



As the leaves begin to turn color and the air cools I can feel the excitement of fall in the air. While October brings us shorter days, they are great days for sailors. We get out and enjoy the fresh breezes and come in early to enjoy the longer nights with friends. We just wrapped up an excellent Small Boat Invitational Regatta that proved just how fun this time of year is for sailing. I would like to extend a huge THANK YOU! to Glenn Walters, Mark Witte and all their volunteers who worked hard to make the event a real great event. Everyone was ecstatic both days because of what a great job SMSA did.

## The Commodore's Corner

by Jimmy Yurko  
[commodore@smsa.com](mailto:commodore@smsa.com)



This month brings us great races for the big boaters: Hooper's Island and Fall Invitational are this month. For the Small Boat racers we have a smorgasbord of travel events; locally the silly pirates in the Buccaneer fleet will again hold the Bucctoberfest Regatta. For the cruiser in you, you can see "Where the wind Blows" and take a "Halloween Cruise" this month.

Of course, we know how to have fun off the water, too. Coming up this month we have:

- Clubhouse Clean Up: Sunday morning, Oct 6
- Crab Feast: Sunday afternoon, Oct 6
- Ladies Night Out: Saturday, Oct 12
- Chili Cook-Off: Saturday, Oct 19
- Halloween festival: Saturday, Oct 26

With the 'on' and 'off' the water fun, October is definitely going to be a great month!

In addition to the other fun stuff, don't forget that our annual meeting is coming up next month. At the meeting we tally the votes for elections of the Board of Directors. If you or someone you know is interested in helping out in any way, please contact me or any member of the Board by October 10th to put your name in the hat. We need all the volunteers we can muster to keep SMSA running smoothly. As it has always been: you get out what you put in.

For most of you it probably seems as if time accelerates this time of year. With upcoming holidays, vacations, etc. (voluntary and involuntary!), one order of business that I would like to take a moment to remind all of you of: Those of you who earned perpetual trophies last year - please bring them back to the clubhouse by November 1 so we can start the preparations for the 2013 awards. It's a big job to get it all together, and our volunteers need adequate time to get it done and avoid the last minute rush.

Finally, our next Commodore's dinner will be October 11. This is a change from the posted date on the calendar, as Kristi, Annabelle and I will be at a regatta on the regularly-scheduled Friday. Since we're changing the date, how about a dish that either has gone through a "change" or would be a good "date" meal!  
See you on the water!

# Clubhouse Clean-Up

Oct 6<sup>th</sup> 9 am ...

## News from our Facility Chairs:

Hi everyone! As you probably know, all of our programs and events have been very successful this year! However, as the summer activities come to an end, we find there is a need for post season projects, cleaning and organizing at our club!



Please plan to join us on Oct 6th for our "Fall Club Clean up Day"! We hope to get started around 9 AM and go until tasks are done (or in time to enjoy the Crab Feast scheduled for 4pm afterwards). Whether you can offer one hour or several we have a job for you!

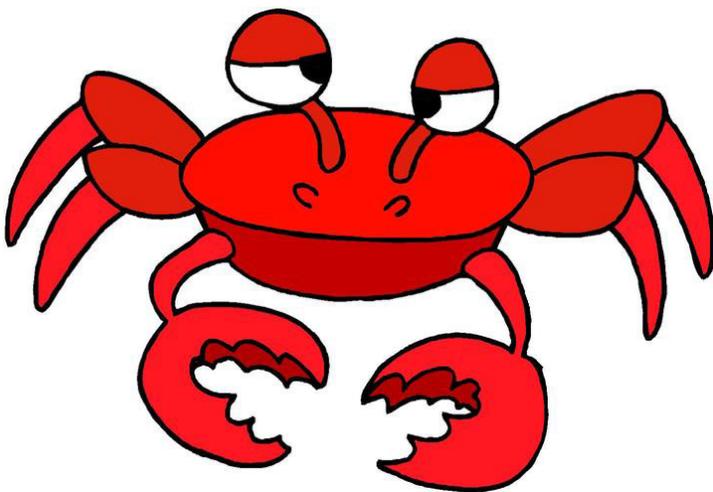


Please contact [facility@smsa.com](mailto:facility@smsa.com) to let Mardy and I (Jolie) know if we can count on your help! Thank you in advance!

