



The Old Man

< January 2010 >

The Monthly Newsletter of the Magothy River Sailing Association

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E-mail newsletter
 contributions to
newsletter@magothy.com
magothy.com

Deadline for next
issue:
Monday,
January 25, 2010

Calendar of Upcoming Events

- January 30, 2010, Saturday: **Commodore's Ball, Gibson Island Clubhouse**
- February TBD, time TBD: Winter Planning Party at Belvedere Yacht Club
- March TBD, time TBD: Annual Brunch / Windows on the Bay
- April TBD, time TBD: April Membership Meeting



Commodore's Comments – New Commodore at the Helm



By Wes McNair, Commodore

It must have been 1982, and I was dating this young lady in Northern Virginia. At some point, she mentioned that she had a Laser sailboat at a friend of a friend's house, so off we went one day. I remember a beautiful day, sailing away from the shore across what seemed like a nice open lake, lots of people out in boats, a deserted island off in the distance, and just had a wonderful time. What a great place, I thought. I knew this was in Maryland, but Maryland was just one of those Northern states to me then.

Well, the young lady and I got married (yes, it was Sheryl) and soon we got a bigger sailboat.

Sailing out of the Rhode River, then Herrington Harbor, the Magothy became one of our favorite weekend destinations. When we got the bright idea of moving away from work and nearer the Bay, we looked all over but it was on Black Hole Creek that we found the right combination of house, water, and price. It was only after the several years it took to see our river from enough perspectives that I finally recognized the one from that day in 1982. In my defense though, remember this was before GPS.

Of course, joining MRSA was one of the first things we did after moving to the Magothy. In the 25 years since, I think Sheryl, John, Jay, and I have enjoyed about all of the activities the club has to offer. And, I think the Magothy still offers the very best boating environment one could reasonably expect. How fortunate we truly are. I look forward to serving as your Commodore for this year, and working and playing together with you all to get the most out of our wonderful river. Let's have fun.



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Upcoming Cruises & Events

Commodore's Ball:

Gibson Island Clubhouse, Saturday, January 30, 2010

- - - save the date...

Formal Invitations coming in early January



Tall-Tales of Past Cruises and Events

The December Events will be reported in next month's

Old Man.

Stay tuned for info about:

- Monthly Membership Meeting and Election of Officers at Belvedere Yacht Club, December 10, Thursday, 6:30 PM.
- Eastport YC Parade of Lights, Annapolis Harbor, December 12, Saturday, Sundown.



Special Membership Notices and Announcements

Commodore's Ball, Saturday, January 30, 2010

By Old Man

This is your big chance to see your sailing buddies "clean up real good."

Even better, somebody may tell you, "You look nice with your clothes on."

As is normally the case, this year the Commodore's Ball will let you dig into the back of your closet for your best suit, party dress, or even a TUXEDO. You can rediscover that lonely tin of Kiwi shoe polish or venture into Nordstrom's for a FORMAL AFFAIR. (I know what you're thinking, but don't go there. You can dress 'em up, but somehow the salty minds still wallow in the shallows somewhere.) So as we were saying, The Gibson Island Club is a classy place where we will gather once again, look classy, act classy (most of the time), recall tales of daring do from the previous season and reflect on repairs and exciting things to purchase at "Tiffany's By The Bay" (AKA Fawcett's) before they move from the City Dock in Annapolis to a new location next year. You also have the opportunity to spruce up your sea legs and take a spin or two around the dance floor. Show off your best sea chants or even your best knee replacements – what ever wets your whistle or floats your boat – show it all off for fun and frolic. If you are lucky, somebody may sing; if luckier, maybe they will not sing! Awards will be given out and the new Magothy River Sailing Association Board will be introduced. A great meal will be served and punctuated by a

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beautiful moon reflected on the waters of the Chesapeake Bay.

In a few days you will receive a suitably engraved invitation for this terrific annual event. Be sure to get your reservations in to allow proper prior planning by your new board. Thanks – and see you there!

Classified Advertisements

From time to time it has been customary to have “classified ads” in *The Old Man* to allow members to make nautical articles (little pun there) available within the membership. Please respond directly to the seller if you are interested in the items listed.

