

# ChaNNels

The Newsletter of the Sailing Club of Washington

**March 2003**

## Commodore's Log

The Skipjack Jessie T. easily skimmed through the thin film of ice extending a hundred yards from shore on the northern banks of the Choptank. The oyster dredges had been hauled for the last time of the day, the hold full from a successful week of "drudgin'", as we headed for our home port. Though garbed in five layers of oilskins, woolens and cottons, I was chilled to the bone and looked forward to soon joining the other crew members below around the oil stove for a little warmth and some strong coffee. Oystering in the winter months, January through March, was backbreaking labor, and ten hours a day hauling and sorting, navigating and manning the helm with three other experienced watermen, could wear a body down. Oh, for a relaxing warm weather sail just for the joy of feeling the wind and the water. A light flurry of snow began to fall. I could feel it on my face and the backs of my hands, though they were numb from the chill.

When I opened my eyes once again it was dark, snowflakes glistened on the windowsill, and I realized I'd not heeded the weatherman and had forgotten to close my windows. I recalled last thinking that a couple hours reading, "The Watermen" by Michener, or maybe "Isaac's Storm", or any of a number of books collected on my dresser and awaiting the winter months, when I couldn't work on the boat or sail of an eve, would put me in a good frame of mind, followed by a sound sleep. I didn't plan on, however, spending a week 'arsterin' in the chill months of February, actually on the water with Michener's watermen.

Maybe that's a little of what Skipper Steve Linke has in mind for the downriver overnight cruise on March 8-9. He told me he has a simple strategy -- "to stay warm and not run aground". That sounds like a winner to me. Maybe we can recruit several boats to join up on the cruise south. And hopefully we'll have a bit warmer experience than the aforementioned watermen on their winter cruises.

On other matters, your board has passed a budget for SCOW's 2003 operations, as highlighted elsewhere in this issue by Treasurer Graham Leadbetter. All fees and charges remain the same as in 2002; we will work for an increase in membership and skipper numbers to boost our income; and we plan for some upgrades and extensions in services to members increased communications through some website renovations, more seats in training classes, and some new and different sailing opportunities. We hope you like what we have planned, and we seek your feedback and additional ideas.

And speaking of feedback, if you have a monthly meeting program idea and possible presenter, make your thoughts known to Vice Commodore Susan Batchelder. Your contacts in the sailing community can be most helpful to her and to us all.

With wishes for a warm fireside and a good sailing book. If you can't find those, fair winds and following seas this month.

*Commodore George*

## **March Membership Meeting**

**Monday, March 10**

**"Sailing in Turkey"**

Continuing our world tour theme.....

The March program will take you on a sailing adventure in the Mediterranean off the coast of Turkey. Vice Commodore Susan Batchelder was fortunate to spend six days with five other women on "the Blue Cruise" exploring the Turquoise Coast of Turkey. She'll tell you how she did it and bring her slides to visually convince you that you need a get away like this too.

Susan finished her cruise with a few days in Istanbul exploring the mosques, palaces and the Grand Bazaar. She'll show you a sample of those "Turkish Delights" as well. Come join us at the Arlington Library Aurora Hills Branch near Pentagon City Mall on March 10th for "a Taste of Turkey."

Please note that this is a new and temporary location for SCOW. Details regarding the meeting and social hour are available elsewhere in ChaNNels.

**\*\*REMINDER\*\***

## **Temporary Location for March Meeting**

Due to renovation of the American Legion Post in Old Town Alexandria, we will have our social at Chevy's Mexican Restaurant at Pentagon Centre and the meeting at the Aurora Hills Branch of Arlington County Public Library. Both are near Pentagon City Mall, at the intersection of 15th Street and South Hayes Street in Arlington.

DO NOT GO TO OLD TOWN. Instead set your bearings on this course:

1. Start out going North/South on I-395, towards Pentagon.
2. Take Exit 9 towards US 1 South/National Airport.
3. Merge onto South Hayes Street. Go 0.35 mile, past Macy's on right.
4. Look to your left and see Chevy's Mexican Restaurant. Quickly, look back to the front--Watch out for that car!
5. Stop at the light, if red. On green, drive through and just past the intersection of 15th Street and South Hayes Street.
6. Turn right, into the Aurora Hills Library/Visitors Center parking lot.
7. Park your car. Lock it. Some may wish to drop bread crumbs so you can find your way back after happy hour.
8. Walk back one block to Chevy's and find your fellow SCOW members.

