



# The Clew

## COVID-19 SMSA UPDATE

**SMSA Family— your Board of Directors has continued to monitor the CDC, Federal and State guidelines and has made the decision that ALL SMSA events through MAY 31 are cancelled.**

**Please stay healthy, stay safe, and take care of one another so we can all live to sail another day.**

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### Virtual Happy Hour—Beta Test

Friday, May 1

### Virtual Happy Hour

Friday, May 8

### Opening Day

Friday, June 5, 2020 @ 9:30 am

### Luau

Friday, June 5, 2020 @ 5:30 pm

**Please watch your e-mail for any changes due to COVID-19  
NOTE: There will be no hard copy distribution of the Clew until further notice**



## Commodore's Corner

By Marc Briere  
commodore@smsa.com



Here we are still in the "new normal" - let's hope not.

Given the governor's path toward this new normal, Phase 1 includes recreational boating. As soon as we get the Phase 1 call from the governor, we can look at having some socially distant boating activities. We will still be restricted from large gatherings outside until Phase 2 and gatherings indoors until Phase 3.

We regret the continued suspension of operations and closure of the clubhouse but it was necessary. Our yearbook, race circulars and this newsletter continue to be organized and published thanks to a very dedicated group of volunteers - Thank you!

This Clew comes with a couple of fun articles and some updates on progress that we've had despite the lockdown. I am very grateful to our facilities program's for their continued progress on our warming kitchen. Look for their report in this newsletter. We are going to try virtual Happy Hour starting this week. That's also in this newsletter.

Take Care of yourselves, one another and dream about upcoming club activities together.

Marc



# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

## SMSA Members, THE WORK CONTINUES 6 FEET APART!

John Blaney (Facility Chair) has continued with the renovations. Cabinets are installed, electrical and plumbing are moving along, refrigerator, microwave and dishwasher are in and the counter tops have been ordered.

With some help from Jen Boutwell, Robin Witte and Karen Eggert the room has been caulked and most of the painting completed. Remaining items where help is needed is as follows:

1. Paint trim white around windows and doors, skirting board and ductwork. @SMSA.
2. Paint 9 unfinished oak doors and drawer panel with Minwax poly with stain (we have) These can be taken away and done at your leisure. @HOME
3. Paint unfinished oak cabinet fronts with Minwax poly stain. @SMSA
4. Sand off finish on 4 doors and 3 drawer pieces from a prefinished oak cabinet. @HOME. Have great tool to do it with.
5. Paint hallway vestibule wall white. @SMSA
6. Paint middle room pegboard wall, doors, and trim white. @SMSA

How about helping John with with one of these items listed above? This should not be a one person job, step up to the plate and find a way to contribute even in these unique times. For more information please contact John (facility@smsa.com).

What about volunteering to be our Communications Chair which is more than just the Yearbook????? For now we're just managing getting the 2020 Yearbook pulled together, but we shouldn't have to be struggling. We need new ideas for communicating with our SMSA family and our community. Please contact myself (rearcommodore@smsa.com) for additional details.



Thanks to those of you who have already volunteered, your service is greatly appreciated.

Robin Witte  
SMSA Rear Commodore  
rearcommodore@smsa.com

New items are in bold text

<b>Immediate Needs:</b>	
<u>Communications Chair</u>	Communications Chair (term ended Dec 2019)
<u>Bar</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet Alcohol deliveries once a month on Wed, Thurs or Fri</li> <li>• Volunteer Bartenders</li> </ul>
<u>Screwpile Webmaster</u>	• Develop/Maintain Screwpile 2020 web presence

# Grounded Sailors ~ An Unlikely Start to the Season

Henry J. Meiser

In February, I would have never said that COVID-19 would become so widespread in the U.S., that sailing would be abruptly halted! I mean, sailors get through everything, being cold, being hot, getting soaked, rough seas, and everything in between! But we do not get through COVID, at least not on our boats. Although COVID-19 has brought about an unlikely "grounding" for sailors coast to coast, here are some awesome things I have seen many of these grounded sailors doing to help pass the time until we can get back out on the water!



1. Virtual Wednesday Night Racing on *Virtual Regatta*: Allows you to perfect your sailing skills, while sitting on your sofa, and these races even have "2-minute beverage refill" breaks!
2. Cleaning Boat Parts: I can promise you each and every one of your lines, sails and various equipment will be cleaned, scrubbed, folded, polished, and organized once twice or even three times before the season even starts!
3. Taking a cold shower with all your foul weather gear on, just to remember the feeling: We are looking at you, foredeck people!
4. Maintaining the SMSA flower beds even more so then ever: Thank you so much to Jody Keen and company! It looks great!
5. Working all the way until 5:00 p.m. (or after) on Wednesday Nights: No start sequences or bridge traffic to worry about right now!

