



# ***The Old Man***

## ***May 2021***

***The Monthly Newsletter of the Magothy River Sailing Association***



### ***Commodore's Comments***



of the Magothy River's Broad Creek.

Signs of the start of the MRSA's new sailing season abound!

On May 15, hungry and, at last, maskless, over 40 MRSA members and guests arrived by land and by sea to celebrate the spring, incinerate their winter socks, and partake of grilled hot dogs, assorted desserts and libations on the sandy shore

And MRSA was back on the bay with the "Spring Fling," the first Chesapeake Bay race hosted and conducted by our club in a number of years. On May 1, 10 boats competed in brisk winds over a 17 nautical mile triangular course from Baltimore Light to Swan Point, to the mouth of the Patapsco, and finishing, conveniently, at Baltimore Light. (As an added inducement for



boats based at points north and east, racers had their choice of starting and finishing at any of the three apexes of the triangular course).

Also, the Wednesday night warriors have returned to the river and once again are testing their nautical skills and vying for glass, pewter, and bragging rights against rivals, familiar and new. Participation is up this year and other boats are expected to soon join us on the river.

Come out and participate in MRSA activities, and invite some friends!

**Joe**

Joe Berchielli, Commodore, 2021

## ***Racing Corner***

***“Somedays the gales are howling, sometimes the sea is still as glass”***

*Grateful Dead*



Well we haven't had the sea of glass as of yet (but got close on May 13's race)! After a gale cancelling our first race, we have had good winds almost every night with one of the races having steady winds in the low 20's with gusts to high 20s.

Our fist annual Spring Fling is in the books. Thirteen boats entered, and 9 finished, braving low water conditions from Friday's high winds that cancelled the first day of the NOODs. Not only did that cause one boat to run around, it also prevented others from getting out of their slips or being inventive with boat hooks and other devices to "pole" their way out!

This great breeze allowed for the choice of the 17.2 nautical mile course with three separate starts at the Patapsco River, the Baltimore Light, and Rock Hall. In addition the race featured starting windows to allow an easier starting sequence and scoring under both ORA and PHRF.

The first series is in the books with the completion of the May 19th race and the race results and the updated series results are posted at [www.magothysailing.org/racing/results](http://www.magothysailing.org/racing/results). Congratulations to ***UltraViolet***, ***Endless Summer***, and ***Mikayla*** for taking top honors in their fleets.



Our first raft up is scheduled for the first Wednesday after Memorial Day, June 2nd. We look forward to getting everyone back together after the race and if the winds cooperate have a pursuit race that night. Look for the boat with the Keg flag and stop over to enjoy a cold beer compliments of MRSA! Don't forget to tell your crew that you will be home a little later that night so that you can enjoy our outdoor social activity.

Also a reminder to all of the racing skippers out there that need crew, we have a bunch (technical term...) of folks on the crew list so no excuse for finding crew this year. Give it a look if you need someone for one night or the whole season.

[www.magothysailing.org/racing/crew-boat](http://www.magothysailing.org/racing/crew-boat)

Great having everyone back out on the water and getting the racing program rolling again.

Cheers,

***Ed Tracey, Rear Commodore***

## Notes from the Racing Social Chair

*Alan Weiss, Endless Summer*

Hello Captains and Racers!

"The Post Race Raft Up" is a wonderful tradition we have sadly neglected for many years and Covid made it worse.

Under my watch I hope to adjust that course. Raft ups this year are even more important. Our new racers can get a chance to see Captains and Crew, putting a face on Wednesday Night racing, where hellos are said and sea stories are shared - a realization that snuck up on me. I heard about the Exumas for the first time at one of these raft ups and later explored the area.



Source: [Wikimedia Commons](#)

To make this happen I believe that the importance of the event has to be stated over and over--see the first paragraph!

Next thing is preparedness. You need to be prepared to return home later that night. You need to bring dinner! MRSA will bring the beer.

**Our first raft up will be after Memorial Day on June 2nd.** Let

your crew know they WILL be returning home late and their family members should plan accordingly. Let's make this happen!!

## This Old Racer

Peggy Poe

[Editor's Note: It's hard to imagine Wednesday Night Racing without *Capricious*. Read this tribute to a great boat and captain, and see how to keep her on the Magothy!]



