

February 2022, Vol. 44, No. 2

Spring Training March 19th

In early March, the temperatures might still be low, and more than a bit of snow might still be lingering, but the sun is staying around in the late afternoon. The body clock screams, "sailing time, sailing time!"

The time is near to venture forth. Pull the cover off the boat, paint, wax and clean it and schedule a launch date! For crew it is time to re-re-view those knots and improve fluency with sailing terminology, the unique language used on sailboats.

There is one last day to acquire and refine sailing knowledge! One day to become more comfortable with the skills and knowledge that will be required in the coming this season on the Bay! One last chance to learn about something new and different and make a purchase or install something that will be effective on the boat.

SOS has the perfect venue for that! It is SOS Spring Training. For those few not familiar - this is annual all-day event which SOS holds, SOS brings together the best and most knowledgeable vendors and sailors in the area and beyond to present on all things sailing.

A chance not to be missed by anyone in SOS!

This year's Spring Training will be held on Saturday, March 19th at Anne Arundel Community College in Arnold, Maryland.

This year we will offer six tracks spread over five sessions. There will be sessions for beginners, experienced crew, and Skippers. Examples of a few of the sessions include but are not limited to:

- Introduction to SOS
- Rafting for skippers and Experienced crew
- Long Distance Cruising
- Engine Maintenance
- Stand Up Paddle Board & Kayak
- Radio – VHF
- Rules of Road and Legal Implications

Many of the sessions will include hands on activities, with the intent is to have fun and learn some new skills.

What is unique about Spring Training is that you get to design your own program to meet your own needs. You can have it "your way!"

One word of advice – sign up early because the seating is limited in many of the seminars and workshops and the most popular ones fill up early. The price includes a continental breakfast and full lunch, and all classroom materials.

Social Media Coordinator Needed

The Board is looking for a current member with expertise in social media to volunteer a few hours!

Help us reach out to the non-member sailors or active individuals who have not yet discovered the fantastic benefits of being an SOS member!

Contact Carole Jordan at seajay2844@gmail.com.



VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE



Come on Spring!!!!

By the time you are reading this, there will be a scant nine weeks left of winter!! With our snowy January, that seems just toooooo far away for me! If you are luckily in a warm climate (think Florida, etc), try not to rub it in! But we will get there and the sailing season will be ahead of us with many great adventures and lovely evenings on the Chesapeake Bay.

How did you learn about SOS? This question was posed recently to the board and committee chairs. It is not a secret that SOS has fewer members in 2022 than we did in the recent past. So how do we attract new and enthusiastic members? Social media? Happy Hours? Spring Training? All are great avenues for new or current sailors to discover the fun and friendship that is available in our club. We are looking for a social media expert to help us reach out to our "future members". Are you a marketing guru, social media geek? Please contact me or the Membership chairs or the PR chairs. We'd love to hear your opinions and enlist your expertise.

Speaking of Spring.....Spring Training will be held this March in person at the Anne Arundel Community College in Arnold, MD. Our Education Committee has been lining up speakers and organizing this fabulous event. Feel free to let your non-SOS friends know about this unique and inexpensive way to jump start

the sailing season. Whether you are a skipper or a brand-new sailor, there will be something for you. Not to mention the camaraderie of the group! This is a favorite of many of our members, including me.

Of course, spring will bring with it our other "training" exercises to get us ready for the sailing season: Flare and Safety Demo, CPR training, and Dockside Training. Look for dates and locations in the Fleet Exercises. AND before all of this gets rolling, check out the Fireside Chats and seminars also.

I realize that these have been difficult times, with the pandemic upsetting so many plans and limiting our being together. It is an unprecedented time we are living through; however, with diligence, we will come out on the other side. Please stay safe and healthy! Just 9 more weeks.....

Carole

Commodore

Welcome New and Returning Members

Bill Ostrander
Nellysford, VA

Dee Naticchia
Marlton, NJ

Moshe Haven
Potomac, MD

Whisker Pole NEWSLETTER

Published Monthly

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Unofficial Notes of January 8, 2022 Board Meeting

Official January minutes will be posted on the SOS web site when approved in February by the Board of Directors.

Approval of Minutes: minutes of December 2, 2021 board (BOD) meeting approved.

Commodore: Annual Awards prepared for January 9 brunch.

Vice Commodore: planning committee exploring venues for Town Meeting on August 14.

Treasurer:

Club Checking Account	18,902.13
Hi-Yield Savings Account	73,458.10
Club Credit Card	-3,021.08
Bareboat Account	57,744.89

Committees:

Bareboat: BVI April 5-15, 2022 – wait list established. Aeolian Islands September 10-17, 2022 – application finalized; blast and simple site in process.

Brunch: March 13, speakers Marguerite and Michael Welch on their 14-year sail around the globe and their book *Waterborne: A Slow Trip Around a Small Planet*. SOS 2021 Photo Retrospective and Photo Contest winners.

Cruising: Proposed cruising calendar for 2022 season created and to skippers for comment. Final calendar to BOD in February and published in March Whisker Pole.

Database:

Member Renewal – At 226, compared to 223 on January 7, 2021. Two hundred twelve members have yet to renew, compared to 258 at this time last year

	January 2022	January 2021
Members	232	224
Skippers	63	57
Lifetime Members	110	166
Lifetime Skippers	23	23
Inactive Members	22	11
Totals	450	481

Education: Spring Training planning continues. Half of the matrix complete, with volunteer recruitment ongoing.

