

Lightning Storm in Solomons

By David Meiser

On June 13-14, Lightning Fleet 508 and SMSA will be hosting the 2009 Lightning Class Dixie District Championship Regatta. The Lightning Class Dixie District includes Lightning Fleets from Washington DC, Annapolis, Hampton, Havre DeGrace,



southern PA, and the Eastern Shore. The typical turn out for this regatta is 20-30 boats. The competition in this class is very good with several recent National Champions originating from this district. Local boats will be entered by Don Behrens, David Meiser, and Sam Septembere. All three skippers are prepared to be humbled. The top boats from this regatta will qualify for the North American Championships, to be held this year in mid August at the Sodus Bay Yacht Club in Sodus Bay, New York. A typical turn out for the North American Championships is over 100 boats. Last year's Lightning National Champion was selected as the 2008 Rolex Yachtsman of the year.



This will be third time that the Districts have been hosted by SMSA since we started sailing Lightnings in Solomons in 1997 and is a favorite destination for the Lightning Class due to the great sailing condition and race management that are found here. This year Keith Jacobs will head up the Race Committee and serve as the Principal Race Officer. Keith will be supported by a host of SMSA members to run this regatta. If you are interested in coming out to watch, the regatta will be run in the Patuxent River between Solomons and Patuxent River Naval Air Station. Races start at 11:30 on Saturday and 10:30 on Sunday. It is guaranteed that there will be lots of great competition and close action. The Lightning, a 19-foot trailerable centerboard sloop, was originally designed by Sparkman & Stephens over 60 years ago as an affordable family day-sailor and racing boat. With over 15000 boats built, she has evolved into one of the most popular and competitive one-design racing classes in the world. The Lightning is sailed in more than 13 countries and in the Pan American Games, and the class provides a professionally-managed association that is among the largest in all of one-design sailing.



**Singer/Songwriter/Storyteller Scott Kirby
back at SMSA August 16**

By Tim Flaherty, Publicity Chair

Boats, harbors and beaches are usually the main themes of Scott Kirby's music, and SMSA sailors will hear first-hand this nautical wordsmith on August 16. That Sunday afternoon starting at 4pm, Kirby will bring his brand of acoustic beach-folk music and storytelling back to our clubhouse. Appearing with Scott will be guitarist Dave Edmisten.

Solomons Holiday Inn Select is helping SMSA sponsor this event.

Last year, Scott and Dave played a packed show at SMSA before about 100 people. Kirby praised the SMSA clubhouse as the best venue he had played on the East Coast.



“It was just incredible,” he said afterward. “It wasn’t like playing in a bar. People paid attention and were into it, and the acoustics were good. And Solomons is such a beautiful spot and you (SMSA) have such a great view right out the windows. Coming here is really fantastic.”

A native New Englander, Scott has owned sailboats since the age of 19. He also has crewed on a wide variety of boats, giving him plenty of song writing material.

“I have had several musicians tell me they think that listeners connect with my songs because folks are very smart and can sense authenticity in a song. If I was trying to write songs about being a cowboy, it might not work so well! People can sniff out a faker pretty quickly.”

Scott spent 15 years living in Key West. He now splits his time between Key West, New Hampshire and touring the eastern-half of the country.

One of the boats Scott occasionally crews on is *Trivet*, a custom-built wooden sloop built at Solomons' M.M. Davis Shipyard in the 1930's. Now owned by Alan Miller of Key West, Florida, the boat is kept by Miller in Maine.

Member tickets are **\$15 per person (\$20 for guests) and are available in advance from Herb Reese, Lisa Flaherty and Tim Flaherty**. Isaac's Restaurant from the Holiday Inn will be on hand with a sandwich menu similar to what they serve at Screwpile, and the SMSA bar will be open.

Scott Kirby's music can often be heard on Radio Margaritaville on Sirius Radio's channel 31.

For tickets, write to scottatsmsa@gmail.com.



Announcements

There will not be an SMSA VC party at St. Mary's City on June 20th. Maryland is celebrating its 375th Birthday and people are encouraged to attend the 375th party. For more information:

<http://www.stmaryscity.org/>

Thank-you,
Donna Taylor

**"YEARBOOKS HAVE BEEN SENT TO
ALL MEMBERS**

All 2009 SMSA yearbooks have been mailed to members who did not pick them up at SMSA events. If you did not receive yours, contact Tim Flaherty at 301-481-7474 or [publicity\(at\)smsa.com](mailto:publicity(at)smsa.com)."

