



The Old Man

< June 2011 >

The Monthly Newsletter of the Magothy River Sailing Association

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

Deadline for ALL
future issues:
25th DAY
OF THE MONTH
PRIOR TO
publication date

Calendar of Upcoming Events

- **Every Wednesday, 6 PM: World Famous Wednesday Night Races on the Magothy!**
Y'all come!! Racers and spectators welcome!
- **June 4, Saturday: Pokomoke Kayak/Canoe Paddle – CAUTION: Event may have to be cancelled – see article below**
- **June 10, Friday, 6:30 PM: June Picnic at the Poes', Black Hole Creek**
- **June 11-12, Sat – Sun: Women's Cruise**
- **June 15, Wednesday, 7:30 PM: Mandatory Parents Meeting for Junior Training at Grachur**
- **June 18-19, Sat – Sun: Summer Solstice Cruise, West River**
- **June 20-July 1, Weekdays: Junior Sailing Training Course**
- **July 4 weekend: Cruise to the Choptank, Kirkendalls and Fireworks!**
- **July 16, Saturday, 2 PM: Dog Day Afternoon in Eagle Cove**
- **July 23-24, Sat – Sun: Corsica River Race/Cruise**
- **August 6-7, Sat – Sun: Worton Creek Cruise**

Commodore's Comments – Death By GPS

By Jon Mullarky, Commodore



Many of you know that navigation has been a vocation and an avocation for me over many years as both a naval officer and sailor. The other day my curiosity was peaked when a TV news reporter did a follow-up titled "Death by GPS", on the story of a woman who survived for seven weeks in a stranded van in the wilds of Nevada. Luckily she was found by hunters, but her husband, who set off to find help

three days into the ordeal, has not been found and is presumed dead. The couple was traveling to Las Vegas using GPS to guide them on Nevada back roads when the road GPS told them to follow became impassable. The lesson here for those of us who sail with GPS and chart plotters is that the technology is not infallible.

As reliable as the system is, GPS has outages, positional errors, and the radio frequency signal can be blocked out. In a paper published not long ago, a British expert noted that the typical satellite signal is about as powerful as one automobile headlight, and that signal power is spread over about half the earth. The trees along North Shore block the weak signal often as I drive to Annette and Mike's home, and I've lost GPS signal many times in heavy rain squalls on the Bay (just when you need it most!). Right now there is an ongoing battle between GPS users and the FCC over a request by broadband supplier LightSquared's application to operate powerful internet stations on frequencies next to those used by GPS. These signals are said to have the potential of blocking GPS in a large area around the LightSquared stations.

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As for where the signal places you, remember the electronic map or chart is at most a digital version of that old paper one we used to buy. It's only as good as the survey data it was made from. During my Navy days I made a voyage from the Philippines to Sydney, Australia. Most of the charts we used carried notations that the soundings were based on data collected in 18th Century by explorer James Cook. Needless to say we proceeded cautiously in the seas around Australia's famous reefs.

Electronic navigation systems are wonderful tools that make the life of recreational boaters a bit easier, but remember what the old navigator said; use all the navigation information available to you from whatever source, and your common sense to keep you out of trouble on the water.

June should be another great month for MRSA, Picnic at the Poe's on Friday June 10, races on Wednesday evenings, a woman's cruise on the 11th and 12th and a cruise to the West River on the 18th. Come on out and enjoy the Bay.



Obituaries

This month we are sad to report obituaries on two Former MRSA Members:

Gary Van Hoven, on May 10, 2011. Gary Van Hoven beloved husband of Joan Van Hoven (nee Milles); cherished father of Raymond Larry and Alison Van Hoven, Jonathan Paul and Deborah Van Hoven; loving brother-in-law of Dr. Gary and Joyce Milles; adored grandfather of Alexander, Corinne, Maxwell and Brett. Also survived by many loving family and friends.

Services at SOL LEVINSON & BROS., INC., 8900 Reisterstown Road, at Mount Wilson Lane on Thursday, May 12, at 1 PM. Interment is private. . Please omit flowers. Contributions in his memory may be sent to the Alvin and Lois Lapidus Cancer Institute at Sinai Hospital, 2401 W. Belvedere Ave, Baltimore, MD 21215 or Gilchrist Hospice Care, 11311 McCormick Road, Suite 350, Hunt Valley, MD 21031. In mourning at 3416 Birch Hollow Rd, Baltimore, MD 21208.

He was the proud owner of a J/35 named *Ten Years After*.



