



## ASSEMBLY of TABLE CAPTAINS

### MINUTES

May 25, 2022

National Captain Richard Hoekstra aka Pescador called the meeting to order at 5:58 pm central time.

1) National Bosun Tom Connery aka Salty called the roll:

- Present

- National Captain: Rick Hoekstra aka Pescador
- National Scribe: Tony Olmer aka The Rascal
- National Bosun: Tom Connery aka Salty
- International Vigie: Joe Citarella aka Sparks
- National Purser: Troy Leek aka Old Man
- National Web Master: Robert Coles aka Big Hopper
- National Historian: John Burnes aka Pirogue
- National Sage: Scott Ripley aka Cruz
- National Sage: Craig Wright aka Marquis de Sade
- National Sage: Charles Hankins aka Ozo
  
- Chesapeake Bay Table: Peter Briggs aka Tortuga
- Corpus Christi Table: Bob Weber aka Walrus
- Houston Table: JD Thompson aka Sour Mash, John Baker aka Sky King
- New York Table: Jane Protzman aka Jungle Jane, Joe Citarella aka Sparks
- San Antonio Table: Monty Rogers aka Pithon, Charles Hankins aka Ozo
- Sailing Capital Table: Ramzi Bannura aka Rambo
- San Juan Table: Graham Castello aka Guatiki
- Savannah Table: John Burnes aka Piroque for Bobby Vermillion
- Solomons Island Table: John Dove aka Crabman
- Sun Coast Table: Joe Vermeren aka Flaco

- Absent

- Gold Coast Table
- Keys Table

## ASSEMBLY of TABLE CAPTAINS

May 25, 2022

2) National Captain Richard Hoekstra requested a moment of silence in memory of our Brothers and Mates who have undertaken their final voyage.

- Frank Sessions
- Ruth Rose
- Ruth Osborne
- Roselyn Britton
- Ario Buttler
- Chris Drake
- Al Redfield
- Tony Perry

3) Reading of the Octalog: Tom Connery aka Salty

4) Approval of the Minutes from the August 17, 2019 Assembly of Captains

- Charles Hankins made a motion to accept the Minutes from the August 17, 2019 meeting in New York seconded by Peter Briggs. Motion to accept the Minutes was passed unanimously.

5) National Captain's Annual Statement

- US Roster:  
The US roster is currently a Word and an Excel document. It is what was transferred from the previous Scribe, and Tony Olmer has been maintaining it as such. Rick wants to bring it up at the meeting of National Captains in March of 2023 to try and establish a standard convention throughout the Brotherhood.
- US Captain Travel:  
Trip to the Caribbean on a cruise ship for Mary Hallmark's birthday just prior to Covid-19. The Captain's Meeting scheduled for August 2021 was canceled due to Covid. Rick had a trip planned to Sweden and Switzerland to visit Brothers there and to the United Kingdom. Because of the Ukrainian war involving Sweden the trip was canceled. He is planning to go to Iceland, the British Isles and Norway where he hopes to be able to join Marcus Seidel aka Shantyman of the Bergan Table. Rick also hopes to be able to spend time with some of our British Brothers.
- National Captain Richard Hoekstra acknowledged two new Officers:
  - As of January 1, Tony Olmer aka The Rascal as National Scribe
  - As of today, Troy Leek aka Old Man as National Purser

