



CSSM ANNUAL DINNER January 7, 2006

The annual dinner was held on Saturday, January 7, 2006, at 6:00 p.m. at the Tidewater Inn in Easton, MD. Skippers and mates of 15 boats, five sustaining members and four guests attended.

The first hour of the evening was comprised of the traditional happy hour with open bar and passed hors d'oeuvres. The tables were appropriately festooned with red and yellow ribbons, fresh greens, signal flags and small sailboats handmade by Mike Gates. Photos from the previous season had been collected and were on display.

At 7:00 p.m. Commodore Terry Burke introduced Fred Tompkins who gave the invocation, and we all sat down to dinner. At about 7:30 the Commodore called the meeting to order and asked for the introduction of guests. Mike Gates introduced Karen and Joe Day of St. Michaels. Terry Burke introduced Anne Pilert and Tod Engleskirchen of Bozman.

In the absence of Purser Barb Cox, Terry Burke summarized that the balance on hand at the beginning of the year (Jan. 6, 2005) was \$1,296.19 and the balance today is \$1343.26.

Commodore Burke then spoke briefly about the great year on the water and the spirit of friendship in the club. He thanked his officers and said that the club will be in good hands with the new officers.

In the absence of Nominating Committee Chairperson, George Weckel, Commodore Burke presented the slate of officers for 2006-2007:

Commodore	Mike Gates
Vice Commodore	Tom Cornwell
Flag Lieutenant	Sherry Burke
Purser	Ann Marie Ellis

Burke asked that the nominations be closed. The slate was approved by acclamation, and Terry then turned the



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meeting over to the new Commodore Mike Gates who ascended to the podium amid a rousing tune of "Hail to the Chief".

Commodore Mike Gates then presented the flags to Terry Burke, Past Commodore; Ann Marie Ellis, Purser; Sherry Burke, Flag Lieutenant; and Tom Cornwell, Vice Commodore. He thanked Terry Burke for mentoring him during the past year and Ginny Cornwell for her work on producing the program for the evening. He thanked his wife, Lynn Gates, for keeping their course true and the wind at their backs.

During the Commodore's Remarks, Mike Gates spoke of his goals for the organization – to continue to enhance the fun and friendship and the common interest in sailing. He went on to present a history of CSSM which began in 1971 with guidelines laid out in a letter from Bud and Jean Cochran. The number seven flag was chosen that season to be the club flag. Mike reviewed the club activities year by year. One highlight was the fact that 30 years ago in 1976 the winter rendezvous was also held in the Crystal Room of the Tidewater Inn. In 1984 the six night, two cruise rule was instituted. The first flea market was held in 1986. In 1990 there were 35 boats. Mike touched on when each of our current members joined CSSM. (The history as presented by Mike Gates is available on request by e-mail.) He concluded his remarks by saying that he is looking for new ideas such as captainless mini cruises. There are currently 20 boats and we are looking for new boats by next year.

Presentation of awards followed: Terry Burke presented the Cruisingest Sailors Award to George and Judy Weckel (who could not be present) for their 35 nights. Denny Sokso presented the Practicing Sailor Award to Chuck Ellis whose dinghy ran out of gas on July cruise to Oxford. Tom Cornwell presented the Perpetual Award to Lynn and Mike Gates for remaining cheerful during their engine malfunctions on the cruise home from Havre de Grace. Irv Hetherington presented the Green One Award to George Weckel for not finding a mark on



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the way to Havre de Grace. Chuck Ellis presented the Drag Racer Award to Terry Burke whose anchor dragged on the July cruise to Oxford. Mike Gates presented the Uno en Iso Trophy to Terry Burke, the outgoing Commodore. Finally, a surprise award was presented to Terry Burke by Sherry Burke. It was a nautical quilt which included fabric signed by all of the Cruising Sailors.

Commodore Mike Gates presented closing remarks and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Burke, Flag Lieutenant