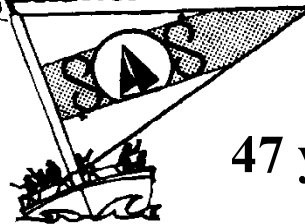


Whisker Pole

Singles On Sailboats



47 years

SOS, Inc. 1978-2025

November 2025, Vol. 47, No. 11

November 16th Brunch
DoubleTree Hotel, Annapolis

High Seas, High Stakes, High Spirits

Join your fellow sailors for Brunch on Sunday, November 16 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Annapolis for an entertaining presentation by Gary Jobson.



Gary Jobson is a former All-American collegiate sailor. As a sailor, Gary Jobson has enjoyed a long and successful career in small and large boats. He was twice named **College Sailor of the Year**. He has won many of the world's offshore races, and he was tactician on the winning the **America's Cup** yacht, *Courageous*, in 1977, with skipper Ted Turner.

He started his career as a sailing coach at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, and later at the U.S. Naval Academy. Since then, Jobson has authored 23 books on sailing, narrated or produced 1,200 television programs and films, has given over 2,900 lectures, and has competed in 6,000 races.

Jobson spent 31 years with ESPN covering nine America's Cup events and producing many documentaries. He has covered seven Olympics and an America's Cup for NBC, most recently Paris 2024. For his work in television, Jobson has been presented with three Emmys, six Tellys, and an ACE Award.

He was inducted into the National Sailing Hall of Fame (2011) and the America's Cup Hall of Fame (2003) by the Herreshoff Marine Museum. In 1999 he won the Nathanael G. Herreshoff Trophy, US Sailing's most prestigious award.

Sourced from: Jobson Sailing, Inc. (est. 1978).

Click [November Brunch](#) to register.

December 14th Brunch
DoubleTree Hotel, Annapolis

Beneath the Arctic Ice Courage, Catastrophe, and the Brotherhood of Submariners

Vice Admiral John J. Donnelly, (Ret.) (he goes by Jay) will give a presentation about submarine operations under the Arctic ice pack. He will include one such exercise featuring US and UK submarines in the Arctic, during which a chain of events years in the making resulted in an explosion on the UK boat, costing the life of one sailor, and jeopardizing the lives of all aboard.

He will explain why they train under the ice and the added dangers in that

unique environment. He will also address the remarkable quality of Navy submarine sailors and the level of training they receive to earn their submarine qualification.

Jay will also touch on the life of a career naval officer, drawing on his experience as the son of a submariner and the father of three naval officers. He has agreed to take questions on any aspect of submarine force.

Click [December Brunch](#) to register.

Volunteers are always needed--please contact Margaret Schwartz mschwartzusa@aim.com to help out at a future brunch.

New BOD Members

Congratulations to the newly elected Board Members who will be seated November 6th and officers will be elected at that time.

Paul Anderson

Richard Cordaro

Dana Tulis

Barbara Wise

They will join the following Board Members who remain on the Board:

Irene Aronian

Janet Pennewell

Gabriel Ruiz

Rich Stewart

VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

Susan Zevin, Commodore



Wishing everyone fair winds and a joyful start to the new SOS year

Warm regards,

Susan Z, Commodore

Welcome New Members

Dear Crew Mates,

The year seems to have flown by. We're wrapping up our cruising schedule and getting ready to put our boats to bed for the winter. In just a couple of weeks, we'll hold our annual "Change of Watch," turning the burgees over to a new set of officers, welcoming new committee chairs, and setting our sights on the year ahead.

Looking back, it has been a good year. The weather cooperated with our cruises both near and far, our treasury is back in the black, and we're already set with speakers for our upcoming winter brunches. Membership has remained strong, new volunteers have stepped forward, and we now have solid backup plans in place for key operations. Slowly but surely, we are turning the club over to a new generation—revamping our internal data systems and refreshing how we present ourselves to the wider sailing community.

We're also taking a close look at our education programs—revitalizing Spring Training, updating our safety and dockside sessions, and refining how we practice and hone our basic sailing skills.

It's been a privilege to serve as Commodore. I look forward to the new faces, fresh ideas, and continued camaraderie that make SOS such a special community. Finally, I thank our *Whisker Pole* Editor Julie and wish her a happy -year Anniversary as editor. She's done a great job for us!! By

Larry Leonard
Annapolis, MD

John Miller
Baltimore, MD

Rupal Kharod
Millersville, MD

Kate Behler
Washington, DC

Melinda Waters
Glenside, PA

Rob Swick
Crofton, MD



By Nancy Parsons

Whisker Pole Newsletter

Published Monthly

Singles on Sailboats, Inc.
P.O. Box 5708, Annapolis, MD 21403
410.798.4098

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New Member Inquiry:
info@singlesonsailboats.org

Boat US Discount Code #GA80619S

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Unofficial Board Notes October 7, 2025 — Zoom

Official October Minutes will be posted on the SOS website when approved in November by the Board of Directors.

Meeting Called to Order: by Commodore Susan Zevin at 6:02 pm.

Vice Commodore: Karl Scible — Reminder that nominations for the four annual SOS awards begin November 1. Article will be in the November *Whisker Pole*.

Treasurer: Janet Pennewell

	Sept 30 2025	Aug 31 2025	Dec 30 2024
Club Checking Account	\$27,400	\$23,526	\$16,101
Hi-Yield Savings Account	0	0	13,594
7-Month CD	63,060	62,849	61,178
Bareboat Account	52,655	53,982	81,043
Total Cash	\$143,115	\$140,357	\$171,916
Club CC Chase	(1,961)	(435)	(\$180)
CC Wells Fargo	0	0	(\$3,760)

As of the end of September, we continue to be comfortably on track to meet our budget projections for the year and expect to end the year with a small positive net income.

MOTION 202510-1: BOD approved a preliminary budget for 2026 with a net income of \$118, under the assumption that dues will be increased by 2.9% (commensurate with CPI). After final approval by the new Board in January, the finalized budget will be presented in the February *Whisker Pole* newsletter.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Bareboat: Deb Kauffman and Heide Harper

Fall 2025 – Lake Michigan — Coordinator: Carole Jordan

After trip gathering is scheduled for November 1, 2025, at Janet Pennewell's house.

