



The Old Man

The Monthly Newsletter of the Magothy River Sailing Association 50th ANNIVERSARY 1974 -2004 December 2004



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: Laura 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: Kevin Dunn, 437-6009

Assisting: Ed and Evelyn Seto, 437-4362

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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 Farewell

Thank you, MRSA members, for making this year as easy as possible for me. If I received any complaints, they were voiced as helpful hints, and taken as such. Finally, I have an easy column to do, because they are lots of individuals who've particularly made this job easier. Wes, of course, because he's helped pick up any loose ends, and provided a helpful sounding board, with good advice. Thank you, Al and Sue and Andrew Kirkendall—for providing empathy and sound advice (Al), ditto Sue and for being an excellent Fleet Captain Junior Training, and agreeing to do it again, and Andrew for being a steadfast event attendee, and helpful in many ways. Thank you, Rich Hughes—between you and Sue, I had no worries about junior training, and it should go great again this year, thanks for volunteering again! Thanks to John Taylor, for picking up the job of Fleetmaster, doing a great job, and adding Junior Racing to our program this year. Thanks to Jill and Jim McCutchan—Jill for planning lots of great events this year, and handling any snags (if there were any) on her own, Jim for keeping us in the black, and out of any budgetary heat, and agreeing to do it all again! Thank you, Laura Bonham—not only did we have a great cruising schedule this year, with leaders for each one, but you probably were the promptest in responding to my many emails. Bob Seay—thanks for hanging in there, despite your own personal difficulties, and keeping our collective racing head above the water. Thanks also to Dave Prucnal, for stepping in to fill the Race Committee chair vacancy, and training Wes & I to be RC on short notice. Thank you, Kathy Dougan, for taking on the job of secretary, despite being a "brand-new" member, doing a super job and agreeing to stick it out another year. Thank you, Fred Betz, for making it so easy on the rest of us, and turning out a great Old Man, each and every month. Thanks, John Hubbs, for doing a great job on the Red Book, keeping our costs down, and making it seem easy to the rest of us—and volunteering again.

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Happenings

I would like to thank everyone who came to the membership meeting on Nov.4th what a great time we had. 30 people came for delicious pizza with a delightful guest who shared many slides of his cruising experiences on the Chesapeake Bay. Thanks to Bill Schellenberger for his time and effort . A reminder to everyone about the Dec.2 membership meeting at the Belvedere Yacht Club. This an important time for us to meet the new slate of officers for next year and to give your support. It will start at 6:30 with you all bringing an appetizer to share . Beer,wine and soda's will be provided along with the cutlery . If you would like to help me set up please come around 5:30. I do need some to help clean up after so please think about that too. I will not be calling people to remind them of this meeting along with the Light Parade on Dec.11 at the Marriott in Annapolis. The Parade of Lights starts at 6-8pm in room 511. If you could bring an appetizer or dessert this night also it would be helpful. Again hot and cold beverages will be served. Also put on your calendar the Commodore's Ball Jan,15th at Gibson Island Yacht Club. It will start with appetizers around 6:30 with a buffet dinner , meeting a dancing to A DJ Dave Chester until 12 midnight. The invitations will be sent soon so look for them in the mail around the middle of Dec. Sooner if they get published before then. I look forward to seeing you all either Dec.2 Dec.11 or Jan 15. I pray you will come to all. God Bless and thanks for helping to make this Vice-Commodore position a pleasure.

Jill McCutchan

Farewell continued from Page 1

Thank you, Ed and Peggy Poe, for bearing with me while I figured out what I was doing in the membership chain, and providing stability for the rest of us by sticking with the membership chair position, year after year. Thank you, Kevin Dunn, for taking on the Old Man editor position, and providing a seamless transition from October to November's Old Man. Thank you, Ed Tracey, for quickly responding to all my email requests, and being a great webmaster. Last, but far from least, thank you, Lewis Neisner, for carting around the ship's store to all events, being a great fashion model, and coming up with great ideas for the store. I think this covers the basic BOG, but it certainly doesn't cover all the thank yous!

