



August 2023

CHANNELS

The Newsletter of The **S**ailing **C**lub **O**f **W**ashington



100%

Volunteer-run club

Leave boats **better**
than you found them

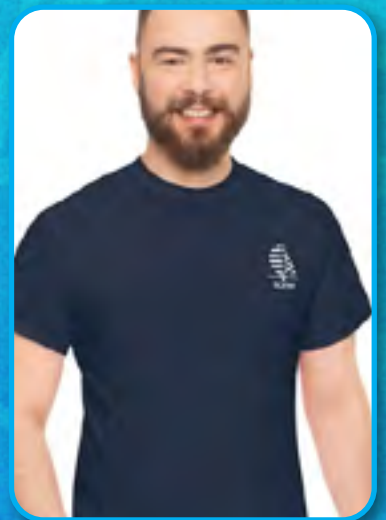
"The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails." - William Arthur Ward

GET SCOW MERCH

SCOW has a new vendor
for apparel & merchandise!

Checkout all the cool merch at:

[www.districtsailing.com/
shop/42033090/scow](http://www.districtsailing.com/shop/42033090/scow)





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Commodore's Log

Members & Friends,

August's log shares how SCOW is a club of volunteer Members. We also highlight some of our Members who are the backbone of our success and ask you to help out.

Volunteers are the backbone of every club event and activity. We rely on them to make it happen. All members of SCOW are volunteers, which means our Members give of their time to benefit the club as a whole. Our club has prospered through some difficult times the past few years and has come out stronger.

VICE COMMODORE

Lynn Durbin is a spectacular addition to the Board. Lynn is one of our key Flying Scot Trainers and she is a positive influence on club issues. She is the person primarily responsible for the addition of Jersey Girl to our fleet, takes care of club correspondence, and always willing to help out where necessary.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Chip Lubsen and Josh Morin are our tag team acting Membership Directors. Our 500+ Members fall into several categories: Member, Skipper, Households, and more. While the club has converted to a paperless process – registrations need to be confirmed.

Chip is also the go to-person for maintaining our website.

OUR BOATS

The 9 club-owned boats (6 Flying Scots and 3 Cruisers) are in the best condition in years! Thank you to our dedicated Maintenance Directors, Dana Howe (Flying Scots) and Barry Yatt (Cruisers), and the Bosuns, who spent hours checking on the fleet so that our Members could enjoy safe, properly-equipped sailing.

Contact either Barry or Dana and offer your assistance. cruisermaint@scow.org or scotmaint@scow.org



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SOCIAL ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

Our Social Director, Genevieve Lindsay, along with a handful of key volunteers, coordinates our weekly Thursday Social Sail. In essence, for 25 weeks each season, Genevieve hosts and coordinates an outdoor party for up to 60 people every week. Genevieve also organizes Hail and Farewell, Re-Up. Genevieve can always use some assistance. Please contact Genevieve at: socia@scow.org.

RIVER AND BAY DIRECTOR

Marie Brennan is our River and Bay Director. She organizes a variety of activities throughout the year, such as the popular Raft Ups. river@scow.org.

TRAINING

Allen Flanigan is another new Board Member, who along with Mike Hooban and past Training Director, Trueman Sharp, have caught up with the backlog of Trainees brought about by COVID. Scheduling classes and trainers is a coordinated effort. Anyone who has taken one of our training courses will appreciate the effort made by our volunteer trainers.

Tutoring and Training volunteers needed – if you are a SCOW certified FS or Cruiser skipper – you’re a candidate to be a tutor or trainer – contact Allen at: training@scow.org.

TREASURER

Mike Hooban has served as our Treasurer for many years. With his guidance, our club is in a very strong financial position. Mike wears many hats and contributes many hours to SCOW. Along with the duties of Treasurer (paying bills, preparing monthly Balance and Income statements for our Board meetings) Mike assists with our Training Program.

