

**A monthly publication for the membership of Severn Sailing Association
A Small Boat Racing Club, Established 1954**

April 2008

Commodore's Comments

The 2008 racing schedule has been established, the RC boats are prepped and ready, RC staffing has been organized, and the clubhouse, docks and grounds have been groomed and repaired. Frostbite season is finished. Opening day has marked the beginning of another SSA racing season. Many SSA sailors, having planned and worked all winter, are prepared for the new season. Many others of us are still working toward that goal, or have yet to begin. During recent visits to the club, I have observed many members working on their boats. Regardless of our state of readiness, let us all commit to get out on the water and reap the benefits of our collective efforts to launch a successful 2008 SSA racing season. It is, after all, the reason we have all joined together as the Severn Sailing Association.

In addition to all the effort directed toward the 2008 season preparations, the Facilities Committee has been diligently developing plans for the clubhouse restoration/renovation project. Soon they will present to the BOG several options for improving the clubhouse facility. Options are expected to range from extensive maintenance (siding replacement, a new main room floor) to moderate renovations and expansion, and may include the Jr. Clubhouse. Before acting on any option, the BOG will integrate the costs of the project with the existing capital expenditure plan we have prepared that already considers future dock and RC equipment investments we feel will be necessary. The membership will be given an opportunity to offer comments and input before any decisions are taken. The particular forum for input has yet to be determined but could involve a special members meeting, a survey, or some other method.

While the clubhouse renovation project moves toward fruition, let's make sure we do not lose sight of our real reason for SSA and get out on the Bay and race.

Joe

Significant News

- **The RC Duty Roster has been filled!** If you are interested in additional RC or Work Party projects contact the office with your interest.
- **RC Substitute List** is available on the Members Only site under Reports – ‘Members Needing Days’. Please notify the VC and the office of any substitutions to secure proper credit. There is also a list of juniors for hire (\$50/day) available from the office.
- We have lost one of SSA's, Eastport and Annapolis's greatest treasures, Honorary Member Peg Wallace. See page 3 for her tribute by Peter Tasi.

Upcoming Events

- **Friday Night Dinners continue into the Spring** with Dark N' Stormy's. Look for information and menus in the weekly SSA 'Breeze' emails.
- **J22 Fleet Sail Trim Chalk Talk – April 17th**
SSA Clubhouse from 6:45-9pm. Join Jeff Todd and Greg Fisher to help get ready for the season. Contact Brad Julian bjulian@kpalum.com.
- **TESOD Starts May 6th**. Registration is free and open to all one-design sailors with a completed SSA entry form on file at SSA. Forms available online.
- **Junior Summer Program Starts June 16th**

Important Reminders

- **IMPORTANT NOTICE!!!**
ALL BOATS, TRAILERS & DOLLIES ON SSA PROPERTY MOST HAVE CLEARLY VISIBLE OWNERS NAME OR FACE REMOVAL AT OWNERS EXPENSE.
- **2008 STORAGE SPACE ASSIGNMENTS**
Contact Mike if you have a new assignment or your boat was off the lot for the winter to check your space assignment for 2008.
- **Junior Summer Program Balances are DUE 5/1**
- **Check your RC Assignment Dates – Don't look for a substitute last minute!! The NO SHOW fine is \$150.**

SSA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

MEETING MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 19, 2008

Present: Joe Van Gieson, Greg Leonard, Hal Whitacre, Luke Shingledecker, Jen Cook, Bruce Irvin, Sean Smith, Roberto Lopez, Nan Walker.

Absent: John Gebhardt, Mike Higgins

The January minutes were approved.

COMMODORE'S REPORT

- MDE recommend to the MD Board of Public Works that EYC install a second slotted wave screen inside the existing pier adjacent to SSA.

OFFICE MANAGER'S REPORT

CLUBHOUSE

- Thursday, January 31 and Friday, February 1 -- cancelled RnRetreat
- Saturday, March 1 -- Birthday party
- Saturday, March 8 -- Webb Institute alumni party
- CBS News payment (\$500) is in progress.
- A few members are working on sprucing up the burgee display.
- The club will purchase 2 new deck chairs and 24 folding chairs.
- Work parties will build 2 picnic tables and 2 benches.

OFFICE

- Dues: 4 members are in arrears.
- Approximately 10% of boat storage fees are still due.
- 2008 Race Schedule and Duty Roster website has been activated.
- Out of 739 total duty days needed, 64% have been assigned.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

- A new voltage regulator has been ordered for the Aquasport.
- The new RC inflatable has been ordered.
- Mike has a long list of projects for the March work parties, including breakwater and dock repairs, landscaping, fence replacement, and boat maintenance. .
- We have used considerably more firewood this year.

