

ChaN^{NS}Nels

The Newsletter of the Sailing Club of Washington
June 2003

Commodore's Log

Ahoy, skippers and mates! By now I hope that each of you has at least once ventured out onto the water this season. Despite a fickle Aeolus, either blowing too strongly or with no energy at all, and too much water, coming from the sky rather than beneath us, we hear good reports of adventures taken and planned on the River, the Bay, and even blue water.

Rebecca has been blessed in the annual River Blessing of the Fleet and even took first place in her class in the parade of boats. On the other hand, Psycho certainly needs a blessing or two, as the weather and an unresponsive contracted carpenter have conspired against her. With good efforts from a stalwart crew however, we do hope to have her off the hard and back upriver some time in June.

We have many individuals in SCOW who generously contribute their time, skills and heart to a variety of seaworthy events and endeavors, from stream ecology to boat building to activities supportive of others on the water. SCOW as an organization has traditionally been very supportive of two major charitable events on the River, Special Olympics Sailing in June and the

Leukemia Cup Regatta in September.

This year, Kathi Trepper is chairing our effort to support Special Olympics Sailing on the Monday evenings of June 16, 23 and 30. Kathi is coordinating the participation of boats and skippers and crew, while fellow member Ben Ackerman is coordinating the participation of the Special Olympians who will be sailing with us. Ten to twelve boats and crews will be needed on those evenings, so here is an opportunity for you to take out a SCOW boat or your own vessel or participate as a crew member, share your knowledge of sailing, and enjoy the pleasure it brings to a young new sailor who doesn't get this type of opportunity very often. So I ask you to be in touch with Kathi at katfood@comcast.net and volunteer your time and skill.

The Leukemia Cup Regatta Kickoff reception is planned for Sunday evening July 27 with the Regatta Picnic scheduled for Friday September 5 and the Races and afterparty on Saturday September 6. In 2002, SCOW members and crews contributed or raised over \$15,000 toward this event while the event itself raised over \$119,000, an all time high and one of the leaders in the 43 Leukemia Cup Regattas held throughout the nation.

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June Membership Meeting

Monday, June 9

"Classic Sailing and Rowing Vessels on the Potomac"

Our June presentation will be a special "twofer" this month.

Patty McNaughton of the National Maritime Heritage Foundation will speak about the Foundation's programs, the planned construction of Tall Ships on the river, and the visit of the Irish immigrant ship, Jeanie Johnston, to DC waters. More information on that is available at www.dctallships.org.

Joe Youcha of the Alexandria Seaport Foundation will speak about the Foundation's programs and the construction of classic wooden sailing and rowing vessels on the river. Information about the Foundation is available at www.alexandriaseaport.org

Don't miss this informative review and opportunity to learn about some river history and the construction of classic old vessels on the Potomac.

The meeting will be held at the usual time and place - the American Legion Hall in Old Town Alexandria, 400 Cameron Street (check out www.scow.org for directions). Socializing starts at 6:30 p.m., with the meeting at 7:30 and the presentations at 8:00.

(Continued from page 1)

Our friend and fellow sailor Gary Jobson, National Chair of the Leukemia Cup Regattas and a founder of the event in 1993, has just recently been diagnosed with lymphoma. He is now undergoing treatment and will be unable to join us this year. The Regattas in Washington, Annapolis and the Southern Bay are all dedicating their campaigns this year toward Gary's efforts and his recovery. Please join us as a fund-raiser or a contributor to help support the education and treatment programs of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Last year, about 93% of the local funds raised went directly to support these programs, an extremely high proportion among charitable endeavors.

