

Chanels

The Newsletter of the Sailing Club of Washington
September 2009

Commodore's Log

August was a great month! What a surprise that there was actually good sailing wind! The Leukemia Cup fund-raisers have been a huge success! The teams have been practicing and I think they are ready. I'm looking forward to seeing all the participants. The other day I was at a seedy sailor bar on the Bay, and witnessed a fellow SCOW member (who shall remain unnamed) rocking out with the lead singer of the cover band to Nirvana's Smells Like Teen Spirit. I swear that I heard her sing the following lyrics in honor of the upcoming Leukemia Cup and all the dedicated fund-raisers:

Smells Like SCOW Spirit

Load up on rum
Bring your friends
It's time to race boats to the end
The other team's too self-assured
Oh no, I know a dirty word

Chorus
Hello, hello, hello, jibe-ho
Hello, hello, hello, jibe-ho
Hello, hello, hello, jib-ho

With a life vest it's less dangerous
Spectator boats shout "entertain us"
On the foredeck it's courageous
Spectator boats shout "entertain us"
Pull the sheet-oh lift the keel-oh
Round the mark-oh whisker pole-oh

Chorus

I'm first at what I do best
and for this gift I feel blessed

Our sailing club has always been
And always will until the end

Chorus
And I forgot why I race
Oh yea, I guess it makes me smile
I round it hard, it's hard to climb
Oh well whatever nevermind

Hello, hello, hello, jibe-ho
Hello, hello, hello, jibe-ho
Hello, hello, hello, jib-ho

With a life vest it's less dangerous
Spectator boats shout "entertain us"
On the foredeck it's courageous
Spectator boats shout "entertain us"
Pull the sheet-oh lift the keel-oh
Round the mark-oh whisker pole-oh
Pass the rum-oh!

Raise the sail AND RAISE SOME FUNDS!

Fair winds!
Commodore Lisa

Mark your Calendars!

SCOW 2009 Hail and Farewell

Dinner-Dance and Cruise
Aboard the Cherry Blossom

Saturday, November 14, 2009
7 pm to 10 pm

Details to follow on a fun evening of dancing to our favorite DJ while we cruise up the Potomac, great food, open bar, awards ceremony, a welcome to the new Board, and farewell to the old Board.





Woodie at SCOW Hail & Farewell Dinner 2008



Woodie at SCOW Octoberfest 2008

In Memoriam

ROBERT CUSTER WOODSIDE, CDR USN (Retired)
Sailing Club of Washington, Co-founder (1962) and Commodore (1979)
July 9, 1920 – July 27, 2009

A graduate of the US Naval Academy (class of 1943) and World War II veteran, “Woodie” Woodside was a reconnaissance pilot who catapulted in a Navy PBY plane off the cruiser USS Providence (a video of him narrating the actual film he took of this in the 1940s can be seen at www.ussprovidence.org/prov-aviation.html). He was the founder of the NAVJAX Sailing Club in Jacksonville, FL, as well as the Patuxent River Sailing Club, which grew to reach Navy bases as far as Manila. Most notable was his co-founding of the Sailing Club of Washington (SCOW), which grew from a band of 6 in 1962 to over 400 members in 2009. At the Washington Sailing Marina, Woody could be seen strolling around being a friend to all he came across. He was a coach with the Naval Academy Sailing Squadron for 50 years.

His dedication to the military led him to convince many a young person to enter into a military career, and he was a great proponent of helping anyone enter the Annapolis Naval Academy. Upon his retirement from the US Navy after 21 years, he taught mathematics at Annapolis High School, infiltrated the Army Materiel Command in the personnel department, and retired again from the Army Corps of Engineers.

His love of singing and playing the piano led him to marry Alice Ann Mitchell, the daughter of concert pianist Alice DeCeeve Mitchell and founder of the Harrisburg Little Theater, and Ehrman Burkman Mitchell, squire of Beaufort Farms in Harrisburg, PA, who started the Harrisburg Horse Show and Hunt Club.

Throughout his life he encouraged everyone to learn and enjoy sailing, life, and the pursuit of happiness. Known as “The Commander,” “Woody,” or “Woodie” Woodside, the old salt could be noted by his canvas hat dotted with wine corks, his pirate beard, and meerschaum or corn cob pipe. He truly lived a wonderful life filled with adventure and gaining friendship with many people who found him to be a kind and giving gentleman.

A memorial service with full military honors was held for Woodie on August 10, 2009, at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, with interim interment at the Naval Academy columbarium. Burial at sea will be performed at a later date. Representing SCOW at the memorial service were Thom Unger (Commodore, 1999), Jane Klemer (Commodore 1973), Dorothy Almassy (former Social Director), Faith Rodell (current Social Director), Mary Bayshore, Shirley Castle, Wayne Williams and his daughter Lauren, and Ginny Ivin. SCOW also sent a beautiful floral arrangement with the message: “Sail on, Woodie!”



August Raft-Up at Smoots Cove

Despite the heat on August 8, eight cruisers filled with SCOW members and friends headed downriver to Smoots Cove, near National Harbor, for a fun raft-up. Valhalla (Hunter 31), skippered by Jack Weaver, was the anchor boat. Most everyone had their boat's cockpit covered with a bimini (one makeshift) and motored or motor-sailed down the river since the wind was pretty light -- 5 to 7 knots. With lots of food onboard, 30-plus people enjoyed chatting, dining, sharing favorite dishes, swimming, and picture taking -- both still and video.

Other participants at the raft-up were Henry Cheng and crew on Prophecy (Hunter 27), Rob Van Tassel and crew on Tango II (Yankee Dolphin 24), Paul Cyre and crew on Topaz (Catalina 25), Karyl Owings and crew on Kissyface (O'Day 22), Steve Riker and crew on Infidel (Laguna Balboa 24), Tom Crowe and crew on Crowe's Nest (Tartan 30), and Bill Davenport and crew on Runneth Over (AMF 21). After a few hours in the heat, the raft began to break up, and we all headed back to our respective berths at Washington Sailing Marina and James Creek Marina.





Next Membership Meeting: Monday, September 14

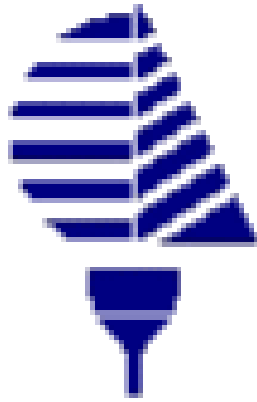
Location: American Legion Post, 400 Cameron Street, in Old Town Alexandria

Time: Socializing downstairs begins at 6:30 pm and the meeting begins upstairs at 7:30 pm

Upcoming meetings: September 14: Wolfgang Schaefer will tell us about his recent sailing trip to the Mediterranean island of Ibiza.

October 12: Join us to hear Michael Geissinger recount tales of his 4,000 nautical mile trans-Atlantic voyage from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, to South Hampton, England, to deliver a Passport 51

Social Sail	Every Thursday, Washington Sailing Marina, April - October, 6:00 pm
Social No-Sail	Events and locations vary, December - April, 6:00 pm
Board Meetings	1st Monday of every month, 7:00 pm (open to members)
Channels Deadline	15 th of every month. Submit articles to: channels09@scow.org
2009 Calendar	http://www.scow.org/calendar.html
SCOW Pictures	http://picasaweb.google.com/Sailing.Club.of.Washington
SCOW Web Site	http://www.scow.org



2009 Board of Directors

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For information about club activities

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