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1st Annual

Oktoberfest

Southern Maryland
Sailing Association



**Wear your
Dirndl & Lederhosen!**

Festivities

6pm-10pm

Beer tasting - Variety of
Pumpkin/Harvest
type specialty brews

Cheddar Ale Soup w/
pretzel croutons

Bratwurst

German potato salad
Caramelized cabbage

Membership Dues Waived For New Members

Have friends that may be interested in joining SMSA? Now is the time to do it! SMSA waives the membership dues for new members joining in October, November or December. When joining during this time period, the only cost is the \$150 initiation fee, no membership dues. Other fees like race fees for frostbiting still apply.

The fourth quarter of the year is truly the social season. Talk to your friends about joining. Give them the new club brochure.

Saturday, October 8th

Admission:

\$15 Member/\$18 Public

Tickets & info.

www.smsa.com (scroll
down in Upcoming events)

Available at the Club on
Friday's after 5pm

Or At the door (if available)

Location:

SMSA Clubhouse

14490 Solomon's Island Rd.,
Solomon's Island, MD 20688

(Solomon's Island across from
the Gazebo)

888-714-3777

Costume contest, Prizes,
games, giveaways!



**THE SOCIAL
SEASON IS
UNDERWAY!**

**SEE PAGE 7
FOR THE
EVENTS AFTER
OKTOBERFEST**

Celebrate with us

October 8, 2011

6 pm - 10pm

Do you have an idea for the Clew or want to sell something? Please send words and pictures to clew@smsa.com. Questions? Call Roger Bayer 301-934-3925. The Clew is published the first of each month. Submission deadline is the 15th of the month. The Clew is edited by Ellen Aulson, Jolie Homsher and Roger Bayer.

SMSA is a member owned and operated club dedicated to being the best sailing venue on the Chesapeake. SMSA hosts the nationally renowned Screwpile regatta. We enjoy full programs of cruising, PHRF keelboat racing, dingy racing (both one design and Portsmouth), summer junior sailing programs and adult sailing education. In addition, we even find time for great social events! Our website is www.smsa.com. For more information, call 888-714-3777

Labor Day Cruise to Chestertown

by Rich & Patty Freeman

The 2011 Labor Day cruise to Chestertown and points north was a good cruise; not a great cruise but a good cruise. Patty lost her sunglasses overboard before we left the slip. It rained. It was clear and sunny. And then it rained some more. Weather played havoc with happy hour on Tuesday night, forcing its cancelation.

We departed Solomons at 0830 hours on Friday, 1 September and headed north toward Whitehall Bay. The wind was not favorable most of the way so *Sandpiper II* primarily motor-sailed. *Walkabout*, *Ruste Nayle* and *Safina* had varying success with sailing up to the bay. We arrived at 1600 hours and set a firm anchor. The other three boats rafted with us for happy hour and broke away well before nightfall. There was a brisk wind, about 12 knots or so, out of the northeast, and the anchorage filled up before dark. I was sitting on the starboard lounge reading when at about 2230 hours I heard (and felt) something hitting the hull behind me. I ran up the steps and jumped into the cockpit and saw a 27 foot boat being blown by us with his anchor rode played out. Then her captain climbed into his cockpit and asked what happened! I said, "Apparently you are dragging." I pushed his pulpit rail away from us as he tried to let more rode out. He finally came to a halt about a 100 feet back. They fiddled with the rode for about twenty minutes and then went below. They had no anchor light showing. I checked *Sandpiper II* out and there didn't appear to be any damage. I was afraid he tangled with our anchor but the next morning we were able to bring the anchor up with no problems.

We left Whitehall Bay about 0930 hours on Saturday with the winds from the south. We put up the main and made our way into the Chester River. The winds were light enough I was able to fish with success. The winds picked up to about 14 knots and we put up the headsail and beat into Grays Inn Creek. *Ruste Nayle* had passed us and anchored before Brown Point. The anchorage I had chosen was full but the location Rod chose was nearly as good. We had happy hour aboard *Safina* and Carolyn demonstrated her carbonated drink machine for all to see.



Supper at the Fish Whistle Restaurant near the Chestertown Marina.

