



# The Clew

## **Freeze Your Bucc Off!**

Saturday, December 11, 2021

For more information see page 11

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## **Social Events**

Christmas Walk / Open House—Saturday, Dec 4

SMSA Christmas Party—Saturday, Dec 11

For more information see pages 5 & 6

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## **Happy Hour**

Friday's 5:30—9:00 pm

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## **SMSA GALA — SAVE THE DATE**

Saturday, January 22, 2022

For more information see page 7





## Commodore's Corner

By Marc Briere  
commodore@smsa.com



Happy Holiday Season SMSA!

Thank you for all your support and volunteerism for the past two years. This was an interesting and unusual time to be the Commodore of SMSA. In this season of thanksgiving I want to share my appreciation for all the support our club receives from our dozens of member-volunteers who are the lifeblood of our organization. Together we made it through the many changes in how we were allowed to operate. It wasn't easy for our board members, program chairs and membership but we donned our foulies and weathered the storm together. We sailed through the many challenges on our course to shared goals to enjoy the sport and activities we love. We were forced to be virtual Zoomie participants for longer than projected. Our club provided members with a literal breath of fresh air when many in our country were shuttered indoors involuntarily. For a host of reasons, many of the restrictions and concerns have abated and clearer skies are ahead. Our return to a normal operational calendar in 2021 has been a wonderful experience to see the gratitude and fulfillment in the faces of our members as we challenged ourselves to return to face-to-face events and shoulder-to-shoulder sailing and volunteering. The camaraderie, competitiveness and banter has returned. It is truly a sight to see and we are truly grateful for all who persevered with us. Thank you for your membership and participation.

Congratulations to Commodore Dave Meiser and Thank You for taking the helm of SMSA for the next two years. You are supported by some of the best crew on your 2022-2023 24 hour watch. I've sailed alongside and competed against David. He is a compassionate and extremely capable leader on and off the water. It is always an honor and a privilege to be on the same body of water racing against Dave, Jackie and their crew. Theirs is always one of the best prepared programs and I am sure we will all benefit immensely by Dave's leadership and helmsmanship of SMSA.

Shift change on a sailboat is bittersweet. It gives one watch a chance to replenish and rest as we reflect on the mini adventure we shared with very special and wonderfully unique people – sailors. As we dive into our gear and relax a bit in our bunks, we can picture what the next watch is doing as we sense the change in wind and waves while our yacht continues on its course.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Marc & Rebecca



## **MEMBERS CORNER**

**POLICY MANUAL CHANGE:** The BOD has passed a new policy regarding the use of the clubhouse middle room. An updated manual (Change 31) will be available soon on the SMSA Website, but until then here is the new language:

### **Use of Clubhouse Middle Room**

With regard to club assets, there will be no grinding or sanding and drop cloths must be used appropriately. Further, work on personal assets must follow the same rules and be approved in advance by the Facilities chair.

## **2022 SMSA Yard Storage Announcement**



The 2022 Small Boat season is coming up and it is time for the annual yard assignment lottery as prescribed by club policy. Please email your request for 2022 yard storage to Dockmaster Mark Witte at [mcwitte@md.metrocast.net](mailto:mcwitte@md.metrocast.net).

The policy can be found in the SMSA Policy Manual located on the SMSA Website (<https://www.smsa.com/location.php>)

**UTILITY WORK IN FRONT OF THE CLUB:** If you need to access the driveway to SMSA you might be restricted over the next week or so. The road in front of the club will be dug up for a 6ft deep trench in order to put all pole mounted utilities underground. The contractor is using flaggers to direct traffic around the work zone.

You should be able to access the driveways after 4pm daily and during the weekend.

If you have any questions please contact our Facility Chair, John Blaney ([facility@smsa.com](mailto:facility@smsa.com)).



The votes were counted during the **Annual Meeting** and if you missed it, the voting was very close for one of our Director positions. So close in fact, there was a tie and it all came down to a coin toss (yes, our By-Laws state a coin toss). So please join me in congratulating your 2022 Officers and Directors who will take office at the Inaugural BOD Meeting in January 2022:

Commodore: David Meiser  
Vice Commodore: Scott "Scotty" Roland  
Rear Commodore: John Blaney  
Treasurer: Kristi Yurko  
Secretary: Cristin Shiffer  
Director: Joe Frost  
Director: T. Elliott Peterson

Directors Carl Kemp (22), Shawn Stanley (22), James Keen (23), and Lowell Martin (23) round out the SMSA Board of Directors.

