



March 2023

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



100%

Volunteer-run club

Leave boats **better**
than you found them

“Land was created to provide a place for boats to visit.”



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Table of Contents

Commodore's Log -----	3
SCOW 2023 Budget -----	6
Cruiser Care -----	11
Cruiser-only, Member-only Social Sail -----	15
Social Sail for 2023 -----	16
Club Twinning -----	17
Editor's Note -----	19





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Commodore's Log

Dear Scow Members & Friends:

Our new Board held its inaugural meeting in January and began a very busy first three months of the year. The Board approved the 2023 budget, approved the members of both the Training and Skipper Certification (TSCC) and Boat Asset Committee (BAC) – both are important components of our continued success. The Board also approved small increase at all Membership levels. We are experiencing increased costs in all areas - insurance, website fees, boat sails & equipment, maintenance, etc. Both Dana Howe (Scots) & Barry Yatt continue to keep our boats in great shape. Slip fees for both the Scots and Cruisers increased over 6% to over \$23,000. For SCOW to continue to be financially sound – it is necessary to increase fees.

Most exciting news is the addition of a new Flying Scot to our fleet. We purchased hull # 5112 and we'll be removing Selkie. Special thanks to Lynn Durbin & Dana Howe for their diligence in monitoring the FS market and identifying potential boats for the club to purchase. The boat is in great condition and an assessment of what upgrades and changes are necessary to bring in line with our other Flying Scots is underway.

Grateful to John Kauffman and his team with the Boat Asset Committee (BAC) who have spent much time creating a set of guidelines and estimated scheduling for boat replacements and upgrades. It's important we actively monitor our boat inventory, sails & equipment while we plan for the future.

Normally club activities abate during the winter months – this year we've seen much more activity than in the past. Members took advantage of the mild weather to reserve boats and get out on the water. We had a great reception to the Sunday Social Sails on the cruisers. Thanks to Barry Yatt and the other Cruiser Skippers for organizing.

"After Glow" was held January 21 at a new location in Alexandria which was very well received. Over 80 Members attended. Special thanks to Genevieve Lindsay and her team.



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Maintenance Days are already scheduled for both the Cruisers & Scots as we prepare the boats for the upcoming sailing season. Maintenance Day is a great time to rekindle friendships and make new friends with fellow SCOW Members. Please check the calendar and your emails to volunteer.

We'll also be having "Rub of the Rust" sessions. Opportunity to familiarize yourself with your favorite Cruiser, Flying Scot or both.

Wednesday Night Racing begins April 4 with Social Sail starting its season with the "Burning of the Socks" the following week. Both these weekly events continue through the end of September.

Other items – watch for emails & check the [SCOW calendar](#)

- Bonnie Sylwester - Racing Director - working with other clubs to coordinate the racing schedule. Along with her popular "Rules" seminar for Members who wish to race.
- Allen Flanigan – Training Director - in the process of putting together the class teachers, on water trainers and scheduling
- Marie Brennan – River/Bay Director – continues to come up with innovative & popular events including the "Raft Ups" already on the calendar.
- Lynn Durbin – Vice Commodore – has scheduled several meetings with timely topics and speakers
- Eric Schmidt – Skipper Director – coordinates with tutors & check out skippers for the transition from the training course to becoming a skipper.

Being financially healthy has allowed our Club to make several purchases to keep our boats safe and enjoyable to sail.

- New sails for all the Flying Scots. The current sails are 6-7 years old and starting to show wear. We'll change over to the new sails in the Spring.
- New main for Rebecca
- New deck blocks for Rebecca for cleaner deck layout
- The purchase of a Flying Scot to replace Selkie - mentioned above.



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We have a new ChaNNels editor – Aamir Khwaja aka “AK”. AK will also be helping us coordinate our social media presence and working toward having bimonthly ChanNNels publication. Send articles, pics, event summaries to AK at: editor@scow.org

Lastly, take advantage to the “Early Bird” special and renew your Membership before the end of March to avoid the 2023 fee increase. Speaking of renewals – a special thanks to Chip Lubsen & our Membership Director, Christy Poppy – for all their work behind the scenes in order to streamline the renewal process.

