



Opening Day is fast approaching and NOW is the time for you to go to www.smsa.com and check the calendar to make sure you have your spring and summer ducks all in a row! SMSA has another fabulous racing and cruising schedule this year. We are already done with Frostbites, and Wednesdays and Thursdays start up soon.

BTW, in April and May the Wednesday night rendezvous will be held at the clubhouse. We will return to Zahniser's Pool Bar for Wednesday nights once the bar opens for the season Memorial Day weekend. Many thanks to Skip, Ellen, Sharkey, and the whole Z's crew for hosting us once again!

When you look at the brand new yearbook you'll receive this week, be sure to notice the sponsors who bought ads to support SMSA. When you see those folks around town, say "Thanks!".

We are always looking out for new members at SMSA, and are always interested in bringing new people into sailing. In that regard, SMSA will once again host a SpinSheet Crew Listing Party! Miller Lite Beer (Buck Distributing) is sponsoring, and we will have some free food and munchies. Cheap beverages, as always! Put Sunday, May 18th on your calendar. We expect to get things rolling around 5pm. It's your chance to meet new sailors, pick up new crew for your boat, find a ride for yourself, and just have an excuse to have a little bit of a party.

You will notice Jolie Homsher, Mardy Millen and the Facility Committee have done a bang-up job of sprucing up the clubhouse and lot. The club cleanup day was on March 22nd, and Jolie put everyone to work bringing a shine to the place. Some stuff has been moved around, and it all looks quite nice. Thanks to Jolie and all the other volunteers!



The Commodore's Corner

By Tim Flaherty
commodore@smsa.com

Tim!

Yearbooks Available!

Complimentary yearbooks will be available on Opening Day!

Be there or be square.

Can't make it, please contact communications@smsa.com

Commodore's Dinner

April 18th, 7pm

Italian Food!



Opening Day

April 5th, 2014

Schedule of Events:

9:30AM Doors Open - Brunch!

10:30AM Opening Ceremony

Come and join us for the flag raising ceremony along with Mimosas, Bloody Marys, and brunch!

Bring a Dish to share.



Afternoon:

Go for a sail during the afternoon, bring your kids, play some games or just hang out at the club. The clubhouse is open all day.

Evening Party:

Let's Celebrate the Start of a new Season!

6pm: Hourly drink specials starting at 6pm

Hors d'oeuvres and music all night.



Crew Listing Party - May 18th, 5pm

Want to join a sailing crew or know someone who does? Meet skippers and other sailors, find the boat that fits you.



Need Crew? Want to meet some excited new faces who want to sail?

Come join us at SMSA on the evening of May 18th and find a perfect fit!

There is a light snow falling as I write this article, and our Opening Day Cruise to St Leonard Creek is just a couple of weeks away. I hope everyone's Spring commissioning is on track in spite of the snow and cold weather – there will be fair weather soon as we start the cruising season.

Cruising Corner	
<i>Rod Schroeder, SMSA Cruise Chair</i>	
<i>cruise@smsa.com</i>	
<i>(H) 410-326-0167</i>	
<i>(C) 301-752-5515</i>	

Season Opener Cruise

April 12-13

The 2014 Cruise Schedule has been posted on the SMSA Calendar and on the cruise section of the web page. There are many opportunities to join your shipmates in a relaxed cruising mode with several local and/or distant destinations to choose from. In addition to our typical weekend cruises, this year's schedule includes several opportunities for an extended cruise to destinations such as Pocomoke City, Chestertown, York River, Cape Charles, Baltimore, and others. Please think about making reservations well in advance for some of these popular marina destinations. Stay tuned to "This Week at SMSA" email announcements for reminders and more information.

As previously announced, those of you who are making the trip to Baltimore with us for the Star Spangled Spectacular and the Tall Ships should have already made your slip reservations by now. Although Inner Harbor East is no longer holding slips for us, you may still be able to make reservations by calling Millie at Inner Harbor East at 410-625-1700, and let her know that you are affiliated with SMSA.

