



The Clew

Luau at Safe Harbor Zahniser's,

Saturday, June 6 @ 5pm—8pm [social @smsa.com](mailto:social@smsa.com)

BOD & Committee Chairs

Tue. June 9 @ 7pm: Monthly Meeting. commodore@smsa.com.

Tue., June 23, 6:30pm—8:00pm, Chairs meeting.

Summer Camp, weekdays (except July 3) June 22—August 7.
summercamp@smsa

Cruise

Saturday & Sunday, June 13 & 14, Where the Wind Blows #1. Contact John at jkb330@gmail.com or Phil at cruise@smsa.com.

Wed.— Mon., June 17—22, Norfolk Harborfest Cruise, contact Todd at portertodda@gmail.com or Jenn at joconnordvm@hotmail.com

Saturday & Sunday, June 20 & 21, Airshow Raftup. Contact John Blaney at jkb330@gmail.com or Phil Sibley at cruise@smsa.com

Patuxent Pursuit Meeting

Monday, June 1 6:00pm–7:30pm

Monday, June 15, 6:00pm—7:30pm

Monday, June 29, 6:00pm—7:30pm. Contact paxpursuit@smsa.com

ALTS & Training

Fridays, June 5, 12, 19, 26, Adult Learn to Sail Holder 2 & 420 sessions, 5:00pm–7:30pm. learntosail@smsa.com.

Tuesday, June 8, ALTS shore session 1, 6pm–8pm.

Thursday, June 11, ALTS social cruise, 5:30—8:30pm

Wednesday, June 16, ALTS shore session 2. 6pm–8pm.

Sunday, June 14 & 28, ALTS Holder 20 session, 11:30—2:00pm

Saturday, June 27, ALTS combo class, 9am—3pm. learntosail@smsa.com



The Clew

Keelboat Racing

Wednesday, June 3, 10, 17, 24 Wed Keelboat Series B.

Saturday, June 13, Marcy Series women's race. See Circular

Saturday, June 27, Smith Point Race See the SI's under Keelboat.

Sunday, June 28, Summer Invitational. See the SI's under Keelboat.

Contact keelboatrace@smsa.com

Small Boat Racing

Thursdays, small boat races though Sept. 10. 6:30-9:30 with rendezvous in clubhouse. smallboatrace@smsa.com

Saturday, June 6, Small Boat Invitational. 10am -3pm with rendezvous afterward in clubhouse. See SI's on website. smallboatrace@smsa.com

Sunday, June 7, Broken Rudder Regatta. See the SI's under Smallboat at top of SMSA.com. Contact the Chair at smallboatrace@smsa.com

Social

Social Committee Meeting, July 4th decorations planning, Monday, June 29, 6pm-8pm. Contact the Social Chair at social@smsa.com

**Yearbooks, Door Codes and Coupons are
available for pickup at the Clubhouse!**

Ask at the bar or look for the membership table in the middle room on Wednesday and Thursday nights.

SMSA Annual LUAU

SATURDAY,
June 6TH

5PM - 8PM

SAFE HARBOR
Zahniser's Marina

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
THE SOCIAL CHAIR AT
social@smsa.com

Members' Corner!



Our Adult Learn to Sail program is a volunteer driven learning program with small group sessions tailored to meet your needs. Designed for beginner sailors with classroom instruction, plus on the water training. Learn and gain confidence. No previous sailing experience is required. Taught on Holder 20s, Sunfish, 420s.

The Adult Learn to Sail program is open to any SMSA member age 16 and up interested in learning or improving skills. Classes continue all season.

Email learntosail@smsa.com to get more information about upcoming opportunities.

WELCOME NEW SMSA MEMBERS

We'd like to take a moment to welcome the new and returning members that have joined our SMSA family over the past few months!

Please welcome some of our new members:

Steve & Sara Kofoed

Jesse Buckler

Fallon Gilbert & Jayden Smoak

Please keep an eye out for our new and returning members and introduce yourself!

Free CPR and AED training

The Solomons VRS&FD provides FREE CPR/AED training to everyone. Sign up for a class on their website:

www.svrsfd.org. Classes are typically held twice per month. Upcoming classes are June 20th and July 6th. Registration is required.