## ASSEMBLY of TABLE CAPTAINS

May 25, 2022

- National Captain Richard Hoekstra reported that at present we have 12 U.S. Tables. Even though we are to decommission one today our Brotherhood is strong with 160 very active Brothers. We need to work on our ability to get the Captains to better educate new prospects. When talking to our counterparts in Europe and Chile we are noticing that the legacy of our founding Brothers is being lost and not being carried into the future. We have had comments coming from some Tables since the World Zaf 2023 was announced that were worrisome, indicating that some Brothers are not understanding what our Brotherhood is about. Our law is the Octalog but there are traditions like the World Zaf which is one of the most important events we have. It only occurs every 4 years and it is the only opportunity for us to all get together to meet and greet Brothers from other countries. There are things that happen in our Brotherhood that are not secret but need to be told. We need to establish some guidelines for Captains to be able to use. The Chileans agree that we are becoming a partying drinking club and not a club of comradery, brotherhood and that some of our own Tables here in the United States have lost contact with what it means to be a Brother and Brotherhood. Rick would like to challenge all Captains to pitch in to help with some instructions, brochures, etc. John Burnes gave Rick a video on a few things which he put together, there are also brochures that have been done over the years. There are lots of things that can be done to help Brothers that are coming on line to understand what it is about to be a Brother. Rick has been saddened by the way things have been going in the last month or two concerning some of the comments and responses we have been getting, basically excuses for not wanting to be a true Brother. He wanted to pass that on and to challenge everybody to think about this problem and talk to their Brothers to make sure that they understand the importance of this event. It would be very sad for us to have a World Zaf on our own shores and not have at least one member from every table or a couple to show up and represent their Table. That would be a sad day for the U.S. Brotherhood as far as Rick was concerned. So everybody needs to push and push and push and push and see if there is any way we can start to get some of these younger folks interested in what the second half of the Brotherhood is. Everybody knows about the partying, having sailing events and all, but until you have participated in a World Zaf you don't get it. You kind of have that under your belt, and this one is a great opportunity for every U.S. Brother. You don't have to fly very far. It's a wonderful agenda, the itinerary is unbelievable, we worked it and got a good price for it. Rick thinks everybody can afford it and is hoping to see a lot of people from the U.S. go ahead and sign up and enjoy the Zaf.

Rick gave special thanks to Scott Ripley for providing some of the front money in support of the World Zaf, and indicated that we can proceed only because of the generosity of Scott and a few other people. Scott interrupted, "and our Captain" Rick responded "I don't want credit for it but it is a massive undertaking." Rick said the New York Table has done a tremendous job getting everything together and working things out. The base is set, we have a good plan, and now we just have to get everybody, not just the Houston Table, but every U.S. Table participating in some of the things we need

## ASSEMBLY of TABLE CAPTAINS

May 25, 2022

to do. We want to pick one thing to send out worldwide on a regular basis to let people know what is going on in Galveston and encourage them to attend the World Zaf. John Burnes can help on this. For the next communication we will have the trolly information. We also have information on other parts of the program and history associated with Galveston like the 1900 storm. There are so many things we need to relay to everybody to encourage them to attend. Rick challenged John Burnes to dig up some history things to put together. At the actual Zaf he would like to have a bunch of pictures, history pictures and things like that. Everybody can participate on that and put some of that together has well. Everybody should think about what their Table can put together, old pictures, etc. Pictures should be sent to John Burnes so he can put them together. Rick would like to put together boards that can be moved from one venue to another so that everyone has a chance to see them.

- Robert Coles reported that the website was ready and as soon as he gets the OK the World Zaf 2023 website will go live.
- Tony Olmer reported that Brothers will be notified of the website being live through SECOIN.

### 6) Treasurer report:

- Lee McMichael aka Chessie (not present) sent a report by email.
- As of May 25, 2022 the National Treasury was \$2,641.17. He recommended an equitable assessment based on active Brothers.
- After a discussion as to whether or not an assessment was required at this time since the National kitty was not being used to fund the World Zaf, National Captain Pescador made a motion that there will be no assessment for 2022. Joe Citarella aka Sparks seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### 7) Table Captain's Report:

- Chesapeake Bay: report included
- Corpus Christi: report included
- Florida Keys: absent, none submitted
- Gold Coast: absent, report included
- Houston: report included
- New York: report included
- Sailing Capital: report included
- San Antonio: report included
- San Juan: none submitted
- Savannah: none submitted
- Solomons: report included
- Sun Coast: report included

# ASSEMBLY of TABLE CAPTAINS

May 25, 2022



## Brotherhood of the Coast Chesapeake Bay

Table

Report

Officers

Table Captain: El Maestro, Mark Eller, Flag 707

Scribe: Tortuga, Peter Briggs, Flag 709

### Membership

We have a total of 24 Brothers on our Roster. Of those we have 19 that are active living in the Greater Chesapeake Bay Table area for all or at least part of the year. 4 that are semi active and live out of the area but keep their flag in our table. 1 that is lost in the fog. We have 1 Engage and 3 Pasajeros. Our Table is strong and is still growing.

