

THE OLD MAN

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MAGOTHY RIVER SAILING ASSOCIATION

30TH ANNIVERSARY 1974 - 2004 APRIL 2004

NEW MEMBER CRUISE TO CORNFIELD CREEK

The New Member Cruise is scheduled for the weekend of May 8. This is a great opportunity to get together with old friends and to meet new members. We have planned a full schedule starting with a photo opportunity for pictures of your boats under sail. Then we will congregate at the Mil-Bur Community Park for a variety of games to be enjoyed by kids of all ages and a chance to sample everyone's delicious hors d'oeuvres. Mark the date on your calendar before your schedule is full and plan to come by boat or car.

Myron Dorf

Please contact the editor, febetz@toad.net to place a classified ad, and when your ad is no longer needed. THANKS !

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RACING RUNDOWN

With Spring's arrival most sailor's thoughts are turning to preparing for the upcoming 2004 sailing season. The impending surge of activity is for good reason- they know about the fun and excitement that awaits them in this year's racing program on the river and the bay.

The Wednesday Night Series begins on April 21st and we expect this to be one of the best seasons ever with the number of competitors expected to grow beyond the 70 entrants we had in 2003. On the horizon are two great opportunities for those who would like to experience racing in a relaxed and fun atmosphere. For beginning sailors contemplating a step into the Wednesday Evening racing scene, we have the Corinthian series on Wednesday nights beginning May 19th. This is the perfect opportunity to try racing for the first time or to step back in for those who have been away a while. The Corinthian class is designed to be a friendly non-spinnaker event and at a discounted entry fee there is no reason not to give it a try.

Don't forget about the Ham Palmer Fun regatta coming up on April 24th. Details are in the Red Book. For those who already enjoy the Wednesday night river racing, but seldom try their luck on the Bay, the MRSA Spring Classic, on Saturday May 22nd, is the perfect chance to experience racing on the Chesapeake. The Spring Classic rendezvous is just outside the Magothy at Baltimore Light, so it's a short trip for some good racing. For those racers who regularly sail on the bay, I hope to see you out there to help further our Region 2 dominance! If you have any questions about these or other upcoming racing events, please feel free to contact Dave Prucnal or me.

Bob Seay

MAY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Don't forget to make a reservation with me before April 30 about the Cheshire Crab on May 6. Jane Menially will be our entertainer for the evening with legends and shanty's of the Bay. Please come and enjoy this evening. You can order things right off the menu so come and bring the whole family. The more the merrier. See you there.

Jill McCutchan



Commodore Sheryl McNair

2004 OFFICERS OF THE MAGOTHY RIVER SAILING ASSOCIATION

- Commodore:** Sheryl McNair, 437-8998
- Vice Commodore:**Jill McCutchan, 360-1163
- Rear Commodore:** Bob Seay, 647-9395
- Fleet Captain Cruising:** Loura Bonham, 439-0507
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- Treasurer:** Jim McCutchan, 360-1163
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- Race Committee:** Dave Prucnal, 255-5623
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- Scorer :** Ed Tracey, 975-0407
- Membership Chair:** Ed Poe, 296-6428 (H), 539-3400 (W). Assistant Chair: Peggy Poe.
- Immediate Past Commodore:** Alan Kirkendall, 437-3630
- 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 Taylor, 315-7759
- CBYRA Rep.:** Gene Gottschalk, 439-0211
- CBYCA Rep.:** Stu Myers, 647-4793
- Website:** <http://mrsa.sailnet.com>
MRSA is a member of CBYRA, CBYCA, and Boat U.S. (Member #GA 80366 S).

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Last year, Merlin went north, and one of our stops was at Mystic Seaport. There, we participated in the Dead Horse ceremony, joining museum workers in singing and dancing around the ship's deck while passing a "dead" horse made of straw and other odds & ends, before the finale, when it was hoisted overboard, and dropped in the water. The genesis of this ceremony stems from when sailors set off on whaleboats. They had to buy, ahead of time, their provisions, their clothing and other necessities, maybe even a share in the boat. As a result, they started their voyage deep in debt, and their wages went towards paying off the debt, or the "dead horse", first. When they were finally "out of hock", they would conduct the above ceremony. I really enjoyed that ceremony, especially the singing, and thought you might also. Along that line, I've come up with some other tidbits you may find interesting...

