



The Commodore's Corner

By Tim Flaherty
commodore@smsa.com

September and October usually represent the two best sailing months of the season, and this

month SMSA has a full slate of stuff going on! The Cruising Program's Cape Charles, South week-long cruise is coming up starting September 12th. On September 13th the Women's Fall Series Regatta takes place. The always popular Sharp's Island Race comes up September 19th. The two-day Small Boat Invitational is scheduled for the last weekend of the month. Wednesday keelboat races continue through September 16th, and the Thursday dinghy series doesn't wrap up until September 24th.



On the social side, SMSA will host the Plein Air Festival Quickdraw Competition on Thursday night, September 17th, with art remaining on display in our clubhouse throughout the weekend. We will have a Commodore's Dinner on Friday, September 19th. The SMSA Crab Feast on Saturday, September 26th offers a chance to have crabs and other foods at a terrific price. All this is in addition to our regular Friday Happy Hours and open bar after most club-based sailing events. By the way, there is NO off-shore powerboat regatta in Solomons this year, so we don't have to worry about that distraction!

See the blurb in this issue about declaring your candidacy for the upcoming Officer and Board of Directors elections. We really could use YOU to take an active role in your club!

Jim!

Now taking nominations for the 2016 officer, director, and program chair positions!

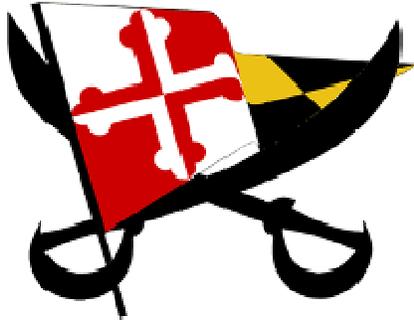
Want to help out, but don't want to be in charge? We also have things for you!

Contact Jimmy Yurko at
240-434-1312 or
jimmydyurko@gmail.com

WE NEED
YOU!



45TH ANNUAL BNAC



PLUNDER ON THE
CHESAPEAKE BAY
SOLOMON'S ISLAND, MD

Buccaneer 18 North American Championships

Hosted by SMSA, October 1-3

Help is needed for this event!

Please contact Jimmy and Kristi Yurko at
jimmydyurko@gmail.com or
kristi.yurko@gmail.com

to see how you can help.

Special Order SMSA Merchandise TODAY!

Back by popular demand—we are placing another SMSA Merchandise order!

Orders due by October 15th and will be available for pickup at the Annual meeting.

Big hits are long sleeve tech shirts, fleece vests, polo shirts, visors, and canvas bags.

Purchase online at smsa.com or email webmaster@smsa.com with questions about color choices, etc.



Smallboat 2 Day Invitational Regatta

September 26–27, 2015

Open to all small mono-hull boats of less than 21 ft. 6in.LOA. Expected classes are Laser, Buccaneer, Lightning, and Portsmouth Handicap.

Registration Discount if you register before September 12th! Registration accepted until 09:30 Sept 26.



ANOTHER SELL-OUT AT SMSA FOR SCOTT KIRBY

The Scott Kirby concert at SMSA on August 9th was not only another sellout, it set a record: our guest list was at capacity nine full days before the concert. This is the quickest the now-annual event has ever As always, Scott was full of sailing stories that revealed his down-to-earth nature and displayed his gift for capturing our sailing souls in song. For this year's SMSA show Scott was accompanied by Grammy nominee Lew London, who played violin and several flavors of guitar.

Many SMSA volunteers need to be thanked for helping to make the day an overwhelming success: Lisa Flaherty used her persuasive nature to sell most of the tickets, especially to out-of-town guests. Lynn Roland came early and cut fruit and made sure the bar was set. Megan Hildenberger retrieved forty red chairs from the SMSA attic and brought them downstairs all by herself. Betsy Dodge, Kris Young and Ronnie Spicuzza tended the bar. Jim Young, Rylee Young, Herb Reese, Polly Traynham, Kristi Decker and Vicky Sandvig worked the door and/or sold drink and food tickets. Cindy and Gary Lohman rode in on white horseback at the eleventh hour and made sure we had proper food service for our guests. Vicki Sandvig and Rob Herbig assisted with duties on the grill. All of the above, plus other members, helped make the cleanup process go quickly and smoothly. The event was chaired by Commodore Tim Flaherty.



