

April 2024, Vol. 46, No. 4

CRUISING CORNER *Carole Jordan and Dennis Krizek*

Okay, okay, we know that the first day of spring was on March 19, but TO US, spring starts with the SOS Cruising Calendar!

April offers us so much to do to get ready for sailing. Are you ready? Doing your exercises? Studying the Chesapeake Bay charts? Have you read the Cruising Schedule in the March WP? Have you offered to help a Skipper with his boat "readiness"? Are you psyched?

Check out these offerings in the Fleet Exercises:

Spring Training Day (April 6). We hope by now that you have registered and are looking forward to a day of refreshing, recharging, and learning! Thanks to the Education team for helping to get us ready for the sailing season. Look for the Cruising Table during the lunch break to chat with us about the season.

Flare and Safety Day, offered by the Safety Committee (April 27). Come and shoot off a flare, learn about passing lines and PFDs, and how to drop an anchor. Register soon and it's free to all members!!

Dockside Training (April 27/28), thanks again to Education. This is perfect for newer members and those who want to improve their skills. Thanks especially to our participating Skippers for offering their boats and time.

The Cruising Kick-off (April 13) is by invitation only to Skippers, First Mates, and our incredible Coordinators...the GO team!



And then, we are into our true Sailing Season. We are thrilled to offer to our members a total of 13 Mid-week Day Sails, 21 Weekend Day Sails, 15 Weekend Cruises (3 of which are 3-4 days in length) and the NEW (drum roll) Extended Chesapeake Bay Domestic Bareboat Cruise (the CBDB). See page 6 for more information on that. Have you looked at the 2024 Cruising schedule on page 8 or online? It is color-coded for you to find your favorite way to get on the water.

The Cruising Committee is here to answer your questions and address your concerns. Email: Dennis Krizek, denniskri@msn.com or Carole Jordan, seajay2844@gmail.com.

We hope to see you on the water soon! Let's go, Spring!!!



Cruising Corner Puzzlers

March Puzzler: What do Humphrey Bogart, Tom Cruise, and August 4, in the 2024 Cruising Calendar, have in common? **Answer: Dead**

Reckoning. Humphrey Bogart starred in the 1947 film *Dead Reckoning*, Tom Cruise starred in the 2023 film *Mission Impossible—Dead Reckoning*, and the August 4 Navigation contest will require the use of dead reckoning, a form of navigation estimating a current position from a known position (fix) using direction traveled, speed and time.

April Puzzler: What do the USCG Inland Navigation Rules, Subpart III, Rule 19, the SS *Steel Trader*, and the June 8-9 SOS weekend cruise have in common?

VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

Susan Zevin, Commodore



Hello Crew Mates,

I write this from an SOS bareboat in the idyllic British Virgin Islands. Yes, this is a lovely spot for vacation; a time for recreation, reflection, and reading.

And it occurred to me that a bareboat trip is a perfect time to recall some of my favorite—and infamous—Skippers in literature; their stories, their leadership, the adversities they faced. I'm not talking about Captain Jack Sparrow, or Captain Marvel or Captain Crunch. My thoughts turn to Ahab, Bligh, Queeg, and their foils: Starbuck, Fletcher Christian, and Executive Officer Maryk of the USS Caine.

So, come with me for a moment: What would you have done in the circumstances presented?

Based on sea stories brought home from whalers in the South Pacific about a whale that attacked ships, Herman Melville's Captain Ahab of the "Pequod" puts his obsession, anger, and vindictiveness ahead of ship and crew, chasing Moby Dick to avenge the loss of his leg in a previous encounter. Starbuck, his young Chief Mate, thinks Ahab is a madman and contemplates shooting, arresting, or even killing his captain. But the crew will not participate. And they follow their Captain to the final battle between Skipper and the Great White Whale. The whale prevails and the ship goes down with Starbuck and all aboard except the young crewman, our narrator, Ishmael.

Perhaps the Skipper whose name is most associated with harsh, rash, and paranoid behavior is Captain Bligh of HMS Bounty. This true story started on a bad note: The mission was to bring breadfruit plants from Tahiti back to Britain as a nutritious diet for slaves. To do so, the Captain's quarters were converted into a scientific lab; the Captain, officers, and mates took over the best of the crew quarters, and the sailors were stuck in the foulest, stinking holds of the ship. Bligh was disciplined, regimented, and insisted on such for the crew—diet, clean living, prayer. So, when the ship arrived in Tahiti, the men were happy to go ashore among the female population, consorting and in some cases cohabitating with the natives. Bligh was incensed, and when it was time to leave for home, his crew was angry, disappointed, and disaffected. The Captain's treatment became more harsh; he "demoted" his Chief Mate and put Fletcher Christian above the Mate as his first officer. Then Bligh began to "pick on" Fletcher Christian. Add to that, Bligh had

made himself chief purser. Thus, he could say and do anything he wanted with the provisions, using or denying these as forms of punishment. It was too much.

Fletcher Christian and almost half of the crew took the ship; Bligh and the rest of the crew were put on a large launch with some provisions and sent on their way. They finally made it to the Dutch East Indies and then home. The Bounty fled and hid from the British chase ship Pandora and eventually reached the tiny South Pacific island, Pitcairn, where the progeny of Fletcher Christian still lives today. The history of the Bounty, and Bligh's legacy, remain a source of debate.

The Caine Mutiny (Herman Wouk) repeats many of the themes we read in Bounty, and in Moby Dick. Our young, ne'er-do-well narrator Willie Keith has missed his ship to Pearl in WWII. A newly commissioned Ensign, when he finally catches up with the USS Caine, he finds fault with the Captain for what he considers a lack of discipline and order on the obsolete old WWI ship. When he finally musters out, a new Skipper, Lieutenant Commander Phillip Frances Queeg, comes aboard. We see in Queeg many of Bligh's traits: he is strong, disciplined and goes by-the book. Unlike Bligh though, Queeg is not a good sailor. It doesn't take long, and it becomes apparent that Queeg lacks the experience and judgment for command. He misappropriates liquor, blames crew for his own mistakes, and exhibits cowardice when the ship is assigned a combat support role. This results in the communications officer, Lieutenant Tom Keefer, referring to Queeg with the nickname "Old Yellowstain." The more Queeg evades responsibility, the more paranoid he becomes. Willie and Exec Officer Maryk finally take the lead when the ship is threatened during a typhoon and Queeg is nowhere to be found. The book climaxes with the court martial of Willie and Maryk under section 184 of Naval Regs. in which a subordinate can relieve a commanding officer in extraordinary circumstances.

So, dear Whisker Pole readers, what would you do as First Mate if your Skipper was ignoring an obvious approaching severe storm? Ignoring an emergency call on the radio? Getting waaaay too close to a commercial vessel? Laying a course over a dangerous obstruction? Berating or bullying crew? Again, thinking about it, what would you do?

And make sure you read David Grann's "The Wager"!

Susan, Commodore

Whisker Pole NEWSLETTER

Published Monthly

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Unofficial Board Notes March 7, 2024

Official March minutes will be posted on the SOS website when approved in April by the Board of Directors.

Commodore: Susan Zevin — No report

Secretary: Doug Gage — Minutes of February 1 BOD Meeting were approved.

