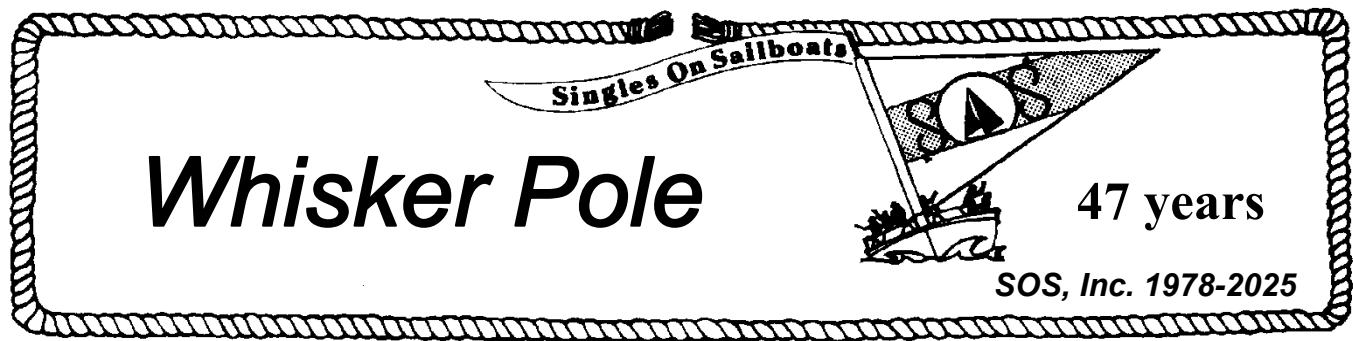




December 2025, Vol. 47, No. 12

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.

Four renewal email reminders will be sent to all members: One in late November, one at the end of December, one in the third week of January, and one on January 28th.

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%20In%20RenewalForm.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 Members,

It's official; I am now your new Commodore. For those of you that attended the Brunch, on November 16th, Susan Zevin and I exchanged burgees as part of the "Change of Watch." I am very excited to work with our new Board of Directors, Committee Chairs, and to receive feedback from you all as we continue to move forward and thrive. Our new officers include:

- Rich Stewart – Vice Commodore
- Richard Cordaro – Secretary
- Janet Pennewell – Treasurer

The Board's standing members include – Paul Anderson, Irene Aronian, Gabriel Ruiz, Barbara Wise, and Susan Zevin.

Our Committees continue to produce exemplary results all year long, but everyone can play a role. We are always looking for new members and Skippers. So, if you have any leads, please proceed with those, because everyone in SOS can help us grow.

At the Brunch, the Membership Committee awarded Recognition Awards, Category 4 – Extraordinary, to two SOS members. The first award was given to Carrie Will, for her ad hoc leadership of the Database team and the team's outstanding efforts and long hours improving our website and databases. For example, ensuring we can pay for bareboat cruises on-line using our checking accounts eliminating lots of time and effort.

The second award was given to Rita Svec for her work in producing an

annual comprehensive membership directory for many years, which includes our by-laws, policies and procedures, and lists all members including Skippers and their boats.

Our Education Committee, led by Milyn Jordan, has been revising Spring Training. We are pausing this traditional training day for Spring 2026 and shifting to more hands-on training. For 2026, the Skippers, First Mates, and advanced sailors, will be offered an all-day event with vendors and motivational speakers.

Additional educational events are being reviewed and revised. The New Member Orientation will only have classroom training in the morning followed by dockside training in the afternoon. The Safety Committee's Flare and Safety Day will be expanded with additional stations. Susan Zevin and her team are reviewing Basic Skills 1, 2, and 3. For more details, see the Education Committee article on page 6.

Thanks to Sandy Rosswork for accessing our featured speaker Gary Jobson for November's brunch. He is the pre-eminent ambassador of sailing, and he shared many stories of racing and other adventures. In addition, he shared his inspirational efforts on raising money for Leukemia.

At the next Brunch, December 14th, our featured speaker is Retired Navy Vice Admiral John Donnelly who will share with us his Arctic Expeditions.

Our next combined Board and Committee Chairs Retreat and planning meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 7, 12-4pm. If you all have ideas for SOS, please reach out to me or one of the other Board members.

