



Rhumb Punch, Fall Frostbite Winner

The Commodore's Corner

by Jimmy Yurko
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December is here. The sun has been setting before many of us are getting out of work. For outdoor lovers like me that is slightly saddening. It is easy to overcome because of all the great fun that we're going to have. Long nights provide great opportunities to get together with friends. The trees are being trimmed, and the lights hung. Many great parties are coming up: Our Christmas Walk and Open House Dec. 7, Annual SMSA Member Christmas Party on Dec. 8, New Year's Eve party on Dec. 31, and our Annual Banquet on January 12.

The short days and the low temperatures don't mean that no one is going sailing though...The Laser fleet has a series of Sunday afternoon races scheduled through December and January, and the Buccaneer Fleet is holding the "Freeze Your Bucc Off!" race on Saturday December 15. For the warmer weather sailors many crews are preparing for midwinter destinations in Key West (Keelboat one-design and PHRF racing) as well as dinghy racers headed to Key Largo, all in Mid January.

The preparations for 2013 are well underway. We've been soliciting volunteers to fill important positions at SMSA. We are still looking for a "Clew" editor and always looking for others to get involved in the many committees around the club. If you're thinking about getting involved with the planning and organization of activities you will be glad you did. I've been working on projects and volunteering with SMSA for several years, and it seems like a day. The time I spend is with friends, and the tasks are interesting. There is much to be done, and something for just about everyone.

The 2013 Budget is still in development as well as the operating calendar, so if you have suggestions that you think would be good for SMSA for next year please send them our way.

We are closing 2012 out with increases in Membership, and SMSA is in good financial standing as a result. Volunteers made it happen, members make it happen. Thank you all for helping to make this such a great year.

Save These Dates

- ✿ Saturday, December 8th, 6 pm SMSA Christmas Party (also Solomons Christmas Walk and Boat Parade)
- ✿ Monday, December 31st, 8 PM SMSA New Year's Party
- ✿ Saturday, January 12th, Annual Awards Banquet

More information will be available in the weekly email and on the SMSA website



Betsy reading the minutes at the Annual Meeting

Cruising Corner

By Rod Schroeder
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Except for a few snowbirds that have sailed south for the winter, our cruising season has ended as we button up for the winter and begin working on fall projects or contemplating spring projects in anticipation of next season. Remember to give some thought about next year's cruising program and desired destinations to support our cruise planning session next February – only 2 months away. One idea that I have heard mentioned is a cruise up the Potomac to Washington DC. We will be looking for a cruise leader volunteer to plan out such an adventure. Another event for consideration next year is the 2013 Sailstice DelMarVa Rally that may be of interest to both cruisers and racers who might like to get a taste of offshore sailing. This rally is scheduled to circle the Delmarva Peninsula from 15 to 22 June. Here is a link to the home page web site for more information on the rally. <http://www.delmarvarally.com/>. Will the SMSA burgee be represented in this bay wide event?

Just a reminder to please consider volunteering to be Cruise Leader for some of next year's cruises. Also, be sure to let me know if you have logged over 1000 cruising miles this season (1 Jan – 31 Dec) so that we can properly recognize your accomplishment.

Cheetah, New York 36 2011 High Point WINNER Price Reduction – First \$15k Takes Her

It's not in our future to be a 2 boat family. As with all boat owners, we've invested several thousand into repowering, new wiring and power panels, new portlights, new electronics, flex-o-fold racing propeller, new rudder, rebedded deck equipment, updated running gear and lots of below-decks updates, professional keel and bottom fairing and paint, sails, etc BUT with the Mumm 36 firmly latched onto our wallets we need to sell our New York 36 at a significant loss. She's a good, solid and dry boat downstairs and if it weren't for the Mumm36 opportunity, we'd be racing the NY today. As many of you know, Cheetah is a contending club race and weekender boat that has many years of life in her and requires no TLC to get to the starting line. Contact marcbriere@amewas.com