9. Enjoy socializing until about 7:15. Then walk back to the library for the meeting at 7:30.
10. After the meeting, unlock your car and retrace some, but not all, of these steps...

## **Winter Overnight Raft-Up**

**March 8 and 9**

**Steve Linke**

For some reason I have not been deluged with calls for this event. Maybe too many people saw the movie Endurance, showing what must be the worst episode ever of winter sailing. Hardy souls can still call or email me at skipper at scow.org.

Here is the plan:

- Departure 0800 Saturday 8 March. My goal is to take Rebecca down the Potomac.
- We will overnight, perhaps in Aqualand and return on Sunday, back by 1700 hours. There is camping in Aqualand and hot showers in the Marina.
- We may find out if we can pass Dahlgren, where Naval guns fire across the Potomac, sometimes closing thru-traffic? But the GS'rs supposedly stop firing and go home on weekends, leaving the river open. Hopefully. This information will be useful to river ventures later in the season, which may go even further down.

We will provide a full report at the March membership meeting, which is in Arlington (see article elsewhere in ChaNNels).

## **Skipper Director News**

**Steve Linke**

### ***March 15th Checkout***

For trained but not certified Skippers - If the weather allows, we will conduct a very small on-the-water checkout for the 6-10 folks who have completed all course requirements but have not yet checked out.

This is not Training!! If you have never put our Flying Scots in the water, don't show up, even for tutorials. WEATHER DEPENDENT. ALL must wear PFDs as the water will still be very cold.

IF we have mild wind, and IF the weather is otherwise suitable, we will follow the following refresher and checkout schedule:

- Sat. Mar. 1 - Checkout dry run
- Sun. Mar. 2 - Checkout dry run
- Sat. Mar. 8 - Checkout dry run
- Sat. Mar. 15 - By reservation only

All activities will begin at 12:00 PM to take advantage of warmest part of day.

### ***Skipper Renewals***

You should have received a renewal package in the mail, just before Valentine's Day. If you have not done so, please mail it back to me, with your check, two signed forms, and--for a few renewals and all new skippers--a copy of your water safety certificate.

### ***Water Safety Certificate***

You are required by Coast Guard to have passed a water safety course and carry proof with you when you sail on the Potomac. SCOW policy requires us to maintain a copy in your skipper file. The board last year decided to give members until March this year to comply. No certificate--NO SAIL. There are many options for this, Coast Guard classes, etc. At the very least you can go to Boat US.com and get a certificate on line. But consider the more thorough courses, for your own benefit.

I will be changing the sail lock combinations just after 1 April and will pass them along to paid up skippers.

## **Social Activities**

**Rob Langford**

During the month of March, things begin to heat up. The SCOW social calendar is no exception. In March, there will be two major social functions, and the continuation of the weekly Social No-Sails.

The first major Social function of the month is the performance of the Hexagon, held on March 20th at the Duke Ellington School of the Arts in Georgetown. Hexagon is an original, political satirical, musical comedy revue that benefits the DC Habitat for Humanity.

This event is being organized and led by Sharon Schoumacher, who is arranging the tickets. Look below for Sharon's article on how to get tickets.

The next big event - and it is a biggy - is the Annual Re-Up Brunch, held on Sunday, March 23 at the Colonies Condominium clubhouse in McLean, Virginia. Re-up your SCOW membership, volunteer for a committee or social event, and prepare for the 2003 sailing season by mingling with your fellow SCOW members. New members are always welcome!

The event starts at 10:00 AM and concludes at around 3:00 PM. If you would like to help set-up or strike, the set-up starts at 09:00 AM and the strike begins at 3:00 PM. We officially have the room until 4:00 PM, so the more help we have, the quicker we will be out.

**DIRECTIONS TO THE COLONIES:**

From the Capital Beltway (I-495): Take the exit for Route 123 North (towards McLean - Exit 46 off the Beltway). At the first light, turn RIGHT onto Old Meadow Road (GEICO building on your right). Go approximately ¼ mile and the entrance to the Colonies will be on your LEFT.

From Old Town or The District: Take the G.W. Parkway north towards the American Legion Bridge. Get off at the exit for McLean/Chain Bridge (Route 123). Bear right towards McLean. Go about 6 miles south on Route 123 (towards Tyson's Corner). Just before you go up a slight hill and come to the Capital Beltway, turn LEFT at the TRAFFIC LIGHT onto Old Meadow Road (GEICO building on the left). Go approx. 1/4 mile and the entrance to the Colonies will be on your LEFT.

