



### **March 2016**

Edition of ChanNels. The Sailing Club of Washington Newsletter.

### **Commodore – Order of the Month**

Hello Friends and fellow club members. March has been a very busy month. In fact, counting the seminars, Re-up Brunch, Maintenance Day, and a General Membership, Train the Trainer, Boat Asset Committee, and Training and Skipper Certification Committee meeting, on average, there was a SCOW meeting every third day this month! Many thanks go out to all those who arranged and supported all these meetings. Well done!

Things do not slowdown in April. There is Rub-off-the-Rust, Social Sail and racing season all get started in April.

**Rub off the Rust – April 2 (3rd rain date) 0900 to 1500 Hrs. Small Boat Dock Meetup, where we will form Scot and Cruiser teams.**

Teresa Fralish is planning her program to help you skippers “git yer sea legs back!” as well as relearn what you may have forgotten.

Just a reminder to sign up for the April 2 Rub Off the Rust. We still have spaces left.

A few reminders:

--The Scot portion is split into two separate sessions that will cover the same material: one morning (9AM-Noon) and one afternoon (Noon-3PM) session. However, the cruiser session is one 9AM-3PM session, since the procedures are longer for cruisers and there are variations between Rebecca and Hiatus. At 9AM, the cruiser participants will be divided into 2 groups for the 2 boats, and they will switch around noon. (So, for the cruisers, if you want to cover both boats, this means you should not also sign up for the Scots.) If you have any questions, please let Teresa know ([skipper@scow.org](mailto:skipper@scow.org))

**Flying Scot Spring Series I** – The skippers wishing to race in this series submitted their names and were selected March 25. If you are interested in crewing for this or other races throughout the year, go to the website under the Race with SCOW tab, Crewing, then Meet the crew to be taken to a spreadsheet where you can input your name for consideration.

**Social Sail Begins – At its March meeting, the Board voted to provide the funds for refreshments at the first and third Social Sails of each month.** The first Thursday of April is the 7<sup>th</sup>. The April 7<sup>th</sup> Social Sail will feature sailing tours of the lagoon, a BBQ and the first annual Burning of the Socks to herald in the sailing season. Come meet your fellow sailors and help bring new sailors into the club. Skippers are encouraged to come early and get the fleet into the water.

Send a note to [Social@scow.org](mailto:Social@scow.org) if you would like to be a future Dockmaster, Assistant or Chef/Host.

**Training Schedule announced** – The Spring, Summer, and Fall, Basic Scot and Cruiser Training Schedules have been set. The Spring Basic and Cruiser Class is full. There is space in the Summer and Fall Classes. If you are a member and are interested in training, please contact Greg Prather [training@scow.org](mailto:training@scow.org).

**Maintenance Day** – was held March 12<sup>th</sup>. About 35 members attended. Steve Ochenkoski handed out assignment sheets to the Bosuns, who formed groups and got busy. In addition to regular and preventive maintenance, Skirmish’s Mast was lowered for transport. (See photo below)



Photo by Stephanie Semoska

A team of members lowering Skirmish’s mast.

The SCOW maintenance day participants were very surprised and pleased by the efforts of Brian Cullen, who showed up with a refurbished centerboard. (Shown below) Brian had taken a used centerboard and applied his skill and expertise to resurface and smooth it to a very nearly new condition. This centerboard was installed on Elisse, and yes, he took the used one back home to repeat the process. Thanks Brian! (Pictured below with his handy work!)



Photo by Joe Leoncio

Where’s Joey? A unique perspective from atop the mast.

**THIS COULD HAPPEN TO YOU.**

While it is not uncommon to see a sailboat heeled over a bit, there are some cases where it can go too far, as in this real life photo. Nobody was hurt and Selkie’s passengers that day were wearing PFDs as was noted by emergency officials who assisted the boaters.



Of particular interest is the location of the centerboard. Since bringing the Scot back upright involves putting weight on a fully extended centerboard, if it retracts into the trunk, as it did in this case, the Scot cannot be righted without assistance of a power boats. In this case, the boaters called Julian Mallet and he was able to right them using the skiff. This was very fortunate for these sailors and can’t be relied upon in the case of a future capsized or grounding.

SCOW members using SCOW boats are subject to very expensive towing charges in the case of capsizing or grounding. SCOW has a group BoatUS membership that allows SCOW members a discounted towing protection package. But, this is an annual purchase for the individual skipper and must be purchased in advance to a tow in order to be covered for reimbursement. A fresh water policy with membership costs about \$70 per year. If you are interested, contact BoatUS and tell them you are a member of the Sailing Club of Washington.

CHANNELS Editor. We are still in need of an Editor for CHANNels. If you are interested, please drop me a line at [commodore@scow.org](mailto:commodore@scow.org).

