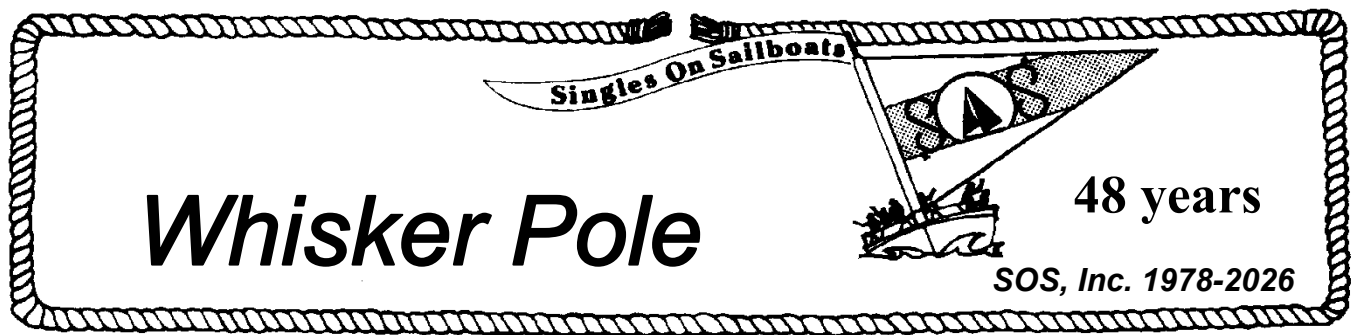




September 2026, Vol. 48, No. 9

Cruising Corner – Don't Put Away the Sailing Gear Yet!

September may signal the end of summer, but on the Chesapeake, some of the best sailing of the year is still ahead.

The hot, humid days of July and August begin to give way to cooler temperatures, steadier breezes, quieter anchorages, and less crowded marinas. If you've spent the summer waiting for that perfect sailing day, fall may be just what you've been waiting for.

And SOS still has a lot of sailing ahead! In addition to multiple day sails, we have:

- **September 12-13 – Shaw Bay Raft-Up.** The Oyster Boys concert may have been cancelled, but we're not giving up! Come enjoy a weekend raft-up in beautiful Shaw Bay, with plenty of time for sailing, listening to playlist music, and relaxing with SOS friends.
- **September 19-20 – North & South Cruise.** This weekend gives more of our boats an opportunity to participate, with two raft-up destinations — Bobby Owl Cove for the southern fleet and Bodkin Creek for the northern fleet. Annapolis-area boats will be requested to join a raft location based upon the signups.
- **September 26-27 – Oktoberfest Weekend at Castle Marina.** Sail or drive in and enjoy German food, drinks, and a fun fall weekend with SOS friends.
- **October 3-4 – Goose Cruise to the Corsica River.** One of our favorite fall traditions returns as the Chesapeake begins to take on its autumn colors. It's a wonderful time of year to spend a weekend at anchor and enjoy the quieter side of the Bay.

- **October 17-18 – Chili Cook-Off Weekend at Maryland Yacht Club.** One of our favorite fall traditions! Bring a pot of chili if you'd like to compete, or simply come hungry and enjoy the food, fun, and camaraderie.
- **October 24-25 – Rocking to the Rhode River.** Originally planned as Rocking to Rock Creek, this cruise now takes us to the Rhode River for another fall weekend on the water. It's a chance to explore a different anchorage, raft up with friends, and enjoy the Bay as the season begins to change.
- **October 31 - November 1 Halloween Cruise & Party at Pirates Cove Marina.** New this year! Sail to Pirates Cove for a festive Halloween weekend and party with SOS friends. Costumes, fall sailing, and a marina gathering make this a fun way to keep the season going well into November.
- **November 6-8 – OysterFest in St. Michaels.** We'll close out the fall cruising season with a trip to St. Michaels and the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum's OysterFest. Sail in or drive over and enjoy one more Chesapeake weekend together before winter arrives.

So keep the boat ready, keep a fleece and jacket aboard, and keep saying yes when the sailing opportunities come along. There are still plenty of weekends to enjoy the Bay, make memories, and spend time with SOS friends before winter arrives.

See you on the Bay!

Laura Keough & Dana Stoffregen
Cruising Co-Chairs

Upcoming Election

By Richard Cordaro, Vice Commodore

It's that time again—our season of renewal when we vote for five SOS members to become part of the Board of Directors. These new leaders will help guide Singles on Sailboats for the next two years.

The Nominating Committee has identified seven candidates to run for five open Board seats. These members have stepped forward, willing to use their time, energy, and commitment to help shape the future of our club.

Read the candidate bios (pages 14-17), and consider your choices, look for individuals who bring collaboration, enthusiasm, sound judgment, and a commitment to our mission. Board service is about teamwork, problem-solving, stewardship, and working together to ensure SOS continues to thrive.

Voting will take place during the second half of September, with results verified, and elected candidates will be notified in early October.

Thank you to all of the candidates who have volunteered their time and talents to serve our club. Their willingness to step forward is what keeps Singles on Sailboats a vibrant, welcoming, and special organization.

Together, let's continue building on our strong foundation and set our sails toward the adventures ahead.

When the ballot comes out in September, remember to VOTE!

VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

Dana Tulis, Commodore



Ahoy Sailors!

It is hard to believe, the summer is almost over and school is starting again, but sailing season continues through October. We had a fun weekend sailing to the Lankford Bay Marina for the seafood feast and enjoying good food and lively music. Unfortunately, there was a misunderstanding with the caterer, we had plenty of crabs, but the crab cakes didn't make an appearance this year. We will fix this for the next time.

We still have day and weekend sails, the Chili Cook-Off, Rocking to the Rhode River, the Halloween Cruise, and OysterFest, please join us!

Our August Monthly Board of Director's meeting focused on cleaning out the locker spaces and finding a new locker storage location, since the costs have increased tremendously. Each of the Committees have been taking inventory and clearing out unnecessary items.

So far, about 140 Members have responded to the SOS Member Survey (emailed on August 5.) The deadline for responding is the end of August.

We will form a subcommittee to evaluate and present the results to the Board of Directors, Committees, and general membership.

Janet Pennewell, our Treasurer, reminded the Board that the Draft

Budget will be presented and will need to be approved at the October Board meeting. Janet will be sending the Committee Chairs a draft to review in early September for use in preparing their budget for next year. The final budget will be approved by the new Board of Directors in January.

The Education Committee has settled on a new plan for 2027, with New Member Day, Skilled Sailors Day, and will determine education opportunities for moderate experienced sailors.

We are still searching for Database and Membership Chairs. If you have good communication skills, please reach out to one of the Board members to share your skills and interest.

Lastly, please remember to vote for the new Board of Directors. We have seven great candidates for five open positions. Please see pages 14-17 of this *Whisker Pole* to see all of the Board candidates' bios/speeches.

Voting will open September 15th to September 30th. To ease the transition to the new Board, all Board Candidates will be invited to the September Board of Director's meeting.

Looking forward to sharing the Board votes and the Survey results.

See you all on the water.

Dana T. — Commodore



Whisker Pole Newsletter

Published Monthly

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Boat US Discount Code #GA80619S

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Unofficial Condensed BOARD Notes August 11, 2026, via Zoom

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

Locker subcommittee: Gabe Ruiz, Chair. A robust conversation was held about the contents of the storage lockers. A deadline of September 15 *has been set for the lockers to be cleared of all unusable/unneeded* items so an evaluation can be made regarding the size requirements for the new locker.

Member Survey: 120 +/- surveys have been returned as of this meeting, many with useful comments. Tina Lavato, Dana Tulis and Janet Gonski volunteered to help Janet Pennewell sort the results, possibly using ChatGPT.

Treasurer's Report: Janet Pennewell
Net income through July totaled just over \$13,000, down somewhat from this same point last year due to higher fees for our storage lockers (\$844), our accounting review (\$800), and data base fees (\$658).

