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the clew



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COMMODORE

The February BOG meeting began the second quarter of our SMSA 2003 business year. The BOG has reached a firm operating budget that reflects prudent allocation of our precious funds and a line item to retire our past years operating deficit.

All of the Officers and Governors are to be congratulated on this achievement. The mid course corrections of the operating budget will occur when all the membership renewals have been accounted for and the funds available determined at our March BOG meeting. The overwhelming majority vote for the dues increase is a vote of confidence by the membership that the 2003 BOG is sailing on course.

The SMSA Site Survey Committee provided the Board of Governors with a report of its findings at our February BOG meeting. The committee's activities were initiated by the 2002 BOG and continued by a vote of the membership at our September Annual Meeting. It was decided to bring together the Treasurer's Committee and the Site Survey Committee under the helm of the Facilities Governor and form a Capital Planning

Committee. The purpose of this combination is to provide a possible site and a financial plan for approval by the membership by the September Annual Meeting. There will be several iterations of the plans in the coming months and I invite all interested members to attend our BOG meetings and to provide the various committee members with inputs.

The BOG will be monitoring the progress of the committees through monthly reports. A list of standing committees is published elsewhere in *The Clew* with members' names and the purpose of each committee. Please use this list to express your opinions and to offer help and support to your favorite programs. This is a dynamic list with membership set by needs and responsibilities as seen by each chairman. There are many dedicated members all working to provide a great sailing program for SMSA.

Check the March calendar for the various SMSA activities. March 2 begins the Frostbite series of races and one month later we celebrate Opening Day, April 5, with ceremonies and the first cruise of the season.

Your Board of Governors welcomes all members

to their next meeting on March 6. Review the draft agenda elsewhere in this issue of *The Clew* for topics of interest. We hope to see many of you there.

Walt Rupp, Commodore
jrupp@chesapeake.net, (301) 863-0175

VICE COMMODORE

SMSA has renewed its membership in the Boat U.S. Cooperating Program for 2003. As an SMSA member that means you can renew your Boat U.S. membership at a 50% discount, only \$9.50/year! In 2002, SMSA had over 65 registered Boat U.S. memberships. When renewing your membership with Boat U.S. this year, or if you aren't currently a member of Boat U.S. and are considering joining, be sure to mention SMSA's Co-op Group number – **GA82233S** - to get your special rate. If you have already renewed your Boat U.S. membership and didn't get the discount rate, you can contact their membership services to credit your account toward next year's dues. Be sure to check out www.boatus.com for more information regarding the benefits of membership, or contact Shawn Stanley.

Shawn Stanley, Vice Commodore
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2003 BOG Committees

Southern Maryland Sailing Association 2003 Board of Governors Committees

Commodore- Walt Rupp

Policy and Planning Committee –

Chair - Jan Buckler

Purpose: To support the Commodore, Present tasks: Review the SMSA by-laws to recommend changes for ease of interpretation, update wording of by-laws to reflect motions passed by the

membership, review and list past BOG policy decisions and to update the BOG Book appendices.
Members: L.G. Raley, Rita Gerred, Stew Buckler

Tally Committee – Chair Jan Buckler

Purpose: To tally membership decisions with respect to motions voted on by the membership.

Members: Rita Gerred, Ken Mowbray, Kendra Palmer

SMSA Site Survey Committee – Chair -

George Stewart Brown

Purpose: To explore and report on the feasibility of possible future sites for a clubhouse and supporting facilities for SMSA programs in the likely event that SMSA will have to vacate the current clubhouse when the Calvert Marina property is developed.

Members: Laura Comeau, Paul Eubanks, Carl Feusahrens

Capital Planning Committee – Chair -

Carl Feusahrens

Purpose: To provide a plan for the funding, procurement and/or the construction of facilities to replace those currently enjoyed by SMSA at Calvert Marina.

Members: Financial Committee, Site Survey Committee

Nominating Committee – Chair - Jim

Young

Secretary – Linda Kuehnle

Secretaries' Committee – Chairman -

Linda Kuehnle

Purpose: To provide for accurate recording and timely preparation of the Board of Governors minutes and the minutes of SMSA General Meetings.

Members: Barbara Miller, Maggie Weir

Financial Committee – Chairman - Jim

Keen

Purpose: To act as the action arm of the BOG with focus on strategic financial issues such as capitalization for major purchases, preservation of our tax-exempt status, taxes, and financial issues with respect to major events like the Screwpile Regatta.

Members: David Arbuthnot, Max Munger, L. G. Raley, Stovy Brown, John Weir

Race Governor's Committee- Chairman –
Clarke McKinney

Purpose: To provide for the SMSA Racing program.

Members: Pete LaRoche, Shawn Stanley

Cruise Governor's Committee –
Chairman - David Arbuthnot

Purpose: To provide for the SMSA Cruising Program.

Members: Sally Arbuthnot, Marc DeLevergne, Ken and Ellie Mobray, Curt and Dottie Hamilton, Jack and Nikki Goodman, Ron and Kris Hoile

Junior Governor's Committee –
Chairman - Dave Pedersen

Purpose: To provide for the SMSA Junior Program.

Members: Stovy Brown, Carl Feusahrens, Jeff Kumke, Shawn Stanley, John and Barbara Herbig, Becky Pedersen

Small Boat Program – Chairman - Keith Jacobs

Women's Program Governor's Committee – Chairman - Charlotte Mahood
Purpose: To provide the scheduling of training seminars for racers and cruisers and the coordination of the Women's Series of races including race committees and skippers' breakfast meeting. The seminars are open to all members.

Members: Barbara Herbig, Janet Rupp, Peggy Stanley, Maggie Weir

Social Program Governor's Committee -
Chairman - Laura Comeau
Purpose: To provide for all SMSA social programs and activities.