Sunday morning was beautiful. We departed around 0900 hours and motored out of the creek. We raised the headsail and reached up the river, with the wind variable 3 to 9 knots. We must have had 20 to 30 starlings hitching a ride in the rigging and on the spreaders with us. They rode with us about three miles and then flew off.

With the wind light, I put out the rod once again and began trolling. Just before Red Nun "24" a speed boat came rushing past us about 40 feet off the starboard bow, doing probably 30 knots. Seconds later a water skier came whizzing by about two feet away, smiling and yelling. And then my fishing reel started whining. The water skier got caught up in the line! Before I could get my knife out to cut the line the line broke and the skier went down. I was pulling a Number 17 spoon with a stinger hook and I figure he found it... The speed boat came back around, hauled the skier aboard and set out for Rock Hall at a high rate of speed. Never found out what happened but I can imagine. I doubt he will try seeing how close he can get to a sailboat again...



Rich braving the rain in the eastern bay.

We sailed a little further then dropped the sails and motored into the Chestertown Marina. They had us berth at the fuel dock. *Ruste Nayle* arrived next and went into a slip. *Safina* arrived and anchored in the river. *Walkabout* was last to arrive and tied up at the tee head next to Rod & Pat. We decided to forego happy hour and had a great supper at the restaurant next to the marina. The Chestertown Marina is well worn and needs some improvement; nearly half the slips are unusable. But the folks are helpful and they have a decent ships store. The marina is under new management and I'm sure they have improvements in mind for the next years.

On Monday morning we awoke to a rain storm but it was short lived. The rest of the day was clear. The ladies went into town to see what it had to offer. We ate a great lunch at the Lemon Tree with Rod & Pat. Everyone went to town in the afternoon and visited the shops and stores. Unlike Onancock last year, most were open. We had a great happy hour aboard *Walkabout*. Carolyn had a commitment for Tuesday evening so *Safina* left her anchorage at 0700 hours heading for Annapolis for

the night. But as the day progressed, and the weather prediction for Tuesday firmed up to be crummy, they pushed on and motor-sailed into Solomons, arriving at 2100 hours after a 70 nm trip.

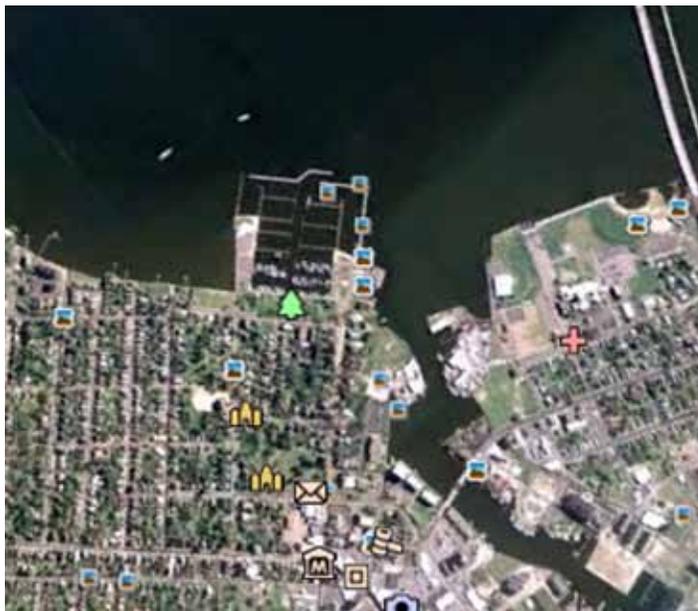
Tuesday morning we departed Chestertown about 1030 hours after a fine breakfast at the Lemon Tree. We slowly motored down the Chester River in the rain. We turned into the Corsica River and anchored in Emory Creek. The entrance to the river is very narrow but well marked. The Russian Embassy has a retreat on the southern side of the river entrance, on Holton Point, complete with a small green and white decorative lighthouse. We could not have a happy hour because of the storm that blew in; didn't want anyone out in a dinghy in the wind and rain. We discussed the next day. *Walkabout* wanted to head to Annapolis for the night and *Ruste Nayle* was going into the Rhode River, both heading back to Solomons on Thursday.

