



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

October 2009

Commodore's Comments

The board of governors has been busy for the last couple of months. After many hours of work and a few very long meetings, we have emerged from our bunker, much to the relief our families and friends. We have also completed SSA's budget for the 2010 fiscal year. The board has elected to keep dues the same for next year. Some changes have been made to our fee schedule. The late fee has been increased to \$75, and the board has decided to add a 3% surcharge for members who pay their membership dues or storage fee by credit card. This is being done to help defray part of the costs that SSA pays to process credit card transactions.

In other areas, the board has spent a great deal of time this summer discussing and debating the boat dry storage rates that are paid by each of our sanctioned fleets. After last year's changes to these storage rates we received a great deal of feedback, which lead us to review the details of that arrangement. The board determined that numerous improvements could be made, and therefore, decided that future storage rate changes should not follow the long-term proposal that was created for the 2009 fiscal year. As part of the subsequent discussion, several proposals were created and discussed. Debate centered on both the actual rates that might be paid and also the reasoning behind the proposed rates. After numerous rounds of discussion, the board failed to come to agreement on a proposal for 2010 before budget decisions were finally due. Instead, the board determined that boat dry storage rates from 2009 would be maintained as is for 2010. Discussion on future changes will continue when the budget is considered for 2011.

Please note that the front gate is now operated by a code; your old gate card will no longer work. See the Contact Page in the eSSAY or 'Breeze' for the new gate code so that you don't have any trouble entering the parking lot.

Commodore Luke Shingledecker

Significant News

- 2010 Board of Governors Nominations proposed slate and biographies are posted on page 4-5.
- New 2010 Membership Year starts Nov 1. The Board of Governors has approved the Dues fees to continue as per 2009.
- Professional photographer, Mike Finn has beautiful pictures up on his website from TESOD 9/8. Mike has offered these photographs at a 40% discount off his regular rates to SSA Racers or their friends and family. Please e-mail Mike directly and ask him for the TESOD discount code and he will send it to you so that you may obtain your discount.
<http://finnfineart.com/v/maritime/SSA>

Upcoming Events

- **2010 Dues bills will be sent out by Oct 9th.** Storage applications will be included which are due 12/1.
- **October 7-12 - US Sailboat Show**
- **October 15-18 - US Powerboat Show**
- **November 1 - 2010 Membership Dues due.**
- **November 15th - Closing Day Brunch 9:30-11:30**
Dark n' Stormy's will be serving up our annual Closing Day Brunch.
- **November 15th - Annual Meeting/Fleet and Annual awards presentation 12noon.**

Important Reminders

- **Membership status requests for 2010 -** Please send any membership change requests to membership@severnsailing.org or contact Nan in the office if you have any questions.
- **FALL Work Party Dates Available -** Need to fulfill a duty obligation for 2009 OR just want to chip in at SSA... Dates and projects have been assigned for fall work party opportunities. Contact Mike@severnsailing.org if you would like to help with a specific task and/or schedule alternative work date.

SSA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

MEETING MINUTES FOR AUGUST 3, 2009

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

The July minutes were approved with minor edits.

COMMODORE'S REPORT

- The nominating committee has been formed and includes Ted Morgan (Chair), Alex Stout, Steve Constants, Ian Mutnick and Barbara Vosbury. They will publish the slate of nominees in both the October and November eSSAys.

OFFICE MANAGER'S REPORT

- Sat., 11/14, 5:00-10:00 (Sean Smith for Janice Fisher) approved.
- Office computer has been serviced and updated by Will Frece.
- The Board approved the purchase of an AED and the electrical work required to give it a permanent power supply. It will be placed by the first aid box on the first floor.
- Liz Filter and Barbara Vosbury requested that EYC volunteers be allowed to park on SSA's lot on Monday 8/10.
- We received a request for AYC Foundation to forward a donation solicitation. We will attach the letter to a weekly email.
- Nan will be on vacation 8/14 – 8/20.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

- The entrance gate card reader needs to be replaced. The Board approved purchase of a keypad instead of replacing the card reader.
- Club regattas continue to run well, with no issues other than the poor idling of the Aqua sport. Mike plans to have a master Yamaha mechanic check the engine. We will give 1 more mechanic a chance to fix it before asking the Standing Race Committee to research replacement.
- Mike is working with Joel to find replacement carpet for the Opti dock.
- Planning for fall work parties is under way.
- Mike will be on vacation for 4-5 days, after Nan's vacation.

