

COMMODORE'S SIGNAL

SMSA Celebrates A Happy 28th Birthday! Everyone enjoyed our wonderful 28th Birthday Party celebration at the Tavern in the Village on 11 March. By any measure, this was a great party. The line at the bar was short and the scallops and tuna steaks were extremely tasty. What a great way to honor our founders! Special thanks to our Social Governor, Sandy Leitner, and her committee for this elegant evening!

Opening Day Launches Sailing Season 2000!

The winter is finally past and spring is blooming everywhere! It's time to get the SMSA sailing season 2000 officially underway. Join us on the 8th of April at the Clubhouse and start the season off right! Brunch will begin promptly at 10:00 and you don't want to miss the breakfast burritos or Bloody Marys! The BOG hosts this party for you, so just come and enjoy the fun!

Race Governor, Joe Frost, will host a Race Committee Boat familiarization at Calvert Marina after the Opening Day ceremonies. If you want to know more about the Race Committee Boat operations, here's your chance!

It's cruising time again and Opening Day launches the first cruise of the season. Let's hope that we have a warm and breezy spring weekend for this cruise. Get your sails out of storage and onto the boat so you can join this weekend cruise to a nearby destination!

Clubhouse Update! Take time to admire the new display system for the Past Commodores pictures in the clubhouse foyer. Finally, the pictures will stay on the wall and not fall on your head! Special thanks to Jay Hanks for his great display idea and for building this new system. Thanks also to Dennis Donehoo for being Jay's installation helper. Jay has already agreed to use his carpentry talents again for us and build new bookshelves for the library. Thanks again Jay!

Volunteers Wanted - We Need Your Help!

- *Rendezvous Hosts and Co-Hosts* - Sign up as a Rendezvous Host or Co-Host and add your own special touch to our parties! Contact our Social Governor, Sandy Leitner, for more information.
- *Zahniser's Marcy Series Luau Rendezvous* - We're looking for pre-Luau help with planning, purchasing supplies, decorations, and food/beverage preparation. We'll also need general set-up and cleanup help, bartenders, greeters, and hula dancers at the Luau on 3 June. This rendezvous is lots of fun, so please contact Jan Buckler or Sandy Leitner if you'd like to help out!

Upcoming April and May Adventures

Fun events waiting for you in April and May!

- 8 April – Opening Day Festivities Beginning 10:00 AM @ the Clubhouse
- 8 April – Opening Day Cruise
- 6 May – Rendezvous @ the Clubhouse

Cast off your lines and hoist your sails as the 2000 sailing season officially begins! This season is jam-packed with lots of great cruising, racing, and partying so come on out and join the fun!

See you at the Opening Day Festivities!

Submitted by: Jan Buckler, Commodore

SECRETARY

Due to the editors loss of ISP, the minutes were lost for the March BOG. They will be published in the May CLEW.

CRUISE

WEEKEND CRUISE May 20 – 21

The weekend cruise for May 20 – 21 will join the first evening of the week cruise which starts May 20.

The first night of the week cruise and the week-end cruise will be to Hoopersville on the Honga River.

please call at 410-586-3571 or e-mail at logicalchoice@chesapeake.net.

Submitted by: Ian Sommerville

Spring One-Week Cruise May 20-29

All you lucky sailors who can arrange to get away in May should mark your calendars now to join THE BABY on our spring (no bugs!) cruise to the Eastern Shore. We'll plan on meeting up the first night in Hooperville, then head up the Wicomico River to Salisbury for the next 2 days. >From there we'll head on back down to Crisfield, and meet up with **Whitey Schmidt, a local cookbook author** who specializes in crab everything

Then it's on up the Pocomoke River to see the beautiful natural cypress area. By then we'll be hungry, and plan to breeze on down to our favorite restaurant in Onancock. Then it's westward, over to the Great Wicomico (maybe we should call this the Great Circle Wicomico Cruise?) and Reedville, then home.

We'll have fair winds and the current with us for the whole trip :>))) See the cruise schedule in the Yearbook for the actual itinerary. Final details will be in the May Clew.

Call or email Rob & Sue Sloan (rsloan@erols.com) if you think you might be joining us, and we'll arrange for slips where needed.

