



Akoni's track in the 2012 Governor's Cup.

## The Commodore's Corner

by Jimmy Yurko  
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September is my favorite month. It is also the busiest for me...and for many of you. This month kids have returned to school, (parents sigh, teachers cry). We are wrapping up the summer programming at SMSA. The Jr. Program has closed another very successful year with approximately 70 students participating in the program, many of whom are returning from last year. The cruising programs are hitting all the great fall spots near and far. The race program is ramping up with the close of the weeknight program this month...but the weekend race calendar is nearly full.

Big boat sailors are looking forward to Women's races, middle distance series races and a couple of bonus (rescheduled) Wednesday night races.

Small boat sailors are holding our Fall Small Boat invitational September 29 & 30, a regatta that's sure to draw 35-50 boats from all over the region.

Our membership keeps growing. So far this year we've brought in more than 15 new members. These are great people all of whom I've had an opportunity to meet and am excited to have in our club. If you see some new faces around the clubhouse please welcome them.

The best place to come out and meet with friends new and old is the Commodore's Dinner. This month's theme will be "Let them eat cake"...so let's come up with dinner and desert cakes...hot cakes? crab cakes? ice cream cakes? Let your imagination run. See you there Friday Sept 21, dinner at 7:00.

Once again I would like to remind everyone that all of the great things we do at SMSA are made possible due to the tireless efforts of our dedicated volunteers. As we approach the fall it is time to look for new volunteers to be the leaders for tomorrow. To become part of the team contact me in person, by phone [240-434-1312](tel:240-434-1312) or email [commodore@smsa.com](mailto:commodore@smsa.com).

Tickets now available on the SMSA website or at the clubhouse!

\$18 in Advance

\$23 at the door (If available)

**Southern Maryland Sailing Assn**  
On Solomons Island Cash bar

**Saturday Sept. 22**  
Doors Open 6pm Show time 8pm

Starring: Coach Tom Holaday & Lucas Bohan

**COMEDY**

tix & info @ [www.smsa.com](http://www.smsa.com) or inside (ask about membership)

# 2012 Governor's Cup, 12 SMSA Boats Competed in a Fleet of 120

More than 10% of the Governor's Cup fleet came from SMSA and they brought home some of the silver (Well maybe it is pewter but that doesn't sound as enticing.) It was upwind and quite windy in the middle of the night and 14 % of the fleet dropped out. The SMSA boats were (from the results list):

John and Linda Edwards **Rhumb Punch**, 13<sup>th</sup> in A1 & 17<sup>th</sup> in fleet  
Jim Whited's **Bad Cat**, 16<sup>th</sup> in A1 & 22<sup>nd</sup> in fleet;  
Marc Briere's **Cheetah**, 19<sup>th</sup> in A1 & 36<sup>th</sup> in fleet;  
Jim and Kris Young's **Lakahi**, DNF in A2 (broke all her jib halyards I hear);  
Tom Moulds' **Natural Disaster**, 2<sup>nd</sup> in B & 25<sup>th</sup> in fleet;  
Mardy Millen's **Marlin**, 10<sup>th</sup> in B & 76<sup>th</sup> in fleet;  
Elliot Peterson's **Stingray**, DNF in B;  
Stovy Brown's **Age of Reason**, 1<sup>st</sup> in CD & 42<sup>nd</sup> in fleet;  
John Kriz's **Akoni**, 5<sup>th</sup> in CD & 59<sup>th</sup> in fleet;  
Trevor Harney's **Audrey**, 9<sup>th</sup> in CD & 67<sup>th</sup> in fleet,  
Gary Shaw's **Elan**, 11<sup>th</sup> in CD & 70<sup>th</sup> in fleet;  
Dan Shannon's **The Doghouse**, 4<sup>th</sup> in NonSpin & 12<sup>th</sup> in fleet.