SCOW members Dale Eager, Tom Hannan and I are working with the Regatta Committee this year to help plan activities. We ask you to participate in one of the following:

- serve as a skipper or crew member aboard one of our 5 SCOW boats and set a dollar goal for each crew member to raise funds,
- serve as skipper or crew aboard a SCOW member's boat and raise funds,
- if you can't sail that day, either contribute to a boat of your choice or assemble a "Ghost Ship" crew to raise funds for the Regatta, or
- contact the Regatta Coordinator Kristy Lysik at lysikk@dc-cap.leukemia-lymphoma.org and ask to serve as a volunteer helper for the Regatta.

Whatever role you choose to play will make a difference in helping the victims and families of blood related cancers. It would indeed be great to have all five SCOW boats plus 15 or more members' boats participate in this 10th Annual Leukemia Cup Regatta. We can all make a positive influence in this effort.

Fair winds,

Commodore George

**Volunteers Needed:
Alexandria Waterfront Festival**
Melissa Ennis

The Red Cross Waterfront Festival runs from Friday June 13th to Sunday, June 15th in Oronoco Bay Park, Alexandria

You and your buddies can get in FREE AND enjoy the tall ships, the rides, the crafts, the food, the music, the fireworks if you volunteer to meet and greet visitors to the SCOW booth.

Your duties:

- stand by the SCOW Chow Dhow
- hand out SCOW information and membership applications
- swap sailing stories with new people
- brag about the club

We get many new members from the Waterfront Festival. (13 years ago, SCOW got me, which may or may not be inspiring...)

Before or after your shift, you're free to see the whole shebang.

The following volunteer shifts are available:

- Friday evening (see the fireworks)
- Saturday 10-12
- Saturday 12-3
- Saturday 3-7
- Saturday 7-10 (more fireworks)
- Sunday 10-12
- Sunday 12-3
- Sunday 3-7

And for multiple praise, kudos, and tee-shirts, we particularly need help conveying the SCOW Chow Dhow and one of the Scots to and from the festival. If you're interested in learning how to step a mast, here's your chance. If you have a truck, we've got trailers.

Please email me at mennis@fool.com or call me at 703-254-1660 and let me know which shift(s) you are available or if you can help move our equipment to the festival.

Down By The River

Jay Weitzel, River Director

In the mid-afternoon of May 13, Commodore Umberger and I looked at the forecast of temperatures in the low 50s, drizzle and rain, and winds gusting to 25 mph, and decided that it was not a safe evening for taking a group of members out on the River after dark for what was billed as an evening of "fun." As any good skipper will tell you, safety has to come first.

But, we plan to make it up by having three river events in June. First, on Saturday, June 14, SCOW will sponsor a raftup of member boats to watch the fireworks at the Alexandria Waterfront Festival. The fireworks are scheduled to begin at 10:30. We will announce meeting time, a raft boat and other details at the Monday, June 9 membership meeting, on the SCOW webpage, and by email.

Second, on Thursday, June 19, we will have a River Fleet Night at the Marina, in conjunction with our Social Sail. On that night, instead of putting in the Flying Scots, we'd like to have our River Fleet - those members who keep boats at the Washington Sailing Marina, either on trailers or in the water - bring your boats to the floating docks and show them off to

members. Better yet, take some members out on your boat for a sail! This is a great way for the proud skippers of our River Fleet to show off their boats and for members to get to see different types of boats. Needa Breeze will be there, and I hope lots of River Fleet skippers will join us.

Third, On Friday, June 27, we will have another evening River Cruise. We will meet for a skipper's meeting at F Dock at 6:30 pm and plan to leave the docks at 7 pm. I will have a signup sheet at the June 9 membership meeting and I've promised to keep the names of the 8 people from the May 13 canceled cruise at the top of that list.

Planning ahead, on Sunday, July 20, we'll have a day sail and raft-up at Smoots Cove. We are planning to tow a Flying Scot so there will be a chance for some day-sailing in the cove during the raft-up. More details will be in the July ChaNNels.

If you have ideas for events on the River, contact me at river@scow.org.

Annual Canoe & Kayak Trip

As ChaNNels goes to press, arrangements for SCOW's annual canoe and kayak trip are still being worked out. If the pictures from last year's trip included in this issue are any indication, it will be a blast!

