



The Commodore's Corner

By Jim Whited
commodore@smsa.com



HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM YOUR COMMODORE

So, here I am writing my first CLEW article as your new Commodore. First, I'd like to thank our outgoing Commodore, Jim Keen, for his steady hand and strong leadership over the past two years. He accepted the position when we did not have a candidate on the ballot and has brought great energy and leadership skills to the position. It has been a pleasure working with him the past two years and I feel very comfortable taking the helm after his time in command. Knowing that he will be continuing with the Board as a Director is very comforting. I would also like to thank the membership for trusting me with the position.

My thanks also to the other Officers, Directors, Chairs, and many volunteers who have given their time and energy to execute the 2017 program. Those leaving the leadership team include Robert Herbig (Rear Commodore), Betsy Dodge (Director), David Meiser (Director), Jerry Taylor (Cruise), Scott Roland (Bar Manager), and John Auman (Membership). All deserve a huge vote of thanks for untiring efforts in their respective roles.

Two of last years leadership team are assuming new roles in 2018, Mark Gyorgy (Vice Commodore), and Jim Keen (Director). New members of the team are Robin Witte (Rear Commodore), Nichole Doub (Director), Hawk Caldwell (Keelboat Race), Todd and Jennifer Porter (Bar Manager). Although most of us have our boats put away for the winter, there is still a lot going on at SMSA. Please join us at the 2017 Awards Banquet on January 20th at the Olde Breton Inn, Leonardtown. You will receive a formal invitation by mail. Please come and join us for a great evening. Also, my first time to host the Commodore's Potluck Dinner is on January 26th. Those that know me well would probably suggest my first theme as "Anything but veggie", instead I will go with "meat and potatoes".

Now, something for you to do: Save \$\$\$\$ and HELP the JUNIOR/ADULT SAILING PROGRAM. Please renew (or join) your US Sailing membership through the US Sailing MVP program. You get a reduced fee for membership and our junior/adult program gets US Sailing credits for purchases from their store. Last year, we spent several hundred dollars on instructor guides, sailing rules books, learn to sail books for students, and various other supplies for our teaching program. You can help yourself and SMSA's Junior program by renewing or joining at ussailing.com/membership and choosing MVP. Then select SMSA in the club list and JOIN.

Our future sailors keep our sport going and our club strong! Barbara and I have been members at SMSA since 2004 when we moved to Maryland from Connecticut. We were both preparing to retire and chose this area because we already had many friends living here. Initially we continued sailing with Norm Dawley on Pursuit but eventually bought Whiskers, our Peterson 37. In 2012 we replaced Whiskers (the good cat) with our current boat Bad Cat. We loved the small-town nature of the club environment with a big club sailing program. That has been a constant over our years in the club ... sailor camaraderie, unselfish volunteerism, and the love of sailing. Thank you ALL for being a part of it. I am very much looking forward to my term as Commodore.

Jim Whited
SMSA Commodore

THE SOCIAL SCENE WITH JODY KEEN

Jody Keen
Social Chair
social@smsa.com



I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and a fun New Year's Eve. December started off with a bang with the Christmas Walk Open House on the 1st of December. That evening we had many community members come through the clubhouse for hot cider and cookies, provided by David and Jackie Meiser, as well as model boat building and sailing in the pool in the back room. Hats off to Jimmy Yurko for designing and building the main outdoor display. Many thanks to Jimmy Yurko and his students for building the toy sailboat kits. And... Many thanks to Jim Whited for repairing the pool so that the children could sail and race their model boats.

The next day we followed up with our annual Christmas dinner, complete with two turkeys and two spiral hams. Thanks to everyone who brought a main dish, a side or dessert. It ended up being quite the feast! Many thanks to everyone who helped to decorate the clubhouse. We were able to re-work a number of pieces and you guys really made it special. A truly elegant event.

On the fifteenth of the Month Jim Keen hosted his last Commodore's dinner. The theme was Italian. Dishes ranged from Fettuccini Alfredo, Manicotti, Italian meatballs, Lasagna, salad, and to top it all off a wonderful Tiramisu to name a few. No one should have left hungry...As always the food was excellent! Thanks to everyone who contributed.

