



THE OLD MAN

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MAGOTHY RIVER SAILING ASSOCIATION

30TH ANNIVERSARY 1974 - 2004

MAY 2004

CANOE ADVENTURE

For a change from sail power, try paddle power, and join the Sue and Fred Betz on a canoe trip for about five and a half miles down the Pocomoke River on Saturday, May 22nd. We will leave by car from our home at 175 Topeg Drive, Severna Park, at about 0900 hr. Meet at our house to follow us, or just plan to be at the Pocomoke River Canoe rental shop by the bridge across the Pocomoke in Snow Hill at about 1130 hr. We expect the drive to take about 2 - 2 1/2 hours.

There we rent our canoes, and we are driven to Parkers Crossing, where we board and start floating back to Snow Hill. Along the way the Pocomoke River passes through one of the northernmost stands of Bald Cypress,

Canoe continued Column 2

IN THIS ISSUE

Upcoming Events	1, 5, 8
Reports on Events and Other Items	4, 6, 7
Racing	6
Commodore's Comments	2
Classified Ads	3
Junior Training	4, 8
Welcome New Members	5
MRSA Officers and Representatives	2
Calendar	8

NEW MEMBER CRUISE - CORNFIELD CREEK

We have a full schedule planned for our New Member Cruise May 8-9, starting with a photo opportunity near Dobbins Island. Bring your cameras and rendezvous SE of Dobbins Island between 1400 and 1500 hr. to photograph each other's boats under sail. Be sure to fly your MRSA burgee. Boats can communicate with each other on VHF channel 71. Photos and computer files can be exchanged at the next meeting.

After anchoring in Cornfield Creek, come ashore to the Mil-Bur community park with your appetizers and drinks. For kids of all ages there will be games such as volleyball, badminton, basketball, etc.

Come by water or land but please let us know that you plan to attend so that we can inform you of any change in plans. Phone -410-255-8330. E-mail myrondorf@comcast.net.

Directions by water - from Dobbins Island - head north between Gibson Island and Dobbins Island to channel markers #3 and #4. Keep #4 close on the starboard and make a wide left turn around the point. Stay close to the speed marker and proceed into the creek favoring the left side. Take the small green can to port & continue in the center of the creek towards the community boat dock & anchor.

By land - Go east on Mountain Road towards Gibson Island. After passing the high school take the first right, Milburn Circle. Go straight to the community park.

Myron Dorf

Canoe continued from Column 1

and throughout, riverfront civilization is scarce. We plan to stop and picnic along the riverbank for lunch about half way, so please bring lunches and beverages for your crew. The trip back to Snow hill takes a leisurely two to three hours, depending on the current and how hard or easy that you paddle.

The rental charge is \$40.00 per canoe, and planning on 3 persons per canoe will ease the cost, although if you prefer your own canoe, that would be your option. Please email febetz@toad.net or call 410-647-3824 to reserve a space. Let us know if you would like a third passenger, or if you have an extra passenger for someone else's canoe. Also please advise us if you plan to meet at our house for the "caravan".

Sue and Fred Betz



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
- Fleet Captain Junior Training:** Rich Hughes and Susan Kirkendall, 437-3630
- Treasurer:** Jim McCutchan, 360-1163
- Secretary:** Kathy Dougan, 255-2040
- Race Committee:** Dave Prucnal, 255-5623
- Protest Chairman:** Mike Mullarky 439-1556
- Race Gear Chairman:** TBD
- Race Marks Chairman:** Roger Bartholomee, 255-7330
- 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

Great news! I've been sailing! Sure changes one's attitude when they can say that. Alas, due to the streams of rain and cold we've had, *Merlin* is still shrink-wrapped, so it wasn't on *Merlin*. Nor was it on any of the junior training boats, which are now tidily stashed in their own berths in their brand-new, sleek boat-racks, built in one day by John Taylor's Eagle Scout candidate, David Powell.

