

**January 2026, Vol. 48, No. 1**

**Membership Renewal Deadline: Jan 31, 2026**  
**Membership Year: Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2026**

Annual membership dues for 2026 will be as follows:

- Regular and Associate Members - \$72
- Lifetime Members - \$47
- Inactive/Nonresident Members - \$15

There will be an additional \$51 charge for those wishing a printed copy of the newsletter each month. Note that if you DO want the printed copy, you MUST check the appropriate box on the dues payment form.

These amounts represent a modest 2.9% increase in line with the Consumer Price Increase (CPI) through August 2025 and reflect the increasing costs of almost every aspect of our club – including the cost of running our website, postage, food and beverages for events, facility costs for our shore party locations, and the storage units where we keep our supplies and equipment.

**Important note:** Although the requested deadline is January 31, the club will honor membership renewals that have been processed by February 28, 2026. **After this grace period, memberships that have not been renewed will lapse.** Lapsed members that wish to rejoin after February 28 will need to join as new members and pay the \$10 administrative fee charged to members in addition to the regular dues.

This change will lessen the demands on our Database team and improve the process for skipper activations for the upcoming sailing season and allow our membership directory to be published earlier. It will also allow members to realize a full year of value for their membership dues.

A renewal email reminder was sent to all members in late November. More reminders will be sent: one at the end of December, one in the third week of January, and one on January 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Regular, Lifetime, and Inactive Members:**

**Online renewal:** Use the link to open the 2026 renewal form: <https://www.singlesonsailboats.org/2026membershiprenewal> Review and make any updates to your Member Profile. You pay your membership dues by credit card (Visa, American Express, Discover, MasterCard).

**Offline renewal:**

- Download a hard copy of the renewal form. [https://www.singlesonsailboats.org/assets/documents/membership/2026Mail\\_In\\_RenewalForm.docx](https://www.singlesonsailboats.org/assets/documents/membership/2026Mail_In_RenewalForm.docx)
- Print, fill out, and mail dues payment (check only) to P.O. Box 5708, Annapolis, MD 21403.

**Regular and Lifetime Skipper Members:**

- Follow the instructions for Regular and Lifetime members.

- Additionally, enter the application items under the Minimum Required and Overnight Required Equipment.
- If you are no longer a boat owner, you will have the option to change your membership to Regular, Lifetime, or Inactive.

**Lifetime Membership Eligibility:**

To become a Lifetime member, your date of birth MUST be on or before December 31, 1954, AND you joined SOS BEFORE March 31, 2009. However, if you had a lapse in your Membership since March 31, 2009, you are NOT eligible to become a Life Member.

To change your membership to Life member, you must contact the membership committee to verify your eligibility for Lifetime membership.

**Inactive/Nonresident Members:**

You are eligible to be an Inactive/Nonresident member if: You live outside of the Chesapeake area and/or have physical or other limitations, and therefore, no longer sail or attend social functions.

Inactive members:

- Will not have voting privileges.
- Will not be able to hold elected office.
- Would not have other benefits of membership.
- Could attend social functions only as the guest of a member, or by paying a non-member fee.

## VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

Dana Tulis, Commodore



Ahoy Sailors,

Suddenly sailing season seems so far in the past, and as I write this, snow has fallen and it is bitterly cold outside. Last night (Dec. 13th), our SOS Parade of Lights team of 28 people ensured our SOS boat looked marvelous, and a brave crew stayed on the boat, while the rest of us were warm in a hotel room overlooking the entire Lights Parade.

We had a wonderful brunch today (Dec. 14th), and our speaker, Retired Navy Vice Admiral John Donnelly, was fantastic, discussing the Navy submarine program during ice expeditions and exercises. Even as a former Coastie : ), I learned a great deal. I wouldn't be surprised if the Admiral became a member!

We will have another great speaker at our Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> brunch. Alex Pellegrini, a renowned Maryland avian ecologist, will discuss the current state of Ospreys on the Bay, the reintroduction efforts, and how this once imperiled bird became a conservation success story.

We had a very productive SOS Board and Committee Chair/Co-Chair annual retreat December 7th. We started with a monthly meeting and reviewed the 2025 budget, which based on current income, we will end with a positive balance.

The 2026 budget was also reviewed, and it was clear that without increases to our cruising fees, the Club's budget will be in the "red." The Board will approve a revised 2026 budget at the Jan. 2nd BOD meeting. The Cruising section of the BOD Notes on page 3 lays out the budget justification to increase sailing fees to \$25 per day. The added fees also support Safety, First Mates' Advisory, and Skippers' Advisory Committees. This is still the best deal you can find, for sailing on a boat for the day.

The Education Committee continues its outstanding planning for the 2026 Training Program. Spring Training will be paused, and three education events will replace it: 1) A Skippers and First Mates Day (2/28), 2) An Extended Flare and Safety Day (4/11), and 3) A "Welcome Aboard for New and Potential Members", with classes only in the morning followed by dockside training in the afternoon (4/25).

The Fall 2026 bareboat cruise in Ireland will be a Canal Trip from Carrick on Shannon to Portumna, Sept. 5 –12<sup>th</sup>.

During the retreat, several new ideas were raised and discussed to improve overall operations and to attract more members.

There was full support for continuing with Co-Chairs or backups for our 12 Committees and that the continuity plans were successful as we transitioned to new Board members and Committee Chairs.

We also discussed creating more of an overlap between new and existing Commodores as well as developing criteria to serve on the Board and look from within our current Board and Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs to identify possible candidates for the BOD, or reach out to other prospects, as opposed to calling every member to determine interest. An ad-hoc committee including myself, Susan Zevin, and Janet Gonski will identify options for consideration. There was a discussion to re-consider members that get married after joining as singles to serve on the BOD, and to look at "solo sailors", for married couples with one only sailor to join the club. An ad-hoc committee of Paul Anderson, Irene Aronian, and Barbara Wise will develop a survey for full membership to vote on options, since a change in the Bylaws would be required for these options. We also discussed better coordination with triple crown races for 2027 because some of our SOS events occur during the same time, for example, the Crab Cup and SOS Seafood Feast.

We are open to more ideas by members, so please contact me or any Board member with other proposals to evaluate. I am excited that we are investigating options to continue membership growth and to further our overall operations while ensuring "safety first."

Finally, our Board members remain the same, however by mutual agreement, we have modified the officer assignments which are now:

Commodore – Dana Tulis  
Vice Commodore – Richard Cordaro  
Treasurer – Janet Pennewell  
Secretary – Barbara Wise

**Dana T. – Commodore**

### Whisker Pole Newsletter

Published Monthly

Singles on Sailboats, Inc.  
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**Boat US Discount Code #GA80619S**

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# Unofficial BOARD Notes December 7, 2025

## Mariner's Point Clubhouse

Official December Minutes will be posted on the SOS website when approved in January by the board of directors.