I'm writing this before the "Three Sheets to the Wind" New Year's Eve party. I'm certain it will be a great event. The party was also a venue for Mark Gyorgy's 60th birthday. Happy Birthday Mark!

January brings us the Awards Banquet and Gala on January 20th. This year, we again have booked The Olde Breton Inn in Leonardtown. Cocktails and Appetizers start at 5:30; so be sure to be there to catch a beautiful sunset view from their deck overlooking the Potomac. The cost has remained the same at \$65.00 per person. The invitations went out in mid-December so you should have received them in the mail. As always you may pay on-line or you may send a check to SMSA.

Later in January on the 26th we are hosting the first Jim Whited's Commodore's dinner in conjunction with a movie night. The bar opens at 5:30, dinner is served at 7:00 and the movie "Wind" will be ready to roll at 8:00. Please come out to welcome the new commodore and see a great sailing film.

As always, a sincere shout out of thanks to everyone on the social committee for their commitment and hard work! In the meantime...stay warm.



HELP the JUNIOR PROGRAM

Join or renew your US Sailing Membership via the MVP Program!

You save \$ off your membership and SMSA junior program gets credits for books and training materials. Everyone benefits!

Join/renew at ussailing.com/membership and choose 'MVP'. Then select SMSA in the club list and JOIN!!!

Our sailing campers & high school sailors thank you.

**CRUISERS
CORNER**



CARL KEMP

CRUISE PROGRAMS
CRUISE@SMSA.COM

It seems like we just had our last cruise of 2017 but it is now time to start thinking about next year.

Our first overnight cruise, to St. Leonard Creek, is only three and a half months away on April 21. All other cruises are yet to be determined at the Cruise Planning Meeting on Saturday, January 6, at the SMSA clubhouse. A light breakfast will be provided at 09:00 and the meeting will begin at 09:30. All cruisers and anyone interested in cruising are welcome to attend. Please let me know if you plan to attend so I can get a head count for the food.

Also, please let me know if there are any destinations you would like to consider for cruises. Some already suggested are Long Island Sound/Block Island, Philadelphia, Tilghman Island/Cambridge, Onancock, Tangier and Smith Islands, and Cape May. We will begin the meeting with a discussion of options.

By this time everyone with 1000 or more miles in 2017 should have notified Jerry Taylor. These and other awards will be presented at the SMSA Gala on January 20.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the Planning Meeting and the Gala. Until then, THINK CRUISING.

Carl Kemp
Cruise Programs

YEARBOOK 2018

It is time for the 2018 yearbook preparation. We are working to remind our advertisers and thank them for support. Please consider asking businesses you know to participate.

We need your pictures and articles at some point. It is early, but I want to remind you so in your spare time, ha, ha, you can send some pictures along.

We will also select a few 2017 articles to highlight in the Yearbook for 2018. Any suggestions from you would be welcome.

Thanks,
Patty Kimmel

communications@smsa.com



Have extra race award glasses taking up space?
Help keep bar costs down! Drop them off at the SMSA Bar!
We are in need of more rocks glasses and pint glasses.



NEW MEMBERS

SOUTHERN MARYLAND SAILING ASSOCIATION



JOHN AUMAN

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
membership@smsa.com

Welcome to our newest members who have joined SMSA recently. Please give them a warm welcome when you see them at the club and events.

Kevin and Tracy Mulvihill

Will be relocating from Mechanicsville MD to Richmond VA soon, but while they don't have a boat currently they are looking for an older boat in the 30' range to keep in the Solomons area as it's not too far from Richmond and they love the Solomons area. Kevin had heard about the club from folks at work and was curious as he passed the clubhouse often. He grew up in western Ireland and sailed on friends boats there. Kevin, also a SCUBA diver, and Tracy took the club's Adult training course and are looking for more opportunities to get out sailing, whether it's cruising or race crew.



Frank and Valerie Walter

Frank, Valerie, and their two children join us from California MD. They heard of SMSA through some of our current members and decided to join us. After having their second child they procured their Frers 33 for spacious family cruising on the bay and thought SMSA was the place to enjoy our cruising and racing opportunities. Frank has previously participated in keelboat and small boat racing and is looking forward to racing with us in the future. They have a deep sailing resume, sailing in the BVI and Renaissance Islands and are looking to sail Greece, Croatia and French Polynesia in the future and have previously sailed a Luder's 44 Yawl, Catalina 25, and chartered 40+ foot catamarans and sloops in the Caribbean. As a side note, Frank is an ASA certified instructor and has taught ASA 101, 103, and 105 courses



**2017 ANNUAL
SOUTHERN MARYLAND
SAILING ASSOCIATION
AWARDS BANQUET**

The greatest event OFF the water!

