



The Clew

COVID-19 SMSA UPDATE

Continue to refer to the *SMSA COVID-19 Safety Plans and Guidelines* sent via email and located on the SMSA Website

CALL FOR OFFICER AND DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS

Nomination packages must be received and confirmed by the Election Committee no later than 5 pm on Friday, October 9th, 2020

ANNUAL MEETING—SAT. NOV. 7 @ 10AM

Please save the date and time. The Annual Meeting will be held virtually. Additional details to follow

Happy Hours Continue

Friday's 5:30—8:30 pm

Last call at 8:20 pm. At 8:30 pm we kindly ask members to depart so the club can be sanitized per CDC Guidelines

Racing and Cruising Continues!

Don't miss out on the last few event of the year.

Please check the respective webpages for more information

Keelboat: Dan Shannon (keelboatrace@smsa.com)

Smallboat: Henry Meiser/Megan Roberts (smallboatrace@smsa.com)

Cruise: Carl Kemp (cruise@smsa.com)

Please continue to watch your e-mail for any changes due to COVID-19

NOTE: Since COVID we do not publish and send hard copy Clews.



Commodore's Corner

By Marc Briere
commodore@smsa.com



Ahoy SMSA shipmates!

It's been quite a September! Great volunteers and a club full of like-minded sailors who have attended happy hours, several cruises, high school sailing, ran a successful Smallboat Invitational Regatta and another successful Screwpile. Look in the articles from our program chairs for a recap of these events. In the Navy this would have been a Bravo-Zulu message for a "job well done". On behalf of all of SMSA and for the captains and crew who were able to enjoy these activities, thank you to all the volunteers who make it all happen safely following CDC guidelines.

Despite no parties due to Covid-19 and no wind on the first day, Screwpile ended on an upbeat note on Monday with 15 kts of sea breeze. We had 33 racers from around the Bay in a great day of racing in sunny skies and mild September temps. The home team was represented by 11 boats and earned 5 trophies in 5 classes: Mark and Robin Witte's Rakali was 3rd in the A2/B class; Terry Reese with Family Tradition was 2nd in C Class; Dan Schneider 2nd in the Racer/Cruiser Class; Norm and Rosemary Dawley with Pursuit got 1st in Non-Spin; and Chris Eggert was 2nd in the True Cruiser Class with Destiny. All in all, 36 volunteers worked Screwpile from initial planning and coordination to on-the-water Race Committee duty. SMSA accounted for itself very well in pulling off another great Screwpile Regatta in the craziest of years! Much thanks to all who participated and made it a huge success!

In addition to the events mentioned above that are covered in this newsletter, we had two SMSA boats travel to Fishing Bay and capture first and third place in the fastest PHRF class in the regatta. Congratulations to Dave and Jacki Meiser and the whole crew of One Trick Pony for their very solid 1st Place finish. Congratulations also goes out to Russell Miller and the crew of Cheetah who borrowed our boat and fought their way back from a 4th place day 1 standing to finish 3rd for the regatta by finishing 2nd in the distance race, losing 1st place to OTP by 15 seconds. Way to keep the pressure on.

Your officers, directors and program chairs are reviewing our operations manuals and position descriptions to facilitate transition to any newly elected volunteers and program chairs. We are also gathering requirements for a comprehensive and holistic upgrade to our internet presence including modernization of our data management, process management, status reporting, announcements, two-way-digital-communications and mobile application capabilities. We will have more details to report at the annual meeting.

Our annual membership meeting is just around the corner. We will likely host a hybrid socially distanced in-person event with Skype dial-in telecommute to maintain safe distances and have enough participation to have a quorum. Let us know if you have any items we need to discuss or we need to vote on. I have a few items I'd will bring up for discussion at the meeting. Our Election Committee has begun collecting names of nominees and volunteers for elected office positions for 2021. Remember all nomination packages must be received and confirmed by the Election Committee no later than 5 pm on Friday, October 9th, 2020.

