

## March 2011 Volume 41 Number 3



## Commodore's Signal

It's been a cold winter but the weather will soon change. Sailing activities will be a total buzz within the next month. I've been busy making plans and preparations for "The Riddler" this season. I've been busy with plans to upgrade other boats as well. The RC boat is in the boatyard getting some preventive and needed

improvements to the cabin structure. Both racing and cruising boats have been at the loft taking advantage of the off-season to prep their equipment for the activities to come.

The race and cruise programs have had their planning meetings and the season should be finalized since the material is currently being entered into the yearbook. With Opening Day approaching, the facility will be cleaned and upgraded to be more efficient to serve the needs of all of the SMSA programs. I hope each of you have had your chance to add to the programs this winter in preparation for sailing. It's not too late. There's always room to pitch in to support the regular contributors. Sometimes people get caught up too much in what they're doing to ask for help. So just go ahead and ask the program chair how you can help. It can be a very rewarding and valuable experience.

The Social Chairperson, John Dixon, could use some help. If you could offer some of your time it would be great. John will be on travel more this year and could use some help during the period he's away. Rear Commodore Flaherty is putting together a Special Events committee to oversee the events that might be larger undertakings, such as hosting a concert or a organizing a winter open house.

The education and junior programs are offering members and nonmembers informative and interactive activities to promote sailing locally. There are dates scheduled to stimulate a wide range of interests, from rookies to seasoned sailors. Take advantage of their offerings by attending and letting others know of these opportunities.

SMSA now has a telephone number, 888-714-3777, for **non-members to call** to make contact with us. It is a system that will have their messages routed to the appropriate program chair. Members should still use the numbers listed in the yearbook to make contacts.

Every program is gathering steam; the use of the clubhouse will increase as the activity level comes to a roar. The clubhouse is central to all of these activities. It is important to continue the search for a location we can call "our own". The offer for the Locust Inn property is being retracted, but other options are being considered. I hope that in the near future, that SMSA will be in a better position to move forward in its promotion of sailing now and in the future.

I look forward to to seeing a large turnout at SMSA for the Commodore's Dinner on St. Patrick's Day. Be there sporting the green.



#### NAUTICAL FLEA MARKET NEW DATE! APRIL 9, 2011–9 AM TO 5 PM, CLUBHOUSE

- Buy gear you really need at great prices!
- Sell gear you no longer need! Table charge \$10 (\$15 for non-members).
- Donate gear you no longer need to SMSA for sale!

The Nautical Flea Market is being managed by Frank Gerred. He needs help setting up and managing the club table selling donated items.

Interested in a table or helping: Contact Frank at gerred@verizon.net or (410) 326-2785

### READ ABOUT MARCH, APRIL, MAY ADULT TRAINING

- Introducting Racing Page 4
- Introducting Cruising Page 5
- First Aid/CPR Page 5
- Race Management Page 9
- · Racing Rules Page 9
- T.A.M. Training Page 9

# Add the SMSA Calendar to Your Google Calendar

If you love your Google calendar, you will love it even more when you can view your personal events and SMSA events at the same time! To do this first copy the URL off the SMSA.com home page, then go to your google calendar and, underneath 'Other Calendars,' click Add by URL. Now paste the URL you copied from the SMSA Website..

## **Junior Committee Report**

by Jimmy Yurko

The SMSA Junior Committee has been diligently working this winter to prepare for the upcoming sailing season. We have a variety of tasks to tackle prior to the beginning of the season and if you are interested in participating feel free to join us at the next meeting on Wed March 9 from 7:00 to 9:00.

Jim Whited has taken the lead for maintenance of our equipment. We are renovating the back storage room to better handle the summer camps and the equipment. All of the Optimists will be inspected restored, and stored in the new racks built inside the garage. This plan will improve the quality of the program assets and free up outdoor storage space during the summer when it is most critical.

We will again be participating in the Calvert Library Summer Camp Fair March 28 at the Prince Fredrick branch of the Calvert Library.

Mark Williams is working with a team to continue to make our Kids Intro to Sail class (introduced in 2010) a quality fun program that kids can't wait to get into.

We are moving all registrations for kids, junior and adult...yes I said adult sailing classes to our website. Families interested in signing up for programs will be able to read course descriptions, check availability of space in courses and sign up for classes online.

We will run three adult learn to sail classes for up to six students each session. The class will meet on six consecutive Monday nights beginning April 24 and run through the end of August. The class will consist of a one hour classroom session followed by on-the-water practice. We will be looking for members to volunteer time to assist with on-thewater instruction. We will be coordinating sign ups so that you don't need to participate every night, just when you're available.

We will have all of the details for our programs available on the SMSA.com website "Junior" page before the end of this month.

### Barnacles, The Easy Way by Sarah Southworth

In the Virgin Islands, I was cleaning the bottom of the boat I am/was on and requested a knife to pop off the barnacles. I was handed a plastic windshield ice scraper. It worked better than a knife and no damage to anything!

## **SMSA Cruise Planning**

by Rich Freeman, Cruise Chair

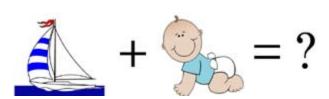
The 2011 Cruise Planning Meeting was held on 12 February, Saturday, at the SMSA Club House. While not as well attended as in past years, the crews of the boats attending were no less enthusiastic about setting a fun cruise schedule.

The opening day cruise will be on 7/8 May to St Leonard Creek and hosted by Ellie & Ken Mowbray aboard Swan. The last scheduled cruise will be the annual Halloween Cruise to Cambridge and hosted by Kate & Chris Miller aboard Sequoia. In between, there will be cruises to Oxford, Chestertown, Annapolis, St Mary's City, Crisfield, Urbanna, Tides Inn, and other lesser known, but great anchorages. Of course, spontaneous cruises are always possible

A condensed version of the schedule is on page 14. The full version of the schedule should be on the website by the time you read this. Get out your calendars and start planning time on your boat



Your Cruise Committee hard at work.



Sail Sitter: A group of SMSA Sailors who want to join forces and find a way to be a parent and still sail.