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# Crab Feast Sunday

Oct 6<sup>th</sup> 4 pm



Join us Sunday for the annual Crab Feast!  
Bring a side dish or dessert to share.  
Don't like crabs? Bring something for the BBQ!

*Please RSVP to [Social@smsa.com](mailto:Social@smsa.com) if you are interested in eating crabs. Cost will be based on market price.*

## *SMSA Ladies Night Out!*

*The ladies and lady crew of SMSA are cordially invited to a ladies night out.*

*No husbands, boyfriends, or kids.*

*Just the girls.*

*Come enjoy the evening with friends.*

*When: Oct 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 o'clock PM*

*Where: SMSA Clubhouse*

*Menu: Heavy hors d'oeuvres and Desserts*

*Dessert Drink Specials*

*Please RSVP to Ladies@smsa.com*



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## **Chili Cookoff Saturday**

Oct 19<sup>th</sup>, 4 pm

Bring a pot of your favorite chili and put it to the test! Does it have what it takes to win a prize?

Not interested in making chili?

Bring a dish to share and help choose the winner.

Oysters will be available. Watch the weekly email for additional details.



# Halloween Party

Oct 26<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 pm

Mark your October calendars for this years Halloween Festival!

The theme: "Gilligan's Island"

Saturday, October 26th, starting at 5:30pm!

For KIDS & ADULT kids alike.

## **Little people activities:**

Costume contest for scariest, cutest, and most original costumed kid. Wait to see what this year's haunted house & games will bring!!!

## **Grown kid activities:**

Beer tasting!!! Come thirsty! Gourmet food dishes!!! Bring your favorite Halloween dish. We have so many talented members that really baked and cooked to the Halloween occasion last year. And, of course, costumes. Gilligan's Island is the dress up theme. There will be prizes for Best dressed Gilligan, Best female supporting costume, Scariest look alike!

Your helping hands for decorating are appreciated; quite a few of you could probably donate the S.S. Minnow!



# Women Racing in Early Autumn



The 2013 Fall Women's Regatta began weeks before the actual event. Women skippers were either looking for crew or looking for a boat to borrow and then trying to find crew. In the end there were seven boats (*Bad Cat*, *Cheetah*, *Lickety Split*, *Rakali*, *Spinnster*, *Stingray*, and *Wicked Good*) and roughly 39 women participating. That set a record for at least the last 13 years since Betsy Dodge of *Spinnster* had been sailing in these races.

After congregating for the Skipper's meeting on Friday night, everyone's attention turned to the next day's sailing and, most importantly, the wind. After all it wouldn't be a Women's Regatta if the wind wasn't blowing 20+ knots, which is what we've experienced over the past several years. I think everyone was keeping their fingers crossed that this time would be different.

To everyone's surprise the wind was probably between 8-15 knots most of the day, the sun was shining and the air temperature had climbed to approximately 75 degrees. It was a perfect day to be on the water.

The race committee did a great job giving us four races and the competition was tough. Hats off to all of the women who participated, regardless of their experience level, and to those women who helmed their first race or skippered boats they had never sailed on before. This was a wonderful venue for all of the women to go out and race, to take charge, make decisions, learn tactics, learn sail trim, boat handling, crew work and understand the racing rules.

In the end, every woman rose to the challenges put before her, gained sailing experience, and enjoyed the camaraderie of the other women sailors. Don't think we could have asked for anything more.

By: Robin Witte

# **SMSA Smallboat Regatta Recap**

The annual SMSA Smallboat Fall Invitational Regatta was run on 28-29 September, and was a resounding success! Kudos for the Race Committee and entire SMSA operation were constant and deserved. Thirty-three boats participated from as far away as North Carolina and Long Island. As always, SMSA members stepped up to the task, providing a hospitable atmosphere and outstanding racing. Saturday had 5 quality races run with solid breeze from the Northeast, to include windward/leeward as well as triangle courses. All sailors were smiling (and sore) by the time we came back for an excellent barbeque and salad dinner, prepared for us by Carol Smith. Good times were had late into the evening, with some participants choosing to sample the local culture at the Tiki Bar following the party at our clubhouse. Sunday followed suit, with 3 additional races run prior to the breeze began to fail.