Dockside Training will be on a Saturday afternoon in late April, following morning Flare & Safety Training. Skippers may schedule a second day of training on Sunday.

First Mates: BOD determined that having served within the preceding year as skipper on a bareboat sailing cruise is sufficient for non-skipper FM recertification.

Membership: Two new members and three new skipper members have joined since the December report. Eight potential Membership Committee members and one guest attended an informal recruitment brunch.

New Member Get-Togethers planned for winter and early spring.

Membership will call or text members who have not renewed for 2022 by the January 31 deadline to renew without penalty.

Newsletter: Sixteen-page January Whisker Pole mailed to 79 members, six of them Happy Hour Coordinators. Printing cost \$201.86 (\$6.31 per copy). Per copy price was significantly higher this month due to low number of members receiving printed copies. Number printed will increase in coming months as renewals and new memberships increase.

Public Relations: Possible 2022 Parade of Lights boat; EYC offering 48-hour courtesy slip; will need volunteer teams.

PR note to Jay McGinnis of the Valhalla Sailing Project, with thanks and summarizing connections offered to Jay by our skippers and Database chair.

New “SOS Shoppe” for club clothing at StoutGear.com with no club cost and a potential profit. Members can visit the site on SOS Shoppe, and select and pay for clothing to pick up at Spring Training.

PR will assist in publicizing Spring Training by a number of means.

Safety: Work on boat activations begins in March.

Skippers Advisory: Biweekly Zoom Skipper HH meetings continue, as does outreach to potential committee members and leaders.

Will review the 2021 “as sailed” lists and alert those who did not sail with SOS about maintaining skipper status.

Social: Actively looking for co-chair. Good advice from former chairs, and names of active volunteers from Database. In touch with Wye Is, Lankford Marina, and Haven Harbour South, and will consult Education about after-Spring-Training party.

Unfinished Business: Motion to transfer oversight of the Volunteer Recognition Program from the ad hoc committee to the Membership Committee carried.

New Business: Motion to donate three tickets for Spring Spring Training to the Valhalla Sailing Project, out of the BOD budget, carried.

Motion to accept updated Policies and Procedures document subject to review and refinement, carried.

Motion to approve budget for 2022 as written, carried.

Next meeting: February 3 at 7 PM, with hybrid in-person/Zoom option, at Greenbrier Community Room.

Fleet Exercises and Shore Leave

Please email your questions and request for directions to the coordinator
 If you are **paying by check** for any sailing event, a **paper Sailing Registration Form must accompany the check** mailed to the **coordinator**. A copy of this form can be found on the SOS website.
 All checks are to be made payable to **SOS, Inc.** The postmark is used as the mail in cutoff/deadline date.
Note: individual request for refunds will incur a \$3 Administration Fee.



February 3 Thursday

Location: Will be a hybrid (in person and on Zoom). Contact Commodore for details.

Board Meeting

Time: 7:00 to 10:00pm
Note: Open to all Members.



February 2nd & 4th Fridays

Location: Comfort of your home

Invitation: Moderator will send out a Blast with sign on information prior to day of event.

Education Zoom Seminars

Time: 6:30pm to 7:00pm Socializing.
 7:00pm to about 8:00pm Presentation.
Notes: Zoom application is needed for your PC, Laptop or Phone.
 Dial-in option is also available.
 Open to all Members.



February 5 Saturday

Location: Mc Lean, Virginia
Speaker/Topic: Doug Gage/ "Sailing the 2011, Caribbean 1500"

Deadline: Mail: January 28 (postmark)
 Online: February 1

Coordinator: Michelle Watters michelle.watters@gmail.com
 Please **be sure to log-in first**, then sign up online at www.singlesonsailboats.org

Fireside Chat: Northern VA

Cost: \$20, member or guest
Host: Irene Aronian
SOS COVID Restrictions are in place.
Time: 5:00 PM
Note: Non-members must be accompanied by member. No Smoking, no walk-ins.
Limited to 18 persons.



BRUNCH

February 13 Sunday

Location: Held in private homes of SOS members.
 Annapolis, MD, Chestertown, MD, North Bethesda, MD, Arlington, VA, Newark, DE.
 Members contact host listed in Whisker Pole, to register and receive directions.

Deadline: Contact host by February 8

Coordinator: To volunteer to host a brunch, contact – Lorraine Fassett Lhfassett@verizon.net

Regional Brunches

Cost: \$10 payable at the door plus a dish to share
Time: 11:00 am Social Hour
 12:00 noon Brunch
SOS COVID Restrictions are in place
Note: No online sign-up for this event.
 Please RSVP directly to the host.



February 20 Sunday

Location: Held in private homes of SOS members.
 Bradenton Beach, FL.
 Members contact host listed in Whisker Pole, to register and receive directions.

Deadline: Contact host by February 15

Coordinator: To volunteer to host a brunch, contact – Lorraine Fassett Lhfassett@verizon.net

Regional Brunches

Cost: \$10 payable at the door plus a dish to share
Time: 11:00 am Social Hour
 12:00 noon Brunch
SOS COVID Restrictions are in place
Note: No online sign-up for this event.
 Please RSVP directly to the host.