We all left the anchorage early on Wednesday morning. The winds were right and everyone had their sails up. We lined up for the entrance to Kent Narrows and started in. We made it through the Narrows entrance okay but don't know by how much. The depth gauge read 3.8 feet at the lowest point and we draw 4.8 feet! I guess we need to re-calibrate the depth gauge before we try that again... Then the rain started.. It rained most of the way to St. Michaels. Just as we were entering the Miles River dark storm clouds were heading for us. With 25 knots of wind on the nose we made a run for the St. Michaels Marina and were able to get into our slip about 1430 hours, with ten minutes to spare! The evening was nice after the storm and we were able to have a good night's sleep.

Patty and I had a leisurely breakfast aboard before heading into town to spur their economy along. We shopped hard the rest of the morning and then stepped in the Carpenter Street Saloon (\$) for lunch. Then it was back to shopping the other side of Talbot Street. We took our booty back to the boat, cleaned up and headed in to Bistro St Michaels (\$\$\$\$) for a wonderful supper. We shared a mess of mussels before the main meal; delicious. I had their broiled crab cake and have yet to figure how they were able to cook it; there was no filler, just succulent pieces of crab meat. It fell apart when I stuck it with my fork. Patty had the shrimp and they were great. The service is excellent. We highly recommend this establishment.



Bridge opening at the Kent Narrows.



Cambridge Municipal Yacht Basin, Cambridge, MD

October Cruising

October 7, 2nd Saturday Cruise to Annapolis Boat Show on Friday: This "cruise" has been cancelled.

October 28 – 30, Halloween Cruise to Cambridge: The last cruise of the year is one of the best! Sail to Cambridge Municipal Yacht Basin (410-228-4031) and tie up. The first night is unplanned because of the length of the sail. On Saturday morning there will be a brunch and Saturday night a group dinner. Kate & Chris Miller are hosting this event. If you are planning on going, call the Cambridge Municipal Yacht Basin to make a reservation and send Kate a note, kmmiller262@gmail.com.

We departed St Michaels on Friday morning early. We were able to raise the sails after leaving the harbor and sailed into the Eastern Bay. When we hit the bay we experienced periods of showers. I turned the radar on to see if that would help. There was quite a bit of commercial traffic in the early afternoon and we were keeping a sharp watch as we crossed the shipping channel. Then the storm hit. There was so much rain that it was difficult to see 200 feet. The radar was little help as the ships were lost in the storm clutter (still learning how to use the radar). I knew there was one heading north and Patty thought it was best to head for the eastern shore until we could see better. After about 45 minutes, the skies cleared and we had decent weather the remainder of the way to Solomons.

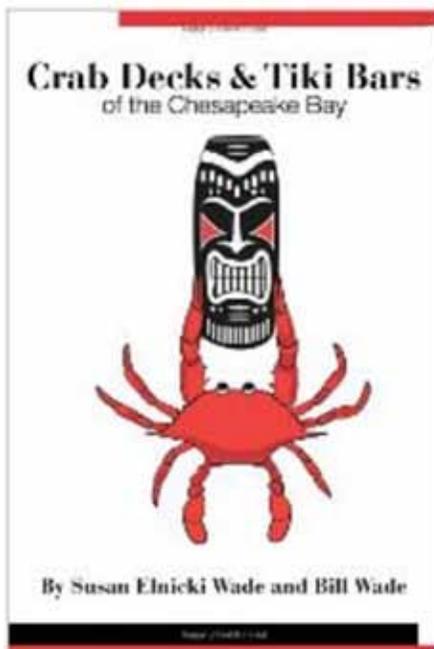
We could have had better weather for the cruise but, all things considered, it wasn't too bad. A lot of the rain was at night. The days had good periods of sun, with clear visibility and were not too hot. Late summer and early fall is a great time to take your boat out on the Chesapeake Bay and enjoy your investment. We know that *Sandpiper II* will be out again at this time next year, probably heading south. We hope more SMSA cruisers will join us.

Crab Decks & Tiki Bars of the Chesapeake Bay

By Susan & Bill Wade

Editor's note: Earlier this year, the Clew received an email from Susan Wade about their new book on crab decks and tiki bars. The text of the email is below. While the Clew does not usually talk about outside offerings, this resource looked like it might be of interest to the membership. Take a look at the companion website. It is also a good information source. This looks like a great book for cruise planning over the Winter.

Are your boaters looking for something fun to do in the summer? They can add a little spice and adventure to their weekends with our new destination guide, *Crab Decks & Tiki Bars of the Chesapeake Bay*.