Spring 2026 – Grenada and Saint Vincent & the Grenadines — Coordinator: Sandy Rosswork

Six boats leased. The boat with the hired skipper is half full. The remaining five boats have selected their crew and are currently full. There is a wait list. We are currently trying to source 1 or 2 additional boats. In the process of reminding crew of the last payment amount due on November 1.

Fall 2026 — Destination being worked on.

Brunch: Margaret Schwartz — Speakers confirmed for three Brunches.

Cruising: Laura Keough and Dana Stoffregen

Weekend Cruise Snapshot:

Return to the Scene: 5 boats, 12 crew;

Sail to the Wind: 5 boats, 8 crew;

Oktoberfest: 5 boats sailed, 7 crew (over 55 people enjoyed Gabi's delicious German food, drink, and fun socializing at the happy hour);

Goose Cruise: 8 boats, 21 crew.

Upcoming Cruises: Chili Cook-off, OysterFest, and Blue Lips.

Cruising Wrap-up Party - Nov 15 at Galesville Memorial Hall. Invitation only - based on this season's activity. Hall & caterer are confirmed. Currently working on the invitation list and agenda.

2026 Cruising Budget - Have submitted a budget to the treasurer, based upon the activity from this year. Plan to propose slight cruising fee increases to support the cruising activities.

Database: Chair TBD; DB Team: Carrie Will, Dennis Krizek, Don Yerger, Esther Massey, Miran Dalley, and John McDonald.

October and November Projects:

- Looking to update our website to be more visually appealing (Miran and Carrie)
- Supporting *Whisker Pole* (Don)
- Building Registration forms for winter activities (Carrie and David)
- Sending the election results to the Election Committee (Carrie)

- Preparing for the upcoming Membership Drive (Carrie and maybe John)
- Cleaning out 2025 Skipper Boat information for Safety (Carrie)
- Supporting Fleet Exercise Chair (Carrie)
- Changing website to reflect new BOD and Committee Chairs (Carrie)

Education: Chair TBD; Spring Training Chair: Milyn Jordan

The Education Delivery Focus Group has met twice, adopted an Education Program Purpose Statement, and held lively conversations regarding possible education opportunities that SOS might provide. At our next meeting, we will review and discuss the curriculums of the last three Spring Trainings. Susan Zevin talked a bit about the group meeting to discuss/rework the Basic Skills program, and how it will relate to other Education functions.

First Mates: Lora Donia

As outlined in the SOS Bylaws, First Mates must sail as a volunteer for the Cruising Committee two days a year to retain their designation. To date, all First Mates except one have met this requirement for the 2025 sailing season.

Membership: Pat Tracey and Linda Casucci
Membership Committee database report, compiled by Linda Casucci on October 1, 2025.

	Sept 2025	Sept 2024	Sept 2023	Sept 2022
Members	251	264	235	252
New Members	1			
Skippers	62	69	70	65
New Skipper	2			
Lifetime Members	76	79	87	98
Lifetime Skippers	23	21	20	23
Inactive Members	15	16	18	21
Totals	430	449	430	459

(BOD Notes continued on page 7.)

What a Cruising Season!

We've had an outstanding 2025 cruising season — and we'll wrap it up in true SOS style with the **Blue Lips Cruise to Pirates Cove on November 8–9!**

Together, we managed to sail nearly all scheduled cruises - completing and impressive **16 overnight cruises, 4 multi-day cruises, 1 two-week extended cruise, and 28 day sails.** What a fantastic accomplishment for our fleet!

A huge thank-you to everyone who made this season such a success:

- **Our Coordinators** – for their tireless efforts to match crew with skippers, oversee last-minute changes, and keep everything running smoothly with good humor and grace.
- **Our Skippers** – for maintaining their boats, opening them to club members, and creating wonderful on-the-water experiences for all.
- **Our First Mates and Crew** – for bringing your enthusiasm, seamanship, and great provisioning skills that made every cruise memorable (and delicious!).

We'll celebrate the close of the season with an **invitation-only wrap-up party** for all participating skippers, first mates, coordinators, and skipper & first mate emeritus on **November 15 at Galesville Memorial Hall.**

As we look ahead to the **2026 season**, we're already planning next year's adventures. A survey will be sent soon to gather your ideas and input — **We welcome all suggestions!**

Fair winds and see you on the water!

Laura Keough
Dana Stoffregen

Cruising Co-chairs

Food Pantry Collection At November Brunch

By Janet Gonski

As in previous years, we will donate food collected at our November brunch to the Anne Arundel County Food Bank. I recently heard an interview with the Maryland Food Bank about the increased needs with the federal shut down and one response really hit me: When asked if they were concerned about reduced donations and support, how it would impact their outreach, the answer was that they would “continue with [their] mission and choose to believe that the donations will come.”

Food Banks are encouraging healthy donations that have no-added sugar, low sodium, whole grains and high fiber foods. And, if possible, please select items in plastic or metal containers.

We realize that many SOS members are from other mid-Atlantic areas and want to encourage your participation in reducing food insecurity in your home regions. So, we are providing these links:

- [Central Pennsylvania Food Bank](#)
- Maryland Food Bank: [Maryland Food Bank - A Hunger Relief Non-Profit | Donate Now](#)
- Federation of Virginia Food Banks: [Fighting Hunger Across Virginia | Federation of Virginia Food Banks](#)
- Food Bank of Delaware: [Food Bank of Delaware](#)



Pre-Thanksgiving Regional Dinners

An SOS tradition for at least 40 years!

Start your holidays off right! Join us at one of the Pre-Thanksgiving get-togethers! Warm and friendly regional dinners will be celebrated this year on Sunday, November 23. Members in Bethesda, Delaware and Annapolis have volunteered their homes. Everyone contributes their favorite holiday dish.

