

Ellie Evans Retires From Marine Advisory Program

Ellie Evans of the University of Alaska Marine Advisory Program (MAP) based in Anchorage, retired at the end of May. Ellie helped the MAP program run smoothly since well before AMSEA's existence.

MAP and AMSEA have cooperated on many marine safety projects over the years, including safety video production with MAP's Deborah Mercy. MAP has also helped with marine safety training, and publications.

During all these projects, Ellie quietly ensured that all MAP activities ran smoothly. MAP has grown dependent on her skills. It is hard to imagine the Marine Advisory Program working without her.

While maintaining her busy MAP schedule, Ellie still found time to support AMSEA in many ways. She will be missed by all of us at AMSEA, and those at MAP. We are indebted to her, and wish her the very best in life post-MAP!

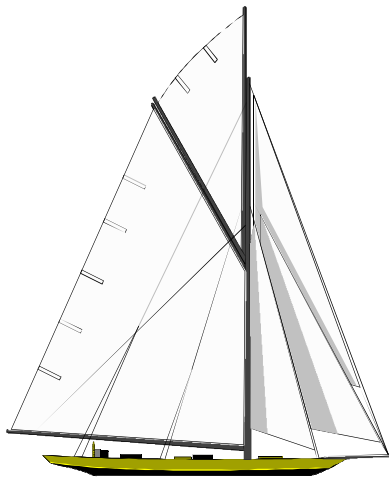
(Photo currently unavailable in electronic format.)

AMSEA INSTRUCTOR REX LAUBER SAILS THE WORLD

One of the pleasures of the internet is keeping up with AMSEA friends despite physical distances. Thus, it is a joy to learn of Rex Lauber's web site. Rex is an AMSEA instructor, formerly of Ketchikan and Bethel. Now his address is the high seas!

Through his web site, we kept track of his solo sail across the Atlantic Ocean to the Mediterranean Sea. The crossing appears to have been good. The scariest moments were near Cape St. Vincent off the coast of Portugal. This area is so heavily traveled that one is always within six miles of a ship. Rex was almost run over by a freighter that fired a white flare to attract his attention. Rex was so fatigued from long solo watches that he didn't recognize the flare coming from the ship and the ship had to maneuver to avoid a collision.

Currently, Rex is back in Bethel, regrouping for the next leg of his journey. He will return to his boat in the Mediterranean after some engine work. We wish Rex fair winds and smooth seas on his next leg to the Eastern Mediterranean.



Sea Grant's Brenda Baxter Steps Down

Alaska Sea Grant's Brenda Baxter, based in Fairbanks, is retiring. Brenda has worked for the University of Alaska Sea Grant program for 25 years. In 1990 she was coordinator of a joint IASST/AMSEA/Sea Grant Sea Survival Conference held in Sitka. The success of that conference was largely due to her organizational skills and work.

AMSEA and Alaska Sea Grant have worked on many cooperative marine safety projects in the past and will continue to do so in the future. More cooperative Sea Grant projects will occur in the future, but they will not be the same without Brenda's involvement.

AMSEA thanks Brenda for her support over the years. We look forward to seeing her in Fairbanks outside the office. Good bye (but not farewell) to Brenda!