Hopefully very soon, with all of our efforts to socially distance ourselves, COVID-19 will start to decline to a point where we can all safely be back out on our boats! I know I will no longer complain of being cold or wet during any Frostbite Race, now that I know what it means to not be able to go out sailing at all---lesson well learned!

# CRUISERS CORNER



**Carl Kemp**  
*Cruising Chair*  
cruise@smsa.com

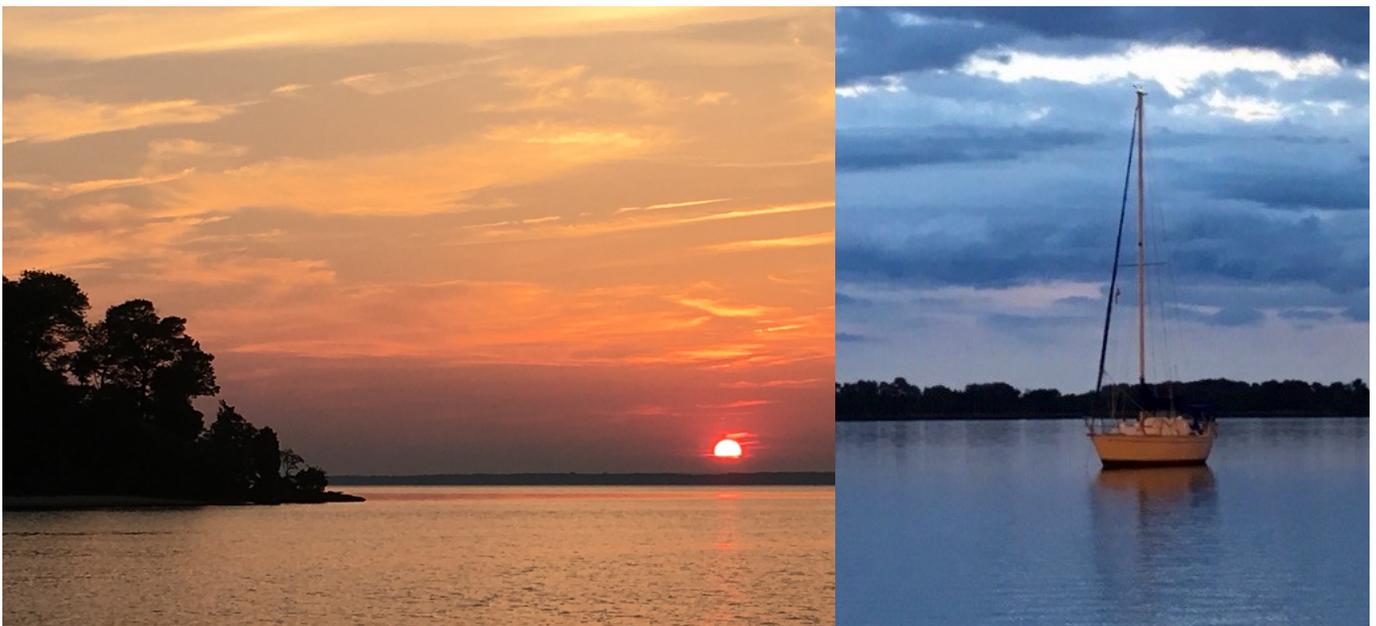
With the continued restrictions in Maryland and the surrounding states and the subsequent suspension of all SMSA activities through May 30, the two May cruises, Rollins Cove (previously moved from April) and Southern Bay, are cancelled.

So, let's move on. There are two cruises scheduled for June. The first is a short sail and overnight anchor in Mill Creek (St Mary's) on June 6 and 7, the two days following the Luau and the rescheduled opening day. This is a great opportunity for both cruisers and racers to make sure everything on your boat still works and you remember how to sail. It is a short sail home if you choose not to spend the night at anchor.

The second cruise in June is the Philadelphia Cruise, June 11 through 19. Details for this cruise are on the Cruise Plan in the 2020 SMSA Yearbook. An alternate destination, the Sassafras River, is proposed on the Cruise Plan because Penn's Landing Marina, the only marina adjacent to the downtown area with transient slips, has not yet determine if there will be enough slips available to accommodate our boats. This should be resolved soon. If you plan to join this cruise, please notify Dennis Chandler, the cruise leader.

We remain optimistic but also flexible as we go forward. Remember, be safe and .....

**THINK CRUISING!**





## Screwpile News Update



The worldwide Coronavirus pandemic has certainly wreaked havoc with all our lives as well as tragically ending many across the globe. For those of us fortunate enough to have remained healthy throughout Covid-19 by hunkering down with family and following recommended practices, we look forward to the time when we can come out of our bunkers, go back to work, get back on the water, and regain the life we knew before the virus took control of our lives. It's not going to happen overnight, but there is light at the end of the tunnel.

