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From the Helm



Rick "Pescador" Hoekstra
Captain, Brotherhood of the Coast US

Merry Christmas to all, my how time flies. We are already to the end of 2021. The captain's meeting was supposed to occur in August of this year but was cancelled due to an upturn in cases of CoVID-19, and I became quite ill with a different respiratory virus the weekend of the scheduled meeting. I was ill for over a month, but now I am feeling much better. I am planning to have a meeting early in the spring but will more than likely be a Zoom Meeting.

I am in the process of finding a company to manage the Zaf in 2023 and hopefully will have more information soon. The letter explaining the change in date for the Zaf will be included in another area of this publication.

Coming events next year for me should include a trip to Australia and to New Zealand to visit brothers in that area of the world. First leg is a cruise and at this time two Australian couples have signed up to attend. If anyone is interested in the voyage it will be in April and you can contact me directly for

the information. In late July and August, I will be going to Sweden and on to Switzerland to visit brothers in the Geneva area. From there we are going to voyage with many brothers on a cruise leaving Iceland to tour the British Isles and will end up in London. These cruise details are available through me or through the San Antonio table. All these plans are dependent on world travel ability, but we have great hopes being able to travel unhindered.

I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope everyone is staying well and careful.

Sail away from the safe harbor, catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.

Love of The Sea Must Be the Cult of Our Days.

Orza!

Richard Hoekstra aka Pescador
National Captain BOC USA



USA
World Zafarrancho
In
Houston Texas



Greetings Brothers,

I know you have been on the edge of your seats about the World Zaf and that's understandable. The tables of the USA have been agonizing over what to do with the ZAF in today's health climate. I have polled all the US Captains and have talked to a few National Captains, and the consensus is that we postpone the World Zaf to 2023. I hope that by then the travel restrictions and cancellations will be mitigated and we can have a safe, large and fun Zaf.

**We are going to tentatively set the World Zaf date for the week of March 6, 2023
subject to change.**

The World Zaf will feature a mix of planned events and free time for visits to Houston's many attractions. We plan to include in the Zaf package a trip to NASA, square dancing and the Texas 2 step. One attraction that will be memorable is The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo which features all manner of things "buckeroo" and is a wonderful representation of Texas history. There are no dates set for 2023, but Rodeo events usually occur in late February to March. Temperatures are generally not hot yet, averaging from 75–82°F (23.9–27.8°C) in the day and 56–64°F (13.3–17.8°C) at night.

I hope everyone understands and is able to attend.

Orza!

Richard Hoekstra aka Pescador
National Captain BOC USA

Ahoy me Hearties



*Set sail and stay
the course for
the merriment!*



*Happy Holidays
from San Antonio*

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“Borrowed” Wisdom

Must go down to the sea again,
To the lonely sea and the sky.
And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to sail her by.

John Masefield
From “Sea Fever,” *Saltwater Ballads*, 1902

The waves forever rolling to the land are too far traveling and
untamable to be familiar.

Henry David Thoreau
From *Cape Cod* 1865

The wind breaketh my heart: that should carry me hence now
stays me here.

Sir Walter Raleigh



A LITTLE PIRATE HUMOR

“Why learn algebra?”
“Finding X is only useful if you’re a Pirate!”



Corpus Christi

Captain: Bob "Walrus" Weber
rsddw4858@gmail.com



As things ease up, we are gradually getting out and about. More adventures being planned, as we speak.

From Brother Brad Stokes "Speedy":

Just getting ready for the J/24 World Championship in July. Also, the US National Multihull Championship next week, then the J/105-J/80 invitational after that, and finally the TSA circuit regatta. Lots of race committee assignments! I have also been upgrading my boat, with a complete electronics package, new chart plotters, radar, sonar. Looking forward to next year and some cruising activity.
Cheers, Brad

From Brother Bill Streep "Joker"

We are headed to Tahiti/FP for 5 weeks. Reports to come later.

"2 Brothers Brewing" (Salty Limey & Flash)

We continue to brew and drink beer. They currently have the perennial favorite, "Old Peculier," plus Brotherhood Plunder and a Burton Ale in the serving kegerator. The next brew will be the 2 Brothers Lager, a most excellent quaff. Salty and Flash are hoping for a get together to share the fruits of their labors.

Karen Adams graciously held a party for the Table. "In Loving Memory of my husband Louis Adams: "Lost Louie." She said, "There will be great food, plenty of drinks, good company, great music and maybe some Senoritas dancing!!!" It was true on all counts. Great stories and memories. A broadside with rum shots, was done in honor of passed Brothers Louis Adams "Lost Louie," David May "Bluewater, and Keith Hargrove "Dead Eye." A small group but a good time was had by all.