Now is the time to reserve your tickets for the Annapolis Summer Garden Theater presentation of "42nd Street" on 14 June during our Annapolis cruise (13 – 15 Jun). Although this date is a bit in the future, the theater tickets often sell out quickly for popular shows. You can make your reservation by phone at 410-268-9212.

Please contact me if you have any questions about the cruises, or are interested in volunteering to be a cruise leader.

Southern Bay Race Week

May 30th, 31st and June 1st,
Hampton Yacht Club has posted the NOR.
Register online at www.yachtscoring.com.

Register early for early bird rates. A Cruising class is also available.

For info go to:

[http://www.yachtscoring.com/
event_documents/981/flyer%20words%20
-%20regatta%20quick%20facts%20A2.pdf](http://www.yachtscoring.com/event_documents/981/flyer%20words%20-%20regatta%20quick%20facts%20A2.pdf)

Or go to the HYC main page at

<http://www.hamptonyc.com/>

Looking for your SMSA swag?

For those that ordered T-shirts, polo shirts, hats, bags, tech shirts, etc.:



Your order will be available on Opening Day at the clubhouse. Please stop in and join us for the festivities and get your loot!

Questions? Email webmaster@smsa.com

Bring out 'yer dinghies!!

Everyone, Smallboat season is upon us! We held our kickoff meeting on March 14th, and had a lively discussion on several topics of interest to the smallboat community. Here's a recap of some of things you can expect this coming season....



Mark and Glenn

Our sailing will kick off on Thursday April 10th. The first four Thursdays will constitute our "Warmup Series", and the SIs for this Series will be posted on the website shortly. In short, PFD use will be required and we are also using the 'rule of 120' to help determine if wetsuits/drysuits are required. If the sum of the water temperature and air temperature is less than 120, wet/drysuits will be required.

Following the Warmup Series, we will begin our regular Thursday Summer Series on May 8th, and will run for 16 events. We also plan to have a "Sundown Series" in the month of September.

If you go out into the yard, you will see our new hoist motor up and ready to go! Our old hoist motor is prepped and ready for use if we need it as a spare. We do ask everyone to NOT use the controller assembly to move the boom (that's what the rope is for!!). Mark is working on building a strain relief system into the controller assembly, to minimize any damage potential. Please help us keep our new equipment up and running!

Jeff Moore is helping us prep out the Carolina Girl for the season. We have new ignition keys to replace the one that was lost last year, and the final maintenance for the impeller/plugs/fuel filter will be complete in time for our first race.

We hope to see you out on Thursdays to compete/assist/support your club. See you on the water!

SMSA is looking for....

1. Clew Editor

Do you like desktop publishing? Are you interested in keeping up with SMSA events? Would you like to help others keep up with SMSA events?

2. Training and Education Chairperson

Do you like learning new things and providing others with the opportunity to learn? What do you want to learn about? Others probably want that too!

**If you're interested email
commodore@smsa.com**

Tech Spot:

How to add the SMSA calendar to your personal Google calendar

For all you tech-savvy people: if you have a Google account (or if you'd like to create one), you probably love the calendar feature. You'll love it even more when you can view your personal events and SMSA events at the same time! To do this, go to your Google calendar and, underneath 'Other Calendars,' click Add by URL.

Here's the URL to add:

<http://www.google.com/calendar/ical/qIn98pf7cq2b1bnq42q2h59bag%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics>

Notes from the Bar....

We had 16 members become TAM certified in February. We now have a total of 28 TAM certified club members. These volunteers serve a vital role for the Bar and enable us to comply with county regulations for our liquor license. (Calvert county liquor licensing regulations require a TAM to be present while serving alcohol). You do not need to be TAM certified to bartend, but a TAM must be present on site.

Managing the SMSA Bar

This season the SMSA bar will be open for Friday night socials, Wednesday night Keel boat races (before we transition to Zahniser's), Thursday night small boat races, and for all other scheduled regattas and special events. Our bar is possible with the help of volunteer bartenders, TAM certified members and the Bar Manager. While we hold spring, summer and Fall series events at the clubhouse, the race committee is encouraged to find a TAM and bartender to open and close the bar for the race event.

