



The Old Man

The Monthly Newsletter of the Magothy River Sailing Association

June 2005

Founder of the MRSA, Hambleton Palmer, Dies May 5th

John Hambleton "Ham" Palmer, 90, an engineer and well-known sailor, died May 5 at Ginger Cove retirement community health care center after a brief illness. Before moving to Annapolis, he had lived in Pasadena and Severna Park.

Born Dec. 2, 1914, in Milwaukee, Wis., Mr. Palmer was the son of the late Charles Harvey Palmer and Grace Hambleton Ober Palmer and the grandson of the late Henry L. Palmer, founder and president of Northwest Mutual Life Insurance. He also was a descendent of one of the founders of Talbot County and of Stonington, Conn.

After attending Exeter School in New Hampshire, he received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering in 1935 from Cornell University and studied naval architecture. Mr. Palmer worked for what is now Newport News Shipbuilding in Virginia, where he completed the mechanical design for the cruiser U.S.S. St. Louis, which survived the Pearl Harbor attack in December 1941. He served in the Army in Puerto Rico in 1941 to 1945.

One of the founders of the Milford, Conn., Cruising Club, he was a former member of the Hampton Yacht Club in Virginia and the Gibson Island Yacht Club and Squadron. He also was a member of the Annapolis Yacht Club and the Potapscut Sailing Association.

Mr. Palmer was a founder and early commodore of the Magothy River Sailing Association and a member of the Severn Sailing Association, receiving the Laudeman Trophy for longtime contributions to sailing. In addition he was the first person to receive an honorary life membership and earned the president's award in the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Racing Association, where he served as president.

Mr. Palmer was a senior judge for the U.S. Sailing Association and chairman of its race officers committee, and made significant contributions to the association's early sailing rules.

In addition he helped to bring the Midget Ocean Racing Council to the Chesapeake Bay and served as its first treasurer, and brought the Performance Handicap Racing Federation to the area as well.

Surviving are his wife, Eva Schmalbach Palmer; two sons, Douglas Hambleton Palmer of Annapolis and Dr. James Ober Palmer of Meadville, Pa.; three daughters, Susan Anderson of Des Plaines, Ill., Grace Toyer of New Orleans, and Margaret Smith of Baltimore; one brother, Dr. Charles Harvey Palmer Jr. of Sykesville; one sister, Curtis P. Chafee of Bryn Mawr, Pa.; and three grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Building Fund of St. Paul's Anglican Church, PO Box 380, Crownsville, MD 21032.

Edited, from "The Capital"

Commodores Comments



Commodore John Lund

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Website: www.magothysailing.com

MRSA is a member of CBYRA, CBYCA, and
Boat U.S. (Member #GA 80366 S).

June 1st. For all practical purposes, it's summer! Socks have been burned. Memorial Day is past. School will soon be out. Junior training starts. The longest day of the year is a few weeks away. The next few months are the best time of the year for sailors. The Board is pretty much done all the planning that can be planned. There are events for racers, cruisers and both. Regardless of your interest, I urge you to participate in the Corsica River Race, Magothy Madness and the club picnic. All of these events are just plain fun for any age.

Corsica River Race – July 30 – 31 CRYC holds a small boat regatta in the Chester River on both days. There is a race over on Saturday and back on Sunday. Saturday evening is a party with a great dinner and live band. There has been a start for cruisers on Saturday. Historically, this has proven to be a great event for everyone.

Magothy Madness – August 20 The most unusual event imaginable. Hard to describe other than a road rally on water. Test your nautical knowledge, skills and puzzle solving ability. Anyone who has participated can attest to the zany drills you will be put through.

Club Picnic – Also August 20 following Magothy Madness. A chance to relax and receive the awards you might not have wanted to be recognized for. Or perhaps a dip in the pool instead. Or just come and enjoy the food and drink. In past years, there have been small boats available for our junior sailors to use.

As we look ahead to summer, please plan to attend a couple of events that you may have never participated in before. They are a lot of fun.

John Lund

Classifieds

13' Boston Whaler, 1991 with 2002 Merc 40 HP and 2001 Precision trailer. Bimini, fitted storage cover, anchor, lines and nice gear bag containing PFD's, cushions, horn, flashlights, etc. Kept on lift -- no bottom paint. Classic Whaler in excellent condition. \$5750.

Contact Bill Van Wambeke at 410 437-8992 or

vanwambeke@msn.com.

Lippincott 30', well kept, maint. logs avail. 13HP Yanmar diesel, covered wheel. LectraSan, RF, depth, wind (speed/direction), VHF. Shoal draft. Press water. New adj backstay and genoa. 4sails. Comfortable family cruiser and race winner, 6'2"

headroom, sleeps 5-6. \$27,500 Days 410-265-1449 or 410-795-0654 eves/weekends or

JOHUBBS@EROLS.COM for data sheet, photos

Racing Crew Wanted

Endless Summer, a 29 foot Aphrodite racer/cruiser that rates PHRF 159 and races in the Wednesday Night Non-spinnaker class. Boat is kept in Severna Park on Old Man Creek. Contact Alan Weiss, 410-544-1986 or

SailingDr@aol.com

CHEZ CHAOS is coming up for sale in early summer. Great party house on the water on Old Man Creek with decks, bulkhead, dock with slip and lift. 523 Norwich Road in Severna Park. For more info, please call Roger Seal at 443-994-4532.

