



P.O. Box 262, Solomons, MD 20688
Website: www.smsa.com

the clew



JUNE 2006

Volume 36, No. 06

COMMODORE

The voting period for the by-laws ballot closed on May 26th. The tally committee will count the ballots at the BOG meeting on Tuesday, June 6th. Results should be available during the meeting, and will be announced to all club members via the website, forum, July *clew* and I am sure the Coconut Telegraph.

With the mention of *the clew*, many members have expressed their desire for an improvement in our current newsletters distribution. While I believe that the electronic clew is succeeding in saving the club money, it is not allowing the BOG and other members to effectively disseminate information to the membership. I, along with all BOG members, am working with our Publicity Governor, David Meiser, on a solution to improve communication to all members. Thanks for your feedback and your patience while we work on a solution. If you have some experience, an idea, or would like to help, please contact me.

See you on the water!

Shawn Stanley, Commodore
sastanley@verizon.net

UPCOMING BOG AGENDA

**Southern Maryland Sailing Association
2006 Board of Governors Meeting
Tuesday, June 6, 2006 - 1900 – Holly II**

Draft Agenda

Opening Remarks - Meeting expectations - setting of the agenda

Monthly Business

Officer & Governor Reports
New Memberships

Old Business

Site Selection Committee Presentation

New Business

Ballot Results
Clew Publication & Distribution

Closing Remarks

Adjourn

RACING

The Racers' Cruise

During the week prior to the Memorial Day weekend, four SMSA couples and invited guests set out on a tour of the southern Chesapeake Bay. The flotilla included, Shawn and Laura Stanley on *Synergy*, Chris and Kate Miller on *Sequoia*, Smitty and Carol Smith on *Noon Somewhere*, Jeff and Donna Moore on *Moore Fun*, and lastly Rick and Cindy Pretsch on *Motu Iti* (hey, it's Tahitian for "little island").

The basic plan was to leave Solomons on Sunday May 21st and overnight at various points along the bay. Our stops included Crisfield, Grog Island (in Fleets Bay just north of the Rappahannock River), the Tides Inn Marina near Irvington VA, and a little farther south to Mobjack Bay. The balance of the trip took us across the bay to Cape Charles, then up to Onancock, with our last night at Tangier Island before we headed home on Sunday May 28th. Some of the stops were at anchor while others were at marinas. The schedule was a little aggressive, "but hey, most of us are experienced sailors, how tough can it be..."

On the planned departure date only *Noon Somewhere* and *Sequoia* left Solomons. The other boats were delayed due to work schedules and personal issues. The sail to Crisfield was uneventful. The two boats found an anchorage in the harbor. That night, winds picked up to over 30 knots giving them less than a good night's sleep. Chris Miller was up most the night silencing the drift alarm on his GPS and standing guard to ensure they didn't end up on the sea wall.

The next morning, *Motu Iti* and *Synergy* headed south. Rick and Cindy Pretsch got an early start taking advantage of the 20 knots of wind out of the north and ebbing tide. They arrived at Grog Island around 3 PM and milled around (confirming the water's depth with keel/bottom contact) until the others arrived. *Sequoia* and *Noon Somewhere*

arrived shortly thereafter, followed by *Synergy* who didn't leave Solomons until 10 AM.

Sequoia, being the largest, was the pin boat for the raft. Once the raft was secure we enjoyed a beverage or two then set out to explore the island. The ladies took the dinghy over to the island with the guys planning to follow right after they finished their beer (ok, just one more then we'll go...). The island is very small, about the size of the pool and bar area at Z's. It has four living Pine trees remaining, lots of driftwood, and very fine sand. According to the cruising guide, the island is slowly getting smaller and may disappear soon. After watching the ladies walk the dinghy 100ft on and off the island, the guys decided that looked like too much work and stayed at the boat for just one more beer. With pirate flags flying high, we celebrated our night on Grog Island with a lot of ale and ARRGs.