Here's how it works. The host/ess sets the time and arranges for the turkey, beverages, etc. They also coordinate the side dishes each person will contribute to the meal to make sure there are not three sweet potato casseroles and no dessert! In addition to their holiday dish, the guests help clean up and contribute up to \$15 to cover expenses. A fun time is always had by all!

Sign up by Monday, November 17 by sending an email to Hope Andruss, hoped@horizon.com. If you are a last-minute person, call Hope to see if there might be room for you to join in.

Christmas Day Dinner

Join the gathering on Christmas Day at Barbara Mistrik's home in Edgewater, MD. The cost is \$10 and a food contribution.

There is no online registration. Call Barbara via phone at 410-956-1445 **AFTER DECEMBER 1st** at 410-956-1445. **Only vaccinated members, please.**



Parade of Lights

HELPERS NEEDED!

**Come Once... Come More...
Come All...**

We are on target to participate in the Eastport Yacht Club's Lighted Boats Parade on December 13, 2025. In October, the team of helpers brainstormed a design, and we will begin work on the actual "mainsail" starting the first weekend in November and several additional dates.

There are lots of ways to be involved – share your energy, come volunteer once, come many times, help with boat transport, with snacks/food at work sessions, ride the boat the night of... there will be a way for you to be included.

If you are interested in being copied on the schedule as we work on the design completion (and let me know when and how you want to participate) please contact Janet Gonski at JGSunset@yahoo.com or text me at 443-223-6139.

Tentative Work Days Are:

November 1, from 10:00am - 2:00pm.
Deconstruct last year's decorations.
Measure and finalize design for 2025.

November 22, from 1:00pm - 5:00pm.
This work session will be followed by a potluck at Dan Brail's and viewing the Lighted Boats Parade on his river (those attending Cruising Wrap Up can come after).

Watch the boats in the Eastport Yacht Club Lights Parade burst into light on Saturday, December 13, at 6:00 PM. Enjoy the parade in warmth and comfort from a waterfront room at the Annapolis (Marriott) Waterfront Hotel.

Click here for more information.

SOS Membership Recognition Program Awards

October 2025

Two SOS members have been nominated and received the Membership Recognition Program Awards: **Category 4, Extraordinaire.**

Carrie Will - Database Chair

Carrie has been with SOS for 3 years. She volunteered to help the Database (DB) team in 2024 and has since been the quasi-chair of the DB Team. In that short time, she has worked with volunteers to streamline access to forms in the SOS website to help individuals complete applications for new members and membership renewals. In addition, Carrie provides one-on-one phone calls to handle website access problems and assists members with specific interface issues.

Carrie collaborates with many committee chairs to solve their specific issues. For the Membership team, she has been invaluable! She has played an important role in bringing improved DB interface modifications to help the Membership team with statistics. She has been key to the introduction of the "Help Desk" has been of great assistance to members and club leadership.

Rita Svec - SOS Coordinator SOS Directory

Rita, a long time SOS member, has one of the most important roles in SOS, as Coordinator of the annual Membership Directory. Rita gathers information on new members, addresses, and contact numbers. She also gathers updates and corrections to current members' information and places this information under the Directory menu in the SOS website and mails Directory copies to each member.

In addition, Rita works closely with the Board of Directors to update annual Policies and Procedures. Overall, Rita contributes significant time, effort, and skills to ensure the Membership Directory is successfully completed.

2025 SOS Photo Retrospective

Each year SOS presents a Retrospective video, a compilation of photos taken in or at club activities, on land and on the water, starring YOU, our members!

Prepared by John Parsons, the results are always fun to see! Check out the 2024 Photo Retrospective here: [2024 Retrospective](#)

We know that there are many photographers out there who have taken photos of boats, people, and places. We want to include them in the Retrospective. Now is the time to start sending your photos in!

Please send your photographs taken in 2025 to John so he can compile a presentation that will bring back memories of this year that will surely make us laugh, exchange stories, and tell tall tales about our adventures.

The Retrospective will be presented in the Spring.

Smart phone photos are acceptable. Identify at which SOS event the photos were taken. **Please send your photos to John Parsons at:** johnfparsons9@msn.com



Awards, Awards, and More Awards

SOS will recognize four members for their significant contributions of time, energy, and talent (the serious member recognition awards) to our all-volunteer Club. The Awards will be presented at an awards event to be announced. Members will also be recognized for contributing whimsical, good-natured humor through their foibles, bloopers, and flim-flams (the Jibe Ho awards).

Nominations from the membership are requested for these awards. You can start sending in your nominations on **November 1st**. Your nominations should include the nominee's name, the award for which she/he is nominated, and a description of why the nominee qualifies for the award. Nominations for both the Jibe Ho Awards and the Board Awards should be sent to the current Vice Commodore.

So, What Are the Serious Board Awards?

Commodore's Award: The Board of Directors established the annual Commodore's award so that the highest-ranking officer of the Club could extend public recognition and many thanks to an individual who has made significant contribution in fostering the goals of Singles on Sailboats, and who continues to contribute to many aspects of the Club. Nominations for the award are accepted from the general membership.

Ed Klein Member of the Year Award: Singles on Sailboats owes its beginnings to Ed Klein. He co-sponsored the first rafts of two or three boats, the first brunches, the first social gatherings. But Ed offered more. He would teach you to sail without regard to your past experience or future expectations. Ed would take you aboard his boat, *The Mai Kai*, give you the helm, and develop your skills. He would challenge you to extend your horizons. He was one of those unique individuals who shared his joy of sailing with you. Ed sailed beyond this world in 1987. Nominations for the award come from the general membership.

Elinor W. "Elli" Abramson Award for Contributions to SOS Education Programs: Elli Abramson created many new educational programs for the members of Singles on Sailboats. After serving on the Board of Directors for two years, she gradually built an all-encompassing education program that provides the opportunity to broaden one's knowledge of sailing at minimal cost. She transformed the spring education program so that it attracts more participants than any other SOS event. Elli sailed beyond this world in 1992. Nominations are accepted from the general membership, and the Education Committee Chairperson(s) recommends the recipient.