Vice Commodore: Karl Scible

Worked on "call back" list for Membership. Working with PR: SOS will share a booth at April Annapolis Sailboat Show; need volunteers to cover times. Reviewed Spring Training flyers and post cards. Working with Safety: picked up fire extinguishers and burn blankets.

Treasurer: Craig Coltharp,

Through 29 Feb, membership dues for 2024 received were \$18,660. Total of dues for 2023 was about \$24,000.

Club Checking Account	12,907.94
Hi-Yield Savings Account	73,590.48
Club Credit Card	(4,571.45)
Bareboat Account	68,171.35

Bareboat: Deb Kauffman, Spring 2024 BVI Coordinator: Emil Becker, 7 or 10 days beginning March 9. Fall 2024 Mallorca Coordinator: Janet Pennewell, August 31 – September 7. Reminded participants of second payment deadline. Waitlist is 6 people.

Brunch: Suzanne Vaughn, April Brunch Sunday, April 7: No special speaker; 2023 SOS Photography Contest winners will be announced, and the 2023 Photo Retrospective Video will be displayed at the event.

Cruising: Carole Jordan and Dennis Krizek, Will host a table at Spring Training to publicize the Cruising Calender, offering a selection of nautical-related books to those who sign up to slip their mooring lines with SOS this season. Have instituted a "Cruising Corner Puzzler" in each edition of the *Whisker Pole*.

Database: John McDonald, Extension of renewal period to Mar 7 reduced non-renewals from 135 to 90. Discussion of the reasons for non-renewal (e.g. forgetting, having trouble with renewing online) and the process being used to follow up with non-renewal folks.

	Mar 2024	Mar 2023	Mar 2022	Mar 2021
Members	205	196	194	226
Skippers	58	58	55	58
Lifetime Members	78	86	99	156
Lifetime Skippers	21	22	24	22
Inactive Members	17	17	21	18
Totals	379	379	393	480

Education: Jean Gough, Fire Side Chats, Seminars, Dockside Training - scheduled through April. Spring Training: 106 registered as of Mar 5, 88 Paid. Reductions in costs of printing (Digital Presentations), in number of "free" attendees, and in costs of facilities and catering. Volunteer LINKS KISS Project (How Can I Support or Volunteer for SOS?) KISS descriptions and links to volunteer opportunities (via Committee Chairs) are being developed with the help of Teresa Scofield.

First Mates: Lora Donia, The First Mate program currently has 15 First Mates, including 6 Skipper/First Mates, plus 9 First Mate Emeritus. All First Mates have completed their renewal sails; one FM Candidate needs to complete a final check out sail. Actively recruiting SOS members to join the First Mate Candidacy program, and working to form a small study group for FMCs who apply to the 2024 program. Will continue the FM incentive program to encourage participation in club cruises. The First Mate Weekend Training cruise is scheduled for July 13-14, 2024.

Membership – Pat Tracey, Gail Williams, Ten new membership Mailings went out in February 2024. Volunteers making phone calls — 11 Renewals, and not all have finished their lists. Lists will be completed on Mar 7th.

Newsletter: Shirley Brooks-Hollendursky, The 28-page Mar Whisker Pole was mailed to 28 members and 25 copies to Happy Hour coordinators for \$588.31 which equals to \$10.70 for each printed copy. New choices for photo release in the members 'profiles have not yet been implemented.

Public Relations: Karl Scible, Janet Gonski Spring Training, postcard ads and a digital flyer are being distributed; composing a Meet Up with ST registration link. SOS Swag logo gear from Stout Gear on sale from Mar 25 to April 15; Posted an article in the Mar Spin Sheet with details about the Spring Training, will have SOS table/space at the Annapolis Spin Sheet Crew Party. Will participate in the Chesapeake Bay Sailing Clubs joint booth at the April Annapolis Sailboat Show:

Safety: Joan Tannen, Held annual "CPR and First aid for Mariners" class with the Annapolis Fire Department. Flare and Safety Day will be Saturday, April 27 at Camp Letts. Annual flare exchange will take place at the Cruising Kick-off this year. Getting ready to start activating boats; skippers need to update their boat information in their profiles. Documented the procedure for following up on Safety reports.

Skippers Advisory: Sandy Rosswork, Two new skippers have joined or rejoined in 2024. Contacted the 21 skippers who were identified as not renewing in 2024; 8 are planning to renew. Will schedule a get together for new skippers. Will try to reduce the amount of SOS paperwork (Manuals, forms, etc) sent to new skippers, to prevent overloading with information and contacts.

Social: Janet Pennewell, Spring Training After Party - About 90 people signed up so far. Given the number of attendees, they will likely start with a limited menu of appetizers and drinks. DNR – Wye River, May 18: caterer will be Annapolis Smokehouse again this year. Considering a price of \$90 per person (\$52 for the party only), up slightly from last year's \$88 and \$50. Anniversary Party – Port Annapolis, June 29. Seafood Feast – Lankford Bay Marina, August 17.

Old Business: Wellness policy wordsmithing: (1) remove allusion to COVID, (2) simplify to "all in-person participants." Karl Scible moved, Bob Wright seconded, passed unanimously.

New Business: None.

CRUISE and PARTY – DNR on the Wye River

May 17-19, 2024

Meeps Yox, Event Manager

Time to sign up for the Sail-In/Drive-In for the Bar-B-Que Party at the DNR-NRMA (Department of Natural Resources Natural Resources Management Area) facility on the Wye River!!

This is always our first land event of the season and each year it has been a wonderful start to the social activities of SOS. Many know the beautiful DNR setting overlooking Granary Creek and I know our new members will come to love the venue as we “seasoned” members do! Those cruising in will anchor and dinghy ashore to join those who drive to the event. A timeline of the evening’s events will be included in the May Whisker Pole article.

Whether you are cruising or driving in, get ready for great food, drinks, and merriment with good friends and some new ones! Dinner, dessert & drinks will be provided. Lots of great bar-b-que food: Pulled Pork, BBQ Chicken, Salads, and



Desserts **. Since S’mores have been a popular addition to the time we spend around the firepit later in the evening, they’ll be included again this year...a double dessert!

For **vegetarians, an entrée option will be available. **PLEASE NOTIFY MEEPS IF THIS OPTION IS CHOSEN.**

Music will be provided by DJ Infinite Sounds, the same company that has been getting us to dance the night away at recent parties!

The schedule is:
3:00 PM – Memorial Service
5:00 PM – Happy Hour
6:00 PM – Dinner
7:00 PM - Dancing

Bunk Beds: SOS “takes possession” of the facility on Friday and if you are driving in, there are bunks available. The cost is \$25 for each night and will include a Continental Breakfast.

To reserve a bunk contact the bunk landlady: **Mary Chevalier at mary7570@yahoo.com**

Remember to bring your own linens! Those renting bunks Friday night are welcome to bring food and drinks for dinner that evening. Information on that will be forwarded to those who sign up for lodging!

Those who are there early Saturday will be VERY welcome to participate in the party prep and/or hike/bike around the grounds. It’s also great fun to watch the fleet arrive! Those driving in, please bring folding chairs so there is plenty of seating for relaxing by the creek and sitting around the firepit!

Any questions or if you would like to volunteer, please contact Meeps Yox at mpsyx3@gmail.com.

