

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

The Newsletter of the  
Sailing Club of Washington

October/  
November 2014

## Commodore's Log

Chris Tindal, Commodore

To my beloved friends in SCOW, this will be my last column in ChanNels, and I have been very honored and humbled to serve as your Commodore this past year. It has been a superb year, filled with many wonderful events affording all of us a chance to have fun and sail and socialize together. Your fantastic board and our ever-growing selfless volunteers accomplished a multitude of projects and initiatives. We held many races and training sessions, and maintained our fleet of boats in tip-top shape. I was pleased to christen *Caroline*, the newest addition to our Flying Scot fleet, and look forward to seeing her out on the water for years to come.

Thank you all for the opportunity to lead such a fine group of sailors and friends. Please continue to support next year's board with the same fervor and enthusiasm.

Very Respectfully Yours,  
Chris

### About Winter Sailing

Want to keep sailing in the winter? This info can help you stay warm and safe: [www.examiner.com/article/tips-to-keep-you-safe-during-your-winter-sail](http://www.examiner.com/article/tips-to-keep-you-safe-during-your-winter-sail)



SCOW's Commodore raced in the Flying Scot Spring Series (above) and the Leukemia Cup Regatta (top) as part of the Pied Pirates team. (Photos by Alice Starcke)

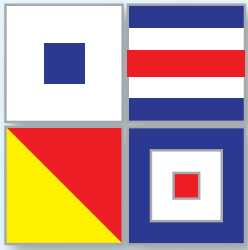


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- 11/24-25 Warmer Temps  
Forecast
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Boats
- 1/10/15 Afterglow Party

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## SCOW Sailors Compete in District Championship

Julian Mallett, Racing Director

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Two boats from SCOW participated in the Flying Scot Atlantic Coast Championship (ACC) on September 20-21st. This year's event was combined with the Capitol District Championship and held at Fishing Bay Yacht Club. SCOW entered 2 boats: *Elisse*, sailed by David Beckett and Ethan Beckett and *Caroline*, sailed by Julian Mallett and Dick Vida. Team members Terry Mallett and Elaine McLaughlin provided very important support.

FBYC has 2 clubhouses, located on either side of the road running down the narrow Stove Point peninsula. One fronts the northern side and the main clubhouse fronts Fishing Bay on the south side. Both have water frontage and are beautiful facilities. Some of the com-



(Left) The new Fishing Bay Yacht Club clubhouse, with 2.1 acres of land. (Right) Looking out over Fishing Bay. (Photos by Terry Mallett and Elaine McLaughlin)

petitors camped on the club grounds and members travelling from some distance regularly camp out for the weekend during sailing season.

Fishing Bay is located on the Virginia side of the Potomac near Deltaville and is about a 3 hour drive from Alexandria.



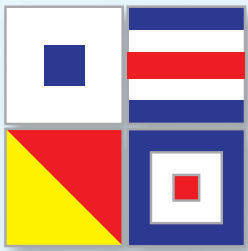
The whole area is dotted with marinas and boating stores and is a popular base location for many sailors throughout the region. Deltaville has about 500-800 year-round residents, many of whom are retirees, but the population swells to thousands in the summer. The tip of the peninsula is named Stingray point because, according to legend, Captain John Smith was stung by a stingray there while exploring the Chesapeake Bay.

The weekend started with towing both boats from WSM to Fishing Bay. A late start combined with a broken mast fork (which is used to hold the mast in place after it has been lowered) and a quick fix, the convoy headed off into the busy route 95 traffic, finally arriving at our destination by about 5.00 pm.

### Setting Up the Boats

Boats were being rigged in the Yacht Club parking lot and many of the visiting teams set up tents in order to camp. The SCOW teams elected to stay in the nearby





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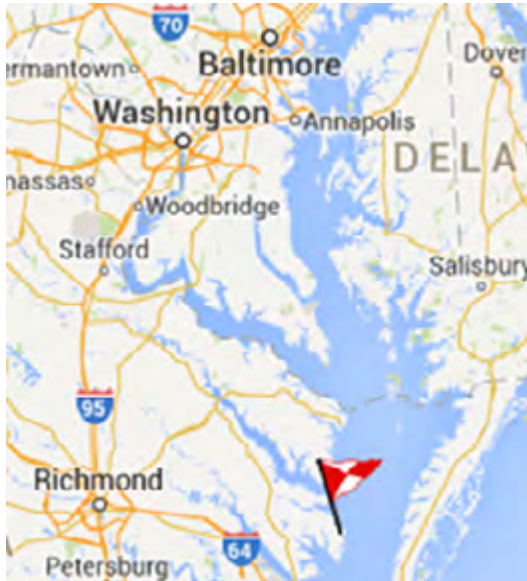
Dockside Motel. After check-in, we raised the masts, rigged the boats and collected the Sailing Instructions, regatta shirts and other goodies from the registration desk at the club house. Sunset curtailed the almost-finished rigging work, so the crews departed for seafood and beer at Taylor's Restaurant.