Any member who is 18 or older can bartend at the club. If you are not certified, simply contact the Bar Manager at barmanager@smsa.com and request a TAM present. With 28 TAM certified members, fulfilling this requirement is easy.

In support of the effort to make SMSA more accessible to its members, the refrigerators, liquor cabinet and bar storage are now locked. This will allow other areas of the club to be accessible to members. All TAM certified members have the combinations. The building has always been locked, but we would like to allow all of our members access to full use of the facilities. This requires locking the liquor and beer up separately. We are still allowing access to the bar area so that members can obtain ice, use the refrigerator, microwave, and partake in non-alcoholic drinks. A small refrigerator will be placed in the bar to keep water and soda cold as well.

New! Online sign up for Bar Tending

There is a new online form to sign up for Bar Tending. Visit SMSA.com and click on the facilities link to access the TAM/Bartender schedule. Simply select the block you would like to sign up for and enter your name! If you signed up for an event and have a change of plans on short notice, please find another volunteer to replace you.

Trash and recycling:

SMSA has a new contract for trash and recycling. The containers are located on the front right side of the building. Bar trash and recycling can now go out every night.

And finally, thank you Mike Major for crafting a new chalk board for the bar!



Keelboat Race Audibles

Contact: keelboatrace@smsa.com

Ahoy! I'd like to thank Jimmy and Les for helping launch the SMSA marks in preparation for our Spring Frostbites. A good turnout of 7 boats of hardy sailors came out for some steady breezes and a nice course set by our volunteer Race Committees.

The Races were followed by story-swapping and late lunch at the clubhouse. The first three weeks we were re-educated on the racing rules by Dan Trammel. Thanks, Dan! A good amount to digest along with lunch.

Our Wednesday night series starts April 9th. I suspect some of you have not yet received your 2014 PHRF certificate yet. Don't let that keep you off the course! If you had one last year, the Scorer will use that one on the provisional scores; if you made changes to your configuration or are expecting a new rating, we'll amend the results. Email your copy to Score@smsa.com.

A few changes from PHRF this year brought to my attention by John Kriz:

- Each crewmember shall have a personal safety knife.
- A boat shall carry a GPS receiver.
- A boat shall carry an electronic means to record the position of a man overboard within ten seconds.

Reference: http://www.phrfchesbay.org/docs/PHRF_Equip_Regs.pdf



Mark

The Race Circular has been sent to the printer but I wanted to socialize a change in this year's program that I discussed at the keelboat racer planning meeting and further discussed with Scott Patterson, Vice Commodore. You will see for the first time a group of three races which I am calling Fleet Building / Mentoring. They will be stand-alone races not scored toward a series. They will fall on three consecutive Wednesday nights between the SMSA "A" series and the Z's series: May 28th, June 4th and June 11th. The purpose of these races is to remove obstacles to racing to get more boats on the line. That means you don't have to have a rating, you don't have to have a flag on your backstay, you don't need to have paid seasonal race fees, you don't have to be a club member — but it's encouraged you have one onboard as a mentor. We hope you have so much fun you'll want to join up for the rest of the season.

Current racers please foster and encourage new skippers to bring their boats out. Experienced skippers might put new crew, juniors or women on the helm. Experienced crew might get off their stable program for a week or two and sail with a friend or neighbor. Welcome back for a guest appearances Akoni, Priority One, Crocodile, Pursuit, and a second Navy "Goose".

The plan is to run three starts with the same flags everyone is used to seeing. Any boat can start in any race. (I'll set a long line, I'm RC for the first one.) This means if you're new, you can start in the first one and get going, or you can start in the last one to stay out of the way if you're more comfortable. Or hint...hint... you can put a new helmsperson on and have them do three starts, three weeks in a row. I will point Go Pros at the line if you have one. Bring your cruiser out and take it around the buoys. Let's make it fun for everyone.

