

AUGUST PROGRAMS

LUNCHEON, 11:45AM
SPEAKER, 12:30PM
Q&A, 1:15PM

By Ron Young, Wednesday Yachting Luncheon Chair



August 1: Another Month in Paradise—Weathering Hurricanes Irma and Maria

Christine Perakis, Boat Captain, Navigator, Lawyer, Business and Executive Coach; Perakis Global

On September 6, 2017, Christine was alone in her home on Tortola as Hurricane Irma blasted directly over the BVI. It was the largest hurricane ever recorded in the Atlantic Basin. It wreaked havoc, destroyed infrastructure (including Christine's home) and left the island devastated, without running water, electricity, telecommunications or basic survival goods and services. Two weeks later, Hurricane Maria, hit like the upper cut of a one-two punch. Christine had to survive alone on her island for two months. Tortola inhabitants were under siege and life devolved to a task-intensive survival economy. Christine will share the survival, life and leadership lessons learned from weathering these two storms back to back.



August 8: Tanzania—The Best Natural Show Left on the Planet

Michael Ellis, Naturalist, Founder Footloose Forays

Famed naturalist Michael Ellis has been leading safaris to Tanzania since 1992. It remains his favorite wildlife destination. Every February over 1.2 million wildebeests gather in the southern Serengeti short grass plain and, in an incredible display of nature, the females give birth within a three-week period before an audience of giraffes, elephants, lions, rhinos, leopards, gazelles, impalas, hyenas, jackals, cheetahs and zebras. Many people on safari are also pleasantly surprised at the diversity of birds: flamingos, storks, pelicans, eagles and ostriches. And don't overlook the dung beetles. When you travel here, you are returning home, in every sense of the word. It can be a profound experience; humans originated in the savannas of East Africa.



August 15: The Practical Feasibility and Operation of Zero Emission Maritime Vessels

Joe Pratt, CEO, Golden Gate Zero Emission Marine

As seen in the SF Chronicle and ABC news, the U.S.'s first hydrogen fuel cell ferry Water-Go-Round is not only coming soon, but will be built and operated right here in San Francisco Bay. Dr. Joe Pratt, a fuel cell expert formerly of Sandia National Laboratories in Livermore, is now CEO of Golden Gate Zero Emission Marine, the local company putting this all together. Dr. Pratt will give the inside scoop on the vessel and generally discuss hydrogen fuel cells in marine use. He will also touch on common topics such as fuel cell cars, how far hydrogen has come since the Hindenburg, and the supposed rivalry between batteries and fuel cells.



August 22: Underwater Munitions Dumped After WWII—More Toxic to the Ocean than Straws

Chris Welsh, Diver, Of and Around Silent Killers Under the Sea

During WWII, many fighter escorts returning to base dropped their unspent ordnance in local bays and lakes rather than land with them on board. This happened tens of thousands of times as bombs, chemical munitions, mortar shells, machine gun and small arms ammo were simply dropped from the sky. Half a century later, as these reminders of past war are discovered, they are usually disposed of in place. However, such "disposal" releases even more toxins into the water. There are thousands of disposal sites off the US coasts, including 3,000,000 pounds of mustard gas in canisters just 50 miles off the New Jersey shoreline. Chris will share what is being done to find such mutations and solve this horrific situation.



August 29: Two Years Sailing Around-the-World—The Family Adventure of a Lifetime

Caspar Craven, Father, Sailor, Author, Where The Magic Happens

In 2014 after five years of planning, Caspar Craven together with his wife, Nichola, and their three young children, aged 9, 7 and 2 set sail from England to sail the world on their Oyster 53, Aretha. For two years they sailed around the world visiting beautiful and remote places. They swam with whale sharks and climbed a volcano in Vanuatu. They also encountered power failure in the Pacific Ocean and had to overcome rigging problems in the Indian Ocean. Eventually they ended up sailing their boat to San Francisco in the summer of 2016. Caspar's story is told in the International #1 Best Selling Book *Where the Magic Happens* available on Amazon.



September 5: The Growing World of Sailing Clubs—Making a Living Doing What You Love

Rich Jepson, Co-Founder, Olympic Circle Sailing Club

Public Access Sailing is revolutionizing the game. Properly introducing children and adults to the sport accelerates learning, builds confidence and creates a social magnet in their lives. By removing the boat-purchase hurdle, public access sailing, whether commercial or not-for-profit, has changed the playing field and has reversed the decline of sailing participation that started in 1979. Rich will review everything from international bareboat chartering to local youth programs including the bold FAST plan (Facility for Advanced Sailing and Technology), Treasure Island's "Puddles to Podium" initiative, and Alameda Community Sailing Center's "Just messing about in boats" model for developing a lifelong relationship with sailing for Bay Area kids.