



The Old Man

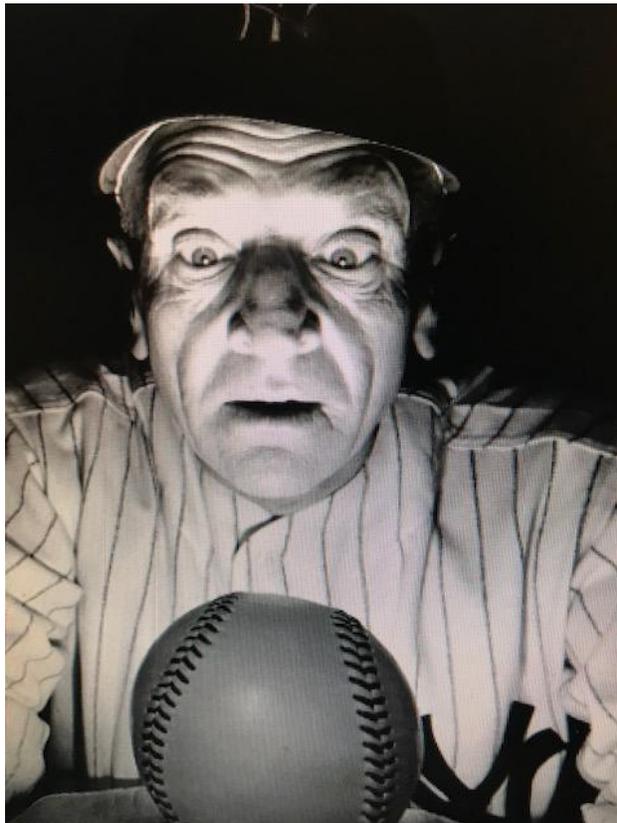
The Monthly Newsletter of the Magothy River Sailing Association

Margaret Burri, Editor

November 2022



Commodore's Comments



“Never make predictions, especially about the future.” -Casey Stengel

Well, what does the future hold for us sailors of MRSA anyway?

The trends, measured over the last 20 years, are not particularly encouraging. Our 2022 membership numbers, although holding steady for now at 102 households, are down a bit from 10 years ago (116 in 2012) and a bunch more from the glory days of 2002 (146).

The number of Wednesday Night racing boats has fallen even more precipitously, from 50 plus, 20 years ago, to the current total of 20 or so.

As one who has seen trends lurch from hula hoops to avocado kitchens to lava lamps, mood rings and dozens of other absurdities, I can only say, just you wait. And, as anyone of my vintage will tell you, our country's ethos and values have shifted to versions nearly unrecognizable from those of my youth. That's not all bad or all good, but definitely different. Again, I say, just you wait.

What does all that have to do with sailing? As many have said, the only constant is change itself, and, in my opinion, the popularity pendulum will swing back. The sport of sailing is so pleasurable, and has so much to return to its participants, that I'm sure that better days are ahead.

Keep the faith. Keep holding and attending our meetings and events. Keep supporting our Junior Training program and the sailors of the future. Keep up the newsletter, website, **Red Book**. Most of all, take your boat out on the river and bay to cruise, race, or day sail in nature's glory.

Our club maintains, at its core, a dedicated group of volunteers. Once again, I humbly salute those who now, and in the past, have done the heavy lifting and made it all work for MRSA.

Joe Berchielli, Commodore, 2022

***SAVE THE DATE: WINE AND CHEESE PARTY
December 8, 6:30 pm @ Belvedere Yacht Club***

Join your fellow MRSA members for an evening of wine, cheese, beer, hors d'oeuvres, desserts! The program st at 6:30 with a 45-minute social "hour" followed by a presentation by Ullman Sails of Annapolis. We'll then vote on the slate of Board of Governors for next year:

Ed Tracey (Commodore)

John Ratino (Vice Commodore)

Jim Bradac (Rear Commodore)

Larry Turner (Secretary)

Kristin Mullins (Treasurer)

Shepherd Drain (Fleetmaster)

Rich & Toni Hughes (Fleet Captains-Cruising)
Grace O'Brien (Fleet Captain -Junior Training)

The club will provide wine, beer, soda, bottled water. Attendees with last names beginning with the letter A through F are asked to bring hors d'oeuvres or crackers or chips and such. G through Z are asked to bring a dessert item.



Racing Corner

The MRSA 2022 racing season wrapped up with the final race of the Hallie Rice Fall Series November 6th. Very few boats participated in this fall series but those that did got to experience beautiful weather and good winds for all three Sunday races.

The final Sunday saw winds in the 10kt range that resulted in the race committee holding a pursuit race that included a Baltimore Lighthouse rounding.

Incommunicado finished first, followed by ***Endless Summer, Allu*** and ***Eighth Deadly Sin***.

The Race Committee will be meeting in the coming weeks to review the past season and begin planning for 2023. For those diehard racers who just can't seem to get enough, the annual Leftover Bowl sponsored by the Eastport Yacht Club is coming up Saturday, November 26th (eastportyc.org).

Only 5 months till the 2023 season. Time to get Santa those requests for updated electronics, new sails and halyards.

Jim Bradac, Race Committee Chair

Highlights of the Fall Series

Thanks to Patrick Bobbitt for these great photos of the Hallie Rice Fall Series







Racing Social Chair

Another fun year of sailing under the belt of MRSA, our beloved organization. Winter events, like race planning and December 8th Wine and Cheese event, are wonderful ways to network and build on old friendships. As the Social Chair, I want to let you know that these

events are really fun to attend and encourage your presence. Make winter a bit warmer with friends.



As a volunteer organization, we do pretty well with regard to the quality of racing and the organization of events, but if a member falls short (an imperfect RC duty), try to remember, without each other there would be no race, so be kind.

My role crosses lines, from being beer boat (no longer popular) to matchmaker (helping crew and boats to find each other) and promoting the organization with an occasional plug for volunteership. Many of the same folk serve and

serve again as officers. I know we need a **Redbook** editor. Joe can help you find out what roles need be filled. Please don't think someone else will do this, cause it ain't happening.

Alan Weiss, Racing Social Chair

Cruising Corner

MRSA October Dinner

By John Ratino



MRSA held its October dinner on October 27th at Bella Napoli Restaurant in Pasadena. 23 MRSA members enjoyed a nice Italian dinner and an interesting presentation by Molly Wigans of SpinSheet magazine about SpinSheet's Century Club. In order to become a SpinSheet's Century Club member a person has to spend 100 days a year on the water and off the dock.

When you do the math, you quickly realize that involves a pretty serious commitment. Sailing, windsurfing, paddleboarding, kayaking, powerboating, anything that involves watercraft counts, but swimming does not. I think Molly may have inspired a few of us to give it a try. I suppose we'll see.

Many thanks to Molly Wigans for presenting a fascinating topic and to Bella Napoli for doing a fine job with the food and drink.



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Magothy River Sailing Association
P.O. Box 1135 Pasadena, MD 21122

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