**February 26 Saturday**

Location: Newark, DE
Speaker/Topic: Chuck Fort / "The Hooligan Navy from WW2"

Deadline: Mail: February 18 (postmark)
 Online: February 22

Coordinator: Julie Fort jafort@comcast.net
 Please **be sure to log-in first**, then sign up online at www.singlesonsailboats.org

Fireside Chat: Delaware

Cost: \$20, member or guest
Host: Chuck & Julie Fort
SOS COVID Restrictions are in place.
Time: 5:00 PM
Note: Non-members must be accompanied by member. No Smoking, no walk-ins.
Limited to 18 persons.

**March 1 Fat Tuesday**

Location: Comfort of your home
Dress Code: Wear a Mask (Highly recommended) Trade your COVID mask for the second time for a fun Mardi Gras mask! Costumes and dancing welcome.

Invitation: Moderator will send out a Blast with sign on information prior to day of event.

2nd SOS Zoom Mardi Gras

Time: 7:00pm to 9:00pm
Host: Hurricanes mixed by Gabi Van Wie and the Delaware Crew.
 We will have some SOS fun while wait'n for spring and safe sailing conditions'
Note: Zoom application is needed for your PC, Laptop or Phone. Dial-in option is also available. Open to all Members.

**March 3 Thursday**

Location: In person, location TBD
 Contact Commodore for details

Board Meeting

Time: 7:00 to 10:00pm
Note: Open to all Members.

**March 19 Saturday**

Location: Anne Arundel Community College
 Arnold, MD
Presentations: Classroom setting with various levels of experience, covering sailing/boating topics.

Coordinator: Bill Knapp banknapp@gmail.com
 Please **be sure to log-in first**, then sign up online at www.singlesonsailboats.org

Spring Training

Cost: \$TBD
Time: 8:30am to 4:30pm
Note: Sign up early. Details in Whisker Pole

**March 20 Sunday****Date Change**

Location: Double Tree Hotel, Annapolis, MD
Speaker/Topic: Marguerite & Michael Welch/14-year circumnavigation that resulted in their book, *Waterborne: A slow trip around a small planet*. Plus: 2021 SOS retrospective & Photo Contest results.

Deadline: Mail: March 11 (postmark)
 Online: March 15

Coordinator: Gabi Van Wei gabisailingsos@gmail.com
 Please **be sure to log-in first**, then sign up online at www.singlesonsailboats.org

Brunch/General Membership Meeting

Cost: \$31 - Brunch
 \$35 - After deadline and walk-ins.
Time: 11:00 am Social Hour, 12:00 noon Brunch 1:00 pm Program.
General Membership meeting will be after the program.
Covid 19 vaccination is required, provide evidence upon request.
Note: Coastal Room

March 20 Sunday

Location: Annapolis, MD
Speaker/Topic: George Hollendursky/Sock Burning

Deadline: Mail: March 12 (postmark)
 Online: March 15

Coordinator: Barbara Mistrik mistrikbarbara@gmail.com

Please **be sure to log-in first**, then sign up online at www.singlesonsailboats.org

Fireside Chat/Sock Burning: Annapolis

Cost: \$25, member or guest
Host: Shirley Brooks-Hollendursky
SOS COVID Restrictions are in place.
Time: 5:00 PM
Note: Non-members must be accompanied by member. No Smoking, no walk-ins.
Limited to 30 persons.

March 26 Saturday

Location: Annapolis Fire Department, 620 Taylor Avenue, Annapolis, MD
Speaker/Topic: Annapolis Fire Dept., EMS Team CPR/AED and First Aid for Mariners
Deadline: Mail: March 18 (postmark)
 E-mail: March 22

Coordinator: Joan Tannen jtkeuka@gmail.com

Please **be sure to log-in first**, then sign up online at www.singlesonsailboats.org

Seminar: CPR & First Aid for Mariners

Cost: \$45 (the club is paying half the training and certification costs)
Time: 9:00am to 4:00pm
Fully COVID Vaccinated Required
Note: A light breakfast and lunch will be included
Limited to 30 people.

April 2 Saturday

Location: TBD
Presentations: TBD.
Coordinator: TBD

Please **be sure to log-in first**, then sign up online at www.singlesonsailboats.org

Raft Captain Training

Cost: \$TBD
Time: 8:30am to 4:30pm
Note: Open to Skippers & First Mates

April 5-15 10-day trip

Destination: British Virgin Islands
Note: Must be fully COVID vaccinated to sign up for this trip per BVI Immigration requirements.

Coordinator: Michael Sommer msommer414@gmail.com

Go to <http://sosbareboat.simplesite.com/> for more details

Belated 20th Anniversary – Bareboat Cruise

Cost: Members \$2000 = Boat Cost and Admin Fee. - Air Fare and Insurance are separate.
Note: To Download Registration Form with Payment Information:
<http://sosbareboat.simplesite.com/449637246>

April 7 Thursday

Location: In person, location TBD
 Contact Commodore for details

Board Meeting

Time: 7:00 to 10:00pm
Note: Open to all Members.

September 10-17 7-day trip

Destination: Aeolian Islands, Portorosa, Sicily, Italy
Note: Must be fully COVID vaccinated to sign up for this trip per requirements

Coordinators: Teresa Schofield tschofield55@gmail.com & Debra Roane msdebrar@verizon.net

Go to <http://sosbareboat.simplesite.com/> for more details (soon)

Aeolian Islands – Bareboat Cruise

Cost: Members \$1800, Non Members \$1860 = Boat Cost and Admin Fee. - Air Fare and Insurance are separate.
Note: To Download Registration Form with Payment Information:
<http://sosbareboat.simplesite.com/451264828>

February 13th & 20th Regional Brunches



Snow and those cold blusters are keeping us off the Bay, so February Regional Brunches are here to shoo those winter blues away! You can call this a Valentine celebration, or not. It's our way to create opportunities for you to meet people you'll be sailing with, skippers and crew, in the coming warmer months and years. This is not a speakers' event, but we do have generous members opening their homes for you to be part of a delightful brunch.

