

Channels

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SAILING CLUB OF WASHINGTON



38.841764, -77.0483

April 6th First Day Of Wednesday Night Racing!!

SCOW.ORG Sailing Club of Washington

COMMODORE'S LOG

BY BRIAN
MCPHERSON



Dear SCOW members:

Meteorological Spring vs. Astronomical Spring.

Most simply put, **meteorological seasons follow the annual temperature cycle, and the astronomical seasons follow the position of Earth in relation to the sun.** The meteorological calendar was established more recently — in the early to mid-1900s — and is separated into four groups of three months.

Meteorological Spring begins March 1 – while Astronomical Spring is March 20.

As sailors we may be aware of these dates – in reality – we monitor the weather when making our decision to go out on the water. For Spring sailing I also check the water temperature. Often times the air temps may be in the 70's – while the water may still be less than 50 degrees.

Nevertheless, the 2022 sailing season is here. We have over 20 events on the Calendar between now and early May. Plenty of opportunity to socialize, sail or race – whatever your preference. Please check the SCOW site for specific times & dates.

Maintenance Days are scheduled for both Cruisers and Scots. Maintenance days are a great time to reacquaint with our friends and meet our new Members. No experience necessary – nice way to learn while helping out.

Racing – WNR (Wednesday Night Racing) begins April 6 and runs through to October. While the PRSA (Potomac River Sailing Association) Spring Series begins April 3. Bring something to share with the group for the after racing gathering.

Social Sails – begins Thursday April 7 @ 5:00pm with **“The Burning of the Socks”** – a tradition of the change over from winter wear to sailing wear. Social Sails will also continue each Thursday through October.

Potomac River Clean Up – scheduled for April 9, WSM (Washington Sailing Marina) at 9:00AM. Please contact Marie Brennan, our River & Bay Coordinator, for details or if you wish to help out.

River@scow.org

Annapolis Boat Show – April 29 – May 1. After foregoing the last couple of years, SCOW will have a booth at the boat show. We'll be located at Tent B 21. Nearby will be the manufacturer of Flying Scots. Stop by and say hello.

Still need volunteers – **volunteers get free admission pass.** Contact Esther at membership@scow.org.

We're all looking forward to a great year. Come out, enjoy the boats and be part of the fun!

Brian

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Annapolis Boat Show

April 29-May 1, 2022

SCOW is looking to staff the Annapolis Spring Boat Show, April 29-May 1. Volunteers would receive a **free day pass** to the show. We are looking for people who could work the booth for two hour shifts. Please contact Genevieve Lindsay (social@scow.org) if you are interested in volunteering.

Thank you.

Regards,

Esther Massey | 2021 SCOW Membership Director | membership@scow.org



*April
6th is
the
first
night
of
racing
!!!!!!*

Sunset over Boca Chita Key, Jan 2022. Poem and picture by the multi-talented Kim Mikos

A poem for you: (limericks are supposed to be cheeky)

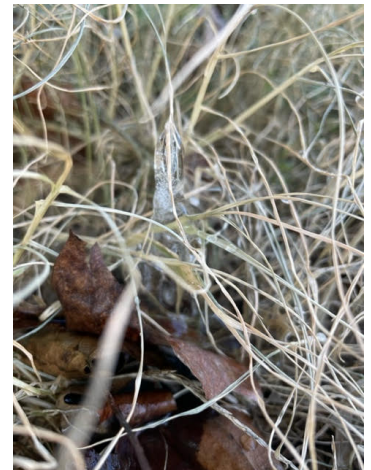
*My club has a boat called Hiatus;
Play hooky with good wind, don't hate us.
She calls us to sail:
"Let's tack, ride the rail!"
Foul the rules, you'll risk your SCOW status.*

Racing News

Spring is almost here and we are looking forward to an exciting 2022 racing season. Wednesday Night Racing runs from the first Wednesday in April through the last Wednesday in September, which means our first **Wednesday night race is April 6th** – less than a month away! I'll host a Wednesday Night Racing webinar on March 23rd to go over the plans for the season. It will be a combination information session and competitors' meeting and all interested skippers and crew are encouraged to attend. Last year we had a great fleet averaging around 10 Flying Scots each week, plus the occasional Buccaneer and Laser joining in too.

