



Fleet 5



April 15, 2007

Fleet 5 Spring Meeting at Big B's Reef & Beef Restaurant Stamford, CT Sunday, April 15, 2007

STAMFORD, CT, SUNDAY APRIL 15, 2007

It was early spring and many of us had already started getting our boats ready for the season. But we all had high hopes for a really exciting summer on the water especially getting together with our Fleet 5 friends. So we dreamed and planned our weekend and holiday rendezvous' and our summer cruise. But on this 15th of April the weather did anything but cooperate as it was windy and VERY rainy



Jackie & Paul in Provincetown last year



John & Frank: the Fundraising Committee

as we gathered at Bib B's Reef & Beef Restaurant in Stamford, CT. Traveling there was problematic with traffic and flooding. But once there it was cozy inside and we had a room to ourselves. With the open bar ready for us we were ready for each other and the party began. Paul & Jackie Bogacki, our coordinators, had done a great job in locating this really nice restaurant for us. New members Joyce and Tom Lanzilli easily fit in and became good friends right away.

Attending the party/meeting were Joanne & Jo Albano (*mystic sea*), Pam Bercian & Rick Bunting (*Kallipygos*), Jackie & Paul Bogacki (*Mirage IV*),



Ron & Evy

Bob & Marilyn Clark (*Snowflake II*), E.J. Hodes (*Precipice*), David & Naomi Isaacs (*Shalvah*), Evy & Ron Keller (*Prevail*), Joyce & Tom Lanzilli (*Ithaka*), Marilyn & Pete Pandorf (*Incredible*), Thom Reeves & Doug Smith (*Carter-Creagh*), John & Linda Reilly (*Shenanigans*), John Santana (*Starlifter*), Tom Senator (*Breathless*), Fred & Marilyn Sprigman (*Islander*), Frank Strafacci (*Testarossa*), Diane & Jack Toomey (*A String of Pearls*), Richard Toth & Keila Quintaes (*Mai Toi*), Carol & Griffin Walling (*Windfall*), Tom & Val Zicko (*Wine and Roses*) and guest speaker Bernie Weiss of Atlantic Yacht Delivery (36 members and 1 guest).

After a nice luncheon with a choice of Chicken Breast in a Mushroom Marsala Sauce, Grilled NY Strip Steak or Panko Crusted Filet of Sole in Lemon Butter we got ready for our meeting.

At 1:45 our Captain Richard called the meeting to order. He formally introduced new members Joyce & Tom and welcomed them to Fleet 5. Besides new

members Joyce & Tom having their C 34 *Ithaka*, other new boats were in the fleet. Pam & Rick had bought a 43-foot North Pacific Pilothouse *Kallipygos* (a Greek word which means "having shapely buttocks") and Diane & Jack were just taking delivery of a C 42 *A String of Pearls*. Diane & Jack were making plans to take the retirement plunge and live aboard *String of Pearls* by summer's end. Richard thanked Jackie & Paul for their good work in securing the restaurant and helping us prepare for the meeting. He also introduced Captain Bernie Weiss who would be our speaker at the end of the meeting.

Minutes of the January meeting were unanimously accepted as published earlier.

In his Vice-Captain's report E.J. stated that the cruise committee had secured Lewmar, Kappa Sails



Keila, Marilyn & Richard having way too much fun and LANIAU navigation as sponsors for the summer cruise. They would provide money for the cruise t-shirts as well as some give-aways. The Fund Raising Committee had some raffles for the meeting. We were in touch with OSCA (Ocean State Catalina Association) who would be having their summer cruise in the Greenport area from July 22nd to 31st.

Thom reported as Secretary that we were hoping to phase out printed newsletters and distribute them via e-mail. A number of people had already signed up for the switch.

Richard got a report from Treasurer Dot Salzberg (*Rainbow's End*) that we had \$1795.43 with some more still coming in. We were in good shape for now.

Doug distributed copies of the Membership List. He reported that we had 53 active member boats, 41 of which were in our active area and could be involved in our rendezvous' and cruises.



John, Tom and Paul



Tom & Joyce & Tom getting ready for lunch

There was no Measurer's report.

Val mentioned that the website was functioning. She reminded us that we should fill out the form for being notified via e-mail of any time there was a change made to the website. It is listed on the first page.

