



The Clew

INFORMATIONAL MEETING SUN. DEC. 10, 2023

Meeting starts at 12:30 pm
Check your emails for the Zoom Link

Social

Sat. Dec. 9: Christmas Walk/Open House/Boat Parade
Sat. Dec. 16: Christmas Party

Smallboat

Sat. Dec. 9: Freeze Your Bucc Off Race

Friday Happy Hour

Fri. 5:30pm—9:00pm



MEMBERS CORNER

EMAIL ADDRESS UPDATES

If you need to revise your email address, please log it to Clubspot (<https://southernmarylandsailingassociation.theclubspot.com/login/login-type>), click on "Member Account", then click on "Members". Here you can manage the members associated with your family, including your email addresses. Click "edit" in the lower right corner to make changes. This will ensure you continue to receive SMSA emails.

EDIT

BAR MANAGER WANTED



If you are interested in filling this position, please contact
John Blaney
(rearcommodore@smsa.com)

DECORATE THE CLUBHOUSE



Your Social Committee needs your help. On Friday, December 1 they will start the process of transforming the clubhouse for the Christmas holidays and could use your help in decorating. If you are interested in helping, please show up between 6:30—7:00pm. Questions, contact the Social Co-chairs, Katherine Woodworth and Paige Smith at social@smsa.com.

YEARBOOK HELP NEEDED

Jonathan Nepini, the SMSA Communications Chair is looking for volunteers to help him with the ad sales for the 2024 Yearbook. If you are willing to assist, please contact Jonathan at communications@smsa.com.



Marine Weather (ASA 119)



- Course Length: 4 days
- Date: Feb 10-11 & 17-18, 2024
- Time: 0900-1700 EST
- Venue: Live Zoom with audible & visual Q&A
- Cost: \$495 (includes text & presentation books, certification material)

Weather is the greatest factor affecting ALL mariners. Learn the basic principles of marine weather, take observations, interpret traditional weather charts, use the latest tools and apps. Apply the information for local, coastal and offshore voyages, to make your time on the water as safe and efficient as possible. This 4-day course combines lecture, video, hands-on practice, and an offshore voyage weather planning practical exercise. Max 25 students for full engagement.

**Taught by Capt Lisa Batchelor Frailey,
marine meteorologist, oceanographer, ocean passage
maker, USCG Master and ASA Master Instructor.**

Contact for More Details:

**Sail Solomons
info@sailsi.com
410-326-4917**

**Kinetic Sailing
410-474-7844**

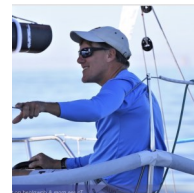


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Commodore's Corner

By David Meiser
commodore@smsa.com



As we move towards the end of 2023, we enter one of the most exciting times in the history of SMSA. Our club has more energy and participation than I can ever remember. It was great to see such a packed house at the Annual Meeting last month, with a fantastic turnout of both old and new members. Thank you to everyone that made that event so successful and congratulations to all the new Board members.

One of the issues that the club has rallied around, is the purchase of the clubhouse property. During November, the combined current and incoming Board met for a three-hour meeting to discuss how best to move forward with financing for the purchase of the property. Many options, and combinations of options were discussed. As a result of that meeting, a survey was developed sent to the membership to better understand the desires and capacity of the club on financing approaches. The response was nothing short of overwhelming! We received responses back from the majority of the memberships with a firm commitment for the financial backing of the purchase. The combined Board will meet again this evening, to discuss the results of the survey and develop a plan for the next steps and timeline for the purchase. This plan will be presented to the membership at a special informational meeting on Sunday, December 10 @ 12:30 at the clubhouse. This meeting will also be available on Zoom, via a link that will be sent out prior to the meeting.