"Mind your Ps & Qs". Supposedly, this saying came from the habit of sailors running up credit at the seaside bars for their Pints and Quarts. If the bartender tried to enter their debt in the wrong column, Qs vs Ps, he was told to "mind your Ps & Qs".

"As the crow flies" and crows nest. I can't vouch for this, but apparently crows prefer land to water, and will, therefore, take the shortest path over water to the land. Early sailors carried crows with them, to help them find land when they neared shore, releasing the crows in foggy weather as a navigation aid. The crows, of course, were kept in what is now known as the "crow's nest".

Any ideas where "nautical" comes from? How about a Greek word, "naut" meaning sailor?

How did the "horse latitudes" get their name? When sailors reached these waters, and stalled in the windless conditions, the horses were thrown overboard to save on provisions.

Before hatches had hinges, they were set in place when needed, and held down with wooden rods called battens. Hence the phrase, "batten down the hatches".

What is the origin of the term, "Shake A Leg"? The term "Shake A Leg" originated in Portsmouth, where women would come aboard naval vessels to aid ship morale. Each morning the petty officer would shout for the occupants of hammocks to shake a leg. If the leg was smooth and shapely, the occupant was allowed to sleep in; if the leg was hairy, the officer turned out the hammock for the sailor to swab the deck.

Meanwhile, your BOG has been hard at work all winter, planning events for the sailing season, working on bylaws revisions, getting junior training and the fleet ready to go. Thanks to John Hubbs, you should have your Red Book by now. If not, please give him a call or email at 410-795-0654, jbhcoach@erols.com. Or call and thank him, for doing such a great job. The new format is cheaper than previous, has hole-

Commodore's Comments Continued Page 3, Column 1

punches so it can be stored in a notebook, and was completed 2 weeks early, to meet the early March Brunch date. The lovely photo of Merlin on the front was taken by Myron Dorf, aided and assisted by Fred Betz. Thanks to both of them. It's nice to have such talents in our Association. Time to get the yard work done now, so we'll be ready for sailing!

Sheryl McNair

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale: Byte Sailboat, Great sailing dingy for those who are not quite big enough for the Laser. Boat comes ready to race with all lines, one sail, board bag and nearly new Colie bottom cover. \$1000 or reasonable offer. Will deliver locally. Call Jane or Mike Schmidt at 410-439-4738 or email janept@mindspring.com

For Sale: Endless Summer: 29 foot Aphrodite racer / cruiser PHRF 159, Class : Wednesday Night Racing Non-spin, Years racing : over 10, Location of boat : Severna Park, Old Man Creek. Captain : Alan Weiss, phone 410-544-1986, email SailingDr@aol.com

Slip Wanted: Currently looking for a boat slip on the Magothy for a 33-foot sailboat that draws 4' 7". I race on Wednesday night and will need it from late April to early October. Will pay the going price. Contact Jack Lusby 410-552-2886, email jacklusby@yahoo.com

Classified continued next column

For sale: Spinnaker pole from 32 ft sail boat. 3" diameter 137.5" long. West Marine sells a similar pole as a kit for \$564. This one is all set up for \$175. Call Myron Dorf, 410-255-8330.

Slip Wanted: on the Magothy from April 1st until sometime in May for a Dickerson 37, beam, 11'6", draft, 4'8". Please contact Charlie Deigert by E-mail cdeigert@cox.net. or phone 252-636-1094 .

For Sale: Mercury 3.3 outboard motor. (LIKE NEW) 2 cycle engine, very little use. \$500. Call Charlie Deigert at 410-239-8470 or E-Mail at Deigert2@msn.com

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, \$6900; Mark Walker, 410-647-2468

For Sale: – 2002 9.9 HP Mercury Longshaft outboard. Used only several times. Owner moving to Florida – must sell. \$1300. Contact Jim McCutchan at (410) 360-1163.

