



THE OLD MAN

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MAGOTHY RIVER SAILING ASSOCIATION

JANUARY 2003

ANNAPOLIS PARADE OF LIGHTS

The Annapolis Parade of Lights took place on Saturday, December 14th. Approximately 40 members stopped by the MRSA room at the Marriott Hotel to view the decorated boats, warm up, and get something to drink, share some great food, and meet with friends. It was a clear but chilly night, which was perfect for seeing the parade. There was a large selection of boats to see this year, some of which were very cleverly decked out. This event appears to be growing a little bit each year, with more boats participating and the decorations increasing in complexity. If you were unable to make this event this year, mark your calendars for next December so you do not miss this event.

Al Kirkendall

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2003 COMMODORE'S BALL

The Commodore's Ball will be held on January 18th at the Gibson Island Club. This event is always a good time for all members young and old to get together for cocktails, conversation, dinner, racing awards, cruising awards, dancing and fun. Cocktails, (cash bar) will begin at 6:30, dinner at 7:30, presentations at 8:30, and dancing from 9:00 until midnight.

The Gibson Island Club will provide a great dinner consisting of:

- Salad Bar
- Carved Smoked Turkey Breast
- Flounder stuffed with shrimp mousse & topped with Hollandaise
- Rice Pilaf
- Fresh Vegetable
- Roll & Butter
- Assorted Cheesecakes

Harvey Paskin as our Master of Ceremonies will retire the 2002 BOG and initiate the 2003 BOG. Dan Goldsmith from Creative DJs will be providing the music.

The invitations to the MRSA Commodores Ball have been mailed so please RSVP as soon as possible and if for some reason your invitation did not make it to you, please contact me. Get those fancy duds ready to go, and I look forward to seeing you there.

Al Kirkendall

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2003 !!



Commodore Alan Kirkendall
photo by Fred Betz

2003 OFFICERS OF THE MAGOTHY RIVER SAILING ASSOCIATION

Commodore: Alan Kirkendall, 437-3630
Vice Commodore: Sheryl Mc Nair, 437-8998
Rear Commodore: Chris Lindsey, 439-8832
Fleet Captain Cruising: Myron and Sigrid Dorf, 255-8330
Fleet Captain Junior Training: Dave Blanch, 437-2213 and Susan Kirkendall, 437-3630
Treasurer: Jim McCutchan, 360-1163
Secretary: George Stamps, 437-5337
Race Committee: Bob Seay, 647-9395
Protest Chairman: Les Toeplitz, 360-2491
Race Gear Chairman: John Hurt, 437-6168
Race Marks Chairman: Roger Bartholomee, 255-7330
Scorer : Annette Mullarky, 439-1556
Membership Chair: Ed Poe, 296-6428 (H), 539-3400 (W). Assistant Chair: Peggy Poe.
Immediate Past Commodore: Mike Mullarky, 439-1556
Ship's Store: Lewis Neisner, 647-0694
Old Man Editor: Fred Betz, 647-3824, Assisting: Carolyn Stamps, 437-5337
Web Master: Ed Tracey, 975-0407, or sailfastmd@comcast.net.
Fleetmaster: John Aellen, 647-7782

Website: <http://mrsa.sailnet.com>
MRSA is a member of CBYRA, CBYCA, and Boat/US (Member #GA 80366 S).

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Happy New Year! MRSA has had quite a year! To the MRSA BOG and all of those you gave their time and energy in support of club activities, it was greatly appreciated. Without your efforts we would not have accomplished all of the many events that took place.

In January 2002, Mike Mullarky outlined his goals as Commodore. Under Mike's leadership MRSA events saw more participation from cruisers, racers, and the Junior Fleet. The Junior Fleet improved through the purchase of 10 boats. Mike, your goals were achieved and the MRSA membership is grateful for your efforts.

I am very proud to be a member of MRSA and look forward to being the Commodore this year. When I joined the club, I was amazed and thankful for the friendliness shown by all, the desire to provide advice and guidance as I learned how to sail and maintain a boat, the help provided when problems arose, and the unending enthusiasm shown towards improving the club, its activities, and the advancement of sailing in general.

My major goal this year is to increase membership and participation by club members at the events scheduled. Please make a point to welcome new members and guests, and bring friends to our events. If you haven't participated in club functions in a while, come out and see what is going on. Our Junior Training program is a source of future sailors and members. Kids through Junior Training are developing a lifelong skill and valuable life skills of cooperation and leadership. We must continue to build a program where kids can learn sailing in a safe and fun environment.

