



## **The Commodore's Corner**

By Jim Keen  
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### **COMMODORE'S MESSAGE JANUARY 2016**

The day before our Annual Membership meeting this past November, LG Raley phoned to ask me if I'd be OK if he and others would submit my name as a write-in for Commodore at the next day's election. Later that evening, I called LG back to say that if elected, I'd be happy and honored to serve. So, here I am writing my first CLEW article as your new Commodore.

Thank you all for the support and encouragement that I've received since that rather interesting recruitment.

First, I'd like to thank our outgoing Commodore, Tim Flaherty, for his steady hand and strong leadership over the past two years. SMSA has continued to grow and prosper under Tim's stewardship. Happily, we won't be losing Tim's energy as he has agreed to remain with the leadership team as our Membership Chair. Thank you Tim!

My thanks also to the other Officers, Directors, Chairs, and many volunteers who have given their time and energy to execute the 2015 program. Those leaving the leadership team include **Ed Sierra** (Vice), **Jimmy Yurko** (Rear), **Rod Schroeder** (Cruise), **Nichole Doub** (Membership), **Megan Hildenberger** (Communications), and **LG Raley** (Director). All deserve a huge vote of thanks for untiring efforts in their respective roles.

And, I'd like to add a special thanks to LG for his loyal dedication and leadership while serving three consecutive three-year terms as the senior member of our Board of Directors, (2007-2015).

Also, please join me in welcoming new (and/or) returning members to the BOD... **Robert Herbig** (Rear), **Cristin Schiffer** (Secretary), **Shawn Stanley** (Director), **Jerry Taylor** (Cruise), and **Jody Keen** (Social). Other members assuming new duties include **Jim Whited** (Vice), **Kristi Yurko** (Treasurer), and Current CLEW editor, **Larry Mattivi**, who will be picking up Communications. Thank you all.

Although most of us have our boats put away for the winter, there is still a lot going on at SMSA. Please join us at the 2015 Awards Banquet on 6 February at the Hilton Garden Inn, Solomons.

Also, my first time to host the Commodore's Potluck Dinner is on 22 January. As I grew up in Kansas City, and also lived in Texas for a while, I have chosen BBQ as my first theme. (North Carolina BBQ also welcome, btw.) Of course, Friday Happy Hours continue weekly at SMSA.

I've been a member of SMSA since 1978 when, as a new boat owner, I found myself hanging out with a bunch of rowdy sailors who used to rendezvous most Sunday afternoons at the waterside home of the late Tom and Jo Anne Ostertag on Cuckhold Creek. As many old timers remember, that was the EOPG... or, "End of the Pier Gang". As I look around at the club today, I see more than a few adult members who were young kids back in those EOPG days, swimming and playing in dinghies off the Ostertags' and LG and Merrie Ruth Raleys' piers on those Sunday afternoons.

(cont)

A lot has changed since those early days... two club houses since, large membership increase, significantly expanded programs. But the constants remain... sailor camaraderie, unselfish volunteerism, and the love of sailing. Thank you ALL for being a part of it.

I am very much looking forward to my term as Commodore.

*Jim Keen*

**SMSA Commodore**



## **Cruising Corner**

No cruise activity to report on this month except to hope that you all got some new cruising toys for Christmas. We have a few cruisers who have gone south for the winter, and I encourage them to consider writing up an article for the Feb Clew about your adventures (or misadventures). Just send your articles and pictures directly to [clew@smsa.com](mailto:clew@smsa.com) by 20 Jan to meet the next deadline. Enjoy the rest of the winter, and thanks again to **Jerry Taylor (Piper)** for taking over the duties as Cruise Chairman going forward from now.

