



June 2020, Vol. 42, No.6

VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE – Commodore Sandy Rosswork



As we swing into summer, some of the boating and social restrictions have eased. Maryland guidelines now allow recreational vessels to go out, but only with family and people who live together. The “stay at home” order has been lifted across Maryland, but some counties are extending it. The City of Annapolis just announced that retail stores may open, but only one customer at a time. This is clearly confusing and SOS has members across several states and multiple counties; whip-lash anyone?

To help the SOS Board and committee chairs make plans in this difficult environment, we need input from our members. In early May, a survey of SOS skippers was done. Not surprisingly, many boats were still being readied for the season, and some skippers were not planning to take on any crew this summer. But there are skippers who plan to sail and to take crew; they will be following safety related protocols. Read the 2020 SOS Cruising Plan on Page 5 in this newsletter and sign up online if you wish to be considered for crew. At this time there will be no cruising coordination.

You will already have received a member survey asking you about your willingness to sail as crew this summer, and to attend an SOS social event. This input is critical as we decide, once Maryland rules permit, how and when to restart our social events. First up is the June 27 Anniversary Party. As of May 16, no final decision has been made about this event. Once an event is offered, you may be sure it will be outside and that both Maryland and CDC guidelines are followed.

One of the events we cancelled was the General Membership Meeting scheduled for May 31. In order to comply with club bylaws, this meeting will be held on June 11 via Zoom. In addition to the usual committee reports, there will be potential bylaw amendments to discuss. One amendment deals with holding SOS meetings electronically and one deals with the restructuring of member dues.

The Education Committee has been churning and burning and are putting out some cool virtual education programs and games. There are also a number of virtual happy hours occurring plus a page of sailing-themed movies is on the club website. Watch a movie, start a virtual happy hour, or get involved in online education programs, no need to be bored!

Stay tuned as we slowly plan to begin offering some limited social events and sailing. Let’s be optimistic that the virus situation will continue to resolve. I can’t see you on the water, but I’ll see you on Zoom!

Sandy

Attention Skippers Update from DNR as of May 15th

Recreational boating activities, including motorized and non-motorized vessels and personal watercraft, are permitted. However, no more than 10 people can be on a boat at one time, including captain and crew. Rafting is now allowed as long as there are no more than 10 people total in the raft.

This is for your information and not a club policy change at this time.

Movies, Videos, and Happy Hours

The Education Committee has posted on the SOS Website a list of exciting movies and YouTube Videos for your viewing pleasure.

In addition, check out the calendar for upcoming ZOOM Seminars (register as directed), Exercise Classes and Birthday Happy Hours (coming soon).

Another fun event is scheduled for June 7th - Nauti Game Night. Details coming soon.

Our most exciting addition is “Who, What or Where am I?” Our goal is to post a picture each week or two of an SOS Member, Landmark or Place and let everyone try to guess the who, the what or the where (yes, there will be a few hints).

The purpose is to keep everyone engaged and in touched. So please feel free to send your pictures, hints and name to Cathy Laws at lawscm55@gmail.com.

Notice of General Membership Meeting June 11th

All members are invited to attend a Virtual General Membership meeting on June 11, 2020 via ZOOM.

As directed by our bylaws, the Treasurer will provide a budget update and overview, and each committee chair and/or their board liaison will share a summary of the 2019 year's highlights and a look ahead to 2020.

The minutes from the previous General Membership meeting held at the Annual Town Hall in Galesville on August 11, 2019 will need approval. Minutes are on page four for your review.

Major Changes Considered for Membership Dues

Your Board of Directors is considering some changes to the dues structure of SOS. There are several reasons for considering change.

We are now in a situation where over 40% of SOS members are designated as Lifetime members and pay no dues. This is likely to place a financial strain on the club and place a financial burden on those members not eligible to become Lifetime members. Club leaders foresaw this situation more than a decade ago and placed a limit on the number of Lifetime members by making such designation contingent on: a) having joined the club by 3/31/2009 and b) having at least 10 years of membership.

