

From the Commodore

May is here! SCOW sailing activity has been churning for a month now on the Potomac and this month you will see even more of SCOW on the river and everywhere boats go.

April's earlier severe weather canceled a planned Flying Scot day sail and maintenance day. Then, when the weather broke, club training took off with a heavy load, juggling classrooms, but never a missing a beat. Training Director Doug Kelch is doing a great job as are all of the volunteer trainers. It is very satisfying to see so many members sharing their experience with others. April also saw river and social activities kicking off, with Tuesday night big-boat racing, Thursday night Social Sails now in full swing, the beginning of Friday night river sails, the Tune-up regatta, and members sailing for pure pleasure on the club boats. If you missed them, read on.

In May, SCOW will begin Tuesday night Flying Scot races (any club member can do this) and activities on the Bay with Jeff Teitel's Rhode River Raft up on May 7-8. Get out and see Jeff and Kelly before they go to Australia this summer. There will be other racing, sailing, and social activities in May. Check the calendar on the

website, check the website highlights of coming events, read the rest of this newsletter: *then contact the organizer, and get involved.*

SCOW Training — basic and cruising classes — will graduate many fresh students in mid-May. Watch out for and welcome rooky sailors coming into SCOW. The first skipper checkout for the Flying Scots takes place in mid-May and is not just for students. If you have passed the written requirements and feel you can safely pass the on-water test, contact skipper@scow.org and ask to be scheduled.

June will bring river and bay sailing activities, and Special Olympics sailing on Monday nights. Flying Scot skippers needed. *Get aboard — go sailing!!*

Other longer term activities in the works include an August Waterfront Festival right at our own Washington Sailing Marina. That's right, National Marina Day is August 13! SCOW will be working with the other clubs and Marina Guest Services to take advantage of the day. We envision

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**Next Membership Meeting:
Monday, May 10th, 2005**

The March membership meeting will be on Monday, May 10th, at the American Legion, 400 Cameron Street, Old Town Alexandria (around the corner from Gadsby's Tavern). Socializing begins at 6:30 pm and the meeting at 7:30 pm.

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Snuggle up for Speed!

DOUG KELCH

Boat designers spend a lot of time laying pretty smooth lines down on paper trying to design a hull that is efficient, and this is a very subtle art that few of us really care about. The results of their design effort goes to waste if no one understands how to use the hull's design. Last month I wrote about side to side movement and the desire to sail flat. (Which got rave reviews!) This month is about fore and aft movement ratchet that speed up even further.

The picture below is a nice picture of a Flying Scot at rest.



This Flying Scot is floating on its designed lines. Notice the curve of the hull of the boat at the stern. The stern and transom are actually not touching the water except maybe at the very center of the stern. What do you think the fish eye view of this looks like?



The shape of the Flying Scot on its designed water line looks like a fat kayak from underwater. It is double-ended at the water line — no flat transom! This provides a smooth entry

and exit for the hull through the water.

This is the most efficient shape for sailboat hulls or any “displacement boat.” A displacement boat is one that must displace its weight in water to move. This is true for Flying Scots, Yankee Dolphins, Catalina 25s or Out Island 41s.

If you let the movable weight (skipper and crew or cases of beer) stay towards the stern of the boat the kayak shape becomes a pie wedge. The transom on the pie wedge shape creates a great deal of turbulence and suction that actually tries to pull the boat backwards. In the case of larger cruising boats, their loaded waterline is still double-ended, but all the weight in stern lifts the bow up and tacking becomes more and more difficult.

The reason there is a hiking stick on a dingy style boat is so that the skipper can move towards the centerboard and snuggle up with the crew. In order to sail fast in winds up to 10 mph you want the crew weight arranged around the center of the centerboard.

You can tell if you have it right by the lack of bubbles coming off of the transom. Here is a picture of a FS under way that is reasonably well balanced fore and aft. Notice how little of the transom is in the water. The skipper and crew are snuggled up almost directly on the center of the centerboard but they could be a little faster if they were farther forward.

So snuggle up for speed and keep that boat flat.

See you on the water.

Commodore's Letter

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a full day of activities to encourage Washingtonian area folks to come out and discover the beautiful oasis, right in the center of town. If you are interested in helping, contact me at commodore@scow.org.

I am told by the National Park Service (NPS) that the training building at Washington Sailing Marina is coming. The environmental review is in progress and may be completed this summer--no promises. The plans indicate that it will be an addition to the marina office, positioned between the marina office and the small building with the rest-rooms and trash cans. Guest Services will pay for this construction so please say thanks to Marina Manager Fred and his staff when you call-in to make a boat reservation or stop through there. The National Park Service Announcement bills it as a "classroom addition" for clubs which use the marina, NPS and others. Back in February, I told them SCOW's classroom needs. With SCOW's scheduling conflicts for the Chartroom, I have urged DISC and PRSA to also send-in their need specifications.

