



Cruising Club of America - San Francisco Station February 3, 2010 Meeting Minutes San Francisco Yacht Club

Members Present:

Ahari, Bob Allen, Joe Alderson, Bacigalupi, Bekins, Carmine, Cooper, Eaton, Enersen, Finley, Fullagar, Forsythe, Foss, Hall, Harris, Harter, Hogg, Hunt, Hurst, Knecht, Mason, Parkman, Jim Robinson, Benson, J. Sanford, W. Sanford, Swain, Taylor, Van Blaricom, and Warren.

Call to Order and Introduction of Guests:

R/C Robby Robinson is in Seattle Boat Show. Past RC, Steve Hunt called the meeting to order and began by thanking Don Bekins for arranging the luncheon. Don was also thanked for donating a screen to the Station. He then introduced Morgan Barker, a long time CCA-Chesapeake Station member. Morgan has moved to the area and wishes to be transferred to the San Francisco Station. His name will be added to the station mailing list until his transfer formalities are completed. Our guest, Jean Taylor was introduced by her husband Lu.

Steve Hunt then referred to a recent article published in the *Practical Sailor*, January Issue, 2010 where the CCA is referred to as an era whose time has passed. The completion of 2009 *Vendi Globe* by the CCA member Rich Wilson, as so beautifully shown in the most recent issue of the Cruising Club News, is proof that the Club is a vibrant and thriving entity. The membership felt that this should be pointed out to the *Practical Sailor* publication by the National Commodore, Sheila McCurdy. Don Bekins, who is to meet the Commodore at the Winter Ski GAM in Park City, Utah in 2 days, volunteered to take a copy of the article to her. Perhaps she would be interested in sending the magazine a copy of our CCA News to make her point.

Steve Hunt also announced the departure of Stan Honey in the trimaran *Groupama 3* from France on January 31st with a crew of ten. This is their third attempt wherein they will try to improve on the fastest circumnavigation record which is currently held by Orange 2. Peter Hogg pointed out that Stan Honey has an uncanny ability to put the boat where it needs to be for the conditions occurring on the race course.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Zia Ahari reported progress in receipt of the Annual Dues and that at present the Station had a balance of \$4,176.44 in the bank.

Webmaster Report: David Fullagar reported updates on the website. He requested the members to submit a summary of their biography for publication on the website. David expressed his sadness at the fact that one gets acquainted with the great achievements of the Club members only when it is too late and

when it is revealed in their obituaries. Steve Hunt suggested, after talking with RC Robby Robinson, that we might start by extracting the history that exists on the National web site CCA GAM where new members short biographies are shown. That will get the ball rolling.

Membership Report: Bob Van Blaricom is unable to participate the meeting in New York to present the new members. John Sanford will represent Bob. The prospective members will be Mary Crowley, John McCartney and Darren Crouse. Members who have further candidates down the line were asked to prepare and submit all their proposals and letters of support within the next 3 weeks..

Entertainment/Events: Wyman Harris and Jerry Eaton presented the full and formalized luncheon programs for the coming months. The traditional Crab Feed is being arranged by RC Robby Robinson at the Point San Pedro Yacht Club PSPYC, on March 3. April Luncheon will take place in the Coast Guard Station at Fort Baker. An alcohol free luncheon will be served followed by introduction of “*Rescue 41*” the newest USCG rescue ship. A sailing trip on board a 47’ rescue vessel will be available for a limited number of members. The May meeting will be held at the Corinthian Yacht Club. As Stan Honey is already on the way onboard [Groupama3](#), he will be presenting the accounts of the endeavor during this meeting. June meeting will be a visit to the Victory Ship “*Red Oak*” near the Richmond Yacht Club. The ship is moored within about a 1,000 yards of her construction and her resume includes service during WW II and up through the Vietnam War. A simple lunch will be provided.

