

Commodore's Log

By John Rogers, SCOW Commodore

By now, SCOW's sailing season is well under way. We have had several social sails, our first maintenance day, first raft-up on the bay, and the first basic and cruiser sailing classes are underway. In May, racing starts with the SCOW Flying Scot races on Wednesday evenings and the tune-up regatta will be on Saturday May 19th. I hope to see you there.

Much to my surprise, I have been asked several times who might be Commodore next year. It seems too early for me to think about that now. We will not have a Nominating Committee for another three or four months and the election is not until November.

However, it may not be too early for you to consider what is involved and think about running for office.

In an effort to have an informed electorate, I will ask Board members to provide an inside perspective on their position and duties. These descriptions will appear in upcoming Channels. For this month I will provide some background on SCOW and the position of Commodore.

Two important features of SCOW include 1) SCOW has By-laws and policies to guide its operations and 2) SCOW is a volunteer organization. Because SCOW has no staff and the Board turns over each year, continuity from year to year is maintained by a combination of written SCOW policies and what I might call oral history. SCOW's oral history is the accumulated memory of past members and volunteers, including past Board members.

This system works in part because each new Board has a month or two in the winter (when the club is less active) to become familiar with the policies and the tasks that need to be completed during the year. Thus the first tasks are becoming familiar with the SCOW By-laws and policies.

The By-laws outline the duties of the Commodore. In addition to those duties, an important part of being Commodore is working with the members, Board, and volunteers. To a large extent, being Commodore is a people-job, guiding efforts of the members and Board, finding compromises and new solutions and considering what is good for the club over the long term. Work gets done in SCOW by volunteers, for which I am very grateful. Thus part of the job of Commodore and other Board members is to figure out how our members can best contribute to the club in ways that are rewarding to both the club and the members.

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If you think you might be interested in running for Commodore, talk to me or any of the past Commodores.

OK. Now lets go sailing! ✨

May Social Report

By Dot Almassy

Social Sails have gotten off to a steady start....with a few new folks showing up each week. The weather hasn't been very cooperative so I look forward to a big May swing in the weather and lots of folks ready to help out with being skippers, co-chefs and dockmasters. Please check your calendars and see when you can volunteer to help. Drop me a note at social@scow.org. This is a wonderful opportunity to let folks know about SCOW and get acquainted on the water. We meet about 6pm, launch the boats, set up the CHOW DHOW, sail, eat, socialize and enjoy the magnificent views. Bring your friends and share SCOW!

SAVE THE DATE: July 8, 2007 will be the Commodore's Picnic! We'll gather at the grove in the afternoon and have a wonderful family day on the waterfront with friends past, present and future! Look for more details in the June CHANNELS.

SAVE THE DATE: Smith Island Weekend: Space will be limited, and as in previous years, we will take the ferry, club folks will take their boats, we'll enjoy a crab feast and go back in time at Smith Island on SEPT 15 AND 16, 2007.

Has anyone taken the Long Boat excursion out of Solomons? That's on the agenda...look for the announcement on the e-mail.

SAVE THE DATE: Hail & Farewell will be on 17 November 2007.

Smooth sailing.... Dot, SCOW Social Director ✨

SCOW at the Alexandria Red Cross Waterfront Festival in June

By Karyl Owings

Once again, it's time for the Alexandria Red Cross Waterfront Festival fund-raiser, and that means a SCOW presence at a booth on the Pier, spreading the word about sailing and about our great club! We take a Flying Scot along every year and park it on the Pier; SCOW members at our booth then greet the folks who stop by to chat. We need YOU to volunteer to staff the SCOW booth for a few hours, or to help haul the Scot to or from the Festival. Volunteers receive free admission into the Festival area! The Waterfront Festival is Saturday, June 16 from 10:00am to 7:00pm, and Sunday, June 17 from 11:00am to 5:00pm. Shifts at the SCOW booth will be:

SATURDAY JUNE 16, SCOW BOOTH

10:00am to 1:00pm - 3 people needed

1:00pm to 4:00pm - 3 people needed

4:00pm to 7:00pm - 3 people needed

SUNDAY JUNE 17, SCOW BOOTH

11:00am to 2:00pm - 3 people needed

2:00pm to 5:00pm - 3 people needed

We'll also need help with unstepping the mast, hauling a Flying Scot, setting her up on the Pier and stepping the mast. I've done this a few times and can't emphasize enough how much fun it is - if you've never done it, this is your chance to learn!