Hundreds of Bay boaters are planning summer getaways by flipping through the pages of *Crab Decks & Tiki Bars of the Chesapeake Bay* and picking new places that serve just-caught crabs under swaying palm trees.

There's something for every budget and mood in our book. We cover places ranging from casual crab shacks to white linen fine dining. To make trips more memorable, we've woven local history, folklore, and watermen's tales throughout the book.

Many boat clubs and sailing associations have bought copies of our book to assist boaters who are cruising to new parts of the Bay.

Some are selling our books by the score and turning a tidy profit with little effort. We think *Crab Decks & Tiki Bars of the Chesapeake Bay* would be a great addition to your services.

If you'd like to learn more about our book, go to www.crabdecksandtikibars.com, the companion web site for *Crab Decks & Tiki Bars of the Chesapeake Bay*. You can contact me at 202-531-7135 or by email at susan@crabdecksandtikibars.com.

Editor's note: This book is available from Amazon.com for \$20. It is available from their website for \$15 plus \$1 for shipping. Their website also lists a number of stores that sell the book, some of which are relatively local.

Who Are You Going To Call?



Officers

Commodore

Clarke McKinney:
W 410-326-2600 C 301-481-0672.

Vice Commodore

Jeff Moore: 301-481-1354

Rear Commodore

Tim Flaherty: 301-481-7474

Secretary

Betsy Dodge: 410-326-9686

Treasurer:

Joe Kubinec 301-373-3477

Directors

Don Behrens: 301-862-2281

Jim Keen: 410-326-4295

David Meiser: 410-326-1114

Max Munger: H 410-326-9024

C 410-353-1150

LG Raley: 301-862-3100

Rod Schroeder: 410-326-0167

Program Chairs

Bar: Max Munger H 410-326-9024 C 410-353-1150

Communications: Roger Bayer H 301-934-3925 C 203-561-9241

Cruise: Rich Freeman 703-569-1413

Facilities: Barbara Whited 410-586-0601 & Jolie Homsher 301-481-8609

Junior: Jimmy Yurko 240-434-1312

Membership: Ellen Aulson 410-326-2383

Race: Marc Briere H 410-495-7672 C 443-624-7840

Social: John Dixon 301-862-9031

Training: Kristi Yurko 240-725-0475

The Big World of Small Boats...Buccaneer Style, AARRGGH!!

by Jimmy Yurko

With October here, we're quickly wrapping up a very exciting season in the big world of small boats. We've traveled to regattas all around the country this year, to the Florida keys, the Gulf coast of Alabama, great lake shores of Wisconsin, and the bays of Long Island, New York just to name a few. We have more exciting events coming up soon. The road trip has become part of the Buccaneer lifestyle. We plunder and pillage town to town, provisioning at truck stops from coast to coast hoping to bring home a little silver!

Most recently five teams from Southern Maryland traveled to the Buccaneer 18 North American Championships (BNAC) in Kenosha Wisconsin.

The attending teams of SMSA members and friends included: Jim Whited and Jen Miller who brought "Christopher Dragon", John Herbig and Rob Miller sailed "Black and Tan", Brian Ohara and Debbie Wessler sailed "Fair Dinkum", Mike Danko and Ethan sailed "NFW", and Kristi and Jimmy Yurko sailed "Midnight Mistress".

The regatta had 34 boats competing from all over the country, SMSA was well represented. Our B-Fleet teams "Christopher Dragon", "Black and Tan", "NFW", and "Fair Dinkum" took spots 2-5 respectively in their class. "Midnight Mistress" was the only SMSA boat to compete in the "A" fleet and finished with a tie for 5th place.

We raced on Lake Michigan which was a treat. The conditions were extremely varied, we raced in zephyrs on flat water, as well as 3-4' seas in 12-15 knot breezes. I look forward to another opportunity to sail on the great lakes; the swells were awesome, better than a roller coaster!

The regatta was a real test of boat speed, handling, and tactics. This was the most competitive Buccaneer regatta I've ever sailed. This is best illustrated by the fact that last year's champions had to settle for seventh.



Rob & John race Black & Tan upwind.

