

# Education Passages

*415 Lincolnville Avenue  
Belfast, ME 04915*

## Mini Boat Updates

June 6, 2009

### Bluefish:

This boat is sponsored by the Waldo County YMCA and the Troy Howard Middle School in Belfast, Maine. Bluefish was launched by the Maine Maritime Academy off their training ship the STATE OF MAINE on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 280 nautical miles East of Cape Hatteras which is often referred to as graveyard of the east coast, and it continued on in a northeasterly direction up the coast.

After sailing 318 nautical miles and reaching speeds up to 5.5 Knots Bluefish stopped sending position reports on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Her last known position was 24.56 N and 65.82W which put her 148.7 miles East of Ocean City Delaware. We can't be certain as to why Bluefish stopped sending signals but we strongly suspect it was a malfunction with the GPS transponder because the GPS on the K-Kids Kruiser stopped at about the same time. While its possible Bluefish could have been run over by another vessel, sunk or come to some other ill fate we don't believe this to be the case.

It's our opinion that Bluefish is sailing on and is now likely off the coast of Cape Cod. We hope she'll continue to ride the Gulf Stream and use the prevailing winds to cross the Atlantic. Hopefully we will hear from some excited people on the other side of the Atlantic that they have found Bluefish in another three months or so. Monitor our website for further details as we'll continue to update progress on all the boats.

We will leave Bluefish hooked up to the satellite for another month hoping it might suddenly start reporting again but this is very unlikely. For photos of Bluefish's launching off the STATE OF MAINE go to [www.educationalpassages](http://www.educationalpassages) and click on 2009 Atl Passages and then click on Bluefish. Additional photos can be found on the Maine Maritime Academy website at [www.mma.edu](http://www.mma.edu). Click on the picture of the STATE OF MAINE training vessel in the upper right hand corner which will bring you to the "Captains log". Check out the May 23rd entry for Bluefish.

### USS – C.P.S.:

C.P.S. was sponsored by the Belfast High School Creative Problem Solving Class in Belfast, Maine. They wanted their boat to sail through the infamous Bermuda Triangle and was launched by the Maine Maritime Academy on June 1<sup>st</sup> northeast of Puerto Rico. It has been sailing in a west-north-west direction since its launch and is heading directly through the Triangle.

Fortunately CPS positioning system has been sending its position ever two hours. At this time she has already sailed 269.5 nautical miles. You can follow her through the Triangle and see pictures of her launch by going to the above previously mentioned websites.

ZENNITH:

Camden Hills High School's Zennith Program has sponsored this boat. She has been sending reliable positions and plans to be launched within the next week or so. Watch for pictures of her launch and more information on this highly customized boat with flashy graphics complete with a picture of the students in the Zennith Program.

UBER SAIL:

Uber Sail is sponsored by Union 93 elementary schools in the Castine, Maine area. This boat has also been sending reliable positioning signals. She was scheduled for launch today (June 7<sup>th</sup>) but she was delayed due to heavy weather which would have made launching very difficult in ten foot waves and winds of 30 knots. Uber Sail will be launched as soon as the weather cooperates and we expect her to make a very long passage down to the Caribbean Islands.

K – KIDS – KRUISER:

The K-Kids-Kruiser is sponsored by the K-Kids at Old Town Elementary School in Old Town Maine. Unfortunately we have experienced severe GPS problems on this boat. We think we have a good solution though because a new GPS transponder is on its way to Newfoundland, Canada where the STATE OF MAINE will be docking on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Captain Wade and his crew will either replace the unit and launch the K-Kids-Kruiser as the STATE OF MAINE works its way down the East coast to Baltimore, Maryland or bring the mini boat back to Castine for further repairs and launching later this Fall. If this vessel is launched later this summer it will allow school students around the world to follow their boat in their schools. We all wish the amazing K-Kids in Old Town the best of luck getting their boat underway. Watch the above websites for further developments.

Richard Baldwin