**Meeting Called to Order:** by Commodore Dana Tulis at about 12:30 pm.

**Secretary:** Richard Cordaro - Minutes of the Nov. 6 meeting approved.

**Treasurer:** Janet Pennewell

|                       | Nov 31, 2025     | Oct 31, 2025     | Dec 30, 2024     |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Club Checking Account | \$20,635         | \$29,026         | \$16,101         |
| 7-Month CD            | 63,410           | 63,212           | 61,178           |
| Bareboat Account      | 85,695           | 65,881           | 81,043           |
| <b>Total Cash</b>     | <b>\$169,740</b> | <b>\$158,119</b> | <b>\$171,916</b> |
| Club CC Chase         | (6,403)          | (4,026)          | (\$180)          |

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

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Bareboat:** Deb Kauffman and Heide Harper are planning the **Spring 2026 – Grenada and Saint Vincent & the Grenadines Trip**. Coordinator: Sandy Rosswork. Date to be determined in early 2026 for general pre trip planning purposes. The Board approved the **Fall 2026 Ireland Canal Trip: Carrick-on-Shannon to Portumna, Ireland**. Coordinator: Doug Gage.

**Cruising:** Laura Keough and Dana Stoffregen

**Weekend Cruise Snapshot:** The 2025 cruising season finished with the Blue Lips Cruise on Nov. 8 to Pirates Cove Marina with 6 boats and 11 crew. The Cruising Wrap-up Party was Nov. 15. It was a successful season with over 85 sailing days on the water with approximately 400 crew placements with 50 members who contributed toward the successful 2025 cruising season.

**2026 Cruising Season Planning Schedule -** Survey to be sent in mid-December. Calendar: Proposal will be sent out for input from skippers and the board in January, finalize calendar Feb. 15. Cruising kickoff April 18; Galesville Memorial Hall has been reserved.

**Cruising Fee Adjustment Justification**  
Justification of adjusting the daily cruising fees for the 2026 sailing season to

\$25/day, plus a \$10/day surcharge specifically for marina-based events.

Dana Stoffregen gave figures from 2025 cruising: Total expenses were \$10,670, up from \$7,709 in 2024; Net income was \$4,903, that's down from \$8,375 in 2024; so, expenses went up and income went down.

### Total Expenses ↑ and Net Operating Income ↓

|                                    | 2025            | 2024           |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| <b>Total Expenses</b>              | <b>\$10,670</b> | <b>\$7,709</b> |
| <b>Marina - Dockage fees</b>       | <b>5,058</b>    | <b>2,870</b>   |
|                                    | 3,938           | 2,681          |
| <b>General Meetings - Catering</b> | <b>3,991</b>    | <b>3,242</b>   |
|                                    | 2,581           | 2,134          |
| <b>Net Operating Income</b>        | <b>\$4,903</b>  | <b>\$8,375</b> |

Source: *Statement of Activity, Singles on Sailboats, Inc., January-December 2025*

**Education:** Milyn Jordan - Kerry Siebein has confirmed three Fireside Chats and is working logistics on four additional topics. The Education Committee is looking for a volunteer to coordinate **Seminars**. A revised budget was submitted to the Treasurer. Revised budget indicates a deficit to cover costs of the Skipper event. The **Education Delivery Focus Group** continues to meet to discuss the best methods of delivering education to SOS members. Planning includes: 1) Skipper Day (for Skippers, First Mates and experienced sailors) - target date is February 28, still exploring venues; 2) Refresh and new member event target date is April 25. The morning at Kent Island library, afternoon at Castle Marina; 3. Flare & Safety Day, plan to meet with Safety Chair to brainstorm additional sessions.

**First Mates:** Lora Donia

**Education:** Coordinate sessions throughout the year for First Mates, First Mate Emeriti, First Mate Candidates, and potential candidates working toward credentials.

**Recruitment:** Continue to recruit SOS crew members as First Mate candidates. Skippers are encouraged to recommend club members who demonstrate strong sailing skills and potential to serve as First Mates.

**Membership:** Pat Tracey and Linda Casucci. Membership is looking for a new Chair. Co-Chair Linda Casucci has ended her position but will continue to answer emails and help with renewals. Co-Chair,

end her position as of February 28, 2026. Pat will also stay on until the renewals have been completed and assist with the transition and training. Renewals: Membership Committee will be looking for 2 more volunteers to make telephone calls to members at the end of January to renew their memberships. The grace period will continue to the end of February, and anyone who has not renewed their membership will need to pay as a new member.

**Newsletter:** Julie Fort. December *Whisker Pole* sent to the printer on November 25th. Two extra copies of the WP were sent to two Happy Hour coordinators.

**Public Relations:** Janet Gonski and Victoria Rusakova. We are in good shape for the Lights Parade decoration, travel, and parade. We are comfortable with how the event is going with one important exception - we need 2 or 3 additional boat riders for the night of the parade on December 13. One thing we want to consider is participating in the Spring Boat Show. It is a free tent for Bay sailing clubs. This spring our materials were packed up by other clubs' reps and therefore not visible because the 'word' has gotten out about the Free tent space and there were upwards of ten clubs squeezing in - since they had bodies on hand, they got non-body materials out of the way. If we do the tent in 2026, can we ask for a schedule of SOS club attendees?

**Skippers' Advisory:** Sandy Rosswork.

1) No new skippers joined the club in the past month. 2) A survey was sent to all skippers requesting their input on the revised Basic Skills Program. Several substantive inputs have been received, and the comments will be aggregated. Still receiving input. 3) Raft Captain program - coordinator Chuck Fort. A new approach is being undertaken to increase the number of skipper volunteers to be raft captain for a specific cruise. A new box has been added to the skipper's registration form, asking if they are willing to be the raft captain for that cruise. This will start in the 2026 sailing season. 4) Skipper Mentor Program - coordinator Bill Ostrander. Few new skippers are willing to accept a mentor, or a liaison. This is offered, but there are few follow-ups. A new approach is being tried. A skipper liaison volunteer has been named for several areas with major concentrations of SOS boats. We have such volunteers for Solomons, Castle Marina, Baltimore, and north. Seeking someone for Annapolis area. Hoping that a local club skipper could more easily meet and aid newly joined skippers. 5) Skipper Helper Program - coordinators Susan Vasco and Emil Becker.

(Continued on page 8.)



## Ospreys on the Patuxent

### January 11<sup>th</sup> Brunch

Roughly one-fourth of the ospreys in the continental U.S. nest in Chesapeake Bay. Ospreys suffered massive declines in the 1950's and 60's due to widespread use of the pesticide DDT. A Maryland avian ecologist Alex Pellegrini, will discuss with us the current state of ospreys (*Pandion Haliaeetus*), commonly known as "fish hawks," in the Patuxent River and the Chesapeake Bay. Alex will discuss osprey biology, his experiences banding ospreys, re-introduction efforts, and how this once-imperiled bird became a conservation success story.

