



I don't need to tell you that June is here, summer is here, and we're now in the busiest time of the sailing season for just about everyone.

The Commodore's Corner

by Jimmy Yurko
commodore@smsa.com



You're going to find that in the business of running the summer programs most of our normal "Clew Writer" volunteers are busy doing what they do best, SAIL! So my article this month might be a little stream of consciousness as I try to capture some of the excitement that's going on right now.

Our weeknight race series are officially in the summer mode. Thursday night racers have seen the first of the midsummer drifts...and some of the best breezes I can remember in back to back weeks. The Wednesday night series has moved its post race parties over to the Zahniser's pool bar to catch a dip for the summer heat. The glasses are back...win your race, get a glass...of course you must be there to collect. See you there!

The women's spring regatta that was to take place June 2 was cancelled, but the skippers are confident that they'll have a good fleet for the fall event, and are highly motivated to get women on the water. So keep an eye out for opportunities to be developing soon. Just one example of the dedication you'll be seeing is that we are dedicating one of the summer Adult Learn to Sail classes to women exclusively. You can count on a good Women's event this fall, and of course if history has taught us anything it will be a windy regatta!

The cruisers as always have been hitting destinations far and wide. Rod has a thorough description of the great times they're having in his article later in this issue. Last but not least, the Junior program is in the final stages of set up before the summer campers show up.

Of course that's just the on the water stuff. Our social programs have continued to provide seemingly endless opportunities to get together. The Whiskey tasting last month was a blast (thanks to Hannah & crew), with many flavors still hanging out at the bar for you to try. Our Social chair, Eric Smith (with help from his wife Lisa) put together great post race food for every Wednesday night race party this spring. The bar, thanks to Bar manager Mike Major has been hard at work making updates to the menu and the bar structure to better serve you...we've got a sink in the bar now, there are new drinks available, and we're looking at designing some new specials...so stop in & let us know what you think. Of course we've been bringing in new members, so come on by the clubhouse and mingle. After the Luau I was chatting with Carl and Martha who just applied for membership Friday, and have already been to SMSA events... now that's being social!

The “Shout Outs”

This section is dedicated to thanking some members who've stepped up recently to take on some special projects. Bill Armstrong, has volunteered to build us some racks in the back garage to help better organize our Kayaks and other Junior equipment. Mike Major has been diligently working on many special projects around the clubhouse. Ed Sierra, our Junior program chair has been coordinating the junior program registrations, promotions, and set up all the while finishing up finals at UMBC...and starting work at PAX...John McKinney is still helping out with troubleshooting RC boat challenges. Chris Helmcamp, always there to help when you need a hand..particularly a very strong hand. Andrea Royer has volunteered to help us with our marketing projects.

RC Updates

Most of us at some point or another throughout the season spend time on the RC boat. Race committee is one of the most fun and social aspects of the racing program. The opportunity to help organize and promote the programs is great. Between all the activity of starting and finishing the races there is usually relatively long blocks of time for members to socialize with friends aboard. A couple of important updates for those of us utilizing the boat and the programs.

1. There is a new starting horn system on the boat. We're developing a set of "*Plain English instructions for the rest of us*" so that getting out there, setting up and getting races started will be even easier than before, and hopefully a little less stressful.
2. The boat is equipped with a very powerful windlass. This is great, since the anchor & rode are pretty darn heavy..and I'm not getting any younger. The down side to being a very powerful windlass is that it is very easy to damage it if you're not paying attention. The windlass motor does not stop automatically when it gets to the top of the pulpit, or when it is stuck on something. If you put a bite in the line around one of the cleats, as many people do, or if the line gets tangled around a horn...and you try to wind up the windlass...you will pull the motor brackets out of the deck! If you hold the switch up all the way at full speed until the anchor is firmly planted in the pulpit...you will also pull the motor out of the deck. I mention this because...the motor is being pulled out of the deck. We have some volunteers working to resolve the damage, so in the mean time it's manual anchoring. A little bit of prevention goes a long way. Expect to see some improvements to the sign out instructions & procedures. Mark & Marc are working hard to simplify things for us & make it better. Let's help them out.
3. For the Small Boat Race series there is now a race committee sign up on the SMSA website. This is a great interactive tool that allows you to sign up for one, or multiple spots on RC duty. This also allows you to see who is in need of help and when. You can view from the SMSA webpage directly. However in order to enter your name in a spot you will need to contact Mark Witte, or Glen Walters for the link to the edit-able sign up page.

