Calendar of Upcoming Events

- April 5, Thursday, 6:30 PM: at The Greene Turtle, Pasadena, MD
  - with speakers Robert Henry, NTSB Marine Investigator
    and Elia Manetta, Advisor to the Italian Maritime Sea Rescue Service

- April 18, Wednesday: Wednesday Night Races Start on the Magothy River!!!
- April 28, Saturday: Sock Burning Party and Shakedown Cruise
  at the Looper beach on Broad Creek

- June 18 through 29, Monday through Friday: Junior Sailing Training,
  at the Grachur Club on the Magothy River, ages 9 and up

Commodore’s Comments

– April Fools – Sunglasses Already!

By Debbie Lund, Commodore

THE SAILING SEASON IS HERE! The 2012 sailing season starts with the starting gun on Wednesday, April 18th. The cruisers will start with the sock burning party and shakedown cruise on Saturday, April 28th. Even if your boat is not ready you can use your land yacht (car) and attend the sock burning party. The April membership meeting will be held on Thursday April 5th at the Greene Turtle Sports Bar and Grille in Pasadena. This is a new venue for MRSA. Dick Paden has lined up two interesting speakers on the topic of marine safety. If you are planning to attend the meeting, please RSVP Dick Paden, Vice Commodore (by April 3rd, please).

Junior training registration opened March 1st for MRSA and Grachur Club members. The camp is limited to 40 participants. There are only a few spots remaining for this year. Non-members can start registering April 1st.

My goal for this year is to increase membership. If you have suggestions, please forward them to me. Please invite crew members or friends that sail/boat on the Magothy to join MRSA. The BOG will be developing another brochure regarding MRSA that will be distributed to marinas and stores in the Magothy area.

See you on the water!

"There is nothing - absolutely nothing - half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats."  - Kenneth Grahame.
Upcoming Cruises & Events

Thursday April 5th Membership Meeting – Safety at Sea, and the ill-fated cruise ship Costa Concordia

Submitted by Dick Paden, Vice Commodore

I am pleased to inform you that I have booked a really nice meeting room for our April Membership Dinner; at the Greene Turtle Sports Bar & Grille. The restaurant is located is just north of MD Route 100 their address is 20 Magothy Beach Road, Pasadena, MD 21122, phone: 410-437-0075. I tried to obtain a waterfront location for our dinner but I have chosen this location over the others as this meeting room is ideally suited for us. My special thanks to Mike Mullarky for the suggestion.

Please join your MRSA cruising and racing friends for dinner on April 5th at 6:30 PM. You may order whatever you desire for dinner from The Greene Turtle’s regular menu. We will have three waiters and the manager assured me we will all be served dinner at the same time. Since you will be ordering from their regular menu they will provide individual checks.

Our after dinner featured speakers will be Mr. Bill Gozzard with the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board, NTSB, Office of Communications Safety Advocacy and Elia Manetta, Advisor to the Italian Maritime Sea Rescue Service. Bill and Elia will provide an interesting discussion and insight about the fate of the Italian Cruise Ship Costa Concordia and; highlight preventative actions we all should take to avoid disaster while on the water. Elia had first hand, on-site rescue experience with the Costa Concordia and her infamous Captain, Francesco Schettino and; the efforts of the Italian Maritime Sea Rescue Service. Bill has over 40 years experience with NTSB and will highlight the Role of the Board and recall memorable experiences and the importance of using Float Plans and DSC capable VHF radios.

I look forward to see you there!

Thank you for the strong support of our March Brunch, I hope you enjoyed the food and Chuck O’Malley’s presentation as much as I did.

Wednesday April 18th: Wednesday Night Races begin on the Magothy!!

Spectators, new recruits, and veteran racers all welcome!

SOCK BURNING CRUISE - SATURDAY APRIL 28 (and Sunday)

Submitted by Sheryl McNair – MRSA Foreign Affairs Correspondent

With the early warm weather everyone should be ready to burn their socks at the annual Shakedown/Sock Burning Cruise April 28th on the Magothy’s Broad Creek. This is the first MRSA cruise of the year, and you may come by boat or land, bring guests, your socks to burn, incredible hors d’oeuvres to share, and your own drinks. We’d also like to continue the tradition of having people bring some new socks to donate to charity. Don’t worry: you can still burn your old socks!