MORGAN JR., HENRY STURGIS. Henry Morgan was born in 1924 in Oyster Bay, NY. He was graduated from Groton in 1942 and from Harvard in 1944. He entered the US Navy in 1942 and was commissioned in 1944. He commanded a submarine, a division of submarines, a submarine tender, and a missile cruiser. He subsequently served as naval commander for the United Nations Command in Korea and as senior member of the Korean armistice commission at Panmunjom. After retiring as Rear Admiral in 1975, he attended George Washington University Law School and practiced Admiralty Law in Houston, TX from 1978-1990. He retired and moved to Gibson Island, MD in 1990 and then to Annapolis, MD in 2001. He began sailing in 1930, cruising in 1938, sailing offshore in 1955; and he was still racing and coaching the Naval Academy Offshore Sailing Team up until his death. He died after a brief bout of pneumonia May 6, 2011. He was a MRSA member for just a couple of years, but participated in the Wednesday Nights as a GIYC member for a long time on his *J/27 Dash*.

He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Alexandra McCain Morgan, 7 children and 10 grandchildren. Donations may be given to Naval Academy Sailing Foundation, Inc. Naval Support Activity, 58 Bennion Rd (Mail Stop 23-J) Annapolis, MD 21402-5054. Services will be held at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, May 18 at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, 1601



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Upcoming Cruises & Events

[June Picnic Extravaganza! - Poes on Black Hole Creek](#)

If it's June it must be Picnic Time - **Friday** (repeat – **FRIDAY**) **June 10.**

Get the mustard. Chop the onions. Slice the tomatoes. We are having a picnic, complete with dogs, burgers, strawberries, and ice cream. We will not invite the ants! (And no squirrels will be allowed! That is an inside – pun intended – joke!)

Once again, the annual June picnic will be held at the Pasadena home of Past Commodore Ed and Peggy Poe, 438 Shady Lane, Pasadena, 21122 on Black Hole Creek on Friday, June 10th at 6:30 pm.

We always seem to find a place for everyone to park, even if you come by water. So come by land or come by sea. There will be launch service if you would like to anchor out in the outer harbor and get a lift in to the party.

If your name begins with A through L, please bring a salad. If your name begins with M through S, please bring a side dish. If your name is T to Z, bring an appetizer. Our dessert will be strawberries and ice cream (and maybe some chocolate sauce for our non-strawberry eaters!).

Please call 410-296-6428 or E-mail to mpoe1@comcast.net by Monday, June 6 to let us know that you will be coming.

[Canoe/Kayak Trip to Pocomoke River - Saturday, June 4th](#) [- Event May Be Cancelled - call before you go](#)

Submitted by Sheryl McNair, Past Commodore and Cruise Leader

The sails seem to be missing on these boats, but all the fun is still there. On Saturday, June 4th, MRSA members will trek to the Pocomoke River for a day of splashing pleasure. Canoes and double kayaks are \$45/boat, and solo kayaks are \$40/boat. For those interested in bringing their own boats, the Pocomoke River Canoe Company will portage boats for \$10 each. The company supplies the boats, paddles, and life jackets. You may wish to bring a cushion to sit on, and, as always, weather-appropriate clothing. It takes approximately 2 ½ hours to get to the Pocomoke River Canoe Company, at 2 River Street in Snow Hill, Maryland, so leave early for a 10:30 arrival. Everyone should bring their own lunch including drink), and we will stop for lunch while on the water. The trip itself will take about 2 ½ to 3 ½ hours.

Please RSVP by May 31st to Sheryl McNair (410-437-8998 or sammcnair@yahoo.com) if you plan to attend. If you have room for others or want to ride with someone, please notify her, and she will attempt to put together carpools for those interested.

Driving directions (although you may want to consult your map or GPS for more detailed instructions): Take US-50 E until it becomes US-13 S/SALISBURY bypass. Go 2.9 miles and take the MD-12 ramp toward SALISBURY/SNOW HILL. Turn LEFT onto MD-12 S (If you reach US-13 S you've gone about 0.1 miles too far). Go about 15 miles. (If you reach MD-113, you've gone too far). Turn RIGHT onto RIVER Street. RIVER Street is 0.5 miles past HOPKINS Lane.

CBYRA

Representative:

cbyca@magothysailing.com

Website:

www.magothysailing.com.

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

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED or REQUESTED FOR:

*-Women's Cruise – by
ASAP to Debbie
Lund at 410-544-2551*

*-Canoe/Kayak – by
ASAP to Sheryl
McNair at 410-2437-
8998*

*-June Picnic – by
MON, June 8 to Peggy
Poe at 410-296-6428*

PHOTO CREDITS:

*Special thanks to Ed
and Peggy Poe.*

*If anybody thinks they
can get rid of this
excess (but truly
lovely) blue bar by
having the Editor send
an original format
newsletter, and then
you remove the
excess, PLEASE
send an E-mail to the
Editor with your offer.
Thank You! - ED*

[CALLING ALL WOMEN - - Women's Cruise June 11-12](#)

By Debbie Lund,

I am looking for all women interested in sailing on Saturday and Sunday, June 11 and 12. You can be the Captain on your boat or the Crew on another boat. There was a meeting at my house on May 24 at 7 PM to decide the destination of the cruise, skipper/crew list, and the FOOD. If you are interested in participating in the cruise, please call Debbie at 410-544-2551. If you want to gain sailing experience or just come along for the ride, please call me. We will eat good!