See you around the clubhouse and on the water! *Marc*

CALL FOR OFFICER AND DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS



The Election Committee is collecting names of those being nominated or who wish to run for an SMSA elected office this fall. Officer positions include: Commodore, Vice Commodore, Rear Commodore, Treasurer, and Secretary. Additionally, two Director positions will be voted on. The Officer posts are one-year terms, while Directors serve three-year terms. To be an eligible candidate for Commodore, the nominee must have previously served at least two years in an Officer position or as a committee chair. There are no prerequisites for the other open positions. All nominees must be SMSA members in good standing. Please send your nomination package (desired position, bio, and photo) to the Nomination Committee, election@smsa.com.

Nomination packages must be received and confirmed by the Election Committee no later than 5 pm on Friday, October 9th, 2020.





SMSA Members,

2020 is slowly coming to a close and I know we all want to put this year behind us. But I first have to acknowledge the 40+ people that gave of their time to help with the Smallboat and Screwpile Regattas. Check out the list of folks on pages 11 & 14 of this month's Clew. **THANK YOU ALL!!!** Your willingness to volunteer is what helps make our events special for not only SMSA members but those coming from far and wide. So for the rest of you what are you waiting for?

As you look at the list realize that SMSA depends on it's members to keep this club going. Let's bring some new blood into our volunteer positions where you can have an opportunity to make a difference. Bring new ideas to the table and make them come to fruition. Put a new spin on an old event. What's your excuse for not volunteering?

Now is as good a time as any to get involved. The pace is still slower than usual but what better opportunity to learn the ropes. What's holding you back? How can we make volunteering easier and more desirable for a larger number of our members?

Give a shot at being our Clew editor. This month the Rear Commodore is back at the editor desk after getting a break from the Commodore. We've made transitioning easy from one person to the next and if you know how to use Powerpoint, you can use Publisher. We'll even train you, so how about taking this on for me? You can easily do from home. Please contact me at rearcommodore@smsa.com

Volunteer needed for RC Boat Captain. Driving the RC boat for Race Committees—Not Required! That is the RC's responsibility. Your job is to take care of routine checks on the boat, assure it has adequate fuel, and interface with Zahnizer's on routine and not so routine maintenance, not terribly time-consuming! We'll do an orderly transition with plenty of boat familiarization for whoever takes it on. If you are interested, please contact Lowell Martin, 301 325-4877, martin-lowell@comcast.net for more details.

Volunteers needed for a special committee. Marc Briere is standing up a special committee to review our administrative and accounting procedures to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our treasurer functions. Please contact Russell Miller and Kristi Yurko at treasurer@smsa.com if you have the experience, interest and talent to help us find better ways to integrate and streamline our current procedures and activities.

Thank You to those of you who volunteer.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

Robin Witte
SMSA Rear Commodore
rearcommodore@smsa.com

COVID STATUS



Robin Witte

Rear Commodore

rearcommodore@smsa.com

Greetings SMSA Members!

Well it's now October. Who would have thought that we'd still be dealing with COVID. As the state of Maryland begins it's transition into Phase III we have checked the most recent national and state policies and guidelines, which seem to be in a steady state.

As of this newsletter Governor Hogan's latest Executive Order #20-09-28-01 has not changed the posture for Social Clubs (which we are considered). We remain at 50% capacity (indoors) and the face covering requirements outlined in our current COVID Guidelines align with this Executive Order.

The clubhouse continues to be "open" for Happy Hour on Friday evenings with access being limited to the front/back patios and front room only. The rest of the clubhouse is still closed to members with the exception of essential personnel.

We're still looking for opportunities to hold some of our events, so please remember to check the weekly emails for the latest information about SMSA activities.

Remember that there are HANDWASHING ONLY (gray water) basins in the yard. Please give us your feedback on how that is working.

We thank you for your patience as we continue to work through many of details needed to ensure your safety while offering as many activities as possible while remaining compliant with Maryland Law and Executive Orders.