Membership Perks

Zahniser's Pool

You all know that SMSA membership has a lot of perks. One of those perks is an opportunity for pool membership at Zahniser's Yachting Center. Z's pool is a very clean and comfortable quiet pool and bar that has an awesome view of Back Creek. Z's only offers memberships to slip holders and SMSA members. Daily pool rate is \$3/person per day. Season pool memberships are \$175/person for the summer or \$250 per family for the summer.

Interested? Contact Terry Walters or Jim Sharkey at Zahniser's.

Adult Learn To Sail Classes

If you know anyone who is interested in basic sail training, let them know that we are again holding learn to sail classes for SMSA members (FREE!) over several weekends this summer. The sign up is on our website, www.smsa.com under Training.

Boats Available at the club for member use

At the clubhouse we have kayaks, sunfish, and small keelboats available for members to check out. The Kayaks and paddles are stored in the back garage (Jr. Equipment room), as well are the sails and other equipment for the Sunfish. The keelboats "Wild Thing & Holder Tight" are in the slips with equipment on board. There is a check-out log with guidelines located in the back with the equipment. See Ed Sierra or Jimmy Yurko if you have any questions.

Commodore's Dinner for June/July **“Red, White & Bleu Cheese”**

Friday, June 21—Red Thursday, July 4—White Friday, July 19—Bleu Cheese

The Commodore's dinners themes for June & July are going to be combined with the July 4 fireworks show on Thursday, July 4. The fourth will of course will be quite a busy day, but why not come down and enjoy the day with your friends here at SMSA and get the best seat in the house. The theme for this event will be Red, White & Bleu cheese. Friday June 21 will be Red....bring red inspired dishes. For the fourth of July Holiday we'll have white inspired dishes...and for July 19 we'll celebrate the cheesiness of the theme with cheesy dinners.

SMSA Sailors Sweep the Pungo

The last thing I want to comment on is the SMSA sweep at the Pirates on the Pungo regatta. Last month three SMSA boats trekked down to North Carolina to race in the Pirates on the Pungo charity regatta. This event is a fun regatta fundraiser for the Pungo District Hospital in Bellhaven, North Carolina. SMSA teams took 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in every race in the eight boat Buccaneer 18 fleet. Jim Whited will tell you that he was very likely to win the 3rd race of the series as he took a very wise route to a wind line along the left side of the course...but the race was abandoned just before we hit the first mark of the course...

SMSA Dinner Out Tuesday, 6:30pm, June 11th at DiGiovanni's

The next Dinner Out will be on Tuesday, June 11th at DiGiovanni's! Weather permitting, we will sit on the outdoor deck on the harbor. This is a low-key, pay-as-you-go event designed for us to enjoy the many restaurants in the Solomons area. The original owners and chef are back at DiGiovanni's are back, so it's a good chance to reintroduce ourselves. Meet in DiGiovanni's bar at 6:30. Please RSVP at vicecommodore@smsa.com by Tuesday afternoon, or call the Vice Commodore at 301-481-7474 so DiGiovanni's knows how many of us to expect.

<http://www.digiovanisrestaurant.com/Welcome.html>



Wednesday Nights and Specials at the Pool Bar!

Wednesday night race results are back at Zahniser's Pool Bar through Labor Day. Beth at the Pool Bar says we will enjoy various specials all summer long. Racing or not, please come out to Z's every Wednesday to greet fellow members and to support our long-time sponsor as they give us added value this summer. Check your emails and watch the website and the SMSA Facebook page for updates on what specials are when.