SKIPPER DIRECTOR

Eric Schmidt joined the Board a couple of years ago and has streamlined the process of shepherding our Members from training for FS or Cruiser water tests to becoming Skippers. We are on track to have one of our highest number of skippers in years. Eric is also responsible for ensuring our rules and policies are followed. Eric can use some assistance in several areas: skipper@scow.org



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RACING DIRECTOR

Bonnie Sylwester is our Race Director for the past two years. Bonnie starts planning the racing schedule in February, coordinating the calendar with our training classes and regattas sponsored by other local clubs. Every week, Bonnie and her assistants, Tim Bliss and Dick Kerr, organize the increasingly popular Wednesday Night Racing (WNR) series that runs from mid-April to late September. It's not uncommon to have 15 boats racing with a 3-4 crew in each boat. Bonnie often needs volunteers to help out with Race Committee – no experience necessary and great perspective to watch a race. racing@scow.org

Many of our Board Members have served for several years and we may experience some turnover this year. Please let us know where you'd like to help out. We need volunteers for tutoring, training, bosun, event planning, race committee, etc. Past Board Members are always willing to offer advice and help out – so you won't be on your own!

Take some time, pick an area and volunteer to help keep SCOW strong

Sincerely,
Brian



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Oktoberfest



SAVE THE DATE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5TH

It's time to jump into your Lederhosen,
grab your favorite beverage and yodel your way
over to the Washington Sailing Marina and join SCOW, we're celebrating

Oktoberfest

October 5, 2023 at 5:00 pm
Near the boat racks and grills
Your favorite Oktoberfest foods and friends

See you there!



Contact Social@scow.org if you want to volunteer to support this event
(set up, bring Oktoberfest foods, ice & clean up crew)



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Social Sail

Please go to the sign up genius below and sign up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A4EA5AD2AAAF49-social1>

Your warm hospitality is the reason people keep coming back...oh and maybe the sailing.

If you want a handful of SCOW brochures or business cards to pass the word amongst your various networks, let me know.

Thank you in advance to all of the volunteers who come week after week to make these events run smoothly.

Note:

- ◆ We need:
 - ◇ Ice, and any food items you can bring to share.
 - ◇ Assistant Dockmaster- Would love 2 people , one on each dock.
 - ◇ Set up- arrive early about 4:45pm and move the DHOW into place, put out folding chairs, and trash bins
 - ◇ Clean up-Stay late and help put DHOW away, put away folding chairs, and put trash bags in appropriate bins.
 - ◇ Please check your pantry for assorted plastic forks, and paper plates from left over events. I can purchase these but I'd rather reduce, reuse if possible.
- ◆ If I can't get volunteers for these key positions each week, I guess I may have to start cancelling Social Sail.
- ◆ If you are interested in being the chef for the main food item for a future Thursday please let me know. I know there are plans for a spaghetti night (with different sauce options), a hotdog night on the electric grill and even...a PIE night! Reach out to me and we can discuss how to make this happen.

Genevieve

Social Activities Director

703-623-3694 (text is best for me)

Sailing Club of Washington

www.scow.org



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SCOW Racing



Rebecca racing DISC TNR with Greg & Kristi Prather at Helm and Jib



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by Emily Feagans



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A Wednesday Night Racing Weather Update - Tue, Aug 1, 2023

Ahoy,

Quite pleasant weather forecast for tomorrow's race time (who knew the heat index, 82 deg., could be below the air temperature, 83?) thanks to a high centered over southern New England. As that high moves eastward during the day, it will shift our wind from northeasterly to southeasterly. The all-important wind speed looks to be something like 7 to 10 mph. Nobody has any gusts in their forecast, but the models suggest gusting up to 12 mph or so. We'll welcome any help getting out to the river, what with low tide at 4:23 p.m. and the river running at half its normal flow, a feeble 1500 cubic feet per second.

As always, an early arrival at the docks is recommended to make full use of the daylight; sunset is creeping earlier faster and faster this long after the solstice. Boats become available to skippers at 4:00; skippers and prospective crew would do best to arrive earlier (by 4:30 or so) rather than later (planning to be gone by 5:00).

Dick Kerr

Assistant Race Director

Sailing Club of Washington



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ODBC Charity Regatta



Ahoy Racers,

Old Dominion Boat Club (ODBC) will be hosting the Charity Regatta on Saturday, August 26th. The regatta raises money to benefit the ODBC Foundation and the Lymphoma and Leukemia Society (LLS). It is open to both PHRF rated keel boats and smaller one design dinghies.

There will be two separate courses: Racing for one designs will take place at the north end of the river near Hains Point while keel boat racing will take place further south, between the old powerplant and Old Town. Racing will take place from around 10am to 3pm with an after party at ODBC.