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

CRUISERS CORNER



Carl Kemp

Cruising Chair

cruise@smsa.com

October is here and that means only two cruises remain from our 2020 schedule.

The three day Where the Wind Blows Cruise is scheduled to begin October 10. Based on weather and wind projections, the destinations for the cruise will be determined and communicated the week before departure. Contact me or Todd and Jennifer Porter, the cruise leaders, if you plan to attend this cruise or have any questions.

Our last cruise of the year is the Halloween Happy Hour Raft-Up in Mill Creek (Solomons) on October 24 and 25. Happy hour begins at 4:30 PM on the dock at the home of Jerry and Donna Taylor, the cruise leaders. Costumes are optional, treats are mandatory. Get in touch with Jerry, if you have any questions.

It's not too late to get involved, so.....

Think Cruising!

Annapolis Summer Garden Theater Cruise – August 20 – 23

Carl & Martha Kemp



Four SMSA boats participated in our traditional trek to Annapolis for a weekend of camaraderie, food, drink, and ice cream. Unfortunately, the outdoor Summer Garden Theater was cancelled for the summer due to the virus. The first leg of the trip on Thursday took us to the Rhode River where **Patty K Too** (Rich Freeman & Patty Kimmel) set the happy hour raft-up anchor for **Thisilldous** (John & Joan Blaney) and **Serenity** (Carl & Martha Kemp). **Cloud 9** (Les Griffith) anchored nearby and paddled over to join the happy hour activities. As night approached, the raft broke up and everyone enjoyed a calm night at anchor. On Friday we made our way to Annapolis where **Patty K Too** took a slip in Ego Alley while the rest of our fleet found mooring balls in the harbor for the weekend. After an afternoon of shopping and taking in the sights of Annapolis Friday evening was highlighted with a gathering at The Boatyard Bar & Grill for happy hour and dinner. Good food, good drink and good atmosphere. After another day of walking around town, the Blackwall Hitch restaurant did a great job hosting our group on their roof top terrace. Once again, good food, good drink, and GREAT atmosphere.

We followed up with our traditional ice cream stop at Kilwins. The return trip on Sunday was mostly a motor sail with light winds. Even without the Summer Garden Theater, Annapolis was an very enjoyable Cruise.



Baltimore Cruise – September 4 – 8

Rich Freeman & Patty Kimmel

Patty K Too departed Spring Cove Marina at 0700 hours heading toward the Rhode River, the first night anchorage. **Cloud 9** was about four miles ahead of us because Les awoke early and decided to leave rather than lie awake. **Serenity** left before us, too, but we caught up with Carl & Martha at the mouth of the river. The winds were light to moderate AND on the nose for most of the 43 NM trip.

Since it was the beginning of the Labor Day holiday the anchorage began to fill up quickly. We were able to anchor just off the shoal and Les was a little west of us. Over the next hours, **Safina**, **Serenity**, **Walkabout**, **Thisilldous**, and the new **Stingray** arrived. There was no organized happy hour but some dinghy boat visits did occur.

Most of the boats left fairly early for Baltimore. **Walkabout** did not accompany the cruisers and returned to Solomons. The weather forecast was for 5 to 10 knots out of the north. Once we reached the bay the winds were 10 to 15 knots out of the north (at least NOAA got the direction right) and 1 to 2 feet waves. After reaching Thomas Point Lighthouse the winds strengthened to 15 to 20 knots, with gusts to 24 and the chop increased to 2 to 3 feet. It was a long 13 NM to the Bay Bridge. Once past the bridge the winds diminished to 5 to 9 knots and waves to less than one foot. Some of the group managed to get some sails up but it wasn't a pleasant sail. We arrived at Harbor East Marina at 1230 hours and backed into our slip. The dock hands were most helpful in getting us settled into the slip.

Once everyone was bedded down we had a super happy hour under the tent on the docks. Every boat provided a great *hors d'oeuvre*. Some hot, some cold, all tasted good. The adult beverages tasted especially good.