Looking forward to working with you all, and hearing your ideas, feedback, and suggestions.

Dana T, Commodore

Whisker Pole Newsletter

Published Monthly

Singles on Sailboats, Inc.
P.O. Box 5708, Annapolis, MD 21403
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Boat US Discount Code #GA80619S

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Unofficial Board Notes November 6, 2025

Mariners Point Clubhouse — “Old Board”

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

Meeting Called to Order: by Commodore Susan Zevin at about 6:05 pm.

Secretary: Douglas Gage – Following Approval of October 7 Minutes, Secretary Douglas Gage briefly discussed the need to rationalize the organization of governance materials on the SOS website; he is willing to work on an ad hoc committee to address this.

Vice Commodore: Karl Scible – Plaques are being gathered from previous awardees. Considering changing the lock on high dollar locker to re-establish control of same. Prepared info package for new Vice Commodore.

Treasurer: Janet Pennewell

	Oct 31, 2025	Sept 31, 2025	Dec 30, 2024
Club Checking Account	\$29,026	\$27,400	\$16,101
Hi-Yield Savings Account	0	0	13,594
7-Month CD	63,212	63,060	61,178
Bareboat Account	65,881	52,655	81,043
Total Cash	\$158,119	\$143,115	\$171,916
Club CC Chase	(4,026)	(1,961)	(\$180)
CC Wells Fargo	0	0	(\$3,760)

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 (1) The Spring New Zealand trip was a great trip! (2) We quickly put together a pretty fantastic trip to Lake Michigan after Lake Huron was canceled. (3) Grenada (March 2026) is well in hand – we just added another boat, chartered from Dream Yachts and skippered by Doug Love, pulling crew partly from the wait list. and (4) We're looking at an Ireland canal trip next September, which received a lot of positive feedback as one of the options surveyed as

a replacement for Lake Huron. Also, we have added a new ACH payment method for Bareboat.

Cruising: Laura Keough and Dana Stoffregen – Weekend Cruise Snapshot: (1) Chili Cook-off to Granary Creek, DNR: 7 Skippers and 16 crew sailed; fun shoreside Chili Cook-off! (2) OysterFest Cruise to CBMM; 7 Skippers and 25 crew sailed. (3) Upcoming Blue Lips Cruise to Pirates Cove Marina; 7 skippers and 13 crew registered. Cruising Wrap-up Party – Nov 15 at Galesville Memorial Hall.

Database: DB Team Lead: Carrie Will – There will be a lot of behind the scenes work for Database to do in November – cleaning up profiles, changing the site to point to the new BOD and new Committee Chairs, and archiving 2025 registrations. The first membership renewal reminder will be sent out around 11/26/25.

Education: De facto Chair: Milyn Jordan – Kerry Siebein is coordinating **Fireside Chats (FSC)**. Looking for a volunteer to coordinate **Seminars**. The **Education Delivery Focus Group** continues to meet to discuss best methods of delivering education to SOS members. Spring Training (a.k.a Education Day) will be paused in 2026 and these alternatives will be offered: (1) A skipper day or half day in mid-to-late March. (2) The Education Committee will partner with Flare and Safety to extend this event to a full day, April 11. (3) A new member orientation and dockside training will be conducted at a marina to include classroom instruction in the morning, on-boat activity in the afternoon, and a social activity at end of day, in late April.

Susan Zevin led an extensive discussion of a small group effort (separate from and in parallel with Milyn's Education efforts) to look at the Basic Skills program, (last updated circa 2010-2011.) References to Basic Skills are explicitly embedded in requirements for daysails, weekend sails, and bareboat trips, directly affecting coordination activities.

Membership: Pat Tracey and Linda Casucci – 4 new members joined SOS in October 2025. Membership is still looking to find a new Chair. Renewals: this year Membership will be making phone calls after January 2026, with a grace period of one month, ending February 2026. We're still looking for 2 volunteers to assist with making phone calls. Membership Recognition Awards: Carrie Will and Rita Svec are receiving Membership Recognition Awards at the November Brunch.

Newsletter: Julie Fort – We are still looking for members to step in if necessary for the Photo and Fleet Exercises editors.

