

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

**December 2008**

**Commodore's Comments**

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SSA had another successful annual meeting on November 9th. In addition to the usual program reviewing the past year's sailing activities and the current state of the club, we received a thorough presentation of some upgrades and renovations that are under consideration for the junior and senior clubhouses. This presentation was just the first chance to expose the membership to the scope and approximate costs. If you missed the meeting, there are preliminary drawings and other materials available in the clubhouse. Stay tuned to the eSSAY and website; for opportunities to provide feedback on all the possibilities that are being considered.

On Tuesday November 25<sup>th</sup>, SSA received approval from the city Port Wardens for replacement of the third-basin wave screen/pier. This was the first step towards replacement of this pier during the winter off-season. Many thanks go out to those members who attended the Port Wardens meeting, and especially to those who were involved directly in the proceedings, particularly Sean Smith, our Facility Committee chairman.

This year, eight out of nine board members are returning for another year. I truly look forward to continuing our work with this diverse and talented group of people. After many years of service as the club Fleet Captain, Roberto Lopez-Aparicio is stepping down from the board. I want to thank him for all his hard work – he has done a great job and brought new ideas to the club's operations. David Koepper is new to the Board and is now serving as our Fleet Captain. David has jumped in with both feet and is already busy coordinating the creation of next year's schedule.

Lastly, I want to express how honored I am to be chosen to serve as SSA's Commodore. Ever since I first visited Annapolis, I was impressed by both the quantity and quality of events held at SSA every year. After moving to the area, I was extremely proud to become a member of SSA, and eventually to serve on the Board of Governors. We have a lot of important items on our agenda for the next year, and I hope I can serve both SSA and its membership as well as my predecessors have.

See you at the club  
Luke Shingledecker

**Significant News**

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- The first step of the approval process for the replacement of the third basin wave screen/pier has been approved. The plan is for work to start in March and will not affect the 2009 sailing schedule.
- Member documents i.e. By-Laws, Policies & Procedures, Boat Storage & Membership documents, and RC and Committee interest lists are now available in Reports on the Members' website.

**Upcoming Events**

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- **December 6<sup>th</sup> – Standing Race Committee Meeting** from 9-11am in the clubhouse. Contact Peter Hale if you are interested in joining the committee.
- **December 6<sup>th</sup> – Sailing Committee Meeting** from 11-1pm in the clubhouse for all fleet captains and/or fleet representative.
- **December 12<sup>th</sup> – Dark N' Stormy's Holiday Dinner.** Contact David to make a reservation at 410-422-0039 or email [info@livetoeat.net](mailto:info@livetoeat.net).
- **December 13<sup>th</sup> – Annapolis Christmas Lights Parade and Party.** Party starts at 4:30pm and Parade at 6pm. There will be face painting and activity for kids from 4:30-6:30. Space will be limited. RSVP via website or return flyer insert.
- **January 24-25<sup>th</sup> – InterClub Midwinters**

**Important Reminders**

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- Boat Storage Applications were due December 1<sup>st</sup>. Get in your application and deposit (per boat) to be eligible for storage for 2009. Applications are available in the clubhouse or online under 'Reports' on the Members website.
- Junior Summer Program Registration will open for SSA Members Only in January. See Jr. Report pg 4.
- Special SSA Clothing/Gear orders Due 12/5 for Christmas delivery. New softshell jackets and vests available only by special order.

## SSA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

### MEETING MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 13, 2008

Present (All): Joe Van Gieson, Roberto Lopez-Aparicio, Bruce Irvin, Luke Shingledecker, John Gebhardt, Sean Smith, Greg Leonard, Hal Whitacre, Jen Cook, Nan Walker, Mike Higgins

The September minutes were approved with edits to the facilities, finance, and sailing committee reports.

#### OFFICE MANAGER'S REPORT

- Pending approval from fleet captains, the Board approved request for a party on December 5.
- The Q&A database was successfully switched over from FY08 to FY09.
- 2009 dues bills were sent out 10/9.
- Nan will get the Laudeman Award framed for the Annual Meeting.
- Chesapeake Bay Magazine copies will be available for sale for \$5 at the Annual Meeting or by special order.
- Nan has received a disc copy of the Chesapeake Bay Magazine article and will contact Tracy Leonard for help with framing it.
- Nan has received the burgee plaques for mounting. Kris Wilson will help with the project, but no other volunteers have come forward at this time. They will try to complete the project by Closing Day.

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

- The Aquasport experienced another breakdown last week. Mike managed to repair the engine and has experienced no further problems. He would like to have the throttle positioning sensor replaced at the end of the season; the cost would be around \$350.
- Mike has received little response from members regarding Fall Work Parties. Four members have participated thus far. In addition, Mike has assigned several tasks and completed some tasks himself.
- Mike would like to have new lights installed in the snack bar area because the current lights do not properly illuminate the area.
- Mike is seeing more trash and debris on the deck after Friday night dinners and the indoor chairs are being left outside after use on weekends. Members should be aware that they are leaving trash after using the club.