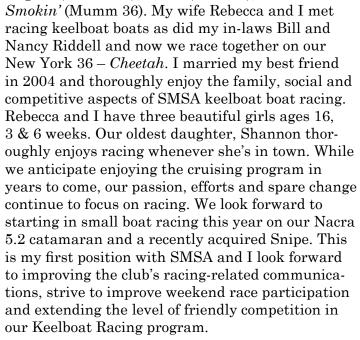
Co-operative babysitting where parents select sailing days where they need babysitting and volunteer for alternate days to babysit so others can sail. Any parents interested in learning more about this idea, please contact Kristi at kristi. yurko@gmail.com

# **2011 Program Chairs**

**Edited by Roger Bayer** 

Most of the 2011 Program Chairs started their jobs January 1st. If you are like me, you know some, but not all of these folks. Here is a short paragraph on each..

Marc Briere, Keelboat Race **Chair:** VP Corporate Operations of American EW Associates. Former airborne linguist with the USAF. I have been racing in SMSA's keelboat boat program since 1991 on Hagars (Schock 35), Iretsu (First 42),

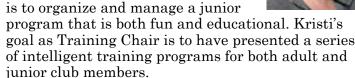


Robert W. Herbig, Jr., Small Boat Race Chair: Occupation - IAP World Services - Patuxent River Support Project, Water/Wastewater Management. I have been active with SMSA since 1999, both racing my Interlake 18, No Patience, and crewing on keelboats. I have enjoyed

Colonel, US Army, Retired. My Captain, Patty Kimmel, and I are cruisers. We enjoy sailing the Chesapeake Bay and her tributaries on our Catalina 34 Mark II Reflections. We enjoy anchoring in the numer-

ous gunkholes for the week-end and participate in the annual northern and southern bay cruises. We look forward to participating in happy hours on the water with fellow SMSA sailors. We have sailed the DelMarVa circumnavigation and will probably do it again. I am most interested in SMSA gaining reciprocity with other sailing organizations and yachting clubs on the Bay.

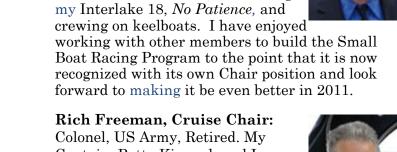
Jimmy Yurko, Junior Chair/Kristi Yurko, Training Chair: (Editor's note: The Yurkos told the Clew that they work as a team and so preferred a single paragraph) Kristi and Jimmy have been members of SMSA for over 6 years. We enjoy both big and small boat sailing, particularly sailing our Buccaneer. Even more important, over the years, we have both have gotten more and more involved in helping to make SMSA the best it can be. SMSA is our extended family! Jimmy's goal as Junior Chair



Ellen Aulson, Membership Chair: Occupation - Retired as Director of Operations for a Comcast television station. Enjoy being involved in background activities at the club supporting club officers and their endeavors. My daughter Jaime is

active as crew on Wednesday nights. As an avid racer growing up in New England we have confined our outings to local sailing but am looking forward to participating in some cruises next summer. My goals for 2011 include helping to increase club membership and participation in club activities by keeping members informed in a timely manner and encouraging increased club participation in commu-

Continued on Page 12





nity events.

# Why Race?

by Roger Bayer

For the first 15 years of our boating career we cruised. We loved the challenge of navigating (starting with paper charts, a protractor and a divider). We loved the tranquility of anchoring. The best was visiting different harbors, meeting different people and seeing different things. So why race?

Roughly 10 years after we started sailing, we joined the Stamford Yacht Club (Stamford, CT). This was our first club experience. Unlike SMSA, Stamford has only one cruise a year, but it is a big one. The formal cruise takes a week. Planning takes roughly six months, with one or more couples acting as port captains. The cruise fees include dockage, catered dinners, cocktail parties, live entertainment as well as special activities for the kids. About half the boats cruised from port to port. The other half raced from port to port, usually with a spinnaker and a non-spinnaker class. If there was a lay day in a port, there might be a race planned and cruisers would be extended an invitation to crew on a racing boat that day. This was my introduction to racing.

That first start was the encouragement to crew on other boats racing in regular club races and eventually deciding to race my boat, first non-spinnaker then, a number of years later with a spinnaker. What is the attraction of racing? Here are some thoughts:

- You truly enhance your sailing skills. The subject of sail trim becomes much more interesting. You read about it a bit more, and then you have the opportunity to practice what you have learned. Face it, when you are cruising and the wind is on the nose or directly aft and/or the wind speed is too high or too low, there is a strong inclination to kick on the engine. When you race, you have to learn to make the boat go fast in each of these conditions.
- Your competition gives you a chance to measure the growth in your sailing skills.

- Racing is real team sport. If you crew, being a member of a team that works together well brings satisfaction beyond just sailing. If you are racing your own boat, building a winning team is a prerequisite for a winning boat.
- You learn what equipment to add to your boat which makes both your cruising and racing sailing better.
- Racing is like cruising with a group of boats. At the end of the day, you get together with your competitors.
   These are really great parties. Racing expands your population of friends.

To net it out, racing opens another world of sailing opportunities. Try the Intro class, try crewing. You could be doubling your cruising fun.

#### **Introduction to Racing Class**

March 19th, 9-11am SMSA clubhouse

Curious about racing? Want to introduce new sailors to racing?

Come join us as we discuss the basics of sailboat racing. How do you find races? What to do when you get to the course? How to start? What are the basic racing rules?

Let us help you make sense of the chaos and get you involved in the fun!



Meet other local sailors interested in racing.

Don't own a boat but want to get involved in racing? Come join us! We can help you find a skipper looking for crew! Contact Kristi at training@smsa.com with questions.

# Why Cruise?

by Roger Bayer

Do you ever get tired of sailing around in a little circle, but getting nowhere? Distance races are better, maybe, because you get to sail in a bigger circle, but you still go nowhere! Getting tired of apres race parties populated by sweat soaked bodies? There is another alternative: Cruising.

