



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

November 2008

Commodore's Comments

This will be the last missive from me that you will have to suffer through because my tenure as Commodore ends on November 9 at the Annual Members Meeting. A new board has been nominated with Luke Shingledecker recommended to take the helm of the good ship SSA. I have every confidence in Luke's ability and commitment to continue SSA's mission of supporting small one-design sailboat racing. I hold the same confidence in the entire nominated slate for the board.

Last Tuesday night, SSA's request for approval for out third pier replacement by the Port Wardens Commission was postponed for the second time due to a lack of a quorum to hold a vote. Failure to gain approval puts completion of the project before April at risk. Our contractor assures us that construction activities will not interfere with access to the third basin, but the third pier will not be available for docking during construction.

I have heard almost no feedback from you in response to several notices that the board is considering a significant investment in club building renovations/replacement. Please plan to attend the Annual Meeting to hear the latest details and offer comment.

Serving as Commodore for the past two years has been a rewarding and surprisingly pain-free experience. All of you members have been supportive, sometimes outspoken (thankfully), and always ready to contribute whatever was needed to keep the organization moving forward. I appreciated the opportunity to serve the club, and offer my thanks for your support.

Sail Fast

Joe

Significant News

- **Chesapeake Bay Magazines 'Small Boat Haven' July issue** featuring SSA will be available for sale at the Annual Meeting for \$5.00. Or, contact the office to reserve a copy.
- **Hugh Elliot Receives U.S. Sailing's Gay Lynn Award**
See page 3 for details

Upcoming Events

- **Sunday, November 9th – Closing Day Brunch from 9:30-11:30am.** You can Register Online for Brunch or send in reservation form by Wed 11/5. Payment is due to the office prior to the event.
- **Sunday, November 9th – Annual Meeting 12noon**
Come to meeting to celebrate the fleet championships and Award recipients. The Board of Governors and Committees will be providing overview of 2008 and future outlook and slate of officers. All are invited to participate. Voting members should be in good standing to vote.
- **Saturday, December 13th – Annapolis Christmas Lights Parade.** SSA will again host a party starting at 4:30pm. Parade starts at 6pm. More information and reservation forms to come. Contact Nan if you are interested in helping with the event.

Important Reminders

- **Oops – Forget to pay your 2009 Membership Dues?**
Payment is PAST DUE. A \$30 Late Fee will be applied to any unpaid balances after 11/30. Any membership change requests should be sent to the office to be reviewed by the Membership Committee.
- **2009 Boat Storage applications are due by 12/1** with a \$25 deposit/per boat in order to secure a space assignment.

SSA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

MEETING MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 8, 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 August minutes were approved with minor edits to the facilities and finance reports.

COMMODORE'S REPORT

- No report

OFFICE MANAGER'S REPORT

CLUBHOUSE

- No new requests for clubhouse usage.
- The Board approved \$250 to purchase a replacement frame for one of the sofas.

OFFICE

- Unpaid dry storage AR has now been paid in full.
- Club Service Days: Nan, Mike, and Brent are developing a project list and fall work party dates for 'Members Needing Days' to use toward their 2008 service obligation. As soon as these dates are finalized, Nan will include the announcement in the October eSSAy, SSA 'Breeze' email, and will directly email members who still owe days.
- Committee interest: Nan plans to include a committee interest item on the 2009 dues bill. She will add the information to the members section of the web site for reports for committee chairs to utilize as well as provide a list of qualified RC vice chairs and chairs.
- The Q&A database will be turned over in preparation for 2009. The boat storage applications will be sent out as soon as the 2009 storage rates are confirmed.
- We plan to set up fall work parties to offer more opportunities for people who have not yet fulfilled service day obligations. For 2009, we will add three fall weekend work parties with six people per weekend, but members will not be allowed to sign up for fall work parties until all the regular race committee slots are filled. Also, next year the club will bill any members who do not fulfill their duty days.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