Miscellaneous

WheelPilot 30 Simrad w/remote \$500

Dingy Davits Kato Marine Island model \$500

Spinnaker 50'X23' never used \$700

EAM 4-5 man Lift Raft \$500

Spinnaker and Pole for Catalina 27 \$100

Anchor 22lb Delta \$100

Contact Andy Bassler 410-255-9229 or aebassler@yahoo.com



Sockless Season Starts Sizzlingly

Over 45 people attended the first cruise of the season, with the annual sockburning bonfire at Loopers' Beach, on Broad Creek. Boreas, Fantastic, Flying Low, Merlin, MinVan IV, Skimmer, and the Weiss' motorboat enjoyed a fast and sunny sailing day. Despite the lack of any ritual poem or rhyme, the socks burned fast and furious in the roaring bonfire. The weather was so cooperative, the bonfire was only needed for the socks, and the s'mores, since the temperature was civilized. Perhaps we should start a new tradition, and wait until May for this cruise.

The kids in attendance enjoyed playing lacrosse, finding (& burning) sticks for roasting marshmallows, roasting marshmallows, and playing on the beach in the sand & water. The dogs in attendance also seemed to be having a ball—and the adults weren't far behind either group. Thanks again to Beverly Looper, for allowing us to use her beach, and joining us in the festivities.

Cruisers by land included the Hoffmans, Jackings, Haskells, Vanderveers, Timermans, Prucnals (2 sets + parents), the Poes, the Dorfs, the Jarvises, Rich Hughes, Walt Burmeister, Beth and Lewis, and Gabriella and Bob Krapfel. If I missed anyone, please let me know so that you get credit for this cruise!

Sheryl McNair

CRUISE TO BODKIN CREEK- JUNE 25TH AND 26TH

Join us on a cruise to Bodkin Creek on June 25th and 26th. As an option, since the Bodkin Creek is a short sail from the Magothy, we can meet at Baltimore Light at 11:00 and sail across the bay to Love Point, and then head for Bodkin Creek for the raft-up. Look for MY FAIR LADY- we plan to be there between 2-3pm.

Brush up on vocalists/ tunes from the 60's, 70's and 80's- sing along or groan. Nostalgia experts will win prizes!

Phil and Elaine Haskell

MRSA June Picnic at North Shore Beach

Come one, come all to MRSA's June picnic. Where? North Shore Beach. When? Friday, June 3 at 6:30 PM. What do you bring? If your last name starts with A – K, bring a salad---if your last name starts with L – Z, bring a dessert. The Club will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, soft drinks, and beer (and some wine). Seating is somewhat limited, so you might want to bring a chair. To help with the party planning, please call Diane Jackins at (410) 544-3657 and let her if you are going to be there. (In the event of inclement weather, please check the MRSA website.)

Diane Jackins

4th of July Cruise

The 4th of July Cruise will again be to the Choptank River. The fireworks this year in St Michael's will be on Saturday July 2nd so we will meet for happy hour at 5:30 Aboard *Flying Low* in San Domingo Creek and then take a dingy ride into St. Michaels for the fireworks. Sunday will be a rest day in San Domingo Creek with an early 3:30 happy hour so those that would like to go into St. Michael's for dinner may do so. Another "Most Patriotic Contest" will be judged at this happy hour and prizes will be awarded. The sea nettle pools will be available to cool off if they are needed. Monday morning we can depart for home or other destinations. Please contact Al or Sue Kirkendall at (410) 437-3630, or alkirkendall@cs.com for more information.

Al Kirkendall

The Fireworks Cruise will Immediately Follow the 4th of July Cruise.

Monday July 4th will be the start of the first 1 week Bay cruise. Tentative plans call for leaving San Domingo Creek for Solomon's and getting the anchors down in time to go ashore and watch the Solomon's fireworks Monday night. We will depart on Tuesday for Crisfield and spend 2 nights at Somers Cove Marina and Thursday depart Crisfield for St. Leonard's Creek on the Patuxent River. Friday we will depart for the Choptank River and Saturday Rhodes River where hopefully we will again be able to take in the fireworks that the community puts on there. Sunday we will be departing for home. This should be an enjoyable trip and we look forward to favorable winds and good weather. Please join us by contacting Al or Sue Kirkendall at (410) 437-3630, or alkirkendall@cs.com for more information.