Our largest contribution to income for July was from cruising fees. The largest expenses included dockage fees of \$1985, catering and other expenses for the Anniversary party, and \$939 for storage units.

	July 31 2620	June 30 2026	Dec 31 2025
Club Checking Account	\$50,144	\$68,997	\$35,580
7-Month CD	65,056	64,710	63,602
Bareboat Account	49,691	51,133	48,094
Total Cash	\$164,891	\$184,840	\$147,276
Club Cred Card	(16,985)	(26,070)	(16,127)

**Note: The preliminary 2027 budget needs to be approved by the board in October. Janet will be sending YTD results to committee chairs in early September for use in preparing their budget for next year.

Committee Reports:

Bareboat: Spring 2027 – St. Martin. Co-Chairs Coco Lanquiduit and Emil Becker. Five boats are chartered for St. Martin with a total capacity of 33. The committee will consider adding a sixth boat if there is enough crew.

Cruising Committee: Co-Chairs Laura Keough and Dana Stoffregen. Cruising committee co-chairs for next season are Karen Lundgren & Bill Ostrander.

Database: Carrie Will. DB learned that the WP should be sent out electronically and be put on the website on the 25th of the month - not the 1st. Carrie has been contacting replacements for Database Chair.

Education Committee: Milyn Jordan, Chair

- Gabe Ruiz coordinated a seminar for 09/22 on VHF Radio with Digital Selective Calling (DSC).
- Education Committee 2027 events include: New member education day, Skilled Sailor's education day, Seminars (Lead Gabe Ruiz), Fireside chats (Lead Kerry Siebein). Will work on an education opportunity for moderate experienced sailors.

First Mates' Advisory Committee: Co-Chairs Lora Donia and Jean-Pierre Plé.

FM Education: Chuck Fort presented the second First Mates Education Session, Transiting the Narrows, in July. It was well received with 25 participants. This will be uploaded to the SOS website under Presentations as a YouTube video for all members to access. Jean-Pierre Plé is preparing the September *Whisker Pole* article for First Mates' Deck Notes, titled Sailing by the Lee.

Membership: Membership volunteers: Judy Hunt, Jennifer Diforte, Cindy Turner, Melinda Zimmerman, Suzanne Vaughn. The Membership Committee 2026-27 still needs a Chair. We are exploring the use of the SOS Facebook site as a new membership tool.

Public Relations: Co-chairs Janet Gonski and Victoria Rusakova - Prolific

and well-respected author, Lin Pardey, is sponsoring a fundraising event for CRAB with which SOS members will assist. There will be a fun article in August *SpinSheet* Club Notes with an overview of SOS sailing events in July.

Safety: Co-chair Joan Tannen; We are discussing how Safety and Education might work together next season.

Skippers' Advisory: Sandy Rosswork, Chair. Three new skippers joined in August. The annual Skipper's party is August 30 at Jere Glover's home.

Social Committee: Linda Casucci and Tina Lavato, Co-chairs.

Social Events August through November 2026:

- Seafood Cruise & Feast, Aug. 15-16, Lankford Bay Marina;
- Chili Cook-Off Cruise & Party, Oct. 17-18, Maryland Yacht Club;
- Halloween Cruise & Party, Oct. 31-Nov 1, Pirates Cove – Event Managers: Melinda Zimmerman and Kerry Siebein. This will include a costume contest with prizes with the theme being TV Characters from the 50's, 60's and 70's.

2027 Events:

- DNR, Cruise & Shore Party, May 22-23, Wye Island NRMA, Queenstown, MD.
- SOS 49th Anniversary Cruise & Party, June 19-20, Maryland Yacht Club, Pasadena, MD.
- SOS Annual Seafood Feast Cruise & Party, Aug. 14-15.

Reminder: The September board meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 1 at 5:00pm. This unusual date and time have been arranged to accommodate as many board members and committee chairs as possible due to fall travel, including the SOS Bareboat trip to Ireland, September 5-12.

O'Zapft is!

Come Celebrate the SOS Oktoberfest

By Gabi Van Wie

Do you know what O'zapft stands for? And why is it the most important word for the whole Oktoberfest?

The exclamation "**O'zapft is!**" (Bavarian for "It is tapped") is a tradition during the tapping of the first beer barrel by the mayor of Munich in the Schottenhamel tent. This tent is the oldest continuous tent (since 1867) of the Oktoberfest and opens its doors to today's 6,300 indoor seats. The exclamation is followed by a signal of twelve gunshots, signaling that beer may now be sold in all of the tents.

The goal for the mayor is to tap in the barrel with hopefully one good hit and not lose any beer by a bad attempt. The traditional exclamation "**O'zapft is!**" is always followed by the wish "*Auf eine friedliche Wiesn*" ("for a peaceful Oktoberfest"). This year's price for a Maß beer is 15.80 EUR or roughly \$18.50.

For me, it is a tiny piece of so many German traditions, I thought would be fun to bring to SOS. Now it has been running for 6 years. What started as a test balloon—a Happy Hour on the Docks in Baltimore—was a huge success and became quickly an add-on staple to the annual cruising activities. Even though the location changed to Castle Marina, it draws boats and walk-ins alike to our SOS Oktoberfest Pavillion. Many of you are looking forward to the homemade German Schmakerln (treats) at the buffet and German wines of course the traditional Hofbräuhaus Beer. This year's cash at the Dock fee had to be raised to \$20.00, which is just slightly more than the Maß Beer in Munich.

I enjoy the preparations as much as your happy faces when trying all kinds of German bites. So, I'm looking forward to see you all again when the



Celebrate SOS's 6th Oktoberfest!

Saturday, September 26, 2026

At the Pavilion at Castle Marina,
Kent Island

Sail-in or walk-in

With a Dockside Happy Hour:

German Oktoberfest Beer

German Wines

**Original Bavarian Brotzeit
Schmankerl**

O'zapft: 5 pm – 7 pm

**Cost: \$20.00 not included in
Sailing Fee!**

CASH DOCKSIDE

Please register for cruise by
September 15th, 2026

Click on [Oktoberfest Cruise](#).

O'ZAPFT IS!" call sounds over the Marina!

Another fun fact: Only beer from established and reputable traditional Munich breweries may be served at Oktoberfest. These are currently: Augustinerbrauerei, Hacker-Pschorr brauerei, Löwenbrauerei, Paulanerbrauerei, Spatenbrauerei, and the Staatliches Hofbräuhaus. Only beer that comes from one of these Munich breweries and complies with the Munich Purity Law of 1487 and the German Purity Law of 1906 is available at the Wiesn (another word for Oktoberfest). According to a decision by the Munich Regional Court on 17 January 1990, the Oktoberfest is considered the 'Fest des Münchner Bieres' ('festival of Munich beer').

Come celebrate Oktoberfest!!



Halloween Cruise and Party

October 31, 2026

Party Managers: Melinda
Zimmerman and Kerry Siebein

It was ten years ago that the club last celebrated this cultural and seasonal holiday. And here we are today. We're bringing it back!

This year's theme is **TV shows from the '50s, '60s, and '70s**. There's Dallas, Leave it to Beaver, Twilight Zone, Star Trek, Dark Shadows, Beverly Hillbillies, plenty of ideas to be had! Time to get the creative juices flowing, leave your inhibitions on shore, and join in the fun! Best recreation of a TV show character and two runners-up will be awarded prizes.

So, put your creative hats on!

Remember These Costumes?



Party Schedule:

5:00 – Cash Bar (Captain's Lounge)
& Heavy Hors d'oeuvres
(throughout the night)

6:00 – Costume Judging Begins

6:30 – Dancing until 9:30 pm

Cost: \$48.00 for Party

Heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served throughout the evening. Unfortunately, the regular Pirates Cove menu will not be available.

Deadline for Cruise and Party is October 20th. **Deadline for those driving in** is October 28th.