13' Boston Whaler Sport – 2002 – Like new!

Only 40 hours on high performance 40 HP, 4-stroke engine. Loaded with Sunbrella cover and trailer. \$10,000. Call 410-255-8073.

O'Day 35 – 1988 – Fully Equipped!

Sleeps 6; Westerbeake Diesel (low hours); Wheel Steering; Light Gray Hull; Many Extras. NEW: Bottom Paint (barrier coated), Main, Genoa, Spinnaker (never used), Depth Finder, Cockpit Cushions, Fortress Anchor, Holding Tank. Hull Compounded and Waxed. Blackhole Creek. \$35,000. Day 410-262-0597; Night 410-583-7225; Marshall Duer.



Racing Corner

By Ed Poe, Former Past Commodore, Nominating Committee Chair

It's official! I am happy to announce that we have a full staff of superb candidates to manage our great racing program on the Magothy next season.

Rear Commodore
Race Committee Chmn
Asst Race Committee Chmn--In Training
Past Race Committee Chairman
Race Committee Equipment Chmn
Protest Committee Chmn
Racing Marks Chairman
Official Scorer
CBYRA Standing Representative
PHRF Standing Representative
PHRF District Handicapper
Junior/Small Boat Racing

Gene Gottschalk
Joe Berchielli
Larry Ricci
Wolfgang Harbauer
Mark Walker
Drew Dowling
Roger Bartholomee
Mike Mullarky
Craig Coltharp
Mike Mullarky
Randy Richter
Dave Kemp

We still need a social committee for the post race raftups and post season trophy party, and we need a committee to plan, publicize and promote our various racing activities, the Spring Classic, the Race to Baltimore, the Corsica River Race, etc.

By the way, **Kathy Dougan**, whose boys have been actively involved in our Junior Sailing program, has agreed to edit the Red Book for us again this year.

Thanks everyone for all you do for all of us who love sailing on the Magothy! And to any and everyone else...when you see these people, give them a pat on the back; give them your support; offer to help, and give them your thanks. Also, when you look at this list of mostly guys, know that their wives are helping and making sure the jobs get done right and on time! Thanks wives! It's truly a family project.



CBYRA

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MRSA is a member of CBYRA, CBYCA, and Boat US. (Member #GA 80366 S)

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED or REQUESTED FOR:

- *Commodore's Ball
Invitations and
RSVP in January*

PHOTO CREDITS:

*Special thanks to
Kathy Polk and Wes
McNair for the photos
this month!*

Junior Sailing Program – Ages 9 - 16

By Rich Hughes, former MRSA Fleet Captain Junior Training

Next year will be another great Year for MRSA Junior Training. Plans are already in the works. The Magothy River Sailing Association plans to once again conduct the Junior Training Program at the Grachur Club property on the beautiful Magothy River in Pasadena, Maryland. We look forward to another 40 students in mid-June, and a capable staff led by several returning instructors. Ages for students in the camp are 9 through 16. Start thinking SAILING NEXT SUMMER with your Prospective Junior Sailors! And while you are at it, remember that we can always use volunteers to spruce up the boats and other equipment to be ready for training, so if you like “just messing around in boats,” and especially if you don’t have one to mess around in because you are “between boats,” this is a great opportunity to “play” with boats next spring.



Oh, By the Way

[Seasons Greetings From Ocala Florida](#)

By Harvey Paskin

We are now almost totally settled. The transition from a waterfront and sailing environment to a landlocked equestrian environment was easier than expected. We live in a Del Webb Active Adult Community in Ocala Florida, This Is horse country. Horses are bred, raised, trained, and sold here on national and international levels. Terrain is gently rolling hills, dotted with massive, old live oak trees. Beautiful!! Ocala is about 2 hours west of Daytona Beach, and one hour east of the Gulf of Mexico.

