



May/June 2016

Edition of ChaNNels. The Sailing Club of Washington Newsletter.

Commodore – Order of the Month

Hello Friends and fellow club members. We are now in the thick of the season. ChaNNels was delayed a bit in hopes that we might be able to announce the Spring Series Scot Playoff winners of this past weekend's planned Playoff races, but the wind was faster than a speeding bullet! Imagine whitecaps on the lagoon.

Social Sails have been a pleasure to watch. Slowly, the new, every-other-week food structure is gaining traction. Last week, an off week for SCOW-provided refreshments was met with an incredible amount of Pot Luck and Chip-In refreshments, prompted by Julian and Terry Mallet's invitation to join them for a drink in honor (more in sadness) of their relocation up north this week. The club will miss their presence and contributions, but as Julian said, "There are no ships like friendships", and we hope to keep that ship afloat for a long time. Best of luck to both of you!

Take note of the pretty new red registrations stickers on all our boats. They are now water legal for 2016. Our fellow member, Ginny Ivins, also of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, came by on May 30th, and together with your Commodore, inspected five of the Scots. They all failed due to expired registrations. Also, she failed a number of life jackets since some of them had signs of wear or holes in the outer fabric. She was very instructive and we will get all the boats inspected successfully in 2016. Thanks to Steve Ochenkoski and his bosuns for all their efforts.

Thanks to all of you for making this club a success! I want to give a special thank you to Greg Prather and all of his trainers. I am getting some very good feedback on the program this year!

Also, special thanks to Dave Becket and Jonathon Thron who developed and presented training seminars in May.

A note about ALL SCOW list-serve

Dear Commodore,

I just want you to know that I send all emails from ALL SCOW to my trash folder. I cannot possibly keep up with the announcements about basket weaving, fishing, camping, SCOW BOD endorsements, insults, and complaints, charity events on shore, jokes and riddles. Signed Member

Dear Member,

The ALL SCOW email policy is as follows;

"The purpose of the list (ALL SCOW) is to discuss sailing, SCOW events, and other information of interest to members of the club. Please try to keep submissions to the list on-topic.....When replying to a message on the list, please reply to the whole list ONLY (emphasis added) if your response is relevant to everyone, not just the author. Otherwise, please reply only to the author"

So dear member, the SCOW email policy is designed to be somewhat self regulating. Each user has the power to determine what constitutes appropriate "other information" of interest to the club that is "on-topic". This standard has been drawn pretty wide by some members.

If the membership wants a party-line list-serve to get members together for a range of activities, sailing or basket-weaving, then maybe we should just call it what it is, a way for subscribers to communicate socially. In this case the Directors and Board will need to develop another avenue to communicate official announcements, such as taking a boat out of service, or upcoming events, so that members who send ALL SCOW to their trash bins do not miss out.

Thanks for your patience, your Commodore.

Don't like what you are reading?

Some articles are worth repeating! We are still in need of an Editor for CHaNNELs. If you are interested, please drop me a line at commodore@scow.org.

It's in our statement of purpose

"The club shall plan activities for both the novice and experienced sailor."

Training, Social Sail, Special Olympics all provide for the novice. The club provides seminars and racing for the experienced. I think we are fairly well balanced in what we plan to provide. But, how do we provide activities for both the novice and experienced and the casual user at all times? It's all about allocation and sharing.

Section VII of our SCOW SKIPPER REQUIREMENTS AND BOAT USE POLICY spells out Boat Use Priorities as follows:

- 1) Maintenance
- 2) Training
- 3) Social Sail
- 4) Racing
- 5) Board Approved Club Functions
- 6) Personal Use

A balance will be struck such that items 1-5 "do not unduly impinge on individual use". Does using all boats in a regatta or at social sail, or Special Olympics unduly impinge on individual use? The training policy includes a rule that always leaves one boat open for individual use. If you feel your personal use is being infringed upon, drop me a note a commodore@scow.org.

SCOW 50th Year Celebration

The date is set, July 16, 2016. Time is noon to 7pm. We are still planning many fun activities including events on the water. We will most definitely have a good time!

Committee members – Mary Alex, Co-chair, Chris Tindal, Alice Starke, Richard Kaiser, Elisabeth Graham, Rob Reuter, Jonathon Thron, Amy Decklebaum, and Elaine Shall.

Leukemia Cup Regatta

By Nancy Brown, member

Time to sign up for the Leukemia Cup Regatta! Yes, it's already time to sign up for the Leukemia Cup Regatta (LCR)! The race will be on Saturday, September 10th this year, followed by a party, silent auction and awards. As in other years, there will also be a picnic on Friday night, where you can pick up your T-shirt and swag bag.