**Saturday, January 20th
Olde Breton Inn, Leonardtown, MD**

**Watch your mailboxes for invitations!
Questions? Email social@smsa.com**

Three sheets to the wind?

While seeking to remind us of the origins of phrases and expressions, you perpetuate a faulty connection in "The Gizmo May Die, But Its Spirit Babbles On" (The Week in Review, Dec. 11).

An inebriated person is often said to be a certain number of sheets to the wind. Uncertain whether this is three or four, you still suggest that the expression comes from sailing. Many have drawn this connection, because the line, or rope, controlling the trim of a sail on a sailboat is called a sheet.

The true origin of "three sheets to the wind" was disclosed to me by a Nantucket sailor. Four sheets to the wind are O.K. because they are balanced. So are two sheets now and then. But three? Never.

The old Dutch-style windmill on Nantucket Island in Massachusetts, which is still grinding cornmeal for the tourists, has four wooden vanes to which are attached four sails -- or more properly, sheets. If the miller leaves one off, only three are presented to the wind.

The mechanism is then severely out of balance, and in a fresh breeze the entire structure of the mill goes into a violent and potentially destructive shudder, evoking the image of a staggering drunk.

Letting go a sailboat's sheet to flap in the wind usually gets the skipper out of trouble by causing the boat to come up into the wind on an even keel -- the opposite of the metaphor intended.

ROBERT A. DI CURCIO Nantucket, Mass., Dec. 12, 1994

Friday, January 05, 2018	Happy Hour at the Clubhouse	5:30 PM	Friday, February 02, 2018	Happy Hour at the Clubhouse	5:30 PM
Saturday, January 06, 2018	Cruise Planning Meeting	9:30 AM	Saturday, February 03, 2018	Officers and Chairs Orientation Day	9:00 AM
Monday, January 08, 2018	BOD Meeting	7:00 PM	Sunday, February 04, 2018	SUPER BOWL SUNDAY AT SMSA	4:00 PM
Friday, January 12, 2018	Happy Hour at the Clubhouse	5:30 PM	Monday, February 05, 2018	BOD Meeting	7:00 PM
Saturday, January 13, 2018	VX ONE MIDWINTERS		Friday, February 09, 2018	Happy Hour at the Clubhouse	5:30 PM
Sunday, January 14, 2018	VX ONE MIDWINTERS		Friday, February 16, 2018	Happy Hour at the Clubhouse	5:30 PM
Monday, January 15, 2018	VX ONE MIDWINTERS		Tuesday, February 20, 2018	CLEW INPUTS DUE	
Friday, January 12, 2018	DEAD DOGS AND TIN WHISTLES (KEY LARGO)		Thursday, February 22, 2018	YEARBOOK INPUTS DUE	
Saturday, January 13, 2018	DEAD DOGS AND TIN WHISTLES (KEY LARGO)		Friday, February 23, 2018	Happy Hour at the Clubhouse	5:30 PM
Sunday, January 14, 2018	DEAD DOGS AND TIN WHISTLES (KEY LARGO)		Saturday, February 24, 2018	Race Management Seminar	1:00 PM
Sunday, January 14, 2018	SMSA SKI TRIP (TILL 1/19)			Commodore Dinner	6:00 PM
Friday, January 19, 2018	Happy Hour at the Clubhouse	5:30 PM	<p style="text-align: center;">JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2018</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CLUB CALENDAR</p>		
Saturday, January 20, 2018	SMSA AWARDS BANQUET				
Saturday, January 20, 2018	CLEW INPUTS DUE				
Friday, January 26, 2018	Happy Hour at the Clubhouse	5:30 PM			
	Commodores Dinner	7:00 PM			
	SMSA MOVIE NIGHT	8:00 PM			



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

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JANUARY 2018 Volume 48 Number 1



**2017 ANNUAL
SOUTHERN MARYLAND
SAILING ASSOCIATION
AWARDS BANQUET**

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