

# Miramar Mainsheet

January 2020



## *Mexicans win ‘Round the World’ sailing race*

It was 1972, and a British brewing company, Whitbread\* sponsored the first around the world crewed sailing regatta. Entrées came from all over the globe, mostly Europe. And the competitors were largely experienced ocean racers. Seventeen Yachts started the race, including two British Yachts skippered and crewed by the British Royal Navy. But the most unusual entrant came from a “weekend sailor,” a fifty year old Mexican, Ramon Carlin, a self-made millionaire who decided to enter the race on a whim and challenged his son and family to join him.

What transpired was one of the most remarkable sailboat racing stories of all time. Ramon spent a year acquiring the right vessel and recruiting crew. He entered the race in the Fall of 1973 with a brand new Sparkman and Stevens designed 65 ft. Swan Ketch, named Sayula II, and a handful of experienced ocean racers from Holland, South Africa, England and America. But, make no mistake, Ramon Carlin called the shots and was the captain of the ship.

The course went from Portsmouth, England to Cape Town, South Africa, to Sydney, Australia and around Cape Horn up to Rio De Janeiro, Brazil and finishing back in England. It took 133 days on sea, and 20 more days on stopovers to complete, covering 32,500 nautical miles. After months of the grueling adventure and dangerous seas, and to the astonishment of race organizers, Ramon and his crew finished the race in 1<sup>st</sup> place!

The documentary film chronicling this remarkable feat called The Weekend Sailor (2016) was shown as the inaugural movie in a Sunday evening film series in Miramar’s ballroom. Under the leadership and planning of Ben Leo, and with the support of Alex and Rima Dunajski and Nasim Shamailov, this series was launched. The dozen members who attended dined on fine cuisine from Alex’s birthday celebration the evening before, and others contributed chips, popcorn and drinks.

The film reminded all who attended of the reasons we love sailing. The movie embraced the sense of adventure we feel as sailors, the challenges and risks we assume, the satisfaction and camaraderie we feel when working together with a committed crew, and the triumph at overcoming obstacles to win a race at sea.

The film series will continue on Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>. (see page 4) Mark your calendars.

\*The Whitbread challenge became the Volvo Ocean race in 2001.



The crew of Sayula II navigate the extreme seas at the roaring 40 latitudes between Cape Town and Sydney

**SYNOPSIS**  
*Of*  
**Minutes of the December 19, 2019**  
**Meeting of the Board of Governors**

The regular meeting was called to order at 8:04 pm. A quorum was present. A motion was passed to change the order of business to discuss the 2020 budget. After discussion, the proposed budget was passed. The regular order of business resumed.

Voting members present were: Pattie Cunningham, George Farkas, Kathleen Higgins, Richard Lubell, Josh Reder, Danielle Ruttman, Nasim Shamailov, David Shin and Joe Vega. Also present were past commodores: Perry Blonder, Jerry Borell, Mike Friedman and Ruth Witztum. A quorum was present.

**Secretary's Report:** The Minutes of the November 21<sup>st</sup> meeting were approved as corrected. Correspondence was received from and read but required no Board action.

**Treasurer's Report:** Arnon Ben-Ari was unable to attend. Pattie Cunningham reported for him that that the club is in good shape until the end of the year.

**Commodore's Report:** The Board approved Pattie Cunningham's motion to continue the promotional 1<sup>st</sup> time boat owner membership. Pattie noted that the club got appr. 10 new members through promotions in 2019. There will be a New Year's get together on 1/1/20 at 2pm with wine and cheese in the Day Room. The Membership Application form will require insurance information. She pointed out that, although not required, members should consider liability insurance on their boats for their own protection. It may be required of members in the future.

**Vice Commodore's Report:** David Shin began by thanking Josh Reder for help with the East dock. It needs a complete overhaul. He is getting quotes on steel from Fred Samuel's friend. Wood with brackets, instead of steel, may be an alternative depending on quotes received. Nasim noted that the dinghy dock needs repair. David noted that the new wood on the docks will be kept and replaced after repairs underneath it are completed. Dimitry Kuperschmidt noted that Far Rockaway Yacht Club is rebuilding their own docks and the club should check with Nick (from Far Rockaway) for information regarding their progress.

**Rear Commodore's Report:** Nasim Shamailov reported that the ballroom is alive every weekend now. Alex & Rima Dunajski are doing a great job. There are parties, a dance class, and much more planned throughout the season. Folks should RSVP on the email invite and attend! These activities have not increased the gas bill but the electricity may go up. The liquor cabinet is locked with restricted access. He has done a lot but there is much to do. He has a long and impressive to-do list: he plans to fix and relocate the Suggestion box; run cable to the docks (he is waiting for combination of good weather and low-tide to do this); replacing the roof lights with LED/solar light; replacing dock lights with LED/Solar lights; install gangway solar lights, which is in progress; replacing the camera DVR with a better system; re-run