Tall Tales from Past Cruises and Events

[Cinco De Mayo, Saturday the Seventh](#)

Submitted by Fred Betz, Host, Simulated Mexican

The weather was fine, the company of thirty-three friendly MRSA members was fine, and the food was abundant and fine as well. (Not to mention the Sangria, Margueritas, Cervesa and Soft Drinks.). What more could one ask for?

Only the McNair's ventured up Cattail Creek by boat, the rest came by land cruiser.

Chris' Restaurant, here in Severna Park, provided the burritos and they were a bit on the large size. Lots of folks ended up taking "doggie bags" home with leftovers. But no take home leftovers were allowed for the beverages!

Everyone paused to watch the Kentucky Derby as 20 to 1 long shot "Animal Kingdom" got fired up and came from way back to an easy finish first. (He tried the same trick a few weeks later in the Preakness and came up ½ length short!)

When the only complaint the host hears is that there is too much food, it can be assumed that it was the usual, really good MRSA Party!

[MRSA Spring Classic 2011 - 3 Fine Races in 1](#)

Submitted by Ed Poe, Race Committee Captain

The weekend of May 21st and 22nd gave Magothy bay-sailors the opportunity to sail 3 sanctioned races for CBYRA scoring.

Early Sunday morning, an intrepid crew which included Fred Betz, Debbie Lund, George Stamps, and Ed Poe left the pier to provide Race Committee services for MRSA's Spring Classic, two separate races, sanctioned by CBYRA as separate events, each about 5 miles in length, each entirely inside inside the Magothy River using our river racing marks. It was really scary when we got to the racing area--almost no wind. (I hate slow hot sunny sailing.) It took us a while to figure out where to put our starting line to maximize what wind there was. But we guessed right, and the wind filled in nicely with about ten knots of breeze. It turned out to be a beautiful day for the sailors and for the Race Committee. Everyone had a good time!

Combining forces with Gibson Island Yacht Squadron and Sailing Club of the Chesapeake, we tried a new format for the weekend. As a feeder race on Saturday, started by SCC, 45 boats raced from Annapolis to the Magothy. Upon their arrival, GIYS provided an enjoyable party and free dockage at their boathouse for all entrants and

families. Trophies were presented to the winners. On Sunday, MRSA hosted two CBYRA-sanctioned races inside the river, using our river racing marks. The J-30 one design fleet stayed and had a great time sailing with our MRSA sailors.

It was interesting to see the one design racing. The photo shows J-30s rounding the leeward mark after dousing their spinnakers. They did a good job of it. No, there were no collisions. The boats headed toward the left are approaching the mark and those heading right have just rounded. The mark (D) is just behind Drew Dowling's "Encounter." Said Drew after the race...."Getting home after the races on the Magothy sure beats the 2 1/2 hour trip home from races we do in Annapolis." We have great racing in the Magothy! Racy Photos at the end of this edition of the *Old Man*.

[Other May Events...](#)

Submitted by The Old Man (actually, nobody)

Due to space limitations (and people having too much fun to write up what happened), we do not have detailed reports on the following events that happened in the recent past:

- Wednesday Night Races on the Magothy
- Sock Burning at Looper's Beach April 30 (we do have a few photos at the end of this issue)
- Cruise to Annapolis (and back) with dinner at Maria's (May 15-16)
- GIYS/SCC Spring Race (May 21)
- Blue Angels Cruise (May 25 – but actually the Blues Cancelled due to Safety Issues – even the Real Pros take a break for Safety over completing a risky endeavor)
- Memorial Day Cruise to the Wye River (Memorial Day Weekend
– and it got **seriously HOT!**)



Special Membership Notices and Announcements

[Welcome new members AND prospective members!](#)

Submitted by Peggy Poe, Membership Chairman

Two more new member families were voted in by the BOG at the April Board Meeting. Commodore Mullarky's BOG is very efficient when it comes to welcoming new MRSA members!

This month, we welcomed returning members Gayle and John Hurt. The Hurts live on Riverside Drive in Pasadena and are planning to rejoin the Wednesday night racers. They are the new owners of *Harmony*, a Cherubini Raider 33 that they keep at their home on Cockey's Creek.

