



April has closed out with quite a bit of excitement. We've started our racing and cruising season, opening day was a big hit.

The Commodore's Corner

by Jimmy Yurko
commodore@smsa.com



Looking back at April's events and accomplishments reads like an ESPN highlight reel. This past Friday we held an "Intro to Sailing" seminar with many new prospective sailors eagerly filling the clubhouse. The weather has provided superb sailing conditions for the adrenaline junky's out there. We held our first ever SpinSheet crew listing party. We harbored 'refugees' escaping from the harsh weather on "Tiki Friday" as the storms forced hundreds of people to run for cover as the skies opened up.

Upcoming there are many more great events...Saturday we will have our first "Sail a Small Boat Day" open house. Members will be on hand to help rig & take newbies to sailing, or small boat sailing out for rides. Come out, make friends, try out something different.

We're hosting a Whiskey tasting party Saturday May 4. Next week will be our "Intro to Racing" course...send your friends who are interested in learning about racing.

Our Junior programs are filling up faster than ever before. Many classes are near or at capacity, so if you still have students you would like to enroll, get to the website soon and sign up.

Commodore's dinner....something's missing....since the commodore will be missing...let's come up with some great fun dinners that are tasty because something's missing! How about *White Pizza* (missing sauce), *Angel Food Cake* or *Donuts* (center missing), *Salisbury Steak* (burgers w/o the bun) get creative...have fun.

Whiskey Tasting Saturday May 4th @ 6:00 pm

SMSA Clubhouse
14490 Solomons Island Rd
Solomons Island 20688
(across from the Gazebo on Solomons Island)

\$18 per head includes suite your choice of five (5) American Bourbon Whiskey's out of eight (8), Coffee, & chocolates & hors d'oeuvres! Book early online www.smsa.com or at the bar.

5:30pm Doors Open
6:00pm **INTRO** How to drink Whiskey properly & first tasting - Jim Beam
6:15pm Red Stag Black cherry
6:24pm Kentucky Derby posted race time
6:30pm Red Stag
6:45pm Rock Hill Farms Single barrel Bourbon
7:00pm Makers Mark
7:15pm Knob Creek Rye 100
7:30pm Knob Creek 9 years aged 109
7:45pm Buffalo Trace 90
8:00pm Finish tasting Taxi services on standby



Sail a Small Boat Day!

Saturday, May 4

10am – 4pm

Come and explore the joys of small boat sailing!

Small boat sailors will be on hand to take new sailors out for a ride.

Introduce a new sailor to sailing or just try a new boat.

The club small boats (Sunfish and Holder 20) will be available to try out.

Snacks and Sodas available ashore.



Small Boat Racing

By: Glenn Walters
Mark Witte

April 11th Racing Recap

The first race of the Small Boat Summer Series was held on April 11 under cloudy skies with 8-10 kts of breeze. Four Lasers and five Portsmouth Boats came out to compete. PRO Jeff Moore whistled off two races in the short daylight time available at this time of year; a 10-minute, 2-lap race and a 14-minute, 3-lap race around a short course.

Doug Hays in the Laser fleet and Jimmy Yurko in Portsmouth emerged victorious that evening with two first place finishes each. All vessels were back in the SMSA harbor before dark and the racing was followed by serious socializing, libations, and pizza at the SMSA clubhouse. Thanks to Jeff, Hannah, Scott, Sandy, Joe and newcomers Walter and Justin for the RC work.

April 18th Small boat racing and a rescue!

April 18 gave us cool temperatures and 13-16 knot breezes. Three boats were able to make it out the race course for the two races whistled off by PRO, Scott Patterson. Jeff Robbins, Jimmy Yurko, and Mark Gyorgy were the boats that successfully made it to the course although others, both lasers and Portsmouth made the attempt.



Several of us who elected not to go out, walked down to the point to observe the action; the boats out racing moved along smartly and there were enough hairy moments for the sailors to make the spectating very interesting. Just as we were getting the boats put away, we got word that a Hobie Cat had capsized in the river and several of our cold and wet sailors piled into the Carolina Girl and motored out to assist.

Special kudos to Jeff Robbins for jumping in the water to help right the cat and sail it back into the harbor. Once we had all our sailors recovered to land, we, as has become our tradition, partook of the good company, good drink and Pizza that is typically available at SMSA after racing. Thanks to Scott, Shawn, Sandy, Joe, Rob, Evie, Roger, Jolie, Justin, and Jackson for the RC work and Megan for scoring.

Come on out and join the fun, race, and sign up for RC.

Training

By Jenn Marbourg-Miller

Setting Sail Smarter!

In April, club members brushed up on Safety taking First Aid/CPR and Maryland Boater's Safety Class. And we attempted to recruit some new sailors.

Mid-April, Kristen Quinn from First Aid Safety Educational Services joined us again at the SMSA clubhouse to train members on First Aid and CPR skills. Thanks to Kristen for keeping us current on this very useful skill! Keep your eyes on the SMSA calendar as we are looking to do another session towards the end of the summer.