network wiring for new internet connectivity; run wi-fi to the office; install a new office computer with two monitors (this was completed at no cost to the club *special thanks to Nasim*); install a new computer in the Day Room (this is in progress at no cost to club); scan all old paper documents into the cloud and computer. The upcoming changes include switching the dayroom phone line (718) 646-9436, from cable to VoIP service, (in progress); disconnect cable with channels (not started); upgrade the internet connectivity from 50MB to 200MB; install a digital antennae on the roof to provide free channel reception on the TV; and sign up for Amazon Prime for all free channels and premium channels on demand. The project will not result in any loss of service. He thanked David Shin for the antenna, which brings in 77 free channels. A remote will be set on the thermostat to avoid overuse when no one is at the club but heat availability as needed. People should not adjust the thermostat. He thanked David Shin for changing the fans in the Day Room at replacement costs of only \$44 per fan. Carlos will be on vacation until the New Year. Pattie thanked Nasim for the new computers in the office. Microsoft no longer supported the old ones.

**Membership Committee:** Chair Ruth Witztum said the committee re-examined the membership application to avoid duplication from the member information sheet. The committee is putting together a package to give to applicants with information about the club. The completed application should be given to Ruth prior to the interview. All members should fill out the information sheet included with their bill. It is very important to return the form to insure that the club has everyone's correct information. She said she has received several inquiries regarding membership and will follow up.

**Tender Operations:** Tender Chair Joe Vega reported that Tom Mugno came to the club but was unable to change the oil in the Tenders because it was too cold. The Tenders will be covered but he needs help to get it done. Contact him if you can help.

**Race Committee:** Chair Rich Lubell submitted a proposed calendar for the 2020 season. Following tradition, the first Wednesday night race will be on the last Wednesday in May and the first Saturday in June will be the first Ensign Regatta. Jerry Borell noted that all Division I races should not be held only on Saturdays – he can only participate on Sundays

**House & Grounds:** Chair Perry Blonder reported that Carlos is on vacation until after January 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Website:** Nasim Shamailov noted that the website is in the top 8 in search results for yacht clubs in Brooklyn. Also, Miramar is on Facebook, Instagram and U-tube.

**Community Affairs:** Gerry Borell reported that the Brooklyn Parks Department is rehabilitating Manhattan Beach Park from the funds received from Superstorm Sandy. The money should have been spent on beach erosion. Also, many buoys have fog sensing equipment that sound when sensing foggy conditions. Some sound continuously, such as Romer and West Bank. A new system is planned whereby boats call a marine number and hit send 3 times and nearby buoys will start sounding. This system will not allow the boat to determine which buoys are sounding.

Upon motion, the meeting adjourned at 10:05 pm.

*Danielle Ruttman, Club Secretary*

## Film Series Calendar

All dates are Sundays (except \*February 22<sup>nd</sup>, a Saturday)  
Arrive at 4 pm. Showing at 4:30 pm.

January 12<sup>th</sup>      Knife in the Water

January 26<sup>th</sup>      All is Lost

February 9<sup>th</sup>      Maiden Voyage

\*February 22<sup>nd</sup>      Captain Ron

March 8<sup>th</sup>      Pestilence

March 22<sup>nd</sup>      Captains Courageous  
(1937 classic)

Movie Synopses by Ben Leo

### **Knife in the Water** - Roman Polanski (Co-Writer and Director)

A noir Sunday sail with all of the provisions. In Roman Polanski's first feature film, we are invited to be the fourth, voyeuristic guest, on the boat Christine set on a lake in 1960's Poland. With a couple's overnight get away turned into a trio, by way of a transient youth, tensions build in a way that compels you to identify with each cast member on social, political, and sailing roles.

### **All Is Lost** - J. C. Chandor (Writer and Director)

You are invited on a solo sailing passage in the Indian Ocean with Robert Redford, set up to test both actor and viewers' resolve. In this solitary predicament, the ocean views are infinite as is the calamity. For me, serenity and perseverance are instilled with each witnessed task performed by Redford to counteract the unmistakable antagonist, the sea.

**Notice: Important information to be included with your dues**

This year, when submitting your dues, we have added a section for boat owners on the information sheet that will include your boat insurance (property and liability) Please look in your files to find the company that covers you. Most auto or home policies include this option, or you can get insurance through Boat US.

Note: The Board has decided to strongly recommend that you carry updated insurance policies for the protection of yourself and our members. We will not police your compliance with this request, but we are adding this provision for your own protection in the event there are any unforeseen circumstances or risks you might incur.

**Join us on Wednesday, New Year's Day  
for our annual party in the dayroom,  
scheduled for 2:00 pm.**

**GREET FRIENDS, SHARE A TOAST TO THE NEW YEAR,  
AND A LOOK FORWARD TO SPRING  
AND THE NEW SAILING SEASON.**

Miramar Mainsheet  
Distributed on the first of every month  
Submit entries before the 25th of  
the month to:  
Richlubell@verizon.net  
Miramar Yacht Club, Inc.  
3050 Emmons Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11235