Public Relations: Janet Gonski and Victoria Rusakova – Facilitating a Food Pantry collection at the November brunch. We are also facilitating a new theme for December 13 EYC Lights Parade Caribbean Christmas. We have had 20+ members express interest in working on the volunteer team, with 7+ who are new participants.

Safety: Joan Tannen – Activations have been completed for 2025. Once skippers update their boat information for 2026, I will begin next year's boat activations. Will write a newsletter article on fire blankets versus fire extinguishers. Reminder that Safety needs expired fire extinguishers for next year's Flare and Safety Day. Dates and venues have been set for next year's CPR, Flare and Safety Day, and Dinghy Dance.

Skippers' Advisory: Sandy Rosswork - One area which needs more work is the skipper mentor program. New skippers are often highly accomplished sailors and do not want a “mentor”. We have changed the name to “liaison” and emphasized the need to become familiar with SOS policies and procedures. Relevant information is sent and new skippers receive a welcome email. Liaison volunteers have been selected for several areas with concentrations of SOS boats. This is still a work in progress.

Social: Tina Lavato and Kathy McFadden – Chili Cook-off on Oct 18th went well, though attendance was down from last year. A total of 53 members registered - 35 opting for both the cruise and shore party and 18 opting for shore party only. Halloween Party October 31st was cancelled due to the low registrations. We will be asking for ideas for next year and welcome any feedback. Two events have been scheduled for 2026 with the same venue as last year: Spring DNR: May 15-17, and Seafood Feast: Aug. 15-16. We aim to have the Anniversary Party on June 20th, pending securing a location (Port Annapolis has changed ownership; Maryland Yacht Club is a possible venue).

New Business: Skipper Emeritus status has been awarded to John Halstead, who joined the club in 1994 and sailed his boat, *Drambuie*, with SOS for close to 30 years. John served as club Commodore (1999-2000) and was instrumental in starting the club's very successful bareboat program. John took many club members out on the water and has always been willing to help with advice and suggestions for those who followed him in SOS leadership positions.

A Brunch, A Brunch, and More Brunches!

Beneath Arctic Ice:

Courage, Catastrophe,
and the
Brotherhood of Submariners

December 14th Brunch

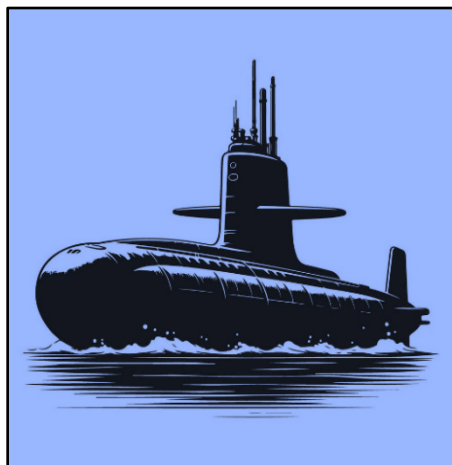
Admiral John J. Donnelly (Ret.) (who goes by Jay) will give a presentation about submarine operations under the Arctic ice pack. He will share one exercise featuring US and UK submarines in the Arctic, during which a chain of events years in the making resulted in an explosion on the UK boat, costing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

He will also discuss why they train under the ice, the added dangers in that unique environment, the remarkable quality of submariner sailors, and the level of training they receive to earn their submarine qualification. Admiral Donnelly will also touch on his life as a career naval officer, drawing on his experience as the son of a submariner and the father of three naval officers.

He has agreed to take questions on any aspect of submarine force.

DoubleTree Hotel
Annapolis, MD

Click [December Brunch](#) to register.



Ospreys on the Patuxent

January 11th 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 Haliaetus*), 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 Owl-net 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, double-majoring in Conservation Biology and Animal Behavior.

DoubleTree Hotel
Annapolis, MD

Click [January Brunch](#) to register.



Regional Brunches

February 15th

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. All the details will follow in the January *Whisker Pole* newsletter.

We hope to have brunches in most of the areas where our members live: Maryland, Virginia, Washington DC, DE/PA, and FL. All we need are hosts!

If you are interested in hosting a Regional Brunch, please contact the Coordinator Suzanne Vaughn at suzyvaughn@gmail.com.



By Samia AbdelWahed



Watch the Lights Parade in Warmth!