Major sponsorship for the Scott Kirby concert came from the Solomons Holiday Inn Conference Center and Marina (John Simpson, Lauren Simpson and Family), and by Corona Extra (thanks to the Bozick Family and Bozick Distributing). Other support in the way of door prizes and promotion was received from Landshark Beer (Bob Hall Distributing) and from Buck Distributing (Miller Light and Yuengling). When you see some of these folks around town, be sure to thank them for supporting SMSA.

CHOPTANK RIVER CRUISE..... MIXED COUPLES RACE...COMING UP

Cruising Corner

Rod Schroeder, SMSA Cruise Chair
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CHOPTANK RIVER CRUISE 25 July – 2 August 2015



FRESH CUP MORNING JOE

Patty K Too (Rich Freeman & Patty Kimmel) departed Solomons early on Saturday morning with a light breeze and mostly motor sailed on their way to San Domingo Creek for our first stop in the Choptank River cruising grounds. **Ruste Nayle** (Rod & Pat Schroeder) departed Solomons later in morning and found that all the wind had been used up so continued motor-ing toward San Domingo Creek. As we moved further up the bay enough wind returned to give us a nice sail into the Choptank and up to Broad Creek on the way to San Domingo. Both boats had anchors set by early afternoon and decided to take a dinghy ride into St Michaels. We strolled through the crowded town checking out some new shops, as well as old favorites, and soon found ourselves at our favorite ice cream shop, Justine's, where we opted for a pre-dinner dessert.



