

ChanNels

The Newsletter of the Sailing Club of Washington
October 2011

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Commodore's Report

Faith Rodell, Commodore

As the weather cools off and our active sailing season slows down a bit we can look back on another fun year of sailing in the Sailing Club of Washington and a year with lots of accomplishments as a Club.

Best, of which, is we have added a **new cruiser** to our fleet, a 25 ft Capri, "Skirmish" (see picture on the next page), purchased from former SCOW members Nelson Pacheco and his wife Betty who gave us a great deal on a well maintained boat. Thanks to Chris McGraw who organized bringing Skirmish up from Lewisetta, Va on the lower Potomac. The final 2 legs of this trip will be completed this week.

The Board and the Boat Asset committee are still looking for a **replacement cruiser** for Topaz so that we will have three great cruisers! Hopefully we can find just the right boat and sell Topaz before the start of the new season.

The Board and the Training and Certification Committee task force also spent a lot hours wrestling with the Boat Use Policy and have made great progress in **eliminating Small Craft Advisories** as the limiting criteria for boat use. Check the webpage and read the new policy based on forecasted wind speeds rather than SCA's. This will certainly increase our sailing and training opportunities.

Sarah Jones has done a great job dealing with Topaz' problems, engine thefts, and keeping our fleet in good operating order this year. Thanks to all the members who turned out for the fall Maintenance day October 15th.

Continued.

RSVP by November 4th!



November 19, 2011 from 6:00 pm until 11:00 pm
Capital Yacht Club • 1000 Water Street, SW, Washington, DC

Come celebrate with friends the end of another successful SCOW season.

Hail" to the newly elected 2012 Board and "Farewell" to the Board members who have served our club so well this year.

Dinner and Dancing
Cocktail attire, black tie optional
\$40 per person, cash bar

RSVP by November 4, 2011

Checks payable to the
Sailing Club of Washington
P.O. Box 25884, Alexandria, VA 22313
or
\$41.50 via paypal, vendor
payment@scow.org

Commodore's Report continued.

The Racing season was the best ever – lots of wins – and thanks to Kyoko for a great season. The proudest that we can be is that we helped raise over \$181,000 during the Leukemia Cup Regatta placing this Regatta 5th in the nation in fund raising. Chris McGraw and his Team Tartan took 2nd place in fund raising with \$9300 taken in.

River/Bay Director, Richard Cecilio, organized Themed Raft-ups and everyone is still singing those Jimmy Buffet tunes.

Social Sails were well attended this year and well organized by our new monthly Social Sail Coordinators: Jim Klein, Cathy Zeigler, Eileen Dougherty, Terry Nachazel, and Barbara Thacker. We were missing a Social Director, most of the year, but the coordinators kept everything running smoothly. Jeanne Guerin volunteered to finish out the year as Social Director. Thank you, Jeanne. Many new members joined after first coming to a social sail. Thanks to all the skippers who made sure these guests had a good time and turned them on to sailing. This is what it is all about.

Mark Hogan, Ron Sheldon and Richard Chan of our Investment Committee have been the driving force moving forward with forming an Investment Policy to better manage the Club funds.

Deadline is approaching for getting your reservations in for Hail and Farewell. A delightful evening of dancing, awards presentation and an Asian Fusion feast is planned at the Capital Yacht Club. Given the state of the economy this year we have lowered the price to \$40 to make it more affordable. Space is limited get your reservations in by November 4th.



Skirmish, the latest addition to SCOW fleet!

Notice to membership: Voting for the SCOW Board of Directors is now open on the SCOW web-page at <http://www.scow.org/>.

On-line votes will be recorded until 11:59 p.m. Saturday, November 12th in order the Election Monitors to tally the votes and present at the Annual Meeting Monday, November 14th.

If you have not voted on-line by this time, you may vote with paper ballot at the beginning of the Annual Meeting 7:30 pm, Monday, November 14th .

For those who have opted out of receiving SCOW email, paper ballots will be mailed this week.