Jeff Neurater from PRSA took the honors in the 16-strong Buccaneer fleet. Danielle Prior from Pennsylvania won the 7-strong Lightning fleet, and our own Jeff Moore carried away top prize for the 9-deep Laser fleet.

My deepest thanks to all who assisted in making this regatta a resounding success:

Race Committee: Clarke and Mary Anne McKinney, Shawn and Laura Stanley, Mark and Robin Witte, Robert Herbig, Spencer Wait, and Arnie Sholovitz

Food: Carol Smith

Scoring: Megan Hildenberger

Awards: Jimmy Yurko

Protest Committee: John Herbig, Scott Patterson, and Jimmy Yurko

Facilities: Jolie Homsher and Mardy Millen

Additional boat parking: Don Behrens and Mardy Millen, with a special thank you to Bill Glasscock and Tim Holt

Bar support: Megan, Kristi, Robin, Laura, Shawn, Terry Walters, Nicole, Jimmy, and a host of others

Everything: My beautiful wife, Terry Walters

The Fall Regatta marks the end of our formal smallboat program for the year. Keep an eye on the calendar for additional Buccaneer and Laser non-formal racing. Thanks again to everyone who made this year such a success!!

Glenn Walters

Smallboat Program Co-Chair

## Cruising Corner

By Rod Schroeder  
cruise@smsa.com



We have some great cruises to report on since the last issue of the Clew. The late summer/early fall weather has been great with seasonably cool temperatures and fair wind (most of the time). Following are highlights and pictures from three of our recent cruising events including, Cruise South, Happy Hour Raft-up, and San Domingo Creek.

### **Cruise South (23 Aug – 2 Sep) – Rich Freeman Cruise Leader**

This 11 day cruise headed south from Solomons to explore some of Virginia's waterways before crossing the bay to Crisfield to enjoy the Labor Day weekend and participate in Crisfield's 66<sup>th</sup> annual National Hard Crab Derby.

*Ruste Nayle* (Rod & Pat) and *Safina* (Dennis & Carolyn) led the advance party for the cruise with a leisure departure in light wind on Friday, 23 August, for the first destination at Smith Creek (MD). Enough breeze built up for some late afternoon sailing after rounding Point Lookout. On Saturday morning *Ruste Nayle* and *Safina* left Smith Creek and found a fair breeze with a good wind angle for a nice sail down the Potomac to Smith Point on the way to Mill Creek on the Great Wicomico. The good sailing continued to the creek entrance as we met up with *Serenity* (Curt & Dottie) and *Piper* (Jerry & Donna), who both left from Solomons earlier that day. Happy hour aboard *Ruste Nayle* was dampened by the only thunderstorm on the East Coast which happened to find our location; we quickly moved the party below deck to finish our social hour.

Destination for Sunday, 25 August, took us back out to the bay, south to the Rappahannock River, and then up the river to Carter Creek. Wind was a bit light and was shifting from NE to SE, but most of us were able to enjoy some sailing along the way. *Safina* continued further up the Rappahannock on a side trip to visit some friends, and rejoined us the following day at Urbanna. Upon arrival at Carter Creek, we found *Patty K* (Rich & Patty) had already arrived to claim the first anchor down. Their departure from Solomons was delayed until 1500 hours Saturday and they sailed & motored until 0200 hours when they entered Dymer Creek for a break. (Dymer Creek's markers are all lighted for easy entrance at night).

They departed for Carter Creek at 0700 hours and anchored in the bay behind the Tides Inn. *Walkabout* (Dave & Lois) also joined the cruise later that afternoon from Solomons. We had an enjoyable time exploring this beautiful creek by dinghy, kayak, and sail board, before an evening of camaraderie aboard *Piper*.

The next day was a short hop across the Rappahannock to the Urbanna Town Marina, one of our favorite destinations on the VA shore. Before crossing the river, *Patty K* explored the Eastern Branch of Carter Creek for a future anchorage. We spent two nights in town and explored the local shops and experienced the local

ambience with hamburgers and milk shakes at the old fashioned lunch counter at the drug store. Former SMSA member Dave Marchant (*Illumination*), who now lives in this area, joined



## Cruising Corner (cont.)

us for a happy hour visit and rounded out a nice group dinner at the "Dockside Restaurant". As we were leaving the restaurant, we ran into SMSA member Sarah Southworth who was in town with her boat *Moonlight Serenade* on the hard at the local marina for some engine repairs.