Even with the stop date, there are more than 60 current members who joined the club before March of 2009 and will be reaching the required age of 70 in the not-too-distant future. Unless we add a significant number of new members, the proportion of non-dues paying members will continue to rise and will eventually become more than 50% of the SOS club membership. Financial modeling projects that if no changes are made to the current dues structure, and assuming that annual club administrative expenses remain the same, shortfalls will begin this fiscal year and increase every year going forward. These shortfalls will require drawdown from club reserves to cover operating expenses. In this

scenario, annual budget shortfalls will exceed \$5900 by 2029 and club reserves will be greatly reduced, reaching \$0 by 2034.

In addition to the fiscal strain on the club, there is federal tax law which applies to SOS. There is an IRS ruling, applying to social clubs, that says you cannot have different classes of membership, such that one class pays substantially more in dues while both (all) classes receive identical benefits. Although it is highly unlikely that the IRS will come looking at the SOS dues structure, it is also ethically and fiscally responsible to avoid a legal risk to the club's non-profit status.

In view of these issues, the BOD has approved an ad hoc committee, chaired by Lorraine Fassett, to review the fiscal and legal constraints. Our goal is to develop several options for change to the current dues structure. We plan to ask for input from club members before continuing to a final recommendation. Before any change is made to the dues situation of Lifetime members, there would need to be a bylaw change. Several options for a bylaw change will be offered for member discussion and input. A final option will be presented for a vote at the August Town Hall Meeting.

Whisker Pole NEWSLETTER
Published Monthly

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**Boat US Discount code
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Postponed Events

- **06/06 – First Mate Meeting/Potluck**
- **06/11, 06/16, and 06/21 – Day Sails**
- **06/27-28 – Anniversary Cruise & (maybe the Party)**
- **All June Happy Hours**

“A Dinghy Perspective: BOD Meeting Highlights”
May 7, 2020 Board Meeting
Compiled by Sharon Taylor

Commodore: Due to Covid-19 meeting restrictions, the spring general membership meeting may be held via Zoom. If so, members will receive SOS officer and committee chair reports at least 10 days before the meeting. Members should submit any questions to the Commodore at least five days before the meeting.

To be discussed at the meeting are proposed Bylaws amendments addressing: 1) member dues restructuring, and 2) remote electronic voting and attendance by SOS Board and general members.

Treasurer: The club received no revenue for April. Even though expenses were lower due to cancelation of club events, the club still must pay fixed expenses, such as insurance, website, and storage lockers. Issues in reconciling expenses and revenue accounts on the new website are delaying the scheduling of the audit.

Secretary: Board meeting minutes for October 2019-February 2020 meetings have been sent to the database for posting to the website. In process is a separate file for approved BOD motions to facilitate searching of past Board actions.

Bareboat: The canal trip is on hold. Final decisions in June.

Brunch: The May 31 brunch has been cancelled.

Cruising: Consistent with the Governor's social distancing orders, May and June events are canceled, with the exception of the June 27 Anniversary Cruise, which may be able to proceed with correct social distancing. SOS will not collect funds for cruises or assign crew while the Governor's order remains in place. When his order changes, SOS will re-evaluate the situation. SOS is considering offering on-line courses and events.

Database: Current membership: 467: 391 members; 76 skippers.

Education: An on-line training program, “Off the Dock,” is in the making. Sandy Huberfeld offered to do an activity that would be open to Club Members. She explained that since the sailing season wasn't going to be as usual her goal was to offer an activity available soon that would be nautically oriented and fun for members to enjoy. Several board members mentioned possibilities including a nautical “Jeopardy” Game which was created by Andy Katz and Jean Wintemute that was warmly received at the April Northern Virginia Happy Hour (via Zoom). Sandy was given approval to proceed with activity tbd.

First Mates: The June 6 First Mates' meeting is cancelled.