Pellegrini is the Farmland Raptor Program Coordinator with the Maryland Bird Conservation Partnership. Alex leads statewide efforts to expand nesting opportunities for American Kestrels and American Barn Owls, while also studying Short-eared Owls with a focus on taxonomy, behavior, and conservation across Maryland.

Beyond these roles, Alex manages datasets for Operation Osprey, ensuring the integrity and accessibility of their data to support science-based conservation. He also serves on the Maryland/D.C. Records Committee of the Maryland Ornithological Society and is a lead bander at the Project OwlNet station in Frederick, MD. He is also involved in several international collaborations.

Outside of work, he's an avid birder who enjoys exploring new habitats and keeping an eye out for the unexpected.

He earned his B.S. from Towson University in 2022, with a double major in Conservation Biology and Animal Behavior.

DoubleTree Hotel  
Annapolis, MD

Click [Jan 10 FSC](#) to register.

## Regional Brunches

### February 15<sup>th</sup>

Regional Brunches give you an opportunity to have a delightful meal in a member's home. It's a good time to meet skippers and crew from your area that you might sail with next year. This is not a speakers' event – just lots of conversation!

Each host coordinates the menu and communicates directly with the attendees. Ten dollars is payable at the door to cover the incidental costs of the host, and you bring a dish to share.

Currently, we have hosts for brunches in Delaware and Florida. We hope to have hosts in the other areas where our members live: Maryland, Virginia, Washington DC. A list of hosts will be in the February *Whisker Pole*.

If you are interested in hosting a Regional Brunch, please contact the Coordinator Suzanne Vaughn at [suzyvaughn@gmail.com](mailto:suzyvaughn@gmail.com)



## "Fire"

This is one word that triggers an automatic reaction to any skipper or crew. You read articles about fires, see them on TV, and online. But what if you hear the word on your next cruise?

The crew is in the cockpit. It is a beautiful morning on the Rhode River. The breakfast cook is frying bacon to go with the breakfast meal. Suddenly the grease spills over onto the cook top and a fire starts. "Fire" is usually the first word that will be spoken. The

cook tries to remember where the skipper, during his pre-cruise checkout, said where the extinguishers are mounted. Is it under the sink? In the aft cabin? Or somewhere else? The remaining crew begin to panic because they are trying to remember what you should do when there is a fire on board.

The cook remembers the extinguisher is right behind the aft cabin wall. They immediately pull it off the bracket and begin to panic because they went to Flare and Safety Day but have forgotten what the PASS (Pull the pin, Aim at the fire, Squeeze the trigger, and Sweep the spray) procedure is. The fire continues to spread and becomes a real danger to the crew and the boat. They finally discharged the extinguisher. The fire goes out, but there is now fine powder covering the entire cabin, making clean up an almost impossible task to accomplish.

Let's use the same scenario. The fire starts on the stove top. The skipper has a Fire Blanket hanging on the wall next to the stove. The cook just has to pull the tab(s), open the blanket, and slowly, start at the front of the stove top moving toward the back, gently lay the blanket so it covers the area on fire.

After waiting a reasonable amount of time, the cook checks to make sure the fire is out, and announces bacon will not be on the menu.

Fire extinguishers play a major role on any boat or home. But for stove type fires, the Fire Blanket is the safest and easiest method to extinguish this type of fire. It is easily stored, easy to remove from the packet, and will help decrease the clean up after a small fire.

The Fire Blanket is available on Amazon for \$13.00. It would make a great gift for a boat owner as well as for someone to have in their home.

Safe Boating to All,

Karl Scible  
Retired Firefighter/Paramedic

## Cruising Corner

### Happy New Year, Sailors!

As we turn the calendar to 2026, this is the perfect time to start dreaming about warm breezes, steady winds, and another fantastic season on the water. Our 2026 cruising calendar is already taking shape thanks to your input, and we're planning a full lineup of favorite destinations, fun raft-ups, and new adventure-style weekends to make this one of our best years yet. The season officially begins in April, with the Cruising Kickoff on April 18—so dust off those charts and get ready!

As we prepare for the coming season, we also want to share an important update. Cruising expenses have increased by over 30% compared to last year, driven by higher marina fees and general operating costs. To ensure we can continue to sustain our cruising program, we are implementing an increase in cruising fees this season: \$25 per day for day sails and raft-up cruises, and \$35 per day for marina destination cruises. Even with this adjustment, it remains one of the best values on the bay.

Thank you for your continued enthusiasm and support. We're looking forward to another year of great sailing, great company, and great fun. See you on the water this spring!

Laura Keough & Dana Stoffregen  
Cruising Co-Chairs



By John Parsons

## Barge Trip to Ireland

**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**September 5, 2026**



A Le Boat "Barge"

The SOS Board has approved our Fall 2026 Bareboat trip - 7 days (September 5 – 12<sup>th</sup>) cruising down the River Shannon from Carrick-on-Shannon to Portumna. It's about 100 miles (160 kilometers), with a cruising time of about 20 hours, including 5 locks and 2 bridges, and a half-dozen-plus villages and towns worthy of exploration along the way.

Because this is a river trip on power boats, only minimal boating skills and experience are necessary, and the principal fitness requirement is to be able to safely get on and off the boat.

This will be an inexpensive trip. SOS will collect only \$1,000 from each participant, and after-trip refunds will vary, reflecting actual per-person boat costs that will depend on the size and "classiness" of each boat and the number of crew. Additional costs will include fuel and provisioning.

Our starting and ending points are each only about a 2-hour drive from the airports in Dublin (DUB) and Shannon (SNN). Le Boat can arrange transportation to/from either of the airports. Nonstop flights are available to Dublin (and seasonally to Shannon) from all major East Coast airports from Washington up to Boston - roundtrip fares currently range from \$550 to \$700.

The charter company is Le Boat, whom we used for our very successful French

canal trips in 2015 and 2021. They operate in Ireland as "Emerald Star," and they offer a wide range of boats. Their website is:

<https://www.leboat.com/boating-vacations/ireland>

To find out more:

- Look at the Le Boat Cruising Guide to check out the itinerary in detail. <https://indd.adobe.com/view/c035c43d-b52c-4777-9bb5-881100b5db62>
- Go to the Le Boat website to get a better flavor of the experience.
- Read the article in an upcoming *Whisker Pole* newsletter.
- Attend a Fireside Chat where Janet Gonski and Karl Scible will describe their experience doing this trip in 2024 (in Philadelphia February 7<sup>th</sup>; in Annapolis March 6<sup>th</sup>).
- Send an "expression of interest" (crew? skipper??) email to me, coordinator Doug Gage ([douggage@gmail.com](mailto:douggage@gmail.com)), so I can keep in touch and remind you when registration opens.

"Sure and we're hopin' ta be seein' you next year in the Emerald Isle!"

