

The object of the Sandusky Sailing Club shall be the promotion and encouragement of sailing and seamanship, and of a sportsmanlike attitude toward racing and competition. The Club is organized to encourage small boat sailing and racing among those who may not be able to afford large annual dues and assessments.



PO BOX 814
SANDUSKY, OHIO 44871-0814
www.sanduskysailingclub.com
Battery Park, Sandusky, Ohio 44871

December 2025 Cross Bearings

12/02	Tues	SJSI meeting.....	7:00pm
12/03	Wed	SJRT meeting.....	8:00am
12/05	Fri	Fireside Friday-Deck the Halls...	6:00pm
12/06	Sat	SSC Christmas Party	5:30pm
12/08	Mon	Sadler Basin Committee mtg.....	7:00pm
12/09	Tues	SSC Board meeting	7:00pm
12/13	Sat	SSC anual budget meeting.....	10:00am
12/13	Sat	Club Rental.....	3:00pm
01/06	Tues	SJSI meeting	7:00pm
01/07	Wed	SJRT meeting	8:00am
01/12	Mon	Sadler Basin Committee mtg.....	7:00pm
01/13	Tues	SSC Board meeting	7:00pm
01/24	Sat	Club Rental.....	2:00pm

For more info, go to www.sanduskysailingclub.com.
Go to “community” then drop down to “event calendar.”

From the Helm Comm. Tim Willford Well... here we go. New year. New energy. New Commodore. Same great club vibe.

I’m officially taking the helm for 2026, and I couldn’t be more excited to keep this thing moving forward with all of you. If 2025 proved anything, it’s that SSC is absolutely unstoppable when our people show up — and wow, did you show up. We hosted huge regattas, packed the porch all summer, grew our fleets, strengthened our juniors, and somehow managed to keep the bar from running out of rum. A true team effort.

Now we’re charging into 2026 with that same momentum and a whole list of new projects, upgrades, and ideas on the horizon. This club thrives because it’s people-powered — not just by the folks who volunteer, race, cook, haul, or chair committees, but by every member who chooses to be part of this community. That spirit is our superpower, and we’re going to keep leaning into it all year long.

I’m honored to serve as your Commodore and I’m ready to do the work, have some fun, and help keep SSC the most welcoming, lively, slightly chaotic (in the best way), and totally one-of-a-kind sailing club around.

Quick but important reminder:

Annual Budget Meeting — Dec. 13 at 10:00am

Bring your coffee, bring your questions, bring your “I only woke up for the donuts” energy.

Here’s to a fantastic year ahead — Let’s keep the sails full, the docks busy, and the clubhouse buzzing.

And from Pippa... Pippa’s Paw-spective Henlo SSC frens, it me, Pippa!

I just wanted to say I am sooooo eggcited to be your First Mate and official club mascot for 2026.

I will be here for all da important duties: greeting hoomans, supervising snacks, inspecting boats with my snoot, and providing premium tail wags on demand.

Dis year is gonna be full of funs, frens, and maybe a few extra treats if I play my cards right. I can’t wait to cheer on all da sailors and support my hooman Commodore all year long! See yoo on da docks!

Pippa — First Mate & Goodest Mascot

Vice Commodore’s Comments...VC Tim Ujvari

As I begin my movement through the chairs, Rear Commodore to Vice Commodore, it is only appropriate that I mention my gratitude to now PC John Giordano and Commodore Tim Willford for their guidance during my Rear Commodore year and all of the volunteers that made the 2024 Christmas Party, a presentation, Friday Night Feeds/Fireside Fridays, Wednesday Racing and other event meals a success and work in the Galley a breeze. Thank you.

As I look outside from a window this morning, on Friday after Thanksgiving, snow has accumulated on the lawn and street and light flurries continue, so with that a true sign that our 2025 sailing season comes to an end. With the exception of a few sailboats that will bubble the water at their winter slips, all the other sailboats are out of the water and placed into hibernation.

Sadler Basin Committee has several projects in the queue including: dredging the basin, extending utilities to the transient dockage area, and lengthening docks at several slips with the work scheduled for this off season.

Inside SSC- A few smallish improvements, as compared to last year, will occur within the clubhouse. The schedule for improvements is fluid at this time with updates in the near future. The clubhouse will continue to be available for rental so plan ahead; we suggest that your dates be flexible.



