

# ChanNels

The Newsletter of the Sailing Club of Washington  
October 2005

## Commodore's Log

### From the Commodore

We had beautiful Fall weather for sailing and great SCOW weekend trip to Smith Island, thanks to Dot Almassy. Great job, Dot!

The last basic sail class is almost ready to spawn a new bunch of rookie sailors into the Potomac, assuming they all make it through checkout on October 9th. Watch for them at the docks!!

Boat use fees for Flying Scots and cruisers are half price for October 1 through April 1, 2006; now is a great time to get qualified as a SCOW skipper. It's not too late! Contact Skipper Director Dave at [skipper@scow.org](mailto:skipper@scow.org) for more information.



SCOW – Cruisers  
Psycho and Rebecca

If you enjoy overnight sailing trips, then join SCOW's trip from October 22-23 to Gunston Cove. Training Director Doug wants to lead all SCOW boats, large and small down the river for a sail and an overnight campout. See website for details and/or email [training@scow.org](mailto:training@scow.org) to sign up.

October 29th brings Maintenance Day. The boats were used hard and need a good scrubbing, waxing, and minor fixes. Please come out and help with this important function. It is part of sailing.

Finally, SCOW elections are coming in November. We will announce a new slate for the 2006 SCOW Board at the October membership meeting. It is not too late to put your name or your friend's into the running. Contact Vice Commodore Bill at [vice@scow.org](mailto:vice@scow.org).

Look forward to November 18 and the **biggest SCOW party of the year**. This is a Friday evening so plan your Friday afternoon getaway now. There will be plenty of parking just down the street. At \$51 pp this will be a cheap date for dinner and dancing this year at an historic venue, City Tavern in Georgetown. Kathy Martin has been working on this event ever since the Reup Brunch. There will great food, great dance music, and a chance to say "well done" to the many SCOW volunteers who kept this club afloat in 2005 and made it possible for YOU to enjoy sailing--here in DC on the Potomac, on the Bay, or on the Caribbean.

Fair winds,  
Steve Linke  
Commodore

### Table of Contents

Commodore's Log	1	River Activities	3	Dispatch from Tibet (Maintenance)	6
Foul Weather Raft Up	2	From the Training Desk	4	Hail and Farewell	7
New Skippers	2	Bay - Labor Day Raft Up	5	Talk like a Sailor	8

## Foul Weather Raft-Up: October 22 & 23

Allan Lewis

SCOW will once again hold its annual Fowl Weather Raft-Up from October 22 & 23. We will meet in Dividing Creek, off the Wye East River and adjacent to the Wye Island Natural Resource Area. (Granary Creek, just up the river, will be our back-up if Dividing Creek is full.) This is a great place to watch the migrating geese and enjoy the fall colors, and is one of the best gunkholes on the bay. I'd appreciate it if skippers planning to attend would touch base beforehand so we have some idea of how many boats to expect. Also, for those who would like to crew, let me know and I will make your names available to those skippers who might be looking for crew.

If you have any questions, give me a call at (301) 445-3397(H) or (202) 385-7297(O). You can also reach me by e-mail at [allan.lewis@faa.gov](mailto:allan.lewis@faa.gov)

For more information about the natural resource area, go to <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/eastern/wyeisland.html>

Hope to see you on the bay!



SCOW  
New Lockers

***“Being hove to in a long gale  
is the most boring way I know  
of being terrified.”***

Donald Hamilton

### From Our Training Instructor

David Simpson

Congratulations to the following new ***Skippers*** for a successful Flying Scot checkout this summer:

Barlow, William;  
Kikel, David;  
Schowengerdt, Frank;  
Glinsman, Matthew  
Cheng, Henry;  
Munson, Chris;  
Gan, Jenny;  
Deerkoski, Leonard;  
Perez, Tina  
Kirschner, Christy;  
Fishman, Aryeh;  
Reed, David;  
Don Pearson;  
Joe Cianfrani  
Michael Fransella;  
Sara Shpargel;  
Kristin Stone;  
Jennifer Moon;  
Sheila Conlin  
Debra Berube;  
Loni Faraci

Come out on October 8th and support the folks from the last basic class of this sailing year, as they qualify.

**Next Membership Meeting:  
Monday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2005**

The October meeting will be 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 is at 6:30 pm and the meeting begins upstairs at 7:30 pm.

***“Try to learn from your mistakes and new situations, be tolerant of you and your shipmates minor errors, and do your best not to make them again.”***

John Rousmaniere

**River Activities**

Henry Cheng

Hi SCOW members,



Our October river activity lineups include the popular Friday evening river cruise on the 7<sup>th</sup>, an overnight camp-out, and a sail in Gunston Cove/Pohick Bay Regional Park from the 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Karen Parson is the point person for the camping event. Stay tuned for informational e-mails to all SCOW coming soon. Also, congratulation to Jennifer Kamm, who is now the proud owner of Sangria, a 30-footer designed by Bill Soverel, father of Mark Soverel.