Enough about the business side of the house. With the end of the year, also comes many of our most popular and exciting social events. On the evening of December 9th is the Solomons Christmas walk and boat parade. What a great time to bundle up and come to Solomons. The clubhouse is open to the public that evening, with the children making and sailing little wooden boats in the backroom, and holiday treats out front. The following Saturday is the SMSA Christmas Party. Get dressed up and see our clubhouse perfectly decorated for this fun annual gathering.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to all our wonderful volunteers. Everything that happens at our club is done by volunteers. So next time you have a drink at the bar, see a beautifully decorated clubhouse, go on a cruise, head out to a race, read the Clew, see the youth on our high school team, or even pay your dues, please remember that each of these things is either performed or coordinated by one of your fellow members.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the many events this month.

Respectfully,
David



THE SOCIAL SCENE

Katherine Woodworth & Paige Smith, Co-Chairs
social@smsa.com



It is hard to believe that November is over and we are into the last month of the year! The clubhouse was quite busy with the Annual Business Meeting, 4 Frostbite races and results gatherings, and the Wednesday Racing Awards & Potluck. These events were well attended, and it was great to spend time with everyone as the sailing and racing season came to an end. Thank you to all the club members who brought dishes to share, helped set up and break down for these events. All of the club's gatherings would not be possible without everyone's contributions.

December will be just as busy as November, so please mark your calendars to help the social committee and SMSA make these upcoming events as spectacular as always!

Friday, December 1st (TONIGHT): We will be decorating for the Christmas Holiday Season. We will bring out the decorations and start setting up during Happy Hour. [6:30ish – until we are set up!]

Saturday, December 9th – Christmas Walk/Open House/Boat Parade: Doors open at 5:30pm. Be sure to come to the clubhouse to spread holiday cheer and watch the boat parade. The boat parade should be in front of the gazebo by 7:15pm. As in the past, the club will host an open house with a pool set up in the back for children to sail and race little wooden boats. We will also provide warm mulled cider and cookies. The social committee will need volunteers to help us make this a great holiday tradition, so be on the lookout for an email requesting assistance for prep and help for this evening!

Saturday, December 16th – Annual SMSA Christmas Potluck Dinner: The doors open at 5:30pm, with dinner to start at approximately 6:30pm. Come and enjoy the food and member camaraderie! The club will provide turkey and ham, so please bring a side (that serves 8-10) to share. The social committee will also need volunteers for this wonderful holiday tradition, so again, be on the lookout for an email requesting assistance for prep, setup and breakdown/cleanup for this event!

CRUISERS CORNER



John Blaney
Cruising Chair
cruise@smsa.com



Cruisers - Sail, Motor, Dinghy, Kayak, or Land,

Our end of cruising year party was held at Jerry Taylor's dock as has been the norm for a number of years now. **No Sched** and **Constellation (Todd & Jennifer Porter)** were alongside as Todd's dock is being rebuilt. Jerry and Donna very generously hosted a superb spread, and Jerry reverts to his boyhood and rakes oysters, shucks, and cooks them. **Serenity (Carl & Martha Kemp)** came by land to help Jerry set up since Donna was travelling. **Thisilldous (John & Joan Blaney)** also arrived early to help and reversed onto the dock ending up stern to stern with Constellation. The Admiral is here giving docking instructions.

If you haven't been there, Jerry's house sits on a bluff and there's a considerable number of steps to lug stuff down to the dock.



Before the crowd arrived, it was time for a bite to eat and Joan produced quite a spread which we had onboard Thisilldous. As the afternoon wore on more and more folks arrived, each bringing a contribution to the food tables and drink coolers. **Rakali (Mark & Robin Witte)** anchored out since they draw 8ft and per Jerry the tides had been quite low recently. Some friends of theirs also joined us and who knows maybe they will become regular cruisers for next year.

Circe (Harry & Kati Keith) is docked just down the road, so they came by kayak. The fun was when it came time to leave later in the dark with just a phone to light the way while hoping that the DEP wasn't out on a ticketing expedition.