#### FACILITIES REPORT

- Dan Larian and Nan prepared permit applications for the replacement of the outer basin wave screen for the City and State/Federal agencies. All neighbors within 500 feet of SSA were notified by mail and an

announcement of our project at the Port Warden's meeting was announced in the Capital newspaper.

- Sean and Dan Larian represented SSA at the Annapolis City Port Warden's hearing on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. After one committee member excused himself from the meeting because of a conflict of interest, the Port Warden did not have enough members present to vote. The project was tabled until the next hearing date, October 28.
- Cornerstone Design-Build, Inc. completed and their cost estimations for four clubhouse renovation alternatives and presented them to Sean on September 19. Sean then met with Facilities Committee and Board members on Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> to review the documents, discuss alternatives, and plan a strategy for moving forward with renovation activities.
- Communication of these proposals to the membership will be multi-pronged and span several months. Sean will provide an oral and written overview of three alternatives at the Annual Meeting. He plans to hold focus group meetings to gather input. We may also implement a survey to gather input from the general membership. SSA's web site will have to be reformatted to allow members to review related documents and submit comments.
- The Facilities Committee plans to meet with Cornerstone to address questions regarding several details and specify the design layout sketches that will be produced for the Annual Meeting. The committee will also develop specifics for a new alternative (2b), evaluate 20-year financial projections for alternatives, develop a short-list of renovation funding options, and initiate modifications to SSA's website to aid communication about the proposals.
- There is a public notice out now about a proposal to change the speed limit boundaries in the Severn River during winter months. SSA will send a letter stating SSA's opposition to the change.

#### FINANCE REPORT

- The club finished the fiscal year 2008 with a net income of \$100,000, which exceeded projections by over \$30,000. Operating revenues exceeding the budget by \$9,600, mostly due to membership dues, transient wet slip, and clubhouse rental fees. Operating expenses came in \$9,700 under budget. While race committee and taxes each exceeded projected expenses, savings from primarily lower printing and postage costs for the eSSAy and lower professional fees offset these expenses.

- Regarding the 2009 budget, the fee for transient wet slip fees should be changed to \$1.75 per foot per night.

### SAILING COMMITTEE REPORT

- The preliminary Frostbite schedule for the ICs and Lasers has been set.
- Roberto is working with Nan to finalize the season trophies.
- Roberto is working with Jon Anthony to get an SSA racing seminar series off the ground.

### STANDING RACE COMMITTEE REPORT

- Light winds have curtailed racing the past 2 weekends (and heavy air and rain before that).
- All equipment is working well at this point.
- There have been several RC staff last minute “no shows” the past 2 weekends. Vice Chairs are being encouraged to make earlier and stronger contact with the members assigned to their race committees each week. There seems to be a growing problem that some members are not taking their duty day responsibilities seriously. The SRC likely will make some suggestions to the Board on this issue over the winter.

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

- New associate members, membership changes, and resignations were approved.
- Mike reported that there is no longer a waitlist for dry storage space.
- The Board voted to invite the following Associate members to become Voting members: Amie Boothe, Steve Cofer, Amy Harris, Eric Johnson, Brad Julian, Charles Krafft, Christopher Lewton, Ed Lutz, Joe McCorkell, Fuller Moore, Bob Schofield, Aaron Serinis, Ray Sullivan, Eric Tsibertsopoulos, Jon Virden, Russell Wesdyk, Kris Wilson, Leo Wilson.

### OLD BUSINESS

- The BOG will discuss how to solicit members' input about Facilities Committee proposals once proposals are ready.
- The rotting boards on the cottage will be replaced so a rain barrel can be installed.

### NEW BUSINESS

- The Board will vote on the recipient of the 2009 Laudeman Award at the November Board meeting.
- Nan will contact Tracy Leonard for help with framing the Chesapeake Bay Magazine article.
- John will present a database proposal at the November meeting.

- Nan will email the Fleet Captains to find out if there is a conflict with any fleets' holiday party schedules.
- The Board approved spending a few hundred dollars to have legal counsel represent SSA at the Port Warden's meeting on October 28.
- Prior to the Port Warden's meeting, Joe will contact EYC's commodore about our proposal to gauge EYC's response.
- Nan will print a revised final year financial report.
- Meeting adjourned at 11:15 pm
- Next meeting will be Monday, November 13 @ 6:45 PM.

### MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

#### NEW MEMBERS

Laura 'Ellie' Riggs  
(Associate)  
Fleet: Laser

Lucas Marrero  
(Associate)  
Fleet: Laser

#### CHANGES

Bill Harris (Emeritus)  
Dan Hawthorne  
(Supporting)  
Ed Michels (Supporting)

#### RESIGNATIONS

Robert Creighton (Associate)  
Fleet: Laser  
Eric Dennis (Associate)  
Fleet: Laser  
Vince Franco (Associate)  
Fleet: Laser  
Christina Hammock  
(Supporting)  
Doug Heussler (Voting)  
Fleet: Laser  
Luke Kushner (Associate)  
Fleet: Laser  
John Standiford (Voting)  
Fleet: Soling

### 2008 FLEET CHAMPIONS

Daysailer:	Erika and Ken Seamon
505:	Stergios Papadakis
IC:	Ian Mutnick
Jet 14:	Mike Parramore
J/22	Brad Julian
J/24	Paul Van Ravenswaay
Laser	Bob Tan
Lightning	John Guth
Snipe	Ian Mutnick
Soling	Peter Gleitz
Star	Bob Oberg
Thistle	Peter Hale
V15	Matt and Lori Schubert
Byte	Rosemary Foltis
Comet	Ed McLean
Johnson 18	Rick Paullin

### Congratulations!

## FLEET NEWS

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### Jet 14 Fleet

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After losing both days of their District Championships to a lack of wind and an abundance of rain, the Jet 14 fleet was hoping for a windier start to their Jet Frost series on November 22. Mother Nature complied; bringing cold, blustery conditions that led to a long discussion of the merits of sailing vs. sitting by the fire in the clubhouse. Naturally, the balance tipped in favor of sailing, so Fleet Captain James McKenna and class President Ted Reshetiloff took the fleet out for five quick races. The wind moderated to the 10-15 knot range – a perfect start to the frostbite season. Afterwards, the group came back to chili, chips, beer, and of course, the roaring fire in the clubhouse.

The Jet 14 fleet will be frostbiting every other Saturday through the winter, sharing the race course and RC duties with the Interclub fleet. For further information, contact James McKenna at [jet14@severnsailing.org](mailto:jet14@severnsailing.org).

### Laser Fleet

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The 2008-2009 Laser Frostbite season is off to a flying start! November 16 was the first day of the series. It was a chilly, blustery day with 20+ knots of breeze. Bo McClatchy dominated the day in his radial rig. He was followed by Gavin O'Hare in second and Brendan McAndrews in third. Laser Frostbite racing is free for SSA members. We will be racing Nov. 23, Dec. 7, 14, 21, Jan 4, 11, 18, Feb 8, 15, 22 and March 1, 8, 15. Dig out that dry suit and come out and join us.

The Laser Fleet Annual Holiday Party will be held on Saturday January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm in the clubhouse. Main course and beverages will be provided. Feel free to bring appetizers and desserts to share. Hope to see you there!

### IC Fleet

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The InterClub fleet is now sailing on Saturdays with the Jets, and has adopted a team race format. Team racing is incredibly fun, and it forces sailors to master boat handling, communication, and knowledge of the rules. Teams are forming now for the frostbite championship series, and interested parties should contact Jesse Falsone for boat availability. Additionally, the fleet will again host the IC Midwinters January 24-25 at SSA. A large turnout is expected.

## JUNIOR PROGRAM

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As winter is upon us, we're planning for next summer as well working with our most dedicated sailors. High school sailors from Broadneck and Archbishop Spalding are participating in a workout regimen twice a week at Annapolis Sailing Fitness in Eastport. We are running a frostbite series in conjunction with the Laser series. Four juniors will be competing in the Laser at Orange Bowl: Bo McClatchy, Lauren Schoene, Matt Schoene and Jacy Haff. These sailors have also been competing in the frostbite series at SSA. Laura Beigel and Bobby Lippincott will be competing in the 420 division. Joel will be coaching our Laser team at the event.

SSA member registration for the summer program opens January 1. Brochures will be sent in the mail on that date as well. For easier access, or if you just can't wait, the brochure will be posted on the website. [www.severnsailing.org/juniors](http://www.severnsailing.org/juniors). Members receive registration priority until February 1.

The office will be closed from December 22 through the New Year as Joel and Brent visit their families in the snow filled lands of Minnesota and Rochester. Happy Holidays to all.

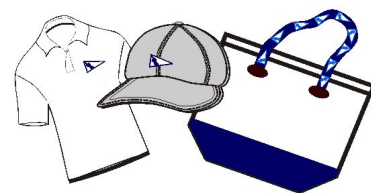
## BOX OF RAIN CHRISTMAS PARTY

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The Box of Rain Foundation Christmas Party will be held at the Annapolis Maritime Museum this year on Thursday, Dec 6<sup>th</sup> from 4-7pm. 'Giving Angels' will be available on the SSA tree for Lights Parade. You can purchase a hand-painted ornament for a \$25 donation which will be put towards the kids' Santa Wish List program. Contact Nan if you are interested in helping with the party or have any questions or want to reserve an ornament. Or, go to [www.boxofrain.org](http://www.boxofrain.org) for more program information.

### SSA "SANTA" SHOP

*Are you having a hard time  
finding the perfect gift for  
your friendly sailor?  
Get them cool gear while  
showing off the SSA burgee!*



*Visit the SSA website to  
view the dynamite selection:  
[www.severnsailing.org](http://www.severnsailing.org)*