Rookie of the Year Award: Singles on Sailboats attracts many new sailors each year. The Board of Directors established the annual Rookie of the Year Award to recognize the individual who, in his or her first year sailing with SOS, demonstrates superior interest in and learning about sailing, and who becomes highly involved in one or more of the many SOS programs. Nominations for the award come from the general mem

SOS Database Help Desk

Database Help Desk, was created to provide support for any requests, or questions or issues related to the SOS database.

You can contact us at: dbrequests.sos.org@gmail.com. To help us assist you more effectively, please provide detailed information when you reach out. Include who is involved, when the issue arose, what the specific problem/request is, and why you need help. Your input will enable us to resolve your concerns or requests more efficiently.

Thank you.

The Database Team

2025 SOS Photo Contest

By Bob Wright,
SOS Photo Contest Coordinator

Have you taken some **stellar shots** at SOS activities this year? If so, keep on shooting! If not, start taking photos because recent studies have determined that reminiscing and nostalgia are good for your mental health and happiness. Besides, SOS members love to see great photos of themselves and their friends in the club at SOS events. AND, you could get recognition at the Annual Photo Contest.

In the meantime, take lots of photographs and submit your best ones soon after you take them. The final deadline for the Contest is not until Midnight on Sunday, January 11, 2026, but I will accept contest photos all year long.

Send your photo to me at: robert.wright.bowie@gmail.com and put "2025 SOS Photo Contest" in the subject line. Changes or swapping photos are allowed up until the deadline.

NOTE: The 2025 SOS Photo Contest **WILL ALLOW** some editing for the first time in years. Final contest rules are still being determined and will be published as soon as they are finished.

Lastly, SOS administration and volunteers try their best to comply with members' wishes if they do not want their image published. SOS asks all members to help in this effort.

One of the Winning Photos from 2024 Photo Contest:



By Samia AbdelWahed

BOD Minutes

(Continued from page 3)

II. Membership has selected two members for Recognition awards: Carrie Will for her Database work and Rita Svec for her many years of handling the Directory. These members will be acknowledged at the November brunch.

The Membership Committee along with other Chairs have discussed changing the end date for payment of annual dues to February 28th. But last year \$1,600 in renewal dues was brought in after the end of February as 36 additional members renewed after the deadline. We cannot forfeit that number for a new deadline. No motion was offered.

Newsletter: Julie Fort

The October *Whisker Pole* was sent to the printer on September 24th who printed and mailed out 32 paper copies. It also went to Don Yerger on the Database team to put on the SOS website. I encourage BOD members and Committee Chairs to promote their events in the *Whisker Pole*. Please share your event information with the various newsletter editors (listed on page 2) as early as you can.

Public Relations: Janet Gonski and Victoria Rusakova

We have been updating the descriptive language on Meet Up, refreshing the membership list, and plan to reach out to the many who have not interacted with our site for years. We are also working on gathering team workers, dates/times, and design ideas for the Lights Parade. We have proposed a food drive at the November brunch and plan additional outreach in December and January.

Safety: Joan Tannen

I will work with Database to prepare the skipper boat information for next year before membership renewals begin. I will also put together a brief wish list for Database if they have time over the winter.

Skippers Advisory: Sandy Rosswork

A policy clarification: Burgees are given to a new skipper once they begin participating in club sailing events. Day sails are qualifying participation.

Social: Tina Lavato and Kathy McFadden

Chili Cook-off-Oct 18th: To date, we have 46 attendees registered; 29 cruising in and 17 driving in.

Halloween Party - October 31st: So far, we only have 8 attendees registered, but hopefully registrations will pick up. This is a low-cost event; SOS is providing hot (not spicy!) BBQ chicken and beef, wine, beer, and soft drinks/water, while asking participants to bring a side dish to share and a \$10.00 contribution. In addition there will be a costume contest with a prize, music, and a Tarot card reader.

Next BOD Meeting: November 6, in person at Mariners Point, Annapolis — Old Board, then New Board.

Topics and Talent Wanted!

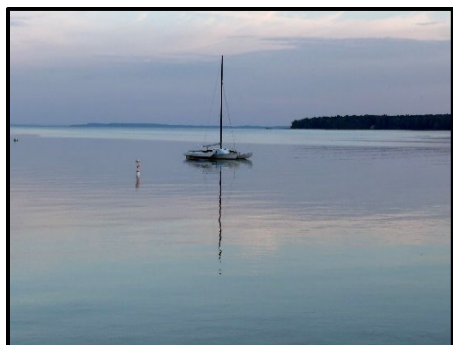
By Julie Fort

The *Whisker Pole* newsletter goes out monthly to all members. Have you thought about what topics you would like to see included in the newsletter?

If you have any suggestions for topics to cover, please send me an email at Editorwhiskerpole@yahoo.com

For those of you who like to write, I'm looking for members who could write about topics of interest. It doesn't have to be long, just cover the facts. Please email me at the email above.





By Geoff Tobias

SOS Lake Michigan Cruise

Sept 6-13, 2025

By Mark Gordon

The SOS late summer bareboat cruise got off to a rocky start when the Lake Huron boats ended up in probate. An alternate destination of Lake Michigan was arranged due to the quick thinking, diligence, and determination of the trip coordinator Carole Jordan, Treasurer Janet Pennewell, and Bareboat Co-Chairs Heide Harper and Deb Kauffman (not to mention the SOS Board, who met in emergency session). The departure point, Traverse City, Michigan, proved to be an ideal replacement.

Most people drove to Traverse City, generally stopping on the way out or the way back or both. Stopping places in the USA included Detroit, Cleveland, Ann Arbor, Lockport, Niagara Falls, Lake Chautauqua, and Corning, NY and both Mackinaw City and Mackinac Island on the Michigan upper peninsula. There were Canadian destinations too, including Niagara-on-the Lake and Ontario locales.

Twenty-eight sailors, mainly SOS members with a few friends as additional crew members, convened in Traverse City. The Great Lakes Sailing Company, our charter operator for this trip, provided six sailboats, (35 to 44 feet in length.)