***Capricious*** is a good ole boat!

Ed Poe, past Commodore and long-time member of MRSA, purchased ***Capricious***, a Cal 29, from the Steele family of Annapolis, in 1983, and after a lot of hard work, launched her in 1984. Ed knew the Steeles raced her in the Annapolis

Wednesday night races with a winning record, and he was pretty sure she would do well on the Magothy.

***Capricious***' first home on the Magothy was on a mooring at the Grachur Club before moving to Potapscot Sailing Association (PSA), then to North Shore Marina. Every Tuesday night at each of these moorings, Ed would dive in and clean the boat bottom, prior to Wednesday night racing. Finally in 2004, *Capricious* moved to a lift on Black Hole Creek, and diving to clean the boat bottom was a thing of the past.

Over almost thirty years, ***Capricious*** has raced almost 600 races with more than 20 different crew members. In those 600 races ***Capricious***, with her capable crews, has come in first many times including in the Good Ole Boat Regatta, and she has also won the Magothy Cup several times.

**Capricious** was also a cruising boat. Peggy and Ed cruised with the MRSA cruisers,



often having to load all the equipment for cruising onto a stripped for racing boat in order to have a comfortable place to sleep for the weekend.

Now the Poes are saying goodbye to their Good Ole Boat after thirty years of racing and cruising on the Magothy.

**Capricious** is now being advertised in Spinsheet for sale for \$5,000 or best offer. She comes with winter cover and many sails. She can be yours if the price is right.

Call 443-370-8875 after 6 and the Magothy Cup can soon be yours.

## *Cruising Corner*

### **MRSA Annual Sock Burner**

*Dave and Deni Boyer*

#### **MRSA Annual Sock Burner is a Flaming Success!**

The first MRSA social event and cruise of 2021 happened Saturday afternoon, May 15th, at Eddie Looper's beach on Broad Creek. Based on the attendance of approx. 42 people, MRSA members must be ready to get out in the open air and see one another.



The group gathered at Eddie Looper's beach to tell tales, argue racing strategy, eat and drink, and even burn some socks around a blazing bonfire in the sand.

Rather than cancel the annual Sock Burner Party this year, Dave and Deni Boyer planned a Covid-friendly event, with individually wrapped hot dogs served with assorted packaged chips, assorted beer, wine, soda and water. Many members contributed individually packaged, finger-friendly desserts to share.

While most participants drove to the event, a few hearty members came by boat including John and Debbie Lund on **Chapter Three**, Rich and Toni Hughes on **Fantastic**, Mike and Loura Bonham, as well as Alan Weiss and Maggie Burri, by powerboat, and Dave and Donna Prucnal, in their new catamaran. There were even two babies in attendance (it's never too early to teach the next generation to sail!), and two old dogs. I don't mean old sailors, but REAL dogs!



Commodore Joe Berchielli provided copies of the *Redbook* to new members, Stewart and Patti Smith and June Doezema, before all those old socks were pitched into the fire.

A big THANK YOU goes out to Eddie Looper for providing such a beautiful spot for the membership to kick off the 2021 season!

# Memorial Weekend Wye Island Cruise

Rich Hughes

Memorial Day is less than two weeks away. It is time to plan for our season of cruising. One of the premier events each year is the multi-club Memorial Weekend Wye Island cruise. This is always a fun-filled weekend with activities on the water and ashore on Sunday for the annual games. There will be several of the regular games along with some new events.

This year, Sunday dinner is a bring-your-own, COVID-compliant picnic. Bring food, beverages, water, plates and utensils. Charcoal grills will be available, plus stoves, microwave and refrigerators are available in the lodge.

EYC, our host club, is asking for participants to make a reservation on their website ([Eastportyc.org/wye-island](http://Eastportyc.org/wye-island)). Participants are encouraged to register in advance so the planning committee can better prepare for the appropriate attendance. The cost of the event is \$20.00/person for pre-registration and \$25.00/person (cash or checks only), at the door.

The cost covers the rental of the facility and other associated costs. As you make your reservation on the EYC website, please also email me, [fantastc@comcast.net](mailto:fantastc@comcast.net), so I will know who plans to attend and keep you apprised of last-minute event information.

## FACEBOOK

*Have you done your part to help our Facebook effort? Please take a moment today and go to [facebook.com/magothysailing](https://facebook.com/magothysailing) and “like” each article and each photo. You could click the link right now and then come back to the riveting articles in the Old Man! Put it on your calendar to do all the time! Help us spread the word about MRSA to attract new members!*



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