

December 2023, Vol. 45, No. 12

Membership Renewal: Nov 1, 2023 - Jan 31, 2024
Membership Year: Jan 1 - Dec 31

Annual membership dues for 2024 will remain \$60 for Regular and Associate. For Lifetime membership dues are \$40. Dues for Inactive/Nonresident membership are \$15. For those wanting a printed copy of the newsletter, there is a \$40 annual subscription.

CURRENT MEMBERS

You are a member or associate member as of December 31, 2023 and you DO NOT meet the requirements of a LIFE MEMBER, or HONORARY MEMBER.

FEES & MEMBER PROFILE:

- You pay the \$60 membership dues.
- You review and make any updates to your Member Profile
- For online renewal, payment is by credit card or check.
- For mail-in renewal, payment is by check only
- If you DO want to receive a printed newsletter, you MUST check the appropriate box and pay the \$40 subscription.

LIFE MEMBER RENEWAL

Annual Life Membership dues for 2024 are \$40. If you choose to receive a hard copy of monthly newsletter you must also pay the \$40 annual subscription. YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO BE A LIFE MEMBER IF: you were born on or before December 31, 1953, and you joined BEFORE March



31, 2009. Also if you had a lapse in your membership since March 31, 2009, you are NOT eligible to become a Life Member.

FEES & MEMBER PROFILE:

- To change your membership to Life member, you must contact the membership committee to verify your eligibility for Lifetime membership. Then you pay the \$40 membership dues.
- You review and make any updates to your Member Profile.
- For online renewal, payment is by credit card or check.
- For mail-in renewal, payment is by check only.
- If you DO want to receive a printed newsletter, you MUST check the appropriate box and pay the \$40 subscription.

INACTIVE/NONRESIDENT MEMBERS

Annual Inactive/Nonresident dues for 2024 are \$15. If you choose to receive a hard copy of monthly newsletter you must also pay the \$40 annual subscription. YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO BE AN INACTIVE/NONRESIDENT MEMBER IF: you have physical or

other limitations, and therefore no longer sail or attend social functions.

FEES & MEMBER PROFILE:

- You pay the \$15 membership dues
- You review and make any updates to your Member Profile.
- For online renewal, payment is by credit card or check.
- For mail-in renewal, payment is by check only.
- If you DO want to receive a printed newsletter, you MUST check the appropriate box and pay the \$40 subscription.

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.

NEW MEMBERS

First-year membership is \$70 which includes a \$10 one-time administrative charge.

Online renewal is preferred for all categories of membership. However, if you insist, paper forms will be accepted. All members will be sent an email reminder to renew with a link to the renewal.

VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

Susan Zevin, Commodore



Hello,
Crew
Mates.
Welcome
to our
new SOS
year.
New
year???
What?

We are wrapping up our cruising, securing our boats, taking down the sails, and putting up the holiday lights. We are draining the water systems and filling all the hoses with the green and pink stuff! How is this a new year? Some folks think the New Year starts on January 1st. Hydrologists who study rivers consider September to be a new year. Many personal boat owners on the Chesapeake consider April 1st the new boating year when our small boat insurance coverage begins.

But I like to think of this time as a new year in preparation for getting on the water as quickly as possible in the Spring. Change the oil, make a list, and schedule needed repairs. Paint the bottom—no barnacles to adhere over the winter.

For SOS, too, our new year begins in early November. We use the winter months to sharpen our knowledge and skills with a fantastic education agenda of Fireside Chats, Saturday seminars, and Sunday brunches. We update our Skipper programs; begin planning a new cruising schedule; review and revise our policies; and schedule our major spring training and safety programs. We are already well into planning and coordinating the March bareboat trip to the BVI's. Also on the calendar, the board has approved a trip to Mallorca in late summer. These are the high-visibility activities of winter, pointing us right into the sailing season.

Not so obvious, however, and where we need help is the nitty gritty work, the infrastructure, the “behind the scenes” support, that brings excellence to SOS operations. Many people say, “Please let me know what I can do.” Well, here is what you can do: Specifically, we are looking for members with accounting, internet, data, applications, and social media skills. We have excellent people working in these areas, e.g., Craig Coltharpe as Treasurer, John McDonald on Internet and Database, Bill Knapp on Zoom video conferencing. But we do not have “bench strength” or backup to assist or fill behind these experts if necessary. Looking towards the future, we will need expertise to develop, use, and teach recent technology platforms—artificial intelligence such as Chatgpt; online conferencing; QR codes for payments, links to websites, and contact information. Just consider the enormous number of navigation software apps that are available!! We'll need to teach our skippers how to navigate the apps, in addition to navigating the course! These will be technologies that our next generation of SOSers will be using. We should be cultivating expertise in these areas.

So, if you want to help, there are plenty of opportunities! We need you to carry us into all the new years to come.

