



Cruising Club of America SF Station

## CRUISING CLUB OF AMERICA SAN FRANCISCO STATION

### Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, May 1, 2013

### Regular Luncheon Meeting

The regular May Luncheon Meeting of the members of the Cruising Club of America, San Francisco Station, was held on Wednesday, May 1, 2013, commencing at 11:30 a.m., at the Marin Yacht Club, San Rafael, California.

**Members Present:** A list of members in attendance is set forth below. Total attendance, with spouses and guests, was about 40. For Dick Enersen's usual great shots of the meeting, go to [http://dickenersen.smugmug.com/Events/CCA-SAF/CCA-SAF-5113/29209424\\_bxHVKn#!i=2488985096&k=bcCFirV](http://dickenersen.smugmug.com/Events/CCA-SAF/CCA-SAF-5113/29209424_bxHVKn#!i=2488985096&k=bcCFirV).

### Call to Order by Mr. Ahari

Rear Commodore Zia Ahari presided. After calling the meeting to order, Zia extended the Station's sincerest thanks to Ben Yamanaka and the management and staff of Marin Yacht Club for hosting.

Mr. Ahari then called on the members present to introduce their guests.

He then went on to describe the memorial that was held for Rick Wood on Sunday, April 21, at the Point San Pablo, with many members present.

In honor of Rick's memory, Station member John Edwards, who sailed onboard *Sea Lion* with Rick and rounded Cape Horn, will hold a talk at the San Francisco Yacht Club on Wednesday, May 8, at 6:30 p.m., with a slide and musical show, Mr. Ahari announced. Details are in a flyer previously sent to the membership. Admission is free, but you will need to register at the SFYC website or call in.

Several members have already responded to Mr. Ahari's announcement regarding member ocean passages and the Transoceanic Pennant and the John Parkinson Memorial Trophy. Mr. Ahari reminded the membership that the ocean crossing must have been done while a CCA member, not before, and skippering the boat is a requirement. To be awarded the Trophy and Pennant, qualified members need only write to Bob Drew, chair of the awards committee ([bdrew1133@aol.com](mailto:bdrew1133@aol.com)), with the details of their crossings.

Mr. Ahari distributed a flyer regarding Bunnell Cove Foundation's activities (see copy attached). The foundation supports activities that provide assistance and research on matters related to cruisers, especially on matters concerning safety at sea and environmental issues. The membership was asked to read the flyer and consider tax-deductible donations, even if in small amounts. Bill Foss and Mr. Ahari, as members of the foundation's board of directors, will see that your contributions are appropriately applied.

### **Introduction of New Members**

Mr. Ahari then introduced the following new members:

Michael J. Johnson: Mr. Ahari stated that Mike Johnson apologized for his absence from the meeting, saying he's anxious to start his cruise through the Northwest Passage as soon as possible. Mike has prepared his schooner well and gathered a competent crew. He has an extraordinary sailing record. After sailing in a variety of vessels, including square riggers, native craft and large schooners, Mike accomplished a 7½-year circumnavigation via the five great capes on his Westsail 32, going the hard way – from east to west. Mike now owns a 40' staysail schooner named *Gitana*, in which he has sailed on long voyages in the Pacific, Atlantic and Mediterranean – as far north as Svalbard and as far south as Brazil. Mike's home (between trips) is in Santa Fe, New Mexico, but he frequently spends time in Tiburon with friends, so we will likely see him often at our Station events. The Rear Commodore wished Mike all

success on the Station's behalf. Mike has promised to keep us informed of his adventures. He was sponsored by Bill Chapman.

Lee Simpson: Wyman Harris then introduced a new member he had sponsored, his good, long-time friend Lee Simpson. Lee began ocean sailing in 1974 in a 50' ketch cruising in the Philippines, and later sailed for five years on the West Coast between California and Mexico. In 1987, Lee and his wife and oldest son cruised from California to the Marquesas, the Tuamotus and Tahiti, after which he began cruising on his 58' trawler, which he bought in New York. Lee cruised in the Northwest on annual trips as far north as Juneau. In 2001 he began construction of his present boat, a 62' steel trawler, which he built himself at his ranch in Madera, California. Lee has attended several of our meetings and has become acquainted with a number of our members. (See photos.)

Robert Cadranell: Dick Enersen then introduced a new member he had sponsored, Robert Cadranell, one of Dick's best friends. Bob owns an 80' Ben Seaborn-designed ketch named *Tatoosh*, in which he sails extensively on the West Coast between Alaska and Mexico. Bob also has an impressive record of offshore passages in various boats, totaling about 31,000 nautical miles over the past 54 years. He has a home in Poulsbo, Washington, and another in San Diego, and moves the boat between, and resides at, both locations. Bob spends quite a lot of time in the Bay Area and will likely be attending our meetings and functions. (See photos.)

As Secretary/Treasurer of the Station, Stafford Keegin presented to each of the new members a package of materials attesting to their becoming members of the Cruising Club of America, including neckties, burgees, rosters and the like.

### **Secretary/Treasurer's Report**

Stafford stated that the Station had \$2,322.73 on deposit at the Bank of America and about \$500 in cash and checks yet to be deposited, against which there were about \$1,600 in expenditures due or about to become due.