FACILITIES REPORT

- The Facilities Committee is compiling a list of projects for the spring work parties in March.
- The Clubhouse Renovation Subcommittee will be reviewing the results from a renovation alternatives analysis conducted by our consultant.
- Alternatives for re-landscaping the area in front of the Jr. Clubhouse include replacement of the picket fence, adding a bench on the interior of the fence, and landscaping alternatives for the planting beds between the picket fence and pavement.

- Estimates for structures to replacement the wave screen on the outboard side of the outer basin are under review. Options considered include in-kind replacement of the existing structure w/ a wider pier deck; or, construction of a floating pier/wave attenuator. The FC will be reporting back to the Board with a recommended alternative.

FINANCE REPORT

- We are likely to exceed the utility budget this year.
- Membership and dry storage dues are each ahead of last year at this time. We are on track for operating revenues to exceed the budget.

SAILING COMMITTEE REPORT

- The committee updated the 2008 Racing Schedule and is looking into 2008 trophies.
- The Board approved a request for SSA to host the 2008 Penguin Internationals, Wednesday to Friday, August 13-15.

STANDING RACE COMMITTEE REPORT

- The SRC has ordered a 17' Zodiac for delivery in early April. The total cost will be a little over \$29,000.
- 2008 RC Staffing: Most of the PRO slots for the 2008 season are filled, but filling the Vice Chair and RC staff roles is lagging a bit. Open sign-up ends March 14. Remaining slots will be filled randomly the following week.
- Race Management Seminar: SSA hosted a US Sailing Basic Race Management seminar on Feb. 16. Seventeen of the 23 participants were SSA members.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

- Approved new members: David Brightbill (Supporting) and Carlos Linares (Associate)
- Approved changes: Rod Mincher (reinstatement to Voting), Caroline Levesque (from Associate to Non-resident), and Brendan McAndrews (from Non-resident to Associate).
- Resignations: Michael Coe, Andrew Grose, Patrick Johnson, Thomas Lawton, John Maloney, Robb Maxwell, and Marc Zupan.
- The Board considered but did not approve a membership committee proposal to revise Emeritus status qualifications.

JR. COMMITTEE REPORT

- The Board approved a Junior Private Coaching Policy.
- Ramsey Alexander has joined the Jr. Board.
- HS Frostbite turnout has been relatively low. Junior sailors have been participating in the Laser frostbiting.

- Summer program participation numbers are in line, though the Opti/420 travel team numbers are lower.
- There are outstanding travel team debts; this coming year a pre-paid deposit will be collected to reduce the risk on the part of the Jr. Program.
- Coaching staffs, both HS & Summer are in order, with many returning coaches.

NEW BUSINESS

- The Board considered a proposed sign for Dark ‘N Stormy’s.
- Joe will contact the organizers of an Olympic fund raising event at AYC to discuss SSA’s level of participation.
- Joe will edit the University of Maryland contract.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm
 Next meeting will be Monday, March 10 @ 6:30 PM.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

NEW MEMBERS

Herbert Larrabee
 (Supporting)

CHANGES

Kevin LePage (Non-Resident)
 Moved to Italy



Margaret ‘PEG’ Wallace

SSA Member Honorary, by Peter Tasi

Peg, the epitome of a great lady, glowed with life, enthusiasm and determination. She charged through Eastport, Annapolis and the Chesapeake Bay from the moment she and her young children settled here nearly forty years ago. She made many friends in the community through her work as a realtor and became fascinated with local history. With the help of local volunteers, the Eastport Historical Committee was created. Their collection of photographs and information became an outstanding exhibit, ‘Watermen of Eastport’.

She created ‘The Eastport Historical Tour’ which celebrated the vital life of the community and its maritime heritage. Twelve wayside graphic panels throughout the peninsula brought attention to significant local sites and overlooks.

Peg became a member of the African-American Mount Zion United Methodist Church where she rallied the membership to collect their family histories. The wealth of documents, photographs and artifacts led to another exhibit which conveyed the strength and pride of these families and their culture.

Peg’s vision led to the creation of the Eastport Wooden Boat program. The Barge House and the adjacent boat shed became its first public venue. The acquisition of the McNasby Oyster Co. building led to more opportunities for exhibits, events, and activities.

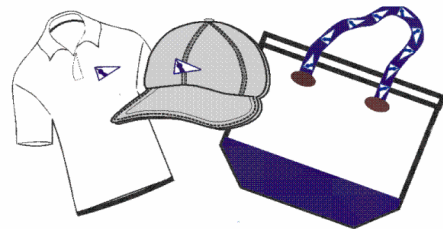
In 2001, Peg recognized the opportunity to expand the Barge House Museum into an all-Annapolis facility and became the first chairman of the Annapolis Maritime Museum. New board members and a significant increase in volunteers gave greater impetus to the Museum’s presence. In 2003, she was inducted into the Annapolis Maritime Hall of Fame, honoring those who have contributed significantly to Annapolis’ maritime heritage.

