



The Commodore's Corner

By Jim Keen
commodore@smsa.com



The 25th annual Screwpile is in the Books!

LG pulled off another one! And by all accounts, SMSA's 25th edition of the Screwpile Lighthouse Challenge Regatta was another hugely successful weekend. In spite of the relatively low turnout by historical standards, the skippers and crews who participated were extremely complimentary about the regatta, and vowed to come back for more next year.

Three days of good weather and four nights of rum drinks and fun parties brought happy faces to all who participated.

With 30 boats in 4 classes on the windward/leeward course, there was plenty of hard fought competition for the round-the-buoy racers, getting in seven races in various conditions over the three days.

Additionally, fifteen cruisers did a 7.9 mile distance race on Saturday.

Congratulations to our local boats in the silver... David and Jacki Meiser and crew with a 1st on *Easy Button* in PHRF-C, Neal McKinney and crew on *Homegrown* with a 3rd in PHRF-B, and Jeff Jeffries and crew on *IRETSU* with the 2nd place trophy in PHRF-Cruising Class.

In addition to huge accolades to LG and Merrie Ruth, I want to thank the many, many other SMSA members who participated and volunteered in this year's regatta... far too many to list here by name. Racers, Race Committee/Staff, Protest Committee, Bartenders, Ground Support... All made it an extremely successful and fun regatta! Thank you all!

The annual membership meeting and election of Officers and Directors will occur on November 4th this year. As per the club's by-laws, the Commodore, Vice Commodore, and Rear Commodore shall each not serve more than two consecutive terms in any one office. So, each of the individuals currently serving in those roles will be leaving their respective offices. Additionally, every year two Director positions become open for election.

I encourage all members to consider stepping up to become a part of the SMSA leadership team. And this goes for Committee Chair positions also.

In the next few months we will be identifying those Committee Chair positions that will be opening. For those who do not feel they have the time to take on an elected office or a Committee Chairmanship, of course there are plenty of opportunities to serve in a valuable capacity on one or more of our many committees. So think about it, and consider putting your name forward for nomination for an Officer or Director position or for appointment to a Chair position.

COMMODORE LETTER (CONT)

After fourteen years serving on the BOD myself, I will say that being involved in the leadership of the club is very satisfying as well as a great way to make and cultivate friendships.

After two and a half years as our Bar Manager, Scotty Roland is stepping down. Scotty has performed this critical role with dedication and meticulousness. We all owe Scotty a debt of gratitude for keeping our club's bar well stocked and running like a well oiled operation. Thank you Scotty for your commitment and for a job very well done! Oh by the way. We're not closing the bar! Scotty has agreed to stay on to manage the bar until he can train his relief.

Enjoy the dog days of August. It's a lot cooler on the water, of course.

Jim Keen
SMSA Commodore
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THE SOCIAL SCENE
WITH JODY KEEN

Jody Keen
Social Chair
social@smsa.com



It's hard to believe that the summer is almost half way gone!

It has been a busy and fun time at the club during the early months of summer. A large crowd gathered at the clubhouse to celebrate the 4th of July and enjoy hamburgers and hotdogs as well as many delicious side dishes. It was wonderful to gather together to enjoy the wonderful display of fireworks.

On July 13 SMSA hosted a "Welcome Screwpile Racers" party. We had The Hot Diggity, Diggity Dog hotdog stand there to provide ballpark type treats. The atmosphere was festive as racers, race committee and club members all enjoyed cold beverages and hot dogs with many different toppings.

The social committee is hosting a number of upcoming events later in the season. Scott Kirby will again be playing at the clubhouse on Sunday, August 13th. The doors open at 3pm and the music will start at 4pm. Please come to the club to enjoy the Tropical Rock sound of Scott Kirby. See SMSA.com for tickets!

The Vice Commodore's Cruise/Race Cup will be held the 25th-27th of August. On Saturday, the 26th all will rally at The Corinthian Yacht Club in Ridge, Maryland for a late afternoon/early evening pot-luck. The social committee will provide the main meat course; sides to be provided by all who attend. Whether you choose to cruise, race or come by land this is a "don't miss" event!

Later, on Wednesday, September 13th, we will host the Pleine Air artists for their quick draw competition. Come out to the boardwalk and watch these talented artists complete a painting in a timed, juried competition. Afterwards, their art work will be displayed, and for sale, in the clubhouse.

