



JULY... Long Warm Sailing Days, Fireworks, and Screwpile

The Commodore's Corner

By Jim Keen

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For most of us Chesapeake sailors, when we think of July, we think of SCREWPILE. Now in its 25th year, the Screwpile regatta has become a tradition that brings racers and families to Solomons from across the Bay, and involves a very large percentage of SMSA members whether as racers or race committee/shoreside volunteers. A sincere *thank you* once again goes to LG Raley for his 25th year of stewardship of this great event, and also to the many SMSA volunteers who help LG to make it all possible. If you are a racer and haven't yet registered, it's time to do so. Let's all make this another great Screwpile! And, best of luck to our SMSA boats and crews. Please all join us at the clubhouse on the evening of Thursday, 13 July to welcome all Screwpile racers into town.

Under the very able stewardship of our Junior Chair, Barbara Whited, and after months of preparation, the Junior Summer Sailing Camp is in full swing. Fully staffed, trained, and certified, our SMSA summer camp provides sailing instruction to hundreds of children, giving them the seeds of a skill and the love of sailing that will last them a lifetime. I stopped by on day 2 and observed what looked like a well-oiled operation... instructors were instructing, kids were sailing, and it looked like everyone was having a very fun time.

Cruisers have been doing what they do, and hard at it. With nine boats/crews participating, the SMSA cruisers just finished an 11-day sail to/from Cape May, NJ while experiencing a wide array of weather and sailing conditions. Cruise Leaders Dennis and Carolyn Chandler and co-leaders Dave and Lois Zonderman planned and executed a very detailed cruise plan that proved to be very successful and fun for all. With the 7-day Independence Cruise to the Potomac, the 5-day Annapolis Summer Garden Theater Cruise, and the Happy Hour Raft Up at Myrtle Point's Mill Creek, July also promises to be a very busy month for the cruisers.

While the cruisers were on the way to Cape May, Chris Eggert and crew Betsy Dodge made their way across the Gulf Stream on a passage to Bermuda on Chris' boat *Destiny*. Karen met the boat via airplane, and the three enjoyed the America's Cup races in person. Meanwhile, our semi-professional Race Committee traveler, Don Behrens was there in Bermuda also, serving as RC for the J Class America's Cup Regatta.

The traditional June Luau is always a great way to start the summer and proved to be yet again this year. Thank you to Skip & Ellen, Terry Walters and the Zahniser's crew for another outstanding hosting job and to Jody and the Social Committee for their fine efforts. We had a wonderful turnout. Thanks to all for making it another great event.

Hope to see you all at our 4th of July/fireworks gathering at the clubhouse. See Jody's *Social Scene* article for details.

Jim Keen
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THE SOCIAL SCENE

WITH JODY KEEN

Jody Keen
Social Chair
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May brings spring flowers; June brings the Annual Luau to celebrate the beginning of the sailing season. What a great event! The weather was spectacular, the rum punch was delicious, Zanhiser's burgers, chicken and dogs were yummy, and the camaraderie between racers and cruisers was wonderful. We saw about 70 club members come together for a great time. Special thanks to Terry Walters, Hannah Bulynko, Susan St. George and Pricilla Bradley for making everything come to pass.

July brings us a couple of exciting events:

First is the July 4th of July celebration potluck. On Tuesday, July 4th the Solomon's business association will be providing fireworks to celebrate our 241st year of Independence. Enjoy one of the best vantage points on the island to celebrate. The SMSA bar will open at 5 pm. We will have a number of celebrity bartenders throughout the evening. SMSA will provide hamburgers and dogs off the grill. Please bring a side dish to complete the meal. Fireworks are expected to start at 9 pm. So dinner will be served around 7 pm.

Later in July, the Screwpile Regatta kicks off with racers arriving on Thursday July, 13th. That evening SMSA will host a welcome reception for racers and all involved. Please stop by the clubhouse and welcome out-of-town crews and give support for local racers. Hope to see you there!