Tom Moulds and crew with their Gov Cup 2nd in Class B

## The 2012 Gov. Cup aboard Akoni

by John Kriz

It was an upwind slog where we ended up reefing with the #1, dropping to the #3, un-reefing, then going back to the #1 during the night. Most of the night was spent under reef of some sort. The wind was pretty much from the south, in the high teens gusting higher at times. We sought some relief behind Sharps Island where I'd never had opportunity to race before, but the current was flowing out and I figured we'd get a push when we popped out on the backside of James Island. That seemed to work, as it was very smooth (relatively speaking) back there and the wind was still very strong, and our boat speed and pointing angle was much improved. Going left at the start, towards Bloody Point, was a poor idea looking back at it. Although the current was favored there, the wind direction was not and we spent a bit of time on a leg that could have been more productive. At Point Lookout we hugged the shallows and got up to the mark quickly, rounded, and reached to the St. Mary's river. By that time, the sun was up and wind was dying off and we had a gentle spinnaker ride to the finish.



John Kriz and Megan Hildenberger on Akoni heading to the finish

## Maryland Boater's Safety Class

- October 20<sup>th</sup> 11:30-3:30pm and 21<sup>st</sup> 1-5pm (4 hours each day)
- SMSA Clubhouse
- \$20 course fee



• MD law requires that anyone born on or after July 1, 1972 possess a certificate of boating safety education to operate any motorized vessel. The certificate is good for life.

Students must attend all classroom sessions & achieve a score of 80% on the exam to pass. The exam will be administered following the second session. Certificates will be issued upon successful completion.



### REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!

Contact Jenn Miller at [training@smsa.com](mailto:training@smsa.com)  
or Guy Barbato at [gjb172@gmail.com](mailto:gjb172@gmail.com) to sign up!



Natural Disaster after the start

## The 2012 Gov. Cup aboard Age of Reason

by Stovy Brown

Friday morning's preparation for the overnight race to St. Mary's City went smoothly and flawlessly. Some shopped for provisions, including lots of favorite fluids, and others did last minute chores on the boat, including storing the cruising canvas that had protected us from the searing sun during the hot trip up from the Patuxent the day before.

We left my friend Gill Cochran's dock on Spa Creek at about noon and, after passing through the draw bridge at the Annapolis Yacht Club, struggled to get our masthead wind sensor to work properly. We also tried to reach one crew member who was on a Boy Scout Around Delmarva sail adventure to see if he could make it back in time, but that did not work out. Eventually the other eight of us worked our way out to the starting area while eating a light lunch. The wind had been a strong southerly at midday, so our initial setting of our blade jib had to be changed to our #1 as the wind softened. At 3:10 pm we had a great start at the starboard end of the line allowing us to immediately tack to go west according to plan.

Unfortunately, there was as better wind in the middle of the Bay and the expected right shift that so often happens at Thomas Point never materialized, so several boats in our class led us in a parade up the western shore in shallow water toward West River since the flood tide was now beginning in earnest. We kept along the western shore all the way to Herring Bay to avoid as much of the strong flooding current as we could. One by one, our competitors ventured further out and suffered from the negative effects of the current, and by the time we passed Chesapeake Beach, most of the early leaders had faded a bit behind us.

We could tell from the on-line tracking available on the Governor's Cup web site that those that had gone east could not escape the flooding current and appeared not to be doing so well. The wind had steadily increased, and by dark we were on the blade jib and adjusting to the ups and downs in wind speed by taking in and shaking out a reef.

As the current changed at about 10 pm, we ventured off the western shore when we were about at Breezy Point, and continued across the Bay in a modest right shift to about the Cove Point Morse "A" buoy. From then we kept in deeper water to get the full assistance of the ebbing current. We passed by Cove Point about mid-Bay and continued on port tack into the mouth of the Patuxent to escape the now flooding current and to be on the right side of the still expected major right shift. Up to this point, the wind had shown occasional shifts, but no trend to the west as predicted by several weather web sites. That started to change as we passed Cedar Point and worked our way toward the "targets" and Point No Point. By this time it was in the wee small hours and the wind strength was down a bit, so we changed back to the #1. The tracking showed that we were leading our class, but not by much. The wind was clocking to the right as dawn approached, and this helped us add a bit to our lead over most of the boats, all except 'Cookie', which had been the early leader off the starting line.

