

ChaNNels

The Newsletter of the Sailing Club of Washington
June 2006 – 40th Year Anniversary

Commodore's Log

By Jan Earle, SCOW 2006 Commodore

Why aren't you out sailing instead of reading this? Now that the unsettled weather of spring is almost past, the best sailing days of the year are upon us. Good winds and warmer weather make a few hours upon the water more delightful than the heat and midday doldrums of summer or the chill of autumn. The racing season has started and social sails are drawing more and more first-time sailors. SCOW's first Crew Liaison databases have been delivered to participants and we anticipate record use of our boats. So get out there and SAIL!

Reading through past ChaNNels while hoping to spark an idea for this column, I discovered an active and enthusiastic sailing club, with leaders who



SCOW - Rebecca at Tuesday Night Races



today are still contributing time and skills to SCOW.

You can look in the front pages of the membership directory and read the names of all the past Commodores, but to really get a feeling for SCOW's heritage, read any of the June issues of ChaNNels in the website archive. There are raft-ups, social sails, maintenance report, racing results, special events like the Alexandria Waterfront Festival and Leukemia Cup, and much, much more. You can visualize our Flying Scots and cruisers on the water with club members having a grand time. The writers of the articles, invariably the Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs of the club, are enthusiastic and friendly. And you will find most of them are still active in the club as instructors, trainers, tutors, bosuns, special event coordinators, and even as Officers and Directors and Committee Chairs again.

That person skippering your boat at Social Sail was likely a Social Director or Maintenance Director or River Director in the past. SCOW's past members built today's club strength and you as today's members will determine SCOW's successful future. So get out there and SAIL! That's what SCOW is all about!

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Leukemia Cup Kickoff Event

It is time to gear up for our party on the Potomac! Please join your fellow area sailors and veteran Leukemia Cup Regatta participants at the Mount Vernon Yacht Club on Sunday, June 4th for a Mt. Gay Rum Summer Kickoff Cookout. The Leukemia Cup Regatta Kickoff will be held from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm and all proceeds from the event and entire campaign will benefit the National Capital Area Chapter of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

Come as you are and collect fundraising tips from our past "Fantasy Sail" representatives, pre-register for the Regatta event to get "early bird" incentives, meet our "Honorary Skippers" for whom we will be raising our sails this campaign season, and also eat, drink and win prizes! Many exciting developments and event details will be announced, such as new top fundraiser awards and a raffle to win a Laser PRO or West Marine Inflatable Boat by Zodiac.

Contact Lauren Hospital at the Society for more details - 703.960.1100, x249 or hospital@lls.org. Also, be sure to **SAVE THE DATE for Sept. 8th and 9th for the 13th Annual Leukemia Cup Regatta at the Washington Sailing Marina.**



Cinematic Pirate Event!

Prepare to be blown out of the water. Pirate Jack Sparrow sets out to save a governor's daughter from fellow pirates, with the hopes that it will give him the opportunity to regain the ship that was stolen from him. Watch for signs of this Pirate engagement (and how SCOW members can participate) coming soon (via email) to shorelines near you! July 7th <http://disney.go.com/disneypictures/pirates/>

Old Town Fireworks -- River Raft-Up Saturday June 17

The Alexandria Water Festival will be in full swing this weekend, with a fireworks display Saturday evening. Why not raft-up with SCOW's cruisers and enjoy the festivities on the water? Our River Director suggests that a good raft-up place would be on the Maryland side of the river near the Red Nun #2, just outside the channel, across from Old Town. Bring a dish to share, and wait for the fireworks to begin! For more information, contact river@scow.org



Photo courtesy of photographer
Ken Flemmer

SCOW

Sailing Club of Washington
2006 RIVER ACTIVITIES

June – December, 2006

OLD TOWN FIREWORKS

Raft/Anchor & Dine
Saturday, June 17

OVERNIGHT

Mattewoman Creek
June 24-25 (Wind/Rain Date)

RIVER RALLY

Scow Anniversary Event
Saturday, July 1

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Riverside Fireworks
Tuesday, July 4