All boats were monohulls built by Jeanneau and Catalina.

The initial briefing for all skippers and first mates was on Friday, Sept 5. Boat-specific briefings were held the next morning immediately before departure.



By Judy Barral

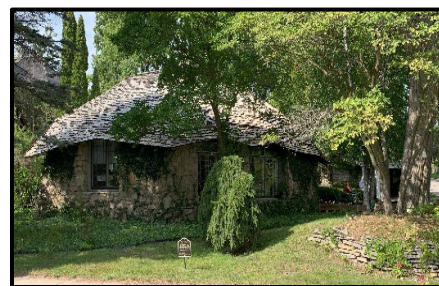
Traverse City is at the southern end of the Old Mission Peninsula (OMP). The OMP is bracketed by the east and west arms of Grand Traverse Bay, which are both about 20 to 25 nautical miles long and run north-south. Hence on Saturday, Sept 6, all boats headed north. That first day had great wind, 15 to 20 knots, allowing everyone to log a good day's sailing. Most boats stopped that first night in Northport.



By Carole Jordan

Sunday and Monday also had mainly dry weather with at least 15 knots west or southwest wind. Those on deck had to layer clothing to keep warm in the high-50s temperatures and brisk wind. Many boats headed to Petoskey Sunday night, a lovely town with upscale restaurants, jewelry and furniture stores, a well-maintained marina, and a library built by Andrew Carnegie. The healthy winds for three days made for great sailing on the Big Lake!

From Petoskey many boats headed back west through the narrow Round Lake Channel (and under the drawbridge) to Charlevoix, which is famous for its mushroom houses.



Mushroom House in the town of Charlevoix by Milyn Jordan.

These were built in the 20th century by architect and developer Earl Young. Their undulating roof lines and field stone boundary walls are unique.

Young also developed a hotel (Weathervane Terrace Inn & Suites) along the Channel, and a subdivision called Boulder Park. In the latter, Young used large rocks (hence the name "Boulder") to bracket the front doorways and incorporated them into the facades; the same boulder motif graces two large fireplaces inside the Weathervane Inn.

A number of SOSers did a self-guided walking tour (thank you to the stand-in guide Victor Kit and to the local resident who took the time to provide us with substantial background information about the neighborhood and the houses) of these architectural delights. Tuesday evening four of that same group

stumbled on a desk clerk at the Weathervane Inn who kindly showed us the two boulder-clad fireplaces in the Inn and plied us with local details.

A reception was held in the boaters' lounge in Charlevoix Marina on Tuesday evening for those boats parked there. Thanks to Emil Becker for organizing this fun event. The volume of chatter indicated that all were enjoying themselves; this writer had to raise his voice at times to be heard!



Dana Stoffregen, Martha Baer, and Janet Gonski

Those that swam in Lake Michigan or combed the beaches might have come across Petoskey stones. Both a rock and a fossil, they were formed 350 million years ago and contain fossilized coral. The fossil content isn't always visually apparent; wetting the stone with water made the embedded fossils visible. Some stones were small (fingertip-sized) and some were larger than a fist.

At the Old Mission Inn, crew from Coco's boat looked at a few fist-sized Petoskey stones used by Inn staff as paperweights. No water was needed to highlight their fossil content. The Inn host said one had surprisingly been picked up from the gravel driveway.



Foreground: Lisa Schwinghammer, Milyn Jordan, Mark Gordon, Coco Lanquetuit, and Mia Schwinghammer

The boats remaining in Charlevoix midweek headed back west toward Traverse City and stayed in Northport, Old Mission Bay, Elk Rapids, or Bower's Harbor. All had returned by 4 PM, Friday to return boats.

An informal poll of sailors' favorite parts of this trip spoke to the varied interests of this group:

1. "Sailing close reach up Grand Traverse Bay in squalls hitting hull speed,"
2. "Plenty of practice as helmsman and with boat handling," several people said.
3. "Swimming over the wreck of a 19th century schooner in seven feet of water," Mark Gordon.
4. "We got to see four of the five Great Lakes plus Lake Chautauqua," remarked Carole Jordan.

All agreed that they had enjoyed another great bareboat destination trip with their SOS friends.



Janet Pennewell



By Marge Stembel





Martha Baer, Linda Perkins, Dana Stoffregen, Heide Harper Karl Scible, and Janet Gonski By Martha Baer



Emil's boat and crew. By Carole Jordan

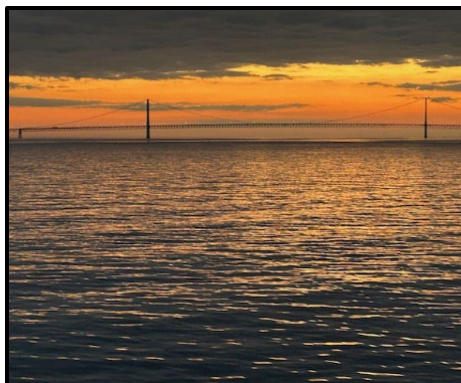


Bea Schwartz, Victor Kit, and Esther Petrilli-Massey. By Emil Becker



Coco Lanquetuit, Bea Schwartz, Victor Kit, Lisa Schwinghammer, and Emil Becker

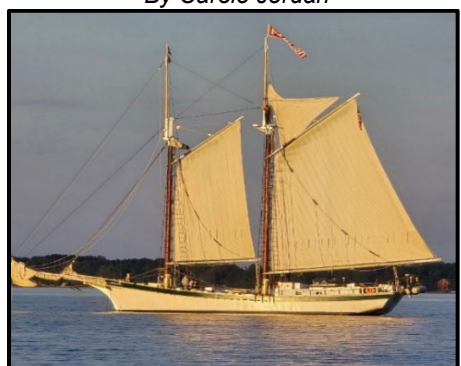
Esther Petrilli-Massey, Mia Schwinghammer, Mark Gordon, and Milyn Jordan



By Martha Baer



*Linda Casucci, Lynn Gilley
By Carole Jordan*



By Karl Scible

The Next Bareboat Cruise

This Spring, the Bareboat expedition is going to Grenada and the Grenadines leaving from the Port Louis Marina in Saint George, Grenada for a 7- or 10-day itinerary. The trip coordinator is Sandy Rosswork.