### Activities

We are holding the Raftarancho with the Solomons Table in June.

We have not held as many TAF's over the past year. 8 in 2021 and so far, only 1 in 2022.

Half of our Table spent the winter in Florida on their boats.

Several Brothers attended the 2022 Trailer Trash event.

We hold several raft ups during the summer. Non-Organized events.

### 2023 World Zaf

Brothers from the Chesapeake Bay Table planning on attending the World Zaf in 2023 5 Yes, 3 Maybe, and 5 No. That still leaves 10 that have not expressed their plans.

### Future Events

Sail250 will take place in 2026 where the Class A tall ships will return to Norfolk during Harborfest.

## ASSEMBLY of TABLE CAPTAINS

May 25, 2022

### Corpus Christi

**Engages** (Definition: Prospective Brothers who have been issued an invitation to join the BOC)  
None

**Passejeros** (Friend of the BOC who is being considered for possible Engage status, note that address information is not required for pasajeros)

Walter Crawford  
Steve Blivin  
Dan Herrington  
Brad Tindall

**General Table Report** (Definition: Outline any significant issues facing the table. Describe Zafs open to all US brothers/captives, but do not reiterate the monthly Table Tip-A-Fews that have been outlined in First Watch).

Corpus Christi has the following:

- Active Brothers - 8
- Inactive Brothers - 3
- Brother cruising - 1
- Active widow captives - 2
- Passejeros - 4

Since the last Captains' Meeting we had a one-night event: "Pirates and Cheeseburgers in Paradise" in September 2019 to coincide with our Brothers from the Houston Table who visited on their boats. We also had Brothers from San Antonio, and a good time was had by all.

This was a scaled down version of our annual Margaritas & Señoritas. We will continue the scaled down version this year and in 2023 because of the world Zaf. We hope to be in full swing by 2024 and open to all comers.

The main challenge we face is finding prospective new Brothers. We plan to expand our events to other venues to cast our net wider.

## ASSEMBLY of TABLE CAPTAINS

May 25, 2022

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** David Sowers <sowers\_d@yahoo.com>  
**To:** David Sowers <sowers\_d@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2022, 04:17:22 PM EDT  
**Subject:**

### **c. Gold Coast**

#### **Engages**

None

#### **Passejeros**

None

### **General Table Report**

The Gold Coast Table paused all activities due to Covid until February 2021 when we hosted Scott & Michelle at the home of Jim and Kim Upp for a small Boucan. We have since held one Boucan attended by some Brothers and Captives at Southport Raw Bar.

Active Brothers are:

Dave Sowers, Captain (Miriam)  
John Dotto (Sarah)  
Jules Harper (Sandy)  
Jim Upp (Kim)  
Walter Schildt  
Cliff Steffan (Sandy)

Other Brothers have relocated or gotten lost in the fog.

We are all boatless, but our love of the sea has not been diminished. We plan to continue periodic boucans/tip-a-fews at least quarterly and will attend BOC Zafs whenever possible.

## ASSEMBLY of TABLE CAPTAINS

May 25, 2022

### Houston Table – General Report

May 23, 2022

Table Captain: JD Thompson

---

#### Activities:

Since becoming table captain in January, JD(I) has been focused on bringing the brothers back together after Covid restrictions. Although the brothers have been meeting on a limited basis throughout lock-downs, we have not been meeting as a group with the captives and/or potential brothers; therefore, JD has initiated several efforts to bring the family back together.

One such effort is a Captives only meeting called “Captives Brunch with the Table Captain.” This brunch is hosted by the Captain and table officers, and is our way to show them how much they mean to our success. Additionally, this gives the Captain an opportunity to communicate directly with the Captives and get their feedback about upcoming BOC events and business. The brunches have been wildly popular.

