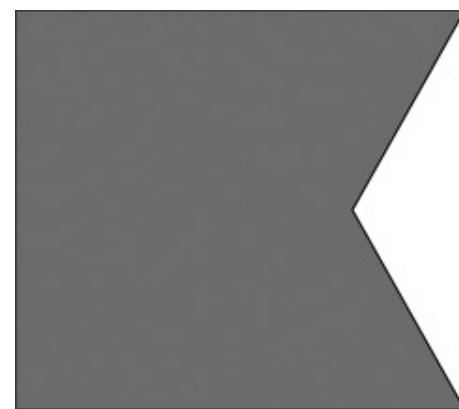
A - Alpha

International Meaning: I have a diver down; keep well clear at slow speed.

- Aft - Behind or aft of; on the after side of; towards the stern relative to some other object or position.
- Aft the beam - Any direction between the beam and the stern, more behind a vessel than in front of it. Behind a perpendicular line extending out from the middle of the boat.
- Abeam - At right angles to the fore and aft line of the boat, or beside, the boat; on the beam; also Abreast.
- Aboard - On or in a vessel. "Close aboard" is close to another ship or an obstruction.

- Above-Board - Above the deck, and therefore open and visible. This gave rise to the term used to denote open and fair dealing.
- Abyss - That part of the ocean lying below 300 fathoms from the surface.
- Aft - At, near or towards the stern; to move aft is to move back.
- Against the Sun - Anti-clockwise circular motion. Left-handed ropes are coiled down in this way.
- Aground - When the hull or keel is touching or fast to the bottom of any body of water; on or onto the shore.
- Ahead - In front of the vessel, forward; in a forward direction; opposite of astern.
- Ahoy - Seaman's call to attract attention.
- All-Around Light - A light showing an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 360 degrees. An anchor or riding light is an all-round light.
- Alongside - Close beside a ship, wharf or jetty.
- Amain - An old maritime expression meaning "immediately", as "let go amain" (drop the anchor at once!).
- Anchor is Apeak - The anchor is under the hawse.
- Anchor is Aweigh - Anchor is off the sea bottom when being heaved in.
- Anchor is Foul - Anchor cable is caught around the fluke or an object is caught around the anchor.
- Astern - Backwards, somewhere behind the vessel, towards the stern; in the direction of, or behind, the stern; opposite of ahead.

- Athwart - Lying along the ship's width, at right angles to the vessels fore-and-aft line (centerline). Same as abeam.
- Avast - A command to stop or cease immediately what one is doing.
- Awash - Water washing over; the situation of an object when almost submerged.
- Aweigh - To raise an anchor off the bottom; the position of anchor as it is raised clear of the bottom.



B - Bravo

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

- Flown to signify fueling or other hazardous operation. Keep clear.
- Baboon Watch - The unfortunate man who was assigned to remain on deck to watch over the ship's safety while the ship was in harbor, and the rest of the crew were off duty.
- Baggywrinkle - Tassels of unraveled line, yarns, etc. which are lashed around chafe spots such as spreaders

- to prevent chafe on sails.
 - Bail - To remove water from the boat by hand, bucket, pump etc.
 - Bar - A region of shallow water usually made of sand or mud, usually running parallel to the shore. Bars are caused by wave and current action, and may not be shown on a chart.
 - Batten Down - Secure hatches and loose objects both within the hull and on deck in preparation for approaching bad weather.
 - Beacon - A lighted or unlighted fixed (non-floating) aid to navigation that serves as a signal or indication for guidance or warning. (Lights and day-beacons both constitute "beacons.")
 - Beam - (1) The transverse measurement of a boat at its widest point. Also called breadth. (2) One of the transverse members of a ship's frames on which the decks are laid.
 - Beam Ends - Vessel said to be "on her beam ends" when she is lying over so much that her deck beams are nearly vertical.
 - Beam Sea - A situation in which waves strike a boat from the side, causing it to roll unpleasantly.
 - Beam Wind - One which blows across a boat's side.
 - Beamy - Wide, a wide boat is a beamy boat.
- More in the weeks ahead...!
BTW, if you are interested in being part of USCG Forces, email me at JoinUSCGAux2008@aol.com or go direct to Lisa Etter, who is in charge of new members matters, at FSO-PS@emcg.us and we will help you "get in this thing..."

Joan's View

story and photos by Joan Travan

ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

The Tri-Month race for Brookhaven Town Supervisors has been under way for the past several months with the finale, Election Day, March 31.

Two men - Tim Mazzei & Mark Lesko - both educated, distinguished, with stellar reputations, are vying for the position. What's at stake? Power, patronage jobs, a certain prestige, a stepping stone to higher office and somewhere there may exist the realization for whomever wins, that he is a public servant, as our Founding Fathers intended, there to represent the welfare and concerns of the people that elected him.

Go to a local "Meet the Candidates" event, listen to what they have to say and - HIRE (vote) - the person you think will do the job for you, the taxpayer!

"MEET THE CANDIDATES" EVENTS AROUND TOWN

- February 23 ~ 7:30 PM Joint Coram Civic and Middle Island Civic, Old Coram Firehouse
- February 24 ~ 7:00 PM East Moriches Property Owners Association, East Moriches Ambulance Co., corner Frowein Rd and Montauk Highway
- March 2 ~ 7:30PM Patterquash Creek Civic Association, Mastic Beach Fire House
- March 2 ~ 6:00 PM Setauket/Stony Brook Civic, Emmas. Clark Library, East Setauket
- March 3 ~ 8:00 PM Mt. Sinai Civic, Heritage Center, Coram Swezey Road & CR 83, Mt. Sinai
- March 11 ~ 7:30PM Yaphank Taxpayers & Civic, Yaphank Fire House, Main Street, Yaphank
- March 11 ~ 8:00 PM Joint Manor Park and Manorville, East Moriches Civic Associations, Manorville Fire House, Silas Carter Rd., Manorville NY
- March 12 ~ 8:00 PM Lake Ronkonkoma Civic Association, American Legion Hall, Lake Ronkonkoma
- March 12, ~ 7:00 PM~ Joint Mastic Park Civic, Woodland and Smith Point Property Owners Association, Mastic Fire House, Mastic Road, Mastic
- March 16 ~ 7:30 PM ABCO, Middle Island Fire House, Middle Island
- March 18, ~ 7:30 PM Shoreham Civic Association, Shoreham
- March 23 ~ 7:30 PM Miller Place Civic Association, Miller Place Library



Brookhaven Town Democratic Party Chairwoman, Marsha Laufer-Suffolk County Executive, Steve Levy, ~ Candidate for BT Supervisor, Mark Lesko and Suffolk County Democratic Chairman, Rich Schaffer.



Brookhaven Town Republican Party Chairman, Jesse Garcia~Brookhaven Town Conservative Party Co-Chair, Ken Auerbach~Candidate for Brookhaven Town Supervisor, Councilman Tim Mazzei~Brookhaven Town Conservative Party Co-Chair, Rich Johannesen (Mazzei's campaign HQ).



The Chamber of Commerce of the Mastics & Shirley and The Montauk Hwy Merchants' Assoc., Meet The Candidates, February 9 at Ladakins Restaurant. The candidates at this spirited debate; Brookhaven Town Councilman Tim Mazzei and Mark Lesko.