

## Questions

**#1 We loved sailing as a family on the Bella Donna, with Captain Ed, he is such a great guy and we learned so much, will you still be offering The Family hands on Sailing Package?**

Yes, I am going to Offer the Family hands on Sailing Package, They will be best be done during the week when there is less boat traffic to encourage a more relaxing atmosphere. However If I do not have anything Scheduled for a Sunday that has always been a good family day on the Bella Donna.

**#2 I am excited about taking one of you're sailing sessions but I am a little nervous about the weather. Do you go out in storms, do I need to buy foul weather gear?**

**Am I going to get sea sick and die?**

### **Lets talk a little about the Weather**

Since weather is the biggest obstacle of my business I thought that I would talk about how I look at it, to give you some insight what summer weather looks like from my perspective.

First we keep it as safe as we can and still be able to get out on the ocean when we can. If we are looking at just lousy weather, no one wants to go out in that, especially me. If we are looking at posable thunder storms we take a look and see what area they are talking about. For isolated storms I will show you how to sail around them, we could, and have been hit by them, as they are part of sailing, and summer, they usually last around 20 minutes or so. We turn the boat so that the storm hits the rear starboard quarter and the wind usually blows us out of the storm.

There are three weather sights on the computer that I use, that has kept us safe so far.

Wunder Ground Weather, Maine Harbors, and Passages Weather.

Wunder Ground Weather, and Maine Harbors, both give a nice local picture of the weather, including the direction of the weather, including radar. I like Maine Harbors while I am north of Long Island Sound. I use Wonder Ground Weather all along the coast. Passages Weather gives an in depth look at the wind and the waves showing the

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heights and directions of each. You can get much information from this sight, it was a great help during our recent trip to the USVI this past fall. I spend a good part of each day monitoring each of these sights during the summer especially Maine Harbors where I also get my tide information.

Here are the links to those sites

[Maine Harbors](http://www.maineharbors.com/) <http://www.maineharbors.com/>

[Passages Weather](http://passageweather.com/) <http://passageweather.com/>

[Wunder Ground Weather](http://www.wunderground.com/) <http://www.wunderground.com/>

I had a client that after the end of a sailing trip sick to death lying on a park bench for at least an hour. The Harbor Master says to her, do you know what the worse thing anyone can tell you right now? No in squeaky weak voice. He says you are going to live.

Don't risk it there are all kinds of sea sick medications out there, from pills to wrist bands to things you put behind your ears. After a while you will not need anything but for now **Take something for sea sickness.**

It would be a good idea to buy some light foul weather gear, not the stuff that takes up a whole duffle bag, but maybe some of the light weight stuff they sell at REI, it is good to own anyway for hiking and walking the dog, and can double as a wind breaker.

That is what I use everywhere now when it is cold I just add long underwear. That way if I have to travel to work on someones boat I can still just carry a back pack.

I do have some foul weather gear and sweat shirts on board as well as life jackets, though some folks just like owning their own stuff. It is nice to get use to your own stuff.

**#4 I have already taken classes through you, or through another sailing organization, what do you have planned for me? Sounds a little redundant to retake your class.**

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If you have taken classes with me you may or may not have done man overboard, picked up moorings or especially dropped an anchor never mind the fact that we will be now learning how to droop more than one anchor for those occasions that can pop up.

The chances are similar if you have taken a class with any sailing club. Plus I am going to make sure that you have done each procedure that I list.

Now the one thing that you may find different from me and other classes, is that I actually do a lot of sailing, on all different types of boat all along the East Coast. I have been in bad weather, and have had to place more than one anchor (three). My engine has broken down and I have had to sail long distances to finally end up having to either drop an anchor or pick up a mooring ball while under sail. If you take the Navigation Class I have all of a sudden reached an area that my chart plotter did not cover, and have run out of batteries in my GPS, forcing me to actually Navigate.

I have also spent many nights looking at my radar to determine if that little blink is a wave or a fishing boat, and whether I am getting to close to it or not. And as a matter of fact there has been many times that I have called an oil tanker or ferry to decide if they needed me to change my course or to just let them know I was there. ( in the middle of the night they do sometime like to talk).

### **#5 What about a make up class if we cannot go out because of the weather.**

I will keep some sundays a side for make up classes or add another Saturday if that works better.

Also during week days and Sundays I will have time set aside for my repeat clients though I don't plan to go out with only one person on the boat with me any longer.

### **#6 Will we be able to go out on the Sarah Maria?**

I don't know yet, I am thinking of doing the Navigation Class on the Sarah Maria, as well as the night sailing class, this is a cruising class

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and if something happens to the Bella Donna we may switch boats it is a fun boat to sail but it is not as responsive as the Bella Donna, plus the chance of me living on her again this summer is pretty good. So the answer is Maybe.

**#7 Do you provide snacks? What happened? You use to have great snacks.**

**Can I bring a cooler?**

I stopped bringing snacks I was ending up eating them all myself, and getting fat. Certain clients thought I was not eating healthy enough and started bringing me food, so I stopped with the snacks, I will have a cooler full of ice and water. You can bring a cooler but keep it light, and soft. You do not have to feed me.

**#7 This is supposedly a hands on class, sure, are you going to do all of this stuff as I watch. What about my kids if I take a Hands on Sailing Class with them.**

Here is the story. I have sailed plenty already, the novelty has worn off many years ago, I enjoy seeing folks going from knowing nothing to actually sailing a boat, especially the kids, so unless we hit weather that is incompatible with your skill level, you will probably not see me sail, though at the end of a day if the wind and tides are right I like to sail the boat up the river using my class as crew. If there is crazy things happening at the jetty I bring it through there as well. This is not a survival class.

**#8 I am thinking of buying a boat, or have just bought a boat in Ass Itch New Jersey. Would you train me on my own boat?**

I can do that, as Matter of fact that would be a training delivery, I get \$350 per day \$750 for the over night if that is something you are interested in doing. Just make sure you have a survey done on the boat first or I have to charge an extra \$250 for that, and my survey is not worth anything other than knowing that the boat can make the trip.

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Installing sails and adjusting rigging is also an extra \$250 but keep in mind you will know how to do these things when I am done teaching you. I have to go this route because too many folks are buying boats and not getting a survey and I am going out in the ocean with a boat that I don't know what is wrong with. I have actually had shrouds come loose while sailing clients boats, as well as sails that were not functional or torn. I have arrived to deliver a boat that the sails were not even on the boat. Putting the sails on the boat and checking the rigging can end up taking a good part of the day if done right.

So those are all of the questions that I can think of for now so if you have any questions you can email me at [edwardcasazza@me.com](mailto:edwardcasazza@me.com) or call at 508-451-0431