When you get to The Colonies gate, tell the Guard you are attending the SCOW party. The clubhouse is the first building on the left after the guardhouse. You may park in any space that is not marked "Reserved."

If you have any questions about this event, you can e-mail me at [social@scow.org](mailto:social@scow.org).

Finally, there is Social No-Sail every Thursday night at the Crystal City Sports Pub in Arlington beginning at 6:30 PM and ending at around 9:00 PM. This is a very casual event, and is a good way of staying on top of all SCOW happenings - and gossip! If you feel like coming, drop me an e-mail at [social@socw.org](mailto:social@socw.org) so I have an idea as to how large a table to reserve. Keep an eye open for announcements.

With that, I will see you soon!

## **Hexagon 2003: Rhyme and Punishment**

**Sharon Schoumacher**

On Thursday, March 20th, you can join other SCOW members for an evening at Washington's only original, political, satirical, musical comedy revue. Hexagon is a Washington institution since 1955 and donates proceeds from this event to a local charity. This year the beneficiary is DC Habitat for Humanity.

The show is held at the Duke Ellington School of the Arts, 35th Street between Reservoir Road and R Street, NW in Georgetown. SCOW will purchase 20 tickets to this theatrical event. You can be a part of the group to enjoy the entertainment by sending your check, made out to SCOW, for \$20.00 per ticket, to Sharon Schoumacher at 3800 N. Fairfax Drive, #1006, Arlington, VA 22203, along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

If you have questions, please call Sharon at (703) 522-9014 or e-mail at [sgschoumacher@aol.com](mailto:sgschoumacher@aol.com). More information about Hexagon is available at <http://www.hexagon.org/>

## **Training**

### **Kris Bieg**

Get ready, get set, go! Sign up for training classes will be at the Re-Up Brunch on Sunday, March 23rd. Don't miss out this year. Be there as close to 10 a.m as you can to give you the best chance at the coveted slot you want.

Here are the fees for the scheduled classes:

Basic Sailing - \$120

Basic Cruising - \$165

Intermediate Sailing - \$70

Capsize Class - \$25

Don't forget SCOW membership fees must be paid in full for the upcoming year to sign up for classes.

Reminder: The dates and times for this year's sailing classes were given in the February issue of ChaNNels. You can go on-line to refresh your memory at [scow.org](http://scow.org).

Equally important to the class sign ups is our special event for trainers and new candidates for trainer. "Train the Trainer Day" will be held on Sunday, April 6th, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Washington Sailing Marina (WSM). This is a great opportunity to refresh your own skills and to learn from each other. Refreshments will be provided!

Contact me at [training@scow.org](mailto:training@scow.org) for additional information or to express interest in participating in this activity. Thanks!

## **A Sailor is A Many Splintered Thing**

### **Tom Hannan**

Sailors are much maligned. Ralph Waldo Emerson remarked, "The wonder is always new that any sane man can be a sailor." Samuel Johnson, a bit more acerbically concluded, "No man will be a sailor who has contrivance enough to get himself into a jail; for being in a ship is being in a jail, with the chance of being drowned. . . . A man in a jail has more room, better food and commonly better company."

But, be not taken aback; the SCOW maintenance team doesn't feel that way. We appreciate your minds and your company, and invite your maligned selves to join with us in that most enjoyable of spring rites, Maintenance Day.

It's currently scheduled (assuming the snow lets up by then) for Saturday, April 5th, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, at the Washington Sailing Marina. We're looking to clean and wax Rebecca, Danschwieda, Ms. Ellie, and Susi Q (Psycho will still be on stilts at the Fort Washington Marina). Rebecca was refitted last year, and just needs a few adjustments and modifications on

top of a good spring cleaning. The Flying Scots need an extensive inspection; we're looking to unstep the masts to examine the standing rigging, add new covers and attachment fittings, and upgrade the lifting bridle rigs. We'll also be carefully going over the tiller and rudder assemblies. Lots of work for all comers.

If you have your own tools, please bring them; we'll have some of ours available, but probably not enough for everyone. Food and drink will be provided over the course of the day. This will be a fine occasion to get some fresh air, renew old friendships and skills, and help the club get ready for a busy year. We have plenty of expendables; various cleaners, waxes, fittings etc., but your mops, rags and buffing cloths will be appreciated. In case of really bad weather—we'll work in light rain—we'll convene Sunday the 6th and work around the Train-the-Trainers session.