Additionally, we have resumed our regular monthly happy hours (Sundowners), our group weekend cruises and annual parties. So far this year, March’s Martini party was another dock buster party hosted by brother Mike Slevens. Followed by the April Crawfish Boil hosted by brother Troy Leek. Both parties are very popular with brothers and non-brother and heavily attended.

The Houston table conducted a cruise to downtown Houston for our annual Easter Blow cruise. Most people who live in Houston don’t realize that you can cruise big boats to downtown Houston, and after Sept 11<sup>th</sup>, security restriction no longer allow it. However, with much due diligence we were able to obtain security clearance (including background checks of all passengers on the vessel) and transited 15 boats up the ship channel to the actual birth place of Houston, Allen’s Landing. The Landing is now a historical park and therefore not a true boat dock. Therefore, great care went into planning the rafting plan, as well as, providing our own overnight security. Overall, the trip was a great success and everyone had a great time. Thanks to passegero Dave Dillehay for doing all the leg work putting together the permits and letters of authorization; brother Mike Joplin for providing the insurance; brother John Baker for leading the flotilla and running communication on 3 different VHF channels; and brother JD Thompson for overall planning and activities at the Landing.

#### Health of the Table:

Active Brothers: 20

Semi-Active: 3

Inactive: 16

Engage: 1

Passejero: 4



ASSEMBLY of TABLE CAPTAINS

May 25, 2022

**BOC 2022 National Captains' Meeting on Zoom**

**New York General Table Report**

The New York Table has 11 local active Brothers, plus 4 relocated to Florida. There are 5 known inactive Brothers and two Lost in the Fog. We have 2 Very Active Widows. Ten of our active Brothers own and cruise sailboats, two in Florida own and cruise boats.

We have continued our evening Saturday digital cocktail parties on Zoom throughout the winter months and will continue them over the summer. Our biggest challenge continues to be the miles between our homes, from NE New Jersey, to Norwalk, CT and east over to Long Island. The boats are more central in the Stamford/ Greenwich area, mid Long Island Sound. We hope that our boat owners will be looking for good Brotherhood prospects as the covid restrictions have opened up.

We have had 7 in person Zafs in the last year. One was to welcome the VanSicklers from the Sailing Capitol Table to our shores as they began their long voyage west. Another one was held on the water with 6 sail boats.

The Good News is that our local boat owners are either commissioning or out on the water already. One Florida Brother and Mate have their boat now in this area ready to go on a lengthy cruise to Maine. We have 7 Brothers and Mates planning to go to the World Zaf next year.

One of our Brothers came to NY in 1970 from Poland. He and his Mate made us aware of the support by the Lublin Brothers to the Ukrainian refugees. We sent out a request for donations to help their Table's efforts. It was acknowledged by the Table Captain.

Our monthly International Zoom Zafs are open to all US Brothers. They have allowed us to learn more about our Brothers across the oceans and what they are doing. Here is the schedule, June 5, July 3, August 7, September 4, October 2, all Sundays at 11 a.m. New York time.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Protzman, #28 Captain



## ASSEMBLY of TABLE CAPTAINS

May 25, 2022

Ramzi Bannura <rbannura@yahoo.com>

To:tonyolmer@sbcglobal.net

Mon, May 23 at 7:14 PM

Tony - Please see attached and also please include me in the regular mailings as I am currently captain of the Sailing Capital table.

Orza! R

Ramzi "Rambo" Bannura (#743)

rbannura@yahoo.com

443.871.6486

5/23/2022

### **Table of the Sailing Capital**

Annapolis, Maryland USA

From Table Captain: Ramzi "Rambo" Bannura

The Sailing Capital Table continues to hold a solid course and has even grown over these recent quiet times of COVID and into this near post-COVID era. Brother Rambo has taken over as Sailing Capital table captain from Carlos "Toad" Jauregui beginning Jan 1, 2022.

The Table of the Sailing Capital is a dozen brothers strong and is proud to announce the induction of its newest brother Michael VanSickler "daVinci" (#753) in October 2021. He and his mate Ava and their two boys are avid sailors and adventurers who have been well known to Sailing Capital table brothers for many years before. We welcome Michael and the VanSickler family to our table.

