



## **Cruising Club of America - San Francisco Station January 9, 2008 Meeting Minutes St. Francis Yacht Club**

**Members Present:** Ahari, Bacigalupi, Bekins, Clendenin, Cooper, Cornelius, Edinger, Finley, Foss, Fullagar, Hanelt, Harris, Harter, Hunt, Klaus, Knecht, LeRoy, Parkman, Robby Robinson, Roe, Rolien, Sanford, Van Blaricom and Warren.

**Call to Order and Introduction of Guests:** R/C Steve Hunt called the meeting to order. No corrections to the December meeting minutes were noted. Next Steve asked for the introduction of guests. Bill LeRoy introduced Peter Noonan. Robby Robinson introduced Keith Sedwick, who spoke briefly about his work with the Farallon Patrol. Jerry Knecht introduced his wife, Sue. Wyman Harris introduced his wife, Gay. Jon Clendenin introduced his wife, Maggie. Don Bekins introduced his wife, Joanie, as well as guest speaker Peter Pyle and his wife, Rowena Forest. John Sanford introduced his son, Walter. Charlie Bacigalupi introduced his wife, Helen. R/C Steve Hunt introduced his wife, Marilyn. Jim Cornelius introduced his wife, Mimi.

**Secretary/Treasurer's Report:** David Fullagar reported that the club has approximately \$735 in the bank. Known obligations total \$400, leaving a balance of \$335. The shortfall last year was \$1727, including a \$1000 contribution to the Spaulding Wooden Boat Center. Even without this contribution, the club bank account would have decreased by \$727 in 2007. The treasurer/secretary noted that R/C Steve Hunt has done a detailed analysis of last year's finances and would present proposals for strengthening the club's financial situation later in the meeting.

**Membership Report:** Bob Van Blaricom reported that there are three possible candidates for submission to the Spring Membership Meeting: Danielle Dignan, Keith Sedwick and Liz Baylis.

**Entertainment/Events:** Next meeting on February 6<sup>th</sup> will be a **dinner** at the Cove House, San Francisco Yacht Club. Peter Darbee is the featured speaker. More details to follow. Since seating in the Cove House is limited to 60, **RSVP to Jim Cornelius soon to avoid disappointment:** 415-435-0918 or e-mail [hjamescornelius@comcast.net](mailto:hjamescornelius@comcast.net) .

Also note that the March 5<sup>th</sup> crab feed will be held at the Pt. San Pablo Yacht Club.

**Cruise Report:** Bill Edinger asked members to mark their calendars for the following 2008 cruises:

- Petaluma River or Half Moon Bay – May 17 to 18.
- Montezuma Slough – June 20 to 22.
- Tomales Bay – Sept 12 to 14.

R/C Steve Hunt passed out a list of “Member Owned Boats located in the San Francisco Bay Area,” showing boat name and type, as well as owner contact information. This should be very helpful when planning local cruise events.

**Environment:** Bill Foss reported that “Environment of the Sea” now has a dedicated page on the CCA National website: see [http://www.cruisingclub.org/seamanship/seamanship\\_environment.htm](http://www.cruisingclub.org/seamanship/seamanship_environment.htm). Henceforth the San Francisco Station website will focus on local issues. Bill urged each member to work with environmental organizations such as The Ocean Conservancy, Save The Bay, or The Monterey Bay Aquarium because a collective effort is more effective than any individual contribution. A more comprehensive list of organizations working on ocean conservancy will be provided at the next meeting.

Bill also drew our attention to the San Francisco Ocean Film Festival due to take place February 1 through Feb 3. See [www.oceanfilmfest.org](http://www.oceanfilmfest.org) for details.

**Gam/Historian/Newsletter:** John Sanford requested cruising plans and photographs for the next issue of the GAM – deadline is Feb 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Cruising We Do:** Four boats attended the New Year’s Eve rendezvous at Clipper Cove: Misty, Sea Chantey, Dolores E and Tuckaroo. A good time was had by all.

Wyman Harris reported on his Atlantic crossing aboard Jerry Eaton’s Hallberg Rassy 43 “Blue Heron.” Apart from Wyman, Jerry Eaton (captain/owner and SF CCA member), Walter Sanford (John Sanford’s son) and Nick Orem were aboard. Starting from Las Palmas, Gran Canary they covered approximately 2800 miles, reaching Rodney Bay, St. Lucia after 17½ days. It was not the usual milk run, with unseasonably high winds including several gales, but Wyman noted that the HR 43 was an almost ideal boat for the passage. Several of the 240 competing ARC boats ran into difficulties and sadly there was one fatality.

**New Business -- Analysis of the Club’s Financial Situation:** R/C Steve Hunt circulated a revenue and expense analysis for 2007, as well as a list of measures the club could instigate to improve its financial situation. These include better control of lunch and dinner expenses by getting quotes in writing, and using a ticket system for drinks. Steve also said he would consult with the Cruise Chairman to make the cruise costs, especially the meals, more closely reflect the actual costs involved. It was further proposed that individuals, not the club, should make charitable contributions, since the club is unable to benefit from charitable tax deductions.

Both PNW and SOC Stations pay \$500/person/trip allowance to attend National meetings, compared with \$200 to \$300 for the San Francisco Station. Although \$200 to \$300 does not come close to covering NY costs, he felt we should not consider any increase in the travel allowance until we are in much better financial shape.

Even with these cost-cutting measures, it is clear that the club’s financial situation would remain weak, so R/C Steve Hunt asked that a discussion be initiated and a motion made to increase the dues to \$45 per year, noting that the dues had not increased for many years. Jim Cornelius made the motion to raise the dues to \$45 per year, which was seconded and passed by the attendees with a unanimous show of hands. Fritz Warren then proposed an amendment to the motion just passed, to raise the dues to \$50 per year. This amendment was seconded, and also passed by a near-unanimous show of hands. Thus the annual dues for 2008 will be \$50.

There being no further business, the formal part of the meeting was adjourned.

**Guest Speaker:** Guest speaker Peter Pyle made a most interesting presentation to the group about his research on pelagic birds and other marine life. The first part of his talk focused on albatrosses. He described the different albatross species such as the black-footed, Laysan and short-tailed, as well as some recent findings resulting from the use of tracking devices. The black-footed albatross, for example, routinely flies from Midway Atoll to the California coast and back, a round trip journey of 6400 miles, just to gather food for the chick left in the nest on Midway. Peter then described the different birds one might expect to encounter while on an ocean passage. Finally, he discussed his research on the Farallon Islands, where he has worked for 24 years. Again, tracking devices have provided great insight into the migratory habits of sharks, tuna and leatherback turtles. The leatherbacks have been found to make 3 year voyages from California to Borneo and Indonesia, where they breed, and then return to California -- an incredible 3 year, 17,000 mile trip! This is just a small sampling of what we learned from Peter's talk.

The meeting concluded with a round of applause and a thank you by Don Bekins to Peter Pyle for a great presentation.

Respectfully submitted,

David Fullagar  
Secretary-Treasurer