



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

**November 2009**

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### **Commodore's Comments**

The weather hasn't always cooperated, but just like every other fall, SSA has been busy with large regattas. I hope everyone has had a great year of sailing and is ready for the winter time. For some of you, that may not mean sailing, but for me, that means it's time to get ready for the second sailing season, frostbiting!

The facilities committee has recently been reorganized to better maintain and improve the club's facilities. There are now subcommittees for buildings, grounds, docks, and shore side safety. The building subcommittee will consider the club's need for our building facilities, including potential renovations and upgrades. The 2009 membership survey provided us with extensive information about the needs and priorities for improvements to both the junior and senior clubhouses. Those survey results will provide the basis for the subcommittee's work.

The board recently voted on some changes to our SSA's policies and procedures, which are described under the storage section later in this eSSAY. These changes are intended to ensure that all boat work at the club is done in a responsible manner that protects the Chesapeake Bay. Please take note and follow these requirements.

The annual meeting is coming up on November 15th. That means that the membership will be electing a new Board of Governors for 2010. I want to take the opportunity to extend my thanks to all the members of the 2009 Board. Each and every one of them has worked hard this year for the club. I would particular like to thank the members who are retiring from the Board: Bruce Irvin, Greg Leonard and Joe Van Gieson. As you know, Joe was our recent past commodore, and I want to especially highlight his service to the club and the help he has provided me during my time on the Board.

I hope you can make it to the brunch and annual meeting on the 15th to receive updates on the state of the club and vote for our next Board of Governors.

Commodore Luke Shingledecker

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### **Significant News**

- **Annapolis's Gary Jobson New US Sailing President**

To read full story go to

[http://media.ussailing.org/US\\_SAILING\\_Media\\_Home/Latest\\_News/Jobson\\_Elected\\_President.htm](http://media.ussailing.org/US_SAILING_Media_Home/Latest_News/Jobson_Elected_President.htm)

- **FALL Work Party Dates still Available** - Need to fulfill a duty obligation for 2009 OR just want to chip in at SSA... Contact [Mike@severnsailing.org](mailto:Mike@severnsailing.org) if you can help with a specific task and/or schedule alternative work date.

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### **Upcoming Events**

- **Sunday, November 15th – Closing Day Brunch from 9:30-11:30am.** Reserve Online for Brunch or send in reservation form (see page 8) by Friday 11/13. Payment is due to the office by 11/13 or \$15 payment at the door.
- **Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup> – Annual Meeting 12noon** Come to celebrate the fleet champions and annual award recipients. The Board of Governors and Committees will be providing overview of 2009 and future outlook and slate of officers. All are invited to participate. Voting members should be in good standing to vote.
- **Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> – Annapolis Holiday 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.

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### **Important Reminders**

- **Paid your 2010 Membership Dues?** Payment is PAST DUE. A \$75 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.
- **2010 Boat Storage applications are due by 12/1** with a \$25 deposit/per boat in order to secure a space assignment for 2010.
- **Proposed Slate for the 2010 Board of Governors** is posted on page 6-7.

**SSA BOARD OF GOVERNORS****Meeting Minutes for SEPTEMBER 14, 2009**

Present: Jen Cook, John Gebhardt, Mike Higgins, Bruce Irvin, David Koepper, Greg Leonard, Luke Shingledecker, Sean Smith, Nan Walker, Hal Whitacre  
Absent: Joe Van Gieson

The August minutes were approved.

**OFFICE MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Sat., 10/15, 6-9 p.m. (Ramsey Key) approved.
- 35 members still owe duty days, for a total of 54 days owed. Nan will send a letter to these members letting them know that they can sign up for fall work days or substitute for another member on race committee.
- The AED has been ordered. Nan will contact a member about getting a prescription for the AED, as required. No electrical work is needed because it runs on batteries.
- SSA merchandise inventory was reviewed.
- Dues bills will be sent out by 10/9. This bill usually includes the 2010 storage application with request for \$25 deposit.
- Office hours are now 8:30 to 2:30, M-F.