When you cruise you get to exercise your sailing skills a different way. Navigation becomes much more complex than looking for the windward mark a mile away. You actually go someplace, so you have to decide where you want to go and how to get there, as well as where you want to stay on arrival. If you decide to anchor out, you have to remember how to set an anchor and make sure it is not dragging. If you stay in a marina, you have to decide whether or not to eat aboard or go out. If you eat out then a restaurant decision is required. Racing, *i.e.*, sailing in little circles, is much simpler!

Your sailing skills are not as critical, which is good because your crew may be very limited. Cruising gives you a chance to spend quality time with family and friends. Unless there is a real safety emergency, there is never a reason to yell at crew! You can enjoy sailing with folks you would never invite to race with you or who would never race. Most of the equipment that you put on your boat to make it go fast, also works when cruising. However, changing a headsail bent into a racing track, shorthanded might make you start to consider some furling gear.

When you get to harbor, the apres sail social events are different. When you anchor, you have the opportunity to relax in your cockpit and enjoy the scenery. When you tie up in a marina, you have the opportunity to meet and talk to different people.

SMSA presents many opportunities for multi-boat cruising. The Cruise Chair organizes and publishes a schedule of planned cruises. The Cruise Captain provides a focal point for apres sail planning. At every port in a cruise you meet up with good friends. When anchoring out, this could be for a raft-up. In a marina, this

could be a get together on one or more boats. Multiday cruises can feel like multiday floating parties.

If cruising sounds interesting, take the Intro to Cruising class. If you are still interested after the class, take a look at the SMSA cruise schedule (page 14), pick a cruise and let the Cruise Captain know you plan to participate. Doing a SMSA cruise is like racing in that some of the decisions are made for you.

### **Introducing Cruising Class**

April 16th, 9-11am SMSA Clubhouse

Focused on beginning to cruise your sailboat.

Topics include: how to know where to go, how far you can go in a relaxing way, what kids seem to like, things to do to keep it interesting, equipment

suggestions, what to pack and what to leave at home.

Interested in learning to cruise but don't know where

to start? Have questions on where to begin? Don't own a boat but want to go cruising? Come join us and meet some fellow sailors! Contact Kristi at training@smsa.com with questions.



First Aid/CPR
Training coming in
MAY!

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## Key West Race Week By Land and By Sea

#### By Sea: John Edwards

Key West Race Week is the content of racing sailing magazines from cover to cover, less a few meaningless charter advertisements from December to June every year. Every new boat marketed as a racing sailboat or as a cruiser/racer sailboat debuts at Key West in January. It is that big to the industry. It is even bigger to the sport of International sailing. Key West Race Week is professionally managed by Premiere Racing's Peter Craig but a big part of the mechanics of this super well oiled machine is our own Joy Dorothy, Herb Reese, Don Behrens, and Keith Jacobs. In years past Robert Herbig, Tom and Danielle Moulds, Joe and Tracy Kubinec have represented SMSA in Key West committees.

The recession, referred to as "the Crisis" by our Italian friends has hurt the participation at Key West. Just 2 years ago there were 300 boats at KWRW, but last year counted 150 boats and this year a dismal 134 boats. The "crisis" has hit the US as well, but it may have another name. Meanwhile through thick and thin, SMSA members trek south 1300 miles to Key West to mingle with the sports best and represent our little corner of the world. Some members in the employ of Premiere Racing and some SMSA members to compete in this world class event. At the height of KWRW there were 3 SMSA boats going south. Joining Rhumb Punch in the J/29 class were *Breakaway* (Leo Bonser) and Joint Adventure (Dan and Wendy Schneider). Mike Ironmonger's crew brought their Colgate 26 to Key West in 2008. Clarke and MaryAnn McKinney sailed on Tigress, the original SMSA boat to do Key West Race Week that belonged to Bobby Waldeschmidt in the early 90's. Tigress stories are still told at Key West Race Weeks to this day as are the misadventures of *Breakaway*.

Meanwhile, in workman-like fashion the SMSA crew of Rhumb Punch that includes Clarke McKinney, Joe Szymanski, Sean Stanley, Laura Comeau-Stanley, Jae-Nee Ausley, Regan and Tom Weaver, Geoff Rhodes, and John Edwards hammer out podium finishes 2003, 2007, and 2009. Unfortunately, not every year is a podium year and this year was a tough one. And even in the "tough years" we all leave Key West happy to have been there. Our noses bloodied maybe, but we are tanned and it was 75 degrees all week; not 25 degrees like at home. Best of all we shared with ten close friends a few rum drinks, a few bicycle rides, a week of sailing, a lot of hours in the hot tub recovering and forming a bond like a pirates code since we are talking about Key West after all.

#### By Land: Sandy Leitner

You can't talk about Key West Race Week without mentioning the shore support. You know, those of us you see standing on the dock and waving as our crew sails off for the day. Our day has already begun.



Rhumb Punch heading for the race course.

Shore support is a labor of love. We get up an hour earlier than the crew to ensure they get a hearty breakfast. We make and pack lunches. We make sure the crew makes the boat on time. After the crew sails off for the day we do the grocery shopping, the laundry, and make sure we have snacks, beer and rum drinks ready when our crew gets off the water. We also plan and make dinner ahead of time so we all can enjoy the tent parties.

Sometimes we may feel a little left out as the crew hashes over their day while soaking in the hot tub. Every member of shore support has crewed in their former lives before becoming shore support, and we miss that release of emotion only crew feels after the day's race. We are proud that we are the ones who attend to the details so our crew can concentrate on making the boat go fast. We share in both their bad days on the water and their triumphs on the water.

But... while the cats are away, the mice will play! We make sure to carve out time for the things we enjoy about Key West. Whether it be working on our tan by the pool, reading a good book, shopping on Duval Street or sipping on a Key Lime martini; this is also our winter vacation in the tropics. We are here to support our crew *and* have a great time

I am thrilled to be a part of traveling *Team Punch*. We are a family and we laugh, fight, and play like a family. I wouldn't trade being a "*Punch Peep*" for anything in the world.