DF95s caught healthy breezes during Turkey Bowl

We will soon see activity on the Battery Park development

property as site preparations begin during the initial phase. Routine driveway access from Meigs Street will be disrupted and the developer will provide regular updates which in turn will be posted to membership. At this time our access at the security gate will not change.

View from the Rear RC Robbie Stone

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. The list of things I am thankful for is longer than I deserve. I am most thankful for family that are also friends, and friends that I consider family. SSC makes my list too, maybe because I have so many friends at the club. I think SSC is a special place, and I am excited to serve as Rear Commodore for the 2026 season. I grew up in southern Ohio where friends and family still gather around a table. Nothing goes better with friends than food. As you may know, cooking is a passion of mine, so I look forward to those Friday nights when I can personally prepare the meal for the many friends that I am blessed to have at SSC. If we are not friends, then let's change that; no better place to start than a Fireside Friday.

Fireside Fridays - The first one of the winter will be Friday, Feb. 6.

The club will be closed again for a few weeks to finish some of the remodel items that we started last year; so those dates may change.

Fireside Friday Sea Stories - Starting in February, one Fireside Friday a month will become Fireside Friday Sea Stories, and will feature a guest speaker. Think, sea story, adventure, safety, how to, etc. I will get these put on the calendar as soon as they are lined up. Some will be members, and some will be guests. The goal is to provide a fun, educational, and interactive experience once a month.

If you would like to prepare a meal, don't hesitate to get in touch with Kitty or me. Robbie Stone 740-352-1316, Kitty Stone 740-961-5237.

Some thoughts on December - My favorite day of the year is in December. Care to guess the day? If you guessed Dec. 24 or 25, you would be wrong. It's actually Dec. 21 this year. Figure it out yet? It's the winter solstice, the shortest day of the year. Before you write me off as crazy, hear me out. Dec. 21 is the day things start getting better.

My problem started on June 20, 2025, this year, the summer solstice. That's the day that summer peaked, and the



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days started getting shorter. From that date forward, the planet begins conspiring against me. By the time December gets here, I fully understand why seasonal depressive disorder is a thing. But when the sun sets around 5:09 on Dec. 21, every day will start to get longer. The sun will continue to hide, snow will still fall, but each day the sun will shine a little longer.

I love summer, sailing, and long days. The winter solstice marks a process in which, every day, at least one thing in my life will get better. I begin planning sailing excursions for next year. I start any boat projects I brought home for winter. The world we live in begins to realign to provide me with longer days and warmer weather. Better for hanging out with friends that you think of as family and family that are also friends. Why would your favorite day not be the winter solstice?

Sadler Sailing Basin

Chairman- PC Bryan Huntley and Dock Master- Doug Klein

The basin is all put away for the winter and boats are in their places for the duration. We have numerous boats wintering with us again this year and most of them are out on Springers Wharf.

The ice boat ramp is up and ready for winter sailing. With the cold temperatures coming in early, we might just have some good wintertime fun this year.

We are waiting for dredging to begin. There was a delay getting the permit for the work to be performed. With ice showing up early, the contractor doing the work may have to dredge in the spring. This all needs to be done so the new pump-out station can be operational in 2026.


We have had an initial meeting with the city and will be meeting soon to go over our long-range plans for the basin. Stay tuned.

The new addition to the Sadler board is PC Bill Semans. Welcome to Bill to our team.

Why should every business leader learn to race a sailboat?
What does a winning skipper and crew know
that business executives don't?
Can sailing strategies and tactics help a business
increase sales and profits?

Read the recently released book,
Puzzle Pieces® by Dave Caracci

NOW available on Amazon.com
BTW, it's a fun read and will be a COOL PRESENT!





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Dock Master Doug's Notes

In-Water Winter Storage - We are using the docks on Springer's Wharf this year which means we can handle longer boats up to 45'. If you're interested in our In-Water Winter Storage for this winter, contact Doug NOW!

2026 dock contracts were emailed out on Oct. 17. If you didn't receive yours, please check your spam folder and go through the emails you received that day to be sure you didn't. Then, contact me by email to request a resend. We need your current email address to ensure it doesn't get lost. We are still working to update our database with email corrections. If you did not receive your contract or I'm working on getting you a new one, you will have 30 days additional to return it with your payment.