We have many exciting events coming up soon. These events include, but are not limited to: The Potomac River Sailing Association (PRSA) Presidents Cup and Leukemia Cup regatta is coming up Sept 10-11, and the SMSA Small Boat Invitational regatta is Sept 17-18, the "Bucctoberfest" regatta and party in Solomons, Western Carolina's Hospice Cup, and the season finale... "Freeze Your Bucc Off!" in December.

BNAC 2012 returns to Lake Champlain's Malletts Bay Boat Club, near Burlington, Vermont, on August 5-10.

Contact Jim Whited, or Jimmy Yurko if you have any questions about upcoming Buccaneer events, we've got boats available to try out.



The fleet heading upwind.

Keelboat Race Audibles

by Marc Briere, Keelboat Race Chair

It's been a fun season with some close competition. This year's weather patterns have challenged both our patience and our sailing skills. It's been no wind, the last of Irene, the blessing of Lee and of course, the usual thunderstorms!

Our informal Wednesday night racing with three spinnaker fleets has all but eliminated the tight competitions we used to see in the PHRF-N class. A similar transition in class participation has taken place in virtually all of our formal race events. This year's participation has given an opportunity for new faces to take their turn in the spotlight. My hat is off to the captains and crew who have been transitioning from non-spinnaker to spinnaker this season.

Congratulations to our Wednesday night (round the buoys) series class winners: PHRF A - *The Riddler*, *Rhumb Punch* and *American Flyer* led their 10 boat class; PHRF B - *Splash* and *Wicked Good* led their 6 boat class; PHRF C - *Easy Button*, *Elan* and *Spinnster* led their 8 boat class; PHRF N - didn't have enough competition for any awards.

Congratulation to our Wednesday night PRO series class winners: PHRF A - *Rhumb Punch*, *The Riddler* and *O'Yeller* led their 10 boat class; PHRF B - *Splash*, *Stingray* and *Wicked Good* led their 7 boat class; PHRF C - *Easy Button*, *Elan* and *Akoni* led their 8 boat class; PHRF N again didn't have enough competition for any awards.

Congratulations to *Wicked Good* for winning the Patuxent River Regatta Spinnaker class; *Fine* and *Stingray* for winning the Spinnaker class in the Frost-Goode Race; *Krugerand* and *O'Yeller* for winning the non-spinnaker and spinnaker classes in the Double Handed Race; *Bandit*, *Rakali* and *Cheetah* for winning the Spinnaker Class in the Stars & Stripes Race. Unfortunately, the Herrington Harbor Race was a bust for coordination, scheduling AND wind with all racers falling short of the finish line before the time limit expired.

Leading our Middle Distance Series for Spinnaker Class are *Lickety Split*, *Age of Reason*, *Toby* and *Akoni* with only the Hooper-Point-no-Point race, which is a favorite of mine and rarely a boring event left to race. There are only two points separating first and a tie for second going into the Hooper competition on 15 October. Sharp's had the largest participation of the series so far and the weather was beautiful, wind persistent and the bay was beautiful. Little Choptank was unfortunately

a wind challenged event and several participants ultimately chose to motor home after investing several long hours into the race. Congratulations to those who were able to finish! Smith Point is always a long race and for three of the four racers, this was their first time on the longer spinnaker course which definitely tested the endurance of captain and crew with the fleet finishing well into Sunday morning.



Our three race Invitational Series also has only one race to go with *Stingray*, *Cheetah*, *Rakali* and *Pursuit* leading the Spinnaker fleet of 10 and only a single point separating first and second place. The last of this series culminates our formal race events for the year on 22 October working up appetites for the Chili Cook-off and Oyster Scald.

Schedule conflicts caused us to postpone the Women's Spring Series. It looks like we will have some good participation numbers for the Fall Series race the 2nd of October. Good luck ladies!

The Mixed Couples Race was a hybrid keelboat/smallboat racing event success. Thanks to all who helped make that happen and congratulations to *Easy Button*, *Twice Around* and *Rakali* for winning the 12 boat Spinnaker Class and *Kick'em Jenny* who not only won the Buccaneer Class/Smallboat Fleet but corrected to a 1st place overall!

Congratulations to our Spring Frostbite winners: *Splash*, *Pursuit* and *O'Yeller* who led the 14 boat fleet. Best of luck to the fleet for the upcoming Fall Frostbites in November!