A WORD FROM KELLY ANN

We received a post card from the McCabes of KELLY ANN – We've been in Key West nearly a month now. Sailed overnight from Naples to get here – our first overnight sail! We've been enjoying it here very much. The Wagners and Sidlecks from SIYC were tied up next to us when we arrived, but they've both left now and are making their way back. Drove to the Miami Boat Show a few weeks ago – didn't buy anything. We'll be leaving here Saturday to go back up the Gulf Coast and across the Okeechobee again. See you all in May!

RACE GOVERNOR

The Frostbite races are over and, unlike 1999 were conducted in spring-like sailing conditions: no sleet and snow, no ice to chip off the decks. And strangely enough - - participation was up from last year!

April 8 brings Opening Day. This year's Race Circulars will be handed out along with the 2000 Yearbooks. Also a RC Boat Familiarization will again be held at Calvert Marina docks immediately after Opening Day ceremonies. This will be a good opportunity to learn the eccentric ways of this most unusual boat!

April 19 is the first race of the Zahniser's Wednesday Night Series. The 21st Annual Sharp's Island Race will be on April 29, followed the next day by the 14th Annual Spring Invitational.

Twelve boats have paid small boat race fees, with more to come in as we get closer to the beginning of the small boat season. Don Behrens and Jeff Kumke have another great schedule lined up on **Thursday nights beginning on May 18.**

We have added two new weekend races to the schedule this year. The Double-handed Race on May 6 is

designed for a crew of only two people. It will be a bay race of 12-15 miles as designated by the sailing instructions. Both spinnaker and non-spinnaker classes will start. The Stars and Stripes is on July 1. It will be a one-race event on the bay, similar to one of our Invitational Races. This race is also included in SMSA high point scoring.

I want to thank Woolsey Paints for their generosity this year. Joe Nitti, representative for Kop-Coat Marine Group, donated the Woolsey bottom paint for the RC boat.

See you on the water.

Submitted by: Joe Frost/Race Governor

410-326-1978

e-mail: cfrost@us.hsanet.net

THE RACERS EDGE

As a new member of SMSA who has close to 30 years ocean racing and Race committee/Protest committee experience in Southern California, I would like to introduce you to two racing "skippers" that will form the basis of a monthly "The Clew" article I will provide for your reading pleasure. These two "character" are always racing, and are always getting involved in racing rules violations. Your challenge is to determine who broke what rule!! The first skipper is YOU and your racing boat (they are no longer yachts!) is **"PEDAL TO THE METAL"** which is a 6000 pound sloop which as its name implies you of course race very aggressively. The second skipper, and your arch rival, is Poulet Poop who is more timid but uses the Protest Room to help keep you honest. Poulet Poop skippers a 6,000 pound sloop named **"WEE WILLIE"**. So here goes your first Test:

Racing under the 1997 – 2000 Racing Rules of Sailing, you are luffing **"WEE WILLIE"** as she barges down on your starboard tack leeward boat just prior to the starting signal. Poulet Poup, the skipper of **"WEE WILLIE"** responds to your luff and approaches a head to wind position. With just a few seconds to go before the starting signal you force minor contact with **"WEE WILLIE"** which results in very minor damage to **"WEE WILLIE's"** gelcoat. Poulet Poup shouts, "Protest", and you shout back, "Protest". You are confident you carefully luffed, and you are confident you have nothing to fear as a result of the minor contact. You both go to the Protest Hearing ... and you both are thrown out of the Race!!! Why???

"WEE WILLIE" is thrown out of the race for breaking Rule #11 Windward/Leeward, while **you** are thrown out for breaking Rule #14 which requires you to "avoid Contact that causes damage" even though you are the right of way boat and the damage is slight.

Rule #14 was created to primarily prevent pre-start and mark rounding "bumping" by smaller one-designs, but it equally applies to the bigger "boats" and you should always avoid contact as even the slightest damage can cost you the race!! So stay dry, and tune in next month as I am sure these two intrepid sailors will clash again.