The beat finally ended as we rounded Point Lookout in the morning light, but the right shift had us on a close reach toward the St. Mary's Junction Buoy, a reach too close for flying the spinnaker. But two-thirds of the way along this leg, the angle faired a bit and the strength backed off, so we set our reaching asymmetrical kite to good effect. 'Cookie' appeared well back in the on-line tracking.



*All seven of my crew are connected with the high school sailing program in Southern Maryland (from left in the picture). Guy Barbato is one of the high school sailing coaches and teaches science at Lenoardtown High. Sam Carter, the navigator, graduated from Patuxent, went to NC State, and now works for CTSI, one of the contractors to the Navy Base. Robert Brunger, foredeck, sailed for several seasons on the home school team and will be a sophomore at St. Mary's College this fall. Phillip Wieser will be a junior in his home school program. Josh Morrison is entering his senior year of home schooling. Christian Gotsch just graduated from Patuxent and will go to CSM this fall. David Drazba just graduated from home school and will spend a year in Germany as an AFS exchange student before starting his college career. I can't say enough about their dedication and willingness to do the hard jobs under trying conditions. Four of them became seasick in the large choppy waves that we experienced for about eight straight hours between 9 pm on Friday to 3 am on Saturday morning. But they never failed in sail changes, tacking, navigating, discussing strategy, following the fleet on the on-line tracking, and the tens of other jobs that need doing on a racing boat in heavy air at night. (Phillip is an Eagle Scout; Christian, Josh, and David are in the final stages of becoming Eagle.)*

### Age of Reason continued

Turning northward at the junction buoy, we enjoyed a broad reach on port tack until well up in the St. Mary's River, where the breeze lightened and turned into a dead run. So we jibed several times, trying to time them with the bends in the river and around the shoals. It was "pole-on-the-headstay" under these conditions to keep the boat moving in the now quite light wind.

On one jibe, and all jibes with asymmetrical chutes without bowsprits are problematical since the clew has to pass forward of everything without collapsing back into the boat before changing sides, the old sheet fell under the bow and traveled all the way under the boat to the rudder where it somehow froze the steering. Fortunately, we had just enough control to avoid running aground on nearby Chancellor's Point, which had already captured one racer who was needing assistance to get off, and to avoid several boats in other classes who were all around us. We slowed the boat down by sailing dead downwind which collapsed the chute as our foredeck man volunteered to go over the stern to try to solve the problem, which he did while getting a sea nettle across his face.

After this drama, and two more flawless jibes by the crew, we crossed the line at Church Point and got the gun from the 'Dove', and what a handsome finish boat she makes. We hung around the finish area while cleaning up the boat to make sure we had enough time on 'Cookie'. She finished 20 minutes behind us which corrected to 14, so we knew we had won our class at this point.



## Welcome Aboard

Rob and Jenn Miller are the proud parents of Evelyn, born August 5, 2012



## Cruising Corner

by Rod Schroeder  
[cruise@smsa.com](mailto:cruise@smsa.com)



## Cruise to Oxford 21 – 22 July

by Lois and Dave Zonderman (Cruise Leaders)

We left Solomons on a rainy Saturday morning, headed into a light northerly wind, with the current against us. Our attempts at sailing north to Oxford were unsuccessful, and the rain became heavier as we continued, but the air was cool. At one point, we even put on sweaters – very unusual during this very hot summer!

