

Chanels

The Newsletter of the Sailing Club of Washington
March 2009

Commodore's Log

Ahoy SCOW Sailors!

As we move rapidly toward the sailing season, I am getting excited about all the fun events we have planned this year. The officers and directors and a whole host of other volunteers have been busily scrambling to get events planned, budgets submitted, and general club business accomplished so we can have a great year. First things first, the fun: We will have our annual Re-Up Brunch on March 15th. Renew your membership, sign up for classes, meet great people, and eat, drink, and be merry. Please contact Faith, our Fabulous Social Director, to help out with putting on this fun and busy event. We also need people to help with the Membership, Training, and Skipper tables, so if you can put in a little time on any of those activities, contact Chris, our Treasurer Extraordinaire; John, our Terrific Training Director; or Brett, our Superb Skipper Director.

If you check out the new schedule, you will see it is packed with activities. The training schedule is on the calendar; but remember to get to the Re-Up early if you want to get into a class -- they always fill up quickly! As you may know, our agreement with the National Park Service states that our fees for training cannot be less than the fees charged by the Washington Sailing Marina concessionaire, Guest Services. It also prohibits our advertising our prices on our website. An email will be sent to notices@scow.org with this year's prices at about the time this issue posts. As I am writing this, I have my fingers crossed that the new website will be launching at around that same time. Then we can post that sort of thing in the Members Only section.

As I dig my way through the various pass-down and historical SCOW documents, I am struck by the fact that a tremendous amount of work is done by a relatively small number of volunteers. I am amazed at what a terrific opportunity this club offers for such a great price, but I am even more amazed that we have been able to keep this club going for so long, run entirely on volunteer labor. I would first like to express my sincere appreciation to the 2009 officers and directors for their serving in this capacity this year. On the last page of the Channels, you will also see other volunteers, coordinators, etc., who are the people who really make the club run smoothly. We also have trainers, tutors, check-out skippers, dock masters, co-chefs, maintenance crews, committees, musicians, and generally friendly people who greet new members at meetings and social events, most of whom never receive any public recognition for their contribution.

As you renew your membership this year (or sign-up for the first time), please take a look at the section of the membership form where we ask you to indicate how you would like to volunteer. This is how the club functions and how it continues to be the best value for sailing anywhere around. We rely on every member to contribute to the club in at least some small way. When you select the area you are willing to volunteer in, please take a moment to truly commit to that activity. Then contact the Director or Coordinator who manages that activity and let them know how you can help. The reason our membership and skipper fees are so ridiculously low is because we assume everyone who joins will contribute -- in fact, we count on it.

I look forward to seeing everyone at Re-Up and at all the social events planned throughout the year!

Fair Winds!

Lisa

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Re-Up Brunch on Sunday, March 15 (10 am – 2 pm)

Kick-Off to SCOW Sailing Season and Sailing Classes Registration

Enjoy a delicious brunch of omelets, pancakes, and French toast, along with great Bloody Marys and Mimosas. Either bring a dish to fill out the buffet table – fruits, salads, desserts, etc. -- or pay \$10 without a dish.

Sign up for various training classes, renew your membership, or join SCOW for the first time. Be there by 10 am if you're registering for a class – they fill up fast!

Directions to The Colonies, 7681 Provincial Drive, McLean, VA:

From Rt 495/ Beltway go east on Rt 123/Chain Bridge Road towards McLean, right at first light on Old Meadow Road, go ¼ mile and turn left into The Colonies.

More on the SCOW Sailing Classes

by John Eller, SCOW Training Director

Avast me Mateys! Sunday, March 15, is the opening day of registration for SCOW sailing classes for all who wish to become a **Flying Scot** or **Cruiser Skipper**. A registration table will be set up during the annual Re-Up Brunch. Be sure to arrive early and secure your place in class, as the seats for all courses go like hotcakes. Classes begin in April to provide you maximum enjoyment as a skipper by Spring, Summer, and Fall of 2009. There will be three Flying Scot classes (April, June, September) with a limit of 12 seats per class. The Cruiser classes (April and July) are limited to 5 seats per class. There will be no auditing of any classes.

Other popular training offered by our enthusiastic SCOW instructors includes the **Spinnaker** class (June, October) where you really learn how to *fly* a sailboat, and the **Capsized** class (July, August) where you learn the value of a dry bag with a change of clothes. Our **Intermediate** sailing class (July) advances fundamental boat handling skills as the trainers coach you through fine tuning your balance, helm, and sail trim. The Intermediate Class is for Scot and Cruiser skippers, as well as crew for both the club's day-sailors and keelboats. Our goal this year is 26 students, with a mix of 16 Scot and 10 Cruiser Skippers.