Governor's Cup NOR has been posted:

Friday 31 July 2009 **Sanction # 340**

Online Entry: Check the St. Mary's College of MD web site at

<http://www.smcm.edu/govcup/>

Fireworks Party

Come join us on July 4 for some All American fun at the Clubhouse!

We have a great view of the fireworks over the Patuxent River right from the clubhouse front porch. Last year we had a great turnout and lots of camaraderie as we enjoyed the show accompanied by lots of ooohs and aaahs!!

Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided for a small fee. Please bring a potluck item to share.

Bar will open at 5:00 until after Fireworks (around 9:30).

Hope to see you there!

Helen Cummings

Junior Program News

The Junior program is shaping up for a great summer season. So far there are 20 kids registered for our program with the list growing. We are working to have advertising on the local radio stations, businesses, news papers and with the base tester and MWR. Our instructor, Rebeckah Stanley, is all registered to be a Level I US Sailing Certified Instructor before classes start. Additionally, with the recommendation by our Vice Commodore, we have four members that have very graciously donated their boats for the season! I would like to thank Steve Barrett, Jimmy Yurko, Don McDougall, and Clarke McKinney for the use of their boats to promote the sport and education of sailing. Your contributions directly add to the success of our Junior Program. We still have plenty of spots available for the season. Be sure to check out the Junior Section of www.smsa.com for updates coming your way!

Sam Septembre



SMSA Treasury Audit

In accordance with Article IV Section 3 of the SMSA Bylaws, a financial review was conducted in late March in order to assess the condition of our Treasury. The SMSA Audit Committee consisted of Rod Schroeder, Jim Keen, and Tracy Kubinec, who are all past SMSA Treasurers. In addition, Tracy is a degreed accountant.

The processes and procedures that the current Treasurer employs were reviewed. An examination of two years of financial records to determine the accuracy of the recordkeeping, the accuracy of revenue reporting, the adequacy of expense documentation related to transactions by cash or check, and the accuracy of the cash balances for the past two years was performed.

The Audit Committee determined that our Treasurer employs detailed and comprehensive processes and procedures

that provide inherent cross-checking, thorough documentation and records are maintained, and the Treasurer prepares monthly reports comparing actual revenue and expenditures against budget. Additionally, the Treasurer prepares payroll for the camp counselors which included proper documentation.

The committee determined that SMSA's financial records, as prepared and maintained by the Treasurer, present a true and fair view of the operating results, financial position, and cash flow. Our SMSA Treasury is in good shape, and our Treasurer's processes and procedures are in accordance with good accounting practices.

The Audit Committee was extremely impressed by the thoroughness, veracity, attention to detail, and exactness that our Treasurer, Joe Kubinec, demonstrates in the performance of his duties. The Committee was comprised of former Treasurers who all know what a time consuming job that it is. Joe Kubinec is to be commended for his exceptional performance in this time-consuming and exacting job. Thank you, Joe... the epitome of a selfless volunteer!



Cruising

The SMSA cruising community has two cruises scheduled for June. The first is the 2nd Annual Summer Sailstice cruise to Hudson Creek. This is a joint cruise with Catalina 34 Fleet 12. Last year we had five boats attend and it was quite a successful week-end. This year we hope to have more. *Reflections* will be anchored in Hudson Creek, off the Little Choptank River, by 1300 hours on Saturday. As usual, happy hour begins at 1700 hours. It is a wide anchorage, fairly protected and there is plenty of room to anchor alone or rafts. All SMSA members are encouraged to attend. There may even be fireworks!

The second cruising event is a slow trip up the Eastern side of the Bay to Delaware City and a return down the Western side. Patty and I visited Delaware City last year during the Delmarva circumnavigation and found it interesting and worth a second visit. There is a War of Northern Aggression site on Pea Patch Island in the Delaware River/Bay that is only open on week-ends. We are planning to anchor out in some very nice anchorages on the way up and back. So if you have an extra twelve days in your sailing schedule, pack your bags and come along.

Battle Creek Cruise. You could not have asked for better weather for a cruise up the Patuxent River in April. The wind was 8 to 10 knots out of the South, the temperature was mild, and the sun shined all day. *Swan* and *Reflections* left Solomons a little before noon and hoisted sails before rounding Sandy Point. With a flooding tide and good angles on the wind most of the time, *Swan* arrived at Battle Creek in just over 3 hours.