(##) – indicates year term ends

Thanks to everyone that helped me on the Tally Committee: Lana Combs (& Téa), Kelley Rogers and Jenn Marbourg-Miller

Robin Witte  
Tally Committee Lead

## **Looking for Volunteers!**



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**Social**—Ana Silveria has stepped down as the Social Chair (thank you Ana for volunteering) and Jody Keen is filling in on a temporary basis. So we are in need of someone willing to take this on. If interested please contact Commodore Briere ([commodore@smsa.com](mailto:commodore@smsa.com)).

**Keelboat Chair**—Dan Shannon will be stepping down after two years in this position. He did a great job dealing with the COVID restrictions while still allowing racing to continue. For 2022 we're in need of a volunteer, if you need more info contact Dan Shannon ([keelboatrace@smsa.com](mailto:keelboatrace@smsa.com)) or the Vice Commodore, Peter Quinn ([vicecommodore@smsa.com](mailto:vicecommodore@smsa.com)).

**Communications Chair**—Responsible for all communications regarding club events to include the newsletter, yearbook, social media, community (SOMD, The Baynet), Spin-sheet, etc. as well as answering Google-Voice calls and directing accordingly. If interested please contact Commodore Briere ([commodore@smsa.com](mailto:commodore@smsa.com)).



## THE SOCIAL SCENE WITH JODY KEEN

Jody Keen, Social Chair  
social@smsa.com

The month of November saw our Annual meeting where we voted in a full slate of officers and two directors. Congratulations to David Meiser, Scotty Roland, John Blaney, Kristy Yurko, Elliot Peterson, Cristin Shiffer, Elliott Peterson and Joe Frost!! Not only did we vote in officers and directors but we had a wonderful brunch.

The following afternoon, we had a wonderful Wednesday Night Racing Award ceremony and pizza night. The club definitely jammed to the DJ, Collateral Jammage!

Looking forward to December and January we have **three** major events on the schedule:

- Saturday, **December 4th** is the **Annual Solomons Christmas Walk and Lighted Boat Parade**. Doors open at 5:30. Be sure to come to enjoy the clubhouse decorations, spread Christmas and Holiday cheer, and have front row seats for the boat parade. You will be able to catch a glimpse of the parade at approximately 6:30 as they leave Back Creek. The parade should make the bend into the river and be in front of the gazebo by 7:30. The club will host an open house this evening. The youngsters will be able to build their own little boats and with a pool set up in the back room, they can sail and race their little boats. We will provide hot mulled cider and cookies to all, as well as having the bar open. This is an event not to be missed!
- **Saturday, the 11th** is the **Annual SMSA Christmas Potluck Dinner**. Doors open at 5:30, with dinner to follow at approximately 6:30. Come and enjoy the food and decorations! The club will provide turkey and ham, so please bring a favorite side. See [page 6](#) for additional details.
- Last but not least. **The Gala is back !!!** This year we are celebrating the **50th Anniversary of SMSA** on Saturday, January 22nd, 2022. The Gala will be held at **Olde Breton Inn** in Leonardtown. Invitations will be going out in the middle of December with registration details. Four of the first 100 people to sign up will have an opportunity to win the price of admission back!! The price per person is \$65.00. Be sure to register early as seating is limited to 120 people. So keep checking your email, your mail, and of course The Clew for details!!!!



# SMSA Christmas Potluck Dinner



**THE EVENT:** You are invited to the SMSA Christmas Party and Supper at the club on Saturday, December 11, doors open at 5:30, with dinner to follow at approximately 6:30. Please join us to celebrate the season and enjoy the lovely decorations in the club. Cheers to all the volunteers who put up the tree and all the lights. We look quite festive!

**THE SUPPER:** We will have a potluck supper with the main courses of ham and turkey provided by the Club. Members should bring appetizers, sides and desserts to share. The bar will be open, of course, for your enjoyment.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** To help set up and get the facility ready, we need volunteers to help with moving and arranging the dining and serving tables, decorating the tables, and managing the food areas. Help is needed on the evenings of Thursday, Dec. 9 and Friday, December 10. Volunteers will also be needed during the day and evening of the dinner, Saturday, December 11. Barbara Whited is coordinating the event this year so please contact her at [barbw307@gmail.com](mailto:barbw307@gmail.com) or text/call to 410-474-9083 to let her know when you could help.

We hope you can join us and that you all have a wonderful holiday season.





*Come help us celebrate 50 years at  
the SMSA GALA*



*Saturday, January 22, 2022 @ 5:30 pm  
Olde Breton Inn, Leonardtown*

*An evening to celebrate our love of sailing, enjoy  
some music, acknowledge the hard working vol-  
unteers and hand out a few awards*

*Watch for details in your email and The Clew*

## CRUISERS CORNER



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

2021 was another great year for SMSA cruisers. There were fourteen cruises scheduled, however, due to severe weather, two were cancelled. The twelve remaining cruises ranged from two to ten days and great destinations including Urbanna, Cape Charles, Oxford, Chestertown, Annapolis, St. Michaels (San Domingo Creek), and Baltimore. A total of 14 boats participated in at least one cruise and received cruise points.