Members: Shawn Stanley, Melissa Behrens, Karen Donehoo, Nikki Goodman, Carole LaRoche, Pat Marchant, Lois Zonderman

Public Relations Governor's Committee
– Chairman - Tim Flaherty
Purpose: To provide for the sponsorship, editorship and publication of the SMSA Yearbook as well as the monthly publication of *The Clew*.

Members: Bridget McNamara, Marc Apter, Charlotte Mahood

Facilities Governor's Committee –
Chairman - Carl Feusahrens

Purpose: To provide advice to the Facilities Governor on maintaining the present club- house and shore facilities and provide for maintenance of the clubhouse.

Member: Dennis Donehoo

Membership Governor's Committee –
Chairman - Rod Schroeder

Purpose: To oversee processing of annual membership renewals, process new membership applications and maintain an accurate database of membership status.

Members: Stew Buckler (database manager), Pat Schroeder

SECRETARY

APPROVED MINUTES BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING January 9, 2002

OFFICERS AND GOVERNORS PRESENT:
Walt Rupp, Shawn Stanley, Don Behrens, Dave Pedersen, Charlotte Mahood, Carl Feusahrens, Clarke McKinney, Tim Flaherty, Laura Comeau, Jim Keen, Rod Schroeder, David Arbuthnot

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT: John and Maggie Weir, Stovy Brown, Jeff Kumke, Jay Hanks, Barbara Miller, Paul Eubank, Bill Mahood

The Commodore called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

Commodore's Opening Remarks

- Develop Winter Meeting Agenda

Motion: Motion was made to accept John Walker's resignation.

Result: Seconded and passed with one opposition.

- Cruise Governor appointment – David Arbuthnot has volunteered.

Motion: Motion was made to nominate David Arbuthnot as Cruise Governor.

Result: Seconded and passed unanimously.

Motion: Motion was made to accept Jay Hanks' resignation.

Result: Seconded and passed with one opposition.

Motion: Motion was made to nominate Rod Schroeder as Membership Governor.

Result: Seconded and passed unanimously.

- Awards Banquet – Laura Comeau and her committee did a fabulous job. Barbara Herbig did an excellent job in taking care of awards for the banquet.

- Welcome to the new members of the BOG.

Secretary – Linda thanked Don Behrens for his help in taking the December minutes. The December 12 draft minutes will be distributed to the BOG for approval in the next few days.

Treasurer – The Treasurer reported on the following items:

- Financial report for December 2002. The books ended with a deficit of \$751.46 in the account. The previous year we ended with a negative \$6,700 balance. So, we retired most of the prior years' carry over deficits. This was made possible by last year's BOG doing an excellent job in keeping within their budget and expenses. The cost of trophies for the awards banquet was half of that budgeted due to the hard work of Barbara Herbig. Also, Laura Comeau saved about 30% of the social budget.

- Audit. Jim also reported that Askey and Askey in Leonardtown did an audit of our books. They were asked to look at our overall finances, accounting procedures and processes, internal controls, and budgeting. The outcome was that SMSA processes were found to be thorough. A new process will be instituted for a person other than the treasurer to also look at the records occasionally. Overall, it was a positive report.

- Taxes. Jim discussed the work he has done with our CPA, Dan Long, the auditors, Askey, Askey & Associates, and a highly recommended a Tax Attorney expert on 501(c)(7) tax-exempt social clubs. We are closing in on getting our arms around the tax situation. In fact, upon their advice, we did pay off the \$10k in late filing fees and interest from years past that we had been working to have abated.

- 2003 Budget. Jim still needs to collect a few amounts. He will brief the budget at the Winter General Meeting on Saturday. We will need to

further refine the budget, as we know better how much income we will derive from member dues.

Vice Commodore - The Vice Commodore reviewed the SMSA calendar with the BOG. The updated calendar will be printed in *The Clew*.

Race – The Race Governor reported that the Frostbite Races will be held on each Sunday in March and they will start at the bulkhead at the end of the Island by CBL. He also reported that a schedule would be developed for the RC boat cleaning and preparation.

Cruise – The Cruise Governor reported there would be a cruise planning meeting on February 1.

Junior – The Junior Governor reported that he sent an email to prospective Level I instructors with all the information on our Summer Sailing Camp Program. He will conduct interviews when all prospective instructors have been identified. He also reported that Dan Shannon has all the updates for the Junior Program. Summer Sailing Camp signup will be March 20.

Women's – The Women's Governor reported that Clarke McKinney has agreed to give a seminar on Sail Construction, April 4 at 7:30 p.m. Maggie Weir has arranged for race committee people for both the Marcy and Fall Series Races. Charlotte is still waiting to hear from NOAA for a weather seminar. The February 15 Race Management Seminar is cancelled.

Rear Commodore – The Rear Commodore also welcomed the new BOG members.

Social – The Social Governor reported there would be a brunch after the Winter General Meeting on Saturday. Juice and coffee will be served during the meeting and the food will be served after the meeting.

Publicity – The Publicity Governor reported that he has received a lot of pictures for the yearbook. He is still accepting pictures for the cover of the yearbook.

Facilities – The Facilities Governor reported that on January 18 he would be cleaning the office upstairs. He will be throwing things out so if there is anything that needs to be saved, please mark it or it will be thrown away.

Membership – The Membership Governor had no new members to report.

Old Business

Agenda and Planning for the General Meeting on January 11 –

- Comments from the treasurer
- Status on the budget
- Results of the ballots
- Question and answer session

Membership Renewal Form Issues –

Motion: Clarke McKinney made a motion to raise race fees to \$100 a year for members and \$150 a year for non-members.

Result: Discussion followed regarding ways to raise small boat fees or to charge for mixed couple races. It was also discussed that the non-member fee could be decided later because those fees do not go on the Membership Renewal Form. The BOG recommended that Clarke restate his motion.

Motion: Motion was made to raise race fees to \$100 from \$85 per year for members.