This activity can't be done without YOU (think of Uncle Sam's picture here), and without this activity, a lot of planned sailing events will be jeopardized. Please plan to attend and help. Thanks!

Also, there are still tasks on the Psycho refit plan that require help. For a schedule of planned activities, and a list of skills needed, please contact Stuart Ullman or ThomUnger at [psychorepair@scow.org](mailto:psychorepair@scow.org).

## **Bay Activities**

**Jeff Teitel**

By now you should have gotten (and hopefully responded to) my boat-owner survey. Our database gremlins are hard at work entering the information. Once it's tabulated, my next task will be sending out a call for help looking for people to be raft-masters. I'll be heading up our first raft-up, in the Rhode River over Memorial Weekend, May 24-26. If you'd like to help out with our Bay program, please let me know.

Our first event of the season is a Bay day-sail on Sunday, April 13th. If you're interested in joining, either as a Skipper or as Crew, please contact me. We're hoping for a good turn-out.

See you on the water.

## **Down By The River . . .**

**Jay Weitzel**

Time to mark your calendars for this season's River events!

First, weather permitting we are planning an overnight excursion for Saturday and Sunday, March 8 and 9. Skipper Director Steve Linke decided he wanted to sail Rebecca downriver as far as he could and stay overnight in the cold, and I'll be recruiting skippers who want to join him. This event is going to be limited by the number of available boats (Psycho remains out of

commission, as do many members' boats). Don't fear, though, we'll be having another overnighter later in the season when we hope to take a large contingent of boats and members.

The SCOW sailing season will have its real kickoff on Sunday, April 13th. On that day, Jeff Teitel will be leading the Bay Skippers on a Bay outing and I'll be leading the River Fleet on a River outing. Jeff and I want to get as many members of the club as we can out on the water that day to say "Goodbye" to winter and "Hello" to a new sailing season.

We will have a skippers' meeting on Sunday, April 13th at 11 a.m. at the gate to "F" Dock (where we keep Rebecca and Psycho), a downriver sail and, if the skippers want, perhaps a short raft-up for lunch before returning. I will be contacting River Skippers by phone and email and we'll also have a signup sheet at the April member's meeting. If you want more information, contact me at [river@scow.org](mailto:river@scow.org).

We've got at least one River event each month, with the dates discussed below. Details on these events will be given in later editions of Channels, by email and at our member meetings.

We'll be having SCOW's popular evening River Cruises on Friday, May 16th, Friday, June 27th, and Friday August 22nd. These are a really relaxing way to end the week with a sunset sail on the Potomac. On Sunday, July 20th, we'll be having a River Fleet Raftup, with swimming and lunch and we plan to take along at least one Flying Scot so that members can do some sailing while the cruising boats are rafted. We'd love to have other members bring their small boats, too. We can tow you under the bridge.

We also will have two "River Fleet Nights" at our social sails -- on Thursday, June 19th and Thursday, August 21. On these nights, instead of putting in our Flying Scots, we want members with River boats of any kind to bring them to the dock, show them off and offer rides to our members. This is a great chance for folks to show off their boats and for members to see what other boats look like. Finally, on Saturday and Sunday, October 11 - 12, we will have an overnight sail downriver. We'd really like to get a good turnout as we try to revive an old SCOW tradition.

If you are a River skipper, I'd really encourage you to support River events this season. I know we'll have a lot of members who want to get out on the water, but we need the boats to take them. Rebecca and Psycho can only take a total of 12 members, counting skippers. We have a lot more members who want to get out on the water. Serving as a skipper on a club boat or your own boat is a great way to share your love of the water, to teach our members about sailing, to show off your boat . . . and, because this is SCOW, to get free food.

Which is my lead-in to the duties of the members who want to ride along. You don't have to do much. Mainly, just be polite, ask what the skipper wants you to do (or not do), do what the skipper asks, say thanks when the day is over and bring enough food to share with the skipper! After all, he or she is taking you out on his or her boat. Be appreciative.

If you've got ideas for river events, contact me at [river@scow.org](mailto:river@scow.org) or grab me at any club event. Fair winds. See you on the River.



# Maine Cruise

## Len Zuza

Cold, snowy, blustery weather has a consistent effect on me: I get serious about planning next summer's cruises. As a result of a trip that Karen and I took to New England last October, my thoughts for summer sailing have turned to Maine and I'm looking for crew to help me get there!!

