



# CHANNELS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE  
SAILING CLUB OF WASHINGTON

MARCH 2020

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PLEASE SEND YOUR ARTICLES  
FOR FUTURE CHANNELS  
NEWSLETTERS TO:  
EDITOR@SCOW.ORG

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## COMMODORE'S LOG

BY RICHARD KAISER



Greetings,

Can you believe it's March already? Although this winter has been fairly mild overall, I know many sailors (like me) are anxiously awaiting spring temps and sunny days so they can get back on the water. With that in mind, there are a number of things that need to be done and more opportunities to reconnect with fellow SCOW members and "Rub Off the Rust!"

If you haven't had a chance to attend any of the February sailing seminars, you have one last chance on March 4th to hear the presentation from guest speaker Dave Neff of Selby Bay Sailing Center and a Flying Scot ACC Champion. Past seminars have been well attended -- some were even standing room only -- so head over to West Marine early. Shopping and socializing begin at 6pm, seminar at 7pm. A big thank you to **Dave Beckett** for organizing.

Be sure to renew your membership and skipper certifications online. If you're having any trouble at all, we'll be set up to help you at **Re-Up on March 8th**. Don't miss this fun-filled Sunday Funday at the Colonies in McLean.

Mark your calendars for **March 28th and April 4th** as well. These are reserved for **Cruiser Fleet Maintenance/Rub Off the Rust and Flying Scot Maintenance Day**, respectively. Not only is this SO important to the preservation of our fleet, but it's always good to get a refresher on SCOW policies and procedures as we head into the sailing season.

Hope to see you at many upcoming events and on the water!

# MEMBERSHIP CORNER

BY TONI COLE, MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Ahoy!

**Re-up is scheduled for Sunday March 8th!** Let's talk sailing!! Renew friendships while enjoying delicious brunch fare. If you are an early bird and have already renewed online, THANK YOU, join us for a great social time with your fellow SCOW members. This event is open to EVERYONE -- tell your friends if they want to find out more about, or better yet, join SCOW! If you haven't renewed, shame on you! Just kidding. There's no need to wait for Re-Up to renew your membership, skipper certification(s) or register for 2020 sailing classes though. If you do need assistance, we'll be at Re-Up to give you a hand renewing your membership and skipper certification(s), or, please send me a message at [membership@scow.org](mailto:membership@scow.org), I'll do my best to help you get it done.

February has new members anxious to get the season started. We welcome to the club **Antonello Cruz, Patrick Francis, Amy Bertha, Nils and Jessica Thomsen, Joshua Morin, Whitney Caldwell** and in some cases their kids too! Welcome! We hope to see you all out on the water in the very near future.

Happy almost Spring Sailors!

## ONLINE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL AT [WWW.SCOW.ORG](http://WWW.SCOW.ORG)

**01**

**RENEW YOUR  
INDIVIDUAL OR  
HOUSEHOLD  
MEMBERSHIPS**

**02**

**RENEW YOUR  
SKIPPER  
MEMBERSHIP**

**03**

**PAY ALL DUE\$  
AND COMPLETE  
THE PROCE\$\$**

# RE-UP

sunday, march 8th @10am

the colonies | 7681 provincial drive, mclean

# SAILING MEMORIES

BY BILL DAVENPORT

Years ago, we were sailing down the West African coast on a 32' Westerly Fulmar. Taking our offing at Tangier, we set a course for the Canaries. We had difficulty holding a course as the boat had way too much weather helm. We tried to balance her out, but it was still hard to steer. As the weather worsened, the auto pilot worked hard to hold the course until the "secret smoke" escaped. We then took turns steering and it wore us out, too. At the height of the storm we hove to and waited for better weather with the tiller lashed to leeward and just a few feet of jib sheeted in flat. The boat endlessly sailed up almost head to wind, shook and shivered then backed down until the jib filled again and pulled us to weather again. All the while the boat was being pushed to leeward, creating a slick to weather. As the waves marched down toward us, they dissipated into the slick, no longer hitting the deck.

We were hunkered down below worried she would tack and be knocked down. But, after a while, we were convinced she wouldn't. After a few days the weather improved. We got a clear sky and took some celestial sightings and made our best guess as to where we were (this was before GPS). Soon we raised the islands. Later that night, while sailing close along the coast, slowly and with much anticipation, we began to realize where we were. I think few things are as heart warming after a tough passage as realizing that you've made it to where you're supposed to be. Later, with bolstered confidence in our navigation, we tied up at Gran Canaria Island.

We slept well that night.



GRAN CANARIA BEACHES

## SKIPPER'S CORNER

BY CHIP LUBSEN, SKIPPER CERTIFICATION DIRECTOR

### Renew Your Skipper Certification Now

Skippers – please renew your membership and skipper certification(s) at SCOW.org (Members Area) at your earliest convenience. Make sure to review the SCOW Skipper Requirements and Boat Use Policy and applicable Skipper Information File(s) found in the Bylaws and Policies section of the website. To see where things have changed, see my February 4 email to you with subject “SCOW Skippers – Please Read Now”. Then, follow the instructions on the website carefully. If you have any difficulty renewing, text me at 703-217-5893 and I’ll call back with phone support. The process is fully automated this year and will allow our focus at Re-Up Brunch, March 8, to be far more social than administrative. If you have already renewed – THANK YOU – see you on the water!

