

John Kretschmer Sailing University

Blue Water Passage Making Workshop

It is all about the U, John Kretschmer Sailing University that is. Let's be honest, most cruising seminars present general information and are as much a forum for hawking products as for serious learning. They're overcrowded and frequently boring. I promise you, JK Sailing University will not be boring! But it will be a lot of work. This is truly a hands-on workshop. There will be as much time spent on boats as in the classroom. You will crawl through bilges to learn about boat structure, and esoteric things like why bilge pumps are often installed to set up dangerous back pressure flows. You will learn to bleed a diesel, every cruiser has to know how. You will make sail repairs and rebuild a winch. You will even launch a liferaft from a boat, not on a classroom floor, and see what is involved in getting aboard. It is not easy. This is the workshop serious potential cruisers have been longing for and I am really quite excited at the prospect myself.

The four-day format allows enough time to cover topics in detail and is also manageable to schedule as a really long weekend. By starting at 1300 on Thursday, folks can fly in early that morning and avoid a fourth night in a hotel. The key is limiting class size, and like all of my workshops I take only 8 participants. Lively discussion is a key component of the workshop. You don't sit and listen, you participate, this is a weekend when it is okay to talk boats, cruising, storms, etc. Assisting me with the workshop will be Captain Bob Pingel, an experienced sailor who writes the Boat Doctor column for Sailing Magazine, and Captain Rick Thompson, an electronics expert from Los Angeles and highly experienced sailor.

All workshop participants will receive lunch each day and a barbecue Friday night. Course materials include a complete manual, CDs, and a tee shirt. You will also qualify for free access to my consulting service.

Workshop Schedule

Thursday, 1300 – 1800

Introduction – The Truth about Passage Making
What makes a boat blue water capable?
Outfitting: Necessary, nice, extravagant
Hands On: Sails, discussion, repairs,

Friday, 0900 – 1700

Planning Passages

Your First Passage, Mechanics

Your First Passage, Wrinkles

Lunch

Hands On: The diesel, discussion, maintenance, bleeding

Hands On: Winch rebuilding

1900- 2200, Barbecue, dinner and discussion, meet world cruisers

Saturday, 0900 -1700

Safety Issues: Situational Awareness

Man Overboard/Abandon ship

Go Bag thoughts

Lunch

Hands On: Liferaft Launch

Heavy Weather Tactics

Sunday, 0900 – 1500

A navigator's day,

Chart work in the electronic age

Hands On: Plotters, Radar, and AIS

Lunch

Communications, SSB or Sat Phone?

Cruising Today – The State of the World

John Kretschmer Sailing
www.yayablues.com