

Greetings fellow Seabreeze enthusiast!

The calendar is on the downhill side of October and we sailors at this latitude have called it quits for the season. *Secret Water* made the journey home a couple of weeks ago and once again resides beside my garage. She seemed so out of place when 'cruising' down the state highway through my small rural town on the way to her winter refuge. Something about sharing the road with a tractor hauling a hay wagon is an image I can't quite accept. My neighbor at the helm of his John Deere no doubt has similar feelings.

The Tenants Harbor Rendezvous, wasn't a huge success, but on the other hand it was hardly a failure. The coast of Maine has been remarkably free of fog for the last several years, but '03 made up for all those clear sailing days. Few of us can recall a spell of weather that was so hot and humid as we experienced this summer. For about three weeks the visibility was zero with little or no wind. Unfortunately, August 7th fell right in the middle of this mess. On the upbeat, while no boats braved the foul weather, nine Seabreeze sailors turned out. On hand were:

Mel Converse, *Whim*, #49, Galesville, Md.
Don and Betty Lockhart, *Sacunska*, #135, Charlotte, Vt.
Don and Effe Marchese, *Shalimar*, #30, Brooklyn, NY.
Dick Gray, *Ephiram W*, #92, Gulfport, Fl.
Jim and Esther Hart, *Blue Moon*, #4, Quispamsis, N.B. Canada
Art Hall, *Secret Water*, #36, Bayside, Me.

Lunch was enjoyed on the dock at the Cod End. After greeting old friends and making new, the afternoon was spent pouring over Allied drawings and personal photo albums. Later we moved next door to have dinner together at the East Wind Inn. I suppose if there was one thing we are guilty of, it was overeating. We're looking forward to next summer when the traditional cockpit socializing under blue skies will surely prevail.

The Chesapeake Rendezvous, September 12th and 13th, fared better. Once again, the weather wasn't what was ordered, or even forecast two days before, but a northeaster couldn't dampen the spirits of 24 Seabreeze crew members who ultimately chased the stormy weather away Saturday afternoon. Twelve boats were represented with six being present. Two more had planned to come, but the crews wisely elected to shift to land transportation and avoid a long beat into a 20-knot northeast wind. Those in attendance at the West River Sailing Club in Galesville, Maryland were:

Denny & Nancy Mehegan, *Phoebe M.* #9, Seaford, Va
David & Nancy Bohm, *Nepenthe*, #13, Annapolis, Md. *
Jim & Martha Richardson, *Togwotee II*, #18, Claiborne, Md *
John & Betty Jo Eberman, *Dawn Treader II*, #23, Elizabeth City, NC *
Dave & Diane Berry, *Southerly*, #26, Myer Creek, Va.
Dave & Sandy Kipp, Don Kipp, *Mon Plaisir*, #48, Sebastian, Fl
Mel & Molly Converse, *Whim*, #49, Galesville, Md. *

Tad Zabrodzki, *Hongi*, #61, Kent Island, Md. *
Dick & Elaine Dodson, *Respite*, #88, Patuxent NAS, Md
Joe & Betty French, *Destiny*, #101, West Islip, NY
Ren & Sandy Renfro, *Sirenia*, #124, Washington, DC. *
Jeff & Laura Wallin, *Andiamo*, #126, Annapolis, Md.

* yacht on hand

Festivities began Friday night with a dinner at the club hosted by Sandy & Ren Renfro, followed by the usual conversation centered around Gene Reardon's project photo albums that Joe French had been able to bring.

Saturday was look-at-the-boats time since the weather wasn't much good for sailing. But as the weather cleared during the afternoon, more and more boats began arriving, each a little bit different, and giving us each ideas for further possible modifications to our own boats. Supper was again at WRSC and, as usual, the evening went late.

Sunday was departure day for most, although John Eberman & Mel Converse took *Whim* for an afternoon sail before dinner. *Dawn Treader II* left Monday for a hurricane hole in Solomons to ride out Isabel & *Whim* returned to her slip to do the same. Reports to date indicate that all the boats came through the storm okay. Our thanks to Mel & Molly Converse and Sandy & Ren Renfro for their organizing efforts. By all accounts it was a most successful event.