Joe Frost (Gemini) is docked next door, so he walked over. Jody had her

Continued on page 7

family around so she just stopped in to say hello.

Fred Siesseger (Kalypso) came by dinghy in true boy racer fashion bent low over the thwart to cut down on wind resistance. Unfortunately, his Vera's cruise used up all his theatrical costumes, so he arrived dressed incognito and fit right in.

Les Griffith's (Cloud 9) arrived by boat and left to return to his dock later. **Elliott & Alexa Petersen (Stingray)** drove over as did some cruisers of years past represented by Rod & Pat Schroeder, Dottie Hamilton and Donna Maneely.



As usual we ended up with more food than we could deal with. Even Donna Taylor who was on vacation overseas had left us a pot of her Chicken Chili. Delicious. Thank you all.

The Kemps, Porters and Blaney's stayed late solving the problems of the world over leftover whiskeys from a prior cruise. This included having Emerson Taylor join us after his day long ROTC gathering. We provided him some advice and wish him well in his future endeavors.

The following morning, we gathered to do the final cleanup as Jerry had offered a bacon and eggs breakfast. Who wouldn't appreciate that and then we adjourned to sit on the bluff overlooking Mill Creek enjoying the bright summer like weather and autumnal view.





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KEELBOAT RACING



Erick Burger

Keelboat Race Chair

keelboatrace@smsa.com

Congratulations on completing some great racing in 2023. Only Spring Frostbites in early 2024 to complete our current racing season. "BZ" to all the Wednesday summer series place holders who received their cups following the last Fall Frostbite on 19 Nov.

Results for all SMSA races series can be found on the internet at the following location: https://www.smsa.com/Race/KBRace_2023.php

I'm still in sunny Guam. Due to the coral reefs surrounding the island, I have only found 1 marina containing about 8 smaller sailboats around the entire island. All the other marinas have had fishing boats, or VERY LARGE ships using the shared Navy base and island commercial ports. COVID and a couple of really bad tsunamis have really done a number on the island and local economy. I have not yet found anyone answering the phone at the local sailing club.

Now that racing is complete for 2023, the race marks are to be removed from the water for a bit of maintenance. I'm in need of assistance this year because I will still be out of the country. Anyone wanting to help with that task, please email (keelboatrace@smsa.com).

We are also looking for feedback and input to improve, add or change things up a bit in our keelboat program. I have a couple items to bring to the Board and Vice Commodore, but if you can think of anything, please reach out to me at keelboatrace@smsa.com.

Hope you all continue to have a safe and wonderful time sailing the remaining days of 2023. For those who pull from the water, now is the time to work the never ending boat projects, and get ready for March 2024.



HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM



Troy Raines
High School Program Chair
hssailing@smsa.com

We have finished our High School sailing season, and are looking forward to the start of the spring season. We are currently working on recruitment for the upcoming season and would like to invite anyone who knows a Middle School or High School student who may be interested in sailing with us, to send them our way. Please send an email to hssailing@smsa.com.

The team looks forward to participating in the upcoming boat parade on December 9th. Come out and watch your HS Sailing team, they are working hard on the decorations.

We also encourage anyone who sees one of our sailors out and about, to congratulate them for their hard work, and maybe even consider them for crew on your boat in the future.



Crusty Crab Dive Services, LLC, maintaining vessels in the SOMD area.

Crusty Crab Dive Services started as a passion and hobby for Phil Sibley Jr. Phil began boating at an early age and has been sailing for 10 years, once he completed his dive certifications, he started maintaining his own boats hulls throughout the year.



