



Cruising Club of America, San Francisco (SAF) Station Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: October 1, 2014

Location: St. Francis Yacht Club, Chart Room

Attendees: Forty-one members and guests attended the meeting. Please see the list of attendees at the end of these minutes.

Call to Order: Rear Commodore Klaus called the meeting to order at approximately 12:00. He introduced our distinguished guests, CCA Commodore Tad Lhamon and Tad's wife, Joyce, after which Commodore Lhamon briefly spoke to us about the Cruising Club of America's challenges and expectations.

Commodore Lhamon's Remarks:

Commodore Tad and Joyce Lhamon, following the CCA *Fall Cruise to Desolation Sound*, sailed from their homeport of Port Madison, Bainbridge Island, Washington, on a cruising quest to attend meetings at all eleven CCA stations—by water—aboard their beautiful yacht *Lyric*. Tad and Joyce, in their next two years, will cruise to all Stations and SAF is their first call-in.



Commodore Tad & Joyce Lhamon with Don Bekins

Commodore Lhamon took the opportunity to provide us with a “state of the union” address about the Cruising Club of America. Tad is very optimistic about the CCA, and pointed out many successes, but did point to three CCA challenges that he expects to address over the next two years: 1) Growing the membership, particularly by encouraging younger, blue-water sailors who will be the future of the CCA; 2) Establishing a physical CCA clubhouse or, at least, a permanent home for the CCA trophies and memorabilia; and 3) Continuing to support the bi-annual 635-mile Newport-Bermuda race that, in 2016, will be followed by a CCA Cruise around Bermuda. SAF members appreciated Tad's insights.

Introductions: Program Committee Chair Mary Crowley introduced our speaker, Dirk Rosen, Executive Director, Marine Applied Research & Exploration (MARE) and two of his MARE colleagues, Board Chair Karen Weber and Anthony Adessa. In addition to these five guests, we were introduced to a new CCA-SAF member, Dave MacEwen, and his wife, Jenny. Dave and Jenny own a SC50 ocean racer, *Lucky Duck*, which they berth in Sausalito. They have recently joined the CCA through the Chesapeake Station (CHE) but live in Los Altos and have appropriately transferred to our SAF Station.

Treasurers Report: The undersigned reported that, prior to the meeting, our SAF Station had, counting PayPal deposits, BofA checking account and cash on hand, a balance of \$6,474.00 prior to paying St. Francis YC for this lunch.

Cruise Committee Report: Mark Lindlow, Chairman, reported that the cruise to Tomales Bay was a successful cruise. At the barbecue at Heart's Desire Beach on Sat., 13 September, there were 24 guests and members who either sailed up (12) or drove up (12). Five yachts sailed up to Tomales Bay for the weekend, including four member yachts.

Mark has scheduled a raft up at Ayala Cove, Angel Island, on Saturday, October 18th, which will be hosted by the SAF Station. Mark will have *Kulu* at a mooring and will be the host yacht.



Bob Van Blaricom, Don Bekins and Bruce Munro aboard *Princess* at anchor at Heart's Desire. (Photo by Doug Thorne)

Membership Committee Report: Chairman Zia Ahari reported that the SAF Station has one candidate whose application is complete and who will be presented to the National Membership Committee at the CCA Fall Meeting, at the Royal Canadian YC in Toronto, on October 16th. There is one more SAF candidate whose application is being processed at this time.

Other Membership: Robby Robinson reported that member Chris Parkman is at the Stanford Medical Center undergoing stem-cell therapy. Robby circulated a "get well" card for Chris.

Nominating Committee Report: Chairman Zia Ahari reported that R/C Klaus, due to personal exigencies, would not continue as Rear Commodore of the SAF Station in 2015. Accordingly, the Nominating Committee has resolved to nominate the undersigned for SAF Rear Commodore in 2015. A SAF Secretary/Treasurer nominee will be selected and voted upon at the November 5th meeting.

Webmasters Report: Michael Moradzadeh, CCA Webmaster, reported on the progress of the CCA website upgrades. Michael reported that the efforts to "spruce up" the website is going well and, once standardization is achieved, the individual stations will be invited to "re-engage" to enhance and upgrade content including Station-specific information such as events, cruises, pictures and news.

Program Committee Report: Mary Crowley reported that Ron Holland, NA, will speak at the November lunch meeting and will recap his amazing career with a presentation entitled "*Improbable to Mirabella V.*" This promises to be a well-attended event and R/C Klaus has moved the meeting location, in order to ensure that there is sufficient room for all members and guests who would like to attend. Accordingly the November 5, 2014 meeting will be held at St. Francis YC in either the Golden Gate Room or the Northwest Room depending on the number of reservations. CCA-SAF members are encouraged to invite guests.