If you have difficulty voting, questions may be directed to Luis Rivas at webmaster@scow.org

Upcoming Events:

November 5 - Frostbite Race

November 14- SCOW Annual Meeting and Election of Officers and Directors

November 19- Hail and Farewell Dinner Dance at Capital Yacht Club 6:00 – 11:30 pm

January 7, 2012 - Afterglow Party at The Colonies 7pm – 11pm

March 11, 2012 - Re-Up Brunch at The Colonies 10 am -2 pm

Leukemia Cup Regatta with Team Tartan aboard Rebecca

Chris McGraw

What a regatta!

Thanks to over 80 individual donors to our team, we raised a record \$9,300 to defeat blood cancer and earned the second highest fundraising boat total in the whole 100-boat Regatta!! So, beating our goal, as promised, we took to the race course sporting tartans and kilts!

But this was no ordinary race. *Continued.*

Leukemia Cup Regatta continued.

Tropical storm Lee ripped through Washington just before the start, its flood waters throwing down enormous currents and tree trunks for us to dodge, as well as all the plastic bottles from West Virginia, and all the tennis balls that have ever been lost in the DC metro area. Gusts of wind barred white caps and pushed the occasional sailboat on its ear, their sails dipping low to the muddy Potomac flood.

In the first of two races our smart crew in kilts and other tartan-wear port tacked over to the Maryland side of the river seeking shallow waters in order to elude the current. It seemed like a great plan as our boat accelerated into full speed and began pulling away from competitors, but just as we settled in to our groove, three sickening thuds sounded in short succession. Each shook the hull causing the crew to jolt like officers on the bridge of the starship Enterprise (those of us wearing red shirts were particularly fearful.). As the last thud rang out, our rudder came completely free from the stern. We had lost our steering.

The thuds had been sounded by submerged wooden pilings hidden under the 8 feet of water. In an earlier life they had constituted a a civil war era dock. Now, they were our downfall.

We loosed the sheets and flopped our sails as brothers Gary and Chris struggled in our kilts to lean over the stern of the vessel and man-handle a 150 pound rudder back into elusive gudgeons to re-attach it to our boat (I'm sure the rest of the crew was traumatized). Four hours later (or so it seemed) we were back in the race and heading around the marks. With our rudder replaced, we made up time and managed to cross the line in 7th place ahead of some strong competitors.

In the second race everything went perfectly and we took the bullet -- first place! Combined it gave us a 3rd place in the race for the day. Not bad work.

We certainly did our best to win the afterparty that took place shortly thereafter. What a great regatta! Thanks for being wonderful supporters!



Is This Your Cleat?

Ever wonder how to properly and safely tie a cleat hitch? Here's a good article on it.

Fair winds,
Thom Unger

From:

<http://captnmike.com/2011/02/27/is-this-your-cleat/>



Got an article idea, photos or other content for a future newsletter? Send an email to the editor, Tom Paquin, at: editor@scow.org.

Annual meeting of General Membership Election of Officers and Directors

**November 14
6:30pm**

Location: Holiday Inn, 625 First Street, Alexandria, Virginia

Time: Socializing begins at 6:30pm with reduced price happy hour food and drinks; meeting begins at 7:30pm

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 Content: submit by the 20th of every month to: editor@scow.org
2011 Calendar: <http://www.scow.org/calendar.html>
SCOW Pictures: <http://picasaweb.google.com/Sailing.Club.of.Washington>
SCOW Website: <http://www.scow.org>



2011 Board of Directors

Position	Name	Phone	E-mail
Commodore	Faith Rodell	301.674.9324	commodore@scow.org
Vice-Commodore	Chris McGraw		vice@scow.org
Secretary	Maggie Kruesi		secretary@scow.org
Treasurer	Mark Hogan		treasurer@scow.org
Training Director	Vacant		training@scow.org
Maintenance Director	Sara Jones		maintdir@scow.org
Social Director	Vacant		social@scow.org
Skipper Director	Dan Sandhaus		skipper@scow.org
River/Bay Activities Director	Richard Cecilio		river@scow.org
Racing Director	Kyoko Kawai		racing@scow.org

Other Key Contacts

Channels Editor	Tom Paquin		editor@scow.org
Advertising	Vacant		advertising@scow.org
Email Administrator	Jeff Teitel	202.271.2348	postmaster@scow.org
Membership Coordinator	Henry Cheng		members@scow.org
Web Editor	Luis Rivas		webmaster@scow.org
Photos on Web	Cristina Thalhammer-Reyero		pictures@scow.org

For information about club activities

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