— Doug

## SOS Database Help Desk



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

database. You can contact us at: [dbrequests.sos.org@gmail.com](mailto:dbrequests.sos.org@gmail.com)

To help us assist you more effectively, please provide detailed information when you reach out. Include who is involved, when the issue arose, what the specific problem/request is, and why you need help. Your input will enable us to resolve your concerns or requests more efficiently. Thank you.

Database Team

## 2025 SOS Photo Contest

Have you taken some **great shots** at SOS activities this year? Look through the photos you have taken in 2025 and submit the best to the 2025 SOS Photo Contest which is an amateur photographer contest. Each photo **must** identify at which SOS event it was taken and the name of the photographer.

**Categories:** People, Bay scenes (including sunsets), Sailboats (sailboats under sail, raft-ups), and destination cruises. The destination cruises category includes photos taken during the actual SOS destination cruises and photos taken on days when traveling prior to or after a destination cruise, provided the photos are from the same area. (A destination cruise of the Mediterranean may **not** include photos from a layover in Amsterdam.)

**Other Useful information:** Submit your photos in digital format. Send photos attached to emails, Drop Box, or contact Bob Wright for instructions to upload to the Photo Editor's Google drive. **Submit photos in high resolution.** The photos will be enlarged to 5" x 7" (and larger to project to a screen). If the photo is fuzzy, it reduces your chance of winning. Photos not submitted in the 5" x 7" format will be cropped to that format. Smart phone photos may be submitted. Please select high resolution for photos in your smart phone setup.

NOTE: The 2025 SOS Photo Contest **Will Allow** some editing for the first time. **Final contest rules are on the SOS website.** Search for "2025 Photo Contest."

**Judging:** Bob Wright, the Photo Contest Manager, and the Judge may put your photos in the best applicable category. There will be First, Second, and Third Place Awards for each of the four categories and a Grand Prize Award. The photos will be judged by a greater Annapolis area professional photographer from outside the club.

The judging will be blind, so the judge will not know which photographer took which photograph.

SEND photo entries to Bob Wright by midnight on **January 11, 2026**, at: [Robert.wright.bowie@gmail.com](mailto:Robert.wright.bowie@gmail.com) Put "2025 SOS Photo Contest" in the subject line. Changes or swapping photos are allowed up until the deadline.

The contest results will be presented at the April Brunch.

## Skipper's & First Mate's Day

*By Emil Becker and Milyn Jordan,  
Education Committee*

Skippers, First Mates, and **experienced sailors**, mark your calendars for February 28<sup>th</sup>. The Education Committee is trying a new approach in 2026, and our first event is Skipper's/First Mate's Day. This will be an all-day event held in the Annapolis area. Hopefully no snow!

The program is intended to enhance the knowledge and skills of SOS's most experienced sailors. It will include lectures and participatory discussions, so no sitting back!

Details and registration information are coming soon! **SAVE THE DATE!**

\*\*\*\*\*

## Welcome New Members

**Kyle Stump**

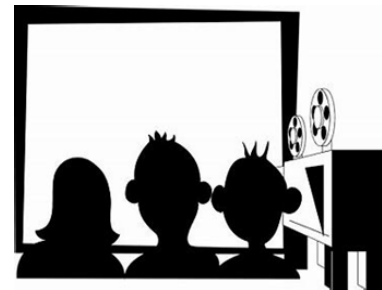
Catonsville, MD

&

**Herb Pierson**

Westminister, MD

\*\*\*\*\*



## 2025 SOS Photo Retrospective

### We Want Your Photos!

Each year SOS presents a Retrospective video of a compilation of photos taken in or at club activities, on land and on the water, starring YOU, our members! It is set to music that makes it an enjoyable presentation.

Prepared by John Parsons, the results are always fun to see! Check out the 2024 Photo Retrospective here: [2024 Retrospective](#) The music for this Retrospective on the website had to be removed to satisfy the web host.

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

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

The Retrospective will be presented at the April brunch.

Smart phone photos are acceptable. Identify at which SOS event the photos were taken.

**Please send your photos to John by January 15 at:**

[Johnfparsons\\_9@gmail.com](mailto:Johnfparsons_9@gmail.com)



## Awards, Awards, and More Awards

SOS will recognize four members for their significant contributions of time, energy, and talent (the annual member recognition awards) to our all-volunteer Club. The 2025 Awards will be presented at an event to be announced soon. SOS will recognize four members for their significant contributions to our all-volunteer Club. Members will also be recognized for contributing whimsical, good-natured humor through their foibles, bloopers, and flim-flams called the Jibe Ho awards.

Nominations from the membership are requested and should include the nominee's name, the award for which she/he is nominated, and a description of why the nominee qualifies for the award. Nominations for both the Board Awards and the Jibe Ho Awards should be sent to Vice Commodore Richard Cordaro at: [richardjcordaro@aol.com](mailto:richardjcordaro@aol.com) Submission Deadline is January 15<sup>th</sup>.

### So, What Are the Annual Awards?

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

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

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

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

## North to the Canal and Beyond 2026 Extended

*By Emil Becker,  
Spring Extended Trip Leader*

Think spring! Might be hard to do as winter has just gotten here, but it is not that far away. Come spring we have an exciting extended cruise for you. North to the C & D Canal. Never too early to plan whether you want to crew or skipper.

In May 2026, SOS's Extended Cruise will be going north to C & D Canal. Starting with the club's Memorial Day Cruise on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, the extended cruisers will jump for their northern bay experience. In case you have not sailed the northern bay, it is pristine with beautiful anchorages and marinas, and small towns. Kind of like sailing on a lake!

The extended cruise will visit ports like Fairlee Creek, Worton Creek, Still Pond, Sassafras River, Chesapeake City, Summit, Georgetown, Harve de Grace, Middle River, and Baltimore. Combination of nice marinas with good restaurants, and neat anchorages for rafts.

There will be options: 1) a seven-day cruise to the canal and back, and 2) a longer 10 - 14-day cruise with more time to explore the various ports or going on to places like New Jersey or Philadelphia. Choose the best option for you!



## Fireside Chats

It's time to weather the cold inside with heartwarming

Regional Fireside Chats (FSC). The FSCs are held at members' homes in the different areas our members live in. The evening starts with socializing and libations, and then dinner is served. After dinner, a speaker presents a short program. The topics for FSCs can be of a wide variety of topics that are of interest to SOS members.

### A Guide to Bareboating January 10 – Annapolis

The first Fireside Chat of the season will be on Bareboating and will be hosted by John and Nancy Parsons in their Annapolis home. Carole Jordan is the Coordinator for the FSC. John, Nancy, and Carole are also the speakers for this FSC!

This event is for everyone – whether you are new to bareboating or a veteran of SOS bareboat cruises. Have all your questions answered or just come to share your experience and memories. Please join them for a fun evening and learn all about bareboating. Maybe you will be joining the spring SOS bareboat cruise in Grenada or the Barge Trip in Ireland!

Click [Jan 10 FSC](#) to register.