Early Saturday morning we set off for the yacht club, a quick breakfast in the clubhouse and finishing up of rigging and tuning. Next it was off to the skippers' meeting.

Excitement and tension were building as all the crews listened to a description of the course, procedures and flag signals and discussed among themselves the weather forecast and strategies.

A total of 35 Flying Scots registered for the race and were split into 2 fleets—Champion Fleet (23 boats) and the Challenger Fleet (12 boats) for less experienced skippers.

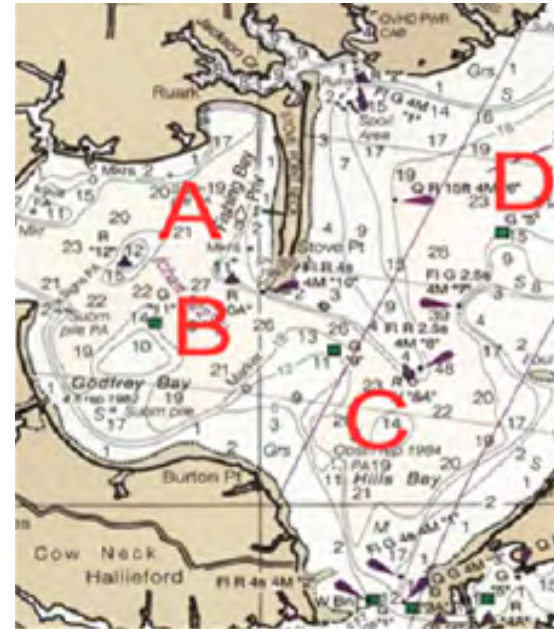
Both SCOW boats participated in the Championship fleet which included some of the best Flying Scot skippers such as David Neff (Governor – Capital District) and Harry Carpenter (Owner of Flying Scot Inc.). In all, 18 different clubs were represented from states all the way from South Carolina up to New Jersey.



Fishing Bay has two boat launching sites, a crane and a

ramp. The two SCOW teams opted to use the crane and launched our boats, with several other crews, on the north side of the narrow peninsula into Jackson Creek. Other boats launched off the ramp on the south side directly in to Fishing Bay. Navigating Jackson Creek was reminiscent of the Washington Sailing Marina with a narrow mile-long channel and a lot of shallows but we were able to follow the fleet out without incident.

The course was set out in the Chesapeake Bay close to the mouth of the Rappahanock River, and on arrival we found winds in the Force 4 (moderate breeze) category



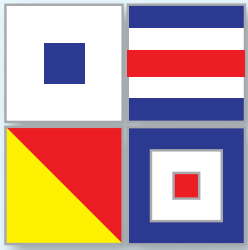
with winds in the 11 – 16 knot range and a 4-ft swell. These conditions continued through the first day of racing, but became milder on the second day.

### Course location

Courses were set up in Area D. This area is on the

main body of the Chesapeake and towards Newport News, so the conditions are unlike the Potomac at DC. The location is more exposed and swells are more common.





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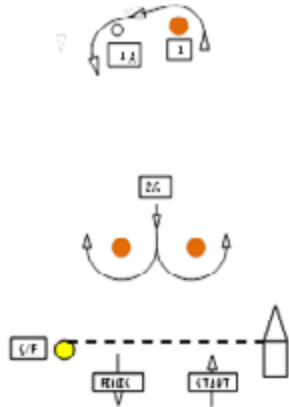
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### The Course

The course was essentially a W2, but because of the large number of boats the course was laid out with a windward off-set mark and a leeward gate. Especially on the first leg, without an off-set mark a large number of boats will round the windward mark at the same time and will be raising their spinnakers then turning directly in to the oncoming fleet. The off-set mark puts the lead boats raising their spinnakers away from the boats still coming upwind, which makes the mark turning safer and less congested.



Similarly a single leeward mark would have the same type of issue. At this stage the fleet is a little more spread out, though there is still some congested bunching. At the gate, boats must pass between the buoys but have their choice of which one to round. This reduces congestion, but also adds a tactical decision of which way to go down the course.