Sailors who enjoyed being together founded MRSA. To all past Commodores and members thank you for providing an organization that has grown under your leadership based on a love of sailing and the camaraderie of friends. To the present MRSA Members, let's challenge ourselves to bring in new members, and encourage participation by all of the existing membership.

I would like to hear from you. All suggestions and ideas for improving MRSA events and the Training Program are greatly appreciated. Please feel free to contact myself or any member of the BOG. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Commodores Ball!!!

Al Kirkendall

MRSA NEEDS YOU!!

MRSA can not exist without its members and we need you. If you have not already done so, please return the Membership Renewal applications provided in last months Old Man as soon as possible. If you have misplaced the application, additional copies can be obtained from our website or by contacting Fred Betz, 410-647-3824 or febetz@toad.net..

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Rent: Ski or Hike Summit County, Colorado - 2 BR / 2.5 BA Townhome with spectacular views of the Rocky Mountains. Close to Breckenridge, Copper, Vail and Keystone. Check out <http://vrbo.com/vrbo/3697.htm> or call 303-783-9786 for more information on 'The Big Ski Haus'.

For Sale: 1988 O'Day 35' sailboat, very clean, fully equipped for cruising, roller furling genoa, Universal diesel w/ 1000 hours. \$47,500. For more information, call Geoff at 410-255-0699

For Sale: Power Boat, '88 4Winns Sundowner 225, 22.5ft, cuddy cabin, 5.0L V8, very good condition, runs great, many new items, very well maintained, enclosed head, \$5900; Mark Walker, 410-647-2468

For Sale: Sail boat, '76 North Star (Farr) 727 (23ft), racer/cruiser, PHRF 201, fast, good condition, new (used 2 seasons) Technora UK Main Sail plus 10 other sails, 6hp out-board, fin keel, 4'6" draft, Baltoplate racing bottom '02, knot meter, depth and compasses (3), sleeps 4, manual marine toilet, \$4900; Mark Walker, 410-647-2468.

Continued next column

Deadline for February 2003 Old Man is Sunday, January 26th

Please contact the editor at fbetz@toad.net when your classified ad is no longer needed.

Classified Ads continued from previous column

For Sale:

Brand new SIGNET knotmeter and log. Still in original box. Call Jim Quinn, 410-647-2947 or E-Mail Irishsailor@comcast.net.

Cheese Knife Found: A nice cheese knife was left at the December Wine and Cheese Party. For the owner to claim it, please call Carolyn Stamps at 410-437-5337.

Summer Long Cruise Planning: Anyone interested in a New England cruise north this summer please contact Beth Vanfossen 410-647-0694 or George Stamps 410-437-2947 for info.

MRSA WEB MASTER CHANGES

After more than a year of faithful service Joanne Trepp is yielding the coveted position of "Web Master" to none other than outgoing Rear Commodore Ed Tracey. Ed noted that he would do it willingly "as long as it can be done after the kids go to bed". We all knew he would have all night... if he didn't need to sleep. Please send your updates for the web-page to Ed at sailfastmd@comcast.net.

Fred Betz



Summer Dreaming - - - Junior Training Fun - - - a few years ago

MRSA Jr. Training file photo

WINTER HAPPENINGS, FAWCETT SEMINARS

Jan 7 Diesel Engine Troubleshooting, Harvey Smith

Jan 14 Planning Your Trip Down the Intercostal Waterway, Anne and Jim Hays

Jan 21 Energy Independence for the Cruising Yacht, Andy Fegley

Jan 28 Ultimate Sailing, America's Cup Preview, Gary Jobson

Feb 4 The Schooner "AMERICA" and Annapolis, Dave Gendell

All Seminars are on Tuesday evenings at 5:30 PM at Fawcett Boat Supplies, City Dock, Annapolis - call ahead to confirm, and no pagers or cell phones during the presentation, please.

MRSA BUDGET 2002 AND 2003

Budget 2002 Actuals 2002 Budget 2003

(through 31 December 2002)