## SCOW 50<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration

The Board is looking for a few good SCOW members to work on a committee to plan and manage the 50 year SCOW anniversary event. If you are interested, in serving on the committee or being its chairperson, we'd love to hear from you. Please drop me a line. Keep alert for opportunities to volunteer and assist in this once in a lifetime endeavor.

## SCOW Winter Seminar Series Continues – through March 30<sup>th</sup>.

### March Seminar Schedule – by Csilla Gal Racing Director

Subject	Speaker	Date
Local Knowledge	Barney Harris (PRSA)	Wed, March 2nd
Racing Rules Clinic	Nabeel Alsalam (PRSA)	Wed, March 9th
Race Committee and Race Management	Julian Mallet (SCOW) and Nabeel Alsalam (PRSA)	Thursday, March 17th
Racing Tactics (Fleet Racing)	Michael J. Callahan (Head Coach, Georgetown University)	Wed, March 23rd
Sail Tuning	UK Sails or Ullman Sails	Wed, March 30th

After a successful run of classes and seminars, only one more remains as scheduled above for

Wednesday March 30<sup>th</sup>. Many thanks to Csilla Gal and all the speakers who volunteered their time.

## SCOW Membership Meeting

SCOW's second membership meeting of 2016 was held on Thursday March 24th at Indigo Landing.

The Alexandria Fireboat was on display and there were presentations by three local safety authorities.

It was a great session with over 45 attendees and 7 new members.

## River and Bay Director - Joe Leoncio

Greetings! I'm happy to report that the first raft-up this year was held on Friday, March 18th, and it was a huge success. There were 15 members and one guest in attendance on three boats.

I want to give special recognition to Becky Cole because she had the initiative and the leadership to help get this raft-up idea in motion.

Special thanks to Thom Unger, whose leadership and exceptional boat handling overcame the unexpected challenge of Rebecca's engine failure. Thom, Becky, and their crews all worked together to tow Rebecca into and out of the channel. Without this adaptability and creative problem-solving, the event might not have taken place!

At the last minute, Bill Davenport offered to take his boat We Few so that even more members could join in on the fun. I actually got to ride with Bill, and I'm glad that I did. Bill has sailed in the Potomac for a long time and he had a lot of history and local knowledge to share with me and the rest of the crew - half of whom were new club members.

SCOW is OUR club, and we all have a stake of ownership in it. SCOW runs on volunteers taking initiative and leading events like this. It takes warm, friendly personalities making new members and guests feel welcome at our events, which is precisely what I observed at the raft-up. Lastly, it takes responsibility and adherence to club policy to protect the safety of our members and to protect

our sailboats. Everyone wore life vests and drinking was done in moderation. As River and Bay Director, I'm very proud of the skippers and crews who made this event possible.

Moving ever forward, let's keep up the momentum and continue to have fun through this sailing season!



Photos by Joe Leoncio

### **2016 Committee Vacancies**

Currently, SCOW has two committees without member staffing, the Audit Committee and Nominating Committee. Please refer to the SCOW By Laws at the link below for information about the valuable assignments of these two committees. Let the Commodore know if you wish to be considered for heading or serving on either

### **2016 SCOW Training Schedule\***

<b>Basic Sailing</b>	<b>Land Sessions</b>	<b>Water Sessions</b>
Basic Sailing 1 - Spring Class size 15 \$400 for Land and Water sessions.	April 6,13,20 and 28 (28th is Thursday) Wednesday or Thursday 6:30pm – 8:30pm	April 16,17,23,24,30 and May 1 (Makeup May 14, 15) Sat & Sun 8 am - 4pm
Basic Sailing 2 - Summer Class size 15 \$400 for Land and Water sessions.	June 1,8,15 and 22 Wed 6:30pm – 8:30pm	June 4,5,11,12,25 and 26 (Makeup July 9, 10) Sat & Sun 8 am - 4pm
Basic Sailing 3 - Fall Class size 15 \$400 for Land and Water sessions.	Sept. 7, 14, 21 and 28 Wed 6:30pm – 8:30pm	Sept. 11,17,18,24, 25 and Oct 1 (Makeup Oct 2, 15) Sat & Sun 8 am - 4pm
<b>Cruising Sailing</b>	<b>Land Sessions</b>	<b>Water Sessions</b>
Cruising 1 - Spring Class size 5 \$450 for Land and Water sessions.	May 4 (Thursday) and May 11 (Wednesday) Wed 6:30pm – 8:30pm	May 14,15, 21 and 22 Sat & Sun 8am - 4pm
Cruising 2 - Fall Class size 5 \$450 for Land and Water sessions.	Sept 29 (Thursday) and Oct 12 (Wednesday) Wed 6:30pm – 8:30pm	Oct 1, 2, 15, 16 Sat & Sun 8am - 4pm Oct 18, Sun 5:30pm—12am

\* Training is available to SCOW members only.

**Train the Trainers!** John Rogers gives a group of trainers the benefits of his knowledge at a talk held March 31, 2016 at Indigo Landing.