## Got a Little Captain in Ya?

by Jimmy Yurko

We do! Buccaneers and Mutineers from around the country converged on Key Largo Florida for the fourth annual "Dead Dogs & Tin Whistles" regatta. As you know mid-January is pretty miserable in most parts of the country, and that's good enough reason to pack up the boats. Nine SMSA sailors with three boats in tow headed south; way south. While the keelboat crowd is racing in Key West, this band of pirates hits Key Largo and is racing strictly for rum & sunshine.

This year's 3 day event started off with a 7.7 nautical mile race from Upper Keys Sailing Club (UKSC) around Porjoe Key and back. The conditions were great with 15 knots of breeze heading out of the northeast which made for a blast of a reach in both directions...in planing dinghies like Buccs & Mutts that's huge fun. The winning boat in the Bucc class finished with an average VMG of 10.26 knots! That's fun! And what is the prize for this feat? A lovely plastic 12"tall statuette of Captain Morgan (and a bottle of the same good stuff!) There is a catch, however. The winner must return next year with the statue (and a full bottle of rum!)

My good friend Joe Schoedel from Atlanta was my crew for the event. He is a real positive guy who is up for anything...and he needed to be since once we got on the water he realized I wasn't kidding about performing a capsize drill. Before the regatta I had made a pillow like do-dad that slides over my mainsail, hoists with the main.

We took the boat away from shore, and with a 160 pound crew forced the boat into a rather abrupt capsize...the mast hit the water pretty hard. My crew, new to sailing, thought I was nuts...we've been friends a long time, so I figure he's right! He took his time getting untangled from the rigging (again, new guy to sailing) I stood on the inside of the seat tank for a few moments, trying to decide if I really wanted to get in the water...but figured...what the heck. I jumped in the water,

swam around to the centerboard...did the acrobatics to get up to that darned thing...it's high up there...don't ya know! After a few moments on the board the boat came up...I rolled in, regained control of my boat, sailed over and picked up my wet, and rather confused crew.



Key Largo Captain's Trophies.

We raced around the buoys Saturday and Sunday. The conditions were perfect. The competition was close, and this regatta is pure fun. Gus Rappold of NY summarizes the feel of this regatta best:

"Along with all the usual fun I've come to expect at regattas, one thought continues to push it's way up front. As I finally got good starts in the last two races, Skip & I put together a really good final race. While rounding the first windward mark at the front of the pack, the sounds of our competitors cheering us on brought big grins to our faces! The hootin' and hollerin' continued at each mark of the modified Olympic course until we had a small twist in our 'chute as it went up for the final downwind run. These guys were hot on our heels and that was all it took for two boats to pass. Rick Scarborough caught up with us at the club and told us how much fun it was for him

to see us put together such a good race. This on the water camaraderie is what sets our class apart from the others! To anyone who gets negative connotations when they hear the words 'race', 'regatta', 'compete'...I say give it the benefit of the doubt, even just once, and see the fun you've been missing!!"

The regatta was won by Rick Scarborough of Birmingham Alabama. The rest of us settled for great party games, roast pig and a lifetime of stories.



A crowd of Buccaneers. Can you pick out SMSA members?

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# Talking About SMSA

If you are into sailing, SMSA is the place for you. Unfortunately, sailors who are not members for the most part, do not realize they want to be members! The Communications committee has started telling our community more about SMSA. Below are two articles recently sent to local press. Interested in helping us talk about SMSA? Contact Roger Bayer, communications@smsa.com.

# Balance Your Nautical Stuff!

SMSA Nautical Flea Market – April 9, 2011 - 9 AM to 5 PM

Do you need some nautical equipment, like blocks, line, fenders, etc. but have not gotten around to buying, plus you like the idea of a deal? Do you have nautical equipment which you no longer need, maybe because you moved to a larger or smaller boat? Your nautical stuff is out of balance! As a community

service,
Southern
Maryland
Sailing
Association
is hosting a
nautical flea
market, April
9th.

Both power and sail boat owners are invited to buy and sell or donate equipment at the



SMSA clubhouse at 14490 Solomons Island Road, Solomons, Maryland (a couple of doors South of Catamarans restaurant). To buy, just show up April 9<sup>th</sup>. To sell, rent a table for \$15 (\$10 for SMSA members).

Southern Maryland Sailing Association supports a wide range of sailing programs which include junior summer training camps, planned Chesapeake Bay cruising, both small and large boat racing. If you have equipment you no longer need, please consider donating it to SMSA for resale. It would be appreciated if you could clean it up if needed and provide a label which describes the piece and a suggested price.

To rent a table or donate equipment, please call Frank Gerred at (410) 326-2785 or send him an email: Gerred@verizon.net.

# 2011 Sailboat Racing Starts in March

Open to every PHRF yacht and every Laser!

Southern Maryland Sailing Association (SMSA) is starting its 2011 racing program by inviting every Laser and PHRF rated keelboat yacht to participate in its Spring Frostbite programs. SMSA membership is not required to race. A series of Laser races are planned to start at 1:00 PM each Saturday in March. A series of PHRF races are planned to start at 1:00 PM each Sunday in March. For safety, the PHRF keelboat series are all nonspinnaker. Sailing instructions are published on our website.

SMSA is located in Solomons, Maryland. Facilities are available at the SMSA clubhouse to launch the Lasers. All of the races will be held on the Patuxent River near Solomons. There is a racing fee for participants. For more information, please email:

Laser Racing: Robert Herbig, Jr. (SmallBoatRace@SMSA.com)

PHRF Racing: Marc Briere (Race@SMSA.com)

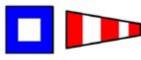
SMSA is a member owned and operated club dedicated to being the best sailing venue on the Chesapeake. SMSA hosts the nationally renowned Screwpile regatta. We enjoy full programs of PHRF keelboat racing, dingy racing (both one design and Portsmouth), cruising, summer junior sailing programs and adult 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.