### Skipper Prospect Update

Five skipper candidates (3 for the Scots, 2 for the Cruisers) are ready for checkout. Here comes the warm weather. Let’s go. Currently, including those ready for checkout, there are 26 Flying Scot prospects and 13 cruiser prospects. If you and I have not already communicated and you are planning to pursue certification in 2020, please send me an email so I can add you to the list and begin to support your effort. I look forward to helping you achieve your goal of becoming a SCOW certified skipper! Please write to [skipper@scow.org](mailto:skipper@scow.org) and title your email Skipper Prospect.

### Flying Scot Rub Off the Rust

The ROTR document from 2019 has been updated with input from more than 50 skippers. I’ll get it out to everyone in early April for review. In addition, we are planning to have some in-person ROTR activities early in the season. A few ROTR demos will be set up at the Scot maintenance day on April 4. Stay tuned for more details.

ALL SKIPPERS AND  
INTERESTED CLUB MEMBERS  
PLEASE MARK YOUR  
CALENDARS

COMBINED  
CRUISER FLEET  
MAINTENANCE  
AND  
CRUISER RUB OFF  
THE RUST  
SATURDAY, MARCH 28  
8:30AM TO 1:30PM  
RAIN DATE IS APRIL 4

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FLYING SCOT  
MAINTENANCE DAY

SATURDAY, APRIL 4  
RAIN DATE IS APRIL 11



- All club members are welcome to attend. Skipper and skipper prospect attendance is highly encouraged.

# IN LIKE A LION

*out like a lamb*

Tim Bliss shares some winter sailing photos and urges all cold weather sailors to watch the "Cold Water Boot Camp" video on [Spinsheet](#).



TIM WITH BARRY YATT IN FEBRUARY



TIM WITH JENN J IN FEBRUARY



BAILING ICE FROM MS ELLIE



WITH JERRY KIDWELL ON HIS BOAT IN DECEMBER (NOT SAILING, BUT STILL ON THE WATER)

## MARCH EVENTS

**2 | SCOW BOD MEETING | 7-9PM**  
THE ROYAL | 730 N ST. ASAPH ST., ALEXANDRIA

**4 | SCOW SEMINAR: GUEST SPEAKER DAVE NEFF, SELBY BAY SAILING CENTER, FS ACC CHAMP | 7PM**  
WEST MARINE | 601 S. PATRICK ST., ALEXANDRIA

**8 | RE-UP BRUNCH | 10AM**  
THE COLONIES CLUBHOUSE | 7681 PROVINCIAL DRIVE, MCLEAN

**28 | CRUISER FLEET MAINTENANCE | 8:30AM**  
WASHINGTON SAILING MARINA | G DOCK

**28 | RUB OFF THE RUST | 11AM**  
WASHINGTON SAILING MARINA | G DOCK

## FLYING SCOT MAINTENANCE

BY DANA HOWE, MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR FS

The totals are in for 2019. To the right are the number of times each Flying Scot was sailed.



I'd be curious to know if proximity plays a factor here. Sunset Song is the farthest and most challenging to get out of its slip.

In other news, by the end of March we'll be adding an hour of daylight to each day with sunsets as late as 8:09pm! YAY!

87	<b>selkie</b>
72	<b>ms. ellie</b>
61	<b>elisse</b>
61	<b>caroline</b>
59	<b>susie q</b>
51	<b>sunset song</b>

## WHO'S WHO IN SCOW

### OFFICERS

**Richard Kaiser, Commodore | [commodore@scow.org](mailto:commodore@scow.org)**

**Brian McPherson, Vice Commodore | [vice@scow.org](mailto:vice@scow.org)**

**Jock Whittlesey, Secretary | [secretary@scow.org](mailto:secretary@scow.org)**

**Mike Hooban, Treasurer | [treasurer@scow.org](mailto:treasurer@scow.org)**

### DIRECTORS

**Marie Brennan, Social Activities Director | [social@scow.org](mailto:social@scow.org)**

**Trueman Sharp, Training Director | [training@scow.org](mailto:training@scow.org)**

**Carlie Smith, River/Bay Director | [river@scow.org](mailto:river@scow.org)**

**Dana Howe, Maintenance Director (Flying Scots) | [scotmaint@scow.org](mailto:scotmaint@scow.org)**

**Wayne Williams, Maintenance Director (Cruisers) | [cruisermaint@scow.org](mailto:cruisermaint@scow.org)**

**Dave Beckett, Racing Director | [racing@scow.org](mailto:racing@scow.org)**

**Antonia Cole, Membership Director | [membership@scow.org](mailto:membership@scow.org)**

**Chip Lubsen, Skipper Director | [skipper@scow.org](mailto:skipper@scow.org)**

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