



The Clew

Race Management Basics

For Keelboat and Smallboat Racers

Wed. Apr. 3 @ 6:30pm

Opening Day & RC Boat Renaming

Sat. Apr. 6 @ 9am

See page 6 for more information

Board of Directors

Mon. Apr. 8 @ 7pm: Monthly Meeting

Keelboat

Wed. Apr. 10, 17, 24, May 1: Wednesday Night A-Series

Sat. Apr. 13: Little Choptank Race (SMSA High Point)

Sun. Apr. 14: Spring Invitational (CBYRA/SMSA High Point)

Sat. Apr. 27: Double Handed Race

Smallboat

Thur. Apr. 25, May 2: Smallboat Racing

Sat. May. 4: Beer and Soda Run

High School/Middle School Sailing

Weekly on Tues, Thur. Fri @3:30pm

Cruise

Sat. Apr. 27—28: Rollins Cove Cruise

Thur.—Sun., May. 2—5: Magothy Cruise

Friday Happy Hour

Fri. 5:30pm—9:00pm

MEMBERS CORNER

THIS IS YOUR CLUB...HELP KEEP IT CLEAN!

Numerous volunteers expended significant time and effort to repair, replace, install, clean, sweep, mop, and organize items throughout the clubhouse during Spring Clean-up Day. This is an All-Volunteer club and as such, we need our members to help keep the club neat and tidy. If you put something in the refrigerator, please be sure to take it home with you when you leave; please be sure to put items back where you found them in the kitchen, as well as the middle room; and if something seems out of place and you're not sure what to do, contact one of the Officers, Directors or the Facility Chair for assistance. Thank you!

CLUB ACCESS—DOOR COMBINATION CHANGE

On Opening Day, Saturday, April 6th, Members will receive their Yearbook as well as a Welcome Letter which will contain the new door codes for the 2024 Season. These codes will go into effect approximately 1 week later.

Please note that a different lock has been installed on the clubhouse side door. To gain access, enter the code followed by the "lock" symbol to either lock or unlock the door.



Side Door
(OUTSIDE)

The outdoor panel has a number keypad with two icon buttons the bottom corners. The left one is a LOCK icon and the right one is the UNLOCK icon. To OPEN the lock - input the 4 digit code, then select the bottom right UNLOCK icon button. You will hear the deadbolt retract. Then use the handle to open the door.

To CLOSE, first pull the door closed and then press the LOCK icon button on the bottom left of the keypad. The deadbolt will slide into the lock position.

On the inside unit there is only a twist knob. Use it manually to LOCK or UNLOCK the deadbolt after you've closed the door.



Side Door
(INSIDE)

NOTE: When you enter the building via the side door **DO NOT CLOSE THE LOCK.** Fire code requires that if premises is occupied that the side door is unlocked as it's our designated Exit door. Feel free to lock it once you've checked you are the last one out.



The lower door handle has no lock, it's there to allow you to push or pull the door closed as it can stick in the frame.

Door locks to the warming kitchen, front room and bar area remain unchanged. Enter the 4-digit code and you will hear a sound that engages the door handle and allows you to open the door.

Continued on page 3

MEMBERS CORNER



Invoices for the 2024 season were emailed on March 15th. Membership dues for the 2024 season are \$576 for Regular memberships, \$288 for Young Adult and Regular memberships, and \$78 for Junior memberships. Members currently on the installment plan will see the new rates in their April 1st billing statement.

Membership Account: Please ensure that you log into your membership account and update your membership and boat information for any changes that may have occurred. For those with a PO Box, please ensure we have your accurate mailing address. (Click 'Member Login' from the menu bar at www.smsa.com to get to your membership account.) Please make these updates soon so that any new information can be included in the 2024 Yearbook.

Race Registration: Remember to head to the Keelboat and Smallboat Racing pages on the SMSA website to register for the season racing. All boats planning to participate must REGISTER for the season or the individual event!

For those having two PHRF certificates (ex. Spin or Non-spin) or Portsmouth numbers, please ensure to register BOTH classes for your boat. Please add a discount code to your cart when registering the boat in its second class so you don't pay twice – codes are available from the Member Discount code page in the Members area of the SMSA website (www.smsa.com – click on Member Login in the menu bar).

