



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

October 2008

Commodore's Comments

The Facilities Committee (FAC), chaired by Sean Smith, has had a very busy year and has achieved major results. On September 23, SSA presented a request to the City Port Wardens Commission for the replacement of the third basin pier. The replacement will have a 6 foot wide deck and be located a few feet further out towards the river, but is similar to the existing pier in other respects. At the meeting, EYC claimed that the new pier will increase wave action on their new marina extension, but presented no evidence supporting that claim. The PWC did not rule on the request due to a lack of quorum but will rule at the October meeting. It is hoped that the new pier can be constructed this winter. Construction should cause little or no disruption of frostbite sailing.

The FAC has also completed the estimates for four main clubhouse renovation options, including options for replacing the junior clubhouse. A description of the four options, sketches, and cost estimates will be posted at the club website in time for discussion at the Annual Members Meeting on Sunday, November 9. Cost estimates for needed maintenance and refurbishment of the main clubhouse, to be implemented in lieu of renovation, have also been completed and will be made available.

The Membership Committee and BOG will vote on new voting members this month. If you wish to be considered for voting member status, please send a note to the club office or membership chair Jen Cook before October 6.

The club will be very busy this month with several major invitational regattas and the boat shows. If you are visiting the club for reasons other than racing, please check the schedule first and be ready to yield parking, boat launching access, and general facility rights to the racing members and guests.

Significant News

- **New Junior Assistant Program Director** – The Junior Club welcomed Joel Labuzetta to the coaching staff to take over for Molly Vandemoer. Molly moved back to California with her husband John who is the new Stanford University head sailing coach. See page 4 for more details.
- **2008-2009 Board of Governors Positions**
SSA is seeking applicants for Board of Governors Positions for the 2008-2009 Board which first convenes in December 2008. Any interested voting member should contact Ian Burman, Chairman of the Nominating Committee at ianburman@yahoo.com.

Upcoming Events

- **October 9-13 - US Sailboat Show**
- **October 16-19 – US Powerboat Show**
- **November 1** –2009 Membership Dues due.
- **November 9th – Closing Day Brunch 9:30-11:30**
Dark n' Stormy's will be serving up our annual Closing Day Brunch. The Reservation form is enclosed and available on the SSA homepage for online reservations (please follow up with payment prior to event, Nov 9).
- **November 9th – Annual Meeting/Awards 12noon.**

Important Reminders

- **New 2009 Membership Year starts Nov 1.**
Please send any membership change requests to membership@severnsailing.org or contact Nan in the office if you have any questions.
- **Dark N' Stormy's is OPEN for Ploughman's Lunch** on Tues, Thurs & Fridays from 12-2pm starting. In yankee terms that means 'one daily Special to include entrée, side, drink and dessert for one price of \$8.00.
- **Fall Work Parties** – See page 4 for opportunities to fulfill your remaining duty day obligation or if you would like to pitch in any extra expertise and time.

SSA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

MEETING MINUTES FOR AUGUST 26, 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 July minutes were approved with minor changes to the facilities and standing race committee reports.

COMMODORE'S REPORT

- On the first race of the Penguin Internationals regatta, the J/World and Penguin courses overlapped. Discussions between Mike Higgins and the J/World director following the event led to better understanding of J/Worlds weekday activities and should keep us from overlapped courses in the future.

OFFICE MANAGER'S REPORT

CLUBHOUSE

- Sunday, 8/31: 505 Fleet Party, J Bergquist, approved with no fee.
- Sunday, 9/7: Fundraiser for World Wings (a charity unrelated to sailing), Ellen Pappas, approved with \$200 fee.
- One sofa is broken – will need repair or replacement.
- Office air conditioner has survived the summer. A member has offered a used replacement if needed.
- No news or action on front planting bed.
- TESOD ends 9/9. Over 120 boats have participated, but only 55 registered. There was a keg this evening, but we will not have another one on 9/9 in order to stay in line with the entertainment budget.

OFFICE

- Unpaid dry storage AR (total \$1468). Sent invoices over 30 days ago.
- Club Service Days: 58 members still owe service days, including 24 members joined after assignments were made. Mike will organize fall work parties/projects for these members.
- We now have an extra recycling bin and fees to recycler have increased from \$85 to \$153/mo.
- Nan will begin an office hours schedule 8:30 to 2:30 M-F after TESOD ends.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

- The Aquasport outboard has been operational the last two weekends, but is still experiencing some irregular rpm surging at around 2000 rpms. Mike contacted another mechanic (fourth one) to check the motor; he found some irregularity with the throttle positioning sensor and ordered a new one. He is not sure this is the problem. Annapolis Outboard has checked or replaced all other items mentioned by the latest mechanic.
- Mike obtained another breakwater pier estimate from CYRs and had Lerian Bradbury revise their estimate to reflect a 6 ft pier not 8 ft. CYR and Lerian could replace the old pilings in the middle basin while doing the constructing the breakwater.