The Eastport Yacht Club's Lights Parade is on December 13 and starts at 6:00 PM. The Parade is a wonderful show of splendid color and twinkling lights with each boat decorated in a holiday theme.

Enjoy the parade in warmth and comfort from a waterfront room at the at the Annapolis (Marriott) Waterfront Hotel. Join your friends to watch the parade and to cheer on the SOS entry as the boat passes our waterfront balcony.

The SOS boat will have an SOS banner on the foredeck and will have a Caribbean Christmas theme with a palm tree, Santa, a blue crab with a Santa hat, and steel drum music.

The overview of the Lights Parade will be fantastic from the large balcony which gives a view of "Ego Alley" and the immediate waterfront. This is a great opportunity to capture a winning photo of this colorful holiday event.

Drinks and eats will be available in the room starting at 5:00 PM. Beer, wine, sodas, and sandwiches will be provided. Participants are asked to bring an appetizer or dessert. The cost is \$63.00 per person.

Don't wait too long...attendance is limited due to the size of the room. Email Sandy Rosswork at sgrosswork@aol.com for more information and to sign up and indicate what you will bring.

Christmas Dinner

Join the gathering on December 25th at the home of Barbara Mistrik in Edgewater, MD.

The cost is \$10 per person and a food contribution. **There is no online registration.** To sign up, contact Barbara via land line only at 410-956-1445. Let her know which dish you plan to bring and pay \$10 at the door.

1st Fireside Chat of the Season!



January 10, 2026

It's time to weather the cold inside with heartwarming Regional Fireside Chats (FSC). The

FSC 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.

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 teaming up with the Parsons and 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!

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

If you have ideas for interesting topics or speakers or want to volunteer to coordinate or host a FSC, please contact Kerry Siebein at ksiebein@gmail.com

2025 SOS Photo Retrospective

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

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

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

Please send your photos to John by January 15 at johnfparsons9@msn.com



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: The Photo Contest Manager, Bob Wright, 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 Put "2025 SOS Photo Contest" in the subject line. Changes or swapping photos are allowed up until the deadline.

Update on SOS Education

*By Milyn Jordan
Education Committee Chair*

A hallmark of SOS is a commitment to safety and education. The SOS Education Committee is focused on identifying and scheduling educational events for members to enjoy during the non-sailing season – including Spring Training, Seminars, and Fireside Chats. Additionally, Education sometimes partners with other SOS committees for special events.

This fall, the SOS Board discussed and approved a focus group to explore potential improvements in the ways that SOS delivers its education program. The Education Delivery Focus Group is made up of the following SOS members: Irene Aronian, Gabe Ruiz, Karen Lungren, Barb Wise, Dana Tulis, Carole Jordan, Mindy Kinsey, and Milyn Jordan. The group considered Spring Training survey results and metrics as well as considerable informal feedback from SOS members. Discussions were enthusiastic and lively!

The annual Spring Training has been an ongoing, well attended SOS event. But Spring Training takes place at a time of year when both members and vendors/presenters are all rushing to get boats back in the water. This, combined with the continually escalating costs of venues, led the group to thoughts about trying some alternative approaches.

After input and thoughtful evaluation, here's a roadmap of SOS Education for 2026:

- Spring Training will be paused in 2026. This will provide an opportunity to experiment with alternatives.
- Seminars and Fireside Chats will continue to be held. Planning and scheduling for these is underway.
- A new event, Skipper Education Day, will be specifically focused on Skippers, First Mates, and our experienced sailors who require advanced education commensurate with their roles. This event is currently in the planning stage. It is planned to occur in the first quarter of 2026.
- Flare and Safety (F&S), sponsored by the Safety Committee, is intended for all SOS Members. The Education Committee will partner with the Safety Committee to expand this event to include additional stations.
- A full day event is planned for new members, current members who are looking for a refresh, and potential members interested in joining SOS.

The event will include two sections, a morning classroom orientation and an afternoon spent at a nearby marina, reviewing basic skills at multiple "boat stations." This event provides the opportunity to learn and to review the basic skills needed to be a contributing member of a boat crew.

The Education Committee is excited about these opportunities! Please consider joining us to help pull these events together. Planning each event involves many "small tasks" which combined make it all work. To get involved in these exciting events, please email Milyn Jordan at st.sos.org@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 Rich Stewart at logo4848@gmail.com

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 membersh

Database Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: Why does our calendar page have two entries for an event?