For those on the installment plan for race fees, please use the discount code for each registration as you are already paying the fee.

Kristi Yurko
Membership Chair

Social Co-Chair Needed

Paige Smith is still looking for a volunteer to be her Co-Chair of the Social Committee. Our social events are fantastic and lots of fun, but it takes planning and organization, so please consider helping Paige to lead our social events. For more information, please contact Paige at social@smsa.com.



Commodore's Corner

By John Blaney
commodore@smsa.com



Members,

By the time you read this we will have had 4 frostbite races. Three of them were glorious sunny sailing days where the boat crews got to blow out the cobwebs of winter and afterwards, we got to sit out on the front patio enjoying our beverages in the sun. The 2nd race in the series was definitely a boat testing one where the gusty wind challenged everyone, but all finished the 7.5nm course in around an hour. The Race Committee crew and a cadre of opinionated spectators enjoyed watching and commenting on starting timeliness, tacking skills, tactics and screwups. We did try to keep away from open mics but might not have been fully successful.

For those who haven't yet gone sailing, you should be well under way to getting your boats organized for the sailing season. If, not hurry up. It starts soon. Cruisers, although we're generally not in a hurry like the racers, don't slack as your first cruise is 4/27.

On the ownership front things continue to progress with the setup of the LLCs in the works.

We had a good Commodore's dinner on Friday, March 15th. Since it was close to St Patrick's Day and Joan and I are Irish it helps makes the theme selection easy. Thanks to all who participated and brought food. Not everyone brought corned beef and cabbage.

Then we had cleanup day on the 16th which went well. Thanks to all of the members who turned up to help. We got places swept, mopped, sorted out and generally cleaned up so we have a better-looking clubhouse. However, its disconcerting the level of disorganization that occurs over time and so I admonish you all that we need to "Keep It Organized". As your mother would say "you wouldn't do that at home, would you". Lets work on staying organized and don't assume someone else will clean up for you.

Opening Day is April 6th. Our membership year started April 1, Spring Frostbites are over, spring has sprung, the race marks have been laid, and we officers need an excuse to dress up, make speeches, raise flags and recognize distinguished guests. Its accompanied by pomp and circumstance with the addition of some wake up beverages. We start this at 09:00, with a potluck brunch at 09:30 and our opening ceremony warning cannon at 10:30. Bring ear plugs. The ceremony will be out at the flagpole unless the weather intervenes. Our 2024 officers, directors and program

Continued on page 5


chairs are introduced. The officers then bend on and raise their flags. You get to listen to my Commodore's address which concludes with the admonishment to "Let the Season begin" and another cannon shot. This year we will follow immediately with another short renaming ceremony for our recently rehabbed Race Committee Boat. This involves removing every trace of the old name, performing a purging of the old name, performing a renaming ceremony, appeasing the 4 wind gods, toasting the new name and breaking a bottle of bubbly over the bow.

Our social chair Paige Smith has organized a group of volunteers to get setup for opening day and provide brunch with Mimosas and Bloody Mary's. The bar will also be open. You don't want to miss this yearly tradition!



FACILITIES

Spencer Wait
Facilities Chair
facility@smsa.com

A portrait of Spencer Wait, a man with a beard and sunglasses on his head, wearing a white shirt. He is smiling and looking towards the camera.

Special thanks to the following volunteers for coming out and helping with Spring Cleanup!

Elliott Peterson, Pete LaRoche, Doug Hays, Harry Keith, Jimmy, Kristi, Annabelle, and Cora Yurko, Katherine Woodworth, Shawn Stanley, Laura Comeau-Stanley, Jonathan Nepini, Jody Keen, Nolan Wingate, Tom Moulds, Robin & Mark Witte (& Robin's friend Kris), Larry Ray, Kevin Pachas, Troy Raines, Barb Whited, Don Brown. Apologies if we missed recording your name.

A lot got done but there are still some odds and ends to finish up. Over the next few weeks I'll be asking for some volunteers to help with those items (ex. Gutter cleaning, fix small water leak near the window by the stage, take a pile of stuff to the dump, etc.)

As noted in the Members Corner, you will be receiving the new door lock combinations on Opening Day in your Welcome Letter. The plan will be to change the combinations on all the doors approximately 1 week later.

