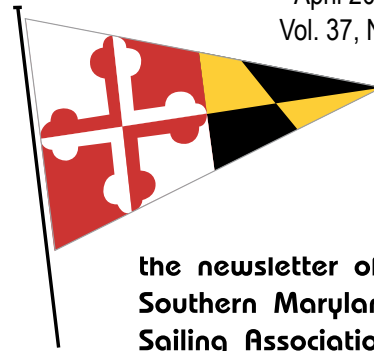


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April 2007,
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the newsletter of
**Southern Maryland
Sailing Association, Inc.**
P.O. Box 262, Solomons, MD 20688
www.smsa.com

the clew

COMMODORE



Welcome to Spring! I hope you had a chance to attend Opening Day and were able to notice some of the club improvements.

A flagpole was donated by Matt Gambrell and revived with a bit of welding and a lot of sanding and painting by several club members. Thanks to Skip Zahniser and Jim Sharkey providing their mobile mast hoist to lift the flagpole into place. The new ramp to the floating docks has been constructed and is operational, a big thanks to Tom Moulds and John Bailey. Jim Young and his team have been perfecting the dinghy cradles.

The policy committee has an initial set of policies that were approved by the BOD during the March meeting. The policies establish plans for slips use, the

utilization of the T-head dock for transients, dry storage for small boats, and usage and rental of the clubhouse. Policies will be placed on the online forum.

You should have received your copy of the "2007 Yearbook". A big thanks to Mark Brownhill and Tim Flaherty.

There are numerous events in April, so please check the calendar. On April 7th, the US Sailing Race Management Seminar will be held at the clubhouse. Contact Keith Jacobs (hokiesailor@verizon.net) for more info. The Gary Jobson Championship Racing event is at the clubhouse on April 19th. Contact Cindi Eaton (facility@smsa.com) or Herb Reese (hrrsr@earthlink.net) to purchase your tickets.

We have several Frostbite races in the books and the Wednesday night series starts with racing in the river and results at Zahnisers! The first cruise left the dock after the opening ceremonies, and a there

Welcome New Members

Bill and Sue Nagel
Douglas and Ellen Aulson

is a second cruise this month to Battle Creek. The small boat program is prepping for the start of its season. Thanks to the Meisers and the Stanleys who have agreed to be the new coordinators. An extra big thanks goes out to Keith Jacobs for his five years of outstanding leadership of the program. The junior program is prepping for the upcoming summer camps and for the high school sailing practices and regattas. Our first mini-rendezvous will occur this month.

Your BOD is now turning its focus to longer range planning, so please get any thoughts or concerns to an officer or director before the next meeting that is on April 3.

Don Behrens, Commodore

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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vicecommodore@smsa.com

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treasurer@smsa.com

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Racing

Jim Keen

race@smsa.com

Social

Carol Smith

social@smsa.com

Women's

Barbara Miller

women@smsa.com

VICE COMMODORE



Good weather is approaching fast and we will have our hands full again. Between racing, cruising, and a variety of rendezvous, the club calendar is almost full. We have a great group of volunteers out on the water from cruise leaders, big and small boat race committees, and of course our Program Chairs. If you have not yet signed up to help with a program that interests you, please jump in and lend a hand. It is a great way to meet other SMSA members and have lots of fun.

If you are into cruising and you are not sure what the racing side of life is all about, come out and see first hand by jumping on the race committee boat on a Wednesday or Thursday night. The small boat program is fast, fun and very informal, while the big boat program can be quite interesting to watch from aboard the committee boat. Who knows, after learning more about these programs, you might get the bug to race once and a while.

On the racers' side, a group of five race boats started cruising over the last couple of years and we have all been enjoying the cruising way of life. I'll admit that we tend to get to our destinations a bit faster than some, but we really have a great time. The SMSA has 13 cruises scheduled for 2007. Some take us just up the river, while others take us up and down the bay.

In addition to our active racing programs, we have the High School program that's just kicked off its Spring season. Kids from both Patuxent and Leonardtown High School will be launching from our facility each week and sailing in the waters of Solomons Island in preparation for a variety of MASSA (Mid-Atlantic Scholastic Sailing Association) events. This season, SMSA will host a few of their regattas, which can be viewed from the boardwalk directly across from the clubhouse. If you're interested in lending a hand or just watching these young sailors take to the water, check the club calendar for the dates on those events.