Result: Seconded with discussion. Discussion closed and the motion was voted on. The motion passed with 1 abstention.

The Social Governor remarked that the BOG's vote on increasing race fees showed that it was following an established policy for the BOG to vote on increased fees.

- Membership Renewal Forms should have been sent out on January 1. They will be mailed following the January 11 meeting.

The Clew Publication Policy –

- The Commodore proposed a Membership Forum column be established in *The Clew*. BOG and members issues would be stated in this column. An article will be put in the February issue of *The Clew* for BOG members and members to write a personal opinion for general open debate.

Discussion followed establishing guidelines for the length and cost of these issues.

Motion: A motion for a committee to be formed to review editorial policies in *The Clew*.

Result: Seconded and passed unanimously.

E-Clew –

Motion: A motion was made that our renewal form state that all issues of *The Clew* will be sent via email leaving an option box to receive a hard copy by mail. This would be a reverse option that is presently on the Membership Renewal Form.

Result: Seconded with discussion. The motion was voted on and it failed with 3 for and 10 opposed.

New Business

P&PC Recommended By Laws Changes - Status -

The Commodore reported he had talked to Jan Buckler about how we were going to form and execute the by law changes. Jan will pull people together to get policies that have been agreed upon by previous BOGs and those voted on by the new BOG. During the next month, Walt would like to read email conversations between the BOG members discussing the issues that need attention. Charlotte and Stovy remarked that all members need to look at these issues and that they will be brought up at the general meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 p.m.
Submitted by Linda Kuehnle, Secretary

APPROVED MINUTES BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING February 6, 2002

OFFICERS AND GOVERNORS PRESENT:

Walt Rupp, Shawn Stanley, Don Behrens, Dave Pedersen, Charlotte Mahood, Carl Feusahrens, Tim Flaherty, Laura Comeau, Jim Keen, Rod Schroeder, David Arbuthnot

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT: Stovy Brown, John Herbig, Barbara Herbig, Max Munger, Bob Stratton

The Commodore called the meeting to order at 7:41 p.m.

Commodore's Opening Remarks

- Meeting expectations - without objection accept the agenda as presented in Sunday's email. Keep discussions short and to the point, keep reports succinct.

- Any special events for the next month (February or March) Laura will provide them with her report.

- Lots of topics so let us go through reports and entertain old/new business as soon as possible.
- Reiterate our mission statement as maintaining or improving the value of SMSA to the sailing community. Stovy will provide the details of his recommendations under New Business for a possible way to accomplish them.

Secretary – The January 9 approved minutes are ready for inclusion in the March issue of *The Clew*. Linda reported that her goal was to have the February 6 minutes approved by the BOG in time to be included in the March issue of *The Clew*. This will put us back on track in getting the minutes out to the membership in a timely manner.

Treasurer –

- Financial Report. The treasurer reported on our cash flow. Membership renewal money is coming in. We currently have \$3,907 in our checking account and \$56,710 in our money market account. Jim held the first meeting of the Treasury Committee with all members attending. The members are: Max Munger, Stovy Brown, L. G. Raley, John Weir and David Arbuthnot. The committee talked about their main objective and several other topics (e.g., preservation of 501(c)7 status; Screwpile, taxes, road mapping toward options out there to fund a clubhouse, etc.). Jim has been talking with our CPA to straighten out the Maryland state tax issue. It has been determined that a 501(c)7 organization does have to pay Maryland state taxes. He will generate the necessary forms and figure out our late filing fees and interest. He has also generated letters to several prominent Maryland politicians requesting amnesty from paying back taxes without penalties.

- SMSA 2003 Budget. Jim distributed the budget as of February 3. The budget will still need tweaking until we know how much income we will receive from membership. Discussion followed as BOG members reviewed their line items in the budget.

Vice Commodore – The Vice Commodore reviewed the upcoming calendar with the BOG.

Race – Clarke McKinney was not in attendance. Shawn Stanley reported that Clarke has scheduled four Frostbite Races for each Sunday in March.

Clarke is also soliciting volunteers to help with the race program.

Cruise – The Cruise Governor’s report will be included as an article in this edition of *The Clew*.

Junior –

- The Junior Governor reported that he has secured a Level I instructor. His name is Sean Sayers. Sean substituted last year for Eric and was well received by the kids. Sean will be sending a resume and a background check that was recently completed. Dave also reported he has hired 2 assistants – Teddy Clark and Becky Pedersen; both were with us last year.

- Some questions have been raised regarding the junior budget. The first question was in regard to books the sailing camp attendees receive. Each camper will receive 2 books – one on “Start Sailing Right” and another book pertaining to the camp they are attending. The second question asked was what is an honorarium? The honorarium is money set aside for a guest speaker. Who is the High School instructor? The instructor will be a club volunteer. On Fridays, St. Mary’s College will provide the instructor.

- Sailing Camp registration will be on March 20 following the high school sailing practice.

Women’s – The Women’s Governor reported that Ladies Night was a success with 14 women attending and having a wonderful time.

Rear Commodore -

Social – The Social Governor reported:

- The Valentines Brunch scheduled for Saturday, February 15 at the clubhouse has been canceled due to the cancellation of the R.C. Seminar originally set for that morning.

- Final arrangements for SMSA's 31st birthday party are underway. This event is set for Saturday, March 8 and will begin at 6:00 p.m. This catered event will take place at the clubhouse and will be a more casual and less formal event this year. The RSVP deadline is February 23. Details of the event have been published in a special insert to the February issue of *The Clew*.

Publicity – The Publicity Governor reported that he has enough pictures for the yearbook. Tim and Chuck Fadeley spoke on the phone concerning

cover-art, and Chuck has agreed to create a cover design.

