

Members Mailing Address

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



March 2010

Vol. 40 No. 3

March			
Fri	5	Race Management Seminar	7:00
Sun	7	Spring Frostbite Race #1	1:00
Sun	7	North U Training Seminar (Annapolis)	9:00
Mon	8	BOD Meeting	7:00
Sun	14	Spring Frostbite Race #2	1:00
Mon	15	Clew Inputs Due	
Thurs	18	Commodore's Dinner	6:00
Fri	19	Race Management Seminar	7:00
Sun	21	Spring Frostbite #3	1:00
Sat	27	Clubhouse Clean Up	9:30
Sun	28	Spring Frostbite #4	1:00
April			
Sat	10	Opening Day	10:00

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Commodore's Dinner

Membership Updates

Junior Camp Updates

Training Opportunities

The Commodores Corner

So this winter, while you've been off sailing that charter boat in the Caribbean or racing in the warmth of the Florida Keys, there has been a lot of work going on here at SMSA. The many Program Chairs and their committees have been putting together the ground work for activities that will appeal to everyone. I had the pleasure to see many ideas collected, meetings conducted and decisions made that will affect the many programs that SMSA offers. It's been exciting to see the amount of energy that comes out to help plan for the coming year.

As Commodore, I have been following the efforts of the other officers and the program chairs. Each of the programs; Race, Junior's, Cruise, Facilities, Social, Membership, Education, and Bar Management have been working hard to make plans that will attract each one of us. There is still a lot of work to accomplish. Each of the programs need your input and effort to make a successful program. It is YOUR association, so please don't hesitate to offer some help. Everyone will benefit when you pitch in, who knows it might even be fun to participate in a program with those good old friends or along side of another person having the common interest of sailing. I look forward to seeing everyone's participation this year.

An easy way to benefit SMSA would be by taking a little time to introduce others to the organization. I feel that we are in a position at the current location that will require a significant boost in membership to stay there. Without that increase, we will and should continue a search for possible locations to relocate to. And then there is always the chance that the land owners may sell. Another reason the Directors need to pursue other avenues. But currently, the situation could be made better for all by increasing the membership. Who knows, there could be magic in "the more the merrier" idea.

It's March and the activity is increasing in the boatyards and at the docks preparing for the upcoming season. Boat bottoms are getting a fresh coat of paint, topsides are being waxed, zincs are attached to prop shafts. As we all have experienced, that is just part of the preparations that need to be completed. While these are important for the smooth operation of your boat this year, let's not forget to go over the safety gear. There are lists of the Coast Guard required equipment that everyone should take the time to review. For the big boat racers, don't forget to go over the requirements of the PHRF of the Chesapeake. The safety gear and equipment requirements have been adopted to prevent tragedy. Take your time, it may be your life that will be saved.

The plan is coming together for a great sailing season at SMSA. I hope to see everyone soon at the clubhouse or around the docks.

Clarke

Commodore's
Dinner

Thursday

March

18

Doors Open at
6:00

Theme:

Mexican/
Southwest

Opening Day
Celebration

Saturday

April 10

9:00 Arrival

9:30 Brunch

11:00 Flag Raising
Ceremony

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED FOR SPRING
CLEANUP DAY:**

Bring your rakes, loppers and hand clippers to help with the Clubhouse and Ground Cleanup Day on Saturday, March 27. Be at the clubhouse by 10am and a list of tasks will be available for you to help us get ready for Opening Day and the new sailing season.

WE NEED A VOLUNTEER!!!

SMSA needs someone to take over a prospective new position. We are not sure what to call it yet, but for now it's the Follow-up Tzar! Many SMSA special events attract guests and visitors. We are starting a concerted effort to get in touch with those visitors via email, snail mail and even phone to get them to join SMSA. The "Follow-up Tzar" will do just that; gather names, addresses and numbers from our visitors list and send out materials, personal notes and even give them a phone call and remind them of the good time they had at SMSA and invite them back for more. The idea for this position came about as the BOD and committee chairs discussed the many visitors we have to our annual Scott Kirby concert (August 15th this year). They always have a good time and comment how they love our club, but we haven't done a good job following up on their interest in being SMSA members. Our new Tzar will take care of this for Scott Kirby and any other SMSA event that attract new people. If you like to interact with people, meet new friends, and wish to find a new way to help SMSA, drop Tim Flaherty (timfmsa@yahoo.com , 301-481-7474) or Laura Stanley (lcstanley@verizon.net) a line and become more active in your club!

Social Updates

Happy New Year and wow, what a winter so far! First of all I would like to give a special thanks to Helen Cummings and Donna Taylor for all of the hard work and the wonderful job they did over the 2009 season! Also, the great job they did on putting together the Awards Gala with its many challenges. I will have some large shoes to fill, but counting on all the fine club members for support, advice and patience. I'm looking forward to a full busy season with some new ideas and ways to keep the club healthy through its membership and financial growth. The first big events of the season are Clubhouse Clean-Up on March 27, 2010 and Opening day on April 10, 2010. Please make time in your busy schedules for these events. More details concerning opening day will be available online and in next month's Clew.

I look forward to this opportunity to work with everyone and encourage your suggestions and ideas. Please do not hesitate to contact me with your inputs. Look forward to getting the season started and getting back on the water. Spring where are you?

Cheers,
John, Social Chair

Race Committee Seminars

Fri, 05 Mar - 7:00

**Race Committee Options /
Things That Cannot Be
Changed**

Fri, 19 Mar - 7:00

Advanced Race Committee

Bar Tenders Take Note!

There is a new page online where people can check the SMSA bar-tender volunteer schedule. View the schedule from the main SMSA page by clicking on the link in the Upcoming Events section under Friday Socials. Members can also e-mail the Bar Manager and Webmaster to get their name added to the list, rather than going into the clubhouse to sign-up.

Summer Camps Update

We're planning a full season of summer Jr. camps as well as intro programs for children, teens and adults. Please contact Junior@SMSA if you, or someone you know is interested in participate in some sail training this summer.