



The Clew

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

Social

Fri. Dec. 2: Club Decorating for Christmas @ 5pm

Sat. Dec. 10: Solomons Christmas Walk/Open House @5:30pm and Boat Parade

Sat. Dec 17: SMSA Christmas Party @5:30pm

Board of Directors

Mon. Dec. 12: Monthly Meeting 7:00pm

Friday Happy Hour

Fri. 5:30pm—9:00pm

SMSA GALA — SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, February 11, 2023

For more information see page 5

Happy Holidays





Commodore's Corner

By David Meiser



As much as I hate to see the boating season end, I look forward to the holidays at SMSA. Soon our Club will be decorated for the season and we will enjoy both the Solomons Christmas Walk and the SMSA Christmas Party. Both fantastic events.

Speaking of fantastic events, those of you that missed the final Frostbite Race and the Soup Potluck really missed out on a great time. 12 boats braved the cold and windy race to the bridge and back. Some boats flew spinnakers and some did not. Some had reefed mainsails and some did not. Some boats ran aground and some did not. Everyone had a great time on the last race of the season...no one did not. When we got back to the Club everyone enjoyed a great assortment of hot soups, great drinks from the bar, we celebrated a few birthdays, and introduced ourselves to new members that we didn't yet know.

As you put your boat away for the season, don't forget to write down all of the to-do's that need to be taken care of over the off season. It's always a pleasure to have the time to do some of the repairs and maintenance that you "can't get done" during the sailing season. For me it's things like taking the boom off so that I can make some adjustments to the outhaul system, removing the halyards to inspect them for wear, and replace the backstay adjuster that is getting more frayed each race. Also for the race skippers, don't forget your crew this season. Many skippers view allowing someone to crew on your boat as a privilege. For Jacki and I, we feel privileged to have such a great crew, who has commitment to the program, and helps wherever they can. It's a great time to send them a note or have them over for dinner to let them know how much you appreciate them.

It continues to be a privilege to serve as your Commodore, a role made possible, only with the dedication and expertise of an excellent team of Officers, Directors, Program Chairs, as well as the many other club members who also go out of their way to 'make things happen'.

Jacki and I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a successful New Year. May we all remain healthy and be able to enjoy the companionship of the Southern Maryland Sailing Association.

With Respect,

David

MEMBERS CORNER



KEELBOAT CHAIR: Please welcome **Erick Burger** as the new SMSA Keelboat Chair starting in January 2023. Erick brings great energy to the position as well as new ideas for the keelboat program and has already begun his transition with Terry Reese. Send your ideas or suggestions or just a thank you note for volunteering to Erick at keelboatrace@smsa.com. When you see Terry, please thank him for his service to SMSA.



SOCIAL CHAIR: Please welcome **Katherine Woodworth** and **Paige Smith** as Co-Chairs for the Social Committee. They are both new to SMSA and we appreciate their willingness to take on the Social Chair position as Co-Chairs replacing Jody Keen who has set the standard for running this important position. If you attended the "Souper Sunday" after the last Frostbite Race,



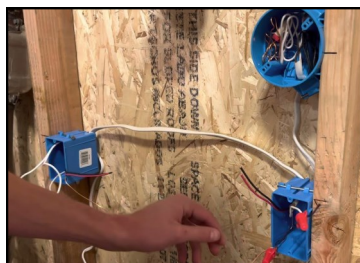
Katherine and Paige did a fantastic job coordinating that event, getting themselves ready to take on this role full time in 2023. While Jody will be stepping away after the Gala, she will still be supporting the Social Committee. When you see Jody, please thank her for her service to SMSA.



SAFETY BOAT CAPTAIN: Please welcome **Randy Gross** as the new Safety Boat Captain. Randy is no stranger to volunteering at SMSA, he was responsible for the installation of the wind instruments on the RC Boat and has volunteered numerous times to run the crash boats on Thursday nights or for regattas. While Randy will lead the effort to ensure completion of the safety boat fleet maintenance and keeping this fleet in good working order, I'm sure he won't turn down any offers to help. You can contact Randy at maxgross83@gmail.com to volunteer.



FIREWOOD NEEDED: Given that cooler days are upon us, we have used the fire pit out front a couple of times now. However, our stock of firewood is pretty well depleted. If anyone has some firewood they want us to burn for them, we'd love to help you out. Contact John Blaney (Facility@smsa.com or text 412-576-3093) and let him know what we can do to assist you as well as helping to arrange the delivery. Put your name in the text as John won't answer unknown numbers so if you call leave me your name so I can add it to my contacts.