The cruise I am planning is broken down into three legs (dates are subject to small changes):

Leg #1: Solomons-Cape Cod-Maine. Depart May 24. Arrive in Cape Cod June 1 where we could change crew (if necessary) or reprovision and regroup. Arrive in Maine June 7 (final destination is yet to be determined).

DULCINEA remains in Maine on a mooring.

Leg #2: Cruise in Maine. Between July 12 and 18, explore the waters surrounding Mt. Desert Island. From July 19 through the 26, cruise Penobscot and Casco Bays. For these legs, we would not have any schedule to maintain, only the challenge of finding beautiful places to anchor, preparing great food, exploring nearby sites, and enjoying each other's company.

DULCINEA remains in Maine on a mooring.

Leg #3: Maine-Cape Cod-Solomons. Leave Maine on August 16 for return to the Bay. Arrive at Cape Cod August 20 where we would change crew or reprovision. Return to Solomons by Labor Day weekend (September 1).

This cruise will be a combination of coastal cruising and ocean passage making. The length of each leg will allow for time to explore scenic areas, "detour" through New York Harbor en route to Maine, or remain in a secure anchorage during foul weather. It is also intended to provide as much flexibility as possible. Ideally, crew would be able to sign up for a complete leg. However, if some need to, they would be able to get on/off at Cape Cod. We'll finalize details, as we get closer to departure. Crew will share pro rata the costs of food and provisioning.

So, what kind of crew am I looking for? Do you have to be a "hard core sailor" to apply? The answer is, "No." The principal qualities that I am seeking are: congeniality; an interest in and excitement about sailing; some cruising experience; a willingness to pitch in; the ability to follow guidance; and willingness to work as part of a team. On last year's cruise to Cape Cod, we had a mixture of experienced and inexperienced crew that worked very well together. Selection of crew will be based on a combination of availability and compatibility of experience/skills.

If you are interested, send me an email at [len.zuza@verizon.net](mailto:len.zuza@verizon.net) with a short sailing resume with details of your experience and the leg(s) on which you would prefer to come.

## SCOW 2003 Budget

As required by the bylaws, SCOW's budget for 2003 is presented as follows:

### **Income**

Member Due	\$16,000
Boat Use Fees	12,000
Charter Revenues	1,500
Social Events	9,100
Training Events	7,200
Boatique Sales	1,200
50/50 Raffles	600
Interest Income	350
<i>Total Income</i>	<b>\$47,950</b>

### **Expenses**

Fleet Operations	\$16,740
Member Communications	7,745
Social	11,200
Member Services	3,000
Administration	1,870
<i>Total Expenses</i>	<b>\$40,555</b>

**Net Income** **\$ 7,395**

### **Capital Improvements**

Psycho Upgrade & Other (Funded from Boat Asset Fund)	\$ 4,000
<i>Net Gain Cash</i>	<b>\$ 3,395</b>

### **Boat Asset Fund Analysis**

Transfer in of 7% of Revenues	\$ 3,357
Funding of Capital Improvements	4,000
<i>Net Decrease in Boat Asset Fund</i>	<b>\$ 643</b>

If you have any questions about the SCOW budget, please contact Treasurer Graham Leadbetter at [treasurer@scow.org](mailto:treasurer@scow.org).

## **Help Document Our Adventures - New and Old!**

**Jane Farthing**

So wow, I wake up one morning realizing that I have become an "acquisitive archivist", that I have "volunteered to take the helm as the first historian of SCOW". Hmmmm, any of you who have sailed with me at the helm may wonder where we are going now!?

Well the excitement will be in finding out where this adventure does go. If nothing else I am flexible and this journey is definitely going to depend on help and input from all SCOW members out there. Since scheduling and location have always kept me from getting to as many SCOW events as I would like - it is going to be really important to get material from all of you! PLEASE send me (or Barb Ullman and/or Amy Plett) any photos, ideas and written tidbits that you come up with.

Some ideas that have been mentioned are interviews with people that have been members of the club for a long time. That sounds ambitious to me - but still a great idea. So I am thinking that some of you who have been around for a while --- that means anywhere from 1 month to...what? 10 years?...hey someone out there please share some history with this historian... and answer the following questions:

- 1) When did the club start?
- 2) Who are the 5 present members who have been part of the club longest?
- 3) What story most encompasses what this club has meant for you?

So I will take my new job to mean that I get to pepper you all with questions on an ongoing basis. And now lets consider this puppy launched! Please respond by sending stuff to me at [historian@scow.org](mailto:historian@scow.org).

