



The Clew

COVID-19 SMSA UPDATE

SMSA Family— your Board of Directors continues to monitor the CDC, Federal and State guidelines. Until such time that we can gather in person, please stay healthy, stay safe, and take care of one another so we can all live to sail another day.

Virtual Happy Hour

Friday, May 29 5:30—9:00 pm

Virtual Happy Hour—Hawaiian Theme

Friday, Jun 5 5:30—9:00 pm

Virtual Opening Day

Saturday, June 6, 2020 @ 10:30 am

Fleet Building Wed Night—Pre-Season Tune-up

Wednesday, June 3, 2020

First Wed Night Race

Wednesday, June 10, 2020

(Keelboat Race Circular is currently in re-write, stay tuned for more details)

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



Ahoy SMSA shipmates!

There is a fifth dimension beyond that which is known to man. It is a dimension as vast as space and as timeless as infinity. It is the middle ground between light and shadow, between science and superstition, and it lies between the pit of man's fears and the summit of his knowledge. This is the dimension of imagination. It is an area which we call the *Twilight Zone*.

For many of us, this year feels like one of those old Twilight Zone shows where things don't make sense to the characters and there are plenty of information gaps, apprehension and cause for concern. We all know the saying "hindsight is 20/20" where hindsight refers to looking back or reflecting on things in the past and 20/20 refers to perfect vision. That is to say when we look back on situations in the past, we see things clearly that were not clear to us at the time. We sincerely hope that sometime in 2021 we see 2020 with 20/20 vision and have a clearer understanding of the environment our club and members navigated through this year when we had many more questions from captain and crew than answers.

As we embark on June's leg of this year's club voyage, we still have some of those questions but we have a few answers. We pulled up the forecast for June and it looks better than May's weather that kept us grounded (as captured by Henry J in last month's clew) or unable to leave our slips. That said, it's still not the fair winds and following seas we prayed for and talked about with other sailors.

US Sailing and CBYRA are reviewing the situation and will be publishing prescriptions for yacht clubs and OAs on how we can continue to provide some level of activity in our sport for our members. Championships and major racing events are cancelling or rescheduling while this situation evolves and more information is processed for our sport across the country and our region.

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Commodore's Corner, continued

Governor Hogan's issued Executive Order #20-05-13-01 to allow reopening of certain businesses and facilities as we transition to Phase 1 of the MD Strong Recovery Plan. The Governor briefed these changes on May 13th and some restrictions were rescinded starting at 5pm on May 15th.

Just this past Wednesday, Governor Hogan held another press conference and issued another amendment to the executive order 20-05-27-01. Despite briefing significant changes to initial phase 1 and full phase 1, there are several key points of the two amendments that have a direct, legal and lingering impact on SMSA operations – until we move to probably Phase 2 of the Recovery Plan. Specifically, in section II of the executive order gatherings larger than 10 persons are (still) prohibited. In section IV, subsection f under Other Recreational Establishments all recreational establishments including *“social and fraternal clubs shall remain closed to the general public”* (including members in the case of private clubs). This order is effective *“until after termination of the state of emergency and the proclamation of catastrophic health emergence has been rescinded, superseded, amended or revised by additional orders”*.

Because of these two restrictions, SMSA will hold a “virtual opening ceremony” for our 2020 season at 10:30 on Saturday June 6th. Opening Day cannot be attended by members because of the Governor's restriction so the opening ceremony will be streamed on Zoom online meeting so members can witness and interact during and after the shorter-than-normal ceremony. Jim Whited will announce the web address and login instructions to all members.

Even though we will officially commence our 2020 season, the SMSA clubhouse must remain closed to all activities until further notice. We will continue to work on updates to the warming kitchen and necessary facility maintenance with maximum physical distancing to protect our members.

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Commodore's Corner, continued

Our Junior Program Summer Camp is being cancelled for 2020 for many reasons including the restrictions mentioned, lack of a Camp Director, inability to prep the dinghies or the facility while shuttered, inability to adequately mitigate the safety and health risks to our campers and our faculty for the evolving COVID protocols.

A big round of applause to Barbara Whited for the long hours of researching and coordinating to try and come up with an executable plan for our summer camp but the challenges of this situation are too big and the risks are too high. Reimbursements will be issued in the next few weeks to registered camper families.

Our Cruise Program members will have their June 6-7 Happy Hour Cruise to Mill Creek (St Mary's) as scheduled. Note that this was changed from a "Raft Up" to just a "Cruise" where they will socially distance. However, the Philadelphia Cruise has been canceled, but the cruisers will be venturing out as they feel comfortable and when their boats are ready.