Submitted by: Fred Dellinger

410-586-9358

WEDNESDAY NIGHT RACE

No Results this month

WOMEN'S PROGRAM

Submitted by:

MEMBERSHIP

At the March 2 BOG meeting the following memberships were approved:

Bill Seale and Marguerite Pelissier, sponsored by John Herbig. Until last year Bill was a long time member of SMSA and carried the SMSA burgee to Maine and back. Bill and Marguerite will take delivery of their new Beneteau 40.7 "RIPTIDE" by mid-summer.

Bill and Theresa Leonard, sponsored by Rob Sloan. Bill and Theresa have a Hunter 25 named "CHACONNE" and are interested in cruising.

Laura Knapp, sponsored by Shawn Stanley. Laura has raced on "SYNERGY" and was on "CHARETA" for the Women's Series.

Russell and Beth Miller, sponsored by John Herbig. Russell has brought "DIABLO" back to the start line and is already providing tough competition.

Byron and Diane Hicks, sponsored by Joe Frost. Byron and Diane have a 30' Nonsuch named "BOB CAT" and will be competing in bay races this summer.

Tom Moulds, sponsored by Ron Spicuzza. Tom has a Front Runner and will be active in the small boat program.

We extend an enthusiastic welcome to all our new members and hope to see all of you and your sponsors on Opening Day.

Submitted by:

Char Frost/Membership Governor

FACILITIES

SMSA Clubhouse Use

One of the benefits of being a member of SMSA is the ability to use the Clubhouse for private parties. If there are no SMSA or Lord Calvert Yacht Club (LCYC) functions scheduled, any member of SMSA may call the Facilities Governor and reserve the Clubhouse for their private party. However, a recent incident that involved LCYC should remind us all that when a SMSA member uses the Clubhouse for a private party, he or she is responsible for the behavior of all of their guests, and that any negative behavior would be detrimental to our organization. On February 26th, members of LCYC used the Clubhouse for a birthday party for their teenaged daughter. The LCYC members met their obligation to clean the Clubhouse after the event, however they were unaware that some of the teenaged guests had left trash on Calvert Marina property and had vandalized an area near the docks. Needless to say our landlord and owner of Calvert Marina, Matt Gambrell was understandably upset about the trash and damage to his property. In order to allow us to continue to have the privilege of using the Clubhouse for private parties, I have revised the Clubhouse rules to help prevent any incidents such as occurred on February 26th. The new rule basically states that any guest of a private party at the Clubhouse is not allowed to walk around Calvert Marina unless escorted by a member of SMSA or LCYC. Hopefully use of common sense by our members who utilize the Clubhouse for private parties, and adherence to the Clubhouse Rules will prevent any future problems.

For your information and convenience, there is an insert elsewhere in this issue listing clubhouse rules. Please insert in your in your SMSA Yearbook for easy referral.

JUNIOR PROGRAM

The kickoff meeting went well and we have completely filled both of the basic sailing camps and built waiting lists for each. There are still a few slots open for both of the basic racing camps so please call me and let's get them filled too! In addition, we had a well attended meeting and talked about where we are at, what we aim to do, and what we need to do to get there.

Stovy Brown was in attendance (I thank him tremendously for his help) and he talked about the high school sailing team efforts going on for this year. The Patuxent High School sailing team practices on Thursday and Friday afternoons gathering at the clubhouse before going out on the water. They practice in the foundation's 420s at the beach at Calvert. High school sailors pay the fee for SMSA junior membership and participate in SMSA events. Patuxent is the first high school in the area to stand up a team but the program encourages other schools to stand up teams or to become involved in the high school program on an informal level. Call or email Stovy for details.

Sunday Afternoon Club program will again be a large part of the program and we hope to make some minor changes to keep the kids interested and thinking on-the-water. Changes will primarily be in the level of instruction available with the use of the foundations, 420s. This will allow us to teach double handed sailing as well as the basics in Optimists that we already do. We also discussed inclusion of sailing day trips on bigger boats and maintaining the "sailing group" in the off season by doing some other activities.