Celebrate the 4th of July with SMSA

If you're not out cruising, please come out and join us on Tuesday July 4th, at the clubhouse, for a pot-luck dinner to celebrate the 241st anniversary of our Declaration of Independence. We have one of the finest venues for enjoying the Solomon's firework display. Hamburgers and Hot Dogs will be provided. Please bring a side dish to share. The clubhouse will open at 5pm in order to facilitate parking for those who want to start early. We hope to see you there!



CRUISERS CORNER



Jerry Taylor
SMSA Cruise Chair
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We had a great cruise to the Southern Bay in May with six boats participating.

The Cape May Cruise, with nine boats participating, wrapped up on June 22nd. Look for Dennis Chandler's article next month...he promised an adventure and he delivered on his promise!!

The Independence Day Cruise will be underway the first week in July.

July 20th – 24th - The Annapolis Garden Theatre Cruise begins with the first leg to West River, then on to Annapolis for a couple days. Be sure to make your reservations soon for "Full Monty" on July 22nd. Contact Rod Schroeder if you need more information.

July 29th - An overnighter to Mill Creek (Myrtle Point) will be led by Dave and Lois Zonderman.

August 19th - The most popular event of the season, the Mixed Couples Race/Cruise to Battle Creek is scheduled. The sailing instructions are on the website under the keel boat tab/race circular.

August 25th-27th - The Vice Commodore's Cup combines racing, cruising, and social. The event will be held at Corinthian YC on Smith/Jutland Creek in Ridge, MD. This club is one of the oldest in the country (114 years) and their website is www.cycchesapeake.com. Cruisers will leave the 25th and the racers will start on the 26th. The plan is for the cruisers to anchor nearby on the 25th and go in for slips early on the 26th. Slips are a deal at \$50 per day including electric and the contact to reserve is Brian Winsor at cyc.measurer@gmail.com. There will be a rendezvous around 4:00 and everyone should bring a dish to share for double the number in your party. This will be our third year for this event and it brings our entire membership together. Folks who are not coming by boat can drive down as well. Hope to see a large crowd there!

As you can see, we have something for every member !

Southern Bay Cruise

by Carl and Martha Kemp (*Serenity*)

The first leg of the Southern Bay Cruise, May 20-29, began on a blustery day with strong winds and waves out of the east with six boats, on an otherwise empty bay, sailing/motor-sailing to the Great Wicomico River. The sun came out after we anchored in Mill Creek off the Great Wicomico, and all enjoyed a much deserved happy hour. Cruisers included: "**No Sched ...**" (Jerry Taylor) and **Safina** (Dennis Chandler), joined later in the week by Donna and Carolyn; **Serenity** (Curt and Dottie Hamilton); **Tanqueray III** (Lloyd and Barbara Conley); **Kalypso** (Fred Siessenger); and, **Serenity** (cruise leaders Carl and Martha Kemp).

The second leg of the trip to Cape Charles was much improved. Although rough seas were predicted, the trip to the Town Harbor Marina was a perfect sailing day with 10 mph winds out of the east and calmer seas. During dinner at The Shanty on our first night, Curt and Dottie Hamilton received a brass plaque and a large SMSA burgee for sailing 1,000 miles in 2016. Due to inclement weather, the one-day lay scheduled for Cape Charles turned into a two-day layover. Despite cooler temperatures and heavy rain, we enjoyed biking, sightseeing and dining. We patronized many other Cape Charles restaurants, such as Kelly's Gingernut Pub, Oyster Farm Restaurant, and Cape Charles Coffee House.

On day five, we sailed to the western shore with variable winds out of the south/southwest. With strong storms forecasted, the decision was made to forego a night in Fishing Bay and to anchor two nights in the Corrotoman River. The decision was justified when after anchoring a strong storm with hail, lightening and close to 50mph winds blew through the area. Weather improved the following day--dinghys and paddle boards were launched and enjoyed—and all took the opportunity to clean up boats from the prior evening's storm.

It was a short motor sail to Urbanna Town Center Marina where Carolyn and Donna, with the Taylor grandkids in tow, met up with the cruisers. We spent two nights in Urbanna and enjoyed dinghy rides, biking, dining, and shopping during the stay.