Tuesday morning we broke up the raft around 11 AM and headed into the bay. The winds were WNW at 10-15 knots and clear skies. It was a nice reach down the bay until we turned into the Rappahannock River. Now those pleasant winds were on the nose (gusting to 20) and we were beating ourselves silly up the river. We arrived at the Tides Inn Marina around 4 PM. After securing the boats we set off to see what the resort had to offer. The pool was beautiful, the golf course was nice, and the grounds and gardens were immaculate. Rick and Cindy Pretsch took advantage of the complimentary bicycles and took a ride into town. Later that night, we dined on filets, scallops, and sea bass in the less formal of the two restaurants. We topped off the night with a few Crown Royals and dessert.

The next morning, we decided that an earlier departure was in order. That would give us more time to enjoy our next anchorage. So, at 10 AM we headed down the Rappahannock. With the winds astern, we had several spinnakers flying and a boat wing on wing. As we turned south, the winds began to get a little light. Then, a little lighter and lighter still. After turning the corner at New Point Comfort Lighthouse (very picturesque), it was almost calm so we fired up the diesels and drove up the East River. While the whole area was quiet and

very charming, we had to go about 4 miles up river to find an anchorage. The raft was established by 5 PM. Several of the group went for a swim, some ventured out in the dinghy, and the rest of us just drank. “Dick”, an inflatable life-size doll, made his first appearance. He stood guard at the stern of Sequoia as we grilled our entrées for “Sea Food Night”. “Dick” did turn the heads of several passing boaters.

OK, we’ve learned our lesson. Leaving at 10 AM was good, but having more time at the next destination is a good thing. With this in mind, we broke up the raft and started down stream at 9 AM. The winds were a brisk 15 knots from the Southeast. The sail across Mobjack Bay was good except for the fields of crab pots. As we entered the Chesapeake, chop and the breeze began to build. By the time we got to Cape Charles, the wind was 20 knots with 1-2 ft chop. *Synergy*, *Noon Somewhere*, and *Sequoia* were the first to arrive in the harbor and began to raft up. Due to the stiff winds out of the south and a sandy bottom, the raft was abandoned and we headed to the public docks. Chris Miller escorted the ladies into town while Shawn and Smitty helped Rick put *Motu Iti* back together (lost the jib tack). Moore Fun had departed Solomons earlier in the day and planned to join the fleet in Cape Charles. The winds and chop forced them to take refuge at Crisfield with plans to join us the next day in Onancock.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with Cape Charles, the public docks are definitely a “workin’ man’s” dock. There are working boats, crab pots, and the aroma of dead fish everywhere. And with all that, a few flies. However, we didn’t let that deter us from “Latin Night”! We dined on pinchos, black beans, paella, and sangria as we listened to Tito Puente, watched the setting sun, and swatted a few flies.

Friday morning brought with it the forecast of 15-20 southerly winds, choppy seas, and a slight possibility of a thundershower in the late afternoon (no, problem we’ll be tied up at Onancock by then - - right...). Getting out of the Cape Charles channel was a little work. The chop was tossing our little flotilla around like a marble in a can of spray paint.

The ride was much better after we turned north. As we worked our way north, a few flies appeared. The flies from the public docks brought a few friends and they brought some friends as well. Soon, we were covered with the little black creatures. Any hopes of getting a little sun were dashed as some sought shelter in the cabin while others put on long selves shirts and long pants. We felt like the orphan in a CARE commercial with flies crawling on your face and getting into your drinks. Flies were everywhere!

After hours of battle with the winged intruders, their numbers dwindled and we found ourselves at the mouth of Onancock creek. This was good because a giant gray monster of a thunderstorm was headed our way. *Moore Fun*, *Synergy* had made it to the docks at Onancock, while *Noon Somewhere*, *Sequoia* and *Motu Iti* rode out the storm in the creek. It was a high-energy storm with lots of lightning, winds, and rain but it was also fast moving. In 20 minutes it had come and gone.

