



The Old Man

The Monthly Newsletter of the Magothy River Sailing Association

Margaret Burri, Editor



May 2022

Commodore's Comments

Joe Berchielli



Wednesday Night Racing! It's back and, along with it, one of its best features ---the slow, post-race sail back to the dock.

After **Allu** crosses the finish line, a can of beer is distributed to each of the crew, and the conversation flows: what we did right, what we should have done better. If **Allu** sails a particularly bad race, I will start a second beer and claim I am "drinking to forget;" the resulting arched eyebrows and smirks suggest that some of the crew don't think I need an excuse.

We used to discuss politics also. Although that probably wasn't a great idea, we had some fun moments with it and nobody seemed to get too upset. Those days are long gone now; they rolled out when the current acrimonious political atmosphere rolled in.



On those few happy occasions when we took the finish gun, our mainsail trimmer, Joseph, used to fetch a bottle of Captain Morgan out of his gear bag and we'd pass it around for a celebratory sip or snort. After 20 years of racing with me, that fellow retired from racing last year at the age of 80, and we haven't passed the bottle around since. This afternoon I bought a bottle of Captain Morgan. After all, tradition must be upheld.

Source: Wikimedia Commons Richard Mc Neil, CC BY 3.0,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=56155013>

Racing Corner



Racing season is well underway with MRSA Wednesday Night Races and local regattas. The 2nd Annual Magothy River Sailing Association (MRSA) Spring Fling race was held on Saturday, April 30th.

Fifteen boats entered this unique event which is a time trial event featuring three starting points:

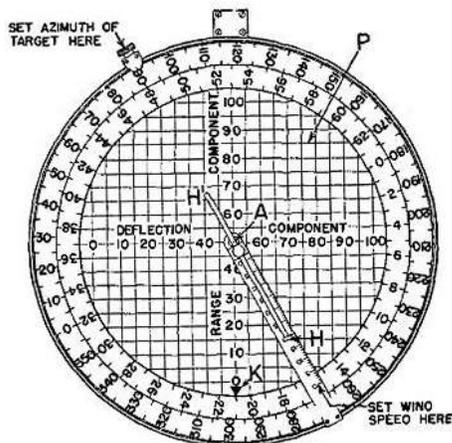
Les Dedrickson

Patapsco River entrance, outside of Bodkin Creek and on the Eastern Shore near Rock Hall.

The event started out with typical Chesapeake summer racing weather: clear skies, one knot of breeze and a 1 knot ebb current. Due to the light winds a short course (9 NM) was chosen for the race. Several racers starting at CBYRA Region II Mark J set anchors as soon as they cleared the shipping channel to wait for the forecasted breeze to show up. Luckily the wind filled, and the majority of the race was held in a nice SE breeze between six to eight knots with all of the boats that started finishing the course.

In addition to the time trail format and multiple starting points, the race featured starting windows to allow an easier starting sequence. Scoring was under the Offshore Racing Rule (ORR) and boats raced in fleets within the Chesapeake Racer Cruiser Association. In the CRCA "A" Fleet Antoinette Wilkins sailing ***In the Red*** took first place, Marcel Klik placed second on ***Etoile***, and Nick Iliff's ***Alaris*** took third place. John Anderson's ***Swellville*** took first place in the CRCA "B" fleet while Bill Trainor's ***Flow*** captured first place in the CRCA Cruiser fleet.

While I rushed to get my boat, ***Mischief***, ready for the racing season I was unable to schedule a launch in time to participate in the Spring Fling. Instead, I used my fishing boat to ferry the race photographer around the course. Magothy River resident Les Dedrickson volunteered his time to serve as race photographer and he took hundreds of professional-grade photos of the racers that can be viewed [here](#).



Wind Component Indicator; Wikimedia Commons

MRSA's Wed night racers have experienced less than optimal race conditions over the past several weeks. April 20th provided light winds, with ***Ole Yella***, ***Allu*** and ***Patriot*** winning their classes.

Predicted gale force winds on April 27th led the race committee to cancel that night's races, only to see storm conditions dissipate by the scheduled race time resulting in what would have been a glorious

night for racing.

May 4th had very light winds that required a shortening of the initial course with ***Incommunicado***, ***Endless Summer*** and ***Mikayla*** taking first place honors. And while the May 11th race began with 8kt winds, the wind weakened to less than 2kts at the finish. ***Incommunicado***, ***Allu*** and ***Mikayla*** won their respective classes.

Several races that are included in CRCA's North of the Bridge Race Series are coming up in the next several weeks. Maryland Yacht Club and Rock Creek Racing Association's 2nd Annual Five Forts Race (May 21st) will have already taken place by the time this ***Old Man*** issue comes out, but you'll want to add this terrific event to your racing calendar for next year.