The two-day trip back to Solomons included an overnight anchorage in the Great Wicomico primarily because the location provided protection from predicted strong westerly winds. Happily, the weather reports were wrong; the anchorage was beautiful and serene. During the final happy hour, all declared the 10-day trip a success despite low temps and rain, rain, rain. With early departures the next morning (Memorial Day), the final leg of the trip was a motor back to Solomons with the wind on our nose. It was still a great cruise in spite of the weather!



Sailing Awards to Curt and Dottie Hamilton



Sailing to Cape Charles



Off to dinner in Urbanna

AHOY FROM THE KEEL BOAT CHAIR

MARK GYORGY
KEELBOATRACE@SMSA.COM

Keelboat racing is going great. We have had a good turnout for both informal and formal racing.

In May, the Double -Handed race was moved into the river due to the 20+ knots of breeze and 3 boats tested their equipment and their teamwork. Results at the Tiki Bar has become the tradition. The Frost-Goode race had 8 competitors and was run up the river with very close racing. Corrected times between first and second, Short Bus / J Ray, was 2 seconds, Rakali was third and between fourth and fifth, Wicked Good / Cheetah, was 1 second. The US Coast Guard was patrolling the Patuxent River during the Frost-Goode event and the young seamen operating to vessel had a misunderstanding of what normal safe operation of a sailboat looked like. They advised several of our racers that they should keep all of their body inside the life lines and refrain from going forward when the vessel was moving. It turns out that they had been reading some material provided by the safe boating month web site that applied to power boats only and thought sailboats should do the same. On the following Monday morning our Vice Commodore spoke with the CPO in charge of the boat crews and cleared up the situation. The Chief assured us that he had an all hands meeting with his crew and cleared up the misunderstanding. We offered to take any of the young seamen out sailing if they were interested in seeing sailboats in action.

The last Wednesday in May, and the first 2 Wednesdays in June, we held fleet building nights. The idea was to ease the competitive pressure of a series to allow:

new boats, new people on the helm, and new crew in any position.

I think it worked, we had a new boat, Jalapeno, come out with an assist from Elliot Peterson. We saw a return of Gift Horse with some new crew, we had some new drivers, Mark Williams on Natural Disaster, Robin Witte on the wheel of Rakali, Curtis Arron on J Ray, and I got to drive my own boat, Wicked Good. We saw some multiple starts and Bad Cat raced in the B fleet.

The most encouraging thing I saw on the last Wednesday night was the young racers ranging in age from three to teens, on Natural Disaster, Cheetah, Gift Horse, Wicked Good, and perhaps others.

The Marcy Series spring women's races were canceled in June, let's plan for a good showing in September for the Fall women's series.

Our second middle distance race, Smith Point, and our Summer Invitational will take our fleet to the Bay on the weekend on Jun 24/25.

Some Administrative items:

Race Mark "L" was slow to get in place this spring but is now on station as our westernmost race mark.

The Vice Commodore and I have decided to not use Circular Random ratings for scoring this year. This is because C/R numbers currently available are incomplete, and not fully implemented across the entire Bay. This is addressed in SI amendment #3 posted on the SMSA webpage, keelboat tab.

PHRF rating are not required for our informal races (all competitors will be scored). We would like to encourage all that are interested in racing to simply request a provisional rating for club informal racing and one will be assigned.

THE SMSA High Point calculation remains unchanged; however, clarification is proved in SI amendment #3. That 5 of the possible 8 formal races must be completed to be eligible; one of which must be an Invitational race and one of which must be a middle-distance race. **The 5 best races will be scored.** We hope this will encourage participation in all races.

(Essentially, if a boat competes in all 8 races they get 3 throw-outs)

VICE COMMANDER NOTES

Regarding the Coast Guard incident. Lest you think that none of the CG team knows about sailboats, I did receive a few pictures of future officers in action on the USCG Off-shore sailing team. They do know how to hike: (Frostbiting on Ideal 18s)



Participation is a big issue for all of sailing currently. In planning for next year, I would appreciate feedback our members may have for improving participation in our on the water events (Cruising, Keelboat racing, Smallboat racing, and Junior program). Send any and all ideas to Vicecommandore@SMSA.COM.