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

- During the week the entrance gate will be kept closed and we will ask Joel to open it prior to afternoon sailing.
- Mike will meet with Peter Hale this week to discuss options for replacing the Aquasport.
- This past month has seen more than the usual number of hoist breakdowns. All have been repaired. Freeland Hoist and Crane are repairing a faulty load break on one hoist.
- We are awaiting an estimate from Carpet Discounters for replacement carpet in both the Laser and Opti areas.
- Mike met with a vendor (Katcef) to get a new estimate for restroom supplies. He will look into switching vendors.
- Stewart Landscaping has given an estimate for lawn and weed care. For \$35 they will cut the grass and spray for weeds. Mike will check to determine whether this would only apply to a long term contract or whether they can do the job on demand as required. No plans were made to contract out this service, but the Board discussed adding these maintenance items to the spring and fall work parties if needed.

**FACILITIES REPORT**

- Sean presented a list of general maintenance and other projects to be included in fall work parties.

- Efforts to recruit volunteers for facilities subcommittees have resulted in some modest interest. The final proposal for the structure and composition of the committee is still scheduled to be submitted by the end of September.

**FINANCE REPORT**

- Expenses will come in on budget, but we will fall short of the revenue budget.
- The SunTrust CD was renewed at 1.75 percent for 13 months through 9/17/10.
- The Board reviewed the 2010 budget proposal and voted for the following changes:
  - o Operating Revenue
    - \$144,100 for membership dues
    - \$3,000 for credit card fee.
  - o Operating Expenses
    - \$9,000 for operating supplies.
    - \$8,000 for professional fees.
    - \$91,000 for salaries-gross (\$39,500 base salary plus \$6,000 bonus each).
    - \$38,500 for taxes.
  - o Other expense
    - \$40,000 for a replacement for the Aquasport.
    - \$75,000 total Other Expenses, with specific allocation for boat replacement, Clubhouse design work, and miscellaneous other expenses.

**SAILING COMMITTEE REPORT**

- The Laser fleet has requested a reduced fee for non-member frostbiting from \$183 to \$100. We will look into the fee that Potomac River Sailing Club charges for frostbiting and discuss the request next month.
- Regatta requests were received from the
  - o Day Sailor fleet for the 2011 North America Championship for July 18-22.
  - o Thistle fleet for District Championships late May or early June 2010.
  - o J22 fleet for 2010 Mid-winter North regatta, preferably 3/6-3/7.
  - o David will check with each fleet to determine if these fleets actually need these requests to be approved before the December scheduling meeting

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

- New associate members, membership status changes, and resignations were approved.

**JR. COMMITTEE REPORT**

- High school sailing has 50-60 kids from Broadneck, Spalding and Key schools. Southern doesn't have a team this year. There are four instructors, including Joel.

- The Opti fall program is on Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturday afternoons with parent-organized races on Sundays.
- Six guests will launch Optis from SSA junior area for a clinic related to the Hospice Cup on 9/26.

### OLD BUSINESS

- Summary of September storage discussion:
  - a) The Board reviewed two new storage rate proposals that were prepared, as agreed in August, by Joe and John, and circulated via email on August 18.
  - b) Board members discussed these proposals via email in the days following the release of those proposals. An email vote was taken. Neither proposal received support from a majority of board members; therefore no proposal was circulated to the membership in August.
  - c) Following this, Hal sought to further the discussion in case a storage solution for FY2010 could still be salvaged. Since the position of some board members seemed to have changed during the email vote on the previous two proposals, Hal circulated a new survey to clarify views on J boat rates (relative to other fleets), the basis of rates (length, boat footprint, or trailer footprint), and reduced rate basis for Solings sticking out over the outer bulkhead. Hal also asked the board if each member favored a rate change that rebalanced rates while increasing no rates, which would result in reduced storage revenue in 2010.
  - d) Hal assembled the results into a new proposal which was circulated before the September meeting and discussed at the meeting itself.
  - e) This proposal was discussed in detail and some adjustments were proposed. Ultimately, there was no agreement on the rationale for the fees in that proposal and no motion was made for a vote.
  - f) Hal commented that it was important that we achieve some consensus on a proposal, and reminded us that the 2009 storage rate structure had narrowly passed at 5:4. It was generally agreed that we also needed more agreement on the criteria behind the proposal itself. Consequently, the Board decided to implement the same rate structure in 2010 as in 2009.