Memorial Service for Ursula Skagen

Please join Dane Skagen in saying a final goodbye to Ursula Skagen during the DNR Cruise, May 18-19, 2024. Gathering will be on the Chesapeake Bay, Wye River near Granary Creek - 38°53.098N 76°8.431W.

There will be a simple sailors’ ceremony. It will include some words, some music, and an offering to the Sea Gods on her behalf. The ceremony will commence at about 3 PM on Saturday, May 18, and last about 20 minutes.

Ursula battled gall bladder cancer for 2 1/2 years and still lived life to the fullest during that time including many SOS events. Being involved with SOS was an important part of her life and her wishes were for a ceremony with sailors, boats, and friends. SOS friends supported her during her battle and especially near the end when she needed it most. She often mentioned how grateful she was to have such thoughtful and caring friends.

“Life should not be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a pretty and well-preserved body, but rather to skid in broadside in a cloud of smoke, thoroughly used up, totally worn out, and loudly proclaiming “Wow! What a Ride!”
— Hunter S. Thompson

Dockside Training April 27 & 28



Dockside Training provides a terrific opportunity for new members and members needing a refresher to have an introduction/refresher to sailing with SOS.

This is also an EXCELLENT opportunity to get your Basic Skills Level I and possibly some of your Basic Skills Level II training checked off. Completion of the Basic Skills Level I is a minimum skill requirement for sailing as a crewmember on a weekend cruise. These forms are found on the SOS website under Forms and Such.

You may sign up for a combination of a half-day of Dockside Training on the 27th after the Flare and Safety Demo or a Day Sail and Dockside Training on the 28th. Please indicate your preference when you register using the [Event Calendar](#) at www.singlesonsailboats.org

Click here to register:
[April 27 Dockside Training](#)
[April 28 Dockside Training](#)

You will meet on various SOS boats to learn and practice the skills needed to sail, simulating an SOS cruise, but not leaving the dock. (Sometimes if the weather is good and the boat is ready, you may go out for a sail.)

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.

After you register, you will be notified by email regarding your boat/skipper assignment. Just pack your water bottle, picnic lunch, and Basic Skills form(s). Then head to your assigned SOS boat for an afternoon of fun, camaraderie, and learning.

Questions? Contact Barbara Wise at bwise8426@gmail.com with the subject line "SOS Dockside Training". See you on the water!

Flare and Safety Day, Saturday, April 27 9:00 am – 11:00 am



The Sailing Season must be right around the corner because it's time for our annual Flare and Safety Day!

This outdoor, fun, hands-on experience allows members to go from station to station practicing hands-on safety skills.

Have you ever used a fire extinguisher or fire blanket to put out a small fire? Have you ever lit a hand-held flare or shot off an aerial flare? These are just some of the skills you'll be able to practice!

In addition, you'll be able to "walk through" the use of a passing line to enter a raft-up, practice the mechanics of setting an anchor, reinforce how to use a winch safely,

practice tossing a line from one person to another, etc.

This year we'll also have a station on everything you've ever wanted to know about PFDs (personal flotation devices)...showing the different types, how to maintain them, man overboard poles, whistles, reflectors, lights, personal EPIRBs, etc.

We encourage all members to attend Flare and Safety Day to have a fun morning outside brushing up on safety skills in preparation for the quickly approaching sailing season!

The location will be at Camp Letts, 4300 Camp Letts Road, Edgewater, MD.

Questions? Contact Joan Tannen at safety@singlesonsailboats.org

Click here to register:
[April 27 Flare & Safety](#)

Old Fire Extinguishers Needed!

The club is always looking for old fire extinguishers to use at our annual Flare and Safety Day training. At that training, participants get the valuable experience of practicing the use of fire extinguishers to put out small fires.

If you have any that have expired, and you're willing to donate them to this important cause, please reach out to Karl Scible by text at 407-707-2833. We appreciate it!



April 7th Brunch Photo Contest, Retrospective and General Meeting

Did you submit photos to John Parsons for the Annual Retrospective or to Bob Wright for the Annual Photo Contest? You can see them all at the April Brunch up on the big screen. SOS has so many talented photographers! Annually, there are two special events for the members to show off their talents. *The Photo Retrospective, Wanna See Yourself in Film?* is a video of photos taken by club members, new and old, at club activities on land and water. To create the video John Parsons labored over many hours of 300+ photos submitted of people, places, and boating events to bring back memories of 2023. Did you send him photos of Fireside Chats, Seminars, Spring Training, Brunches, Day Sails, or Bareback Cruises, to name just a few of the Club activities? If you did, they are likely in the video so of course you want to see them. They will make us laugh, exchange stories, and retell tall tales of our adventures, but most of all, we will remember those wonderful moments we had with sailing mates, at home and abroad. The video will be shown throughout the brunch until the competition winners are announced.

Also starring YOU, our members, is the second photography event: *You Ought to be in Pictures*. This competition is of photos taken by amateur club members of club events and has become rather competitive! Contestants proudly submitted as many as eight unedited photos in 5" x 7" format. The four winning categories are People, Bay Scenes, Sailboats under sail or at raft-ups, and Destination Cruises. The destination cruises were taken traveling before or after a cruise. The photos are from the same area visited, not including layovers in other locations. The Photo Contest Manager is our own Bob Wright. He received the photos and organized them in a format to be judged. There are First, Second and Third Place Awards for each of the four

categories. There is also a Grand Prize Award. The Judge may add a fourth-place award in any category if deemed necessary due to the quantity and quality of the entries.

The judging is blind. The Judge did not know which person took which photograph. This year's Judge is Mark Hergan, an avid sailor and professional photographer. He has shot the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries for many years, from international shipping to Bay log canoes while spending over 100 days each year on the Bay.

11:00 Social Hour

11:45 Brunch w/ Retrospective Video

1:00 Photo Contest Winners & Silent Auction Winners announced

Click here to register:
[April 7 Brunch](#)

Silent Auction

Mark Hergan Personal Photographs

A silent auction will be held on the day of Spring Training to make photos by Mark Hergan available to four lucky winners!

SOS had the pleasure of Mark Hergan, of Deadrise Marine Photography, speaking to us at the November Brunch. He presented his wide array of marine photography which included the 1,095 foot-long Marine Corp. ship *Ever Forward* which ran aground north of the Bay Bridge last fall. *Ever Forward* sat for many weeks and was finally freed from over 20 feet of sand in April. At the end of the brunch event, Mr. Hergan generously donated four terrific color and matted photographs. They measure 10" x 15" unmatted and 13" x 19" matted.

There will be two days available to place your bid(s): Saturday, April 6th while on display in the cafeteria at the Anne Arundel Community College during our Spring Training event, and on Sunday, the following day at the

Brunch at the DoubleTree Hotel in Annapolis.

The four lucky winners will be announced at the end of the Brunch giving people plenty of time to place their final bids.

The proceeds of the Silent Auction will be made available to the Fire and Safety Day Committee for their coming event.

Attending the Brunch is not required to win; however, the winners will be announced after the brunch has ended.

Suzanne Vaughn
Brunch Chair

SOS GEAR Available Online

Janet Gonski, Public Relations Chair

Looking for SOS Swag? Hats? Fleece? Polo tops? Boat bags? And more? Thanks to our relationship with a local small business Stout Gear, we will be



offering access to online ordering of a variety of items for your boating needs (and wants.) In addition to the items, we have previously had available to order through the online link to the "SOS Shop," we plan to add a couple of new items including a ¼ zip top that will make a perfect layer for spring and fall boating events.