I encourage you consider helping out with either the on-the-water or shore-side programs. Get out and enjoy this Spring and Summer and get involved... you don't want to miss out on the fun!

Robert "Smitty" Smith, Vice Commodore

MEMBERSHIP



Two new membership applications were approved by the BOD in March. Bill and Sue Nagel were sponsored by Nettie Harold and have already participated in a few Friday night socials. Douglas and Ellen Aulson were co-sponsored by LG Raley and Herb Reese and they have a Seidelman 37, Deja Vue, which they plan to race. Please welcome them to our club!

I'm still receiving membership renewals and I'm confident that the last of the members will be turning over their paperwork and checks in the coming month. Thanks to everyone who got their information to me in order to be included in the Membership Roster of the 2007 Yearbook.

Laura Comeau-Stanley, Membership Chair

SOCIAL



I hope everyone had a nice time Opening Day. The next formal gathering is the Rendezvous on May 19. I am looking for a host and/or hostess for that event as I am scheduled to start the week-long Northern Bay Cruise that weekend. We will ensure that everything needed is organized for you. If you are interested in lending a hand with this event, please contact me at 301-863-8285 or send me an email at social@smsa.com. Until next month - see you at the clubhouse or on the water.

Carol Smith, Social Chair

FAILITIES



I would like to thank some of the people who volunteered and lent a helping hand with some last minute tasks for Opening Day at our new location. Thank you to Don Behrens, Michael Eaton, Kim Egbert, Sandy Leitner, Jackie and David Meiser, LG Raley, Herb Reese, Carol and Smitty Smith, Shawn Stanley and Joe Szymanski for all your timely assistance. These volunteers helped out with the spring clean up of the clubhouse grounds, front planter flowers, removal of exterior lights, interior carpet cleaning, and the preparation of the clubhouse flagpole.

A special thanks to Zanhiser's for their efforts and the equipment to hoist the Flagpole onto its base.

Tickets are currently on sale for the Gary Jobson event, and selling nicely. If you have not yet reserved yours, please contact me via Facility@smsa.com.

The Friday Night Socials continue to be a success. Thanks to the recent volunteers behind the bar, hope you had fun! Up coming Fridays in April will be hosted by Membership on the 6th, Publicity on the 13th, the BOD on the 20th, and the Large boat Racers on the 27th. If you want to volunteer, please contact the coordinating Program Chair or myself.

Cindi Eaton, Facilities Chair

RACING



RACE CHAIR

The 2007 race season is finally underway and we have a couple of Frostbite races behind us, and a 9-month racing season ahead. Nice! Hopefully, everyone had time to recharge their batteries, get their boats back in good shape, and take advantage of some of the many training opportunities available over the off-season.

Speaking of race training, I want to acknowledge and thank the SMSA members who have given their time to make our race training opportunities a reality. Dan Trammell and Stovy Brown did their usual outstanding Racing Rules seminar, and also added Tactics and Wind Shifts to their training curriculum. Keith Jacobs presented his seminar on Race Management, and also coordinated bringing in a US Sailing instructor to do a US Sailing Race Management training session. Thank you Dan, Stovy, and Keith for all you do to enhance the racing knowledge of your fellow club members.

The 2007 Race Circular was distributed at the Opening Day Ceremonies at the club house. In order to save money on postage, we will not be mailing them out. So, if you missed getting your copy, please catch me at one of our upcoming club events. I will always have a stack of them with me. In the interim, you can always find the circular in the Race section on the SMSA website.

As many of you know, Keith Jacobs is stepping down as our SMSA Small Boat Program (SBP) Coordinator. Keith has performed the duties as SBP coordinator for the last 5+ years, and he has done it with class, style and with a truly remarkable attention to detail. Personally involved in over 75 Thursday race nights and over 10 small boat weekend regattas, Keith's dedication and meticulous planning were directly responsible for the great success that our Small Boat Program has enjoyed



Keith Jacobs and crew performing RC duties at the SBP Regatta

over the past several years. Reflective of Keith's dedication and loyalty to the club, he remained on the job and performed the myriad of duties involved until he could identify someone to volunteer to pick up the task. Thank you, Keith, for the great work for so many years!

