



**the clew**  
Southern Maryland Sailing Association, Inc.



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## Rear Commodore's Signal

July is the month of the year that so many sailors look forward to. Summer is in full swing, kids are out of school and SMSA's Screwpile Lighthouse Challenge is on the schedule. From the 16<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup>, Solomons will be the center of the East Coast sailing scene as

hundreds of sailors descend on Southern Maryland for Screwpile. Visiting sailors began arriving in the wee hours Saturday morning as the Eastport Yacht Club's Annapolis to Solomons race winds up at the mouth of the Patuxent. Saturday afternoon there is the Screwpile skippers' meeting, followed by SMSA's Welcome Party at the Clubhouse at 5:30pm. Then on Sunday, three days of racing begins with all the parties and pageantry Screwpile has become known for.

If you are not racing and still want to be part of the scene, here are your options: Volunteer to work at the Welcome Party (contact Carol Smith at [carolsmith@md.metrocast.net](mailto:carolsmith@md.metrocast.net)), on the Race Committee or at the after parties (contact LG Raley at [lgraley@wildewood.com](mailto:lgraley@wildewood.com)). You'll have fun, meet lots of people, be part of the scene and help your sailing club. Your other option is to come on out to the Welcome Party at the clubhouse, and the after parties at the Holiday Inn. You'll have fun, meet lots of people and by buying drinks and food, you will be helping your club. Make plans now to join us.

If you haven't been active in the club lately, there are some other chances coming up. In addition to the normal racing and cruising schedules, there are opportunities to come over to the clubhouse and take out small boats and/or take a class. Several generous SMSA members, led by Jimmy and Kristy Yurko, have loaned a fleet of small boats to the club for member use. The boats range from kayaks and Sunfish to a couple of 20ft keel boats (25ft coming). Contact Jimmy at [junior@smsa.com](mailto:junior@smsa.com) to arrange to go for a paddle or sail. Jimmy and Kristy have also been holding adult sailing classes on Monday nights, kids classes on Tuesday evenings, and informal family sailing from the SMSA docks on Friday evenings. There are small fees for the classes (members get big discounts) and Friday nights are free. Don't complain about having nothing to do! We'll see you at the club!

*Tim*

Want to sell something or do you have an idea for the Clew? Please send words and pictures to [clew@smsa.com](mailto:clew@smsa.com). Questions? Call Roger Bayer 301-934-3925. The Clew is published the first of each month. Submission deadline is the 15th of the month. The Clew is edited by Ellen Aulson, Jolie Homsher and Roger Bayer.



## Watch Fireworks With Friends!

**Doors and Bar open at  
6:00 PM**

**Sausages & burgers for sale  
beginning at 6:00 PM.**

**Grill available for you to cook  
whatever you bring.**

**Optionally bring a side dish  
or dessert to share.**

**Solomons Fireworks start at  
twilight, around 9:00 PM**

**The earlier you arrive, the  
better the parking!**

*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 cruising, PHRF keelboat racing, dingy racing (both one design and Portsmouth), summer junior sailing programs and adult sailing education. In addition, we even find time for great social events! Our website is [www.smsa.com](http://www.smsa.com). For more information, call 888-714-3777*



Battle Creek off the Patuxent

## Mixed Couples Race/Battle Creek Cruise, August 20, 2011

by Frank & Rita Gerred, Cruise Leaders

This informal race/cruise to Battle Creek is always a very popular SMSA event. The race/cruise is followed by a well attended raft-up in Battle Creek featuring great snacks and camaraderie.

All SMSA skippers are invited to race. The sailing crew must be a man and a woman, only. Guests don't count. That's the way cruisers sail most of the time! If you do not have a PHRF certificate, send a note to keelboatrace@smsa.com or call Marc Briere. He will assign you a rating for the race.

The race starting window is between 10:00 and 10:30 AM in the river at Red #6A off Sandy Point. Complete sailing instructions can be found on the SMSA website. On the home page under Programs, click on the Keelboat Race program, then click on the Race Circular link and go to page 60.

If you don't care to race, join us at your leisure in beautiful Battle Creek for the raft-up. If you have any questions, please send us an email to gerred@verizon.net or give us a call at 410-326-2785. Looking forward to seeing you there!

## Annapolis Cruise, Dinner, & Theater, August 26 – 28, 2011

by Rod & Pat Schroeder, Ruste Nayle, 410-326-0167 (Home), 301-752-5515 (Cell)

Start making your August cruising plans and make reservations for the Annapolis Summer Garden Theater production of "Hairspray".

We plan to depart early on Friday morning (26 Aug) and head north (45 miles) to Whitehall Bay between Annapolis and the Bay Bridge for a happy hour raft up and a night on the hook. From there we will have an easy run into Annapolis on Saturday morning to pick up a mooring ball or a slip for the rest of the day and night. If the Friday night weather forecast is not favorable for Whitehall we may

decide on an alternate plan, so keep in touch by radio or cell phone.