Please Note! Contract and insurance forms required for winter and spring dockage. Many members are Dead Last when it comes to sending their filled out contracts and proof of insurance forms. This year, we require those forms to be received by the Sadler Board prior to bringing your boat into the marina. There will be a penalty for not complying. This helps protect the club from difficult situations and gives contact information for emergencies. The requirements and penalties will be outlined in the contract form.

2025 SSC Awards Banquet



Your boat plans - If you are not going to need an SSC dock next summer, please let us know right away. If you are considering purchasing a new boat or selling your old one, let us know so we can anticipate your dockage requirements for next year. Just like on the starting line, we can't anticipate everyone's actions so giving us a heads up would be appreciated.

Dock availability - We currently will have 40' slips, 35' slips, 30' slips, and two 26' slips available for rent in 2026. Spread the word about how great SSC is in order to help fill those empty docks. Docks will be filled from the waiting list first so get your name on it for your best shot at a new dock.

Please send emails to Doug at: frefotodk@gmail.com

Sandusky Junior Sailors, Inc.....
Suzanne Hartley and Michelle Gilboy

Registration for 2026 Learn to Sail is open It makes a great holiday gift for everyone. "Truly the gift that keeps on giving!"

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Turkey Bowl 2025



Sailing stuff for sale

Two Opti's for sale. Bought them from the club a decade ago when the old boats were being cleared out of the SSC boat barn to make room for new ones. They're old boats but in sail-ready condition. All new running rigging. Contact Jon Muzilla at 216-650-7148.

26 foot Grampian sailboat: Good starter boat! 3 sails, roller furling, spinnaker, 9.8 Evinrude outboard motor, radio, Porta Potty, fully equipped, cradle. Good shape. Asking \$4,000/negotiable. Contact: Douglas F. Foss 440-292-5070 text: Grampian sailboat.

1989 Capital Yachts "Neptune 24" Sloop Rig Cruiser with Trailer. Well maintained, with high quality rigging, and reconditioned sails. Shallow draft (2ft.) ballasted shoal keel with retractable wing keel (3.5 ft. down). Three Sails - Mainsail, 130% Jibsail, and Roller Furled 185% Genoasail. Digital Depth Finder, Digital Knot Meter, VHF Radio, and Garmin GPS. 8 HP, Johnson Sail Master. Outboard Motor - 6 gallon fuel tank. Asking \$7,900, currently located on Catawba Island. CONTACT: Geoff Mendenhall at 419-341-5699, Email: geoff@nikegeoff.com

Paddle boards and inflatable docks for sale. Contact Larry Knauer at ldknauer@gmail.com for more info.

Harken MK IV unit 1 furler for sale. Brand new. Priced to sell! Brad Balmert at bradb1384@yahoo.com or 440-670-5065

Ariel - 1972 CAL 2-29 Sailboat for sale. Great day sailor. Has been out in 35-40mph blows. Solid boat. 2-29 was an upgrade for the cruiser racer set. Wheel steering. New rudder. Converted to all electric motor. It's great for instant reverse and instant power forward. Proven over the last 8 years. Batteries replaced last year. Four-year-old Bimini, replaced the plastic material with umbrella. New Main. Older genoa 155 on new Harken roller furling. Self Tailing winches. All lines run to the cockpit. Good for single handed sailing. Asking \$5,000. Call Randy Ramhoff @ 419-656-1908, R.Ramjet@gmail.com

Interlake with trailer - Two sets of sails. For info contact Richard Byrd at 216-533-6209 or alphabyrd@gmail.com

2026 SSC BRIDGE

Commodore: Tim Willford
Vice Commodore: Tim Ujvari
Rear Commodore: Robbie Stone
Immediate Past Commodore:
John Giordano

2026 SSC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Bryan Burgess, Bob Durkin,
Mark Hutchinson, Kathy Knox,
Dave Kocias, Will Petersilge

SADLER BASIN COMMITTEE

PC Bryan Huntley - President,
PC Dean Riedy, PC Bruce Roberts,
Dave Caracci, PC Bill Semans
VC Tim Ujvari - SSC rep.
Dockage: Doug Klein