Keith's large shoes as SBP Coordinator will be hard to fill. In fact, four of our club members have stepped-up and volunteered to take on the role. Sharing the duties will be Jacki and David Meiser and Laura and Shawn Stanley. [Haven't we seen those names pop up before?] Thank you Jacki, David, Shawn, and Laura for volunteering to serve in this capacity! Shawn and David will be the primary contacts. Join them at the Small Boat Kickoff meeting at 1:00pm on April 14th.

If you haven't already bought your tickets to see Gary Jobson's talk at the clubhouse on April 19th, please see Cindi Eaton or Herb Reese. It should be a great evening, and it's a real coup for our club to have this world-renowned sailor and commentator coming to spend the evening with us.

Jim Keen, Race Chair

US SAILING BASIC RACE MANAGEMENT COURSE



A reminder that the SMSA will hold a US SAILING Basic Race Management seminar at the clubhouse on Saturday, April 7, 2007. Registration will open at 0800, the class begins at 0815, and things will conclude at around 1730.

Topics covered include: RC objectives, RC responsibilities, sailing instructions, RC jobs, RC equipment, setting the course, starting system, starting penalties, activities before the start, during the race, finishing, and scoring. The race management changes in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2005-2008 will also be discussed.

The principal instructor for the seminar is Bill Adams. Bill is a certified instructor, a National Race Officer, and has worked with SMSA as race committee for the Screwpile Lighthouse Challenge Regatta and the Small Boat Program's Invitational Regatta over the past several years.

You will need to bring your own copy of The Racing Rules of Sailing 2005-2008 ("RRS"). To prepare for the seminar you should try to answer the study questions, which are available on the US SAILING web site at:

www.ussailing.com/racemgt/Race_Officer_Prog/course_materials.asp

Select the Basic Seminar Study Questions. If you do not have Internet access, contact me and I will mail you a copy. Working through the study questions will facilitate your understanding of the class and prepare you for the discussions and test. If you can complete the study questions, you should be able to pass the test.

GARY JOBSON PRESENTS CHAMPIONSHIP SAILING

A reminder that on Thursday April 19th, Gary Jobson will be at the clubhouse to present his video and lecture on Championship Sailing. This presentation is a series of some of the most dramatic moments in sailing.

The highlights include:

- 100th Anniversary Race to Bermuda
- U.S. Sailing Team Heads for the China Olympic Games
- 2007 Acura Key West Race Week
- The America's Cup
- 2005 Rolex Transatlantic Challenge
- The Volvo Ocean Race

The evening will include lite fare and drinks before the presentation and a brief social afterwards. Tickets are now on sale to the public, so get yours now. The doors will open at 5:30pm with the presentation to begin at 7:00pm. Contact Cindi Eaton (facility@smsa.com) for more info.

Advance registration using the US SAILING online registration system is required since the number of participants is limited.

On the US SAILING web site (www.ussailing.org), click on the calendar. Then search for the seminar by clicking on "Select a specific category" then "Race Admin Education-Race Officer"; then "all future events" and "search." Locate this seminar and then click on "Register Online" and follow the directions. If you have any problem doing this, contact Lacey Given at US SAILING 401-683-0800.

Fees: \$30 for US SAILING members (test or not)
\$30 for non-members who do not take the test
\$55 for non-members who take the test

Fees include continental breakfast, morning and afternoon breaks, lunch and all workshop materials. Payment is due at the clubhouse, the morning of the seminar. Please do not send the fee to US SAILING.

For additional information, please contact Keith Jacobs at 301-997-1001 or hokiesailor@verizon.net.
Keith Jacobs

GARY JOBSON

PRESENTS

CHAMPIONSHIP SAILING

THURSDAY APRIL 19TH
AT THE CLUBHOUSE

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

CRUISING



CRUISE CHAIR

I'm sure I'm not alone in being excited that the sailing season is upon us again.

I volunteered to be the SMSA Cruise Program chairperson this year, since Wayne and Sally have decided to point Virginia Dare in a northerly direction to go sailing. We all send our best wishes for safe and happy sailing with them, and a very large "Thank You" for all you've done to keep the cruising program growing and active. I can't wait to see a story from Wayne and Sally in the Clew about their travels.

My wife, Kate, and I moved to Calvert County about three and a half years ago from Annapolis. We have really enjoyed the move. We were very excited to join SMSA and the active membership that the club enjoys. We are entering our seventh season with our Ericson 38-200, Sequoia. We cruise as much as we can, and try to spend as many weekends and vacation days as possible on the water cruising or crewing for boats in the racing program. When not sailing, I volunteer with the

local greyhound rescue organization. We have two rescued greyhounds, Rider and Bogey, which you might see out sailing with us.

