

FEBRUARY FEATURED SONG

by Andy Longo

HOW THE JOHN B. SAILS

The Bahamian folk song originally published as *The John B. Sails* is known to most of us as *Sloop John B.* It has been recorded by numerous artists. The Kingston Trio and The Beach Boys have recordings that are well known to many of us. The accompaniment is performed in a Calypso beat (- - - _ _ -), a syncopated rhythm. [Here is a link to a recording](#) that may be close to the original style of its performance. Or on our [website](#).

G

We come on the Sloop John B, my grandfather and me.

D

Round Nassau town ve did roam,

G

G7

C

Drinkin all night, ve got in a fight,

G

D

G

well I feel so break up, ve vant to go home.

Chorus:

G

So hoist up the John B sail, see how the mainsail set,

D

Call for the captain a shore, let me go home.

G

G7

C

Let me go home, let me go home,

G

D

G

I feel so break- up, I vant to go home.

The first mate he got drunk, Break up the people trunk,

Constable come aboard, take him away—

Mr. Johnstone, leave me alone,

I feel so break-up, I vant to go home.

Chorus

The poor cook got the fits, Throw away all o' my grits,

Captain's pig done eat up all o' my corn.

Lemme go home, I vant to go home,

I feel so break-up, I vant to go home. Chorus

Steamboat go by steam, Sailboat go by sail,

My girl's hat 'ain't got no tail.

Lemme go home, I vant to go home,

I feel so break-up, I vant to go home. Chorus

Send all the things from ashore, Let all the breezes blow,

I'm so sorry that I can longer stay,

Good-by to you— Tra-la-la-lu,

This is the vorst trip since I vas born. Chorus