Skippers: Ten slips are being held for both Friday and Saturday for skippers wishing to arrive a day early. To claim one, just call the Dockmaster, Pat Rohr, 301-928-6605, or email: piratescovemarinamd@gmail.com No need to use Dockwa.

Two (30 amp) plugs = \$130/night and one (30 amp) plug = \$100/night.

To register click [Halloween Cruise/Party](#)



Turn up the Heat! at the SOS Annual Chili Cook-off!

By Tina Lavato, Social Committee Co-Chair

🍁 There's nothing quite like a crisp October weekend, good friends, and the aroma of homemade chili simmering away. This year, SOS is bringing all three together again for our **Annual Chili Cook-Off Cruise & Shore Party**, taking place **October 17–18** at the **Maryland Yacht Club (MYC)** in **Pasadena, MD**.

How it Works...

Date: October 17–18, 2026

- **Location:** Maryland Yacht Club in Pasadena, MD
- **Cruise & Shore Party:**
\$70 per person
- **Shore Party Only:** Bring a favorite side dish to share **plus \$20 per person**
- **Skippers:** Book your slip via Dockwa. (Slip rates, amenities, etc., available on the MYC website.)

🚤 Every cruising boat brings **one pot of homemade chili** for everyone to sample. Whether your specialty is classic beef, smoky and spicy, turkey, chicken, or a hearty vegetarian version bring your signature recipe and let the tasting begin!

After everyone has sampled the entries, members will vote for their favorites, and **prizes will be awarded** to the winning chili chefs. More importantly, you'll earn something every great cook treasures—serious bragging rights!

🚢 Landlubbers, We've Got a Job for You, too!

Members driving to the event are asked to help complete the meal by bringing a favorite side dish to share. Cornbread, salads, coleslaw, vegetable trays, baked beans, chips and dip, dessert, or another favorite accompaniment are all welcome!

So, pull out that favorite chili pot, dust off your secret recipe, and get ready to claim your prize! 🏆 🌶️

Deadlines:

🚢 **For Cruise & Shore**
October 6 - 9:00PM

🏠 **Shore Party Only:**
October 15 - 9:00PM

Party Manager: Meeps Yox

To register click [Chili Cook-off](#)

Database Team

Dear Crewmates,

For many years, the club DataBase operation was sailed "single-handed." It was a tough assignment for one person! And it worked.

In 2024, Carrie Will took the helm and pulled together a great team to carry on. Under Carrie's leadership, the team has introduced major improvements and innovative use of the Member-Clicks organization management platform. They have streamlined both the inward-facing user interfaces as well as the public-facing landing pages. They've implemented flexible registration processes to accommodate the myriad events a club like ours conducts. They have created a "help-desk;" and speeded up by almost a week the time needed to publish our monthly *Whisker Pole* newsletter; and Carrie has created an extensive continuity of operations plan "just-in-case!"

Our wonderful Data Base (DB) team has been together for almost two years. Now, some of these super folks are moving on as they experience life changing events. And, SOS continues to pursue innovative ways to meet the growing demands of the club while adapting to and using the latest in systems technology. Already, we are looking at AI to assist with information management.

So, we are looking for some new DB team members. Carrie is a great leader and there is much to be done. If you have any interest in or want to learn, be a part of SOS' next generation of information management, please contact us—we'd love to talk with you about the DB team and the future work needed. It'll be way cool!!

Janet Gonski
Susan Zevin
Carrie Will

September Seminar

Marine VHF and DSC

By Gabe Ruiz

I just want to share with you some info I recently got about Marine VHF and DSC (Digital Selective Calling). If your radio has a little red emergency button, your radio is DSC capable.

The Coast Guard is encouraging use of DSC and here is why. In some areas, on warm clear sunny days, there are large concentrations of vessels underway. The mouth of the Severn is a good example. In these situations, channel 16 is getting saturated with hailing calls, which can drown Emergency distress calls. DSC can help solve this problem. DSC uses channel 70 exclusively. If you want to hail a buddy skipper, you can do it through DSC without putting any load on channel 16.

Furthermore, you can hail a group of skippers by using a *local group identifier*. This feature of DSC could be useful to SOS boats participating in a cruising event. For example, if the first SOS boat arrives at the destination and discovers that another group has formed a raft there and there is no space, that skipper can send a DSC call using the SOS *local group identifier*. All SOS boats participating in the event, which have a DSC capable radio preprogrammed with the SOS *local group identifier*, will hear the message. The raft captain can then change the destination to another creek.

There are other situations in which SOS boats can benefit from using DSC. If you want the details, come to the talk to be given on **Tuesday September 22 at the Belvedere Yacht Club** at 419 Alameda Parkway, Arnold, Maryland. The speaker, Ziya Gun, will explain how this works. Ziya is a long time sailor and Electrical Engineer specializing in RF/Microwaves and Radar Systems. He is also the vice

president of the Belvedere Yacht Club.

If you have a Marine portable VHF radio, which is DSC capable and has been initialized with an MMSI number, bring it with you. We will use it to do hands-on demonstrations. To register click [Ed Seminar - Radio](#)

Holiday Planning! Volunteer to Host SOS's Traditional Regional Thanksgiving Dinners!

By Hope Andruss

Would you enjoy celebrating the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays with your SOS sailing buddies? Please volunteer to be a host to entertain 10 or more members for a potluck get-together on Saturday, November 21.



The host/hostess arranges for turkey, beverages, decorations, etc. for ten or more SOS members. The guests bring their favorite holiday dish to share and contribute \$15-20 to cover costs of the turkey. Locations are Annapolis/Kent Island, Northern Virginia/DC, Montgomery/Prince Georges, and Delaware/Pennsylvania. Send a note to Hope Andruss at Hopedra@verizon.net or call her.



And the **Traditional Christmas Day potluck** will be held at Barbara Mistrik's home in

Annapolis on Friday, December 25th. More info next month.

Thank you,
Hope

First Mates' Deck Notes:

“Jibe Ho” – Now what do I do?

*By Jean-Pierre Plé
First Mates Co-Chair*

Jibing (also spelled gybing) can be a stressful maneuver, but it doesn't have to be. When executing a tack, the wind comes from ahead and we have an intuitive feel for what comes next, namely which way to turn the wheel. With the wind from behind, we sometimes don't have that same intuition.

Take note that when you jibe, the wind is coming across the *windward* stern and the boom is out over the *leeward* side of the boat.

Follow these steps for a safe and controlled jibe maneuver:

1. If the Skipper has not requested that you jibe, ensure they are aware and agree with your proposed action. (As always, follow the instructions of your Skipper.)
2. If you have the wind more than 120 degrees abaft the beam, hopefully you previously rigged a Preventer to “prevent” an accidental jibe. If a Preventer was rigged, you need to release it so the boom is free to move (how the Preventer is rigged and released will be different on each boat).
3. Once the Preventer is released, the next command is to center the mainsail/boom. But Wait!
4. Before you call for this action, take note over which side of the boat the boom lays. Guess what, this tells you which way to turn the wheel. So, if the boom, before the jibe maneuver, is over the port side, at the appropriate time,

turn the wheel to port, and vice versa.

5. So, after you know which way to turn the wheel, you request a crew member to “Center the Main,” i.e., the boom.
6. Next, ensure that crew members handling the jib sheets know they need to work together. With the wind coming from astern, the wind will blow the jib forward and out over the bow if not controlled. This means one person always maintains control. Basic rule in a jibe, do not totally release the now non-working jib sheet.
7. Once the boom is centered, call out “Prepare to Jibe.”
8. After boom has been centered and crewmembers reply “Ready – port jib sheet,” “Ready – starboard jib sheet” do you give the command to jibe? Not yet!
9. If not done already, you must look to ensure the new course will neither bring you onto a collision course with another vessel nor stand you into another danger.
10. OK, so now that the Preventer has been released, the boom has been centered, everyone is ready, and the new course is safe, call out proudly, “Jibe Ho,” and with confidence you know which way to turn the wheel.
11. As your crew manage the jib and eases out the main, you bring the boat onto its new point of sail, and everyone is

amazed how smoothly the jibe was executed.