The regatta season begins in May and the schedule for our local regattas is below. These regattas all take place at the Washington Sailing Marina and are organized by SCOW or our sister clubs, DISC and PRSA. We encourage any interested Flying Scot skipper to participate. I'll send out more information about the regattas as they approach.

| Date | Regatta |
|-----------|--------------------------------|
| 5/14 | SCOW St. Brendan's Day Regatta |
| 5/28-5/29 | PRSA Spring Regatta |
| 6/4 | SCOW Magellan Cup |
| 9/10 | DISC Charity Cup |
| 9/17-18 | PRSA President's Cup |
| 10/1 | SCOW Director's Cup |



Lynn Durbin..Ice forming off boat

Racing Rules

It's always good to brush up on your racing rules before the start of the season. On March 2nd we held an online Racing Rules Refresher Quiz, which was well attended and a lot of fun. If you missed it and you're looking for resources on racing rules, I encourage you to look at the Race with SCOW page on the SCOW website. At the bottom you will find a copy of the official rules document, World Sailing's Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024. You can also find links to two recommended websites with in-depth presentations on the racing rules. One is a series of rules webinars by the Royal Yachting Association (RYA), the other is a North Sails racing rules webinar presented by Zeke Horowitz, a top Flying Scot sailor. Both are great resources.

I hope to see you out on the race course!

Bonnie Sylwester

SCOW Racing Director

2022 Channels Skipper's Corner

Congratulations 2021 New Skippers

Last year 8 members certified as new Flying Scot Skippers, and 5 members certified as Cruiser Skippers. Congratulations on your outstanding effort. Best wishes as you bring crew aboard and enjoy the beauty of sailing the Potomac River -the waters of the United States capital city.

A special thanks to last year's Active Tutors: Tim Bliss, John Rogers, Greg Prather, Baris Ornali, John Kauffman, Mike Hooban, and Joe Leoncio. In addition, CheckOut Skippers perform the critical role of SCOW designated water exam proctors and grade skipper candidate's performance according to SCOW process, procedure and seamanship in our areas of operation. CheckOut Skippers are among the most experienced sailors on the Potomac River and deserve appreciation and gratitude, they are: Mike Hooban, Becky Cole, Joe Leoncio, and Chip Lubsen.

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 2021 Flying Scot Skippers | |
| Joel Bluestein | Tutored by Tim Bliss, Checked Out by Mike Hooban |
| Tom Cavaness | Tutored by Tim Bliss, Eric Schmidt, Checked Out by Mike Hooban |
| Elizabeth Graham | Tutored by Mike Hooban, Checked Out by Mike Hooban |
| Connor Goss | Tutored by Tim Bliss, Eric Schmidt, Checked Out by Mike Hooban |
| Robert Hollendonner | Tutored by Tim Bliss, Mike Hooban, Checked Out by Mike Hooban |
| Kristy Stephenson | Tutored by Greg Prather, Checked Out by Becky Cole |
| Adriel Taslim | Tutored by Tim Bliss, Eric Schmidt, Checked Out by Mike Hooban |
| Bill Tucker | Tutored by Tim Bliss, Checked Out by Chip Lubsen |
| | |
| 2021 Cruiser Skippers | |
| George Lewis | Tutored by Baris Ornali , Checked Out by Joe Leoncio |
| Josh Morin | Tutored by John Kauffman, Checked Out by Joe Leoncio |
| Trueman Sharp | Tutored by Baris Ornali , Checked Out by Joe Leoncio |
| Melhi ileri | Tutored by Baris Ornali , Checked Out by Becky Cole |
| Eric Schmidt | Tutored by Joe Leoncio, Vincent Penoso, Checked Out by Becky Cole |

2021 Skipper Counts

We have 119 individual skippers certified for 2021, up 101% from the prior year, 64 of them are Scot skippers and 10 are cruiser skippers, while 45 are certified for both. Congratulations to all involved for their perseverance, learning skills and leadership grit.

Review of Skipper Certification History below, shows we are only 11% below our pre-pandemic total of 133 skippers.

If this is your year to become a SCOW Skipper, we are here to support you.

Skipper Certification History

- 2018 - 134 individuals
- 2019 - 133 individuals (99% of 2018)
- 2019 Certifications by Type: FS 72, CR 15, BOTH 46
- 2020 - 118 individuals (89% of 2019)
- 2020 Certifications by Type: FS 64, CR 12, BOTH 42
- 2021 - 119 individuals (101% of 2020)
- 2021 Certifications by Type: FS 64, CR 10, BOTH 45

Skipper Queue

- 19 members have indicated willingness to Skipper certify in 2022 (FS 14, CR 4, BOTH 1).

2022 Tutor Program

For 2022 candidate skippers, your Tutor Coordinator is Josh Morin [joshua.morin9@gmail.com].

This role exists to pair you with an Active Tutor with order, structure and accountability. A candidate skipper is a SCOW member who has taken a SCOW Sailing course [or comparable sailing course] and passed a Skipper Written Exam. Your name is listed in the Tutoring Queue in order of sequence based on the date of passing your Skipper Written Exam.