### Using the Navionics Boating App January 17th – Annapolis

SOS member Mark Gordon will speak on using the Navionics Boating application. Navionics is used by many SOS skippers, First Mates, and interested crew for navigation and route planning. It provides detailed nautical charts with depth contours, shorelines, ports, and navigation aids for safe passage. It allows users to create and save routes, measure distances, and get auto-generated safe routes to points of interest. You can figure out where the raft is and how to get there safely.

If you don't have the **free** Navionics Boating App, you need to download the app before the FSC so you can learn how to use the software. The

app can be downloaded to your smartphone or tablet in advance.

Download the Navionics North American chart package. This is **available free for 14 days**. If you want to take advantage of the free trial (rather than subscribing to the chart for \$49.95 for one year), wait to download the charts until **less than 14 days** before Jan.

Click [Jan 17 FSC](#) to register.

### Barge Trip Through Ireland February 7<sup>th</sup> – Philadelphia March 6<sup>th</sup> – Annapolis

What do you say when you spend an evening in an Irish pub, in a little riverside town, and after playing nearly an hour past planned closing, the Irish musicians thank US for a for a great evening? You say, "It was great and thanks for the music!"

Listen to SOS members Janet Gonski and Karl Scible who rode a Le Boat "barge" down the Shannon River in early October 2024. They will share moments and photos of the beauty of the Irish landscape and the small Irish towns with their pubs, cemeteries, and churches. "Thanks for the experience" was their feeling each day as they cruised slowly down the river, through the heart of Ireland.

Karl and Janet's experience can be yours with the planned SOS bareboat barge trip through Ireland in September 2026. (See more information on the trip on Page 5.)

### The War of 1812 Around the Chesapeake February 21<sup>st</sup> – Annapolis

Captain Frederick H. Hallett (Ret.) is a lifelong sailor, retired naval officer, and author. Drawing on a distinguished career at sea and his deep respect for America's maritime heritage, Hallett brings history vividly to life. His latest work, *Rewinning the Revolution: The Misunderstood War of 1812*, explores the paradoxes of the War of 1812 — a conflict that changed everything while settling nothing.

Click [Feb 21 FSC](#) to register.

### Becoming a First Mate: A Personal Experience February 28<sup>th</sup> – Rockville, MD

Jean-Pierre Plé will speak at this Fireside Chat. It will be hosted by Barbara Wise in her Rockville home.

As a recently designated First Mate in the club, Jean-Pierre (aka "Andy Cooks") will share his path and experience towards becoming a First Mate. He will also share lessons learned from his preparation and completion of the required checkout cruises.

Click [Feb 28 FSC](#) to register.

\*\*\*\*\*

### BOD Notes Continued from page 3.

**Social:** Co-Chairs: Tina Lavato, Linda Casucci. The Co-Chairs met in November to review the 2026 calendar, budget, operating procedures, and related planning items. Below are the Board-approved events with either confirmed or tentative dates:

| Event                                   | Date               | Location   |
|---|--------------------|--|
| <b>DNR Cruise &amp; Shore Party</b>     | May 15-17          | Wye Island<br>NRMA<br>Queenstown<br>MD<br><b>Venue Booked</b>  |
| <b>SOS 48<sup>th</sup> Anniv. Party</b> | June 20<br>(tent.) | TBD  |
| <b>Seafood Feast</b>                    | Aug. 15-16         | Lankford Bay<br>Marina<br>Rock Hall,<br>MD <b>Venue Booked</b> |
| <b>Chili Cook-off</b>                   | Oct. 7<br>(tent.)  | TBD  |
| <b>Halloween Party</b>                  | Oct. 31<br>(tent.) | TBD  |

**Next Board Zoom Meetings:** Jan. 2, 2026; Feb. 5, 2026; March 5, 2026.

**Discussion: Anniversary Party.** Based on experience and input from other club members, we created a short list of potential venues for the club's 48<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party, aiming for a target date of June 20<sup>th</sup> to best align with the Cruising schedule: **Safe Harbor Port Annapolis** (venue for previous two parties); **Miles River Yacht Club**, St. Michael's; **Maryland Yacht Club**, Pasadena; **West River Sailing Club**, Edgewater; **Lankford Bay Marina**, Rock Hall; **Yacht Club**, Shadyside. Completed and submitted the CYC's event application form. Provided the general manager with additional event details as requested.



## Fleet Exercises and Shore Leave

Please email your questions and request for directions to the coordinator.

If you are paying by check for any sailing event, a paper Sailing Registration Form must **accompany the check** mailed to the **coordinator**. A copy of this form can be found on the SOS website. All checks are to be made payable to **SOS, Inc.** The postmark is used as the mail in cutoff/deadline date.

**Note: Individual request for refunds will incur a \$3 Administration Fee.**

### SOS Wellness Protocol Revised (3/7/2024)

All participants attending SOS in-person events should be feeling well. They should not attend an event if they have symptoms of a communicable respiratory or gastrointestinal illness, are "feeling like something is coming on," have a recent significant exposure to someone with a communicable respiratory or gastrointestinal illness, or have not waited a recommended isolation time after a recent respiratory or gastrointestinal infection. In addition, a skipper/host may have further requirements or request other preventive measures (for example, crew or guests having received the currently recommended COVID-19 vaccine or wearing masks when below deck). All in-person participants should expect to be denied admission without a refund if they fail to comply with this policy.



**Jan. 2**

**Thursday**

**Board Meeting**

**Location:**

Zoom option only. Contact Commodore if interested in attending.  
[commodore@singlesonsailboats.org](mailto:commodore@singlesonsailboats.org)

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

**Note:** Open to all Members.



**Jan. 10**

**Saturday**

**Area Fireside Chat**

**Location:**

Annapolis, Maryland.

**Cost:** \$20 by deadline.  
\$25 after deadline.

**Speakers:**

Carole Jordan, Nancy and John Parsons.

**Host:** Nancy and John Parsons.

**Topic:**

A Guide to Bareboating.

**Time:** 5:30pm to 9:00pm. **Limited to 12 people.**  
Non-Members must be accompanied by Member. No Smoking, no walk-ins.

**Deadline:**

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

**Note:** **Host requests that all attendees have received the updated COVID Vaccine.**

**Coordinator:**

Carole Jordan [seajay2844@gmail.com](mailto:seajay2844@gmail.com)  
To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [Jan 10 FSC](#)



**Jan. 11**

**Sunday**

**Brunch**

**Location:**

DoubleTree Hotel, Annapolis, MD.

**Cost:** \$43 - Brunch.  
\$52 - After deadline and walk-ins.

**Speaker:**

Alex Pellegrini, Naturalist, with the John Wright Speaker Series.

**Time:** **Walk-ins CANNOT be guaranteed a seat.**  
11:00am Social Hour. 11:45am Brunch. 1:00pm Program.

**Topic:**

Ospreys on the Patuxent.

**Deadline:**

Mail and online registrations must be received by Jan. 6 (9:00pm).

