



The Old Man

*The Monthly Newsletter of the Magothy River
Sailing Association*



February 2024

Commodore's Comments



If Punxsutawney Phil is truly a weather forecaster, we should be sailing earlier this year, but we'll see how that actually works out. We hope that everyone is enjoying the winter either skiing, off to warmer places, or sneaking in some boat work during those reasonable weather days. [Credit: L. Prang & Co., copyright claimant, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons.]

We continue to work on finalizing our 2024 Cruising, Social, and Racing calendar so stay tuned for those dates to add to your calendar. One that has been set is our Spring Brunch. It will be on Sunday, March 10th at 11a.m at [Libations Tavern](#) in Millersville, MD (right off Route 97). Another is the 50th anniversary, set for June 6, 2024. More to come!

In addition to a wonderful breakfast buffet and some club business we will be viewing the short film "Fresh to Frightening," the Sharon Green Story. Sharon Green is a well-known sailing photographer who has photographed some fabulous races including the Transpac race to Hawaii. RSVPs are due by Thursday, February 29th (so don't wait 😊).

Your Board of Governor's (BoG) is working hard on the 2024 budget. We continue to be pressed by higher insurance rates, higher minimum wage (junior training) and overall inflation as I'm sure you are also experiencing. I will provide more details at the Spring Brunch and provide an update in the March **Old Man**.

The 2024 **Redbook** is also being worked on by various members and organized by Tim Polk. We expect to have it ready for circulation in March. As a reminder the **Redbook** is available electronically and in the printed version (for a small fee). Our goal is to update the electronic version as needed for new members or other details or corrections. If you need help accessing the **Redbook** on-line, please reach out to our Webmaster Jeff Thompson @ Webmaster@magothysailing.org.

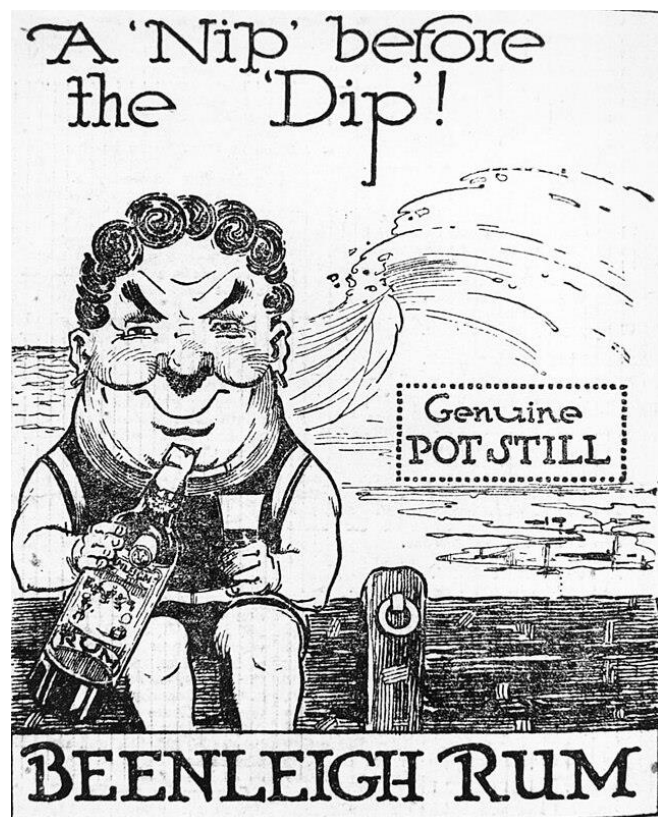
Junior training planning is also underway, and I want to thank Grace O'Brien and the rest of the Junior Training committee (Shep Drain, Saskia Berg, and Christine Miller-Langmak) for helping keep things moving as we work towards filling the open student and instructor slots. You can help by spreading the word about our Junior Training program, especially within your extended family (Weekdays from July 8 -19). Also, a big thanks to folks (Shep Drain, Norm Poulsen, Rich Hughes, Grace O'Brien, David Hankey, and Justin Cann with his son), that showed up and helped us move our club storage location in January.

Thanks to everyone that renewed their membership as we appreciate your continued support of MRSA and as always, please spread the word about MRSA!