Susan, Commodore

Welcome New Members

Chris Cherry - Pasadena, MD

Jean-Pierre Ple - North
Bethesda, MD

Joe Ruzzi - Arnold, MD

Margaret Schwartz -
Falls Church, VA

Theresa Smallwood -
Baltimore, MD

Whisker Pole NEWSLETTER

Published Monthly

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10th of Month submission deadlines

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Boat US Discount code #GA80619S

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Unofficial Board Notes November 2, 2023

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

Commodore: Outgoing Commodore Carole Jordan thanked all the board members and committee chairs for their hard work and dedication to SOS.

Vice Commodore: To date, one nomination has been received for the major awards.

Treasurer:

Club Account	Checking	\$28,564.41
Hi-Yield Account	Savings	\$73,569.42
Credit Card		\$(18,728.53)
Bareboat Account		\$11,125.11

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Bareboat — Refunds have been mailed to San Juan Islands cruise participants. BVI cruise set for 9 March 2024; crew being solicited for four boats. Mallorca cruise set for 31 August 2024: Janet Pennewell is coordinating; 5 boats have been booked, Board approval expected in December.

Brunch – Brunch dates are (Sundays) November 12 (speaker: Mark Hergan), December 10 (speaker Dave Rittenbush), and January 21 (speaker TBD). The Sunday Brunch following Spring Training will not have a speaker.

Cruising – The cruising season ended on a high note with a wonderful weekend in St. Michaels at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum for Oysterfest, with 10 boats participating. This follows several cruising weekends where the events were canceled or under-participated due to weather. This has decreased potential income for the cruising budget. Additional sailing is possible using the Pop-Up Sail program if warm weather conditions continue into November-December. The Skipper Reward program tallies show that 15 skippers earned 1-5 Skipper Rewards each for sailing with coordinated crew for 6 days to earn each reward. Invitations have gone out for the Cruising Wrap-up to be held at the Doubletree Hotel on December 3.

Database - 2024 Dues and Membership Renewal:

	Oct 2023	Oct 2022	Oct 2021
Members	243	255	233
Skippers	69	64	61
Lifetime Members	87	99	109
Lifetime Skippers	20	24	21
Inactive Members	18	21	19
Totals	437	463	443

Membership Renewal:

Renewals have been on hold waiting for the Board's decisions on dues and the price of printed Whisker Pole subscription for 2024. Current dues prices:

Regular Membership \$60.00
Life Membership \$40.00
Inactive Membership \$15.00
New Membership \$60.00
Printed Whisker Pole \$40.00

[See New Business: 2024 rates will be unchanged.]

Education – Spring Training 2024:

Possible dates are 4/6/24 or 3/2/24; still waiting for confirmation from the Community College. Spring Training Sub-Committee chairs are Jean Gough – Coordinator, Emil Becker and Cindy Kalkwarf – presenters, Dana Stoffregen – Vendors, Cathy Laws – Registration, Linda Casucci – Room Monitors, Allen Osterholm – facilities & catering, Suzanne Vaughn – Promotions, Phil Smith & Jill Montgomery – Signage

Friday night Zoom Education presentations:
Nov 10, Zoom Functionality – Bill Knapp
Nov 24, BVI Bareboat – Deb Kauffman
Dec 8, San Juan Bareboat – Emil Becker
Dec 22 – no Zoom due to Christmas
Jan 12 – Safe Boating Course Overview – Emil Becker

Fireside chats will be coordinated by Cindy Gross and Genienne Navarro.

Seminars will be coordinated by Irene Aronian.

First Mates – First Mates enjoyed a successful sailing season: all FMs have completed their required sails, and many have sailed more than that. The First Mate who has sailed the most as a Coordinator-placed FM and the skipper who has taken the most Coordinator-placed FMs will be announced at the Cruising Wrap-up.

Outgoing First Mate Advisory Chair Nancy Parsons announced that Lora Donia will be the Chair next year. John Parsons will continue to serve as First Mate Candidate Coordinator in 2024.

Membership – Directories and information packets were mailed to seven new members in October. Pat Tracey is fielding incoming e-mails and Ring inquiries.

Newsletter – No report.

Public Relations – An action plan is being developed for the EYC Lights Parade. Thanks to Skipper Chuck and the fourteen people who are participating in a variety of ways to make it happen. Gabi Van Wie's design idea is the foundation of the plan.

There have been 13 unique QR searches in 2023. \$67/year appears to be worth the ease of linking through a QR code.

Safety – Nothing to report.

Skippers' Advisory — Nothing to report.

Social – Janet Pennewell will be the new Chair. DNR, Anniversary, and Seafood Feast venues have been booked. The Anniversary Party will be held at Port Annapolis and the Seafood Feast will be held at the Lankford Marina. Haven Harbour South has become cost-prohibitive.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

A motion to approve the minutes of the October Board meeting was approved.