A tutor is a person who agrees to provide occasional one-on-one or small-group sailing opportunities, generally for the purpose of allowing a member about to take an on-the-water exam to get additional "tiller time" before checking out. Tutors will normally work only with students who have completed a Club course or have other sailing

experience and are preparing to check out on SCOW boats. Tutors do mock checkouts with candidates; providing an invaluable opportunity to prepare candidates for CheckOut experience. Tutoring is not intended to be a substitute for Club training classes.

2022 Skipper Candidates

Currently there are 19 skipper candidates in the Tutor Program Queue. If you have not already, please let me know your intentions and estimated timing for pursuing a Skipper Certification in 2022. Please email me at skipper@scow.org. We will do our best to support your 2022 goals with safety, prudence and good judgment.

2022 Renewals

To all those members who continue to renew, we thank you. We're making the best of it this year. For now, I hope everyone stays safe and healthy. Looking forward to seeing you all out there soon!

Best Wishes

Eric Schmidt

Skipper Director 2022

[Sailing Club of Washington \(SCOW\)](#)



Mike Hooban's Treasurer's Report

| Budget Categories | 2022 Budget | Assigned to: |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| Income: | | |
| Boatique Sales | 0 | Membership |
| Interest Income | 400 | Treasurer |
| Member Dues | 24000 | Membership |
| Other Income | 100 | Treasurer |
| Skipper Fees | 18000 | Skipper |
| Social activities: | | |
| Afterglow party | 0 | Social |
| Hail and Farewell | 0 | Social |
| 50th Anniversary | | n/a |
| Miscellaneous | 2000 | Social, others? |
| Social Sail & Other | | Social |
| Total Social Income | 2000 | |
| Training | 16000 | Training |
| Initiation Fee | 2050 | Skipper, Treasurer |
| Total Income | 62550 | |
| <hr/> | | |
| Expense: | | |
| Administration: | | |
| Miscellaneous | 500 | Treasurer |
| Bank Charge | 2000 | Treasurer |
| Bonding | 400 | Treasurer |
| Supplies | 750 | Treasurer |
| Total Admin: | 3650 | |
| Awards | 1000 | Commodore |
| Communication: | | |
| Meeting Room, etc. | 500 | Vice/Trng/Treasurer |
| Printing (Directory/Other) | 100 | Membership |
| Publicity/Door Prizes, etc. | 250 | Vice, Member, Treasurer |
| Web Site | 2000 | Web Mstr/Treasurer |
| Total Communication: | 2850 | |
| Fleet Operations: | | |
| Boat Maintenance | | Maint, both |

| | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Scot Maintenance | 5000 | Scot MD |
| Cruiser Maintenance | 5000 | Cruiser MD |
| Boat Acquisition | | Treasurer, others |
| Capital Improvements | | Treasurer, others |
| Insurance | 10000 | Treasurer |
| Registration | 250 | Treasurer |
| Slip Fees | 22500 | Treasurer |
| Fleet Memberships | 500 | Treasurer |
| Other | 500 | Treasurer |
| Total Fleet Ops: | 43750 | |
| Tax | 400 | Treasurer |
| Member Services/Social: | | |
| Afterglow party | 0 | Social |
| Hail and Farewell | 3500 | Social |
| Re-Up Brunch | 0 | Member/Racing/Training/Social |
| River Activities | 2000 | River&bay, Social |
| Maintenance Day | 400 | Maint, both, social |
| Social Sails | 3000 | Social |
| Total Social Activity | 8900 | |
| Racing | 1200 | Racing |
| Training | 2000 | Training |
| Total Expense | 63750 | |
| Net (Income minus Expenses) | -1200 | |

2022 Capital District Regatta Schedule

WEDNESDAY NIGHT RACING APRIL 6th!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

| Date | Regatta | Location | Club (Fleet) |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|--|
| Apr 30 | LOWSC Invitational | Lake of the Woods, VA | Lake of the Woods Sailing Club (160) |
| Jun 4-5 | GRSA Invitational | Midlothian, VA | Greater Richmond Sailing Association (155) |
| Jun 4-5 | WRSC Dave Irely Memorial | Galesville, MD | West River Sailing Club (97) |
| Jun 25-26 | Summer Solstice | Edgewater, MD | Selby Bay Sailing Center (42) |
| Aug 13-14 | ACC/Capital District Championship & FBYC AOD | Deltaville, VA | Fishing Bay Yacht Club (103) |
| Aug 27-28 | RBSA Invitational | Rehoboth, DE | Rehoboth Bay Sailing Association (206) |
| Sep 17-18 | Presidents Cup | Alexandria, VA | Potomac River Sailing Association (203) |



My review of a movie from 1992 called Captain Ron. I also want you to know Wednesday Night Racing starts April 6th.