**Rod Schroeder**  
**January 2016**

# 2015 Annual Banquet

Saturday, February 6th, 2016

Hilton Garden Inn, Solomons, MD



**5:30 PM Cocktail Hour**  
**6:30 PM Dinner**

Reservations Necessary, R.S.V.P.  
by **January 19th**

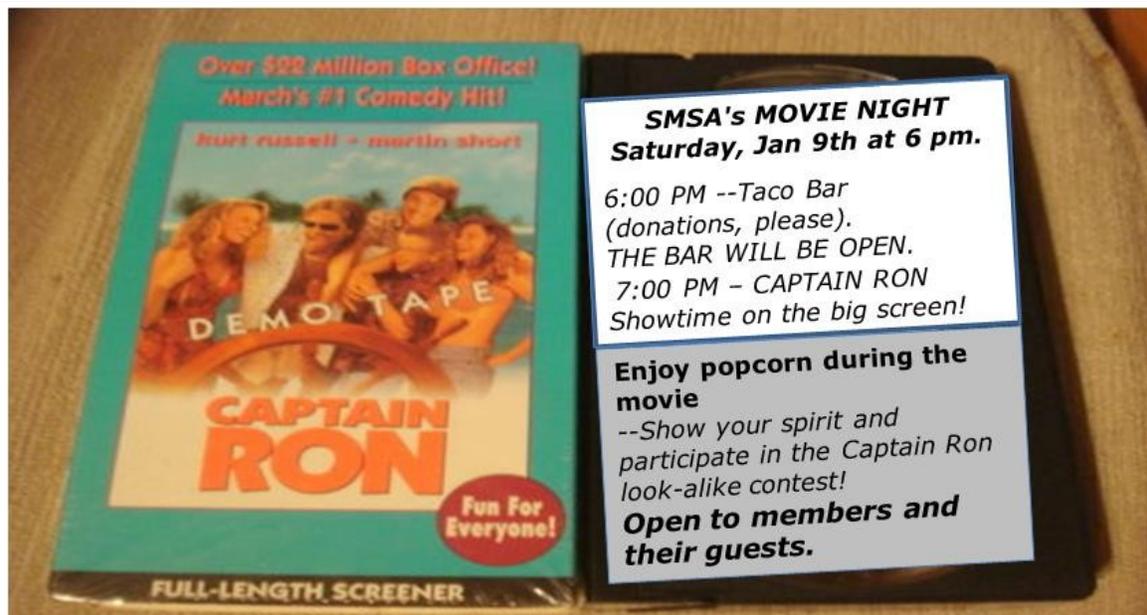
at [www.smsa.com](http://www.smsa.com) or via email  
to [social@smsa.com](mailto:social@smsa.com)



Featuring Live Music by Coastline!

Questions? Email [social@smsa.com](mailto:social@smsa.com)

Your Invitations are in the mail! If you haven't received your invitation, you can still view the information and RSVP with payment by going online at [www.smsa.com](http://www.smsa.com). We hope to see you there! **The invitations could not have gone out without the help of the following folks: Mackenzie Karn, Barbara Whited, Lynn Roland, Kristi Decker, Robert Herbig, Betsy Dodge, Annabelle Yurko, and Kristi Yurko.**



# Southern Maryland Sailing Association **New Year's Eve Party**



- ***SMSA Club House***
- ***8pm 'till they kick us out, Thursday  
December 31<sup>st</sup>***
- **Music, Cash bar, Special Glow Drinks,  
Dancing**
- **80's Movies and Videos**
- **Prize for best 80's Glow  
(black, white or neon)**





***In one of the most successful Christmas events ever at SMSA, 130 children and their families visited our clubhouse during the Solomons Christmas Walk Open House and built and sailed toy boats in our temporary sailing pool.***

Friday night's Open House marked the 10th straight year SMSA has sponsored this popular event during the Christmas Walk, and 2015's crowd was the largest ever in Open House history.

Visitors and members were treated to cider and cookies.



Friday's Open House event was chaired by **Tim Flaherty** with help from **Kristi Yurko**. **LG Raley, the Lorenzini Family** and the **Schiffer Family** helped keep order in the back room, while **David, Jacki and Henry J. Meiser** stocked the refreshments. **Betsy Dodge, Polly Traynham, Jimmy Yurko, Lynn Roland, Scott Roland, and Eddie Sierra** also helped with setup and breakdown.





**Santa Claus made his normal visit to the club after lighting the town Christmas tree across the street. It is believed he promised several SMSA members new boats in their stockings Christmas morning.**