Learn more about the AED at SMSA and about CPR. Questions?? Write Rebecca Murphy at rebec-casruth@gmail.com or call (412)401-5083.





Commodore's Corner

By Russell Miller
commodore@smsa.com



A CONVERSATION WITH MEMBERSHIP

On Saturday evening we had an engaging conversation about our club's future with a steak BBQ and Town Hall meeting. Your officers have worked hard over the past six months to bring our new ownership responsibilities into a revised accounting system with updated business practices. While constructive criticisms are welcome and diverse views have helped shape this new business model, the Board of Directors (BoD) has reached a point where we need input from membership to help decide on the next step for our club.

As new owners of our not so new home we have some fresh possibilities for investment in our facility. How we embrace those possibilities and make investments while also managing our new responsibilities is the question. To offer membership a voice in answering those questions we held a Town Hall meeting. What is a Town Hall Meeting? Google says: ***"Town halls are public meetings often hosted by elected officials or other community leaders to discuss important issues, ask questions, and share input on policies and actions. Generally speaking, the best town halls are in-person, open to the public, and allow direct Q&A between attendees and elected officials."***

Often one member who wants something will approach me and say, "everyone says" only to hear from another member with the exact opposite opinion but who also argues "everyone says." So, I wanted to hear from "**Everyone**" and find out what your opinions are. In the Town Hall Meeting membership shared their views about our savings and how to invest them, our future vision and how to grow membership, our current facility and how to retain members, our outreach programs and many resources we may have in Solomons to promote and grow our sport.

Thank you for packing the building and having such a lively conversation. To ensure that no one felt a need to argue any point to its bitter end we had agreed no **decisions** were going to be made but worked together exploring **directions** for the BoD to focus its efforts. We all have a passion for the club and each of us contribute in our own ways. If you were at the meeting and have additional comments or did not make the meeting and want your voice to be heard, please feel free to email me at commodore@smsa.com

On behalf of all your Officers and Directors, we are eager to support your interests. Engaging in conversations like at the Town Hall Meeting helps us focus our efforts and hopefully delivers a better membership experience to everyone.

Russell

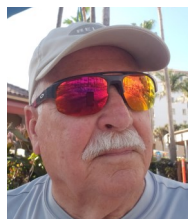
Celebration of life for Norma Floyd, Sunday, July 12th, 3pm—6pm at SMSA



Come raise a glass
and celebrate Norma.

Contact Rebecca Murphy at
rebeccasruth@gmail.com

KEELBOAT RACING



Larry Ray & Tom Moulds

Keelboat Race Co-Chairs

keelboatrace@smsa.com



RC needed for Summer Invite on June 28

The Keelboat racing program has just completed Series A. Turnout has continued to increase with the last race of the series having 27 boats participate. Dauntless took first place in the Non-Spin class, One Trick Pony won a tie breaker over Rakali for A class, Microbust clear winner of B class and Elan getting first place in C class.

Also of note, we had a new B25 boat, skippered by Clarke McKinney on the course for the last race of the B Series. We hope to get more boats out for the next Series of Wednesday night racing.

We are in need of an RC for the Summer Invitational on June 28.

Thanks,
Larry

FACILITY REPORT



Jolie Homshur
Facility Chair
facility@smsa.com

As your incoming Facilities Chair, I have worked to get “up to speed” by identify tasks and projects needed to improve the functionality and overall appearance of our building and grounds. But while I have been busy on my own, other good things have happened.

Over the last two months a few volunteers have also helped improve our Facility. A replacement air hockey table was purchased, delivered and assembled- Thank you Lester Griffith, John Andries and Aaron Shiffer. The adults and junior members have enjoyed many high energy matches with more to come. Two Laser sailors gave their time to spray weed killer in the yard and completed additional outdoor clean up- Thank you Don Brown & Doug Hays. Mark Witte's team planned and assembled a new floating dock and installed a new safety ladder- a great addition for our dockside activities. Our volunteer gardeners, headed up by Jody Keen, have planted and watered the flowers on the front patio. Thank you!