Account	Revenue	Expense	Revenue	Expense	Revenue	Expense
1.0 Membership	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1.1 Dues	10,750.00	0.00	10,325.00	35.57	10,500.00	0.00
1.2 Initiations	750.00	500.00	750.00	10.49	750.00	500.00
2.0 Cruising	0.00	200.00	0.00	141.09	0.00	200.00
2.1 Mag Mad	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.0 Education	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.1 Jr Train	8,400.00	4,300.00	7,295.00	4,995.64	8,500.00	5,700.00
3.1.1 Repairs	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	631.77	0.00	1,000.00
3.1.2 Storage	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.2 Programs	0.00	375.00	0.00	250.00	0.00	375.00
4.0 Entertainment	0.00	0.00	1,160.00	1,385.72	0.00	0.00
4.1 Comm Ball	3,080.00	4,200.00	3,292.50	4531.22	3,200.00	4,350.00
4.2 June Picnic	0.00	350.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
4.3 Aug Picnic	0.00	150.00	0.00	160.00	0.00	150.00
4.4 Parade Lts	0.00	500.00	0.00	276.88	0.00	350.00
4.5 Winter Party	0.00	200.00	0.00	202.58	0.00	225.00
5.0 Racing	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.53	0.00	0.00
5.1 Bay Races	1,500.00	1,200.00	950.00	595.88	1,500.00	1,100.00
5.2 Wed Races	4,600.00	3,700.00	5,065.00	4,105.07	4,900.00	3,700.00
5.3 Day Sail	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.4 River Race	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.5 Insurance	0.00	400.00	0.00	536.30	0.00	400.00
5.6 Race Party	0.00	500.00	0.00	562.40	0.00	500.00
5.7 Race Marks	0.00	500.00	0.00	236.63	0.00	350.00
6.0 Insurance	0.00	2,500.00	0.00	1,483.00	0.00	1,750.00
7.0 Interest	250.00	0.00	9.58	0.00	100.00	0.00
8.0 Ship Store	1,000.00	1,000.00	872.00	1630.44	1,200.00	800.00
9.0 Comm Discr	0.00	200.00	0.00	99.44	0.00	200.00
9.1 G&A	0.00	445.00	0.00	137.31	0.00	400.00
9.2 Publications	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.2.1 Old Man	0.00	1,550.00	0.00	1018.98	0.00	1,500.00
9.2.2 Red Book	0.00	1,400.00	0.00	1,465.62	0.00	1,500.00
10.0 Small Boats	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.1 Sales	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00
10.2 Procurement	0.00	6,500.00	0.00	9,695.00	0.00	5,800.00
11.0 Reserve	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	.00
TOTAL	<u>30,330.00</u>	<u>32,670.00</u>	<u>30219.77</u>	<u>34200.56</u>	<u>31,150.00</u>	<u>31,150.00</u>

Financial Reserve and Working Capital, (as of 31 December 2002)

\$9971.07



Outgoing Commodore Mike Mullarky offering hints to new Commodore Alan Kirkendall



Beth Vanfossen, Rich Hughes and Philippe Masiee talk of sailing... what else?



Jim and Verna Wilson, members of Belvedere Yacht Club and hosting the Event



Michele and John Aellen enjoy the Party



Marianne and Dick Kammann and Diane Jackins chatting, probably NOT about sailing.

all photos this page by Fred Betz

WINE AND CHEESE PARTY

The December Membership Meeting and Wine and Cheese Party was held at the Belvedere Yacht Club Thursday, December 12th after being delayed a week by the major snowfall that came on the originally scheduled Dec. 5th date. After wine tasting and feasting on a bounty of hors d'oeuvres the 2003 MRSA Board of Governors was elected and the 2003 Budget was reviewed. Approximately 30 members attended this event which resulted in the following members being elected to the BOG;

Commodore	Al Kirkendall
Vice Commodore	Sheryl McNair
Rear Commodore	Chris Lindsay
Fleet Captain Cruising	Myron Dorf
Fleet Captain Jr Training	Dave Blanch & Sue Kirkendall
Secretary	George Stamps
Treasurer	Jim McCutchan
Race Committee Chairperson	Bob Seay

I would like to thank Debbie Lund for heading up the nominating Committee, Jim and Verna Wilson for securing the Belvedere Yacht Club and helping with the set-up and clean-up and all the members that participated.

Al Kirkendall



The 2003 MRSA Board of Governors: left to right - Myron Dorf, Sheryl McNair, Alan Kirkendall, Susan Kirkendall, George Stamps and Past Commodore Mike Mullarky. Absent Chris Lindsay and Bob Seay.

JUNIOR TRAINING

In his quest to improve our Junior Fleet, John Aellen has located 5 FJ's from the University of Maryland Racing Team. According to John "If the kids thought the Duke boats were great, wait until they see these!" The five boats have found homes in various member's yards as they await warm weather. Thanks John!!

Our Junior Training will be scheduled by the school calendar and with the early snowfall it appears that school may be running through June 18th. Watch the February Old Man for exact dates.