*Safina* left our flotilla after one day at Urbanna to return to Solomons for another commitment with intentions of rejoining us at Crisfield later in the week; however, some critical stuffing box repairs nixed their plan to return. The popular and excellent local Urbanna deli "Something Different" had just opened their new location near the marina, so we opted to visit them for a late morning brunch on Wednesday before leaving Urbanna for the West Branch of Corrotoman Creek. Their BBQ was quite tasty, as was the rest of the food ordered. Definitely on the must visit list next time.

A rainy but enjoyable evening greeted us in the Corrotoman. As we departed Corrotoman in the morning for the next anchorage, a strong NE blow provided a nice sail down the Rappahannock to Windmill Point, but after turning north to tack toward Dividing Creek we were pounding into heavy seas and stronger wind. While beating up the bay, *Serenity's* traveling boat cat discovered water coming over the floor boards, so they opted seek an early shelter in Dymer Creek for the night to sort things out. Fortunately, it was just an overfilled water tank that decided to spill over in the choppy seas.

On Friday we left the VA shore and motor sailed across the bay under pretty flat conditions, entering Tangier Sound from the south, and arriving at Crisfield in time for a swim and a stroll to the ice cream shop near the City Dock. The dock was destroyed by hurricane Sandy last year, but fortunately the ice cream shop survived. *Lickety Split* (Donna & Les) found enough wind to sail from Solomons and joined our fleet in Crisfield on Friday afternoon. Pat Schroeder got up early on Saturday morning to enter the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Crisfield Hard Crab Derby 10K/5K Run/Walk, and she carried the SMSA flag to a proud second place finish in the Women's 5K Walk event. Over the next few days, we took in the local festivities including crab races (*Ruste Nayle's* crab entry lost), crab picking contest (the winner picked almost 3 lbs of crab meat in 15 minutes), parade, boat docking contest, fireworks, and a couple more happy hours. The epicurean highlight was an SMSA fleet dinner at the "Waterman's Inn" which was as good as ever, and some even saved room to sample some of their famous special desserts.



On Monday, 2 September, a steady NE breeze provided us with a comfortable sail all the way home from Crisfield to Solomons, ending another memorable SMSA cruise.

## Cruising Corner (cont.)

### Happy Hour Raft-up Mill Creek (St Mary's) (7 – 8 Sep) – Rod Schroeder

Having just returned from an 11 day cruise south to VA and Crisfield, we couldn't pass up the gorgeous weather forecast for this weekend's happy hour raft-up in Mill Creek. Although the wind was very light we had fun working on our light wind techniques as *Ruste Nayle* (Rod & Pat) and *Walkabout* (Dave & Lois) slowly made their way up river, under the bridge, and around Pt Patience. *Ruste Nayle* and *Walkabout* pulled into Mill Creek in late afternoon and found *Piper* (Jerry & grandkids Emerson and Wyatt) already at anchor. Jerry and the kids were having a great time playing on the beach as *Ruste Nayle* and *Walkabout* rafted up on both sides of *Piper* while *Piper's* crew continued to enjoy the adventure ashore. Later as we munched on appetizers and sipped our favorite beverages, two more SMSA boats arrived. *Twice Around* (Shawn & Laura) and *Foxy Lady* (Spence & son Jacob) joined the raft and added to the party. The three youngsters seemed to have a good time exploring all the boats while the adults continued to solve the world's problems until dark when we broke up the raft for the night. All five boats remained overnight at anchor and found their way back to Solomons at their leisure on Sunday.