Membership: Underway is a “Benefits of Being a Skipper” list. A suggestion consistent with the times: Member face masks with the SOS logo. The Board passed a motion to include an acknowledgement in the SOS membership application and in the on-line membership renewal indicating receipt of, and agreement with, SOS's harassment policy.

Policies & Procedures sub-committee: The Board is considering a bylaw change to allow electronic access to Board and general membership meetings.

Public Relations: Bev Wright, a skipper member, has volunteered to help with the committee. The Board passed a motion to pay the Meet-up fee of \$200/year.

Safety: Nothing new to report.

Skippers' Advisory: Nothing new to report.

Social: The June 27 Anniversary Party remains uncertain due to social distancing requirements.

SOS Finances May 31	
Checking Account	27,182.10
Savings Account	73,443.53
Credit Card Outstanding	(1,582.64)
Total	99,042.99
Bareboat Account	71,203.66

SOS MEMBERSHIP			
	May 2020	May 2019	May 2018
Members	391	407	419
Skippers	76	89	87
Totals	467	496	506

Minutes from November Annual Meeting

To be Approved at June Membership Meeting

Commodore Rebecca Strandberg: Set purpose of the Meeting as introduction and filing nominations.

Acceptance of Minutes from General Membership Meeting March 2019.

Ben Kaufman asked if we had a quorum and it was determined that we did.

RECOGNITION OF BOARD AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

First, I would like to recognize our hardworking committee chairs: please hold your applause and would each chair who is present please stand as I call your name:

Newsletter Shirley Brooks Hollendusky: Membership was Janet Gonski and Donna Kuchura who had done yeoman's service for last year and the beginning of this year. Jon Bernheimer, Linda Casucci and Lora Donia have taken over; Social was Mary Ellen Murphy and that was taken over by Gabi Van Wie and Beth Krushinskie; Database is none other than our hardworking John McDonald; Safety is Joan Tannen who has served on the Board and as an officer and done a good job navigating the diplomacy of safety with our members; Skippers Advisory is John Rogers who has also used his diplomatic skills in dealing with the Skippers with the help of Dave Henkin who has served as Skippers Mentor coordinator; Brunches Suzanne Vaughn with yeoman's service in providing such interesting topics that we have had good attendance and done well financially; First Mates, Ned Schwartz who has worked hard in developing new First Mates and making sure we have First Mates to help with skippering and emergencies; Laura Gwinn and Noreen McGuire for Cruising, a difficult task and one that the Committee has continued to tweak to make sure members are not left ashore; Kathy Haven for Bareboat and who has also done cruising blasts; Bill Knapp for Education who has provided us with some new seminars and continued our regular ones. Thank you for making this year and this club fun and efficient.

Our retiring Board members are: Janet Gonski, our former Commodore for two years and liaison to Membership and Newsletter Committees; Teresa Scofield our Treasurer this last year; Sandy Rosswork our Vice Commodore and liaison to Cruising and Bareboat this year; and Cathy Laws our Secretary and liaison to Social this year.

The Board members remaining are: Jerry Axler, liaison to Skippers Advisory and Database; Dana Stoffregen liaison to Education and PR; Jan Warfield liaison to First Mates and Safety; Coco Lanquetuit liaison to Bareboat and Brunch; and me.

Carol Jordan with her Nominating committee of Kathy Higdon, Bev Nash, John Rogers and Linda Cassuci have done a good job of providing a balanced slate of nominees for the Board this next year and I will turn the program over to her to announce the nominations: Doug Love, Barbara Reese, Sandi Rosswork, Teresa Scofield, and Suzanne Vaughn.

There were no nominations from the floor and Hope Andruss moved to close the nominations. Barry LaZar seconded the motion and it passed. We then heard from the candidates. Their bios and pictures will come out in the Whiskerpole shortly.

Old Business

Review of static expenses and shrinking membership. Social has helped this year thanks to individuals like Barbara Mistrik and Meeps Yox with our potluck affairs without catering for the After-Spring Training party and the DNR event. The Board continues to clean up our policies and documents and to look at new ways to increase membership, maximize our resources and keep running in a financially sound manner with the Long Range Planning Committee, of which Debra Roane is Chair of Finances and John Rogers, technology, Dana Stoffregen is head of policies, Lorraine Fassett is dealing with membership and Sandy Rosswork is doing Skippers and Safety. If you have ideas, please contact these individuals.