Al Kirkendall

ATTENTION ALL WOMEN

The women's cruise is back! For the weekend of June 11th and 12th, the women of MRSA will have their own cruise. If you are interested in participating in the cruise, please contact Debbie Lund at 410-544-2551 or e-mail me at dlund8@yahoo.com. In early June, there will be a pre-cruise meeting so we can figure out the destination and who will be Captain and who will be the Crew. We will also decide on the menus for Saturday evening and Sunday brunch. Remember you do not have to feel that you need to take out your boat to participate in the event.

Debbie Lund

MRSA Men's Cruise, 11 and 12 June, All "Y" Chromosomes are Welcome!

This will be the first MRSA Men's Cruise in some time. Let's make it a success this year so it won't be forgotten!

As the "designated" Cruise Leader, I offered the opportunity for those planning to participate to select the destination. An email went out to MRSA members with addresses on file to allow men wanting to join the Cruise to pick their preferred destination. Not responding doesn't mean you can't go, just that the destination will have been selected. All cruise destinations shall have facilities that provide sustenance... food to sustain the body and beverage to quench the thirst... The possible suggested destinations were:

1. Baltimore Harbor, Canton, (possible duplicate destination to the September "Dessert Cruise"... if so, we could do the Inner Harbor)
2. Fairlee Creek, Great Oak Landing
3. Rock Hall, Sailing Emporium and Waterman's
4. Kent Narrows, Mears Marina
5. Galesville, Pirate's Cove
6. Anywhere else, BYO food and beverage!

A follow up MRSA email in the first week of June will announce the selected destination.

Hey, you can single hand, or find some crew, [male], to provide company, help with sail and line management, [as well as possible anchor duty]. But do plan to come, in your boat, or if the spouse prevails and commandeers the vessel, as crew for a friend... Don't be shy.. ask!

If you would like to join this momentous event, please email me at febetz@verizon.net, or leave a message at 410-647-3824, and indicate if you will be captain of your ship or crew.

Fred Betz

Racing Rundown By Bob Seay

We are well into the sailing season and have already completed the first Wednesday Evening series. Congrats to the following Series 1 provisional winners:

PHRF A	1 st	Ultra Violet
	2 nd	Northern Dancer
	3 rd	Charlie
PHRF B	1 st	Incommunicado
	2 nd	Encounter
	3 rd	Jazz
PHRF C	1 st	Boreas
	2 nd	Rebecca
	3 rd	Ole Yella
PHRF D	1 st	Oras
	2 nd	Sagacious
	3 rd	Dharma Bum
NS1	1 st	Beagle
	2 nd	Endless Summer
	3 rd	Vagabond
NS2	1 st	White Lightening
	2 nd	Capricious
	3 rd	Sea-cured

If you are interested in racing or crewing Wednesday evenings please come out and join us. You can contact Gene Gottschalk or Bob Seay at race_committee@magothysailing.com for more info.

Here's an early reminder to get you entries in for one of the Northern Bay's premier regattas, the MRSA/BCYA Sail for Sight Race to Baltimore on July 9th. This is always a great regatta and all proceeds benefit the Foundation Fighting Blindness. See your CBYRA Green Book or contact Bob Seay race_committee@magothysailing.com for more information.

Bob Seay

Junior Fleet Preparation

It's that time of year again. In less than a month, Junior Training for 2005 will begin. That of course means that it is time to get the junior fleet ready for camp. This year, we will be having three work parties so that we can clean the boats, make any repairs necessary, and rig and launch the boats. As most of you know, these work parties and our junior training camp are a success because of the great support we get not only from the students and their parents, but also from members of the club at large. I would, therefore, like to invite our members to help us prepare the fleet for this year's camp. No special talent is required but if you have one, you may be able to teach the rest of us something. All work parties are at Sheryl and Wes McNair's house so feel free to just show up if you are able to help us this year. For those families who will be participating in Junior Training this year, you will be contacted shortly to determine which work parties you can support. If you have any questions, please feel free to call John Taylor at 410-315-7759. Dates to remember:

Sunday, June 5, 1:00 Boat cleaning and assessment
Sunday, June 12, 1:00, Repairs
Saturday, June 18, 2:00 Boat assembly and launch

Junior Racing Returns!

Last year, the Magothy River was the site of some fun and exciting racing by a small group of our juniors every Monday night through most of the summer. Everyone that participated had a great time and improved their sailing skills through a series of informal, fun races using the club's fleet of Flying Juniors. Because the program last year was such a success, we have decided to continue it this year and hopefully for many years to come. In addition to our normal Monday night racing, we are planning on having a regatta in combination with the PSA junior racers. A date for this event will be published as soon as it is available. If you have a junior who is interested in racing and improving their sailing skills, mark your calendars now for Monday nights starting July 11th. Additional information and registration forms will be available at Junior Training and will also be available on our great new web site. If you would like more information about the program, call John Taylor at 410-315-7759.

John Taylor

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Magothy River Sailing Association

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photo by Bill Paul