Our community has about 700 homes, with a target completion of 4000. Long way to go given the current economic situation. All the amenities are in place and operational. We have outdoor and indoor pools and hot tubs, and a fully equipped Spa with exercise facility, dry sauna, steam room, and class rooms for aerobics, tai chi, Pilates, Latin-cardio dance, etc. We are fully subscribed to all these activities, and spend every morning of the week in the SPA. There is an 18 hole golf course running through the property with a club house and grill, and we have started into golf again after a 20+ year hiatus. There are 8 courts for a game called “pickle ball,” 4 tennis courts, and 8 bocce courts. We both play bocce with a neighborhood group once a week and are now great enthusiasts of pickle ball.

Ocala is kind of a neat community. It has a symphony orchestra, to which we have season tickets, and a community college which showcases foreign film series and visiting theater performances. We’ve been to local polo matches, and Sandra has visited a horse farm and horse hospital. We are really very busy and happy here. For us it was the right move at the right time.

Interstate 75 runs north-south, just west of the city, so we are on the main road for any of you making the trip by car to the west coast of Florida. We have a guest bedroom, and would love to see any of our old friends who wish to stop by. Our contact information is: Harvey & Sandra Paskin, 9760 SW 75th Loop, Ocala, FL 34481
Home – 352-291-1223; Cell – 443-454-7189; hmplchayim@embarqmail.com

[Ode to Oysters](#)

By-Valve

Last month you all recalled on these pages how Captain John Smith cruised and charted the waters the Chesapeake Bay in the 1607-1608 time frame. When he looked over the side of his ship/boat, he saw much clearer water than we can see today – even in the winter months. Several reasons for that, but a major reason is oysters – those tasty little bi-valves we are prone to feast on in months containing the letter “R.” (Any other month and you are not a purist or a Puritan – and, yes, we have nasty names for you.) Actually all shellfish filter and clean the waters of the Bay, but we especially thank the oyster – cleaning as much as two gallons per hour through its gills.

The first official count of oysters hauled from the Bay was in 1880. In that year, the total was 128 million pounds of oysters. (That’s a LOT of oysters!) In the 1950s, the totals had dropped to about 35 million pounds per year. In the 1980s, 100 years after the first count, the harvest had shrunk to a mere 20 million pounds. And in the year last recorded, only slightly more than one-million pounds could be found for harvest from the Chesapeake Bay. Maybe that is why it is called a “delicacy.”

Many Maryland oysters are now “grown” in oyster hatcheries, but even with “help,” the quantities continue to fall off. More help is on the way. A new \$9.2 million facility is being built on the Choptank to be operated by the University of Maryland – a major increase to the existing facility there. Prevention is better than cleanup, but at least the new oysters produced will help with the cleanup and hopefully the restoration of the water the Native American Indians once called “Chesepioc” – “the great shellfish bay.”

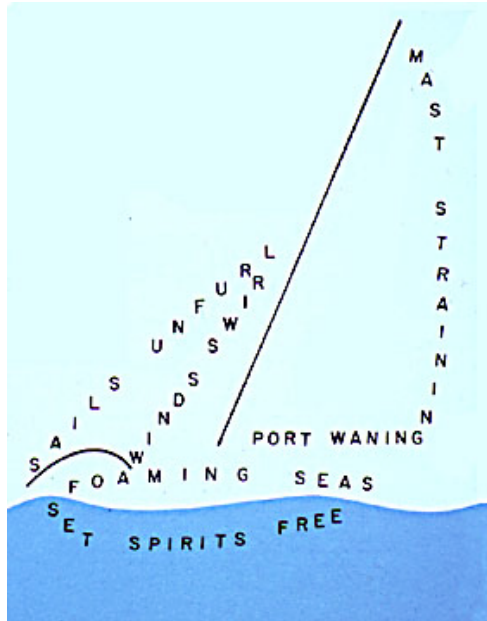
Enjoy – and Make The Bay Cleaner.



Happy Holidays and Best Wishes for 2010!!

Be sure to plan on coming to the Commodore's Ball on Saturday, January 30, 2010.

**Racers – Crusers — Hangers-On-ers, even Powerboaters
are encouraged to join these annual fun winter festivities.**



The Old Man

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Picture by Bill Paul

The Old Dog