12. One last thing, if the new point of sail has the wind 120 degrees or more abaft the beam, suggest to the Skipper that the crew rig a Preventer. If you do, you'll sail with confidence knowing you've taken the prudent action to prevent an accidental jibe.

Happy Jibing! (or Gybing)

Addendum:

Transiting Narrows:

All members can find the PowerPoint and video versions of the July training on Transiting Narrows on the SOS website under the "Presentations" banner once members log on.

First Mate Training on Lights:

The next First Mate training session will be Tuesday, October 13th, 7-8 PM by Zoom. The topic will be lights on aids to navigation and on vessels commonly encountered in the Bay. Skippers are invited to participate; all invitees will receive Zoom call-in information before the event.



Come Join us for Lin Pardey's Evening of Fun-Ding – a fund raiser in support of CRAB (Chesapeake Region Accessible Boating).

SOS/LinPardey Fun-ding for CRAB, Friday, October 16, 2026, United Church of Christ of Annapolis, 6 Carvel Circle, Edgewater, Maryland, 6:30pm - 9:00pm.

In the early days of CRAB, Lin and her late husband Larry were planning to attend the Annapolis Sailboat show to present a series of seminars. After exchanges with Don Backe, the founder of CRAB, they set up their world-renowned wooden boat *Taleisn* next to the CRAB boat on display at the event. The line of visitors wishing to explore the beautiful wooden boat while escorted below by CRAB disabled sailors raised a great deal of money for CRAB.

This fall, Lin returns to the Annapolis Boat Show and in addition to connecting with old friends, selling her books, and sharing stories, she also wanted to reprise her fundraising for CRAB. With the support of members of SOS, there will be an evening of food, laughter, fun, and silent auction with all profits going to support the mission of CRAB.

How did all of this come about? In March 2025 while on the SOS New Zealand bareboat trip, our skipper Gabi Van Wie contacted Lin to set up a meeting. As a long time follower of Lin's blogs and social media, Gabi knew how much Lin thrives on spending time with "friends she hasn't met yet." Upon reaching out to Lin, Gabi received an open invitation for the SOS boats to come to Lin's home – and two boats were able to take advantage of that gathering.

Now, 18+ months later, Lin plans to attend the October Sailboat show, and with so many of our SOS members already volunteering at CRAB, it seemed a natural fit to support Lin in her fundraising efforts.

This event will be open to the public with a \$30 register fee and sign up on SOS website. There is limited space of 60 people so sign up soon. There are opportunities for SOS members who are registered to volunteer for help make this a great event. You can sign up to volunteer on the SOS website. If you can't attend but would like to donate

financially to the "Fun-ding," select the donate button on the website.

Also, if you would like to donate something for the silent auction, please contact Kathy McFadden
kjmcfadden@comcast.net.

Saint Maarten/Saint Martin Bareboat Cruise

**Feb.20 – 27 (7 days) OR
Feb. 20 – March 2nd (10 days)**

Trip Details.

Location: Saint Martin is a 34-square-mile island in the Northeastern Caribbean situated within the Leeward Island of the Lesser Antilles, approximately 190 miles east of Puerto Rico. It is famously divided into two territories: the northern French side (Saint Martin) and the southern Dutch side (Sint Maarten).

Departing and Returning: Princess Juliana International Airport (SXM) located on the Dutch side. Major Caribbean hub, famous for its low altitude, dramatic landings over Maho Beach.

Charter Company: Dream Yacht Charter.

Coordinator: Coco Lanquetuit,
clanquetuit@hotmail.com

About St. Maarten/St. Martin.

St. Maarten/St. Martin is one of the most renowned tourist destinations in the Caribbean. What truly makes this island stand out is its unique binational and multicultural character, the diverse culinary experiences that stem from it, its award-winning hospitality, a well-connected location within the Caribbean archipelago, vibrant events, and a wide variety of things to do.

For visitors, the main differences are noticeable in the atmosphere.

The Dutch side is known for its vibrant nightlife, casinos, shopping, and a wide range of activities. Meanwhile, the slightly larger French side offers more nature areas to explore.

Sailing in St Maarten/St Martin offers premier Caribbean sailing with consistent trade winds, ideal for intermediate sailors exploring nearby islands like Anguilla and St. Barts. **Top anchorages** include the calm,

sandy-bottomed Grand Case and Ile Pinel, while navigation requires caution regarding north swells, shallow spots, and securing dinghies due to potential theft.

Sailing Conditions: Typically features steady, reliable trade winds (15-25 knots) and warm, open water sailing.

Experience Level: Considered an intermediate sailing destination (level 2), suitable for those comfortable with open-ocean passages.

Itinerary: The island acts as a central hub for day trips to Anguilla (north) and St. Barts (southeast), providing a mix of French culture and quiet bays.

Provisioning: Excellent, with top-tier chandleries and supermarkets available on both sides of the island.

Navigation & Safety Tips

North Swells: During winter, northern swells can make some anchorage uncomfortable. The lagoon is the safest spot in these conditions.

Hazards: Be cautious of unmarked coral heads and shallow areas. Night navigation is discouraged.

Anchor Management: Most spots have 2–5-meter depths and sandy bottoms.

Dinghies: It is recommended to lock the dinghy and outboard motor, as theft has been reported.

Formalities & Clearance.

Clearance: Both French and Dutch sides require official entry/exit, as well as Anguilla and St. Kitts and

Nevis: Clearance is also required when between St. Martin and St. Barts, even though both are French territory.

French Side: Generally cheaper and easier, using automated computers (to be confirmed).

Dutch Side: Involves more fees (harbor, bridge, and weekly fees).

Bridge Times: if planning to enter Simpson Bay Lagoon (Sint Maarten), check the schedule for the Simpson Bay Bridge. Excellent, with top-tier chandleries and supermarkets.

For Skipper Qualifications, and other information, go to the SOS website and click one of the cruise dates the Feb. Calendar.

To Download Registration and Payment Information, click [St. Martin Application](#)

Fleet Exercises and Shore Leave

By Ned Schwartz, Editor sosfleetexercises@gmail.com

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.** Mail-in forms must be received by the 9:00pm on the Register By 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.



Sept. 1

Thursday

Board Meeting

Location:

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

Time:

5:00pm to 6:00pm.

Note:

Open to all Members.



Sept. 2-7

Wednesday to Monday

Labor Day 6-Day - Extended Cruise

Destination: (revised)

Sept 2: Eagle Cove, Magothy Rv.
3: Corsica Rv. off Chester Rv.
4/5: Chestertown Marina.
6: Langford Cr. off Chester Rv.
7: Head home.

Cost:

\$75 Plus costs associated with extended cruising - Member or Non-Member.

Skippers: Should book **Sept. 4/5** slip reservations by contacting [Chestertown Marina. \(410\) 778-3616](tel:4107783616).

Deadline:

Mail and online registrations must be received by Aug. 25 (9:00pm).
Skippers: Please register per the link below.

Note:

Crew: Contact Laura Keough to be added to a list of potential Crew. **Only register after receiving an invitation by your Skipper.**

Contact:

Laura Keough laurasan2@yahoo.com.

To register and for more details, (**Log on first**) click here: [6 Day Labor Day Cruise](#)



Sept. 5-7

Saturday to Monday

Labor Day 3-Day Cruise

Destination:

Drum Point/Wye East, Skippers Choice.

Cost:

\$75 - Member or Non-Member.

Deadline:

Mail and online registrations must be received by Aug. 25 (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:

Mary Chevalier mary7570@yahoo.com

To register and for more details, (**Log on first**) click here: [3 Day Labor Day Cruise](#)



Sept. 5-12

7-Day Trip Saturday to Sunday

Fall 2026 - Bareboat Cruise

Destination:

River Shannon from Carrick-on-Shannon to Portlaoine, Ireland.