Keelboat Audibles

by Marc Briere
keelboatrace@smsa.com



As the 2012 sailing season comes to a close I have to start off this audible column by thanking a host of volunteers who helped make the Keelboat Race program possible:

- John McKinney for his support as RC boat captain
- Jim Whited for his support as scorer, keelboat webpage editor and PHRF Chesapeake Bay representative
- Stovy Brown and Dan Trammel for the sailing rules training they conduct annually and for their support as protest judges as well as Dan's support as PHRF Chesapeake Bay rater
- John Kriz for his support as CBYRA representative
- Bill Riddell and Mardy Millen for their race mark and RC assistance
- Megan Hildenberger and her team for spreading the word about the keelboat race program
- Jenn Marbourg-Miller for arranging for a host of training events
- All of our Race Committee volunteers!!

It's been a VERY good season. Informal race participation continued as our most popular events to break up early spring and late fall weekends and most of our sailing season work-weeks. Weekend formal race participation was up for almost all of the events and the competition was tight with boats from each of the classes placing in award-winning spots as our club continued its spinnaker-centric participation from 2011 through the 2012 season. Thanks to all the boat captains for their financial and time investments and for ALL the many crewmembers who help captains get around the course. It's always fun and challenging to be with you on the racecourse. Thank you for your participation and congratulations to all of our award winners. See you all at the banquet.



Rhumb Punch, Crocodile and Wicked Good in Frostbite #1

Fall Frostbite Series

It was a really great series from any point of view: wind each race; no rain, snow or frost; 16 boats competing; close competition both boat-for-boat and on corrected time. The racers all extend their thanks to Lickety Split, Valiant, Cheetah and Akoni for giving up a day of racing to be race committee. Let's hope that the weather treats us as well in the spring and that as many or more boats will be out on the course.



American Flyer



Crocodile



Wicked Good



Supra

Fall Frostbite Series Standings

	Sail	Boat	PHRF	Total	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4
1	USA 41N	Rhumb Punch	63	6	2	4*	3	1
2	23798N	Pursuit	60	8	1	5	6*	2
3	93084N	Easy Button	159	9	7	1	1	17*DNC
4	USA 173N	Splash	111	13	6	2	5	8*
5	93121N	Wicked Good	132	15	3	7	9*	5
6	63243N	Natural Disaster	114	17	17*DNC	6	4	7
7	93063N	Crocodile	54	18	4	12*	10	4
8	93227N	Akoni	180	19	8	9	2	17*DNC
9	007N	Supra	90	19	5	8	11*	6
10	144N	Badger	171	20	10*	3	7	10
11	USA 063N	Bad Cat	45	24	17*DNC	13	8	3
12	63383N	Stingray	129	33	9	17*DNC	12	12
13	43067N	Lickety Split	168	34	17*DNC	10	13	11
14	39519N	American Flyer	54	35	12	17*DNC	14	9
15	161N	Spinnster	171	37	11	11	15 DNF	17*DNC
16	60177N	Vigilent	150	47	17*DNC	17 DNC	17 DNC	13

Communications

by Megan Hildenberger
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It was an extremely foggy morning as we motored the RC boat out of the harbor to fetch our 6 race marks for their long winter hibernation ashore. The plan went mostly according to schedule: start with S, then move on to L, K, V, T and last (but most definitely not least) E.

The good news: the sun came out and cleared the fog enough to see land on both sides as we headed out to the last mark.

The bad news: after driving in circles for 30-minutes around where E should have been, we headed back without E on-board. Even with GPS help, we motored past nothing but crab pots and fish traps, finally abandoning the search and giving the mark up for gone.



Betsy and Dave enjoying the trip out to look for E

If you happen to be fishing in that area, keep an eye out for race mark E. Regardless of E's fate, 5 people brought in 5 marks, making for a job ... done. Big thanks to Bill Riddell, Marc Briere, Betsy Dodge, and Dave Zonderman for volunteering to grab sea-grape-encrusted chains and haul heavy, mud-caked buckets out of the river on the first beautiful day of December!