The Cruise Calendar is up on the cruise page at smsa.com. Please also check the member forum at smsa.com for cruises that might be last minute additions to the calendar - and feel free to post one if you decide on a Tuesday or Wednesday that you are going sailing this weekend! I'd also like to encourage everyone to use the forum for cruise reports, destination details or suggestions, questions, etc... It's a great communication tool.

A special welcome goes out to all the new SMSA members and I encourage you to join us on a cruise soon so that you can meet more of the other members that makes our club so vibrant and fun.

Thanks to everyone for the warm welcome I've received as Cruise Chair. I look forward to meeting new and old friend, on the water or at one of the social events.

Chris Miller, Cruise Chair

BATTLE CREEK CRUISE - APRIL 28-29

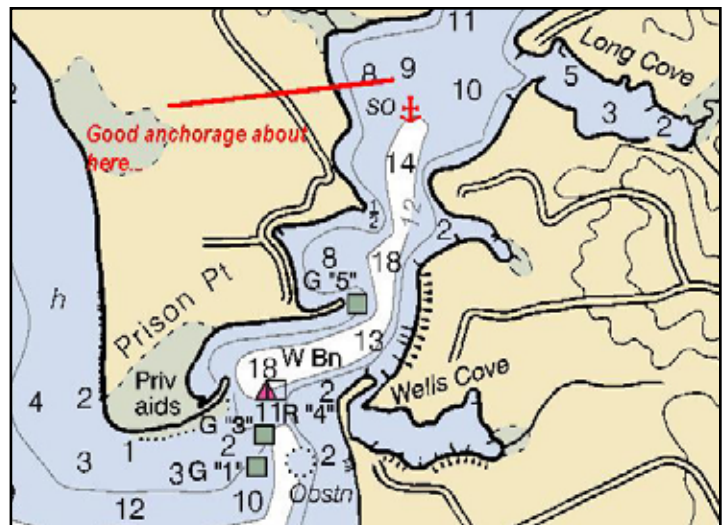
Please join us for the Battle Creek Cruise departing on April 28th to our destination of Battle Creek in the Patuxant River (just north of Broomes Island). Our usual anchor spot is 38°27.36'N x 076°35.91'W. This is a really nice little spot, if you haven't been there before- usually very quiet and serene. I'm planning a raft-up or two, depending on how many boats we get, for cocktails and light fare before dinner.

Please join us for this fun weekend, we look forward to seeing you! *Sequoia* monitors 9, 16, 69 on the cruise. Check-in will be at 1000 and 1400 and we will be hailing on channel-9. Feel free to call Chris at 443-624-3219 with any questions!

Chris and Kate Miller, Sequoia

Email: cruise@smsa.com

Cell: 434-975-2784.



HUDSON CREEK CRUISE - MAY 5-6

This is an invite to SMSA cruisers to join Patty and Rich for a raft-up on Saturday evening, May 5th off the Little Choptank River. We are scheduling to depart Spring Cove Marina, Solomons, approximately 0800 hours on Saturday and plan to be anchored by 1530 hours near W 76° 14.8' N 38° 32.5' in Hudson Creek, around Casson Point.

We will be monitoring channel 78 during the sail and on anchor for SMSA calls. Our Catalina 34 is named Reflections. Please check in when you reach the Green 5 wooden

marker and we will be looking for you. Happy hour is scheduled to begin at 1700 hours. We will provide weather forecast updates to cruisers the week before.

Please RSVP by email and provide a telephone number and boat name so we can get an approximate count of how many will be attending. Looking forward to a nice weekend.

Patty and Rich, Reflections

Email: teknikr@gmail.com

Cells: 703.618.0886 and 703.919.0018.

MAINTAINING YOUR DIESEL ENGINE



Katie Finnacy, a marine mechanic working out of Drum Point Marina, provided an entertaining and informative presentation on the basic of maintaining a marine diesel engine.

Katie led the discussion, presenting key information, and then allowing the members to ask the questions or share experiences. After an overview of how a diesel engine works, Katie spent time discussing the major maintenance components.