We have numerous volunteers who make this organization run and are often unsung heroes. Working tirelessly without expectation of praise, direction or even thanks and I cannot recognize all of you at this time. You know who you are and I hope you are aware of my gratitude and the gratitude of the other club members for making this club possible. I am going to recognize a few of them now but cannot name all of them. Andy and Sharon Taylor are spending numerous hours helping Dana go over the volume of policies and procedures for long range planning, Ron Pence, Jill Montgomery and a number of others are helping with our happy hours, Catherine Fox helped us get publicity in the Bay Weekly featuring Lora Donia who has helped with Social, membership and is now a new First Mate, Gaby Van Wie and Beth Krushinskie for making social fund and financially sound this year, Kathy Haven for all of her blasts for cruising.

You will be receiving your ballots shortly and they must be returned in September.

There was no New Business.

It was announced that we may not have Spring Training in 2020, but may have other seminar formats. The Board is exploring other venues and formats for the Awards Banquet. The meeting was then adjourned.

Fleet Exercises and Shore Leave

No SOS cruising coordination will take place until we are in Phase III of Governor Hogan's COVID-19 Recovery Plan.

Below is the 2020 SOS Cruising Plan:

1. No typical cruising coordination will take place until we are in Gov. Hogan's Phase III. This keeps the club out of the position of suggesting specific crew for any skippers.
2. A survey of members will be sent to determine who is ready to go sailing this summer (willing to be crew) and under what conditions. We will also ask about willingness to attend parties and meetings, etc.
3. A list of members who are willing to sail this summer will be developed. Members who wish to be invited to crew may post their names on a club website page, or on the members "io" group. (No non-familial crew may be invited until MD boating rules are changed).
4. The existing framework of both Day and Weekend sails and destinations will be retained. There will be no event specific coordination. Cruises and destinations can be posted on the skippers "io" group or other platform in addition to remaining in the Whisker Pole.
5. Skippers may invite known crew or crew from the list of available members. Skippers may coordinate sailing to specific locations, but there will be no rafting.
6. The first cruise-related party (June 27-28) remains on the calendar. Cancellation depends upon social distancing guidelines in June. More information coming on this, as your social committee is planning for a potential outdoor party with social distancing.

We understand that this will not be helpful to new members and to many long-time members who do not own boats but want to get out on the water. However, we do not want to encourage situations which could lead to transfer of illness among our members or increase liability for the club. As boating and social distancing guidelines change, these guidelines will be modified as well.

The member survey will go out very soon. Meanwhile, if you wish to be considered for a crew position on an SOS boat this summer, please contact John McDonald (dbchair.sos.org@gmail.com) who will place your name on the list of available crew. Remember that until Maryland guidelines change, no crew other than family or those who live together may be on a boat together.

No fees will be assessed for any sailing activities until Maryland goes into Phase II and allowing larger groups and less social distancing. However, skippers may ask their crew to complete and sign the sailing registration form which can be found online.

All June Happy Hours cancelled.



There are several virtual SOS Happy Hours taking place. Contact your area HH Coordinator to see if there is one in which you would like to participate.

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD:

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



Pat Randall, Classified Page Editor

BOATS FOR SALE

1982 Canadian Sailcraft CS-36T "Triton" This shoal draft (4'11" perfect for the Chesapeake Bay) classic, designed by Raymond Wall, has been well maintained with new upholstery 2012, CruiseAire heating/ac 2014, new bimini/dodger 2015, VHF w/AIS and Garmin chartplotter 2016, rebuilt transmission 2017, solar panels 2018, new house batteries 2019, new autohelm 2019, and all routine maintenance. See the March 2017 SpinSheet for "The CS 36 Used Boat Review" <https://www.spinsheet.com/boat-reviews/cs-36-used-boat-review>. \$56,400 Contact Richard Green ragreen01@gmail.com 04-20