I tackled less obvious items- I completed some urgent toilet repairs, moved the cleaning chemicals higher for child safety, replaced door knobs and trim, and the PenFed building next door now has a new outside light fixture. I also created a “wish list” of items after listening to many of you express ideas of what is needed or wanted for our Facility.

In the immediate future, I have a couple urgent repairs to tackle, a few projects that are in the research planning phase, and some plans that were recently approved by the Board.

I enjoy making improvements to our Facility but I cannot do the job alone. If you have a desire to help, a special skill to share, or just like to clean or organize, please reach out to me in person or send an email to Facility@smsa.com. Together we can make a difference!



Nelleke Schijf is collecting scrap aluminum for The Solomons Mission Center

As the recently crowned SIYC Princess, **SMSA member Nelleke Schijf** is raising money for our neighbors in need through the **Solomons Mission Center** food pantry and clothing bank. She is earning money for a donation by collecting scrap aluminum, including aluminum cans. Soon, you will see containers around the club with signage to put your empty soda and beer cans toward the cause. Please consider donating to the Solomons Mission Center to join Nelleke and SIYC in supporting members of our community who need a little extra help with the basics.

Hali Kilbourne will be placing the containers at the club very shortly. Thanks to Hali for alerting SMSA to this effort!



Camp

Kati Keith

Summer Camp Chair

summercamp@smsa.com



Summer Camp begins June 22nd !!! We have seven sessions running through August 7th. Sailing camp is at our wonderful SMSA facility from 9 AM to 4 PM on week-days. We welcome beginning and experienced sailors ages 8 to 16. A discount is offered for campers attending multiple weeks.

Registration is open for everyone, and some of the weeks are filling up. For more information visit our website, www.smsa.com, and look for the Junior Camps tab.

Any other questions? Please contact the Summer Camp Chair, Kati Keith, at summercamp@smsa.com. *Please note the new email address!!*



HAPPY HOUR IS EVERY FRIDAY AT 5:30

Come in for fun and terrific sunsets on the front patio. We go until about 9:30pm or whenever Ana kicks us out! Sunset is close to 8:30pm all month!!



The Patuxent Pursuit

July 17 - 19, 2026

Presented by:
SMSA



Shore events/Boat Check-in at:

Southern Maryland Sailing Association
14490 Solomons Island Road
Solomons, MD



✓ **Friday** - Distance Pursuit Race for all boats

✓ **Saturday/Sunday Racing Options:**
Windward/Leward Bay Bouy Racing
OR
Pursuit Racing on the Patuxent River
Navigator/Crusier Course

For questions contact: PRO - John Herbig - paxpursuitpro@smsa.com
Chair - Steve Birchfield - PaxPursuitChairman@smsa.com



Register here:

www.smsa.com



Food/Drinks/Parties



Daily/Overall Awards



Swag for Purchase

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:



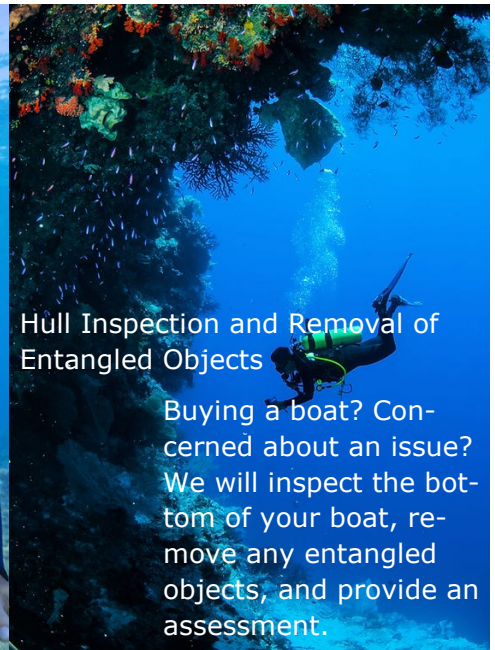
Hull & Bottom Cleaning Plans

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.