Cruise Report: Doug Finley reported that the owner of the Spinner Island that has replaced the traditional Montezuma Slough cruise is asking \$1,500 for the use of their facilities. The membership felt that it was too steep a price and agreed to offer \$500. If the owner accepts the offer, the destination will be Spinner Island and if not we will sail to Solano Yacht Club in Suisun City. Jim Cooper suggested the idea of making a cruise to both destinations with an overnight stay in Benicia. This will be discussed further in the next meeting. Bob Van Blaricom announced the change of date for the Half Moon Bay cruise to May 14-16. The finalized cruise program is as follows;

- May 14-16 Half Moon Bay
- June 25-27 Spinner Island/ Suisun City, Solano Yacht Club
- September 24-26 Tomales Bay
- December 31 Clipper Cove New Years

Environment of the Sea: Bill Foss has seen the program produced by KQED Bay Area’s PBS, regarding the history of destruction and attempts to save the San Francisco Bay. It is a very interesting well researched program and has come out in DVD. Members were recommended to watch the program titled [Saving the Bay](#). He also encouraged Station members to get involved with their families in the cleanup activity programs arranged annually for preservation of the Bay. Mimi Cornelius has volunteered to arrange and lead the group. Bill also advised selection of the type of the fish that are risk-free for consumption. These are researched and recommended in a website developed by the [Monterey Bay Aquarium](#). Some of the commercial and yacht club restaurants including San Francisco Yacht Club follow these recommendations.

GAM/Historian/Newsletter: John Sanford reported the distribution of the latest issue of *CCA News*. According to the members who have seen the publication this issue is the best in the *CCA News*’ history. John has written an article regarding the history and background of “*Casco*” a San Francisco Yacht belonging to Dr. Merritt that was chartered by Sir Robert Louis Stevenson. The article is published in the

San Francisco Yacht Club newsletter and reprinted in the [SFA Station website](#). The deadline for the next GAM is March 1 and John would like to receive articles, cruising plans and other material as soon as possible. John recommended members to read an article in the latest issue of the Sailing Magazine where an article by our member Clark Beek is published. Attending the San Francisco Ocean Film Festival that began on February 3, is also recommended as worthwhile.

Fleet Surgeon: Dr Joe Alderson had no report at this time.

Cruising We Do: Zia Ahari referred to a follow up news item on the BBC website regarding the present whereabouts and the fate of the [British Cruising Couple](#) that were abducted by the pirates off the coast of Somalia. They have been in captivity for the past three months and are in dire need of help. The photos produced on the website are heart rendering especially those of the wife that has apparently lost half of her body weight. According to the BBC the reaction of the British Government has so far been ambivalent. This was reported to primarily to attract attention to their plight and as warning to cruisers trafficking the area.

Speaker of the Month: Bill Foss has cruised the Mediterranean Sea extensively. He presented the first part of his report on cruising Turkey. In a series of photographs he showed the beautiful nature and the richness of history of the area. He showed the proximity and complexity of the island network along coast intermingling of Greek and Turkish islands. He spoke admiringly of the generosity and hospitality of the population and the abundance of places to see and explore. He talked of the availability of the affordable and well equipped marinas. Presence of these facilities with extensive repairs possible with reasonable prices. The language, at least in the coast band was not a problem. All European nationalities with different languages were the most prevalent group amongst the cruisers. This made English the inevitable common language of the crowd and the local population.

Bill reported the intention of the Turkish Government to introduce legislation prohibiting any discharges overboard within a limit of 12 mile from shore. Although admirable, he reported a noticeable lack of pump out facilities. He also reported necessity of up-to-date visas and stay permits, especially valid VAT certificates as Turkish officials are very strict in control of these documents. Bill recommended avoidance of stay in the area during the summer months of July and August as it was intolerably hot.

Presently Bill keeps his boat in the marina situated in the town of *Kemer* with the intention to return and resume his cruising in March. In response to request from the members present Bill promised to return with more of his report on other areas of the Med.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. Next meeting, the Annual Crab Feed, will take place on Wednesday March 3 at the PSPYC.

Respectfully submitted,

Zia Ahari
Secretary/Treasurer

Note: Those members who have not yet remitted their Annual Station dues, please send checks (\$50 for CA residents, \$25 for Non Residents) to:

***Zia Ahari
41 Heritage Drive
San Rafael, CA 94901***

***Checks should be made out to "CCA San Francisco Station"
Thank you.***

Web addresses referred to in the text are as follows;

Groupama3; <http://www.cammass-groupama.com/en/>

Save the Bay PBS Series; <http://www.savingthebay.org/the-series/>

Monterey Bay Aquarium; <http://www.montereybayaquarium.org/cr/seafoodwatch.aspx>

CCA, SFA Station website; <http://www.cruisingclub.org/mo/stations/sfnew/default.htm>

Story of the British Cruising Couples; http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/england/kent/8489958.stm

To see each website, copy the URL address shown above and paste in the URL address window of your browser.