We proposed the potential of having a new advanced sailing camp this year using the foundation's 420s. This will be directed towards older and more advanced juniors interested in either advancing their skills or those interested in high school sailing. At this time, the idea is only a concept as a "pilot" but could potentially grow into the next phase of junior instruction. We are hoping to do this in conjunction with the last racing sailing camp in August. Curriculum would go beyond the books and focus on more advanced sailing skills and abilities. As a pilot effort for this year, we would like to do this without a paid instructor. The concept involves on-the-water instruction in the double handed boats mixed with seminar like instruction on particular concepts of sailing and racing. For this to succeed as a pilot effort, the curriculum, the instruction, and the involvement will be highly dependent on volunteers. If you are interested in helping pursue this, please call me, Jim or Stovy, with your ideas as it cannot happen without your help. If we can build this camp and you know of someone who might be interested, please let me know and we can add them to the list of contacts if it comes to be.

Jim Young is coordinating the races this year. There is a spring, summer, and fall club regatta planned, two CBYRA sanctioned regattas, and the summer club small boat races as part of the summer solstice waterfront events at St. Mary's College. All events are sure to be well attended and fun for the juniors. We still have a need for volunteers. If you would like to get involved in junior sailing, we would love to have you help. Some of the specific areas that we are in need are: persons to lead or assist in the responsibilities of the boats (parts, repair and maintenance); persons to lead or assist in the responsibilities of maintaining and keeping in order, the shed at the beach, junior shed by clubhouse, clubhouse (when used), and the beach area in general; ; persons interested in helping with facilitation or instruction for the Sunday Afternoon program or with ideas for some "day trips"; persons interested in helping with facilitation or instruction Advanced Racing Sailing Camp (small boat experience or specialty topic knowledge would be great); assistance with the race program (rigging of boats, race committee, chase boats); the high school sailing practice needs help with facilitation and instruction for practices; and assistance for any other area left out or forgotten.

This looks to be a very good year for junior sailing. Programs are growing as fast as the kids and any assistance is very appreciated, just let me know if you can help. I have detailed information on all of the stuff discussed above, so please call or email me and I will get it to you.

Submitted by: John Herbig, Junior Governor

301/863-3209 **Email: deckshoes@usa.net**

Please note the change in email! (Barbara kicked me out - sort of)

SOCIAL

For those of you who couldn't make it, this year's SMSA Birthday Party was attended by about 80 members, both old & new. The Tavern in the Village at Wildewood did a great job with the food, and clubmember Maggie Weir generously donated a beautiful (and delicious) birthday cake. Special thanks to Merrie Ruth Raley for helping me greet members at the door, and to Chuck Fadeley for bringing his sword for the traditional cutting of the cake. Our commodore, Jan Buckler, gave a lovely champagne toast honoring the club as well as past commodores and founding members. Thanks to everyone who attended and made this a special event.

Just a reminder of upcoming events:

Opening Day is Saturday April 8th at the Clubhouse. Don't miss the Kangas' famous breakfast burritos! The Board of Governors will provide the rest of the food for brunch. Bloody Maries, Mimosas, and other beverages will be available, and this year we will have live acoustic music to add to the celebration -- **Festivities begin at 10:00 am**. Please join us in welcoming new members and kicking off another season of great sailing!

Submitted by: Sandy Leitner, Social Governor

PUBLICITY

As some of you know the last few weeks have been yearbook crunch time and there has been little to no time to think about anything but. This is a large scale effort from the beginning with obtaining advertisers, to collecting the pictures, to finally pulling it all together. It has not helped much in this effort that I, and my family have been ill on and off (hopefully it is gone for good - three days and counting..). I would like to take a few minutes in this message to thank those that have helped me this year in pulling it all together, whether they talked to the advertisers, provided me copy, brought me pictures, or helped keep me sane in the end. Thanks to the following: Jim and Kris Young, Joe and Char Frost, Maggie Weir (and John for my questions), Kendra Palmer, Kathy Pappas, Nikki Goodman, John Herbig, Ronnie Spicuzza,

Sandy Leitner, Dennis Donehoo, Stovy Brown, Shawn Stanley, Jan and Stewart Buckler, Don Behrens, Clarke McKinney (mostly for putting up with John), Paul Eubanks, Pete LaRoche, Phyllis Herbig, L.G. Raley, Bobby Waldschmitt, Dan

Shannon, Rob and Sue Sloan, Frank and Rita Gerred, Chuck and Jane Crawford, Barbara Raley, Matt Gambrell, John Bailey, Dan and Wendy Schneider, Carolyn van Esselstyn, Russell Miller (and Beth for putting up with HIM), and Jae-Nee

Ausley.