Registration is now open. To register and for more information about the regatta go to the ODBC Regatta webpage or see the attached Notice of Race. This is part of a fundraising event, and all participating boats are asked to donate or raise at least \$150. (It's going to a good cause.)



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Skippers, if you are interested in racing a SCOW cruiser or Flying Scot, please contact me first to be assigned a boat. We only have a limited number of boats available for racing on that day, so please only request a boat if you are serious about participating in the regatta.

Potential Crew, if you are interested in crewing for the regatta, you can let skippers know through the All SCOW listserv or by talking to skippers at events like Wednesday Night Racing and Thursday Social sails.

Bonnie Sylwester
SCOW Racing Director



Zan & Flying Scot



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Capsize Course



Feeling warm? Thinking a nice swim might be in order? Have I got a deal for you! The Capsize Course of the summer is just around the corner, next Saturday, July 15th to be exact. If you've ever wished to learn how to right a Flying Scot after a capsize or just want to have some fun out on the water, this is your chance. The cost for the class is a mere \$30 that goes to SCOW to help support our club. You can register by emailing training@scow.org. The class is open to any member of SCOW, skipperhood (yes, I just made up that word) is not required! The class will go from 9 am Saturday morning thru late afternoon (return no later than 5pm, usually earlier). If you're even slightly fearful of capsizing, this class is highly recommended. You'll learn it's not a big deal and have fun in the process!

If by chance you are a skipper, you should absolutely take this class if you haven't already. As skipper you're responsible for both the boat and the lives on it, so if an accidental capsize should ever take place, you need to know how to handle it. If you're not yet a skipper, come out anyway, you'll learn how to assist your skipper and have fun doing it!

Warning: impromptu water fights have been known to break out during this class.



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Reviews from earlier classes:

- ◆ *Best "class" ever!*

Thank you Thom, Stuart & Steve!!!

Delores Ward

- ◆ *It really is a fun class. What's more, once you've learned how you will also know more about when it is likely. That will make you a sailor who is more likely to regain control of the boat rather than lay it on its side. Some people reach a degree of heel, believe the cause is lost and stop sailing. Take the class and gain confidence.*

Ronnie Lewis

- ◆ *Totally agreed. Well worth the time, money, and weird sunburned knees. Thanks Thom, Stuart, and Steve!*

Harriet Foster

- ◆ *Learn well, fun it be.*

Yoda

Note: you must be a paid-up member of SCOW to participate in this class.

