

# Cruising Club

by Greg Cailliet

We had a great year last year in 2015. Our final 8 December, 2015 meeting featured Haf Jonsson, Navy Postgraduate School climatologist, who discussed weather, climate and how it can influence sailing. This was quite an interesting talk and many of us learned how to really find out what the weather conditions are going to be in the near future. For example, he predicted El Niño and it is behaving just as it should be.

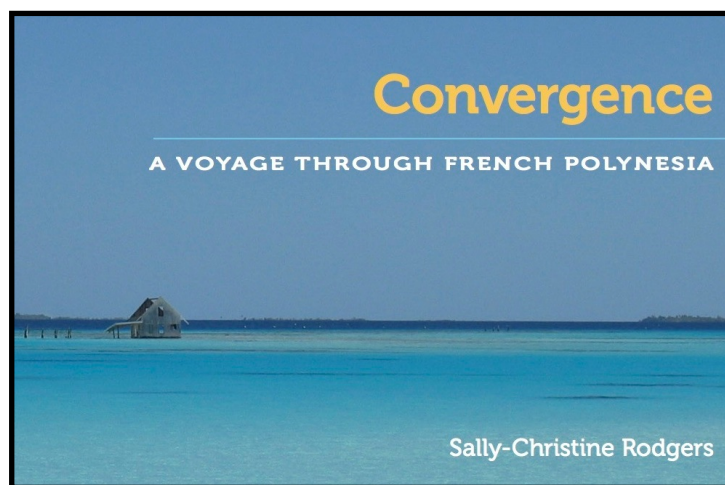
And, 2016 looks good too. We had our first Cruising Club meeting on Tuesday, 12 January. At this meeting, we learned a great deal about emergency preparedness from David Potter. David is the former Fire Chief for Monterey and now serves as the Monterey Fire Department's Emergency Services Coordinator. David gave a very informative and energetic talk about safety and emergency preparedness, focusing on weather and climate events (i.e. El Niño), fires, but also storms, waves, beach conditions, and other land-sea interactions that would obviously face and concern sailors of MPYC. He passed out some great handouts aimed at helping folks become better prepared for emergencies. David strongly suggested that everyone sign up and register their phones (both line and cell) with Alert Monterey County ([alertmontereycounty.org](http://alertmontereycounty.org)). If you have any questions, you can email him at [potter@monterey.org](mailto:potter@monterey.org).

We discussed the cruise schedule for 2016, which is still mostly tentative. The only cruises and dates that are fixed are: 1. attendance at the Strictly Sail Pacific Boat Show from 7-10 April, 2016 (Thursday through Sunday), which this year will be at Richmond Craneway and Marina Bay Yacht Harbor. We discussed the Cruising Club's involvement in this event, especially accommodations, which appear to be distant from the show. Details can be found at <http://strictlysailpacific.com/>; 2. the cruise to Moss Landing and the Elkhorn Yacht Club, which has their Otter Cup and Nautical Flea Market on the weekend of 20-22 May; 3. the cruise to Stillwater Cove for the Commodore's Regatta and BBQ on 11-12 June; and 4. the cruise to the Capitola Art and Wine Festival (<http://www.santacruzca.org/events/index.php?evtid=8293>),

which will be on 10-11 September, 2016. The other cruises are to be scheduled at future meetings.

We also discussed the potluck/meeting schedule for 2016. We will once again be meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at MPYC. These usually start with members arriving a bit before 6:00 pm, setting up their potluck dishes, having a beverage, and then eating. Usually by 7:00 pm or so, we start our meeting, followed by the speaker for the evening. So far, we have three speakers scheduled for the next three months.

On 9 February, we will hear from Sally-Christine Rodgers on her book **Convergence: A Voyage Through French Polynesia**. Sally-Christine has given presentations at several other yacht clubs, who described it as "reliving an amazing blue-water sailing odyssey." The journey (and book) were inspired by her father's tales of 1930s Polynesia, retracing his wanderings while exploring the essence of South Pacific island life and culture, and what has changed over time. The book and presentation will feature Sally-Christine's photography and what has been called "often poetic travel adventure poetry." She also will describe the challenges of family cruising. Sally was joined on the voyage, and will be accompanied at MPYC, by her husband Randy Repass, founder of the well-known chandlery, West Marine.



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# Cruisers

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*Sally-Christine in the wheel house.*

Sally-Christine suggested that you might view her web page [convergencevoyages.com](http://convergencevoyages.com) for examples of press reviews by Cruising World, Latitude 38, Sailing, This Old Boat, Practical Sailor, etc. She also stressed that this will be a presentation and a book signing, and to let you know that the book sells for \$24.95 and that proceeds go to marine conservation. It can also be purchased at West Marine and [westmarine.com](http://westmarine.com). Join us for this special meeting. I am sure you will enjoy it immensely.

Jeri Crittenden and Marty Lima have agreed to present their talk and slide show on cruising north in his Defender Trawler *Got'd Fever* and residency in Friday Harbor during the 8 March, 2016 potluck and meeting.

And, Jan Loomis has agreed to present a talk on medical & safety aspects of cruising, focusing on first aid and kits, on 12 April.

We are still determining what the subjects and/or speakers will be for the remainder of 2016. Some suggestions are anchoring (John Ruck and Robin Jeffers), sailing on tall ships (Tucker Hirsch), the film *One Simple Question* (Dana Russell).

Come join us in 2016 for our monthly meetings, potlucks and speakers and on our cruises.

*The Entire Staff of MPYC  
would like to thank the  
membership for their  
generosity. Your contributions  
to the Gratuity Fund  
throughout the year and  
during the Holiday Season are  
greatly appreciated. It is a  
pleasure serving the MPYC  
Membership. We are looking  
forward to a Successful and  
Happy 2016!*



*MPYC staff.*