### NEW BUSINESS

- Prior to the October meeting, the Board will review a proposed amendment to the Policies and Procedures that would spell out boat storage and maintenance requirements. Sean will look into the relevant laws and regulations.
- Mike and Sean will set the fall work party schedule.

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 pm

Next meeting will be Tuesday, October 13 @ 6:45 p.m.

### MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

#### NEW MEMBERS

Aaron Gerratt (Student over 21)  
Fleet: Laser  
Doug Irvin (Associate)  
Karl Mattison (Associate) Fleet: V15  
Rob Townley (Associate) Fleet: Star

#### RESIGNATIONS

Russell Paret (Associate) - Laser, IC

#### CHANGES

Amie Boothe (Non-Resident) -- 505  
David Flynn (Supporting)  
J.R. Maxwell (Non-Resident)  
Warren Richter (Associate)  
Walter Risse (Emeritus)  
Brady White (Associate)  
Elaine Lamb (Student over 21)  
Gretchen Esbensen (Student 21)  
Andrew Eyring (Student over 21)  
Guy Tawney (Student over 21)

#### VOTING INVITATIONS

Bruce Artman Laser  
Bill Balough Laser  
Remo Casasco Snipe  
Mark Fuhrman Snipe  
Scott Gelo V15  
Che' Hale Jet 14  
Greg Kelly Snipe  
Scott Latham Thistle  
Diana Lohmeyer Lightning  
Matt Marcy Laser  
James McKenna Laser, Jet14  
Cary Moore Laser  
Marc Ness Johnson 18  
Jim Schmicker Laser  
Ellen Thomas Laser  
Jahn Tihansky 505  
David Watson Snipe  
Sandy Westphal Laser

### Boat Storage, Wet Slips, and Lockers

Boat Storage and Maintenance Requirements: An SSA member's boat shall be stored in their assigned spot. All boats must be adequately secured at all times when not in use. SSA is not responsible for the security of members' boats, including during severe weather. Boat owners are encouraged to make plans for removing their boat during severe weather and major storms.

SSA members are permitted to perform maintenance at SSA on their boat that is registered to be stored on the SSA lot. SSA does not perform maintenance on member boats. Given the close proximity of boat storage to the water (Spa Creek and Severn River), members shall take precaution to conduct all boat maintenance activities in a safety conscious manner, as well as a manner to minimize negative environmental impacts. These include:

- Sanding and grinding over the water is prohibited.
- When painting, sanding or grinding a drop cloth or tarp is required under the work area to collect all debris for proper disposal
- All work materials and debris must be cleaned up daily.
- Disposal of hazardous waste in the club dumpster is prohibited.
- Do not leave power tools or sharp tools unattended.

Clean up and removal of maintenance materials daily is needed to ensure that potentially hazardous products are not left lying around the yard. This is both a safety issue—since there are many children in activities at SSA—as well as an environmental issue.

## JUNIOR PROGRAM NEWS

The Junior Program is still busy with over 50 high school sailors and 5 Opti sailors in our Fall racing program. The three high schools currently represented at SSA (Broadneck, Key, and Archbishop Spalding) qualified for three of the 5 spots allocated to our region for the Fall Fleet Racing Championships held last weekend. They finished 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> respectively.

Our Team Racing qualifier will be held next weekend at AYC with the top two schools winning berths for our Fall Team Race Championship at St. Mary's College.

The Optimists most recently competed at the local Halloween Howl at AYC and with the fall season winding down, some are setting their sights on winter events such as the Orange Bowl in Coconut Grove, FL.