Facilities – The Facilities Governor reported:

- The refrigerator at the clubhouse is making noises. When it stops operating, we will look into replacing it.
- The floors of the clubhouse will be stripped and waxed in time for SMSA's 31st birthday party.
- Matt Gambrill has agreed to clean out the other half of the storage shed so that we can store and maintain SMSA property.
- The front door of the clubhouse blew open the other day. The door is hard to latch; Matt Gambrill is looking into a solution.
- The combination to the front door of the clubhouse will be changed soon. Anyone needing the combination should contact Carl.
- Replacement tips for the folding chairs will be ordered. Other near term projects include: install a light on the fan in the trophy room; power wash the siding of the clubhouse; fix the sliding doors on the trophy case; clean and stain the picnic tables; and install chair rails. He will be asking for volunteers.
- On July 19, Calvert Marine would like to schedule the clubhouse as a backup for a wedding in case of inclement weather. The request was approved.
- Frank Gerred's request for rental of the clubhouse on June 21 was also approved.

Membership – The Membership Governor reported that 55% of the renewals for membership have been returned. There have been several non-renewals for various reasons. There have been 24 big boat and 11 small boat fees paid. There are also several re-joins in work. Rod has 1 Emeritus Qualification request from Frank and Rita Gerred. After discussion it was determined that Frank and Rita Gerred meet all the qualifications for an Emeritus Membership.

Motion: A motion was proposed to approve Frank and Rita Gerred's application for Emeritus Membership.

Result: The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

A discussion about the new "Subscription Only" category verified that the subscription fee for 2003 would be \$63. The policy of publishing the

"Subscription Only" listing in the yearbook, as was done with previous "Patron" category, was also discussed. Rod pointed out that this was an important issue with some of our out-of-area former members who maintain contact with SMSA via subscription.

Motion: A motion was proposed to include Subscription Only Members listing in the yearbook.

Result: The motion was seconded with discussion. Discussion closed and the motion was passed with 1 abstention.

The Commodore called for a short break in the BOG meeting.

Old Business

Membership Renewal Form Issues/prorating of memberships – Discussion on this item was deferred to the next BOG meeting.

Clew publication policy and member forum – Tim reported that his committee would meet next week and discuss *Clew* policy. The member forum did not get discussed. Tim will provide a report at the next BOG meeting.

P&PC recommended by-laws changes – Jan was unable to attend due to a family emergency. Her report will be delayed until the March meeting. She will have an update to the by-laws in time for the 2003 year book.

Issues list – This item has been turned over to the P&PC for review and prioritization and will be reported out at a future BOG meeting.

Site Search Committee Report –

Stovy Brown presented the following report:

- Since reporting to the BOG and to the membership during the spring of 2002, the site committee has continued to search for potential sites and to keep abreast of developments on the plans for the Calvert Marina property.
- We continue to avail ourselves of the services of George Burroughs, a real estate appraiser who works throughout Southern Maryland. During 2002, he familiarized himself with our requirements, studied a few of the sites we have been looking at to learn how we are applying our requirements to actual situations, and has been

looking at possible other sites. He requires no further retainer to maintain his advisory working relationship with SMSA.

- Since its previous report to the BOG in mid-2002, the committee has not seen fit to analyze in detail any proposed sites that have come to its attention.

- Matt Gambrell, our landlord, has informed us that the earliest we would need to vacate our current site is January, 2005. This date will most probably slip because the development plan for Calvert Marina is still being negotiated with various functions in the Calvert County government.

- The committee suggests that initial planning work commence on how our club requirements would be met by moving to the Back Creek side of Calvert Marina, near "G" dock, or along the bulkhead side of the Marina further north toward Washburn's Boat Yard. We will work with Matt Gambrell on obtaining plats of the area and laying out potential configurations of our facilities. This will be an iterative process over the next few months. Our goal is to make sure the area offered is workable, that we can afford it, and if we can afford it, begin to work with the Treasury Committee on possible capital funding mechanisms. We will seek BOG approval of any expenses that may be needed to carry out this work.

- Any board or club member who wishes more detailed information on any of these activities can contact me to arrange a time for discussion.

- I recommend that this committee be moved from reporting to the Commodore to the Facilities Governor, and that the Facilities Governor be part of the committee. This reflects the need for the committee to be more operational as it does detailed work for a possible Calvert Marina site.

New Business

New Facilities Plans Motion – Carl's motion for a time-phased plan for membership approval of a SMSA building site by the September Annual Meeting was presented.

Motion: A motion was proposed for a New Facilities Plan Committee to be formed.

Result: The motion was seconded with discussion. A lengthy discussion followed on what would be needed to put together a plan for membership

approval that would authorize the BOG to go forward. The BOG also discussed why this needed to be a motion when the BOG was authorized to form a committee for a specific task. Discussion was closed. The motion was withdrawn. The BOG established the Capital Planning Committee, headed by Carl Feusahrens. The committee will give monthly reports to the BOG and will present their findings to the membership to vote on at the September Annual Meeting.

Junior Program Opportunities – Dave Pedersen withdrew this item and the reformatted budget.

Clubhouse Rental -

Motion: Carl Feusahrens moved that the fees for non-member rental of the clubhouse along with a SMSA sponsor, be increased to \$200 with a \$100 deposit that will be refunded after the clubhouse has been inspected.

Result: The motion was seconded and passed with 7 approvals and 3 opposed.

Alignment of SMSA Programs with SMSA

Goals –

Stovy Brown presented the following report:

- SMSA membership recently showed broad support for the dues increases and policy initiatives you proposed last November. This demonstrates that the members feel our club is moving in the right directions and confirms the high value the club has to them.

- In the various support committees assembled by this and the previous boards of governors, several of which I have had the pleasure of serving, there has been serious discussion of how the programs of the club relate to the club's goals, and about how the goals have evolved over the years.

- To me it is clear that SMSA continues to be the premier outlet for organized yachting activities in the Solomon's area. Sure, the breadth of these activities has broadened over the years, and I believe that this gives rise to the concerns of many long-term SMSA members that SMSA has moved off its goals.

