



The Old Man

*The Monthly Newsletter of the Magothy River
Sailing Association*



March 2024

Commodore's Comments



Happy Spring (and Easter) from Saint Marteen. Note the MRSA burgee flying proudly in the Caribbean. Before I headed south, we enjoyed a great Spring Brunch over at Libations Tavern on March 10th.

If you missed the chance for Spring Brunch the upcoming Sock Burning event is set for Saturday, May 4th at Eddie Looper's property on the water. Come by water or land yacht... details are in the "Save the Date" section.

As I mentioned last month the annual budget has been set and here's a summary of what we expect for this year.

Starting Balance (Checking and Savings): \$22,262

Overall 2024 Budget: \$1,030 (Positive)

includes \$1,000 from reserve fund for 50th anniversary celebration)

Expected Ending Balance: \$22,232



There are assumptions around member renewals, new members, and Junior Training participants that we will have a better insight on as the year progresses. As part of the budget the BoG decided to have our events be as revenue neutral as possible (example was our Spring Brunch, at left, where MRSA didn't contribute to the event and members paid the full amount).

Our plan is to watch the budget to see where we can support additional events for funding.

So, the sun is up, and the weather is warm, so I need to get going! We look forward to racing starting soon (Rear Commodore will have more details), our Sock Burning event (May 4), and our first cruise (Sock Burning if you come by yacht).

And finally, a big shout out to all of our sponsors! We will be sending out write-ups on the companies that help sponsor our club.

Cheers,

Ed

commodore@magothysailing.org

Racing Corner



Fun and increased participation were the two key topics from this year's Race Planning Meeting held on March 20. The 20+ members in attendance discussed new ideas that will be introduced this year to increase the fun factor.

We will be pushing the Wednesday Night Racing start date back a week to April 24 to allow boats a little extra time

to get their yard work done. Historically, attendance for the first week's race has been low and getting an RC boat has been challenging due to Spring commissioning and launching timelines. This change will guarantee that the weather on April 17 will be picture perfect- you're welcome...

The other big change is that we will be introducing a "fun scoring" ratings system in addition to our standard PHRF rating system. This fun system will adjust a boat's rating up or down after each series depending on that boat's performance in a series. So, for example, if **Hyder Ally** wins and **Nightingale** comes in last in series1, **Hyder Ally's** rating will get a -6 second adjustment and **Nightingale's** rating will get a +6 second adjustment. Boats in between the two ends may get 3 second adjustments or none at all. The goal is to tighten the racing and get some new fun "trophies" to different folks in the club. "Fun scoring" will be a shadow system on top of our normal scoring and will not apply toward the Magothy Cup and normal fleet trophies, so folks counting on new pickle dishes and beer mugs, don't sweat it. Much more detail to come.



[Photo: Joe Berchielli]

The last thing we wanted to mention is that we will be offering a referral bonus for anyone who brings out a new racing entry this year. If you recruit a boat to enter Wednesday Night Series on the Magothy who was not registered to race in 2023, you'll receive \$25 off of your race entry fee this year. This bonus is additive- bring out more racers, get a bigger bonus.

We'll be getting revised racing doc and information on the MRSA website shortly, so standby for that. In the meantime, if you have any questions about these topics or great ideas for racing, please feel to reach out directly to me or John Nicholson.

See you on the water soon!

Chris Lindsay, Rear Commodore
rear_commodore@magothsailing.org

Racing Social Chair

I want to report that we have met our goals for major sponsors, making it easier to provide beer the beer raft-up 😊. We also have two beer boats: ***Vagabond*** / Jack Lusby, and ***Mischief*** / James Bradac #thanks.

I found out at the Race Planning Meeting that most of the attendees won't be able to find a place on their boat for new sailors, so I am reaching out to you to fill the gap. I plan to keep on finding new sailors and they will need to be placed on boats. By doing this we grow the organization from the ground up. Please contact me so I can put you on the list of Boats Wanting Crew ASAP.

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

Membership Corner

We've had some new members join us since the start of the year. This month, we're sharing introductions to two new families in their own words. Watch this space next month for more intros!

Ahoy, fellow sailors! Allow us to introduce ourselves: we are the Pletnev family, a crew of avid adventurers with a passion for the open sea.

Comprising Captain Alex, First Mate Irina and our three young buccaneers, Peter, Anna, and Daisy (labradoodle). We love windsurfing, kayaking, and sailing.

We're thrilled to join your ranks and share our passion for seafaring with fellow enthusiasts. Fair winds and following seas to all!

Smooth sailing, The Pletnev Family



Both Melissa and I fell in love with sailing a couple of years ago. We have since completed over 350 hours of sailing and obtained several ASA certifications including 101, 103, 104, 118. We have also been featured in *Spinsheet* magazine and were on a panel interview at one of their events.

We have joined several clubs to gain experience, share knowledge, and hang out with fellow sailors every chance we can. We have received a volunteer award from the Pentagon Sailing Club and Melissa is involved in Women on the Water (wow) to get more women confident in their sailing skills. We have also sailed in Puerto Rico, Italy, Scotland, and most recently Bolivia in the highest navigable water in the world. We are also looking forward to sailing in Croatia in the summer. One of our goals is to sail the Delmarva loop.

Eli Lehhaupt and Melissa McNulty

SAVE THE DATE

Sock Burning, Saturday, May 4th

This year's sock burning will be held at Looper Beach, starting at 4:00 pm on Saturday, May 4th. It's a great location and you can come by boat or land yacht.

Please bring guests, socks (the older and the smellier the better) to burn, side dishes to share, and your own drinks. Burgers, hotdogs, plates, utensils, and makings for S'mores will be sponsored by me and Tim Polk (of course small donations will be accepted to offset the cost).

If you would like to come by boat, there will be a bonfire on Looper Beach, located on the western shore of Broad Creek, past the numerous piers. If you can't see the bonfire, look for the MRSA cruising flag on the pier. Please pay attention to your charts and beware of the shoal that protrudes from the western shore near the "glass house."

If you prefer to drive your car, use the following directions: Go east on Route 100 towards Gibson Island, until it merges with Mountain Road, Route 177. Turn right on North Shore, (past the fire station on the left and elementary school on right) and stay straight on Eagle Hill where North Shore bends to the left. Immediately after reaching the top of the hill, look for the first chance to turn left. There will be a sign posted with MRSA on it. If you are coming this way, drive a car that can handle rough roads, or you may wish to park before you come down through the woods, and walk down.

While reservations aren't required, it will help us with preparations if you could let us know if you will be attending by Wednesday, May 1st. Email me at commodore@magothysailing.org.

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.

Caterer: Tasty Creations