The Junior Program website is currently going through a full overhaul with content updates and the implementation of online payment for classes. Summer 2010 program information will be available in January along with information about Opti and high school race teams for the Spring.

Check it out at <http://www.severnsailing.org/juniors>.

## FLEET NEWS

### Snipe Fleet

After a light air Snipe season at nearly every venue this year, the fall Snipe season wrapped up on Oct 3-4 with the annual Frigid Digit invitational with a bit of breeze. Held on the heels of the 2009 Worlds and San Diego just a few weeks prior, the out-of-towners were down a bit this year, but the locals made a strong showing.

Miami sailor Augie Diaz with Kathleen Tocke easily won the event with straight bullets. Top 5 local finishers included Eric Reinke with Bridget Crenay in 2<sup>nd</sup> & Gavin O'Hare with Erika Seamon/Holly O'Hare in 4<sup>th</sup>. Steve & Chloe Constants must have accidentally confused the Snipe Frigid Digit with the Lightning regatta as they joined us in a friend's boat and eek'd into the top 10 for the weekend. Other top 10 locals included Brian Hetherington with Adrienne Korkosz in sixth and Ned & Kitty Daly in 10<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks to regatta chairman Jon Anthony for taking the reins and putting on a first class event that included oysters & a crab feast as well as a vintage (boat, not skipper) awards division.

The weekend prior was the SSA fall series. Consistency was key as Ian Mutnick took home the series followed close by Marshall Caggiano & Mark Fuhrmann.

The fleet is gearing up to host the 2010 Snipe Nationals next Aug 13<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> here at SSA. If you are interested in helping with the weeklong event or getting involved, contact regatta chair Brian Hetherington at [bhetherington@verizon.net](mailto:bhetherington@verizon.net).

### Laser Fleet

Congratulations to Laser fleet members Kim Couranz and Margaret Podlich who competed with Carol Cronin's "Team Spidey" in US Sailing's 2009 Rolex International Women's Keelboat Championship at Rochester Yacht Club. They had a fabulous week finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> overall in a fleet of thirty-five boats.

Our 2009 SSA Laser Fleet Champion is Brady White. Brady finished an impressive 26th out of eighty-one boats in the Standard Rig ACC. He also won both the SSA Summer and Fall series and placed third in the SSA Spring Series and Crab Claw Regatta. He is definitely someone who is hard to keep up with on the race course. Congratulations Brady!

October was the month for great Chesapeake Bay Masters sailing! The Hard Rock Masters and Laser Master Atlantic Coast Championship were held at Rock Hall Yacht Club October 3-4. At the Hard Rock Masters on Saturday October 3<sup>rd</sup> a total of nineteen boats competed in four races. Quinn Tobin was our top SSA finisher in 9<sup>th</sup> place overall. On Sunday October 4<sup>th</sup> at the Atlantic Coast Championship twenty-six boats competed in a total of 6 races. Dave Sliom was our top SSA finisher in tenth overall. Also competing were Quinn Tobin and Leo Wilson.

The Chesapeake Bay Masters Regatta was held at Fishing Bay Yacht Club October 17-18. Cold and gusty wind conditions didn't deter our die-hard masters. Twenty-four masters competed in a total of six races. Bob Tan was our top SSA finisher in 5<sup>th</sup> place overall. Ted Morgan was first Apprentice Master and 11<sup>th</sup> overall. Karen Long was first woman and 16<sup>th</sup> overall.

It is time to break out those dry suits and warm fuzzy hats. The Laser Frostbite Series begins on Sunday November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Registration opens at 11am, first start at 1pm. See the NOR for details.

Save the date. The Laser Fleet Winter/Holiday Party will be held on Saturday January 9<sup>th</sup> at the SSA clubhouse beginning at 6:30 pm.