**Wanted:** Crew needed for *Shermax* and *Toby* – all season! *Shermax* generally does the Wed nite spinnaker fleet and *Toby* does most of the bay or weekend races. If we have enough crew then both boats can go. Easy going, friendly boats, great crews, not die-hards, will take newbies! Come and do RC (on shore) with us in March. Call 410-326-9024 or maxmunger@verizon.net

## Race Management Seminar

Saturday, March 19, 12:00 PM SMSA Clubhouse

Focused on race committee training. Topics include: Anchoring the Race



Anchoring the Race Committee (RC) Boat; Setting a Square Starting Line; Starting and

Finishing Races; Scoring the Race; What RC can and cannot change; and More!

Want to decipher what those flags are on the race course? Don't know how to set a square starting line? Come join us and meet some fellow sailors! Contact Kristi at training@smsa.com with questions.

# Racing Rules of Sailing Seminar April 10, 5:30-8:30 pm

Focused on The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2009-2012. Topics include: Mark Roundings, What to do when boats meet on the course, Starting Rules, Finishing Rules, and Protest Hearings.



Have a rules question? Don't understand a situation you've been in on the race course? Bring the scenario and we'll figure it out together. Come join us and meet some fellow sailors! Contact Kristi at training@smsa.com with questions.

Also, Dan Trammell and Stovy Brown will also be on hand each week, at the clubhouse, following Frostbite Racing for those that have questions.

### Maryland State Licensed Beverage Association (MSLBA) Techniques of Alcohol Management (TAM) training

Looking for a few SMSA volunteers to attend TAM training (4 hours class). One TAM-trained person is required to be on premises any time the SMSA bar is open. If you like to spend time at the bar, this is a great way to volunteer for the club.

Please contact Kristi at training@smsa.com if you are interested in the course. Date and time TBD.

# SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU!!!

By Tim Flaherty, Rear Commodore

An SMSA sailing movie night? Dock parties at the pier or raft-up parties in the harbor? Game nights? Additional Happy Hours with music? Spring and Summer dances? Talks and lectures by sailing celebrities? How about a Crew Listing Party like in Annapolis and Hampton? These are all early suggestions from SMSA's Special Events Committee.

The idea is to build on successful events SMSA has recently hosted and make more use of our clubhouse space. A Valentines Dance, the Scott Kirby concerts, Seafood Boils and some private events have been very successful and made money for the club. Some fresh thinkers and volunteers are desired to make SMSA more inviting and more valuable to our members. Is that you?

The more people we have involved, the easier it is to stage events and have fun. If you've not taken much advantage of your clubhouse, if you've sat on the sidelines and wondered what you could do to be more active, here's your chance! Contact me with ideas or to volunteer for the Special Events Committee. You will be charged with coming up with new things for the club to do and with making it happen. New friends, new experiences and more satisfaction with your SMSA experience will be the result!

Right now we haven't decided if Special Events will be its own stand-alone committee or a subcommittee of the Social Committee. The idea is to NOT put more on John Dixon's plate, since Social already has a full schedule of "traditional" SMSA events to organize. Either way, your participation will be valued by your fellow SMSA members.

Contact me at <u>timfsmsa@yahoo.com</u> to become part of this exciting new club venture!

# Clubhouse Clean-Up Day

Saturday, March 26, 2011

9:00 AM

If everybody pitches in, we can all be proud. Questions? Call Bob Stratton or Barbara Whited



time 1DD.

### 2011 KEELBOAT SCORING CHANGES

By James Whited

Here is a summary of the important 2011 changes to Keelboat scoring for SMSA. For the most part, the 2011 changes are intended to encourage participation and simplify the scoring process. The specifics of our scoring rules for 2011 will be in Section 19 of the SMSA General Sailing Instructions.

New Dual Rating System: The first change is

a dual rating system that has been implemented by PHRF of Chesapeake Bay. For 2011, PHRF certificates will have two ratings, Spinnaker and Non-spinnaker (NS). This dual rating system will eliminate the need for boat owners who carry ratings penalties for spinnaker rig modifications to request a rating change when they want to switch over to NS racing. This is a change that many folks have wanted and is finally being implemented. It does, however, create some extra work for owners at renewal time. When renewing your certificate for 2011, you must check that you want When a NS rating as well as a Spinnaker

Rating and the NS rating will be blank. PHRF of Chesapeake Bay has said that any boat wishing to participate in a CBYRA sanctioned NS event must have a NS rating on their certificate. This would include many of our SMSA events, and the Screwpile regatta. If you have already sent in

rating. If this is not done, the PHRF

certificate will only have a Spinnaker

your renewal and did not request this rating, the CBYRA Executive Committee has agreed to allow a new certificate to be issued with both ratings. To get this change you must contact Stewart Buckler directly (sbuck7@verizon.net). The cost of dues and certificate renewal for PHRF of Chesapeake Bay for 2011 was reduced from \$35 to \$30.

New Class Splits: The second major change from PHRF of Chesapeake Bay is to the class splits. For 2011, the upper limit for Class A has been changed to 109 from 115. The Upper limit for class B was changed from 154 to 145. Class C will then be 146 and up. The changes should better balance the participation across all 3 classes.

Within SMSA Scoring, the changes for 2011 are the use of Normal (Low point) scoring for all Keelboat events and High Point Percentage scoring for the Season High Point trophies.

The change to Low Point scoring for all events

is meant to simplify the scoring process for everyone (scorer and competitors). We have used High Point in the past for the Wednesday Night and Wednesday Night PRO series and this has lead to some confusion and even some interesting outcomes. The High Point scoring methodology was originally intended as a better way to score long series where many boats did not compete (DNC) in all of the races. It simplified the scoring calculations by giving a 0 to all of these DNC boats. With the more sophisticated scoring programs being used today, this is really not a problem.

For our Season High Point trophies we will use a High Point Percentage system. The rules for qualifying do not change. Competitors are still required to participate and be scored in at least 50% of the Qualifying Events. For each event a competitor will have a percentage results. The calculation of this percentage varies based on the

event type. For a one day buoy event, the percentage is the competitors renewing your finish position divided by the number of competitors. For Distance races, the certificate for of competitors. For Distance races, in calculation would include a constant 2011, you must added to the finish position and to the number of competitors to calculate the percentage. The result of this is to add you want a NS more weight to a distance race score versus a buoy race score. The constant used for each of the distance races will be published in the Scoring section

of the General Racing Instructions. A document will be placed on the web site to demonstrate how various participation levels will change the results. The average of the competitors scores across qualifying events after throw outs is the final score. The competitor with the highest average score is the winner.

