



The Old Man

*The Monthly Newsletter of the Magothy River
Sailing Association*



October 2024

Commodore's Comments



The sailing season is starting to wind down. The final race of the season (Sunday, October 27th) is hopefully a new tradition with an around the Baltimore Lighthouse race [Photo: Wikimedia Commons]. The cruising season has finished up and we just had our Fall Dinner on Thursday, October 24. Of course, this is also the season when the water is still warm, and the winds are great so hope that you get out for a few more sails before fall ends and winter is here.

Speaking about Fall Dinner we had a wonderful meal and great speakers at Café Mezzanotte in Arnold, MD. Our own David Hankey gave us a great overview of the [Chesapeake Region Accessible Boating](#) (CRAB) organization and the great mission they do to enable sailing for all individuals. We also had Philippe Ourisson,

Race Director for the [Yacht Club of Cape St. Claire](#) (YCCSC) talk about their Friday night racing program that several MRSA members participate in during the year. It's a great program for new racers and one that YCCSC has graciously invited MRSA members to join.

As we slowly wind down the season, we look forward to filling the slate of candidates for 2025 MRSA positions (both elected and appointed). As a volunteer organization we look to our members to step up and fill any open positions. The Nominating Committee (NC) this year is Grace O'Brien, Joe Berchielli, and Rich Hughes (with an assist from me). We have had a few folks step up but still have open positions that need to be filled (I'm sure you'll see another email from me and the NC to look for volunteers.)



Talking about candidates, our last membership meeting of the year is scheduled for Thursday, December 5th at the [Belvedere Yacht Club](#). In addition to our annual elections, we are working on a speaker for our meeting. Meeting details will be coming out in early November but please go ahead and save the date. And as I promised at the Fall Dinner this will not be a dry event as the Commodore will get his "stuff" together to make sure we make the appropriate arrangements with the AA County Liquor board. [Photo: Wikimedia Commons]

And finally... if you belong to a community or other organization near or on the Magothy River please let us know as we are starting to work our way through reaching out to those communities looking for new members. We have an article that you can use and even tailor to your neighborhood to get the word out about MRSA.

Cheers,
Ed
commodore@magothysailing.org

PS – great seeing such a good turnout at the End of Season party for the racers! I believe we filled up the PSA clubhouse with almost 100 folks!

Junior Training

Junior Training is looking for a new Fleet Captain (Program Director) for next year. While I wish it were possible for me to continue managing and planning our summer program, I will be unable to do so this coming summer. As most of you know, I have moved down to North Carolina. If you, or someone you know, would be interested in learning more about the Fleet Captain – Junior Training position, please reach out to me (gobrien2001@gmail.com) or Ed Tracey for the job description. Our articles of incorporation from almost 50 years point to our mission to “Participate in the training of juniors and adults in the skills for sailing and seamanship,” and we look forward to continuing this tradition next year. Although I will no longer be the Fleet Captain, I will be right by your side as the registrar in the upcoming year. I hope to be able to share what I have learned over the past three years with you and be a resource throughout the two-week program.

I have enjoyed running this program these past few years and watching each sailor grow. Being able to hear the adventures of my instructors and students brings me so much joy. This has truly been such a rewarding experience and I am so lucky to have had the opportunity to give back to the sailing association that taught little 9-year-old Grace how to sail.

This position has been held by parents, grandparents, and college students over many years and we would gladly offer tuition benefits for a parent or grandparent that has students in the program. Please spread the word and reach out to one of us if you have any questions or comments.

Thanks!

Grace O’Brien

Racing Corner

Racing Wrap-Up

MRSA Wednesday Night Racing Wrap Up



Well folks, that's a wrap (as you can see from the photo!) on another great season of racing. Thanks to all for making this a year full of close match ups and solid attendance.

Congratulations to Dave Prucnal and his crew on ***Ultra Violet*** for earning Best in Fleet for the Spin Class, and to ***Endless***

Summer skippered by Alan Weiss for Best in Fleet for the Non Spin Class. ***Ultra Violet*** also captured the coveted Magothy Cup, so kudos to them for another great year.



Bringing the season to a close, we saw a fabulous turn out for our End of Year Race Party, with nearly 100 participants. A good night seemed to be had by all with wonderful live music and delicious food. Thanks to all who came out, and especially to those who helped procure the provisions, the set up and clean up.