FRIDAY JUNE 15, HAULING A SCOT to OLD TOWN SUNDAY JUNE 17, HAULING A SCOT BACK

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Special Olympics

Special Olympics Regatta comes to Washington Sailing Marina and SCOW will be there.

By 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 Special Olympics Sailing Regatta held the 21st of July at our own Washington Sailing Marina.



Here's the game plan: Each Monday in June (4th, 11th, 18th, 25th), 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.

letes.

In addition, when possible, volunteers are asked to arrive at the marina early to help rig the Flying 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 specialolympics@scow.com with the Mondays you can assist



More information on the Virginia Special Olympics Regatta can be had by contacting Allen Flanigan by phone at 703-684-7136, or by email at AFlanigan@comcast.net *

Waterfront Festival from Page 2

5:00pm to 7:00pm - one truck with hitch needed

5:00pm to 7:00pm - one truck with hitch needed

5:00pm to 7:00pm - 5 people needed

5:00pm to 7:00pm - 5 people needed

The Alexandria Red Cross Waterfront Festival is a fun event, and a great way to introduce SCOW to new friends and sailing enthusiasts who may not have heard of us before. Come on out and make it another successful year for SCOW at the Festival! If interested in participating, send email to Karyl Owings at karylc@yahoo.com. For more information on the Alexandria Red Cross Waterfront Festival, visit <http://www.waterfrontfestival.org/> *



July to August Calendar of Events

Saturday through Friday

	Sat Jul 7	Sun Jul 8	Mon Jul 9	Tue Jul 10	Wed Jul 11	Thu Jul 12	Fri Jul 13
J U L Y	Capsize I	Commodore's Picnic	General Meeting		Cruiser II (Land)	Social Sail	
					Racing		
	Sat Jul 14	Sun Jul 15	Mon Jul 16	Tue Jul 17	Wed Jul 18	Thu Jul 19	Fri Jul 20
	Cruiser II (Water)	Cruiser II (Water)			Cruiser II (Land)	Social Sail	
	Spinnaker I	Channels Deadline			Racing		
Sat Jul 21	Sun Jul 22	Mon Jul 23	Tue Jul 24	Wed Jul 25	Thu Jul 26	Fri Jul 27	
Cruiser II Evening	Cruiser II (Water,)				Social Sail		
				Racing			
Sat Jul 28	Sun Jul 29	Mon Jul 30	Tue Jul 31	Wed Aug 1	Thu Aug 2	Fri Aug 3	
Cruiser II (Make-up)	Cruiser II Checkout				Social Sail		
				Racing			
A U G U S T	Sat Aug 4	Sun Aug 5	Mon Aug 6	Tue Aug 7	Wed Aug 8	Thu Aug 9	Fri Aug 10
	Capsize II		Board Meeting			Social Sail	
					Racing		
	Sat Aug 11	Sun Aug 12	Mon Aug 13	Tue Aug 14	Wed Aug 15	Thu Aug 16	Fri Aug 17
	Spinnaker II		General Meeting		Channels Deadline	Social Sail	
Social Event - Cambridge Lady				Racing			
Sat Aug 18	Sun Aug 19	Mon Aug 20	Tue Aug 21	Wed Aug 22	Thu Aug 23	Fri Aug 24	
Extra Basic & Cruiser Checkout					Social Sail		
				Racing			
Sat Aug 25	Sun Aug 26	Mon Aug 27	Tue Aug 28	Wed Aug 29	Thu Aug 30	Fri Aug 31	
Bay St. Michael's Crab Feast					Social Sail		
				Racing			

SCOW Welcomes New Members

Aguila, Cecilia
Arkin, Keren
Asher, Steve
Astman, Brett
Beerthuis, Mark
Beerthuis, Suzanne
Belles, Jennifer
Bemben, Richard
Biggio, Frank, (Gus)
Biggio, Nicoline
Black, Kimberly
Blanchet, Sharon
Buchanan, Bonnie, A.
Burt, William, Allan
Caglar, Toros
Campbell, Hannah
Cannell, Evan
Charters, Andrea
Chisholm, Kevin
Connell, Daniela
Cox, Richard
Cundiff, Diron
Curd, John, (Jr)
Curd, Benjamin
Ducey, Richard, V.
Duncan, Elizabeth, Ashley
Edwards, Benjamin
Finley, Rebecca
Freeman, Anthony, David
Garris, Stephen, T
Gilbert, Sarah
Goldberg, Daniel
Goldberg, Jacob
Goldberg, maddie
Graham, Paget, L.
Greenspan, Sharon

