



The Old Man

*The Monthly Newsletter of the Magothy River
Sailing Association*



June 2025

Commodore's Comments



To follow-up on last month's Commodore's Corner, I wanted to let everyone know that Trish and I had a fantastic time at the Wye River Memorial Day Weekend Cruise. The Wye River is perhaps the most bucolically beautiful river to explore in the State of Maryland, and the Eastport Yacht Club does a great job organizing this cruise. The weather, the weekend festivities and the dinner on Sunday afternoon were great, and the company was even better.

[Photo credit: John Ratino]

In fact, everything about the cruise was wonderful, except for my incident. So, when we first arrived, Dave Argue pulled up in his motorized dinghy and offered to give us a lift to shore. No, I said, for I had brought along the Zodiac dinghy that had come with my first sailboat, and I had pulled it out a week before the cruise and made sure it would hold air. In fact, it was solid as a rock for several days. My plan was to pump it up and row to shore. And pump it up I did, and solid as a rock it was. When I stepped on board, I noticed a little water had seeped onto its floor, but it was an old dinghy, so whatever. Trish stepped on board, and we shoved off. A moment later Trish said, "there is water on the floor." "No worries," I said, "it's an old dinghy." Then my wife said, "it's over my ankles," and I looked down

only to see the entire floor separate and drop out. And that's how I found out I had exceeded my dinghy's shelf life. The other lesson learned is that it is difficult but possible to row an inflatable dinghy without a floor 50 yards or so back to one's sailboat.

This story has a happy ending. Dave picked us up and ferried us to the wonderful dinner on shore that evening. Zia Gun kindly brought us back afterward. Trish and I opened a bottle of wine, turned on some music, and eventually fell asleep under the stars in our cockpit. And my Father's Day gift: a new dinghy!



There was great weather for the June Picnic at Norm and Chris Paulsen's house, and it was wonderful to see how many MRSA members turned out. I hope everyone is looking forward to the August Picnic on Saturday, August 2nd at Mil-Bur Park on Cornfield Creek. I also wanted

to remind everyone that our junior training program is scheduled to start on Monday, July 7th and run through Friday, July 18th. [Photo credit: Joe Berchielli]

Finally, our Bylaws Amendment Committee has been working diligently on an update to modernize our bylaws. We plan to hold a general membership vote on the bylaws' amendment in connection with this year's August Picnic. So, please be on the lookout for a draft of the proposed bylaws amendment to come out in July.

Cheers, John Ratino, commodore@magothysailing.org

Racing Corner

PSA hosted their moonlight race on Saturday, June 7th. Several MRSA boats (**Heyday**, **Incommunicado**, **Mischief**, **Mikayla**, and **Patriot**) participated in the race which had great weather and better winds than forecasted. Racers sailed an approximately 13-mile race with some of the folks getting a nice downwind ride as a frontal boundary pushed through near the end of the race. Congrats to **Heyday** for first in ORR-EZ and **Mikayla** for second in the multihull fleet. The after-race breakfast / party was excellent and a great time to catch up with other racers.

Next up on the North of the Bay Bridge weekend racing schedule is BCYA's Race to Baltimore on July 19th. This is one of the largest races North of the Bay Bridge. BCYA always throws a good party, and the marina is conveniently located in Canton where restaurants and bars are within easy walking distance.



Welcome new member John Sabol and his J9, **Showtime**, to Wednesday night racing. John is racing in the non-spinnaker division, so make sure to say hello to him out on the water. [Photo credit: DJ Parry]

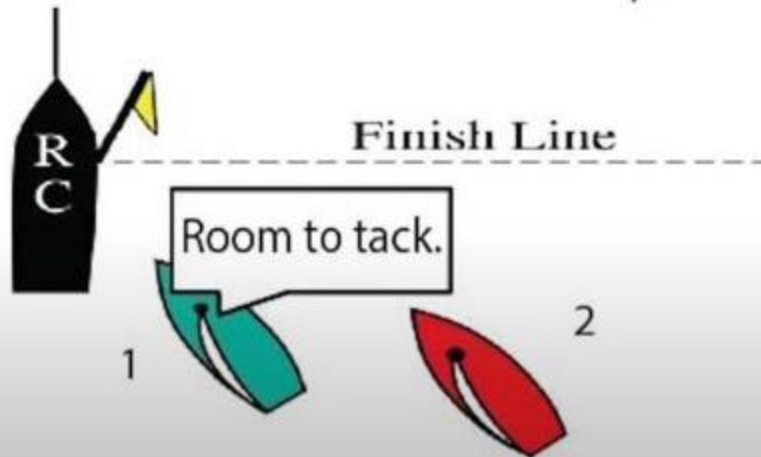
Racing Rules Corner

You can never have enough review of the racing rules, so we decided to send out a rules scenario for folks to review. The answer will be on the last page of the **Old Man** following the photo montage under the heading "The Big Reveal" (no cheating!).

So, for this month, courtesy of UK sailmakers, see the scenario below and see how you would answer the following questions: Q1 - Is the RC boat an obstruction? Q2 - Does Green have rights to hail for "Room to Tack"? Q3 - What should Red do?