As we approached the Choptank River, the rain stopped, and we were able to sail a bit of the way towards Oxford. On arrival into Town Creek, we saw "Patty K" (Rich and Patty Freeman) at the dock at Mears. We also saw "Ruste Nayle" (Pat and Rod Schroeder) anchored in the creek. "Walkabout" also anchored in the creek. As it was early in the day, several of the group had headed into town. One by one, we made our way to the wonderful Scottish Ice Cream shop and had our dessert of yummy ice cream before dinner. We decided to forego Happy Hour as we were able to get a reservation and a courtesy ride to Latitude 38 Restaurant. We all had a wonderful dinner and toasted another cruising trip to Oxford.

Sunday morning was bright and sunny, with moderate temperatures, so we went into town to check out what had changed since our last visit. The Deli/General Store was doing their usual Sunday morning business. We noticed that there seemed to be fewer little shops than in past years – a sign that the economy had hit the Eastern Shore as well. But walking around the town was still enjoyable and good exercise.

The group prepared to leave around Noon, and even found some breeze off of Cove Point, adding some sailing to the trip. All in all it was another enjoyable weekend with good friends even though we did less sailing than we would have liked. Who could ask for anything more?



*The Couples Fleet beating around Pt. Patience*

## Couples Race/Cruise to Battle Creek, August 18 – 19

by Rod & Pat Schroeder

If you weren't at Battle Creek on Saturday, 18 August, you missed out on one of SMSA's most fun on-the-water events of the year. The fun meter was pegged to the high end right from the start as the fleet waved off a crappy weather forecast from the previous day, and enjoyed almost perfect



**EASYBUTTON&SWANTackingPasttheRecCenter**

weather for our 10 mile race/cruise from Sandy Point to Battle Creek. Sixteen keelboats and 5 small boats participated in the informal couple's race from Sandy Point to Battle Creek. Prior to the 1000-1030 start window there was a lot of activity behind the line as the boats contemplated their own starting tactics. *Stingray* was the first boat to venture across the line just after 1000, and then a steady stream of racers/cruisers followed at their leisure. With clear sky and a good breeze from the NNW at about 12-15 knots we enjoyed



**Front Side of the Raft**

a mostly close-hauled starboard beat up the river, except for a couple of tacks required to get around Point Patience and past the Navy Rec Center. After a couple of hours, most boats had finished at the entrance to Battle Creek and the raft-up began to form on *Sabrina* who was the first boat to put down her anchor. As seen in the pictures, the early arrival at this great anchorage afforded



**Swim Call**



**Mermaids at Battle Creek**

us the opportunity to enjoy an afternoon of water activities including swimming, bottom/prop cleaning, boat jumping, paddle boarding, noodle floating, and treading water with a can of beer.



### **Couples Race/Cruise continued**

The size of the raft varied during the afternoon and evening as other boats came and went. By my unofficial count, I believe that we had at least 24 boats that participated in the raft at some point. We even had members arrive with kayaks, paddle boards, and wind surfers.



**Shawn Announces the Winners**

At around 1700, Shawn Stanley commanded our attention as he announced the race results: Spin Class (1-*Splash*; 2-*Bad Cat*; 3-*Audrey*): Portsmouth (1-*Kick'em Jenny*; 2-*Permanent Accessory*; 3-*Dragonfly*): Combined (1-*Kick'em Jenny*; 2-*Splash*; 3-*Bad Cat*). Thanks to Jim Whited for doing the data crunch for race results.

Happy hour food and beverage continued into the evening on several boats as a few boats left the party for home port. With calm winds forecast for the night and several anchors down, a substantial number of boats remained rafted overnight, while a few others broke off to anchor separately. Overall I believe I counted 16 boats for the overnight stay. Morning greeted us with a slightly overcast sky as various breakfast odors wafted about the cove. Boats peeled off the raft and/or weighed anchor throughout the morning as they left Battle Creek behind and made their way back toward Solomons in a breeze that had shifted SE so it was on the nose for most of the trip home. A great time was had by all as member participation in this annual event exemplify the foundation of SMSA's charter for on-the-water fun involving racing, cruising, and social activity - all happening at one time.