The fleet was finally together. After freshening up and a few cocktails, we walked into town. Jeff and Donna Moore had found an Irish pub earlier that day. Off we went to “The Blarney Stone” for some bagger n’ mash and a few pints. The place was great. It was lively with a guitarist playing typical golden oldie bar songs and an opportunity to play “shut the box” while waiting for appetizers to arrive. After good food and lots of alcohol, we sang along with the guitarist until they called the cops (just kidding). We stumbled back to our boats as any good sailor would, had a cocktail aboard *Moore Fun* then went to bed.

Saturday morning we went to town for some breakfast, a little shopping, and some sightseeing. Onancock is very charming. It had that “Andy of Mayberry” feel to it. Later that morning we set off for a quick sail to Tangier Island. The winds were NW at 15 knots and clear skies. Everyone enjoyed a nice sail to the island. Upon reaching Tangier, there was some question as to how deep the channel really was and if they had room for all of us at the public dock. *Sequoia* and *Motu Iti* elected to push on to Reedville instead of possibly having to spend the night at an unprotected anchorage with

15 knots of wind. They found a nice anchorage near Reedville and had a quiet night. The remaining boats found slips at Tangier and enjoyed the quaint atmosphere of this by-gone era village, where the mode of transportation for most were golf carts, mopeds and bicycles. Dinner that night consisted of local catch at the now famous "Fisherman's Corner", which was featured in the May 2005 edition of "Southern Living" Magazine.

By Sunday morning we were all ready to be home. With forecasted winds of 5-10 out of the north, we started the long trek back. Late in the afternoon, we found ourselves with too many miles and not enough wind. Once again, the diesels were cranked up for the final leg to our homeports.

This trip was filled with great sailing and camaraderie with great friends. Next time, we'll leave our racing mentality at home and plan for more play time and a little shorter legs.

Rich & Cindy Pretsch
Motu Iti

CRUISING

Cruise to Hudson Creek

On April 29/30, three Catalina boats cruised over to Hudson Creek on the Little Choptank. The wind was blowing out of the NE on a sunny Saturday at about 12 knots. Although we motored most of the way from Solomons, it allowed us to shake the cobwebs out of our sails and refresh our sailing skills we had stored for the winter. *Reflections* anchored early, about 1340 hours, securing a good anchorage for our raft (N 38° 32.470' W 076° 789'). *Runaway* arrived approximately 1600 hours and Matt and Marty decided to anchor out and dinghy over for happy hour. Taking every advantage of the great winds, Carrie and Mark arrived last on *Wavedancer* at about 1630 hours and rafted up with *Reflections*. At 1700 hours we shared wonderfully delicious hors d'oeuvres and stories of sailing and boats and children until the

sun started to slip away at 1900 hours. *Wavedancer* broke off and anchored a little further up the Creek. The evening was breezy off and on, but pleasant. All three boats set sail fairly early on Sunday morning with a NE wind and a broad reach return to the Patuxent River.

Patty and Rich
s/v Reflections

Cruise to Mill Creek

On April 22/23 the cruise was cancelled due to very stormy and windy weather from the passage of a cold front. This time the weatherman was correct!

Patty and Rich
s/v Reflections

Weekend Cruise June 3-4

Lower Potomac, Yeocomico River

Our intended destination will be the Yeocomico River on the lower Potomac. There are several lovely anchorages and one of our favorites is Mill Creek on the South Yeocomico River. If we are lucky we may be able to meet up with the Williams' "Where the Wind Blows" one-week cruise as they head home. Let us know ahead of time if you plan on cruising with us or contact us Saturday on VHF Channel 9. We will have periodic check-ins at 1000, 1200, and 1400 and will monitor Channel 9/16.

We would love to have you join us!