This is how it works: consult the list below then **Email or phone** the host of the location that you would like to attend.

There will be locations in Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Washington DC or Florida from which you can choose one nearby OR be adventurous and go to a further location.

Each host will coordinate the menu and communicate directly with the attendees for the event at their home. They will also send you any necessary directions.

This is the general setup: arrive at 11:00 a.m. or another agreed on time with the prearranged dish to share. Each participant will contribute \$10.00 at the door to cover the costs that the host has incurred, such as paper goods, beverages, etc. **No online sign-up for this event. Please RSVP directly to the host.**

**COME FOR THE SAILING,
STAY FOR THE FRIENDSHIPS**

February 13 Brunches: Annapolis, MD:

*Shirley/George Hollendursky **FULL**
shirleybbrooks@yahoo.com

*Cindy Hooper, 15 guests
hoopercynthia20@gmail.com

*Suzanne Vaughn, 10 guests
suzyvaughn2@gmail.com

Chestertown, MD:
*Carol Niemand, 10 guests
mscarolniemand@gmail.com

North Bethesda MD:
*Debra Roane, 15 guests
msdebrar@verizon.net

Arlington, VA:
*Dorothy Nicholson, 9 guests
dorothy.m.nicholson@verizon.net

Newark, DE:
*Julie & Chuck Fort, 18 guests
sailrn@comcast.net

February 20 Brunches:

Bradenton, FL:
*Molly Harrison & Ned Schwartz, 12 guests
mollyned@verizon.net

COVID VACCINATION REQUIRED AT SOS EVENTS

All participants attending SOS indoor events must provide evidence of COVID vaccination upon request during the period November 1 - April 15 as well as follow the requirements of a specific venue then in effect.

SOS events held at private homes will honor the rules of the host and these will be posted for each event.

Members should expect to be denied admission without refund if they do not comply with this policy.

An unvaccinated member may attend an indoor SOS event by presenting a negative COVID 19 test taken within the past 72 hours.



March 13th Brunch *Waterborne*, the Result of a 14-year Circumnavigation of the World

Marguerite Welch and her husband Mike will share their adventures sailing the world in their 38" Shannon Cutter *Ithaca* and talk about her recently published book *Waterborne: A slow trip around a small planet*. It is the story of an artist, an engineer, and a Labrador—three entirely different personalities—who abandon a stable middle-age lifestyle for a pitching deck and the possibility of pirates.

Marguerite is a writer, photographer, teacher, and sailor whose eclectic tastes and interests have often led her in unexpected directions. Her passion for the photographic image and its history led her back to writing. She became a critic and commentator for many art publications.

Mike Welch is a retired Navy Captain, graduate of the Naval Academy Class of 1961, fighter pilot and test pilot. Duty stations included Commanding Officer of Patuxent River Naval Air Station and Executive Officer of the USS America. After 30 years in the Navy and eight years with ARINC, he retired as the V.P. of Advanced Technology and Engineering.

www.margueritewelch.com

At the Brunch we will also view the **2021 Retrospective** and the photos that won the **2021 Photo Contest**.

Following the brunch all are invited to attend a **General Membership meeting**, on March 17, 2019 @ Double Tree Hotel in Annapolis, MD.

As directed by our bylaws, the Treasurer will provide a budget update and overview, and each committee chair and/or their board liaison will share a summary of the 2021 year's highlights and a look ahead to 2022.

February Fire Side Chats



Fireside Chats provide an opportunity during the non-sailing months to gather in a home to enjoy tasty food, libations, great company and hear a short educational presentation by an excellent speaker. For a \$20 fee Happy Hour and dinner are provided. Groups are small (15-25 usually) so you can get to know people you may not have met during the sailing season.

There will be two Fireside Chats during the cold month of February.

- **February 5th** Doug Gage will discuss "Sailing the Caribbean 1500 in 2011". The Chat will be in McLean Virginia at the home of Irene Aronian.
- **February 26th** Chuck and Julie Fort will host at Chat at their home in Newark, DE. Chuck will give a presentation on The Hooligan Navy of WWII – sure to be entertaining and educational!

SOS Sock Burning March 20



We sailors eagerly anticipate the start of our sailing season! In celebration of our upcoming time on the water, we **bid the blustery winter season adieu!** In the Chesapeake Bay, especially in the Annapolis area, sailors celebrate the seasonal change with "The Burning of the Socks!" No longer do we need to protect our toes and ankles from the wicked chill of Jack Frost. **Bring those odd socks**, you know the ones that have lost their mates, socks with missing heel or toes, or just those that are on their last legs and **toss them into the fire** in this celebration of the Spring Equinox.

We'll celebrate with friends, anticipate future sailing, tell tales of past adventures, and share food and drink.

5:00 – Happy Hour
5:30 – Burn Those Socks
6:00 – Dinner

Register early on SOS web page as attendance is limited to 30 attendees.