Finally, for September, we will have a crab feast on September 23rd in conjunction with the Small-boat two day regatta. Join us for Maryland steamed crabs and sides, as well as great camaraderie.

Many thanks go out to all the members of the social committee for their hard work and commitment to the club!

CRUISERS CORNER



Jerry Taylor
SMSA Cruise Chair
cruise@smsa.com

I hope you enjoy the following Cape May Cruise article by Dennis Chandler.

Martha Kemp organized a very successful 'picnic on the beach' at Price Cove on the Independence Day Cruise and you can find her article below as well.

Our popular Mixed Couples Race/Cruise is on August 19th. This event is well attended by....anything that floats. If you want to race, you can request a PHRF provisional rating from the scorer if you do not have one. More details can be found on our website under the keelboat race tab, sailing instructions (race circular) tab, page 27. *No Sched...* will be on station by 1400 and only one anchor will be set for the raft. Please make sure you have adequate fenders and correct length/size lines to raft. Small boats will tie off the sterns of rafted boats. The raft will break up for the night and any boats anchoring nearby should leave plenty of room to swing between boats accounting for scope and wind direction changes. Ground tackle should be sized for potential 50 knot winds which we sometimes get in the summer (most of the time at 0300!!).

The Vice Commodore's Cup Race/Cruise/Picnic to Smith Creek is another great event. Cruisers will leave on Friday August 25th, anchor out and go in for slips on Saturday the 26th. The races will start on Saturday August 26th. Cruisers are welcome to wait and race as well. Race instructions are on page 28 of the race circular if you decide to race. Provisional PHRF ratings will be assigned if you do not have one. The potluck dinner will be at 1700 on Saturday. SMSA will provide hot dogs and hamburgers. Please bring a dish to share for double the number in your party. Slip reservations should be made with Brian Windsor at cyc.measurer@gmail.com. Slips are first come—first served and some may have to raft up at a dock. Our VC will be out of town during this event and I will be filling in for Jim.

Next is the Labor Day cruise to Crisfield/Salisbury on Sept 1st to 6th. Contact cruise leader Curt Hamilton (hamilton@md.metrocast.net) if you plan to go to Crisfield and Rich Freeman (teknikr2004@yahoo.com) for Salisbury. Early slip reservations are required at both places.

YTD cruise points are now available on our website.

See you on the water....



WIND. SUN. LONG SAILS. MOTOR SAILING. ANCHORAGES. MARINAS. CANALS. RUNNING AGROUND. NAVIGATING SHOALS. HISTORIC SITES. BEACH TIME. FLIES. THUNDER STORM. HAPPY HOURS. RESTAURANT DINNERS. HEAT. ICE CREAM. MOORINGS. BIG SHIPS.

WE HAD IT ALL ON THE SMSA CRUISE TO CAPE MAY!

SMSA CRUISE TO CAPE MAY



On the weekend of June 10/11, nine intrepid SMSA cruisers headed off for a 10-day cruise to Cape May and back, just a bit over 300 nm. The boats involved were *No Sched...* (Jerry/Donna Taylor); *Ruste Nayle* (Rod/Pat Schroeder); *Walkabout* (Dave/Lois Zonderman); *Serenity* (Carl/Martha Kemp); *Cloud 9* (Les Griffith/Donna Maneely); *Patti K Too* (Rich Freeman/Patti Kimmel); *Serenity* (Curt/Dottie Hamilton); *Tanqueray III* (Lloyd/Barbara Conley); and *Safina* (Dennis/Carolyn Chandler, as cruise leaders).

It was a staggered start as some boats stayed back to attend the SMSA Luau at Zahniser's marina and the memorial service for Jack Goodman, a long-time SMSA and SIYC member. However, after a first night's anchorage for some boats in the Magothy River, the full group was together for a second night's happy hour and anchorage at Still Pond. On the third day, Tuesday, the flotilla transited the 12-mile long Chesapeake & Delaware (C&D) canal, although some boats had to pause to wait for the train bridge to be raised after a train went by.