We know that many racing events throughout the country have been cancelled. Charleston and Southern Bay Race Weeks, Down the Bay Race, the Annapolis and Newport to Bermuda races are among those many cancelled as well as the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Through a serendipitous series of circumstances, we made the decision this past Fall to re-schedule our 2020 Screwpile Regatta from mid-July to the last weekend in September. So, Screwpile could end up being one of the few major regattas on the Chesapeake to survive the pandemic. We can only hope so.

The Screwpile web site is up and running <[www.screwpile.net](http://www.screwpile.net)> with the Notice of Race posted. If you are an SMSA racer or cruiser/racer, please register early. You can also register by going directly to the Yacht Scoring web site... <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eid=11776>.

Note: The Screwpile 2020 Executive Committee is currently soliciting volunteers to help with the regatta... on-the-water, shoreside, and other miscellaneous tasks. It takes a lot of volunteers to successfully prepare for and execute a big-time regatta like Screwpile. Whether you are an old-timer working Screwpile or a newcomer volunteer please contact Jim Keen, Screwpile 2020 Regatta Chairman at [chairman@screwpile.net](mailto:chairman@screwpile.net) or by phone... 240 925-1173. Thank you and hope to see you out on the water soon!





With the limited activity at the club we wanted our members to know that there are still people working behind the scenes to keep things going. So this month we'd like to put the Member Spotlight on Kristi Yurko and John Blaney.

**Kristi Yurko**—has been working tirelessly as the SMSA Treasurer since 2016. In addition she has worked Membership, Merchandise, and the SMSA Website for many years. She is responsible for implementing full credit card support for the Bar, added a monthly option for dues and fees, and added support for paid staff. This included our summer camp staff and our bartenders. And, in her spare time, Kristi also implemented a refresh of our Club website. This year Kristi stepped down from her Treasurer position as she needed a well deserved break. (Russell Miller you have large shoes to fill). Kristi plans to continue to volunteer (Membership, Website) but please drop her a note or the next time you see her please thank her for the countless hours she has given to help make SMSA a club we all love being a part of.

**John Blaney**—a relatively new member to SMSA with his wife Joan, agreed to take on the Facility Chair position in November 2019. I'm sure he didn't know what he was in for, but he jumped right in and took on the major project of renovating the social room into a warming kitchen. John has planned and executed the renovation almost single handedly. He arranged for SMSA to be the beneficiary of the Solomons Landing Clubhouse Kitchen Cabinets and appliances (they are re-modeling), purchased some additional cabinets, did the plumbing, electrical, added cabinets in the vestibule and outside the new entry to the warming kitchen and I'm sure way more than I've described. Our SMSA members will definitely benefit from John's efforts. When you see John, please give him a big thank you for getting the job done.



## **Becoming a new boat owner**

Henry J. Meiser

Although I have had a fair amount of time on boats for someone my age, one of the many boats I had not yet sailed was a Laser. So last summer, a family friend was nice enough to lend me his Laser for the season to see how I liked it. Flash forward----a summer full of fun Laser sailing, both at SMSA and around the Bay, and by the fall I had purchased a Laser of my own with money I earned from working at Summer Camp!

Growing up with boat owners, I have seen how much work, and money go into boat ownership. However, I do not think one can truly understand this until they have a boat of their own. Here are a few stark realizations I have had, since purchasing my first luxury yacht!

- I now understand my parents' fret during late night windstorms! No longer do I sleep when there are strong winds, because all I can think about is my boat blowing through the SMSA parking lot! I have joined my Father more than once on late night visits to check the boat, whereas before I would have been fast asleep!
- Previously, I often wondered why we could not just replace every little thing on our boats that was not perfect! However, after looking at the price of a Laser Radial mast and other boat parts and accessories that are all coming out of my checking account, I see the importance in trying to fix things yourself when you can! Who would've guessed that a hunk of rope could be so expensive—THAT is why it is a fancy "line" and not a mere "rope"---you feel better about spending the money!
- I have also, all of a sudden, become obsessed with meticulous details when I rig and de-rig my boat----a trait I never knew I had in me. I always wondered why my parents are so specific about how every little thing got put together, and put away, on the boat each time we go out sailing. Does it really matter *HOW* the cover gets folded after all? But now I see---it does matter! Boat ownership has made me quite particular about how each little thing gets done, because it matters---*uh-oh, my parents were right!*
- I have also learned about being the person solely in control of the boat. When I have sailed on other boats, even on our boats, there is sort of "safety net" since I am not the primary one worrying about storms, life jackets, crew safety, etc. Now, when I go out on my Laser, I am THE one responsible for all of these things, for my safety, the safety of others around me and for my boat. I now understand, better than ever, the caution which must be used at all times.