For Sale: '85 Wavelength 24- *Ghost Dancer*- Recent CBYRA High Point and Magothy Cup winner with great race record yet still family friendly. Great boat with many sails, new Tacktick compass, 5 HP Nissan outboard, new halyards. \$6500 Contact Chris Lindsay, 410-439-8832 or Clind13290@aol.com for info.

For Sale: LASER 28 Farr designed, Kevlar hull and deck, 10hp Bukh diesel. The Laser 28 is a truly fast and fun boat to race, and a very satisfactory weekender for the fam. *Hyder Ally* is slightly modified with jumpers, flicker and fat head mainsail. Consistant winner in PHRF or MORC on the Chesapeake. Asking \$18,000. Contact Tom Price (410) 437-5897 email tprice@usna.edu

For Sale: *Follow The Sun* can't grow a second hull, so she is for sale (for sail?) so we can buy a catamaran. She is a 1987 Cardinal 46, fast, comfortable, easy on the eyes, and resembles a Swan. She is fully equipped for long distance cruising with a 2.5-year-old engine with 1300 hrs. Lots of sails, everything electronic (Radar, SSB, etc), complete electronic charts from Quebec to Brazil, watermaker, dodgers, bimini, etc. The engine alternators can charge a day's worth of electricity in 15 min if the solar panel and wind generator don't do it for you. Winner of several cruising races (against other overloaded cruising boats). Her best 24 hours is 180 miles. Her ballast displacement ratio of .43 gives her a range of positive stability of 130 degrees. Lots of spares. \$185,000. Call Dave & Laura @ 772-359-5665 Email KF4WQO@winlink.org. Finders fee to any MRSA member who finds a buyer.

For Rent: Three bedroom house on the Magothy with dock, slips and lift. Now available. Please call Roger Seal at 443-994-4532.

Classified Ads Continued Page 4, Column 1

For Sale: CAL 25, fully equipped for cruising; sleeps 4; 4 sails incl. radial head spinnaker & gear; 8 hp Yamaha o.b. w/elect. start; bottom painted late July; \$4,500 delivered. Call Dick Ober, 410-321-5772

For Sale: Perfect boy's boat - 12' alum. "Landau" Jon boat with trailer. Excellent, low use Yamaha 5hp motor, 2 seats, fishfinder, rod holders, anchor, gas tank. A whole package for the young fisherman on the Magothy! \$1,000. Tom Price, 410 437-5897 or email at tprice@usna.edu

Racing Crew Wanted: I am interested in taking on racing crew on *Jazz* for Wednesday night racing, must leave dock at 1700 hr.. Some racing experience desired. All positions. Contact Beth Vanfossen, 410-647-0694, or email bvanfossen@towson.edu

Racing Crew Wanted: John Hubbs, *Seebär*, needs crew for non-spinnaker racing. Skipper willing to train, willing to learn. Contact jbhcoach@erols.com or call 410-795-0654 evenings or weekends.

Racing Crew Available: Mike Bonham is available nearly every Wednesday to crew for MRSA races. Credentials: 1st place winner in The Haven Yacht Club race series for 2 years, 2nd place winner for 1 year, 1st place winner in the Huntingfield Point Challenge, SCSA, 1994. Please contact Mike at 410-439-0507, or email LDBonham@aol.com

SCHEDULE CHANGE FOR SOCKBURNING

It's spring, and that means that summer isn't far behind. Believe it or not, I think the cold is finally gone, and we can safely shed our socks at the annual Shakedown/Sockburning Cruise. This is the first MRSA cruise of the year, and you may come by boat or land, bring guests, your socks, an hors d'oeuvres to share, and your own drink/s. There are still a few drinks left over from various functions, so we'll bring those leftovers! Makings for S'mores will be provided, but you have to gather your own sticks to roast the marshmallows. Due to scheduling difficulties, the actual sockburning ceremony will not take place until SUNDAY, the 25th. For those overnighting in the creek, it's a lovely area to explore, and you should still have time to make it home before dark on Sunday.