### San Domingo Creek (20 – 22 Sep) – Rich Freeman Cruise Leader

The *Patty K* (Rich & Patty) departed her slip at Spring Cove Marina at 0705 hours on Friday morning, heading for San Domingo Creek on the backside of St Michaels. It was a brisk 59° with sun and light winds from the south. Not enough to sail so we put out the headsail and motor-sailed up the bay. About 1030 hours we met *Safina* (Dennis & Carolyn) heading south from their trip to Oxford. Listening to the radio we established that *Ruste Nayle* (Rod & Pat), *Piper* (Jerry & Donna), and *Stingray* (Elliot & Alexa) were about an hour, or so, behind us. We entered Broad Creek and made the serpentine approach to San Domingo Creek, making sure we generously honored both the red and green markers entering the creek. We arrived at mid-tide and anchored in a little branch off the creek, offering some protection from the southwest winds and the stronger north winds that were expected Saturday night and Sunday. Within the next hour the three boats behind us and the Cal 35 *Serenity* (Carl & Martha) entered the creek and anchored nearby. *Stingray* had some motor problems and was towed into the creek by *Piper*. *Stingray* & *Piper* rafted further in the branch. Another boat from Solomons was anchored in the creek and we invited them over for happy hour aboard the *Patty K*. We had twelve folks in the cockpit and had a great happy hour, including a toast to newlyweds Alexa & Elliot. It was a calm and clear evening in the creek.

Everyone was on their own Saturday until 1730 hours for a get together at the Crab Claw restaurant. The weather report was predicting rain and wind for Saturday, but the latest forecast pushed it back until Saturday evening. It was a glorious day in St Michaels. The town was crowded with people shopping and eating and having a grand time. Patty and I supported the local economy by shopping at many of the stores and boutiques on the main street. There was even a street fair one street over that offered crafts and food. We ate at Ava's, a great little pizzeria that has a unique fare. The food is quite good and very reasonable. Some of the folks toured the Maritime Museum while others shopped.

## **Cruising Corner (cont.)**

We met at the Crab Claw and had a very good meal. Carl gets the meteorology award for predicting when the rain will arrive; he was less than five minutes off. We had all left our dinghies at the foot of Chew Street. The radar showed the rain to be not too intense, and it wasn't so far. We all got to our boats before the real rain and wind arrived. It was blowing and raining hard for several hours overnight and when we awoke Sunday morning the front had passed and we were facing north.

Sunday morning was bright and clear. We left the anchorage at 0700 hours and hoisted our sails at the mouth of Broad Creek, and sailed to Drum Point. From Red Nun 2 to the gas docks we mostly sailed wing on wing, in following seas. The winds were good, generally between 12 and 17 knots, and we made Solomons in a little more than six hours.

It is not too often that a cruise has favorable winds to the destination and then favorable winds home but this week-end did. Add in great weather on the water, and a beautiful fall day in St Michaels on Saturday and a great group of cruisers, this was probably the best cruise to St Michaels we have had.

### **On the Horizon**

As our formal cruising program comes to an end this month, there will still be some great Fall cruising opportunities to take advantage of. Give a shout-out to your fellow cruisers if you are looking for some company on an ad-hoc cruise this Fall. The two planned cruising events remaining include:

**Where the Wind Blows (5 - 6 Oct):** Destination is TBD. No cruise leader has been identified to date. Please contact Cruise Chairman Rod Schroeder at [rodschroeder@comcast.net](mailto:rodschroeder@comcast.net) or 301-752-5515 (cell) if you are interested in attending/leading this cruise.

**Halloween Cruise – St Leonard Creek (19 - 20 Oct):** No cruise leader has been identified to date. Please contact Cruise Chairman Rod Schroeder at [rodschroeder@comcast.net](mailto:rodschroeder@comcast.net) or 301-752-5515 (cell) if you are interested in attending/leading this cruise.



# FOR SALE

**The Baby**, Olson 25 E, #114. Purchased fall, 1988. Single owner. Raced and cruised. New (2011) Furlex furler with Quantum 135 racing genoa with foam luff and white UV cover, barely used. Work in 2011 includes removal of headliner and painting cabin interior, yard work to re-bed chainplates, replace anchor light and inspection/replacement of wiring/lights as necessary, bottom painting. Tohatsu 5 hp outboard (2000) repaired and tuned, May 2013. Cosmetic damage to bow pulpit. No trailer. Currently at BluHaven Piers, Ridge, Maryland. Asking \$12,500.