Hamelin, Tiffany, T
Heflin, Bonnie
Hilger, James
Hinebaugh, James
Kelly, Thomas
Kelly, Darcy
Kirkman, Will
Klein, James
Luken, Todd
Mangum, Katherine, Mane
McFarlane, Kim
Meyer, David
Moeller-Hassett, Denise
Nachazel, Teri
Ouellette, Patrick
Ouellette, Aletha
Puccio, Nicole, D.
Riker, Steven
Sanjour, William, (Bill)
Schaefer, Wolfgang, M
Schaefer, Christine
Schaefer, Alexander
Smith, Mary, Sophia
Stowe, Jason
Sudman, Susan, K.
Suggs, Lindsey
Tannen, Joan, Wallace
Thomasson, David
Tompert, James
Tompert, Holly, Prvor
Vanderzyl, James
Vanderzyl, Max
Whaley, Karma, K.
Wise, Joyce
Yates, Rhonda
Yielding, Jennifer

Got Pictures?

SCOW Members would love to see them. Send digital or hard copy photos (the latter will be returned) to the editor. Please include captions.

Adam Pressman PO Box 414,
Gerrardstown, WV 25420
channels06@scow.org

Questions about

Boat Etiquette?

Want to be the boat guest that's always invited back? Standby for a debut of a new monthly column in Channels.

Pose your question to
manners@scow.org

Maintenance Pays Off—Newly Tuned Rebecca Gets Line Honors at First DISC Race

By Kevin Mulane

As a relatively new member of SCOW (July, 2006) I have been pleased to discover that there seem to be unlimited opportunities to sail with other SCOW members. One such opportunity arose for me when Bill Davenport undertook to assemble a crew for SCOW club boat “Rebecca”, our Catalina 25, as an entrant in the first annual Cherry Blossom (Sailboat) Regatta. This race was sponsored by Washington Sailing Marina as an experiment in adding another river-based activity to the National Cherry Blossom Festival. (The original Cherry Blossom Regatta remains a rowing event upstream from the 14th street bridge.)

Bill Davenport, SCOW Maintenance Director, lined up SCOW member Nick Gull, potential SCOW member David Owen (looking very nautical in his bibs), and myself to meet him at the G dock Sunday morning where we prepared the boat for launch. As we motored up to the North course off Haines Point, Bill tutored his crew in some of the subtleties of boat balance, sail trim, and wind shifts. We arrived at buoy “GR1” with plenty of time to spare, allowing us to run up and down the channel, testing the wind and allowing the crew to gain familiarity with the running rigging. Excitement grew as the fleet assembled. It was clear that there would be plenty of competition.

With the arrival of the committee boat, we stood off as the spinnaker boats tested the starting line. Then the non-spinnakers began jockeying for position. Rebecca made a great start leaving the committee boat inches to starboard as the horn sounded.

We bore away to take best advantage of the prevailing wind and current and began chewing up the five minute lead that the spinnaker boats had ahead of us. We were first among the non-spinnakers to round the windward mark and headed down overtaking a spinnaker boat well before the second mark passing near enough to exchange pleasantries. Good Rebecca gave us a substantial lead and we were only required to fairly round the second mark and avoid running into the committee boat in order to claim the victory for SCOW.

The second race found us somewhat unprepared and we were the very last to cross the starting line well behind the pack. Yet our clean Catalina managed to run down nearly every non-spinnaker racer carrying us across the line in good time yielding the race on penalty-time to a Yankee Dolphin.

Guest Services did a fine job setting out post-race refreshments at Indigo Landing and Bill claimed a haul-out and power-wash that was offered for best time over-all among each of the spinnakers and non-spinnakers.