You can order SOS logo gear from our small business partner, Stout



Gear until April 15. Click here to shop: <https://stoutgearsailing.myshopify.com/collections/all-products>

Chesapeake Bay Domestic Bareboat Cruise

Are you interested in an SOS affordable bareboat cruise on the beautiful Chesapeake using boats from The Chesapeake Bay Domestic Bareboat (CBDB)? We would depart June 9 from the Rhode River after the Emma Giles cruise and end June 20 with a party at a waterfront home in Solomon's.

The anticipated destinations will be St Mary's City, Rappahannock River, Onancock, and Crisfield. There is no cruising fee for crew, but costs will be borne by each boat.

Please contact the organizer, Laura Gwinn, directly if you will skipper or want to crew. She will send names of interested crew directly to skippers who request for her to do so.
laura.gwinn1953@gmail.com

Updating Sailing Fitness

Last year SOS started a Sailing Fitness program to help members self-assess their physical ability to perform certain sailing tasks. This helps skippers invite a balanced crew to sail on their boats and divide typical sailing tasks. It's similar to the way we ask members to provide information on their sailing experience.

As we get ready to start a new sailing season, this is a good time to go into your profile and update your Sailing Fitness. Did you have knee replacement surgery and aren't fully recovered yet? Did you pull a muscle in your back? Or did you work hard over the winter to improve your fitness? Your Sailing Fitness might vary for any number of reasons over the year. We suggest you review it every time you register for a sail.

Thank you for supporting this important SOS Safety program and helping us get a good balance on all our boats.

Joan Tannen, Safety Chair

Please update and carry your Medical Information Form!

The need to have an Emergency Medical Information Form on hand when we sail is not something we all like to think about, but in the event of an emergency, it could be critical. SOS developed this form for members to have on hand "just in case." It's posted on the SOS website under Forms and Such, Cruising. On this form you put information on your emergency contacts, health conditions, medicines you are taking, health insurance information, and contact information for your doctor....all the information a medical professional might need to care for you in an emergency.

To respect your privacy, most club members fill out their form and keep it in a sealed envelope. When they sail, they leave their sealed envelope on the boat's nav station to be turned over to a medical professional in an emergency. When the member completes their sail, they take the sealed envelope back home with them to use again on their next sail.

And yes...there have been times when a skipper and crew have been glad they had this information readily available for medical specialists!

So, if you haven't been carrying this form on sails, please start. And even if you have been, please make sure it's up to date.

Lastly, please make sure your emergency contact is someone we can call on in an emergency and their phone number is valid seven days a week.

The Annapolis Fire Department EMTs (emergency medical technicians) think this is a great system that could make a big difference for them in handling an emergency!

Joan Tannen, Safety Chair

Backyard Gatherings Are Here



We have a Gathering on April 14 in Montgomery County with no limit on attendees! I heard that last year there was some great music shared at Gerard's – what might be in store this time?

Come meet and greet in an informal, potluck afternoon. It is a good opportunity to meet others who live in your region and to get excited about sailing, even get questions answered, and learn more about the club.

Check out the Event Calendar about upcoming Gatherings:
April 14 - Montgomery County
May 11 - Northern Virginia
May 11 - Howard County/Mt Airy
June 15- Annapolis
and more to come.

SOS Wellness Protocol Revised

All participants attending SOS in-person events should be feeling well. They should not attend an event if they have symptoms of a communicable respiratory or gastrointestinal illness, are "feeling like something is coming on," have a recent significant exposure to someone with a communicable respiratory or gastrointestinal illness, or have not waited a recommended isolation time after a recent respiratory or gastrointestinal infection.

In addition, a skipper/host may have further requirements or request other preventive measures (for example, crew or guests having received the currently recommended COVID-19 vaccine or wearing masks when below deck). All in-person participants should expect to be denied admission without a refund if they fail to comply with this policy.

Singles on Sailboats 2024 Cruising Calendar

Date (s)	Cruise/Location
Feb 17	Raft Captains Training/Seminar
March 2	CPR Training, Eastport Fire Dept.
March 9-18	BVI, Bareboat Cruise
April 6	Spring Training
April 13	Cruising Kickoff, Galesville, Town Hall
April 27	Safety/Flare Training
April 27	Dockside Training
April 28	Dockside Training (cont'd)
April 28	Weekend Day Sail
May 1	Mid-week Day Sail
May 4-5	May Day Cruise, South River
May 8	Mid-week Day Sail
May 11	Weekend Day Sail
May 12	Weekend Day Sail
May 17	pre-Dept. of Natural Resources
May 18-19	DNR, Granary Creek, Wye River East
May 22	Blue Angels Day Sail
May 25-27	Memorial Day 3 Day, Chester River, Magothy River
June 1	Weekend Day Sail
June 2	Weekend Day Sail
June 5	Mid-week Day Sail
June 8-9	Emma Giles Cruise, Rhode River
June 8-21	Extreme Extended Cruise, TBD
June 15	Weekend Day Sail
June 16	Weekend Day Sail
June 19	Mid-week Day Sail
June 22	Weekend Day Sail
June 23	Weekend Day Sail
June 29-30	46 th Anniversary Cruise Port Annapolis Marina, Back Creek, Severn River
July 3-7	4 th of July in Cambridge; Dun Cove, Cambridge, Oxford, Tripp Cr.
July 10	Mid-week Day Sail
July 13-14	BFFs (+/- benefits) Cruise, Round Bay, Severn River
July 13-14	1 st . Mates Cruise, Round Bay, Severn River
July 20	Weekend Day Sail
July 21	Dinghy Dance
July 21	Non-dancing Sunday Day Sail

Date (s)	Cruise/Location
July 27-28	Appetizers & Desserts Cruise, Hunting Creek, Miles River
July 31	Midweek Day Sail
August 3	Weekend Day Sail
August 4	Weekend Day Sail
August 4	Predicted Log Contest (Annapolis Area Navigation Contest) Sail and Power
August 10	Town Hall Mtg., Galesville, West River, Drive/Sail-in
August 11	Weekend Day Sail
August 14	Midweek Day Sail
Aug 17-18	Sea Food Feast, Lankford Marina, Chester R.
August 31-Sept 7	Mallorca, Spain; Bareboat Cruise
August 31-Sept 2	Labor Day Cruise, Magothy River, Patapsco River
Sept 7	Weekend Day Sail
Sept 8	Weekend Day Sail
Sept 11	Midweek Day Sail
Sept 14-15	Return to the Scene (Monster Raft-trivia contest), Drum Point, Wye River
Sept 21-22	Jacob Gibson's Prank Cruise, San Domingo Creek
Sept 25	Mid-week Day Sail
Sept 28-29	Almost October Oktoberfest, Castle Marina,
Oct 2	Mid-week Day Sail
Oct 5-6	Goose Cruise, Corsica River
Oct 12	Weekend Day Sail
Oct 13	Weekend Day Sail
Oct 16	Mid-week Day Sail
Oct 19-20	Chili Cook-off, DNR, Granary Cr., Sail/Drive-in
Oct 23	Mid-week Day Sail
Oct 25-27	Oyster Feast, St. Michaels
Nov 2	Weekend Day Sail
Nov 3	Weekend Day Sail
Nov TBD	Cruising Wrap-up TBD
Dec 14	EYC Lights Parade
	Blue Denotes Day Sail
	Yellow Denotes Weekend Sail
	Green Denotes Multi-day Sail
	Grey Denotes Special Event
	As of 1/24/2024

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 requests for refunds will incur a \$3 Administration Fee.