POWER SHOPPING

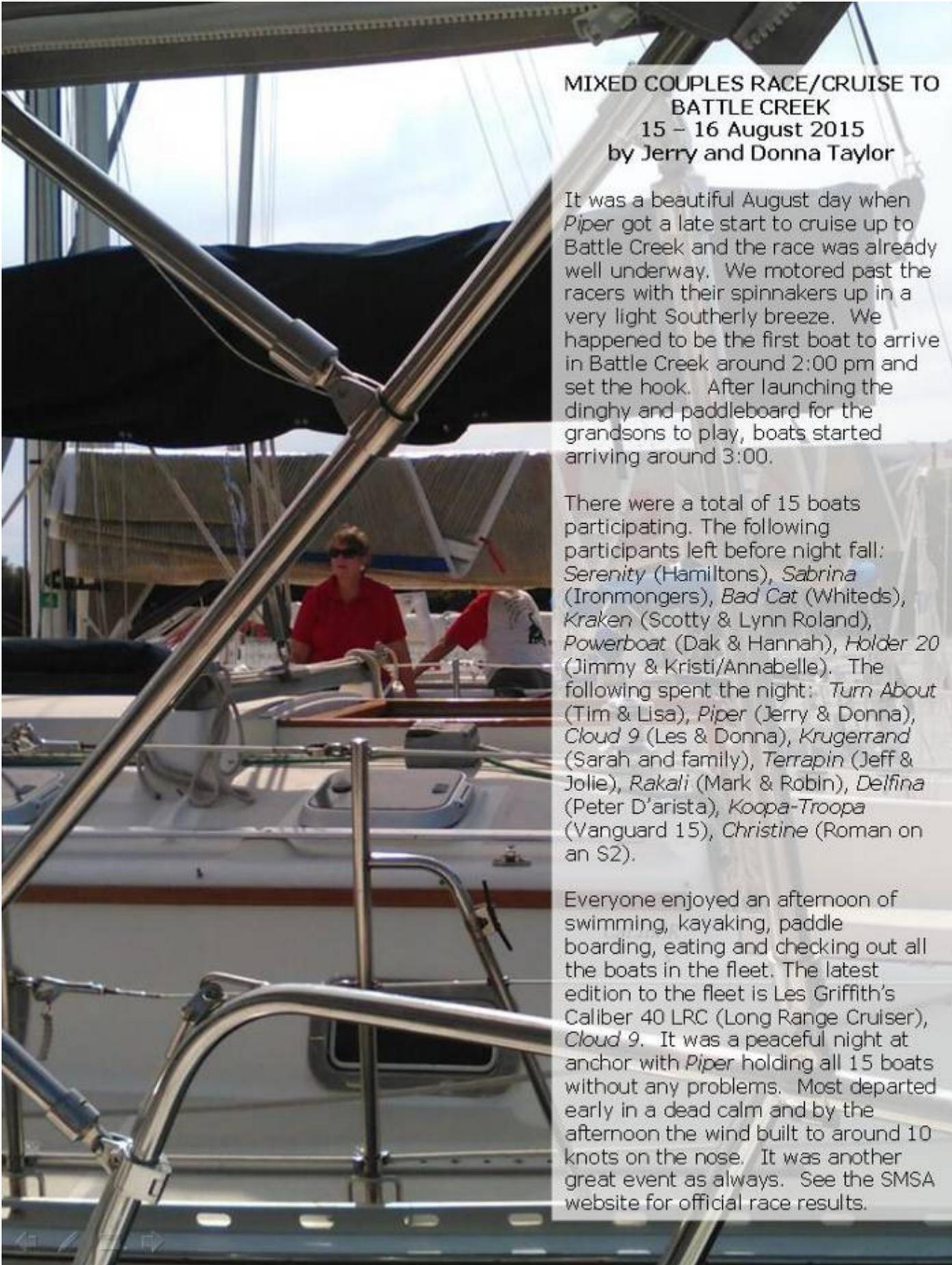
The town seemed especially busy, probably due to Log Canoes in town for a race as well as Carnival Weekend for the St Michaels Fire Department. Before heading back to our boats for the evening we enjoyed unique and delicious pizza dinners at the popular Ava's Pizzeria & Wine Bar, followed by a typical Eastern Shore parade of community princes and princesses and display of local fire engine companies. A nice breeze blew throughout the night to give us a bit of cooling from the daytime heat. Sunday morning activities ashore included an aerobic walk for the ladies while the guys discovered and sampled a great new coffee house in town. The aroma was delightful as the special beans are fresh roasted daily right behind the counter.

The trip to town in the morning was short, and we returned to our boats for some kayaking and naps. The afternoon trip ashore included more ice cream at Justine's and another dining experience at Ava's where we were joined by an interesting all female owner/crew of another Catalina 445 with the sequential hull number to **Patty K Too**. These two sailors were doing a thorough exploration of the east coast before planning to head south to the islands in the fall.

On Monday, **Ruste Nayle** returned to Solomons to meet other commitments, and **Patty K Too** remained in San Domingo Creek for another couple of nights, as Patty needed to make a quick road trip back to work for important business. **Patty K Too** then continued on to Oxford for a night before returning to Solomons on Thursday to complete a shortened cruise during one of the hottest weeks of the summer.



PIZZA AND WINE WITH FRIENDS



**MIXED COUPLES RACE/CRUISE TO
BATTLE CREEK
15 - 16 August 2015
by Jerry and Donna Taylor**

It was a beautiful August day when *Piper* got a late start to cruise up to Battle Creek and the race was already well underway. We motored past the racers with their spinnakers up in a very light Southerly breeze. We happened to be the first boat to arrive in Battle Creek around 2:00 pm and set the hook. After launching the dinghy and paddleboard for the grandsons to play, boats started arriving around 3:00.