Reflections arrived about an hour later as Rich was fishing. Ken and Ellie were feeling quite refreshed after the long winter lay-up. The cocktail party started at 1700 with *Swan* was the anchor boat with *Walkabout*, and *Reflections* rafted alongside. *Safina*, with Dennis driving, soon joined us, and all was



Battle Creek cruise gang

going well until *Rubaiyat* showed up about 1800 hours. David and Lois volunteered *Walkabout* to be the party boat since it has the larger cockpit, but it wasn't long before the party was temporarily moved to

Rubaiyat where we were given a personal tour and all were impressed with the quality and beauty of this fine Tartan 4400. Peter and Mary have every right to be proud of this top quality sailing vessel. Last to arrive was *Talisman* with Michael Zoll at the helm. Mike had single handed up the river, but had no difficulties along the way.

It was hard to judge which of the hors d'oeuvres was the favorite, but Ellie's ham salad was right up there with the best. From the looks of the aftermath of happy hour it was clear that no one went away hungry.



5052. Ken & Ellie relaxing at Battle Creek

We broke the six boat raft just before sundown and everyone anchored independently. Around midnight a few active lightning and thunderstorms passed north of the area, but we missed all but a few wind gusts and a short sprinkle of rain. The trip home early the next morning was a motoring event for most boats. But the cruise was without a little excitement. When *Rubaiyat* tried to retrieve his anchor they picked up an abandoned trot line that fouled the prop. Luckily, Dave on *Walkabout* had his scuba equipment on board, and was able to cut the line away. **Kudos to Dave.** **Mother's Day Cruise.** Unfortunately the cruise to Cuckold Creek was canceled Saturday morning early due to the weather forecast for thunderstorms in the anchorage. However, happy hour was held aboard *Reflections* in her slip at Spring Cove

Marina. As it turned out, the heavy storms passed to the north and south of Solomons and we had little rain at the marina. The light show to the south was spectacular, with only rain to the north in Lusby.

Again, six boats participated. In addition to *Reflections*, contributors to happy hour included *Walkabout*, *Talisman*, *Decoy*, *Serenity* and *Swan*. Each boat brought a wonderful appetizer to share. As a special treat, it was Michael Zoll's birthday and his wife, Judy, and daughter, Rachel, provided a nice birthday cake to surprise him during happy hour.

There was much discussion on the upcoming cruises as folks attending were participating in both cruises. The festivities broke up about 1930 hours.