- The Aquasport continues to run well, but still has a rough idle at around 2000 rpms. Mike is still waiting for the throttle positioning sensor to be installed.
- The club experienced heavy wind and waves on Saturday due to tropical storm Hanna. Only minor damage occurred at SSA; Mike secured several dock boards that were loosened during the storm and cleared tree and some trash debris from the grounds.
- Fall work parties may include: paint Parker bottom, install larger plant containers, landscaping/lot clearing, build rain barrel stand, dock maintenance, paint club buildings, contain Soling bulkhead gravel, install new light in snack bar, build trashcan containers, repair display board enclosures, clean clubhouse windows.
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- A Catalina 27 in a middle basin wet slip has caused concern to several members. The owner, has not properly

secured his boat with adequate docking lines; as a result, his boat has broken free and has caused the neighboring slip holder some concern. If he continues to show neglect, we may need to take action to terminate his storage. Mike has warned him that we may not renew his storage application.

FACILITIES REPORT

- We are waiting on input from the City of Annapolis, to know if we need to present our plan for the outer basin wave screen replacement to the Port Warden at their next meeting on September 23rd.
- We are waiting for cost estimates for review by the Clubhouse Renovation Subcommittee and Board in October and then presentation at the annual meeting.

FINANCE REPORT

- The Board continued FY09 budget discussions and approved the proposed budget after revisions to the slip rent fees, entertainment, salaries and trophy expense budgets.
- The Board considered a proposal for increasing dry storage rates and plans to finalize rates in October.
- The Board reviewed an asset balance projection that incorporated extraordinary outlays, including clubhouse renovations and replacement of race committee boats. Some members suggested that the club take out a construction loan for one third to one half of the clubhouse renovations expenses. We also noted that these expenses are likely to be spread out over three years.

SAILING COMMITTEE REPORT

- The Cressy eliminations were approved for juniors.
- The revised Policies and Procedures will be finalized after the Board determines 2009 fees and dues amounts.

STANDING RACE COMMITTEE REPORT

- No report

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

- Approved for Associate: Marshall Caggliano
- Approved for Supporting: Andy Dukes
- Jen presented a list of associate members of qualified status for voting status consideration. The Board will recommend new voting members at the October meeting.

JR. COMMITTEE REPORT

- Summer Program wrap up: There were 322 total summer sessions. The program added on week 420 Beginner class at the end of summer to accommodate demand. The Beginner through Chesapeake Racing sessions were at or near capacity. Team travel participation was less than full capacity: 8 out of 28 Opti Racing team members were on travel team; 9 out of 39 420 Race team members were on travel team; 4 students were on the Laser team, although we have 3-5 others that partially sailed with the team. Income for 2008 was very similar to the last two years.
- Spring & Fall 08: There were 80 total spring sessions and we expect 80+ sessions for the fall.

- Head coach Joel Labuzetta starts today (9/8).
- Plan to sell 3 or 4 older 420s and replace with new boats.
- Looking into ways to upgrade/modernize Race team coach boats.
- Working on the 2009 budget model.

OLD BUSINESS

- Roberto will talk with the J-24 fleet about into EYC's potential role in the 2008 J/24 East Coast Championships.
- The BOG will discuss how to solicit members' input about Facilities Committee proposals once proposals are ready.
- Brian Boyd will repair rotting boards on the cottage so that the rain barrel can be installed.
- Nan will frame the Chesapeake Bay Boating magazine cover story
- Nan will send a burgee to Fordham University for exchange.

NEW BUSINESS

- The Board will meet on Monday, November 3, instead November 10.
- Joe will draft a letter to member about securing his boat.
- Joe will look at past Board meeting minutes to see if there is a policy that associates must request in writing to change to voting status.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 pm

Next meeting will be Monday, October 13 @ 6:45 PM.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

NEW MEMBERS

Marta Swanson Wallace
(Associate)
Fleet: Snipe

Jur Strobos (Associate)
Fleet: Laser

CHANGES

Mark Boaz (Associate)
Fleet: Lightning

Eugenio Cingolani (Non-Resident)
Fleet: Laser

Brian Bissell (Non-Resident)
Fleet: Snipe, V15

RESIGNATIONS

Jim MacGregor
(Associate)
Fleet: V15

Mark Hillman (Voting)
Fleet: J24

Congratulations to our NEW VOTING MEMBERS

Amie Boothe (505)
Steve Cofer (Laser)
Amy Harris (Daysailer)
Eric Johnson (Jet 14)
Brad Julian (J22)
Charlie Krafft (Thistle)
Ray Sullivan (Daysailer)
Chris Lewton (Daysailer)
Ed Lutz
Joe McCorkell (Thistle, J22)
Fuller Moore (Laser)
Bob Schofield (Star)
Aaron Serinis (Snipe)
Eric Tsiertsopoulos (J18)
Jon Virden (Snipe)
Russ Wesdyk (Snipe, Laser)
Kris Wilson (Star, Laser)
Leo Wilson (Laser)