### The Results

*Elisse* (Beckett and Beckett) came in 21st and *Caroline* (Mallett and Vida) came in 23rd out of a fleet of 25 boats. I guess we are not yet champions, but participating in this regatta was a huge learning curve from trailering, rigging and tuning boats, through battling in a large fleet on an unfamiliar course without local knowledge of currents, tides, wind shadows, etc.

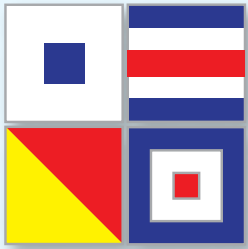
From here it just gets better. In 2015, SCOW can participate in more of these events leading to a more enjoyable club experience and improved skills. For photos of the race, see next page.



Championship results: Atlantic Coast Champion Dave Neff (left) and crew Jason Hair receiving the trophy. Dave is the Governor of the Flying Scot Capital District and sails out of Selby Bay on FS 5609. Note that this trophy is a silver bowl cut in half and mounted on a mahogany plaque. The other half of this trophy used to be the Presidents Cup—yes, the one held each year by PRSA here at the Washington Sailing Marina when there was a fleet of Flying Scots based here.

Fleet 203 (SCOW and other private and local boats) is going to try to locate this silver bowl and re-institute it as the trophy for the Flying Scot event in the Presidents/Leukemia cup regatta in 2015.





## District Championship Races in Pictures

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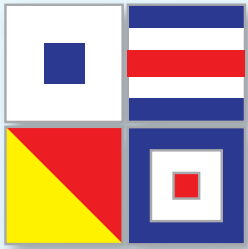
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*Elisse racing (Above), Caroline racing (Above Right), Race Committee Boat, Mr. Roberts II (Below), and a crowded starting line (Below Right).*





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## Fall Maintenance Day Puts Fleet in Shape

Jim Talley, Maintenance Director

The SCOW Fall Maintenance Day was held on Saturday, October 18th. The weather was sunny with gusty winds, which would have made for a nice day of sailing, but we had work to do. About 40 members showed up and we completed a variety of tasks including:

- Washed and waxed all Scot hulls.
- Washed all PFDs.
- Repaired the SCOW Dhow.
- Cruiser maintenance.
- Added reefing lines to some mainsails and replaced worn outhauls.
- Repaired the floors of the sail and maintenance lockers.
- Updated all log books and safety bags.

Thanks to everyone for keeping our fleet in ship-shape.

Due to hull integrity issues, *Sunset Song* was taken to the Flying Scot factory for repairs in September. Specifically, her hull was leaking water where the centerboard trunk meets the bottom of the hull. The leak was attributed to general wear-and-tear over time, not to a particular incident. While *Sunset Song* was at the factory, we had her centerboard and jib fairlead rail refurbished. She has been returned to the marina and is back in service. Many thanks to Richard Kaiser for driving her to the factory and back to the marina.

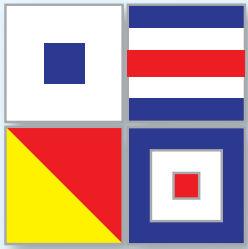
Just a reminder to skippers that if you notice any maintenance issues with our fleet, record them in the boat's log book and send a detailed e-mail to me at [maintdir@scow.org](mailto:maintdir@scow.org) and cc the boat's bosun. The bosuns are:

- *Ms Ellie* ([msellie@scow.org](mailto:msellie@scow.org)) - Vince Penoso
- *Selkie* ([selkie@scow.org](mailto:selkie@scow.org)) - Sean Hollowood
- *Sunset Song* ([sunsetsong@scow.org](mailto:sunsetsong@scow.org)) - Martin Branham
- *Susie Q* ([suzieq@scow.org](mailto:suzieq@scow.org)) - Dick Vida
- *Elisse* ([elisse@scow.org](mailto:elisse@scow.org)) - Jim Klein
- *Caroline* ([caroline@scow.org](mailto:caroline@scow.org)) - Julian Mallett
- *Rebecca* ([rebecca@scow.org](mailto:rebecca@scow.org)) - Steve Youngblood
- *Hiatus* ([hiatus@scow.org](mailto:hiatus@scow.org)) - Luis Rivas
- *Skirmish* ([skirmish@scow.org](mailto:skirmish@scow.org)) - Laura Scandurra



(Photos by Bill Smith)