We plan to get together for dinner on Saturday evening at the Federal House Bar & Grille, and then attend the Annapolis Summer Garden Theater to see the musical comedy "Hairspray". If you have not yet made your reservation, you can visit their website at [www.summergarden.com](http://www.summergarden.com) for more information and ticketing options, or you can call the theater at 410-268 9212 to make a reservation.



Federal House Bar & Grill last year.

must be picked up at the box office before 8:00 pm (cash or check only) - the show begins at 8:30 pm. Please let us know by 19 Aug if you plan to join us for dinner so we can firm up a head count for reservations.

We will shoot for a 5:30 dinner reservation in order to beat the crowd, and to allow time for an ice cream before the show starts. We are looking forward to a fun weekend.



Make reservations early as they often have sellouts. Tickets are \$18, but you can get a \$3 discount if you participate in their "Eats & Seats" promotion (see web site for details). Reserved tickets

## Excitement in Mill Creek!

by Rich Freeman

Five club boats turned out for the first Second Saturday Cruise. Too bad they couldn't get together for Happy Hour. Note that there are few photos of boats rafted up or of smiling faces sitting around half eaten hors d'oeuvres with this article. That's because we were each holding on for dear life!

The get together was called for 1700 Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. *Sequoia* and *Carpincho* were anchored together when *Sandpiper II* arrived. The three boats rafted for a short time until we noticed a the storm gathering and approaching. We quickly broke the raft and anchored individually, hoping to get back together after the storm passed. The sky was beginning to get darker. Shortly thereafter, *Turn About* arrived and anchored 'behind' *Sandpiper II*. *Zara*, with Roger and Rona aboard, pulled into Mill Creek at about 1703, expecting to find a raft up. The sky was dark gray, but the dark gray/purple clouds that usually indicate a thunderstorm did not appear. We all assumed that we were going to get some rain, but just some rain. NOAA weather had predicted some rain and thundershowers.

Handicapped by not knowing the club cruising boats, *Zara* went round and round the Mill Creek anchorage, looking for Rich and Patty's new boat. All they saw were the cruising sailboats anchored separately, well



*Zara*, passing *Carpincho*, looking for club boats. Note the sky.

away from each other. All the time they were doing this, it was getting darker and darker. Finally they decided that if the last boat that they had not looked at closely was not the boat they were going to call it and go home. The guy in the yellow shirt on the last boat was Rich.

*Zara* started to pull up to *Sandpiper II* and all hell broke loose. The wind went up to about 45 knots. The rain came in almost horizontal sheets. It really stung when it hit. Later we found out that there was some small hail mixed with the rain. Within a minute we all were soaked.

What made it really exciting was the lightning and thunder. It was constant during the storm and close enough that we could see bolts hitting the ground near us, followed immediately by the clap of thunder. *Zara* decided not to try to anchor. Rather than anchor, they motored around Mill Creek, keeping well away from the anchored boats.

After about 20 – 25 minutes, the storm let up. The wind dropped to under 4 knots and the rain was vertical. Once again Roger and Rona motored up to *Sandpiper II*, who was pulling his anchor. *Zara* decided that they had enough fun and told Rich they were heading home.

Looking around the anchorage there were three sailboats and one power boat blown aground. *Sandpiper II* dragged their anchor but managed to stay in



*Sandpiper II* and *Turn About* after the storm.

deeper water. Once the storm was basically over, *Sandpiper II* went over to *Turn About* and helped them get off their grounding. Patty took one of the kayaks and hauled lines between the boats we used to get her free. We tried to pull her directly but she was too far in the mucky bottom. We then attached a line to the main halyard and tipped *Turn About* over about thirty degrees and were able to get her free. Once we were farther from the shore, *Sandpiper II* set her anchor once again and *Turn About* tied up alongside for the night. We never did have the consolidated Happy Hour, though. But all boats and crews survived and that is a good outcome.

Cruising is probably the only sport where managing potentially life threatening situations is part of the excitement. This cruise provided a great measure of excitement. Mill Creek is a beautiful spot. We all are looking forward to the next Second Saturday Cruise to Mill Creek scheduled for August 13<sup>th</sup>.

The five boats that turned out for the cruise were Rich Freeman & Patty Kimmel's new Catalina 387 *Sandpiper II*, Tim & Lisa Flaherty's *Turn About*, Peter & Pat Carlson's *Carpincho*, Chris & Kate Miller's *Sequoia* and Roger & Rona Bayer's *Zara*.

# Sailing Is Fun

## Education Makes It Even Better

### June/July 2011 Program Updates:

by Jimmy Yurko

June is the big kick off for the junior program. It is now that we have begun our programs, and months of planning and preparation get put to work. Our instructors Rebeckah, Larane, Colleen, and Michael are hard at work teaching our new and returning students the basics and joy of sailing. We have over 80 students enrolled in training classes for this summer.