Opening Day 2024!

Saturday, April 6, 2024 @ 9:00am



Doors open: 9:00 am

Potluck Brunch: 9:30am - 10:30am

Opening Day Ceremonies: 10:30am.

This is a Potluck Brunch so please bring a breakfast casserole, french toast, fresh fruit, bacon/sausage breakfast pastries or whatever breakfast item might be your favorite to share. SMSA will provide orange juice, coffee, and tea.



The bar will be open and serving our traditional mimosas and bloody mary's. Brunch will be followed by our traditional firing of the canon, introduction of the officers and raising of the flags.

You won't want to miss this event!

Any questions, please contact Betsy Dodge (bdodge33@comcast.net) who has graciously volunteered to help lead the event.

RC Boat Renaming Ceremony / Familiarization Training

Following the Opening Day Ceremonies, SMSA will formally christen the RC Boat "Favored End". At that time we will also recognize those who participated in selecting the name, Jim Keen for submitting the name as well as Mardy Millen for generously making and installing the name decal.



In addition, RC Boat Captain, Joe Frost will conduct RC Boat Familiarization and Operational Training after the renaming



Juniors Can Learn Valuable Offshore Survival Skills on Shore and On the Water

- When: Tuesday, June 18, 2024, 0900h–1700h
- Where: Annapolis Yacht Club Sailing Center
- Cost: There is no fee
- Deadline for sign up is May 31, 2024!

Contact: David Shaeffer, Storm Trysail Governor, for questions or additional information at dsshaeffer@gmail.com • 410-507-1484

[Register Here](#)

THE LESSONS LEARNED MAY SAVE SOMEONE'S LIFE!

Topics typically include: Crew overboard prevention and recovery, bit boat safety equipment, fire suppression, life raft deployment, and boarding, flair use, reefing sails and storm sail technique, and radio communications.

Minimum age is 13. Participants must be proficient at basic sailing.

You must know how to sail!

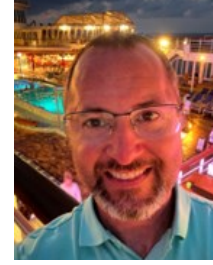
(Exception to age will be made upon inquiry)



CBYRA.ORG

CRUISERS CORNER

Phil Sibley
Cruising Chair
cruise@smsa.com



The month of April will bring a lot of preparation and even our first cruise of the year to our cruising community. As finishing touches are performed on our vessels, be sure to take a look at our yearly cruise calendar to plan your upcoming trips and destinations (https://www.smsa.com/Cruise/cruise_Nav.php). Be sure to get your reservations in early. Some of the local and even famous spots do become harder to book as the season comes along. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to any of our local Cruise Chairs who can get you up to speed and ready to engage in all the fun.

This month marks the beginning of our cruising season. The first cruise, being an overnight raft up at Rollins Cove is always a fun, local, and calm shakedown cruise enjoyed by all. This year, this cruise will be held on April 27/28. I hope to see you all there!

Until then,

THINK CRUISING!



Rollins Cove Cruise Memories —2023

Come join the fun in 2024!!!

Magothy River—Save the Date

Alexa and Elliott Peterson on **STINGRAY** are leading an early 2024 Cruise to Annapolis and the Magothy River on 2-5 May 2024. So Get your boats in the water early!

The plan is to get an early start on 2 May and sail North past Cove Point Light and Thomas Point light to Annapolis Harbor to find a mooring ball or harbor slip. We hope to get together at Fox's Den Pizza for a happy hour beverage and likely a delicious Pizza.

On 3 May we plan to visit the Annapolis landmark "Chick and Ruth's deli" for a hearty breakfast before sailing north under the Chesapeake Bay Bridge and sailing up the lovely Magothy River and anchoring behind Dobbins Island. Happy hour will be hosted aboard STINGRAY. Theme will be tropical...

On 4 May we will weigh anchor and head back out to the bay and South, again passing below the Chesapeake Bay Bridge on our way to the West river where we plan to anchor or dock and head ashore for happy hour and dinner at Pirates Cove restaurant.

On 5 May we will once again weigh anchor and head south to our fair port of Solomons harbor. Please contact Elliott or Alexa if You plan to join the trip or if you have any questions.

