

# Chanels

The Newsletter of the Sailing Club of Washington  
December 2007

## Commodore's Log

November was a good Month, a time to say thank you to all those who helped this year, and a time to think about next year. In particular, I would like to thank the 2007 Board for their service. In particular, I thank Dot for tireless support for social activities over the last two years, Karen for a well run training program, Adam for recreating our racing program, Bill for maintenance expertise and support of river activities, Wayne for creative ideas for river sails, and Tom for organizing programs for the monthly meetings and general help. I also thank Dorothy, Maggie, and Melissa for filling in part way trough the year with Treasurer, Secretary, and Skipper Coordinator duties.

There are other volunteers that are not as obvious that keep the club going from year to year including the membership coordinator (Henry Cheng this year), the email coordinator (Jeff Teitel), the members of the Boat Asset, Auditing, and Skipper and Training committees, Channels editors, web masters, Boatique, Tutoring, and photo site coordinator. Thanks to Mike Rothenberg for finding and evaluating the Faces system. It gets to be a long list. For that I am grateful. And, although I have not named everyone individually, Thank You.

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SCOW Cruisers – Topaz and Rebecca

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## Social Director Message.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and all the other holidays in between!!!!

Warmest wishes to you all and a big

## THANK YOU

for making SCOW the Fun place to be this year.

I look forward to seeing you all in 2008 at the

## Afterglow - January 12, 2008

and the

## Re-UP Brunch – March 16, 2008

Both functions will take place at the Colonies at McLean.

So....don't wait for a special invitation...just come on out and join us and help your new Social Director, Faith Rodell as she gets these functions ready.

See you on the water!!! And watch for the notices for a spring trip to Smith Island.

Dot Almassy,  
2007 Social Director



For more pictures go to the SCOW picture website

<http://picasaweb.google.com/Sailing.Club.of.Washington>

### Next Membership Meeting: Monday, January 14th, 2007

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

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

Make a Difference! In keeping with the season of giving, the 2007 Washington DC Holiday Boat Parade and the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve believe that no child should go without this holiday season. That is why we have teamed together with Toys for Tots. For 56 years, Marines have been the unchallenged leaders in looking after needy children at Christmas.

Please bring your NEW, unwrapped toy for children from toddlers to seventeen year olds (no guns, knives or weapons, please) to any of the parade functions. Or mail your tax deductible check to: Marine Toys for Tots Foundation, P.O. Box 1947, Quantico, Va 22134 Make check payable to:  
**Marine Toys for Tots Foundation**



**Historic Harbors' 2007 Holiday Boat Parade of Lights Weekend**  
**Saturday, December 1, 2007**

**3:00 pm: Festivities on the docks, Alexandria Marina**, to include Santa arriving by the Fireboat Vigilant with pictures for kids and canines, Alexandria Holiday Review Starbucks Cheer Patrol.

**4:30 pm:** Boats and begin formation and/or staging.

**5:30 pm – 6:30 pm: Alexandria Harbor Parade** (two laps counterclockwise). Parade led by the Alexandria Fireboat Vigilant followed by the John Glenn and the Schooner Virginia.

Photos by Alice Starcke



One of the 62 Boats in Parade



Elvis Lives – Skipper Elvis (?)



Cinderella's Carriage – Skipper Matt Martelli



Liberty Belle – Skipper Dorothy Stocks



Timeless – Skipper Steve Riker



Sailing on Psycho



Enjoying a Fall Sail with SCOW

## Training Update

### By Karen Szymczak, 2007 Training Director

I want to publicly acknowledge all of the SCOW trainers who volunteered this year to teach. The SCOW training program would not have been a success without the hundreds of hours these SCOW members volunteered to teach in the classroom and on the water. The table below summarizes the courses taught, the number of participants in each type of course and the number of volunteer hours spent teaching these courses.