“OUR BUSINESS IS GOING UNDER”

Speaker Dirk Rosen is Chief Executive Officer of Marine Applied Research & Exploration (MARE) based at Brickyard Cove in Richmond. MARE operates a fleet of deep-water, remotely operated vehicles (ROVs), which map and film the ocean bottoms at Marine Protected Areas at depth too deep for divers. Dirk says, “MARE picks up where divers leave off” as their ROVs can operate to depths up to 1,000 meters (3,300 feet.)

MARE “goes under” to better understand our marine ecosystems that are facing unprecedented threats from climate change, pollution and over fishing to enable “wild fish for future generations.” Currently MARE is analyzing the ocean beds of 120-plus California Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) that protect about fifteen percent of California’s ocean waters.



Dirk Rosen at the podium.

Interestingly, California has the largest network of marine reserves in the entire world, second only to Australia’s Great Barrier Reef. It is within these protected areas that the wild fish reproduce in their natural habitats that are protected from fishing. MARE’s ROVs video photograph the ocean floor, looking for “preferred” habitats and their scientists count the fish. In particular, they are looking for “BOFF” fish (Big Ol’ Fat Females) that produce the most “YOY” (Young Of the Year). The fish are actually counted from the videos filmed by the ROVs and, on subsequent visits to the same MPAs on a near-annual basis, the scientists have been encouraged by the growth of the wild fish stocks in these reserves.

The most successful network of California’s MPAs is the Channel Islands. Dirk calls the Channel Islands network of MPAs, “the bellwether for our nation.” Since 2003, the Channel Islands have been the longest-running network of MPAs in the United States and the resulting growth of wild fish stocks has been encouraging. These reserves are vital to replenishing wild fish stock so that the ocean can do its part to resolve upcoming “protein shortfalls” in the world’s food supply.

What can we do to promote and sustain a healthy ocean? Most of us in the room already understand this but, in closing, Dirk reiterated that we can: 1) eat sustainable fish [a concept actively promoted by our member Bill Foss who chairs the CCA Environment of the Sea Committee]; 2) remember that all garbage eventually gets to the sea [not too well understood inland]; and 3) support local climate action plans.

Cruising We Do:

- Steve Mason reported on the CCA Fall Cruise to Desolation Sound that was put on and managed by the CCA-PNW Station. He reported that the Fall Cruise was, “well organized and well run.” The weather was good and Steve said that the anchorages, except at locations where organized events were periodically held, were un-crowded and beautiful with opportunities to meet more CCA members.
- Robby Robinson reported that Bill Edinger was dismayed while sailing home from Hawaii. Bill contacted the US Coast Guard who arranged for a cruise ship to rendezvous with *Defiance* to supply diesel fuel and food to enable Bill and his crew to motor all of the way back to San Francisco Bay. Bill was not able to make the meeting as *Defiance* was being hauled at Spaulding Boat Works at the same time as our lunch.
- Bob Cadranell reported on his summer cruise aboard his *Tatoosh* from San Diego down to French Polynesia and back. It was a 9,500 nautical mile round trip. The voyage was wonderful even though engine problems forced them to sail much of the way down through the Marquesas, Tuamotus and Society Islands. We complimented Bob on his seamanship and navigations skills to accomplish most of the voyage under sail only. Bob reported that *Tatoosh* arrived in Papeete during a heavy rainstorm, under sail and with almost no visibility. It was hard to see navigation marks as they entered the harbor. “Let me know when we are approaching the harbor,” requested Bob of the person at the radar. “You are already in the harbor,” came back the reply.
- Bob Van Blaricom talked about the great Maine cruising that he did with Pete Passano aboard *Sea Bear*, a boat that Bob helped to build and was part owner with Pete. It was a wonderful and emotional experience reported Bob.
- Jim Jessie reported that he had cruised this summer in the Pacific Northwest with SAF member John McCartney. Jim reported that the cruising was wonderful but our station is losing a member as John McCartney, who lives in Bellingham, WA, is transferring to the PNW station.

Members and guests attending

Anthony Adessa (MARE), Zia Ahari, Morgan Barker, Don Bekins, Bob Bernheim, Bob and Molly Cadranell, David Cohan, Mary Crowley, Bill Forsythe, Tom Hall, Bob and Kristi Hanelt, Wyman and Gay Harris, Steve and Marilyn Hunt, Jim Hurst, Jim Jessie, Terry Klaus, Jerry and Sue Knecht, Bill LeRoy, Tad and Joyce Lhamon (PNW), Mark Lindlow, Dave and Jenny MacEwen, Steve Mason, Michael Moradzadeh, Mike and Sue Proudfoot, Françoise Ramsay, Robby and Delores Robinson, Jon Rolien, Dirk Rosen (MARE), John Stanford, Doug Thorne, Bob Van Blaricom, and Karen Weber (MARE).

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 14:00 and some members toured the Lhamons' yacht *Lyric*.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert L. Hanelt
Secretary/Treasurer, CCA-SAF Station