For a more detailed schedule of classes in advance of the Re-Up Brunch, check out the SCOW calendar of events online at <http://www.scow.org/calendar.html>.

Train-the-Trainers Session on March 28

For SCOW sailing instructors, we're offering a free Train-the-Trainers session on Saturday, March 28. We'll start at noon following a rigorous session of coffee and donuts, and review some of the recent changes to SCOW policies and procedures listed in your training packets. This year's training schedule has been sent to current Club Trainers, and replies continue to come in with commitments for both the land and water instructor slots.

Rub-Off-the-Rust Skipper Event on March 29

The free Rub-Off-the-Rust Skipper event takes place on Sunday, March 29, and will mirror last year's event with a morning session from 9 a.m. to noon, and a second 3-hour session from 1-4 p.m. Cruiser and Scot Skippers will be receiving a sign-up questionnaire via email, which will allow you to identify specific skill sets you wish to practice during your refresher session. Your responses are important and will enable the trainers to match skippers with instructors/boats based upon the skills to be addressed.



Photos from SCOW's Fall 2008 Flotilla at Fort Washington (Courtesy of Jack Weaver)

US Coast Guard Auxiliary Boating Safety Classes at WSM

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will hold two boating safety classes in the Afterdeck Café at the Washington Sailing Marina in 2009. The Spring class starts on Wednesday, April 22, and the Fall class starts on Wednesday, September 30. Both classes will meet for five Wednesdays from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The cost is \$40. Graduates receive a boating safety certificate (which SCOW requires skippers to have to operate SCOW boats). For more information and to enroll, contact Ginny Ivin at flotilla22@hotmail.com or by phone at (202) 547-8558.

DC Boater Safety Classes 2009 Schedule

Location of classes: Metro Police Department/Harbor Patrol
 550 Water Street, SW, Washington DC 20024 (a short walk from Waterfront/SEU Metro stop)
 202-727-4582

Each session meets on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for two weeks from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Classes are free, but you must register in advance and be able to attend all four classes. Thirteen sessions are being offered:

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|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Session 1: March 31, April 2, 7, 9 | Session 8: July 7, 9, 14, 16 |
| Session 2: April 14, 16, 21, 23 | Session 9: July 21, 23, 28, 30 |
| Session 3: April 28, 30, May 5, 7 | Session 10: August 4, 6, 11, 13 |
| Session 4: May 12, 14, 19, 21 | Session 11: August 18, 20, 25, 27 |
| Session 5: May 26, 28, June 2, 4 | Session 12: September 1, 3, 8, 10 |
| Session 6: June 9, 11, 16, 18 | Session 13: September 15, 17, 22, 24 |
| Session 7: June 23, 25, 30, July 2 | |



Photos from SCOW's Fall 2008 Flotilla at Fort Washington (Courtesy of Jack Weaver)

Next Membership Meeting: Monday, March 9, 2009

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.

Guest speaker: John Marshall, Manager of Guest Services at Mount Vernon

Membership Meetings	2 nd Monday of every month, American Legion Post, 400 Cameron Street, Alexandria -- Social hour at 6:30 pm; program at 7:30 pm
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 Home Page	http://www.scow.org

SCOW Calendar -- March 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Board Meeting	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 General Meeting	10	11	12	13	14
15 Re-Up Brunch	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Train the Trainers
29 Rub Off the Rust	30	31				

SCOW Calendar -- April 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Social Sail	3	4 Cherry Blossom Regatta
5	6 Board Meeting	7	8	9 Social Sail	10	11
12	13 General Meeting	14	15 Basic I	16 Social Sail	17	18 Basic I Water
19 Basic I Water	20 Cruiser I	21	22 Basic I	23 Social Sail	24 River Raft-Up	25 Basic I Water
26 Basic I Water	27 Cruiser I	28 Cruiser Racing	29 Basic I	30 Social Sail		

Mark your calendars...!

2009 River Events Schedule is Set

The schedule for SCOW River Events for 2009 has been finalized. We have worked with the Training, Racing, Social, and River/Bay Directors to make sure that there were no conflicts with other club activities and that the club cruisers will be available for all events.

Friday night raft-ups -- These begin in April and continue through October, usually on the 4th Friday of the month. Dorothy Stocks will be sending out notices before each of these events, asking who is going, who needs crew, wants to crew, wants to skipper a club cruiser, and all that good stuff.

