

Hi, I'm Andy Cross! I grew up racing, day sailing and cruising with my family in Michigan. When I was 19 years old, I crewed on a passage from Florida to Rhode Island that set me on a course into the sailing industry that continues to this day at the Sint Maarten Yacht Club as an Event Organizer and Sailing Instructor.

After college in Oregon and then Florida, I earned a U.S. Coast Guard captain's license and worked as an instructor and manager at Offshore Sailing School for six years in Florida, the Bahamas, Caribbean and anywhere else they asked me to go. Teaching every class the school offered, I honed my cruising, racing, coaching and management skills while sailing a variety of boats with a wide range of students.

From there, I moved to the Pacific Northwest with my wife Jill and into a career as a writer and editor in the sailing industry. We bought a 1984 Grand Soleil 39 in Seattle in 2012 that we named *Yahtzee* and have been cruising and raising a family aboard from the Pacific Northwest and Alaska, south to Mexico and Central America, and now in the Caribbean.

I bring a well-rounded knowledge of sailing, team building, coaching, communications and management to the Sint Maarten Yacht Club team and am excited to be here on "The Friendly Island."