Kris and Ron Hoile, Cruise Leaders
Nimue
kt4mi@hotmail.com
Home phone: 540-659-6086
Kris at work: 703-607-2888

USNA Cruise June 17-25

We plan to depart Solomons at 09:30 on June 17th for an anchorage in Fishing Creek off the Little Choptank. We'll make contact each day at 10:00 and 14:00 via VHF channel 9, switching to 72 or 73. We then sail to Oxford on the Tred Avon for two nights. Slips are available in Oxford at Mears Yacht Haven for \$2.25 per ft plus electric. They also offer a discount of .10 per gal on fuel and a continental breakfast on their deck. If you are planning to join us, please let us know ASAP if you are interested in a slip for Sunday and Monday nights. On Tuesday the 20th we cross the bay to Galesville on the West River. On the 21st we'll move to Annapolis on Spa Creek and plan to catch moorings maintained by the Annapolis City Dock Harbormaster for two nights. Moorings and City Dock slips are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

On Thursday the 22nd we will take a private tour of the Navel Academy, which has been prearranged for 13:30. Note: you must have a picture ID to show at the entrance of the Naval Academy. That evening we will attend the Annapolis Summer Garden Theater's performance of Rodgers and Hammersteins *CINDERELLA*. Reservations are required -- call 410-268-9212. Tickets are not prepaid but must be picked up 8:00 pm that evening. If you are not able to join us by boat, we invite you to join the tour by driving to Annapolis. Let us know your plans no later than June 7th at (301) 862-3774 or gerred@verizon.net.

On 23rd we head to the Choptank River and San Domingo Creek (the "back door" to St Michaels). We return to Solomons on the 25th.

Frank and Rita Gerred
Calypso

SOCIAL PROGRAM

Get those grass skirts out and start practicing your hula. The annual luau is just around the corner. June 3rd to be exact. The fun will begin around 16:00 at The Dry Dock in the area next to the pool. The Zahniser's will be providing the main course from their grill and also live music. We ask that those attending please bring some type of appetizer, side dish or desert to be shared by all. Complimentary beer, wine and soft drinks will be available and specialty drinks can be purchased. There will also be an on going raffle with a name drawn every 30 min. Hope to see you there.

Aloha!

BJ Roberts
bjandcharlie@chesapeake.net

SMSA LIBRARY

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

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE: 1983 Olson 30 "Subject to Change", by Pacific Boats. Excellent Quantum sails: Main ('02), Light #1 ('03), Heavy #3 ('04), Spinnaker ('05). Also original main, plus Haarstick heavy #1, AP #1, and light #1. Garmin 182C Color Chart Plotting GPS, with large Chesapeake area Blue Chip. VHF with mast head antenna, control head in cockpit, and emergency location from GPS. Depth sounder new mid season '05. KVH instrumentation system as is, digital compass and count down timer both work fine. Two new bulk head compasses may not yet be mounted. Mighty 4hp Evinrude O/B. On hard at Washburns until your survey or payment in full. \$13,995 or best

offer, bidding wars encouraged. Will consider Vanguard in trade. Contact Stu Baldwin (301) 757-1161 (dwh) or (301) 862-1083 (awh but before 9pm, please).

FOR SALE: The Small Boat Program has six (6) four-pound anchors for sale. We have received new race marks for which our existing anchor set is too small. Great for dinghies! All proceeds from the sale of these anchors will be used to purchase a new, larger anchor set for use with the new marks. Asking \$8 per anchor. Contact: Keith Jacobs (301) 997-1001 or hokiesailor@verizon.net.