### Vanguard 15

Our 2009 season ended with nice 8-10 knot conditions on back to back weekends for the Fall Series. Nick Muzia / Ashley Love cinched 1<sup>st</sup> for the Fall Series with all wins on the second day of racing, capping off Nick's Weekend Series sweep for the entire year. Scott Gelo / Jenn Bickford came in 2<sup>nd</sup> with the same amount of points, but lost the tiebreaker by one race. Team Banana Hammock of Rob Kotler / Grant Beach took a close third.

2009 has been an exciting year for us with many new members to the fleet: Nick Muzia, Rob Kotler, Stephen

Cherry, and Tom Sitzmann. Welcome! Also, a very special thank you to those who consistently lent out their boats to help fleet participation and spark the interest of possible new members: Britt Ward, Cassandra Carmichael Hamernick, Mike Udell, Tom Sitzmann, and Renee Mehl. Finally, many thanks to Lori and Matt Schubert and Leah and Ian Burman for all of their help behind the scenes during the transition of fleet captain in the spring.

Even though the boats are getting put away for the year, we plan on having at least one party event in the off-season. Stay tuned for more information!

Also, be sure to look for the 2010 racing schedule, which includes several team racing and clinic events, and mark your calendars now.

Check us out on the web on Google Groups at <http://groups.google.com/group/ssav15> and also find us on Facebook as the Annapolis Vanguard 15 Fleet. Contact Scott Gelo for any information you need about purchasing or racing a V15! There are several Annapolis boats for sale right now. Get yours for the 2010 season!

### Thistle Fleet

The Thistle Fleet Wrapped up its season at SSA with a 28 boat regatta at the annual Oyster Roast held every year in conjunction with the US Sailboat Show. This regatta features all you can eat Oysters imported specifically for the event, a meal of Ahi tuna/ pork tenderloin and Veggie sides all for under \$100 per 3 man team. SSA Sailors faired well with Barbehenn taking 1st, McCorkell taking 2nd and Kraft taking 5th overall. A total of 12 SSA boats competed in the regatta. We have had a wonderful year as a fleet averaging over 17 boats per race day throughout the season. We held 4 successful regattas including the Class Atlantic Coast Championships at 50 boats.

Also, the fleet enjoys traveling to as many as 8 local fall regattas as part of the Famous EAST COAST FALL SERIES chaired by SSA member Scott Latham. This year 2 of the 8 regattas were held in Annapolis. The series started Labor Day weekend in Annapolis and runs to Oct 24th (but usually close to Halloween) weekend. Races happen in Annapolis, Rochester, Sayville, Hopatcong(NJ), Saratoga, Annapolis, Nyack, Red Dragon (NJ). With average attendance around 20 boats and an overall attendance nearing 85 boats it has to be the most active east coast series in the Fall.

Check out The Thistle for next season. We are one of the most active fleets at SSA and in the area. Next year, we are hosting the District Championship along with our usual invitational regattas and we are always willing to get new people out and into the wonderful family class that is the THISTLE CLASS! As always let me know if I can help get you out on a Thistle sometime soon.

### J22 Fleet

The J22 sailing season is rapidly coming to end but there are still a few fun events on the calendar for 2009 that are worth making the effort to attend. First up is the annual SSA/AYC club champs on Saturday November 7th, to decide where the balance of power in the local J22 fleet really lies. I think the skill level trend is slowly but surely shifting in SSA's favor but all of us will have our work cut out to beat AYC's Jeff Todd, who has proven to be almost invincible in the late season events. At any rate, let's rally with a good turnout of SSA boats and see if one of us can finally get the measure of Jeff. This regatta also doubles as our Fall Series, and is in fact the last J22 event on the SSA calendar for 2009.

The last regatta for Fleet 19 is the Turkey Bowl, hosted by our neighbors at EYC on Saturday November 21. Another fun, relatively low-key event, where the top 3 boats will win Thanksgiving turkeys as prizes. The weather can be anything from warm and pleasant to howling, cold and nasty, but it's always fun regardless.