**Note:** *Please note that audio or video recording of this presentation is not permitted without the express permission of the presenter.*

**Coordinator:**

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



**Jan. 17**

**Saturday**

**Area Fireside Chat**

**Location:**

Springfield, VA.

**Cost:** \$20 by deadline.  
\$25 after deadline, if space available

**Speaker:**

Mark Gordon.

**Host:** Karia Address.

**Topic:**

Using the Navionics Boating App.

**Time:** 5:00pm to 9:00pm. **Limited to 12.**

**Deadline:**

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

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

**Note:** See registration page for requirements.

**Coordinator:**

Kerry Siebein [ksiebein@gmail.com](mailto:ksiebein@gmail.com)  
To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [Jan 17 FSC](#)

**Feb. 5****Thursday****Board Meeting****Location:**

Zoom option only. Contact  
Commodore if interested in attending.  
[commodore@singlesonsailboats.org](mailto:commodore@singlesonsailboats.org)

**Time:** 6:00pm to 7:00pm.**Note:** Open to all Members.**Feb. 7****Saturday****Area Fireside Chat****Location:**

Philadelphia, PA.

**Cost:** \$20 by deadline.  
\$25 after deadline.**Speakers:**

Janet Gonski and Karl Scible.

**Host:** Deb Kauffman.**Topic:**

A Barge Trip Through Ireland.

**Time:** 3:30pm to 7:30pm. **Limited to 12 people.**

Non-members must be accompanied by member. No Smoking, no walk-ins.

**Deadline:**

Mail and online registrations must be received by Jan. 30 (9:00pm).

**Note:** This presentation will also be offered in Annapolis on March 6.**Coordinator:**Paul Anderson [pbabylon5@gmail.com](mailto:pbabylon5@gmail.com)To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [Feb 7 FSC](#)**Feb. 15****Sunday****Regional Brunches****Location:**

Held in private homes of SOS members. MD, VA, DE, PA, DC & FL. See list in February *Whisker Pole*. Then members contact host to register and receive directions.

**Cost:** \$10 payable at the door.  
Plus, a dish to share.**Deadline:**

Contact host by February 8.

**Time:** 11:00am. Social Hour.  
12:00noon. Brunch.**Note:** No online sign-up for this event. Please RSVP directly to the host.**Coordinator:**Contact Suzanne Vaughn if interested to host [suzyvaughn2@gmail.com](mailto:suzyvaughn2@gmail.com)**Feb. 21****Saturday****Area Fireside Chat****Location:**

Annapolis, Maryland.

**Cost:** \$20 by deadline.  
\$25 after deadline.**Speakers:**

Fred Hallett.

**Host:** Irene Aronian.**Topic:**

The War of 1812 around the Chesapeake.

**Time:** 4:00pm to 8:00pm. **Limited to 12 people.****Deadline:**

Mail and online registrations must be received by Feb. 13 (9:00pm).

**Note:** Non-members must be accompanied by member. No Smoking, no walk-ins.**Coordinator:**Kathy Higdon [khigdon610@comcast.net](mailto:khigdon610@comcast.net),To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [Feb 21 FSC](#)**Feb. 28****Saturday****Area Fireside Chat****Location:**

Rockville, MD.

**Cost:** \$20 by deadline.  
\$25 after deadline, if space available.**Speaker:**

Jean-Pierre Plé.

**Host:** Barbara Wise.**Topic:**

Becoming a First Mate: A Personal Experience.

**Time:** 5:00pm to 9:30pm. **Limited to 12.****Deadline:**

Mail and online registrations must be received by Feb. 20 (9:00pm).

**Note:** Non-Members must be accompanied by Member. No Smoking, no walk-ins.**Coordinator:**Linda Casucci [casuccilj@gmail.com](mailto:casuccilj@gmail.com)To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [Feb 28 FSC](#)

**Mar. 5****Thursday****Board Meeting**

**Location:** Zoom option only. Contact Commodore if interested in attending.  
[commodore@singlesonsailboats.org](mailto:commodore@singlesonsailboats.org)

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

**Mar. 6****Friday****Area Fireside Chat**

**Location:** Annapolis, MD.  
**Speakers:** Janet Gonski and Karl Scible.  
**Topic:** A Barge Trip Through Ireland.  
**Deadline:** Mail and online registrations must be received by Feb. 26 (9:00pm).

**Cost:** \$20 by deadline.  
 \$25 after deadline.  
**Host:** George & Shirley Hollendursky.  
**Time:** 3:30pm to 7:30pm. **Limited to 25 people.**  
 Non-members must be accompanied by member. No Smoking, no walk-ins.  
**Note:** For those who may have missed the February Fireside Chat on this subject.

**Coordinator:** Shirley Brooks-Hollendursky [shirleybbrooks@yahoo.com](mailto:shirleybbrooks@yahoo.com)  
 To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [Mar 6 FSC](#)

**Mar. 7****Saturday****Seminar – CPR & First Aid for Mariners**

**Location:** Annapolis Fire Department, 620 Taylor Avenue, Annapolis, MD.  
**Speaker:** Annapolis Fire Dept., EMS Team.  
**Topic:** CPR/AED and First Aid for Mariners.  
**Deadline:** Mail and online registrations must be received by Feb. 26 (9:00pm).

**Cost:** \$48 (The club is paying the other half of the training and certification costs).  
**Time:** 9:00am to approximately 3:00pm.  
**Limit of 20.**  
**Note:** A light breakfast and lunch will be included.

**Coordinator:** Joan Tannen [safety@singlesonsailboat.org](mailto:safety@singlesonsailboat.org)  
 To register and for more details, (Log on first) click here. [Mar 7 CPR](#)

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

**Destination:** Grenada and Saint Vincent & the Grenadines.

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

**Note:**

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

**Coordinator:** Sandy Rosswork [sgrosswork@aol.com](mailto:sgrosswork@aol.com) - Contact Sandy if interested.

**Sept. 5 - 12 7-Day Trip Saturday to Sunday 2026 Fall Bareboat Cruise**

**Destination:** River Shannon from Carrick-on-Shannon to Portlanna, 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 [TBD](#)

**Coordinator:** Doug Gage [douggage@gmail.com](mailto:douggage@gmail.com)



# Chili Cook-Off

(All names are listed L to R)



*Coney Island* arriving, with  
*Satori* and *Sea Tango*



SOS Water Taxi  
(a.k.a. Chuck Fort)



SOS Happy Hour



Jean Gough, Suzanne Vaughn,  
Melinda Zimmerman  
and Sandy Rosswork



Dennis Krizek and  
Samia AbdelWahed



Samia AbdelWahed,  
Meeps Yox, Dennis Krizek  
and Kerry Siebein



Linda Casucci presenting  
3<sup>rd</sup> Prize to Michelle Watters  
By Samia AbdelWahed



Linda Casucci presenting  
Chuck Fort 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize



Meeps Yox presenting  
Gabi Van Wie  
1<sup>st</sup> Prize (Cookoff Champ)  
By Samia AbdelWahed

Photographs submitted by Bob Wright, except noted.