We have a few open spots remaining in our Beginner and Intermediate day camps. Registration is available on the SMSA website on the Junior page.

We have a limited number of scholarships available for students who demonstrate an interest in sailing but do not have the means to afford the tuition. Send an email to [junior@smsa.com](mailto:junior@smsa.com) if you have questions or would like more details on the scholarship program.

Monday nights we are teaching the Adult Learn to

Sail class. We are more than halfway through our first session and the students are learning fast. The class starts at 5:30 and students shove off to practice at 6:30. We have space and need for volunteers to come out and help the new students improve their sailing skills by practicing with the students. This is a great opportunity to make new friends, recruit crew or just go out for a fun sail. Our next session begins July 25<sup>th</sup>, and registration is open.

Bring your family & friends out for Family Fun Fridays, every Friday through September to go out for a leisurely sail. We have boats available for check out. Our inventory includes Opti's Sunfish, San Juan 21, Holder 20, and coming soon we'll have a MacGregor 25 courtesy of members Eric & Lisa Smith.

Contact Jimmy Yurko if you have any questions regarding any of the programs.

### Techniques of Alcohol Management Class

By Kristi Yurko

In May, SMSA hosted a Maryland TAM class. "TAM" stands for "Techniques of Alcohol Management". Personnel who have taken this course are required to be on premise any time the SMSA bar is open to meet Calvert county regulations. TAM certified personnel do not have to be the bartender, but are required to be on-site to meet the alcohol awareness training law.

I want to take this opportunity to thank those who have

volunteered to take this training as well as those that volunteer to bartend. Without the TAMs and volunteer bartenders, we would not be able to operate the club for Friday night socials, etc. A list of the qualified TAMs is located on the fridge behind the bar. Anyone wishing to volunteer to bartend can contact Max at [barmanager@smsa.com](mailto:barmanager@smsa.com) or sign up during a Friday night social.



**SMSA Adult Learn to Sail**

Do you love fresh, salt water air? Want to visit different cities and beautiful, lavish sea ports across the globe? Would you like to learn to sail in Southern Maryland?

SMSA's Adult Sailing program is taught on Sunfish and small keelboats. This course focuses on the fundamentals of small boat sailing. The course is open to any sailor interested in learning or improving their small boat sailing skills. Call 800-714-3777 for info.

**Mondays - 5:30 PM till dark.**

**Next class starts July 25**

Have a friend, family or acquaintance who would like to learn to sail? The SMSA course uses both classroom and on the water. More important, it's FUN! The course is free for members and only \$150 for non-members.



## Race to Herrington Harbour (VC Cup)/Cruise to Herrington Harbour And Rendezvous Afterward, July 9th

Contact Herrington Harbour South (1-800-213-9438) NOW to either reserve slip space or get on the wait list. Our contacts at HHS assure us that all on the wait list should get in.

Herrington Harbor North (1-800-297-1930) is an alternate if HHS is full, or you want to stay somewhere cheaper. There is an inexpensive shuttle bus to HHS.

Racers and cruisers will hang out at HHS with some of our HHS buddies and create our own dock party. Contact Marc Brier [race@smsa.com](mailto:race@smsa.com) for race details. Tim Flaherty [rearcommandore@smsa.com](mailto:rearcommandore@smsa.com) is cruise leader.

## Mayfly Decorations

By Rona Bayer

Have the swirls of mayflies left loads of greenish material all over your boat? Have you tried just about every cleaning product known to mankind with minimal results? If so, take heart – mildew remover will do the cleaning job nicely.



If you have been successful cleaning mayfly detritus with a product other than mildew remover, please share with us, so we can let folks know.

## Spring Cruise South, May 27 Through June 2, 2011

by Rich Freeman

Despite a less than expected response to the cruise *Sandpiper II* (the new *Reflections*) and *Swan* left Solomons Saturday morning for the spring cruise south. The wind was out of the south so we motored most of the day. A rain storm hit us just south of Point No Point and we watched the winds gust to 24 knots. After the storm we sailed a bit then motored around the fish traps into Mill Creek in the Wicomico. It was a nice evening at anchor.

Sunday we sailed south tacking into the Rappahannock River. The wind was once again out of the south, clocking from 7 to 17 knots. It was a great day of sailing. The bridge gave us a bit of a challenge, presenting fluky, light winds but we cruised through and on into Carter Creek anchoring in the pool behind the Tides Inn. Ellie, Ken, Patty and I took the dinghy in and ate dinner in the poolside restaurant at the Tides Inn. It was a fairly warm day and we were anxiously waiting for the evening to cool off....which did not really happen.

