



Cruising Club of America - San Francisco Station February 10, 2011 Meeting Minutes Corinthian Yacht Club

Members Present:

Ahari, Antrim, Bacigalupi, Baylis, Beek, Bekins, Belmont, Carmine, Cornelius, Crowley, Eaton, Enersen, Finley, Foss, Fullagar, Hall, Harris, Hanlet, Hedin, Hunt, Hurst, Knecht, LeRoy, Mason, Mehran, Messer, Munro, Parkman, Quanci, Robby Robinson, Rolien, J. Sanford, W. Sanford, Van Blaricom, and Wood.

Call to Order and Introduction of Guests:

R/C Robby Robinson welcomed all members, their spouses and guests. He especially welcomed Commodore Sheila McCurdy who is on a visit to the CCA West Coast Stations. He then thanked Peter Hogg, in his absence, for arranging this meeting.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Zia Ahari reported progress in receipt of the annual dues and that at present the Station had a balance of \$4,214.54 in the bank.

Membership Report: Bob Van Blaricom is going to participate at the March meeting in New York to present the new members. The 4 prospective members are; Cree Partridge, Stafford Keegan, John Scarborough and Steve Chamberlin.

Entertainment/Events: Wyman Harris announced joining of Jim Quanci to his team of organizers of the upcoming National Cruise, dubbed as the *Siam Cruise, 15-26 January, 2013*. Jim will be responsible for the web page which will carry all the up-to-date information regarding the Siam Cruise. He also mentioned the enthusiastic response from the members for participation. So far close to 50 people have expressed interest in joining the cruise. He informed that a 290 feet, 3 masted sailing vessel has been found to act as the mothership. The vessel has a capacity to carry 64 passengers, as the first come first served basis and is air conditioned. Applications are already being accepted and the deadline set by the owners of the vessel is for the end of April 2011. If by that time a sufficient number of interested people to sail in the mothership are not found the other alternative would be one or two larger catamarans that will be used to fulfill the functions of the mothership. Moorings, Sunsail and a few other companies have been contacted for chartering of bare-boats and crewed boats. Wyman encouraged members to visit the station website for the current situation of the cruise.

(http://www.cruisingclub.org/mo/calendar_2013_phuket.asp). The slogan selected for this cruise is "Are you planning to go to Siam? I am!"

Due to the high interest on the subject of this cruise our own Clark Beek who has sailed the area extensively has agreed to speak on the subject at the station's Christmas Dinner Party.

Cruise Report: Doug Finley reported the program of cruises of the year. Specific dates are listed on our website <http://www.cruisingclub.com/mo/stations/sfnew/default.htm>

- May Half Moon Bay
- June Suisun City, Solano Yacht Club
- September Tomales Bay
- December 31 Clipper Cove New Years

Environment of the Sea: Bill Foss reported on his efforts to encourage the CCA membership for further participation to enhance the Stewardship of the Seas programs. He suggested the members to read an article on the latest issue of the magazine *San Francisco* regarding sustainable seafood supplies and the restaurants that serve them. He also recommended a new book: *Views from the Lazy Point* published by Carl Safina discussing environment of the sea. Commodore McCurdy announced plans to suggest to the stations the election of a liaison member to co-ordinate their efforts with the national Environment of the Sea committee. Bill Foss also recommended participation of the station members and their families on the California Coastal Cleanup day to be held on Saturday September 17 between 9-12 AM.

GAM/Historian/Newsletter: John Sanford reported the distribution of the latest issue of *Annual News* which has changed its name to *CCA Voyages*. He welcomed Chris Otorowski, the editor of the GAM, who is on a visit to San Francisco. John announced the deadline for submission of articles on February 21 and requested the membership to submit their cruising plans and reports for inclusion in the magazine.

Commodore Sheila McCurdy's comments:

R/C Robinson then introduced CCA Commodore Sheila McCurdy, a well known sailor with significant achievements to the audience;

Sheila McCurdy was born into the Cruising Club of America. Her father, Jim McCurdy, a well known naval architect, was Commodore of the CCA in 1986 & 87. What is lesser known is that the CCA did not admit women members until 1994, and Sheila was one of first three women selected that year.

Since that time she has gone on to be the Rear Commodore of the New York Station, and Vice Commodore of the CCA. She is beginning her second year as the Commodore of the Club.

Sheila has raced 15 Bermuda Race since she was 22. She has placed 2nd twice in the cruiser/racer division in 94 and 08, and during that period managed to make 8 trans-Atlantic passages, many CCA Club cruises, totaling over 90,000 miles. She has served on numerous committees such as the Naval Academy *Fales Committee*. Commodore Sheila McCurdy was just named *Rhode Island Boater of the Year*.

Presently Sheila McCurdy is completing a 10 day trip which included visits to the Southern California and Seattle stations and then to the Utah Ski Gam.

He asked the members to welcome Commodore Sheila McCurdy to our station.

The Commodore spoke from the podium and thanked her hosts for the hospitality shown her during the visit. Sheila described the main qualities of the membership of the CCA, which is not known to the public as of following;

The members' multitalented and diverse wide interests, their ability to make big oceans to appear small, through appearing in the most unlikely places from the tropics to the Arctic and the Antarctica in short times, and their ability to volunteer to offer help by delivering whatever is needed by the people of the places they visit. She described the reason for the current national cruises being held close to home and the reason and importance behind the Bermuda Race in encouraging seaworthy designs, construction, and fine seamanship.

She then congratulated the well deserving winner of the Richard S. Nye award, Bob Van Blaricom, as a perfect example of the members of a club that is *a collection of friends some of whom you have not met yet*.

Speaker of the Month: Kimball Livingstone a well known author, editor and publisher most recently of www.blueplanettimes.com, editor at large of the Sail Magazine and the book *Sailing the Bay*. Kimball described a short history of the America's Cup, and its progression from rich men racing against rich men to becoming more of a professional international sport. He also described the plans for the races to be held in the San Francisco Bay starting with 45' catamarans presently being built in New Zealand during 2012 to the final races to be held between the finalist 72' catamarans in 2013. A detailed copy of the city of San Francisco plans for the implementation of the races together with pictures of the participating boats is attached as PDF file.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. Next meeting, the Annual Crab Feed, will take place on Wednesday March 2, at the PSPYC.

Respectfully submitted,

Zia Ahari
Secretary/Treasurer

Please refer to the CCA, SFA Station website for most recent news, *Siam Cruise*, archived minutes of the previous meetings and the latest changes in the membership roster;
<http://www.cruisingclub.org/mo/stations/sfnew/default.htm>