We were happy to hear from our cruising Brother SoloNoMo:

ORZA!!!

Griffin and crew are still in Bocas del Toro, Panama. We do not have any great seafaring adventure stories this time around just life on a boat which is keeping us very happy.

Carrie went back to the US for a month due to her mother passing away. Thank you for all the prayers and thoughts. I was sure happy and relieved to get her back to the boat. I really like being SoloNoMo!

We just recently treated Griffin to a couple of weeks in a Marina while we flew to Panama City, Panama for cataract surgery on Carrie's eye and to complete our residency process. (That is residency, not citizenship) All went well, and I can now, again, depend on Eagle Eyed Carrie to make up for my not-so-great eyesight.

We were dragged into some new things to us. We have been away for a while and are getting older and behind the times.

We found that most restaurants in Panama City now use QR codes for their menus. The waiter was really surprised when I did not know how to read one and did not even have an app on my phone. Well, I do now, and food was excellent.

The other story was that after being pillaged by a couple of taxi pirates I used Uber for the first time. I do not know if it is the same everywhere else, but it is excellent in Panama City. We did not use a regular taxi for rest of our stay.

We were amazed how quiet everything seemed as we walked down the middle of the street on a Saturday afternoon from the airport in Bocas to our favorite bar for a few beers and a water taxi ride back to Griffin. It is great to be back in paradise! We hope all is well with all the Brothers and Captives out there.

Stay safe...and have fun!!!

ORZA!!!

SoloNoMo & Carrie

s/v Griffin

We wish them both fair winds and following seas.



Bird Island off Isla Colon, Bocas del Toro



Panama City

If you cannot repair it, maybe it shouldn't be on board.

Lynn and Larry Pardey

Walrus / Bob Weber

Captain Corpus Christi Table

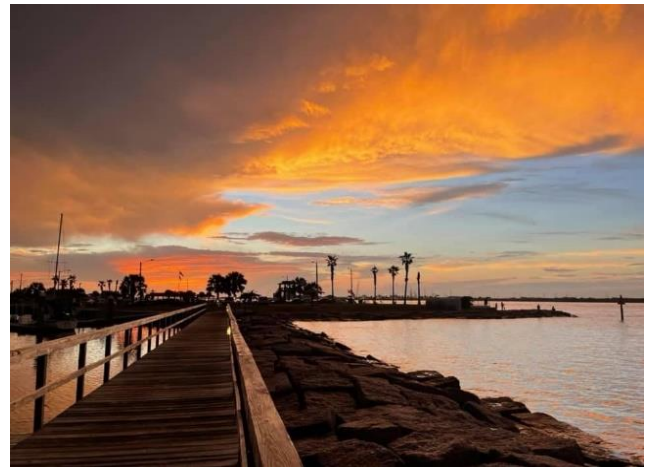
ORZAAA!!!

Houston

Captain: Mark "Marco Polo" Sandridge
markasandridge@hotmail.com

The last few months have been busy for our table! With the dog days of summer upon us there were some trips taken, a new brother brought in, and some parties had. If there is nothing going on at the Houston table, just give it a moment, it usually means we are cooking up something good!

In September, several brothers took the 200-mile trip with their boats to Port Aransas for a week. They had a GREAT time with lots of memories created. This is always a great trip at a great time of year. The weather is usually calming down at this point and the threat of a named storm is usually less. Photo's courtesy of some of those that went...



OCTOBER has been a nonstop month for us here with something going on about every week!

October 9th was the trip downtown for several brothers, now this does not sound important until you see what goes into making a trip like that happen. There are many security measures taken to get permission to bring your boat into the downtown area and there are only so many spots allowed, so you need to be quick to sign up. It is a great trip to take in your lifetime if your boat fits under the bridges.



October 16th, we welcomed new brother “Colonel” (Mike Joplin) to the table. He has been with us for so long as a friend, and an Engage It was just a natural fit to bring him in. Mike’s BOC name was derived from a very stormy night in Offats Bayou where his ground tackle was stretched to the limit and he ended up spending the night pressed up against a docked paddle boat named, you guessed it.... Colonel... It was a great party, and many came out to welcome him and of course toasted him a few hundred times.



October 21st was the Harvest Moon Regatta, an annual event where many sailboats take to the offshore to head to Port Aransas. It is always midweek so only a handful of brothers get to witness it each year, but like clockwork, many went. It was a beautiful day for their sendoff out of the Galveston Jetties.



October 23rd – Oktoberfest is always one of my favorite things to do this time of year! The German food, the beer, and the beer. The beer is great too! Brother Troy “OLD MAN”, our resident beer maker did an OUTSTANDING job on gallons of some Oktoberfest beer he made. He and his captive, Jeanna, invited our rowdy group to their home to share such, then we all went into the Galveston Downtown area to join in the big annual Oktoberfest festivities. It was perfect weather for most of the day, and we all had a great time! This is the brew master in action....