My brother has a couple of names for me he has come up with through the years. I won't list them here out of concerns of common decency but I assure you they are all said with love and maybe a hint of jealousy. The one he calls me the most is Captain Ron. Since the day I tasted surf wax and salt water together it has set me on a life path that is a bit unorthodox. During spring, summer and fall I work like a rented mule and in the winter I go straight to Hawaii or Florida and stop wearing shirts and shoes. I once not that long ago spent three months without a shirt or shoes. My brother calls this the Captain Ron Syndrome.

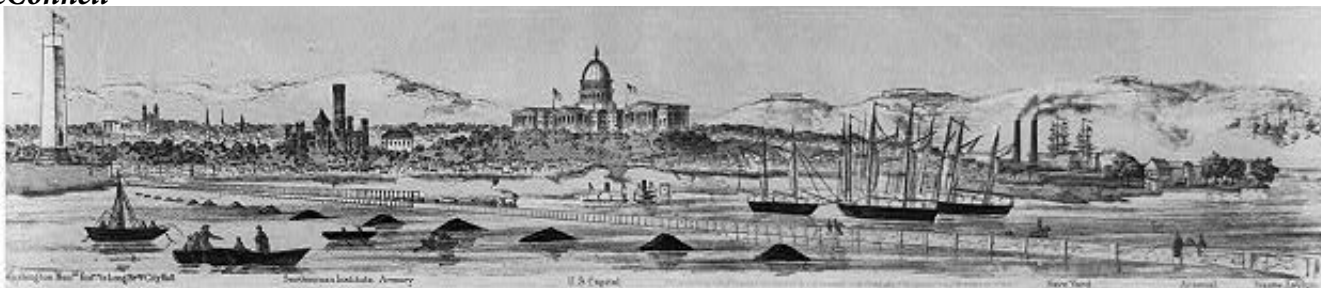
I will admit to watching Captain Ron over a hundred times through the years. Talking with fellow SCOW members I am still surprised some have not watched the movie ever. I don't think of it as a cinematic great but more of an old smelly drinking buddy. Watching a tale of leaving the dock with no plan at all is a comfort in a world where I have to schedule my phone calls around sleep and airline travel. I often find myself checking prices on Formosa 51s, the same boat as in Captain Ron. The exact same Captain Ron movie boat came up for sale a few years ago and it seemed silly to me not to spend 150,000 and open a charter business giving theme cruises. Lucky for me another visionary purchased it first.

Captain Ron is on the surface a formulaic, sophomoric hour and a half excursion into low brow humor and sight gags. The uptight family stuck in a rut leaves their safe lives and goes down to the islands to retrieve an inherited boat. They are met by a rasta cap wearing Kurt Russll who will be their delivery captain back to Miami. Martin Short plays the uptight dad who the harder he tries and plans the worse things get. His family slowly accepts the new life but not the way he wants. They leave the dock and the helierty ensus.

From the beginning the captain is almost as weary of the father as the father is of him. The way Captain Ron calls him "boss" is awesome. The captain's tone is not subservient at all but more of a man with no master barely acknowledging that he is the jerk paying him. Almost as if he despises the dad for bringing his uptight ways anywhere near him. The more Martin Short lets up the more they connect. The family slowly adapts to the captain's ways as they fix the boat during the voyage.

There is a fine line between trying to be happy and enjoying life. I too often justify much of my life in dollars. The harder and more I work the more money I will have to buy an object to make me happy. I will then need to work more to pay for the upkeep and insurance. I hustle to find work for employees so they can buy things to make them happy. At the BMW dealership I worked at I could tell who was going to buy and who was not just based on their anxiety level. People at the crescendo of a breakdown would almost always buy. That car that they have to finance for six years was going to make them supposedly happy. Calm people don't make big purchases based on what they think will make them happy. Calm people enjoy what they have, embrace change as a part of life and enjoy the ride. What I take from Captain Ron is live in the moment and enjoy it, don't plan for happiness. Or as the good captain says as they leave the dock for the first time "The best way to find out Kitty is to get her out on the ocean.. If anything is going to happen , it's going to happen out there."

Scott McConnell





Jones Point Light circa 1895

Holy Guacamole
Swiss Cheese 20%
Guacamole 79%
Onion 1%
Red Foxx

Ok here's the deal. April 6th is the first day of Wednesday Night Racing. If you've never been you must go. If you know nothing about boats or racing please come. No experience needed. We are all friends and we play with big toys. We might be a little serious on the water at times but the first Wednesday race of the year is never at all serious. Some of us travel to race all year and this will be the first race of the year for the rest. It's a party. It's a good time. It will be something you've never done. It's where you can learn and meet people who will take you out on more boat trips. SEND ME MORE SUBMISSIONS PLEASE!!! Pictures drawings, writing. I love the poems!! Send me more poems please!! THANK YOU to all the people that have sent in submissions. Send letters to the editor or submissions or suggestions to editor@scow.org . April 6th Racing!