



Planetary Coral Reef Foundation's Research Vessel *RV Heraclitus* by Cesco Rimondi

S a v e C o r a l R e e f s

RV Heraclitus
Homecoming Tour

September - November 2003

Overview



RV Heraclitus Homecoming Tour Events:

October 11, 2003: *RV Heraclitus* Homecoming: Celebration & Ceremony

- RVH sails under the Golden Gate Bridge into San Francisco Bay - returning after 28 years and greeted by a noble gathering of boats
- International media event captures the moment live on television and through other press venues
- RVH arrives at Jack London Square in Oakland, greeted by a noble gathering of boats and a crowd of schoolchildren, community members and government officials. A welcome ceremony commences led by community and government leaders
- Exhibits are displayed at Jack London Square to highlight the “Save Coral Reefs Campaign”, the *RVH Homecoming Tour* Sponsors, and the “Legends of *RV Heraclitus*”

Number of people anticipated attending celebrations: more than 1,000

October 11-21, 2003: *RVH* docked at Jack London Square, Oakland

- Exhibits are displayed near the ship’s dock to highlight the “Save Coral Reefs Campaign”, the *RVH Homecoming Tour* Sponsors, and the “Legends of *RV Heraclitus*”
- Educational outreach activities take place at Jack London Square and at selected schools, institutions and community organizations in the greater Bay Area
- Brochures and other printed materials are distributed in schools and other venues highlighting the “Save Coral Reefs Campaign”, the *RVH Homecoming Tour* Sponsors, and the “Legends of *RV Heraclitus*”

Number of people anticipated to visit the ship or interact with the RVH crew at schools and other events in the greater Oakland/San Francisco Bay Area: more than 2,500



November 18, 2003: RVH sails into Los Angeles accompanied by a noble gathering of boats and docks at Burton Chace Park, Marina del Rey

- RVH is greeted by a crowd of schoolchildren, community members and government officials. A welcome ceremony commences led by community and government leaders
- Exhibits are displayed near the ship's dock to highlight the "Save Coral Reefs Campaign", the *RVH Homecoming Tour* Sponsors, and the "Legends of *RV Heraclitus*"

November 18-24, 2003: RVH docked at Burton Chace Park, Marina del Rey

- Exhibits remain displayed near the ship's dock to highlight the "Save Coral Reefs Campaign", the *RVH Homecoming Tour* Sponsors, and the "Legends of *RV Heraclitus*"
- Educational outreach events take place at Burton Chace Park and at selected schools, institutions and community organizations in the greater Los Angeles area
- Brochures and other printed materials are distributed in schools and other venues highlighting the "Save Coral Reefs Campaign", the *RVH Homecoming Tour* Sponsors, and the "Legends of *RV Heraclitus*"

Number of people anticipated to visit the ship or interact with the RVH crew at schools and other events in the greater Los Angeles area: more than 2,500

November 22, 2003: Filmmaker James Cameron hosts an intimate Cocktail Reception aboard his private dive boat followed by a Captain's Dinner to benefit PCRF

- All *RVH Homecoming Tour* Sponsors will be highlighted in materials featured at this event

Number of people anticipated to attend this event: 100

Event dates subject to finalization of schedule.

Save Coral Reefs

RV Heraclitus Homecoming Tour

After circumnavigating the globe and sailing over 200,000 sea miles, *RV Heraclitus (RVH)* is returning home for the very first time since it was built and launched in Oakland, California in 1975. On May 4, 2003, the *Heraclitus* crew set sail from Guam for a journey across the Pacific to bring international attention to the coral reef crisis. Sailing north, charting its course in the way of the ancient mariners – by stars, winds and currents – the *Heraclitus* will be at sea for four months before arriving at South Pender Island, Canada, in September. From there, the ship will sail down the West Coast of the United States for a series of high profile media, educational, public and fundraising events in San Francisco, Seattle, Oakland, and Los Angeles in September, October and November.