"Raft-up" will be on Looper's beach, at Broad Creek, at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, the 25th. To help you recognize the location, and to burn the socks, there will be a bonfire on the Looper Beach, located on the western shore of Broad Creek, past the numerous piers. If you can't see the bonfire, note the MRSA cruising flag on the pier, and the small, roofed pavilion on the beach, just prior to an uninhabited area. In the past, some boaters have not paid strict attention to their charts, and have run aground by the "Glass House", or on the shoal that protrudes from the western shore. According to the cruising schedule, you have the opportunity to practice Light-house watching/gathering by traveling via the lighthouse near Dobbins Island.

For those who aren't yet ready to "shakedown", you may come by land. Go east on Route 100 towards Gibson Island, until it merges with Mountain Road, Route 177. Turn right on North Shore, (past the fire station on the left and elementary school on right) and stay straight on Eagle Hill where North Shore bends to the left. Immediately after reaching the top of the hill, look for the first chance to turn left. There will be a placard posted with MRSA on it. If you are coming this way, drive a car that can handle rough roads, or you may wish to park before you come down through the woods, and walk down.

Feel free to bring frisbees, balls, kites for any accompanying children, and/or sand buckets & shovels. I'm sure the water will be cold, but if it's a warm enough day, maybe some will brave the cold and go for a swim. The water there is shallow, with a sandy beach. In the past, we've even had a brave junior sail there in her Byte!

No entries have been received for the sockburning ritual contest. If anyone has a good original poem or song, or prose to accompany our sockburning, please submit it so that we can use it. The winning entry will receive a prize.

Please call Sheryl or Wes McNair at 410-437-8998 or email sammcnair@yahoo.com or mcnair4@earthlink.net for further info. While reservations aren't necessary, it will help us plan if we know who's coming, and notify people if inclement weather necessitates change.

Sheryl McNair

MOVING FORWARD

QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER OF THE MAGOTHY RIVER AS- SOCIATION

Volume 2 Number 1 March
2004

A Message From the President

Spring is around the corner! It is a time to look forward to warm weather and Magothy River Association (MRA) restoration projects. Over the winter, I had chance to reflect on reasons; Why oysters and under water plants do not grow well? Our water quality stinks! I believe to make continued restoration progress, we have to address the water issues at the same time we restore our marine habitat. The MRA is going to serve up a surf and turf approach to its 2004 restoration activities.

Chesapeake Bay Trust and Fish America presented the MRA with a check for \$10,775. This grant is for placement of reef balls at strategic locations in the River to restore habitat and improve recreational fishing.

We are starting a filter sock project to reduce the number of pollutants washing into the river. These hot dog shaped socks will be placed along roadside curb sites within our local watershed subdivisions. Russ Ives is heading up this project. Field evaluation tests are scheduled for Kinder Park this spring and we hope to install a number of filter socks in some test communities by summer.

As part of our commitment to restore forested stream buffers, the MRA and the Magothy River Land Trust are teaming up this year to start a yearly tree growing watershed program to improve water quality. On Magothy River Day, the MRA and the Land Trust plan to give participating landowners trees to plant within the watershed.

I am very excited about this year and looking forward to working with

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MRA Newsletter Continued from Previous Column

you all. To make a real difference within the watershed we need to pull together and stay focused. Pass the word, the Magothy River Association is looking for your help and continued support. We need new members and more volunteers. Our yearly membership is \$10. The MRA is a non-profit all volunteer group. We have no administrative cost. Your membership dues go directly to supporting restoration activities and the River. Membership form can be found at www.magothyriver.org we have great community to live in. We have a wonderful river to preserve and protect! I hope to see you out there. Moving Forward!
Paul

Calendar of Events, Membership & Meetings

With some exceptions the MRA meets monthly the 3rd Wednesday, 7:30 PM at Whitehurst Resident Association Club House. All are welcome. Membership dues for 2004 are now due. Please include your email address and of your community leaders for 2004. Help us stay current.

March 19 Grasses for the Masses

March 28 Eagle Hill Bog

April 3 MRA Workshop "Reef Balls"

State of the Magothy - In their own words

Mr. Paul Spadaro, President opened the evening by highlighting the accomplishments of 2003 and the goals of 2004. His motto "moving forward" was once again demonstrated by action and improvements in the River.