There is some other stuff going on with SMSA Publicity, and if you haven't checked it out yet, Check out Channel 10 in St. Mary's - Thank you Tim Flaherty!

The next big thing on the agenda for Publicity is the SMSA Open House scheduled for May 13th. This day is a day for the public to meet SMSA members

and learn about SMSA programs, held 10-2 at the SMSA clubhouse and grounds at Calvert Marina. In the past we have had Small boats on display on shore, though it would be nice to have some big boats at the dock as well. If anyone is available for that day and can help out, we hope to have persons available to talk about racing (Big Boat and Small Boat), junior sailing (including High School Sailing), cruising, women's, junior, and other stuff going on with SMSA. We will have SMSA Program information available. This is our HOLLYWOOD Sailing Show! Junior sailors are planned to sell refreshments for visitors and proceeds will go towards, SMSA Junior Sailing. If you know someone who might be interested in SMSA pass the word! A flyer is enclosed elsewhere. If you can help with something, YOU ARE MORE THAN ENCOURAGED TO DO SO! Please call me with ideas, assistance, or mental support!

Submitted By: Barbara Herbig

Publicity/Public Relations Governor

(h) 301/863-3209 - (w) 301/342-6358

Email me at gingerbreadman@usa.net.

DATABASE

Please send any changes or updates to your address, phone number or email to Stew Buckler, 1651 Dares Beach Road, Prince Frederick, MD 20678; call 410-535-2402 or email to sbuckler@olg.com

SMSA LIBRARY

The author and title listings of the SMSA library are now available at the SMSA website: www.smsa.com. The website has been updated. A new feature is links to pages for members.

Submitted by: Rob and Sue Sloan

INFORMATION NOTES

VISITOR'S SLIP: For members of the SMSA who need a slip for short periods of time [for races, cruise departures, weekend stops, new boat, etc.], we offer a free slip. Includes water and electricity but no stays aboard without holding tank and no liabilities regarding boats, cars, people or whatever. Our pier is at 38 20.2N/76 30.4W, on the little cove [nine feet depth] off the northwest corner of Mill Cove/Mill Creek in Hollywood, first pier on the right, Patriot usually there on the lift. Jay and Mary Hanks at 301-373-5474 or jhanks@us.hsanet.net.

Announcing a Learn-to-Sail training course for Spring 2000. Adult students or those of High School age are welcome and encouraged to attend. The course will use a US Sailing Curriculum and will cover sailing and boating topics necessary in order to obtain a safe boater's certificate. Students will be required to take a test on the last day to obtain the certificate. Session will include classroom and on-the-water instruction, Tuesday & Thursday evenings, beginning the first week of April (4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, & 27)

and the first three Saturdays of April (8, 15, & 22) for on-the-water sessions. Cost is \$65.00 per student (discount offered to member organizations). Classroom instruction will take place at Patuxent High School and on-the-water at SMSA facilities at Calvert Marina. Pre-registration is required. Please contact Stovy Brown at 410/586-1321, email

stovy@chesapeake.net or Barbara Herbig at 301/863-3209, email gingerbreadman@usa.net to register.



The weekend of June 2, I will be participating in the **Avon Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk**. I will be walking about 60 miles over three days with more than 2,000 new friends.

Breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death for all women. It is the leading cause of death in women between the ages of 40 and 55. The funds raised by this and similar 3-Day events will go towards non-profit breast health programs in every region of the country to help raise awareness and facilitate early

detection. Additionally, a portion of the money raised will fund cutting-edge medical research at leading academic institutions.

In order to participate in this even I have agreed to raise a minimum of \$1800.00 in pledges by May 1, 2000. Any donation is helpful and all donations are tax-deductible. If you have any questions please feel free to ask me. Additional information about the walk can be found at <http://www.breastcancer3day.org/avbo/imagineone.htm>

Thank you for taking the time to consider sponsoring me for this worthy cause.

