



Minutes of the Assembly of Table Captains

Zoom 04/23/2024 – 1900 hrs. EST

National Bosun Brother Salty aka Tom Connery called the roll:

Officers	Attendees	
Nat'l Captain	Tony Olmer	
Nat'l Scribe	Joe Citarella	
Nat'l Bosun	Tom Connery	Savannah Scribe
Nat'l Treasurer	Troy Leek	
Table Captains		
Chesapeake Bay	Peter Briggs	
Corpus Christi	-	
Gold Coast	-	
Houston	Bill Hallmark	Sage
New York	Jane Protzman	
Sailing Capital	Ramzi Bannura	
San Antonio	Rick Fink	
Puerto Rico	-	
Savannah	John Byrne	
Solomons Island	John Dove	
Sun Coast	John D'Alusio	
Contributors		
Int'l Vigie	Scott Ripley	Sage, NC Emeritus
Webmaster	-	
First Watch Editor	Peter Dennant	
Nat'l Historian	John Byrne	

The Octalog was read by Brother Sparks aka Joe Citarella

Introduction by the National Captain Rascal aka Tony Olmer:

Tony Olmer started the meeting by reviewing accomplishments after one year in office:

“My primary goal has been to do all I can to unite the U.S. Brotherhood. Tables are autonomous in their operation, but they are forgetting that they are part of something bigger.

- The USBOC has been meeting quarterly rather than once/year. This has resulted in more open communication among the Tables and with the National Office.

- The BOC Roster has been updated so that we have a more accurate picture of each Table's status
- First Watch has successfully been improved by Peter Dennant making it more interesting.
- An Award "For Gratitude" to recognize the contributions of First Mates was unanimously approved and awards given out to three deserving First Mates.
- Recruiting efforts were enhanced with the development and dissemination of a BOC Brochure.
- The GUIDE is being updated by the hard work of Bill Hallmark and will be sent to the National Captains for review when ready."

Approval of the January 16, 2024 Minutes

The Minutes were approved without discussion. Minutes are now published in First Watch and will also be posted on BOCUS.Org.

Treasurer's Report

Brother Old Man aka Troy Leek reported that there is \$2,553 in the National Treasury with the payment for SECOIN at the World Zaf resolved. Brothers sent \$4,350 to Chile for wildfire relief.

Old Business

- No updates on Norfolk 2026; many Brothers are traveling so more will be available for the next Zoom Meeting.
- Update of the Great Dictionary has been discussed with SECOIN about splitting it into two parts. SECOIN thought this was a good idea and it will be pursued with Tony Olmer leading the effort.
- Scott Ripley reported he had no real update on the World Zaf in Chile with an October date expected.

- The Guide

Bill Hallmark talked about the work the team has done on the Guide:

"The proffered proposed changes to the Guide has been a collaborative team effort by Tony Olmer, Rick Hoekstra, Scott Ripley, Charlie Hankins, Bill Streep and Bill Hallmark. Our goal was to add more clarity while maintaining the intent and basic structure of the original document. It has been a pleasure working with Tony for the past few months and in prior years with the other team members. Tony has done a great job in his work describing the responsibilities and duties of the national captain and his officers as well as other content throughout The Guide. It has been an honor for me to be part of the team.

It is suggested striking through "Webster's defines "fraternity" as a male social organization." due to Webster's changed definition of **Fraternity**:

"A body of people associated for a common purpose or interest, such as a guild. A group of people joined by similar backgrounds, occupations, interests, or tastes".

I personally believe the intent of “fraternity” in the Guide and the worldwide BOC is understood to be a “male social organization” and I do not suggest it be changed.

We recommend that the National Captain and his Officers must have a comprehensive knowledge of the Guide be included.

Under Brotherhood Assets, we recommend removing “Paying Booty” that currently suggests that if a Brother is delinquent he can be punished by deactivation. Since it is the USBOC’s decree that “Once a Brother always a Brother” this paragraph should be deleted. Booty is levied against a Table, not an individual.

An event to do with the election of the National Captain is also recommended.

We now have Sub-Annual or Discretionary Meetings, which require a 30 day notice and 10 day Agenda delivery prior to the meeting. In the event that a Table vote is required, a sixty day notice and agenda requirement has been preserved.

It is also recommended that the two vote per Table be changed to one vote per Table. A Table should not be punished for having only one representative at a meeting.

The revised Guide will be distributed to all Table Captains, Officers, and Sages.”

- The Roster

Joe Citarella reviewed new entries for the Roster to include Brother’s Birth and Induction Year which will give an accurate picture of each Table’s demographic profile. Also contact data for First Mates will be included.

It is vital that going forward Table Captains take the responsibility to update their own Roster. There must be a way to make Table Captains accountable for doing this.

Ramzi Bannura reviewed an enhanced approach to collecting and maintaining Roster Data which would involve Tables entering their data directly into a Roster Database. The Database would facilitate easier data mining and enhance the integrity of the data so that reporting errors are minimized and required reports would be easily developed. It was agreed to begin to develop this approach.

New Business

- There was an extended discussion on the demise of the Gold Coast Table and what steps could be taken to arrest its decline. The Gold Coast Table currently is not viable and direct intervention is needed to bring it back to a viable Table. It was generally agreed that any rejuvenation effort must address the viability of the Table Captain. Those most familiar with this Table’s Brothers agreed that the current roster does not exist, and efforts to rescue this Table must address new Brother recruitment. Scott and Tony will work on this.

- By letter from Captain Rick “Buzz” Fink, the San Antonio Table nominated Monty “Python” Rogers for the “For Merit “Award:

“By unanimous consent by the Brothers of the San Antonio Table I would like to nominate Monty "Python" Rogers for BOC Legion For Merit for the many years of service and leadership to Brotherhood of the Coast.”

Tony added that Monty published First Watch for eight years and he was an exemplary Brother. A motion was made by Tony Olmer duly seconded. The nomination was unanimously approved.

- A National Assembly of Captains Meeting will be hosted by the Sun Coast Table November 8-10, 2024.

- The next Assembly of Table Captains Zoom Meeting is scheduled for July 17th.

- It was agreed that Ramzi Bannura, Dave Trawick and Peter Briggs will form a committee to address adding depth to our technical efforts to avoid only one person having the responsibility for critical BOC technical functions.

Respectfully submitted.

Sparks aka Joe Citarella Scribe