Zoom Education Programs

On the second and fourth Friday evenings this winter the Education Committee will present a variety of one-hour education programs via ZOOM. The evening starts at 6:30 with thirty minutes for socialization before the 7:00 program begins. A club-wide email blast is sent each week with the link for you to use to join. ***If you would like to volunteer to help the Education Committee with this event or be a speaker, please contact Bill Knapp at bankapp@gmail.com***

Flare & Safety Demo April 30



The Safety Committee is planning the **Flare and Fire Safety Demonstration** for Saturday morning, April 30 from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. The location for the event is **Camp Wabanna** in Edgewater.

Following safety techniques demonstrated by instructors, our participants will have the opportunity to fire aerial flares, set off hand-held

flares, and extinguish a small, controlled fire using a fire extinguisher. This is a rare opportunity for hands-on experience for dealing with emergencies.

Members will also practice coiling and heaving lines, a skill that is used frequently during the sailing season at raft-ups and setting an anchor. There is no charge for this event.

Dockside Training April 30



Dockside Training provides an opportunity for new members to have an introduction or refresher on sailing with SOS. You will meet aboard various members'

boats in the afternoon for a session structured to simulate an SOS cruise, but not leave the dock. Skippers and First Mates will conduct standard pre-cruise and safety briefings and provide hands-on training. Dockside Training is designed to answer such questions as: What tasks does the crew perform on a boat? How do I tie a clove hitch or stopper knot? What am I expected to do when leaving the dock and more?

Or if you wish, you may sign up for a combination of Dockside Training on Saturday the 30th and a Day Sail on the next day, Sunday May 1st. Please indicate your preference when you register.

Please register online using the Event Calendar at www.singleonsailboats.org.

You will be notified **by email** regarding your boat/skipper assignment. Just pack your water bottle, picnic lunch, and Basic Skills form. Then head to your assigned SOS boat generously offered by an SOS skipper for a day of fun, camaraderie, and learning.

January Brunch

Photos by Doug Gage



(L to R): Chuck Fort and Bev Nash (at the table)



Ron Pence (at the table)

Wilmington Happy Hour

By Geri Walker



Gabi Van Wie shows off the Holiday sweater she made!
Each sleeve has a pocket containing two small bottles of booze.

NOTE FROM PHOTO EDITOR: Please include names with your photos so we can learn everyone's names.

**Actually, I can do without names.
But I cannot do without photographs.**

2021 in Photos

Come to the March Brunch for the official 2021 Retrospective with many MORE photos!



DNR Sail-In and Party
Submitted by Samia AbdelWahed (May 2021)



Chuck Fort on the
Memorial Day Sail
Submitted by Samia AbdelWahed
(May 2021)



Chili Cruise: Cheri Comly assists with
the Passing Line
Submitted by John Parsons (October 2021)



October Fest
Submitted by John
Parsons (October 2021)



Main Attraction at the
Seafood Fest
Submitted by John Parsons
(August 2021)

NOTE FROM PHOTO EDITOR: Please include names with your photos so we can learn everyone's names.

2021 in Photos

Come to the March Brunch for the official 2021 Retrospective with many MORE photos!



Mardi Gras via Zoom
(L to R): Chuck and Julie Fort
Submitted by Gabi Van Wie (Feb. 2021)



Florida Happy Hour
(Ft to Bk): Terri Craig, Les Vipond, Cheri Comly, Karl Gevecker, and Leslie Bayliss
Selfie by T. Craig (Feb. 2021)



Backyard Gathering - Newark, DE
(May 2021)



May-Day Training
Commodore Sandy Roswork (center)
and New Members
Submitted by John Parsons (May 2021)







2021 Cruising Kick-Off (L to R):
Doug Townsend, Ron Pence, Ben Kaufman
and John Rogers
Submitted by John Parsons (May 2021)

NOTE FROM PHOTO EDITOR: Please include names with your photos so we can learn everyone's names.

SOS Awards presented by Board of Directors



	<p><i>Rookie of the Year Award</i></p> <p>Rick Stewart</p>	<p>This award is to recognize the individual who, in his or her first year of sailing with SOS, demonstrates superior interest in sailing and in learning more about sailing and becomes involved in one or more of the SOS programs.</p>
	<p><i>Commodore's Award</i></p> <p>John McDonald</p>	<p>Provides for the club's highest-ranking officer to extend a grateful thanks and public recognition to a member who has made significant contributions in fostering the goals of SOS and continues to contribute to many aspects of the club.</p>
	<p><i>Elinor W. (Ellie) Abramson Award</i></p> <p>Bill Knapp</p>	<p>This award is presented to that individual who has made special contributions to education programs during the previous year.</p>
	<p><i>Ed Kline Member of the Year Award</i></p> <p>Sandy Rosswork</p>	<p>Presented to an active (although not necessarily expert) sailor who has made major contributions to more than one area of club activity. The member cannot be a current or recent past board member.</p>
	<p><i>Pandemic Cuisine</i></p> <p>Meeps Yox</p>	<p>SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD</p> <p>The Board approved a special "Pandemic Cuisine" award to recognize the outstanding efforts of Meeps Yox to keep our social traditions alive with her herculean catering efforts.</p>



Commodore Carole Jordan presents Awards to John McDonald, Meeps Yox and Sandy Rosswork

SOS Logo Gear Coming Your Way!

"Who do you sail with? Singles on Sailboats? Tell me more..." How often have you worn a shirt, a hat or jacket with a logo and had someone start a conversation with you about it? Well, have we got an opportunity for you!