But, despite all of the above, an awesome thing I have learned since I purchased my first boat, is pride in ownership. Even though it is only a little one-person boat, I thoroughly enjoy that feeling I get when I remind myself, "hey --- I am a boat owner!" Although boat ownership comes with big responsibilities, it also comes with a great reward and opportunity, which, in my opinion, outweigh the other factors, hands down!

# BARNACLE BAR



**Jim Whited**

*Bar Manager*

barmanager@smsa.com

## **Virtual Happy Hour**

It's been quite a while since we've gotten together and with all of the virtual activities happening across the country we thought why not do something for you, the members.

Friday, May 1st—Virtual Happy Hour Testing. If you're interested in being part of the test group to make sure everything works, please e-mail our Bar Manager, Jim Whited (barmanager@smsa.com)

Friday, May 8th at 6:30 pm—First SMSA Virtual Happy Hour

Details will be forthcoming. Please check your e-mail next week for more information.

Questions: please contact your friendly Bar Manager, Jim Whited

## **SMSA BARNACLE BAR SPECIAL**

Did you know that beer has an expiration date?

With a regulation change due to COVID-19, SMSA will be selling our beer to ensure it won't go to waste.

### **Carry-out, 6-packs (no singles)**

Prices as follows:

Coors Light, Yuengling — \$7

Angry Orchard, Goose Island IPA — \$8

Michelob Ultra — \$8.50

Kona Big Wave, Stella Artois — \$8.75

Guinness, Sam Adams Boston Lager — \$9

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By appointment only, Contact Jim Whited  
(barmanager@smsa.com)

LET THE VIRTUAL  
HAPPY HOUR BEGIN!  
CHEERS TO SMSA SAILORS!



## CLASSIFIED ADS

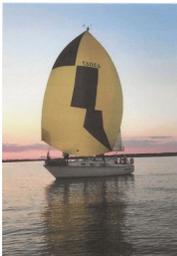
FOR SALE: 1986 Nelson/Marek Merit 28 Safe, Fast, Fun, & Ready to Race. Grand prix deck w/open transom. Includes trailer but will sell separately. \$20K Contact Elliott Peterson 443-624-8662



FOR SALE: SHERMAX, 1981 Catalina 30 #2276 is a classic family cruiser/racer designed by Catalina Yachts owner Frank Butler in 1974. Stable, safe, friendly sailboat for any coastal/inland sea. Cruised extensively in Chesapeake Bay and raced in Wednesday night beer can series with Southern Maryland Sailing Assn. Asking \$14,000. Contact Max Munger (maxmunger@verizon.net) 410-326-9024



FOR SALE: LICKETY-SPLIT, 1980 Pearson 32. Well maintained performance racer-cruiser, in very good condition, actively raced and cruised in Chesapeake Bay by same owner for 35 yrs, racing PHRF rating 168. Rebuilt engine and new interior cushions. Comes with a treasure of sails, dinghy, bimini and many extras. Asking \$14,000.



Contact Donna Maneely  
dsmaneely@verizon.net  
301-863-2231.

FOR SALE: Slocum 43 blue water cruiser. Perfect liveaboard. Updates and refit include replaced decks, new seacocks, pumps, sump pumps, plumbing, sinks, faucets, toilet, counter tops, many new electronics, transducers, refrigerator, blinds, canvas, air conditioning new engine, etc. Recently installed a hot air heating system. New Quantum sails. Asking \$100K. Contact Charlie Collins @ cco-lins218@gmail.com or 240-577-1004



View listing on Southern MD Craigslist

1996 Cardinal Buccaneer 18 with trailer \$2500 firm. Boom raised. Roller furler. Spinnaker chute. Schurr jib in good condition, laminate racing main in excellent condition w/ 2 reef points, used 4 times. Spinnaker and pole. New never used Dacron jib and main w/ one reef (no sail numbers). Ready to sail and race. Only downsides are cockpit scuppers leak slightly and no title for boat or trailer.



Contact John Auman  
at [johnauman.smsa@gmail.com](mailto:johnauman.smsa@gmail.com)

12 ft Aluminum Spinnaker pole, Free. 3 1/4" diameter with ends. Pickup in Charlotte Hall MD. Contact John Auman at [johnauman.smsa@gmail.com](mailto:johnauman.smsa@gmail.com)



**Southern Maryland Sailing Association**  
P.O. Box 262, Solomons, MD 20688

Place  
Stamp



# The Clew

**MAY 2020    Volume 50 Number 5**



**It's that time again!**

2020 Annual Membership Dues and Annual Fees were due on April 1!

Members wishing to change from a lump sum payment to installment payments: Please submit forms ASAP

(Forms are on the SMSA Website under "Membership", click on "Payment" & scroll to "Monthly Installment Payments")

Please contact Membership at [membership@smsa.com](mailto:membership@smsa.com) or Treasurer at [treasurer@smsa.com](mailto:treasurer@smsa.com)