New SOS Wellness Protocol

All participants attending SOS in-person events should be feeling well. They should not attend an event if they have symptoms of a communicable respiratory or gastrointestinal illness, are “feeling like something is coming on”, have a recent significant exposure to someone with a communicable respiratory or gastrointestinal illness, or have not waited a recommended isolation time after a recent respiratory or gastrointestinal infection (for COVID this would be 10 days from your first symptoms or positive test).

In addition, a skipper/host may have further requirements or request other preventive measures (for example, crew or guests having received the currently recommended COVID-19 vaccine or wearing masks when below deck).



April 4

Thursday

Board Meeting

Location:

Zoom option only. Contact Commodore if interested in attending.
commodore@singlesonsailboats.org

Time: 6:00pm to 7:00pm.

Note: Open to all Members.



April 6

Saturday

Spring Training

Location:

Anne Arundel Community College, Arnold, MD 21012.

Presentations:

Classroom setting with various levels of experience, covering sailing/boating topics.

Cost: **\$95.00** Member postmarked on or before the March 23 deadline.

\$100 for Non-Members and ALL walk-ins.

Deadline:

Mail and online registrations must be received by March 23 (9:00pm).

Time: 8:00am to 4:00pm.

Note: Registration details in this Whisker Pole.

Registrar:

Linda Casucci casuccilj@gmail.com

To register and for more details, (**Log on first**) click here. [Spring Training](#)



April 6

Saturday

Spring Training After-Party

Location:

O'Loughlin's Restaurant and Pub, 1258 Bay Dale Dr, Annapolis, Maryland.

Cost: Everyone will be on their own for ordering drinks and any food.

Come and share your experiences from the day of training.

Time: 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm, after the Spring Training Event.

Coordinator:

Janet Pennewell janet.pennewell@gmail.com

To register and for more details, (**Log on first**) click here. [After Training Gathering](#)



April 7

Sunday

Brunch - Photo Contest Results and 2023 SOS Retrospective Video

Location:

Double Tree Hotel, Annapolis, MD.

Cost: \$36 – Brunch.

\$40 – After deadline and walk-ins.

Speakers:

John Parsons and Bob Wright.

Time: 11:00am Social Hour.

Walk-ins CANNOT be guaranteed a seat.

Topic:

2023 SOS Retrospective & Photo Contest results.

11:45am Brunch.

1:00pm Program.

General Membership meeting will be after the program.

Deadline:

Mail and online registrations must be received by Apr. 2 (9:00pm).

Note: To be held in the Coastal room.

Coordinator:

Melinda Zimmerman melbay22@gmail.com

To register and for more details, (**Log on first**) click here. [April 7 Brunch](#)

**April****Weekends & Weekdays****Skipper Helper Days**

Location: Pick your Skipper.
Description: Help those Skippers that so graciously provide us with their boats throughout the sailing season.
Contact: Emil Becker emilbec@msn.com

Cost: A little bit of your time and energy.
Note: See details in this Whisker Pole. Possible April 6, 13 or 20 weekends. Weekdays also an option. Skippers, pick your dates.

**April 13****Saturday****Cruising Kick-off Meeting**

Location: Galesville Memorial Hall.
Note: **By Invitation Only.**

Cost: Free to Skippers, First Mates, Cruising Committee Members and Coordinators. \$25 for guests.
Time: Coordinator training from 1:00pm-3:00pm, Skippers join at 3:00pm, Happy Hour at 4:00pm, Dinner at 5:00pm.

Coordinator: Carole Jordan seajay2844@gmail.com
 To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [Cruising Kick-off](#)

**April 14****Sunday****Regional Backyard Gathering**

Location: Private home, Montgomery Co., MD
 Directions upon registration.

Cost: No cost.
 BYO: Chair, Drink & Snack.
 (Check with Host for Preference).

Host: Gerard de Valroger

Time: 1:00pm to 4:00pm.

Deadline: Mail and online registrations must be received by April 12 (9:00pm).

Note: Non-Members must be accompanied by Member. No Smoking, no walk-ins.

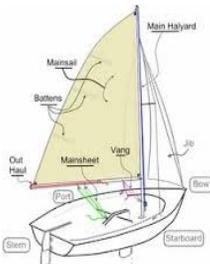
Coordinator: Debbie Goldberg hidebbieg@yahoo.com
 To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. TBD

**April 27 AM Saturday****Flare and Safety Day**

Location: YMCA Camp Letts, Edgewater, Maryland.
Deadline: Mail and online registrations must be received by Apr. 23 (9:00pm).

Cost: Free.
Time: 9:00am to 11:00am.

Coordinator: Joan Tannen jtkeuka@gmail.com
 To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [April 27 Flare & Safety](#)

**April 27 Saturday****Dockside Training**

Location: Various Skippers' Boats.
Note: Skippers may suggest going out for some sailing.
Deadline: Mail and online registrations must be received by Apr. 19 (9:00pm).

Cost: No charge.
Time: Noon to 3:00pm (following Flare & Safety)
Note: Bring your own lunch, beverage and Basic Skills Checkout Forms.

Coordinator: Cindy Kalkwarf CindyKalkwarf@comcast.net
 To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [April 27 Dockside Training](#)

**April 28 PM Sunday****Dockside Training, Continued**

Location: Various Skippers' Boats.
Note: Skippers may suggest going out for some sailing.
Deadline: Mail and online registrations must be received by Apr. 19 (9:00pm).

Cost: No charge.
Time: TBD by the Skipper.
Note: Bring your own lunch, beverage and Basic Skills Checkout Forms.

Coordinator: Cindy Kalkwarf CindyKalkwarf@comcast.net
 To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [April 28 Dockside Training](#)



April 28 Sunday

Weekend Day Sail

Destination: Skipper's Choice.
Deadline: Mail and Online registrations must be received by Apr. 22 (9:00pm).
Coordinator: Linda Casucci casuccilj@gmail.com

Cost: \$19 - Member or Non-Member.
Note: Non-Member may sail once with a Member and must mail a separate Registration Form with a check to the coordinator.
 To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [April 28 Day Sail](#)



May 1 Tuesday

Mid-Week Day Sail

Destination: Skipper's Choice.
Deadline: Mail and Online registrations must be received by April 24 (9:00pm).
Coordinator: Barbara Wingrove bkwingrove@outlook.com
 To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [May 1 Day Sail](#)

Cost: \$19 - Member or Non-Member.
Note: Non-Member may sail once with a Member and must mail a separate Registration Form with a check to the coordinator.



May 2 Thursday

Board Meeting

Location: Zoom option only. Contact Commodore if interested in attending. commodore@singlesonsailboats.org

Time: 6:00pm to 7:00pm.
Note: Open to all Members.



May 4/5 Saturday – Sunday

May Day Cruise

Destination: South River.
Deadline: Mail and Online registrations must be received by Apr. 23 (9:00pm).
Coordinator: Susan Vasco suvasco@comcast.net
 To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [May 4/5 May Day Cruise](#)

Cost: \$38 - Member or Non-Member
Note: Non-Member may sail once with a Member and must mail a separate Registration Form with a check to the coordinator.