**Serenity** (Carl & Martha Kemp) had 88 cruise points and won the **Cruiser of the Year Award**. Five other boats, **Thisilldous** (John & Joan Blaney), **Patty K Too** (Rich Freeman & Patty Kimmel), **Safina** (Dennis & Carolyn Chandler), **Sabrena** (Todd & Jennifer Porter), and **Kalypso** (Fred Siesseger), had over 35 points which qualifies them for a **Cruising High Point Award**.

There are two additional Cruise awards each year. If you have not already done so, please let me know if you have accumulated 1,000 miles or more on your boat in 2021 and are eligible for a **One Thousand Mile Cruising Award**. I am also still looking for candidates for the **Distinguished Cruising – Joseph T. McGrath Trophy** award. See the November Clew or the 2021 SMSA Yearbook for award details and email me at carlfkemp@gmail.com if you want to be considered.

Don't forget, the 2022 Cruise Planning Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, January 8, beginning at 9:30 AM at the SMSA clubhouse. A light breakfast will be provided. Please let John Blaney, the new Cruise Chairman, know if you plan to attend and if there are any destinations you would like considered for next year.

This is my last Cruisers Corner after four years as Cruise Chair and John Blaney will take over this position. So, for one last time,

### THINK CRUISING!



## Halloween Happy Hour Raft-Up – October 24-25

John & Joan Blaney

A lot of work by all attendees went into the planning for this final event of the cruising calendar. However the hosts did the most but cruised the least distance. It's nice when your dock is the site of the raft up but it involves extensive logistics getting spaces cleared up and ready for a crowd and lots of lugging stuff up and down steps to the

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house. Thank you Jerry & Donna Taylor on **No Sched....** If you haven't had 1 oyster or 12 that Jerry has personally raked, roasted and shucked then you're missing out on life and one of our bay treasures; Jerry & Donna or an Oyster, you're choice. Mine is both. They must have invoked the weather gods as there was little wind, mid 70's temps while the sun was up and only dropping into the 50s during the night. Great weather with quite a few in T-shirts and shorts. Most succumbed to a fleece later after sunset.

The next longest cruisers were Joe & Jody Frost who got to walk over from next door. That must be why they did their star fixes on **Gemini** to ensure they got there.

Joe Szymanski and Sandy Leitner were chased over by a **Gator** from two docks over. They survived and enjoyed the party.

Some resorted to map vs chart navigation arriving by road. Those included Elliott & Alexa Petersen who left **Stingray** behind due to insufficient depth at the dock. Dennis & Carolyn Chandler (**Safina**) of heavy hors d'ouvries fame who arrived independently from their various other activities.

Rod & Pat Schroeder drove in as they were headed to see their boat in Rock Hall where it's new owner keeps it. I think Rod sold it with a very long bungee cord attached. I might have to do the same when my time to retire from cruising comes.

Donna Manley and Dottie Hamilton came to add seniority and to tell tales of exploits they partook of that said we're not old, we're just well seasoned. Must be why they call it Old Bay.

Then there were the cruisers who came by boat including Todd, Jennifer and boat vacuum Wookie Porter on **Sabrina** who anchored in front of Jerry's dock and dinghied in.

Our retiring Cruise Chair Carl Kemp and Martha (**Serenity**) were the first to tie up to Jerry's dock and be the base of 5 boat raft most of which stayed put and stayed overnight. At least we didn't have to worry about dragging and if we did it would have been short as the depth decreases quickly and a flotilla of a dock, boathouse, multiple skiffs, cruise boats, and racers dragging would be quite a spectacle.

John & Joan Blaney on **Thisildous** arrived just before the scheduled 3pm start having endured the longest cruise down Back Creek and up Mill Creek. We reversed in and rafted up outside Serenity despite their dragging reputation.

Mark & Robin Witte on **Rakali** arrived next and rafted up. You discover that mast rake on a race boat interferes with the fore/aft offset needed to prevent each boats spreaders from getting entangled in the next boats in the raft. Conditions worked out for us being flat calm. Nevertheless we made sure it would happen. We all want to stay friends after all.



Next in was Lord Stanley himself Shawn & Laura on **Twice Around**. Their Zambezi expedition being successful, Mill Creek was a dawdle. They joined the raft up.