Finally, the scoring spreadsheets to be used by RC for all events will be posted to the web site. Each RC team should check the web site prior to their event and download the applicable spreadsheet for the event. I will continue to provide worksheets that support Excel 2003 and later releases. If necessary, I can provide Open Office versions of the spreadsheet to those users who do not have Excel. All RC teams are asked to send the resulting spreadsheet to <a href="mailto:score@smsa.com">score@smsa.com</a> as soon as possible after the event. This will allow timely posting of results to the web site.

If anyone has questions or comments on event scoring you can drop me a note at score@smsa.com.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Annual SMSA Ski Weekend

By Jim Keen and others

"The skiing was great and the people even better; good wind all weekend, fast snow in the morning, good company in the evening enjoying a few drinks and a bite to eat. What more could a sailor want in February? Many Thanks to the PRO's Jim and Jody Keen for running the first SMSA winter regatta, I look forward to next year and expect to see a lot more skippers on the line at the top of North Peak Lift where there's a course for every skill level." That's how Les Griffith described the weekend of 11-13 February during which nine hearty SMSA sailors braved the frozen water (actually great snow) and wind on the slopes of Seven Springs Mountain Resort in Western Pennsylvania for SMSA's first Annual Ski Weekend.

Joe and Tracy Kubinec, Steve Allen, Donna Maneely, Les Griffith, Bill and Nancy Riddell, and Jim and Jody Keen joined forces to attack the slopes of Western Pennsylvania on a great weekend that included lots of fresh powder and sunshine.

The SMSA gang arrived late Friday afternoon, checking into the Lodge in time for dinner. Steve and Les took off to the slopes for night skiing, while Tracy, Joe, and Donna tried out the Tubing hill. Donna's take: "The night air made the runs fast as we all literally zoomed down the runs with a little spray of snow blowing in our faces. The inner tubes aimed us at unaware walking victims at the bottom of the runs. Tracy's tube always went the farthest as she landed at the fence often. Brave Joe went down belly first and could control his tube better. Donna just jumped in the tube, closed her eyes, yelled, "Yahoo" and let gravity guide her. Her tube sometimes went backwards at the bottom up the hill and required quickly getting out and walking down a few feet. It was a blast as we constantly rode a Magic Carpet up the hill and zoomed down in our tubes for 2 hours. Great fun for all ages!" And, in Tracy's own words, "Tracy won the high point award in the 'How Many People Can You Knock Down at the End of the Tubing Run' contest. She secured her victory by taking out members of the same family in consecutive runs. Good job Tracy!"

After a hearty breakfast at the Tyrol Banquet Room Saturday morning, the skiers set off for the first day of skiing. Big wind, grey skies, flat light, and heavy snowfall didn't deter the fun. But, "Joe's first day didn't start out too well when he lost his balance and fell off of the "magic carpet" that was taking him back to the top of the training hill. Joe's ego wasn't bruised too badly by his fall, but he did get upset at the children who were poking him with their ski poles as they effortlessly moved past him on the carpet. Rotten kids."

Steve Allen, winner of the "best ski hat award", something akin to a Dr. Seuss' cat's hat, described the weekend as such... "Being outside in the fresh air is a great antidote for the winter doldrums. And, just like the summertime, I spent much of my weekend chasing Jim and Les up and down the course. When the trails opened up and we had good clear air, I just couldn't keep up. I think it was my equipment. In general, however,

they stayed out of the chop and opted for clear sailing. I, however, managed to slip in some glade skiing and a few good bump runs. Sunday morning I got to show off under the lift line as Jim, Jody, and Les passed overhead. For my reward, Jim took me down the half pipe. I think the half pipe was designed to hurt people."

At the end of a great day of skiing, the group rode the shuttle bus over to Jim and Jody's condo at Swiss Mountain for wine and cheese. After suitable libation and many mountain (sea) stories, the gang rode the shuttle back over to the main lodge for a group dinner at the Tyrol Buffet where they were all totally over-served. Afterward, nine tired sailor-skiers hit their racks early that night in anticipation of another great day on the slopes Sunday.

We were not disappointed, as Sunday we awoke to blue skies and 3 inches of fresh powder, every skiers dream. The lift lines were short and the snow was awesome... the kind of freshly groomed powder that squeaks as your skis glide through it. The group made several runs before having to give it up to make the afternoon drive home. But, not before Tracy caught "big air" after waiting too long to get off the chair lift. As Tracy said, "Fortunately, the team was there to extract me from the snow bank that I plunged into."

Continued on page 13



The 2011 SMSA Ski Team. L to R: Bill Riddell, Nancy Riddell, Tracy Kubinec, Joe Kubinec, Jim Keen, Jody Keen, Les Griffith, Donna Maneely, Steve Allen

10

check that

rating!

#### YEARBOOK ADS BEING TAKEN NOW

Promote your business among your SMSA colleagues and show your support for the club by purchasing an ad in the 2011 Yearbook!

This year we have something new: the option to have your ad in COLOR!! The color ads cost just a few dollars more than B&W, but really make your message jump off the page. A full-page blackand-white ad is \$250, while a color full-page is \$290. We also offer half-



page, quarter page and business card-size ads.

We need to have your ad no later than March 11<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Tim Flaherty at timfsmsa@ yahoo.com to place yours. You must have "camera ready" copy to provide, although if you need help in designing and creating your ad, help can be provided for a nominal charge.

### George Stewart "Stovy" Brown Given Emeritus Status

Stovy's comments:

I am grateful that the club has presented my new status as an Emeritus Member.

Anne and I moved to Calvert County in the fall of 1991, and I immediately found SMSA and bought a racing boat that winter. I have been actively involved in racing and junior sailing



promotion in our area ever since.

In 1999, several of us in the club formed a foundation to support fledgling high school sailing. That has blossomed into the Sailing Center Chesapeake that has expanded junior sailing into many new directions. The Foundation has always been complementary and supportive of SMSA's core programs, and remains so today.

