



The Old Man

July 2021

The Monthly Newsletter of the Magothy River Sailing Association



Commodore's Comments



It's going by too fast - the sailing season and the march of 2021 MRSA activities and events is about half over. At this half-way point, there is good news and some not quite as good. Probably the best news of all is that MRSA membership has increased with 16 new member/households added this year. This surely will increase participation in all activities this year and in the future. Attendance at the Boyer Sock-Burner and Poulsen Picnic Party cruises was good, as members, weary of Covid restrictions, celebrated their release from masks and social distancing.

The total number of racing boats is up from pandemic-distorted 2020, but not yet near the 35 to 40 boats which participated in the very recent 2017 to 2019 seasons. This 2021 total is likely to grow a little bit more as, typically, a few new boats enter the racing fleet in the second half of the season. Additionally, the post-race raft-ups are back, allowing different racing crews to mingle, perhaps for the first time in two years.

Perhaps the most disappointing development was the cancellation of the Junior Training program for the second year in a row. This popular program was, once again, fully booked, but was derailed due to understandable Covid concerns at the Grachur Club host site. However, Junior Training should return in 2022.

Returning to the bright side, MRSA hosted a Chesapeake Bay race, the "Spring Fling," for the first time in years. The race was well attended, particularly for an inaugural event, and will be held again in 2022.

Also, please remember to support our sponsors! For your real estate needs, consider contacting our newest sponsor and long time member, [Cecilia Hayes](#) of

Keller Williams Realty. And make your next beer/wine/spirits purchase at [Goska's](#) of Severna Park in appreciation of their support of MRSA.

And we would like to get more sponsors. Recent experience has shown that new sponsors are most likely to be recruited when approached by an individual well known to them (no surprise there). If any MRSA member knows an owner of a restaurant, store, or service that is likely to benefit from MRSA sponsorship, please contact Alan Weiss (sailingdr@aol.com) or Maggie Burri (mnburri@aol.com).

Joe

Joe Berchielli, Commodore, 2021

Membership Corner

The 2021 membership drive is still going strong. Several new memberships were approved during the June and July Board of Governors meetings. The first are Tony and Christine Kalish. They have been boating on the Chesapeake for 22 years and would like to cruise their Catalina 320, ***Getting Away***, with MRSA. Next are John Ratino and Patricia Murphy. They are somewhat new to sailing and are eager to learn. They keep their Cal 31 in Broad Creek, and they, too, are interested in the cruising experiences MRSA has to offer. John also mentioned interest in crewing with our Wednesday Night Race fleet.

June Doezema and Michael Lovellette also became MRSA members this spring. They have been involved in sailing activities for many years. June has crewed for ***Allu*** on MRSA Wednesday Night and Frostbite Races for the past eight years. Michael has raced in the Star class for last thirty years, and they have done race committee duties for the Annapolis Yacht Club and for Severn Sailing Association where they are members. They both crewed on a J30 from the West River for many years for the Wednesday night and bay races.

Two more new members are Stewart and Patti Smith. They own a Flying Scot which Stewart used to race at Selby Bay on the South River. Stewart has crewed on ***Allu*** in MRSA races for about ten years. Stewart and Patti are also interested club picnics and speaker events (nautical and historical subjects) when not occupied with their growing group of grandchildren.

Please help me welcome them, and all of our new 2021 members. As a reminder, the initiation fee has been waived for 2021 so if you know anyone who is interested in joining please reach out to them. As always you can put them in contact with me, the membership chair, to give them all the details and answer any questions they may have.

Chris Adriance
Membership Chair

Racing Corner

“Just a dream and the wind to carry me, and soon I will be free”

Christopher Cross

July finds us in the middle of our third series with three races on the books so far. We have been very fortunate to avoid thunderstorms so far this year (I probably shouldn't have said that...) That is why we wait until late (unless it's obvious) to postpone or cancel races as thunderstorms prediction is tough and what you see around us (Annapolis, Baltimore, or Columbia) may or may not affect us. So, we'll take the last three weeks with those Southerly breezes.

We had a few MRSA boats do some bay racing with Shep Drain's **Heyday** taking first place in the Northern Bay PHRF Championship in PHRF C and **Incommunicado** taking 2nd in PHRF NS. We had two great days of wind for the regatta that took place on June 26th and 27th. GSA threw a great party with a live band and great food (MD crab soup was outstanding) along with complimentary docking!



In addition to the Northern Bay PHRF Championship, BCYA held their classic Race to Baltimore on July 17th. Another great wind day saw Southerly breezes in the low to mid-teens for most of the race.

Unfortunately, Mother Nature decided to take away the welcome mat at the finish line and gave us a thunderstorm instead. Many of the boats had a tough time making it to the finish in the last few miles.

We still have some work to do on deciding what to do with our Hallie Rice Fall Series to encourage participation. We'll be reaching out to racers to see what level of interest we have for Fall Racing including which days work best and what racing format (Pursuit, Windward / Leeward, or Distance). Fall is a great time to get out on the water, so we look forward to some additional input from racers to make the Fall Series a fun event.

Cheers and sail fast!

Ed

Ed Tracey, Rear Commodore

Notes from the Racing Social Chair

Alan Weiss, Endless Summer

I feel that changing the guard every now and again when done well brings in new energy. All those that went before us gave well and generously, but to grow we need new energy. I am very proud to be a part of the "new wave" but I can tell you we still need help, specifically with sponsors and boats willing to accept new sailors as crew.

Keeping my messages brief, I hope to get your attention.