**Social Events**

Join us next Thursday at 6:30 or 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](mailto: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.

Be sure to check out the website [www.scow.org](http://www.scow.org) for a complete calendar of racing, sailing and social activities!



**SCOW**  
Late Summer Doldrums

## From the Training Desk

Doug Kelch  
Training Director

Another great training season is coming to an end. The last Basic Sailing class is almost complete and another group of students are about to take their final water exams.

When I think back over the training season, I think of the many good sailing days. Students and teachers all enjoyed this wonderful sport, and I cannot help thinking that Life is Good!

I honestly don't know who gets the most out of the classes – the students or the instructors. Therefore I would like to thank the students for giving the instructors the opportunity to introduce them to a sport that adds pleasure and satisfaction to their lives. Likewise, I would like to thank the instructors for giving their valuable time to help enrich the lives of others.

The quality of the training provided by our volunteers is (in my opinion) as good as any you can get on the east coast and provides the cornerstone for the SCOW organization. I am proud of everyone.

Make me even more proud by using those Flying Scots every chance you get. ☺

Thanks to all for an excellent season.

## Help the Editor

To facilitate the production of SCOW, please follow the following “Keys to Article Submission.”

### 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 **15<sup>th</sup> of the month**
4. **Submit a full, written-out article**
5. Submit your articles to [ChaNNels@scow.org](mailto:ChaNNels@scow.org)

This applies not just to SCOW Board Members but also to SCOW freelance writers and photographers!

ChaNNels can also be read at:  
[www.scow.org](http://www.scow.org).

Submit articles to  
[channels@scow.org](mailto:channels@scow.org)

by the **15<sup>th</sup> of every month**. Send by email. If you would like a copy of the 2005 ChaNNels editorial calendar, please request via email to [channels@scow.org](mailto:channels@scow.org) or in-person at the next meeting.  
Thanks!

*Diana Combs, Editor*  
*Wayne Williams, Layout Editor*

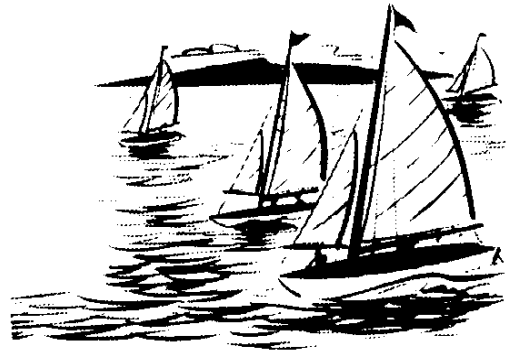


SCOW  
Psycho at Dock

## **Labor Day Raftup**

Jack Schwartz

Labor Day weekend brought some of the best weather and sailing of the season. Odyssey left the Rhode River around 11am, and was met with 10 knots from the northwest, resulting in a nice reach across the Bay. We rounded the green south of Bloody Point light, and hardened up to a close reach on Eastern Bay, eventually sailing close-hauled and double-reefed as the winds piped up, still making good time. When we rounded Tillghman Point, we dropped the main as we broad-reached down the Miles River and rounded-up into the Wye, motoring only for the last half hour up to the anchorage off Shaw Bay. There were a few boats there, but a small crowd considering it was a holiday weekend.



After we launched the dinghy, Tina enjoyed her shore leave and Annette decided to try a little fishing, catching one bait fish and a nice perch. We enjoyed a beautiful sunset, and a dinner of crab legs onboard. We had not yet heard from any other SCOW boats. After dinner, we got a call from the Jenny boats, who had been feasting on blue crab at the Crab Alley Bay marina where they were launching. They were not sure what their plans were, but said we would see them in the morning. That turned out to be 3am, after they had motored across Eastern Bay to find us at anchor, but not before shining their light onto a number of other boats.

Sunday brought another beautiful day, with open plans: breakfast of apple pie, fishing, swimming, and an impromptu make-up seminar (much to this skipper's chagrin) filled the early part of the day. We then broke-up our mini raft-up and sailed out the Wye East. Then we sailed up the Western branch, motoring into the Narrows, where we joined the Holiday Hill Hookers raft-up. A shore party was formed, and we took Tina for a much-anticipated walk. Meeting up with folks from the raft who had been hiking around the wildlife refuge on Wye Island, we all returned to the raft-up. Happy hour brought shared appetizers, beverages, and socializing. We ended the day with a cozy dinner aboard, then retired for the night.

Monday morning started early for me, and I tried my hand at using Autumn's kayak to take Tina for her morning constitutional. The idyll was brought to an abrupt end, as the Holiday Hill Hookers meant what they said about breaking the raft at about 9 am quite literally. All boats motored out the narrows, and we unfurled the genoa for a run out the Wye River. By the time we rounded into the Miles River, everyone was making sail, and we had a brisk close reach, which turned into to a broad reach down Eastern Bay, and some chose to fly their colorful chutes; a beautiful sight.