Then the Power Squadron arrived. First in were the Meisers, Dave, Jackie, and Henry J on **Right Shift** using their big Cummins Iron Genoa. A spectacular sight but noisy when let flap. They initially might have tried to raft up but a big Markley on the outside of some smaller boats isn't good. Orange crush anyone? They then dropped hook and dinghied in. Their stated goal was to reduce the average age of attendees considerably. Just in case they also had a reserve hot pot of Joe simmering on board courtesy of a running generator that they could get sloppy with if all the party food didn't fill the need.

Scottie Roland with Barry Friedman on **Edgewater** arrived and rafted up. Which boat they were aligned with was up for grabs given there were a few different boat logo apparel items on display later.

Fred Siessinger **Kalypso** as usual stealth dinghied up from Calvert Marina as the grim reaper. In the process his passengers were stripped of all their flesh and personality, becoming particularly quiet during the party.

Between all the food and beverage items a quite gregarious party broke out of this normally staid group. This was helped along by the racers who joined us stodgy cruisers. Of course location, location, location worked also. A bubbling pot of apple cider was discovered by a bottle of rum and the resultant nectar was enjoyed by a few. By about 9pm the party broke up and some stayed put rafted up, others went home and some moored out to enjoy a peaceful night.

On Sunday morning a cadre of the cruiser ladies met and walked around Drum Point including onto the beach. It rained briefly mid morning as we were assisting Jerry & Donna clean up which resulted in a coffee tour of their house and all of the interesting renovations they've done to it. In some ways it's sad to part from such good hosts. We all made it safely back home afterwards.

You know you're on a cruiser boat when you can stand up down below, wash dishes without hunching, have a galley stove to make coffee, and a stand up Bimini to stay dry under. Making a cruiser a racer or vice versa can be quite a chore but it does beg the question of which is your priority when it comes to the type of boat you buy assuming you can't afford multiples.

As a cruiser group we're more than glad if you join us irrespective of the type of boat you have (cruiser, racer, or power) or how long you stay. We have fun and enjoy the company.





## **SCREWPILE 2022. BACK TO THE FUTURE!**

Mark your calendars!

The Screwpile Lighthouse Challenge Regatta is returning to the summer... July 15th-17th, Friday-Sunday.

Three days of great racing and fun parties, headquartered at Safe Harbor Zahniser's Marina.

Back to the Future for 30th year of Screwpile!

...Jim Keen, Chairman 2022 Screwpile



# **FREEZE YOUR BUCC OFF**

This is the LAST race of the year! Don't miss out.

When: Saturday, December 11, 2021  
Time: First gun at noon; No races after 3pm

Everyone welcome

Email Jimmy if you are interested in joining us  
(Jimmydyurko@gmail.com)

# KEELBOAT RACING



**Dan Shannon**

*Keelboat Race Chair*

keelboatrace@smsa.com

**SPECIAL THANKS** to Joe Frost and Randy Gross for helping me remove the Patuxent River race marks from the water on Saturday, Nov. 27. Happy Holidays and hope to see everyone on the water in 2022.



## FROSTBITE RACE 3



Blue Goose



Pursuit



One Trick Pony



Bad Cat



Dauntless

# FROSTBITE RACE 4



Race Committee & Friends



Doug Hays & Dan Bowman



Pony Express



Race Committee



J24 USA 4201



Race Committee & Friends



Wicked Good



One Trick Pony



Blue Goose



Making Waves



Blue Goose



Pursuit



Cheetah



Dauntless & Splash



Bad Cat



Bad Cat & J24 USA 4201

## **CLASSIFIED ADS**



Brand new, never used – Snapit Versatile Curved Binnacle Drink Holder. I bought this summer and it didn't fit my boat, and I missed the return window. Retails new for \$80 (you can look up on Amazon or Snapit website). Selling for \$45. Please contact Bill at kingwg@gmail.com or 703-987-8276 if you're interested.



2019 Zim C420 Sail# 7535. \$5500

Price includes: dolly, top & bottom cover, trailer, 3 sets of sails (main & jib), 2 spinnakers. Located in Solomons, MD. For more information contact Olivia Sowa at (240)434-3573 or somdsowas@md.metrocast.net



 **West MarinePro**

### **Discounts at West Marine—Solomons**

SMSA Members can receive a discount at our local West Marine during checkout. Just tell them you are an SMSA Member to receive the discount.

Due to some non-member use of this privilege, West Marine will be checking names against our membership roster and a photo ID may be requested.

Please note: the West Marine Pro discount is only available at the Solomons West Marine.

Don't miss out on this great SMSA benefit!





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

Place  
Stamp



# The Clew

**DECEMBER 2021**

**Volume 51 Number 12**



Junior Sailors  
preparing for  
the Boat Parade

