

CSSM ANNUAL DINNER
Miles River Yacht Club – January 4, 2014

1900: DINNER

Tod Engelskirchen

INVITE EVERYONE TO BE SEATED FOR DINNER

Please be seated. (Point out fire exits and rest rooms)

Welcome members and guests to the Cruising Sailors of St. Michaels Annual Dinner. Your place cards are on the tables. The cards indicate which meal you will be served. It's worth noting again that the first annual CSSM dinner was called the Winter Rendezvous and was held in February, 1975. Our organization really does have a LONG tradition of sailing and social activity.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance, and remain standing for the invocation.

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

INVOCATION

Jim McCloud

Now, if you'll please bow your heads for the invocation.

Lord, we thank you for the opportunity to meet here in fellowship among our CSSM members. We also thank you for the many blessings you have bestowed upon each of us.

We are grateful to all those who sacrificed so much to preserve the freedom that we enjoy, and we ask for your blessing for those who protect us even now.

Please guide us through the coming year.

Amen

ENJOY YOUR DINNER

2030: PROGRAM

Tod Engelskirchen

WELCOME

Welcome once again. I hope you enjoyed your dinner. I would like to thank the club manager, Bob Dean and catering manager Vicki Bland, the chef, and the entire staff of the Miles River Yacht Club for their efforts to make this a successful event. (Applause)

RECOGNIZE PAST COMMODORES

Now I would like to recognize the past Commodores who are in attendance:

Les Anstey
Dennis Sokso
Irv Hetherington
George Weckel

RECOGNIZE HONORARY MEMBERS

I would also like to recognize Les and Gloria Anstey, the honorary members who are with us tonight. Honorary Members have completed, as active members, 15 or more years of cruising in CSSM.

Now I would now like to turn the program over to Commodore Fritz Moritz

COMMODORE'S REMARKS – Fritz Moritz

The outgoing Commodore thanks those in the membership who have done service to the organization. He or She also looks at the state of the organization. This talk should be short and positive.

PRESENTATION OF FLAGS TO NEW OFFICERS – Fritz Moritz

Commodore – Tod Engelskirchen
Vice Commodore – Jim and Pamela McCloud
Flag Lieutenant – Jayne Hetherington
Purser – Wendy Moritz

PRESENTATION OF "PAST COMMODORE" FLAG TO Fritz Moritz – Tod

Fritz, please come forward. (Present the flag)

Fritz, I want to present to you this flag in recognition of your service as Vice Commodore and Commodore over

the past two years. Those who have held this job know how much work is involved. Thank you very much.

NEW COMMODORE'S REMARKS – Tod Engelskirchen

First, I would like to thank you for giving me the chance to be Commodore of the Cruising Sailors of Saint Michaels. This group goes back to 1975 – that means that we have a 38 year history. I think we all owe those who went before us a debt of gratitude. We have had ups and downs during that time and I have to say we now face some challenges.

Our reason to exist is sailing. And fun. We had some great cruises this year. I thank those who led these cruises.

In recent years we have tried to make the group a more open and welcoming organization. I think we have made some pretty good progress in that regards. Power boats can now participate on cruises. We find that we have not been overwhelmed by them.

One of our challenges is membership. We need to grow our membership in order to survive. The Millers and Tanczos held a get together early last season. We thank them for that. We need to do more of this kind of thing and raise the awareness of the sailing community in Talbot County about CSSM. We have brochures for any who want to take them and give them to prospective members.

When, in the deep dark past, I worked for a chemical company, I was a researcher in a sales driven company. In this situation I learned that, to succeed, an organization needs to provide value to its customers..... You. I also learned that it was easier to keep a customer than get a new one. In 2014 we will be working to try to provide value to our members and also attract new members. This will entail some changes. We will try to communicate these changes and will listen to everyone's ideas.

Providing value to its members is important. However, communication is crucial to the success of any successful organization. The board of directors will be more than willing to listen to any and all ideas, complaints, and suggestions. Please call us.

Please look for some emails in the near future concerning some of what we may do to keep you happy and attract more members. We will have a cruise planning meeting in March. This is a little later than usual. I will also be asking if members might want to resume our lunch programs. We are small enough that we might be able to do this in a brown bag fashion at someone's home. The proposed lunches will focus on cruise related topics.

Some ideas may not work. Some ideas may not please everyone. If this is the case with something we try, please be tolerant..... but let us know. In my opinion, you have to take a shot if you are going to hit the target and..... you may miss a few times.

I had planned to have the website up and going by now. Changes had to be made. I will be working on it after this event is over. It will be there when we need it in the Spring.

Think about cruises you might want to see happen. Think about how you can be helpful to our group. Send me your ideas. Long ones, short ones, whatever. Let us know!

AWARDS PRESENTATIONS – Tod Engelskirchen

Now for the Awards: Those of you who are awarded these trophies have 2 options: You can keep and use them for the year or you can leave them with me to be given soon to the incoming Commodore. Your garage or his.

ONE AND ONLY AWARD (UNO EN ISO): (Presented by Tod)

Awarded to the outgoing Commodore by the incoming Commodore.

Fritz, Please come up here. In recognition for your service and for surviving the year I present you this magnificent award. This is traditionally given to the outgoing Commodore, and I know you are thrilled to receive it. We all know it will find a place of honor in your garage or mine.

Spirit of CSSM Award : Presented by Molly Anderson

This is a renewed award. Molly will describe and present it.

Practicing Sailor Award – In this case also known as the LOST ISLAND award : Presented by Thom Vargish

This award is a double this year. It recognizes a crew who is, as we all are, on a journey to mastery of our Sailing Skills. Thom:

Laundry Day Award: Presented by Jim McCloud – A new award to recognize unusual accomplishments having to do with keeping ones clothing freshly laundered.

CSSM Best Recruiter : Presented by Tod Engelskirchen

This award is presented to David and JoAnn Miller for their efforts at recruiting. They were instrumental in organizing the Spring Cocktail party, bringing Ed Buckholz and Donna Lang into the group, and have another couple interested in our organization – the Perrys. For these efforts they have earned this trophy.

Cruisingest Sailor Award: Presented by Tod Engelskirchen

This award is presented to the cruising couple who have spent the most time cruising with our group. It gives me great pleasure to present this award to Irv and Jayne of Karaya who earned it by participating in every one of the cruises of 2013 that left the dock and spending a total of 20 nights on the water with CSSM. Irv and Jayne:

CRUISE OF THE YEAR AWARD: Presented by Irv Hethereington

AWARD CRITERIA:

- Outstanding Cruise
- Most Interesting Destination
- Most Fun

- Most Participation
- Most Adventurous
- Most Interesting Route
- Best Planning to Bring an Exceptional Experience to Participants
- Out-Of-The-Box Thinking

Lastly another new award – the Super Navigator Award – Feats of Navigation - Presented by Larry and Carolyn - Again a repurposed award.

This award is presented to the member who demonstrates skills which would make Magellan turn green with envy.

ADJOURN

Now, at each table there is a centerpiece. We would like those at a table to compare birthdays. The one whose birthday is closest to today gets to take the plants home. We will recycle the baskets at the picnic. If you take a plant home, please nourish it and plan to bring it back at picnic time.

This concludes the evening's festivities. We hope you have enjoyed yourselves and we look forward to seeing you on the water this coming season.

Please drive safely on your way home.