Thank you to all who helped with Race Committee assignments, to John McKinney who captains and maintains the RC boat and a HUGE thank you to Jim Whited who manages our scoring, maintains the Keelboat Race website and has been pivotal to this program for 2011! Keep your eyes on the SMSA calendar, weekly announcements and your email inboxes for the 2012 race planning meeting schedule and for an updated keelboat race program survey.

Coming: Annual SMSA Chili-Cook-Off and Oyster Scald

Saturday, October 22, 2010, 4-8 pm at the Clubhouse

Get your favorite Chili recipes together and square off against your fellow club members. Beef, Chicken, Pork, Vegetarian, all styles are eligible. Prizes will be awarded for first, second, third place and people's choice.



This event follows the Fall Invitational race and also offers "scalded" oysters for members. Please RSVP John Dixon with the number of persons who would like to partake in the oysters (jdixon29@verizon.net). Price per person will depend on the oyster market price. Side dishes are encouraged and the grills will be available.

Non alcoholic drinks will be available free of charge as will a limited amount of beer and wine. Also I need 3 judges, someone to hand out numbers and tickets, and bartenders. If you would like to help out please contact John Dixon.

First Commodore's Dinner – October 20

French Food!

October 20th is the first Commodore's Dinner of the 2011/2012 season. Commodore McKinney has laid down a serious challenge to SMSA chefs. The theme of the dinner is French food!



Can anybody guess where Commodore McKinney is sailing right now?

Second Commodore's Dinner

November 17

Theme To Be Determined!

Send Clarke suggestions for a theme, commodore@smsa.com.

Live @
Southern Maryland Sailing Assn.

Starring:
Kelly Terranova
Jared Stern

Friday
Nov. 4th
Doors Open 7pm

COMEDY

Tickets:
\$ 18 Member/\$ 20 Public

- www.smsa.com
- At the Club every FRI after 5pm
- Or At the door (if available)

14490 Solomon's Island Rd.,
Solomon's Isl, MD 20688

(On Solomon's Isl across
from the gazebo)
888-714-3777

Annual Membership Meeting

Vote for the right people to run SMSA!
Saturday, November 5th in the clubhouse
10:00 AM

The Membership Meeting is followed by:

The Worlds Greatest Potluck Brunch

We hone you'll bring your best brunch dish to share.
Non-alcoholic beverages are on the club.



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

PLACE
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October 2011 Volume 41 Number 10

October			November		
1 Sat	Women's Fall Series	9:15	4 Fri	Social at SMSA	5:00
2 Sun	Women's Fall Series	9:15	4 Fri	Comedy Show	7:00
6 Thu	Annapolis Boat Show	10:00	5 Sat	Annual Meeting/Brunch	10:00
6 Fri	Social at SMSA	5:00	5 Sat	Laser Frostbite Racing Series	1:00
8 Sat	Oktoberfest	6:00	6 Sun	Laser Frostbite Racing Series	1:00
10 Mon	BOD & Program Chair Meeting	7:00	11 Fri	Social at SMSA	5:00
14 Fri	Social at SMSA	5:00	12 Sat	Planning Meeting	9:00
15 Sat	Clew Input Due		12 Sat	Laser Frostbite Racing Series	1:00
15 Sat	Hooper/Point No Point Race	9:15	13 Sun	Laser Frostbite Racing Series	1:00
20 Thu	Commodore's Dinner	6:00	14 Mon	BOD & Program Chair Meeting	7:00
21 Fri	Social at SMSA	5:00	15 Sat	Clew Input Due	
22 Sat	Fall Invitational	12:15	17 Thu	Commodore's Dinner	6:00
22 Sat	Chili Cook-Off & Oyster Scald	4:00	18 Fri	Social at SMSA	5:00
28 Fri	Halloween Cruise to Cambridge	10:00	19 Sat	Laser Frostbite Racing Series	1:00
28 Fri	Social at SMSA	5:00	20 Sun	Laser Frostbite Racing Series	1:00
			25 Fri	Social at SMSA	5:00
			26 Sat	Laser Frostbite Racing Series	1:00
			27 Sun	Laser Frostbite Racing Series	1:00

For more details: Go to www.smsa.com, then click on Calendar, then click the item that interests you.