Courses	# of Participants	# of Volunteer Hours in the Classroom and On-the-Water
3 Basic	36 students, 11 auditors	320
2 Cruiser	10 students, 6 auditors	81
3 Spinnakers	22 students	39
2 Capsize	20 students	38
1 Intermediate	11 students	4

Twenty-four trainers volunteered a total of 482 hours. The five trainers who volunteered the most hours received small tokens of appreciation at the Hail & Farewell. These trainers and their hours are below.

Trainer	Hours
Neil Shepherd	60
Jan Earle	48
Steve Linke	40
Mike Murphy	36
Doug Kelch	36

So THANKS to all the SCOW trainers for making 2007 a successful year!

**To me, nothing made by man is more beautiful than a sailboat under way in fine weather, and to be on that sailboat is to be as close to heaven as I expect to get. It is unalloyed happiness.**

Robert Manry  
Author, *Tinkerbelle*



Alice and Kristie



Kristie Steering



Red Nun - Number 84

## Sail to Fort Washington By Alice Starcke

"Well, you really shouldn't stop sailing just because the weather gets a little colder. Just put on your thermal underwear and come on down to the marina," says Zaafar Hasnain. "We'll go to Fort Washington on Saturday." "We'll go where?" I asked. "Fort Washington is not really that far, he said, just a little way past the Wilson Bridge." "Well, ok, I'll try it, I replied.

About 9 am on Saturday Nov 5, I joined Zaafar and Kristie McComb for a journey on *Topaz* to the little marina down the river. At least I had the good sense to follow his advice on clothing. It was about 50 degrees that day and by mid-morning, Kristie and I were both saying we were glad we wore the long underwear under jeans. Fleece tops and spray suit jackets proved to be a good idea, too. We took turns at the helm and made our leisurely way past Wilson Bridge, thinking to see Fort Washington in, oh, an hour or so. At least the scenery was nice, the breeze was mild, though a little shifty, and lots of other boaters were out. After awhile, Zaafar pulled out the chart and we began looking for RN #86.

In another hour we got to that mark, then looked for FLR#84 on the chart, which was way-way downriver--or so it seemed. Not sure how it happened but part of the way to #86, we had turned around and were heading upriver again. I said, "Hey, that's the Wilson Bridge ahead." Sure enough, it was, and Zaafar turned the boat around again.



Little Lighthouse



Zaafar Navigating



Ft Washington Marina

## Sail to Ft Washington (Continued)

By about 3 pm, we pulled up to the dock at Fort Washington and tied up at Fort Washington. It's a pretty little marina, for those who haven't seen it, with lots of birds on the pier, and has a nice building and clean restrooms, though the restaurant was out of commission for remodeling. We found a few people around, asked about getting more gas for the boat since the gas dock appeared to be closed off. Finally a Maryland water cop told us about the guy named Pat in the repair shop who sometimes helped people with problems like that. Well, we found Pat and he was quite nice about giving Zaafar a ride down the road to a filling station. While they were gone, Kristie and I went back to the boat and had some salami sandwiches and wine. By the time Zaafar returned with the gas and filled the tank and had some food, too, it was getting quite late, so we decided to motor most of the way back.

We then sailed for a bit right below the Wilson Bridge, until the wind picked up and got a little much for the big jib we had been using all day. We then took down the jib and motored the rest of the way back, with a marvelous sunset rounding out a terrific day on the water.



SCOW Skipper Zaafar



SCOW Sailing on Thanksgiving Day!

### Call for SailHers!

Come join the SCOW SailHers for lunch!

The gals meet in various restaurants near Union Station the second Wednesday of each month at 11:45am to swap sailing stories and keep in touch. Most of the current SailHers met one another at these informal luncheons so do not be shy!

Just send an email to [vericrain@gmail.com](mailto:vericrain@gmail.com) to get on the email list. We will let you know where we next plan to meet and who to contact to get on the reservation list.