Peg loved racing and cruising the Bay. She was an enthusiastic member of SSA, participating in work parties and bulkhead construction in its pioneer days.

She crewed on Comets, Day Sailers and Tempests, hiking out with the best of SSA skippers, Ed Hoyt, Jim Lederman and many others. She also owned and sailed a wooden cruising boat.

Her remarkable voyage through life will continue in the memory of all who knew her.

A Celebration of Life Memorial Service will be held on Tuesday, April 8th at 7:30pm at the Mt. Zion United Methodist Church in Eastport.



*Visit www.seversailing.org
 to order your SSA gear*

Race Committee Duty

Our Race Committee staffing for the 2008 season is complete, thanks to most members' diligence in signing up for duty days. Complete staffing for the season can be found in the Members Only section of the SSA website. Don't forget which days to which you are assigned -- you can check on the dates you selected by clicking on your name on the Members Only page, then on "duty days" at the bottom of your page. Remember, if for some reason you cannot serve on your assigned days, it is your responsibility to find a substitute, or be subject to a \$150/day fine.

Fleet News

InterClub

The 2007 - 2008 Interclub Season is nearly over. The last few months have been a busy month for the fleet. Most weekends we have been team racing and the fleet plans to develop a more formal team race series next season. Stay tuned for the details.

Everyone in the fleet has really enjoyed team racing. We can get in up to 6 races in an hour, and there is a lot more emphasis placed on boat handling and application of the rules. Fortunately the IC is maneuverable enough that collisions can be easily avoided. With so much time spent racing there just is not time to get cold.

The IC fleet has not limited its sailing to just the Chesapeake this spring. Jonathon Lange had enough of the cold and spent some time sailing on the Lightning Southern Circuit. And Ian Mutnick is preparing to spend some time on a Snipe in Florida in April.

In mid-April a few boats will travel north to Metedeconk River in New Jersey for the IC nationals. There they will have the opportunity to test themselves against the best of the best from New England.

Thistle

Its Spring! Get ready for an exciting summer of Thistle Racing in Annapolis. Let me know if you would like to come try out the boat. This summer is the best time to do that. Our First Race day is May 10th. But look for a clinic before that. Plus we may sail Opening Day. And Coming this fall is "The Thistle East Coast Fall Series," 9 Regattas with 20 plus boats all within 5 hours of driving distance to Annapolis. Also the Oyster Roast regatta will host over 40 boats this fall as part of that series. Any questions or concerns please contact me joemccorkell@comcast.net 410 571 5869.

Laser

Four SSA members competed in the Florida Masters regatta Feb. 8-9 in West Palm Beach. Co-hosted by the Royal Turkey Yacht Club and Palm Beach Sailing Club, this was the 25th or 26th running of the event, started in 1983. Past winners include SSA/FBYC member James Jacob in 1993. 54 boats competed in conditions that ranged from 5-8 knots Saturday to 20+ on Sunday.

Alden Shattuck won his age group and came in 5th overall. Saturday's racing took place out on the Atlantic Ocean. Sunday was moved 'inside' to the ICW.

Complete results are posted:

<http://www.pbsail.org/LaserMasters2008.htm>

The 2007-2008 Frostbiting series concluded on March 30. It was another great season, with 58 sailors participating in a total of 16 racing days. We had on average 20+ boats each Sunday. Thanks to all who participated, and a special thanks to all those who volunteered for race committee duty. It would not be possible to put on this series without volunteers.

The 2008 Sunshine Open will be held April 19 and 20. Two days of racing, dinner and beverages on Saturday after racing, and a souvenir water bottle are included in the registration fee. Attention Radial sailors and juniors. If we get 6 or more radials registered you will have a separate start. Early registration fee is \$45. The deadline for early registration is Monday April 14th. You can register online at www.sailregattas.com. If you have any questions please contact Dorian at laser@severnsailing.org.

Lightning Fleet

Fleet 329 is gearing up for 2008 season. We had another smashing fun winter party in February. Good food and drink and great cheer was had by all. We reminisced about the season past and talked plans for this season. In attendance were our newest crew additions, twins Ava and Hal Cosler. Instant crew, they will be hiking out before you know it (in their strollers at least).

On March 4th we had our fleet meeting to plan out our Invitationals for the year. Besides holding the annual No Gas and Frigid Digit regatta, we will also be hosting the Lightning District championships in June. As this goes to press, a number of our fleet members are down in Florida catching some rays and sailing in the Southern Circuit. First up for the fleet is our Spring Series which will be held on April 12-13th.