Itinerary Highlights:

- 7-day and 10-day options
- Explore the islands of Grenada and the Grenadines, part of the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, including Tobago Cays
- Opportunities for snorkeling, hiking, and village tours
- Optional cultural excursions and local food tastings

Travel & Logistics:

- Airport: Maurice Bishop International (GND)
- Visa: None required (passport must be valid 6+ months beyond entry)
- Currency: 1 USD = 2.69 XCD

[Click here for more information](#)

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.

SOS Wellness Protocol Revised (3/7/2024)

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.



Nov. 1

Saturday

Weekend Day Sail

Destination: Skipper's Choice.

Cost: \$19 - Member or Non-Member.

Deadline: Mail and Online registrations must be received by Oct. 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: Mindy Kinsey berryberry@comcast.net

To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [11/1 Day Sail](#)



Nov. 2

Sunday

Weekend Day Sail

Destination: Skipper's Choice.

Cost: \$19 - Member or Non-Member.

Deadline: Mail and Online registrations must be received by Oct. 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: Mindy Kinsey berryberry@comcast.net

To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [11/2 Day Sail](#)



Nov. 6

Thursday

Board Meeting

Location: In-Person meeting because it will be the transition meeting to the new BOD.

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

Note: Open to all Members.

commodore@singlesonsailboats.org



Nov. 8-9

Saturday – Sunday

Blue Lips Cruise

Destination: Pirates Cove Marina.

Cost: \$38 - Member or Non-Member.

Deadline: Mail and Online registrations must be received by Oct. 29 (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: Denise Fairman dkfairman@comcast.net

To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [Blue Lips](#)



Nov. 15

Saturday

Cruising Appreciation (Wrap-up) Meeting/Party

Destination: Galesville Memorial Hall.

Cost: Free to invited, Participating Skippers, First Mates, and Coordinators only. \$20 for Guest of Invitees.

Deadline: Mail and Online registrations must be received by Nov. 10 (9:00pm).

Time: 11:00am Check-in and Appetizers. 12:00pm Lunch 1:00pm Meeting.

Coordinator: Laura Keough laurasan2@yahoo.com

To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [Cruising Wrap-up](#)

**Nov. 16****Sunday****Brunch****Location:**DoubleTree Hotel,
Annapolis, MD.**Cost:**\$43 - Brunch.
\$52 - After deadline and walk-ins.**Speaker:**Gary Jobson, Retired racing sailor,
television commentator, and author.**Time:****Walk-ins CANNOT be guaranteed a seat.**
11:00am Social Hour. 11:45am Brunch.
1:00pm Program.**Topic:***High Seas, High Stakes, High
Spirits.***Deadline:**Mail and Online registrations must
be received by Nov. 11 (9:00pm).**Note:**To be held in the 1st Floor Mainsail Room.
Also remember, we are collecting for the
Anne Arundel County food pantry.**Coordinator:**Linda Casucci casuccilj@gmail.com**(Change)**To register and for more details, **(Log on first)** click here: [November Brunch](#)**Nov. 23****Sunday****Regional Pre-Thanksgiving Dinners****Location:**

Annapolis, Bethesda, Delaware.

Cost:Contribution up to \$15 and dish to share,
coordinated with host/ess.**Deadline:**Registrations must be received by
Nov. 17 (9:00pm).**Note:**To volunteer to be a host/ess, contact:
Hope Andruss, hopeda@verizon.net**Coordinator:**To sign-up as a guest, contact: Hope Andruss, hopeda@verizon.net or text 703-973-0865.**Dec. 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.

**Dec. 13****Saturday****Parade of Lights Viewing****Location:**Annapolis Waterfront Hotel,
Marriott's Autograph Collection,
Annapolis, MD.**Cost:**\$63 per person. Plus, bring an appetizer or
dessert.**Coordinator
and Hostess:**Sandy Rosswork.
sgrosswork@aol.com 443-223-8239**Time:**

5:00pm in room, 6:00pm Parade starts.

Note:

Contact the coordinator directly.

Space limit of 25.**Dec. 14****Sunday****Brunch****Location:**DoubleTree Hotel,
Annapolis, MD.**Cost:**\$43 - Brunch.
\$52 - After deadline and walk-ins.**Speaker:**

Vice Admiral John Donnelly, (Ret.).

Time:**Walk-ins CANNOT be guaranteed a seat.**
11:00am Social Hour. 11:45am Brunch.
1:00pm Program.**Topic:***Beneath the Arctic Ice: Courage,
Catastrophe, and the Brotherhood
of Submariners.***Deadline:**Mail and Online registrations must
be received by Dec. 9 (9:00pm).**Note:**To be held in the 1st Floor Mainsail Room.**Coordinator:**Carole Jordan seajay2844@gmail.comTo register and for more details, **(Log on first)** click here: [December Brunch](#)**Dec. 25****Thursday****Christmas Day Dinner – Annapolis Area****Location:**Home of Barbara Mistrik,
Edgewater, MD.
**Only vaccinated members,
please.****Cost:**

\$10 and Food contribution.

Note:This is NOT an on-line coordination.
Coordination is thru Barbara directly via
phone.**Deadline:**

December 21.

Note:Last minute? Call Barbara to see if space
is available. There is a limit.**Coordinator:**Call Barbara Mistrik via phone only, **AFTER DECEMBER 1.** 410 956-1445.
Be prepared to request your buffet contribution.

**Jan. TBD****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.

**Jan. 11****Sunday****Brunch**

Location: DoubleTree Hotel, Annapolis, MD.
Speaker: Alex Pellegrini, Naturalist, with the John Wright Speaker Series.
Topic: *Ospreys on the Patuxent*.
Deadline: Mail and Online registrations must be received by Jan. 6 (9:00pm).