**OGGIE Heading Home on Sunday Morning**

## **Junior Program**

by Rob Miller  
[junior@smsa.com](mailto:junior@smsa.com)



As August comes to an end so do our Junior Camp sessions. After reviewing the campers' feedback this summer was a resounding success. The success was due in no small part to the volunteers who have assisted me, while I have been distracted by personal reasons, namely the birth of my daughter. A big thank you goes out to Kristi Yurko, who maintained the camp database and the Junior Program Committee, James Whited, Mark Williams, and Jimmy Yurko, who all provided their time and skills in maintaining and repairing the equipment. Another thank you and a job well done goes to our lead instructor for this summer, Shannon Briere. We also had a number of volunteers who assisted our lead instructor, Greg Bizup, Laura Herbig, Lauren Miller, and Alexa Fezler.

The Adult Learn to Sail classes were also a success, taught by Eddie Sierra and Jimmy Yurko, bringing in six new members to our club (a warm welcome to our new members). The adult classes were moved this year from Monday nights to the weekend, in the hopes of finding more wind for students to be able to sail and practice their classroom lessons.

There was a small increase in the overall number of participants from last year. A second session of Teen Beginner Sailing had to be added due to high demand and both classes were completely full. Larane Garner taught the Kids Intro class again this year. The Kids Intro class was moved from evenings to during the day and was offered as a half day class, also saw a small increase. Next year more classes will be offered initially, unlike this year where a few classes were initially offered and more were added as needed. In addition to sailing the Optimist dinghies, students also learned on Sunfish, and new this year were the introduction of keelboats such as Holder 20s and a San Juan 21.

One of the biggest areas for improvement is to ensure that the schedule is posted on the website early in the year, increase advertising, and ensure that students who participate in one class are aware of their eligibility for the discounted rate for additional classes. Preparation has already begun for the 2013 season. If you are interested in helping, please contact me at [Junior@SMSA.com](mailto:Junior@SMSA.com).



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

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September 2012 Volume 42 Number 9

September			
5	Wed	Keelboat Wed. Night Races	1830
6	Thu	Small Boat Thurs. Night Race	1830
7	Fri	Friday Happy Hour	1700
8	Sat	Little Choptank Race	1000
10	Mon	BOD Meeting	1900
12	Wed	Keelboat Wed. Night Races	1830
14	Fri	Friday Happy Hour	1700
15-16	Sat-Sun	Women's Fall Series	1000
15-23	Sat-Sun	Choptank Exploration Cruise	
19	Wed	Keelboat Wed. Night Races	1830
20	Thu	Clew Inputs Due	
21	Fri	Friday Happy Hour	1700
21	Fri	Commodore's Dinner	1900
22	Sat	Fall Series Keelboat Races	1000
22	Sat	Comedy Show	1900
24	Mon	Program Chair Meeting	1900
28	Fri	Friday Happy Hour	1700
29-30	Sat-Sun	SMSA Small Boat Invitational	

October			
5	Fri	Annapolis Sailboat Show	
5	Fri	Friday Happy Hour	1700
8	Mon	BOD Meeting	
12	Fri	Friday Happy Hour	1700
13	Sat	Sharp's Island Keelboat Race	1000
13	Sat	Where the Wind Blows Cruise	
18	Thu	Ballots mailed Annual Elections	
19	Fri	Friday Happy Hour	1700
19	Fri	Commodore's Dinner	1900
20	Sat	Clew Inputs Due	
20	Sat	Fall Invitational Keelboat Race	1000
20	Sat	Chili Cookoff & Oyster Scald Ren	1600
26	Fri	Halloween Cruise to Cambridge	
26	Fri	Friday Happy Hour	1700
27	Sat	Pyrates & Wench Fest	1900
29	Mon	Chair Meeting	1900

For more details: Go to [www.smsa.com](http://www.smsa.com), then click on Calendar, then click the item that interests you.