## Maintenance Day Pictures

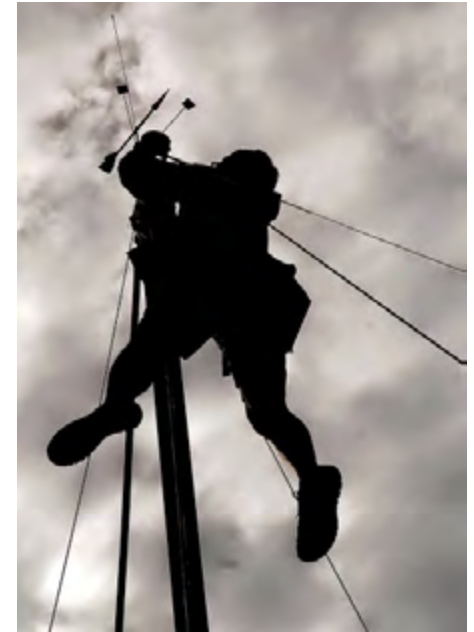
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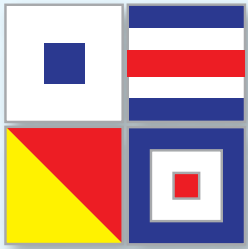
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(Photos by Bill Smith)





## SCOW Racing Wraps Up Successful Year

The Flying Scot Fall Playoffs were held on Sunday, October 26, an afternoon of crisp winds, reefed mainsails, and an outgoing tide. Racers found plenty of excitement in the cove and close competition. coping with strong gusts and (mostly) avoiding the mud banks. Results are as follows:

- 1st - *Sunset Song*: David Beckett, Ethan Beckett
- 2nd - *Selkie*: Dick Vida, Julian Mallett
- 3rd - *Elisse*: Jim Klein, Steve Youngblood, Kristine Sadusky
- 4th - *Caroline*: Luis Rivas, Alex White, Becky Cole



(Photos by Alice Starcke)



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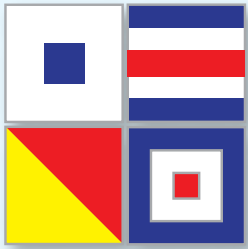
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## More Flying Scot Race Action— Spring and Fall Series

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(BELOW) Fall Playoff winners: From left—E. Beckett, D. Beckett, 1st; Mallett, Vida, 2nd; Klein, Sadusky, and Youngblood, 3rd; Rivas, White, and Cole, 4th. (Photos by Alice Starcke)



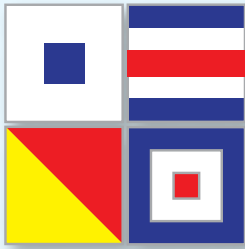
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## 2014 Officers

Commodore	Chris Tindal	<a href="mailto:commodore@scow.org">commodore@scow.org</a>
Vice Commodore	Luis Rivas	<a href="mailto:vice@scow.org">vice@scow.org</a>
Secretary	Rob Reuter	<a href="mailto:secretary@scow.org">secretary@scow.org</a>
Treasurer	Adam Cromie	<a href="mailto:treasurer@scow.org">treasurer@scow.org</a>

## 2014 Board Members

Training Director	Dave Beckett	<a href="mailto:training@scow.org">training@scow.org</a>
Skipper Director	Dan Sandhaus	<a href="mailto:skipper@scow.org">skipper@scow.org</a>
Social Director	Chris McGraw	<a href="mailto:social@scow.org">social@scow.org</a>
Maintenance Director	Jim Talley	<a href="mailto:maintdir@scow.org">maintdir@scow.org</a>
River/Bay Director	Kristine Sadusky	<a href="mailto:river@scow.org">river@scow.org</a>
Racing Director	Julian Mallett	<a href="mailto:racing@scow.org">racing@scow.org</a>
Membership Director	Barbara Thacker	<a href="mailto:membership@scow.org">membership@scow.org</a>

## 2014 Board Appointees

Chair, Training & Skipper Certification Committee	John Rogers	<a href="mailto:TSCC@scow.org">TSCC@scow.org</a>
Chair, Boat Assets Committee	Alex White	<a href="mailto:BAC@scow.org">BAC@scow.org</a>
Chair, Investments Committee	Ron Sheldon	<a href="mailto:investment@scow.org">investment@scow.org</a>
Chair, Audit Committee	Mahl Avila	<a href="mailto:audit@scow.org">audit@scow.org</a>
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Web Editor	Luis Rivas	<a href="mailto:webmaster@scow.org">webmaster@scow.org</a>

## Upcoming Events

The [SCOW website](http://www.scow.org) posts all events year round.