Fair Winds,

Thom Unger

Capsize Class Coordinator / Instructor



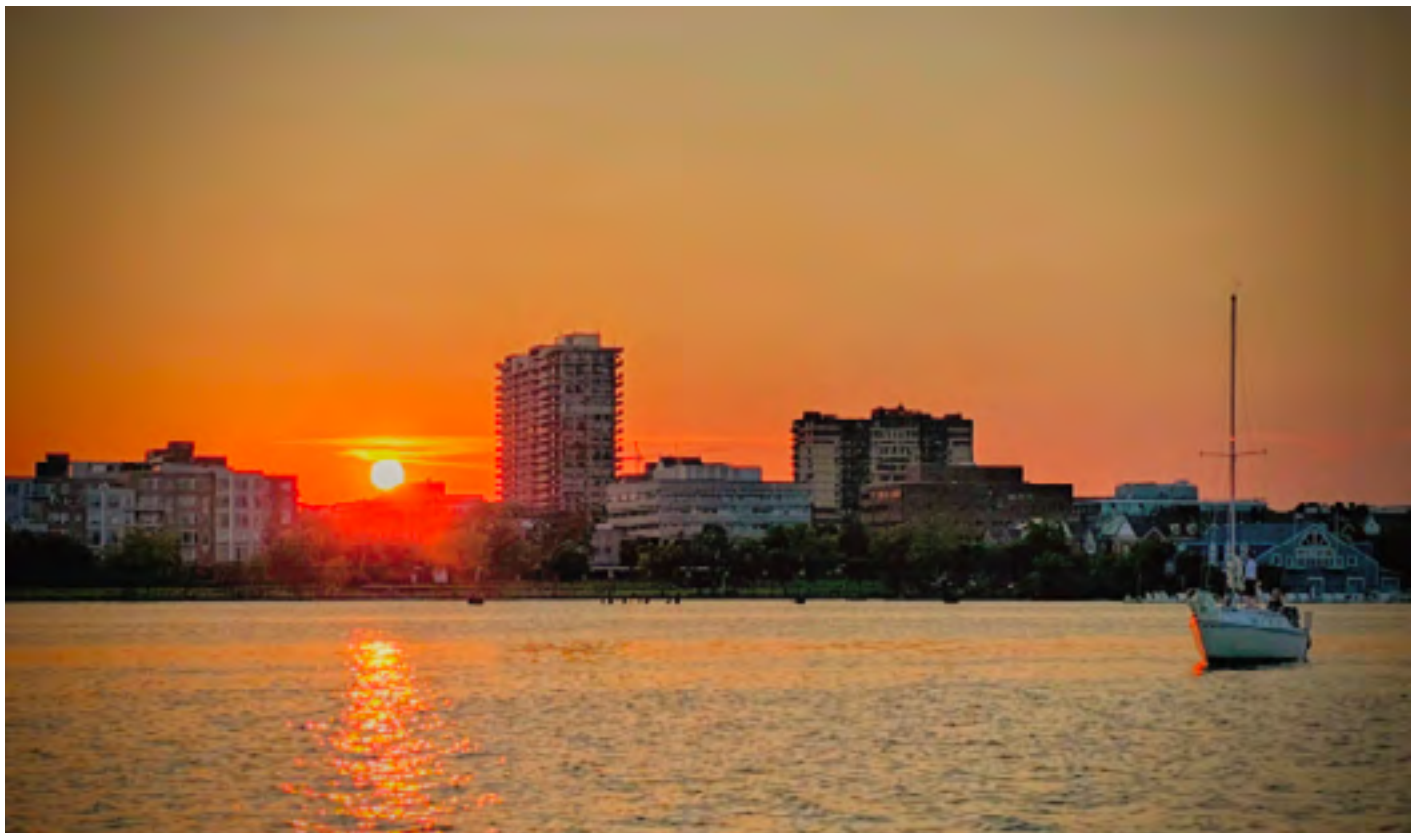
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Cruiser Raft up - Aug 4, 2023

SCOW's monthly Full Moon Raft Up for August was Friday Aug 4. All 3 SCOW cruisers sailed, anchored and then rafted up together to share dinner and a sunset on the river.

Thanks!

Marie Brennan, River & Bay Director





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Cruiser Raft up - July 14, 2023

Friday evening, July 14 started out with a thunderstorm, as select SCOW members gathered at G Dock for a cruise set up especially for those who had been on the waiting list more than once. Skippers Joe Leoncio (Lion's Paw) and Eric Schmidt (Hiatus) decided to wait out the storm and go ahead with the cruise. We had dinner inside the boat cabins--a little crowded and stuffy with all the portholes and hatches shut, but still a good time. Once the rain ended, we emerged from the cabin to witness a gorgeous rainbow and take turns getting photos of it.