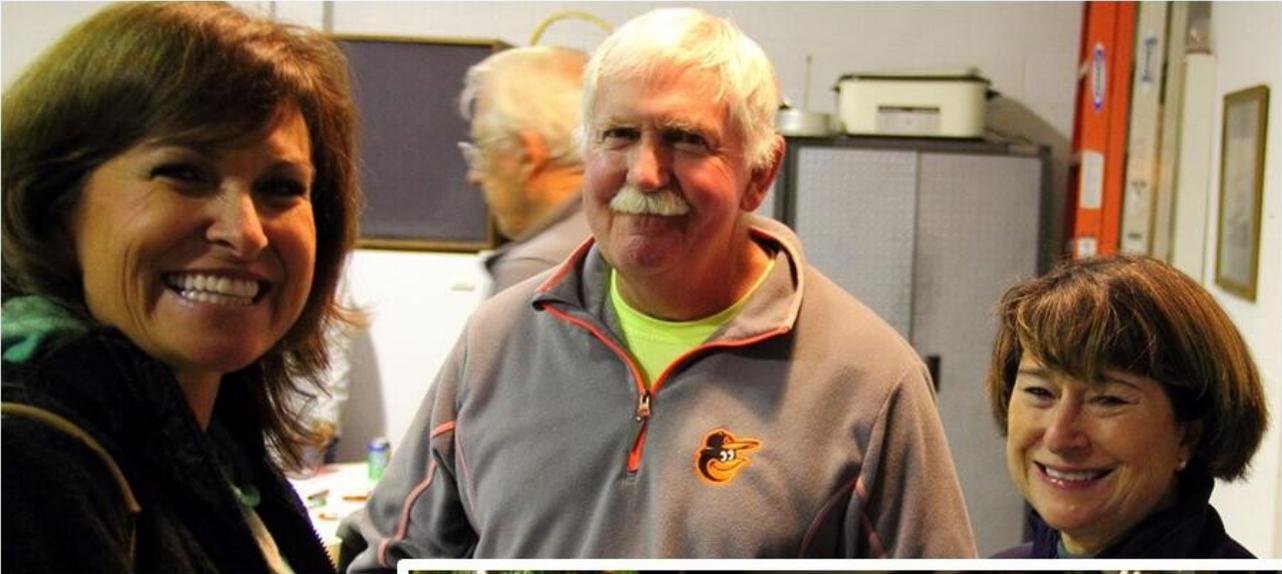


On Saturday night, over 60 members and guests came to the club for the traditional pot-luck Christmas Dinner and Party.

The Social Committee provided a turkey, and members brought dishes as diverse as lasagna and traditional Maryland sauerkraut. We all had a front-row seat for the Solomons Lighted Boat Parade, which passed the boardwalk at about 7:30pm.

**Michelle Major** headed the bartending effort Saturday, while Betsy Dodge and several of the same volunteers who helped Friday pitched in throughout the building. **Dave & Lois Zonderman, Rod & Pat Schroeder, Polly Traynham, and Barb Whited** spearheaded the cleanup from the weekend.

**THANKS TO ALL!**





**NEW SMSA MERCHANDISE  
AVAILABLE IN THE  
CLUBHOUSE!**  
See your bartender for details!

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## Merit 25 *Audrey* for sale

Sails alone worth more than \$10k asking \$6,000 obo. Boat is located at Southern Md Sailing Association. For more information please contact Trevor 703.283.2317 or email [harnevyachtrigging@gmail.com](mailto:harnevyachtrigging@gmail.com)



## **FOR SALE 'PIPER' 2008 Catalina 320 MKII, Sail #1128**

**Call Jerry Taylor at 410.474.6834 for more details. Can be seen at the Holiday Inn slip C-5. \$99,500 (firm)**

**DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING OF INTEREST (AN ARTICLE, PHOTO, AD) to SMSA's Newsletter THE CLEW?**

**Email me, Larry Mattivi, CLEW Editor, at [SMSACLEW@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SMSACLEW@GMAIL.COM)**



2016 Santa Claus beard growing contest competitor

Fri, Jan 01, 2016	5:30 PM	Happy Hour
Fri, Jan 08, 2016	5:30 PM	Happy Hour
Sat, Jan 09, 2016	6:00 PM	MOVIE NIGHT
Mon, Jan 11, 2016	7:00 PM	BOD Meeting
Fri, Jan 15, 2016	5:30 PM	Happy Hour
Sun, Jan 17, 2016		SMSA Ski Trip (to 1-22)
<b>Wed, Jan 20, 2016</b>		<b>CLEW INPUTS DUE</b>
Fri, Jan 22, 2016	5:30 PM 7:00 PM	Happy Hour Commodores Dinner
Fri, Jan 29, 2016	5:30 PM	Happy Hour
Fri, Feb 05, 2016	5:30 PM	Happy Hour
Sat, Feb 06, 2016		SMSA Annual Banquet
Fri, Feb 12, 2016	5:30 PM	Happy Hour
Fri, Feb 19, 2016	5:30 PM 7:00 PM	Happy Hour Commodores Dinner
<b>Sat, Feb 20, 2016</b>		<b>CLEW INPUTS DUE</b>
Fri, Feb 26, 2016	5:30 PM	Happy Hour

## SMSA CALENDAR

January 2016 —  
February 2016



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

PLACE  
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HERE



**JANUARY 2016 Volume 46 Number 1**

## 2015 Annual Banquet

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