Late this winter, your Board came up with the idea of putting crew wanted, and crew available ads in the Old Man, and on the web page. When I saw Beth Vanfossen's advertisement for racing crew, I applied, even though I lacked racing expertise. She was kind enough to agree to take me on. The Wednesday night river racing series started April 21st, and despite weather forecasts of rain and cold, we had warm, sunny weather. As we were preparing the boat at the dock, the wind was whipping strongly around us. I was envisioning the potential problems we could have with strong winds, cold water and an inexperienced crew (me). Well, luckily, the inexperienced crew was outweighed by the knowledgeable crew, the winds lightened up to about 5 knots, and no one went in the water.

I understand we had a great start. We had been sailing around the starting area, with mystifying comments all around, boats suddenly appearing directly on our bow. I prepared the timer on my watch, so that I'd have an idea what was coming, but forgot to stay in the timer mode, so lost 5 seconds when the 15-minute warning sounded. No one seemed confused about what might be going on, and we continued tacking, with each person concentrating on their particular task, and suddenly, right on time, everyone declared we'd had a great start (and my watch beeped 5 seconds later).

We sat on the leeward side, due to the low wind conditions, but we were moving along nicely. Again, boats suddenly materialized on our bow (there's something about sitting beside a huge jib that blocks most of the scenery), but none of it seemed to phase Beth, our helmsman, or really anyone else. I had forgotten how quickly various tasks go, when there's a myriad of crew to stay focused on them, and complete them. I learned what "jumping" and "tripping" meant—and maybe how to do them. I also discovered what a spinnaker peel was—we did one. We actually successfully raised the spinnaker, and then a few seconds later; decided we needed to raise the other spinnaker! There were a few hitches, but nothing tore, the sail-bag blown overboard was recovered by the boat behind us, no one was injured or yelled at, and suddenly the correct spinnaker was flying, and the heavier one was down.

I've no idea how we placed, but I thought it was pretty neat crossing the finish line with the spinnaker flying, and not running aground on the shoals directly ahead of us. Meanwhile, there were lots of boats behind us, with their spinnakers flying—although I was told they may not have been in our class. Regardless, I was out sailing, the weather was great,

Commodore cont. column 1, page 3

Commodore cont. from colnm 2, page2

and everyone around was knowledgeable and friendly—what could be better?! Thanks, Beth, for allowing me this opportunity. Maybe I'll be trained by the end of the summer!

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

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

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.

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 hal-yards. \$6500 Contact Chris Lindsay, 410-439-8832 or Clind13290@aol.com for info.

Classified continued next column

Classified continued from previous column

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: 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 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 Wanted: 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

MARCH BRUNCH

The Brunch at “Windows on the Bay” on March 7th was a huge success. We had 53 people with some new faces, young adults such as Heather Timerman, Jesse Allanson, Melissa and Jeff Kirkendall and one of the first Commodores, Kyle Millan. I want to thank all of you personally for coming and for all the kind comments about the get together.

The guest speaker Nancy Robson was such a delight and very entertaining. She has lived most of her life on the water and on boats. She described her adventures and tribulations of becoming a woman tugboat captain, using excerpts of her book, “*The Woman in the Wheelhouse*”.

She also gave us some insight into her new book, which will come out in Sept. 2004, about the course of the Waterman. It describes how a young man is coming of age and the decisions he has to make about continuing the families waterman business.