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



# 2025 Last DaySail

(All names are listed L to R)



Anja Freyja, Skipper Ray Harris, Martha Williams (NS), and Tina Lavato



Anja Freyja, Ray Harris, and Martha Williams (NS)



Ray Harris

## November Brunch



Anja Freyja, Tina Lavato, and Ray Harris



Commodore Dana Tulis receiving the flag and Susan Zevin the Past Commodore's flag



Marge Stembel, Hope Andruss, and Rita Svec



Paul Anderson and Deb Kauffman



Victoria Rusakova and Karen Lundgren



Sandy Huberfeld and Jerry Axler

New Skipper (NS)

DaySail photographs submitted by Tina Lavato

November Brunch submitted by John Parsons

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



# Parade of Lights & Watch Party

(All names are listed L to R)



SAW

Crew arriving with the decorations



JFP

Kathy McFadden, Santa, and Kerry Siebein



JFP

SOS boat in the parade



JFP

Decorating Crew



SAW

Decorating Crew



SAW

Skipper Chuck Fort ready for the parade



JFP

Laura Custer (G) and Sandy Rosswork



JFP

Dana Tulis, Judi Bedford (G), and Janet Pennewell



JFP

Julie Fort and Tina Lavato

Guest (G)

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

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



# Pre-Thanksgiving Dinners

(All names are listed L to R)



Maureen & Fran Wright, Beth Dumesco, Cindy Kalkwarf,  
Peter Van Houten, Wendy Adams, Peggy Mckelly (G),  
Jere Glover (Host), Barbara Wingrove (Co-host), and Diana Duda



Meeps Yox (Host)  
and Michael Sommer



Nancy Parsons



Kathy Haven and Steve Fisher



Molly Harrison  
and Noreen McGuire



Michael Sommer, Lynn Gilley  
and Dennis Krizek

**Jere Glover's Dinner by Peter Van Houten**  
**Meeps Yox's Dinner by John Parsons**

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



# December Brunch

(All names are listed L to R)



Chuck Fort, Carol Cirigliano,  
and Julie Fort



Barbara Mistrik, Santa,  
and Diana Duda



Tina Lavato and Leslie  
Ketterman



Irene Aronian and  
Lorna Bradley



Emily Tobias (G), Geoff  
Tobias, and Susan Zevin



Chuck Fort, Julie Day,  
and Ian Sanderson



Molly Harrison, Ned Schwartz  
and Jody Hutchinson



Irene Aronian, Fran Wright  
and Michael Sommer

Photographs 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  
[jill.montgom@gmail.com](mailto: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**

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday**  
**BALTIMORE:** Jan 7th 5:30-7:00 PM  
**MT WASHINGTON TAVERN**, 5700 Newbury St., Baltimore, MD 21029. 410-367-6903. Email coordinator to be added to notification email.  
[www.mtwashingtontavern.com](http://www.mtwashingtontavern.com)  
**COORD:** JOSH – [singlesonsailboats@JoshuaGraff.com](mailto:singlesonsailboats@JoshuaGraff.com)

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday**  
**NOVA/DC:** Jan 7th 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](http://www.mylosgrill.com)  
**COORDINATOR:** HOPE – [hopedav@verizon.net](mailto:hopedav@verizon.net)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday**  
**ELLCOTT CITY:** Jan 8th 5:00-7:30 PM  
**La Palapa Grill**, 8307 Main Street, Ellicott City, MD 21043 410-465-0070. [www.lapalapagrill.com](http://www.lapalapagrill.com)  
**COORDINATORs:** KATHY – [mkskathha@gmail.com](mailto:mkskathha@gmail.com)  
 JANET – [jgsunset@yahoo.com](mailto:jgsunset@yahoo.com)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday**  
**WILMINGTON:** Jan 21st 5:30 PM  
**TIMOTHY'S Restaurant and Bar**, 930 Justison Street, Wilmington, DE 19801. Wilmington Riverfront by Blue Rock Stadium, facing the waterfront. Drink and appetizer specials until 7PM. 302-429-7427.  
<https://riverfrontde.mytimothysrestaurants.com>  
**COORDINATOR:** JULIE – [jafort@comcast.net](mailto:jafort@comcast.net)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday**  
**ROCKVILLE:** Jan 15th 5:00-7:00 PM  
**Seasons 52**, 11414 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852 301-816-0369. Free parking at Whole Foods.  
<https://seasons52.com/home>  
**COORDINATOR:** DEBBIE – [hidebbieg@yahoo.com](mailto:hidebbieg@yahoo.com)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday**  
**KENT ISLAND:** Jan 15th 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](http://www.Libbeyscoastalkitchen.com)  
**COORDINATOR:** PETER – [Beneteau461@gmail.com](mailto:Beneteau461@gmail.com)

**4<sup>th</sup> Thursday \*\*CANCELLED until new Host found\*\***  
**PHILLY AREA:** 4:30 PM  
**DiFabios**, 1243 Providence Road, Media, PA 19063 (location of the Old Rose Tree Inn) 484-444-0850. Great food, lots of parking. Gather in patio area.  
[www.difabiosevents.com](http://www.difabiosevents.com)  
**COORDINATOR:** TBD

**4<sup>th</sup> Thursday**  
**ANNAPOLIS:** Jan 22nd 5:00-7:00 PM  
**ANNAPOLIS SMOKEHOUSE**, 107 Hillsmere Drive, Annapolis, MD 21403. 410-571-5073.  
[www.annapolissmokehouse.com](http://www.annapolissmokehouse.com)  
**COORDINATOR:** JERE – [jerewglover@msn.com](mailto:jerewglover@msn.com)



## Annapolis Happy Hour

Top: Ray Harris, Ronda, Shawnette  
 Bottom: Phil Gallagher, Judy Funkhouser, Donna McGee



## CLASSIFIED ADS

- **Due 10<sup>th</sup> of month** for publication the following month.
- Send email to [NancyBriggs@hotmail.com](mailto: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 Ads Page Editor

### BOAT FOR SALE:

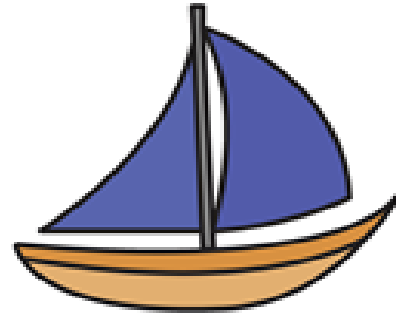
1982 Tartan T-33, set up for blue water sailing, all standing rigging replaced in 2021. New Beta 25 diesel installed in 2019. Equipped with self steering Hydrovane, as well as Raymarine Auto Pilot and Chartplotter. Dickinson diesel heater, Sun Pure watermaker. Schaeffer jib furler; 130, 100, and storm jibs, Parasailor spinnaker, Achilles dinghy and Tohatsu outboard. Asking \$34,900.

