



CHANNELS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
SAILING CLUB OF WASHINGTON

DECEMBER 2019

IN THIS ISSUE

TRAINING UPDATE | 2
NEW SKIPPERS | 3
WEBSITE TIPS | 3
SKIPPER PROSPECTS | 4
TAKING A TRIP? | 5
CALENDAR | 6
HAIL & FAREWELL AWARDS | 7
MEMBERSHIP | 9
WHO'S WHO IN SCOW | 10

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FOR FUTURE CHANNELS

NEWSLETTERS TO:

EDITOR@SCOW.ORG

SAILING CLUB OF WASHINGTON (SCOW)
PO BOX 25884 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313
WWW.SCOW.ORG

COMMODORE'S LOG

BY RICHARD KAISER



After another wonderful Hail & Farewell celebration and maybe just a few too many Thanksgiving leftovers, I find myself reflecting on the past year with gratitude and am looking forward to a new year with (a few) new SCOW Board members, an exciting agenda for the club, and spending 2020 with some of the best volunteers and members in the local sailing community. I'm thankful for the Club and all the new friends that I made in 2019.

Be sure to take a look at the H&F photos on our updated SCOW website (www.scow.org) and read about some of our outstanding volunteers on page 7 of this issue.

While I've got your attention, I want to take a moment to offer my best wishes to the entire SCOW family for a happy holiday season and a new year filled with fair winds and following seas.

TRAINING UPDATE

BY MIKE HOOBAN, ACTING TRAINING DIRECTOR

Well, all our training sessions for the year have concluded. Here are some points to note:

- We conducted three Basic Sailing Classes, spring, summer and fall, each consisting of 8 hours of land classes and 24 hours of water classes.
- We conducted two Cruiser Classes, each consisting of 4 hours of land classes and approximately 24 hours of water classes.
- 33 club members completed the Basic Sailing Class.
- 6 club members completed the Cruiser Class.
- 17 trainers participated in providing training. They are, in no particular order: **Becky Cole, Bill Gillespie, Baris Ornarli, Dan Sandhaus, Jay Weitzel, Jim Metcalfe, Joe Leoncio, John Kauffman, John Rogers, Ken Giberson, Lynn Durbin, Neil Shepherd, Rhonda Glassman, Stuart Ullman, Thom Unger, Vincent Penoso and Mike Hooban.**

Trainers put in a total of 420 hours of scheduled volunteer time to provide our training classes. Many trainers also put in additional unscheduled time. Many also served as tutors and checkout skippers. A tip of the hat and a great "Thank you!" to all our trainers. In addition to being some of the club's best sailors, they are also very generous with their time and knowledge. If you have three years of sailing experience, and an interest in being a trainer, please contact training@scow.org with a description of your background and experience. I can promise you'll find being a SCOW trainer both challenging and rewarding.

FEEL

GO OD

OPPORTUNITY

If you have three years of sailing experience, and an interest in being a trainer, please contact training@scow.org with a description of your background and experience.

If you are new to the club and/or sailing, please consider signing up for our classes when they resume in the spring. They are a very good deal, with very competent instructors and about three times the amount of instruction of other courses offered in the area.



PHOTO CREDIT GEORGE CLARK



RANDY OFF THE COAST OF ABACO, THE BAHAMAS



DAN SAILING ON THE CHESAPEAKE BAY

TWO NEW SCOW SKIPPERS

BY CHIP LUBSEN

Congratulations to **Randy Moore** and **Dan Hinton**, our newest Cruiser and Flying Scot skippers, respectively. Thank you to tutor **Joe Leoncio** and Checkout Skippers **Luis Rivas** and **John Rogers**.

SCOW'S NEW WEBSITE - A COUPLE OF TIPS

For those of us who are Boomers, you may be asking what happened to SCOW's photo gallery on the new website. You may not see the text link that was on the old website. Now you can find buttons on the bottom of all our webpages that will get you to our photo gallery, Meet-Up pages, You Tube videos and SCOW's Facebook group. Just scroll to the bottom of each page and notice the four icons – these are quick links to those resources.

Facebook



YouTube



Photo Gallery
(SmugMug)



MeetUp



Sailing Club of Washington [SCOW]
PO Box 25884 • Alexandria • VA • 22313

REMINDER

The water is getting cold. To reacquaint yourself with the perils of sailing in cold water you could review **THIS ARTICLE** with **VIDEO** that was included in the Flying Scot *Rub Off the Rust* materials this year.