This year we added a few new items to the "State of the Magothy". Mr. Chris Judy, Shellfish Division, DNR was invited to review the accomplishments of oyster replenishment and restoration in the river. This being the year of the "Reef Ball" it was only appropriate to ask Mr. Wayne Young, Maryland Environmental Services (MES) to provide an insight into the use of reef balls.

Mr. Carl Treff briefed on "Grasses for the Masses", oyster distribution from a landlubber's perspective and his efforts with the oyster gardeners. Dr. Sally Horner found multiple duties when she reported on the status of the Brood Stock Study, Magothy River Land Trust and filled in for Dr. Bergstrom, who could not be present, presenting his report on water quality. Dr. Bergstrom's stream naming project was completed. Each attendee was given a map of the Magothy showing all the stream names. A copy, suitable for framing may be picked up at the Severna Park Voice Office. Mr. Dick Carey reported on the MRA Dive Team activities.

Earth Day Project

Again MRA, NOAA and the Oceanography Club, USNA joined together on February 7 to prepare for our Earth Day project in April. This is the "Year of the Reef Ball". On April 24 we will be placing some reef balls on the Ulmstead Point oyster reef.

Grasses for the Masses

This popular program will once again be held. Check the web page for details.

Being Bay-Wise: Landscaping Tips for River-Friendly Backyard

Diane Scherer and her associates have a list of suggestions that you can follow to help improve the quality of the water in the River and Bay. Remember "What You Do in Your Backyard" may eventually end up in the River, Bay or your aquifer.

MRA Workshop

On April 3rd the MRA will hold a workshop at AACC. It is open to all who wish to attend. The main event will be the conception and hatching of a reef ball. The pool training session for divers is limited. The workshop is free but registration is required. You can register by email, diver@magothyriver.org or president@magothyriver.org

Eagle Hill Bog Cleanup

Have you ever visited a Magothy River bogs. The Magothy River Land Trust has been working to protect these bogs getting them placed in trust. Come help with the clean up! Details are available on our web page.

Magothy River Association, PO Box 550, Severna Park, MD 21146

www.magothyriver.org, 410.647.8772 For more details and complete articles please visit our web page.

SEA FAN LOG - JANUARY 2004

The year could have begun in a better way. The weather continued blustery and rainy. And Steve had an accident. He had replaced the leaking water pump on the starboard engine. After checking for leaks (there weren't any) he turned to stand up and didn't pay attention to where his hand was. His left index finger got caught between the v-belt and the pulley, and the tip of his finger was chopped off. We managed to get a ride to the hospital on St. John, and after consultation with the doctor, took the ferry to St. Thomas to see the orthopedic surgeon. By 8 PM he was stitched up, we spent the night at Bolongo Bay, and took the ferry back to St. John Sunday morning. Several boats in Salt Pond were worried about us because the dinghy was on the beach all night, but we were unable to raise anyone on the radio. His follow-up with the surgeon showed it was healing well, and the stitches will come out on the 15th. In the meantime, we are taking it easy.

Went snorkeling at Waterlemon Cay on the 12th, and had a real treat. First, I saw a new fish (for me), a butter hamlet, silvery with a black spot near the tail, and a black spot on the face, with an electric blue outline. Then I found the Sergeant Majors spawning! They were in their dark phase, almost blue-black, moving back and forth along their nest on the side of a rock or coral, the female leading, the male following. In one place,

Sea Fan Log Continued Next Column

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there were 3 nests in a sort of triangle, no more than 2 feet apart. This is only the second time I've seen them spawning (the other was 1990, diving at the Indians in the BVI) and the only time I've seen more than one pair. Next day, more spawning Sergeant Majors. I watched one male doing loops and dashes, his face and body showing white splotches indicating his ardor, trying to attract a female to his nest. Later I saw striped parrotfish mating. They rose in the water, the male darting around the female. Finally they rose together in a quick dart toward the surface, bodies touching, almost in a corkscrew motion. Fish sex! Wonderful snorkel!