Monday we motored across to Urbanna while Ken and Ellie sailed a bit then met us in the Town Marina. Patty and I took some time to play with our roller furling main (new to us) and newer chart plotter while crossing the river. It was hot, hot, hot! When we arrived at the Town Marina, we quickly plugged in the A/C and turned on the fans. We had a nice dinner at the newer Smokehouse Grill which is an easy ten minute walk from the marina and is on

the water.

Tuesday's hot weather was no better. We had breakfast at the Cross Street Coffee Café then shopped around town. Ken and Ellie headed out to find an anchorage and cooler weather for the evening. Rich had his hamburger at the five and dime. Patty's daughter Katie arrived and we went to dinner at Colonial Pizza...great food!



Wednesday morning, Rich departed for Cobb Island for some chores and Katie and Patty departed aboard *Sandpiper II* to meet Ken and Ellie in Dividing Creek. The wind was still out of the south so they had a nice sail north. Rather than stop in Dividing Creek, *Swan* and *Sandpiper II* continued on to Mill Creek. Afternoon storms were predicted and the winds were building. It was a very warm evening. Katie and Patty kayaked over to *Swan* for a happy hour and to plan the next day.

Thursday, *Swan* left at o'dark hundred because of the heat. *Sandpiper II* left around 7:30 am. Winds were switched around to the north and gusted up to 27 knots. Seas had about a 3 foot chop so it was a very rough ride. *Swan* tucked into the Coan River. *Sandpiper II* went the distance into Solomons and arrived about 5:30 pm. Mother and daughter had a good day of motor sailing. *Swan* completed the cruise the next day when the winds were more accommodating.

# Scott Kirby Concert At SMSA Clubhouse Sunday, August 14th

Scott is one of the premier singer/songwriter/storytellers on the East Coast. If you missed him at SMSA the past three years, shame on you! You missed a great show in the intimate confines and excellent acoustics of your own clubhouse!

However, you have another chance! Scott and lead guitarist Dave Edmisten return to SMSA Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup> at 4pm.

Scott Kirby is a singer/songwriter whose music is often heard on Siruis Radio's *Radio Margaritaville* and on *Sandbar Radio*. Boats, harbors and beaches are Scott's main topics, and he weaves stories about his experiences and friends between songs. When not touring the eastern half of the country, Scott and his wife split their time between Key West, New Hampshire, and Maine

"Solomons is a favorite stop for me," Kirby told us recently. "SMSA is just a great spot. The people pay attention, the room is good. The town is beautiful. It's what every singer, what every sailor can ask for."



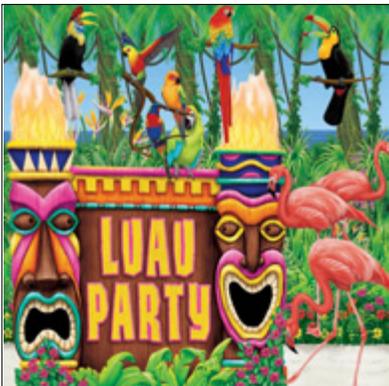
Scott Kirby at SMSA

The SMSA bar will open at 3pm. Food from a local vendor will also be for sale. Tickets for members are just \$12. Guests may come for \$20. Get your tickets from Lisa Flaherty, LG Raley or Tim Flaherty. You may also send a check made out to SMSA to SMSA/Scott Kirby, PO Box 284, Solomons, MD 20688

Check out: [www.scottkirby.com](http://www.scottkirby.com)

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## Thank You Zahniser's & John Dixon For A Great Party!



The rain held off and roughly 60 members had a great time at Zahniser's on the hillside, by the pool. Z's set up a dining tent with tables and chairs and a beverage tent. They provided the grills, charcoal and the meat for the grills. Best of all, they provided a super singing duo, which really helped to make the party!

SMSA provided the beverages. SMSA members brought in hors d'oeuvres, salads, other side dishes and desserts for all to share. It looked like all the members brought appetites.

John Dixon pulled the party together. He made sure that everything happened as planned. He grilled everything and while not grilling, he made sure the beverage tent was properly stocked. His hard work made the party happen!

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## Check Out the SOMD.com & TheBayNet.com Calendars

With the hard work of members like Ellen Aulson, all of the club races, both Keelboat and Smallboat and all of the cruises have been entered in the SOMD.com sports calendar. All of the junior and adult classes have been entered in both the community and sports calendars of the SOMD.com web site. All of the races and cruises have been entered in TheBayNet.com community calendar.