The current dues levels were approved for the coming year with no increase.

Executive Session. The new Board met and elected officers for the 2023-2024 year.

Brunch – Dec. 10th Annapolis Maritime History

With his newly published book, *Working Waterfront, A Maritime History of Annapolis and the Chesapeake Bay*, Stephen Ritterbush



will take us on a sail through the history of Annapolis. He begins with the formation of the Maryland colony in 1632 and the first forays into the Chesapeake Bay by European explorers. He moves on to the oyster industry in the 19th century and the various boats and harvesting techniques that rose during that time. He will tell us about the city's transformation into the 20th century from the boom around World War II and the expansion of the Naval Academy to the rise of boatyards, before finally exploring the steady decline of the working waterfront in the 1970s.



In 2014 he fell and suffered a devastating spinal injury that left him completely paralyzed. Despite his love of the water, he didn't go on a boat for four years until meeting the founders

of the Chesapeake Region Accessible Boating (CRAB) where he now serves on the Board.

Click here to register: [December Brunch](#)

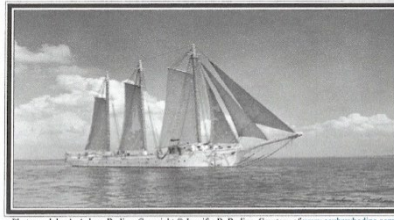
Brunch – January 21st The Wreck of Schooner *Levin J. Marvel*

Do you want to know the true story of Chesapeake Bay's worst sailing disaster that changed Coast Guard boating safety laws? Did you know it lies at the bottom of Herring Bay? (It's marked on the charts!) Come to the

brunch to hear author Kathy Bergren Smith speaks to us about her book on this fascinating subject!

On August 12, 1955, the schooner *Levin J. Marvel* capsized in Herring Bay near the town of North Beach as it sought shelter from Hurricane Connie. In the end, fourteen passengers lost their lives, the largest number of fatalities on the Chesapeake to this day.

A compelling court case followed its sinking and the tragedy changed Coast Guard boating safety laws.



Photograph by A. Ashby Bodine. Copyright © Jennifer B. Bodine. Courtesy of www.aashbybodine.com

Regional Brunches – February 18th

Snow and those cold blusters keep us off the Bay, so February Regional Brunches are here to shoo those winter blues away! You can call this a Valentine's celebration, or not. It's our way of creating opportunities for you to meet people you'll be sailing with, skippers and crew, in the coming warmer months and years. This is not a speakers' event, but we do have generous members opening their homes for you to be part of a delightful brunch.

Each host will coordinate the menu and communicate directly with the attendees for the event at their home. They will also send you any necessary directions.

If you are interested in hosting a Regional Brunch, please contact Suzanne Vaughn
zuzyvaughn2@gmail.com

SOS Outreach: Food Bank Donations



During these early days of fall and winter, we often celebrate with family and friends around a table of favorite foods. Yet, many in our area are experiencing food insecurity. The Anne Arundel County Food Bank collects donations all throughout the year to distribute to those in need.

We will collect shelf-stable items to donate to this local food bank at our December SOS gatherings. Since glass jars often break, please donate items in plastic containers if possible. And if bringing peanut butter and Jelly (which are high-priority items), consider crackers also as fresh bread is not often available at a pantry. Other high-priority items include 1-pound bags or boxes of rice, dry beans, and legumes; healthy snacks like breakfast bars, dried fruits, and others. If you donate canned soup, stews, fruit, vegetables, or canned meats like tuna, or chicken, please be sure they have a pop-top – having a can opener is not always available to recipients of the Food Pantry supplies. I always say, if I would like to eat it, they would like to eat it!

The food pantry also supports Baby pantries and Senior pantries, so items like diapers or wipes, and nutritional shakes like Ensure or Boost are welcome. We will have a collection box at both the Cruising Wrap-Up on December 3 and at the December 10 Brunch. We hope to beat last year's record of just over 200 pounds donated. Will you join us?

Fleet Exercises and Shore Leave

Please email your questions and request for directions to the coordinator.
If you pay by check for any sailing event, a paper Sailing Registration Form must **accompany the check** mailed to the **coordinator**. A copy of this form can be found on the SOS website. All checks are to be made payable to **SOS, Inc.** The postmark is used as the mail-in cutoff/deadline date.
Note: Individual requests for refunds will incur a \$3 Administration Fee.

SOS COVID Safety Protocol

"All participants attending SOS indoor events must provide evidence of Vaccination and Boosting upon request as well as comply with the requirements of a specific venue then in effect".
"In addition, crew and First Mates must provide evidence of Vaccination and Boosting if requested by a skipper before sailing on their boat. Members should expect to be denied admission without refund if they fail to comply with this policy".