Jill McCutchan

BOAT RACK COMPLETE – JR. FLEET WORKPARTIES SCHEDULED

On April 17, a small band of merry men assembled at the McNair’s to undertake a project that would benefit the Jr. Training fleet. No – it wasn’t Robin Hood’s band of merry men, it was an Eagle Scout candidate with

Boat Rack Continued Next Column

Boat Rack Continued from Previous Column

some of his fellow scouts and dads. They weren’t stealing from the poor and giving to the club either, they were there to build a long needed boat rack to store the Jr. Training fleet of boats. Boy Scout David Powell, took on this project to complete one of his requirements needed to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout. In doing so, David came up with a design, worked with his Eagle review board and Wes McNair to get the needed approvals, and got material donations from Home Depot, Loews, Johnson Lumber, Clement Hardware, and the Kop-Flex company. After a long day’s work, David and his crew completed the boat rack and loaded eight 420s, one FJ, and one Laser onto it. The rack, which can hold up to 12 boats, will go a long way to help keep our Jr. Training fleet in great shape through the fall and winter months.



Pictured: Wes McNair, Dick Stevens, David Powell, Jim Powell, Trent Stevens, and Colin Taylor. Not Pictured: Dan and Zack Bornstein, Jamie Powell, and John Taylor

The completed boat rack will make Jr. Training fleet maintenance much easier since we will be able to pull out individual boats for work. Our first work party will be held on May 22 to clean and assess the condition of the boats. On June 5, we will finish any cleaning that needs to be done and make any necessary repairs. Sunday June 20th is launching day! The boats will be rigged, launched, and taken over to the Grachur club for camp that starts the following day. The club’s fleet is in good shape thanks to the hard work of John Aellen over the last few years but there is still a lot to do. The work parties are a great opportunity to come out and not only help the Jr. Training program but also to either learn or teach something to your fellow sailors. You don’t need to have a child in the program to help so come on and lend a hand. Please contact John Taylor at 410-315-7759 if you are interested in helping. Those families who signed up for boat maintenance, as part of the Jr. Training program, will be contacted directly to schedule a date for participation.

Article and photo by John Taylor

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The Board of Governors worked overtime in April to approve six new memberships. Please keep the prospective members coming our way. Everyone, please welcome the following new members:

Bill Van Wembeke, from 437 Shady Lane in Pasadena and Debra Bryson, from Tampa, sail a Pearson 33, *Sojourner*, from Black Hole Creek. They are interested in cruising, entertainment and committee work. Bill is also interested in race management, and may be racing in the 2004 Governor's Cup. He may be reached at 410-437-8992 or vanwembeke@msn.com.

Dan and Tracy Prucnal live at 1758 West Drive in Pasadena and can be reached at 410-255-3015 or danp@phaseonline.com. They own an Opti and a Laser, and Dan has been sailing and racing "from a very young age". They are interested in racing, publications, and the junior training program. They have two children, Jacob (9) and Rachel (5) and Dan is Dave Prucal's brother.

Shelda George, from 224 Harbor Drive in Severna Park, has a 17-foot daysailer on a trailer. She is learning to sail. She has 2 children, Timothy (12) and Matthew (9). She can be reached at 410-544-7924 or sageor24@mail.aacounty.org.

Jill Herring lives at 106 North Linden Avenue in Annapolis, and can be reached at 410-267-6405

New Members Continued next Column

New Members Continued from Previous Column

or jherring@merctrust.com. She was a 1997 Whitbread volunteer, and has attended the Annapolis Sailing School and taken Power Squadron courses. She has some racing crew experience, and is interested in crewing. She is also interested in committee work.

Mary and Al Hunter live at 537 Bowline Road in Severna Park and they own a 22-½ foot deck boat, home ported at Whitehurst Yacht Club. They can be reached at 410-431-5153 or mbuckley@ccc.com. They have three children, C.A., Steven and Samantha. They are interested in junior training, and family cruising, and sailboarding.

James and Lisa Allison live at 551 Devonshire Court in Severna Park. They can be reached at 410-987-4156 or jtallis@comcast.net. They have two children, Andrew and Jessica. Their boat, *Cheshire Cat* is a Marshall Sanderling, home ported in Cockey's Creek.