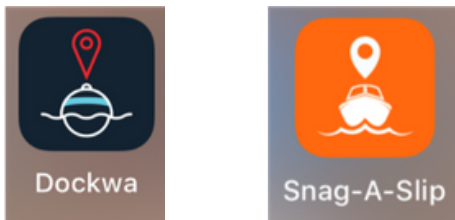
SKIPPER PROSPECTS UPDATE

Four skipper candidates (two for the Scots, two for the Cruisers) are ready for checkout - please weather gods, have mercy upon us! The Skipper Prospect List currently names 46 Flying Scot and 13 Cruiser candidates. Eighteen candidates have requested tutoring on their way to a water checkout and 14 are in various stages of working on the written test. For that written test, be sure to follow the instructions on the website carefully so that we can take full advantage of the automated form. Please let me know how I can help if you feel stuck. Contact me at skipper@scow.org. If you and I have not already communicated and you are planning to pursue certification in 2019, please send me an email so I can confirm you are on, or add you to, the list. I look forward to helping you achieve your goal of becoming a SCOW certified skipper! Please write to skipper@scow.org and title your email Skipper Prospect.

TAKING A TRIP? MORE APPS TO GET YOU THERE

BY RICHARD KAISER

Back in June, ChaNNels had an article offering great insights for expanding your situational awareness on the water with mobile apps – apps to help you track weather, charting your course over the water and more. When boating on the river, around the bay and beyond, many of us end our day of travels by finding a protected patch of water and drop a hook for the night. However, there will be other times when you want a hot shower, dinner ashore, re-provision with water and groceries or just want a super calm slip for that added safety of a protected port. These are transient slips, rented by the day, weekend or however long you want to hang out at a marina. This article is about two apps that will help you find marinas along your way. **DockWa** and **Snag-A-Slip**.



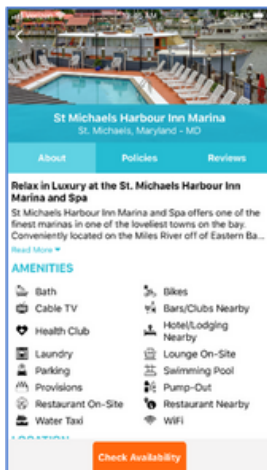
Both Apps are similar in their features and discounts, but can sometimes list different marinas, so it's a great idea to have both on your phone – they're free, so why not? There are versions for Androids and iPhones, so you're covered.

Locate a marina – there are several ways to find marinas with these apps. You can open a chart and click an area to retrieve a list of marinas or you can type in a town name, like “St Michaels” to find marinas close by. If you happen to know the name of the marina you can always type that in too.

Check Amenities and Availability – There are screens that list the amenities at the marina and, as in a hotel reservation, you can see if there is room at the inn. Of course, you will have to share your boat's dimensions – LOA, Beam, draft and power requirements, to see if they have available matching slips to accommodate your vessel. We've used both apps for monohulls, catamarans and power boats up and down the east coast. They both work well.

Check reviews of the marina – Just like movies and products these days, reviews are an important part of shopping for a marina. Your fellow boaters are always a great source of information, regarding marinas. Another great feature of the apps is contact information – dockmaster phone numbers and VHF channels that they monitor are always on the apps and easy to find.

continued on p. 6



TAKING A TRIP?

continued from p. 5

So, if you have questions before reserving your slip, give them a call – if you need final directions as you approach the marina, they are happy to help give you instructions for a safe entry into their marina. Even with great apps, you never really know what you'll find at a marina till you get there. See below for a couple of pictures of the St. Michaels marina when we arrived on October 13th of this year. Remember, the Annapolis Sailboat show closed for a day due to flooding – there was a hurricane offshore and super high tides across the Bay. Notice that the docks were under water! The dockhands did a great job helping us navigate to our slip for the night – since the row and slip numbers were under water! These deckhands do a great job and have valuable information to share as you enjoy your voyage – tips are always welcome and appreciated.

Remember to be courteous of other boaters looking for their slips – some of these marinas, like in St Michaels and Annapolis usually have many boats coming in to dock at the same time, especially on Friday and Saturday nights in the summer – be patient, as you have already made your reservations on the app – you have a guaranteed home for the evening. Snag-A-Slip is growing by leaps and bounds and usually has a booth at the Annapolis boat shows. We've seen them in Newport and Fort Lauderdale as well. They are also part of OASIS Marinas and part of the group that publishes *Marina Life*, a great magazine to gain insights into some of the best places to visit along the east coast. Time to shower and get a bite to eat. Enjoy your time on the water – life is good.



ST. MICHAEL'S MARINA IN OCTOBER



DOCK AND SLIP NUMBERS WERE UNDER WATER

DECEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

7

Alexandria Holiday Boat Parade of Lights*

Waterfront Park
1 King St. | Alexandria

9

SCOW BOD Meeting

Royal Restaurant
730 N. Saint Asaph St. | Alexandria

21

Cruiser Fleet Day

G Dock | Washington Sailing Marina

*Not a SCOW-sponsored event

H&F 2019 AWARD RECIPIENTS

While Hail & Farewell is an enjoyable night to celebrate with friends and crewmates, the focus on volunteer appreciation is truly the main event. With close to 100 SCOW members in attendance, there was no shortage of applause for the best of the best! Thanks to **Marie Brennan** and her committee for a fun-filled night to remember.