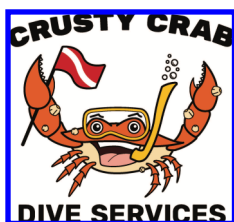


Hull Inspection and Removal of Entangled Objects

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/>



SMALLBOAT RACING



Bill Shoemaker

Smallboat Race Chair

smallboatrace@smsa.com

Smallboat season is underway. We've had a windy beginning with all but one night averaging above 11 knots with some 20+ gusts mixed in. A big thank you to Paige Smith, Barbara Miller and Charlie Judge for coming out and helping with RC and Safety/Mark boats on Thursday nights. If you want to join in the fun, registration is still open.

We had four dinghies register for the Vice Commodore Cup on May 9. Technical difficulties kept our two Laser entries from making it to the start on time, but Vlad Eremeev in Super Sonic went from last-to-start to first-to-finish in the pursuit. Vlad also competed in the Frost Goode Race on the 16th. Our third annual Beer 'N' Soda Regatta was held on May 17 with 4 boats competing for....no prize but hopefully all finished with their pride intact.

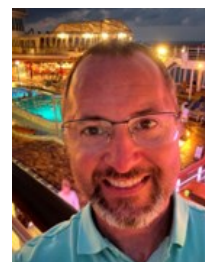
The Smallboat Spring Invitational and the Broken Rudder Dinghy Distance Race, June 6 and 7, are fast approaching. Registration for both events is open on the SMSA Website. We are looking for volunteers to help with Safety/Mark boats during these events. If you are available and would like to help out, please contact Bill Shoemaker at smallboatrace@smsa.com

CRUISERS CORNER

Phil Sibley

Cruise Chair

cruise@smsa.com



Although the month of May ended with a lot of well needed rain, it also came with the cancellation of one of our longest cruises of the season. Instead of continuously sliding the departure dates and wasting participants' choices of planning other destinations they could reach by land, the cruise was cancelled in its entirety. Maybe this will be one of our destinations to explore come next year.

Looking ahead, the month of June will keep the cruising fleet somewhat local. Beginning with a one night raft up in Cuckold Creek, the cruisers will then divide and conquer by a few vessels traveling down the bay for the Virginia Tall Ship Festival in Portsmouth, VA while other will play it simple and raft up outside the Patuxent River Naval Air Station runway to watch the Airshow. This will be the first time the Blue Angels have returned to Southern Maryland in about 15 years. It will surely be a great time to be on the water.

If you have any questions about the upcoming cruises, feel free to reach out to the cruise leaders for further details.

Until next month, GO CRUISING!

Phil

Creators and collaborators wanted to promote SMSA!!!

Think you're good with a camera? How about that video feature on your phone? Well, then! SMSA Communications has a proposal for you; become a collaborator and/or contributor to the SMSA Facebook page and the SMSA Instagram! We are seeking people with that eye for good shots and for interesting and exciting video to feed us material or become a collaborator from your Instagram account!

What's in it for you? The chance to show your chops and to help SMSA grow by attracting new members!

We actually have a budget this year to run targeted ads through Facebook and Instagram, but we need kick-butt content and more followers to make the algorithms work for us. Email the Communications Chair, Tim Flaherty, at communications@smsa.com to get started!



Blue Angels kids meet 'n greet event at SMSA on June 19th. Reserve a spot now!!

The US Navy Blue Angels are coming to SMSA!

We are excited that SMSA is able to host members of the Blue Angels team prior to their performance at the PAX River Airshow and open the event to the local youth and their friends!

A big shout out to Andy Wilson for getting SMSA on the list of potential venues.

Members of the Blue Angels will be onsite at SMSA on Friday, June 19th from 0830 to 0930.

Target age range for the event is under 18.

Event includes onsite personnel from the Blue Angels, Blue Angels videos, and a Leadership discussion/question and answer session with the Blue Angels.

Please RSVP using the form on the smsa.com webpage or the link sent out via email so we have parent contact info and ages of youth planning to attend so we can get a headcount.

Please contact membership@smsa.com if you have any questions prior to the event! We look forward to seeing you!





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

Place
Stamp



May 2026

The Clew

Volume 56 Number 5

 **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. West Marine may ask for your name which will be checked 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!