There’s lots of activities on the schedule – something for everyone.

Looking forward to getting back out on the water and seeing everyone at the marina.

Brian





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SCOW 2023 Budget

Below is the board approved budget for SCOW operations in 2023. Please note which board member is responsible for each category, as this is the person who will have to approve expenses you may incur.

If you have any questions or comments on this, please direct them to treasurer@scow.org

Budget Categories	2023 Budget	Assigned to
Income:		
Interest Income	400	Treasurer
Member Dues	25000	Membership
Other Income	100	Treasurer
Skipper Fees	20000	Skipper
Social activities:		
Afterglow party	\$0	Social
Hail and Farewell	3000	Social
Re-up Brunch	0	Social
Miscellaneous	2000	Social, others?
Social Sail & Other		Social
Total Social Income	5000	
Training	18000	Training
Total Income	68500	



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SCOW 2023 Budget - continued

Budget Categories	2023 Budget	Assigned to
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	3000	Web Mstr/Treasurer, up from prior years
Total Communication:	3850	



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SCOW 2023 Budget - continued

Budget Categories	2023 Budget	Assigned to
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	11000	Treasurer
Registration	250	Treasurer
Slip Fees	23000	Treasurer
Fleet Memberships	750	Treasurer
Other	500	Treasurer
Total Fleet Ops:	45500	
Tax	400	Treasurer



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SCOW 2023 Budget - continued

Member Services/Social:		
Afterglow party	1500	Social
Hail and Farewell	3500	Social
Re-Up Brunch	1500	Member/Racing/Training/Social
River Activities	2000	<u>River&bay</u> , Social
Maintenance Day	400	<u>Maint</u> , both, social
Social Sails	3000	Social
Total Social Activity	11900	

Racing	1200	Racing
Training	2500	Training
Reserve Fund Transfer		Treasurer, Board
Total Expense	70000	
Net (Income minus Expenses)	-1500	





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Cruiser Care

The Cruiser Maintenance group, or Bosun's Team (the Cruiser Maintenance Director, Lead Bosuns, and Assistant Bosuns), has been enhancing, repairing, and preparing our Catalina's for spring. Here's a summary.

UPGRADES: *Rebecca's* new mainsail and 110% jib are installed. We used the main, reefed, for the first time during the Feb 5 Sunday Social sail. Also, all boats now have handheld VHF radios, emergency antennas, LED spotlights, and 7.5W amorphous solar panel trickle chargers. *Rebecca* now has USB and cigarette lighter ports, just like *Hiatus* and *Lion's Paw 2*. Complete instructions for using the new upgrades have been sent to all cruiser skippers.

NEW "SUNDAY SOCIAL" PROGRAM: We now have a winter sailing program for people who want to sail in the off-season. We've been impressed by the interest. In the first 72 hours after announcing the Feb 5 "Sunday Social" sail, 25 RSVPs were received and an additional 20 or so for the later Sunday Socials. The reservations option was shut down while a strategy was developed for handling the level of demand - a great problem to have. In the end, 3 skippers and 4 mates took 20 members out on two 2h15 sails under mostly sunny skies with winds averaging 12 knots gusting to 24. Participants reported having a great time. See the video posted to the SCOW homepage under "Key Announcements" (2023-02-10)

[Scenes from the Inaugural Sunday Social](#)

For the remaining Sunday Socials, on Feb 19, Mar 5, and Mar 19, we'll have one boat doing a single 5-hour sail, going south past National Harbor, perhaps as far as Broad Creek, and the other two boats doing two shorter sails each, noon to 2:15 and 2:25 to 5:00, possibly to National Harbor or Haines Point, depending on wind conditions. Several slots are still open. Register by clicking on the event announcement on the SCOW homepage.