Some time was spent on the components of the diesel supply system. Dirty fuel reaching the fuel injectors is the basis of most diesel engine problems. Katie recommended including a water separator as the primary filter in the diesel supply line. This supplements secondary filters that filter particles in the fuel. Filters should be replaced according to the maintenance schedule in the engine's operating manual. When the filters are replaced, the fuel lines need to be bled. If the engine has an electric fuel pump, turn the ignition on without cranking the engine and open the bleed valves in sequence until diesel flows smoothly. The injectors and injection pump require factory-level maintenance if there are problems. Consider having diesel tanks cleaned before going offshore, because rough weather may dislodge sediment in the tanks.

Most diesel engines have a closed fresh water cooling system similar to an automobile, and a sea water system where water enters through a thru-hole and exits through the exhaust system. The two systems are joined together via a heat exchanger. The key maintenance items are the seawater impeller and the sacrificial zincs. The rubber seawater impeller can be damaged if the engine overheats because the water flow gets blocked. On the Chesapeake Bay, sea nettles can block water flow. Impellers should be removed when the engine is winterized. Sacrificial zincs prevents galvanic activity damaging engine parts, in particular the heat exchanger. They should be checked at least every month until a typical wear rate is

established. Replace zincs before they are 50% eroded. Hoses and hose connectors should be inspected regularly for deterioration or leaks. The sea strainer also should be inspected and cleaned as necessary. The exhaust system needs to be checked for leaks. Observing the color of the exhaust gases can indicate if there are any potential engine problems. Any dark smoke is bad. The 50/50 antifreeze used on freshwater side should be replaced every two years.

The gearbox transmission oil level needs to be checked regularly, and replaced every year. Most transmissions use either 30-weight engine oil or automatic transmission fluid.

Engine oil must be changed according to the engine maintenance schedule. Marine diesel engines operate in a harsh environment and the lubrication oil needs to be changed more regularly than automobile engines. Sulfur and other contaminants reduce the effectiveness of the oil over time. It is particularly important to change the oil when winterizing the engine so the contaminants are not allowed to sit and attack the engine components. Oil filters are replaced when the oil is changed.

Several engine spares should be carried on board at all times. Even if the boat owner does not have the desire to perform the maintenance, a hired mechanic can use the components for an emergency repair rather than waste time waiting for parts to be delivered. Spares should include: Lubrication oil, an oil filter, fuel filters, a v-belt, a raw water impeller, zincs, a thermostat, and duct tape and hose clamps for temporary repair of water hoses. Don't forget to include the tools required for the maintenance.

Katie provided excellent notes for the discussion that included an maintenance and troubleshooting guide. The maintenance guide included lists of key engine information, commonly used parts, a daily checklist, an engine maintenance schedule, and templates for daily engine use and maintenance logs.

For those that wanted more information, Katie recommended a couple of books. The first was Nigel Calder's *Marine Diesel Engines*, now on its third edition, and second was *Troubleshooting Marine Diesels* by Peter Compton. Both books are available at the local library, and from Amazon. For those that missed the seminar and would prefer visual instruction, I can recommend Bennett Media's *Marine Diesel Engine Maintenance*. They demonstrate engine maintenance on a wide range of diesel engines, although they have the advantage of large engine rooms on power boats, or smaller diesel engines on convenient test stands.

Mark Brownhill, Wavedancer

CALENDAR

APRIL

- 1 (Sun) **High-School Varsity Regatta** at the SMSA clubhouse.
- 1 (Sun) **Spring Frostbite Race #3**
- 3 (Tue) **BOD Meeting** at the clubhouse - 7:00pm
- 6 (Fri) **Membership Social** at the SMSA clubhouse - 4:30pm-7:30pm.
- 7 (Sat) **U.S. Sailing Basic Race Management Course** at the SMSA clubhouse - 8:00am-5:00pm.
- 13 (Fri) **Membership Social** at the SMSA clubhouse - 4:30pm-7:30pm.
- 14 (Sat) **Small Boat Kickoff Meeting** at the SMSA clubhouse - 1:00pm.
- 15 (Sun) **Spring Frostbite Race #4**
- 15 (Sun) **May Clew Inputs due.**
- 18 (Wed) **Wed Nite Race #1**
- 19 (Thu) **Gary Jobson Champion Racing** at the SMSA clubhouse - 5:30pm for light refreshments and presentation starts at 7:00pm.
- 20 (Fri) **Membership Social** at the SMSA clubhouse - 4:30pm-7:30pm.
- 21 (Sat) **Sharps Island Race**
- 22 (Sun) **Spring Invitational**
- 22 (Sun) **Mini-Rendezvous** at the clubhouse
- 25 (Wed) **Wed Nite Race #2**
- 26 (Fri) **High-School Pot Luck** at the clubhouse
- 27 (Fri) **Membership Social** at the SMSA clubhouse - 4:30pm-7:30pm.
- 28-29 (Sat-Sun) **Battle Creek Cruise**
- 28 (Sun) **High-School JV Regatta** at the SMSA clubhouse.