December 3 Sunday

Destination: Double Tree Hotel, Annapolis, MD.
Deadline: Mail and online registrations must be received by Nov. 24 (9:00pm).
Coordinator: Chuck Fort Saillrn@comcast.net

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

Cruising Appreciation (Wrap-up) Meeting/Party

Cost: Free to invited Skippers, First Mates and Coordinators only. \$20 for Guest of Invitees.
BY INVITATION ONLY
Time: 11:00am to 3:00pm.
Note: Per SOS requirements - **Only COVID vaccinated and boosted participants, please.**



December 7 Thursday

Location: No Board of Directors meeting this month.
Update

Board Meeting



December 9 Saturday

Location: Annapolis Waterfront Hotel, Marriott's Autograph Collection, Annapolis, MD.
Coordinator and Hostess: [Sandy Rosswork](mailto:sgrosswork@aol.com) sgrosswork@aol.com

Parade of Lights Viewing

Cost: \$55 per person. Plus, bring an appetizer or dessert.
Time: 5:00pm in room, 6:00pm Parade starts.
Note: Contact the coordinator directly.
Space limit of 25.



December 10 Sunday

Location: Double Tree Hotel, Annapolis, MD.
Speaker: Stephen Ritterbusch, Author of; *Working Waterfront, A maritime History of Annapolis and the Chesapeake Bay.*
Topic: Annapolis City's maritime history.
Deadline: Mail and online registrations must be received by Dec. 6 (9:00pm).
Coordinator: Anne Bastian bastian.anne@gmail.com

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

Brunch

Cost: \$36 - Brunch.
\$40 - After deadline and walk-ins.
Walk-ins CANNOT be guaranteed a seat.
Time: 11:00am Social Hour. 11:45am Brunch. 1:00pm Program.
Note: To be held in the Coastal room. Per SOS requirements - **Only COVID vaccinated and boosted participants, please.**



December 25 Monday

Location: Home of Barbara Mistrik, Edgewater, MD
Only vaccinated members, please
Deadline: December 21
Coordinator: Call Barbara Mistrik via phone only, **AFTER DECEMBER 1.** 410 956-1445. Be prepared to request your buffet contribution.

Christmas Day Dinner – Annapolis Area

Cost: \$10 and Food contribution
Note: This is NOT an on-line coordination. Coordination is thru Barbara directly via phone.
Note: Last minute? Call Barbara to see if space is available. There is a limit.

**January 4****Location:****Thursday**

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

Board Meeting**Time:** 6:00pm to 10:00pm.**Note:** Open to all Members.**January 6****Location:****Saturday**

Annapolis, Maryland

Speaker:

Skippers; John Parsons, Sandy
Rosswork and Jon Bernheimer.
Handling Emergency Situations.

Topic:**Deadline:**

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

Area Fireside Chat**Cost:** \$20 by deadline.
\$25 after deadline.**Host:** Nancy & John Parsons.**Time:** 5:30pm. **Limited to 15-18.**

Note: Non-members must be accompanied by
member. No Smoking, no walk-ins.
Per SOS requirements - **Only COVID
vaccinated and boosted participants, please.**

Coordinator:Carole Jordan seajay2844@gmail.comTo register and for more details, (**Log on first**) click here. [January 6 FSC](#)**January 20****Location:****Saturday**

Severna Park Library,
45 West McKinsey Road,
Severna Park, MD 21146.

Speakers:

Scott Berg, licensed Marine surveyor.
Marine Surveyor can do much more
than just conduct a listing survey.

Topic:**Deadline:**

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

**Seminar – What would you like to know
about your boat? Nightmares & Surprises!****Cost:** \$10**Time:** 10:30am – 12:30pm.

Note: Coffee and Snacks provided. Per SOS
requirements - **Only COVID vaccinated
and boosted participants, please.**

Coordinator:Jean Gough jgough4you@gmail.comTo register and for more details, (**Log on first**) click here. [January 20, Seminar](#)**January 21****Location:****Sunday**

Double Tree Hotel,
Annapolis, MD.

Speaker:

Kathy Bergren Smith, author.

Topic:

Deadly Gamble: The Wreck of
Schooner Levin J Marvel, The true
story of Chesapeake Bay's worst sailing
disaster.

Deadline:

Mail and online registrations must
be received by Jan. 17 (9:00pm).

Brunch**Cost:** \$36 - Brunch.

\$40 - After deadline and walk-ins.

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

Note: To be held in the Coastal room.
Per SOS requirements - **Only COVID
vaccinated and boosted participants, please.**

Coordinator:Barbara Wise bwise8426@gmail.comTo register and for more details, (**Log on first**) click here. [January Brunch](#)**February 1****Location:****Thursday**

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

Board Meeting**Time:** 6:00pm to 10:00pm.**Note:** Open to all Members.**February 3****Location:****Saturday**

Solomon's Island, Maryland.