I would like to welcome new members that I have met or am aware of. Don and Effe Marchese sail *Shalimar* out of Sheepshead Bay, New York. *Shalimar*, hull #30, is a new boat on our roster. Also, Joe and Genie Field of Freeport, Maine, are the proud new owners of *Venture*, hull #14 (ex Lyrico). Once again, please share with me information about boats that are for sale and boats that have been sold. If you receive this mailing as an ex-owner, kindly forward it to the new owner if possible. If this reaches you as your first correspondence from the owners association, welcome to the group.

On the distant horizon, Nancy and Dennis Mehegan are formulating plans for a 2004 rendezvous at the Seaford Yacht Club on the southern Chesapeake. Stay tuned as plans develop. I am appealing to the membership for someone to come forward to host an off season meeting / gathering this winter. Ideally this will be someplace centrally located in the southern New England / New York / New Jersey / Chesapeake area. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any ideas for a meeting place. I will assist you as host, or in any way I can, to get the word out to the membership to assure maximum participation. While I am not centrally located, I've considered arranging something to coincide with the Maine Boat Builders Show in Portland, Maine. This show takes place on the third weekend in March and is *not* your typical boat show. Please let me know if there is any interest in this idea.

There's one question I've been itching to ask. At least four A.S.O.A. members, Andy Lindy, *Breeze* #39, Duke Wellington, *Stone Soup* #38, Greg Moebius, *Canis Minor*, #125 and I, *Secret Water* #36 are all graduates of Maine Maritime Academy in Castine. Could there be more MMA grads out there sailing Seabreezes?

Enclosed with this mailing is a current roster of A.S.O.A. members. Some of our information might be getting a little stale. If there are any corrections that you would like to make I will update the database to keep it as current as possible. I have enclosed a form which is all set up to

mail back to me. At the bottom of the form I have provided space to add feedback. Please share your ideas.

It's been about four months since Gene Reardon's passing. I'm sure he'd be comforted to know the Association he worked so hard to organize seems to be doing just fine. Financially we have our heads above water and two organized rendezvous this past summer attest to the enthusiasm that prevails for our Seabreezes. Gene's estate settlement is slowly working through the world of lawyers and courts. His heirs have turned over some of the A.S.O.A. material. We are optimistic that more will be forthcoming.

This mailing has gone out to 123 recipients. Because of the updated roster, color photo sheet and extra postage, I am budgeting \$250 for this effort. Granted, the color copying is a bit of a luxury, but it goes a long way to convey the success of the A.S.O.A. gatherings and the friendships made.

Our sincere thanks to all of you who that have made a contribution to A.S.O.A. We have received enough funds to maintain an interest free checking account and just enough operating surplus to allow mailings such as this to continue. Without your voluntary financial support this would not be possible. Many thanks to:

*Lynn and Michael Adler, David and Nancy Bohm, Jim Carrier, Mel and Molly Converse,
Doug Creighton, Linc Craighead, Garry and Mary Doncourt, John and Betty Jo Eberman,
Joe and Genie Field, Bill Fishbein, Joe and Betty French, Martin Glickman,
Art and Sandy Hall, John Harror, Alan Harrop, Roy and Sheila Harvey, Bob Jablonski,
Ken Kladiva, Richard LaTorre, Bruce Lawrence, Leo Lichveld,
Don and Betty Ann Lockhart, Spencer Mace, Don and Effe Marchese, Paul McDermott,
Nancy and Dennis Mehegan, Carlton Oakes, Joe and Debbie Parker, Mark Prestero,
Jim Richardson, Peter Scott, Dan Smith, Marion Smith, Anson Stage, Fred Steffans
Tom and Vicki Thompson, Hank Towers, Jeff Wallin, Ben Weems, Jim West,
Fred Weston, Duke Wellington and Scott and Mary Ellen Woodward.*

Donation checks should be made payable to "A.S.O.A."
C/O Roy Harvey, P.O. Box 886, Oriental, NC 28571

I'd like to express a very special thanks to Roy for serving as treasurer of the A.S.O.A. My wife Sandy has served in that capacity for our modest yacht club for the last twenty years. I can fully appreciate the value of a dedicated bookkeeper.

For many of us there are really two sailing seasons: the months when our boats are in commission and the balance of the year when they are not. Now is the time we review our work list and prioritize the 'must do' and 'like to do' items. I for one seem to have an endless list. As soon as something can be checked off, another project presents itself. Such is the nature of a great old boat.

Fairwinds, Art