Keep your eye on the Leukemia Cup fund raising drive and regatta, coming in September. Contact vice@scow.org to see how you get involved with this very worthwhile charity.

If you like the programs SCOW offers, you can do something to show your gratitude. Find a program and volunteer. SCOW is run by volunteers. That keeps your membership fees low and lots of activities going on. So, if you like sailing, get involved with training, racing, or river and bay activities; if you like being social, do that too. We have a thriving group of volunteers but we need YOUR skills in sailing, teaching, administration, etc. Just call or send me or one of the board members an email. *Be a part of SCOW.*

Commodore Steve

Dave Perry Training Event

The well known author of *Winning in One Design and Understanding the Racing Rules of Sailing* will be coming to DC to give a seminar on Saturday, May 14 from 1 to 4 pm. The seminar is being sponsored by PRSA and DC Sail, the community sailing program. As the Chart Room is booked with weddings, it will be at DC Sail's Henson Center on Half Street, SW which is on the Anacostia River. Metered parking is available in the area. The cost will be \$25. If you want to stay afterwards there will be a BBQ dinner for \$10 more. Whoever is in the mood can watch the FJs race, cheer, and drink beer. This will be a lot of fun, and will be an opportunity to learn about small boat racing and sailing skills.

To help plan or attend, please contact Nabeel Alsalam at nabeel.alsalam@cox.net. More information can be found on the PRSA link at the SCOW web-pages.



ChaNNels

can also be read at: www.scow.org.

Submit articles to channels@scow.org by the 15th of every month. Use any means, but email is preferred. If you would like a copy of the 2005 ChaNNels editorial calendar, please request via email to channels@scow.org or in-person at the next meeting.

Diana Combs, Editor
Chris Chubb, Layout Editor

Sailing Season Has Started!

WAYNE WILLIAMS

SCOW Spinnaker Class taught by Henry and Nate Bokil was on Saturday the 9th. The class was uneasy, as the NE wind at 13 knots was giving the Potomac a rough edge. Everyone was worried about broaching or capsizing one of the Flying Scots. However, the instructors were upbeat and confident, and as the day of sailing proved - experienced. SCOW had wonderful course materials and Henry had pictures on his laptop that taught us the theory required to fly spinnaker! Armed with all this knowledge we immediately headed to the cafe for a light lunch, hoping that the wind might lighten.

The Susie Q was rigged with the pole at the dock to illustrate what was required. At that time we all hoisted sails and crossed the river.

Henry had each of his students rotate thru the positions of driver, sheet, guy and foredeck. We'd get on a run with wind on the starboard, hoist the chute, set the pole and when the foredeck shouts "made" which indicates he's successfully attached the pole to the mast. Then the trimmer and guy would adjust the lines to trim the spinnaker.

And what a sight it is! It's like looking up on the inside of a hot-air balloon. Or skydiving when the chute opens! The wind was exhilarating! With the weight back in the boat, the Flying Scots would rise on a plane and surge towards Alexandria. Henry also had the class working. We would immediately jibe the sail, with the foredeck doing an end for end reset of the spinnaker pole while the driver would steer the boat in a slight S and also jibe the main.

Chris, Cesar, Joy, and Wayne all rotated thru the positions successfully. Sailing up the river was a



treat with 4 of the 5 setting up on the rail just to keep the boat trimmed! After 3 runs up and down the Potomac we closed the afternoon with a Mexican jibe and started a new tradition. Joy jumped in the Potomac backward off the dock and went all the way under water!

The next day Doug proved that you can single hand a spinnaker in light air. When the wind blew, it was at E 5. One lesson learned was to not fly your spinnaker right down the landing path of Ronald Reagan airport. We got caught in a vortex which caused the spinnaker to shoot straight up while spinning! Doug released the sheets, grabbed his hat and managed to keep the boat under control.

We closed the afternoon with a grand run up the river towards the other SCOW boat who took a great picture.

To hear more of our stories you can find most of us at the next Thursday picnic, sailing the river, or otherwise loitering at the Afterdeck Cafe.



From the Training Desk Doug Kelch, Training Director, Training@SCOW.org

April was an active time for training. The spinnaker class was as entertaining as it gets; especially if you like a cockpit full of sheets, guys, poles, topping lifts, double ended halyards, foreguys and downhauls. And to think that at one time I was perplexed by port and starboard. I highly recommend the course as it was great fun and we had beautiful weather to boot. Henry Yung and Nate Bokil got rave reviews from the students so all of our thanks to the instructors!!!

The cruising class is off to a good start in spite of the multiple locations for classes, gas fumes in Rebecca, and varying days for the water class. We hope to have 5 new cruising skippers in June.

The Basic class is well underway with a full class and a great group of students.