MINIMIZING DAMAGE: Repairs are expensive, take time, and are largely preventable. Here are some suggestions for keeping our boats in top condition:



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- **Docking Hiatus in northerly winds:** Please be careful when returning from a sail with a strong north wind pushing Hiatus down the marina channel. To reduce speed, please idle the engine as soon as you're passing "A" dock, then put in neutral or even reverse so it takes 7-10 seconds to go from dock to dock. If speed is still high, do a 180 degree turn to drop speed and approach again. You'll see the best skippers taking that approach. Or instead of the usual 45 degree approach, consider crossing the channel perpendicular to the dock to get the wind off your stern before a final slow 90 degree pivot to align with the dock.
- **Departing WSM:** When leaving the dock with Hiatus or Rebecca, be careful to clear the adjacent boat. One good way to move the bow out into the channel is to hold onto the stern line while reversing the engine, swinging the bow away from the dock, before moving forward and dropping the stern line onto the dock.
- **Hang fenders properly:** Fenders are our primary defense against dock rash. Each one hangs from a rope of carefully-set length, with a snap clip on it. To use them, in general, snap the clip directly onto one of the loops at the base of a stanchion. For Hiatus and Lion's Paw 2's aft fender, snap it to the loop at the middle rail's "elbow" at the forward end of the lifeline gate.
- **Please don't change the length of the dock lines on G dock or retie their knots.** The bosuns have set them to what they need to be and would rather not have to keep redoing them every week because people have changed them. If you think they should be done differently, please share your thinking with CruiserMaint@SCOW.org.
- **Never grab onto the top of a stanchion post.** That can lead to a leaky deck. When you need to hold a boat at the dock, grab the base of the stanchion, not the middle or top.
- **Don't kick the cables:** There are electrical cables at the base of the mast that power the navigation lights and radio antenna. Please be careful not to kick them.





CHANNELS

- **Secure the sails:** Each boat now has at least 4 sail ties. Use them and make sure the entire mainsail is under the cover. And take a few turns with the foresail furler on Hiatus and LP2 to make sure strong winds can't unfurl and shred the foresail.

- **Make no modifications:** If you feel that something is wrong with any component of a boat or that it simply needs optimizing, please DON'T DO ANYTHING. Email the Bosun Team at CruiserMaint@SCOW.org and let us look into it. We promise to be prompt. There might be a reason it is set up the way it is. And if correction or repair is in order, we need to examine the damage, determine the cause, order the correct parts, and track what was done to which boat, when, by whom, and with what results. If that sounds like something you'd like to help with, we welcome additional people to the Bosuns Team. Send an email.

USING OUR HEADS: The chemicals we use in our Porta Potties are expensive and not so great for the environment. So, in order to reduce waste and dumping, we have implemented a limited-time trial of a new procedure, and welcome comments before deciding whether to make it permanent. Effective immediately, the Bosun Team will manage the heads. We will empty the heads at the pump-out dock and freshen the water and chemicals as often as needed but not after every sail. So do not hesitate to use the heads. You don't have to hop on one foot until you return to dock. Just:

- Lift the lid
- Use the bellows or piston at the back left corner to pump a little water into the bowl
- SIT DOWN (whether male or female) to make your deposit
- Pull the handle under the seat forward to flush and pump a little more water in to rinse the bowl.
- Push the handle back in
- Close the lid.

That's it. If you see a problem, email CruiserMaint@SCOW.org to report it. And if you don't, send comments anyway. Also, if you're wearing a lot of bulky layers, it may make sense to leave some in the salon since the head is rather tight.





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JOIN THE FUN

Please register for the spring **Cruiser Maintenance Days** planned for 3/25 (for assessment and routine maintenance) and 4/8 (for repairs and upgrades) with 4/29 as a rain date, all 9:00 am to noon. An additional session may also be scheduled to work on Hiatus' waterline stains. No particular expertise is needed. We will provide all needed tools and supplies.