FINANCE REPORT

- Expenses will come in on budget, but we will fall short of the revenue budget.
- The Board reviewed a draft 2010 budget and voted to:
 - Change late fees from \$30 to \$75
 - Establish a 3 percent surcharge on membership dues and storage fees if members pay by credit card
 - Budget \$5,000 for entertainment
 - Keep membership dues for all membership statuses the same in 2010 as in 2009.
- Long term, Luke and Greg will look into insurance options.

- The Board will continue the budget discussion next month with a focus on taxable items, operating supplies, professional fees, and race committee expenses.

SAILING COMMITTEE REPORT

- The V15s are interested in doing more team racing. They should write a letter outlining the specifics of their request.
- Equitable boat storage rates continue to be a concern among the fleets.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

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

OLD BUSINESS

- The Board reviewed a draft summary of the survey results and will submit comments this week. The summary will be posted on SSA's web site later this week.
- The Board reviewed and discussed several proposals for storage rates. Agreement on a draft storage proposal for 2010 was not reached and discussion will continue via email.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 pm

Next meeting will be Monday, September 14 @ 6:45 p.m.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

NEW MEMBERS

Neal Ruchman
(Associate)
Fleet: Laser

CHANGES

Stan Smith (Non-Resident)
Fleet: V15

No Shows for RC Staffing

There have been major Race Committee staffing problems for several regattas in September, due to "no shows" of Members who volunteered or were assigned for the events. The Race Committee duty roster has been available on-line since early April, and Members on the roster for a particular weekend have been contacted one to two weeks before the event to remind them of their obligation, so there is no excuse for "no shows".

SSA's Race Committee operates on a volunteer basis, with Members agreeing to serve on dates of their selection well before the season begins. When Members decline to serve, and do not obtain a substitute, the event in question is jeopardized. In addition, the "no show" Member is fined \$150 for each "no show" day.

All Members are urged to recheck the RC duty roster and be sure that they are aware of any remaining duty day commitments they made or to which they were assigned. **If you cannot keep your commitment, remember that it is your responsibility to obtain a substitute** -- this is not something the Office will do for you. There is a list on the website of "Members Needing

Duty Days" -- contact people in that list and try to obtain a substitute. There also is a list of juniors who may be able to substitute for \$50 a day.

Members on the "Needing Duty Days" list should offer to substitute whenever possible. Remember, those who have not fulfilled their duty day obligations by the end of the season will be charged the "buy out" fee of \$75 per remaining day of their obligation.

Finally, keep in mind that Members of other Fleets have run your regattas, and you need to help run theirs.

Peter Hale, Chair SOSA Standing Race Committee

FLEET NEWS

Vanguard 15 Fleet

Our Summer Series was wrapped up on Saturday August 29th with 5 very tight races between 3 boats that stuck around until the sea breeze finally filled in the mouth of the Severn. Nick Muzia with crew Diana Look ended up taking 1st for Nick's 2nd victory in our SSA Series Races. Robert Kotler with crew Grant Beach followed in 2nd, while not far behind was Scott Gelo with crew Jennifer Bickford in 3rd. Everyone walked away with the latest glassware from SSA and a few couldn't even wait to test them out at the awards ceremony!

While the summer season is officially over, our Fall Series racing is in full swing! The last Fall Series regatta will be Saturday October 3! Hope to see many of you out there! This is the last weekend of racing this year!

We ended our TESOD season with a bang on Tuesday September 8th trying to dodge the Navy and High School sailing practices as we ran races into the great sunset over Annapolis. Our TESOD participation has been amazing this year with an average of 7-8 boats and as many as 11 boats on the line!

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.



V-15s at TESOD

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 20 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.

