

Inductions in Stamford Harbor.

Some years ago, Paul and Dawn Gudelis were sailing their J37 in the Chesapeake and in Savannah. They had sailed with Brothers to the Bahamas. Rob Stanger of the Chesapeake Table first introduced Paul to *Rascal* with whom he had a conversation several months later. By some glitch, their respective telephone numbers went by the wayside, and they did not immediately reconnect until...Paul bought the boat slip next to *Sorcery* in Stamford. *Rascal* reestablished contact Paul and Dawn were invited to a Zaf.

Kevin Rathbone has attended virtually all Zafs during the last two years. He has cooked and brought his wonderful food to the Zafs. He is a great clam digger and steamer! More importantly, he is a lover of the sea which is one of the tenants of the Octolog. Now that he is retired from his A/C professional functions, I am sure he's on the water seven days a week. He has been helping Lenny Sinowitz with repairs and maintenance of the 40' custom wooden cutter *Mary Loring* and has joined Lenny on several long cruises. *Mary Loring* was designed by Winthrop Warner and built in 1947 by Paul Lucke of Middletown,CT. Kevin designed and built his lap strake wooden 16' "Cape Dory" and 18' Ketch. He sails these able skiffs by himself, stepping the masts as required or rowing and sculling when more appropriate. His skiff was the main memorabilia of the 50th BOC Anniversary Zaf in New York last fall. Thanks again to Andrea and Bill for the design integration and framing of the table mats depicting Kevin's fine yawl.

"Kissing rocks" is the only way to get to *Rascal's* mooring in Stamford's harbor behind the breakwater. *Bubu* – Paul and Dawn's Malo 36 preferred to round off the breakwater and re-enter from the South entrance. As usual, the party had already begun. After all, it was induction night for Paul and Kevin.

Tradition is - as I learned, that engagés send a letter to the table captain, outlining their sea going or sea loving experience. Also in this missive they explain their reason for which they wish to join the Brotherhood. Upon unanimous approval by the Brothers of the Table they are invited to be inducted. After an extremis Brothers meeting we needed to finalize the procedure, the decorum, the certificates and the Brother's names, we gathered Brothers and Engagés on Lenny's traditional *Mary Loring*. Guests and captives attended from the rest of the fleet.



Once positioned on Lenny's foredeck, Paul and Kevin were blindfolded. Both engagés were officially presented to the table's Brothers who unanimously welcomed them as new members of

our Brotherhood. Paul aka MINDAUGAS and Kevin aka COOL WOOD Both alternatively read a line of the Octolog and received their certificate and pennants (# 315 and #316). At sunset, we raised our mug of perfectly distilled 16 year old rum. It seems that even the full moon and Venus wanted to share the solemnity and emotional moment as they revealed themselves in the dusky southern quadrant .

The bar was officially open (Did it need an OK from anyone?) There are no captives on this *Bubu!* Only a captivating woman... So is Dawn's official declaration: she is as much USCG Lisenced Captain as her darling *Mindaugas*. Ina again surpassed her reputation of best cook, hostess and caterer.



The night was beautiful. A chain of lightning strikes and a series of chilling gusts made us break the raft for the night. Kevin also anchored further away and secured his foresails. A nice 12 knot breeze pulled Joe's and Maureen's Liberty Sailship off the mooring before breakfast with their guests Mark and Marlene.



After having discovered the true color of watered pastis, *Cool Wood* was in full contractual negotiations with a carpenter hammering in the upper cranian dormitory. Spark's frittata with eggbeater and mushrooms and real cheese did reconcile us with nebulous dreams. Soya cheese will be his next experiment.

Bubu dispelled and motored her way back to Old Greenwich in order to drop Ed the Guitarist and his wife Barb back on the mainland. But on the way back, we had the real happiness to enjoy a lively short hauled 8 knots sail back to the slip in Stamford. It made us almost forget our recently sold Carter 33. We crossed way with *Mary Loring*, proud as can be, under full main, Jib and Trinquette. What a Lady she is!

Thank you all! *The Big Hopper – Jungle Jane, Master Editor.*