The Sailing Capital table has met on several occasions for TAF get-togethers in various venues in and around Annapolis with limited attendance. Many brothers and their families have been away on travel, secluded or on sailing adventures. Brother Mike Lehmkuhl "Ron Rico" and his mate Heidi met the Staatsrad Lehmkuhl and our brothers from Norway in Ushuaia Argentina to round Cape Horn on board the vessel. They had amazing and inspirational stories to tell of their experience. Additionally, newest brother Mike VanSickler "daVinci" and his family boarded their 46' catamaran "Kolohe" for an extended expedition that began with a trip south with a Panama passage April 13 then to Tahiti and French Polynesia where they are enjoying their most recent days; they are then off to New Zealand hopefully in time for their ZAF on Nov. 12.

We look forward to what 2022 has to offer and the opportunity to greet brothers from near and far.

This report respectfully submitted on this 23rd day of May, 2022.

Ramzi "Rambo" Bannura (#743)

# ASSEMBLY of TABLE CAPTAINS

May 25, 2022

## San Antonio Table Report

### **Monty Rogers – Captain**

Active Brothers – 14

Inactive Brothers – 2

Brothers Lost in the Fog – 5

Engages - 0

Passejeros - 1

Active Captives – 2

### **General Table Report**

#### **Membership:**

We continue to seek engages but it remains a daunting task.

#### **Activities:**

Early this year we set a rather full calendar, countering the inactivity forced by the pandemic. We scheduled 13 activities for 2022. This would be in addition to the almost monthly “First Thursdays”, a get-to-gether at a local restaurant for dinner and social time.

We especially needed to reboot Trailer Trash which had been dormant since 2019. Trailer Trash was indeed a success with 60 or so attendees.

#### **2022 Status:**

Our Table remains healthy but aging as we all are. Key concern is the shortage of new blood. Our strongest point is our people, and the core of The Table is active and driven to enjoy a good, sustained program.

We continue to believe that a Table that remains active will remain alive and we choose to remain active.

Communications with our Houston and Corpus Christi sister Tables remain strong, and their membership is always invited to all Table activities and events.

#### **Challenges:**

The Table comes First...and Second.

First is maintaining and promoting an active schedule of activities.

## ASSEMBLY of TABLE CAPTAINS

May 25, 2022

Second would be to find and cultivate new engages to bolster our ranks.

### **Solomons Island Table Report (5/24/22)**

#### **Active Brothers**

(14)

#### **Semi-Active Brothers**

(2)

#### **Brothers Lost in the Fog**

None

#### **Engages**

None

#### **Passejeros**

(1) Ron Triplett

#### **Active Captives**

Patricia Farrell, Cynde Redfield

### **General Table Report**

#### **Membership**

The Solomons Island Table currently has 16 Brothers.

**Pursers Report** – All Table finances are healthy.

#### **Table Activities Since 2019 Assembly of Captains**

The Table does well to hold quarterly business meetings and monthly Tip-a-Fews.

The 2021 Raftarancho was a fantastic time meeting again with our Chesapeake table brothers after missing 2020. We had 14 boats and others traveling via land yacht. A fantastic feast catered by the Indian Creek Yacht Club was enjoyed by all. Pat “Loose Cannon” Whalen was formally inducted into the Brotherhood.

In September we lost our most recent table Captain and Founding Brother Al “Gunner” Redfield. He was a driving force in our table for many years and will be dearly missed.

# ASSEMBLY of TABLE CAPTAINS

May 25, 2022

## Sun Coast

### Engages

None

### Passejeros

Greg Knighton, relocating – new address to follow, 941-730-6096, [greg@sjyachts.com](mailto:greg@sjyachts.com)

### General Table Report

The Sun Coast Table is healthy and has re-commenced an active, post-COVID calendar of events. Brian and Suzy Schmitz, Joe and Claudia Hamrick have been regular attendees and we look forward to their potential flag transfers in the near future.