A: We want the public to see all that we have to offer:

One entry is for members only. It can't be seen by the public and provides a direct link to a registration form. The second entry is seen by everyone and does not contain links or personal data.

Q2: Why do we have to log in twice?

A: You don't necessarily! You are logging in to two different URLs to get to the same database.

Singlesonsailboats.org is our "public-facing" website domain. It has a member login for seeing details that are only privy to SOS members such as your profile, Forms & Such, and a calendar with clickable links.

ss.memberclicks.net is our member management software site – a subdomain under MemberClicks – and it is restricted for security reasons. You log in to this site when you register for an event. You may access the event via the calendar page or directly via a link from the Weekly Updates email. Once you are logged in here, you can sign up for multiple events without logging in again.

When passwords don't seem to work between the two, it might be a cache problem. Log in to <https://ss.memberclicks.net> with your username and password. If the password does not work, use the Reset Password option here to create a new one.

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 under Forms and Such. 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.



Dec. 7

Sunday

Board/Committee Chairs Retreat & Planning Meeting

Location:

Mariners Point Club House,
Annapolis, MD.

Time: 12:00pm to 4:00pm.

Note: By invitation only.

commodore@singlesonsailboats.org



Dec. 13

Saturday

Parade of Lights Viewing

Location:

Annapolis Waterfront Hotel,
(Marriott) Annapolis, MD.

Cost: \$63 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.

Coordinator and Hostess:

Sandy Rosswork.
sgrosswork@aol.com



Dec. 14

Sunday

Brunch

Location:

DoubleTree Hotel,
Annapolis, MD.

Cost: \$43 – Brunch.

\$52 - After deadline and walk-ins.

Speaker:

Admiral John J. Donnelly, (Ret.).

Time: **Walk-ins CANNOT be guaranteed a seat.**

Topic:

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

11:00am Social Hour. 11:45am Brunch.
1:00pm Program.

Deadline:

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

Note:

To be held Point the 1st Floor Mainsail Room

Coordinator:

Carole Jordan seajay2844@gmail.com

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



December 25 Thursday

Christmas Day Dinner – Annapolis Area

Location:

Home of Barbara Mistrik,
Edgewater, MD.

Cost: \$10 and Food contribution.

Note: This is NOT an online coordination. Coordination is thru Barbara directly via phone.

Deadline:

December 21.

Note:

Last minute? Call Barbara to see if space is available. There is a limit.

Coordinator:

Call Barbara Mistrik via phone only, **AFTER DECEMBER 3.** 410 956-1445. Be prepared to request your buffet contribution.



Jan. 2

Friday

Board Meeting

Location:

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

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

Note: Open to all Members.

**January 10 Saturday****Area Fireside Chat**

Location: Annapolis, Maryland.

Speakers: Carole Jordan, Nancy and John Parsons.

Topic: A Guide to Bareboating.

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

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

Host: Nancy and John Parsons.

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

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

Coordinator: Carole Jordan 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.

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

Topic: Ospreys on the Patuxent.

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

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

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

Note: To be held in the 1st Floor Mainsail Room.

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

**Feb. TBD****Thursday****Board Meeting**

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

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

Note: Open to all Members.

**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.

Deadline: Contact host by February 8.

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.

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

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

Destination: Grenada and Saint Vincent & the Grenadines.

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

Note:

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

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

OysterFest Cruise

(All names are listed L to R)



Nancy and John Parsons,
(taken by Pam Winters)



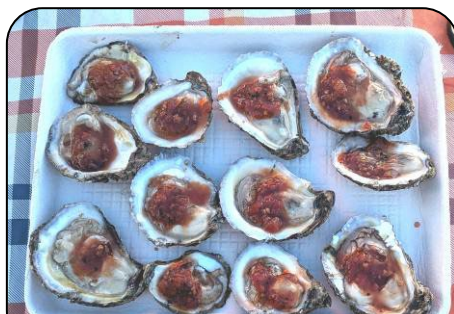
Chesapeake Bay Maritime
Museum Lighthouse (RAW)



Pam and Jack Winters
(JFP)



Janet Pennewell, Melinda
Zimmerman, Noreen McGuire, and
Joanne White (JFP)



Featured Performer:
OYSTERS (RAW)



Cindy Turner, Linda Perkins,
Noreen McGuire, and Mark
Anderson (G) (JFP)



Catherine Fox and Laura
Keough (JFP)



Karen Lundgren, Melinda
Zimmerman, and Chuck Fort
(JFP)



Barbara Shoemaker and
Daisy (NBP)

Guest (G)

Photographs submitted as noted: John Parsons (JFP); Nancy Parsons (NBP); Bob Wright (RAW).