SMSA New Members

The SMSA Board of Governors has approved the following new memberships. Please welcome our newest members to SMSA and seek them out at our various SMSA activities.

Brian and Ionis Riley are new members sponsored by Robert Smith. Brian and Ionis live in Mechanicsville, MD and are interested in all aspects of boating. They are looking forward to getting involved in the club (we are hoping to utilize Brian's computer skills). Welcome Aboard!

Bruce and Susannah Cotterill are new members sponsored by Don Behrens. Bruce and Susannah and their children Jocelyn (9), Isobel (6), and Charlotte (4) live in California, MD. They are from the UK and have just moved to Pax River area for 3 years. They are looking forward to getting the entire family on the water to teach the kids to sail and join in the racing activities. Welcome Aboard!

Andrea Royer is a new Young Adult member sponsored by Jimmy Yurko. Andrea lives in Solomons, MD, and is already actively participating in the small boat and keelboat racing. Andrea looks forward to helping with the SMSA Communications and Membership programs as well as the racing, cruising, and social programs. Welcome Aboard!

Chris Snyder is a new Young Adult member sponsored by Jimmy Yurko. Chris lives in Prince Frederick, MD, and looks forward to getting a small boat of his own. Welcome Aboard!

Brian and Dana Spicuzza are new members sponsored by Ron Spicuzza. Brian and Dana live in Hollywood, MD, with their children Michael (7) and Hannah (5). Brian and Dana look forward to continuing their participation in SMSA events and getting their kids more involved in sailing by participating in the Junior camps. Welcome Aboard!

Carib Breeze sails again

Late in 2012, SMSA was contact by an owner who had a sailboat. This little sailboat was in need of a good home and her owner was hoping we could help find her one. The SMSA network went to work and the Cape Dory was connected with Chuck O'Brien. Chuck spend endless hours this past winter working on the boat varnishing, scrubbing, painting, and well, spending money. On April 27th, she saw the water again. Not as a neglected little boat spending 15 years rotting on the water's edge, but as a shiny 'new' boat ready to go sailing. Carib Breeze is on the move! Way to go, Chuck!



Above: Before



Above: After

Small Boat Racing

By: Glenn Walters
Mark Witte

SMSA Small Boat Spring Invitational Regatta!

Saturday, June 8th

Skippers' Meeting: 0930 at the SMSA Clubhouse

Race fee: \$10 for non-season race participants; Included in SMSA Season Race Fee

Bring your boat and join us!

NOR available on www.smsa.com - click Small boat Race
Registration available online or onsite.

Frost-Goode

Two small boats came out to go the 10.4 NM distance in 12-15 KT, puffy and shifty breezes. A screaming reach up and back; sailing at it's most exciting. The predicted nasty weather held off until well after all boats had finished.

May 9th

By the numbers: 12 boats on the water, 3 races, 2-6 KTS of breeze and 6 pizzas. A bit light but no serious complaints; you could be mowing the lawn. Thanks to Shawn Stanley, Sandy Leitner, Smitty and Carol Smith, Glenn Walters, Joe Szymanski, Steve Barrett, and Ridge Turner for being RC, and Megan for scoring.

May 16th

The light breeze gave way when the storm blew through as people were headed out to the course. After the initial blast, it settled down to between 8 and 12 kts. Another great evening for the 8 Portsmouth and 5 laser boats that came out to play, except a bit of excitement (not the fun kind) with several capsizees and one dismasting. Races were whistled off by Mark, Eric, and Kristin Gyorgy with Mark Williams and Egon Frech on the mark boat. Thanks to Megan once again for scoring.