The objective of this work is twofold, to make our community aware of each of our events and more important, to make our community more aware of SMSA. If you are aware of other websites that we can use to spread the word about SMSA, please tell us by sending a note to [communications@smsa.com](mailto:communications@smsa.com)

# Pursuit's Annapolis to Newport Race Log

By Norm Dawley

*Editor's Note: As the name implies, the Annapolis to Newport Race is a non-stop race from Annapolis to Newport, RI. A total distance of 473 miles. Two club boats participated this year, Pursuit and American Flyer. Pursuit finished 4 hours, 1 minute, 23 seconds ahead of American Flyer which corrected to 4 hours, 31 minutes, 1 second ahead of American Flyer. The log below was written daily and posted to [www.norms-site.com](http://www.norms-site.com) daily.*

## Thursday June 2, 2011

The boat is in Annapolis, checked in, loaded and ready to go. There was a great breeze from the NNW today. We would have been out of the bay in half a day! However, the weather-guessers are forecasting doom and gloom wind-wise for tomorrow. Let's hope they are wrong. We will try to send off a letter via SailMail that Mike will post to the site for you to read with your morning coffee.

Our 12 boat class is pretty tough with a rating spread of -78 to +54. We rate 51. There are 6 J/120s and our long-time competitor American Flyer from SMSA in the class. It should be close racing at our end, the 48 to 54 rating range, of the class.

Please think fair winds above 10 knots for us.

## Saturday June 4, 2011 05:00

After a very slow day with many, many wind shifts, we got to Smith Point at 0400. We actually have been moving well most of the night. There was one memorable stretch about midnight when we went through 4 sail changes in half an hour on no wind and the bugs were just disgusting. There was a mass of mayflies and little flies around the bow running lights that you could cut with a knife. One of the other boats near us was complaining that the mayflies were getting in their noses, ears and mouths, all very true. But the sail changes came first.

We can see that we are not doing so well -- but it is a long race. We took our weather guesser's advice and stayed east. Periodically it looked great but in the end it did not work out well.

We now are on the rhumb line and with a much stronger and more westerly wind than was predicted. Who knows what will happen from here -- not the weathermen we are pretty sure.

We have a great dinner of cold chicken and salads with a lovely lemoncello cake for dessert. Everyone is well rested after at least 2.5 hours of uninterrupted sleep on their off watch. We will make tracks today.

## Sunday June 5, 2011 03:30

Saturday morning after it began to warm up the wind went away and pretty much stayed away all day. It was just playing every catspaw and struggling to get out of the bay which we finally did at 1507. We put lots of distance on *Brutus*, but most of the rest of our class were out of sight ahead.

We started out nicely on the leg from the Bay-Bridge-Tunnel on spinnaker reach but after an hour or two it went completely dead. We sat for a couple of hours 7 miles from the tower. The beer ration was consumed in hopes of a change of weather along with a great dinner



A rough approximation of Pursuit's course.

of homemade lasagna, salads and the rest of the lemoncello cake for dessert. It was very hot and our optimism was low watching 0.0 knots for hours. Then, within 10 minutes, the wind came in from the south and built to 20 knots. We were slashing along with the light one at 9 knots. About 3 miles from the tower we changed to the #3 to let the light #1 live another day. Then, of course, as we get to the tower ready to set the fractional #5 heavy air reaching chute, the wind starts to drop. So it was a quick scramble to plug in the #3 masthead spinnaker. After rounding the tower at 2004, we have been reaching with the #3 spinnaker ever since.

268 miles to go with everyone on the same leg, now is the time for us to see what we can do. We are passing boats but it is hard to tell which class they are in. It is very dark. We will crank up the satellite phone next watch and get the news.

Things are getting flukey again so I better go on deck and help Warren and Smitty.

## Monday June 6, 2011 04:00

Well that was a much nicer day. We sailed at good speed on starboard with the big reaching chute of double head rig for 24 hours. The wind was supposed to die at any moment according the weather

## Annapolis to Newport continued from page 7

guessers. But it just kept on rolling. We made over 210 miles on 30 hours which was a real joy compared to the previous 24 hours. It has sometimes been somewhat bumpy as we are reaching and running into a swell from ahead.

The wind has now gone light and variable it looks like for all of the last 122 miles. We are doing 3 knots somewhat close to the course.

We have all of the communication and computer gear giving us data overload on the weather and the competition. We are doing better on many boats but *Irie*, *Shinnecock*, *Heron* and *Windborn* are still ~10 miles ahead and we are not doing much on them. We have had *Amadeus* in sight most of the day and think we know where they are now, a little bit behind us. We are still working the territory hard hoping for good things in this last quarter of the race.

We had a really wonderful filet of beef tonight. Dinner was however a bit late as it was still frozen even though we took it out a few hours early and tried to warm it in water in the sink. We could not use very much water as the heel and banging into waves kept sloshing the water out of the sink. But it really tasted wonderful. We hope that the boys on *Sjambok* enjoyed their freeze dried meal as much.

The only real boat problem so far is that the new gasket on the forward hatch is not right so it leaks badly. We feathered up for a few minutes and used up lots of paper towels getting it dry enough from regular dousing, even at low speed, to get some weather stripping added which seems to work for the moment.

With even a little bit of wind, as long as it is not from



Pursuit's Annapolis to Newport Race crew.

directly ahead, we hope to get in on Tuesday.