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

Cruising Wrap-Up

(All names are listed L to R)



Dana Stoffregen,
Cruising Co-Chair (JFP)



Heide Harper and
Barbara Wingrove (JFP)



John Parsons, FM – standing in
for Lora Donia (RAW)



Steve Fisher and
Kathy Haven (JFP)



Molly Harrison and
Mary Chevalier (JFP)



Cherie Comly and
Michael Sommer (JFP)



Carole Jordan and
Michael Sommer (RAW)



Sandy Rosswork and
Karen Lundgren (JFP)



Julie Fort and
Carole Jordan (RAW)

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.

Blue Lips Cruise & Party

(All names are listed L to R)



Gerry Ragland and
Denise Fairman



Karl Scible and
Stefan Striffler (NM)



Susan Zevin and
Pete Ashley



Peter Breit, Melinda
Zimmerman, and Rich Stewart



Melinda Zimmerman



Janet Gonski, Kathy Haven,
and Emil Becker



Melinda Zimmerman



Denise Fairman



Gerry Ragland

New Member (NM)

Photographs submitted by: Melinda Zimmerman

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



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



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

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

1st Wednesday
BALTIMORE: **Dec 3rd** **5:30-7:00 PM**
MT WASHINGTON TAVERN, 5700 Newbury St., Baltimore, MD 21029. 410-367-6903. Email coordinator to be added to notification email.
www.mtwashingtontavern.com
COORD: JOSH singlesonsailboats@JoshuaGraff.com

1st Wednesday
NOVA/DC: **Dec 3rd** **5:00-7:00 PM**
MYLO'S GRILL, in the back dining room, 6238 Old Dominion Dr, McLean, VA. 21218. 703-533-5880. www.mylosgrill.com
COORDINATOR: **HOPE** – hoped@verizon.net

2nd Thursday
ELLCOTT CITY: **Dec 11th** **5:00-7:30 PM**
La Palapa Grill, 8307 Street, Ellicott City MD 21043. 410-465-0070. www.lapalapagrill.com
COORDINATORS: **KATHY** – mskathha@gmail.com
JANET – jgsunset@yahoo.com

3rd Wednesday
WILMINGTON: **Dec 17th** **5:30PM**
TIMOTHY'S Restaurant and Bar, 930 Justison Street, Wilmington, DE 19801. Wilmington Riverfront by Blue Rock Stadium, facing the waterfront. Drink and appetizer specials until 7PM. 302-429-7427.
<https://riverfrontde.mytimothysrestaurants.com>
COORDINATOR: **JULIE** – jafort@comcast.net

3rd Thursday
ROCKVILLE: **Dec 18th** **5:00-7:00 PM**
Seasons 52, .11414 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852. 301-816-0369. Free parking at Whole Foods.
<https://seasons52.com/home>
CORDINATOR: **DEBBIE** – hidebbieg@yahoo.com

3rd Thursday
KENT ISLAND: **Dec 18th** **5:00-7:00 PM**
LIBBEY'S COASTAL RESTAURANT, (formerly Hemingway's) 357 Pier 1 Road, Stevensville, MD 21666. 410-604-0999.
www.Libbeyscoastalkitchen.com
COORDINATOR: **PETER** – Beneteau461@gmail.com

4th Thursday ****CANCELLED until new Host found****
PHILLY AREA: **4:30PM**
DiFabios, 1243 Providence Road, Media, PA 19063. (location of the Old Rose Tree Inn) 484-444-0850. Great food, lots
COORDINATOR: TBD