We have already picked and booked our spot (Lakewood Yacht Club) for our annual Christmas party; it will be a wonderful time for sure! From our table to yours, I hope everyone has a happy and healthy Holiday season!



Fearless
Michael Stevens

New York

Captain: Jane "Jungle Jane" Protzman
janeprotzman@gmail.com



Across the Atlantic Zoom Zafs:

We continue to enjoy monthly Zooms with Brothers and Mates across the Atlantic. When they reply that they are unable to join us we are treated to some wonderful sailing that they are doing instead. For example, here are some recent anonymous replies -*but I will be at sea, attending the start of the Transatlantic race "Jacques Vabre", with the fastest multi and monohulls in the world!....., we will be racing the final day of <http://www.gc32racingtour.com/foiling-gc32-catamarans-prepare-mar-menor-grand-finale/>I'll try to check in from our waters as we race the Discover the Caribbean Regatta at its 31st Anniversary. This is the longest uninterrupted regatta in Puerto Rico hosted by the Ponce Yacht and Fishing Club. Many Brothers will be racing. **Pretty exciting activities.** The schedule for the next quarter is as follows – December 5, January 2, February 6, Sundays at 11 a.m. New York time. Email me if you are interested in joining us.*

Emergency Welcoming Zaf:

Merf Moerschel wrote from the Sailing Capitol Table:

My son-in-law, Michael VanSickler, and family are presently in Maine anticipating heading south via The Race, LI Sound, Hell Gate...thence NY Harbor round Sandy Hook and on to the Chesapeake. Michael is an Engage; I am his mentor. He has a Letter of Marque from Carlos (aka Toad) our Table Captain.

So, on August 17, we welcomed them to City Island for an abundance of sandwiches and lively stories.

And Michael, after our Zaf, wrote:

Jane & NY table,

The welcome that we received both by having Robert escort ["Big Hopper" on *Sojurn*] us thru Long Island sound and the great time that we had with all that were able to attend the Tuesday ZAF are memories that we will definitively keep and drive us to make it back.

As I talked to Tony we narrowed down to a phrase, the Brotherhood is not a club but a community, a community of sailors helping sailors. A great example was given to Ava, me and my boys about supporting visiting Brothers and the fellowship that can be shared.

...I look forward to when we can see you again, and until then say, "see you soon."
Michael & Ava VanSickler
S/V Kolohe



S/V Kolohe from Sojurn



Sojurn from S/V Kolohe



Mother Nature fooled us Zaf:

We tried, September 8,9 and10. September 8 was predicted fine for our second on the water Zaf in 2021. However, as the weather prediction changed, so did the date; September 9 looked better, no rain. Closer to that date the co-host boats decided, let us just go on shore on September 10. So, we gathered on September 10 in the back yard of Chris and Marie with a small gathering. Mother Nature Won! The perfect day turned out to have been September 8 as initially planned.

Un-Halloween Zaf, no costumes, no pumpkins, just treats:

On Saturday, October 30, 14 of us ventured to Livingston, New Jersey to the home of Irena and Andrej Bienkowski, #38T. Before coming to America Andrej was a Polish Brother. They frequently visit Poland and Brothers while there. We enjoyed generous appetizers, adult beverages and good company. Irena prepared a bountiful luncheon and Robert served his elegant poached pear dessert. Note his collection of flags on the wall.



Maureen, Kevin "Cool Wood" and JJ





We were well attended to by our host and hostess, standing.

Brothers can be Angels too!

Early in October we had a surprise wind and rainstorm where Norma Howard, widow of Jay Howard, "Squeegee" #101 has been maintaining their Sabre 28, *Miss Argentina*. Shoreside neighbors noticed her mast and rigging falling to the deck during the storm and notified her. The boat was towed to a Sea Tow dock and our Brothers/Angels sprung to action from miles afar. Tony Olmer, "Rascal" and Robert Coles, "Big Hopper," after numerous phone conversations led Norma through the insurance process and her options. Robert prepared an extensive invoice indicating cost of repairs for insurance purposes. Norma offered to donate the boat and Tony contacted several boating friends who would be able to repair her and give *Miss A* good home. Within 24 hours that happened. At our Un-Halloween Zaf Norma made a charming presentation to "her Angels." She relayed to us how on the day she first met the Brothers with Jay she knew they were special. Her Angels made it more so for her. Tony and Robert added that they did this also in Jay's memory, a true Brother.