Also voted into membership is the Lane family, Amy and Tom with Jonah, 10 and Silas, 2. The Lanes live in Whitehurst and sail *Chautauqua*, a Sabre 34. This will be Jonah's first year in the MRSA Junior Training program.

The Hurts and Tom Lane attended the April Membership meeting at Hellas. Welcome aboard to these new members.



Racing Corner

NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- Raft-Up June 8

MRSA Wednesday Night Sailing Instructions

Amendment #1 - (May 24, 2011)

Replace the "Contact Persons" section with:

- Race Entry Forms, Fees, and PHRF or CMA certificates: Collin Jones, 1301 Hazel Nut Ct., Annapolis, MD 21401

- General Info: Joe Berchielli, 207 Rushley Road, Arnold, MD 21012 (H 410-647-8470)

Racers Raft-Up - try it, you'll like it

This season's first post-Wednesday-Night-Race raft-up party will be held on June 8, weather permitting. After the race, look for Gene McCollum's *Boondoggle* which will once again serve as the "raft-up" anchor boat and will have cold beer for thirsty crews. Cold beer will be also available on *Allu*. If rescheduling is necessary due to weather conditions, an E-mail will be sent out to those on the MRSA racing list.



Junior Sailing Program – Ages 9 - 16

Summer Junior Training Program – Required Parents

Meeting at Grachur – Wednesday June 15, 7:30

By Zoe Forsyth, Fleet Captain Junior Training

MRSA's Junior Training Sailing Course will be held at the Grachur Club on the beautiful Magothy River on weekdays from June 20th through July 1st, beginning at 8:30 am and finishing at 4:00 pm. Many of last year's Instructors will be returning, and preparations are ongoing to provide a fun and educational experience for young sailors. Returning sailors will see many friends from last year, and we shall also welcome a number of new children to the program.

Registration for this year's course is complete and there is a waiting list. Parents of enrolled students should plan to attend the Parents Meeting on Wednesday June 15 at 7:30 pm at Grachur, to meet the Instructional Staff and to learn about the course routine and what students will need to bring. Further information will be sent via E-mail and/or posted on MRSA's web site (<http://www.magothysailing.com/bin/junior.php>)

Boat preparation will be at the McNair's boat storage area at 9:00 am on Saturday June 11. (Directions will be included in the forthcoming E-mail to parents of youngsters registered in the Sailing Program.) Last year we had a good turnout and finished in under 3 hours. Buckets and cleaning supplies will be provided, but you may want to bring drinks. Boat rigging and transport to Grachur will begin at 3:00 pm Sunday June 19.

Training Questions? Contact Zoe Forsyth at 410-315-9548 or by E-mail at junior_training@magothysailing.com. Boat preparation questions? Contact Dave Kemp at fleetmaster@magothysailing.com.



Oh, By the Way

The Great June MRSA Picnic on Black Hole Creek

- Submitted by Peggy Poe (and further edited,
with apologies to George and Ira Gershwin – feel free to sing along)

Summertime,
And the livin' is easy
Fish are jumpin'
And the picnic is nigh

You need to see
What your MRSA's got cookin'
So come – bring the chillins
We-et or dry

We will have burgers
And you'll see hot dogs grillin'
Our bev'rages you open
And you take to the sky

Please bring a SALAD
If A to L names you
Or SIDE DISH by M through R standing by

APPETIZER,
S through Z is so easy
All will scoop ice cream
And the strawb'ries – so fine

Add to the ice cream
Chocolate syrup – good taste-in
So come MRSA people
Don't you cry

WHEN: FRIDAY (Repeat – **FRIDAY**) JUNE 10 AT 6:30
WHERE: PEGGY AND ED POES - 438 SHADY LANE, PASADENA MD
(CELL PHONE THE DAY OF THE PARTY 410-916-3480)
HOW: COME BY LAND OR BY SEA, RAIN OR SHINE.
A TO L – PLEASE BRING A SALAD
M TO R – PLEASE BRING A SIDE DISH
S TO Z – PLEASE BRING AN APPETIZER.
RSVP to Peggy at mpoe1@comcast.net OR call 410-296-6428 **BY JUNE 6TH**.



Treasure the Chesapeake!



Socks, Dogs, and Marshmallows – all fired up!





Henry Poe
- nice shades!

Spring Classic - 2011
- Racy Photos
courtesy of Ed Poe



The Old Man

Magothy River Sailing Association
P.O. Box 1135
Pasadena, MD 21122

**Treasure the
Chesapeake!**



<http://www.magothysailing.com>



Picture by Bill Paul

Please do your part to restore the Bay and make it cleaner.