JIM WHITED
VICE COMMODORE
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THE TRAINING CORNER



Les Griffith
SMSA Training Chair
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It's Summer: our focus has shifted to on the water activities!

The next scheduled training session will be the second first aid course of the season on 9 July 2017. *This is a great opportunity to get first aid training before the Screwpile regatta.*

The Screwpile Regatta is a highly attended event with a lot of intense activity both on and off the water which presents an increased risk of problems. *Be prepared for any emergency on your boat or at the on-shore activities by attending the first aid training.* This session will be held 9 July starting at 9 am and ending at 4 pm. The cost is a non-refundable \$40.00 one week in advance or \$50.00 the week of the event or at the door. If you are interested please contact me at Training@SMSA.com. Remember: we need to have 6 or more participants to hold the class. Members and guests are welcome.

As always, if anyone has an idea they would like to see for a seminar please contact me with the subject and recommended presenter and I will look for a place on our club schedule to make it happen.



Destiny, out of Solomons, joined this year's *Rally to the Cup* (a voyage from Solomons to Bermuda to watch this year's America's Cup races).

On Saturday, 10 June, crewed by Chris Eggert and Betsy Dodge, **Destiny** departed Solomons for destinations south and east. Two more hearty sailors boarded in Norfolk early Sunday morning, and the four headed toward open ocean.

After a very quiet passage **Destiny** arrived in Bermuda on the evening of 16 June, where Karen Eggert flew in to join the voyagers. For the next two days, we aboard **Destiny** anchored in Bermuda's Great Sound had front row seats to watch the America's Cup races.

There was excitement both on and off the course with hundreds of spectator boats anchoring along the course lines.

(The AC boats are amazing and too fast for words. They were traveling 20kts in 8 kts of wind.)

For a total change of pace we watched the J class races off the Eastern end of the island. 6 of the existing 10 J boats are here. Two of them are original. These are beautiful boats with crews of 30!

The St. George's Dinghy Club hosted rally and they provided delicious meals and, of course, dark and stormys.

After the races on June 24th and 25th, **Destiny** headed home.





Annapolis is a great town to visit by boat. Patty K Too stopped in recently coming back from Cape May. With 23knots on the nose and 2 to 3 foot seas coming down from Still Pond, we needed a break. We picked up a mooring ball and celebrated Fathers Day with a yummy dinner.



“The next day the forecast was still grim so we took a slip. Great chance to shop at the pottery store, silver store, hat store, museum, etc. Food choices range from mussels, fish and chips, crabs, burgers and don't forget ***Kilwins*** for ice cream!!

We will be back! Put Annapolis on your sailing destination list this summer.”

July 20th to 24th

Annapolis Summer Garden Theater Cruise

Join us on An annual cruise to Annapolis to attend the Summer Garden Theater. This year's show: *The Full Monty* on Saturday 22 July.

Get your tickets NOW because they usually sell out early. Tickets must be purchased on-line on the Annapolis Summer Garden Theater web site (<https://summergarden.com/show/the-full-monty/>).

We will plan on a group dinner at the Federal House Bar & Grill before the play. *Please let cruise leaders know if you are attending so that dinner reservations can be finalized by 14 July.*

Check the yearbook and/or SMSA web calendar for complete cruise itinerary. The destinations are close enough that you can easily join us for part or all of the cruise destinations.

See you on the Bay!

Rod & Pat Schroeder (Cruise Leaders)

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NOTE FROM THE EDITOR: CHECK SMSA.COM FOR THE JULY AND AUGUST 2017 CALENDAR!

Scott Kirby is Back!

Sunday, August 13th

4:00pm

Doors Open at 3:00 pm



**SPECIAL MEMBER
TICKET PRICE:**

\$15

**NON-MEMBER AND
GUEST TICKET PRICE:**

\$20

Note: Only current SMSA members will be admitted with a \$15 ticket.

Tickets purchased via Paypal will be available at the door.

Tickets may also be purchased from
Lisa Flaherty, LG Raley, or Tim Flaherty

Questions? Contact scottatsmsa@gmail.com or call 301-481-7474



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

PLACE
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SCREWPILE IS COMING

July 14—16, 2017

<http://screwpile.net/>