Speaker:

Laura Gwinn.

Topic:

Sea Stories about boat deliveries.

Deadline:

Mail and online registrations must
be received by. Jan 27 (9:00pm).

Area Fireside Chat**Cost:** \$20 by deadline.
\$25 after deadline.**Host:** Kati & Harry Keith.**Time:** 5:00pm. **Limited to 30.**

Note: Non-members must be accompanied by
member. No Smoking, no walk-ins.
Per SOS requirements - **Only COVID
vaccinated and boosted participants, please.**

Coordinator:Cindy Gross cgross@cfgandpartners.com -To register and for more details, (**Log on first**) click here. [February 3, FSC](#)

**February 18 Sunday**

Location: Held in private homes of SOS members. List of hosts will be published in January Whisker Pole. Then members contact host to register and receive directions.

Deadline: Contact host by February 11. Per SOS requirements - **Only COVID vaccinated and boosted participants, please.**

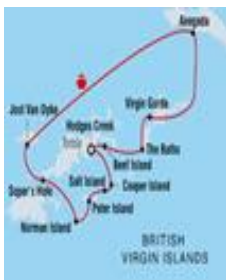
Coordinator: Contact Suzanne Vaughn if interested to host suzyvaughn2@gmail.com

Regional Brunches

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

Time: 11:00am Social Hour.
12:00noon Brunch.

Note: No online sign-up for this event. Please RSVP directly to the host.

March 9 2024**7- or 10-day trip****2024 Spring Bareboat Cruise**

Destination: British Virgin Islands, details, go to: [BVI Bareboat Cruise](#)

Note: **Must be fully COVID vaccinated and boosted to sign up for this trip per SOS requirements.**

Coordinator: Emil Becker emilbec@msn.com - Contact Emil Becker if interested.

Cost: Members \$2,300. 7-day, \$2,800. 10-day Boat Cost and Admin Fee. Air Fare and Insurance are separate.

Note: **To Download Registration Form with Payment Information: Go to: [2024 BVI Registration APP](#)**

**Parade of Lights
December 9th**

We need lots of volunteers to participate in preparing the SOS boat for the Parade of Lights. Can you help with decorative design, crewing back and forth from the home marina to Annapolis dock, riding the boat the night of, or other supporting roles (ferrying crew back to cars, providing lunch for the decorating team, etc.)?

Let me know if you are interested and willing to help (Janet Gonski at JGSunset@yahoo.com).

Watch In Comfort

Enjoy the parade in warmth and comfort from a waterfront room at the Annapolis (Marriott) Waterfront Hotel. See this wonderful show of splendid color and twinkling lights with each boat decorated in a Christmas theme. Avoid the cold and wintry night and join your friends at the Annapolis (Marriott) Waterfront Hotel to watch the Parade and cheer the SOS entry as the boat passes by our waterfront balcony. **Drinks** and eats will be available in the room starting at about 5:00 PM.

Call or email Sandy Rosswork for more information and to sign up and indicate what you will bring. Don't wait too long...attendance must be limited due to the size of the room!! Call 410-267-8739 or email sgrosswork@aol.com.

Christmas Day Dinner

The gathering on December 25 will be at the home of Barbara Mistrik in Edgewater.

The cost is \$10 per person and a food contribution.

There is no online registration. To sign up contact Barbara via cell phone only at 410-956-1445. Let her know which dish you plan to bring and pay the \$10 at the door.

November Brunch

(All names are listed Left to Right)



2024 Commodore, Susan Zevin;
2023 Commodore, Carole Jordan



Craig Coltharp, Treasurer,
and Susan Zevin



Doug Gage, Secretary,
and Susan Zevin



John McDonald and
Barbara Wingrove



Donna Kachura, Mary Ann
Bleeke and Debra Roane



Nancy Harrison and
Jon Bernheimer



Socializing Time



Mark Hergan (Speaker)
and John Parsons



Anne Kaiser and Cindy
Kalkwarf (NM)

Photographs submitted as noted – John Parsons (JFP); Bob Wright (RAW)

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



Jon Bernheimer & Katarina Stein - Nov. 4th DaySail
Submitted by Michelle Watters

Event: As-Noted

(All names are listed L to R)



Both photos above are from the OysterFest
Submitted by Steve Fisher

November BOD – Transition Meeting



November Board of Directors Meeting



Dinner and casual discussions

November BOD Meeting photos submitted by Bob Wright



←
Out-going Commodore (Carole Jordan) at the August Town Hall Mtg.

→
In-coming Commodore (Susan Zevin) at the November BoD Meeting

Our Commodores work hard for this Club.