We went ashore and walked along the Francis Bay beach, hoping the walkway over the salt pond was out of water; unfortunately, still flooded. But we saw pelicans on the beach, just at the edge of the surf. They were scooping fish out of the waves as they washed ashore. One was walking - well; they waddle instead of walk - picking up the dead minnows off the sand. I don't know if they got stranded and died or if they were leftover from some folks fishing in the area earlier. We've never seen pelicans feeding in the surf before.

Steve saw the doctor Thursday, and the stitches came out. It looks awful, but doctor says it is healing well, no infection, and lots less pain, although he says his fingernail still hurts even though it isn't there anymore.

Friday, Francis Bay. The manta ray is here. Steve was feeling bored and went for a dinghy ride. He came back shouting, "Get your mask and fins". Off we went, looking for the big black spot in the water. We found it in about the same place it was last year, and I got to swim with it for a short while before it headed out faster than I can swim. We've been told it lives here, and will look next time we're back. Evening saw the Manager's cocktail party at the campground, followed by prime rib dinner. Next stop tomorrow, Leinster Bay to avoid the predicted large swell from the northwest. We will be around until it's time to go to Nanny Cay for our haul out.

SEA FAN LOG - FEBRUARY 2004

We spent the first 10 days of February shivering in Maryland, visiting with Mother and getting her some more help; she really needs a cook several days a week. It was cold, it was icy, and our blood is thin. Brrr! We were happy to return to the warmth of the Virgin Islands. We spent a week around St. John, including the Friday happy hour and prime rib dinner at Maho bay campground - a regular cruisers function. Then we checked into the BVI and headed to Nanny Cay Marina for our haul out. We had anticipated doing this in Puerto Rico, but the price was better at Nanny Cay. We are currently living on the hard. The workmen are painting the bottom; Steve is working on the sail drives, Jane cleaning the persistent crud growing on them. We had some unpleasant surprises. First

Sea Fan Log Continued Page 7, Column 1

we discovered that the shaft on one sail drive was broken. EEK! That cost \$800, but the new part was in hand and replaced in 24 hours. Next the rigger came aboard and found more problems with the shrouds and several blocks and shackles. Oh well, it is a boat, a "hole in the water in which you throw money." That aside, the marina is pleasant and the workmen both friendly and competent. The two new shrouds will cost \$1500. Yucky poo. Just toss in some more money.

We rented a car over the weekend (when they do no work) to explore Tortola. The roads here are interesting. Very steep, though not as many curves and turns as on St. John. And there are no street signs except in Road Town. Very few directional signs - only at a few intersections - and not always clear. The map is a joke, and when we would come to where we expected to find an old fort or ruin, it was invisible and there were no signs. Apparently the BVI doesn't consider them to be tourist attractions. We did find some lovely places, though. The Botanic Garden in the heart of Road Town we small but very nice. They have an area of palm trees of many sorts, each labeled with name and origin. You can't believe how many different type of palm trees there are; some don't even look like what we think a palm tree looks like.

Another wonderful place was the Sage Mountain National Park. Sage Mountain is the highest

Sea Fan Log Continued Next Column

point on Tortola - 1740 feet. It's not officially a rain forest because it gets less than 100 inches of rain per year, but has all the other rain forest characteristics. We went for a hike to the highest point, and the view was spectacular! Then we had lunch at Mountain View restaurant, with a view looking over the Drake Channel. The beaches on the north coast were lovely - particularly Apple Bay, Long Bay, and Smugglers Cove. The day we were there, there was good size swell from the north and northwest, and the surf was up. We found another wonderful beach on Beef Island's north shore, a long crescent of white sand, totally protected from swell by islands and reef. It looks like a good anchorage, the chart showing about 16 feet of water. It is right by the airport, as everything on Beef Island is, but there weren't very many planes.

We had lunch on Sunday at Fat Hog Bob's in Fat Hogg Bay. This restaurant specializes in very large portions, and the food was good. The view was absolutely unbelievable; it was the best view we've ever seen from a restaurant. The bay is shallow, the water clear, and there's a project underway to re-establish mangroves to protect the shore.