Bill Riddell

Escape to Texas, J80 Nationals aboard Rakali

by Megan Hildenberger

Rakali hit the road on her trailer the Sunday morning before Hurricane Sandy hit MD, heading for the J-80 Nationals in Fort Worth, TX. As we drove West, we saw large caravans of cherry pickers and other disaster recovery vehicles heading in the opposite direction, towards the East Coast. We escaped just in time to avoid the really messy conditions -- the worst we saw was the tail end of some rain as we neared our overnight stop in Knoxville. The next day we made pretty good time and reached the Fort Worth Boat Club late Monday night.

We spent Tuesday leisurely assembling the boat, then treating her to a wet-sanding, full top-to-bottom and fore-to-aft bath, then finished up with a wax job. Pamper your boat every now and then -- she'll love it!



Rakali all ready to sail in Texas

Tuesday was also the day I toured the club property. The main building on the top of the hill has a beautiful view of Eagle Mountain Lake and (coincidentally) of the 'mountain' the lake was named after. To put it simply, the facilities are wonderful! Wednesday was for weigh-ins -- the weigh-in room was a scary place on All Hallows Eve day. Practice racing was scheduled for Thursday, but the 'official' races were abandoned due to inconsistent breeze. Fortunately, the wind filled-in nicely after lunch, and we (along with most other boats) took advantage to get in some informal practicing.

The first day of racing on Friday brought lots of breeze. I'd prepared to get a little wet, but it was nice knowing that I wouldn't have to worry about washing brine from my clothes (one perk to sailing



The line is a busy place

on a fresh-water lake). And pulling current out of the equation altogether is another plus to lake sailing.

The Race Committee crammed 5 good races in on the first day, knowing the forecast for the next two days did not predict much steady breeze. Sure enough, the next two days both started out under a droopy AP flag, but enough steady wind eventually filled in to give us a few light air races. The competition was tough, and a few of the starts featured bumper boats as 30 competitors jockeyed for position on a line that was decidedly not long enough. Although Rakali did not place, her entire crew left with something much more valuable: knowledge gained.

The whole time in TX, the temperatures were fantastic: 80's and sunny every day. The people were friendly, welcoming, and (last but not least) very entertaining. Mark and Robin reveled in being back home among familiar faces and convenient club amenities. I wouldn't mind escaping out there again.



Pirate Couples Contestants

Membership News

by John Kriz,
membership@smsa.com



SMSA November New Members

The SMSA Board of Governors has approved the following new memberships. Please welcome our newest members to SMSA and seek them out at our various SMSA activities.



Scott Ward is a new member sponsored by Norm Dawley. Scott and his family live in Dowell, MD and are interested in participating in our club membership activities and sailing/racing with us. You may have seen them out on the race course in their boat "Crocodile", a Beneteau 40.7 or their previous J-30, Blitz. A well

seasoned sailor, his latest adventure was participating the 2012 biennial Bermuda Ocean Race between Annapolis, Md. and St. George's, Bermuda. Welcome aboard.

Cedric Magen and Laura Lapham are new members sponsored by Jimmy Yurko. Cedric and Laura live in Lusby, MD and are interested in participating in our club membership activities and learning to sail with us through our Adult Learn to Sail training program. Welcome aboard.