Sunday was a lay day and folks took advantage by going shopping and visiting historical sites. Some went for breakfast at the new Whole Foods store down the street by the bridge. Carl was spotted meandering aimlessly around the marina. Supper was at the Four Seasons Hotel outdoor restaurant Loch Bar, Raw Bar & Elixirs and was excellent.

Patty K Too departed the marina at 0640 hours headed to the West River. We were making such good time that when we passed the Thomas Point Lighthouse we decided to keep going to Solomons. **Safina** was already heading that way so we joined her in the bay. After ten hours and 67.7 NM we tied up to the fuel dock at SCM. The other four boats anchored in the West River, had another great meal at Pirates Cove Restaurant, and a calm motor sail to Solomons after a relaxing evening.

I think all cruisers enjoyed the destination. Harbor East Marina is one of the finest marinas on the bay. The only amenity missing to be a true destination marina is a pool.



KEELBOAT RACING



Dan Shannon

Keelboat Race Chair

keelboatrace@smsa.com

The timing of this article has Keelboat racing for September in the history books except for the Screwpile Lighthouse Challenge. Good luck to skippers and crew from Cheetah, One Trick Pony, Wild Horses, Rakali, Whirlaway, Wicked Good, Barba Roja, C2 (C Squared), Family Tradition, American Flyer, Bad Cat, Tennounce, Crocodile, Pursuit, Blitzzen, Cloud 9, Destiny and Windhover. Weather and wind look favorable for the event. Go to <http://screwpile.net/> for the latest information and results.



We tripled the amount of racing in September 2020 vice previous years. We re-scheduled the double handed race to 12 September, doubled the Wednesday Night races and Screwpile will be trying out September's winds and weather. But wait a minute, October racing brings Hooper/Point-No Point Race and our Fall Invitational. Then, just when you thought it was time to pull the boat out for the winter, November brings four Fall Frostbites races. October still needs a race committee volunteer for the Fall Invitational, SO SIGN UP NOW! Or the race will be cancelled.



Six boats were on the start line for our Double Handed race. With reefed mainsails and smaller jibs, they experienced easterly winds 18kts with gusts to 25kts for the beginning of the race which tapered off to 13kts with gusts to 18kts by the finish. The winning boat, American Flyer, finished in just over 2 hours for the 12.37nm race. Twenty-seven minutes separated the fleet from 1st to 6th places. Congrats to Flyer as they were followed by Pursuit (2nd), Twice Around (3rd), One Trick Pony (4th), Wicked Good (5th) and Barba Roja (6th). Not bad for minimal crew.

COVID19 chopped up our sailing program, but once we were allowed on the water by the governor, we raced as planned. Our Wednesday Night program brought ten to thirteen boats to the starting line in September. Something we don't normally experience on Wednesday's, sailing in the dark. Most boats have finished with a glimmer of daylight, however, finding SMSA X (drop mark) in the dark has been challenging. Mr. Ray & Mr. Taylor were our Wednesday Night race committee on September 2nd where we had 8 boats in the Non-Spin/Light start and 5 boats in the Spin start. Pony Express got the win, followed by USA4201, Barba Roja, C2 (Squared), Whirlaway, Blue Goose, Windover and Artic Tern. One Trick Pony won the Spin fleet race with Cheetah, American Flyer, Splash and Rakali. September 9th found Pony Express winning the Non-Spin/Fleet race followed by Wicked Good, C2 (squared), Arctic Tern, and Barba Roja. The five-boat spin fleet resulted in Wild Horses taking the gun, followed by One Trick Pony, Rakali, Cheetah and American Flyer.



Not wanting to stop the fun we decided to add two more Wednesday Night races on 16 and 23 September. While finishing in the dark can be tricky, many boats participated in the experience. September 16th had ten boats, 4 Non-Spin/Light and 6 Spin, out for a 7-9 kts SSE breeze. The Spinnaker fleet had three sub-fleet match racing which was fun to watch. One Trick Pony was the overall Spinnaker Fleet winner and edged out Wild Horses by 2 seconds. Cheetah and American Flyer were close together on the course as were the two J105 boats, Rakali and Splash. The fleet order of finish was One Trick Pony (1st), Wild Horses (2nd), Cheetah (3rd), Rakali (4th), American Flyer (5th) and Splash (6th). Wicked Good won the Non-Spin/Light Fleet race followed by C2 (squared) (2nd), USA4201 (3rd), and Barba Roja. (4th).