Subsequent to the Governor's order, the DNR website was updated at 5:30pm on the 15th of May rescinding the restriction to family members only on the same sailboat and the restriction from any boat racing. Our Keelboat and Small Boat programs are reviewing our General Sailing Instructions and event Sailing Instructions to come up with changes to our scoring, Race Management and this year's trophies to allow for racing to occur for those who feel comfortable enough with operating within the CDC recommendations for outdoor boating activities. This will include maximum crew size changes for keelboats for improved physical distancing, minimum spacing between boats of 10 ft at all times, face masks when within 6 ft of anyone especially at the docks and recommendations for hand sanitizer aboard all boats.

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Commodore's Corner, continued

We will also be reviewing and amending our policies and procedures likely restricting boat check out, dinghy gear storage, RC and safety boat usage until further notice to stay compliant with the Executive Order and CDC guidelines.

Keep a weather eye in your email for these and any other changes in the next week. For those who registered but have decided not going to race because of the situation, we will reimburse your race fees.

Stay safe, stay healthy and think SAILING!

Marc



FACILITY STATUS



Robin Witte

Rear Commodore

rearcommodore@smsa.com

Members,

Now that the Warming Kitchen Project is completed (or extremely close to being done), your Board of Directors has been discussing access to the club and what that means for you the members, especially in light of the fact that we can return to racing with certain provisos.

I was all set with my June Clew input when Governor Hogan issued a new Executive Order #20-05-27-01 just days before going to press. However, the Executive Order, Section IV, paragraph f.ii states "*All Recreational Establishments shall remain closed to the general public (including members, in the case of private clubs)*".

There is nothing I would like more than to open our clubhouse to members so we can try to get back to "normal", whatever that definition would be in today's environment. I know some people interpreted his video as we could open on a limited basis but even if we follow the social distancing, no groups larger than 10, etc. we would still be required to sanitize the club after every use.

Without a paid staff that could be on the premises during business hours to monitor people entering/exiting and sanitize the club, I can't guarantee that the clubhouse will be properly sanitized when members are at the facility.

So your Officers have determined the best course of action is to close the clubhouse to all activities until we move into Phase II or the Executive Order is completely rescinded with the exception of those persons deemed essential (Officers, Facilities, Bar Manager, Dockmaster, Keelboat Chair, Smallboat Chair).

Therefore, if you need anything that is currently stored in the clubhouse you must remove those items no later than Saturday, June 6th by 12pm. At that time clubhouse access will be limited to essential personnel only and the access code to the clubhouse will be changed.

After June 6th if you need access to the clubhouse, please contact one of the essential personnel as they will take responsibility to ensuring CDC guidelines are followed during your time at the clubhouse to include sanitization. This includes restricting usage of the restroom.

We know these are very unique times and your SMSA Officers are working to make our club safe for everyone. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to give us a call or send an email.

On behalf of your Officers,

Robin Witte
SMSA Rear Commodore

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

SMSA Members,

THE WORK CONTINUED 6 FEET APART!

John Blaney (Facility Chair) has completed the renovations to the Warming Kitchen. A large round of applause for John.



Just a few minor items left to go and the room will be ready to start transitioning items and organizing them in the new kitchen. I will be working that activity and have already asked a member to assist as the clubhouse will be closed to members effective June 6th at 12pm and we will need to follow the CDC protocols.

So what's next? How can you volunteer even in these challenging times?

What about being our Communications Chair? This is more than just the yearbook, it's helping with the Clew, responding to the SMSA phone calls, advertising, etc. For now we're just managing but we shouldn't have to struggle. 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



CRUISERS CORNER



Carl Kemp
Cruising Chair
cruise@smsa.com

With the ban on recreational boating in Maryland lifted, cruising should be able to proceed as scheduled. I have good news and bad news.

First the good news. The June 6-7 Happy Hour Cruise to Mill Creek (St Mary's) is proceeding as scheduled. Although there will be no raft up, a large area to anchor near other boats and the use of dinghies should provide ample opportunity to socialize and catch up with fellow cruisers. The Cruise Leader, Jerry Taylor on No Sched, is planning to arrive around 2:00 PM. For those not wanting to spend a night at anchor, it is a short trip back to Solomons.