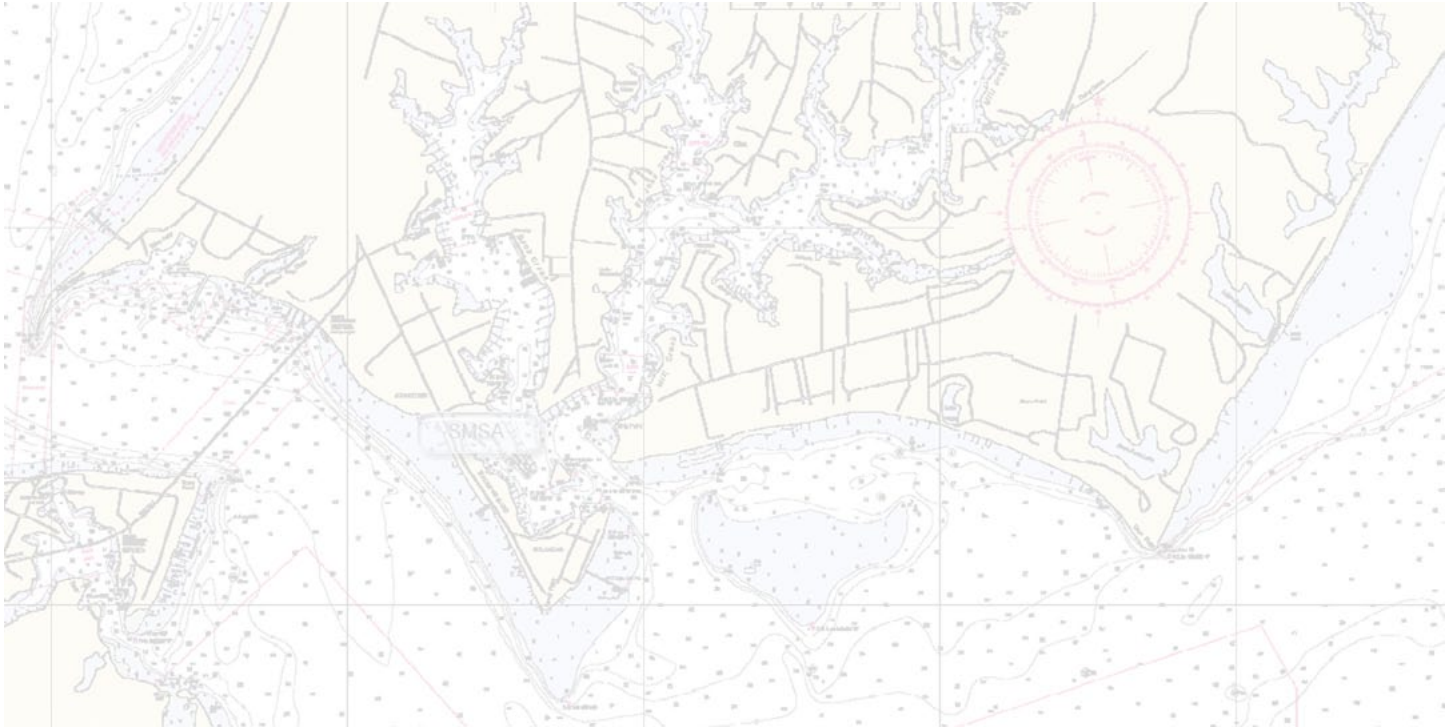


The Pirate Commodore and his Family



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

PLACE
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December 2012 Volume 42 Number 12

December			
2	Sun	Laser Frostbite Race	1300
6	Thur	Set UP for Open House	1800
7	Fri	Friday Happy Hour	1700
7-8	Fri-Sat	Solomons Christmas Walk	
8	Sat	SMSA Christmas Party	1800
8	Sat	Solomons Boat Parade	1815
9	Sun	Laser Frostbite Race	1300
10	Mon	BOD Meeting	1900
14	Fri	Friday Happy Hour	1700
16	Sun	Laser Frostbite Race	1300
20	Thu	Clew Inputs Due	
21	Fri	Friday Happy Hour	1700
23	Sun	Laser Frostbite Race	1300
28	Fri	Friday Happy Hour	1700
30	Sun	Laser Frostbite Race	1300

January			
4	Fri	Friday Happy Hour	1700
11	Fri	Friday Happy Hour	1700
12	Sat	Annual Awards Banquet	
14	Mon	BOD Meeting	1900
18	Fri	Friday Happy Hour	1700
18	Fri	Commodore's Dinner	1900
20	Thu	Clew Inputs Due	
25	Fri	Friday Happy Hour	1700
28	Mon	Chair Meeting	1900

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