## Sailing Club of Washington – Thanksgiving Channel 7 News!

If you saw the news aired a clip of Psycho on Thanksgiving in a story "How some people spent the unseasonably warm day". ChaNNel 7 met SCOW crew after sailing in S14 G21 with a jiffy reefed main and storm sail from 11 am to 1pm. While returning the wind had died quite a bit and the sun was shining!

TV showed Zaafar and Maureen tying the boat up in the sun (and of course Psycho's famous Green Hull!). Maureen saying, "Normally its cold and we're wearing sweaters." Shot of her tying the dock lines to the bow cleet. "We're just lucky we could extend the sailing season."

(Commodore's Log – Continued from Page 1)

At the Hail and Farewell dinner we recognized some of the many other volunteers who helped out this year. Here I will only mention two more. At the Hail and Farewell we presented the Al Blankfield award, for outstanding service to the club during the past year, to Ron Sheldon for help with moving Topaz from Annapolis, getting Topaz ready for use, and helping with other items. We awarded the Eli Abramson Award, awarded annually for outstanding service to the club over an extended period, to Jeff Teitel for help with training and check-out over many years, maintaining the SCOW email system, service on the board, and more.

With the election of the 2008 Board starts the transition from the current Board and planning for next year. Part of this is the discussion oat the SCOW annual meeting on things we would like to change. Concerns that came up include:

- Training for the new boat scheduling system at the Re-Up Brunch
- Discussion of maintenance items that need attention
- Who can we contact about dirty bathrooms at the WSM
- How can we make sure the boats are put away properly?
- Could some skippers use a refresher course to improve their skills?

The December Board meeting will be a joint meeting of the 2007 and 2008 Boards to pass along useful information. At the end of the year, the 2008 Board takes over from the 2007 Board. I and others will continue to work with the 2008 Board to ensure a successful transition and a good year next year. The new Board members are:

### **Officers:**

Tom Paquin, Commodore  
Lisa Eller, Vice Commodore  
Maggie Nelson, Secretary  
Chris von Guggenberg, Treasurer

### **Directors:**

Wayne Williams  
Ron Trueworthy  
Mike Rothenberg  
Faith Rodell  
Adam Pressman  
Fran Jezisek  
Melissa Ennis

I have confidence in the new Board and look forward to a good year. I thank them for stepping up to run for the Board and for their guidance in the coming year.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve,

John Rogers  
SCOW 2007 Commodore

### 2007 Board of Directors

Position	Name	Home	Work	E-mail
Commodore	John Rogers	202.244.5537	301.294.2804	commodore@scow.org
Vice Commodore	Tom Paquin	202.281.8999	202.659.6500	vice@scow.org
Secretary	Maggie Nelson			secretary@scow.org
Treasurer	Dorothy Stocks			treasurer@scow.org
Training Director	Karen Szymczak	703.971.1388		training@scow.org
Maintenance	Bill Davenport	301.598.7524	301.367.3301	maintenance@scow.org
Social Director	Dot Almassy	703.560.0367	703.681.5385	social@scow.org
Skipper Director	Melissa Ennis	703.845.5764	301.279.4201 x2108	skipper@scow.org
River Director	Wayne Williams	703.981.9320		river@scow.org
Racing Director	Adam Pressman		703.850.2073	race@scow.org

### Other Key People

Crew Liaison	Melissa Ennis	703.845.5764	301.279.4201 x2180	crew@scow.org
Bay Director	Could be You!			bay@scow.org
Channels Editor	Lisa Eller	423.360.6899	202.353.2755	channels06@scow.org
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Email Administrator	Jeff Teitel	202.271.1238		postmaster@scow.org
Membership Coordinator	Monika O'Connor	703.921.9262	703.593.4380 (cell)	members@scow.org
Web Editor	Peg O'Laughlin			webmaster@scow.org
Photos on Web	Mike Rothenberg	703.998.0692	703.820.1270	pictures@scow.org

### For Information about Club Activities

Visit <http://www.scow.org> or email [info@scow.org](mailto:info@scow.org)