- Since you have this broad vote of confidence from the membership to continue and improve what we are doing and not revert to some more limited set of activities, which indeed defined our club's "premier outlet" role in the past, I suggest

that you now engage all of the club's programs in a review to make sure they are on target, that they are adding appropriate value, and that they are properly integrated with other programs.

- Let me make a couple of points to show you what I mean.

- You have standing and select committees looking at possible future sites, sorting out the complex tax issues with the Screwpile revenues, and cataloging all of the Club's policies and formally approved procedures for an improved BOG Book. What you don't have going are rethinking how the club's social calendar can better support the racing program, how the racing program can be improved, and how the junior program can be better integrated with either social or racing programs, and the like.

- For instance, we recently went through a lengthy handing out of racing trophies at the Annual Awards Banquet. Most of the events happened months ago. Why not hold several smaller trophy events during the season to award these, but reserve the overall ones, such as "Season Middle Distance Champion" for the annual banquet? Shouldn't the spring frostbite awards be made at Opening Day? Maybe the Club's birthday could be held in July and award the spring trophies then. Why not have the entire club celebrate the end of our junior sailing program with awards and socializing during the Patuxent River Regatta?

- The big boat-racing program has slowly evolved into day events around the buoys for boats that have galleys, bunks, and flares. We just accept the policy of CBYRA's PHRF organization to just let every type of boat race in our fleets. Just look at the disparate types we have on the racecourse. Even at Key West Race Week, the organizers try to sort this out. No wonder we have lower participation. And where is the formal feedback mechanism to know what the sailors think or want? At least the small boat sailors have that in place. So do the cruisers.

- With the recent expansion of the Junior Program, there are many opportunities to better integrate it with the weekend small boat regattas and Thursday night sailing. The junior equipment could be used to extend the popular Geezer Squeezer to team

racing between various groups in the club on rendezvous afternoons.

- And so it goes.

- Charlotte Mahood has done a great job of trying to do just this for her areas of responsibility in her planning for this coming year.

- Carl Feusahrens made a great point at the end of last month's BOG meeting, which was not formally recognized and, so, didn't make it into the minutes. In essence, he commented that the BOG focuses on lots of details but fails to come to grips with the big issues. He was most concerned about a future club site, as I remember it.

- I propose that you ask each board member to review the programs in his or her area for their alignment with SMSA's goals, for better integration with what other programs are doing or could do, and how to improve communication and interaction with the membership in planning and execution.

- My suggestion is that you do this during February, have reports on this at the March BOG meeting, and use this as preparation for an hour-long roundtable discussion on Opening Day following the raising of the flags.

- SMSA is not alone in needing to do this. All organizations need to make sure the details are organized and accountable. Over time, this leads to behaviors that lose sight of the big picture and that just keep the same program going year after year.

- Now is the time to move the valuable thinking going on in your select committees up to the entire club operation.

- This is a sure way to insure to the membership that their dues are being spent wisely and to solidify the trust in your work so recently affirmed by the January ballots.

October Windsurfing Event –

Mr. Rick Randall made a request to the BOG presented on the Race Governor's behalf by the Vice Commodore. This request was specifically for SMSA race & protest committee personnel to assist in running a local windsurfing event on October 4 - 5, 2003. In the text from Mr. Randall were details of the event, as well as Mr. Randall's planned involvement of SMSA activities, including

intentions to regularly compete on an SMSA boat in SMSA's race program. For multiple reasons, it was decided this request should be redirected. The Race Governor, in light of his planned absence, suggested in writing that Mr. Randall utilize his SMSA contact, Mr. Dan Schneider, to help publicize this event. The Vice Commodore supported this suggestion. No vote was taken by the BOG as "the request did not require official BOG action."

Commodore's Closing Remarks – Thanks for coming.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:19 p.m.
Submitted by Linda Kuehnle, Secretary
jkuehnle@tqci.net, (301) 994-1101

UPCOMING BOG AGENDA

**Southern Maryland Sailing Association
2003 Board of Governors Meeting
Thursday, March 6, 2003 7:30 p.m.
Draft Agenda**

Commodore-

Opening Remarks - Meeting expectations

Secretary –

February 2003 BOG minutes - comments

Treasurer –

Financial Report -

Budget Discussion -

Vice Commodore - Calendar update -

On the water -

Race – Race Programs – Frostbite Series

Cruise - Cruise Programs, Plans for

Opening Day Cruise

Junior –Program Status and Plans

Women's Program – Program

Plans and Seminars

Rear Commodore - Ashore Programs

Social – Plans for SMSA calendar/ Opening Day

Publicity –Yearbook status - Sponsors

Facilities- Condition report

Membership- Status of SMSA membership renewals

Old Business -

Membership Renewal Form

Issues; prorating of memberships

The Clew publication policy

Member forum recommendations

P&PC recommended bylaws changes

P&PC BOG policy review status

Report from Capital Planning Committee

New Business -

SMSA Web Site Update status

BOG Special meeting, purpose: alignment of programs with goals

Commodore -

Closing Remarks

Adjourn

TREASURER

As I am writing this on Saturday morning, Presidents' Weekend, we brace for a major snowstorm. Winter's last gasp before we head into the sailing season. The first Frostbite race is only two weeks away, and Opening Day and the first cruise are only six weeks off! Wow... we're just about there!

As we prepare to launch into the sailing season with SMSA, we are continuing to tweak our annual operating budget. Until all the membership renewals are in and tallied, we won't know the exact count on our operating funds for the year. At last count we had about three-quarters of the expected renewals so far. For those who haven't responded yet, please take a few moments and submit renewals. We need to go into April with a balanced and firm operating budget.