There are two steps involved in registering for the race and the use of one of SCOW's boats. First contact the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. You can go directly to their website to register at www.leukemicup.org/ or contact Stefanie McHugh at stefanie.mchugh@lls.org or 703-399-2910, if you need help.

There is a minimum contribution of \$100; this is a fundraising event and we hope you will raise more to support the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The fee also covers the costs of the parties on Friday and Saturday, and a T-shirt for every participant. The second step is to sign up for the use one of SCOW's boats. Let SCOW's Racing Director Csilla Gal know you want to participate (racing@scow.org).

Boats are allocated in August based on the team's fundraising. The more you raise, the better your chances of getting the boat you want for race day. We haven't had all of SCOW's boats out on the water for the LCR in recent years; let's see if we can in 2016!



LCR race day, 2015: looked a lot like racing this spring, but the weather was warmer.

Skirmish is “Justabout”- back!

As of this moment, Skirmish is nearly ready to be re-activated. Steve Ochenkoski and a few of his helpers have worked to tune the rig, put in the battens and check out her overall safety. She is there. We may add a step to her usage though, pending Steve’s announcement. Her rear compartments seem to allow water seepage that collects under the “step” in the companionway. If this water is not removed by sponge and bucket, under sail, it will slosh forward onto the cabin floor and make a mess of it. Steve’s plan was to put a few sponges in there to make removing the water before and after a sail easy, and to help keep Skirmish nice and clean for the next use. Stay tuned.

New Cruiser Search

On another note, the Boat Asset Committee continues their search for a replacement. Jay Weitzel and his committee reported to the BOD last week that they are searching for a particular boat known as a Colgate 26. Jay asks all members to keep an eye out for a Colgate 26 for sale. Please read his report to the BOD shown below.

Boat Asset Committee (BAC) Report

by Jay Weitzel

The BAC recommends that the club acquire a shoal draft (3’ 6” draft) Colgate 26 as a replacement. The Colgate is a Jim Taylor design first built in 1997, primarily intended for training but also offering good performance. It has a very large cockpit that can easily accommodate 6 adults, is solidly built, and has very low maintenance. We have reviewed online forums extensively and can find no information suggesting known problems with these boats. The cabin is large enough for the crew to take shelter in foul weather but the boat is primarily a day sailer. Rebecca and Hiatus both offer larger cabin areas for members who want such an amenity. In addition, the boats are rarely taken out overnight and the Colgate cabin would be adequate for use as shelter at a raft-up.

Colgate 26’s hold their value and it may take some time to locate a boat in the condition the club desires in our price range, which is at the very low end for the circa 2000 vintage Colgates that come on the market. However, the BAC believes that this

effort will reward the club with a boat that will serve it well for training, member use, and racing for at least a decade and likely more.

We believe that the shoal draft is essential due to the increased shoaling in our primary sailing area, and particularly in the channel. We also believe that we should target a specific type of boat – the Colgate 26, as recommended – and not just look randomly for “some boat” in our price range. We have a specific list of criteria, and the Colgate 26 satisfies all of them. If we do not focus our search, we will waste time and energy. Also, if we make our choice known to the membership, it is more likely that many eyes will locate the boat we want.

End of BAC report.

Suggestion for Sailing Opportunities

By George Clark, member

Be certain to review and update your membership Profile periodically in the membership directory at SCOW.org. An accurate narrative about your sailing experience will help skippers evaluate interested crew for any particular excursion for which the skipper has reserved a boat. A skipper’s choice of crew will depend on such factors as the severity of the marine forecast, along with who else the skipper intends to have among their crew. Please do not overstate your sailing ability, either in your membership profile or when responding to a “crew call” invitation. Accuracy matters because the wrong time to enlighten your skipper to the fact that your sailing experience is inadequate for that day’s marine forecast is after the boat is underway. An accurate membership profile will also secure a non-skipper more invitations to sail because it is easier for a skipper to discover your sailing experience from your membership Profile than to have to ask you.

Also consider identifying your availability with respect to day-of-week and time-of-day. For example, if you can sail during mid-day on a weekday, then say so. Some skippers prefer to sail during those times.

River and Bay Director Report

by Joe Leoncio, River and Bay Director

We had FOUR river events this month with nearly 50 fellow SCOW members in attendance! Special thanks to the skippers that helped make it happen: Mike Rothenberg, Jonathan Thron, Bill Davenport, Becky Cole, Barbara Thacker, Vincent Penoso, Thom Unger, Dan Sandhaus, and Julian Mallett.