In late-April, SMSA offered a session of the Maryland Boater's Safety Course. Again this year, Guy Barbato taught the class and the course fee was donated to the Junior Program. Thanks Guy for donating your time and helping out the junior program!

Additionally, on Friday, April 26th, SMSA held an "Intro to Sailing" class at the clubhouse and drew a crowd of 15+ guests (and a few newer members) interested in learning about sailing. Some took home brochures, some took home applications and *MANY* took home the link to our SMSA Crew Finder Yahoo Group. So **SKIPPERS** – if you haven't already signed up for the group, go to the SMSA website and click the link on the home page to "Find Crew, a ride, or both!" There are some fresh minds just waiting for the opportunity to get out on the water and learn to sail! Thank you to: Jimmy Yurko for bailing me out and agreeing to teach the course at the last moment; Betsy Dodge for tending bar for the new, sometimes large crowd; and Kristi Yurko for keeping the Commodore's Dinner going while I borrowed the Commodore.

Check out the SMSA website under "Adult Training" for more information on upcoming classes.

Jenn Miller

training@smsa.com

Off-site Training Opportunities

North U: North U is the Education Division of North Sails. Check out their website for more information about their Seminars and Webinars. <http://www.northu.com/>



Sail Solomons: ASA Sailing School and Sailing Charters, based at Zahniser's Yachting Center. Check their website or call for more information about their Courses: <http://www.sailsi.com> or call 410-326-4917.

Sail Solomons is having an Open House May 4th, noon - 4pm

Vice Commodore

Tim Flaherty

MEMBERS TURN OUT FOR FIRST CREW LISTING PARTY

For the first one, it went pretty well.

On Sunday, April 14, SMSA hosted the first-ever Solomons SpinSheet Crew Listing Party sponsored by Miller Lite beer. About 50 people attended and enjoyed free food, a skippers' forum and the usual great prices at the SMSA bar. Most importantly, about 15 new faces appeared at SMSA that afternoon in the form of skippers looking for crew and new sailors looking for skippers.

During the 20 minute skippers' forum, several experienced skippers answered questions about what crew members are expected to bring, wear and do when they come racing. Attendees were also encouraged to find rides to go daysailing in an effort to introduce them to the cruising life.

For the rest of the afternoon, attendees mingled and exchanged names and contact info. People looking for crew wore skipper nametags, while those looking for a boat to sail on wore nametags identifying them as such. SMSA Social Chair Eric Smith cooked up sausages complete with fried onions for guests and members to dine on. There were also chips and veggies to munch on.



Quantum sailmaker and former Commodore Clarke McKinney, explains some of the physics of sailing to a newbie visitor to SMSA during the Crew Listing Party."

The food was made possible by a generous donation from Buck Distributing, the people who deliver Miller Lite beer to the Solomons area.

Attendees were encouraged to register on both the SpinSheet Magazine on-line crew listing database, and on the SMSA Yahoo Crew Listing Group.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SMSAcrew/>

Contact info for most of the guests was collected so we may follow-up and invite those people back to SMSA.

“I think anytime you get new people interested in sailing and into the clubhouse it’s a positive,” said SMSA Vice Commodore Tim Flaherty. “The more people we get interested in sailing and aware of SMSA, the more members we can pick up.”

The crew listing party in Solomons was the brainchild of Elliott Peterson, skipper of *Stingray* .

“I thought it went real well,” Elliott said afterward. “Especially since this is the first time we’ve done it at SMSA. We have some good experience now to grow this event in the future.”



Cruising Corner

By Rod Schroeder
cruise@smsa.com



Our cruising season got underway in April, albeit with a typically low turnout for this time of year as some cruisers are still in the process of spring commissioning or have not yet returned from the warmer south.

Last year's high point Happy Hour Cruising Trophy winner, Jerry and Donna Taylor (*Piper*) were the only ones who had their act together to make the opening day cruise (13-14



Piper: Donna and Jerry Taylor

April) to St Leonard Creek. They reported having a nice sail up the river on Saturday with a great view of the homes with the trees just starting to bud. Jerry took advantage of the weekend on the hook to work off some unfinished boat projects before they enjoyed a light air motor back to Solomons on Sunday. Thanks to Jerry and Donna for keeping the opening day cruise tradition alive. Maybe we can at least double the turnout next year.



Morning after happy hour.

Our first local Happy Hour Raft-up in Mill Creek on 20-21 April attracted three boats on a cold breezy weekend as Jerry & Donna Taylor (*Piper*) and Elliott Peterson & Alexa Fezler (*Stingray*) rafted up with Rod & Pat Schroeder (*Ruste Nayle*) in the sheltered area behind Myrtle Point. The evening was cool, but the stronger winds held off for happy hour as we enjoyed a wide variety of delicious hors d'oeuvres and great conversation until dark. With strong winds forecast later at night, Piper broke off from the raft to set their anchor and hosted Stingray alongside for the rest of

the night and for morning coffee that Alexa, like many of us, needs to get her day started. The wind did become brisk during the night, but everyone held their ground. A cold windy trip home to Solomons on Sunday was uneventful and left us looking forward to the upcoming cruise schedule with somewhat warmer (but not hot) weather.