There were a total of 15 boats participating. The following participants left before night fall: *Serenity* (Hamiltons), *Sabrina* (Ironmongers), *Bad Cat* (Whiteds), *Kraken* (Scotty & Lynn Roland), *Powerboat* (Dak & Hannah), *Holder 20* (Jimmy & Kristi/Annabelle). The following spent the night: *Turn About* (Tim & Lisa), *Piper* (Jerry & Donna), *Cloud 9* (Les & Donna), *Krugerrand* (Sarah and family), *Terrapin* (Jeff & Jolie), *Rakali* (Mark & Robin), *Delfina* (Peter D'arista), *Koopa-Troopa* (Vanguard 15), *Christine* (Roman on an S2).

Everyone enjoyed an afternoon of swimming, kayaking, paddle boarding, eating and checking out all the boats in the fleet. The latest edition to the fleet is Les Griffith's Caliber 40 LRC (Long Range Cruiser), *Cloud 9*. It was a peaceful night at anchor with *Piper* holding all 15 boats without any problems. Most departed early in a dead calm and by the afternoon the wind built to around 10 knots on the nose. It was another great event as always. See the SMSA website for official race results.

Cruising Corner – Coming Up

12 Sept – 18 Sept, 2015: Cape Charles Cruise South.

Make your plans now for this month's cruise south to the York River and Cape Charles. Easy access to historic Yorktown attractions. Access to historic Jamestown or Williamsburg is doable but requires outside transportation arrangements since the Historic Triangle Shuttle is no longer operating.

Call York River Yacht Haven at [804-642-2156](tel:804-642-2156) to make slip reservations for 13 & 14 Sep – tell them you are with the SMSA group in order to get the discount.

Call Cape Charles Town Harbor at [757-331-2357](tel:757-331-2357) to make slip reservations for 15 & 16 Sep – let them know that you are with the SMSA group.

Please contact the Cruise Chairman, Rod Schroeder, for information and to let him know that you plan to join the cruise. rodschroeder@comcast.net, Cell [301-752-5515](tel:301-752-5515), Home [410-326-0167](tel:410-326-0167).

2015 Vice Commodore's Cup

This year's Vice Commodore's Cup took place on Friday August 7th from SMSA Race Mark B to Corinthian Yacht Club (CYC) over on the Potomac River.

The start was at 1830 with winds out of the east with a sustained 16-19 knots with 4 to 5 foot waves. We had three boats participate this year: Short Bus (Henderson 30), Delta Foxtrot Lima (Catalina 27), and Jimmy Yurko's Buccaneer 18.

Needless to say that was quite a spread of boats! What was originally anticipated to be a long overnight race wound up being pretty short with all boats finishing before 11:30 PM.

On Saturday August 8th, CYC hosted SMSA for a nice potluck style picnic which was a great time. Many thanks to CYC for hosting the event, all the people who participated in the race, and to everyone who showed up for the picnic.

Cheers, Ed Sierra Vice Commodore

SMSA Annual Crab Feast

September 26, 6pm

\$15/ticket

Additional crabs for sale by the half dozen. Final price depends on Market Price. (last year's fee was \$5 for 6 crabs.) **Don't like crabs? We'll have the grill on. Hot dogs and hamburgers available.**

Includes 6 crabs, sides, non-seafood entrée options, and dessert

Purchase tickets at www.smsa.com or contact social@smsa.com!

This year's event is being held in conjunction with the Small Boat 2 day invitational regatta and will **not** be potluck.



Buccaneer Bash

A Benefit for Youth Sailing in Southern Maryland

Friday, October 2nd at 6:30pm

Doors open at 5:30pm

Where: Southern Maryland Sailing Association
14490 Solomons Island Rd, Solomons, MD

Tickets are \$30 per person

Includes dinner, live music by the local band Coastline, cash bar and a silent auction and raffle in support of the Southern Maryland Sailing Foundation.

SMSF supports youth and community sailing by providing capital equipment to organized junior instruction, high school racing, and sailing training programs. SMSF also provides special funding for gifted competitive racing sailors.

Go to www.smsailingfound.org to purchase tickets

SOUTHERN MARYLAND SAILING FOUNDATION

The Southern Maryland Sailing Foundation, Inc., is a charitable corporation supporting youth sailing in Southern Maryland and is recognized under Section 501 (c)(3) by the Internal Revenue Service. Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. EIN 31-1673295

Someday is Here...