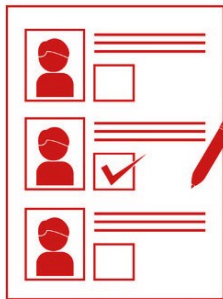


ELECTRICAL WORK: Calling a few folks to assist with electrical work. You don't have to be an electrician or deal with live electrical anything.

We have to redo some of the bar and front room wiring to eliminate extensions to meet fire Marshall inspection. You will be cutting conduit, installing electrical boxes, installing receptacles, running wire between them and stripping back wires. All of that

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will not involve live electrical circuits. Once we get the installation all done and inspected then it can be connected up which is a fairly simple procedural task which if you have a macabre sense of humor you can observe. We might need a couple of days to do this which should be more readily available now that fall is upon us and sailing is curtailed. Contact John Blaney and let him know your availability when you can assist. He will be managing your efforts so you're stuck somewhat with his schedule and oversight until he knows you can accomplish your task alone. Facility@smsa.com or text (412) 576-3093. Put your name in the text as John won't answer unknown numbers so if you call leave me your name so I can add it to my contacts.



The votes were counted during the **Annual Meeting** so please join me in congratulating your 2023 Officers and Directors who will take office at the Inaugural BOD Meeting in January 2023:

Commodore: David Meiser
Vice Commodore: Scott "Scotty" Roland
Rear Commodore: John Blaney
Treasurer: Kristi Yurko
Secretary: Doug Hays
Director: Carl Kemp
Director: Shawn Stanley

Directors James Keen (23), Lowell Martin (23), Joe Frost (24), and T. Elliott Peterson (24) round out the SMSA Board of Directors.
(##) – indicates year term ends

Thanks to everyone that helped me on the Tally Committee: Haley Sibley, Shannon Pico, and Paige Smith

Robin Witte
Tally Committee Lead

2023 SMSA Yard Storage Announcement



The 2023 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 2023 yard storage to Dockmaster Mark Witte at mcwitte@md.metrocast.net **by Jan. 20, 2023.**

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



THE SOCIAL SCENE WITH JODY KEEN

Jody Keen, Social Chair
social@smsa.com

It is hard to believe that the sailing season is over. The month of November saw our Annual meeting, the Wednesday night awards/pizza potluck as well as the final "Souper Sunday" following the final frostbite race of the season. Looking forward, we have a number of events coming up here at the club. Be sure to mark your calendars for the following events.

- ⇒ **Friday, December 2nd—Clubhouse decorating for the Christmas Holiday Season.** We will start at 4pm and work through happy hour.
- ⇒ **Saturday, December 10th** 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 with a pool set up in the back room for youngsters to sail and race 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 17th** 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.
- ⇒ **Saturday, February 11th, is the Annual Gala!** Look for invitations in the mail soon. This is a "don't miss" event!

Also, please join me in welcoming Katherine Woodworth and Paige Smith as the new Co-Chairs of the Social Committee. We will be transitioning over the next few months when they will take the helm following the gala. Welcome ladies!!!

In the meantime, I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and I look forward to seeing everyone around the club!



"Souper" Sunday



PHOTOS WANTED!!!



Jonathan Nepini is looking ahead at creating the 2023 SMSA Yearbook. We know there are lots of photos on Facebook as well as those previously published in the Clew, but if you have any photographs to share with Jonathan, please contact him or send the photos to communications@smsa.com



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!! NO MORE EXCUSES ON WHY YOU CAN'T

Junior Chair—If you are interested in this position, please contact Barbara Whited (junior@smsa.com) for more details about the responsibilities or you can contact our

Commodore (David Meiser, commodore@smsa.com) or Vice Commodore (Scotty Roland, vicecommodore@smsa.com).