The Bosuns Team is seeking additional people to help in quite a few easy-to-manage capacities. It's a great way to start learning about boat maintenance and repair, giving any sailor more confidence and especially useful to anyone thinking of someday having their own boat. Please email if you have interest in any of the following opportunities:

- **Cruiser Maintenance Documents Manager:** To help manage the effort's multiple project boat management and management spreadsheets. Some familiarity with Excel would help, I can teach you the rest as you go. No heavy lifting or on-site presence required.
- **Mini-Scope Managers:** We're looking for reliable people to keep an eye on just one item each for all three boats. Perfect for you if you can do this regularly (maybe one day every month or two) and mostly at your convenience. We'll start with three needs:
 - o **Maintain ropes:** whip ends, check for chafing.
 - o **Maintain fenders:** inflate, check that they are hanging only from loops at stanchion bases and railing elbows.
 - o **Maintain standing rigging:** make sure clevis pins and rings are intact, check tension on stays and shrouds, and adjust if needed. We will teach you how.
- **Advisors:** We're looking for club experts with cruiser experience that we can call when we go beyond our own fairly robust internal knowledge base. Please contact me if you can serve and have deep knowledge of any boat systems (such as sails, engine, rigging, fiberglass, electrical, woodwork, etc.).

Thanks,
Barry



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Cruiser-only, Member-only Social Sail

Registration is now open again for “Sunday Social” winter sails on February 19, March 5, and **March 19**, pending decent weather. All sails are listed on the [online calendar](#) – Register to join us. We are offering a total of up to 60 crew slots for attending (20 per date). No experience on cruisers is required - each boat will have a skipper and first mate. You have a choice of 3 options for each date:

- Two 2+ hour sails probably staying north of the Wilson Bridge, going either to Alexandria or maybe Haines Point depending on conditions
 - Sail from 12:00 to 2:15 (2 boats - 8 crew)
 - Sail from 2:45 to 5:00 (2 boats - 8 crew)
- A 5-hour sail from 12:00 to 5:00 (1 boat - 4 crew) going south of the Wilson Bridge, possibly as far as Broad Creek or even Fort Washington depending on conditions.

Up to four people can register as crew for each boat/each sail on a first-come first-served basis. If you are qualified and interested in serving as Skipper or First Mate, please email cruisermaint@scow.org directly rather than sending an RSVP. Once all slots are filled, names will be automatically entered into a waiting list. Please cancel if you register but then find you cannot attend to free up space for those wait-listed.





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Social Sail for 2023

Friends,

As you make plans on your Spring, Summer and Fall calendars, please don't forget that I really need your help making Social Sail a success every Thursday night from mid April to mid October.

Please consider volunteering. If you are new to SCOW, you might sign up for a set up, or clean up shift so you can see how the other positions "work." This is a fantastic way to meet all of your new SCOW friends and make plans for more sailing adventures with those friends on the weekends.

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

Genevieve

Social director 2022 and 2023





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Club Twinning

FYI: See the lovely note from the Commodore of the Royal Tay Yacht Club:

I can now confirm that the Lord Provost, Mr. Campbell, has visited the club and completed the burgee exchange. I've attached the last 2 club newsletters which detail the exchange, both at your end and here in Dundee. I'm sorry the stories don't have full prominence, but, between the sale of our old clubhouse, moving in to our new club and the Boxing Day Regatta we've had a busy spell.



Mr. Campbell visited the new club and was given the grand tour before the AGM. As part of the process he was also voted in as an Honorary member of the club in his position as Admiral of the Tay. He seems to have been very taken with Alexandria and encouraged everyone there to visit.

He also gave us your kind gifts, thank you very much. I'm going to distribute them at the first full board meeting. I hope this is the start of a fruitful relationship and I look forward to welcoming you to RTYC if you re ever in the area.

Kind Regards and many thanks

Ralph Hopkins
(Still) Commodore RTYC





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Editor's Note

Hello everyone! Welcome to a new edition of ChaNNels.

As always, please send content for potential inclusion in ChaNNels to editor@scow.org. And, to continue the tradition of previous ChaNNels, send also musings and nacho recipes.

Thank you to everyone who has offered encouragement and contributions to bring this newsletter to life. Any contributions not utilized this time have been held on to for future inclusion.

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 occurrences would be appreciated. Also, all photos are copyright to whoever took them; in the future, specific acknowledgments will be included.