If we use our crewfinder Yahoo group or Happy Hour chats we should have no trouble finding new crew to round out some boats that might be short.

Intro to Sailing Open House

Friday, April 18th, 6pm

Invite your friends and pass the word. SMSA is having an Intro to Sailing Open House. Learn some basics about sailing, see what is available in the local area for sailing, find out how to learn to sail, and meet some new folks.



Intro to Racing Tactics

Sunday, May 4th, 4pm

Already know how to sail and want to know how to Race? Come join us for an evening of introductory tactics and an intro to racing. Perfect for the beginner racer or for those that want to hone their skills.



Boat Owners Association of The United States

Looking for a discount on your BoatUS insurance?

Use SMSA's Co-op Group ID:

GA82233S

RC Boat Checkout

Tuesday, May 13th, 5:30pm

Want to learn how to operate the RC Boat? Come by and we'll show you!

SMSA New Members

The SMSA Board of Directors approved several new members earlier this month!

Please welcome **Larry and Floraisa Mattivi** and their children, Isabel and Joey, sponsored by Kristi Yurko. Larry discovered his love of the water when he joined the Navy in 1975, though he didn't purchase his first sailboat until 1990 shortly after moving to Calvert County. He is currently between boats at the moment, but I'm sure our membership can help fix that! Larry taught boater safety classes with the Coast Guard Auxiliary for many years, and hopefully we will benefit from his experience.

Please welcome **Mark and Mary DelBianco**, sponsored by Jimmy Yurko. Mark and Mary are experienced crabbers, but novice sailors. They live in Kensington and spend a lot of time at their house in Hollywood Shores. Mary is an accomplished ceramics artist, and has recently had pieces in two shows at AnnMarie Garden, as well as in galleries in Glen Echo and Rockville, MD, and Leesburg, VA. Mark is a telecommunications and Internet lawyer.

(Continued from page 7)

Please welcome **Laurie and Jeffrey Stone**, sponsored by Ed Sierra. Laurie is a board member for the Southern Maryland Sailing Foundation and event manager for Sail 4 Youth (hosted this year at SMSA). Daughter, Paige, participated in SMSA youth camp programs for four years and currently sails for her high school team!

Please welcome **Branch and Wendy Taylor**, sponsored by Larry Ray. Branch and Wendy have lived in Solomons since 2005 and own a 30ft. Seidelmann. Branch started racing last year with his friend and neighbor (and SMSA member) Larry Ray after he purchased his J70 - "JRay". They really enjoyed the experience and all the great people they met last season so they wanted to join SMSA to become more involved with organization and also improve their racing skills.

Please welcome **George and Courtney Criswell**, sponsored by Jimmy Yurko. George and Courtney look forward to getting active in the club once George is stationed at Pax River with the Marines Corps. This will be his last commitment prior to retiring after 20 years of service. Their home base is in Old Town Alexandria -- where they bought their first home. Courtney handles government affairs for KIPP charter schools. They're looking forward to exploring more of Maryland beginning in September when George's new orders begin. They both love being out on the water... Courtney grew up sailing and received her first sabot on her 5th birthday. She raced sailboats throughout her youth on the coast of Southern California, sailed at the collegiate level at the University of Southern California, and taught youngsters to sail in the summers at Balboa Yacht Club. George started sailing while stationed in San Diego and instantly loved being a part of the sailing community. Their vacations are often spent sailing to and from Catalina Island with their extended family. They are looking forward to meeting new friends through SMSA and spending time sailing on the eastern shore soon too!

Flag Etiquette

This article was included in many of the past Yearbooks. We felt it prudent to dust it off. Enjoy!