Here are the near term cruises that you should be planning for now:

4 – 5 May; Cruise to Battlecreek. This is a weekend cruise to one of our favorite local venues. Contact the cruise leaders Rod & Pat Schroeder (*Ruste Nayle*) at rodschroeder@comcast.net or (cell) 301-752-5515 if you think you might attend.

17 – 19 May; Cruise to Oxford. This three day cruise will anchor in Plaindealing Creek in the Choptank on Friday night, and then go into Oxford on Saturday to enjoy some good food and ice cream. Dave and Lois Zonderman (*Walkabout*) are cruise leaders. Please let them know if you plan to join them. Sail274@verizon.net or (cell) 973-219-8736 or (cell) 973-219-8735.

25 – 27 May; Memorial Day Cruise (Where the Wind Blows). This three day cruise window does not yet have a cruise leader or destination; however, it is anticipated that several cruisers will decide to go somewhere based on weather forecast at the time. Stay tuned to the “This Week at SMSA” email announcements for details as they develop. Long range planning may be required for the following:

7 – 9 June; The Annapolis Summer Garden Theater Cruise. Some advance planning may be required for this 3 day cruise to Annapolis if you plan to attend the outdoor theater production of “Swing” on Saturday (8 June) evening. More details can be found on their web site at <http://www.summergarden.com/>. Advance reservations for tickets are recommended and can be made by calling 410-268-9212. I will make a group reservation for dinner at the Federal House Bar & Grill for Saturday 8 June for those who would like to join us before the show. Please let me know if you plan on attending the cruise and/or dinner. Contact the cruise leaders Rod & Pat Schroeder (*Ruste Nayle*) at rodschroeder@comcast.net or (cell) 301-752-5515.

Labor Day Weekend 30 Aug – 2 Sep; Crisfield National Hard Crab Festival. Join us for a long weekend in Crisfield. The week long Cruise South (23 Aug – 2 Sep) will end up in Crisfield to join up with the weekend cruisers coming from Solomons. Contact Somers Cove Marina (410-968-0925) ASAP for a slip reservation as they tend to fill up early. Tell the marina operator that you are with the SMSA group. Come enjoy the parade, crab races, crab picking, boat docking, and fireworks. Rich Freeman/Patty Kimmel (*Patty K*) are cruise the leaders, so please let them know if you are planning to join us for the entire Cruise South and/or join the cruise in Crisfield for Labor Day weekend. Contact Rich at teknikr2004@yahoo.com or (cell) 703-919-0018; or Patty at pkimmel@belvoirfcu.org or (cell) 703-618-0886.

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The DC layout offers additional fishing and seating in the bow yet with the snap in bow cover offers protection from wind and spray when required. Sea trial available for all interested buyers. Boat is at SMSA.



Classic Columbia 1963

Email: columbia1963@gmail.com

Contact Peter Holt at: 410-326-2253

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May 2013 Volume 43, Number 5

Date	May	Start time	Date	May	Start time
5/1	Wed. Night Race Series	6:30 PM	5/17	Friday Happy Hour	5:00 PM
5/2	Small Boat Summer Series	6:30 PM	5/17	Commodore's Dinner	7:00 PM
5/3	Friday Happy Hour	5:00 PM	5/19	Doublehanded Race	8:00 AM
5/4	Battle Creek Cruise	8:00 AM	5/20	Clew Inputs Due	8:00 AM
5/4	Sail a Small Boat Day	10:00 AM	5/20	Junior Program Work Day	8:00 AM
5/4	Whiskey Tasting	6:00 PM	5/22	Wed. Night Race Series	6:30 PM
5/5	Private Party	1:00 PM	5/23	Small Boat Summer Series	6:30 PM
5/5	Intro to Racing and Tactics	5:30 PM	5/24	Friday Happy Hour	5:00 PM
5/7	SMSA dinner out	6:15 PM	5/25	Where the Wind Blows Cruise	8:00 AM
5/8	Wed. Night Race Series	6:30 PM	5/28	Chair Meeting	7:00 PM
5/9	Small Boat Summer Series	6:30 PM	5/29	Wed. Night Race Series	6:30 PM
5/10	Friday Happy Hour	5:00 PM	5/30	Small Boat Summer Series	6:30 PM
5/11	Frost-Goode Race	10:00 AM	5/31	Friday Happy Hour	5:00 PM
5/15	Wed. Night Race Series	6:30 PM	5/31	Skippers' Meeting, Women's Regatta	7:00 PM
5/16	Small Boat Summer Series	6:30 PM			
5/17	Oxford Cruise	8:00 AM			