Sailing has been a lifetime activity for me, and one that has given great satisfaction and challenge. It has given me many hours of enjoyment and lots of close friends. I hope that it will be the same for you and all the wonderful members of our club. 2010 Program Chairs Continued from page 3

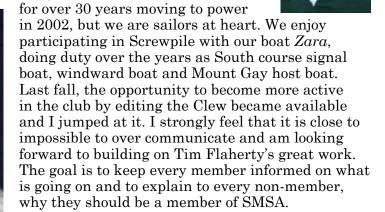
John Dixon, Social Chair:

Electrical Engineer. The SMSA sailing program cemented my love for Southern Maryland, along with the beauty and the people! I've been in the area since 1991, and through one contact or another I ended-up



on some awesome SMSA sailing platforms. Never forget the first Wednesday Night win on *Synergy*, thank-you Shawn... The sailing adventures continued, with Keelboats, Small Boats, Special Olympics and work at the club. The boats and people involved are too numerous to name, but all have a special place. Look forward to the new season, not only to sail, but to bring some new approaches to the social aspects of the club. Special thanks to Shawn & Laura, Peter, Poppa & Momma Punch, Patrick, J&C Mac, Jim Keen & all the great folks of the club!

Roger Bayer, Communications: Retired from 30 years with IBM (both technical & marketing), 7 years as a freelance programmer and seven years running a small toothbrush company. Rona and I moved to Southern Maryland in 2003 and joined SMSA in 2006. We sailed



Robert E. Stratton, Facilities

Chair, Occupation: Medical professional specializing in artificial body part replacements: As a member of SMSA for the past 11 years. I have enjoyed both racing and cruising my Peterson 34, *Slot Machine*. My children have grown up with SMSA. It



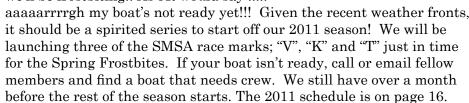
is our home! My goal as Facilities Chair is to make sure we have the operationally best facility that we can have. To make that happen, both Barbara Whited, who works with me, and I need your suggestions. Please either call me at 443-926-2070 or send us an email to facility@smsa.com.

# Audibles from the Keelboat Race Chair

By Marc Briere

F-f-f-frostbite Season is Here!!

With a new storm front coming by every 3-4 days it has been a challenge for many to get our hibernating bodies and boats ready for the coming season. In no time we'll be frostbiting!! As JR would say .....



I want to thank everyone for their survey responses, participation in the race season planning meeting and volunteering to help get race marks, RC boats and race circular ready for the season. Also thanks to all who have signed up for RC slots and I encourage all to look at the website and see if we can get all the RC assignments filled before we publish the 2011 Race Circular in time for the season opener in April.

I am happy to see several returning members and was pleased to field responses to several inquiries on several new boats whose owners are looking forward to meeting you all at the line for frostbites and Wednesday nights!

Let's make this a year of growth in our club's boat owner membership and increased race participation. I know we'll see the weekday race junkies and hope that we can entice more of you to dabble in weekend event participation.

Keep your eyes open to upcoming RC, racing rules and race participation training events and symposiums thanks to Jimmy and Kristi Yurko, Dan Trammell and Stovy Brown, to name a few. Please consider participation and promote participation to your crew and fellow members. Turn to page 15 for the 2011 Keelboat schedule. See you on the water!!

1st Annual Ski Trip continued from page 11

Two days of skiing on the slopes had perfect conditions. Lift lines were short, snow was well groomed, and crowds were a little heavy on Saturday but non-existent on Sunday. The weather was sunny (on Sunday), yet cold enough to not sweat as we skied to our heart's content. All of us SMSA friends had a chance to ski with each other and enjoyed the friendly company. All participants agreed that the great time was worthy of a repeat performance next year. And at print time, ski weekend organizers are negotiating with the Seven Springs Event Coordinators to reserve 10-12 February 2012 for the SMSA 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Ski Weekend. Put it on your 2012 plans and come join your friends. Good times!



# 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: 410-326-8084

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: 301-373-5700 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:** Bob Stratton 443-926-2070 & Barbara Whited 410-586-0601