From time to time most of us have occasion to fly the flag of our country, the SMSA burgee, and other flags from our boats. Presumably, we do this to honor the entities they represent. We do not, however honor our country, association, or any other entity by flying its flag incorrectly. This section is provided to help SMSA members fly their flags properly in order to convey the intended compliment and avoid the appearance of ignorance, and even insult, that an incorrect flag display can present. If we are going to fly a flag or burgee, we should do so in a way that says we are proud of it. This is not the statement made by a dirty, faded, or tattered flag. Indeed, it is better not to fly a flag than to display a pathetic remnant of a once proud symbol. The condition of the flag or burgee that you fly will be seen as your statement of what you think of the entity that it represents.

The national flag is flown at the stern of the boat, either 2/3 of the way up the leech of the aftermost sail, or from a staff on the stern. It is flown from 0800 to sunset when at

2014 Junior Sailing Camp Registration Now OPEN!!!

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(Continued from page 8)

anchor, day and night underway. We also see it correctly flown in these waters from the starboard spreader of a foreign vessel which is displaying its own national colors on a sailboat. No other flag (other than, in US waters, the yacht ensign) should be flown in the place of the national flag. The yacht ensign, with an anchor surrounded by 13 stars in place of the 50-star field, can be used in place of the national flag in US waters. It should be accorded the same precedence as the national flag when displayed.

There is a proper size for the national flag, which depends on the size of the boat. The formula is one inch of flag length per foot of boat length, going to the next larger standard size when that can't be met exactly. According to Chapman's*, club burgees are ideally flown from a small staff above the masthead, but antennas, lights, and meteorological instruments up there often preclude this. Personal flags, such as officer or private signals, are flown from a halyard at the end of the starboard spreader. The starboard spreader is also the correct location for the SMSA burgee when the masthead location is impractical.

Burgees and officer or private signals represent affiliations of persons on board. They should be flown day or night when the persons entitled to them are on board, but should not be left flying when these people are absent. In particular, they should not be left up while the boat lies unoccupied in its slip for extended periods.

This hoist to the starboard spreader will often contain a number of flags. The order of the flags on the starboard spreader hoist shows the relative precedence you attach to them. (Thus, in foreign waters, you should never fly anything above or outboard of the flag of that country.) If you fly a state flag, it should be the top flag. Next should be the SMSA burgee, and those of any other yacht clubs to which persons on board belong. Below these are flag officer signals, then private signals.

The SMSA burgee was designed by Dr. William Boyd, Jr., one of the charter members of SMSA. He applied his knowledge of heraldry to adapt the Maryland flag (which originated as the coat of arms of the Lord Baltimore) to the configuration of a triangular pennant. The red and white quarter of the Crossland family arms combines with the gold and black quarter of the Calverts to make the striking burgee which we so proudly fly today. The burgee appears in the flag display book of Lloyds Registry, and Dr. Boyd still has the original watercolor in his possession. The burgee is flown with the white corner up, just as the Crossland quarter appear in the Maryland flag. The upper left is the most prestigious position on a coat of arms, so try to remembering "white is right". To help the uniformed crew member get it right, try putting an arrow by the upper grommet.

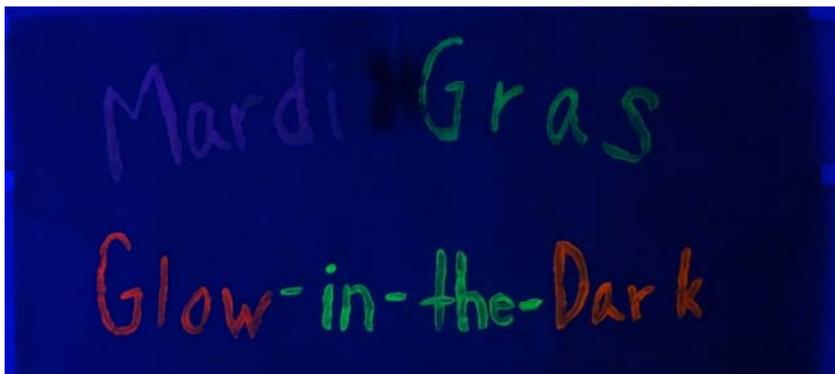
*For more information on flag etiquette, see chapter 22 of Chapman's Piloting, Seamanship and Small Boat Handling, Hearst Marine Books, New York.