Thanks for all help!

## **SCOW Says Welcome!**

to the following new members:

*Jennifer Lewis*  
*David Razon*

## **Countdown to Leukemia Cup!**

As ChaNNels goes to press, Race 4 of the America's Cup has been postponed five times! If you're frustrated waiting for the wind (or the race committee) to cooperate in New Zealand, Tom Hannan reminds us that it's only six more months to our own National Capital Area Volvo Leukemia Cup Regatta on September 6th.

According to Tom, this is a great time to start making your list of prospective donors and planning your fundraising strategy. And since he's one of the "Five Skippers" team that raised the most money in the local 2002 regatta – over \$11,000 - he knows what he's talking about.

The National Capital Area Volvo Leukemia Cup Regatta raised over \$115,000 in 2002, which put us close – but not close enough – to being in the Top Five in the nation. If everyone starts planning their strategy now, maybe we can break into the top tier.

For a list of the national fundraising results from the 2002 Volvo Leukemia Cup, visit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's web site at [http://www.leukemia-lymphoma.org/all\\_page?item\\_id=6139](http://www.leukemia-lymphoma.org/all_page?item_id=6139).

## **The Miami Boat Show**

**Dave Snellen**  
**Captain, Schooner Gypsy Rover**

It's Valentine's Day, the weather is beautiful and with your loved one you are doing what you love best, strolling down aisle after aisle of boat "stuff". Yes, it's that time of the year when we get to participate in the great American adventure of the Miami Boat Show.

I will try to compare the Miami version with the Annapolis Boat Show you already know. To start with, the Miami show is by far much larger than anything Annapolis could possibly hope to stage. It is an unfair comparison, however, because the Miami version is in four locations joined by tour buses. The Miami show combines the 'Broker's' show which displays boats in the multi-million dollar range; the power boat show with the usual assortment of fossil fuel consumers; the 'Strictly Sail' show which as it's name implies is focused toward sail boats and the what I call 'the stuff' show held in the convention center.

The 'Strictly Sail' show is at the Bayside Marina also in downtown Miami. It is small compared to the sail portion of the Annapolis show. And I must say nothing spectacular here either. A lot of multi-hulls this year. Multi-hulls are popular in South Florida and the Bahamas because of the shallower waters. The only standout among them was the three story tall Moorings 6200 cat. A big boat. From a distance of say 200 feet, every mono-hull looked exactly alike. Just all plastic, low maintenance, big windows, visual pleasing, dockside usable boats. Not a one of them would I feel safe being on in the Gulf Stream on a dark stormy night.

The best part of any boat show is the 'stuff' and the Miami show has over 2.5 million sq. feet of smaller boats and stuff! It has all the usual 'stuff' just a lot more of it. The only thing here that may not be in Annapolis is "The Real Sailors" magazine. It's locally published, but you can see it at [www.realsailormagazine.com](http://www.realsailormagazine.com).

I met Daniel Parrott, the author of "Tall Ships Down" and the captain of the 'Pride of Baltimore II'. His book is about the last voyages of five tall ships to include the original 'Pride of Baltimore' and the 'Albatross'. Parrott was one of the captains on the original 'Pride' but missed the fateful trip. The movie 'White Squall' is based on the last voyage of the 'Albatross'. My dear friend Christine Kling was signing copies of her new book 'Surface Tension,' a fiction about a

female towboat captain with a setting in Fort Lauderdale. A super book. Both of these can be reviewed at any of the major book chains or on-line at Amazon.

I was in the market this year for a dinghy motor in the 4-6 hp ranges. I wanted a four-cycle because of the environmental issues and also to eliminate having to carry oil. After much looking and being ignored because I wasn't looking at a pair of 500hp outboards, I finally brought a new 6 hp Nissan complete and delivered to my door for \$1200 boat show price. Not bad.

So that was the Miami boat show. The part I liked best was sitting in my favorite pub afterwards and watching the America's Cup on TV! Did you see the size of the spinnaker pole and watch the guy "run" up the mast to look for wind? And how can they sail downwind at a boat speed faster than the wind? Fascinating!

In the meantime, if you have any comments or questions, you can reach me at [www.gypsyrover.com](http://www.gypsyrover.com)

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## 2003 Board of Directors

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**Other Key People****New Members**

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**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.

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**Submissions to Channels:**

Submit articles to channels@scow.org within one week after the monthly membership meeting.

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