Facilities Chair—Your responsibility is the building plus its contents. Previous facilities chairs have been quite hands on but that's up to you and how good you are at delegating or arranging volunteers to do the work. The current facilities chair has a number of other club roles but is prepared to be one of your volunteers. Been there, done that and will complete tasks currently underway like electrical and shelving. For more information contact John Blaney at facility@smsa.com)



Solomons Lighted Boat Parade

Saturday, December 10th, 2022

Calling all Captains and Crew! The annual Solomons Lighted Boat Parade will be held on **Saturday, December 10th (weather permitting)**. This years' parade will be hosted by Solomons Island Yacht Club (SIYC), Solomons Yachting Center (SYC), Patuxent River Sail and Power Squadron (PRSPS), Sail Solomons (SS), Safe Harbors Zahniser's (SHZYC), Southern Maryland Sailing Association (SMSA) and the SBA.

Come out and show the Solomons community your holiday spirit - lighted sail and power boats of any size and shape are welcome. Decorate your boat's starboard side for the judging, and the rest is up to you. The parade travels at about 3 knots. Pre-registration is requested, please see contact information below.

Captains meeting 5:45pm at SYC dock office (next to fuel dock) - Parade starts at 6:30pm - Parade awards ceremony begins at 8:00pm at SIYC. Please tie up at SIYC (new piers allow for 17ft x 40ft) directly after the parade and enjoy the festivities and awards ceremony.

Awards will include: First Prize/ Best in Show, Second Prize/ Sail & Power, Third Prize/ Sail & Power, and Honorable mention. ***NB: There will be extra points for those that showcase our 2022 theme 'Red Poinsettia flowers'.***

Boats will be judged on: Technical Merit, Creativity, Theme, Crew Involvement, and Overall Presentation

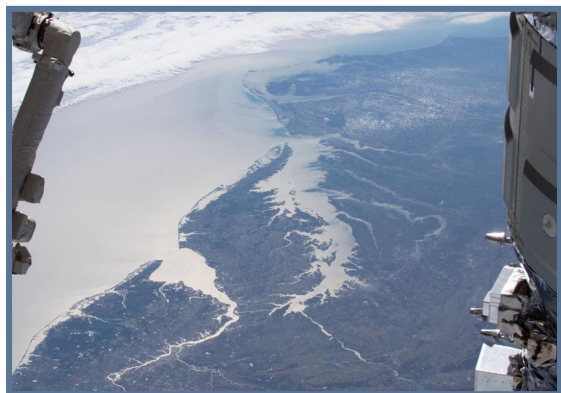
For information and preregistration see www.solomonsmaryland.com or call Fleet Captain Solomons Island YC 667-256-6272 or email fcsiyc@gmail.com



CRUISERS CORNER



John Blaney
Cruising Chair
cruise@smsa.com



Well its that time of year where its gotten colder, the days are shorter, boats are being put away for the winter, folks are heading south, and Family or Christmas celebrations take precedence. Cruisers are no different – we like the better weather with some wind. There are no cruises currently scheduled through the remainder of the year

Cruise Awards: We do have a number of cruise awards that we need your input on. SMSA recognizes members who have accomplished unique cruising achievements during a season. These include greatest distance cruised, cruising over 1,000 miles, and rendering emergency assistance to other boats. The Cruise Governor must be informed of such accomplishments in time to make arrangements for appropriate awards presented at the annual awards banquet. That's not something that I'm necessarily aware you are doing so I need your inputs on what you did, where you went and when. Please email me with your details. The full rules are on the web site.

Cruise Planning: We have a planning meeting at 9:30am on January 7th to figure out what cruises we want to do in 2023. Put your thinking caps on. We typically do a shorter cruise and a longer cruise per month.

- Shorter Cruises are weekends with one or two overnights in a creek easily accessible from Solomons. The purpose here is to shake down the boat early on and social occasions most of the rest of the time.
- Longer cruises generally extend for a week or longer as the destination isn't generally accessible in one day of sailing. That's anywhere south of the Potomac or north of the Bay Bridge. We pick a destination usually a marina and come up with intermediate gunk hole anchorages or marinas. Personally I like to savor new spots but there are some gimme destinations such as Annapolis and St Michaels. Maybe we should set an objective of visiting many of the hundreds of the Mill Creeks around the Bay and its tributaries.

Remember we do have a need for channels and anchorages to handle a minimum of 8ft draft boats. We don't want to force our deeper boats to have to go the long way around or



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not be able to get into the anchorage at all. I had looked at a Kent Narrows passage but ruled it out because of the shoaling on the channel from the Chester River to the north side of the Bay Bridge. I called a sailing school up there and the advise was "Don't chance it".

Have a few options for alternate stops since plans change like the weather. That happened quite a few times last year.

