

Alberg 30 Circumnavigators

Four circumnavigations are known to have been accomplished by Alberg 30 sailors. Remarkably, all four voyages were accomplished singlehandedly – two circumnavigators having completed their voyages around the world since 2012.

Paul Vibert, S/V Rough Bounds, Hull Number 25

Home Port: Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada

Single Handed Circumnavigation: May, 2010 – July, 2013

Route:

Point of Departure: Thunder Bay, Ontario, direct to Bahamas, thence Panama, Easter Island, Bora Bora, Vanuatu, Mauritius, Durban, South Africa, St Helena, Antigua, returning to Thunder Bay.

Inspired by Yves Gelanis solo one stop circumnavigation of the southern ocean, Paul and first mate, the late Carl Bezeau, Paul's nephew and best friend departed Thunder Bay, Ontario in May of 2010 for a run to the coast via the St. Lawrence. They spent a year in New Brunswick then set out for Florida in June of 2011. After losing Carl to Cystic Fibrosis I continued solo to Florida then departed after Christmas to make a direct run through the Bahamas' to Panama to follow Carl's suggestion to circumnavigate. I transited the canal in early February and made a 53 day passage to Easter Island. Thirst inducing.

From Panama it took 53 days to make Easter Island with 18 consecutive days of calm. From there Paul stopped at Henderson Island near Pitcairn Island, then went on to Pitcairn for a wonderful stop anchoring near the Bounty remains. The next stop was Bora Bora, then over the International Date Line to Port Vila, Vanuatu. As Paul approached the line he turned south in a 40 knot blow at 10 pm snapped a dozen (golf) balls back over the line. Better hang time than Tiger Woods at 24 hours and 6 seconds. From Vanuatu Paul made the second longest passage of his journey - 4000 nautical miles - to Christmas Island then was forced to put in at Cocos-Keeling due to a broken lower shroud 55 miles out. After fixing his rigging, he ran 2400 miles to Port Louis, Mauritius, then on to Reunion Island. Leaving Reunion for South Africa, Paul was rolled and dismasted 500 miles out, and after setting up a jury rig, sailed back to reunion where he hand built a replacement mast, then sailed on to Cape Town. He contracted for a replacement mast in Cape Town, departing for a direct route to St. Helena, arriving Antigua on 18 May 2013 after a 4100 mile, 54 day passage. After re-provisioning, he sailed due north, non-stop to Canada so he reports, "I can call an end to my circumnavigation".

Paul wrote from the Mauritius, western Pacific, “I love the open sea and hate making landfall so would stay out there if I could. I had no refrigeration, only an SSB receiver, and no weather updates (I last checked weather in Miami). I use passing freighters to update family with my position as I travel. This is so 19th century I know, but I love the feeling of isolation.”

Kirk Little, S/V Salsa, 1972 Hull # 504

Currently Laying: San Blas Islands, Panama

Single handed Circumnavigation: May, 2008 – November 2012

Route: Point of Departure - Brunswick, Georgia, thence Caribbean to the Panama Canal, Marquises, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Australia Great Barrier Reef, Thailand, Indian Ocean to Cape Town, South Africa, Brazil, thence returning to Panama.

Kirk maintains a sailing blog at which describes his experiences and preparation for the voyage at www.sailingsalsa.com. Kirk is currently sailing the San Blas Islands, having crossed his outbound path round the world north of Cartagena.

Yves Gelanis, Jean Du Sud, Hull # 399

Home Port: Gaspé, Quebec, Canada

Single handed Circumnavigation: 1982 – 1983, six additional ocean crossings in an A-30

Route: Point of Departure St. Malo France, Cape of Good Hope, Cape Leeuwin (Australia), Chatham Island, Cape Horn, Gaspé, Quebec, Canada

Yves completed a single handed, one stop, round the world voyage via the great capes in the southern Ocean in 1982. He attempted to circumnavigate single handed but was rolled and dismasted in rough seas then forced to put into Chatham Island to repair his mast and re-rig the boat. Yves designed, built and tested his Cap Horn self-steering wind vane during the voyage, which enabled him to avoid having to hand steer for all but one hour of his 282 days at sea.

More detailed information concerning Yves Voyage can be read at his web site:

WWW.Capehorn.com

Terrell Adkisson, Altair, possibly 1975 Hull # 579

Home Port: Port Arthur, Texas

Single Handed Circumnavigation: 1975 -1978

Route:

Though unknown in most sailing circles, Terrell Adkisson, Port Arthur, Texas, circumnavigated "Altair", A-30 hull 581 in 1975-1978. Terrill was a public school teacher, and long-time member of the Port Authur Yacht Club until his death in 2006. His photos from his voyage were a club staple in Southeast Texas circles for many years, and letters from his voyage were published extensively in the local newspapers. Little information currently available about his voyage, although a recent internet photo of Altair indicates the vessel continues to be well maintained and sailing the Gulf Coast – a testament to Terrell's life and voyage.

Compiled by Glenn Brooks, *Dolce*, #318