Watch your email for details about the trip from organizer Phil Bender or email Phil at canoekayak@scow.org for more information.



Photo Courtesy of Joe DePoorter

The 2002 Canoe/Kayak Trip

Training Kris Bieg

Classes are well underway and some are wrapping up soon. Special thanks to all of our volunteer trainers who have been able to help out and provide the students with their expertise and guidance.

Just a reminder - SCOW trainers try to teach in a consistent way, but there are some differences that a student may encounter from time to time. Sailing is part science and part art. As long as we practice it safely, we will all have a good time and learn along the way.

What's coming up? More classes in June (all slots filled) will start soon. There will be 1-2 capsized classes (July/August) and a new spinnaker class in August. The third and last basic sailing class begins in September. For information on any of these, please contact me at training@scow.org.

Remember, sign up for classes are first come, first served and payment is required up front.

Here's wishing for sunny days and steady winds!!

SCOW Says Congratulations!

To the following new Flying Scot Skippers:

Chris Julius
Duke Gard
Mike McLaughlin
Walter Peterson
George Schultz

If you would like to learn more about becoming a skipper on either the Flying Scots or the cruising boats, please contact Skipper Director Steve Linke at skipper@scow.org.



Photo Courtesy of Joe DePoorter

Phil Bender Prepares to Lead the 2002 Canoe/Kayak Trip

SCOW Says Welcome!

To the following new members:

Philip Barbara
Marcin Mischczak
Alexander Littell
Joseph Littell
Michael D. Littell
Yun Kyong Littell
Jeannine S. Swift



Photo Courtesy of Joe DePoorter

SCOW Say Thanks!

To Declan Conroy, who recently "retired" after many years as the Web Publisher as ChaNNels.

Thom Unger on the 2002 Canoe/Kayak Trip

Maintenance

Tom Hannan

Problem Reporting

Please report any problems with our boats or their accoutrements to the SCOW Maintenance Team (it'll go to all of us) at maintenance@scow.org, providing the information listed below:

Date:
Time:
Boat name:
Reporting contact name:
Phone:
Effect of problem:
What needs to be repaired:
Your attempts at repair:
Urgency of repairs:

If you do not have e-mail access, call the SCOW voice-mail system at 202-628-7245 (628-SAIL), enter "5" to reach the maintenance box, and leave your message after the ubiquitous "beep". The recorded message will ask that you provide the same information listed above (this will be repeated).

If, after following this process, you feel you have to talk to someone directly, here is our roster:

Overall Maintenance -- Tom Hannan (301-424-6296)
Rebecca -- Bill Bernhards (301-590-0522)
Susie Q -- Declan Conroy (703-739-9654)
Ms. Ellie -- Kathleen Reilly (202-548-0776)
Sail/Maintenace Lockers -- Cathy Zeigler (703-683-0431)
Psycho (after re-commissioning at Washington Sailing Marina) -- Dave Scheuermann (703-768-5826)
Danschweida -- Barry Dunsmoor (703-731-6654)

ChaNNels

can also be read at:

www.scow.org.

Submit articles to

channels@scow.org

by one week after the monthly meeting. Use any means, but email is preferred.

Joan O'Kane, Editor

Chris Chubb, Layout Editor

Monika O'Connor, Mailing Lists

Maintenance Tips - Going Aloft

- Instead of using a halyard winch for the bosun's chair, put a snatch block on a strong padeye, and provide a fair lead to the boat's strongest winch.
- Before going up the mast, examine the halyard you'll be using; if you'll be using its snapshackle, tape it shut before ascending.
- If possible, use an additional lazy halyard; take up the slack as you go aloft and once there, tie it off.
- Use a belt or tool bucket; attempting to ascend the mast with with an armload of tools is an unnecessary risk to you, and to the crew below.