Hugh Elliot Receives U.S. Sailing's Gay Lynn Award

SSA's Hugh Elliot was named the 2008 recipient of U.S. Sailing's Gay Lynn Memorial Trophy at U.S. Sailing's Annual Meeting in October. The Gay Lynn Memorial Trophy is awarded annually for "outstanding service, over a significant period of time, to disabled sailing and disabled sailors in the United States".

Hugh became involved in disabled sailing following a severe auto accident in 1993. He competed in the 2000 Paralympic Team Trials, finishing as runner-up in the event. He subsequently has served in many capacities to promote the sport of disabled sailing, and served as mentor to a number of sailors with disabilities. Hugh also is a U.S. Sailing certified Senior Race Officer and Senior Judge, and an ISAF International Judge. He is an active member of SSA's Standing Race Committee, and sought-after event Judge and Protest Committee Chair at SSA and the other Annapolis clubs, as well as for championship regattas around the country and overseas.

Congratulations Hugh!!

FLEET NEWS

Lightning Fleet

The weekend of October 18-19 saw the 57th Annual Frigid Digit at SSA. So much for the 80 degree weather that we were enjoying just before the start of the regatta. Traditional F.D. weather came in for the weekend. Thirty-one boats competed this year, with a number of boats coming down from Canada to escape the cold or bring with them the

classic fall conditions. The Saturday forecast of NNE 15-20 knots created some beautiful sailing conditions and we were able to get in three races after a short shore side postponement. Although most people were beat from racing, there was enough left in the tank for the Saturday night party at the club.

On the following groggy Sunday morning, competitors were greeted by more F.D. classic conditions -- NW 20-25 knots with gusts hitting 27 knots and temperature in the mid 50's. Based upon prior experiences with similar conditions, the racing was cancelled for the day and instead a racing debriefing was held by Allan Terhune. Jamie Allen from Canada finished first followed by NA Champ Allan Terhune. Top SSA boat was Jon Guth who sailed well and finished 6th.

Laser Fleet

The 2008 Laser Crab Claw Regatta was held on September 20-21. Forty Lasers (36 full rigs and 4 radials) competed in 3 races on Saturday in very shifty conditions. Saturday evening competitors enjoyed a fabulous dinner and crab feast by Dark and Stormy's. Sunday racing was abandoned after an on shore postponement due to lack of wind. Mike Matan from Cedar Point Yacht Club won the regatta, as well as the First Master and Super Gas Guzzler trophies. Bob Tan placed second, and James McKenna was third overall. Meredith Dodd was First Woman, and 6th overall. Matt Schoene was First Junior and 8th overall.

Congratulations to Bob Tan who was the 2008 SSA Laser Fleet 10 Champion. He placed 5th overall out of 52 competitors in the Frostbite series and 12th out of 35 boats in the Sunshine Open. He also won the SSA Fall Series in addition to placing 2nd in the Crab Claw Regatta.

It is time to dust off those drysuits and grab your knit caps and gloves. The Laser Frostbite series begins on Sunday, November 16 -- Registration at 11am; First warning at 1pm. Everyone who registers must volunteer for 1 day of Race Committee duty in order to be scored for the series. Registration is free for SSA members. Everyone on the racecourse must be registered.

Save the date. The Annual Laser Fleet Holiday Party will be held on Saturday, January 3rd at 6:30 pm at the SSA clubhouse -- details and an e-vite to follow.

Thistle Fleet

What a great year! We will be hosting our annual fleet winter party soon. If you are interested in Thistles this is a good place to meet the fleet and talk shop. Also, you could join us for our unofficial party at Davis' to thank them for their support of the fleet during the Oyster Roast.