Peggy Stanley

Walker Number 3568

Pledge forms can be returned to me, or can be mailed directly to Avon Breast Cancer 3-Day Boston (address lower left corner of the form). **If you don't have Adobe Acrobat Reader please contact me and I will get you a hardcopy of the form. Follow this link for the pledge form**

<http://www.breastcancer3day.org/pledgeforms/pledges.htm>

This link will show you how the funds get used

<http://www.pallottateamworks.com/fancy/frames5.htm>

COCKPIT MUSINGS

None this month

EDITOR'S NOTE

PLEASE NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS: kzpappas@earthlink.net

Thanks to all the Governors for being so timely with their reports this month. **Please try to have your articles to me no later than the 18th of the month.** However, if you can't make it – just let me know as I might not make it either; but my opening day resolution is to get this out early.

I want to apologize for getting this very important issue out so late. I took my computer to the computer store to upgrade to Windows 2000 Professional and it took them a week and a half to succeed. When I finally got it back, well guess what? My ISP, Compuserve is not compatible with 2000. So I spent the next three days trying to get help from Compuserve as to how to retrieve my email (which is how our articles are sent) – they were less than helpful knowing that I was not to continue to be a customer, even though I currently spend approximately \$250/mo with them. Well I finally found someone there who helped me access my email through another channel. Hopefully, we are back on course.

e-mail: [jpappas @ erols.com](mailto:jpappas@erols.com)

[kzpappas @earthlink.net](mailto:kzpappas@earthlink.net)

Snail Mail: PO Box 154, Dowell, MD 20629

Bottle Mail: Anyone who wants to deliver an article in person: We are located at Zahniser's Marina in Unit #01.

Jan Buckler puts the calendar together for The Clew each month. Please be sure to alert her of any events, with times please, that you wish to have included. THANKS JAN!!! sbuckler@olq.com

CLASSIFIED ADS

FREE TO SMSA MEMBER: "Boatenna" TV antenna for sailboat. Never used, in original box. With 50 ft highest grade 300 ohm TV wire, 50 ft

downhaul line, easy connectors for TV terminals. Temporarily hoists up and down with your halyard. Not required, but small donation to SMSA's Junior Program would be most welcome. Paul Grisso 410-326-2838 (5,00)

WANTED! A "friendly" mooring, slip, or anchoring spot to leave BOB CAT from 6/10 through 7/1 so we can do the Little Choptank, Vice-Commodore's, and Stars & Stripes races. Please call 732 831 1581 or email: bhicks@gpu.com Thanks, Byron Hicks (4,00)

For Sale: ARCHANGEL, 34 Foot Ericson.

Andrea and Tony Csicseri, 352-751-0563 (5,00)

1984 Capri 22 "BADGER"...Spin/Gen/Jib/2 mains...mercury 4hp, fin keel 4' draft, great fun on Wednesday nights, \$4000. Carl Feusahrens 410 394-6643 (5,00)

SKIPPER SNIPE: Perfect two-person crew boat for the small boat racing fleet. Fiberglass hull and rudder, aluminum mast, boom and dagger board, stainless rigging, all of the go-fast adjustment devices of the Snipe design, plus cover and trailer. Ready to go. Can be tested from our pier. Asking \$2000, or trade for a more family-oriented boat for the grandchildren. Jay Hanks at 301-373-5474 or jhanks@us.hsnet.net. (6,00)

Wanted: Would like to buy three folding bikes. Please call Marie Tiede at 301-872-5964 (6,00)

SAILOR TID-BITS

ABOUT KNOTS !

At the beginning of the nineteenth century it was unusual to find in the fore-castle of a sailing ship more than one or two sailors who could read and write. It was a common thing for boys to go to sea before they were ten years old, and cabin boys of seven and eight years' age were not unusual. Even ashore, at that time, education was considered

unnecessary in the classes from which seamen were recruited. But the isolation of the sea was such that the sailor's inability to read and write was an almost intolerable hardship. In order to keep his mind occupied when off duty, it was necessary for him to busy his hands. Fortunately there was, aboard ship, one material that could be used for

that purpose. There was generally plenty of condemned rope with which to tie knots.

From: The Ashley Book of Knots, pg 2

Submitted by Emeritus member, Paul Grisso