Cheers, Elliott and Alexa /STINGRAY



Memories from the 2023 Magothy Cruise



WEAR YOUR SPIRIT
WAREHOUSE
Silk-screen, Embroidery, and more!

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 CUSTOM APPAREL
 CREW UNIFORMS
 EVENT & RACE APPAREL
 FOUL WEATHER GEAR
 BOAT GRAPHICS,
 & MUCH MORE!**



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KEELBOAT RACING



Erick Burger

Keelboat Race Chair

keelboatrace@smsa.com

April is here and 2024 racing season is ready to start. The first Wednesday night race is 10 April, quickly followed by the Little Choptank High point race on Saturday, April 13 and the Spring invitationals on Sunday April 14.

Registration is open now, and can be accessed via the SMSA website, Keelboat racing page: https://www.smsa.com/Race/KBRace_2024.php. Ensure you register and sign up for payment prior to racing so your vessel can be found in the scoring system. We are using Clubspot for scoring this season, so we need your vessel in the system for it to work.

RC Duty:

- The first and third Wednesday races and Little Choptank have RC coverage. However, the Spring Invitational and all of the remaining races need volunteers for RC.
- RC Sign-ups are on the website and available for all. Please make your way to: <https://www.smsa.com/Race/RCsignupx.htm> and sign up for your required RC duties. All vessels are required to sign up for 1 race to be included in the season scoring. We are requesting that each vessel sign up for 2 races until such time as all races are filled and there are not enough spaces for everyone.

2024 Sailing Instructions are being posted on the SMSA Keelboat Racing website. The SIs have been sent to the printers, and should be available on Opening Day. A copy of the SIs will be provided to those who pay 2024 race fees, with extra copies available for sale (\$10).

Remember: RC Management Basics on April 3rd at 6:30pm, presented by our in-house Professional Principal Race Officer (and member) Don Behrens.

Please feel free to email me with any issues at: keelboatrace@smsa.com.

LET'S HAVE A GREAT SEASON - EB



Get "Out There" and Race!

Again this month I'd like to encourage all SMSA racers to participate in the Chesapeake Bay PHRF Championships Series... Northern-Bay Championships at Screwpile, Mid-Bay Championships at Fishing Bay Yacht Club's Stingray Point Regatta on Labor Day, and Hampton Yacht Club's Southern-Bay Championships at Southern Bay Race Week the weekend after Memorial Day. You can register for all three of these PHRF Championship regattas now at:

Screwpile... <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=16375>

Stingray Pt... https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/27580#_registration

SBRW... <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=16366>

In addition to regatta daily's and overall awards for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishes, PHRF championship trophies will be awarded for overall top three places on Sunday. Hopefully the PHRF Championships series will catch on and start to attract more racers. Your SMSA support at Hampton and Fishing Bay will go a long way toward the encouragement of those Southern Bay racers to come up and race with us at Screwpile. For those of you who stick around and race mostly in home waters, I can tell you from my personal experience of taking our boat to race against other crews in north and south Bay for many years, it can open up a new world for your experience in competitive racing, making friends, and great times (and many sea stories!).

Our Screwpile Notice of Race is posted in Yacht Scoring. The regatta is open to PHRF classes (A0/A1, A2, B, C), One-Design, and CRCA Spinnaker and CRCA Non-Spinnaker cruisers. The CRCA Non-Spin Cruisers who also have a PHRF Cruising Certificate will be dual scored and be eligible for Screwpile CRCA AND PHRF trophies. So, if you are racing in the CRCA Non-Spin Class, ensure you also have a current PHRF Cruising rating in addition to your CRCA certificate. For help with obtaining a CRCA certificate, please contact Jim Whited at 410 474-8198 or jimw625@comcast.net. PHRF Non-Spin Cruiser Certificates are free this year.

Again, If you are planning to, or just thinking about racing your boat in Screwpile, please go ahead and register now. You can pay the fee later. We need to start filling up the Yacht Scoring Scratch Sheet so other clubs see we are trending to a very successful regatta. Whether racing or volunteering or both... or just coming for the great parties, hope to see you there.