Lastly, we are adding a new regatta to the schedule for 2010. The regatta is going to be called the J22 Mid Winters 'North', and will be held the weekend of March 6-7, 2010. The event is the brainchild of SSA J22 fleet member Tom Sitzman. The idea is to have one reasonably high profile event towards the end of winter for those of us locals who don't participate in AYC's frostbiting series to get excited and motivated about (with spinnakers and hiking!). Hopefully we'll also attract some out-of-towners, as well, in particular those traveling to the Midwinters 'South' starting on March 11 in New Orleans. The Midwinters 'North' will be a proper 2 day regatta featuring short courses in the harbor or river a-la Thursday night sailing. Tom and I will be working on the details and logistics over the next few months, but the emphasis will be on making this event really fun. The plan is to have the Kattack race GPS system installed on all boats, so we can go inside and watch the sailing afterwards whilst having a party at the same time. Put this on your calendar for 2010 as an event that is not to be missed!

See everyone on the water.



Visit [www.seversailing.org](http://www.seversailing.org)  
to order your SSA gear

## Lightning Fleet 329

This last month has seen much activity by members of Fleet 329. First, Joan and Gary Hurban with Laura Johnson participated in the International Lightning Class World Masters Regatta on Mallets Bay on Lake Champlain, just north of Burlington VT. Gary was the skipper with Joan and Laura crewing. They placed 20th in a fleet of 32. Immediately following the Masters was the World Championship, held every two years. This year there were 60 boats from 10 countries. A brief report from Todd Johnson, who was sailing with Steve Constants, indicated that the competition was fierce and only the teams with good starts were able to place well. Allan Terhune placed 4th, Geoff Becker 6th, Steve Constants 34th and Jon Guth 38th. Fleet 329 is very proud of the performance of these teams and must be considered one of the deepest in the country. We were happy to see three of them on Sunday afternoon as they unpacked their boats

This last weekend was the SSA Fall Series and unfortunately the four boats attending the Worlds in Vermont were unable to return to Annapolis in time. However, there were eight boats with the Friebele team placing first, the Brickell team second and the team Hurban of third. It was a great time with three races on Saturday into a dying Northeaster and two races on Sunday into a Southeaster that never really filled in. Jason Werner showed up with his new boat, and we expect great things from him in the coming years. We still have the Frigid Digit to go in mid-October and have been told that New Orleans resident Marc Eagan, the current North American Champion, will attend.

## Soling Bowl 2009

After a great turnout in 2008 - including a number of top Canadians, Mid-Westerners and New Englanders - 2009 was disappointing - only six boats and only one - John and Kathy Morgan - from out-of-town. But it did include what are probably the top two American crews - helmed by Stu Walker and Peter Gleitz - who dueled throughout the three races that were sailed.

Friday & Saturday were abandoned (too inadequately prepared boats and too much wind - gusts to 35) so that the series was restricted to Sunday and a dying northwesterly. In the first race Peter made the perfect, "luffing up to the committee boat" start in a big veer of the oscillating 16 knot northwesterly, held on in that veer to cross the fleet in the subsequent back - and escaped - to win easily - while Stu, forced to a late start and an immediate tack away from the shift to come, could never catch up. Henry Thomas, who was able to start on Peter's hip could not hold Stu, but easily beat Joe Van Gieson and John Morgan.

To win a three race series it was obvious that Stu had to beat Peter in both the remaining races - both of which were conducted in a patchy offshore flow that had diminished to 4-8 knots and was met near the leeward mark with an easterly local sea breeze! Stu started on Peter's leebow in both races, pulled away, tacked to cover and, by reaching the stronger near-windward-shore flow sooner, marched away to big leads and easy victories. In the second race Henry was again third with John Morgan fourth. In the final race Peter was stuck in the calm between the two winds near the leeward mark, while Joe regained the new wind and broke away to an easy second (Henry third and John fifth).

Henry's consistent finishes - 3-3-3! - earned him series third! (It's nice to see justice done!)