## Finished 05:51:36 Tuesday June 7

Well, we finished at 05:51:36 June 7. We just passed *Shinnecock* for the 3rd and final time at the finish. Mid-afternoon yesterday, our nice 40 hours of fast reaching in the ocean ended and we began a slow dead run in light air for the last 70 miles to the Castle Hill finish. (Ed. Note: *Castle Hill* is an abandoned lighthouse just south of Newport)

We were able to identify *Amadeus* sometime Sunday night and happily were able to see her disappear astern. There were some other boats around Sunday night and Monday morning that we could not identify but they kept us on our toes. There was no one on the horizon for much of the day Monday. Then about dinner time, as we all were converging on Montauk, boats began showing up. We were happiest to see what we are pretty sure was *Seawolf* a Farr 40 from the Naval Academy, which is a much faster boat. There were a few others close by one of which we figured was *Shinnecock*.

We had some idea of who should arrive from what direction based on the position reports we were getting over the sat phone and having Expedition plot on the computer. We could also tell from these reports that we were doing very nicely on most of our class in the ocean reaching conditions. *Pursuit* really loves reaching and did well by us as usual. It was very, very nice sailing, no rain, wind always between 10 and 18 coming from directions where we used the big reaching spinnaker and the double head rig. It was warm but not hot during the day and cool but not unpleasant at night. A lovely and successful ride that compensated for the slow and painful beginning and end.

The slow running conditions for the last 18 hours were very fluky. We could see from the reports boats inside and outside moving well while we were only going 3 to 4 knots. But we stuck with it and had a bit of luck on hitting the Montauk, Block Island gap at the beginning of a flood tide which gave us a nice 1 to 2 knot bump, very helpful because we were only sailing at about 4 knots. If you get really close to Block Island the flood does not sweep you into Long Island Sound so that is what we did. We were in company with *Shinnecock* and another boat we think was *Seawolf* from Mantauk to end.

Our finish was dead down in a dying breeze against a building ebb so we played the rocks and shoals up to Castle Hill Light. We were so close to the people taking finish times at the light and it was so calm we could talk to them in conversational tones.

We hear that the preliminary results have us 6th in class and 6th in fleet which is great considering our poor position on Saturday Morning.

## Weekend Participation sees New Blood!!

by Marc Briere

We're starting to see new boats and new crews joining in our weekend events. That's GREAT news. I really hope this is the beginning of a trend. My goal has been to make the weekend formal events more intriguing to our membership. It seems to be working. Lots of good competition within and between our PHRF classes. The Double Handed Race Spinnaker Class, for example, had three boats sail 10+ miles and finish within seconds of each other. Corrected times were within 8 seconds from 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup>! Lots of similarly close racing on the weekends. Come join the fun!



### Non-Spinnaker Class Participation

Virtually all of the boats this year have been racing in spinnaker classes. Occasionally shorthanded spinnaker boats have raced non-spinnaker but for the most part the competition in the non-spinnaker class has been lighter this year than any time since I started racing with SMSA in 1991. This is a golden opportunity for cruisers and new boat owners who aren't comfortable with spinnakers or whose boat configuration doesn't favor or include a spinnaker to try out our informal or formal racing events. Come give it a try... you could get bit by the racing bug!

### Race Committee

Thanks to all who have helped make this program a success by volunteering for your share of race management / race committee assignments. There are still several races waiting for the less inclined to volunteer. If you WANT to volunteer but need some help (in race management or boat driver, etc), let Jeff or myself know and we'll arrange some assistance. Without RCs, there is no racing!

### Suggestions to improve next year's program

This year is pretty much in high gear and with the exception of not having our informal award pint glasses in hand, we're pressing through the schedule with just a couple of hiccups and enjoying the summer. Start jotting down your suggestions for the 2012 season especially those that affect next year's racing schedule, event format changes and purchases or investments that affect our budget planning. Let's plan on late August to have our first 2012 season planning meeting and avoid the email crunch we had last fall and over the winter months.

### See you at the start line!!



Artful Dodger for Sale: Soverel 30, 1980 with Renault 16 hp diesel. A sweet boat to helm! Competitive Racer with cruising comforts that can sleep 5 and has lots of storage. Draft 5' 3", Beam 11' 0", Headroom 6', Double spreader with rod rigging. VHF, speed/knotmeter, 2 deck mounted compasses, Kledgecell closed cell foam cored, 9 sails including 2 spinnakers. Refurbished and major items replaced in 2009. New Awlgrip hull and deck in 2010. Surveyor's Fair Market Value - 22k. 2010 Survey available. Jerry Taylor 410.474.6834

## 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: 301-481-7474

#### Secretary

Betsy Dodge: 410-326-9686

#### Treasurer:

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**Race:** Marc Briere H 410-495-7672 C 443-624-7840

**Social:** John Dixon 301-862-9031

**Training:** Kristi Yurko 240-725-0475

# “DUCKY” DOES NOT ALWAYS MEAN “A GOOD THING”

By Rona Bayer

Roger and I were nearing *Zara* at our dock, when our neighbor stopped us, chuckling “You have company”. And we did – Mama Duck and 4 future ducklings were on the aft most section of our upper deck. Roger had two immediate thoughts that he shared with me. “@#\*\$%- does this mean I can’t use the power washer? What about taking the boat out to see if the engine has been repaired?” I looked at poor, panting Mama, sitting in 100 + degrees on the nest of down she’d plucked from her ragged looking body and just nodded. “No way”.