Photographs submitted as noted

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

You Ought to be in Pictures: The 2023 SOS Photo Contest

Have you taken **stellar shots** of this year's SOS activities? If so, keep on shooting! If not, start taking photos to be submitted to the 2023 Photo Contest.

1. **Entries must be taken at events with other SOS members in 2023 by the member of SOS submitting the photo.** **Note:** If you are in the photo, you **cannot** have been the photographer and your submission will not be accepted (unless on a tripod with a timer, which is acceptable). A photo does not necessarily have that event as a theme (a picture of Annie Anchorage at a raft-up or the sunset seen from a raft-up is acceptable, even though there is nothing in the picture to prove that it was taken at a raft-up or cruise.) We are on the "Honor System". An SOS event can be cruising, day-sail, a brunch, seminar, destination cruise, shore party, etc. Happy Hours are **not included**.

2. Each photo **must** identify at which SOS event it was taken and the name of the photographer.

3. This is an amateur photographer contest. Professional photographers - i.e. anyone who earns more than 50 percent of his or her annual income from photography – are excluded from the contest.

4. Each member may submit up to a **total of eight (8) photos**. The photographs should be submitted in a 5" x 7" format or the coordinator will crop it for you.

5. Photos may **NOT** be edited to achieve color balance that reflects the scene as you observed it. Heavily manipulated photos are **not** eligible. Cropping is the only acceptable edit. We ask the photographer to 'Suggest' a category, but the Judge has the discretion to change the category.

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 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.

Judging: The Photo Contest Manager and 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 also 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. The Judge may add a fourth-place award in any category, if deemed necessary due to the quantity and quality of entries in a category (not to exceed a total of 13 awards including the Grand Prize Photograph).

SEND Photo Entries to Bob Wright by midnight on **January 7, 2024** at: Robert.Wright.Bowie@gmail.com

2023 Call for Photos Wanna See Yourself in Film?

Each year SOS presents a Retrospective video, a compilation of photos taken in at club activities, on land and on the water, starring YOU, our members! Prepared by John Parsons, the results are sure to be exciting! We know there are many photographers out there who have taken stunning photos of boats, people, and places, and we want to include them in the Retrospective. Please send your photographs taken in 2023 to John so he can compile a presentation that will bring back memories of this year that will be sure to make us laugh, exchange stories, and tell tall tales about our adventures. Smart phone photos are acceptable. Identify at which SOS event the photos were taken. Please send the photos to John Parsons at johnparsons_9@msn.com.



Awards, Awards, and More Awards!



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

Nominations from the membership are requested 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 Kscible2@aol.com

So, What Are the Serious Board Awards?

Commodore's Award: The Board of Directors established the annual Commodore's award so that the highest-ranking officer of the Club could extend public recognition and many thanks to an individual who has made significant 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: Eli 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.

What to do When the Sailing Season Ends?

Jean Gough, Education Chair

As December, and the holiday season begins, we at SOS find the sailing season ends. HOWEVER, that means more events and SOS land-based gatherings begin. These monthly events give us opportunities to get to know each other better during the winter months and look forward to resuming the sailing season in the spring with new friends.

As the Education Chair, I'm delighted to share that we support the following opportunities to gather, learn, and enjoy sharing lots of sailing stories!

Fireside Chats (FSC) – small gatherings in fellow SOS member homes. Fireside Chat (FSC) provides various educational opportunities in a social setting to SOS members.



Seminars- featuring a speaker with topics of interest to

boat owners, skippers, first mates, and crew members that are wanting to deepen their appreciation of boat ownership.

All these activities are scheduled in the next few months leading up to the big Spring Training 2024 (date TBD) event at Anne Arundel Community College. It will be an all-day event offering a full curriculum of presenters sharing expertise from novice sailors to experienced skippers and boat owners.

Keep reading the Whisker Pole, check out Fleet Exercises, choose an event, and sign up early and often!

January 20th Seminar

What would you like to know about your boat? Nightmares and Pleasant Surprises!

Our first Winter 2024 Seminar will be presented by CBW LLC Marine Surveyor and Consultant Scott Berg who will bring some good anecdotes both "Nightmares" and "Pleasant" surprises!

A surveyor can do so much more for skippers than just conduct a listing survey. Learn that there are several reasons why you may want a Marine Survey.

- When modifying your boat... what would a surveyor want to see was considered?
- Are you planning to update gear and equipment – AIS Transponders, propulsion, electrical, plumbing, hull, and rigging?
- What's the update on new lithium batteries with different chemistry to prevent fires?



Founder Scott Berg brings over 35 years of technical professional marine experience as a commercial and delivery captain, long-time full-service yacht repair business owner, master marine electrician, electronic technician, surveyor, and technical instructor.