We will partner with a local small, family business Stout Gear (www.stoutgear.com) to design and offer items with the SOS logo. The owner is working to create our first "SOS Shoppe" with a selection of long and short sleeve shirts, long-sleeve fleece and sleeveless vests, a couple of jackets and hats all with our SOS logo imprinted or embroidered on them. We plan to offer this in early February with initial delivery at Spring Training March 19.

Any individual can order their choice of selection(s) once the online store is established. The first shopping opportunity will be open for a couple of weeks; we will revise, perhaps add to, and re-open a shopping online ordering opportunity again in late March.

There are a couple of wonderful opportunities as a result of this partnership: we can change what our SOS Shoppe offers if we find people want something different; we also have the option of offering a one-time design perhaps for a Bareboat trip, a special anniversary, or other reasons.

So, look for a blast in February with the first set of selections as we open the first online SOS Logo Shoppe with Stout Gear.

Any questions can be directed to PR co-chair Janet Gonski at JGSunset@yahoo.com and she do her best to address them!

STOUTgear

www.stoutgear.com
lorie@stoutgear.com



3451 Cohasset Ave.
Annapolis, Maryland 21403

410.268.1500



4 color front:
yellow, orange, white, black
1 color back
color TBD

Singles on Sailboats



Since 1978





Scholarships for Heroes

The board voted to sponsor three scholarships for Valhalla sailors to our 2022 Spring Training in response a suggestion by board member Pat Woodie. In addition to the corporate donation of three scholarships, our Vice Commodore Robin Meigel extended the idea by suggesting we invite individual members to sponsor additional scholarships for Valhalla sailors.

Everyone who attended the SOS November Brunch was extraordinarily impressed with the Valhalla Sailing Project. It was inspiring to learn how sailing has contributed to helping veterans cope with PTSD and other challenges they face upon transitioning to civilian life. The SOS Board was persuaded that there is synergy to be gained in encouraging Valhalla sailors to attend our in-person Spring Training event to be held at Anne Arundel Community College this year.

In the same way that SOS members have contributed donations to the Hospice Cup Regatta, CRAB, and the Leukemia Cup Regatta, the plan is to structure voluntary donations from members so that the individuals retain the ability to take the tax deduction.

So, mail your check payable to **Valhalla Sailing Project Ltd** to Public Relations Co-Chairs: J. Gonski/K Scible @ 1900 Daisy Road Woodbine, MD 21797.

Please send your checks by March 8 so we may notify Valhalla how many scholarships they can take advantage of. Members may also choose to make a donation to the mission of Valhalla directly on the organization's website at www.valhallasailing.org.

Backyard Gatherings are Comin' Back

Did you host last spring? Did you attend last spring?

As we were dipping our toes in the waters of getting SOS members together again, we had people offer to open their backyards for regional, small gatherings. The opportunity was so well-received we are going to offer those again.

We keep it simple with each person bringing your own: chair, snack, drink....and mask (which may or may not be needed this year)! This made it easy to organize and to be a host.

If you are interested in offering your backyard, please contact Janet Gonski at JGSunset@yahoo.com or 443-223-6139. Let's get these parties started!

2021 Gatherings



SCUTTLEBUTT

(A communal water cask around which sailors traded gossip)

Gabie Van Wie: *The experience of fire and ice:* Known that she loves the colder temps over tropical heat, she ventured to new adventures in the north. From standing with one foot on the North American tectonic plate and the other on the Eurasian - possible in the Thingvellir national park. Learning that Iceland grows by 2,5 inches a year while these plates are drifting apart. She geared up with 2" steel crampons, pick and harness and enjoyed the rugged, immersive encounter with Iceland's fabled natural landscapes on a glacier hike through Breiðamerkurjökull followed by another walk over a segment of Vatnajökull, Europe's largest glacier. Sad to see that they are dwindling in rapid speed. At the end of the day the hot thermal pools provided a nice calming and rejuvenating time and took care that she did not have one sore muscle the next day. Winter in Iceland is fun and fascinating, she would return in a heartbeat. The trolls did their magic spell!

Pat Woodie and Kitty St. Romain spent Christmas in New York City seeing five shows including Hugh Jackman in the Music Man, on the night before it closed, fabulous! They also saw Doubtfire, Come from Away, Company, and The Girl from North Country. As time went on, it became a game of take-a-chance as shows were closing. They bought a ticket and by the time they reached the theater, the show was closed and they raced back to TKTS bought a different show and made it to one that was still open. A wonderful time at the Neue Galleria and it's VIENESE cafe in the museum...incredible desserts, chocolate in many forms. A holiday to remember!



SOS members **Jeanne Maroney** and **Charlie Wright** spent Christmas and New Years at Yellowstone. The trip was about snowshoeing, thermal features and wildlife initially from the Old Faithful Snow Lodge over Christmas. Then the Buffalo Ranch in the Lamar Valley of Yellowstone until New Year's Day. New Year's Day was the coldest

temperature with a minus 25.2 F in the morning. Around the Snow Lodge and that part of the park the focus was on the thermal effects of Yellowstone plus snowshoeing. In the Lamar Valley from the Buffalo Ranch, it was snowshoeing while observing wildlife including bison, long horned sheep, mountain goats, wolves, a black bear in its den, elk, moose, bald eagles, ravens, dippers, coyotes, and pronghorns. Definitely a white Christmas and a remote Covid friendly New Year.

