





Each year at the Santa Barbara Yacht Club, a new governing board is selected by the members and the helm is passed to the newly elected commodore.

Our congratulations to the new board and new commodore, Bud Toye.

Our sincere thanks to the board who has served us so well during the past year under the leadership of John Demourkas.

Santa Barbara Yacht Club

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About the Cover

Former Commodore John Demourkas passes his commission on to new Commodore Bud Toye. *Photos by David Roth Photography*.

Commodore Bud Toye

didn't think it would ever come to this but I have some shocking news I have to reveal. My name isn't really 'Bud' (you might have already suspected this). Life was simple until I became



a member of the bridge when the club's bank wanted to know my real name for check signing purposes—something I couldn't ignore because falsely signing checks as 'Bud' is probably illegal, and I don't want to spend my commodore year in jail. Furthermore, I noticed that all of our past commodores pictured downstairs have distinguished names like: Jens H. Christianson, Dr. A.Q. Spaulding, or Stanley M. Darrow Jr. Real names are the standard even if one is known only by a nickname. In checking, I found out that 'Pinky' was really Noel, and 'Cork' is really Nelson. Clearly my predecessors have chosen decorum, so better count me in.

My name is Frederick—wait, there's more —my middle name is Druce, after my maternal grandfather; names that hopefully will qualify me for the staff commodore's gallery. When my slightly older sister couldn't pronounce the word brother, her version morphed into 'Bud.' That name also mitigated family confusion as my grandfather, my father, and my son are also named Frederick. You might have noticed that Sigrid calls me Freddy most of the time, rarely Bud—unless she's mad at me. It's still OK for you to call me Bud though, whether you're mad at me or not. I might not know to whom you're speaking if you use Frederick.

While we're on the subject, what about our new flagship? Just the word flagship conjures up images of grandeur. There are 135 years of

On behalf of the entire staff at the Santa Barbara Yacht Club, thank you for your generous contributions to the Employee Holiday Fund. We look forward to meeting your needs in 2007. —The employees and staff of the Santa Barbara Yacht Club tradition on the line here that can't be taken lightly. I suppose we could get by with a flagship that is somewhat more modest than the battleship *Missouri*—but *Ferdinand*? When I joined the club our flagship was the *Lina Marta*, a Hans Christian 52 footer. Now THAT was a flagship. How are we going to explain a 27 foot Catalina?

I am here to assure you that *Ferdinand* is prepared to serve the club in the special manner that it has served me. *The Story of Ferdinand* was my favorite book as a child, as it was for millions of children around the world. It was written by a Spaniard, Munro Leaf, in 1936. India's spiritual leader Gandhi called it his favorite book of all time. Even Stalin allowed it to be published in Russia, the only non-communist children's book allowed. All the world embraced this peaceful bull, and today, *The Story of Ferdinand* is still in print in 60 different languages.

Like Ferdinand, I would prefer to sit under a cork tree and smell the flowers, the very thing the boat helps me do. But *Ferdinand* is no slouch either. With that fierce image on the spinnaker, *Ferdinand* relishes handicap racing fending off the usual armada of J-boats in hot pursuit. I'm sure they must be intimidated by that ferocious looking bull.

That fierce image comes from the book as well. When just settling into a bed of flowers, a bee sting sends Ferdinand into a rage. Observing this, fight promoters whisk Ferdinand off to Madrid thinking he had to be the fiercest bull in all the land. You'll just have to read the story yourself to see what happens next. You are all invited to do so as there is a copy on the boat awaiting your visit. Please do, because *Ferdinand* is your flagship.

Sigrid and I, and of course *Ferdinand*, wish you all the very best for 2007.

Thank you to all the contributors who make *Scuttlebutt* such an interesting read.

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