May 8 Wednesday

Mid-Week Day Sail

Destination: Skipper's Choice.
Deadline: Mail and Online registrations must be received by May 1 (9:00pm).
Coordinator: Michael Sommer msommer414@gmail.com
 To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [May 8 Day Sail](#)

Cost: \$19 - Member or Non-Member.
Note: Non-Member may sail once with a Member and must mail a separate Registration Form with a check to the coordinator.



May 11 Saturday

Weekend Day Sail

Destination: Skipper's Choice.
Deadline: Mail and Online registrations must be received by May 5 (9:00pm).
Coordinator: Laura Gwinn laura.gwinn1953@gmail.com
 To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [May 11 Day Sail](#)

Cost: \$19 - Member or Non-Member.
Note: Non-Member may sail once with a Member and must mail a separate Registration Form with a check to the coordinator.



May 11 Saturday

Regional Backyard Gathering

Location: Private home, Arlington, VA. Directions upon registration.
Host: Dorothy Nicholson
Deadline: Mail and online registrations must be received by May 8 (9:00pm).
Coordinator: Dorothy Nicholson Dorothy.m.nicholson@verizon.net
 To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. TBD

Cost: No cost.
 BYO: Chair, Drink & Snack. (Check with Host for Preference).
Time: 4:00pm to 6:00pm.
 Limit 20 persons.
Note: Non-Members must be accompanied by Member. No Smoking, no walk-ins.

**May 11****Saturday****Regional Backyard Gathering****Location:** Private home, Western Howard Co. Mt. Airy, MD.**Cost:** No cost.
BYO: Chair, Drink & Snack.
(Check with Host for Preference).**Host:** Karl Scible**Time:** 2:00pm to 5:00pm.
Limit 12 persons.**Deadline:** Mail and online registrations must be received by May 8 (9:00pm).**Note:** Non-Members must be accompanied by Member. No Smoking, no walk-ins.**Coordinator:** Janet Gonski JGSunset@yahoo.com
To register and for more details, (**Log on first**) click here. TBD**May 12****Sunday****Weekend Day Sail****Destination:** Skipper's Choice.**Cost:** \$19 - Member or Non-Member.**Deadline:** Mail and Online registrations must be received by May 5 (9:00pm).**Note:** Non-Member may sail once with a Member and must mail a separate Registration Form with a check to the coordinator.**Coordinator:** Laura Gwinn laura.gwinn1953@gmail.com
To register and for more details, (**Log on first**) click here. [May 12 Day Sail](#)**May 18-19****Saturday – Sunday****DNR Cruise/Party (Theme name goes here)****Destination:** Granary Creek, Wye East River.**Cost:** \$90 – Member or Non-Member
\$52 – Party only.**Deadline:** Mail and Online registrations must be received by May 7 (9:00pm).
Party only by May 13**Note:** Non-Member may sail once with a Member and must mail a separate Registration Form with a check to the coordinator.**Coordinator:** Cherie Comly mectwist@aol.com
To register and for more details, (**Log on first**) click here. TBD**May 22****Wednesday****Mid-Week Day Sail – Blue Angels****Destination:** Skipper's Choice.**Cost:** \$19 - Member or Non-Member.**Deadline:** Mail and Online registrations must be received by May 15 (9:00pm).**Note:** Non-Member may sail once with a Member and must mail a separate Registration Form with a check to the coordinator.**Coordinator:** Heide Harper heide.patternpro@gmail.com
To register and for more details, (**Log on first**) click here. [TBD](#)**May 25-27****Saturday – Monday****Memorial Day Cruise****Destination:** 5/25 Chester River,
5/26 Magothy River.**Cost:** \$51 – Member or Non-member.**Deadline:** Mail and online registrations must be received by May 14 (9:00pm).**Note:** Non-Member may sail once with a Member and must mail a separate Registration Form with a check to the coordinator.**Coordinator:** Patty Stott Pattycolgan21@gmail.com
To register and for more details, (**Log on first**) click here. [TBD](#)**June 1****Saturday****Weekend Day Sail****Destination:** Skipper's Choice.**Cost:** \$19 - Member or Non-Member.**Deadline:** Mail and Online registrations must be received by May 27 (9:00pm).**Note:** Non-Member may sail once with a Member and must mail a separate Registration Form with a check to the coordinator.**Coordinator:** Cindy Turner cynthia.turner@verizon.net
To register and for more details, (**Log on first**) click here. [TBD](#)



June 2 Sunday

Weekend Day Sail

Destination: Skipper's Choice.
Deadline: Mail and Online registrations must be received by May 27 (9:00pm).
Coordinator: Cindy Turner cynthia.turner@verizon.net
 To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [TBD](#)

Cost: \$19 - Member or Non-Member.
Note: Non-Member may sail once with a Member and must mail a separate Registration Form with a check to the coordinator.



June 5 Wednesday

Mid-Week Day Sail

Destination: Skipper's Choice.
Deadline: Mail and Online registrations must be received by May 29 (9:00pm).
Coordinator: Barbara Wingrove bkwingrove@outlook.com
 To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [TBD](#)

Cost: \$19 - Member or Non-Member.
Note: Non-Member may sail once with a Member and must mail a separate Registration Form with a check to the coordinator.



June 6 Thursday

Board Meeting

Location: Zoom option only. Contact Commodore if interested in attending. commodore@singlesonsailboats.org

Time: 6:00pm to 7:00pm.
Note: Open to all Members.



June 8/9 Saturday – Sunday

Steamboat Emma Giles Cruise

Destination: Rhode River
Deadline: Mail and Online registrations must be received by May 28 (9:00pm).
Coordinator: Jeff Strauss jeffs47@aol.com
 To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [TBD](#)

Cost: \$38 - Member or Non-Member
Note: Non-Member may sail once with a Member and must mail a separate Registration Form with a check to the coordinator.



June 8 - 21 Two Weeks

Chesapeake Bay Domestic Bareboat

Destination: Solomons, MD, St Mary's, MD, Rappahannock, VA, and Onancock.
How to participate: Participating skippers should contact me or obtain own crew if crew needed. I will send out list.
Arranger: No online coordination. Contact Laura Gwinn laura.gwinn1953@gmail.com if interested.

Cost: No Club Cruising fees. Expenses shared amongst each boat.
Note: Skippers and Crew will organize their own boats.



June 15 Saturday

Weekend Day Sail

Destination: Skipper's Choice.
Deadline: Mail and Online registrations must be received by June 9 (9:00pm).
Coordinator: Samia AbdelWahed Samia.wahed@gmail.com
 To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [TBD](#)

Cost: \$19 - Member or Non-Member.
Note: Non-Member may sail once with a Member and must mail a separate Registration Form with a check to the coordinator.



June 15 Saturday

Regional Backyard Gathering

Location: Private home, Annapolis, MD. Directions upon registration.
Host: Meeps Yox
Deadline: Mail and online registrations must be received by June 10 (9:00pm).
Coordinator: Meeps Yox mpsyx@earthlink.net
 To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [TBD](#)

Cost: No cost. BYO: Chair, Drink & Snack. (Check with Host for Preference).
Time: 2:00pm to 5:00pm. Limit 15 persons.
Note: Non-Members must be accompanied by Member. No Smoking, no walk-ins.