We offer the following services:



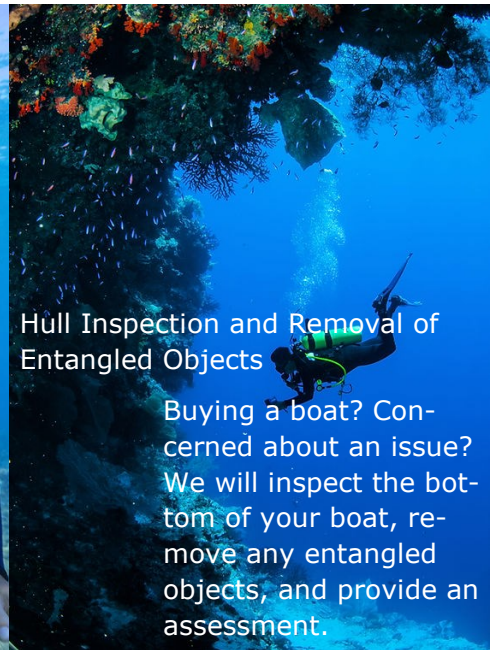
Hull & Bottom Cleaning Plans

Buying a boat? Concerned about an issue? We will inspect the bottom of your boat and provide an assessment.



Hull & Bottom Single Cleanings

Maintain your hull and lengthen your bottom paint by keeping your hull cleaned throughout the year.



Hull Inspection and Removal of Entangled Objects

Buying a boat? Concerned about an issue? We will inspect the bottom of your boat, remove any entangled objects, and provide an assessment.



Protecting Maryland's Waterways in SOMD



For more information contact:

Philip Sibley Jr.

Lexington Park, MD 20653

(c) 484-.390-.4044

CrustyCrabDiveServicesSOMD@gmail.com

Or check out their website:

<https://www.crustycrabdiveservicesomd.com/>



Solomons Lighted Boat Parade

Saturday, December 9th, 2023

Calling all Captains and Crew! The annual Solomons Lighted Boat Parade will be held on **Saturday, December 9th (weather permitting)**. This year's parade will be hosted by Solomons Island Yacht Club (SIYC), Solomons Yachting Center (SYC), Patuxent River Sail and Power Squadron (PRSPS), Sail Solomons (SS), Zahniser's Yachting Center (ZYC) and the Solomons Business Association (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 your home port or another marina directly after the parade but come to SIYC otherwise to 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: Christmas Walk theme this year will be Island/Nautical So there will be extra points for those that showcase our 2023 theme**

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 SIYC, 667-256-6272 or email fciyc@gmail.com



CLASSIFIED ADS

29er for Sale, hull 1098 built by PS2000 (former Canadian builder), mast, extra top section, jib, main, spin, all sheets, Seitech dolly, and top cover. Hull is clean. Cleats and blocks for the spinnaker were replaced, a few lines replaced. Spinnaker/Jib hal-yard (they are continuous) replaced. The sails are good for practice and decent for racing Portsmouth but strongly advise new sails for 29er one design racing. This is an initial soft sale within the club for \$4,000. The boat will eventually be advertised for \$5,000 but for now I'm offering it within SMSA for \$4,000. I will also assist if there are minor repair needed in the short term and if the boat ends up in the SMSA yard I will always offer a hand. I'm having a good time on the RS600 so if you want to practice with another skiff I would come out. I will move the boat to the SMSA yard or someone's home if requested. For more information, contact Dan Bowman at me@danlb.com.



Hunter 31 for Sale

Sea's The Day, 1986 Hunter 31, 5 ft draft, 11 ft beam. Yanmar inboard diesel, 16 hp. Annual maintenance done by Zahnisers to include annual hauls, cleaning, bottom painting and engine servicing. Records are available for review. This boat is ready to sail. Sleeps six, basic kitchen and bench table. Asking \$15,000. Contact Bill at (301) 481-3132 or billreuter54@gmail.com



20' Lightning Class wood sailboat, built on the Severn River at Indian Landing in 1954. Includes center board, transom rudder, trailer, mast, and sail. Located in Lusby, Maryland. Asking **\$6,000 OBO**. Contact Edward Hainke at 410-326-2888.





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

Place
Stamp



The Clew

DECEMBER 2023

Volume 53 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!