Wind



If you have any scenarios or rules you would like to see covered in future issues or have questions about this scenario please send us a note:

rear_commodore@magothysailing.org and race_committee@magothysailing.org

Good luck!

Finally, we are working on a mid-season update to the Wednesday night sailing instructions. Keep an eye on your e-mail inbox as we expect to send them out mid-late July.

Cheers, Ed & DJ

Racing Social Chair



A shout out to Dave and Shari Argue, ***Mariah***, who stepped up to do beer boat duty on 6/11/25. The raft up was well attended (8 boats), the beer was cold and well chosen. If you missed it, watch this space and your email for the date of the next one! [Photo credit: Joe Berchielli]

No surprise, the weather has been uncooperative and caused two

cancelled races so far this year, but with safety and fun in the balance, tough choices must be made, and the beat goes on. As always, each boat can decide to race or stay home if conditions are unfavorable for your boat and/or crew. Kudos to James Bradac getting off a race to close out June in another tricky weather window night! The course was perfect and included "H" on one of the few wind directions nights when it works LOLOL.

I'm proud to announce that our own Ed Tracey and Tim Polk, ***Incommunicado***, are not just holding their own up in Block Island (a premier national race), but at the time of this writing, were in first place!!! Check this out for current standings:

https://www.yachtscoring.com/event_results_cumulative/16844

Finally, if you find yourself short on crew, and want to be listed on the website, shoot me an email and I'll add you to Boat Listing. You can also read through the Crew Listings and reach out those on the list. Wishing you all smooth sailing and a following sea!

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

Cruising Corner

Hello Cruisers,

As you read this issue of ***Old Man***, we're halfway through our cruising season; time is really flying by.



In May, 3 MRSA boats attended EYC Wye River Rendezvous, and one member came by car. We even had another MRSA boat in the “neighborhood” and they dropped by on Sunday morning for a lovely chat. [Photo credit: Joyce and Ziya Gun]

For some of the boats, this was their maiden voyage, and we do have some stories to tell. While some are best done in person, I hope you enjoyed John Ratino's account in the ***Commodore's Corner***.

I wanted to remind you of our next scheduled cruise, led by Larry & Angela to Rideout Creek. I hope you can join them, as sadly (not too sadly), Joyce and I will be out of town (sailing in BVI).

Here is the contact info for the cruise leaders, please drop a line and tell them you will join them: ahcremeans@gmail.com; Laturner123b@gmail.com

Below is the 2025 cruising calendar. Please let me know if there are any changes as this list was made early in the spring

Event	Cruise Leaders	Date
Sock Burning / Twin Harbor	Joyce & Ziya	Saturday, May 3, 2025
Memorial Day/Wye River	Joyce & Ziya	May 24,25,26
Rideout Creek	Larry & Angela	June 28,29
3rd of July North Point Marina / Rock Hall	Debbie Lund	July 3,4

Eagle Cove	Mike & Loura Bonham	(TBD)
MRSA Picnic/ Milburn Park	Dave Pirone	Saturday, August 2, 2025
Chesapeake YC	Joe Jackins	August 16,17
August 31-September 7 Long Cruise	John & Debbie Lund	August 30 to September 7
Church Creek	Rich & Toni Hughes	September 20,21
Frosbite Cruise	David & Shari Argue	(TBD)

Ziya Gun, Cruising Fleet Captain, cruising@magothysailing.org

Members' Corner

Welcome to John Sabol, who recently joined MRSA and jumped right into Wednesday night racing on his J9, ***Showtime***. That should be no surprise, since his sponsors are Ed Tracy and Clent Lowe.

His port of call is Twin Harbors Community Association on Dividing Creek. In his own words, "I have over 40 years sailing and cruising on a variety of boats from Lasers up to Hylas 56. I raced and cruised in the Midwest (Lake Michigan & Carlyle Reservoir), Long Island Sound, West Coast (San Juan Islands to San Diego), East Coast (Newport to Oriental, mostly ICW), and all of the Chesapeake Bay. Several of these excursions were deliveries. I have some capability with marine electronics, software, navigation, machinery and galley food prep."

[Editor's Note: I had an embarrassment of riches, er, photos, this month, so here's a montage. Shout out to Joe Berchielli, Jeff Lukowski, Shari Argue, and Joyce and Ziya Gun for their contributions!]

Wye River Memorial Day Cruise





June Picnic



Beer Raft Up







The Big Reveal

Quiz Answer

Q1 - Yes, the RC boat is an obstruction (*obstruction* is defined as an object that a boat could not pass without changing course substantially, if she were sailing directly towards it and one of her hull lengths from it)

Q2 - No, under RRS 20.1 a boat shall not hail if the obstruction is a mark (which the RC boat is a mark of the course) and a boat fetching it (red boat in this case) would be required to change course as a result of the hail.

Q3 - She can continue sailing her course towards the finish. If Green makes her tack by tacking then Red should avoid green (most likely by tacking) and protest. If Green heads up to "shoot" the line and doesn't go past head to wind then Red boat shall keep clear.