Honorary Chairman James Cameron celebrates his victory with actor Bill Paxton at Race for the Reefs 2001

Captain's Dinner Hosted by Filmmaker James Cameron

The culmination of the *RV Heraclitus Homecoming Tour* takes place in Los Angeles on November 22, 2003 when filmmaker James Cameron hosts a VIP Cocktail Reception aboard his private dive boat which will be docked alongside the *RV Heraclitus*, followed by an exclusive Captain's Dinner and silent auction to benefit PCRF. The Captain's Dinner will feature the inspiring and courageous crew of the *RV Heraclitus* who will each join a celebrity guest at a table to speak about their coral reef research and adventures on the high seas.

***RV Heraclitus* Save Coral Reefs Expedition**

To fulfill its mission, PCRF chartered the 84' research vessel, the *RV Heraclitus*, a noble and legendary sailing ship. Now completing year nine of an ongoing expedition to map, monitor, preserve and restore the world's coral reefs, the *RV Heraclitus* is the only ship continually in the field studying coral reefs on a planetary basis.



RV Heraclitus, PCRF's 84' sailing research vessel

The Expedition Team and Coral Reef Research

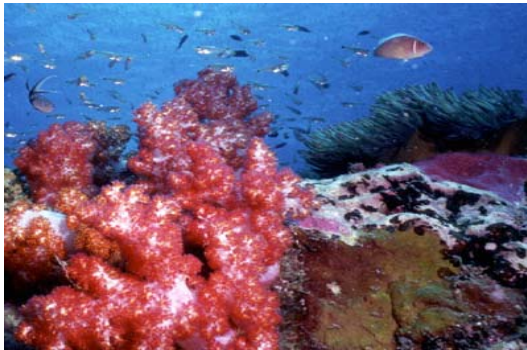
On board is an all volunteer crew of scientists, officers and students from around the world. Using satellite imagery, underwater photography, and innovative research methods, this team dedicates itself to ground-breaking coral reef research in some of the most remote and exotic places on Earth – ranging from the Caribbean to the Maldives to Papua New Guinea. At every port visited – from bustling Singapore to tiny villages in Sulawesi still untouched by the outside world – the crew spreads the message about the coral reef crisis and transcends barriers of language or culture through exchanges of theater, dance and music.



RV Heraclitus crew

The Cause

Coral reefs are the most biodiverse of all marine ecosystems and the greatest expression of ocean life. Also known as the "rainforests of the sea," they are the barometer for the health of our oceans and possibly our entire global environment. Coral reefs are now in crisis – dying at an alarming rate worldwide. Threatened by pollution, over-fishing, dynamite fishing and bleaching, coral reefs are now endangered on a planetary scale. The stakes are high, as the future of our planet depends on the health of our oceans and the health of our oceans depends on the health of our coral reefs.



Healthy Coral Reef, Southeast Asia



*Dead Coral Reef, Florida Keys**

About the Planetary Coral Reef Foundation

The Planetary Coral Reef Foundation (PCRF) was founded in 1991 to address the coral reef crisis. Since its inception, PCRF has pursued an unprecedented approach to the crisis, launching an innovative scientific and educational campaign worldwide.

PCRF's research vessel, the *RV Heraclitus*, is now completing year nine of an ongoing expedition dedicated to mapping, monitoring and preserving the world's coral reefs. Crewed by an entirely volunteer team of officers, scientists and students, the *RV Heraclitus* is the only ship continually at sea studying coral reefs on a planetary basis.

Today, there is no comprehensive baseline map of living coral reefs, and this information is urgently needed if we are to have a chance of saving this endangered ecosystem. To accomplish this critical goal, PCRF is pioneering a Coral Reef Satellite Mission in cooperation with scientists at College of Charleston, M.I.T., Seaspace, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, the Stevens Institute of Technology and USC. This will be the first satellite mission dedicated to the preservation of coral reefs.

PCRF is a non-profit, 501 (c) (3) organization. For more information, please visit our web site:
www.pcrf.org

**Between 1996 and 2000, the Florida Keys suffered an estimated 38% loss of coral reefs.*