MARDI GRAS ZOOM Fat Tuesday Happy Hour

March 1, 2022
7-9 PM

Trade your Covid Mask for a fun Mardi Gras mask to wear to the Happy Hour!

Costumes and dancing encouraged.

Hurricanes mixed by Gabi and the Delaware crew.
(Make your own and sip along!)

We will have some SOS fun while waiting for spring and safe sailing conditions

Watch for email with ZOOM link



Choptank Plastic Pollution Study

Plastic pollution in the ocean is a problem that's gotten increasing attention in recent years. But smaller plastics in smaller waterways get a little less exposure—and in the Bay watershed, the threat is just as real.



microplastics transit through a system like the Choptank and its features—marshes, underwater grasses, wetlands—might affect transport from source to open water.”

Microplastics are defined as pieces of plastic debris less than 5 millimeters in size, or smaller than a pencil eraser. Because they're so small, the particles can enter the food chain by being ingested by the smallest organisms at the bottom of the food chain, possibly carrying upwards to the top of the food chain.

In addition to gathering information about microplastics' travel, the project will determine which factors and strategies could help reduce marine debris in rivers the most. Extensive samples of six different kinds of plastic debris will be collected. Different types of plastic degrade differently and have different densities. Researchers will use a short-wave infrared radiation microscope, along with a drone that can scope out larger plastic debris in the watershed from above. With a special camera, it can identify different types of plastic, from plastic bags to water bottles.

“Potentially, we'll be able to make the connection between bigger pieces of plastic in a marsh that break down, and the pieces feeding into the river system leading to microplastics in the water. We're hoping to figure out if different types of debris get moved in different ways,” said Pierson.

*-Meg Walburn Viviano
Bay Weekly Magazine*

94% of Plastics Stay in The Bay

The vast majority of plastic pollution that makes its way into the rivers of the Chesapeake Bay stays in and along local waters and is not, as researchers put it, “exported” to the ocean.

This was among the findings of a modeling exercise conducted by researchers from Pennsylvania State University with the help of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science. The scientists wondered why the amount of plastic particles entering the ocean appeared to be considerably less than what runs off of the land in places like the Bay watershed. What, they asked, is happening to the rest?

They suspected that the Chesapeake Bay—which has long been a swirling sink for other types of pollution—could be functioning as a catchall for plastics, too. But the conclusions still surprised them.

The model results indicated that about 94 percent of microplastics—particles measuring 5 millimeters or less in diameter—fed into the system via its rivers stayed in the system, most likely on or along the shores. About 5 percent of the particles were carried from the Bay to the ocean and 1 percent remained suspended in the water column.

Half of these microplastics were deposited onto shorelines within a week or two, and most washed up not far from where they first entered a tributary.

“We were expecting more export out onto the shelf,” said Alexander López, a postdoctoral researcher at Penn State and the study's lead author. Preliminary findings indicate that the Bay's ecosystem could be bearing the brunt of microplastics that enter it, rather than conveying the bulk of them to the ocean.

*-Whitney Pipkin
Chesapeake Bay Journal*

The University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (UMCES) just began a two-year study to understand how plastic moves through tributaries and coastal areas to the ocean. The research project in the Choptank River watershed will “lay the foundation for plastic research in the Chesapeake Bay,” UMCES says.

Funded by NOAA's Marine Debris Program, the project will track how microplastics move through the Choptank watershed on Maryland's Eastern Shore. It will look at what kind of plastics are in the waterway, and how marsh wetlands and underwater grasses impact their flow. Researchers want to know where these barely-visible plastic particles end up during different seasons through the year.

And the answers to these questions could actually help the larger ocean plastics problem, too. Eye-popping studies find that up to 95 percent of waste on the shoreline, water surface, and sea floor is plastic. But few studies have focused on coastal wetlands like underwater grasses or marshes.

“A lot of attention is paid to the giant garbage patch in the Pacific Ocean, but those plastics came from somewhere. We have to understand where they are coming from and what happens to them before they get to the ocean,” said Associate Professor Jamie Pierson. “How

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Carole Jordan, Classified Page Editor

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FOR ANNUAL LEASE: DRIVE THROUGH boat slip in Martins Cove behind Cantlers Riverside Inn on Mill Creek for sailboat 32 ft or less. \$2600.00.
Call Spud Flowers: 703-969-2048. 2-22

ITEMS FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Marincio day/night plus solar vent 4" white plastic. Works on rechargeable battery at night. Ventilation for boat or RV. Advertised at West Marine online for \$224.99. **Asking \$100.** Never used. Mint condition in original box. Bob Morrow, cogito28@aol.com 2-22

ITEMS FOR SALE: REDUCED Nordic Track recumbent bike, model SL 710. Runs on "D" cell batteries x 8, built-in fan, shelf for book or drink, adjustable padded seat with full back, no video monitor. Originally cost \$800, asking \$100. **Nordic Track Cross Country Ski Machine.** Collapses to store easily, heart beat monitor, great workout! Original cost \$800, asking \$100. **Precor Rowing Machine.** Adjustable hydraulic resistance, no video monitor. Asking \$100. **Voit (adult size).** **Air Hockey Table.** Fan and air box. Manual score keeper. Comes with 2 pucks and 2 pushers. Dimensions are 60" long, 28.5" wide, 32" high. Great fun for grandkids, and kids, parents, and grandparents interaction! Asking \$75. Carol Holmes, cholmanap@verizon.net. 2-22