In addition, with the help of Jeremy Goucher and Jonathan Thron, the River & Bay (R&B) department is working to support Social Sail by integrating a cruiser into social sail. The results are encouraging thus far, and I believe this effort has the long-term potential to positively impact other areas that are critical to the club, e.g. training and membership. Anyone interested in supporting this effort as crew or skipper is most certainly welcome! It takes a lot of skill, coordination, and communication to maneuver 4,550 lbs of fiberglass under sail within the narrow confines of a congested channel while still entertaining Social Sail guests. We are always happy to share our best practices as skippers to help develop fellow skippers and sailors.

What's common in all this activity is the grassroots origin of the ideas and the deep level of engagement among our fellow SCOW members who help put these events together. Members like you at all levels of experience are running this program and contributing to its great success. See you on the water!



2016 Committee Vacancies

Currently, SCOW has two committees without member staffing: the Audit Committee and the Nominating Committee. Please refer to the SCOW

By Laws for information about the valuable assignments of these two committees. Let the Commodore know if you wish to be considered for heading or serving on either.

Training Director Report

By Greg Prather, Training Director

Hello fellow members! For those of you that are still considering training this year, here is what we have available.

~~Spring Basic Sailing Course (Sold Out)~~

~~Summer Basic Sailing Course (Sold Out)~~

~~Spring Cruiser Course (Sold Out)~~

Fall basic sailing course* - \$400 (12 students max)

Land sessions

Sept 7, 14, 21 and 28 - Weds 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Water sessions

Sept 11,17,18,24,25 and Oct 1 - Sats & Suns 8 am - 12 pm or 12 pm - 4pm

*Open to all SCOW members regardless of prior sailing experience. This class covers what you need to know to checkout as a Flying Scot skipper.

Fall Cruiser course** - \$450 (5 students max)

Land sessions

Sept 29 (Thur) and Oct 12 (Wednesday) 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Water sessions

Oct 1, 2, 15, 16 - Sats & Suns 8 am - 4pm plus a night class, to be scheduled between each student and an instructor

**This is an advanced sailing class and requires demonstrating basic sailing competency to enroll. Being a checked-out Flying Scot skipper is one way of fulfilling this requirement. For non-Scot skippers with significant sailing experience, recommendations from at least two SCOW skippers are needed. This class covers what you need to know to checkout as a Cruiser skipper.

Capsize Classes***- \$35 (one day class, 12 students max per class)

Saturday July 30 – 9 am – 5 pm

Saturday August 27 – 9 am – 5 pm

***Open to all SCOW members, regardless of prior sailing experience. Students will learn, and practice multiple times, recovering Flying Scots from a capsized. Especially and highly recommended for Scot

skippers, but open and also recommended to all members. You will get wet.

To sign-up for a class or if you have questions about a class, email the Training Director Greg Prather (training@scow.org).

Note: Training is available to SCOW members only.

SCOW Budget 2016

The 2016 Budget is presented below. As you can see, we are predicting a budget shortfall for the year. This is mildly alarming in that an organization running an actual deficit cannot sustain itself. The BOD notes that this is a planning tool. Actual expenses can be less, revenues can be more. But, it is a fact that expenses for slip fees, insurance, and maintenance all quite naturally increase year after year. The implication is that an increase in membership fees must take place sometime soon. The BOD will consider this in the Fall so that it can be put in place for next season. Such an action requires the approval of the membership.

Budget Categories:	2016 Budget
Income:	
Interest Income	400
Member Dues	22500
Other Income	100
Skipper Fees	19500
Training	16000
Afterglow party	250
Hail and Farewell	4000
Re-up Brunch	200
Total Social Income	4450
Total Income	62950
Expense:	
Miscellaneous	600
Bank Charge	700
Bonding	400
Supplies	500
Total Admin:	2200
Awards	1000

Communication:	
Meeting Room	1000
Printing (Directory)	200
Publicity/Door Prizes, etc.	500
Web Site	1200
Total Communication:	2900

Fleet Operations:	
Boat Maintenance	15000
Boat Acquisition	0
Capital Improvements	0
Insurance	8500
Registration	500
Slip Fees	19700
Fleet Memberships	300
Other	200
Total Fleet Ops:	44200

Tax	200
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Member Services/Social:	
Afterglow party	1100
Hail and Farewell	5000
50th year anniversary party	5000
Re-Up Brunch	1700
River Activities	200
Maintenance Day	750
Social Sails	3000
Rookie Regatta	300
Total Social Activity	17050
Racing	1000
Training	2000
Total Expense	70550
Net (Income minus Expenses)	-7600