A USCG Licensed Captain, Scott is a member of the Society of Accredited Marine Surveyors® Survey Associate, the American Boat and Yacht Council® — holding technical certifications in Electrical, Corrosion, HVAC, Standards, and Yacht Systems — the *National Fire Protection Association*®, and an honors graduate of the *Chapman School of Seamanship's Yacht and Small Craft Survey Program*.

Class size is limited, so sign up soon and bring your questions for Scott. Click to register: [January 20, Seminar](#)

Fireside Chats Begin



The Fireside Chats are Education Committee events that run from January to March 2024 and bring SOSers together for winter socializing and education/refreshers so that we are all ready to launch into the Spring Training and the sailing season. Cindy Gross and Genienne Navarro are the organizers this year, and so far they have three events scheduled.

For those who have never attended a Fireside Chat, here is the process (it may or may not include a fireside, but there will always be a sailing-related chat!).

Events will be promoted in the Whisker Pole, on the SOS website, and via email.

Register for the event on the SOS website or by mail by the deadline noted, and pay the \$20 fee. Register early because the capacity is usually limited to 15-18 people and it fills up fast!

Meet at a member/host home for the event.

The evening starts with socializing and drinks, then dinner is served.

After dinner, the program begins and may be offered in various formats such as skippers sharing their experience and wisdom, small group discussions, games, demonstrations, etc.

Dessert and coffee close out the event!

A survey will be sent out to the membership to hear your ideas about additional topics, locations, and speakers/facilitators, and to hear from anyone interested in coordinating.

Questions? Volunteer? Contact Genienne Navarro at Genienne.Navarro@gmail.com.

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

**BOATS FOR SALE**

FOR SALE: "Triton," Canadian Sailcraft CS-36T. This 36 ft. shoal draft 4'11" classic is perfect for the Chesapeake Bay. It has been well maintained with new upholstery 2012, CruiseAire heating and AC 2014, new bimini-dodger 2015, VHF w/AIS and Garmin chartplotter 2016, rebuilt transmission 2017, solar panels 2018, new house batteries 2019, new autohelm 2019, and all routine maintenance. Triton has been on the hard since losing our sailing partner, Dave Henkin, to COVID in 2020. Asking price reduced to \$38,000. The seller, having moved to PA, is highly motivated. Unused dinghy and motor is also available, asking \$1,000. Contact Richard Green at 703-328-1399 or ragreen01@gmail.com 12-23

FOR SALE: JY15, "Average White Boat" Built by Hunter of composite in '90-'92. Two owners only, sailed infrequently, stored indoors, except three summers outside with mast-up cover. No defects. Sails in good condition. Includes trailer, spare tire and wrench, custom-made full canvas road cover with two-zippers), Kinder mast-up cover, Windex, original manual, shroud tension gauge, toolbox, four life jackets, and other accessories. Very fun boat for two people with good knees! Never modified, should qualify for one-design racing. Located in Elizabethtown, PA. Additional information is available in three links that can be provided by owner. Asking \$3,500. Please contact jim.jiga@verizon.net, subject "JY15" 12-23

ITEMS FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Honda 5 HP outboard engine with fuel tank, low hours. Contact Chuck Fort at sailrn@comcast.net 12-23

FOR RENT

FOR RENT: "Marsh Magic," a serene vacation rental in West Ocean City, MD. The 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath house has 5 decks, 2 kitchens, an elevator, and overlooks Sunset Marina. Walk to three marinas and local restaurants; near inlet and Route 50 bridge. Sleeps 12. For photos, go to www.vrbo.com and search for #164950. Contact Sharon Taylor at ocmarshmagic@gmail.com 12-23

In Memory of Lorraine Fassett

Former SOS Commodore Lorraine Fassett passed away from metastasized breast and bone cancer on November 3, 2023. She donated her body to science, so there will be no burial or cremation.

Lorraine was a member of SOS for 34 years and served as chair of various committees in addition to being a First Mate for various skippers after she sold her 30' Catalina, *Cinnamon Bay*, which she sailed for more than 13 years. She learned to sail at a time in her life when many people her age were content to stay on dry land, and through her membership in the Singles on Sailboats she created new friendships that endured her lifetime. Over the years she was awarded three of the four prestigious Singles on Sailboats Awards.

Lorraine raised her family and worked as a school nurse in Northern New Jersey before moving to Maryland in the mid-1970s to begin a career teaching health and health careers to high-school students in the Montgomery County Schools. She was a devoted and dedicated teacher until her retirement when she moved to Annapolis to be closer to the Chesapeake Bay and her beloved boat.

We will miss Lorraine's big smile and bigger laugh, her sharp wit, her devotion to friends and family, and her enormous appetite for life.

In Memory of Jack McKim

We report with sadness the passing of Jack McKim on November 6th. While Jack had only recently joined SOS, he was a 45-year member of the Annapolis Yacht Club. In fact, he was a co-founder of the cruising fleet at AYU 25 years ago.