4th Tuesday ****NOTE New Date Due to Holiday****
ANNAPOLIS: **Dec 23rd** **5:00-7:00 PM**
ANNAOPLIS SMOKEHOUSE, 107 Hillsmer Drive, Annapolis, MD 21403. 410-571-5073. www.annapolissmokehouse.com
COORDINATOR: **JERE** – jerewglover@msn.com



Baltimore Happy Hour

Josh Graff, Stefan Striffer, Carl Scible, Janet Gonski, Bill Small, Kathy Haven, Steve Fisher

CLASSIFIED ADS

- **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 Ads Page Editor

BOATS FOR SALE

BOAT FOR SALE:



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

BOAT FOR SALE:

2003 Corsair 28R trimaran #161 with carbon fiber rotating mast and bow sprit. Recent mainsail, jib, screecher, and two asymmetrical spinnakers. Recent standing rigging and wing nets. 2019 Tohatsu Sail-Pro 6 hp 4-stroke outboard motor. 2003 Pacific tandem axle rebuilt trailer. Very fast and fun to day sail or race! Located in Whitmarsh Creek (off Rhode River) in Mayo.
Yard storage paid through 3/26.

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

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Cruise Ready Gear

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

Contact S. Letourneau – LaCoquette at 410-267-0737 or sletour@icloud.com 12-25

FREE

Douglas Gill Women's Sailing boots, Size 8. FREE!

Contact Teri at 443-416-6932. 12-25

Membership Data

	October 2025	October 2024	October 2023	October 2022
Members	252	264	237	254
New Members	+5	+3	+7	+1
Skippers	64	69	70	65
New Skipper	–	–	–	+1
Lifetime Members	76	79	87	65
Lifetime Skippers	23	21	20	23
Inactive Members	15	16	18	21
Totals	435	452	439	430

Contacts

YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Name	Office	Liaison to Committee	E-mail Address
Dana Tulis	Commodore		Danatulis2@verizon.net
Rich Stewart	Vice Commodore	Cruising	logo4848@gmail.com
Janet Pennewell	Treasurer	Bareboat	treasurer@singlesonsailboats.org
Richard Cordaro	Secretary	First Mates' Advisory, Safety	richardjcordaro@aol.com
Paul Anderson		Database, Membership	pbabylon5@gmail.com
Irene Aronian		Newsletter, Public Relations	irene.aronian@gmail.com
Gabriel Ruiz		Skippers' Advisory	gabriel_ruiz@valdesautomation.com
Barbara Wise		Brunches, Social	bwise8426@gmail.com
Susan Zevin		Education	susanzevin@me.com

YOUR COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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

Committee	Name	E-mail Address
Bareboat Cruising	Deb Kauffman, Heide Harper (2026 Trips) Coco Lanquetuit (2027 Trips)	bareboatchair@singlesonsailboats.org
Brunches	Margaret Schwartz	mschwartz.usa@aim.com
Cruising Co-Chairs	Laura Keough Dana Stoffregen	laurasan2@yahoo.com stoffregendana@gmail.com
Database Internet	Carrie Will – Team Lead, Don Yerger	dbrequests.sos.org@gmail.com
Education	Milyn Jordan	mlynjordan@aol.com
First Mates' Advisory	Lora Donia	doniala@aol.com
Membership Chair	Pat Tracey (until Feb 2026)	pptracey63@gmail.com
Newsletter	Julie Fort	editorwhiskerpole@yahoo.com
Public Relations	Janet Gonski Victoria Rusakova	jgsunset@yahoo.com v.rusakova@yahoo.com
Safety Co-Chairs	Joan Tannen, Michael Sommer	safety@singlesonsailboats.org
Skippers' Advisory	Sandy Rosswork, Chuck Fort (Backup)	sgrosswork@aol.com
Social Chair	Tina Lavato Linda Casucci	Tinalav1@gmail.com casuccilj@gmail.com

YOUR AREA CONTACTS

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

Singles on Sailboats, Inc. 410-798-4098 www.singlesonsailboats.org
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/268838264195
 Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/Singles_on_sailboats
 Meetup: <https://www.meetup.com/Singles-on-Sailboats>

**Singles
On
Sailboats**
INCORPORATED



P. O. Box 5708
Annapolis, MD 21403

Winter Activities

Brunches: Dec. 14 & Jan. 11

Parade of Lights: Dec. 13

Fire Side Chat: Jan. 10