At the eastern end of the C&D canal, we all made a short detour to Delaware City. This had been the eastern terminus of the C&D canal until 1927 when the current sea level canal for ocean going vessels was built two miles south. Delaware City remains a quaint town rich in history and with several restaurants. While there for two nights our group visited Fort Delaware in the Delaware River, built to protect Philadelphia, but which served mostly as a POW site for Confederate prisoners during the Civil War and German prisoners during World Wars I and II. The Delaware City Marina, built on the old section of the canal, was very helpful in turning all boats around in the canal to be facing out for an easy departure. Two boats had minor engine repairs made there. (CONTINUED)

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

SMSA CRUISE TO CAPE MAY

The marina manager provided a briefing about how best to travel down the mighty Delaware, taking into account the anticipated currents and tides.

He then helped everyone leave the marina face-dock at 5 AM. The nine boats set out sailing mostly down the Delaware the approximately 55 miles to Cape May. Once there, two of the boats were able to enter Cape May harbor via the "back door" channel because their masts were less than the 55-foot height of a bridge over that canal. The other seven sailboats were able to pick their ways around the shoals at the point of Cape May, without having to go far out to the sea buoys. After that it was another five miles going north in the Atlantic Ocean to the main entrance. Upon entering the Cape May harbor, we passed the Coast Guard training center and followed the navigation marks to Utsch's marina. At least one boat briefly ran aground in the harbor that badly needs dredging in spots.

On Sunday, all of the boats departed Cape May (except for one boat that stayed to visit with family) and started the journey home. The next destination was the Cohansey River, about one-half way up the Delaware River on the New Jersey side. Once we rounded the point of Cape May and started sailing or motor-sailing up the river, we were attacked by flies. Fly swatters were called into action so that most of our cockpits looked like "killing fields" littered with dead flies. We ducked into the Cohansey to anchor, being careful with the tricky entrance, the swift current and the very deep water. After we all anchored, we had a happy hour on one boat with some screens for its cockpit. It was a restful night, although one boat had dragged, but without any damage. One boat had pushed on to Delaware City for the night.

On the following day, Monday, we weighed anchor early and went another 15 miles to the eastern entrance of the C&D canal. We motored against an east flowing current and finally returned to the Elk River and the Chesapeake Bay. While sailing and motor-sailing, we all took note of the reports on the VHF about a possible thunder storm heading in our general direction and north and south of us. Therefore, we put the "pedal to metal" as best we could to take refuge in the sheltered Still Pond anchorage. Unfortunately, Mother Nature had other plans and the storm hit us with strong winds and eventually heavy rains. Two boats made Still Pond and the others found relative shelter just north of there, anchoring in the Sassafras River. Everyone did well in staying safe in these difficult conditions. The boat that had family visiting in Cape May stayed there another day in order to avoid the storms.

On Tuesday, the weather was delightfully better and we sailed to Annapolis. It was again awesome sailing under the twin spans of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge. We arrived early enough in the day for everyone to obtain a mooring ball. It was good to relax a bit and watch the world go by on the water. We all dinghied into shore or used the water taxi to get there and then visited the shops. We later met for dinner at Middleton's for dinner followed by ice cream.

On the following day, June 21, most of us left early and sailed or motor-sailed back to Solomons. Probably because everyone was a bit tired, I do not believe that any boats stopped in the Little Chop-tank for the Summer Solstice.

The cruise to Cape May offered a lot of variety in terms of cruising conditions. It was a good refresher for those experienced cruisers and a learning experience for those that had not cruised that much before. There were also opportunities to learn about our surrounding areas a bit farther away. Everyone should also feel good about their seamanship skills in facing challenges and working your way successful through them. Finally, the special part of these cruises is always the camaraderie of sharing time, knowledge, experiences and fun with one's fellow cruisers.

Independence Day Cruise by Carl and Martha Kemp

SMSA cruisers began a 7-day Independence Day cruise on Friday, June 30th. Strong winds out of the south and sizable waves caused the boats to take several routes to Point Lookout. Some stayed close to the shore, others sailed across the bay. Once arriving at Point Lookout, the wind was more favorable for a sail up the Potomac and St. Mary's River. Six boats participated: **Ruste Nayle** (Rod/Pat Schroder), **Cloud 9** (Les Griffith), **Safina** (Dennis/Carolyn Chandler), **No Sched** (Jerry/Donna Taylor), **Serenity** (Curt/Dottie Hamilton) and **Serenity** (cruise leaders Carl/Martha Kemp). Boats anchored in the horseshoe in St. Mary's River for the evening event – fireworks and the concert at St. Mary's College.