For sale by owner: Bristol 29.9, 1979 Yanmar diesel engine, 15 hp. New jib; self-furling. Fully battened mainsail. Lazy jacks 2 years old. New halyard. Bottom painted last season. Modified full keel. Shoal draft. Dodger. In slip at Castle Harbor Marina (Chester, MD) paid through December 2020. \$14,900 Contact: david.crosland@usdoj.gov 02-20

BOAT SLIPS

DEEP WATER SLIP: Join other great dockmates. Available immediately on Mill Creek, Annapolis Contact Suzanne Farr sofarr@aol.com 04-20

SLIP WANTED:

Hydraulic-lift dock/slip for 29'x 20' trimaran (gross wgt 3000 lbs) for dry sailing and ease of access to the water. This could be seasonal or year-round, with on-site parking. Location is flexible, though I'd prefer the greater Annapolis area from Pasadena, MD to Galesville, MD, inclusive. Please contact Dana: stoffregendana@gmail.com 04-20

ITEMS for Sale

ZODIAC Inflatable Dingy For Sale – (8'6") and 4 HP JOHNSON outboard motor. Excellent condition. Includes: seat, boat carry bag, tow line, fuel tank, motor storage stand, anchor with rode, and manuals. Asking \$800, original price was \$1600+ Contact jirk436@comcast.net 3-20

New Tasco offshore binoculars with built-in compass; 7 x 50mm; waterproof; case; Still-in package . comfort strap. \$95. Compare with Fujinon at \$299.99 and West Marine at \$369.99. **Icom VHF handheld radio** with stand and AC charger. \$65 Email: ihfasset@verizon.com 04-20

OTHER

FOR RENT: "Marsh Magic" - A serene vacation rental in West Ocean City, MD. www.ocmarshmagic.com. 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath house; 5 decks; 2 kitchens; elevator; near inlet and Route 50 bridge. Sleeps 12. Contact Sharon Taylor at ocmarshmagic@gmail.com 03-20

FOR RENT: Large waterfront bedroom and bath in Annapolis. Contact Suzanne Farr sofarr@aol.com 04-20

Kitchen and Bathroom Renovations : Home or Vessel . Contact Mark Rybas @ The Craftsman Connection or mark.rybas@rocketmail.com 03-20

Former SOS Skipper **Ralph J. Gionta**, passed away on April 25, 2020. Ralph was a highly skilled sailor captaining his boat "Bodacious" out of Rock Hall. In 2002 he sold his boat to a fellow SOS member, but continued to sail on other SOS boats and on bareboat charters. In recent years he has remained in touch with SOS friends by attending the Philadelphia Happy Hours. The family is honoring Ralph's wishes to have no services.

WEB SITE CHANGES!

The SOS website has just undergone a major software upgrade! Results are better functionality on mobile devices, improved event calendar and saves money for the club.

The first time a member logs in will require a password reset. Profile pictures were the one item that did not make it to the upgraded site. Since a picture is worth a thousand words, our database chair asks everyone to please take a moment to add a picture to their profile. If you have suggestions, comments, or find a bug with the site, please send an email to: dbchair.sos.org@gmail.com.

HOMEPAGE PHOTO CONTEST

With an upgraded web site, it's time to change the homepage photo. To find a great replacement, there will be a photo contest open to all members. This contest will be judged by all members with the photo that receives the most votes becoming the new home page photo. Details on this contest coming soon.

Contacts

YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Office	Name	Liaison to Committee	E-mail Address
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	Coco Lanquetuit	Newsletter, Bareboat	clanquetuit@hotmail.com
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June Events Postponed

- **06/06 – First Mate Meeting/Potluck**
- **06/11 – Day Sail**
- **06/16 – Day Sail**
- **06/21 – Day Sail**
- **06/27-28 – Anniversary Cruise & (maybe the Party)**
- **All June Happy Hours**