He quickly made friends in SOS, volunteered as a skipper, and was often at Annapolis Happy Hours. He owned at least 24 boats - going through the alphabet to name them, he was on X, X T Sea. His most recent sailboat was a vintage Hinckley Bermuda 40, which he sailed down from Connecticut in September.

A Celebration of Life for Jack McKim will be held on Sunday, December 3, 2023 at the Galesville Memorial Hall, 952 Main St, Galesville, MD. From 1pm until 3pm.

In Memory of Elizabeth Hubley

Elizabeth was a member of SOS for 34 years and was very active in the club until recent years. She passed away just as the newsletter was being printed, so no other details are available at this time.



Welcome to the SOS
Happy Hour page!
Be sure to check here
for a Happy Hour
event in your area.
Send any changes,
updates or new
information about Happy
Hours to Jill Montgomery
jill.montgom@gmail.com



Virtual Happy Hours on ZOOM VARIOUS DATES: Get in touch with your Area Contact, listed in back of your Whisker Pole to be put on their HH notification list. Or check out the SOS Web site for dates and ZOOM links to all the Virtual Happy Hours.

KEY WEST, FL: SOS HAPPY HOUR place and time to be Determined. **Contact: TERRI AND KARL, 410-707-4319 or 267-221-6312**

1st Wednesday
NOVA/DC: **Dec 6th 5:00-7:00 PM**
MYLO'S GRILL, in the back dining room, 6238 Old Dominion Dr, McLean, VA. 22101. (in the Chesterbrook Shopping Cntr) 703-533-5880 www.mylosgrill.com
COORDINATOR: **HOPE - hopedav@verizon.net**

2nd Thursday
ELLCOTT CITY: **Dec 14th 5:00-7:30 PM**
La Palapa Grill, 8307 Main Street, Ellicott City MD 21043 410-465-0070 www.lapalapagrill.com
COORDINATORS: **KATHY - miskathha@gmail.com**
JANET - jgsunset@yahoo.com

3rd Wednesday
WILMINGTON: **Dec 20th 5:30 PM**
TIMOTHY'S Restaurant and Bar, 930 Justison Street, Wilmington, DE 19801 Wilmington Riverfront by Blue Rock Stadium, facing the waterfront. Drink and appetizer specials until 7PM. 302-429-7427 www.timothysontheriverfront.com
COORDINATOR: **JULIE - jafort@comcast.net**

3rd Thursday
ROCKVILLE: **Dec 21st 5:00-7:00 PM**
Seasons 52, 11414 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852 301-816-0369. Free parking at Whole Foods.
www.m.seasons52.com
CORDINATOR: **DEBBIE - hidebbieg@yahoo.com**

3rd Thursday
KENT ISLAND: **Dec 21st 5:00-7:00 PM**
THE DOCK HOUSE, 110 Piney Narrows Road, Chester, MD 21619. 443-446-4477 www.dockhouseresturant.com
COORDINATOR: **BARB - bbbbooksao@aol.com**

4th Thursday
PHILLY AREA: **Dec 28th 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 and since it is the Holiday season and DiFabios is famous for its homemade cannoli, we will be celebrating with cocktails and cannoli !!. Gather in patio area.
www.difabiosevents.com
COORDINATORS: **PATTI - evansapatti@gmail.com**
MARY - mary.payne@comcast.net

4th Thursday
ANNAPOLIS: **Dec 28th 5:00-7:00 PM**
Mike's Resturant & Crabhouse, 3030 Riva Road, Riva, MD 21140. Meet us at the bar.
443-956-2784 OR www.mike'scrabhouse.com
COORDINATOR: **JEAN- jgough4you@gmail.com**



Rockville: Happy Hour

Left to right: Debbie Goldberg, Barbara Wise, Jill Montgomery, Steve Kurtz, Wendy Adams, Phil Smith, Robin Pachtman.



SW Florida: Happy Hour

Dave Tuttle, Lora Donia, Barbara Shoemaker

Contacts

YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Name	Office	Liaison to Committee	E-mail Address
Susan Zevin	Commodore	First Mates	Susanzevin@comcast.net
Karl Scible	Vice Commodore	Public Relations	Kscible2@aol.com
Craig Coltharp	Treasurer		coltharp2@gmail.com
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Bob Morrow		Cruising	cogito28@aol.com
Michelle Watters		Education & Safety	michelle.watters@gmail.com
Bob Wright		Social	Robert.Wright.Bowie@gmail.com

YOUR COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Committee	Name	E-mail Address
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Social Chair	Janet Pennewell	janet.pennewell@gmail.com

YOUR AREA CONTACTS

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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>



P. O. Box 5708
Annapolis, MD 21403

Holiday Happenings!

Parade of Lights – December 9

Brunch – December 10

Christmas Dinner – December 25