By Jimmy Yurko

Someday may never be here. Pick a day, and make it your someday. We don't always know what our someday is, or whether it is worth pursuing. Friday August 7th was one of the days that I decided that I was going to do something different. That night, my crew (Jolie Homsher) and I sailed my Buccaneer 18 28-miles from Solomons Island to Ridge. If that doesn't sound very interesting to you, you're not alone. But this story might be worth reading.

Now this wasn't any form of record breaking adventure; to my crew and myself, this was just about getting out and doing something we had never done before.

The boat was prepared in the same way I always prepare it, no special modifications were made. I did pack quite a bit of extra safety gear, including a pair of specialty transmitter/strobe devices that would assist a rescue crew in finding us if either of us were to be separated from the boat. These were borrowed from very good, and helpful friends Jim & Barbara Whited.

We set out around 6 PM from the docks at SMSA with paddle in hand. The wind in the creek was light, and we didn't have much time to waste, as daylight was not going to last long. The SMSA Vice Commodore's race to Corinthian Yacht Club was intended for larger offshore & inshore cruising and racing type boats, not for unballasted dinghies. I had been considering doing the trip on my Buccaneer since before the event and dates were officially announced. A bit of luck and coincidence provided the opportunity to go at this time. We opted for making the trip during the race because of the likelihood of having other sailors in close proximity for safety sake.

We started about 20 minutes behind the other boats in the fleet--as a sail-only boat...you get to the starting area (mouth of the Patuxent River, approximately a mile and a half from our launch point at the clubhouse) when the wind allows. The other boats in the race were already underway by the time we got there. We could see them out ahead. We were optimistic that we would be able to make up some of our lost time on the course due to favorable wind conditions.

Once off onto the course the northeast breeze was powerful enough to really push our boat pretty hard. In order to get out of the river, we had to sail the first mile or two with the sails in pretty tight (close reach) and hiking out over the edge of the boat pretty hard. The winds were around 10-12 knots and the waves were around a foot or two in height. This was rather tiring, and would have been extremely difficult...possibly impossible for us to keep up for much longer than the few miles that we sailed before passing the Cedar Point Lighthouse & Patuxent River day marks. Once we entered the Chesapeake Bay we were able to bear away from the wind & start sailing on a broad reach, with our sails out a little farther, and still hiking out to keep the boat flat.



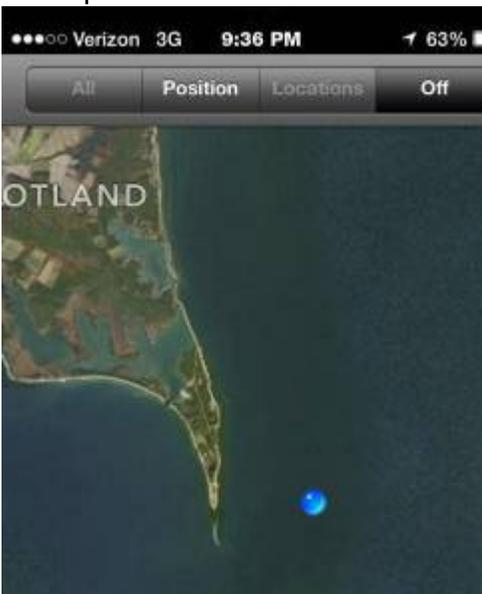
Someday is Here ... (continued)

At the confluence of the river & bay the waves became much larger than they were in the river. The wind was stronger as well. We were averaging around 10 knots of boat speed (over ground). After about an hour of sailing, the wind appeared to be getting a little lighter, and shifting aft. Within the first few minutes after setting the pole the wind came back to our left, and regained strength. We sailed with the spinnaker pole up at the ready to launch until shortly before sunset, and concluded that we were not going to need it this night.