- Mike made repairs to the cottage area that had moisture damage. Brian Boyd plans to complete the repair soon.
- Mike has researched waste management at several local clubs and marinas and has several options SSA could use, but plans to explore the matter further.
- Mike has installed the rainwater barrel behind the JR Clubhouse, which is closer to the area to be irrigated. While cleaning the gutters for the rainwater barrel, he noted the JR main roof is in poor condition and may need replacing soon. Some shingles are splitting and tearing, but there is no sign of leaks below.
- Dave Yates has decided to wait until next season to acquire an icemaker.

FACILITIES REPORT

- A sinkhole has been observed in the parking lot. The contractor that repaired a previous hole in the same area two years ago is being contacted to evaluate the new development and determine a course of action.
- The flower boxes placed in the outermost parking lane in front of the clubhouse have been damaged. More substantial planters are under consideration to provide a better ability for drivers to see the plants and increase the difficulty of moving the boxes (thereby allowing cars to encroach the space allocated as a walkway in that area...the intended purpose of the flower box placement).
- The FC has reviewed proposals for the outer wave screen replacement and will be recommending an alternative to the Board in the next few weeks. If approved by the City in time, the project can be completed this winter. Meetings are proposed to be held in the next few weeks with a contractor and City staff to discuss the selected alternative, as well as replacement of pilings in the middle basin and a new proposal for additional deck work.
- The contractor working on the development of cost estimates for clubhouse renovations has provided a projected cost for their work and the development of sketches of renovation scenarios under consideration. The Board agreed to spend \$1500 for the contractor to produce sketches to present to the membership.
- Enclosures are being considered for the garbage cans placed in the lot. Fall member work parties may be used to assemble them.

FINANCE REPORT

- The Board began FY09 budget discussions and will vote on a final budget at the next meeting.
 - o The base professional fees should be \$6,000 to \$7,000.
 - o The proposed entertainment budget should increase by \$250 to \$4750. This includes seminars.
 - o Taxes should increase by \$2,500 to \$38,000.

SAILING COMMITTEE REPORT

- The SCIRA US (Snipe national class association) awarded the bid to host the 2009 US Women's Snipe National Championship to Annapolis Fleet 532 and SSA. The event will be held immediately following the Colonial Cup, on Monday-Tuesday, June 1-2, 2009.

- Don Moore was the PRO for the Penguin Internationals, which had 14 boats from as far away as Texas and Chicago. The fleet was very happy and grateful to SSA for hosting the event. Uncharacteristic 14-16 knot winds on the first day and 15-20 knots on the second proved once again that employing an additional RC boat with the bilge pump was a wise investment.
- Soling US Championship: The Soling fleet requested to change the dates from 10/14-17 to 10/31-11/2 because the weekday dates inhibited participation by visiting sailors. SRC and SC believe this is in the best interest of the club and the fleet. The J-22 Fleet Championship will share the course on 11/1. The Solings expect 15-18 boats.
- Jr. Cressy Eliminations: The Jrs want to host a local elimination round for the MASSA High School Sailing Single-handed Championships on 9/27-28. Snipes, V-15s, and Jet-14s are scheduled for that weekend. Brent expects no more than 30 Lasers to compete and proposes to delay the starts, use Jr. floats, and no non-member parking to minimize the impact on SSA.

STANDING RACE COMMITTEE REPORT

- We had our first protest in 5 years last week from a club series race. Holding the hearing series protests the following Thursday evening certainly get things worked out!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

- Approved for Associate: Stacy Renauld and Cheryl Taylor.
- Approved Change: J Bergquist from voting to student over 21 for FY09.

JR. COMMITTEE REPORT

- The Jr. Board will meet soon to discuss the 2008 summer program as well as future plans.

OLD BUSINESS

- Roberto will talk with the J-24 fleet about into AYC's potential role in the 2008 J/24 East Coast Championships.
- Sean will incorporate the SRC's long term projections for RC boat estimates into the facilities cost projections.
- 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.

NEW BUSINESS

- Prior to the next meeting, the BOG should review on the BOG web site:
 - o two facilities committee proposals and vote for one.
 - o the new Policies and Procedures document for accuracy. The new version will include an appendix with the annual dues and storage rates.
 - o salary market rates.
- John and Roberto will look into the cost of converting SSA's database to a web-based system.
- Roberto will investigate and propose a budget item for a seminar.
- Jen and Greg will look into why the FY08 dues exceeded budgeted revenue.

- Nan will
 - o look at past yearbooks to find out more information about past storage rates.
 - o call the city about our tax rate.
 - o frame the Chesapeake Bay Boating magazine cover story.
 - o send a burgee to Fordham University.
- Hal will ask Brent to be present for the Jr. Cressy Eliminations on 9/27-28.
- Luke presented an analysis of storage rates compared with storage footprint for all the classes.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm

Next meeting will be Monday, September 8 @ 6:45 PM.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

NEW MEMBERS

Marshall Caggliano (Associate)

Fleet: Snipe

Andy Dukes (Supporting)

FLEET NEWS

Thistle Fleet

Greetings Thistler's and SSA'ers from the Thistle fleet.

What a great year of racing we have had so far. One more event to go, the Annual Oyster Roast Boat Show Regatta. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Also, SSA members please help us out, we have 40-50 boats coming, so help us by making timely use of the hoist(s) if you can.