Looking ahead we will be setting up a committee to help run the Atlantic Coast Championships next summer at SSA. Let me know if you can help with housing or otherwise.

Membership Dues are due by November 1st.
A \$30 Late Fee will be applied after Nov 30th
Pay ON TIME or risk losing your club privileges!!

Snipe Fleet

The 2008 Snipe season has drawn to a close with fall regattas having to contend with uncooperative weather. The fall Surf City regatta was cut short due to tropical storm Hannah, Fall Series was a no-go due to lack of breeze, & both Frigid Digit & the Jacksonville World Qualifier regattas were cut back to one day events due to lack of wind. Still, the highlight of the Fall for Annapolis Snipe sailors was the Frigid Digit on Oct 4-5.

Snipe sailors from as far as Miami, St. Louis, Michigan and Boston joined the local Annapolis, Maryland Snipe Fleet for the annual Frigid Digit regatta. Twenty-two boats in all competed in the event.

Saturday morning the fleet was blessed with a sunny warm day and breeze of 5-10 knots from the north east. Three races, each five leg windward - leeward races were held. At the end of the third race Ernesto Rodriguez with crew Raul Rios from Florida were in the lead. Tied behind them was Andrew Pimental and crew Julia Langford from Rhode Island and Augie Diaz and crew Kathleen Toche from Florida. Local SSA sailors Lorie Stout with crew, husband, Alex Stout were in fourth with Gavin O'Hare and Carol Merriman one point away in fifth.

On Sunday morning everyone was greeted at the club by extremely thick fog and light air. The fog was initially so thick that visibility was limited to a few hundred feet at best and racing was not an option. Unfortunately by noon the RC felt that it would be difficult to get a good race in before the 2:30 time limit. Consequently the scores from Saturday became the final scores of the regatta.

As for highlights from the 2008 season, Ian Mutnick proved that consistency pays, in securing the SSA Fleet Championship. The Snipe fleet was also joined by several new members this year including Ned & Kitty Daly, Bill & Colin Ljunquist, Steve Johnson, Marshall & Roberta Caggiano, Marta & Sam Wallace. TESOD's were popular with 6 to 10 boats on the line most Tuesdays. Annapolis Snipe teams took to the road racking up over 51,000 travel miles at Snipe events in locations including Miami, Clearwater, Seattle, San Francisco, Surf City (NJ), Quassapaug (CT), Oxford, & Jacksonville. Many newer members tried their skills on the road with Steve Johnson & Ned Daly (new to SSA, not the Snipe) heading to Quassy, and Mark Fuhman, Greg Kelly, & Russ Wesdyke heading to Oxford. In all, Annapolis Snipes competed in 37 days of racing over 16 events making for a full season.

Next up, the fleet Christmas party at the O'Hare home.

Comet Fleet

SSA Comet sailors had a very busy year on the Bay. Our racing included the Cambridge Annual regatta, 2 regattas at Corsica River YC, 1 at Tred Avon YC (Oxford), 1 at Miles River YC, and our International Championship hosted by Cambridge YC., which was won by SSA's Elliot Oldak. Jonathan Bartlett and daughter, Emily, also raced and were awarded "Best First Time Participants" trophy by placing 7th in a twenty six boat roster, including two boats from Bermuda. The Heritage Regatta at Oxford drew ten Comets to their annual event, which brings together those classic one-design boats which originated on the Bay.

One of the highlights, of this season was The SSA Fall Regatta, September 20th. Two junior sailors, Alex Ramos and Jack Ortel, both 15 years old proceeded to show us how it's done and won the regatta! Second place went to Ed McLean and Sandy Westphal, both SSA

sailors, with Wick Dudley (CRYC) and a local sailing instructor, Ilene Lipsitz rounded out the top three places.

We have raced in 4 regattas at SSA so far and have our year end Pumpkin Bowl Nov 1 at SSA, for a total of 10 regattas, of which 9 were CBYRA sanctioned.

Fleet 40 will close out its 53rd racing season with the Annual Pumpkin Bowl on November 1.

