



## **Cruising Club of America - San Francisco Station September 2, 2009 Meeting Minutes St. Francis Yacht Club**

### **Members Present:**

Ahari, Baylis, Bekins, Bernheim, Clendenin, Cooper, Cornelius, Edinger, Finley, Forsythe, Fullagar, Harter, Hedin, Hunt, Hurst, Klaus, Knecht, LeRoy, Munro, Price, Rolien, Sanford, Swain, and Van Blaricom.

### **Call to Order and Introduction of Guests:**

R/C Steve Hunt thanked Terry Klaus for arranging the luncheon. He then asked for the introduction of guests. Bruce Munro introduced his wife Lynne. John Sanford introduced Clark Beek, circumnavigator and candidate for CCA membership. Pat Price introduced Rick Meyerhoff, who will shortly be doing the Baha Haha for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time. Todd Hedin introduced Stafford Keegin, sailing colleague and owner of a Hinkley 41 Yawl.

### **Eight Bells**

Steve noted that since the last meeting our station had lost two more members. Lloyd Rees passed away in Hawaii at age 94. He was Rear Commodore for 4 years, and the oldest member of the station.

Craig Rowley also passed away this summer, at age 84. He had been a member since 1981. Gene Harter knew him well and sailed with him on several passages. Don Bekins also recalled a most enjoyable sail to Cabo with Craig.

Steve asked that a moment of silence be observed in memory of Lloyd & Craig. John Sanford is writing obituaries that will be posted on the website shortly. Jerry Knecht thanked John for the excellent job he does at this difficult task.

### **CCA Bahamas Cruise**

Steve reminded members that the CCA National Abacos Bahamas cruise takes place April 16-25th. The Hunts and the Cornelius' are going: the Eatons are looking for someone to share a boat with -- please contact Jerry if you are interested.

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

David Fullagar reported that the station is in sound fiscal shape with \$4,382 in the bank.

**Membership Report:** Bob Van Blaricom said that two candidates, Clark Beek and Steve Mason, have been submitted to the November meeting in NY. Bob noted that both have a ton of sailing experience (see details of Clark Beek's accomplishments under Sailing We Do). Bob has a few names for the Spring meeting, but is always looking for more.

**Entertainment/Events:**

Jim Cornelius said does not have any speaker lined up for the October meeting: he would welcome suggestions. In November, he's working on a possible meeting at the Corinthian YC. *Post meeting update from Jim: Corinthian YC luncheon set for November 11. Details to follow.*

Gene Harter suggested blind sailor Ed Gallagher as a possible speaker.

Another possibility would be Mary Crowley, who recently returned from an expedition to the Pacific Gyre. See: [http://www.ekoventure.com/users/adventure-travel-expert-reviews-united\\_states-california-sausalito-422/blog/articles/1222-mary-crowley-is-interviewed-about-plastic-vortex](http://www.ekoventure.com/users/adventure-travel-expert-reviews-united_states-california-sausalito-422/blog/articles/1222-mary-crowley-is-interviewed-about-plastic-vortex)

**Cruise Report:**

Bill Edinger said the Montezuma Slough cruise was a great success with 11 boats and about 30 people in attendance.

For the September Tomales Bay cruise, he has rented The Boat Shack at Nick's Cove. Anchoring in nearby Wright's Gulch is recommended.

**Environment of the Sea:**

No report: Bill Foss not present.

**Gam/Historian/Newsletter:**

John needs stories for the next GAM in the next 2 weeks.

**Cruising We Do:**

Doug Finley said he had just returned from a SFYC cruise in the Delta. Spent 4 days at the Delta YC and three days in Benicia: had a great trip.

John Swain reported that the CCA was well represented in the Schooner Race. Bob Vespa won in class (with Doug at the helm). Terry Klaus's *Brigadoon* was hit by a J105, but the skipper came forward and promised to take care of the damage.

Bob Van Blaricom described his 5050 mile cruise to Prince William Sound, describing the latter as a "magical fantastic place." *Misty* wintered in Valdez, with Bob returning June 1 to begin the cruise home, accompanied by Zia Ahari and Chris Parkman. Their route took them to Cordova, Sitka, down the west coast of Baranof Island to Craig, then through Hecate Strait, checking into Canada (with some difficulty) in Port Hardy. In the Trincomali Channel, they almost lost the rig when the tangs on the lower shrouds let go due to a weld failure.

Jane and their granddaughter joined *Misty* for some cruising in the San Juan & Gulf Islands, before Robbie Robinson joined Bob for the passage home from Bellingham.

Gene Harter recently tried to sell his Seafarer 45 *Soltura* (which he has owned for 44 years) without success, so now Gene is offering to lease the boat for a couple of years on very reasonable terms. Please contact Gene if you are interested.

David Fullagar described a summer cruise from Sidney BC, round the south end of Vancouver Island to Barkley Sound and Clayoquot Sound. He and Betsy enjoyed fantastic weather and no mechanical problems other than a shredded pump impeller (when the manual says change it every 600hrs, it means it: this one failed at 700 hrs!). Next year the Fullagars plan on bringing *Mystic* to Mexico and points south.

Bill Edinger took *Defiance* to Santa Barbara and the Channel Isles and had a great cruise. However last Sunday he lost the mast in Hurricane Gulch in gusty conditions: the spar appears to have failed at the splice.

Bill Leroy chartered a Moorings boat in Turkey and had a terrific time. He also said the Cal 40 fleet has developed a class for the Big Boat series. He will be competing (with Todd Hedin), as will *Green Buffalo* (JimQuanci/Mary Lovely).

Bruce Munro said he was going to take his boat to British Columbia and Alaska next summer.

Clark Beek described his nine year circumnavigation, starting June '99 and ending June '08. He spent 1½ years in Sydney cruising the harbor and its environs. He was in Phuket when the tsunami hit in 2004, but was lucky to be offshore at the time. Off the coast of Brazil, he was run down by an 800' containership. He swam for his life, his two crew members deciding to staying aboard. The boat was laid on its side and severely damaged, but amazingly no-one was seriously hurt and the boat stayed afloat. Fortunately the ship was an American flagged vessel and he was able to get restitution. Clark then rounded Cape Horn, spent 3 weeks in Antarctica, finally sailing home solo from Tierra del Fuego.

Zia Ahari described his 12 weeks cruising aboard *Misty* with Bob Van Blaricom (5 weeks northbound last year, 3 weeks southbound this year) as the highlight of his life, saying he couldn't imagine a more compatible crew.

Jim Cornelius reported that the Eatons are currently in Maine and will winter their boat in the Chesapeake. They have decided to put *Blue Heron* on the market, so if anyone is interested in a great cruising boat, they should contact Jerry.

Liz Baylis said *ET* is also for sale since she and Todd will become partners in a new Antrim 40. They hope to participate in next year's Pacific Cup race in the new boat.

Todd Hedin sailed this summer in Maine with Stafford Keegin aboard his 41 ft Hinkley yawl. Todd also noted that Liz is on the ISAF match racing committee (Liz said she'd rather be sailing).

### **Old Business/New Business**

Jim Cornelius said that next month the nominating committee will put forward a list of candidates for next year's club officers.

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

Respectfully submitted,

David Fullagar  
Secretary/Treasurer