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee (Past Commodore Ted Morgan, Chair, Past Commodore Alex Stout, Barbara Vosbury, Ian Mutnick, Steve Constants) propose the slate for the Board of Governors as set forth below, along with biographical information on each person.

### Luke Shingledecker — Commodore

Luke grew up sailing on Cowan Lake (near Cincinnati, Ohio) where he sailed Lasers and Lightnings. He attended college at Webb Institute in Long Island, where he was active in collegiate dinghy racing. He came to Annapolis in 2000 to work for Farr Yacht Design, where he works as a naval architect on a variety of custom and production racing yacht designs. Luke joined SSA in 2001 and has been continuously active in the Laser fleet, spending four years as the Laser fleet captain. He has also raced J22's and spends time sailing on a variety of keelboats in the Annapolis area. He met his wife, Susan sailing Lasers at SSA. Susan and Luke live in Severna Park with their 1 year old son Andrew. Luke joined the Board of Governors in 2004 and has served as the club's Fleet Captain, Vice Commodore and Commodore.

### Hal Whitacre — Vice Commodore

Hal moved to the area in 1983 after graduating from the University of Michigan with a degree in Naval Architecture & Marine Engineering. Having sailed in collegiate regattas at the USNA during school, he was aware of SSA and its reputation as an excellent small boat racing club, so he joined almost immediately upon moving to the area. Initially he joined as a member of the Laser fleet, then shortly after became an active member in the Snipe fleet. Eventually he was able to move to Annapolis, design yachts, and sail quite actively in the Snipe fleet. These days a lot of his time is spent watching his sons sail Optimis and 420's, but loves sailing Tuesday evenings..!

### Sean Smith — Rear Commodore

Sean's SSA affiliation began in 1989, crewing in I14s. He's since sailed through numerous years at the club with the I14s, Solings, occasionally J22s and most recently with the Lasers. He served on the Board since 2006 as Member-at-Large and Rear Commodore. During his time on the Board he has focused his attention on maintenance and upgrades to the

club's facilities such as property surveys, fencing, recycling, piers, and building renovations.

### **Jen Cook — Secretary**

Growing up, dinghy racing was her family's routine weekend event at Marsh Creek Sailing Club in PA, where her father, brother, and she raced a wooden GP-14 and a Laser. Her father had helped found the club and served as commodore, so she learned to value community stewardship early on. Jen joined SSA in 1998 when she was working as a teacher in Baltimore and brought the family Laser to MD. In 2004, she moved to Annapolis and joined the club's Membership Committee. For the past two years she has been the Membership Committee chair and the Board secretary. Jen's current work as an analyst at GAO helped her contribute to the recent membership survey about potential renovations. Jen has truly enjoyed being a part of SSA's community and hopes to continue to serve on the Board of Governors.

### **Todd Johnson — Treasurer**

Todd's family is from the Maine Coast (Saco) but he grew up in the Boston area and cannot remember not sailing and racing. His father was a naval architect, an active competitive sailor all his life, and introduced him to sailing and racing at an age too young to remember. He has sailed in many classes, both dinghy and offshore, competed on and off in 505's for many years, and taught sailing in Maine and New York during college summers. Todd joined SSA in 2001 after moving to the Annapolis area in 1998, crewing in a number of classes, and then buying a Lightning, which he has raced actively since. Professionally, he has for more than twenty five years invested in real estate on behalf of large, tax-exempt entities including public and corporate pension trusts, university and college endowments, and other significant investors. As a member of numerous sailing related organizations he is particularly impressed with the sound fiscal management that has been the hallmark of SSA. It is his intent as a board member to further that tradition.

### **David Koepper—Fleet Captain**

Having raced Catalina-27s out of Annapolis since 1985, serving as Fleet captain several years, David is an advocate of everything sailing. Although he continues CBYRA racing in the Chesapeake Catalina 27 Fleet 8, in 2003 he looked for a club where he could race a smaller boat in a family oriented environment with his son and daughter. He struck gold with the Day Sailer and with Fleet 1 at SSA. He and his son, David III, have raced all over the East Coast but especially enjoy their time sailing on the Chesapeake Bay. He has also served as the Day Sailer Fleet 1 captain. David is now delegated to crew as his son, a high school senior, captains most races.