Linda reported that the Cruise Committee had 14-15 boats already signed up for the cruise. We should use the fleet website for the latest on what days we would be what ports, the Fleet 5 cruise protocol (how we do cruises), etc. There were some problems with everyone getting reservations for Edgartown. If anyone was still having any issues they should contact her. Val & Tom were going to be the coordinators for that port. They had planned a dinner on Martha's Vineyard and needed reservation with checks. So far 3 boats had signed up to travel on to Nantucket. If anyone else wanted to go they should contact Linda. And anyone planning on staying at Ida Lewis Yacht Club in Newport should contact Elwin & Cheryl Schwartz (*Illusion*) and mail them a check for \$60/night to reserve space. Linda also said they needed a

port host for Stonington. Every morning on the cruise there would be a roll call at 7:30 to brief everyone on the days activities and/or travel plans. Richard said that in Watch Hill he would hold a briefing meeting and distribute t-shirts, itinerary, cruise flags, protocol and any other items. There was a May 15 deadline for signing up for the cruise if anyone wanted to be included on the t-shirts.

Frank and John had several items to raffle, the proceeds going to the fleet treasury. First was an unused portable grill, good for tail gate parties, beach barbecues, etc. Evy was the lucky winner. Next were 2 pairs of Adidas sport sunglasses donated by Elwin & Cheryl. Pete won the men's and Frank won the women's. And last was a basket of wine from France and Italy. Marilyn Clark was the winner. Of course the fleet treasury was the real winner with \$240 of proceeds.

Fred reported that the Mooring Committee had looked into putting in an application to place a fleet mooring in West Harbor of Fisher's Island. It was due on May 25th.

The SCAP (Sail Connecticut Access Program)



John, Frank, Rick & Pam

See the Fleet 5 Website!

<http://www.catalina36.org/Fleet5/>

Our new Webmaster Tom Lanzilli has been updating the website lately. Don't miss the latest information about Fleet 5. Use the site also to sign up for the upcoming 2008 events such as the Memorial Day Weekend at the Guilford Yacht Club and the summer cruise. There are many new items which Tom will talk about at our Fall Business Meeting. **Thanks to Tom for hosting the site!**



E.J., Doug, Thom, Paul & Marilyn

committee was led by John & Linda who reported that we could participate in the June 30 event at Pilot's Point Marina in Westbrook, but that it conflicted with the start of our summer cruise. As in past years the fleet would provide lunch with hot dogs & hamburgers, etc. and members would help set up and serve them. SCAP owned 3 boats and needed a place for winter storage and was looking for some donations to help take care of the costs.

David announced that we should keep up to date with LISCA (Long Island Sound Catalina Association) news by looking up their website saillisca.com. There was a great cooperation happening between the two groups.

Richard announced that plans were being made for a Memorial Day Weekend rendezvous at the Guilford yacht Club again this year. There would be a dinner dance, a barbecue, and a continental breakfast. We would have use of all the club amenities, pool, tennis courts, exercise, no fog this year. We could arrive either by boat or by car (if by car they could find a place to accommodate us). He was also arranging to have a Coast Guard Auxiliary boat inspection for anyone wishing it. He just wanted to know in advance how many boats they should prepare for.

We had scheduled rendezvous' for June 9th-10th at the Centerport

Yacht Club and West Neck Harbor of shelter Island. It was still undecided whether we would continue with the Centerport Yacht Club or join with LISCA and rendezvous in West Harbor of Oyster Bay. Members should check with Jackie to get the final decision. Featured events would be a beach barbecue along with a carnival there. And Thom & Doug were still planning the rendezvous in West Neck Harbor which would include our favorite long dinghy ride followed by a walk to the Tuck Stop for ice cream. Saturday evening would feature a barbecue on the beach, weather permitting.

Many of us were planning on participating in the August 10th-12th Catalina Yachts' East Coast Rendezvous to be held once again at the Mystic Seaport Museum. Those interested should contact the Catalina Yachts website to register and Bob Flemming (also see the Catalina Yachts website) for dockage.

On Labor Day Weekend we would again gather on the Connecticut River. Early arrivers would meet in Hamburg Cove on Thursday or Friday. Don & Jean Flintzer would hold a cocktail party on Friday night. Then we would all arrive at Deep River Marina on Saturday early afternoon with an evening cocktail/barbecue party scheduled for Saturday. We were planning on taking 2 boats up the river on Sunday morning and docking at the Goodspeed Opera House to see the matinee performance of *High Button Shoes*. Returning later that afternoon we would possibly have another cocktail party before trekking off to The Ivory Restaurant for a Sunday night dinner. Cheryl & Elwin Schwartz (*Illusion*) were going



You'd never believe it was pouring rain outside!



Richard watches as John talks about SCAP

to coordinate.

Tom & Val Zicko were coordinating our trip to the Newport Boat Show with hotel reservations and a Saturday night dinner planned. See the website for further details and reservation information.