AHOY SKIPPERS

Why should you join SOSskippers@groups.io? It is for SOS n by SOS skippers.



SOSskippers@groups.io is an official means of communication among SOS skippers. To participate, you must be a skipper in SOS, on the BOD, or Chair of the Cruising, Safety, or First Mates Advisory Committee.

To become a member of this group, contact saillrn@comcast.net and ask to be invited to join. You may also go to groups.io and follow the instructions to join. Either way, be sure to use the email address in your profile in the SOS online directory or one that clearly identifies you. This is needed to allow those handling approvals to know that you meet the criteria for group membership.

If you have any questions, email Chuck Fort saillrn@comcast.net

SOS FACEBOOK

The SOS Facebook page is open to the general public as well as to SOS members.

This is a place to share photos, stories, or to seek advice from fellow sailors.

SOS frequently will post information about upcoming events, nautical items for sale, or opportunities for a last minute sail.

It's easy to join the group. Just click on this link: [SOS Facebook](#) Then click on the "Join Group" button to become a member.

Questions? Contact page administrator Emil Becker at emilbec@msn.com



AHOY CREW

The SOS io group is the official online communication for SOS members, providing a convenient way for discussion of various sailing related topics. It is also a tool skippers can use to recruit crew for an impromptu day of sailing or to request a boat helper. Need to arrange a carpool to an SOS party – this is a good way to reach out to members.

You can join, leave and rejoin most subgroups without moderator intervention. You can turn on or off emails from any subgroup you are part of and even to the main "All" group. So you could restrict your emails, for example, to only Skippers@sos.groups.io if you were a member of that subgroup. NOTE: Skippers group membership is moderated, and restricted to only be skippers, board members or relevant committee chairs.

Here are the *very simple* steps for you to join the SOS email group.

STEP 1 - Get a groups.io account

1.1 In a browser, go to <http://groups.io> and click Sign Up in the upper right corner. Follow the directions to register an account email (use the one you get SOS email at).

1.2 In your email, look for the "Verify your account" email and click the link to verify you are the owner of the email address you registered with.

STEP 2 - Connect to the SOS group

2.1 In a browser, go to <http://sos.groups.io> and click the blue "Apply for Membership In This Group" button near the bottom.

2.2 Wait until a moderator okay's your subscription (the moderator will first verify that you are an SOS member, based on your email used to subscribe). You will know this is done when you get an email welcoming you to the group. Read that email, then browse to the site <http://sos.groups.io>.

STEP 3 - Optional - Join one or more subgroups.

3.1 On the main SOS page on the left is "Subgroups". Click that. From the list of subgroups, click one that you are interested in. Read the description and if you want, the Message History of that subgroup. If you want to join the conversation and get email when someone posts there, go to 3.2

3.2 On the main subgroup page, click "+Join This Group" near the bottom. You will be automatically added to the Subgroup.

A Bareboat “Adventcha”

by Anonymous (with two SOS embellishers)

March 11th, 2024, it was the second day of our journey on board our 46' Beneteau “Pura Vida” (i.e., living life to the fullest) through the British Virgin Islands. On our way to Little Harbor, Jost Van Dyke, we discovered Sandy Spit, a small island of sand with two palm trees surrounded by the turquoise waters of the Caribbean Sea.



At anchor, our Skipper asked, “Who wants to take the dinghy and check out this piece of land?” “Aye, aye, Skipper,” I and two crew mates shouted and we promptly lowered the platform, launched, and headed for the beautiful little patch of sand.

On our way, I noticed a sea turtle taking air on the ocean surface, and many sea birds—Pelicans, Terns, Gulls—flying to and from the Island. While the ocean showed a few white caps, the swells crashing strongly onto the shore were more than anticipated. Fortunately, the dinghy and crew arrived more or less upright.

The island looked soft and sandy from the boat, but once ashore we quickly discovered it was a shelf of rock, and the ocean just had softened its surface with sand. In reality, it was a big reef in the sea. We pulled the dink up onto the beach away from the swash and anchored (sorta) with a grappling hook.

Many people had visited and left cairns—the stacks of stones formed little temples, memorials to vacations and loves past. Someone used rocks to spell “BVI” large enough so people could recognize the territory if they were flying over. Between the palm trees were ashy remnants of a fire.

The sand-disguised rocks made it hard to walk to the sparse shade of the palm trees. The breaking waves spread into little tidal pools on the shelf rock; and I fantasized about seeing seahorses, fishes, and mussels. Bits of seaweed cushioned the walk on the

rocks and gave a soft tingly sensation between my toes. In the distance, we saw the mountains of Tortola casting a shadow from the sun sinking behind them.

After circling the tiny, stunning island three times, it was time to head back to “Pura Vida”. We returned to our dink and pushed and pulled it from side to side to dislodge it from the soft sand, dragging it back to the water. Two of us jumped in and paddled vigorously to move away a few feet from the shallows, pushed by our third crewmate into water deep enough to lower our engine and make our way back to the boat. But, the shore break was very steep and the swell kept carrying us back to shore. Finally, with considerable effort, we made it into the deeper water, and realized our third shipmate was not aboard!! Rather, she was hanging onto the side handhold and paddling in deep water, not able to swing aboard! The SOS Dinghy Dance was NOT working!

Back to shore, we went to re-board. We jumped out, and pushed the dinghy back into the sea; all three of us climbed in only to be swept ashore again!! The waves washed into the little boat. We paddled away furiously to no avail. Wow, this seemed way harder than expected!

JUST IN TIME, we saw a huge sand creature run down the beach to the rescue and push us off once again! Oops, it was a very large, tan vacationer with a hairy chest and big belly in a tiny Speedo. Despite the image, we were most grateful for the help. EXCEPT, the engine wouldn't start and the waves started carrying us back onto the beach again. What to do?

The Chief Dinghy Engineer (CDE) was attempting to start the outboard while in gear (FYI that doesn't work). Once we identified the problem, the CDE was able to start the engine.

We were on our way once again. But, the sun, the water, the rocks and the sea were playing with my head. I thought I saw a giant sea serpent leap out of the water—nobody paid attention. (It was a 7” flying fish.)

So, when we heard a loud POP-BANG!!! we could not figure out what happened!! A hole in the dinghy? Someone shooting at us?? Again, POP-BANG!!! What could it be?? And, there at our feet, were two fully deployed, yellow-orange Mae West PFDs inflating in the boat slosh. Yes, the PFD cartridges had exploded. It was good to know they worked. Oh, and the auto flashers were blinking away. We assumed the BVI Coast Guard would be showing up soon.

But, we stayed our course back to our ship and finally were able to climb aboard “Pura Vida”.

What a trip. Our spirits were lifted by the “adventcha.” We ended up having a wonderful lobster dinner at Harris's sharing our sea story (including some (a lot of) embellishment) with our shipmates who had stayed behind sipping Pusser's rum.