I am fortunate to have five experienced and dedicated SMSA members join me on the Financial Committee. John Weir, Stovy Brown, Max Munger, LG Raley, and David Arbuthnot serve on the newly formed Financial Committee with me. The purpose of the committee is to act as the action arm of the BOG with focus on strategic financial issues such as capitalization for major purchases, preservation of our tax-exempt status, taxes, and financial issues with respect to major

events like the Screwpile Regatta. We had our first meeting February 4, and have a good start at working these issues that are of importance to the future of SMSA. The committee's mode of operation will be to conduct research, develop options, and present recommendations to the BOG.

See you out there on the water (soon).

Jim Keen, Treasurer
Williwaw66@hotmail.com

PUBLICITY

Thanks to everyone who has contributed pictures for inclusion in the 2003 yearbook. There are so many, I won't be able to use all of them, but I'll get in as many as I can.

If you haven't sent your renewal to Rod yet, **DO IT AS SOON AS YOU GET THIS ISSUE OF *THE CLEW***. Otherwise, your listing will be left out of the yearbook!

If you are a business person and would like to put an ad in the yearbook, contact me ASAP! Ads range from \$55 for a business-card size, to \$200 for a full page.

Tim Flaherty, Publicity Governor
tsflaherty@hotmail.com, (410) 326-8084

CRUISE

Cruise Planning Meeting

Over 40 enthusiastic SMSA cruisers met at the clubhouse on February 1 to discuss this year's cruising schedule.

This year's Cruising Committee consists of: David & Sally Arbuthnot, Marc DeLaVergne, Nikki & Jack Goodman, Curt & Dottie Hamilton, Ron & Kris Hoile, and Ken & Ellie Mowbray.

There will be 24 cruises this year including four major cruises:

- Nikki and Jack Goodman will lead a three week cruise starting May 17 to Cape Charles following the Eastern Shore going south and coming back via the Western Shore.
- Sally and I will lead a two week cruise up the Potomac to Washington beginning June 20 with the Summer Solstice concert at St. Mary's College.
- Curt and Dottie Hamilton will lead a three week cruise to Long Island Sound starting Labor Day weekend.
- Ken and Ellie Mowbray will lead a one week cruise around the Choptank beginning September 20.

We will have several innovations this year:

- I wish to maintain a list with the following information for those interested in our cruises: name of boat, owners' names, email address, home phone number and cell phone number. This will make it easier to communicate last minute changes in cruising plans or give more information than it is appropriate to put in *The Clew*.
- If you have not yet given me this data and wish to be on the list, please email it to me ASAP. If you want an early view of this year's final cruising schedule, get on the list because I will email the schedule to all those on the list at the same time that I send it to Tim Flaherty for inclusion in this year's yearbook.
- Planning a two or three week cruise can be a lot of work. In order to spread this work and have more people involved in the planning, we need volunteers to be Port Captains for individual ports. Under the guidance of the Cruise Leader, the Port Captains will gather the information and make all arrangements for their assigned port(s) and lead the cruise during that port visit. If you plan to participate in a two or three week cruise, please contact the Cruise Leader and volunteer to be Port Captain for one or more of the ports.

- Cruise points will be assigned to boats only, not individual members. Therefore, if your boat participates in a cruise, you get the points regardless of who is on board.
- Cruise trophies will not be plaques or cups, but rather appropriate awards useful to cruisers.

We are looking forward to a very active and fun cruising season and hope that many will participate. Remember that if you have a sailor friend who is not a member but would like to participate in a cruise, by all means invite them to join us. They may even decide to become members! The first scheduled cruise is April 5, Opening Day, under the leadership of Gene and Lois Norris on *Quintet*.

David Arbuthnot, Cruise Governor
darbuthnot@comcast.net

JUNIOR PROGRAM

It may be snowing outside, but the summer plans are looking good! Sean Sayers, a fellow Southern Marylander, will be our Level 1 Instructor for the summer camps this year. Sean is from St Mary's County and has worked with the sailing team at St. Mary's College. He comes to us with a world of experience. Two of our staff assistants from last year have rejoined the team. Teddy Clark and Becky Pedersen will work closely with Sean to make this summer extra special.

Summer will be for fun and for learning. Our books are ordered but we need the participation of a few good sailors. As you may recall, a big part of the camp experience is going to be hearing of the exploits from Southern Maryland's best sailors. These guest speakers will spend some time with the campers and share the wealth of knowledge they carry. What could be better than a morning spent with young, eager campers who can benefit from your wisdom?

We also want to get the kids on a BIG BOAT.

Anything larger than a dingy that can hold about a dozen people will do. There are eight weeks of camp, so we need eight speakers and eight boats! Call me to volunteer or I'll put the touch on you at the next social event!

Camp registration is right around the bend. Hopefully, it will be warmer than 30 degrees on Thursday, March 20 at the clubhouse. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. We've got lots of slots but they tend to go fast. Forms can be downloaded from the SMSA website (thanks to Dan Shannon, webmaster extraordinaire). What a great present for the grandkids! What terrific piece of mind for sailing families! What a fun time for the campers! Come one, come all!

Dave Pedersen, Junior Governor
pedersendavec@hotmail.com, (410) 326-2867

WOMEN'S PROGRAM

Opening Day for SMSA is right around the corner. All programs are ready. The February 21 Racing Rules Seminar will have been completed with the March 1 Racing Rules Seminar to follow. The seminar will cover the same information, with the exception of a seminar on Protest Procedures presented after a light lunch. Thanks to Dan Trammel, Stovy Brown, and Barbara Herbig.

The Lasso classes will be taught by Frank Gerred on March 8, 15, 22, 29 at 9:30 a.m. All you need to bring is one of your dock lines.

On March 13 at 7:30 p.m. we will have a seminar on Tides and Currents. It's not too late to notify me of any other programs, training, seminar or lectures you would like to see.

Hope everyone caught the American's Cup on ESPN and hope no one ever has a race like New Zealand's 1st race.