The other Miss Argentina



Respectfully submitted,
JungleJane #28



San Antonio

Captain: Monty "Python" Rogers

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Purser: David "Pilgrim" Overpeck

Soup's On

It seems like every year Patty McNeal has been gracious enough to host some sort of cooking event. If it wasn't a crawfish boil it was a chili cook-off. Well, Patty was tired of all that, so she decided to have a soup cook-off(?). Why you say? So did we, but Patty likes soup so soup it was.

The faithful gathered and no less than nine homemade soups arrived. Every combination you can imagine was ready for tasting from a few variations of onion soup to tortilla soup to asparagus leek soup.

Patty created a detailed judging system and all attending and tasting rated the nine soups.

Third place went to Janet Montgomery and her chicken 'n dumplings while second went to our host, Patty McNeal with her Minestrone Magnifico. Drum roll please, first place was won by Craig Wright and his Arrogant Onion soup.



The balance of the evening was spent enjoying the friendship and fellowship of a close-knit group of friends. Orza.



Italian Night

The Table gathered at the hillside home of Frank and Shelby Simonini for their annual Italian Night. Most of us lounged on the porch overlooking the Texas Hill Country. Sights of deer grazing, flocks of wild turkeys and other wildlife create a calm and relaxing mood.

The Italian dinner spread out by the Simonini's was super. Of special note was the spaghetti with sauce made with brisket, yum. It's a shame it only happens once a year.

Germanfest

In the true international spirit of The Brotherhood the San Antonio Table arrived at the home of David Overpeck and Sissi Lewis for Sissi's German Dinner.

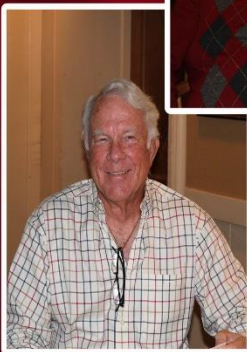
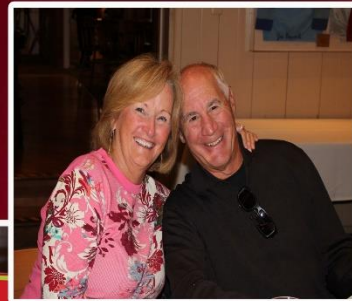
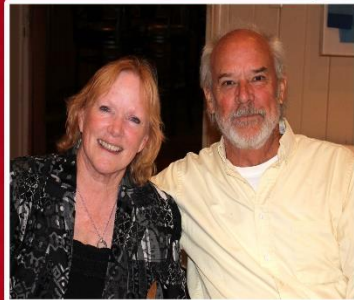
This has become an annual event with Sissi flexing her native German culinary talent to present a spread worthy of any Herr and Frau.

Although the night was "brisk" most of the group spent the evening on the poolside patio and deck socializing and bringing each other up to date on comings and goings. Gathering once a month is just not enough.



Dinner was served and it was outstanding as usual. Can't wait until next year.





Holiday Dinner

No better way to spend a Sunday evening than with dear friends. So, the San Antonio Table gathered to celebrate the Holidays with drinks and dinner at a local favorite restaurant. The Barn Door was selected and the Fireplace Room was reserved.

A ninety %ish turnout filled the room and hours were spent enjoying each other's company. Dinner was outstanding (as you would expect from The Barn Door) and company was even better.

Christmas wrapped boxes of candies crafted by Audrey Rogers graced each place setting to finish the evening. Now where can we go next year?

Upcoming Activities:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| January 9 th | Planning meeting and Trailer Trash style breakfast @ The Rogers' |
| February 13 th | Super Bowl Party @ Bandera Bob Wills' |

Sun Coast

Captain: Joe "Flaco" Vermeren
gypsyjoe123@gmail.com

After a much too long pause of our monthly BOC Happy Hours, the Sun Coast Table is back on track. We had an excellent turnout of over twenty souls in October at the Anna Maria Oyster bar. It was great fun being together again and catching up with our great friends.

Since we could hardly wait for the next monthly Happy Hour, six of our Brothers gathered at the Siesta Key Oyster Bar (SKOB) for an afternoon of beer and oysters on November 1st. The oysters were fresh and cold, and the beer was cold and plentiful.



Our next meeting is November 17th at Caddy's Tiki Hut and Bar on the mighty Manatee River. It is a great waterfront location to enjoy the Brotherhood fraternity, food, libations, and a fabulous sunset.

The Sun Coast Table will celebrate the holiday season at a party hosted by Brother Roger Meyer and his lovely Captive Judy at their beautiful home on the Manatee River. From there we will be able to watch the Bradenton Holiday Boat Parade on the Manatee River, eat drink and make merriment in the holiday Brotherhood Tradition, (although there will be no canon firing upon the parade boats).

All of us at the Sun Coast Table wish all of you a very joyous holiday season, and a happy and healthy New Year!

ORZA

Steve Herb (Falcon)