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OFFSHORE-LOBSTERMAN-TURNED-AUTHOR LAUNCHES “BEARIN’S: THE BOOK”

(DAMARISCOTTA) – Brian Robbins, a former offshore lobsterman who fished the Gulf of Maine and Georges Bank and writes the popular “Bearin’s” column for “Commercial Fisheries News” has published “Bearin’s: The Book – Twenty Years of Bulkhead Wisdom, Quiet Smiles, Belly Laughs, and Good Ol’ Salty Tears” (North Wind Publishing, 2011). For “Bearin’s: The Book” Robbins hand-picked 65 columns from 20 years’ worth of fiction, essays, and profiles featuring comedy with a Downeast twist and wide-ranging essays on life, death, dogs and everything in between.

According to Crash Barry, author of “Tough Island” and “Sex, Drugs and Blueberries,” Robbins’ tales are “hysterically accurate, showing great humor in the mishaps and misadventures of dockside denizens.” He combines the storytelling talents of his native state with pop culture and a Zen-like outlook on life. Said Robbins, “I’ve sat with farmers from Kansas – get out the map and you’ll see they don’t have much coastline in Kansas – and talked about our lives. In the end, we laughed and cried about a lot of the same things; theirs just had more dirt on it and ours was stiff with salt.”

Robbins frequently turns ordinary book signings into off-the-cuff storytelling and live music performances. He appeared at this year’s Bangor Book Festival (<http://www.bangorbookfest.org/?p=537>) and Belfast Bound Book Festival (<http://www.belfastboundbookfestival.com>). “Salt of the Earth” (<http://saltthemovie.org/>), a documentary featuring Robbins, his brother and their late father, has been shown on Maine Public Broadcasting Network and at film festivals around the world. A regular contributor to “Commercial Fisheries News,” “Fish Farming News,” “National Fisherman,” and “Maine Boats, Homes & Harbors,” his music-related feature articles, interviews, and album and book reviews appear on Jambands.com and Glide.com, and in the pages of “Relix” and “Hittin’ The Note” magazines. He is on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/BrianRobbinsWords>.

A July interview with Robbins on WERU-FM’s “Talk of the Town” will be rebroadcast on Friday, November 25, 10-11 a.m. WERU-FM 89.9FM Blue Hill, 99.9 Bangor, streams live at www.WERU.org. “Bearin’s: The Book” is available from bookstores, www.NorthWindPublishing.com and Amazon.com.

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