Cost: \$43 - Brunch.
 \$52 - After deadline and walk-ins.
Time: **Walk-ins CANNOT be guaranteed a seat.**
 11:00am Social Hour. 11:45am Brunch.
 1:00pm Program.
Note: To be held in the 1st Floor Mainsail Room.

Coordinator: Marian Scheinholtz marianscheinholtz@gmail.com
 To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [January Brunch](#)

**March 14, 2026****7 or 10-day trip****2026 Spring Bareboat Cruise**

Destination: Grenada and Saint Vincent & the Grenadines.

Cost: Members about \$2,200 for 7-day, \$3,000 for 10-day, for Boat Cost and Admin Fee. Air Fare and Insurance are separate.

Note:

Note: **To Download Registration Form with Payment Information: Go to:**
[Grenada Registration](#)

Coordinator: Sandy Rosswork sgrosswork@aol.com - Contact Sandy if interested.

Lake Michigan Bareboat

(All names are listed L to R)



Dana and Carole's boats meeting for Happy Hour



Coco Lanquetuit, Mia Schwinghammer, Bea Schwartz, and Lisa Schwinghammer



Skipper Dana Stoffregen



Janet Gonski



Dana Stoffregen, Martha Baer, and Janet Gonski in amazingly clear water



Deb Kauffman, Paul Anderson, Marge Stembel, Gene Jacobs, and Judy Barral



Karl Scible



Butterfly making friends with Linda Perkins



Carole Jordan, Janet Gonski, Karl Scible, Martha Baer, Heide Harper, Linda Perkins, Linda Casucci, Lynn Gilley, and Janet Pennewell

Photographs submitted as noted.
Emil Becker (EB); Karl Scible (KS);
Marge Stembel (MS); Martha Baer (MB)

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

Goose Cruise

(All names are listed L to R)



Rita Svec, Doug Townsend,
and Marian Scheinholtz



Cherie Comly, Carol Niemand,
and Peter Breit



Judy Barral



Dan Meier



Melinda Zimmerman, Dennis
Krizek, Cindy Kalkwarf, and
Samia AbdelWahed



Mary Beth Roska
and John Rogers



Laura Keough



Moon rising at dusk.



Cherie Comly and John
Parsons

Photographs submitted as noted.
John Parsons (JFP); Samia AbdelWahed (SAW); Bob Wright (RAW)

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

Oct. 1st Day Sail

(All names are listed L to R)



Tina Lavato



Dana Stoffregen



Michael Sommer and
Dana Stoffregen

Oct 1st Day Sail photographs submitted by Tina Lavato.

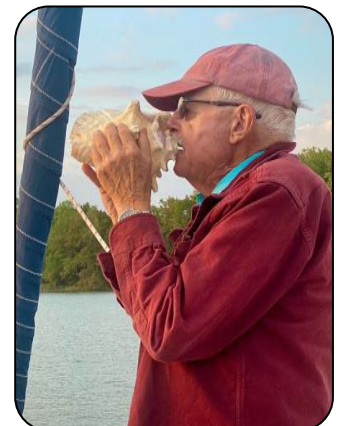
Sail the Wind Cruise



Michele Watters



Richard Cordaro, Samia AbdelWahed,
and Dennis Krizek

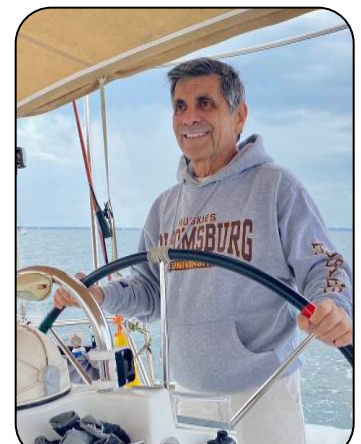


Ray Harris

“Sail the Wind” cruise
photographs submitted
by Samia AbdelWahed.



Michele Watters, Chuck Fort,
and Cindv Kalkwarf



Richard Cordaro

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



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
BALTIMORE: Nov 5th 5:30-7:00 PM
MT WASHINGTON TAVERN, 5700 Newbury St., Baltimore, MD 21029. 410-367-6903. Email coordinator to be added to notification email. www.mtwashingtontavern.com
COORD: JOSH – singlesonsailboats@JoshuaGraff.com

1st Wednesday
NOVA/DC: Nov 5th 5:00-7:00 PM
MYLO'S GRILL, in the back dining room, 6238 Old Dominion Dr, McLean, VA. 21218. 703-533-5880. www.mylosgrill.com
COORDINATOR: HOPE – hoped@verizon.net

2nd Thursday
ELLCOTT CITY: Nov 13th 5:00-7:30 PM
La Palapa Grill, 8307 Main Street, Ellicott City MD 21043 410-465-0070 www.lapalapagrill.com
COORDINATORS: KATHY – mskathha@gmail.com
JANET – jgsunset@yahoo.com

3rd Wednesday
WILMINGTON: Nov 19th 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.
<https://riverfrontde.mytimothysrestaurants.com>
COORDINATOR: JULIE – jafort@comcast.net

3rd Thursday
ROCKVILLE: Nov 20th 5:00-7:00 PM
Seasons 52, 11414 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852 301-816-0369. Free parking at Whole Foods.
<https://seasons52.com/home>
COORDINATOR: DEBBIE – hidebbieg@yahoo.com

3rd Thursday
KENT ISLAND: Nov 20th 5:00-7:00 PM
LIBBEY'S COASTAL RESTURANT, (formerly Hemingway's). 357 Pier 1 Road, Stevensville, MD 21666 410-604-0999.
www.Libbeyscoastalkitchen.com
COORDINATOR: PETER – Beneteau461@gmail.com

4th Thursday **CANCELLED until new Host found**
PHILLY AREA: 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
COORDINATOR: TBD

4th Thursday
ANNAPOLIS: Nov 27th 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: JERE – jerewglover@msn.com



Rockville City Happy Hour

Steve Kurtz, Romy, Brian, Maria Smith, Barry Herling,
Jon Bernheiner, Bill Small, Laura Holms.
Barbara Wise (photographer)

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

BOAT FOR SALE**BOAT FOR SAIL:**

Classic 1987 West Wright Potter Sailboat 15' Day Sailor with MD inspected trailer as of 8/14/25, in good condition, loaded, and ready to sail. Motor 3.5 (2 stroke) Bombadier 2002. \$4,000, cash or certified check only. You pick up and haul. Serious inquiries only, please!
Contact Amanda at 410-266-6075 12-25

**FOR SALE****FOR SALE:**

- **EEL by Marinco Y-Adapter**

Brand new in box: 30Amp shorepower splitter
1 male to 2 female with sealing collars, \$20.

