



## **Minutes of the Assembly of Table Captains Zoom 01/16/2024**

### **Attendees:**

Chesapeake - Peter Briggs  
Corpus Christi - Brad Stokes (joined during call)  
Houston – Bill Hallmark  
New York - Jane Protzman  
Sailing Capital - Ramzi Bannura / Dave Trawick  
San Antonio – Rick Fink (joined during call)  
San Juan – Graham’s brother Alex Castillo  
Savannah - Bobby Vermillion (joined during call) / Tom Connery  
Solomons - Pat Whalen  
Sun Coast - John D'Alusio  
  
Nat’l Scribe - Joe Citarella  
Nat’l Bosun - Tom Connery  
Nat’l Historian - John Byrne  
Nat’l Captain - Tony Olmer  
US Webmaster - Robert Coles  
FW Editor - Peter Dennant  
Int’l Vigie - Scott Ripley

**National Bosun Brother Salty aka Tom Connery called the roll**

**The Octalog was read by Brother Sparks aka Joe Citarella**

**Introduction by the National Captain Rascal aka Tony Olmer**

Tony Olmer reminded everyone why and how the Guide was created. National Captain Sam Britton asked Brother Cabestan aka Jacques Recht to create a document with which he could govern more effectively. We had a renegade Brother Bob Crouch, a transfer from Senegal to Michigan, who Sam needed to get under control. Jacques created a document “Code of Honor a Brotherhood Doctrine”. This document was so detailed and large that it was rejected by the Assembly of Table Captains at the time. Brother Brillo aka Ed Loke offered to rewrite it and produced the Guide we have today.

Thanks to Brother Crabman aka John Dove for allowing Brother Salty aka Tom Connery to move his flag to the Savannah Table.

Thanks to Brother Upwind aka Peter Dennant for a great job on First Watch.

Thanks to Brother Sparks aka Joe Citarella for his great work on the Roster.

### **Approval of the October 15, 2023 Minutes**

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

### **Vigie's Report**

Brother Cruz aka Scott Ripley spoke about the upcoming Bavarian Zaf April 12-14. Brother Big Hopper aka Robert Coles is planning to attend.

Our Swiss Brother Rock Hopper aka Dr Regis Menetrey will be sailing up the East Coast this summer making stops to visit Brothers along the way. He plans to be in NY around June 10<sup>th</sup>, then up the coast to Maine and New Foundland.

Norfolk 2026 – Peter Briggs announced dates of June 19-22, 2026 for Harbor Fest Zaf coinciding with Sail 250.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Brother Old Man aka Troy Leek submitted a report to Tony.

We have \$2,644 in the Brotherhood account. The World Zaf Account cannot be closed yet due to some confusion with funds for Chile.

### **Dictionary**

Tony Olmer discussed the Dictionary on the SECOIN website. He does not feel that the Dictionary should be the place where Brothers' Bios are stored. He feels that we need US Brothers to be more represented in a "Who's-Who" of the Brotherhood. He spoke with SECOIN's Mario Cerpa about splitting off Bios from the Dictionary into some other document – no resolution to date.

The idea was introduced to focus efforts on US Brothers' Bios, then use this to go forward. Peter Dennant is working on spotlighting Brothers of note in First Watch. There was some discussion on using Brothers' Bios as a means to introduce new Brothers to their Table. This could be extended to Bios of past Brothers of note who are no longer with us but should be memorialized as part of the USBOC's history.

Robert Coles suggested he and Jane Protzman should develop a list of Notable Brothers which will be sent around for review. This will serve as a starting point for Tables to add to the list. Storing this data and having access must be considered.

## **Roster Discussion**

The Roster is in good shape thanks to Table Captains who have taken the time to send in updates.

One issue in the Roster is how Deceased Brothers are handled. Currently a Deceased Brother is continued on the Roster if his Mate/Significant Other is still active (“Active Captive”) in the Brotherhood. If the Mate is not active, then the Brother is deleted from the Roster.

Rambo aka Ramzi Bannura suggested that we have to decide how the Roster is to be used – agreeing on its use and limits on what is included. As an Excel Spreadsheet, it is easy to sort entries.

As there can be many uses for this list, we have to decide if there is one “mother” list from which other lists can be derived or should ancillary lists be developed. Ramzi suggested that we develop a “Data Dictionary” which indicates what each column represents.

Ramzi Bannura, Robert Coles, Peter Dennant, Dave Trawick and Joe Citarella will meet to discuss the Roster and present their thoughts at the next meeting.

## **For Gratitude Award**

Tony Olmer introduced the idea for an Award for a Mate’s contribution to the Brotherhood. He suggested three recipients - Traci Hoekstra for her outstanding work on the World Zaf, Theo Olmer for her eagle eye and preventing errors on the World Zaf, and Audrey Rogers for her many contributions as a photographer chronicling many Brotherhood events. Nominations for this Award would come from Table Captains to be approved by the Assembly of Table Captains.

This was unanimously approved. Tony will design this Award and present it at the next meeting.

## **Guide**

Bill Hallmark is working on updating and clarifying the Guide. Some effort will be directed to identifying the tasks and responsibilities of the National Captain, Vigie, Scribe, Treasurer and Bosun.

Brother Salty aka Tom Connery is moving his Flag to Savannah. This is important for Savannah as he will work with Captain Robert the Red aka Bobby Vermillion to rejuvenate the Table.

**Next Meeting is scheduled for April 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm EDT on Zoom.**

Respectfully submitted.  
Sparks aka Joe Citarella Scribe

## AGENDA

### Assembly of Table Captains Zoom Jan 16, 2024

**Roll Call** National Bosum, Brother Salty

**Reading of the Octalog** National Scribe, Brother Sparks

**Introduction by the National Captain**, Brother Rascal

**Approval of the October 15, 2023 minutes**

**Vigie's report**, Brother Cruz

**Treasurer's report**, Brother Old Man

#### **Old Business**

- U.S Roster & Flag numbers, Brother Sparks
- Norfolk 2026, report
- World Zaf 2026 Chile, report.
- Discussion on the Great Dictionary to include U.S. Brothers

#### **New Business**

- A new distinction “ **For Gratitude**” to reward Mates, Brother Rascal
- Introduction to the upcoming update to **The GUIDE**, Bill Hallmark
- US Table Captains' Quarterly Assembly next date (*April*), (*July*), (*Oct*), (*Jan*)

**Any other business that may come before the Assembly.**

**End of the Assembly**