Thank you, also, to those unseen (to me) volunteers who make the racing program work—Roger Bartholomee for getting the race marks in and out of the river each and every year, Mark Walker for taking on the Racing Gear position, an onerous duty without a permanent storage facility, and Mike Mullarkey for being the Protest Committee Chair (I'm sorry Mike, the extent of my knowledge here was knowing that the one letter I received I could hand off to you, and forget about). Other unseen, but known volunteers include Denise Peach, for coming up with creative and fun gifts for those involved with the junior training program—year after year! Thank you, Carolyn and George Stamps—not only for folding, stapling, stamping and mailing the Old Man, but for providing tons of support for any one in need.

Finally, it goes without saying that our honorary members provide wonderful support. Thank you, Jim Hubbard, for working with us and Grachur to create a great junior training program. Thank you, Beverly Looper and Doug Price, for hosting MRSA events on your property, year after year—events that we love so much, they are ingrained in our cruising schedule! I hope this provides a small indication of how many wonderful members we have—each and every one of you have contributed in some way to making MRSA sail smoothly. Please help our new Commodore and BOG as well as you have helped me, and past-Commodores!

Sheryl McNair

Race Mark Thanks

I would like to thank Chris Mercier, Rich Fenton from Old Yellow and Mike Mullarky from Boreas for helping me remove the racing marks. They spent an extra hour scrapping barnacles and power spraying slim off the marks as well as cleaning up the pontoon boat. This will save me a days work next Spring. It was a great November day to do this dirty and wet task. Sixty degrees, sun and light winds made the job a little bit more bearable. We only retrieved 8 marks. If anyone has D mark would they please contact me. I also thank members for retrieving lost marks and telling me about missing, damaged and off station marks.

Roger Bartholomee

December Calendar

12/02/04- General Membership Meeting - Belvedere Yacht Club

12/11/04 - Parade of Lighted Boats Marriott Annapolis 6-8 pm

01/15/05 - Commodore's Ball

Cheshire Crab House Cruise

On Saturday, October 30, a beautiful fall day, 23 MRSA'ers traveled to the Cheshire Crab House for the annual Cruise to the Cheshire Crab House.

Arriving by boat were Mike and Jon Mullarky. Those choosing to drive included cruise leader Lewis Neisner and Beth Vanfossen, Harvey and Sandra Paskin, Al and Sue Kirkendall with Andy and Melissa, Philippe and Shirley Masiee, recently returned from France and Spain, Dick and Marianne Kammann, John and Debbie Lund, Mike and Laura Bonham, Myron and Sigrid Dorf, Jeff and Kate Fones, all the way from St. Michaels and Holly Picardi without Al who was somewhere in the Far East.

A good time was had by all.

Just a reminder. The Ship's Store will be at the December 2 membership meeting at the Belvedere Yacht Club. A perfect time to do your Holiday shopping.

Lewis Neisner



Magothy River Racing Rundown

The "Hallie Rice Frostbite Series" has wrapped up another great fall sailing season with results as follows:

Spinnaker Class -
6 Boats Registered

- 1 Encounter J30
Drew Dowling
- 2 Boreas Beneteau 305
Annette & Mike Mullarkey
- 3 Ole Yella Lindenburg 26
Ted Alfriend

Non-Spinnaker Class - 8 Boats
Registered

- 1 Incommunicado Omega 36
Polk/Tracey
- 2 Endless Summer Aphrodite 29
Alan Weiss
- 3 Bella Donna Pearson 10M
Angelo Guarino
- 4 Great Escape Pearson 30
Jim McCutchan

The switch to Sunday afternoons worked out well as we had twice the number of entries as last year. Ten races were conducted over five beautiful fall afternoons in plenty of breeze adding up to good close competition. After a couple of months off to rest we will kick off the 2005 racing season with the annual winter planning meeting to be conducted at a place and date TBD in early February. Plenty of notice will be provided. For more information contact Bob Seay at 410-647-6350 or email to bobseay1@comcast.net.