Thank you to everyone that attended the Mardi Gras Glow in the Dark Party! A great time was had by all!

The drinks were flowing and the blacklights made for an exciting night.

A big thank you to Lisa Flaherty, Robin Witte, Nichole Doub, and Karen McCarthy for their help with decorations and food. The event could not have happened without you.

Thank you to Sonia Durniak for painting the signs and decorating.



Kristi



There is so much going on at SMSA, that we had to move the calendar off the back page! Check out what's happening. There is something for everyone.

April			
04	Fri	5:00p	Friday Happy Hour
05	Sat	9:30a	Opening Day—Doors open for Brunch
05	Sat	10:30a	Opening Day Ceremony
05	Sat	Noon	Games and Sailing!
05	Sat	6:00p	Opening Day Evening Party
09	Wed	6:30p	Keelboat Race Series
10	Thu	6:30p	Small Boat Summer Series
11	Fri	5:00p	Friday Happy Hour
12	Sat	—	Season Opener Cruise
16	Wed	6:30p	Keelboat Race Series
17	Thu	6:30p	Small Boat Summer Series
18	Fri	5:00p	Commodore's Dinner
18	Fri	5:00p	Friday Happy Hour
18	Fri	6:00p	Intro to Sailing Open House
20	Sun	—	Clew Inputs Due
23	Wed	6:30p	Keelboat Race Series
24	Thu	6:30p	Small Boat Summer Series
25	Fri	5:00p	Friday Happy Hour
26	Sat		Little Choptank Race
27	Sun		Spring Invitational Race
28	Mon	7:00p	Chair Meeting
30	Wed	6:30p	Keelboat Race Series

May			
01	Thu	6:30p	Small Boat Summer Series
02	Fri	5:00p	Friday Happy Hour
03	Sat	—	SMSA Happy Hour Raft-Up
04	Sun	4pm	Intro to Racing and Tactics
07	Wed	6:30p	Keelboat Race Series
08	Thu	6:30p	Small Boat Summer Series
09	Fri	5:00p	Friday Happy Hour
10	Sat	—	Cruise South to Pocomoke Begins
12	Mon	7:00p	BOD meeting
13	Tue	5:30p	RC Boat Checkout Class
14	Wed	6:30p	Keelboat Race Series
15	Thu	6:30p	Small Boat Summer Series
16	Fri	5:00p	Friday Happy Hour
16	Fri	7:00p	Commodores Dinner: Italian
17	Sat	—	Keelboat Double Handed Race
18	Sun	—	Frost-Goode Race
18	Sun	5:00p	Crew Listing Party
20	Tue	—	Clew Inputs Due
21	Wed	6:30p	Keelboat Race Series
22	Thu	6:30p	Small Boat Race Series
23	Fri	5:00p	Friday Happy Hour
26	Mon	7:00p	Chair Meeting
28	Wed	6:30p	Keelboat Race Series
29	Thu	6:30p	Small Boat Summer Series
30	Fri	5:00p	Friday Happy Hour
31	Sat	—	Happy Hour Raft Up

For more details, visit www.smsa.com, click on Calendar, then click the item that interests you.



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 \$1,050
 Phone: 240-434-1312
 Email: jimmydyurko@gmail.com





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

PLACE
STAMP
HERE



April 2014 Volume 44 Number 4

Opening Day

April 5th, 2014

Schedule of Events:

9:30a: Doors Open. Mimosas, Bloody Marys, and Brunch (Bring a Dish to Share)

10:30a: Opening Ceremony and Flag Raising

Afternoon: Go for a sail or paddle—use the club boats and kayaks. Bring the kids to play air hockey, darts, ping pong, and corn hole. Or just come and enjoy the day.

6pm: Hourly Drink Specials Begin

Evening Party: Let's Celebrate the Start of a new Season!

Hors d'oeuvres and music all night.