Additionally, a Bay wide invitation to Comet sailors should gather skippers, crew and friends to our Annual Winter Dinner Party to make plans for coming year

JUNIOR NEWS

October was a very busy month for the juniors. On October 10-11 the Opti team traveled to Brant Beach, NJ for the Opti ACCs while the 420 teams sailed their Mid-Atlantic Championships in West River. The high school varsity and junior varsity teams also sailed that same weekend in Southern Maryland and Washington D.C. respectively. High school season was full on and plans are being made for winter sailing in Florida.

Among the 50 plus teams competing at West River was: Laura Beigel/Gina Mattera, JP Silverstri/Brogan Abernathy, Josh Prucnal/Austin Murdock, Justin Bell/Ryan Thompson, Mike Bors/Waverly Askew, Haines Whitacre/Sam Sharkey. Beigel/Mattera were the top SSA team placing 16th. The 420 teams will be competing at Orange Bowl and 420 Midwinters in Florida this winter.

Representing SSA at the Opti ACCs was: Sarah Alexander, Read Beigel, Christian Filter, Hannah Polster, Andrew

Schoene, Elena Vandenberg, Mar Vandenberg and Evan Wilso. The top SSA finisher in the fleet of 262 was Hannah Polster at 101. The Opti team plans to attend winter regattas in Florida including the Valentines Day Regatta and the Junior Olympics in Stuart, FL. This summer, Sarah Alexander, Andrew Harrington, Andrew Schoene and Haines Whitacre all qualified to sail in the team trials to be held next spring in Connecticut. Broadenck and Archbishop Spalding High Schools have both had fine fall seasons. Each team is currently completing the Central League Team Racing Tournament. Quarter and semi finals were sailed in Annapolis October 28th. Talk to Brent or Joel to see who advanced. The finals will be sailed November 5th at Severn School. Both ASHS and BHS will compete in the Mid-Atlantic Conference Finals on November 1 hosted by the Annapolis Yacht Club.

The junior program is seeking donation of Laser Hulls and parts in order that we may offer a "learn to race" program next summer. Call the office with any information. 410-263-0071.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee (Committee Chair Ian Burman, Renee Mehl, Tip Clifton and Briget Barr) propose the slate for the 2009 Board of Governors set forth below.

As set forth in the Club's Policy and Procedures, Section V., other nominations for the Board of Governors may be made by individual members of the Club as "Floor Nominations". Floor Nominations shall be made by a Voting or Honorary Life member at the Annual Meeting and seconded by another Voting or Honorary Life member. Such duly nominated Nominees are "Floor Nominees".

- **Luke Shingledecker - Commodore**
- **Hal Whitacre - Vice Commodore**
- **Sean Smith - Rear Commodore**
- **Jennifer Cook - Secretary**
- **Greg Leonard - Treasurer**
- **Roberto Lopez-Aparacio - Fleet Captain**
- **John Gebhardt - At Large**
- **Bruce Irvin - At Large**
- **Joe VanGeison - Past Commodore**

See you at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 9th at 12noon.

Closing Day Brunch

Sunday, November 9th

Buffet Brunch 9:30 to 11:30am

By Dark N Stormys includes:

Omelet Station, Roasted top round of beef, Assorted Pastries, Bagels, Fruit, Coffee/Tea Station,
and celebratory Mimosa

Reservations Required

Online registration form @ www.severnsailing.org

\$12 per person

Payment Due by Thurs, Nov 6th

Annual Meeting 12 noon

Fleet and Special Awards Presentation

Racing for all Fleets to Follow

★ **SSA Gear will be on display for special holiday orders**

★ **Chesapeake Bay Magazines will be available for sale \$5.00
(limited supply, so reserve your copies)**

Brunch Reservation

Return to the SSA office by Thursday, Nov. 6th

Can also Reserve via online reservation form, email office@severnsailing.org ,

Fax 410-269-6832, or by Phone 410-268-8744

\$12.00 per person

Reservation Required

NAMES: _____ **Contact #:** _____

of people attending: _____ **# Chesapeake Magazines-\$5/each:** _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ **Check #:** _____

Visa/Mastercard #: _____ **CVV#** _____