Bob Seay

The Great Chesapeake Bay Schooner Race

Plan to take a Thursday off in mid-October next year and take some friends out on your boat to see the start of the 16th annual Great Chesapeake Bay Schooner Race. These are some nice shots of some of the thirty schooners at the start of their race to Norfolk last Thursday. It was a beautiful day! Ravenous is in the upper left corner of the bottom photo... before we put up our sails. It was a wonderful afternoon on the water as we sailed along with them for a couple of hours before heading back for dinner ashore. It's on my calendar to go out and sail with them again next year. You should plan to get a boatload of friends together and do the same. We should also tell everybody else in the club about it. Last year I sailed all the way to Norfolk with them, and it was wonderful, one of the best vacations I've had in a long time! In recent years there have been as many as 50 schooners in this race. What a uniquely beautiful sight!

In mid-May I also plan to take the day off to go see the Blue Angels perform over the Severn River as part of the Naval Academy's graduation week activities. It's spectacular to see from the water! Both these unique and colorful events should be part of our respective club calendars.

Ed Poe

Schooners continued on Next page



Schooners (continued)



Sea Fan's Favorite Places

A lot of MRSA members have expressed interest in our travels in the Caribbean and have asked which places we liked the best or were the most interesting. We know that many MRSA's vacation or charter in the Caribbean and thought that we would share some of our favorite places with you.

Let's start with the east end of St. John in the USVI. We spent the majority of our time in the bays of St. John and came to know the island very well. We won't try to give you a travel guide of the island. Other sources will do that much better than we can, but here are some of the places that we enjoyed the most on the island.

Salt Pond Bay. It's a small bay on the south coast and is our favorite of all anchorages on St. John. It's accessible from land by the \$1 Bus, taxi or car. It has a nice beach and good snorkeling. You can always see sea turtles (green and hawksbill) when you snorkel. One of the best things about it is that from the parking lot you can catch the \$1 bus and go into Coral Bay or Cruz Bay to do provisioning, shopping, etc. It is great to visit by land or by boat.

Drunk Bay. This is a rocky beach and bay on the east end. You get to it by a 15 minute hike from Salt Pond. The fun things about this beach is the figures which other visitors have constructed from the rocks. There are hundreds of them (unless a storm has been through recently and wiped them all out). When you go leave your mark on the beach.

Ram's Head Trail. This is an excellent trail that leads from Salt Pond to the most southeast point of the island. It's not too difficult and provides some spectacular views of the island shores, the BVI, and St Croix on a clear day.

Skinny Legs Bar & Restaurant. This is the epitomy of a cruisers restaurant. It's open air and part of the ceiling is an old spinnaker. They have the best hamburger in the Caribbean as well as other excellent sandwiches. But it's chips - no fries. This is a great place to see local live aboards, passing through crew, and retired cruisers. You'll also see a lot of bright red tourists who come to see Skinny Legs, especially on weekends.

We'll have some more special St. John places in another article.

Steve & Jane Gardner

Nominating Committee Report *Al Kirkendall*

The following list of nominees for the elected board positions and committee heads will be presented at the December Wine and Cheese party. Thanks to all who volunteered to lead MRSA next year. An email will be distributed with a complete listing prior to the December meeting.

Commodore	John Lund
Vice Commodore	Diane Jackins
Rear Commodore	Bob Seay
Fleet Captain Cruising	Laura Bonham
Fleet Captain Jr Training	Rich Hughes/Sue Kirkendall
Secretary	Kathy Dougan
Treasurer	Jim McCutchan
Immediate Past Commodore	Sheryl McNair
Race Committee Chairperson	Gene Gottschalk
Membership	Ed & Peggy Poe
Webmaster	Mike Mullarky
Fleetmaster	John Taylor
Old Man Editor	Kevin Dunn
The Red Book Editor	John Hubbs
Ships Store	Lewis Neisner

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photo by Bill Paul