Other sailing events:

June 13/14 -- Overnight to Tim's Rivershore/Sweden Point. Sail down to Tim's Rivershore (crab house in Dumfries), anchor out, ride their water taxi ashore for dinner and socializing. If you can't make it by boat, land yachts are also welcome. After dinner, anchor inside the mouth of Mattowoman Creek, or off of Leesylvania State Park, or reserve a slip at Sweden Point Marina (\$1.00/foot buys a hot shower!). Head back up river on Sunday.

August 8 -- Raft-up in Smoot's Cove. Party hearty and dodge the water-taxis! Generally runs from noon to four. Bring food, drink and bathing suits. Was great fun last year (seven boats!), and we moved it later in the year this time to be sure that the water is plenty warm for those who want to go swimming.

September 19/20 -- SCOW Fall Flotilla and Rendezvous at Fort Washington Marina. Sail down on Saturday, arrive by 1600, prepared to hang out. You will be assigned slips at discounted rates. Cookout at 1800 in the pavilion: You bring it, you burn it (grills provided)! Spend the night, enjoy breakfast courtesy of SCOW the next morning. Explore Fort Washington if you wish, then head back up river.

To reserve a club cruiser for any of these three events, contact Jack Weaver at longweav@juno.com.

Upcoming SCOW General Membership Meetings

Monday, March 9 -- John Marshall, Manager of Guest Services at Mount Vernon, is our featured guest speaker for the March Membership Meeting. He will tell us how women sailors saved Mount Vernon and why that portion of the Potomac River still looks the way it did during George Washington's residence at Mount Vernon.

Monday, April 13 -- Rico Newman, from the National Museum of the American Indian, will talk about pre- and post-tribal lifeways on the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay. Do YOU know a story about Native Americans on the river that you've always wondered whether it's fact or folklore? If so, send it to vice@scow.org at least two weeks before the April meeting, and after his talk, Mr. Newman will lead a short game of Fact or Crap!

Monday, May 11 -- Bill Davenport will talk about racing, boat preparation, and sail trim.

SCOW Audit Completed

As required by the club's bylaws, an audit of the 2008 financial records of the Sailing Club of Washington was completed on February 8, 2009. The audit included a review of income and expense statements, balance sheet, bank statements, 2008 tax return, schedule of major club assets (boats, trailers, etc.), insurance coverage, and other items. All receipts and expenditures were properly recorded and categorized. Treasurer Chris Von Guggenberg is commended and should be recognized for his careful and diligent stewardship of the club's finances in 2008.

Respectfully submitted by the SCOW Audit Committee
Jack Weaver, Chairman; Mary Bashore, Associate Auditor

Boat US Membership Discounts

SCOW is part of the Boat U.S. Cooperating Groups program. Boat U.S. provides a range of services, information, and savings to recreational boaters including:

- Members-only discounts and Member Rewards with West Marine equipment purchases
- Discounts on fuel, overnight slips, and repairs at more than 850 marinas nationwide
- On-the-water towing service with your basic membership
- Access to low-cost, group-rate boat insurance
- A full year subscription to the award-winning BoatU.S. Magazine
- An effective lobby that fights unfair taxes, fees, and government regulations that target boat owners.

Last year, 41 SCOW members enjoyed the advantages of Boat U.S. membership. The cost is \$12.50 per year for SCOW members. When you start or renew your Boat U.S. membership, be sure to mention our Cooperating Group ID number, GA80156S, to get this special rate.



2009 Board of Directors

Position	Name	Home	Alternate	E-mail
Commodore	Lisa Eller	423.360.6899		commodore@scow.org
Vice-Commodore	Bekki Lasell			vice@scow.org
Secretary	Lisa Carr	703.750.7851		secretary@scow.org
Treasurer	Chris VonGuggenberg	703.683.6649	703.622.9125	treasurer@scow.org
Training Director	John Eller			training@scow.org
Maintenance Director	Nancy Eikermann			maintenance@scow.org
Social Director	Faith Rodell		301.674.9324	social@scow.org
Skipper Director	Brett Astmann		202.360.0512	skipper@scow.org
River/Bay Activities Director	Terri Nachazel	703.328.0118	703.715.2407	river@scow.org
Racing Director	Mary-Sophia Smith		202.213.5325	race@scow.org

Other Key People

Channels Editor	Marty Taylor			channels09@scow.org
Advertising	Nick Gull			advertising@scow.org
Email Administrator	Jeff Teitel	202.271.1238		postmaster@scow.org
Membership Coordinator	Henry Chang			members@scow.org
Web Editor	Jan Iler/ Nick Gull			webmaster@scow.org
Photos on Web	Alice Starcke	703.971.7755	703.971.7773	pictures@scow.org

For information about club activities
 Visit <http://www.scow.org> or email info@scow.org