Elli Abramson Award

This award is named for the late Elli Abramson (for whom our boat Ms Elli is named). Elli served as Commodore twice, was active in the training program, and also wrote much of the training material we still use today. Established in 1992, it is awarded annually for outstanding service to the club over an extended period. The 2019 (very deserving) recipient is **Dick Vida**.

Al Blankfield Award

This award is named for the late Al Blankfield, who served the club in many capacities, including Commodore, and is recalled by his friends in the club as someone who was "always there" when something needed done. Established in 1994, it is awarded annually for outstanding service to the club during the past year.

Joe Leoncio took this honor.

Woodie Woodside Award

Established in 2009, in memory of Robert Custer "Woodie" Woodside, CDR USN (Ret), 1920-2009, one of the founders of SCOW and awarded annually to the member who has done the most to promote sailing by sharing his/her love of sailing through example, mentoring and service to the club. This time around, this prize was awarded to **Neil Shepherd** (not pictured).



L TO R: DAVE BECKETT, DICK VIDA, RICHARD KAISER
PHOTO CREDIT JULIE PIXLER



L TO R: JOE LEONCIO, MIKE ROTHENBERG, RICHARD KAISER.
PHOTO CREDIT JULIE PIXLER

H&F 2019 AWARD RECIPIENTS

continued from p. 5

I would be remiss if I didn't mention one of the most poignant moments of the evening. When **Barry Yatt** recognized **Genevieve Lindsay** with the "gold" Membership award, she was overcome with emotion as she stood to accept it. Her heartfelt reaction emphasized the true meaning of the evening: gratitude. Gratitude for our dedicated volunteers, hardworking Board members, spirited sailors, a robust fleet of sailboats and a picturesque place to sail them.

For more photos from Hail & Farewell, be sure to check out the **SCOW website**.



BARRY YATT AND GENEVIEVE LINDSAY
PHOTO CREDIT JULIE PIXLER

gratitude

[grat·i·tude, ·tyood]

noun

The quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness



RICHARD KAISER AND MARIE BRENNAN
PHOTO CREDIT JULIE PIXLER

	Individuals	Households			Total	Minors
		Household Admins	Household Memberships	Household Total		
2019 Members	259	86	92	178	437	15
2020 Renewals	1				1	
2020 New	6	1	1	2	8	
2020 Total	7	1	1	2	9	

MEMBERSHIP

BY BARRY YATT, MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Well, it's been a great year. We have an active membership and so many terrific volunteers. Thanks again to **Genevieve Lindsay** for championing MeetUp for SCOW, **Luis Rivas** for the terrific new upgraded website, **Jay Weitzel** for his legal input on the revised membership form, **Bernadette Yu** for her help with forms, business cards, and our booth at the spring Annapolis Sailboat Show, the board for its support, and **Antonia Cole** for picking up as 2020 Membership Director. If you've been waiting to join, now is the time. New members signing up now will not need to renew until April 1, 2021 – essentially getting all our winter events for free. If you have any questions, please send them in. The Membership Director, whether me this year or Antonia next, can always be reached at membership@scow.org. So, as we wrap up the year, the state of our membership is strong. Please help me welcome our newest member when you see him, **T. Parker Gallagher**. Enjoy our winter membership meetings and social activities, get out on the water if you can (but be careful!), and spring will be here before we know it. Thanks for the opportunity to serve – I'll see you on the water!

...MEMBERSHIP ALERT...

Anyone signing up now will not need to renew until April 1, 2021 – getting fall, winter, and spring for free!

ICYMI

(IN CASE YOU MISSED IT)

The Nominating Committee extends a warm welcome to the incoming 2020 Board of Directors. Thank you to all members who voted in the election and to the outgoing 2019 officers and directors.



2020 SCOW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

Richard Kaiser, Commodore | commodore@scow.org

Brian McPherson, Vice Commodore | vice@scow.org

Jock Whittlesey, Secretary | secretary@scow.org

Mike Hooban, Treasurer | treasurer@scow.org

DIRECTORS

Marie Brennan, Social Activities Director | social@scow.org

Trueman Sharp, Training Director | training@scow.org

Carlie Smith, River/Bay Director | river@scow.org

Dana Howe, Maintenance Director (Flying Scots) | scotmaint@scow.org

Wayne Williams, Maintenance Director (Cruisers) | cruisermaint@scow.org

Dave Beckett, Racing Director | racing@scow.org

Antonia Cole, Membership Director | membership@scow.org

Chip Lubsen, Skipper Director | skipper@scow.org

Luis Rivas, Webmaster | webmaster@scow.org

Jan Rivas, Newsletter Editor | editor@scow.org

IN JEST
**HOW MANY BOATERS DOES IT TAKE TO CHANGE A LIGHTBULB?
NONE, BECAUSE THE RIGHT SIZE BULB ISN'T ON BOARD, THE
LOCAL MARINE-SUPPLY STORE DOESN'T CARRY THAT BRAND,
AND AMAZON HAS THEM ON BACK-ORDER.**