**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

join your friends. Good times! 13

# 2011 SMSA Cruising Schedule

	Condensed Version - See the Website or 2011 Yearbook for Full Details					
Date	Cruise Destination	Date	Cruise Destination			
	Opening Cruise to St. Leonard Creek (Ellie		2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday Cruise to Mill Creek			
	& Ken Mowbray)		(Patty Kimmel & Rich Freeman)			
7-May	Solomons to St. Leonard Creek, Rollins Cove	13-Aug	Solomons to Mill Creek, Patuxent River			
8-May	Return to Solomons	14-Aug	Return to Solomons			
	Southern Cruise (Lois & David					
	Zonderman; Patty Kimmel & Rich Freeman)		Race/Cruise to Battle Creek (Rita & Frank Gerred)			
27-May	Solomons to Mill Creek (Ingram Bay)	20-Aug	Solomons to Battle Creek, Patuxent River			
28-May	Mill Creek to Carter Creek (Tides Inn) (Dock Master: 800.843.3746)	21-Aug	Return to Solomons			
	Lay day in Carter Creek		Annapolis Summer Theater Cruise, "Hairspray" (Pat & Rod Schroeder)			
30-May	Carter Creek to Urbanna	26-Aug	Solomons to Whitehall Bay			
-	(Town Marina: 804.758.5440; Diane)	_	Whitehall Bay to Annapolis mooring.			
21 May	Lay day Urbanna		Dinner out & Summer Garden Theater			
,	, ,		production of "Hairspray"			
1-Jun	Urbanna to West Branch Corrotoman River	28-Aug	Return to Solomons			
2-Jun	West Branch Corrotoman River to Dividing		Chester River Cruise (Patty Kimmel &			
	Creek Dividing Creek to Jutland Creek (Potomac	2-Sen	Rich Freeman) Solomons to Whitehall Bay			
	River, Calvert Bay)	_	·			
4-Jun	Return to Solomons	3-Sep	Whitehall Bay to Grays Creek			
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday Cruise to Mill Creek	4-Sep	Grays Creek to Chestertown			
	(Patty Kimmel & Rich Freeman)	5 C	I d Chtt			
	Solomons to Mill Creek, Patuxent River Return to Solomons		Lay day Chestertown Chestertown to Corsica River			
	Summer Sailstice Cruise to Hudson Creek	•	Coming Director (In 17 and Manager of Co			
	(Patty Kimmel & Rich Freeman)	7-Sep	Michaels			
	Solomons to Hudson Creek	8-Sep	Lay day St Michaels			
	Return to Solomons		St Michaels to Rhode River			
	St Mary's College River Concert Series; 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Cruise (Patty & Peter Carlson)	10-Sep	Return to Solomons			
			Cruise to Oxford (Patty Kimmel & Rich			
1-Jul	Solomons to St. Mary's City (fireworks)		Freeman)			
	Lay day in St Mary's City		Solomons to Oxford			
3-Jul	St Mary's City to Crisfield, Somers Cove Marina (fireworks)	24-Sep	Lay day in Oxford			
	Crisfield to Solomons (fireworks)	25-Sep	Return to Solomons			
	, , , ,		2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday Cruise to Annapolis Boat			
	Race/Cruise to Herrington Harbor (Cruise Leader needed)		Show on Friday (Patty Kimmel & Rich Freeman)			
9-Jul	Solomons to Herrington Harbor (81A);		Happy hour and supper; location TBD			
	Overnight at Herrington Harbor South		Halloween Cruise to Cambridge (Kate & Chris Miller)			
10-Jul	Return to Solomons	28-Oct	Solomons to Cambridge Town Marina			
	Governor's Cup		Marina: 410.228.4031			
	Annapolis to St. Mary's City		Lay day in Cambridge			
	St. Mary's City		Return to Solomons			
		4				

**SMSA 2011 Keelboat Race Schedule** 

\*\* Indicates SMSA High Point Races

^^ Indicates CBYRA Races

Day of Week         Month         Day         Event         Race Committe           Sunday         March         6         Spring Frostbite Race #1         Whiskers           Sunday         March         13         Spring Frostbite Race #2         Valiant           Sunday         March         20         Spring Frostbite Race #3         Shermax           Sunday         March         27         Spring Frostbite Race #4         Toby           Wednesday         April         13         Wednesday Race #1         Wicked Good           Wednesday         April         20         Wednesday Race #2         Status Quo           Wednesday         April         20         Wednesday Race #3         Please Sign Up           Saturday         April         30         Sharps Island Race **^^^         Sprinster           Sunday         May         1         Spring Invitational **^^         Please Sign Up           Wednesday         May         1         Spring Invitational **^^         Please Sign Up           Wednesday         May         11         Wednesday Race #4         Please Sign Up           Sunday         May         14         Frost Goode **         Please Sign Up           Wednesday         May<	
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Wednesday August 10 Wednesday Race #18 - PRO #7 Please Sign Up	
Saturday August 13 Geezer Squeezer Please Sign Up Sunday August 14 Patuxent River Regatta Please Sign Up	
Wednesday     August     17     Wednesday Race #19     Lickety Split       Saturday     August     20     Mixed Couples Race     Please Sign Up	
WednesdayAugust24Wednesday Race #20 - PRO #8Please Sign UpWednesdayAugust31Wednesday Race #21Shermax	
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Sunday October 2 Women's Fall Series Shermax	
Saturday October 15 Hooper Island/Pt. No Pt. ** ^^ Fine	
Saturday October 22 Fall Invitational ** ^^ Please Sign Up	
Sunday November 6 Fall Frostbite #1 Elan	
Sunday November 13 Fall Frostbite #2 Rum Ration	
Sunday November 20 Fall Frostbite #3 Valiant	
Sunday November 27 Fall Frostbite #4 Please Sign Up	

### **Southern Maryland Sailing Association**

PO Box 262, Solomons, MD 20688



PLACE STAMP HERE



March 2011 Volume 41 Number 3SMSA Nautical Flea Market – April 9,

	March	
4 Friday	Social at SMSA	5:00
5 Saturday	Laser Frostbites	1:00
6 Sunday	Spring Frostbites	1:00
11 Friday	Social at SMSA	5:00
12 Saturday	Introduction to Racing	9:00
12 Saturday	Laser Frostbites	1:00
13 Sunday	Spring Frostbites	1:00
14 Monday	BOD & Program Chair Meeting	7:00
15 Wednesday	Clew Input Due	
17 Thursday	Commodore's Dinner	6:00
18 Friday	Social at SMSA	5:00
19 Saturday	Race Management Seminar	12:00
19 Saturday	Laser Frostbites	1:00
20 Sunday	Spring Frostbites	1:00
25 Friday	Social at SMSA	5:00
26 Saturday	Clubhous Clean-Up Day	9:00
26 Saturday	Laser Frostbites	1:00
27 Sunday	Spring Frostbites	1:00

	ripin ,		
		April	
1	Friday	Social at SMSA	5:00
2	Saturday	SMSA Opening Day	9:00
3	Saturday	Laser Frostbites	1:00
8	Friday	Social at SMSA	5:00
8	Friday	Small Boat Kickoff	7:00
9	Saturday	SMSA Nautical Flea Market	10:00
10	Saturday	Laser Frostbites	1:00
10	Saturday	Racing Rules Seminar	5:30
11	Monday	BOD & Program Chair Meeting	7:00
13	Wednesday	Wednesday Night Racing	6:30
15	Friday	Clew Input Due	
15	Friday	Social at SMSA	5:00
16	Saturday	Introduction to Cruising	9:00
16	Saturday	Return your Adopted Opti	11:00
17	Saturday	Laser Frostbites	1:00
20	Wednesday	Wednesday Night Racing	6:30
21	Thursday	Commodore's Dinner	6:00
22	Friday	Social at SMSA	5:00
27	Wednesday	Wednesday Night Racing	6:30
29	Friday	Social at SMSA	0.21

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