And now for the last Wednesday race on the 23rd! The wind lightened up for a shorten course of LX. Wicked Good finished 1st in a 6-boat fleet followed by USA4201, C2 (squared), Barba Roja, Windover and Blue Goose. One Trick Pony edged out Wild Horses in the Spin fleet. They were followed by Cheetah, Rakali, Splash and American Flyer.

For the officials scores please go to the SMSA Website: https://www.smsa.com/Race/KBRace_Nav.php



Small Boat Program



Henry Meiser / Meg Roberts
Smallboat Co-Chairs
smallboatrace@smsa.com



The Small Boat Program is ending our season with a bang! First off, I want to thank the countless number of volunteers that enabled us to have such a successful season—RC and PRO's to name a few!

We had a very well attended Smallboat Invitational Regatta on September 19-20th. There were 21 registered participants with 6 boats coming from out of town for a great weekend of sailing—and that it was! The wind conditions (~12 kts average across both days) allowed us to have 9 races off over the entire weekend. Congratulations to Doug Hays, who won the SMSA Perpetual Trophy. Thank you to our PRO, Jim Whited and the following volunteers:

RC Team

Terry Farman—signal	John Blaney—signal
Polly Traynham—signal	Rob Miller—Mark/Safety/Pin Boat (+Evie)
Scott Patterson—Mark/Safety	Aaron Shiffer—Mark/Safety
Megan Roberts—Mark/Pin/Safety	

Bar / Social

Barbara Whited	Cristin Shiffer
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Finally, I want to send a huge thank you out to Meg Roberts, my small boat co-chair, who was key in organizing this event!



We have two upcoming events, Bucctoberfest and Freeze Your Bucc Off!

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More to come on the Bucctoberfest and Freeze Your Bucc Off! events in the near future.

Finally, to wrap things up, Meg and I want your feedback!

If you have any comments or ideas for next year's season, please email us at smallboatrace@smsa.com. We would love to hear some new ideas so we can continue to improve our Small Boat Program.

Also don't forget to renew your US Sailing Membership via the MVP Program to help promote our sport to the next generation of sailors and boat captains. (page 16)



Optimist Search

A Maryland sailing family is attempting to locate a one-of-a-kind Opti that they bought for their son, subsequently sold and are now trying to locate to possibly re-purchase for their grandson! If you know of or own the optimist with the **sail/hull number 5376**, or know of an optimist with an **American flag design**, please reach out to Small Boat Chair, Henry Meiser at smsasmallboat@gmail.com.



Successful Screwpile 2020... In the Books!



Despite COVID-19 and the changes that it brought about, the 28th edition of our annual Screwpile Lighthouse Challenge Regatta maintained SMSA's long-standing tradition as the premiere racing event in Southern Maryland and one of the most fun regattas on the Chesapeake Bay. In a down year for racing due to COVID-19, Screwpile drew 33 boats



from 12 different clubs across the Bay, with sailors coming in from as far south as Hampton, VA and as far north as Peru, VT.