And so began the search for a skilled water-fowl rescue person. The folks in animal rescue, all of them related to St. Francis of Assisi, not so much in fact, but certainly in deed, came through. I received calls from several, and will mention all with contact info just in case you or someone you know finds a sick/orphaned/lost wild animal/bird/amphibian needing help.

Matt Gambrill, owner of Calvert Marina seems to be the premier go-to guy when it comes to water-fowl. (I was told this by 2 of the rescue people). He came to the boat the next day, with a crate for transportation of Mama, Kids –To-Be and nest. He told me that even if he could successfully transplant all, unless Mama had personally identified with the eggs, she would likely desert them in their new surroundings. He gave desertion a 50-50 chance. And assured me that if the ducklings hatched on board, the probability of all of them meeting unpleasant deaths was quite high. So, getting them off the boat was a no-brainer – they’d have a chance at life.

I asked how he was going to go about catching

Mama and he said if she has identified with the eggs, she would probably flap her wings at him, and try to bite him. (He assured me that duck bites do not hurt as they have no teeth.) This would be a good thing because he could then touch Mama with the result that she would fall over, playing dead, making it easy to crate her. The things you learn when you have a duck on board.

Sadly, Mama took a look at Matt and his paraphernalia, and took off for parts unknown. Not even a “Goodbye Kids”. Matt removed the eggs, and brought them to a wilderness area where they most likely were breakfast for some critters. Sad, but such is life. Matt said she was a very young, inexperienced bird, but that they do learn from their mistakes, and chances were she’d do a better job locating real estate for the next nest. “Of course”, he said, “she might decide to come back to your boat to lay the rest of her eggs.” It’s over a week later, and no sign of Mama. Yea!

## Contacts:

Matt Gambrill, Calvert Marina – 410 610-4800

Ron Wexler, Orphan Wildlife Rescue League, Lusby, 410 326-0937

Lynn Anderson, Feathers & Friends Wildlife and Rehabilitation Center, Sheltanham, MD, 240 475-8543

We’re lucky to have these organizations in our local environs. Anything that you can do to help support these groups – blankets, heaters, donations for food and medicine, will go a long way to help, and will be appreciated by the rescuers and the rescued.



## Celebrate Friday With Your Family!

Bring them to the club for the Friday Social. Buy them a beer, well maybe a soda. Then go out back and take them sailing. The Opti’s, Sunfish, San Juan 21, and Holder 20 will bring you back to when you started sailing. You could even have a Sunfish one design race with the kids!

Every Friday through September!  
5:30 PM to Sundown!

# Buccs Travel to Amityville

by Jimmy Yurko

Three teams of SMSA sailors traveled to Narrasketuck Yacht Club, in Amityville NY over Fathers' Day weekend to race in the second annual "Buccs on the Bay" regatta. SMSA teams included "Christopher Dragon" Jim Whited & Mark Gyorgy, "Kick'em Jenny" Jeff Moore & Jolie Homsher, and "Black and Tan" Jimmy Yurko & Jen Kohl. Together with shore help from Kristi & Annabelle this was a great way for me to spend my first Father's Day. This regatta was one of the stops on the US Sailing Roadshow, a promotional tour where US Sailing is sending representatives around the country to visit & report on one design activity throughout the summer. The event had eleven Buccaneers racing and others visiting which was more than double the fleet from the 2010 regatta.

We have a growing fleet of Buccaneers at SMSA, with 8 owners now. Buccaneers represent just one of the many designs that are helping to provide growth to our club. Small centerboard & keelboat classes are providing an extremely fun and affordable avenue for new members to our club...

The Buccs on the Bay regatta was a great example of just how much fun and hospitable the Buccaneer class is. Regatta organizer, Gus Rappold and his wife Annie put on a celebration to write home about...complete with forty gallons of delicious home brewed beer, a real parrot that yelled "Arrghh", and a seemingly endless table

of addictively tasty home cooked treats.

We raced six races over two days, and enjoyed beautiful afternoons with good breezes and challenging current. The fleet was fast, competitive & fun. Mistakes around the course didn't go without consequence. This was a fleet where our most current national champion had to settle for a third place overall. Below is an excerpt from the US Sailing Roadshow page written by Will from US Sailing after getting his first ride on a Bucc...