They recently placed 4th in the Day Sailer Junior Nationals in Chatham, MA. David has been financing his sailing adventures through an engineering career with Lockheed Martin. He is currently serving as SSA Fleet Captain.

### **John Gebhardt—Member-at-Large**

In the spring of 1968, as a brand-new Ph.D. in Naval Architecture from the University of Michigan and avid Rhodes Bantam sailor, John was fortunate to have a teaching position at the Naval Academy as one of several job opportunities. During a few free hours during a recruiting trip,

he wandered over the Spa Creek Bridge to see if he could find out more about the forest of small boat masts that he saw across the creek from the Academy seawall. SSA looked like a terrific place. It looked like it was all about racing small boats, no frills, all about the racing. SSA was a highlight of his trip and one of the reasons Judy and he are in Annapolis. John joined SSA in 1971 and except for a few years (1975-1980) when Andrew and Stephanie were young and needed Dad to coach soccer and basketball, he has been a voting member.

He has owned three International 14s and a J/22 over the years, and 2 years ago, he bought Mark Hasslinger's Laser which he is racing enthusiastically. He has served two terms on the Board of Governors and as vice-chair of many race committees. He has enjoyed trying to help the BOG and the Club use technology to work better faster and smarter. If elected to serve on the Board of Governors again, he will continue to bring his long history as a member of SSA, his background in race management, and his technology skills to the table to help SSA continue to thrive and grow as one of the premier small boat racing clubs in the world.

### **Eric Reinke—Member-at-Large**

After graduating from USNA in 1982 it took Eric 22 years to finally get back to Annapolis. Eric has always preferred racing dinghys and except for a few regattas on Farr 40's, he's proud to say that the largest and most painful boat he's raced in the past decade was a J-24. Since joining SSA in 1993 Eric has been active in Snipes, Lasers, J-24s and Interclubs at the local thru international levels. He's also the Chief Measurer for the US Snipe Class. SSA is a very unique organization with a well deserved reputation for high quality racing. He truly believes this reputation has been built and maintained on a simple premise that relying on volunteer active racers as race committees leads to great races and that understanding race management improves our racing skills. As we move forward SSA will face new challenges but if we let the fundamentals of quality racing be our guide star, he feels it will ensure that SSA remains one of the greatest one-design sailing clubs in the world.

### **Peter Rich—Member-at-Large**

Peter grew up on the Eastern Shore and raced Lasers there as a junior. While attending Duke, he taught sailing at Camp SeaGull in NC during the summers. After college he moved back to Maryland and joined SSA and the Laser fleet. During that time he also crewed on J/24s, Solings and a variety of larger boats. He purchased a J/24 in 1992 and has been very active in the fleet since then competing in many Nationals, NAs, MWs and the 2009 Worlds in Annapolis while also serving terms as SSA and Fleet 8 captain. Since 2000 he has regularly crewed on a Lightning and participated in 3 NAs and the 2009 Worlds in Vermont. He lives in Annapolis with his wife and 2 young children. He works in Annapolis as an Environmental Engineer/Consultant for GeoTrans, Inc. Peter is interested in participating on the Board to help us maintain and improve race committee performance, assist with junior program issues and contribute to facility decisions.

### Board of Governors

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Treasurer	Greg Leonard	Finance Committee	202-912-8921/ <a href="mailto:treasurer@severnsailing.org">treasurer@severnsailing.org</a>
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Member at Large	Bruce Irvin	Standing Race Committee	410-353-2275 / <a href="mailto:atlarge2@severnsailing.org">atlarge2@severnsailing.org</a>

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Race Committee	Peter Hale	410-643-1104 / <a href="mailto:racecommittee@severnsailing.org">racecommittee@severnsailing.org</a>
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