SUMMERTIME SAIL

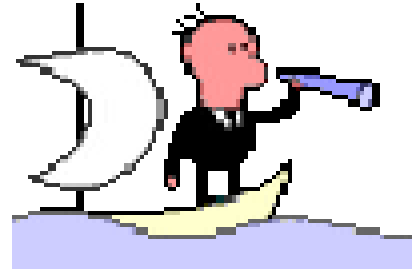
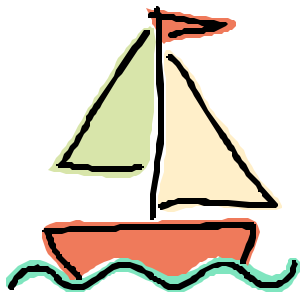
Potluck Raft-up
Friday, July 14

SUMMERTIME SAIL

Let's Just Sail!
Friday, July 28

FULL MOON

Full Moon Cruising
Wednesday, August 9



JAZZ JUBILEE

Smoot's Cove Raft-up
Friday, August 25

MOONLIGHT SAIL

Classical Sonata Serenade
Friday, September 8

FT. WASHINGTON

Moonlight Sail
Friday, October 6

GUNSTON COVE CAMPOUT

Drive or Float to Park
October 14-15

HOT TODDY SAIL

Friday, October 27

PARADE OF LIGHTS

Saturday, December 2

Skin That Cat – Catamaran Comparison

Part II of II

Henry Cheng, Vice Commodore

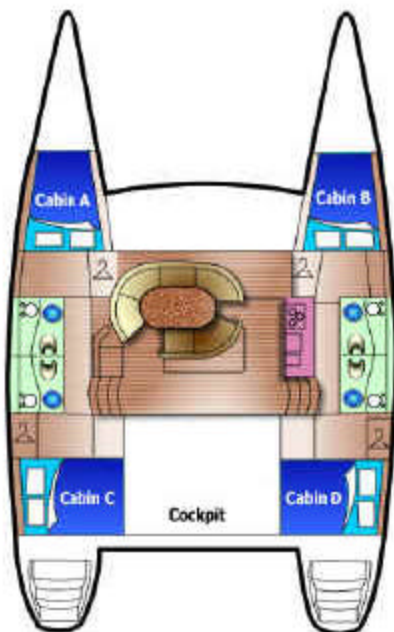
Hello again sailors... Last month I covered the saloon, galley and instruments of the Moorings and Lagoon Cats. Now let's turn our attention to the cockpit. In my opinion, all the models are well designed. The Moorings models may be a little more user friendly because they mount the GPS in the cockpit instead of the navigation station inside the saloon.

The sheets and lines on the Lagoon boat all lead into the cockpit including the main halyard. However, on the Moorings' boat, the main halyard is located at the mast. This may seem to be a disadvantage until one discovers the windlass is also designed to assist in raising the main. One cannot appreciate this feature until that person has to raise the main on a forty-five foot boat. This nice little feature also applies to the M3800 and M4200. For the Lagoon boats, it is helpful to have a crew member feed the halyard while another crew member raises the main inside the cockpit with the help of the winch.

Back to the cockpit, the traveler for the Lagoon boat is located at the back of the aft bench and easy to see when adjusting the main. The Moorings, however, is located



**SCOW Vice Commodore
Henry Cheng**



For more info on Lagoon 410
<http://catamaransailing.com/Bareboat/L410.htm>

above an arch that is harder to see while underway. The downside for the Lagoon boat is that crew, specially sitting on the aft bench, must pay attention to the load on the traveler in case it flies from one end to the other. Aft of the traveler, the Lagoon boats have davits installed for hoisting the dinghy about the water, which in turns help the performances of the boat and our 380 on a broad reach reports a maximum of two digits in speed. The Moorings model that I sailed on last year did not have davits installed. This hurt the boat's performance by as much as one knot and it was also a potential hazard of fouling the propeller in reverse gear. Newer Moorings models that I have seen in catalogs, have davits installed.

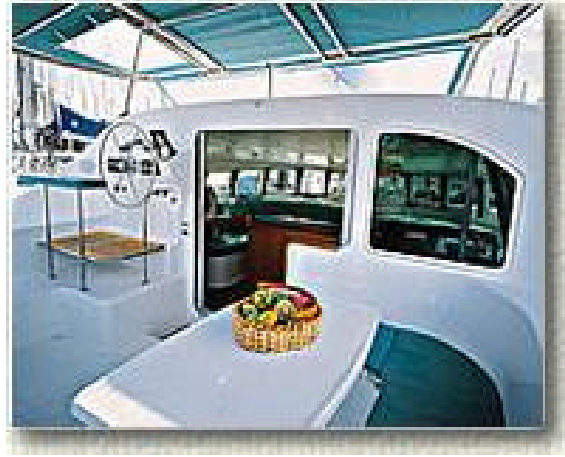
Anchoring is easy in all models with the help of a windlass and the two diesel engines. Do make sure the appropriate engine is running or current drawn will trip the circuit breaker.