Sue Kirkendall & Dave Blanch

HEADING SOUTH, VERSION 4.0

I think this is the fourth time we've done this. Actually, it seems like a lot more because all the stops along the way are so familiar and it just seems like we've been doing it forever. Laura's last day of (excuse the four letter word) 'work' was Thursday, October 17th, so we gave the car (the one Robbin named 'The Old Man'), to Steve & Jane (Sea Fan) and got underway Friday morning. The question was to head south or join the MRSA Goose Cruise. I wish all our decisions were so easy.

So we headed for Gray's Inn Creek and had a very pleasant evening with George & Carolyn (Marimba II) after a not so pleasant power all the way over. Saturday, the rest of the fleet arrived after a roaring trip across the Bay and up the Chester. For once we were not the anchor boat because we wanted to get an early start Sunday morning for heading south. Little did we know how early it would be! We wanted to be on the end, but Tony on Vanir came last and was outboard of us. As MRSA rafts go, this one was exceptional, and based on our experience, all MRSA Happy Hours are world class, so this one was truly fantastic (yes, Rich and Toni were there so I can use that word). Cruise Leader Tony gave the party a restart when he finally arrived at 1900 with his 4 gallons of daiquiris.

Don't know how late the party went; the crew of Follow
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The Sun hit the hay about 2200. The only problem was with so many boats on the raft, when the wind did a 180, one end of the raft ran aground, at 0500 of course. Guess which end. But with both Vanir and Follow The Sun powering at full power, we managed to get unstuck long enough to get ourselves off the raft.

After that we don't know what happened because we headed south! At 0600! Over an hour before sunrise! But at least it let us sail in NE 10-15 to Solomons and arrive at a reasonable hour. Monday we sailed all the way to Deltaville, then Tuesday was a power to Hampton, then Wednesday a power to Great Bridge. Great Bridge was so crowded we couldn't find a place at the dock so we had to tie to trees on the bulkhead on the north side of the canal. We always stop at Great Bridge because of the good shopping (two dollar stores and a Farm Fresh) and great restaurants. Great to us means cheap but tasty, and a last chance to eat things totally unavailable in the Bahamas, namely Mexican and Italian. And Great Bridge has a very good one of each close by.

Weather, shopping and happy hours with fellow cruisers kept us there for two days and then we headed quickly for Beaufort with stops at the Alligator River Bridge, Campbell Creek, and Adams Creek. One of the more exciting sights was a smallish bear high in a tree along the Alligator Pungo Canal. I guess climbing a tree to get away from a bear doesn't make much sense. We got to Town Creek in Beaufort on Wednesday the 30th and started checking the weather windows to leave.

Friday we decided it might be good to leave on Sunday, so we checked in with Herb the weather guru on the SSB. Herb said Sunday would be okay, but Saturday, Nov 2, would be better, so we had a mad scramble to get ready and do some last minute shopping, but by 1215, we were underway to catch the 1230 opening of the Beaufort Bridge. A good thing too, since Herb mentioned a storm brewing that would be kicking at our heels by the time we got there. We could have waited for a longer window, but it was already getting down into the 30's at night, so we were anxious to go.

The first day out we had a good northwest breeze and not too cool, so we made good time, even with a little bit of the Gulf Stream against us. Almost as soon as we left the harbor, we had a pod of dolphins playing in our bow wave, so we took that as a good omen for the voyage. We got into the outskirts Gulf Stream almost as soon as we left the inlet, with the sea temperature rising and a small current on the nose. We didn't get out of main part of the stream for a day and a half, and even then there was always some current, but sometimes behind. The good news was the air temperature was also rising and continued to rise continuously the whole trip. The first night out we needed jeans and sweatshirts, but it wasn't cold, just cool. The next day seawater temperature peaked at 87 degrees and we put away the jeans and sweatshirts for good! The second day out was warm, but windless, with North winds

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five to eight knots, so we powered for 24 hours until a nice west wind came up at 10 to 15 knots. Great sailing again for the third day out. By the morning of the fourth day out, the wind was going southerly, on the nose, and Herb was saying we had 24 hours before the wind came up to SW 20-25. We spend the last day tacking south until we knew we wouldn't make it by the time the wind was forecast to arrive, so that evening and night we motor-sailed into the wind to make the Abacos at first light.

We went through the reef at 0700 and anchored at Green Turtle Cay at 0900. 543 nautical miles in 93 hours wasn't great overall, but considering the currents and contrary winds, it wasn't too bad. And we beat the high winds and were warm and safe in the Bahamas! Yeah!