Another close reach up the Chesapeake brought us to the West River. Approaching the Rhode River, we were back in company with most of the boats from the raft-up who had spread out in the bay, but made similar time during the return voyages. I regret that no other SCOW boats were along to enjoy this beautiful weekend with us. I hope there will be a good turnout for the Fowl Weather Raft-up on October 22 and 23.

Fair winds

## Dispatch from the Boatyard

by Lynne Russillo

There is nothing as fine as riding a yak through the snow-laden peaks of Tibet...the snow choked passes of Tibet. Well I'd rather have been in Tibet than hauling boxes and moving in 90+ degree weather...*oh, this is about sailing...* There is nothing quite so fine as *going down to the marina for a sail*, and discovering that the boats are out of service. So far this year, it seems every time we turned around there was something wrong with a boat that needed fixing. This is an all-volunteer organization, so your contribution is needed. Please report by email all problems with boats. Please volunteer to help repair them. We got a lot done on Maintenance Day. Boats were cleaned and parts were replaced. Many thanks to John Roland and Doug Kelch, who supervised repairs. Commodore Linke went out for food, and Bosuns John Reed and Alice Starke were there along with many others. Many thanks to everyone who participated. Kudos to everyone who has helped keep the boats in service. *Next Maintenance Day is October 29.*

### **Rebecca**

- Hauled and bottom painted. Bill Bernhards arranged for WSM to do it, with input from Dale Eager and others to paint.
- New bulb in steaming light, new masthead wind indicator, completed by Mort or Milt (you know who you are) and Dogan Razon.
- Bilges washed out with bleach solution and rinsed with clean water.

### **Psycho**

- New depth finder, installed by Jan Earle and Dorothy Stocks, with advise from Thom Unger.
- New bulb in portside running light, installed by Jan Earle.
- Equipment check and stowing was completed by Jan Earle, Jim Metcalf, Larry Gemoets, Robert Werlwas, and Ron Trueworthy.
- Equipment list and checklist were created and copied by Jan Earle.
- New anchor chain and rode were installed by Henry Chang.

### **Ms. Ellie**

- Gooseneck casting replaced by Sean Elkin and Doug Kelch.
- Boom reinstalled by John Roland, Aiden, and Steve (you know who you are)
- New outhaul completed by Lynne Russillo.
- Centerboard roller bolt replaced by John Roland.
- Temporary lock fix on gooseneck completed by Henry Chang.

### **Danschweida**

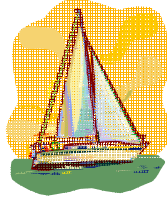
- Centerboard lifting drum installed by John Roland and Doug Kelch.
- Wind vane straightened by John Roland, Aiden, and Steve.
- Snazzy lettering was painted by "you know who you are."
- Cover tie downs were installed.

### **Susie Q**

- New gooseneck fitting was installed by Doug Kelch, Mike Murphy, and Alice Starke.
- Outhaul cheek block was a coordinated effort of Doug Kelch, Alice Starke, and Dave Reed.
- Cam/swivel was installed by Doug Kelch, Alice Starke and Dave Reed
- Cover tie downs were installed.
- Broken tiller was re-attached by Bill Davenport and Norm Kruze (of DI-SC).

### **Other Stuff**

- Trailer licensed by Lynne Russillo.
- Trailer wired by Mike Repass and Lynne Russillo, with advise from Doug Kelch.
- Haul to Waterfront festival accomplished by Doug Kelch, Mike Murphy, and Lynne Russillo.
- Return from Waterfront Festival haul completed by Doug Kelch, Rob Langford, and Lynne Russillo.
- New Scot Plugs installed by Lynne Russillo
- New Locker Shelves provided by John Rogers and Lynne Russillo and installed by John and Bob Soule.
- New Locker Lockbox installed by Lynne Russillo and Bob Soule.
- New Locker SCOW Signs installed by Alice Starke.
- Transfer of SCOW possessions from old lockers to new lockers was completed by John Rogers, Bob Soule, Lynne Russillo, John Zeidler, and Adam Levithan.
- Boat logs and tide tables were created and copied by Jan Earle
- SCOW would like to thank Tom Unger and Stuart Ullman for input and advice



Sailing Club of Washington  
*Cordially invites you to the*

*Hail and Farewell Dinner Dance for 2005*  
*Honor the SCOW 2005 Board*  
*Welcome the SCOW 2006 Board*

**CITY TAVERN CLUB**  
3206 M ST NW WASHINGTON DC 20007  
Friday, the eighteenth of November, 2005  
Seven to Eleven o'clock  
Reception, 7:00 to 7:30 PM  
Dinner, 7:30 to 9:00 PM