- **Mr Freeze Portable Automatic Ice Machine**

Sharper Image sells it for \$175.99. Model MIM-5802, 110 Volts with instruction manual. Makes ice, but does not act as freezer, \$30.

Contact Ray Harris at harris.ray@verizon.net
410-279-3673

11-25

FOR SALE:**Douglas Gill Women's Sailing boots, Size 8.**

Contact Teri at 443-416-6932.

12-25

FOR SALE: Cruise Ready Gear

- Two well maintained **i2000 Honda Generators**, asking \$450 each.
- **Montage 20" and Dahon Mariner folding bikes** with SRAM MRX gears, asking, \$295 each.
- **Danforth 22S** - Portland, Maine anchor, asking \$135.

Contact S. Letourneau – LaCoquette at 410-267-0737
or sletour@icloud.com

12-25

In Memory of Walter (Spud) Flowers



Captain Walter Raymond Flowers (Spud), US Navy Retired, a skipper who was the longest-serving member of SOS, passed away October 16th after a fall at Great Falls Park. Spud graduated from the Naval Academy in 1955 and went on to achieve the rank of Captain which is the highest rank possible for his branch of the Navy. He is survived by his son Glen, daughters Karen and Karla, 10 grandchildren, and one great grandson.

Spud's father was a Senior Chief Yeoman stationed at Pearl Harbor during the Japanese attack on December 7, 1942. Spud was seven at the time and remembers seeing the pilots inside the Japanese aircraft as they flew over his house at low altitude. As a senior aide to a high-ranking Naval officer, his father was able to get his family on the first ship out of Hawaii and Spud ended up in San Francisco.

While at the Naval Academy, Spud took flying lessons on the Q.T. at the airport in Edgewater. As a naval officer, Spud worked on communications systems and invented a circular radio-frequency array. One of his assignments was Program Manager of a communications station in Iceland. After retiring from the Navy in 1984, he went on to work for several electronics companies, including TRW, BAE Systems, and Metratek.

Spud is well-known for his active participation in SOS with his Catalina 27, *Liquidity*. In recent years, he fulfilled a long-term desire by building a new house on his lot with several boat slips on an inlet off Mill Creek. Over many years he taught sailing to many, many sailors both in and out of SOS. His long-time friend, Marilyn Goodson, passed away several years ago.

Burial and a service for Spud will be held in the chapel at Arlington National Cemetery sometime in the future.

By Ray Harris

Contacts

YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Name	Office	Liaison to Committee	E-mail Address
Paul Anderson	Officers had not been elected at time of publication. Officers and Liaisons will be noted in the December newsletter.		pbabylon5@gmail.com
Irene Aronian			irene.aronian@gmail.com
Richard Cordaro			richardjcordaro@aol.com
Janet Pennewell			janetpennewell@gmail.com
Gabriel Ruiz			gabriel_ruiz@valdesautomation.com
Rich Stewart			logo4848@gmail.com
Dana Tulis			danatulis2@verizon.net
Barbara Wise			bwise8426@gmail.com
Susan Zevin			susanzevin@comcast.net

YOUR COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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

Committee	Name	E-mail Address
Bareboat Cruising Co-Chairs	Deb Kauffman Heide Harper	bareboatchair@singlesonsailboats.org
Brunches	Margaret Schwartz	mschwartzusa@aim.com
Cruising Co-Chairs	Dana Stoffregen and Laura Keough	stoffregendana@gmail.com lurasan2@yahoo.com
Database Internet Team	Carrie Will, Dennis Krizek, Don Yerger, David Lawson, John McDonald, Miran Dalley	dbrequests.sos.org@gmail.com
Education		
First Mates' Advisory	Lora Donia	doniala@aol.com
Membership Co-Chairs	Pat Tracey Linda Casucci	pptracey63@gmail.com casuccilj@gmail.com
Newsletter	Julie Fort	editorwhiskerpole@yahoo.com
Public Relations	Janet Gonski Victoria Rusakova	jgsunset@yahoo.com v.rusakova@yahoo.com
Safety	Joan Tannen	safety@singlesonsailboats.org
Skippers' Advisory	Sandy Rosswork	sgrosswork@aol.com
Social Co-Chairs	Tina Lavato Kathy McFadden	socialchair.sos.org@gmail.com

YOUR AREA CONTACTS

Geographic Area	Area Contact	E-mail Address
Central PA	Bob Morrow	sosrjmorrow@aol.com
Philadelphia & Suburbs	Patti Evans	evansapatti@gmail.com
Delaware	Chuck Fort	sailrn@comcast.net
Northern Virginia & Washington, DC	TBD	
Prince George's County	Flavia Favali	flavia4222@comcast.net
Montgomery County	Debbie Goldberg	hidebbieg@yahoo.com
Annapolis, Crownsville, Edgewater	Sandy Huberfeld	huberfelds@aol.com
Baltimore	Kathy Haven	miskathha@gmail.com
Eastern Shore, North East	Pat Tracey	pptracey63@gmail.com

Singles on Sailboats, Inc. 410-798-4098 www.singlesonsailboats.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/268838264195

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

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

**Singles
On
Sailboats**
INCORPORATED



P. O. Box 5708
Annapolis, MD 21403

Upcoming Activities

Weekend Day Sails: Nov. 1, 2

Blue Lips Cruise: Nov. 8-9

Brunches: Nov. 16, Dec. 14

Pre-Thanksgiving Regional Dinners: Nov. 23

Christmas Day Dinner: Dec. 25