We enjoyed a great turnout for the Christmas Boat Parade and have been Tipping-A-Few monthly since the beginning of the year. There have been 5 well-attended events and March found more than 20 of us at Marina Jack's, our last opportunity to share brotherhood with Chris (BONES) Drake who soon thereafter sailed on the Eternal Sea. Brothers have donated generously to help the table create and produce new pins in anticipation of the upcoming National Zaf. Approximately 20 of us (brothers with captives) plan to attend Trailer Trash next month.

After the above two prospective flag transfers, our roster will rise to 19 brothers and 6 active captives. Of the 19 we find 13 to be active and 6 semi active.

ORZA!

Joe “Flaco” Vermeren  
Captain, SunCoast Talbe

## ASSEMBLY of TABLE CAPTAINS

May 25, 2022

### 8) Old Business

- Recruitment of New Brothers

There was a discussion and ideas were presented on how best to recruit brothers. Make ourselves visible with flags, banners, brochures. Approach sailing clubs to recruit younger members.

Joe Citarella volunteered to poll all U.S. Brothers to learn more of what our members think the Brotherhood is about and what they expect from it. What attracted them, and what keeps them going. Understand where we are now, why people got into the Brotherhood and what does that portend going forward, and if there is a disconnect.

The question was asked why is there a line to join in Chile but not here. What do we offer that is of interest to potential recruits? Perhaps we need to adopt some Guidelines on what is the Brotherhood and what we have to offer people coming in the Brotherhood.

On the subject of bringing in children, Scott Ripley felt that it is difficult to bring in your own children. It would be better done by someone else.

Rick suggested that in Joe's survey he should ask what talent exists amongst our Brothers.

Charles Hankins stated that the Brotherhood of the Coast is based on integrity because in Chile no one owns a sailboat, and it does not appear to matter to the quality of their Brothers.

- Rick reaffirmed that the Guide needs to be updated. A team had been created to do so and that it needs to be done.
- Update on the potential "Space Coast Table" in Coco Beach, FL. This is not going to happen now.

### 9) New Business

**(Unfortunately, the recording of the Zoom Meeting Minutes was deleted by Zoom so I no longer have the exact details and have to rely on my memory. If I missed anything, please let me know.)**

## ASSEMBLY of TABLE CAPTAINS

May 25, 2022

- National Captain Rick Hoekstra requested that his term be extended by three months to coincide with the World Zaf 2023 hosted by the Houston Table which was postponed for one year due to the Covid pandemic.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously to extend the term of Captain Hoekstra by three months.

- Captain Rick Hoekstra announced with sadness that the Table of the Keys was no longer meeting the basic requirements and needed to be decertified.

With a motion to decertify the Table of the Keys seconded and approved unanimously the Table was dropped from the roster.

- Nomination for National Captain

U.S. Vigie Joe Citarella nominated Tony Olmer for National Captain following Captain Hoekstra's term. (letter attached)

There being no other nomination, Tony was elected for a 4 year term starting after the World Zaf 2023.

### 10) Final Remarks

- Captain Rick Hoekstra thanked Robert Coles, our Web-master, for his dedication and perseverance in creating the website.

With the business of the Brotherhood of the Coast U.S.A being concluded, and no other business brought before the board, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:20pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tony Olmer aka The Rascal  
U.S. National Scribe-FM

Joe Citarella <joecitarella@yahoo.com>

To: US Captains

I will nominate Tony Olmer for National Captain at the National Captains' Meeting.

Tony has been Captain of the New York Table, US International Vigie, SECOIN, Ambassador to SECOIN and is now US National Scribe. He was the publisher of First Watch for about 10 years, 2 years under Sam Britton and 8 years under Tom Collier. Tony was awarded the US Medal For Merit and has received international recognition from Uruguay and Poland, which awarded him the Medalla Bractwa Wybrzeza. Tony was one of the founders of BOCUS.org and started an initiative to update the BOC Dictionary while he was Secoin.

Tony's extensive experience attests to his commitment and passion to the Brotherhood, qualities which I know will make him an outstanding National Captain of the US Brotherhood.

Joe Citarella - US Vigie