In addition, I would like to welcome two new members to the fleet--Michael Parramore makes his return in a new (to him) 3800 series glass boat, and Brent Ostbye purchased Clay Bartels 1115. Look out for more prospects, with Nationals and ACC's, next year, in close proximity we should have a good push for more members in Thistles!

See you at the Boat Show. And lastly, our condolences go out to the friends and family of Paul Norloff.

Lightning Fleet

We had our Summer Fleet party on Aug. 30th. held at Steve Constants house. It was great to hang out with friends and family. Lots of good food and good cheer, perfect ingredients for a sailing party.

We held our Fall Series on Sept. 13-14th. Light conditions on Saturday following by a nice see breeze on Sunday which created some very close racing. Steve finished first followed by Joe Friebele in second and Joan Hurban in third.

Next up is the 57th Annual Frigid Digit Regatta on Oct. 18-19.

InterClub

The 2008 - 2009 InterClub season is nearly here. Now is the time to start thinking about the upcoming frostbite season, it is never too soon to line up crew or to get your boat ready. Over the next few weeks we will be finalizing the schedule, and we have lots of team racing and short course fleet racing planned, and of course the IC Midwinters in January.

If you would like to join us on the water please contact the IC fleet captain at interclub@severnsailing.org. A limited number of boats are available for purchase or charter in the Annapolis area, and guest skippers and crew are always welcome to join us.

We look forward to seeing everyone on the water this winter.

IC 357 Available for Sale

Contact Brent Ostbye at juniors@severnsailing.org

JUNIOR SAILING REPORT

Introducing... Joel Labuzetta. Joel will be serving as the head racing coach at SSA. He comes to us from Rochester, NY via the College of Charleston where he was a captain his junior and senior year. The Cougars won five national championships as well as the Fowle trophy for top overall team, while Joel was there. We are excited to have such a talented individual on our staff and look forward to his work.

High School season is well underway. We had 87 students try out for teams from Archbishop Spalding, Broadneck, Key and Southern. That number is down to a more manageable 80 sailors. Joel, Joe McCorckell and Melissa Trost are focusing practices on boathandling, especially maneuvers used in Team Racing. On September 14th SSA hosted the first JV Regatta of the year. Five teams attended. On the weekend of September 27-28 our Varsity season kicks off. SSA is hosting the MASSA district single-handed championships and Severn School is hosting a Central League fleet race.

Six Optimist sailors are regularly attending Tuesday and Thursday practices at SSA. This is the largest group of Optimist sailors I've had since coming to SSA. We will have eight Opti sailors representing SSA at the annual Atlantic Coast Championships held October 11-12 in Brandt Beach, NJ.

West River Sailing club is hosting the 420 Mid-Atlantic Championships October 11-12. SSA will be sending up to ten teams to this event. These teams will consist of sailors from our high school program as well as sailors from the summer program.

We are currently looking for volunteers with open spaces to store our 420 and Laser Trailers for the winter. If anyone is able to help, please contact Brent at 410-263-0071.

FALL WORK PARTY OPPORTUNITIES

Fall season is almost upon us and SSA is rolling along with loads of activities, not the least of which are facilities projects that need attention. Listed below are some projects that can use your help whether you owe membership duty or just want to pitch in.

- Paint the Parker boat bottom
- Install plant containers along walkway/outer parking space next to the clubhouse
- Landscaping and lot cleaning
- Build wooden rain barrel stand
- Dock maintenance
- Paint club buildings where needed
- Build wooden trashcan containers
- Repair display board enclosures
- Clean club windows
- Club Entrance flower bed landscaping *
- Burgee display restoration *
- Junior Clubhouse *
- Junior safety boat/trailer repair and maintenance *

These work party efforts will be less structured than those in the Spring since many other activities will be in full operation while you are working and Mike may not be present. Contact Mike Higgins at 410-991-1383 or mike@severnsailing.org to obtain details regarding the above projects (when you can show up, where you get the supplies, etc.). Several of the projects, particularly landscaping and restoration of the clubhouse burgee display, have had some attention from other members this year, so Mike may put you in touch with the appropriate people to coordinate your work day activities. Brent Ostbye can be contacted at juniors@severnsailing.org for information on projects* directly related to junior equipment and repair.

You can check the status of your service days on the Members Only website for SSA. Once you have completed your service time, you will need to inform Nan so that she can update the database. Members have until December 31 to fulfill club service contributions for 2008. Note that RC assigned members are also always looking for substitutes, so that is another opportunity for you to help out the club and fulfill your obligations.

Note: if you sign up someone with you for a project it counts as 2 days of duty.

The importance of these Fall work party efforts cannot be emphasized enough. The club is a year round operation these days and receives more wear and tear than ever. SSA relies on its members to keep the club facilities in good shape, thereby allowing us to have so many great times on the water and back at the dock. Please contact Mike as soon as possible to sort out your work party activities. Contact Sean Smith, Facilities Chair (facilities@severnsailing.org), or Nan in the office (office@severnsailing.org) if you have any other questions.