- If you know anyone who might be a sponsor, we need your help. Industries I have thought might work include but aren't limited to insurance, banks, and boat repair/services.
- If you are racing or thinking about racing, look at the boat wanted [Google Doc](#) on our website and try to bring on board one new crew member.
- Beer boat: I think if we had one more beer raft up (after ***Incommunicado's***, which will hopefully be on August 4) we will have had a great season. We need a final beer boat and it should be you!

Junior Training Update

Evan Clayton, Fleet Captain, Junior Training

MRSA Junior Training is beginning to plan for the 2022 season. One of the challenges coming out of Covid is the need for a **new place to store** our fleet of boats. I want to thank the McNair family who were our hosts for the past decade plus a few years. I can remember cleaning the boats off at the McNair's as a student. As we continue to look for new options, I encourage members to step forward if they have suggestions that we use to help us in our search.

One of the consequences of this challenge and other factors could be a change in our pricing structure. In addition to new storage, I also want to increase the quality of the experience that we offer to our students. Increasing the cost of the program will allow us to attract and retain instructors and help bring new experiences to our students.

We hope to continue our relationship with the Grachur Club, which provides an ideal area to learn how to sail with access to a fantastic section of the Magothy.

We hope you and your children will join us next year for Junior Sailing!

Cruising Corner

MRSA July 4th Cruise to Rock Hall

Rich Hughes

Fireworks, food and good company, a winning combination!!! After a slow start for the cruising season, the cruise to [North Point Marina](#) in Rock Hall harbor for July 4th was a huge success. Eleven boats joined the cruise with over 25 members, family, and guests in attendance. This has always been a fun destination with lots of holiday activities.

This year the Waterman's Rodeo was cancelled, and the community parade was moved to Saturday morning before we arrived. However, the spectacular Saturday night fireworks with music over the harbor and the pleasant weather made up for the missing events. North Point Marina is a great destination with nice clean facilities and a welcoming environment.



A couple of boats started the weekend early, anchoring in Swan Creek on Friday and motoring around to the marina the next morning. Cruisers arrived at North Point marina throughout the afternoon, and everyone had arrived in time for happy hour in the marina pavilion at 1700 hours. The U.S Ensign Seven Layer Bean Dip by Deni Boyer was the hit of the afternoon.

Those in attendance included: Vicky and Stu Timerman joined by their daughter and son-in-law Heather and JR, and grandchildren Rune and Edwin on **Dark Star**; John and Debbie Lund on **Chapter Three**; Mike and Laura Bonham on **Frequent Flyer**; Dave and Deni Boyer with sons Dillon and Rich on their new-to-them tugboat, **Victory**; Dick and Dretta Peterson on **April Fool**; David and Sheri Argue on **Aitionn**; Tony and Chris Kalich on **Getting Away**; as well as friends Frank and Sharon Synoweic on **Sassy**; Bob and Carolyn Troise on **Folly II**; and Steve and Karen Pavlosky on **That's Lucky** as well as Toni and I on **FANTASTIC**. The large pavilion had two gas grills that are available to all so the happy hour merged into dinner.



Cruisers bought their own meat and a salad or desert to share. Without overstating the obvious, no one went home hungry! The fireworks started at 2100 hours and were “better than ever.”

Since the parade was rescheduled, Sunday, July 4th was reserved for “doing nothing.” “Doing nothing” included hanging out at the pool or going for walks. The weather was perfect so there was a lot of just sitting on boats reading or chatting with friends until 1700 hours when happy hour was convened.



After happy hour the group split into two groups; half went to Waterman’s Crab House and half went to Harbor Shack for dinner. Great company and great food was enjoyed at both locations.

Monday was departure day and MRSA cruisers slowly emptied the marina to head home or extend their cruise in a favorite anchorage. If you were unable to make this cruise, plan to join us in the near future and enjoy the great company of our membership.

SAVE THE DATE: MIL-BUR PICNIC, AUGUST 7

Dave Pirone

The August weather may be hot, but there is usually a coool breeze blowing and there is always the pool to cool off in at the August picnic/cruise at Mil-Bur Community Park. The Taylors and Pirones will be hosting the August Picnic / Cruise. Come join your MRSA friends for a fun, relaxing afternoon on Saturday, August 7th.

Come by water or land. Activities will start at 1:00 and by 2:00 the grills will be hot and busy with hamburgers and hot dogs grilling. Drinks are provided but please bring a side dish, salad, or a dessert to share with the group. Besides swimming and eating there will be games to play, and lots of conversation.

Cornfield Creek is a well-protected secure anchorage just off the North Shore of Gibson Island. After entering the Creek be sure to heed the small green can #1(stay to the right of the can) and then look for the Mil-Bur community pier at the north end of the creek. If you have any questions, give me a call 410-255-4953.

Land directions - take Rte. 100 to the end where it merges onto Mountain Road. Continue straight for about 3 miles and after passing Chesapeake High School on the left the next right turn is Milburn Circle. Turn right and go straight to the clubhouse and pool.

Please Please RSVP to let us know if you are coming no later than **Wednesday, August 4th** so that we can shop accordingly. Please RSVP to me at dpirone@hotmail.com or 410-255-4953.

A Word from Our Sponsors

As we noted last month, MRSA launched a sponsorship program for the first time this year, and we welcomed our first sponsors, [Goska's Liquors](#) and [Cecilia Hayes](#) of Keller Williams Realty.

As I reflected on their generosity, I was struck by what they have in common: they provide personalized service driven by a strong commitment to our local community. So please reach out to them and use their expertise. Kevin is great at recommending new wines, beers, and liquors to try, and always willing to track down a new wine you've tried. Cecilia can help you navigate a still-hot real estate market, and I'll bet she has great recommendations for cruising destinations on the Bay!

FACEBOOK

Have you done your part to help our Facebook effort? Please take a moment today and go to 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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Magothy River Sailing Association

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