Charlotte Mahood, Women's Governor
Charly2616@aol.com, 703-620-2752

SOCIAL

Upcoming Events

Saturday, March 8, 2003: SMSA's 31st Birthday Party at the clubhouse.
The RSVP deadline is February 24, 2003.

Cocktails - 6:00 p.m., Dinner - 7:00 p.m.
A catered Italian dinner is sure to make this both a special and enjoyable event. As we mark the Club's birthday with the usual fanfare, it is hoped that the clubhouse will provide a comfortable, cozy and less formal setting. The cost is \$20.00 per person and includes beer, wine, soda and coffee.

Saturday, April 5, 2003: SMSA's Opening Day at the clubhouse begins at 9:30 a.m. As hosts, your 2003 BOG will be serving up an array of breakfast treats to kick off the day's activities. Immediately following the ceremonious events, we will conduct a **Brunch**. Members are asked to contribute to this brunch by bringing items such as casseroles, side dishes, hors d'oeuvres and desserts for all to enjoy. Coffee, juice, beer, wine and soda will be on hand.

As always, if you have any questions or suggestions relating to the Social Program, feel free to send me an e-mail or contact me by phone. I look forward to seeing all of you in the coming weeks and months as we get our 2003 season underway!

Laura Comeau, Social Governor
bluesky@tqi.net, (301) 737-4201

MEMBERSHIP

If you are reading this issue of *The Clew* and have not yet paid your 2003 membership renewal, you were considered overdue as of February 15. Although we will make every effort to include late renewals in the SMSA yearbook roster, that effort

will be limited by the date that the information must be submitted to the yearbook printer in order to be ready for opening day on April 5. If you did not make it in time for publication in the yearbook, we still look forward to receiving your renewal and continued SMSA support. An addendum to the roster and boat listings will be published at a later date for those late entries and additional new members.

At the February BOG meeting, Frank and Rita Gerred's application for emeritus status was unanimously approved. Frank and Rita have been SMSA members for 20 years since 1982. They have participated on-the-water with extensive racing and cruising aboard *Clockwork* over these years. They have also been regular attendees and hosts of many ashore functions and rendezvous. This year they have a new boat, *Calypso*, a Jeanneau 37. In addition to their busy on-the-water activities, Frank has served the club in the following capacities: Rear Commodore 1986; Vice Commodore 1987; Commodore 1988; Chairman & member of the Policy & Planning Committee for several years; and, Chairman of the By Laws Revision Committee for 2 years. Rita has served the club as: Women's Governor for 2 years; Social Governor for 2 years; and, member of the Policy & Planning Committee for several years. Together they served one year as Publicity Governor, and have been active participants in planning and running Screwpile Regatta activities every year since it started.

SMSA welcomes back three returning former members:

Fred and Jackie Victor. Their boat *Pyxis* is moored in St. Inigoes Creek. They plan to move back to the St. Mary's City area later this year. Welcome back.

Dennis and Judith Frankle. Their boat *Dejah Thoris* is a Hunter Legend 40 and it is moored at Calvert Marina. They are interested in racing, cruising, and social events. Welcome back.

David and Shirley Butler. Their boat *Windless* is a Dyer 29 powerboat and it is moored at Zahniser's. They will be active in racing and social activities. Welcome back.

Rod Schroeder, Membership Governor
rodschroeder@comcast.net, (410) 326-0167

EDITOR'S NOTE

The deadline for submitting articles for the April 2003 issue of *The Clew* will be:

Saturday, March 15 at 5:00 p.m.

E-mail: feus@comcast.net

Snail Mail: Lisa Feusahrens
PO Box 591
Solomons, Maryland 20688

If you submit an article for *The Clew*, you should receive an email acknowledging receipt. If you do not receive an acknowledgement, please contact *The Clew* editor.

Shawn Stanley will be putting the calendar together for *The Clew* each month. Please be sure to alert him to any events that you wish to have included.

And, remember to forward your *Boat Bio's* and your *Did You Know* articles to feus@comcast.net by the 15th of every month.

THE RACER'S EDGE

It's a late February evening and you, the famous skipper of the racing yacht *Pedal to the Metal*, are enjoying the warmth by your blazing fireplace as the snow falls outside. This cozy evening has drawn your mind back to last summer's Wednesday evening races ... which in turn has reminded you of that scoundrel Poulet Poop who skippers *Wee Willie*. Your thoughts are of all the times he protested you for "minor" infractions of

the rules and had you disqualified from the race. Just as you sigh deeply, your mind replays one protest in particular that really irritated you.

Both you and *Wee Willie* were approaching your class's starting line on starboard tack, after the gun in light winds, and both of you were pinching just a little to clear the leeward mark end of the starting line. You were barely clear ahead and to leeward of *Wee Willie* and could not pinch up without fear of changing course too closely and thus not giving *Wee Willie* room to stay clear. So you maintained your course and hoped that you would not hit the mark. Unfortunately your port side rub rail hits the mark as you slowly pinched past the mark! Your quick mind immediately told you to hold your starboard tack around the mark, gybe, and then start on a port tack having paid your penalty for hitting the starting mark. You efficiently completed your maneuvers, and sailed onward on port tack only to hear Poulet Poop shout, "Protest". Confident that you were in no foul trouble, you completed the race, went to the Protest Hearing ... and were quickly disqualified! Why?

Rule 31.2 required you to get well clear of the other boats as soon as possible, and take a penalty turn for hitting a mark by promptly making one complete 360 degree turn including one tack and one gybe. Unfortunately for you, your rounding of the leeward starting mark did NOT include a tack as you sailed off after rounding on a port tack (therefore your turn was only 270 degrees). Thus your disqualification ... and one more lesson from the school of hard knocks, thanks to Poulet Poop.

Sail safely on the Racer's Edge...Fred Dellinger

DATABASE

Please send any information changes to Stewart Buckler at sbuckler@olg.com.