Laser Fleet

The Laser Master World Championship was held on St. Margaret's Bay, in Halifax, Nova Scotia August 27 to September 5th. Six members of our SSA Laser Fleet competed in a total of ten races. Tropical Storm Danny caused the opening ceremony to be postponed. Luckily good weather and the famous Halifax sea breeze and waves kept the racing exciting. That is until the last day when racing was abandoned due to shifty light winds. The Standard Rig Masters fleet was divided into a Gold fleet of forty-three boats and Silver Fleet of forty boats. Dave Sliom placed 32nd in the Silver fleet. Ted Morgan, Kim Couranz and Margaret Podlich competed in the Radial Apprentice Master fleet. Ted placed 7th overall, Kim 9th and Margaret 12th out of fourteen boats. Alden Shattack placed 4th out of twenty-two boats in the Grand Master Radial fleet. John Gebhardt placed 14th out of forty-two boats in the Great Grand Master Radial fleet.

The Laser District 11 Championship was held September 12th and 13th at West River Sailing Club in

Galesville, MD. The first day had the perfect 10-15 knots of breeze and four races exciting races. Sunday was much more frustrating with light air and lots of chop. Bob Tan placed second out of thirty-three boats in the Standard rig fleet. Also in the top ten, Ted Morgan placed sixth and Luke Shingledecker seventh. Karen Long was the First Woman and placed 11th overall. Matt Schoene placed fourth out of 11 boats in the Radial fleet.

The SSA Fall Laser series concluded on Saturday September 19th. It started up as a beautiful breezy, sunny day with many Laser sailors opting for Radial rigs. Unfortunately, the wind speed gradually decayed. Brady White won the day and the series with a phenomenal total of eight points in the 6 races in the series. He was followed by James McKenna in second and Jen Cook in third.

The 2009 Laser Crab Claw regatta was held Sept 26-27. 31 Standard Rigs and 7 radials competed in a total of five races. Saturday was a cloudy and breezy autumn day. We got off three races in a 12-15 knot of easterly before we headed back to the club for a fabulous dinner and Crab Feast catered by Dark and Stormy's. On Sunday the wind shifted south and was a much more moderate 8-10 knots. John Bertrand was the overall winner and first Master. Dave Perkowski was second overall, followed by Brady White in third. Karen Long was the first Woman finisher placing 12th overall. The Radial fleet was won by Gary Prieto, who was also the top Junior. Kim Couranz placed second in the Radial Fleet.

The 2009-2010 Laser Frostbite series will begin Sunday November 22nd. Stay tuned for details!

Stu Walker 8th at 2009 Soling World Championship

Three continents, five nations and 24 boats arrived in Toronto's lovely Etobicoke Park for 5 days of glorious sailing - and the competition proved to be tighter than ever. On the last day of racing, the top five boats - CAN Bill Abbott, GER Roman Koch, CAN Peter Hall, CAN Hans Fogh and BRA George Nehm (who eventually scored in that order) were within 4 points of each other!

Those leaders, plus NED Rudi den Outer, our President - NED, Johan Offermans, USA **Stu Walker** and CAN Manfred Kantor, soon separated from the remainder of the fleet and were far ahead of their followers at the finish. Other SSA Soling fleet member, **Joe VanGieson** made the trek as well and finished an impressive 18th.

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 Optis 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.

2009 Closing Day

Sunday, November 15th

Buffet Brunch 9:30 to 11:30am

By Dark N Stormys includes:

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

Reservations Required

Online registration form available @ www.severnsailing.org

\$12 per person

Payment Due by Friday, Nov 13th or \$15 at the door

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

Brunch Reservation

RSVP to the SSA office by Friday, Nov. 13th

Can also Reserve via online reservation form, email office@severnsailing.org ,
Fax 410-269-6832, or by Phone 410-268-8744

Reservation Required

\$12.00 per person \$7.00 per child

NAMES: _____ **Contact #:** _____

of Adults attending: _____ **# of children under 12 attending:** _____

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

Visa/MC/Disc #: _____ **CVV#** _____

Exp. Date: _____ **Signature:** _____