



## **Cruising Club of America - San Francisco Station June 6, 2007 Meeting Minutes Spaulding Wooden Boat Center**

**Members Present:** Allen, Bacigalupi, Bekins, Belmont, Bernheim, Carmine, Cochran, Cooper, Cornelius, Darbee, Edinger, Finley, Forsythe, Harris, Harter, Hogg, Hunt, Hurst, Klaus, Knecht, Messer, Noyes, Parkman, Price, R. Robinson, Roe, Sanford, Smith, Swain, Van Blaricom, Vespa.

**Call to Order and Introduction of Guests:** R/C Van Blaricom introduced Mark Welter who is the Executive Director of the Spaulding Wooden Boat Center and Bob Darr who is the Director of the Arques School of Traditional Boatbuilding. Van Blaricom also introduced prospective new member Larry Pardey and his wife Lynn. Several members' wives were present including Marlene Allen, Helen Bacigalupi, Claudette Carmine, Melinda Darbee, Anne Finley, Laila Messer, Joan McCune and Dolores Robinson. Bob Vespa introduced two guests, one being his son and John Sanford introduced his guest David Holcher. Bill Belmont and Patrick Price each had a guest as well.

**R/C's Comments:** Many thanks were extended to Terry Klaus for organizing this meeting and setting up such a beautiful table arrangement with white linen tablecloths right in the middle of a working boat shop. An impressive feat!

**Secretary/Treasurer's Report:** Steve Hunt had no report other than that the club continues to be solvent. We are pleased that all members RSVP to the proper person indicated on the meeting announcement and pay for your lunch when you arrive. The system is working well and we appreciate everyone's cooperation.

**Membership Report:** Robby Robinson had no report today, but asked that we all send him a picture of you and your wife for the roster.

**Entertainment/Events:** There will be no meetings in July and August. The next regular meeting will be Wednesday September 5th at the SFYC. A reminder notice will be sent out about two weeks before and you can RSVP to Don Bekins The October meeting will be at the Encinal YC on Thursday October 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Cruise Report:** Bill Edinger gave a report on the Half Moon Bay Cruise May 25 – 27<sup>th</sup>. Five boats attended and about 25 people came either by boat or car. Friday night dinner was at the Half Moon Bay Yacht Club and Saturday dinner was held at Drake's Tavern in Pescadero, about 20 minutes South of HMB. Good cruise under very mild conditions and overcast skies.

**Environment:** Bill Foss is on the East Coast preparing his boat for an Atlantic crossing about mid month, but sent an e-mail regarding World Ocean Day June 8<sup>th</sup>. Bob read the letter out loud and Bill Forsythe will be posting it on our website. We hope you can all take the small step that Bill Foss has suggested.

**Gam/Historian/Newsletter:** John Sanford had no report today.

**Cruising We Do:** Bob Van Blaricom reported on his trip from Hawaii to Bellingham, Washington. The trip took 21 days on a Hans Christian 33 and was fine but unseasonably cold. The owner's beagle dog helped to keep the crew warm and they encountered one gale. Roger Swanson, Doug Finley and Chris Parkman plan to rendezvous on July 2<sup>nd</sup> in Nova Scotia for another attempt at the Northwest Passage. The opportunity for a successful passage is looking promising. Wyman Harris has moved his boat by Yacht Path transport from La Paz to Sydney, B. C. Melinda Darbee gave a brief synopsis of her trip aboard *Mystic Pearl* from St Martin to Oyster Bay. They stopped in Bermuda for only four hours and decided to press on to stay ahead of any weather conditions. Prior to arriving in Bermuda they were on the edge of a storm and a Little Harbor 53 was lost at sea about 200 miles East of their position and remains missing to this day. A passing container ship reported losing 14 containers over board and it has been surmised that the Little Harbor 53 may have hit one of them and sunk.

**Old Business / New Business:** None reported.

**Presentation by Mark Welther and Bob Darr:** Mark Welther, Executive Director of the SPWBC, spoke about the history of the Center. Myron Spaulding built the building in 1951 so that he could concentrate mainly on building his own designs. In 2002, the Spauldings' generous gift turned this functional and historic boat yard into a non-profit charitable organization and living museum. Their main focus today is to restore historically significant wooden boats. As we could tell during our meeting, this facility definitely continues to be a center of activity. He explained that Mike Weiner has been the boat yard manager since 1978. The 1885 gaff sloop *Freda* is currently being completely restored on-site in the next bay over from our luncheon. She is the oldest private sailing yacht on the West Coast. The restoration of *Freda* will be a teaching project.

Bob Darr gave a talk about his experiences. He founded the Arques School in 1966 to teach boat building and is currently the Program Director and Head Instructor. The Arques School is presently located on another sight, but will be relocating into this building where we had lunch today. He worked on *Freda's* first restoration and lofted this restoration as close to the original lines and table of offsets as possible. They are working on finishing the framing (made from pepperwood trees) on 12" centers and will try to keep the original iron keel. This whole project is a rare opportunity for students to learn advanced boat building techniques.

Mark Welther explained how to get involved, should a person desire to do so. The restoration of *Freda* will proceed at the same rate as his fund raising. The planking materials, to be made from Port Orford cedar, will cost about \$12,000. SWBC is a fully tax-deductible charitable corporation and your generous support would be very much appreciated.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Hunt  
Secretary-Treasurer

**There will be no meeting in July or August, but don't forget the Montezuma Slough Cruise July 6<sup>th</sup> – 8th**