Rich Freeman
Cruise Chair



Curt Hamilton relaxing at happy hour aboard *Reflections*

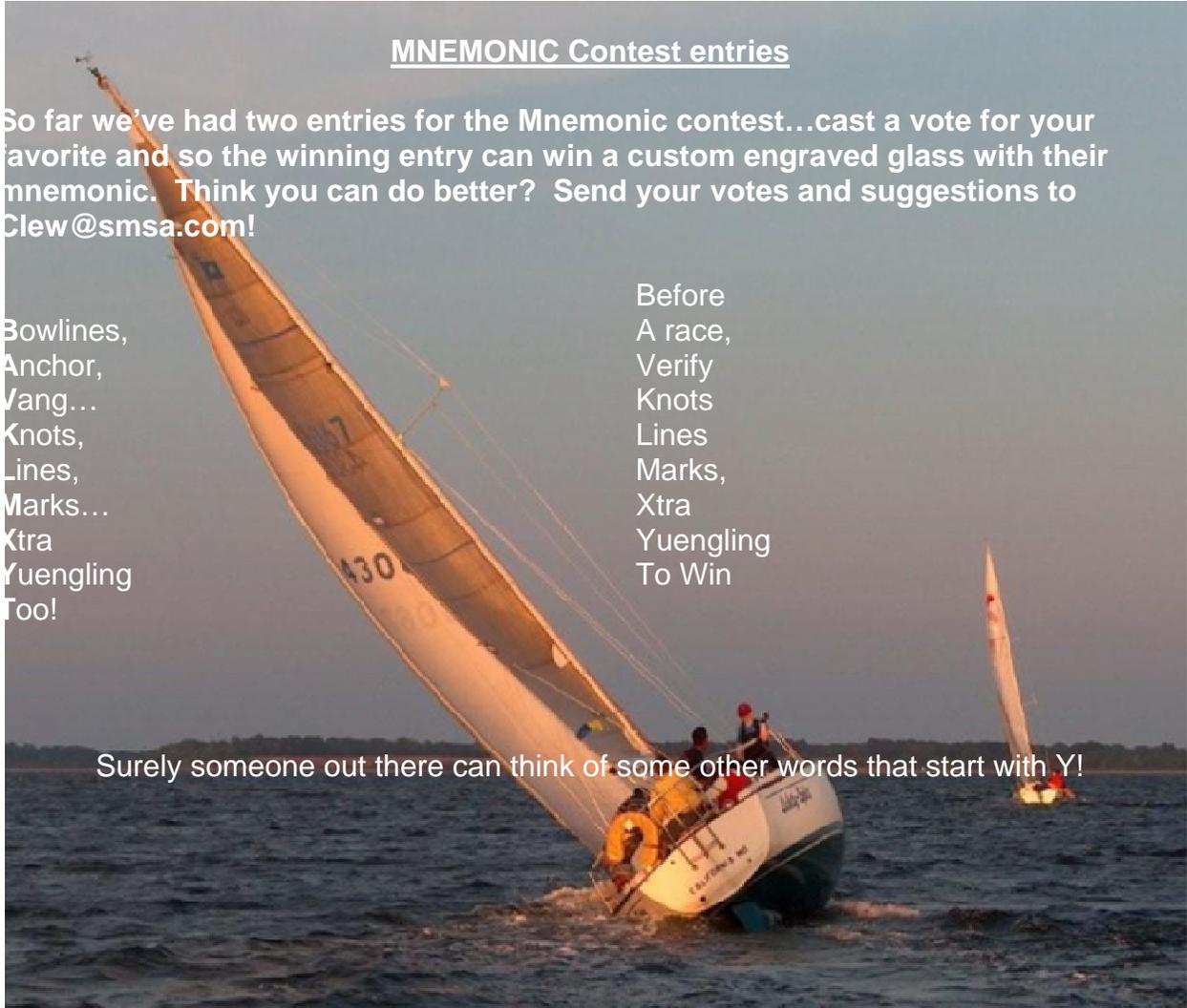
MNEMONIC Contest entries

So far we've had two entries for the Mnemonic contest...cast a vote for your favorite and so the winning entry can win a custom engraved glass with their mnemonic. Think you can do better? Send your votes and suggestions to Clew@smsa.com!

Bowlines,
Anchor,
Vang...
Knots,
Lines,
Marks...
Xtra
Yuengling
Too!

Before
A race,
Verify
Knots
Lines
Marks,
Xtra
Yuengling
To Win

Surely someone out there can think of some other words that start with Y!



Race

The Wind is here this year! April and May have been windy months causing some spectacular racing for those brave enough to be out. For those of you not racing, be sure to drop by the Solomons boardwalk area on Wednesdays and Thursdays to watch the rest of us play. I wonder if we will wish for these days when the August doldrums come.

This photo is from Wednesday, May 13th when the winds were gusting to 24 knots and sometimes felt like it! Photo is courtesy of David Kieser. Check out all of the other photos on the Race Photo page on the web. Jim Whited is doing a great job of quickly posting any photo you give him. Email him with photos of your view of racing.

I want to thank everyone for signing up for Race Committee assignments so early this year. There are a few slots left, so don't be left out of the pleasure of driving the new RC boat!

I have started sending out a Racer Group email each week to remind everyone who is doing RC for the week and for any last minute changes. It is the email list I will also use for race changes due to weather or other problems. If you have an email to add, send it to race@smsa.com. There is also an official Race Notice board at the clubhouse. It is located in the back room next to the other corkboard by the between the double doors and the bar doors.

There is a change to the Race Circular on page 13 for the Patuxent River Race Marks distance table. The distance for V to X should be the same as for X to V – 1.89. The following is a corrected table for you to insert into your current circular. The web copy of the circular has been updated as well as the RC Worksheets located on the web.