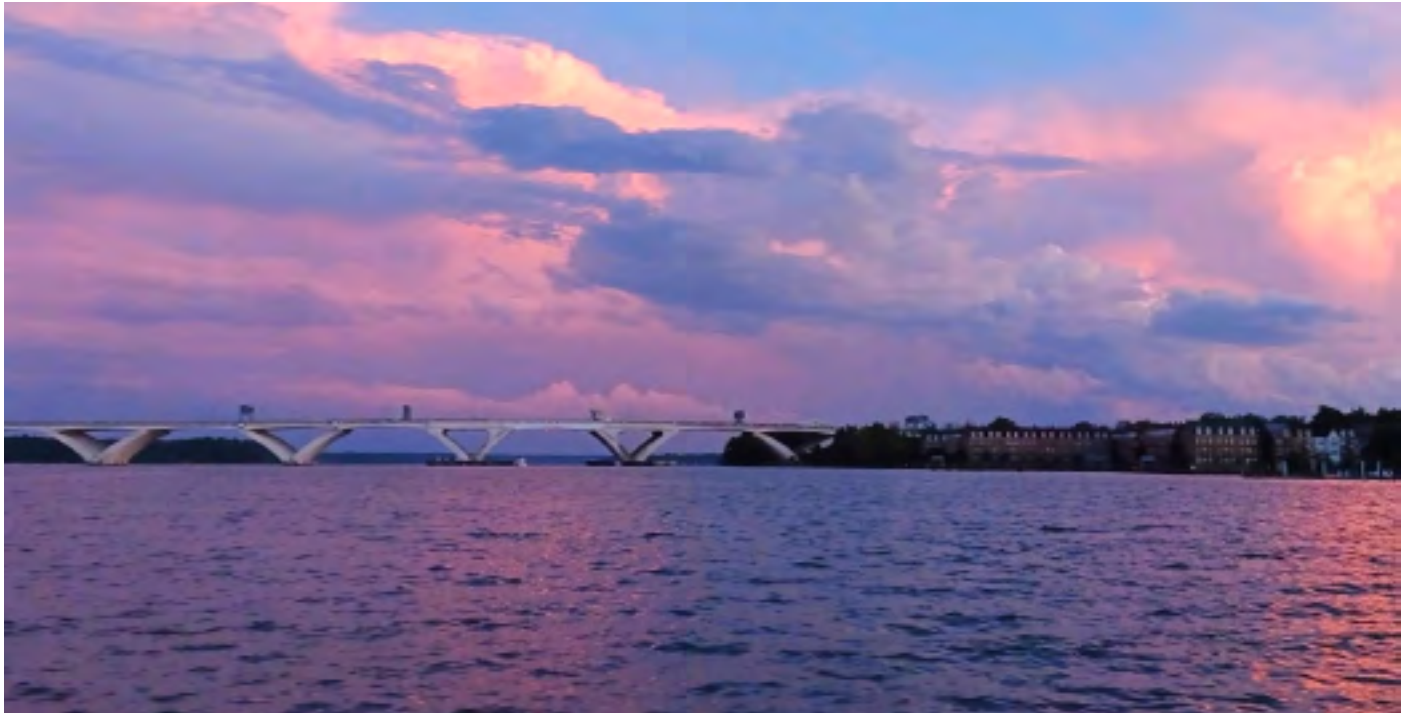
As we motored down the slightly swollen river under blue skies, we noticed a lot of clouds building up, mostly on the horizon. The skippers decided to sail instead of rafting up, which turned out to be more fun with a crisp breeze and gave us plenty of time to watch those clouds turn many shades of pink as the sun went down. Many thanks to Marie Brennan and skippers Joe and Eric for making this happen.

Alice Starcke





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Special Olympic Sailing

This year as in many years past, SCOW has played an important role in supporting Special Olympic Sailing in Northern Virginia. This year SCOW once again helped make a difference in the lives of Special Olympics athletes

2023 was a challenging year for Virginia's only Special Olympic Sailing program.

Increased demand for outdoor activities post-pandemic has been the rule, and Special Olympic Sailing was no exception. A roster of almost 30 sailors looked forward to setting sail at Washington Sailing Marina to learn to sail and compete in sailing regattas.

To deal with the increased demand, a second Tuesday night practice was added each week so that some athletes and volunteers came on Monday nights, and others on Tuesday nights. This allowed the number of SCOW Flying Scots needed on weeknight practices to be limited to two per night.

Monday night practices saw Skippers such as Josh Shields, Kevin McMahon and Barbara Thacker taking two or three athletes out on club boats, joined by Jim Haynes on Little Michael taking a couple of more. Tuesday nights featured club boats skippered by "the Bobs", Bob Hollendonner and Bob Ivy, launching two club boats to join Pete Ferrell on Lively. Volunteers from SCOW also sailed with the athletes, serving as crew, lookout, prompting athletes to handle the jib, and so on. Athletes assumed various responsibilities on SCOW Flying Scots, from steering to sail trim to keeping a lookout for jumping fish and ospreys.

The final Monday practice featured a "pirate battle" in the lagoon with Flying Scots, Hobie Cats and FJs manned with water cannons facing off in epic nautical contests of accuracy and reloading speed.

Saturday July 22 saw the annual Virginia Special Olympic Sailing regatta take place in light and shifty winds south of the Sailing Marina. Barbara Thacker and Stephanie Samoska teamed with athlete Rose Pleskow at the helm to compete fiercely against Pete Ferrell, joined by athletes Yusef Suleman and Mike Lautenberger taking turns at the helm. Kevin McMahon sailed with Ryan McMahon on a second club boat to round out the Flying Scot fleet for the regatta. Ryan also took a turn at the helm!