Finally, a special shout out to the folks who worked especially hard to make this season a success: Ed Tracey as Commodore, John Nicholson as Race Committee Chair, Clent Lowe as Race Committee Gear Chair, Tom Price as Racing Mark Chair (along with Roger

Bartholomee for his help setting/taking care of the marks), Alan Weiss as Racing Social Chair, David Clinnin for Protest Chair, and Angela Ward as Scorer.

Here's to another great season on the river. Hope to see you all out there next year!

Cheers!

Chris Lindsay, Rear Commodore; rear_commodore@magothyssailing.org







Racing Social Chair

This month's column addresses the eternal question, "how to grow the fleet." The best way is back to basics: get 'em out on your boat.

I want to share one of the warmest experiences I have had in good while and or perhaps my life. Maggie and I met Ted and Mimi at a Bob Dylan concert in Baltimore last fall; they were seated a row in front of us. After talking a bit, we realized they lived around the corner from us. They and their two great sons came to our Cabin Fever Fest party in February. We found out then that their older son had an interest in learning to sail so he joined Junior Training this summer. He had a BLAST!

They had us over for dinner, a classic Bengali dinner, while Mimi's parents were visiting from India. The experience was indescribable; our hosts made sure we

enjoyed the food before joining us. Needless-to-say, it was out of this world (well, continent, LOL).



I felt it now was our turn to give back again and sent a spur-of-the moment message asking them to join us for a sail last Sunday. With light winds, and just the main up, we turned the helm over to Aidyn, who had taken Junior Training. His face lit up as soon as he was at the helm; he did a great job and answered

all of my questions correctly! Clearly, we have a great program—thanks, Grace, Shep and everyone who makes it happen!

He hasn't stopped asking his dad when they will get a sailboat, LOL. When Ted told him that before that he'd have to learn how to sail, Aidyn told him that he will be his dad's "Sailing Dictionary." I'm sure he'll be a "repeat offender" at next year's Junior Training.

So, bring some friends and neighbors out for a fall or spring afternoon. You never know what will happen next!

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

Cruising Corner

Hello Cruisers,

It is that time of the year we reflect back on our sailing adventures and prepare our boat, albeit reluctantly, for the winter.

In 2025, the MRSA cruisers and friends attended the following events;

Sock Burning: 1 boat

Wye River: 6 boats

Land Cruise to Donnelly's Dockside: 7 land cruisers

4th of July: 7 boats

Eagle Cove Cruise: 6 boats

Chesapeake YC: 5 boats

Long Cruise: 6 boats

South River: 1 boat

Altogether, 14 boats, owned by MRSA members, friends, and neighbors showed up 32 times out on the water. It was encouraging that several friends of the club took part in the cruising events. We hope that they will consider joining MRSA and support our activities in the future.

It is never too soon to start planning for the next cruising season. Please reach out to me with your suggestions for the upcoming season to try out new locations or visit some old favorites. Maybe you can invite one or two friends or neighbors to join us.

See you soon,

Ziya Gun

Fleet Captain, Cruising; cruising@magothysailing.org

The Tradition Continues – The Omelet Cruise

Rich Hughes



The tradition of a cruise to Church Creek with happy hour at the Wilelinor Beach Front and the Omelet Brunch at the Hughes house dates to 2008. This MRSA event has always been a success because it attracts cruisers by both boat and land yacht and always provides a great social setting. This year was no different, although, the number of boats that ventured to Church Creek was limited to *Island Time* with Ziya and Joyce Gun aboard. That did not dampen the enthusiasm for the event. Members who attended the happy hour on Saturday that came by car included John and Debbie Lund, Dave and Deni Boyer with son Dillon (by golf cart), Larry Turner and Angela Cremeans, and of course Toni and me who traveled by foot power between the community waterfront and our house. To round out the crowd, several boating neighbors attended to include Bob and Carolyn Troise, Frank Synoweic, Steve Riker, John Becker, and Steve Pavlosky and friend Jenny. As always, the hors d'oeuvres were to "die for". The weather was perfect (we have pictures to prove it) and the Wilelinor waterfront is a beautiful social setting.

Sunday morning was a continuation of the party at the Hughes house with the Omelet brunch. Ziya and Joyce walked from the community waterfront to our house. Dave, Deni and Dillon Boyer, John and Debbie Lund came back for more socializing. Several additional MRSA members joined the Sunday morning social



event to include Commodore Ed Tracey, Dave and Denise Pirone, Wally and Jean Gribbon, and Dave Gendell. Several community members rejoined the party including Steve Riker, and Steve Pavlosky and Jenny. The menu was, of course, omelets, a host of breakfast breads and fresh fruit bowl. The total count of omelets was 21.