Edward and Evelyn Seto and their children, Chris (12) and Ben (9) have enjoyed pleasure sailing on the Magothy and the Chesapeake Bay. They are interested in all phases of MRSA, including racing, cruising, and the junior training program. They live at 367 N. Ferry Point in Pasadena, and keep their 30' S2, *Dragon Dance* on the Magothy. They can be reached at 410-437-4762 or setoseto@yahoo.com.

Please introduce yourselves to these new members at our events and welcome them into our sailing plans.

Sheryl McNair

MAY MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT THE CHESHIRE CRAB

I look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting, which is Thurs. May 6, at the "Cheshire Crab Restaurant". It starts at 1830 hr., but I will be calling you for your reservation. Jim will be collecting \$15.00 at the door and you can make a decision of a crab cake sandwich, or a chicken barbecue sandwich, or a hamburger or a Cobb seafood salad. Children who come can pick off of the kids menu and the parents will be responsible for their food. The money being collected includes sodas, teas, coffee and gratuity.

We will be having a fun night with Jane Menelly and her friend who will lead us with some Shanty songs and sing along. Please consider joining us for another great time together. I will be calling the weekend of April 22 and getting the count into Cheshire Crab by Tues. April 27. Thanks for all of your support in our activities.

Jill McCutchan

APRIL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

I want to thank everyone for coming to the membership dinner meeting on April 1 at “Bella Napoli”. It was a great turn out of about 40 people enjoying pizza along with our delightful guest speaker Tom Dove. We had some new people such as Chris Fillat and her daughter Carly. The Mercier family with their children Dolores and Victoria as well as some people we have not seen for awhile. The hospitality and service was superb and if you did not make it we are sorry you missed a good time. Tom Dove had some very unique photographic pictures of his test boats that he has done for the Chesapeake Bay Magazine, as well as some unusual shots of his own. He gave us some tips on how to take better pictures of objects both in and out on the water, other boats while we are cruising and some highlights on what to look for to make the picture we are trying to capture quality material.

Jill McCutchan



Tom Dove, Technical Editor of Chesapeake Bay Magazine, Speaks to the MRSA About Sailboat Photography

photo by Fred Betz

RACING RUNDOWN

Magothy River Racing kicked off on Wednesday, April 21st in unusually light winds for spring racing. *Charlie*, *Ego Tripp*, *Shadowfax*, *Oras*, *Humbug* and *White Lightning* were all winners in their classes in the spirited light air race to start the 2004 season.

With thirty boats out all divisions were well represented with the exception of A fleet, which had Bruce Mitchell's J/35, *Charlie* as the sole competitor. Dave Prucnal, and the crew of *Ultra Violet*, another A fleet regular, served as RC for the race. “A” fleet racers don't worry however, as the class is shaping up to be quite strong with the additions of Dan Somerville's J/29, *Jeopardy*, and Mark Dunigan's J/105, *Off The Hook*. Mark Walker and crew on *Bumble Bee* are joining the A fleet fray also.

We have over fifty boats registered for our Wednesday Night program and expect to meet or exceed the seventy boats we had racing last year.

Don't forget that the Corinthian class begins with the start of Series 2 on May 19th. If you are interested in some friendly, non-spinnaker, round the buoys racing come on out and give it a try.

A number of Magothy racers will be competing in the 2004 Annapolis NOOD to be held April 30-May 2 in Annapolis. Some of the familiar entries are the Tripp 26's of George Benisek, *Northern Dancer*, and Tom Awalt, *Ego Tripp*, Brad Howard and the Cal 25, *Calibre*, Drew Dowling and his J/30, *Encounter*, and Travis Warren and the Pearson 30, *Prozac*.

Finally, it's time to get your entries in for the MRSA Region 2 Spring Classic on Saturday, May 22.