The accommodations on all models are generous compared with monohull vessels. However, the forward 1 person bunk on the Moorings 4500 seems to be unnecessary because it is so small and you have to crawl into it, definitely not for someone who is claustrophobic. The same space in the Lagoon becomes an empty storage hatch which we gladly used for empty luggage bags on one side and garbage storage on the other side. For the Moorings boat, we ended up throwing the garbage bags inside the engine compartment which was a bit of a concern when running that engine.

Skin That Cat (Continued)

The Moorings 3800's shower and head are nice. There is a separate head and shower and one with full facility. There is a portal on the M3800 and L380 which opens to the water and one should make sure it is closed properly before underway or anything stored close to it may get splashed or even go into the water.

As far as performance goes, I have to admit these boats are well designed and very easy to sail. Granted they can't point as high as a monohull does but they sure do make up for it in speed and amenities. So next time when you are charting for a week or more, do consider one of those cat and you may have a pleasant surprise on how well these floating hotels do on the water.



Lagoon 410 cockpit



**SCOW – Doug Kelch
Speaking on the Virtues of
Small Boat Sailing**

Training Update

Kristin Stone, Training Director

SCOW's training programs depend on our volunteer instructors. May presented some training challenges when two instructors had to bow out of their scheduled classes. I'm extremely grateful to Larry Gemoets who stepped in to teach the Intermediate Class and to Mike Murphy who filled in and taught the Spinnaker class. These classes would have been cancelled if replacement instructors could not be found. Please remember to thank your instructors for the time and talents they share with you.

Have you ever considered becoming a trainer? Please email me (training@scow.org) if you would like more information on becoming a land or water trainer.

Current Training Opportunities:

Spinnaker Class: August 5th

Basic Sailing Class: land dates: 9/6, 9/13, 9/20, 9/27
water dates: 9/9, 9/10, 9/16, 9/17, 9/30, 10/1

Email me at training@scow.org if you want more information or are interested in registering for any of these classes.

Next Membership Meeting: Monday, June 12th, 2006

All meetings are on the second Monday of the month. Location is at the American Legion, 400 Cameron Street, in Old Town Alexandria (around the corner from Gadsby's Tavern). Socializing downstairs begins at 6:30 pm. The meeting begins upstairs at 7:30 pm.

SCOW SOCIAL CALENDAR FOR 2006

Every Thursday Night - Social Sails: Every Thursday night, we meet at the dock (Washington Sailing Marina) to socialize, eat and sail. Please sign up for co-chef and Dockmaster opportunities.

All are welcome. Be sure to sign up for a sail with the Dockmaster. Visitors need to sign the waiver of agreement before they sail.

Dockmaster and co-chef opportunities are available by contacting social@scow.org. Your assistance in launching boats and putting them away is welcome!!!

July 1 – SCOW 40th Anniversary Barbeque

Watch the SCOW website and your email notices for more information about this event.

September 16 & 17 – Smith Island Trip Weekend trip, (Limited Space) - This was a huge success last year. Hope you can join us this year.

October – Fall Flotilla

November 18 – Hail & Farewell at City Tavern in Georgetown



SCOW

Welcomes New Members

Jessica Arnett
Erica E. Barry
Joseph Barry
Amber Bifolck
Katherine Caldwell
Elizabeth Carter
Ellen Cooper
Randolph Estabrook

Virginia Gutierrez
Eamon Hagerty
Susan Hume
Behany Luccio
Douglas Luccio
Michael Sweezy Jr.
Caron Ward
Jennifer L. Watson
JoAnn E. Wright

25th Annual Alexandria Red Cross Waterfront Festival

The Festival benefits the Alexandria Red Cross and features live music, arts and crafts, food, living history exhibits, and visiting ships. The tall ship *Kalmar Nickel* and the Schooner *Sultan* will be docked at the Festival and open for free tours. For more information on the Festival, including shuttle service from Metro, visit www.waterfrontfestival.org. The festival will be held at Oronoco Bay Park on the following days:

Saturday, June 17, 10:00 am – 9:00 pm
Sunday, June 18, 11:00 am – 7:00 pm

SCOW will again be manning a club booth at this event. We've participated for more than 15 years and this is a major event for introducing SCOW to the public. Many members have joined SCOW as a result of this event. Volunteers are needed for Friday evening (June 16) set-up and Sunday evening take-down. Volunteers are also needed to staff the SCOW booth (see below), handing out SCOW flyers and answering questions about local sailing in general and SCOW specifically. **Free admission to the Festival is provided for volunteers** on the day of their shifts, but transportation and parking are the responsibility of each volunteer. To help out, contact SCOW event coordinator Karyl Owings at karylc@yahoo.com.

Volunteer needs:

Set Up – Friday, June 16, about 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

- Need 5 crew at WSM to unstep the mast, follow the boat and restep the mast in Alexandria

Festival Booth – Saturday, June 17

- Need 3 volunteers for each shift
10:00 am to 1:00 pm
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Festival Booth – Sunday, June 18

- Need 3 volunteers for each shift
11:00 am to 2:00 pm
2:00 pm to 5:00 pm
5:00 pm to about 8:00 pm -9:00 pm
(can include help with take-down)

Take-Down – Sunday, June 18

- 5 crew at Festival booth to unstep the mast, follow the boat and restep the mast at WSM (can include last shift of booth volunteers)

Greetings to our SCOW friends

From May 4 through May 7, the Maryland Maritime Heritage Festival (MMHF) hosted the **Annapolis Stopover of the Volvo Ocean Race (VOR)**. www.volvoceanrace.com.

Here are a couple of photos we (Nelson and Betty Pacheco) took as the Volvo fleet was passing Herring Bay, about 20 miles south of the start. Wind was about 9 from the NE, we were doing 5-6 on a friend's Island Packet, and they flew past us doing 10-12 at least. It surprised me how much off the wind these boats like to sail to get good VMG.

Pirates was in first at the time, but by the time we got these photos *Cayard* was well ahead of us. Betty took the first photo of me as Ericsson and one of the ABN boats were passing, and I took the second one of Betty when the other ABN boat was passing. These are heavier boats, so they were trailing the lighter boats in the fairly light winds and smooth Bay water.

There was one boat above us, but we kept our distance. It was quite a thrill. What you don't see in these photos were the 100 or so power boats all around them, many of them ahead of the sailboats and creating chop.



Nelson Pacheco and the Volvo Ocean Race Boats



Betty Pacheco and the Volvo Ocean Race Boats

Sailing Club of Washington Celebrates Jones Point Light Sesquicentennial

Nearly hidden on the Virginia side of the Potomac River, just south of the foot of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge, is a little path that leads through the construction site under the bridge to a 50-acre National Park. Two major historic landmarks are located in that park - the original boundary stone laid by George Washington to mark the southernmost corner of the District of Columbia, and the Jones Point Lighthouse.

The lighthouse is one of the oldest inland waterway lighthouses in the U.S., and is the last remaining river lighthouse in the state of Virginia. It was built in 1855-1856 and first illuminated on May 4, 1856. The whale-oil lantern was later replaced with a kerosene lamp, and finally a Fresnel lens was installed, so that ships could see the light from a distance of up to nine miles. The light at Jones Point was extinguished in the early 1900's, to make way for a more prominent navigational beacon.

The lighthouse, a small white frame house with a cupola on the roof housing the light, was rescued and restored in 1926 by the Mt. Vernon Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). It was removed from public access from 1936 until the end of WWII, when the DAR resumed its role as caretaker. The DAR deeded the property and preservation responsibilities to the National Park Service in 1964 but continues to be a working friend of this historic maritime landmark.



Jones Point Light - Sesquicentennial

May 2006 marked the 150th anniversary of the first lighting of Jones Point Lighthouse on the Potomac in Alexandria, Virginia. The Sailing Club of Washington, in cooperation with the Mt. Vernon Chapter DAR (VA), sponsored a commemoration ceremony at the site on May 5, 2006. Speakers at the ceremony included SCOW Commodore Jan Earle (also representing Margaret Whetten Chapter DAR), Mrs. Barbara Muller (Mt. Vernon Chapter DAR Regent), Mr. Andrew MacDonald (Alexandria City Councilman), and Mr. Jim MacKay (Lyceum History Museum Director). SCOW Secretary Bonnie Dailey presented a bouquet of blue carnation and white mums on behalf of the Sailing Club of Washington, and Mrs. Ann Reidy presented a bouquet of red roses on behalf of Margaret Whetten Chapter DAR.