On day 2, cruisers took the short ride down St. Mary's into St. George's Creek and dropped anchor in Price Cove, a scenic area with white sandy beaches surrounded by marshes. A late afternoon 'grill and chill' on the beach turned into a fun afternoon of food, drink, swimming, exploration and camaraderie. Severe thunderstorms were predicted for the early evening, so all returned to their boats to secure and prepare for the event which turned into a powerful storm with lightening, thunder and high winds. Captains and mates maintained a vigil on deck for hours as wave after wave of storms hit the area. All survived intact in spite of some anchor dragging.



Relaxing after Colonial Beach dinner on Serenity

On day 3, calm winds and sunny skies prevailed. Cruisers basically motored the 30 miles up the Potomac River to Colonial Beach for a 2-day stay at the Colonial Beach Yacht Center. Highlights of the two days include more fireworks, biking and walks along the beach and through town, competitive games of bocci ball and corn hole, dinners at Dockside, and a happy hour at the Tiki Bar.

With still no wind to fill the sails, boats headed down the Potomac on day 5 of the trip. Some cruisers headed back to Solomons, while others motored to Breton Bay, with a stop at St. Clements Island State Park for a mid-day swim on the beach and exploration of the site where Maryland's first colonists landed in 1634. Boats reached Breton Bay in time for a Happy Hour on No Sched, where an uninvited and unwelcomed snake joined the party on the stern seat. Much commotion, then animated discussion ensued as to how the snake made its way onto the boat.

The final anchorage was planned in Smith Creek for day 6 of the sail. With no wind and predictions of more storms, more cruisers headed home, while two cruisers motored to Smith Creek and up to a safe anchorage in an area nicknamed Barking Dog Creek. **Serenity** (Curt/Dottie) hosted **Serenity** (Carl/Martha) for a chatty and relaxed happy hour at sunset. The storm hit early on the next morning, but both boats were traveling only a short distance so waited out the worst of the weather.



Picnic on the beach at Price Cove

Despite the July heat, dangerous lightning storms and lack of wind, the trip was eventful and enjoyed by all.

Carl & Martha Kemp, Serenity

KEEL BOAT RACING



Mark Gyorgy
Keelboat Race Chair
keelboatrace@smsa.com

Ahoy!

Keelboat Racing is a little past halfway through the season. We've had some light air and hot temperatures but that's been offset by long daylight hours and beautiful sunsets. Even a 4-knot race is tactical and yet not too stressful that you can't enjoy the time on the water with a crew.

Screwpile is in the books and SMSA boats raced in all fleets and SMSA members supported as RC / PRO and social volunteers. Our out-of-town racers seem to have a good time and stopped by our clubhouse for the Thursday night kick-off party. I got to share a beverage and swap stories with the owner of GOIN, a Tripp 26 from Dahlgren, that I have been racing against only here at Screwpile for about 15 years.

Eddie Sierra raced last night for his first Wed night in the A fleet with his VX-1 and Scotty Roland is picking up his new (to him) VX-1 this week. It will be nice to add a few more boats to the Wed night mix.

If you are reading this article and would like to get on as crew on a keelboat talk to almost any owner, we are always looking for crew. Come to Z's for results around 8:45 on a Wednesday night and strike up a conversation.

If you'd like to observe the controlled chaos before jumping in, then come on out on the RC Boat as a spectator (you might get drafted to do something) the Race Committee typically meets at the RC boat in front of Z's at 5:30 on Wednesdays. (Unless bridge traffic is terrible like it was last night)

Still have some distance races around the corner including the favorite MD Governor's cup race overnight from Annapolis to Saint Mary's. There are always a handful of SMSA racers that try their luck and show their skill. You should be able to track the boats in near real-time on the internet.

Cheers
Mark Gyorgy

THE TRAINING CORNER



Les Griffith
SMSA Training Chair
training@smsa.com

We recently held another first aid course on 9 July 2017. The event was well attended by SMSA members and guests.

In August we're hosting a Maryland Safe Boating Course. The course is required for anyone born after 1 July 1972 who operates a boat in Maryland. The course will be held over three days: 14, 15, and 22 August beginning at 6pm each night. Attendance is required on all three days in order to earn the Boater Education Card. The cost is \$25.00 per person for the first family member and \$10.00 for each additional family member. If you are interested please contact me at Training@SMSA.com. Of course, 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.

SCOTT KIRBY BACK AT SMSA ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 13TH.