Jim Keen
2024 Screwpile Chairman



Fiddler's Green

ON SOLOMONS ISLAND

EXPERIENCE SOLOMONS ISLAND LIKE A LOCAL!

One of the largest vacation homes on the island & walkable to all of Solomons' restaurants, marinas, boardwalk, Tiki Bar, Marine Museum and more!

4 bedrooms including 2 master bedrooms, each with private bathrooms. Enjoy a gourmet chef's kitchen, huge kitchen island, & patio with fire pit & Adirondack chairs. Sleeps 9.

Weekly & monthly rates available.

Owned & managed by SMSA member Cristin Shiffer.

 <https://airbnb.com/h/fiddlersgreensolomons>

 coshiffer@gmail.com

HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM



Troy Raines
High School Program Chair
hssailing@smsa.com

As we have officially started the Spring season, I have been thinking about the fall sailing season and how it was a good learning experience for the team. I am proud of how they did last season and look forward to see them in action this season.

Last fall our regatta choices were limited, however thankfully that has changed and our team will be at the following regattas this spring:

- April 14 West River
- April 21 Kent Island
- April 27 Baltimore County Sailing Center
- April 28 Ryken
- May 5 Kent Island
- May 11 Baltimore County Sailing Center
- May 18 Ryken

If you happen to be near any of these locations, feel free to stop by and support the team!

While our season has barely started, the kids and coaches have been hard at work, repairing the 420s as well as performing needed boat maintenance in addition to spending time on the water for instruction.

When you see our sailors out there, let them know how proud we are of them.



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.



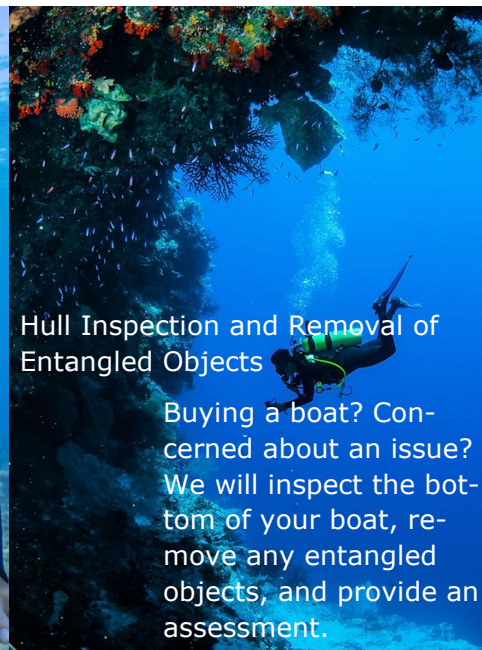
We offer the following services:



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.



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/>

CLASSIFIED ADS

2010 BUCCANEER TECHNORA BLACK Quantum Main for Sale

- Loose-footed main fits 8" raised boom configuration. Modified post-manufacture, it is NOT class legal, but would make a great sail for club racing. \$550.

Contact Jenn at jlmarbourg@smcm.edu.



1986 J/29 (MHOB) FOR SALE

Hull # 271 of 298
\$7500.00 or best offer
Text or call 301-481-8824 or
Email shannon63199@gmail.com





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SATURDAY JUNE 8TH, 2024

JOIN US TO HELP LOCAL FAMILIES!



RACE DAY REGISTRATION 8 AM

RACE BEGINS AT 9 AM

RAIN OR SHINE

SPONSORS STILL NEEDED

SAVE THE DATE

LOCATION: SOLOMON'S ISLAND, MD

\$30 REGISTER BY MAY 25TH

\$35 AFTER MAY 25TH

**FOR INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER
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(PROCEEDS BENEFIT ALL PHFH PROGRAMS)

Although this is the same day as the Smallboat Spring Invitational, if you are not involved with that event please consider participating. They will be on the SMSA Patio.



The Clew

APRIL 2024

Volume 54 Number 4

Club Asset Availability



Starting April 1st, members can begin using the club Kayaks and SUPs. For more information regarding their use and checkout procedures, see the Policy Manual, Appendix I.



Note: use of the Club 420s begins on May 1, however, they can be checked out for the purpose of participating in a sanctioned Small Boat event outside of the prescribed season. See Appendix D of the Policy Manual for the checkout procedures.