

Senior Captain Robert “Bob” Baginski



Senior Captain Bob Baginski cut his sailing teeth as a young man on Lake Erie. In his words, he was hooked.

In early 2000, after a brief hiatus to fulfill familial obligations, he transitioned back into the sailing life. He then began the formal, rigorous process of earning certifications and credentials that brings him to today, a distinguished and recognized leader in the area of sailing instruction.

Bob continues to deepen his expertise in sailing, obtaining certifications such as Basic Cruising and Bareboat Cruising, Coastal Navigation Instructor certification in 2019 and US Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Credentials, solidifying his commitment to the maritime world.

Bob is a U.S. Coast Guard licensed captain with a 50-ton, inland licensing credentials. He is a Certified American Sailing Instructor teaching ASA 101, 103, and 104.

In addition, Bob holds dual certification as a certified US Sailing instructor in basic, intermediate, and advanced levels.

Aside from his instructional sailing expertise, Bob brings a solid background in corporate affairs and is always primed to lead one of **Gratitude Sailing's** Executive Leadership and Teambuilding sessions on the Bay aboard his **Sailing Vessel (S/V) Makani**, meaning 'wind' or 'breeze' in Hawaiian.

The personal sailing philosophy he brings to **The Gratitude Sailing Institute** is, in his own words, "...to pass along to my students the immense joy I experience by sharing my love for sailing and helping them embark on their own sailing adventures."

Gratitude Sailing is as fortunate as they are delighted to have Senior Captain Baginski as one of their key instructors and teammates!

Student testimonials:

Certifiably, one of the All Time BEST Captains! Congratulations Bob! You make sailing a wonderful learning experience...always honored to be part of your crew... Wishing you big wind, spectacular sunsets and moon rises...and many more magical days on the water ... Sail on – Betsy O.

In the years of sailing with Bob, he has taught me valuable lessons in the art of sailing. These lessons have set the road for me to sail in the racing fleets of Maxis (custom designed 70 to 100 foot racing yachts), TP-52, FARR 40, J-80 just to name a few in my 20 years of competitive sailing. Bob is needless to say a skilled sailor, confident in his abilities as a sailor and a leader thus earning the title of "Captain." Not only by way of passing the license for Captain but leading by example who crews with him. These traits, especially of leadership, has also encourage me to be an assistant coach of the United States Naval Academy, Offshore Varsity Team. Everything that I have become as a sailor was during my time sailing with Bob Baginski and the wealth of knowledge accumulated through those years. – Pancho G.