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Finishing off the season, Virginia sent three teams of one Skipper plus 2 athletes to compete in the Maryland Special Olympic State Sailing Championship held at Saint Mary's College of Maryland. The Virginia teams competed against 2 teams from Baltimore County, competing aboard Pearson 22 sailboats, which none of the teams had ever sailed before! Competition was exciting and challenging on unfamiliar boats, and the Pearson 22 owners reportedly had an enjoyable time sailing with Special Olympic Teams and have promised to return for next year's regatta.

Virginia Pearson Team 1: Barbara Thacker (partner/skipper) Rose Pleskow, Maxim Ginga (athletes)

Virginia Pearson Team 2: Robert Hollendonner (partner/skipper) Will Waddell, Michael Villalta (athletes)

Virginia Pearson Team 3: Sheila Callahan (partner/skipper) Shamarke Jama, Michael Lautenberger (athletes)

I am extremely proud of all our athletes and very proud and grateful to all of our volunteers, including SCOW volunteers, who helped make this sailing season a success.

Special thanks for our Saint Mary's regatta volunteers for being willing to compete on unfamiliar boats, in some cases with athletes they had never sailed with before. I owe all of you a huge debt of gratitude.

Sincerely,

Allen Flanigan

Sailing Coordinator

Virginia Special Olympics Area 26



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SCOW Special Olympics Volunteer Roster 2023

Barbara Thacker

Kevin McMahon

Dwight Fincher

Latasha Allen

Alexis Joiner

Robert Hollendonner

Jim Haynes

Robert Ivy

Esther Petrilli Massey

Stephanie Samoska

Joshua Seeley

Josh Shields

Allen Flanigan (Program Director)

Tara Branigan

Sheila Callahan



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Sail the Tall Ship Providence

Want to join other SCOW members on a group sail of the Tall Ship Providence? We are not chartering the entire boat as that would drive up the individual cost, so we are planning a group event for August 20th, please purchase your tickets through the website asap! As of now, they informed me there are 36 spots open for that evening.

Please go to this website and select Tickets for SUNSET SAIL on 8/20.

<https://tallshipprovidence.org/>

Cost: \$52.47

***Please email me once you purchase tickets, I will keep a list of who is going so we can possibly coordinate drinks/dinner before or afterwards.