SMSA LIBRARY

The author and title listings of the SMSA library are now available at the SMSA website at www.smsa.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

DON'T FORGET: You are entitled to three months of **free** advertising in our newsletter. Take advantage of this great opportunity!

FOR SALE: 8-HP Johnson "Saildrive" (long shaft) outboard motor. Purchased new in July 2000. Less than 60 hours use. Professional maintained by Guy Brothers Marine. Price \$1100.00, new \$1700.00 +
Contact L. G. Raley, (301) 373-5700 (04-03)

FOR SALE: Auto Helm 4000 Wheel autopilot. Suitable for sailboat of displacement less than 15,000 pounds. I have upgraded to the 4000 MkII model. This older version is in good condition with the motor/belt unit having been replaced last year at a cost of \$300. Unit is for sale at \$300. Contact John Bailey, (410) 326-3115 or at bailey@baileywick.org (04-03)

FOR SALE: Sailboat - 1977 Boston Whaler Squall 9'2" \$1,200
Contact David Marchant, (410) 394-1870
cor93vette@aol.com (03-03)

FOR SALE: 1988 24' Penn Yan Heritage 248 I/O. 270 HP Crusader gas engine, Volvo Duo-prop outdrive (reconditioned 7/2002), bimini with full camper top enclosure, swim platform, v-berth, galley, dinette, enclosed head, speedo, tach, trim ind, compass. \$12,000, all funds to Southern Maryland Sailing Foundation. Contact Stovy Brown, (410) 586-1254
stovy@chesapeake.net (03-03)

FOR SALE: 1978 26' Pearson sailboat, 7.5 HP Mercury OB, v-berth, dinette, enclosed porto-jon. Needs cosmetic work, but should clean up well. At \$3,500, priced to sell way below market. All funds to Southern Maryland Sailing Foundation.

Contact Stovy Brown, (410) 586-1254
stovy@chesapeake.net (03-03)

FOR SALE: Albacore racing sailboat-all pieces are there, needs clean up. \$1,200.
All funds to Southern Maryland Sailing Foundation
Contact Carl Feusahrens, (410) 394-6643
feus@comcast.net (03-03)

Attention Lighthouse Enthusiasts

Cove Point Lightstation will have a cleaning weekend for the upcoming summer season. Volunteers are needed for April 12 and April 13, 2003. Light cleaning duties, etc. will be shared by all volunteers during the day. You do not have to go to Calvert Marine Museum first to get a bus, just go to the Lightstation and park your vehicle on Lightstation property!

Fred Dellinger

March 2003 - SMSA Calendar

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Racing Rules Seminar @ Clubhouse - 0930 (repeat of Feb 21 seminar) Lunch @ Clubhouse - sponsored by Women's Program Protest Procedures Seminar @ Clubhouse - after lunch
2 <i>The Wharf Spring Frostbite Races - RC J.Keen</i>	3	4	5	6 High School Sailing Boat Prep @ Clubhouse ~1430 BOG Meeting @ Clubhouse - 1930	7 High School Sailing Boat Prep @ Clubhouse ~1430	8 SMSA 31st Birthday Party @ Clubhouse - 1800 (flyer in Feb Clew) Lasso Seminar @ Clubhouse - 0930
9 <i>The Wharf Spring Frostbite Races - RC J.Weir</i>	10	11	12	13 High School Sailing Practice @ Clubhouse ~ 1430-1800	14 Tides Seminar @ Clubhouse - 1930 High School Sailing Practice @ Clubhouse ~ 1430-1800	15 Nautical Flea Market The Clew Deadline Lasso Seminar @ Clubhouse - 0930
16 <i>The Wharf Spring Frostbite Races - RC S.Stanley</i>	17 LCYC Clubhouse use thru 23rd	18	19	20 High School Sailing Potluck Supper @ Clubhouse High School Sailing Practice @ Clubhouse ~ 1430-1800 Junior Program Summer Camp Registration @ Clubhouse - 1830	21 High School Sailing Practice @ Clubhouse ~ 1430-1800	22 Lasso Seminar @ Clubhouse - 0930 Clubhouse Spring Clean-up - 0930
23 <i>The Wharf Spring Frostbite Races - RC J. McKinney</i>	24	25	26	27 High School Sailing Practice @ Clubhouse ~ 1430-1800	28 High School Sailing Practice @ Clubhouse ~ 1430-1800	29 Lasso Seminar @ Clubhouse - 0930 US Sailing Race Management Seminar @ Holly II - 0900-1700
30	31					

April 2003 - SMSA Calendar

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 BOG Meeting @ Clubhouse - 1930 High School Sailing Practice @ Clubhouse ~ 1430-1800	3 Sail Construction Seminar @ Clubhouse - time? High School Sailing Practice @ Clubhouse ~ 1430-1800	4 Opening Day Ceremony and Brunch, 0930 @ Clubhouse Race Committee Boat Familiarization after Brunch Opening Day Cruise St. Leonard's Creek - CL Norris
6 End Opening Day Cruise Daylight Savings Time Begins	7	8	9	10 High School Sailing Practice @ Clubhouse ~ 1430-1800	11 High School Sailing Practice @ Clubhouse ~ 1430-1800	12 Small Boat Program Kickoff Meeting @ The Wharf - 1300 High School Sailing Regatta @ Clubhouse
13	14	15 The Clew Deadline	16	17	18	19
20 Easter	21 LCYC Clubhouse use thru 27th	22	23 Zahniser's Wednesday Night Race	24 High School Sailing Potluck Supper @ Clubhouse High School Sailing Practice @ Clubhouse ~ 1430-1800	25 High School Sailing Practice @ Clubhouse ~ 1430-1800	26 Sharps Island Race Weekend Cruise Battle Creek - CL Marchant LCYC Opening Day
27 Spring Invitational Race Mini-Rendezvous after race @ Clubhouse End Weekend Cruise	28	29	30 Zahniser's Wednesday Night Race			