Dance, Silent Auction, Cash Bar, 9:00 to 11:00 PM  
If you prefer to attend the dance only, please arrive between 8:30 and 9:30 PM

**Dinner and Dance:**

\$51 per person (choice of grilled chicken, salmon, or vegetarian), *or* \$61 per person (8 oz grilled filet mignon)  
*Includes wine with first and second courses, tax and service*

**Dance Only**

\$25 per person, includes one drink (wine, beer or soda), tax and service.  
*Cocktail attire, black tie optional, coat and tie required.*  
*R.S.V.P. by November 1, 2005*

*MENU*

*First Course*

Assorted baby greens salad, rolls and butter  
Chardonnay

*Second Course*

Choice of grilled chicken, salmon, filet mignon, or grilled vegetable medley with pasta  
Seasonable vegetables  
Merlot

*Third Course*

Tiramisu cake, Coffee and Tea Service  
*Juice or soda may be substituted for wine if you prefer*

**PAYMENT AND ENTREE SELECTION MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOVEMBER 1<sup>st</sup>**

## **Talk Like A Sailor**

Bill Patton

Vice Commodore

It is October, and the temperature has come down as we head into a great time of the year for sailing. When I sat down to write this, we were closing out the second week of temperatures in the 90s, dew points in the 70s and we had all become too familiar (but not accustomed to) a heat index over 100 degrees. Former Commodore George Umberger and I had been painting our 22' O'Day Tamarisk, and the heat tested our endurance while wearing jump suits and respirators.

In addition to copious amounts of water, “cool thoughts” got us through those hot afternoons and weekend days. For instance, we thought about buying and drinking a “slush” from a local convenience store. As a sailing term, “slush” is also the word for grease that is rubbed on the masts, running-rigging wire, and various equipment. The grease lubricates and preserves those parts.

Another cool thought involved “snow”, in my case usually lots of fresh snow at a favorite ski area. As a sailing term, snow is a two-masted square-rigger like a brig, except carrying a jackmast close to and parallel to the mainmast on which the spanker was rigged. (We need another column just to understand this definition!) The term comes from the Dutch *snaauw*, their name for this rig.

Finally, just thoughts of a cool or perhaps cold breeze, a “nip” in the air so to speak, made the heat a little easier to tolerate. A nip is a loop of an eye splice, or a line spliced around a thimble or grommet. A nip can also be a kink or turn in a line; and a nip describes a line when the line breaks in direction, as in a block or chock. The origin of these uses is not known. The origin of nip as a short snort, (as in a hot toddy) is Dutch, *nippen*, meaning the same thing.

When it gets to be mid January and February and the weather is cold and snowy, we can think back on the hot August weather and look at some “warm thoughts” terms like Bermuda, Norwegian Steam, and Palm. In the meantime, enjoy the cool air and good winds of fall sailing.

Definitions taken from “Orgin of Sea Terms”, John G. Rogers and the Mystic Seaport Museum, Inc.

## **Weathering the Storm**

from “A Sailors Guide to Life” by Randy Deering

Every Cruising area has its problems. A sailor can suffer sunstroke after grounding in the endless shallows of Florida, or suffer from a nervous breakdown running his boat on watery Mexican fuel. As one old salt observed, “If boating isn’t a bit of a challenge, what’s the point?”

Problems are an inevitable and inextricable part of life. In fact, if you’re not having some kind of difficulty, you might want to check your pulse.

When you encounter the choppy waters that must, from time to time, swell in every life, remember that today’s problems are simply preparation for tomorrow’s and next week’s and next year’s.

Sometimes your problems will seem insurmountable. They’re not. Sometimes your troubles will seem insoluble. But they aren’t. In weathering the storm, you must draw strength from others and keep the faith. Then, like a veteran sailor, you can heave to, batten down the hatches, and ride out the blow...



### **SCOW**

Rebecca at Dock

***“The cabin of a small yacht is truly a wonderful thing; not only will it shelter you from the tempest, but from the other troubles of life; it is a safe retreat.”***

L. Francis Herreshoff



### 2005 Board of Directors

Position	Name	Home	Work	E-mail
Commodore	Steve Linke	703.684.5266	703.604.7006	commodore@scow.org
Vice Commodore	Bill Patton	703.836.5617	703.527.6360	vice@scow.org
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Training Director	Doug Kelch	703.716.4959	703.346.7693	training@scow.org
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Skipper Director	David Simpson			skipper@scow.org
River Director	Henry Cheng	571.261.2974		River@scow.org
Racing Director	Mike Murphy	703.820.1991		<a href="mailto:race@scow.org">race@scow.org</a>

### Other Key People

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Web Editor	Peg O'Laughlin			webmaster@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](mailto:info@scow.org)