Potapskut Sailing Association's annual Moonlight Race is coming up June 4th. This race starts in the vicinity of Baltimore Light around 1600 hrs and will finish there as well under a predicted waxing crescent moon. Wind conditions willing, the long course will go north to Pooles Island Light while the short course uses Craighill Channel Light. This year's race will include a novice class where boats will be offered a free rating to participate. After the race a free hearty breakfast is hosted at PSA's clubhouse on Blackhole Creek, where sailors can dock for the night. Registration can be found at [PSA Moonlight Race Registration](#).

Glenmar Sailing Association will be hosting the North of the Bridge PHRF Championship Regatta on June 11th and 12th. They promise competitive and fun racing for all followed by an epic party, a great dinner, a fantastic dance band and an open bar. They're also making slips available and offering a continental breakfast to their guests on Sunday before racing. Registration can be found at [Northern Bay Race Week](#).

And finally, the Yacht Club of Cape St. Claire is once again sponsoring low-key racing on Friday nights at 1900 hrs on the Magothy. First race this year is May 27th. For more information go to [YCCSC Friday Night Racing](#).

Jim Bradac, Race Committee Chair

From the Racing Social Chair



I would like to lead with “great job” MRSA Captains, for having taken on a substantial number of new crew LAST YEAR!

Sheppard Drain has the unofficial first place trophy for taking on three new crew members. We can do it again this year but not without your participation. I have personally interviewed all

the new sailors and their contact information is on the website in the drop down for Racing > Crew-Boat> and in the **red boxed BOAT WANTED GOOGLE DOC**. Email me at sailingdr@aol.com if you have any issues checking out the list.

Single question surveys have surfaced in my industry and seem very successful; by now you’ve seen some from me. I will admit it isn’t completely scientific but at the very least suggestive. I’ll share the findings next month.

Our organization has not won over new sailors for the parties, social events, or even trophies. We need captains to invite at least one new crew member each year.

We need to spend more time on the water racing because that is what millennials and most sailors want. I hope to see you out on the course with a new recruit!

Alan Weiss, Racing Social Chair

Help us Recruit New Racers

MRSA's new racing flyer is ready for distribution, via email, text, paper handout, or the digital posting of your choice. Check it out on the next page! Please do what you can to promote sailing and racing on our beautiful Magothy River!

Sailboat Racing! On the Magothy!

It's easier than you think!

- Help and instruction are available
- Race your boat on the river & live a little!



Option No. 1

Had a little (or a lot) of racing experience?

Try your hand against the fleets competing in the MRSA Wednesday Night Racing Program.

Spinnaker or Non-spin or Multihull.
Every Wednesday evening starting
April 20th. Need crew?
Want details?

(open camera
and point here)



Contact Alan Weiss at:
racingocialchair@magothysailing.org
or visit our website: www.magothysailing.org



Option No. 2

Never raced before, or want laid-back racing?

You don't have to be a star to be in this show!
Simplified rules, no spinnakers, no hassles.

Tailored for the beginning or casual racer, 18-foot
pocket cruiser or 40-foot cruising yacht! Every Friday
evening starting May 27th.

Need details? Need crew? Need instruction? Contact
Phil Ourisson! (pourisson@gmail.com)

Go to: www.capeyachtclub.org and navigate to
Friday Night Racing for more info.



Cruising Corner

SAVE THE DATE: Father's Day Cruise

June 17-19



Since the turn out for Mother's Day week-end has been sparse, we are going to try something new this year. We are planning a *Father's Day Week-End* cruise the week-end of June 17-19. Friday night, the first night, (for those who can make it) will start with anchoring in the West River, off the shores of Galesville. We will plan for happy hour that evening with dinner on your own.

We anticipate more boats joining through the day on Saturday. We will dinghy ashore for an early dinner Saturday night at your choice of [Pirate's Cove](#) or [Stan and Joe's](#). We would like to move the boats after dinner to anchor for the night in the Rhode River, in the vicinity of the small Islands close to Camp Letts. Sunday morning, we are planning a Father's Day Brunch complete with Bloody Mary bar before boats depart for home.

If you plan to join us, please send a note to cruise organizers Dave and Deni Boyer at boyerscouts1@verizon.net by June 10th, with your name, boat name and number in your party. Include your preference for restaurants so we can make reservations for the group.

Hope to see you on the water,

Deni and Dave Boyer



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Please do your part to restore the Bay and *actively make it cleaner.*

<http://www.magothysailing.com> [facebook.com/magothysailing](https://www.facebook.com/magothysailing)