Safe, but not without a price. Sometime during the last night under power, a hose to the hot water tank (which was really hot) slipped off and we pumped half of our fresh water into the bilge. At least water is obtainable in the Abacoes, not like the \$1/Gallon elsewhere in the Bahamas. The other problem was the wind generator self destructed that same night. Fortunately, nobody and nothing was hurt. A blade flying off at those speeds could do some real damage. One blade and the tail vane are missing entirely. It's repairable, but I don't know if I want to. We may just run the engine more this year and buy a new one in the spring.

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Now that we're here, it's really great. Lots of beach walks, snorkeling, and happy hours to keep us entertained. And now that the third front in less than two weeks is almost upon us, we know everybody that's not here is getting hammered and cold, so we're really happy to be here. The fronts do affect us here, but not as bad as elsewhere. The temperature is down to the low 70's at night and the water temp is down to 80! We get wind too (25 to 30 knots, gusts to 40), but if you find a nice protected place, even that's not too bad.

The problem is with vessels offshore. We're listening right now to the Abacos 500 Cruising Rally trying to get here in this blow. One boat, "Summer Heat" is dismantled with rigging tangled in the prop and being picked up by the container vessel "Discovery." Others are almost out of fuel. All are reporting winds to 55 knots and seas to 15 feet. Most are lying ahull or powering slowly. A small cat we talked to in Beaufort "Tom Cat" has no SSB, and nobody is near enough to raise him on VHF. The safety in numbers thing didn't work either, as none of the boats in the rally were able to assist the dismantled boat. I guess they had problems of their own. Even though all are closer to the Bahamas than the US by far, only the Coast Guard was talking to them, nothing from BASRA.

A Couple days ago we had two boats come into Marsh Harbor that bailed out of the Caribbean 1500 after another gale. I guess the moral of the story is 1) don't go on ANY rallies, they tend to sail by schedules, not by weather, and they don't listen to Herb and 2) have an SSB on board and talk to Herb. By the way, Herb will be on two hours late today, he's receiving the Queen's Award today and won't be home in time for his normal check in time. But he'll still check in. I can only think of two times he's missed a day of weather routing. One was his daughter's college graduation, and one was Herb's Acceptance of the Seven Seas Cruising Association Award. Other than those, he's been on the air 365 days a year for more than ten years!

On Sun, Nov 24, we tried a new route to the Exumas. Normally we leave Nassau and cross the Yellow Banks where we see infrequent shallow coral heads that we have to avoid. The new route went through the Flemming Channel through Middle Ground to the northern Exumas. For about two hours we were constantly dodging coral heads, trying to get south, directly into the sun. (The sun ahead makes it much harder to read the water directly ahead). So with 20 knots of ENE winds, we sailing along at 7 to 8 knots dodging coral heads and taking sun tacks to be able to read the water. At one point they were so thick, looking behind us, they all looked connected. Very stressful, so we were very happy to get through the minefield and get anchored. And happy to be back in the Exumas!

Have a good winter!
Dave and Laura Ellerbrake

THE JANUARY 2003 CALENDAR, PLUS AND MINUS

1/6 BOG Meeting, at Kirkendall's

1/9 - 1/12 Atlantic City Sail Expo

**1/15 MRSA 2003 Membership
Renewal and Dues Due**

1/18 2003 Commodore's Ball,
Gibson Island Club

2/3 BOG Meeting, at Kirkendall's

2/8 Winter Planning Party, Belved-
ere Yacht Club

If you want your name and personal information in the 2003 MRSA Red Book, your renewal must be received as soon as possible!! If you plan to renew, do it now... don't delay! After the Red Book goes to press, it will be too late!!

WINTER PLANNING PARTY, SATURDAY, FEB. 8TH

Attention cruisers, wannabe cruisers and racers who like a good party and might want to try cruising!

It still feels like winter but summer will be here soon so it's time to start planning our cruises. The Winter Planning Party will be held on Saturday, Feb. 8 at the Belvedere Yacht Club. The festivities will begin at 6:30 with the Happy Hour and will be followed by the traditional Pot Luck dinner.

Following dinner a short business meeting will take place during which the calendar for MRSA cruises will be presented and volunteers for cruise captains will be solicited. MRSA will provide the beer, wine, soft drinks and dessert. For those with last names beginning with the letters A-M please bring a salad or side dish and for those from N-Z please bring an entrée. This party is always a lot of fun, so we hope to see you there.

Directions to Belvedere Yacht Club: From Route 2 Ritchie Hwy., turn onto College Pkwy. Turn left on Jones Station Road and left again on Alameda Pkwy. Continue to the end of Alameda and the club is on your right.

Myron Dorf

THE OLD MAN

Magothy River Sailing Association
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photo by Bill Paul