Cost:

Members \$1,000 = Boat Cost and Admin Fee. Air Fare and Insurance are separate.

Note:

Details can be found on Le Boat Cruising Guide [Le Boat Cruise information](#). Plus [Ireland 2026](#).

Note:

To Download Registration Form with Payment Information, click here [Ireland Register](#).

Coordinator:

Doug Gage douggage@gmail.com

**Sept. 9****Wednesday****Mid-Week Day Sail****Destination:** Skipper's Choice.**Cost:** \$25 - Member or Non-Member.**Deadline:** Mail and online registrations must be received by Sept. 2 (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:** Janet Gonski jgsunset@yahoo.comTo register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [9/9 Day Sail](#)**Sept. 12-13 Saturday – Sunday****Shaw Bay Playlist Music Raft-up Cruise****Destination:** Shaw Bay, Wye River.**Cost:** \$50 - Member or Non-Member.**Deadline:** Mail and online registrations must be received by Sept. 1 (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 Keough laurasan2@yahoo.comTo register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [Shaw Bay Cruise](#)**Sept. 19-20 Saturday – Sunday****North & South Cruise****Destination:** Bobby Owl Cove and Bodkin Creek.**Cost:** \$50 - Member or Non-Member.**Deadline:** Mail and online registrations must be received by Sept. 8 (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:** Julie Fort jafort@comcast.netTo register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [North South Cruise](#)**Sept. 22****Saturday****Education Seminar – Marine Radio****Location:** Belvedere Yacht Club, Arnold, MD.**Cost:** \$15 – Member, \$20 Non-Member and Walk-ins.**Speaker:** Ziya Gun; Long time sailor and Electrical Engineer specializing in RF/Microwave and Radar Systems.**Time:** 7:00pm to 8:30pm.**Topic:** Marine VHF Radio with DSC.**Note:** Members only. Limit 20 people.**Deadline:** Online registrations must be received by Sept. 18 (9:00pm).**Note:** Refreshments provided with Cash Bar (Beer).**Coordinator:** Gabe Ruiz gabriel_ruiz@valdesautomation.comTo register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [Ed Seminar - Radio](#)**Sept. 23****Wednesday****Mid-Week Day Sail****Destination:** Skipper's Choice.**Cost:** \$25 - Member or Non-Member.**Deadline:** Mail and online registrations must be received by Sept. 16 (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:** Samia AbdelWahed samia.wahed@gmail.comTo register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [9/23 Day Sail](#)**Sept. 23****Wednesday****Mid-Week Power Boat Day Trip****Destination:** Skipper's Choice.**Cost:** \$25 - Member or Non-Member.**Deadline:** Mail and online registrations must be received by Sept. 16 (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:** Samia AbdelWahed samia.wahed@gmail.comTo register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [9/23 Power Day Trip](#)

**Sept. 26-27 Saturday – Sunday**

Destination: Castle Marina, Kent Island, Chester River. A weekend cruise with a dockside Oktoberfest. **Skippers, book your slips by calling Castle Marina (410) 634-5599.**

Deadline: Mail and online registrations must be received by Sept. 15 (9:00pm).

Coordinator: Margaret Schwartz mschwartzusa@aim.com
To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [Oktoberfest Cruise](#)

Oktoberfest Cruise – Sail/Drive-in

Cost: \$70 - Member or Non-Member. Happy Hour. (\$20 Cash Dockside).
Ozapft: 5.00pm to 7:00pm.
Walk-ins welcome.

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

**Sept. 29 Wednesday**

Destination: Skipper's Choice.

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

Coordinator: Barbara Wingrove bkwingrove@outlook.com
To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [9/29 Day Sail](#)

Mid-Week Day Sail

Cost: \$25 - 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.

**Oct. 1 Thursday**

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

Board Meeting

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

Note: Open to all Members.

**Oct. 3-4 Saturday – Sunday**

Destination: Corsica River.

Deadline: Mail and online registrations must be received by Sept. 22 (9:00pm).

Coordinator: Cindy Turner cynthia.turner@verizon.net
To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [Goose Cruise](#)

Goose 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.

**Oct. 10 Sunday**

Destination: Skipper's Choice.

Deadline: Mail and online registrations must be received by Oct. 4 (9:00pm).

Coordinator: Linda Casucci casuccilj@gmail.com
Change To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [10/10 Day Sail](#)

Weekend Day Sail

Cost: \$25 - 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.

**Oct. 11 Sunday**

Destination: Skipper's Choice.

Deadline: Mail and online registrations must be received by Oct. 4 (9:00pm).

Coordinator: Linda Casucci casuccilj@gmail.com
Change To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [10/11 Day Sail](#)

Weekend Day Sail

Cost: \$25 - 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.

**Oct. 14****Wednesday****Mid-Week Day Sail****Destination:** Skipper's Choice.**Cost:** \$25 - Member or Non-Member.**Deadline:** Mail and online registrations must be received by Oct. 7 (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:** Melinda Zimmerman melbay22@gmail.com
To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [10/14 Day Sail](#)**Oct. 17-18****Saturday – Sunday****Chill Cook-off Cruise****Destination:** Maryland Yacht Club, Patapsco Rv. Sail or Drive in. **Skippers, reserve your slip for MYC through Dockwa.****Cost:** \$70 + pot of chili per boat.
\$20 + side dish to share - For Saturday Drive-in.**Deadline:** Mail and online registrations must be received by Oct. 6 (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:** Janet Gonski jgsunset@yahoo.com
To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [Chili Cook-off](#)**Oct. 22****Thursday****Mid-Week Day Sail****Destination:** Skipper's Choice.**Cost:** \$25 - Member or Non-Member.**Deadline:** Mail and online registrations must be received by Oct. 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:** Carole Jordan seajay2844@gmail.com
To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [10/22 Day Sail](#)**Oct. 24-25****Saturday – Sunday****Rocking to the Rhode River Cruise****Destination:** Outside Sheephead Cove, Rhode River.**Cost:** \$50 - Member or Non-Member.**Deadline:** Mail and online registrations must be received by Oct. 13 (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:** Dorothy Nicholson dorothy.m.nicholson@verizon.net
To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [Rocking the Rhode](#)**Oct. 31-
Nov. 1****Saturday – Sunday****Halloween Cruise & Party****Destination:** Pirates Cove Marina, Galesville. **Skippers, contact Pirates Cove Marina to reserve your slip. (301) 928-6605.****Cost:** \$118 - Member or Non-Member.
\$48 - Party only.**Deadline:** Mail and online registrations must be received by Oct. 20 (9:00pm).
Party only Deadline: Oct. 28.**Note:** Non-Member may sail once with a Member and must mail a separate Registration Form with a check to the coordinator.**Coordinator:** Barbara Wise Bwise8426@gmail.com
To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [Halloween Cruise/Party](#)**Nov. 6-8****Friday – Sunday****OysterFest Cruise****Destination:** CBMM, St Michaels, Miles River. **Skippers, reserve your slip through Dockwa on October 8, 12:01am.****Cost:** \$105 - Member or Non-Member.
There is a separate charge to attend the OysterFest.**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:** Linda Casucci casuccilj@gmail.com
To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here: [Oyster Fest](#)

**Nov. 14 Saturday****Destination:** Galesville Memorial Hall.**BY INVITATION ONLY.****Deadline:** Mail and online registrations must be received by Nov. 4, (9:00pm).**Coordinator:** Laura Keough Laurasan2@yahoo.comTo register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [Wrap-up Meeting](#)**Cruising Appreciation (Wrap-up) Meeting/Party****Cost:** Free to invited Participating Skippers, First Mates and Coordinators only. \$20 for Guest of Invitees.**Time:** 11:00am to 3:00pm**Feb. 20 to March 2 7-day Trip or 10-Day Trip****Destination:** Saint Martin/Sint Maarten. With Dream Yacht Charter.**Note:** Details can be found on: [St. Martin 2027 Presentation](#)**Coordinator:** Coco Lanquetuit - clanquetuit@hotmail.com**Early 2027 – Bareboat Cruise****Cost:** (See Presentation) = Boat Cost and Admin Fee. Air Fare and Insurance are separate.**Note:** To Download Registration Form with Payment Information, click here: [St. Martin Application](#)

Come join us for Lin Pardey's Evening of Fun-Ding

A fund raiser in support of CRAB (Chesapeake Region Accessible Boating)

SOS/LinPardey Fun-ding for CRAB, Friday, October 16, 2026, United Church of Christ of Annapolis, 6 Carvel Circle, Edgewater, Maryland. 6:30pm - 9:00 pm

In the early days of CRAB, Lin and her late husband Larry were planning to attend the Annapolis Sailboat show to present a series of seminars. After exchanges with Don Backe, the founder of CRAB, they set up their world-renowned wooden boat *Taleisn* next to the CRAB boat on display at the event. The line of visitors wishing to explore the beautiful wooden boat while escorted below by CRAB disabled sailors raised a great deal of money for CRAB.