### **Membership Committee**

Bob Van Blaricom announced that there were several applicants to CCA with nearly complete packages ready for the fall meetings.

### **Cruise Committee**

Chris Parkman reminded the members of the upcoming Half Moon Bay Cruise on May 17-19, and the Solano Yacht Club Bay Cruise on June 21-23. By those who wish to continue, the latter cruise will conclude in an eventual rendezvous up the Delta.

### **Program Committee**

Sally Honey spoke briefly of the next Station luncheon meeting, to be held at the St. Francis Yacht Club in San Francisco on June 5, 2013, commencing at 11:30 am. We are going to enjoy a report of a cruise at a different speed: a canal cruise in France. Don Bekins and Jim Cornelius will explain how you don't need yacht clubs if you have bistros, brasseries, cafes, bars, buffets, auberges, cafeterias, and rotisseries along the way.

Sally went on remind us that we're all going to be off sailing during the months of July and August, not returning for the next post-June luncheon meeting at the San Francisco Yacht Club until Wednesday, September 4. There will be no formal program for this meeting, as it is reserved for tales of pirates, hurricanes and other summer adventures.

### **Environment of the Sea Committee**

Bill Foss reported in from Sardinia that, although he could not attend the meeting, he wanted the members of the Station to know that *World Ocean Day* will be celebrated on June 8. For information about this important event, see [www.worldoceanday.org](http://www.worldoceanday.org). Please use the occasion to commit to doing at least one thing personally to benefit our oceans. The Spring 2013 Environment of the Sea Notes are now posted on the Environment of the Sea Web page which may be viewed on the public site of [www.cruisingclub.org](http://www.cruisingclub.org).

### **Communications Committee**

No Report.

### **Historian**

No Report.

## **Fleet Surgeon**

Jim Cornelius reported that we are mostly all quite well, which is good.

## **Safety At Sea**

Sally Honey discussed the terrific Safety At Sea link on the public CCA website [http://www.cruisingclub.org/seamanship/seamanship\\_safety.htm](http://www.cruisingclub.org/seamanship/seamanship_safety.htm). It contains probably the best collection of articles and discussions in existence regarding being safe while having fun on your boat. There are over 20 pertinent articles and tips that we should all review and be very familiar with. It's an absolutely go-to site and also very entertaining. There's an interesting piece on a medical incident that occurred in the 2012 Bermuda Race.

## **Program – Alex Mehran**

Sally Honey then introduced our guest speaker, Alex Mehran, who related his experiences at the 2012 Transpacific Yacht Race. With Alex at the meeting were his wife, Maggie, and brand-new baby. Alex explained that, because of multiple headsails twisting around the head stay (which sometimes took four hours to undo), he didn't have his Merf Owen-designed Open 50, *Truth*, flat out that often during the race, and by the finish his go-fast headsails sails were either in a tangled mess down below or floating out in the Pacific somewhere. Nevertheless, somewhat under-powered, *Truth* set a new singlehanded Transpac record. Mehran's passage of eight days, 12 hours shaves nearly two-and-a-half days off the previous record, set 16 years ago by an Open 60 sailed by Ray Thayer. *Truth* is an all-carbon, canting keel open class yacht with an 80-ft. three-spreader rig. The boat is an excellent offshore racing machine, so long as she is kept in hand, which was Alex's primary mission in the race! When asked when his next race would be, Alex made it clear he'd much rather spend his time with his growing family. Below is Alex, Maggie and Alexander Junior their eight-month-old son at the finish.



What a story!

### **Cruising We Do or Plan to Do**

Your Secretary Treasurer was so awed by Alex's story that he flubbed the announcements by our members of their planned cruises, but he believes members Simpson, Mason, Cooper, Munro, Harris and Barker all plan to be underway in the coming month, both near and far.

### **Next Meeting**

The next luncheon meeting of the Station will be held at the **St. Francis Yacht Club** in San Francisco on **June 5, 2013**, commencing at 11:30 am. An Announcement of the Meeting and Registration form will be distributed timely.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Ahari thereupon adjourned the meeting at 2:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stafford W. Keegin,  
Secretary/Treasurer, CCA/SF

Members attending the May Luncheon were:

Zia Ahari and guest David Dorward, Joseph Alderson, James Antrim, Charles Bacigalupi, Morgan and Diane Barker, Liz Baylis, Don Bekins, Bob Cadranell, Jim Cooper, Jim Cornelius, Bill Edinger, Dick Enersen, Doug Finley, Tom Hall, Bob Hanelt, Wyman Harris, Todd Hedin, Peter Hogg, Sally Honey, Steve Hunt, Jim Hurst, Stafford Keegin and guests Peter Pike and Bert Damner, Terry Klaus, Jerry Knecht, Steve Mason, Alex and Maggie Mehran, Bruce and Lynne Munro, Alan Olson, Chris Parkman, Jim Quanci, Francoise Ramsay, Jim Robinson, Robby Robinson, Jon Rolien, John Sanford, Lee Simpson, Hank Strauss, Doug Thorne, and Bob Van Blaricom.