E.J. was planning on having our Fall Business Meeting at the Merchant Marine Academy. Because of scheduling difficulties the date was shifted to October 21. More information would be forthcoming. [Ed. Note: the venue and date of the Fall Meeting were changed to the North Shore Yacht Club on Sunday November 11].

Under new business the 2008 Cruise Committee (E.J. & Shayna Hodes, Bob & Marilyn Clark and Jackie & Paul Bogacki) were starting advanced planning for a cruise up the Hudson River to celebrate the Fourth of July at West Point. West Point was well known for very dramatic fireworks displays and other celebrations for our country's birthday celebration. The cruise would probably start on Saturday June 28th in Manhasset Bay.

Fleet 5 hats (\$20) and burgees (\$30) were for sale, with any profit going to the fleet treasury. Richard was looking for someone to take on the position of Fleet Purser who would handle all the sales of hats, t-shirts, burgees and any other items that the fleet would want to try to sell. Fred Sprigman volunteered Stanley Ross in absentia. Richard is still looking for a volunteer.

Under "Action items from the previous

meeting" Thom thanked people for their contributions to the last newsletter including Tom Senator with his Tech article, Joanne's article on the 2006 summer cruise and a couple of great recipes.

Bob Clark stated that the "Cruise Etiquette" flier should be ready before the cruise. It would be an article explaining to new members how we go about cruising and partying to help them feel more comfortable before joining us on their first cruise.

Bob was also working on a fleet cookbook and was still waiting for more recipes to be submitted (he only had 5 or 6 so far).

Tom Senator suggested that we collect VHF MMSI number information from each member so we can use this valuable tool while on our summer cruises and rendezvous'. It should become part of the Membership Form information collected each year.

This was the formal end of our meeting as we adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

Richard then introduced our guest speaker, Captain Bernie Weiss. Bernie's credentials included retired naval officer, founder of Atlantic Yacht delivery, teacher of yacht engineering and safety, former commodore of three yacht clubs, former Director of Stamford Sailing Foundation and Contributing Editor to Reed's Nautical Almanac and many more. We had asked him to talk to us about recent technology in VHF radio communication.

Although it could be a dry subject especially for those not too technically minded, Bernie spiced up his talk with many anecdotes and often got us to laugh. He started by talking about a cruise around Cape Horn and some of the interesting questions by the passengers like "Do the crew sleep on board?" and "Is that the same moon I seen in Kansas?" or "Is



Captain Bernie Weiss



Tom, Jack & Diane

that island surrounded by water?" He also had a Power Point presentation to help illustrate his talk.

Bernie then started by describing the AIS (Automated Identification System). The AIS broadcasts a vessel's 7-digit ID, its latitude and longitude, course and speed and many other details. All ships in the area would be sending and receiving this information so that they could more safely negotiate the waters, identify each vessel and contact that vessel by name on VHF, e-mail or some other means. On-board equipment could take this information and overlay it on chart plotters and radar screens. It is also a valuable tool for the Coast Guard for maintaining the safety of our harbors.

DSC or Digital Selective Calling has the ability to automatically broadcast a distress signal to the Coast Guard or any other emergency service. It transmits your MMSI (Marine Mobile Service Identity) number plus your latitude and longitude (assuming your GPS is hooked up to your radio). This service also allows us to "call" any other vessel discretely using its MMSI number. The 2 vessels can then use their VHF radios or any other means of communication. It is really better than the old MAY-DAY transmissions using conventional VHF radios. For a tutorial on using DSC radios go to www.boatus.com/foundation. Click on "Other Boating Resources" then "Boating Safety" and then "VHF/DSC Radio Tutorial."

SSB or Single Sideband radio is an obsolete technology now. Satellite phones are much better.

EPIRB (Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon) is a system used in emergency to transmit signals that can be monitored by satellite or by pass-

ing commercial aircraft. They can relay your approximate position to the local emergency rescuers. Newer models have a built-in GPS and are called GPIRB.

LORAN will be discontinued in 2010.

He ended his talk with a discussion about the cruise ship that ran aground and sunk in Santorini Harbor in Greece, asking and half answering the questions surrounding that great mishap this year. We all thoroughly enjoyed his talk and learned a lot from his wealth of knowledge. He would be a good resource if we ever needed our boat transported anywhere up or down the eastern seaboard. And he also teaches a one-day seminar on diesel engine maintenance.

It was getting dark, but the rain was finally be-



Joe & Joanne: "Here's to Fleet 5!"

ginning to let up as we finally said our last good-byes and farewells. Thanks again to Jackie and Paul Bogacki for their efforts in coordinating a wonderful meeting. Once again Fleet 5 had a great meeting and an even greater gathering of good friends.

Thom Reeves, Secretary

Special thanks to Diane Toomey for sharing her photography with this newsletter.