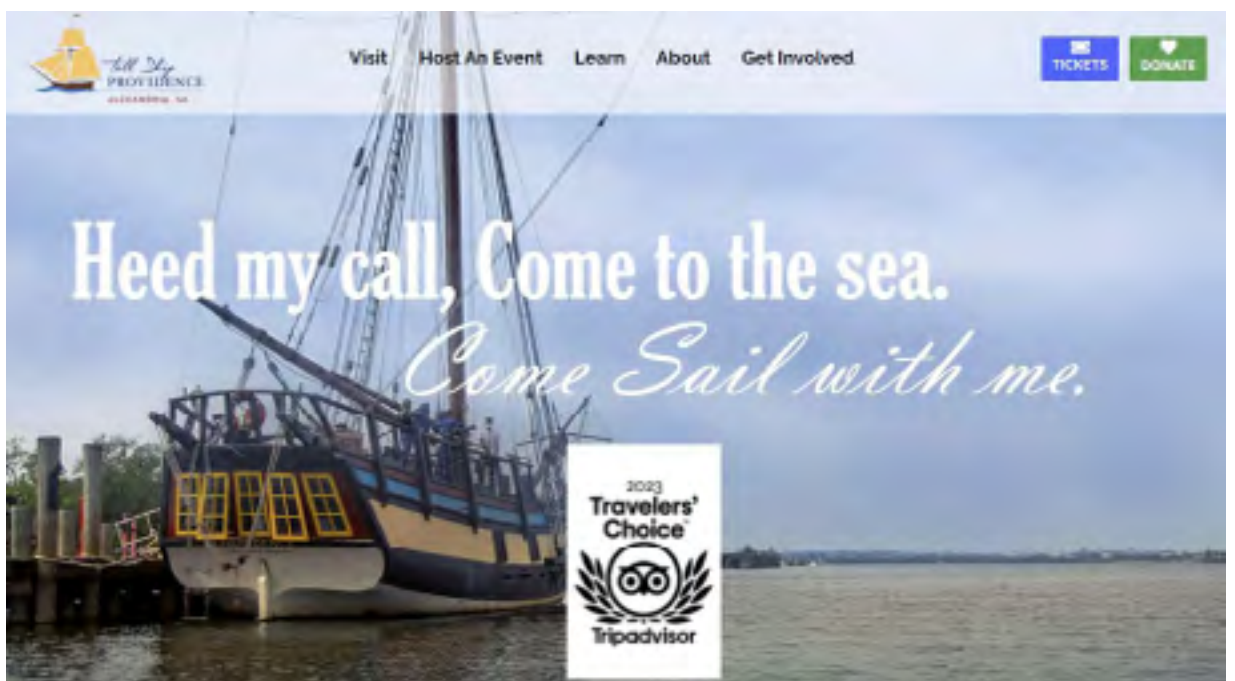
When: Sunday, August 20th 6pm

Where: Meet at Tall Ship Providence Dock, Alexandria VA

Who: This is open to the public!

Thanks!!!

Marie Brennan, River & Bay Director







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SCOW Awards on Display

Two of our three annual awards are now on display in the shop at Washington Sailing Marina. Stop by and take a look at the names of our past recipients.

This year we will be adding the John Rogers Top Trainer Award. It will become one of our annual awards for the top trainers of Flying Scot and Cruisers.

John past away this year. He was a longtime Member of SCOW - Past Commodore along with recipient of all three annual awards. Wife Susan Berman continues to be an active club member.

For description of each award – log on to SCOW go to MEMBERS AREA go to SCOW Recognitions (bottom middle of page)



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My Flying Scot Visit

At the end of July the stars aligned. I had the opportunity to stay a few days at Deep Creek Lake in western MD. Checking the map I saw Flying Scot factory in Deer Park MD was only 10 miles away from the lakefront home where we were staying.

I needed a new mast for my boat, SCOW needed to return a refurbished center board and Dana needed some FS parts. Plus, after speaking with Carrie, Tyler and Melanie for several years – I thought here is an opportunity to meet in person.

They were preparing for the upcoming Sandy Douglas Memorial Regatta at Deep Creek and expecting lots of visitors among the 40 boats entered – yet, took the time to show me and the family around the operation.

Brian McPherson



Wide view of the factory floor



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FS deck upside down being prepared to seal with hull



Hull in the mold – balsa laid out – ready for next layer of fiberglass



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Here's a pic with Melanie Dunham the Office Manager. Melanie will likely be the person who answers your call to Flying Scot. Always pleasant, very knowledgeable, willing to take the time to answer questions and if she doesn't know – will find the answer and call back. Melanie is also a well-regarded FS racer in her own right.



Carrie & Tyler Andrews in front of a brand new FS ready for delivery. Carrie & Tyler now run the operation taking over from Carrie's parents – Harry & Mary Carpenter. My daughter Heather, visiting from LA, is in the background. Tyler & Carrie came in first for the regatta.



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Editor's Note

Hello everyone!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to ChaNNels.

Please (continue to) send content for potential inclusion in ChaNNels to editor@scow.org.

Feedback on ChaNNels would be appreciated. For instance - What do you like about ChaNNels? What could be improved? Do you have any suggestions of content you would like to see included?

Cheers,

- AK

P.S. Please forgive any typos, omissions and other forms of booboos; a note sent to editor@scow.org informing about any such occurrence(s) would be appreciated. Also, all photos are copyright to whoever took them.

P.P.S. For the answer to the riddle, and the folks who sent correct answers, read on.

Riddle

A Japanese ship was sailing on the open sea. The captain went for a shower, removing his ring and placing it on the bedside table. When he returned, he found it had gone missing. The captain immediately called the crew members he suspected, and asked each one where they were and what were they doing in the last 15 minutes.

The cook said, "I was in the kitchen preparing meat for dinner."

The engineer , "I was in the engine room working on the generators."

The seaman said, "I was on the mast correcting the flag which was hung upside down by mistake."

The radio officer said, "I was on the radio, messaging to the company about our arrival."

The navigation officer said, "I was asleep in my cabin."

The captain immediately caught the thief.

How did the captain know?



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Answer

The captain immediately knew it was the seaman because the seaman's statement did not make sense in the context of the Japanese flag.

Feel free to send in your best conspiracy theory as to why the seaman stole the captain's ring :)



Who sent in the right answer?

- ◆ Mack
- ◆ Richard Kaiser

GET SCOW MERCH

SCOW has a new vendor
for apparel & merchandise!

Checkout all the cool merch at:

[www.districtsailing.com/
shop/42033090/scow](http://www.districtsailing.com/shop/42033090/scow)