Of course where we gather to eat and drink is part of the planning but its likely a cruiser or two might have suggestions. A quick poll is worth it.

Happy Winterizing, Merry Christmas and Think Cruising. See you Jan 7th where we will have a breakfast with caffeine, sugar, fat, and even fruit available at 9:30am.



SAVE THE DATE: CRUISE PLANNING MEETING

Date: Saturday, January 7, 2023

Time: 9:30 am

Where: SMSA Clubhouse

A continental breakfast will be served.



KEELBOAT RACING



Erick Burger

Keelboat Race Chair

keelboatrace@smsa.com

Hello to my fellow SMSA Racers, Erick Burger here, your new keelboat chairperson for 2023.

First a quick introduction: I have been a SMSA member since 2016 when I started sailing on several of Jimmy Yurko's boats. Prior to that, I sailed square-riggers and large schooners in San Diego and Dana Point California. I finally got my own boat in 2017 and set about getting her ready, which took until 2021. "*Making Waves*", my little red-hulled Merit 25, was ready to run with the other keelboats in June 2021 and we did well for our first year as rookies.

2022 started out well, but I took us out of racing when I collided with *Dauntless* at the start of Race #4, and removed the entire nose, losing the forestay, and dropping the rig. She is now almost fully repaired, and will be back on the water for the start of the 2023 season.



This is my first formal role in SMSA and I look forward to working for all of you to make the racing as fun and enjoyable as we can.

Thank you to all who participated in the final racing series of the 2022 Season. While the first couple of frostbites were very mild, the last two reminded us what "frostbites" are all about. Cool temperatures and good strong winds kept the fleet on its toes and moving swiftly.

Below are a few upcoming events that you can participate during the off-season to help us all prepare for next year.

- **Dec 10, 2022: "Freeze Your Bucc Off"** – I will be captain of the RC Boat for this final small baot race of the year. Feel free to contact me if you would like to come aboard.

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- **Date TBD: Racing marks “freshen-up”** – The floating marks (K, L, T & V) need to be cleaned, paint touched up, and new ground tackle installed. I am submitting requests for new anchor rode into the budget, and we will need to splice the new rode to the chain and anchors. We may be replacing the anchors with cement weights, as a couple marks let loose and drifted this year. More to discuss on this topic. Please contact me if you have any ideas, input or want to volunteer to help.
- **Jan 21st, 2023: Keelboat Participants Group Meeting @ 9am** – This meeting is intended to brief all participants on anticipated changes to the SI’s (start times, starting procedures, rules, time limits, scoring, etc), as well as any topics YOU all would like to discuss for changes you want to see in our keelboat racing program. Please send me an email of topics you want to include in the agenda (keelboatrace@smsa.com)
- **Feb 11th, 2023: Annual Gala** – join us for the we 2022 Annual Awards as well as announcing the Fall Frostbite winners.
- **March 11th, 2023: Rules Review** – for those who want a refresh of the rules of racing, we are going to ask our resident Judge to come and give us a briefing, followed by a discussion and Q&A.
- **April 1st, 2023: Race Committee (RC) Operations and Boat Procedures** – Immediately following the Opening Day Ceremonies, for those who have not been on RC before, or those whom it’s been a while, we are going to have an afternoon to review the Operations and running of Race Committee, as well as go over all the RC Boat operations and procedures. Depending on participation and need, this may also turn into a RC Boat check-out for those who want to drive the RC Boat when it’s your crews turn to run RC.



Special thanks to Terry Reese and Branch Taylor for helping me retrieve the racing marks from the water.

Finally, I want to thank you for participating in a great 2022 racing season, and here’s to a safe, fun and enjoyable 2023.

The 2023 season will begin March 12, with Spring Frostbite Race #1.

SMSA WEDNESDAY NIGHT RACING AWARDS & POT LUCK



CLASSIFIED ADS

Twice Around, 1977 Catalina 30. Upgraded with many upgrades including hull paint, new house bank and Wi-Fi navigation. Runs great. Contact Shawn or Larry at stanley511@gmail.com or larry511@gmail.com. \$9,900. Offers considered. 1 million pictures or a tour.