Now the bad news. The Philadelphia Cruise, the second cruise in June and the longest destination of the year, is cancelled. In phone calls to each of the marinas utilized for this cruise, the Cruise Leader, Dennis Chandler, was told that the marina either was not accepting transients, or a 14-day quarantine would apply. In addition, he was informed that in some locations most restaurants and shops remain closed. After considering alternate shorter anchor out cruise opportunities, the cruisers voted to forgo a structured cruise and, in its place, go on individual cruises with an open invitation for others to join in. This past weekend, May 16-17, Dennis and Carolyn Chandler on Safina and Jerry and Donna Taylor on No Sched, taking advantage of great weather, began this flexible approach with a cruise to Rollins Cove in St Leonard Creek.

At this time, it is anticipated that the first cruise in July, The 4th of July Cruise, will proceed regardless of the status of the annual holiday events in St Marys City and any restrictions in place. Contact the Cruise Leader, Carl Kemp, if you have any questions. The status and details of other July cruises will be discussed in the next issue of Clew. In these difficult and constantly changing times, we will continue to be flexible.

THINK CRUISING!





Have you ever wondered who has been caring for the beautiful garden arrangement year after year in front of our clubhouse?

Jody Keen and her green thumb continue to work their magic, keeping the front area of SMSA looking great. With each season Jody transforms the look of the planter with some tulips in the spring, a variety of colors in the summer and perhaps some mums in the fall.

This year not only has she planted some beautiful flowers but she also gave the planter an overdue facelift.

Jody, thanks for making the exterior so beautiful for our members to enjoy as well as for all those that pass by the club who stop to take photos of the gorgeous flowers.



KEELBOAT RACING



Dan Shannon

Keelboat Race Chair

keelboatrace@smsa.com

Well Keelboat racers, the Maryland Governor has raised the ban on sailboat racing in Maryland waters. SMSA is exploring how to adjust our racing program to fit within the COVID-19 guidelines. Adjustments to the remaining races will be posted on the SMSA Keelboat pages in the sailing instruction area.

Thanks to those skippers who have responded to my email. If you did not get the email, please send me your feedback (keelboatrace@smsa.com) to the following questions:

Do you plan to race this season? Will you be spinnaker or non-spinnaker? Any feedback on how to conduct a race is also appreciated. We anticipate our racing fleet will be smaller this year, however, I believe we can be safe, have fun and enjoy racing.

As of right now we're estimating June 10 for our start date but please stay tuned to the SMSA Keelboat webpages and your email for more information should that change.

Dan Shannon

Keelboat Race Chair





A big round of applause to Barbara Whited for the long hours of researching and coordinating to try and come up with an executable plan for our summer camp but the challenges of this situation are too big and the risks are too high.

When you get a chance drop Barbara an email to thank her for all of her efforts. She was in an unenviable position and your Officers are grateful for her dedication to the Junior Program.



BARNACLE BAR



Jim Whited

Bar Manager

barmanager@smsa.com

Virtual Happy Hour

Our Virtual Happy Hours have been working so we will continue them until we can get back to a real Happy Hour at the Barnacle Bar. The format has evolved a bit as we have gained experience with this new reality. We use a Zoom meeting to open the Virtual Bar at 5:30PM on Friday evening and keep it open till around 9:00PM. Members are invited to drop-in at any time and just hangout. We will try to have theme nights and mini-meetings of interest to club members when appropriate, and as always, we can ring the Bell for announcements. You can find the link to the Happy Hour on the Club Calendar, and news about the theme or agenda in the Upcoming Events section of the club web page.

If you have a suggestion for a theme or a mini-meeting you would like to hold during Happy Hour drop me a note at the club Bar Manager email, Jim Whited (barmanager@smsa.com)

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, Corona Extra — \$8
- Michelob Ultra — \$8.50
- Kona Big Wave — \$8.75
- Sam Adams Boston Lager — \$9



You will find a link to our Online Store on the Club Web Page in the Club News! section

Bar Manager will schedule pickups by email, Contact Jim Whited (barmanager@smsa.com)

CLASSIFIED ADS

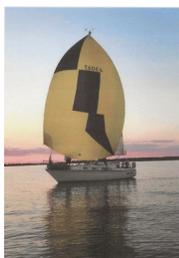
FOR SALE: 1986 Nelson/Marek Merit 28 Safe, Fast, Fun, & Ready to Race. Grand prix deck w/open transom. Includes trailer but will sell separately. \$20K Contact Elliott Peterson 443-624-8662



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

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



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

Place
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The Clew

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