MAY

- 2 (Wed) **Wed Nite Race #3**
- 3 (Thu) **Small Boat Racing**
- 4 (Fri) **Membership Social** at the SMSA clubhouse - 4:30pm-7:30pm.
- 5 (Sat) **Double-Handed Race**
- 5-6 (Sat-Sun) **Hudson Ck, Caisson Pt. Cruise**
- 9 (Wed) **Wednesday Night Race #4**
- 10 (Thu) **Small Boat Racing**
- 11 (Fri) **Membership Social** at the SMSA clubhouse - 4:30pm-7:30pm.
- 12 (Sat) **High School Varsity Regatta**
- 16 (Wed) **Wednesday Night Race #5**
- 17 (Thu) **Small Boat Racing**
- 18 (Fri) **Membership Social** at the SMSA clubhouse - 4:30pm-7:30pm.
- 19 (Sat) **Rendezvous** at the clubhouse stating at 1600.
- 19 (Sat) **Frost-Goode Series**
- 20-27 (Sun-Sun) **Northern Bay Cruise**
- 23 (Wed) **Wednesday Night Race #6**
- 24 (Thu) **Small Boat Racing**
- 25 (Fri) **Membership Social** at the SMSA clubhouse - 4:30pm-7:30pm.
- 26 (Sat) **Nygaard Regatta**
- 26 (Sat) **High School Awards**
- 27 (Sun) **Women's Day Sail**
- 30 (Wed) **Wednesday Night Race #7**
- 31 (Thu) **Small Boat Racing**
- 31-(3) (Thu-Sun) **US Sailing Instructor course**

Friday Night Socials

**4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
at the clubhouse!**

Bring a prospective new member!

Submitting an
Article for the Clew?

See the guidelines in the
2007 Yearbook.



CLASSIFIED

CREW WANTED, for Wednesday nite and weekend racing aboard *Shermax* and *Toby*. Two friendly skippers need some nice folks to join our existing crews for spinnaker and non-spinnaker events. We have fun racing and more fun partying. Learn to sail and race, any age, any ability. Call Max Munger at 410-326-9024.

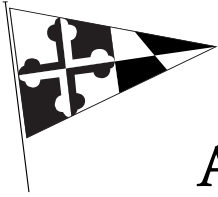
1988 21' BAYLINER I/O, nice little fishing boat. Hardtop cabin and a small Ford/Mercruiser for economical trolling. Trailer, outriggers, come and see this spring. \$5,999 Contact Max Munger 410-326-9024.

DISCOUNT RUNNING RIGGING.

Halyards, Sheets, other control lines, all with quality splicing - significant discount from retail stores. Cruisers:

looking to replace some of that old ratty line? Low cost, high quality lines available. Racers: looking for spectra, vectran, dyneema? Stripped halyards or tapered light air sheets? Custom rigging available. Contact Chris at cmmiller0411@comcast.net or 410-495-8420.

SMSA LOGO SPORTSWEAR: Shirts and Baseball Hats are available with the SMSA logo. Proceeds to support the SMSA Junior Program, so help the team and look sharp too! Polo Shirts (S/M/L/XL) are \$45 and are only Hats \$25. Available at SMSA Club House or via email tmoulds@dtiweb.net



April Highlights Inside:

- **Small Boat Kickoff Meeting, April 14**
- **Wednesday Night Race #1, April 18**
- **Battle Creek Cruise, April 28-29**
- **Register for:**
 - US Sailing Basic Race Management Course**
- **Buy Tickets for:**
 - Gary Jobson presents Championship Racing**

Southern Maryland Sailing Association
PO Box 262, Solomons, MD 20688

stamp
here

Members Mailing Address