Events as noted

(All names are listed L to R)



Annapolis Brunch:
Matt Tobias (NM)
By Pam Ledford



Annapolis HH:
Dane Skagen, Kati & Harry Keith
By Pam Ledford



Delaware Brunch:
By Chuck Fort



Geoff Tobais
FSC Speaker



Galesville – Fire-Side Chat
“The inner-workings of the Port of Baltimore”
Five (5) photos submitted John Parsons



Beth Dumesco,
Suzanne Vaughn, and
Shirley Brooks-Hollendursky



Suzanne Ziska
and Andy Katz



Irene Aronian, Linda
Perkins, Susan Zevin,
and Cindy Turner

Photographs submitted as noted

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

BOATS FOR SALE

BOAT FOR SALE: 1982 Canadian Sailcraft CS-36T "Triton" This 36 ft. shoal draft 4'11" classic is perfect for the Chesapeake Bay. Well maintained with new salon flooring in 2023 Asking price reduced to \$37,000.

<https://www.yachtworld.com/yacht/1982-canadian-sailcraft-36-t-8800830/> Contact Richard Green at ragreen01@gmail.com or contact Rick St. Cyr, Integrity Yacht Sales at rick@integrityyachtsales.com or 443-294-5161 5-24

FOR RENT

FOR RENT: Modest 4-bedroom cottage on the shore of Keuka Lake in the Finger Lakes of

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD:

- **Due 10th of month** for publication the following month
- Send email to NancyBriggs@hotmail.com with "classified ad" in the subject line
- You will receive a confirmation email back
- Ads will appear for only three months unless you notify me earlier to delete or continue.
- 75 word limit

Nancy Briggs, Classified Page Editor

central NY. Great swimming, fishing, kayaking, canoeing, paddle boarding, bicycling, walking. Beautiful view of the lake, very nice dock, swim raft. Close proximity to wineries, breweries, and restaurants. Located on a quiet road.

Contact Joan Tannen at jtkeuka@gmail.com 6-24

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Marinco Y adapter, slightly used, bought by mistake, 2-30 amp/125V female plugs with sealing collar to 50 amp/125/250V male plug. \$100 Picture available.

E-mail Karl Scible at kscible2@aol.com 5-24

FOR SALE: 5HP Honda Outboard with fuel tank. Low hours. Always starts. \$600 or best offer.

Contact Chuck Fort at saillrn@comcast.net 5-24

Discount Tickets for the Annapolis Boat Show

Janet Gonski, Public Relations Chair

The Spring Annapolis Boat Show is back and SOS members can get discount tickets for it April 26-28. They have programmed our discount code of \$5 off. The code is: SSAIL24 and is not case sensitive. The code should be entered into the promo discount box before adding tickets to the cart. Once "apply" has been clicked, the discount will show on the General Admission tickets.



We will also participate in the Chesapeake Bay Sailing Clubs joint booth (no cost) and will post a burgee, flyers, and business cards. The boat show will have several chairs and a water bottle refill station there. We hope some of our club members will stop by and hang out for a while to interact with people who wander in – tell them about your SOS experiences.

We will also have a small basket of the SOS logo whistles and lip sunscreen that you can give out when you are in attendance. Let me know if you plan to spend some time there. SOS will be listed on the Boat Show website, hang a welcome sign on their fence and their photographers will be on the lookout for you wearing club gear, so be sure to wear your SOS swag!

Welcome New & Returning Members

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Martha Baer - Annapolis, MD | Sue Battle - Timonium, MD |
| Karen Browning - Reston, VA | Ross Crawford - Perkasie, PA |
| Patty Daly - Annapolis, MD | Howard Lane - Chestertown, MD |
| Scott Miller - Manassas Park, VA | Steve Schein - Columbia, MD |
| Jo Young - Annapolis, MD | |



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: **Apr 3rd 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 - hoped@verizon.net

1st Wednesday **NEW LOCATION******
BALTIMORE: **Apr 3rd 5:30-7:00 PM**
R HOUSE, 301 West 29TH St., Baltimore, MD 21211. 443-347-3570. Plenty of street parking, plus a lot across the street. Email coordinator to be added to notification email.
www.rhousebaltimore.com
COORDINATOR:
JOSH singlesonsailboats@JoshuaGraff.com

2nd Thursday
ELLCOTT CITY: **Apr 11th 5:00-7:30 PM**
La Palapa Grill, 8307 Main Street, Ellicott City MD 21043 410-465-0070 www.lapalapagrill.com
COORDINATORS: KATHY - mstkathha@gmail.com
JANET - jgsunset@yahoo.com

3rd Wednesday
WILMINGTON: **Apr 17th 5:30 PM**
TIMOTHY'S Restaurant and Bar, 930 Justison Street, Wilmington, DE 19801 Wilmington Riverfront by Blue Rock Stadium, facing the waterfront. Drink and appetizer specials until 7PM. 302-429-7427 www.timothysontheriverfront.com
COORDINATOR: JULIE - jafort@comcast.net

3rd Thursday
ROCKVILLE: **Apr 18th 5:00-7:00 PM**
Seasons 52, 11414 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852 301-816-0369. Free parking at Whole Foods.
www.m.seasons52.com
CORDINATOR: DEBBIE - hidebbieg@yahoo.com

3rd Thursday
KENT ISLAND: **Apr 18th 5:00-7:00 PM**
THE DOCK HOUSE, 110 Piney Narrows Road, Chester, MD 21619. 443-446-4477 www.dockhouseresturant.com
COORDINATOR: GAIL - gail@islandship.com

4th Thursday
PHILLY AREA: **Apr 25th 4:30 PM**
DiFabios, 1243 Providence Road, Media, PA 19063 (location of the Old Rose Tree Inn) 484-444-0850. Great food, lots of parking. Gather in patio area.
www.difabiosevents.com
COORDINATORS: PATTI - evansapatti@gmail.com
MARY - mary.payne@comcast.net

4th Thursday **NEW LOCATION******
ANNAPOLIS: **Apr 25th 5:00-7:00 PM**
Coconut Joe's Bar & Grill (formerly The Pier), 48 South River Rd, Edgewater, MD. Rt 2 on south side of South River bridge. If we're not in the bar area we'll be in the enclosed, heated UPPER deck. 443-837-6057 www.coconutjoesmd.com
COORDINATOR: JEAN - jgough4you@gmail.com



Happy Hour in Philly- March 2024

Contacts

YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Name	Office	Liaison to Committee	E-mail Address
Susan Zevin	Commodore	First Mates	Susanzevin@comcast.net
Karl Scible	Vice Commodore	Public Relations	Kscible2@aol.com
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Doug Gage	Secretary	Newsletter & Brunch	douggage@gmail.com
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Bob Morrow		Cruising	cogito28@aol.com
Michelle Watters		Education & Safety	michelle.watters@gmail.com
Bob Wright		Social	Robert.Wright.Bowie@gmail.com

YOUR COMMITTEE CHAIRS

(Click on the committee name to be linked to the committee description)

Committee	Name	E-mail Address
Bareboat Cruising	Deb Kauffman	bareboatchair@singlesonsailboats.org
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Social Chair	Janet Pennewell	janet.pennewell@gmail.com

YOUR AREA CONTACTS

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

**Singles
On
Sailboats**
INCORPORATE



P. O. Box 5708
Annapolis, MD 21403

Training and Sailing!

April 6 – Spring Training & After Party

April 7 – Brunch: General Membership Meeting

April 27 – Flare and Safety Day

April 27 & 28 – Dockside Training

April 28 – First Day Sail of the Season