

MAGOTHY RIVER SAILING ASSOCIATION

PRE-CRUISE DESTINATION REPORT

DATES: Apr 21-22

Title of Cruise: Sock Burning Cruise

Destination: 39° 05.26' N 76° 28.70' W, Looper's beach, at Broad Creek, off the Magothy.

Navigation: Follow creek in from R2, heading 335° for about .35nm, then swing north to anchorage. In the past, some boaters have not paid strict attention to their charts, and have run aground by the "Glass House", or on the shoal that protrudes from the western shore. To help you recognize the location, and to burn the socks, there will be a bonfire on the Looper Beach, located on the western shore of Broad Creek, past the numerous piers. If you can't see the bonfire, note the MRSA cruising flag on the pier, and the small, roofed pavilion on the beach, just prior to an uninhabited area.

If you have to resort to sailing your "land-boat", 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 placard 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.

Anchorage: Good holding for the most part fair bit of room. Dingy up onto the beach or at the pier.

Activities: MRSA will kick off its "History on the Bay" cruising season with a visit to the inviting shores of Broad Creek on the Magothy. At press time, the rich history of this pristine site has been traced back as far as the late twentieth century, when a merry band of sailors began observing a ritual of spring known as "SOCKBURNING!" This year, the event is scheduled for April 21. For those boating by then, this is an excellent opportunity for a "shakedown" cruise and overnighter. History indicates we call it this because of the fiscal remuneration expected by the cruise leaders.

The fun will start at 4:00 p.m. To help you recognize the location, and to burn the socks, there will be a bonfire on Looper Beach, located on the western shore of Broad Creek. If you can't see the bonfire, note the MRSA cruising flag on the pier, and the small, roofed pavilion on the beach, at the beginning of the less inhabited part of the creek. Be cautious entering Broad Creek if you are unfamiliar with it. There is a "broad" entrance that should present no trouble if you honor the entrance markers, but be wary of a shoal off of the "Glass House" to starboard, and then another shoal to port that protrudes from the western shore just before Looper Beach.

Bring guests, socks to burn, an hors d'oeuvre to share, and your own drink(s). Makings for s'mores will be provided, as usual. Feel free to bring frisbees, balls, kites for any accompanying children, and/or sand buckets & shovels. The water will be cold, but we'll hope for a warm enough day. If not, there's the fire. Please call Sheryl or Wes McNair at 410-437-8998 or email sammcnair@yahoo.com for further information. While reservations aren't necessary, it will help us plan if we know who's coming, and notify people if inclement weather necessitates change.