The Month of May will see the first basic sailing class of the year graduate. The second Cruising class will kick off this month and the intermediate sailing class will finish off the month.

I am hoping the intermediate class participants will come to the Tuesday night races and strut their stuff! There is nothing like a boat sailing next to you to help figure out if you actually learned what it takes to make a boat live up to it's potential.

There seems to be a pattern here of three different classes running every month. A very busy schedule for an all-volunteer training staff.

Thanks to all the trainers!

Social News

SOCIAL SAILS

Thanks to everyone who showed up for the first Social Sail of the season on April 14th! It was a beautiful night for sailing, the sun was shining, the wind was blowing, and a great group of sailors and "socialites" were gathered to share some supper and then get out on the water.

We invite you to join us any Thursday through October 6. We meet at the Washington Marina, just south of National Airport on the George Washington Parkway. Donation for dinner is only \$5.00. There are still slots open to host a Social Sail so contact me at social@scow.org and we'll find a date that works for you. This is really a great way to meet club members and get more time on the water.

Coming Up In June

SCOW will participate in the 24th Annual Alexandria Waterfront Festival, a two day event in Old Town on Saturday, June 18 and Sunday, June 19th. The Alexandria Chapter of the American Red Cross hosts the Waterfront Festival each year as its major fundraising event. Tall ships music and entertainment and of course food will all be part of the fun. But that's not all! Over 60 booths of shopping with crafters presenting jewelry, pottery, glassware, woodwork, and textiles will be on display.

We will have an information booth at the Waterfront Festival and we need volunteers at the two or three hour shifts on Saturday and Sunday. Hours of the Festival are Saturday 10am to 11pm and Sunday 10am to 7pm. Consider spending a few hours outside (not in a boat) to represent SCOW and share your enthusiasm for our club with the thousands of visitors expected to participate in this worthwhile event.

Be sure to check out the website www.scow.org for a complete calendar of racing, sailing and social activities in May!



Skipper Director

Dave Simpson

I'm officially the Skipper Director now. Karyl has done a great job of supporting and mentoring me during the transition process... thanks again Karyl!

The big event for May will be the water checkout of our newest batch of skippers from the basic class on May 14th. Come on out and join me in cheering them on!

Remember, combinations have changed. If you're a skipper and you didn't get the word, email me at skipper@scow.org.

See you on the water!

Special Olympics Sailing is Here!

MONIKA O'CONNOR

This year, SCOW is once again supporting the Special Olympics sailing program. If you've never had the opportunity to participate in this wonderfully heartwarming experience, this is the year to do it. SCOW skippers and crew volunteer for any or all of the four Monday evenings in June, providing sailing experience and training for both new and returning athletes. Our participation is one month of three months of training for these athletes. Their training ends with the Virginia/Maryland Special Olympics Sailing Regatta held the last weekend of July at St. Mary's College in Maryland.

Here's the game plan: Each Monday in June (6th, 13th, 20th, 27th), skippers, crew, and athletes (Special Olympic participants) convene at the Marina around 5:30 p.m.-5:45 p.m. for an evening of sailing, friendship, and fun. This year we will be sailing the 3 SCOW Flying Scots, 3 WSM Flying Scots, and two personally owned Flying Scots. Each boat will contain one skipper, one adult crew, and one/two athletes.

In addition, when possible, volunteers are asked to arrive at the marina early to help rig the scots so that we get into the water and under sail by 6:00 p.m. to enjoy the evening sails.

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 the wonderful event or have any questions, please email Monika O'Connor at monika@strategiquest.com with the Mondays you can assist.

Help the Editor

Diana Combs

The Editor has learned from a few snafus last month that without help from you, she will make mistakes that will hold-up ChaNNels production. Therefore, to facilitate the production of SCOW, please follow the following "Keys to Article Submission." Thanks!

KEYS TO ARTICLE SUBMISSION

1. When you e-mail the article, entitle it: **article submission**
2. When you submit photos for the newsletter, always include the names of people in each photo.
3. Submit your article by the **15th of the month**
4. Submit a full, written-out article
5. Submit your articles to **ChaNNels@scow.org**

Thanks!

2005 Board of Directors

Position	Name	Home	Work	E-mail
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Skipper Director	David Simpson			skipper@scow.org
River & Bay Director	Robert Werlas	301.982.9543		bay@scow.org
Racing Director	Mike Murphy	703.820.1991		race@scow.org
Advertising	Rhonda Glasmann	703.813.6068		advertising@scow.org

Other Key People

New Members	Melissa Ennis	703.845.5764		info@scow.org
Members Coordinator	Monika O'Connor	703.921.9262	703.593.4380	members@scow.org
Email Administrator	Jeff Teitel	202.271.1238		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

Visit <http://www.scow.org> or email info@scow.org