For more information on Jones Point Light, see SCOW's February 2006 newsletter.



SPECIAL OLYMPICS SAILING

Monika O'Connor

Each Monday in June (5th, 12th, 19th, 26th), skippers, crew, and athletes (Special Olympic participants) convene at the Marina around 5:30 pm - 5:45 pm for an evening of sailing, friendship, and fun. This year we will be sailing the three SCOW Flying Scots, three WSM Flying Scots, and two personally owned Flying Scots. Each boat will contain one skipper, one adult crew, and one/two athletes.

Volunteers are asked to arrive at the marina early to help rig the boats so that we get into the water and under sail by 6:00 pm. This is a great opportunity to get out on the water, meet fellow SCOW skippers and crew, make new friends, get that warm fuzzy feeling, laugh a lot and have a wonderful, all-inclusive sail. Both experienced skippers and new sailors are welcome to join in this experience.

If you can help out with this wonderful event or have any questions, please email Monika at specialolympics@scow.org.

Please reply to bay@scow.org with boat information and home port, as well as if you would be able to take on crew. Members interested in participating as crew, provide a brief description of your experience and contact information.

SCOW Bay Activities

Jack Schwartz, Bay Director

Bay Raft-up Schedule

June 24-25: Progressive Dinner Cruise (Rhode River)
Everyone brings a course to share, and we all enjoy a great pot-luck meal aboard the rafted boats.

July 1: Grenadines Reunion raft-up (details TBD)

July 22-23: Music Cruise (Galesville?) Bring an instrument, your voice, or come as audience to enjoy sharing music on the water.

August 19-20: Land/Sea/Crab Feast-St Michael's (members can drive in for the party!)

September 2-4: Labor Day Cruise (Choptank River, Little Choptank)

September 16-17: Smith Island Trip & Crab Feast (Land/Sea)-Ferry trip to island, B&B accommodations, or sail over for the fun. (Dot Almassy, organizer)

October?: Fowl Weather Cruise (Alan Lewis, raftmaster)

November 10-11: Veteran's Day Cruise (TBD)



Sangria during the Tax Day cruise

Only two boats participated in the Tax Day cruise last weekend. (Maybe I should have given it a more enticing name.)

After a day of sailing on the bay, *Odyssey* anchored in the Rhode River, with Patrick and Rudy (as well as myself) aboard. After a while, *Sangria* joined us (Captain Jenny was joined by Bill) and we rafted together for snacks and some good wine. Sunday brought more great sailing and some shutterbugging (see photo). Henry Young joined Sangria's crew for the day.

The last major event was the Memorial Day Cruise, May 27-29; see the update from Raftmaster Beachem in the next issue of ChaNNels.



Volvo Ocean Race Parade of Sail

Photo courtesy of Ken Flemmer

Over the weekend, we sailed *Odyssey* out to watch the start of the Volvo Ocean Race. Pretty exciting having one of those V-70s bearing down on you! Ken got some pretty good photos from the bow. I was busy keeping *Odyssey* out of their way.



Virginia

Last week, we sailed out to watch the Parade of Sail into Annapolis, and "sort of" rafted to *Sea Frog*. The conditions were rough, with the boats colliding, so *Sangria* dropped an anchor and a line was passed across the sterns to get us close enough for conversation. The VOR boats were quite a distance away, but the *Pride of Baltimore* and *Virginia* came close enough under sail for a terrific view.

2006 Board of Directors

Position	Name	Home	Work	E-mail
Commodore	Jan Earle	202.249.0855	202.513.7667	commodore@scow.org
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Training Director	Kristin Stone			training@scow.org
Maintenance	Wayne Williams	703.981.9320		maintenance@scow.org
Social Director	Dot Almassy	703.560.0367	703.681.7466	social@scow.org
Skipper Director	Karen Marino			skipper@scow.org
River Director	Dorothy Stocks	703.521.0903	703.524.3147	river@scow.org
Racing Director	Phil Segal			race@scow.org

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Email Administrator	Jeff Teitel	202.271.1238		postmaster@scow.org
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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