This fall, Lin returns to the Annapolis Boat Show and in addition to connecting with old friends, selling her books, and sharing stories, she also wanted to reprise her fundraising for CRAB. With the support of members of SOS, there will be an evening of food, laughter, fun, and silent auction with all profits going to support the mission of CRAB.

How did all of this come about? In March 2025 while on the SOS New Zealand bareboat trip, our skipper Gabi Van Wie contacted Lin to set up a meeting. As a long time follower of Lin's blogs and social media, Gabi knew how much Lin thrives on spending time with "friends she hasn't met yet." Upon reaching out to Lin, Gabi received an open invitation for the SOS boats to come to Lin's home – and two boats were able to take advantage of that gathering.

Now, 18+ months later, Lin plans to attend the October Sailboat show, and with so many of our SOS members already volunteering at CRAB, it seemed a natural fit to support Lin in her fundraising efforts.



This event will be open to the public with a \$30 register fee and sign up on SOS website. There is limited space of 60 people so sign up soon. There are opportunities for SOS members who are registered to volunteer to help make this a great event. You can sign up to volunteer on the SOS website. If you can't attend but would like to donate financially to the "Fun-ding," select the donate button on the website. Also, if you would like to donate something for the silent auction, please contact Kathy McFadden kjmcfadden@comcast.net

Meet the Candidates

Catherine Fox



When I joined SOS 18 years ago, I had never sailed. On my first cruise, the skipper put me on the helm and I was hooked. His wife showed me paper chart plotting, and had me spotting for tankers. Cocktail hour was well-earned!

Thanks to so many generous skippers showing me the ropes, six years ago I felt confident enough to buy my Hunter 28.5. Now I'm the one inviting crew to join me, and I love sharing my boat and knowledge. The best part is giving someone long enough on the helm to see them get a feel for it, a priceless opportunity for the boatless.

If elected to the board, I promise to listen carefully to your insights. From my years as a writer, editor, and communications manager for environmental nonprofits, I can bring my ability to research, evaluate, and prioritize. With experience as crew and skipper, new, younger working person and now retiree, I have a solid understanding of perspectives. When we know what our members want today, we can see where we should focus for the future.

First, we've got to boost skipper numbers—and participation—so folks aren't left ashore. Last year, of 70 skippers designated active, 40 signed up for one sail or more. Just 15 sailed regularly.

Skippers share their beloved boats, which cost them a lot of time, money and, frankly, aggravation. As crew, we reciprocate by helping prep for the season, providing food and drink, and lending a hand on deck. Let's figure out how to do this even better, with more appreciation all around, so skippers new and old sign up more often.

Second, we have to attract younger members. It's simple: the younger demographic is essential to securing the future.

Our generous skippers and volunteers are the heart of this amazing club, and I'm grateful for every one of them.

I hope I have your vote as I, too, seek to do my part for SOS. Thank you.

Laura Keough



I have been an SOS member and skipper since 2022. Through SOS I have met wonderful people who share my passion for sailing, explored new places on the Chesapeake and overseas, sailed in a wide variety of conditions, improved my sailing skills, and developed friendships that I now consider family.

Over the last 2 years, I have had the privilege of serving as Cruising Co-Chair. One of the biggest lessons I've learned as Cruising Co-Chair is how SOS works and that our club succeeds because of its volunteers. As my term as Cruising Co-Chair comes to an end, I wanted to continue serving this wonderful club, so I accepted the nomination to run for the Board.

My love of sailing began at age 18 when, despite never having sailed before - I bought a Sunfish and then taught myself to sail. A few years later I added windsurfing to the mix. After taking time away from sailing to raise my children, I gradually returned to the water, moving up to larger boats, earning my ASA certifications, and in 2021 becoming the proud owner of *Satori*, my Beneteau Oceanis 323.

Before retiring three years ago, I spent my career as a chemical engineer, eventually becoming a Business Director, responsible for global business strategy, financial performance, and leadership of an international team. That role included seven years living and working in Japan. While a volunteer organization is very different from the corporate world, I believe the skills of listening, collaborating, building consensus, planning, and making thoughtful decisions are equally valuable in serving SOS.

If elected, my goal is to help ensure that our club remains vibrant and welcoming so that five or ten years from now, new members will discover the same sense of community, memorable sailing experiences, and lifelong friendships that so many of us have enjoyed. I believe a strong club is built by supporting our volunteers, encouraging new members to become involved, developing future skippers and leaders, maintaining sound financial stewardship, and preserving the welcoming, friendly spirit that defines SOS.

I would be honored to earn your vote and the opportunity to continue serving this club.

Genienne Navarro



It was early in the pandemic when a friend and I were trying to figure out how we could get together safely, and he said, do you like to sail? Now I have known David for 30 years across 3 countries and I never knew he had grown up sailing! I had never sailed before, but

there we were on Lake Nockamixon on his Tanzer 16, with him at the tiller and coaching me on the jib handling, and the exhilaration I felt was like taking my first breath of oxygen! I thought, "OK, how can I do this for the rest of my life?!"

Fast forward about 10 months and my 2 teenage kids and I are moving to Annapolis! My kids got online, searching things up for me and they said, "Mom, we found it! It's perfect for you!" Yes, you guessed it: Singles on Sailboats. I went to a Happy Hour in the fall, then joined Spring Training in March, and I have since been welcomed into an amazing community of sailors that it is a joy to be a part of. I took ASA 101, and worked through the Basic Skills and now am in the Potential First Mate's Program.

For the past few years I've been working at the University of Maryland Career Center, though I spent most of my career in intercultural competence development in the US and overseas. I mention this because my work in the intercultural training field emphasizes seeing from multiple perspectives, collaborative and creative problem solving, and effective communication. I think these skills will be an asset on the Board, as we work to continue to stay relevant to current members, while also attracting new members who will stay and contribute, and help SOS thrive over the coming years.

Many people have worked so hard to make this organization what it is today. And I'd like to be a part of helping that continue, building on the current magnificent organization and culture, and integrating new members with new ideas and new skills to contribute. I would welcome this opportunity to serve you on the board.

Gerry Ragland



I'm Gerald Ragland, though most people know me as "Gerry." Having been invited to run for the SOS Board of Directors, I'd like to share a little about myself as you consider the candidates.

I am widowed and have three grown children. My primary residence is in Alexandria, Virginia, but I spend much of my time in Annapolis, where I own a condo and keep my Tartan 34-2 at Severn House on Back Creek.

Professionally, I'm an attorney. I graduated from Temple University School of Law. During my 45-year legal career, I practiced as a trial lawyer in Pennsylvania, Maryland, the District of Columbia, and Virginia. Today I remain licensed in Maryland, D.C., and Virginia.