Despite no parties and no wind on the first day, Screwpile didn't disappoint as the wind piped up to 15 kts on the second day, and crews were treated to 3 great races on the windward/leeward course and a 11.5 mile middle-distance race on the CRCA Cruiser Course. The 9-boat A0/A1 fleet saw some very lively racing with 3 J-111's sweeping the top 3 spots, and AYC's **Velocity** taking line honors as well as winning the Calvert County Trophy. The J-35, **Aunt Jean**, won the A2/B class, with Mark and Robin Witte's **Rakali** crew taking the 3rd place trophy. The J-24, **Blow'viate** won the C class with straight bullets with Terry Reese and **Family Tradition** not far behind with all 2's. In the CRCA Cruiser fleet, Dan Schneider in **American Flyer** missed first place on a tie breaker to **Stacked Deck**, a J-80 in the Cruiser/Racer Class; Norm Dawley and his **Pursuit** crew won the Non-Spin class; and Chris Eggert on **Destiny** missed first place on a tie-breaker to the Sabre 38, **Nomad** in the True Cruiser class. All in all, a lot of great, competitive racing on a beautiful, warm, sunny day in late September... it doesn't get any better!

The success of this year's Screwpile is of course only made possible by the planning, preparation, and teamwork of many, many SMSA volunteers who worked tirelessly on and off the water over the last several months. The Screwpile Planning Committee consisting of Don Behrens, David Meiser, Cyndi Tatar, Jeff Jeffries, Shawn Stanley, and Jim Keen, as assisted by Jody Keen, started planning and strategizing one year ago to bring a successful regatta. As the Principal Race Officer (PRO), Don Behrens worked a myriad of race management details leading up to race day and then did a brilliant job, as he has many times before, in doing what he does best... getting in a maximum number of extremely



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well-orchestrated races. Race Officers, Joe Kubinec, Robert Herbig (with Boat Captain Jeff Jeffries), Keith Jacobs, Joe Frost, and Jay Tyson all did a great job of their duties on the courses' mark boats, and 35 SMSA volunteers set marks, took times, and bobbed around on the course so racers could race. **The superb efforts of all our dedicated Screwpile volunteers are greatly appreciated!** The full list of volunteers reads like the Yearbook directory. My respect and admiration go to all of them. They include:

PHRF Course Signal Boat—Don Behrens (PRO)			
Cyndi Tatar	Trish Olkowski	D’Ann Morris	Betsy Dodge
Jody Keen		Glenn Walters	
Weather Mark Boat—Joe Kubinec (Race Officer)			
Tracy Kubinec	Alexa Peterson	Will Rutherford	Tim Flaherty
Gate/Leeward Mark Boat—Robert Herbig (Race Officer); Jeff Jeffries (Boat Captain)			
Julie Huffine		Darwin Weigel	
Keith Jacobs—(Race Officer/Boat Captain)			
Marlene Plumley	Todd Porter		Keith Mayes
CRCA Course Signal Boat—Jay Tyson (PRO)			
Terry Farman			
Cruiser Course Pin Boat—Joe Frost (Race Officer/Boat Captain)			
Karen Eggert		John Blaney	
Protest Committee—Dan Trammell (Chief Judge)			
Guy Barbato		Nelson Pemberton	
Boat Check-In			
Jody Frost		Donna House	
CRCA Cruiser Class Setup & Scoring—Jim Whited			

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All in all, SMSA pulled off a great regatta in a very crazy year, and racers from all around the Chesapeake Bay had a wonderful time doing what they love... racing sailboats!

Jim Keen
Chairman, 2020 Screwpile Lighthouse Challenge Regatta





HELP the JUNIOR PROGRAM

Join or renew your US Sailing Membership via the MVP Program!

You save \$ off your membership and SMSA junior program gets credits for books and training materials. Everyone benefits!

See the SMSA Website Homepage for the link!!!

Our sailing campers & high school sailors thank you.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE: New 2020 (unused) 8-1/2 ft WEST Marine RIB-260, Rigid Hull Inflatable; retail cost \$1,200. Also for sale is a 2020 (unused) Suzuki 4-stroke 2- 1/2 hp engine; retail \$810. Offering dinghy/motor package for \$1600. More details and/or inspection by request. Call Jim Keen @ 240 925-1175.



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@ccolins218@gmail.com or 240-577-1004. View listing on Southern MD Craigslist



FOR SALE: New gallon of Pettit Trinidad Pro paint, \$150.

Contact Don Fletcher at 240-237-0748 or via email (fletch23199@gmail.com)



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

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