Thanks go out to Daingerfield Island Sailing Club (DISC) member Bob Minnelli and the Race Committee for coordinating the race; the Washington Sailing Marina and Guest Services for their sponsorship; and all the skippers and crew who participated to make this a fine tune-up for the upcoming season✱



Bill Davenport collects first place prize in the Non-Spinnaker fleet during the Cherry Blossom Regatta

River Report

By Wayne Williams, River Director



SCOW Race Director Adam and Social Director Dot enjoy sunshine with Veri on *Little Tomato*



SCOW Training Karen discussing the schedule of classes with Doug at this year's "Train the Trainers" Day.



SCOW 1st Social Sail, 12 April 2007
Dockmaster Tina checking out crew.



The joy of sailing is that there is always something more to learn

As the years passed, this urge to circle the world alone lay dormant in me, like a gorse seed which will lie in the earth for fifty years until the soil is stirred to admit some air, or light, and the seed suddenly burgeons. And so it was with me.

Sir Francis Chichester

'Round the World Sailor and Author



SCOW Maintenance Bill - showcasing Rebecca's rigging to this years Cruiser Trainers; including the sail reefing, boom vang, modified tiller and soon to be upgraded motor mounts. If you have a talent and want to donate time to the club assisting with maintenance contact maintenance@scow.org

Maintenance Day Extravaganza

By Bill Davenport, Maintenance Director

The "FREE MAINTENANCE DAY EXTRAVAGANZA" was held Saturday 4/21 and we had a strong turn out of heroes and legends. The Flying Scots were off loaded from their trailers and careened. Their bottoms were cleaned and inspected. Their centerboards were then checked for damage. Yes, the Scots have been finding the bottom with their centerboards, quite often. Tiller dampening devices were installed (tiller tamers). Wax remover was used on Rebecca's decks (once again). Her bow lights were repaired. And the motor mount was replaced. Hatch props were installed on the cockpit hatches.

Many thanks to those who showed up and worked: Dorothy Stocks, Lindsey Suggs, Duane Lambert, David Thomasson, Randy Rosenfeld, Tom Kelly, Mike Magyarics, Jim Metcalf, Tina Perez, Steve Linke, Doug Kelch, Mike Rothenberg, Becky and others whose names I didn't get.

On Sunday 4/22 Mike Rothenberg came back to the marina and had Psycho hauled and power washed. Psycho had been grounded a week earlier and her centerboard was stuck in the up position. Mike saw to it that the centerboard was put back in proper order with the help of Karyl Owings, Declan Conroy, and the fast working marina staff who hauled Psycho on short notice.

Many thanks to all involved.

There is still much work to be done please contact maintenance@scow.org to volunteer your time.

Your Maintenance Director Bill Davenport*

Race Training Opportunities begin at Washington Sailing Marina

By Adam Pressman, Race Director

Race fans, the action this month is just getting started in Valencia, Spain as the preliminaries for the 32nd America's Cup and SCOW is debuting preliminary race programs of its own. As the Wednesday Night Skiff Regatta begins in a couple weeks, some SCOW Flying Scots and Cruiser Skippers have elected to use their time on our boats to help SCOW build a cadre of race capable sailors for crew in the Wednesday Night races, the races sponsored by other clubs and the large sailing community on Chesapeake Bay.

Racing isn't for everybody and some might consider the intensity of racing sailboats counter to the very relaxing feeling of the calm and fluidity of sailing. Even cruising sailors agree that knowing something about making the boat sail fast is a useful addition to boat handling skills. Such skills, rather than race tactics or the complex rules of racing, are shared by our capable skippers each Wednesday night until the 16th when our season kicks off. Also, your Race Director is coordinating keelboat race skills on the cruisers on weekends when the boats are available.

Our first Wednesday session showed off a budding racing natural in one of our Flying Scots skippers. Coach Eugenia Williford and this writer agreed with the ease of tactical positioning demonstrated by this Flying Scots skipper and the ease with which the crew melded into an effective team.



SCOW Racers line up for starting practice

Contact me at race@scow.org to join the fun*



2007 Board of Directors

Position	Name	Home	Work	E-mail
Commodore	John Rogers	202.244.5537	301.294.2804	commodore@scow.org
Vice Commodore	Thomas Paquin	202.281.8999	202.659.6500	vice@scow.org
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Racing Director	Adam Pressman		703.850.2072	race@scow.org

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For Information about Club Activities

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