Bob Seay

A GRAY DAY FOR A SOCKBURNER

Our shakedown cruise and sockburner party went off well despite gray skies and cool temperatures. The cool temperatures just made the seating by the fire more welcoming, and the fairly constant breeze kept the smoke blowing away from us. All the socks that people were willing to give up went up in flames, so our 2004 sailing season should have great weather. To assure that, though, we need a more formal ceremony for the sockburning, with a ritual poem or reading. Anyone who would like to contribute potential suggestions, creative efforts, is invited to do so. If all entries can be received before the June picnic, we can vote on them there. Otherwise, we can do it at the August picnic. Please email or mail suggestions to Sheryl McNair at sammcnair@yahoo.com or 384 Eagle Hill Road, Pasadena, Md. 21122. If you would like to participate, but know that you won't have your thoughts together in time for the June picnic, let us know, and we'll postpone the judging accordingly.

We had approximately 40 + people in attendance, including our hostess, Beverly Looper, who had recovered from her surprise 80th

Sockburner Continued Page 7, Column 1

Sockburner Continued from Page 6, Column 2
 birthday party the previous evening. Thank you, Beverly, for continuing to allow MRSA to party on your beach, for at least the 8th year in a row. *Frequent Flyer, Boreas, and Endless Summer* sailed, as appropriate for our first cruise of the year, and several others came by watercraft, including the Lund's and McNair's on their whalers, and Rick and Darcy Watts on personal watercraft. The rest took their lives/vehicles in their hands, and descended Eagle Hill by automobile. An abundance of food was consumed with great appetite, including the marshmallows and s'mores fixings. Thanks to Rachel and Jake Prucnal and their helpers, who gathered nice long sticks for roasting the marshmallows.

We know the Broad Creek location has been the site of this cruise for at least 8 years (concluded by counting past commodores who've presided), but are wondering if anyone has the records to verify the number of years. Please contact Sheryl McNair with the information.

Sheryl McNair



Lewis Neisner is Exuberant... with Beth Vanfossen !!



Alan Weiss and Debbie Hott with Vice-Commodore Jill McCutchan



The Traditional Fire Burns Winter's Socks, and Toasts Marshmallows"

All Photos on this page by Loura Bonham



Rich Hughes Sock Must be Stuck to his Shoe



Some of the MRSA Sockburners Enjoy the Heat from the Sockburning Fire, on a Cool and Gray Day. The Bonham's Frequent Flyer is at Anchor in the Background

THE MAY 2004 CALENDAR, PLUS AND MINUS

4/30 - 5/2/04 2004 Annapolis NOOD
Races, Annapolis MD

5/3/04 BOG at McNair's, 1900 hr.

5/6/04 May General Membership
Meeting, 1830 hr., Cheshire
Crab Restaurant

5/8 - 9/04 New Member Cruise,
Cornfield Creek, Dorf's are
Cruise Leaders

5/19/04 Cornthian Class and 2nd
Wednesday Night Races Series
Begin

5/22/04 Spring Classic Bay Race

5/22/04 Canoe Adventure, 1130 hr.
Pocomoke River, Snow Hill, MD
Betz' are Cruise Leaders

5/29 - 31/04 Memorial Day Week-
end Cruise, Wye River, Hughes
are Cruise Leaders

SWAN CREEK CRUISE

Celebrate the first weekend of summer by sailing to Swan Creek on June 26 to 27. We will be getting information regarding marinas (Haven Harbor) and restaurants so there will be an update in the June *Old Man*. Swan Creek is a great place to swim, sail dinghies or enjoy the sunsets. It is not a long sail from the Magothy so it is great for kids. If you are interested in participating in this cruise, please call John or Debbie Lund at 410-544-2551.

Debbie Lund

WAITING LIST FOR JUNIOR TRAINING!!!

We have now completed registration for Junior Training. The response was overwhelming this year. We will maintain a waiting list in case some students' plans change and places become available. All students will receive a packet of camp rules and emergency forms after the first of June.

There is one instructor position available. Please contact Rich Hughes or Sue Kirkendall if you are interested.

Susan Kirkendall

Shop through our website with SAILNET.COM

THE OLD MAN

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



photo by Bill Paul