BY Tim Flaherty

Scott Kirby has had an annual show at SMSA since 2008. Every show has sold out, and this year we'd like to have YOU in the audience! We always get a large turnout of Scott Kirby fans who travel to Solomons for this show but this time let's get more SMSA members in the door.

Before you do anything else, go to SMSA.com and look for the Scott Kirby link. Member tickets are \$15 each. Guests are \$20 each.

At SMSA, Kirby says he plans to play many of his older, familiar tunes about boats, beaches, and harbors, but will mix in several new songs from his forthcoming CD, *Chasing Hemmingway's Ghost*. The new release will be a departure for the New Hampshire native in that most of the songs are inspired by a non-waterfront locale: rural Montana, where Kirby lives part of the year with his wife. "I still have the bar in Key West (the Smokin' Tuna Saloon, where he is a co-owner), and last year bought a house in Kittery, Maine, so I'm still connected to the water and beach towns," Kirby told the Clew. "But living in Montana has been eye opening. I think it's the prettiest place I've ever seen and it is very inspiring."

When asked if he would bring his Frers 30 to Solomons from its home port on Portsmouth, NH anytime soon, he laughed. "I am on the road so much in the summer. When I get home to Maine and New Hampshire, all I have time to do is daysail before I head back on tour." The mention of Solomons reminded Kirby of his favorite things about his annual visit here: Sunsets and our clubhouse. "I love playing the room at SMSA. The acoustics are good, and people listen instead of yacking to their neighbor. And I love the sunsets you guys get out front. Solomons is really a favorite stop of mine."

The Scott Kirby concert at SMSA is sponsored by the Solomons Holiday Inn and Conference Center, and by Corona Extra (Bozick Distributors). Food from the Jamaican Grill, an SMSA favorite, will be available on the front patio. Doors open at 3pm and the music starts at 4pm. In addition to the SMSA website, you can also get your name on the ticket list by writing Lisa Flaherty at scottatsmsa@gmail.com or by mailing a check made out to SMSA for the proper amount to SMSA Scott Kirby Show, Box 284, Solomons, MD 20688

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

The Scott Kirby concert at SMSA is sponsored by the Solomons Holiday Inn and Conference Center, and by Corona Extra (Bozick Distributors).

Food from the Jamaican Grill, an SMSA favorite, will be available on the front patio.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

As the sailing season took off this spring and now is full swing into summer, SMSA is pleased to welcome several new sailors and sailing families to the club. Welcome to:

Ian Chalmers and Ashley Kitzmiller from Lexington Park;
Dani (Danyelle) Vignolini and Nicole Lively from Lusby;
Steve and Linda Kiser from Florida and on their boat at Z's;
Desiree Green and four kids from Washington, D.C.(including Paul Reif, the sailor);
David and Emily Spiker from Oakton, VA but who frequent the Solomon's area;
Earl Kauffman and Cathy Regan from Valley Lee;
Chris Furfaro from Lusby;
Bonnie and Glenn McGregor from Fairfax, VA; and
Dimitrios Papadakis and Judy Angelheart from Lusby.

As you participate in the club's events this summer please extend a welcome to our newest members.

New Member Profiles

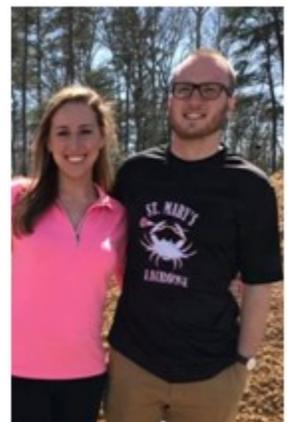
Dani Vignolini



Dani, originally from Pittsburgh PA, is into all forms of outdoor sports and activities. She stopped by SMSA looking to get some more time sailing and decided to join. She already has her ASA-101 certification and is interested in getting more hours towards achieving her Captain's license. She doesn't have a keel boat yet, but is on the look out for one.

Ian Chalmers and Ashley Kitzmiller

Ian heard about SMSA last year from Don Behrens and decided to join after sailing in a couple small boat races with Robert Brunger and in a keelboat race on *Rakali*. Ian sailed 420's in Annapolis but wasn't able to continue after moving down to the Lexington Park area a year ago. He and his fiancé are planning to sign up for the adult learn to sail as she is new to sailing and he wants the benefit of some more instruction. Growing up in Annapolis, his main connection to sailing was his mother who ran CBYRA at the time. No boat at the moment, but Ian said one is in their future.