Washington Nationals Tickets. I have a **season ticket plan** for two tickets to 2022 Washington Nationals games in The Champions' Club. If anyone might be interested in taking tickets to some games on a discounted basis, please contact me at johncfilippini@gmail.com, or on 703-409-9187, for further details. 3-22

FOR RENT

FOR RENT: "Marsh Magic" - A serene vacation rental in West Ocean City, MD. www.ocmarshmagic.com. 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath house; 5 decks; 2 kitchens; elevator; near inlet and Route 50 bridge. Sleeps 12. Contact Sharon Taylor at ocmarshmagic@gmail.com 2-22

FOR RENT: "SANDS SOUCI" a family beach vacation home on the Outer Banks, Duck, North Carolina. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, Jacuzzi bath, 5 decks. View sunsets on the Currituck Sound. Beach accessories and Golf Cart included. Contact Judy Barral for availability at jbarral60@gmail.com

FOR RENT: BAR HARBOR, MAINE vacation home: 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, ranch home. Available by the week or month, sleeps 6, 1 mile from Acadia National Park, located on a quiet street, and within a 5 minute walk to downtown shops and restaurants. Contact Sandy Demento by text (412) 559-3505 or e-mail sandydemento@gmail.com

TRAVEL

Get away from the cold and enjoy a captained cruise on a beautiful Leopard catamaran based in Georgetown, Exumas. Visit Marbrysails.com. 2-22

Old Fire Extinguishers Needed

We need old fire extinguishers to use at our Flare and Safety Day training. Please take this opportunity to check your fire extinguishers to see if you have any that have expired. If you do, and you're willing to donate them, please reach out to Joan Tannen, SOS Safety Chair, at safety@singlesonsailboats.org.

We appreciate it!

Social Media Coordinator Needed

The Board is looking for a current member with expertise in social media! Help us to reach out to the non-member sailors or active individuals who have not yet discovered the fantastic benefits of being an SOS member!

Contact Commodore Carole Jordan at seajay2844@gmail.com.



Welcome to the SOS
Happy Hour page!
Be sure to check here
for a Happy Hour
event in your area.
Send any changes,
updates or new
information about Happy
Hours to Jill Montgomery
jill.montgom@gmail.com



Virtual Happy Hours on ZOOM VARIOUS DATES: Get in touch with your Area Contact, listed in back of your Whisker Pole to be put on their HH notification list. Or check out the SOS Web site for dates and ZOOM links to all the Virtual Happy Hours.

KEY WEST, FL: SOS HAPPY HOUR place and time to be Determined. **Contact: TERRI AND KARL, 410-707-4319 or 267-221-6312**

1st Wednesday
NOVA/DC: Feb 2nd 5:00-7:00 PM
MYLO'S GRILL, in the back dining room, 6238 Old Dominion Dr, McLean, VA. 22101. (in the Chesterbrook Shopping Cntr) 703-533-5880 www.mylosgrill.com
COORDINATOR: HOPE - hopedav@verizon.net

1st Thursday
ELLCOTT CITY: Feb 3rd 5:00-7:30 PM
La Palapa Grill, 8307 Main Street, Ellicott City MD 21043 410-465-0070 www.lapalapagrill.com
COORDINATOR: JILL - jill.montgom@gmail.com

1st Thursday
SOUTH CENTRAL PA: Feb 3rd 6:30 PM
O'REILLY'S TAP ROOM 800 East Park Drive, Harrisburg, PA. 17111 717-561-2800 oriellystaproom.com
COORDINATOR: BOB - cogito28@aol.com

3rd Wednesday
WILMINGTON: Feb 16th 5:30 PM
TIMOTHY'S Restaurant and Bar, 930 Justison Street, Wilmington, DE 19801 Wilmington Riverfront by Blue Rock Stadium, facing the waterfront. Drink specials until 7 PM. 302-429-7427 www.timothysontheriverfront.com
COORDINATOR: SUE - Sbdonaldson713@verizon.net

3rd Thursday
ROCKVILLE: Feb 17th 5:00-7:00 PM
Bontanero Restaurant, 800 Pleasant Drive, Rockville, MD 20850 301-947-5400 www.bontanerorockville.com
COORDINATOR: DEBBIE - hidebbieg@yahoo.com

3rd Thursday
KENT ISLAND: Feb 17th 4:00-6:00 PM
RAMS HEAD SHORE HOUSE (in the back room) 800 Main Street, Stevensville, MD 21666. 410-827-6666
www.ramsheadshorehouse.com
COORDINATOR: BARB - bbb Brooksao@aol.com

4th Thursday
ANNAPOLIS: Feb 24th 5:00-7:00 PM
THE PIER WATERFRONT BAR & GRILL, 48 South River Rd, Edgewater, MD. Rt. 2 on south side of South River Bridge. If we are not in the bar area, we will be in the enclosed, heated UPPER deck. 443-837-6057 OR for their most up to date info, refer to their facebook: The Pier Waterfront Bar & Grill.
COORDINATOR: JEAN- igough4you@gmail.com



Gabi Van Wie models Christmas sweater
at Wilmington Happy Hour
Photo by Geri Walker

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/268838264195

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/Singles_on_sailboats

Meetup: <https://www.meetup.com/Singles-on-Sailboats>



P. O. Box 5708
Annapolis, MD 21403

What to Do in February

Board Meeting – February 3

Regional Brunches – February 13 & 20

Fireside Chats – February 5 & 26

ZOOM Education Seminars – 2nd & 4th Friday