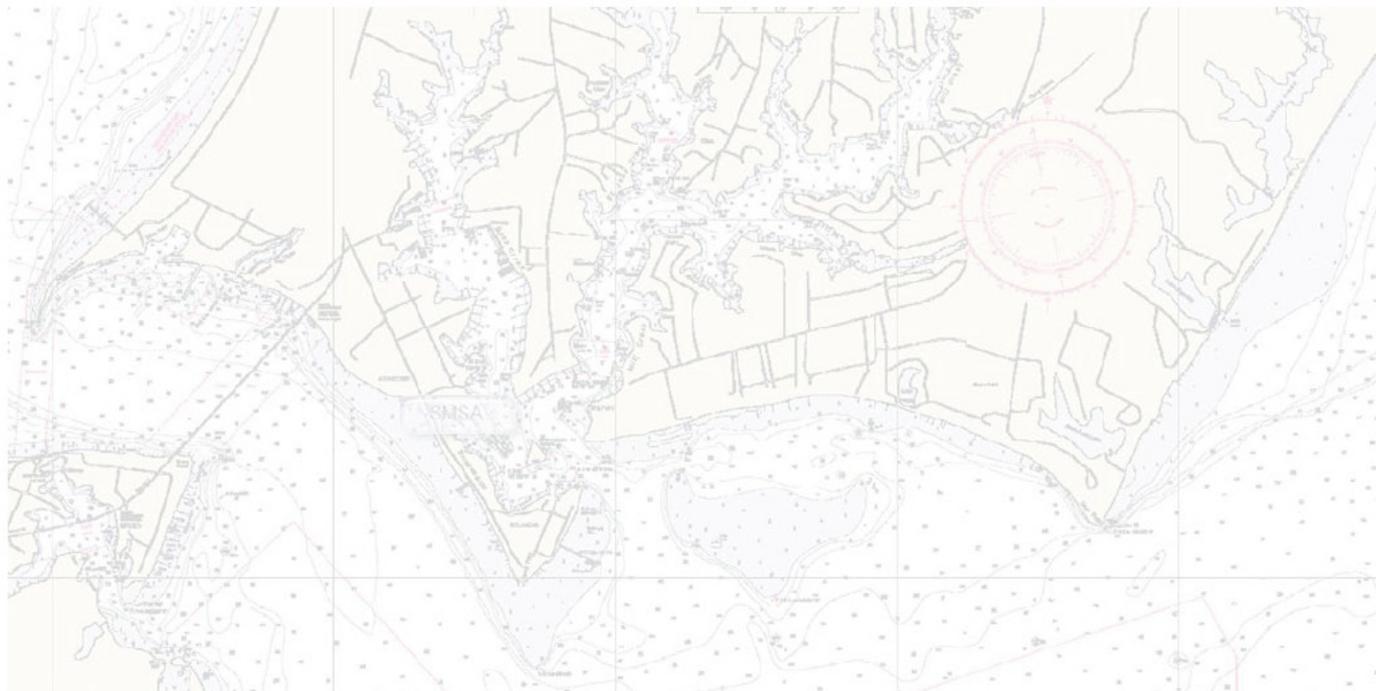
Rob & Sue Sloan, snrs@earthlink.net, 240-925-6415.





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

PLACE  
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October		
4	Fri	Friday Happy Hour
5	Sat	Hooper's/Point No Point Race (CBYRA)
5	Sat	Where The Wind Blows Cruise
6	Sun	Club Clean Up Day
6	Sun	Crab Feast
10	Thu	Annapolis Sailboat Show — Day 1
11	Fri	Friday Happy Hour
11	Fri	Commodore's Dinner
12	Sat	Ladies Night Out
14	Mon	BOD Meeting
16	Wed	Ballots in Mail
18	Fri	Friday Happy Hour
19	Sat	Fall Invitational (CBYRA)
19	Sat	Halloween Cruise
19	Sat	Chili Cookoff / Oyster Scald
25	Fri	Friday Happy Hour
26	Sat	Bucctoberfest
26	Sat	Halloween Festival
28	Mon	Chair Meeting

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November		
1	Fri	Perpetual Trophies Returned
1	Fri	Friday Happy Hour
2	Sat	Annual Meeting
3	Sun	Keelboat Frostbite Series
8	Fri	Friday Happy Hour
10	Sun	Keelboat Frostbite Series
15	Fri	Friday Happy Hour
16	Sat	Comedy Show
17	Sun	Keelboat Frostbite Series
20	Wed	Clew Inputs Due
22	Fri	Friday Happy Hour
24	Sun	Keelboat Frostbite Series
26	Tue	Chair Meeting
29	Fri	Friday Happy Hour

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