UNDER
CONTRACT



Modernized C&C 30: 1970 hull was extensively upgraded by Zahnisers boatworks in Solomons around 2010 and used for racing. This boat is ready to sail. It has been kept on a boatlift on Mill Creek near Solomons since 2016 so bottom is clean. Classic lines, fast sailer. Needs some teak work. Features include mast, sails & rigging in almost new condition – main, jib and spinnaker; Jib roller furler and mainsail lazy jacks, installed in 2016; Awlgrip hull and deck; 10 HP Yanmar Diesel engine with low hours and new gas tank; tiller steering; Garmin chart plotter and depth finder; Marine radio and auto-pilot; New batteries and onboard charger; upgraded electrical systems; Sleeps three, basic kitchen and bench table; Recently replaced water tank, little used. Asking \$24,000 OBO Contact John at jrwille@gmail.com



Buccaneer project for Sale!

Lonely boat looking for a friend!

Needs work on cam cleats otherwise sound. New centerboard installed last year. Mainsail and rigging in good order. Jib missing, have been using a Flying Scott replacement. Not set up for spinnaker.

Trailer up to date with new electrical wires, light fixtures, and tires. Sailed once last season. Hull # WELD0008M82J -18
If interested, contact Charlie Judge at : chasjudge@trackjudge.com



Rakali, 2000 J/105, sail #335. Purchased in October 2016, the boat is US Coast Guard Documented, has been kept on a lift at Zahnisers and has been well maintained. Upgrades include B&G electronics (Zeus 3, Vulcan 9, Vulcan 5, 4 Triton displays MHU, Triducer, VHF with wireless, 2017), new Fuel Tank (2022), new Quantum sails (2022) (used in 1 regatta), Quantum AP spinnaker (used in 1 regatta), new Race 8 J/105 backstay adjuster (2022), standing rigging from Annapolis Rigging (2022). Has full canvas winter cover (steel and wood frame covers down to the water line). Salon & quarter berth cushions. Many more improvements. Asking \$82,000. Contact Mark Witte for more information or mcwitte@md.metrocast.net.

SOLD



CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale: American 14.6 Daysailer with trailer \$4,000

Excellent condition, one owner

Includes:

Sails with Spinnaker

Topping lift

Storage and mooring covers

Motor mount

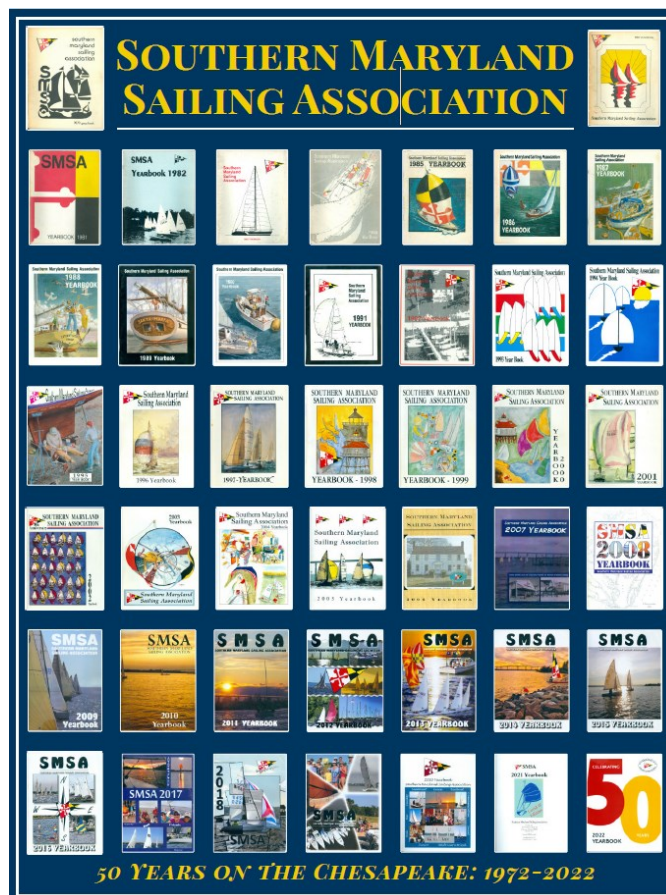
Swing keel and rudder

Please call Steve at 703-786-1444



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

NOW AVAILABLE: a poster commemorating 50 years of SMSA on the Chesapeake. Posters are 18" x 24", will cost \$10 are available at the clubhouse.





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

Place
Stamp



The Clew

DECEMBER 2022

Volume 52 Number 12



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!