Sailing has been a lifelong passion. I began boating in the 1960s and purchased my first sailboat, a Tartan 27, in 1981. Since then, I've sailed throughout the Chesapeake Bay and its rivers, as well as the Virgin Islands, San Francisco Bay, and, most recently, on the SOS trip to Grenada.

Some of my favorite memories include a two-week circumnavigation of the Delmarva Peninsula aboard a chartered Tartan 37 and an offshore voyage to New York Harbor aboard my current boat. Although weather forced us to change plans, the trip included sailing into New York Harbor, passing the Statue of Liberty, and a memorable overnight run down the Jersey Shore.

Beyond sailing, I have administrative experience managing social services programs for the Philadelphia Housing Authority and have served as President of the Friends of the Torpedo Factory Art Center in Alexandria. Along the way, I've also worked as a schoolteacher, auto mechanic, carpenter, and railroad brakeman.

I joined SOS nearly three years ago to expand my sailing opportunities and have thoroughly enjoyed the friendships and experiences the club has provided. If elected, I would be honored to give back by serving on the Board and helping ensure thrive for all members.

Meet the Candidates

Meet the Candidate

Janet Pennewell



I first joined Singles on Sailboats just over 4 years ago – but it seems like so much longer because it has become such an important part of my life! In that time, I've been the chair of the Social Committee as well as the Bareboat Bursar. I was first elected to the Board 2 years ago where I've served as the Treasurer. So yes, I'm the one who sends your reimbursement check, processes refunds, pays our bills, and does our taxes.

I briefly considered retiring from the Board and not running again. But then I thought about how important the club is to me and how important it is that those of us who value the club give back. And I know from experience just how hard it is to recruit members to take on our most important roles – especially board members and committee chairs. So here I am again – asking for your support.

For those of you who may not know me, my love of sailing began in my teens when I spent summers on Lake Huron learning to sail with my uncle. In my twenties, I graduated to racing one-design Lightnings with the Severn Sailing Association. After years living in Arizona with no sailing, I made my way back to Annapolis in 2022 and joined SOS. It has added a whole new dimension to my sailing experience - with weekend sails on the bay, bareboat cruises, and best of all, the invaluable friendships. And I have found that the more I get involved with SOS the more I get back from it.

I do have a history of getting involved in the organizations I care about: from running fund raising events for charities including Susan G Komen, to organizing the all-night graduation party for my son's high school class. I served on the board of the golf club my late husband and I belonged to in Scottsdale, and most recently co-chaired two major regattas here at Eastport Yacht Club.

A little bit about my professional background. I have a Master's degree in Finance and Accounting and have spent my career in a variety of positions at major financial institutions. I worked my way up to becoming a senior executive at Fannie Mae in Washington DC and then served as Chief

Financial Officer of the Home Equity Division at Wells Fargo Bank. I continue to work part-time as an accounting manager at Weems & Plath here in Annapolis.

I would be delighted to continue to share this experience by serving on the Board for another two-year term if elected.

Gabriel Ruiz

Gabe holds a BS in Science with major in Math and minor in physics. He attended University of Maryland Math Graduate school in College Park. He has worked as contractor to the space agency, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the Defense Department. He was self-employed for many years in the area of computers.

He has been boating since very early age, in the Caribbean, around Puerto Rico, and through the Chesapeake Bay.

He has been a member of SOS twice, once around 1990 and recently since 2021. He has served on the Board for the past two years. The first year as liaison to the database committee.

Currently he is the liaison to the Skippers' Advisory Committee. He helped Mylin Jordan in the recent Experienced Sailor event. Volunteered at the new members' event. Currently he is busy with the relocation of the storage locker, which should save the club a good chunk of money.

Peter Van Houten

Dear SOS members:

I've been a member for approximately two years at SOS, and others have suggested that I should run for the board to help the SOS Club.



My sailing experience started when I was 10 years old in a summer camp. Earlier than that, my father was a naval officer and had sail and power boats all his life. My training was through his instructions. After playing with lasers and lightning sailboats, I graduated to a Wind Surfer. When I purchased my 45-foot sailboat in 1989, the insurance company asked me what my previous experience was. I filled out the form "wind surfer". I'm quite sure that gave them a little bit of a pause.

Since joining SOS, I have tried to be more and more active in the sailing activities. I have been on one of the bare-boat charters and plan to go on several more. The opportunity that this Club provides to do these things and travel to places I normally would not have considered is exquisite.

The vast majority of the SOS membership have experienced a severe loss. We have all lost "crew" in our lives. We love sailing and we love interacting with others as sailing alone is typically a very lonely sport. I have joined the club after losing my wife of 37 years in 2022. What I seek out of the club is friendship and crew. We can still and should still get on with life enjoying it as much as we can before we pass over the bar.

As a board member, I believe our focus should be getting new members in and making our current members experience the time of their lives. I don't know that I can do that, but I certainly am willing to try, especially with all the other dedicated individuals that give freely of their time to this club. This club would not exist without all the dedicated volunteers that selflessly give freely of their time. I hope that all the membership continues to volunteer. I hope to honor the club with my efforts.

Sincerely yours, Peter Van Houten

Evaluating Board Candidates

*By Richard Cordaro
Vice Commodore*

As you consider the candidates for the upcoming Board election, keep in mind the important responsibilities of Board service:

- Prudent stewardship of the club's assets, resources, and reputation.
- Commitment to the SOS mission and acting in the best interests of the club.
- Adherence to the club's bylaws, policies, and governing regulations.

We are fortunate to have members willing to step forward and serve. As you evaluate candidates, consider the qualities that help build a strong and successful Board:

- Is the candidate collaborative, positive, and forward-thinking?
- Does he or she bring fresh ideas and a willingness to listen?
- Is the candidate open-minded and creative in solving problems?
- Can he or she think strategically while remaining practical?
- Does the candidate work well with others and demonstrate enthusiasm for the future of SOS?

These are the qualities that help our club thrive. Thank you for taking the time to learn about the candidates and participate in this important election.

When the ballot comes out in September, remember to VOTE!

Meet the Candidate

Seafood Feast

(All names are listed L to R)



Melinda Zimmerman



Dana Tulis and
Janet Pennewell



Teri Nachazel and
Susan Veccia



Rob Swick, Melinda
Zimmerman, and Noreen
McGuire



Linda Casucci, Barbara Wise,
and Kathy Haven



Jill Montgomery, Shelly
Castle, and Teresa Scofield



Jim Huber and
Sandy Demento



Suzanne Vaughn and
Kathy Haven



Melinda Zimmerman and
Rich Yacopino

Photographs submitted by John Parsons.

PHOTO EDITOR: Bob Wright – robert.wright.bowie@gmail.com
Please include names with your photos so we can learn everyone's names.

Seafood Feast

(All names are listed L to R)



Kathy Haven and Steve Fisher



Grainne Levine and Rob Swick



Ginny Trulio and Susan Zevin



Sandy Demento, Kathy Haven

Seafood photographs submitted by John Parsons.



Soren Harbom, Samia AbdelWahed, and Lauren Harbom

August 9th Power Boat DaySail

Power Boat DS photographs submitted by Robyn Turriff.



Balca Alaybek (NM)



Balca Alaybek (NM) and Art Turriff aboard Thistle

New Member (NM)



Balca Alaybek aboard Thistle

PHOTO EDITOR: Bob Wright – robert.wright.bowie@gmail.com
Please include names with your photos so we can learn everyone's names.

Carry-Over photos not shown in 2025

Dingy Dance

(All names are listed L to R)



Dan Brail and
Michael Sommer (Host)



Frank Beck and Bob Morrow
assembling the dingy.



Michael Sommer in dingy.
Gail Williams and Frank
Beck watching.