Contact Jon Van Drent, Veteran Yacht Sales, 443-512-2960. 3-26

### BOAT FOR SALE:

2003 Corsair 28R trimaran #161 with carbon fiber rotating mast and bow sprit. Recent mainsail, jib, screecher, and two asymmetrical spinnakers. RecePro 6-hp 4-stroke outboard motor. 2003 Pacific tandem axle rebuilt trailer. Very fast and fun to day sail or race! Located in Whitemarsh Creek (off Rhode River) in Mayo. Yard storage paid through 3/26.

Contact Dana at 215-350-7553 for details & price. 3-26



\*\*\*\*\*

## StoutGear for SOS Logo Merch

Looking for SOS Logo gear?

Hats...shirts...jackets...vests? We have an arrangement with a small local business, StoutGear, and will be opening the pop-up shop for orders in late January. StoutGear will accept online orders for about three weeks (until mid-February) and send them out in time for those who will be traveling to the Grenada bareboat trip.



This will also be a great time to order your permanent name tag, your spring fleece, your summer tops or that tote bag to carry your weekend gear. Look for a blast in late January with a link to the online shop and more information in the February *Whisker Pole*.



In the meantime, check out the type of items StoutGear offers through their online stores (visit

[www.stoutgear.com](http://www.stoutgear.com)) Is there anything you think we should add to our SOS shop this time?

## Membership Data

|                          | Nov.<br>2025 | Nov.<br>2024 | Nov.<br>2023 | Nov.<br>2022 |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Inactive Members</b>  | 15           | 16           | 18           | 22           |
| <b>Lifetime Members</b>  | 78           | 82           | 86           | 99           |
| <b>Lifetime Skippers</b> | 22           | 24           | 20           | 24           |
| <b>Members</b>           | 255          | 266          | 246          | 255          |
| <b>New Members</b>       | 0            | 0            | 2            | 0            |
| <b>New Skipper</b>       | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| <b>Skippers</b>          | 64           | 66           | 69           | 65           |
|                          |              |              |              |              |
| <b>Totals</b>            | <b>434</b>   | <b>454</b>   | <b>441</b>   | <b>465</b>   |

# Contacts

## YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| Name            | Office         | Liaison to Committee          | E-mail Address   |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Dana Tulis      | Commodore      |                               | <a href="mailto:danatulis2@verizon.net">danatulis2@verizon.net</a>                       |
| Richard Cordaro | Vice Commodore | First Mates' Advisory, Safety | <a href="mailto:richardjcordaro@aol.com">richardjcordaro@aol.com</a>                     |
| Janet Pennewell | Treasurer      | Bareboat                      | <a href="mailto:treasurer@singlesonsailboats.org">treasurer@singlesonsailboats.org</a>   |
| Barbabra Wise   | Secretary      | Brunches, Social              | <a href="mailto:bwise8426@gmail.com">bwise8426@gmail.com</a>                             |
| Paul Anderson   |                | Database, Membership          | <a href="mailto:pbabylon5@gmail.com">pbabylon5@gmail.com</a>                             |
| Irene Aronian   |                | Newsletter, Public Relations  | <a href="mailto:irene.aronian@gmail.com">irene.aronian@gmail.com</a>                     |
| Gabriel Ruiz    |                | Skippers' Advisory            | <a href="mailto:gabriel_ruiz@valdesautomation.com">gabriel_ruiz@valdesautomation.com</a> |
| Rich Stewart    |                | Cruising                      | <a href="mailto:logo4848@gmail.com">logo4848@gmail.com</a>                               |
| Susan Zevin     |                | Education                     | <a href="mailto:susanzevin@me.com">susanzevin@me.com</a>                                 |

## YOUR COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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

| Committee                                       | Name   | E-mail Address   |
|---|--|--|
| <a href="#">Bareboat Cruising</a>               | Deb Kauffman, Heide Harper (2026 Trips)<br>Coco Lanquetuit, Emil Becker (2027 Trips) | <a href="mailto:bareboatchair@singlesonsailboats.org">bareboatchair@singlesonsailboats.org</a>                               |
| <a href="#">Brunches</a>                        | Margaret Schwartz  | <a href="mailto:mschwartz.usa@aim.com">mschwartz.usa@aim.com</a>   |
| <a href="#">Cruising Co-Chairs</a>              | Laura Keough<br>Dana Stoffregen  | <a href="mailto:cruisingchair.sos.org@gmail.com">cruisingchair.sos.org@gmail.com</a>   |
| <a href="#">Database Internet</a>               | Carrie Will – Team Lead, Don Yerger  | <a href="mailto:dbrequests.sos.org@gmail.com">dbrequests.sos.org@gmail.com</a>   |
| <a href="#">Education</a>                       | Milyn Jordan   | <a href="mailto:educ.sos.org@gmail.com">educ.sos.org@gmail.com</a>   |
| <a href="#">First Mates' Advisory Co-Chairs</a> | Lora Donia<br>Jean Pierre Plé  | <a href="mailto:doniala@aol.com">doniala@aol.com</a><br><a href="mailto:ple.jpp@gmail.com">ple.jpp@gmail.com</a>             |
| <a href="#">Membership Chair</a>                | Pat Tracey (until Feb 2026)  | <a href="mailto:pptracey63@gmail.com">pptracey63@gmail.com</a>   |
| <a href="#">Newsletter</a>                      | Julie Fort   | <a href="mailto:editorwhiskerpole@yahoo.com">editorwhiskerpole@yahoo.com</a>   |
| <a href="#">Public Relations</a>                | Janet Gonski<br>Victoria Rusakova  | <a href="mailto:jgsunset@yahoo.com">jgsunset@yahoo.com</a><br><a href="mailto:v.rusakova@yahoo.com">v.rusakova@yahoo.com</a> |
| <a href="#">Safety Co-Chairs</a>                | Joan Tannen, Michael Sommer  | <a href="mailto:safety@singlesonsailboats.org">safety@singlesonsailboats.org</a>   |
| <a href="#">Skippers' Advisory</a>              | Sandy Rosswork, Chuck Fort (Backup)  | <a href="mailto:sgrosswork@aol.com">sgrosswork@aol.com</a>   |
| <a href="#">Social Co-Chairs</a>                | Tina Lavato<br>Linda Casucci   | <a href="mailto:tinalav1@gmail.com">tinalav1@gmail.com</a><br><a href="mailto:casuccilj@gmail.com">casuccilj@gmail.com</a>   |

## YOUR AREA CONTACTS

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

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Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/Singles\\_on\\_sailboats](https://www.instagram.com/Singles_on_sailboats)

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

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P. O. Box 5708  
Annapolis, MD 21403

## **Winter Activities**

**Fireside Chats:** Jan. 10, 17 Feb.7, 21, 28

**Brunches:** Jan. 11, Feb. 15