Shortly before dark we came to pass "Delta Foxtrot Lima", Ed Sierra's Catalina 27, By this point in the night we were averaging around 10 knots of boat speed reaching down the bay. I was asked after the race by a friend (Curt Hamilton) if we drove up or down the waves when they approached, my only answer was YES. Each wave was different. Some came from directly behind and we lifted up on top of them as if we were perched on a post. If our speed matched the speed of the wave, we would surf there for quite some time. If the wave was faster than us, it would crash over our stern...but usually we were faster than the waves, so we just sailed along the faces of them.

Early in the night we had quite a bit of light shimmering on the water. As time passed, we realized that what light we had was going away quickly, the cloud cover was getting thicker, and the hope of starlight was minimal. Fortunately the shore had plenty of lights to provide navigation (we just had to interpret them correctly), and the waves were visible enough to sail by. Jolie watched the backward to warn me of oncoming waves, as I watched forward. It was tiresome, as the conditions didn't change much and the need for tacking was non-existent. Despite finding a relatively comfortable hiking/sitting position on the rail, my legs were starting to cramp.



Around 9:30 we started to see the lights of Point Lookout. Our pace was so fast that we arrived well ahead of when we anticipated. We discussed the lights and tried to figure out exactly where we were. The course wasn't complicated: follow the shore, enter the Potomac River at Point Lookout and turn up the Potomac. It isn't as obvious when everything is black. Fortunately Jolie had brought along her phone and had GPS software that allowed us to not only identify our location, but to send updates back to shore as to our location.

Upon reaching Point Lookout, we made a few navigation mistakes; we initially tacked to head west about a 1/4 mile too soon. We were heading straight for shore. It didn't take long to realize that we were sailing straight for the beach, not the Potomac River. We tacked again to head back out to the bay. Once getting near the confluence of the Potomac and the bay it became quite obvious as to where we were. The waves and sea state changed greatly. The waves were very confused, seeming to come from all directions. The Point Lookout light was now clearly to our starboard side. We were two hours ahead of our expectations; we turned up the Potomac around 10:00.

Someday is Here ... (continued)

Turning into the Potomac was extremely relieving. The NNE wind direction provided for perfectly flat water, and plenty of wind to move quickly up the river. The lack of large waves, and much lighter wind allowed us to start to enjoy the night sailing much more. One of the best things about sailing at night in the bay and rivers here is the underwater light show. The water here is filled with bio-luminescent jellyfish; when you're sailing through at a fast pace in calm water your trail is lit up like a green spotted comet!

We sailed close to shore to aid with navigation, often too close; I was watching the horizon, and closer to avoid crab pot buoys when I spotted the fish trap. In my head, I just questioned...hmm that's a strange place for a bunch of sticks...I wonder...OH Shit! Fish Trap! We tacked about 15 feet before running into the trap.

Once passing the fish traps, our last obstacle was to find Smith Creek. We anticipated this to be a rather easy task, as it was the second creek on the right. As it turns out, the opening to Smith Creek is far from shore, and the channel is narrow, shallow and zigzagged. This results in a very confusing light configuration when approaching from the south.

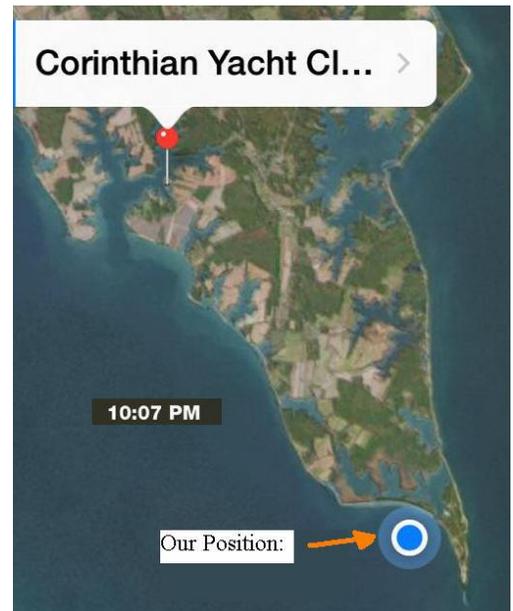
After about 20 minutes of searching the edges of the river, by flashlight, we found ourselves right at our mark...finishing our race officially at 10:49:10.