Cruising Corner

By Rod Schroeder
cruise@smsa.com



The cruisers have stayed close to home so far this past month with a nice cruise up the Patuxent River to put the hook down in Battlecreek, one of our favorite local anchorages. A shifty northerly breeze and cool weather provided a nice day on the water as our three boats tacked up river to find Battlecreek all to ourselves. *Ruste Nayle* (Rod & Pat Schroeder), *Piper* (Jerry & Donna Taylor), and *Walkabout* (Dave & Lois Zonderman) rafted together for the usual happy hour beverage, food, and banter. The raft broke up at dusk, and with strong winds forecast later at night *Piper* and *Walkabout* snuggled up to good anchorages along the windward shore for a peaceful night. After an uneventful night, *Ruste Nayle* made an early departure back to Solomons in order to meet a commitment to take some family members out fishing for trophy rockfish (yes we did catch fish). *Piper* and *Walkabout* enjoyed the day relaxing a bit and enjoyed a leisure sail back to Solomons.



Left: Sailboats can catch fish too!

Due to several schedule conflicts among our dedicated cruisers over the 17-19 May weekend, the cruise to Oxford was cancelled, but rescheduled to take place over the Memorial Day weekend. In lieu of the cruise, *Ruste Nayle* (Rod & Pat Schroeder),

Walkabout (Dave & Lois Zonderman), and *Safina* (Dennis & Carolyn Chandler) carried the SMSA burgee in the annual Solomons Island Blessing of the Fleet boat parade on Sunday 19 May.

Here are some upcoming cruises that should be on your radar:

7 – 9 June; The Annapolis Summer Garden Theater Cruise. Some advance planning is 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.

15-23 June; Cruise North. On this nine day cruise we will work our way up to the north end of the bay to Georgetown Yacht Basin in the Sassafras River. The return leg has us scheduled to visit Oxford along the way, and to celebrate the Summer Sailstice in Hudson Creek on 22 June. If you can't make the entire nine day cruise, consider joining us at Hudson Creek for a

weekend trip. Please let the cruise leaders know if you plan to join the cruise or need further information. Cruise leaders are Rich Freeman at teknikr2004@yahoo.com or (cell) 703-919-0018; or Patty Kimmel at pkimmel@belvoirfcu.org or (cell) 703-618-0886.



Left: Battlecreek snacks



Above: The blessing of the fleet

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.

Rod Schroeder
SMSA Cruise Chair
rodschroeder@comcast.net
(H) 410-326-0167
(C) 301-752-5515



Piper working to windward

**FREE to
SMSA
Members**

Adult Learn to Sail Classes

Want to learn to sail? Need a refresher?
Join the Adult Learn to Sail classes!

Classes available in June, July, and August!

June 15, 16, 22, 23 July 13, 14, 20, 21
August 10, 11, 17, 18

Register online at www.smsa.com—Click on Adult Training, Classes



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

PLACE
 STAMP
 HERE



June 2013 Volume 44, Number 6

Date	June	Start time
Wed	Wed Night Race Series	6:30 pm
Thur	Small Boat Summer Series	6:30 pm
Fri	Friday Happy Hour Social	5:00 pm
11	Dinner Out at DiGiovanni's	6:30 pm
	Long Island Sound Cruise	
15	Begins	
15	Cruise North Begins	
15	Sailstice Delmarva Begins	
15	Smith Point Race	
15	Adult Learn to Sail Begins	
17	Junior Sailing Camps Begin	
21	Commodore's Dinner "Red"	7:00 pm
22	Summer Invitational Regatta	10:00 am
24	Program Chair Meeting	7:00 pm
29	Stars & Stripes Regatta	10:00 am

Date	July	Start time
Wed	Wed Night Race Series	6:30 pm
Thur	Small Boat Summer Series	6:30 pm
Fri	Friday Happy Hour Social	5:00 pm
4	Fireworks Pot Luck "White"	
5	Independence Cruise Begins	
15	BOD Meeting	7:00 pm
19	Pot Luck, "Bleu Cheese"	
20	Screwpile Party	5:00 pm
21-23	Screwpile Regatta	
27-28	Happy Hour Raft-Up	
29	Program Chair Meeting	7:00 pm