Cheers,

Ed Tracey, commodore@magothysailing.org

Racing Corner



It certainly feels a little crazy to be writing this as we're awaiting another round of snow this weekend, but the thought of the coming racing season (along with a little rum) staves off the winter chill. Racing season is just two months away, with Wednesday Night Racing starting on 17 April. **For those members who aren't avid racers, make 2024 the year that you give it a try.** If you're interested but not sure, please reach out to me at

rear_commodore@magothysailing.org or John Nicholson at race_committee@magothysailing.org and we'll get you squared away. [Attribution: State Library of Queensland, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons]

Our Race Planning meeting will be held on Wednesday, 20 March at [The Rumor Meal](#) (4730 Mountain Rd #4, Pasadena, MD 21122) at 6:30 PM. My apologies for the crews coming from the South Shore for the drive, but we couldn't do Ledo's this year because they're moving to a smaller location without a meeting room. This year's planning meeting will focus on increasing the "fun factor" through proposed changes to our scoring system, new ideas for socials, and other considerations to help increase Wednesday night participation. Please plan on attending this highly interactive meeting to help shape this year's racing program.

In addition to the Wednesday Night Racing, the MRSA Spring Fling will be held on Saturday, 27 April. This race is the most convenient Bay racing that you can do with a start just outside the Magothy. We plan to follow a format similar to those used as in previous years with three separate starting lines to choose from-

Baltimore Lighthouse, Swan Point, or the Patapsco River entrance. Please plan on joining us for this fantastic day on the Bay and help us highlight MRSA's 50th anniversary with a strong attendance from the Magothy.

Stay warm and hope to see you on the water soon!

Chris Lindsay, Rear Commodore, rear_commodore@magothysailing.org

Racing Social Chair

I hope everyone has taken winter as a convenient break from sailing and started to build enthusiasm for another great set of racing series.

As Ed mentioned, the Board of Governors has been looking upside down and backwards for ways to cut back expenses without removing beer from our diets!

I have single handedly secured 4 sponsors @ 200 bucks each which is a plus for our budget. And now I'd like your help.

If everyone sat back and thought about who they could reach out to (restaurant, dental office, hardware store etc.) and was able to secure one or two sponsors we could really distance ourselves from the dreadful **RED**. The perks package is on our website under the "About" button on the top:

<https://magothysailing.org/sponsorship/>.

Within the new few weeks, sponsors will be added to the **Redbook** and website. So, adding new ones needs to be done soon, and don't think someone else is going to do it because it ain't happened yet. About 45 minutes time, a few phone calls and yes having to kiss few frogs is required.

Finally, following on from what we started last year, we'd love to see cruisers as well as racers at the beer Raft-Ups. Traditionally a beer raft up is scheduled for the 2nd (around May 24) and 4th series (around August 7). **Pick a date you can host and email me asap.**

A cruiser is best suited for the job as they can be on station early. The event is a great way for cruisers to get out with friends and family to watch the races and yes, get free beer!!!

Alan Weiss, Racing Social Chair, sailingdr@aol.com

Cruising Corner

Hello Fellow Cruisers,

With spring hanging around the corner, I wanted to keep you informed how the cruising calendar is shaping up. Several sailors got together via Zoom and drafted the 2024 MRSA cruising calendar. It is by no means in its final form; we wanted to get something out there sooner than later. The week-long cruise, several extended weekend cruises and the more typical weekend cruises are planned and what's missing is, YOU....

We would love to hear from you, your ideas for cruising, what you would like to do in 2024. Please let us know how we can enjoy our Chesapeake Bay together.

Looking forward to a fun filled season

See you out on the water,

Ziya Gun, FC – Cruising, cruising@magothysailing.org

SAVE THE DATE!!!!

MRSA ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

SAVE THE DATE JUNE 6, 2024



Magothy River Sailing Association was founded in 1974 and will turn 50 years old this year. That's cause for CELEBRATION!!! The Board of Governors will host a celebration banquet on June 6, 2024, to be held at the Maryland Yacht Club. The Anniversary Planning Committee is preparing a great event to celebrate this landmark event. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.