Life on the hard hasn't been hard. We can't use any water aboard - at least any that goes down a drain - so we walk to the head for showers etc. We've made a couple of lunches, and have had lunch out several times. If we have a big lunch, then supper is just a couple of appetizers, which keeps the cost down. The cockpit is filthy from our dirty feet climbing up the ladder and aboard, but we'll wash it off before we go back in the water. Well, the bottom's painted, the topsides paint touched up, then cleaned and waxed, a nice new stripe painted on, sail drives with new zincs and oil, thru hulls cleaned out, etc. We go back in the water today, Tuesday, our 7th day here and will tie up in the marina. The rigger comes tomorrow.

Back in business. Left Nanny Cay, made a quick run to Hawksnest Bay so Steve could dinghy to the ferry for his last appointment with the doctor. Then checked out at Soper's Hole and dropped the hook in Newfound Bay. Peace and Quiet. The wind and seas are predicted to come up, 20 to 25 knots with gusts to 35 and big seas and swell from the north, so we'll head to the south side and wait for better weather.

We receive email via a satellite phone that is quite slow, so please do not send pictures, messages with lots of addresses, or a reply that contains the original message.

Steve and Jane Gardner

Please contact the editor, febetz@toad.net to place an classified ad, and when your ad is no longer needed. THANKS !

THE APRIL 2004 CALENDAR, PLUS AND MINUS

4/1/04 April General Membership Meeting, 1830 hr., Belli Napoli Restaurant, Tom Dove is the Speaker

4/7/04 BOG at McNair's, 1900 hr.

4/21/04 Wednesday Night Racing Begins!!

4/24/04 Ham Palmer Fun Regatta, see the Red Book for details

4/24-25/04 Shakedown Cruise and Sockburner, Broad Creek. McNair's are Cruise Leaders

5/6/04 May General Membership Meeting, Cheshire Crab Restaurant

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JUNIOR TRAINING IS GEARING UP!!

Register **NOW** for Junior Training. 20% of the openings for Junior Training have been filled. Junior Training will be held at the Grachur Club June 21 – July 2 for children ages 9 to 16 years old. Students may have some or no experience sailing. The Junior Training program is designed to develop and foster an interest in sailing through instruction in small boat sailing. Camp registration gives priority to members of MRSA and Grachur Club, but nonmembers may register if there are openings. Last year's program was filled by May 1 and there was a waiting list of children eager to attend.

REGISTER EARLY FOR A FANTASTIC TWO WEEK EXPERIENCE. Contact Rich Hughes 410-757-6081 (fantastc@comcast.net) or Sue Kirkendall 410-437-3630 (alkirkendall@cs.com) for more information.

Susan Kirkendall

APRIL MEETING, APRIL FIRST

The April Membership Meeting will be Thursday, April 1st at Bella Napoli Restaurant at 6:30 for a pizza dinner and then hear from speaker Tom Dove. I am looking forward to seeing many of you there. Space is limited! Please call me at 410-360-1163 if you've not yet reserved a seat.

Jill McCutchan

THE OLD MAN

Magothy River Sailing Association
P. O. Box 1135
Pasadena, MD 21122
<http://mrsa.sailnet.com>

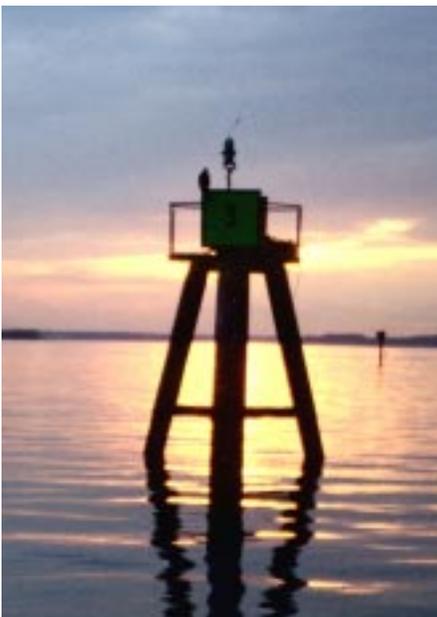


photo by Bill Paul