We pulled up to the dock a short while later, sailing up the winding creek, against the outgoing tide. "Short Bus" was there, telling stories about their ride. They looked at us with a bit of disbelief, wondering how and why we managed to make the trip. One of their crew asked me about our boat. "So, you have a retractable keel?" "No", I replied, "Centerboard." At this point he just looked at me and said simply... "You're nuts." I had to agree.

I learned much this night:

- I need to make decisions to do things; to do things now or on a schedule. Someday isn't a plan. Someday isn't a time. Someday doesn't happen.
- When making a trip somewhere you haven't been, talk to people who have. The advice I received from the experienced bay sailors was priceless.
- Help is OK. Without the support of friends we wouldn't have had the safety equipment (trackers) that we used, the knowledge we needed to navigate, and the resources to complete the trip and get home safely.
- Anticipation and preparation is more valuable than reaction.

Someday is now.



Wed, Sep 02, 2015	6:30 PM	Wednesday Night Keelboat Races
Thu, Sep 03, 2015	6:30 PM	Thursday Night Dinghy Races
Fri, Sep 04, 2015	5:00 PM	Happy Hour
Wed, Sep 09, 2015	6:30 PM	Wednesday Night Keelboat Races
Thu, Sep 10, 2015	6:30 PM	Thursday Night Dinghy Races
Fri, Sep 11, 2015	5:00 PM	Happy Hour
Sat, Sep 12, 2015		Cape Charles Cruise - South (TBD) (to 9-18)
Sun, Sep 13, 2015		SMSA Women's Fall Series Regatta
Wed, Sep 16, 2015	6:30 PM	Wednesday Night Keelboat Races
Thu, Sep 17, 2015	6:30 PM	Thursday Night Dinghy Races Plein Air Fest
Fri, Sep 18, 2015	5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Happy Hour Commodore's Dinner Plein Air Fest
Sat, Sep 19, 2015		Sharps Island Race Plein Air Fest
Sun, Sep 20, 2015		Plein Air Fest CLEW INPUT DUE
Wed, Sep 23, 2015	6:30 PM	Wednesday Night Keelboat Races
Thu, Sep 24, 2015	6:30 PM	Thursday Night Dinghy Races
Fri, Sep 25, 2015	5:00 PM	Happy Hour
Sat, Sep 26, 2015		Small Boat Invitational SMSA Crab Feast
Sun, Sep 27, 2015		Small Boat Invitational
Wed, Sep 30, 2015	6:30 PM	Wednesday Night Keelboat Races

SMSA CALENDAR

September—
October
2015

Thu, Oct 01, 2015		Buccaneer 18 North American Championship (to 10-3)
Fri, Oct 02, 2015	5:00 PM	Happy Hour Buccaneer Bash
Sat, Oct 03, 2015		Where the Wind Blows (to 10-4)
Thu, Oct 08, 2015		Annapolis Boat Show (to 10-12)
Fri, Oct 09, 2015	5:00 PM	Happy Hour
Sun, Oct 11, 2015	9:00 AM	Clubhouse Cleanup Day
Fri, Oct 16, 2015	5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Happy Hour Commodore's Dinner
Sat, Oct 17, 2015		Hoopers Island/Point No Point Race
Sun, Oct 18, 2015	6:00 PM	Chili Cook off and Oyster Scald Fall Invitational
Tue, Oct 20, 2015		CLEW Inputs Due
Fri, Oct 23, 2015	5:00 PM	Happy Hour
Sat, Oct 24, 2015		SMSA Halloween Happy Hour Raft Up (to 10-25)
Fri, Oct 30, 2015	5:00 PM	Happy Hour



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

PLACE
STAMP
HERE



SEPTEMBER 2015 Volume 45 Number 9

SMSA Annual Crab Feast
September 26, 6pm
\$15/ticket

Includes 6 crabs, sides, non-seafood
entrée options, and dessert