FOR SALE: 1986 21' Bayliner Trophy series I/O. Hard top cabin w/canvas rear. Economical Ford 4cyl 3.3ci inline, OMC drive. Regularly maintained, great fishing boat, trolled. Has outriggers too! Asking \$7500 including trailer. Email maxmunger@verizon.net (410) 326-9024

FOR SALE: Bottom Siders custom-made Cockpit cushions for Catalina 34 (1986) Color: Royal blue with white accent strip. \$50 for complete set. Contact Dave Zonderman (973) 584-3981 or sail274@optonline.net

BOTTOM SCRUBBING: Sail faster, get your hull and prop, slime and barnacle free without getting stung by jellyfish; pay me to do it! 7 years experience. \$1.25/ft. Contact Erik Gyorgy egyorgy@vt.edu or (443) 404-9693

CREW WANTED: SherMax and Toby are looking for permanent crew members for both Wednesday night and all weekend races. We had a great 2005 year and are looking forward to even better for 2006. We take beginners and capable "seniors" and everyone in between. We could use a few more ladies aboard too! Come sail and have fun with our existing crew. email maxmunger@verizon.net (410) 326-9024

SQUASH ANYONE? If anybody out there is playing and would consider another partner, or would like to play, some only-mildly-serious squash with the undersigned old duffer, please give me a call or email. Annapolis or elsewhere not too far from St Leonard, MD. Joel Bergsman, joel@bergsman.org, (410) 495-8211

EDITOR'S NOTE

The deadline for submitting articles for the July 2006 issue of *The Clew* will be:

June 15, 2006

E-mail: clew@smsa.com

If you submit an article for *the clew*, you will receive an email acknowledging receipt. Articles are always appreciated!

JUNE 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1± •Thur Nite Race	2±	3± • Marcy Series Races • Luau / Marcy Series Rendezvous • Marcy Series Skippers Meeting • Weekend Cruise
4± • mini-rendezvous • Marcy Series Races • Weekend Cruise	5± Sunset: 8:22 PM	6±	7± • Wed Nite Race #8	8± • Thur Nite Race	9±	10± • Little Choptank Race • LCYC Buffett Beach Party • York River Cruise
11±	12± Sunset: 8:26 PM	13±	14± Flag Day • Wed Nite Race #9	15± • Thur Nite Race	16± • Vice Commodore's Race	17± • Smallboat Races at SMCM • Vice Commodore's Rendezvous • DelMarVa Cruise • USNA Cruise
18± Father's Day • DelMarVa Cruise	19± Sunset: 8:28 PM • Jr Pgm Camps • DelMarVa Cruise	20± • DelMarVa Cruise	21± • Wed Nite Race #10 (CS) • DelMarVa Cruise	22± • Thur Nite Race • DelMarVa Cruise	23± • DelMarVa Cruise	24± • Smallboat One Day Regatta • DelMarVa Cruise
25± • Summer Invitational Race • mini-rendezvous • DelMarVa Cruise	26± Sunset: 8:29 PM	27±	28± • Wed Nite Race #11	29± • Thur Nite Race	30± • Sailing Smith's Seas	

JULY 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1[±] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stars & Stripes Race • mini-rendezvous
2[±]	3[±] Sunset: 8:29 PM	4[±] Independence Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LCYC Cookout 	5[±] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wed Nite Race #12 	6[±] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thur Nite Race 	7[±]	8[±]
9[±]	10[±] Sunset: 8:27 PM	11[±] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BOG mtg 	12[±] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wed Nite Race #13 	13[±] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thur Nite Race • Festival Cruise 	14[±] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eastport Race 	15[±] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screwpile Check-In
16[±] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screwpile Regatta 	17[±] Sunset: 8:23 PM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screwpile Regatta 	18[±] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screwpile Regatta 	19[±] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wed Nite Fun Race 	20[±] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thur Nite Race 	21[±]	22[±] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LCYC Event
23[±]	24[±] Sunset: 8:19 PM	25[±]	26[±] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wed Nite Race #14 (CS) 	27[±] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thur Nite Race 	28[±] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaf on the Wind 	29[±]
30[±]	31[±] Sunset: 8:12 PM	1 AUGUST <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BOG meeting 	2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wed Nite Race #15 	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thur Nite Race 	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SMC Governor's Cup Race • Gov Cup Cruise 	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Onancock Cruise