And Lastly, Some Old Geopolitical News

Mountain View, CA -- Sun Microsystems today filed a trademark infringement against the island of Java over the use of Sun's Java trademark.

Responding to criticism that the island has been called Java for centuries, Sun lawyer Frank Cheatham said "Yeah, and in all that time they never filed for a trademark. They deserve to lose the name."

Rather than pay the licensing fee, the island decided to change its name. They originally voted to change it to Visu Albasic, but an angry telegram from Redmond, Washington convinced them otherwise. The country finally settled on a symbol for a name -- a neatly-colored coffee cup which still evokes the idea of java. Since most newspapers and magazines will not be able to print the name of the island, it will hereafter be referred to in print as "The Island Formerly Known As Java".

The Island Formerly Known As Java bills itself as a cross-landmass island, but so far has only been implemented in production on the Malay Archipelago. Africa is rumored to have implemented it on Madagascar, but it is still in alpha testing.

Lawyers from Sun would also like to locate the owners of the huge fiery ball at the center of the solar system. They have some legal papers for them...

NOTE: ChaNNels Deadline

Due to summer travel schedules, the submission deadline for the July issue of ChaNNels has been changed.

Please submit articles to channels@scow.org by **Wednesday, June 11.**

RECAP: Blessing of the Fleet

Graham Leadbetter

Sunday May 18 was the annual Blessing of the Fleet, sponsored by the Capital Yacht Club. I was the skipper of Rebecca and I was assisted by a crew of Melissa Enis, her husband Tom, and Michael McLaughlin.

When I arrived at the marina I was flabbergasted to see that F dock was under water and I exclaimed how are we going to get to the boat as I for one did not bring my swimming trunks. Melissa pointed out that we could wade through the water as it was only about 6 inches deep. I did have a towel in my sail bag so that we could all dry off. It seems it would be prudent to include swimming trunks in my sail bag in case I have to swim out to Rebecca from F Dock!

We left the dock at approximately 11:30 a.m. It was a cold cloudy day with the 10-12 knot winds from the N.E. We sailed from the Marina to close to the Wilson Bridge in record time as not only did we have favorable winds but there was a very strong current. Shortly before noon we decided it was time to start heading to our assigned staging area, near the bridge on the Anacostia. We soon realized that sailing against the current was not practical so we motored all the way up the river and arrived at our assigned staging area a few minutes before our required reporting time of 2:00 p.m. We then realized that we were a flotilla of one boat. At the suggestion of Michael we put up the colorful 150 Genoa jib to impress the judges, and started to motor to the Washington Shipping Channel. We had a few moments of anxiety when the engine stopped for lack of fuel, till we realized that the fuel line had merely become disconnected from the engine.

We motored past the judges and received the blessing that "Rebecca and all who sail on her be blessed with fair weather and winds". We put on a colorful display on our return past the judges, when we were under full sail. We sailed back down river and motored up to the channel to the marina and arrived back at the dock within a few minutes of our projection on our float plan.

Later I learned that we had been awarded first prize for our efforts. I list the reasons for this in order of importance:

1. We impressed the judges with our fine sailing skills as we passed by them.
2. We put on a colorful display of sailing with the multicolored jib.
3. We were the only boat in our category.

I think that our greatest satisfaction comes not from winning first prize, but from being out there and participating in somewhat uncomfortable conditions when so many boats did not show up. I am grateful for the fine and proficient assistance provided by every member of the crew.



Photo Courtesy of Joe DePoorter

Mike Geissinger and Crew Discuss the Northern Bay Cruise

2002 SCOW Financial Review

To: Commodore and Board of Directors

Re: Examination of Treasurer's records for 2002

Article VII, Section 7 of the Bylaws requires an annual audit and a written report of the Club accounts. To fulfill this requirement, a review was performed by Mary Bashore, Richard Dyer and Sharon DePoorter on March 1, 2003.