PATUXENT RIVER RACE MARKS (NM)

	A	B	K	L	M	T	V	X	Y	Z
A	---	0.94	1.76	2.36	2.83	0.90	0.90	2.36	1.41	2.35
B	0.94	---	2.75	3.22	3.71	1.58	1.84	3.19	2.17	3.11
K	1.76	2.75	---	1.08	1.99	1.50	0.91	1.54	1.33	2.14
L	2.36	3.22	1.08	---	1.00	1.68	1.74	0.76	1.22	1.90
M	2.83	3.71	1.99	1.00	---	2.16	2.41	0.56	1.70	2.38
T	0.90	1.58	1.50	1.68	2.16	---	1.05	1.64	0.61	1.55
V	0.90	1.84	0.91	1.74	2.41	1.05	---	1.89	1.24	2.16
X	2.36	3.19	1.54	0.76	0.56	1.64	1.89	---	1.18	1.86
Y	1.41	2.17	1.33	1.22	1.70	0.61	1.24	1.18	---	0.94
Z	2.35	3.11	2.14	1.90	2.38	1.55	2.16	1.86	0.94	---

Here is the current June and July Race Committee assignments. Check the web page for any last minute changes.

Wednesday	June	03	Wednesday Race #8 PRO	Cheetah
Wednesday	June	10	Wednesday Race #9	Lickety Split
Saturday	June	13	Little Choptank Race**	Wicked Good
Wednesday	June	17	Wednesday Race #10 PRO	TBD
Friday	June	19	Vice Commodore's Race **	Cheetah
Wednesday	June	24	Wednesday #11	Vigilant
Sunday	June	28	Summer Invitational Race**	TBD
Wednesday	July	01	Wednesday Race #12 PRO	O'Yellar
Sunday	July	05	Stars and Stripes Race**	Little Latitudes
Wednesday	July	08	Wednesday Race #13	TBD
Wednesday	July	15	Wednesday Race #14 PRO	Status Quo
Sun/Mon/Tue	July	19-21	Screwpile Regatta	Screwpile RC
Wednesday	July	22	Wednesday Fun Race #1	Badger
Wednesday	July	29	Wednesday Race #16 PRO	Toby/Shermax
Friday	July	31	St Mary's College of MD Governor's Cup	St. Mary's

** are SMSA High Point Races

Race Committee Needed			
Day of Week	Month	Day(s)	Event
Wednesday	June	17	Wednesday Night Race #10 PRO
Sunday	June	28	Summer Invitational Race**
Wednesday	July	08	Wednesday Race #13
Sunday	September	27	Fall Race Series**

Regatta Report

PRSA Spring Regatta

May 23-24 2009

Washington Sailing Marina, Alexandria
Virginia

The Potomac River Sailing Association always puts on a good show, and this Memorial Day weekend was no different. With forecasts for temperatures in the mid 70's and winds of 8-10 knots you couldn't ask for a better day to be sailing on the Potomac. The sun was bright, the sky was clear and the water was warm. The weather forecast held true for the morning, and built well above the predicted forecast for wind by early afternoon. There were gusts that made you boat hop on a plane in an instant, and chop that shook you like a spin cycle. All in all it made for a really fun race.

Six Buccaneers showed up to play, along with twelve Albacores and ten Lightnings. Over two days five races were held. Some races were ninety minutes in length with winners separated only by a few boat-lengths. The lively winds brought a few capsizes in multiple fleets, but all the boats and crews returned unharmed (just carrying little more mud than they went out with)

The Albacore class was won by Barney Harris, Lightnings won by John Pemberton, and Buccaneers by Jeff Neurauter. SMSA members Jimmy and Kristi Yurko raced in the Buccaneer fleet and placed second, by one point decided in the last race of the series.

Traveling to regattas, near and far is a great experience, and I recommend it to anyone with a trailer-able boat. For small boat sailors there isn't a friendlier place to visit that's easier to get to than a trip to PRSA.

The next local small boat regattas will be the Lightning Dixie Districts and the SMSA One-Day Regatta, both held here at SMSA.

Classifieds

Dinghy; 2000 10' West/Zodiac with high pressure floor. Solid transom but deflates to fit in locker. Includes 4 hp Mercury outboard. \$700.

Dinghy; 1996 10' Carib RIB. Kept on trawler in covered slip for last 10 years. \$400.

Liferaft; 2000 Plastimo 8-person offshore raft in cannister. Never stored on deck. \$1,500.

Walker Excalibur taffrail log with wooden case. Home stored and in like new condition. Unused for last two decades. \$500.

Chuck O'Brien at 301-481-6669 or
krogen42@gmail.com

1989 21ft Baja Sport 210 w/200HP Black Max outboard and tandem axle trailer \$2500.00 Call Ray 240-298-0519 for details.