Gail Williams



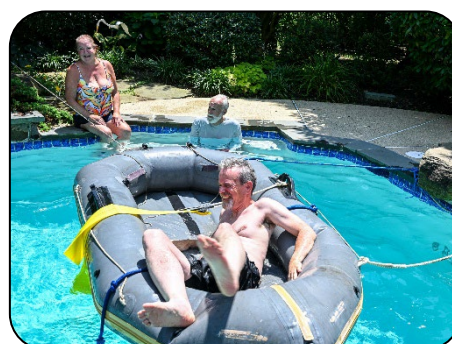
Peter Van Houten



Teresa Scofield



Bob Morrow



John McDonald in dingy.
Gail Williams and Frank Beck
watching.



Linda Perkins and
Peter Van Houten

Photographs submitted by John Parsons.

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
(Happy Hour Editor)
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: **Sept 2nd** **5:30-7:00 PM**
TRUE CHESAPEAKE, 3300 Clipper Mill Road, Suite 400,
Baltimore, MD 21211. (443) 913-6374.

<https://TrueChesapeake.com>

Email coordinator to be added to notification email.

COORD: JOSH – singlesonsailboats@JoshuaGraff.com

1st Wednesday ***Sept HH cancelled, back in Oct***
NOVA/DC: **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: **Sept 10th** **5:00-7:30 PM**
PLA PALAPA GRILL, 8307 Main Street, Ellicott City, MD
21043. 410-465-0070.

www.lapalapagrill.com

COORDINATORS:

KATHY – mkskathha@gmail.com

JANET – jgsunset@yahoo.com

3rd Wednesday

WILMINGTON:

Sept 16th

5:00 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 6PM. 302-429-7427.

<https://riverfrontde.mytimothysrestaurants.com>

COORDINATOR:

JULIE – jafort@comcast.net

3rd Thursday

ROCKVILLE:

Sept 17th

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>

CORDINATOR:

DEBBIE – hidebbieg@yahoo.com

3rd Thursday

KENT ISLAND:

Sept 17th

5:00-7:00 PM

LIBBEY'S COASTAL RESTAURANT, (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

DI FABIOS, 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:

TBD

4th Thursday

ANNAPOLIS:

Sept 24th

5:00-7:00 PM

COCONUT JOE'S BAR & GRILL, 48 South River Road,
Edgewater, MD 21037. 443-837-6057.

www.coconutjoesmd.com

COORDINATOR:

JERE – jerewglover@msn.com



Annapolis Happy Hour

Left to right: Kevin Garvey, Linda Perkins, Jack McKim, Janet Pennywell, Melinda Zimmerman, Dennis Krizek, Patty Stott, Stacey Popicg, Irene Aronian, Sandy Rosswork, Ray Harris, Dave Tuttle, Emil Becker

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:

Matilda 20 trailerable day sailer/cruiser. LOA 19.5' LWL 16.3' Beam 7.9' Draft 4.2' Retractable keel, Mast 23.5'. Displacement 1550 lbs, Fiberglass hull, Full cabin, Includes trailer, mainsail, foresail, bumpers, life jackets, 4HP Outboard motor, and VHF radio. Asking \$3,500.

Contact Ed at 610-639-2161

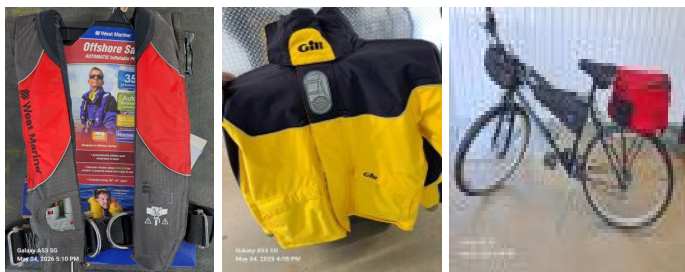
10-26

FOR SALE:

- West Marine offshore automatic Inflatable life jacket with harness. NEW, \$205.
- Gil women's sailing jacket, size 6, yellow and black. Only worn twice. Like new \$195.
- Nishiki men's charcoal 21-speed mountain bike with hybrid tires, Shimano gears, and upgraded seat and handlebars. Additional storage rack and three storage bags. Asking \$325.

If interested, contact Joy at serendipity1sm@yahoo.com or 443-850-4088.

9-26



FOR SALE:

Ladies' Gill offshore, heavy duty OS2 COAT AND BIB PANTS. Waterproof, breathable, windproof, great for open ocean boating. Fits size 12 comfortably. Perfect, like new condition. Selling as set for \$250 (Catalogue price is \$640.) If interested or want additional details, Contact Ellen at espenn16co@gmail.com or 303-635-6766.

10-26

**Welcome New Members**

Diane Stober – Chesapeake Beach, MD

Nedra Woodard – Annapolis, MD

Scott Gregory – Annapolis, MD

Carole Witte – Great Falls, VA

Membership Numbers

	August 2026	August 2025	August 2024	August 2023
Members	233	250	258	235
New Members	+3			
Skippers	65	62	65	69
New Skippers	0			-
Lifetime Members	70	76	79	87
Lifetime Skippers	21	23	21	20
Inactive Members	13	15	16	18
Totals	405	426	439	429

Contacts

YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Name	Office	Liaison to Committee	E-mail Address
Dana Tulis	Commodore		danatulis2@verizon.net
Richard Cordaro	Vice Commodore	First Mates' Advisory, Safety	richardjcordaro@aol.com
Janet Pennewell	Treasurer	Bareboat	treasurer@singlesonsailboats.org
Barbabra Wise	Secretary	Brunches, Social	bwise8426@gmail.com
Paul Anderson		Database, Membership	pbabylon5@gmail.com
Irene Aronian		Newsletter, Public Relations	irene.aronian@gmail.com
Gabriel Ruiz		Skippers' Advisory	gabriel_ruiz@valdesautomation.com
Rich Stewart		Cruising	logo4848@gmail.com
Susan Zevin		Education	susanzevin@me.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, Heide Harper (2026 Trips) Coco Lanquetuit, Emil Becker (2027 Trips)	bareboatchair@singlesonsailboats.org
Brunches	Margaret Schwartz	mschwartzusa@aim.com
Cruising Co-Chairs	Laura Keough Dana Stoffregen	cruisingchair.sos.org@gmail.com
Database Internet	Carrie Will – Team Lead	dbrequests.sos.org@gmail.com
Education	Milyn Jordan	educ.sos.org@gmail.com
First Mates' Advisory Co-Chairs	Lora Donia Jean-Pierre Plé	doniala@aol.com ple.jpp@gmail.com
Membership Co-Chairs	Pat Tracey - Temporary	pptracey@gmail.com
Newsletter	Julie Fort	editorwhiskerpole@yahoo.com
Public Relations	Janet Gonski Victoria Rusakova	jgsunset@yahoo.com v.rusakova@yahoo.com
Safety Co-Chairs	Joan Tannen, Michael Sommer	safety@singlesonsailboats.org
Skippers' Advisory	Sandy Rosswork, Chuck Fort (Backup)	sgrosswork@aol.com
Social Co-Chairs	Tina Lavato Linda Casucci	tinalav1@gmail.com casuccilj@gmail.com
Assistant Treasurer	Lorna Bradley	lorna.bradley@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	saillrn@comcast.net
Northern Virginia & Washington, DC	TBD	
Prince George's County, MD	Flavia Favali	flavia4222@comcast.net
Montgomery County, MD	Debbie Goldberg	hidebbieg@yahoo.com
Annapolis, Crownsville, Edgewater	Sandy Huberfeld	huberfelds@aol.com
Baltimore, MD	Kathy Haven	miskathha@gmail.com
Eastern Shore, North East	Pat Tracey	pptracey@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

September Activities

Labor Day 6-Day Cruise – Sept. 2-7

Labor Day 3-Day Cruise – Sept. 5-7

Mid-Week Day Sails – Sept. 9, 23, 29

Mid-Week Power Boat Day Trip – Sept. 23

Weekend Sails – Sept. 12-13, and 19-20

Oktoberfest Cruise and Party – Sept. 26-27