This review consisted of: 1) an examination of the activity in the main checking account, the money market reserve account, and the boat asset fund; 2) verification that disbursements were for legitimate club expenses and supported by proper receipts; 3) verification that checks were properly endorsed; 4) verification that accounts were reconciled; and 5) verification that financial reports accurately presented the income, expenses, and balances of accounts. In addition, we developed recommendations based on our observations.

The Club's main bank account used for operating purposes is a checking account at SunTrust Bank. Randomly checking documentation for expenses with an emphasis on expenses greater than \$300, we found receipts or invoices for most items checked, and for all major expenditures. We did not find any irregular or unusual payments.

It appears that this checking account was reconciled monthly. In addition, monthly financial reports were prepared for the Board accurately presenting financial transactions. The spreadsheet which was used for recordkeeping in 2002 and turned over to the new Treasurer in 2003 was copied to 3 1/2" diskette and placed with the archival records for 2002.

Though the records include deposit slips and some additional pertinent records, it was not possible to verify the sources of all payments received, or that all income was deposited. However, in our review of other records available to us, we did not find any irregularities.

The Club maintains as its Reserve Account a money market account also at SunTrust Bank. There was no activity in this account during 2002 except the monthly deposits of interest earned.

The Club's Boat Asset Fund is maintained in a money market fund with Mosaic Funds. With the exception of the monthly interest income deposits, the only activity in this account was the 2001 transfer to the account of \$2,550.67 made on January 11, 2002. The agreed upon transfer of \$3,224.76 to the fund for 2002 was made on January 13, 2003.

The balance in the operating account, which earns no interest, appeared to be in excess of what is needed to pay bills for much of 2002, with a relatively large year-end balance. Consideration should be given to transferring some of this surplus to the Money Market Account, or for a supplemental transfer into the Boat Asset Account.

In conclusion, our review of the Club's accounts shows that adequate records were maintained documenting expenses and disbursements. All financial transactions appear to be justified and we did not find any payments that were not proper. All accounts reconciled with the statements. We did note that recordkeeping for receipts and income should be improved but did not find any evidence of errors or irregularities.

March 1, 2003

2003 Board of Directors

Position	Name	Home	Work	E-mail
Commodore	George Umberger	703.323.9358		commodore@scow.org
Vice Commodore	Susan Batchelder	703.519.9844	703.548.3700 x112	vice@scow.org
Secretary	Monika O'Connor	703.921.9262		secretary@scow.org
Treasurer	Graham Leadbetter	301.474.7270	703.325.4429	treasurer@scow.org
Training Director	Kris Bieg	703.486.2652	301.897.2671	training@scow.org
Maintenance Director	Tom Hannan	301.424.6296		maintenance@scow.org
Social Director	Rob Langford	703.383.1530	703.934.7015	social@scow.org
Skipper Director	Steve Linke	703.684.5266	703.604.7113	skipper@scow.org
River & Bay Director	Jeff Teitel	202.332.4160	202.271.1238	bay@scow.org
Racing Director	Kara Wald	703.824.1776	301.657.3077	race@scow.org
Other Key People				
New Members	Melissa Ennis	703.845.5764		info@scow.org
	Jeremy Spilker	703.494.7237		info@scow.org
Historian	Jane Farthing	301.972.2636		historian@scow.org
River Coordinator	Jay Weitzel	703.866.9190	703.205.3320	river@scow.org
Database Administrator	Monika O'Connor	703.921.9262		dba@scow.org
Email Administrator	Jeff Teitel			postmaster@scow.org

Membership Meetings

On the second Monday of each month (except December) at the American Legion Hall, 400 Cameron Street
(around the corner from Gadsby's Tavern), Old Town Alexandria, Virginia.

Socializing starts at 6:30 p.m. downstairs, and our meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. upstairs

For Information About Club Activities

Call 202.628.7245 (202.628.SAIL) or email info@scow.org or visit <http://www.scow.org>