FOR SALE

'89 WAHOO! 16.2 Striper Center Console

2011 Yamaha 4-Stroke , 70 hp O/B (very low hrs)

New Fish Finder/Depth Sounder, '96 Trailer

\$7500 OBO

Jim Keen, 240 925-1173, williwaw66@hotmail.com

FOR SALE: 1981 Kirby 25 "Kraken" \$1,800

-Main, #1 Jib, #3 Jib, 2 Spinnakers -All lines in good shape
-All USCG safety equipment -5.5HP Nissan 4 stroke motor
-Stereo with speakers and auxiliary jack -Mounted VHF radio
-Depth gauge -Portable marine toilet -Two marine batteries; one for radio and VHF, the other for depth gauge, running lights, cabin lights -Trailer -New Bottom Spring 2017 (no soft spots or damage) -Boat is race or cruise ready!

CALL ED SIERRA

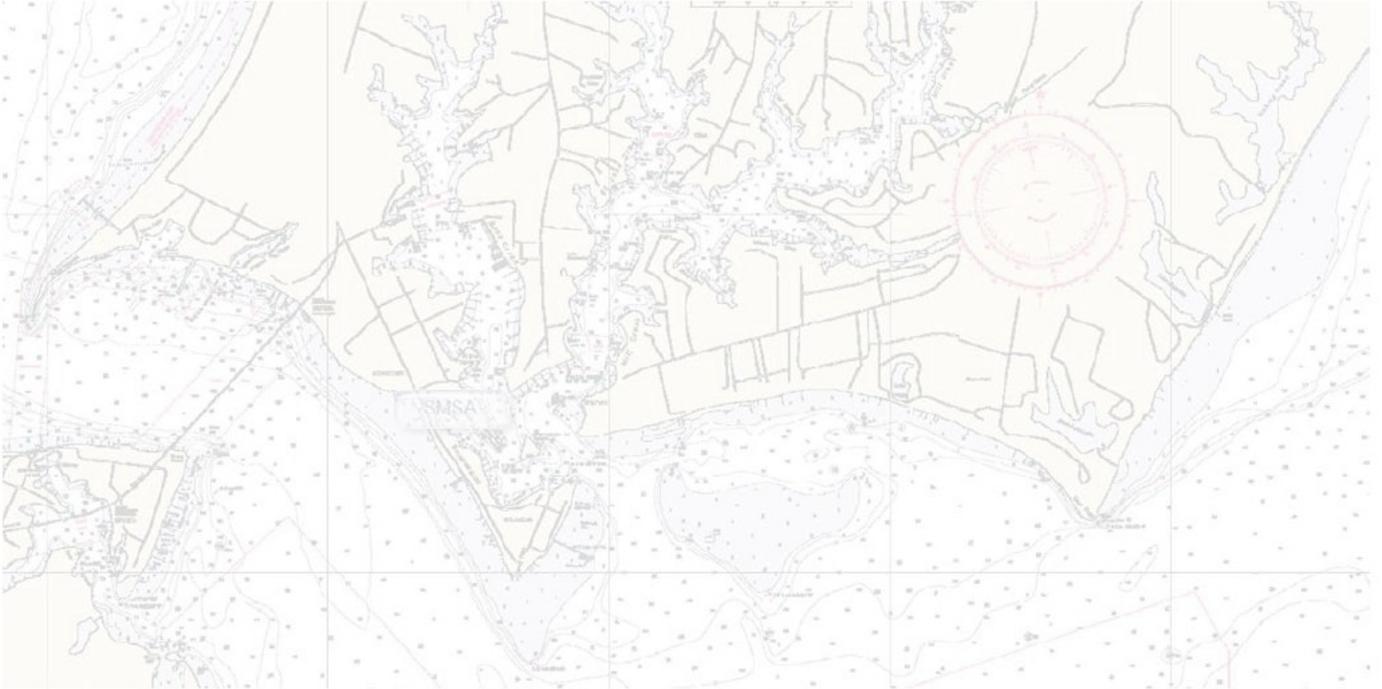
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Southern Maryland Sailing Association
PO Box 262, Solomons, MD 20688

PLACE
STAMP
HERE



AUGUST 2017 Volume 47 Number 8

Scott Kirby is Back!

Sunday, August 13th

4:00pm

Doors Open at 3:00 pm

**GET YOUR
TICKETS
NOW!**