*Through hard work, open-mindedness, communication (in the shape of lively and helpful online forums), and a significant dose of humor, Buccaneer sailors have succeeded in raising interest and fleet participation. Regatta organizer Gus Rappold recruited me as his guest skipper for the day, and I was excited to try my hand at an unfamiliar boat. Having never sailed a Buccaneer, I wasn't sure what to expect in terms of performance. I was pleased to discover that they plane in only 9-10 knots of wind, thanks to a powerful rig and an efficient, flat-bottomed hull design.*

*This level of performance and acceleration not only makes for fun sailing in and of itself, but great racing. If you fall back in the fleet, there is almost always hope of advancement, as small increases in wind pressure translate to huge speed gains. This keeps everyone*



Jimmy Yurko & Jennifer Kohl leading the pack on Black & Tan

*focused, enthusiastic, and undiscouraged.*

*I can't help but feel that many other great one-design classes could benefit from the example shown by Buc sailors across the country. By getting new people out on the boats, sharing knowledge freely, and maintaining a sense of fun (As evidenced by an epic water gun fight midway through our day), the sport of sailing, and your local one-design fleet, can flourish indefinitely.*

Come out and see what all the noise is about...Thursday nights and weekend regattas throughout the spring, summer and fall, you won't be disappointed.

*Ed. Note: The team of Jimmy Yurko and Jen Kohl tied for first overall. The team of Jeff Moore and Jolie Homsher were fifth overall. The team of Jim Whited and Mark Gyorgy were eighth overall.*

## Help Build An Outstanding Port Events Calendar Thursday, July 14, 6 PM

Check the preliminary party schedule printed in the June Clew on page 7 (available on the website). If you like the ideas and schedule, come help us discuss how to make it happen. If you see room for improvement, please come and give us your input. Have a conflict on the 14<sup>th</sup> but want to participate in making it happen, call Hannah Schneider at 410-610-6288 or send her an email, Hannah.bulyanko@gmail.com.





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

PLACE  
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July 2011 Volume 41 Number 7

July		
1 Fri	4th of July Cruise	10:00
1 Fri	Social at SMSA	5:00
1 Fri	Family Fun Friday	5:30
2 Sat	Stars & Stripes Race	12:15
4 Mon	4th of July Party	6:00
6 Wed	Wed Night Racing	6:30
7 Thurs	Small Boat Racing	6:30
8 Fri	Social at SMSA	5:00
8 Fri	Family Fun Friday	5:30
9 Sat	Race/Cruise Herrington Harbour	10:00
11 Mon	BOD & Prog Chair Meeting	7:00
13 Wed	Wed Night Racing	6:30
14 Thurs	Port Events Comm. Meet.	6:00
14 Thurs	Small Boat Racing	6:30
15 Fri	<b>Clew Input Due</b>	

July		
15 Fri	Social at SMSA	5:00
15 Fri	Family Fun Friday	5:30
16 Sat	Screwpile Open House	5:30
17 Sun	Screwpile Regatta	10:00
18 Mon	Screwpile Regatta	10:00
19 Tues	Screwpile Regatta	10:00
20 Wed	Wed Night Racing	6:30
21 Thurs	Small Boat Racing	6:30
22 Fri	Social at SMSA	5:00
22 Fri	Family Fun Friday	5:30
27 Wed	Wed Night Racing	6:30
28 Thurs	Small Boat Racing	6:30
29 Fri	Social at SMSA	5:00
29 Fri	Family Fun Friday	5:30

August		
3 Wed	Wed Night Racing	6:30
4 Thurs	Small Boat Racing	6:30
5 Fri	Social at SMSA	5:00
5 Fri	Family Fun Friday	5:30
8 Mon	BOD & Program Chair Meetin	7:00
10 Wed	Wed Night Racing	6:30
11 Thurs	Small Boat Racing	6:30
12 Fri	Social at SMSA	5:00
12 Fri	Family Fun Friday	5:30
13 Sat	Geezer Squeezer	10:00
13 Sat	Crab Feast	4:00
13 Sat	2nd Saturday Cruise	5:00
14 Sun	Patuxent River Regatta	12:15
14 Sun	Scott Kirby	4:00
15 Mon	<b>Clew Input Due</b>	

August		
17 Wed	Wed Night Racing	6:30
18 Thurs	Small Boat Racing	6:30
19 Fri	Social at SMSA	5:00
19 Fri	Family Fun Friday	5:30
20 Sat	Mixed Couples Race/BC Cruis	10:00
24 Wed	Wed Night Racing	6:30
25 Thurs	Small Boat Racing	6:30
26 Fri	Annapolis Theatre Cruise	10:00
26 Fri	Social at SMSA	5:00
26 Fri	Family Fun Friday	5:30
31 Wed	Wed Night Racing	6:30

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