Makings for S’mores will be provided, but you have to gather your own sticks to roast the marshmallows. The beach is provided courtesy of Eddie Looper – his family has extended their hospitality to us for many years. All members are encouraged to attend, and bring prospective members. The location is nearby; this is an excellent chance to make sure your boat is ready for the season. The fun will start at 4:30. To help you recognize the location there will be a bonfire on the Looper Beach, located on the western shore of Broad
Creek. If you can’t see the bonfire, note the MSA cruising flag on the pier and the small roofed pavilion on the beach. Be aware of the shoal near the Glass House. This IS a cruise, so plan to stay overnight – this is the best way to determine if your boat is ready for the season.

If you have to resort to sailing your land yacht: Go east on Route 100 towards Gibson Island, past the merge with Mountain Road. Turn right on North Shore, (past the fire station on the left and elementary school on right) and bear right 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 to the beach.

Feel free to bring Frisbees, balls, kites, children, and sand buckets & shovels. The water may be cold, but it’s shallow, with a sandy beach – bathing suits may be desirable.

**SAILABRATION in Baltimore 13 – 19 June:**

Marinas are Filling Up!

By Myron Dorf, Cruise Leader

One of our planned cruises for this summer is the SAILABRATION in Baltimore. The Tall Ships will be arriving in Baltimore on June 13 and departing on June 19. Among the festivities planned for the event are tours of the Tall Ships and Navy War Ships, an air show, fireworks, and events on land. For more information check the website at starspangled2000.com.

The marinas are filling up very quickly and if you wish to attend you must book your space now and secure it with a credit card. Mike Mullarky has done some checking and has found the following:

- **Lighthouse Point in Canton** (and probably Harbor View, since they’re the same company): slips available now, but going quickly. They can't commit until reserved with a credit card. $2.50/ft/night, 40’ minimum, 3 night minimum, $18/night for electric. Payment in full when reserved. Non-refundable. With 48 hour cancellation notice, funds will be held by the marina and may be used on non-Holiday/non-Special Event times for up to one year from the reservation date.

- **Harbor View**: Has slips. $3.00/ft/night, 30’ minimum, 3 night minimum.

- **Inner Harbor East**: sold out for Friday and Saturday night, but available other nights. 2 night minimum. Rates are by slip size - 30’ - $72.00, 40’ - $94.50, 50’ - $117.50. Electric is $8 for single 30AMP and $16 for twin 30AMP or 50AMP.

- **Anchorage Marina** is full.

Group plans are indefinite at this time. You must make your individual arrangements if you wish to stay overnight in Baltimore.

**2012 MRSA Cruise Schedule**

For more information on specific planned cruises, contact the cruise leader listed on the schedule. For any general information feel free to contact us directly, Myron and Sigi Dorf (410-255-8330), E-mail cruising@magothysailing.com. We wish you all a great summer of fun cruises. See you on the water!

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Tall-Tales of Past Cruises and Events

Submitted by Dick Paden, Vice Commodore

The March Brunch at the Woodfire Restaurant in Severna Park was very well attended, maybe 50 or so people. (However, “and here comes the smut, Martha,” only 32 or so RSVP’d on time. Please remember to give ample notice of your intentions to our cruise leaders, and the restaurants, if applicable. Everyone will be better served as a result.)

The Woodfire brunch food was excellent, and everyone had plenty to eat! Our speaker, Chuck O’Malley (good choice for the day after St. Patrick’s Day), was excellent – delving into lots of details on the materials in sails, types of designs in racing sails, and many other often rumored or misunderstood “facts.” Definitely an enjoyable morning occasion on a beautiful and warm (almost) spring day.

Special Membership Notices and Announcements


Many will remember Betty Rigoli who died March 8. For many years she was the Editor of the Chesapeake Bay Magazine, making her home with husband of 50 years, Bill Rigoli, on Mill Creek.
Everyone was once a New Member

Submitted by Peggy Poe, Membership…and how does she remember all those names?!

I looked around the room at all of the MRSA members who attended the March Brunch. Some were really long-term members and some had joined not too many years ago. Each Brunch attendee had a couple of things in common.
   1. We had once been a new member.
   2. We loved sailing on the Magothy River and the Chesapeake Bay.
   3. We were hungry for breakfast.

Three new members were introduced at the Brunch on March 18th at the Woodfire Restaurant. Andrew Faux of Arnold, MD has a J24 Pearson named “Gracie” that he keeps at Ferry Point. Andrew is eager to race on Wednesday nights this year and heard about us when he happened to sail into Black Hole Creek and met Ed Poe who was standing at the end of his pier. You never know who you might meet in a creek!

Another new member at the Brunch was Phil Heldrich. Phil lives in Lutherville and sails a J30 with the name of “Chaos.” Phil is also planning to race on Wednesday nights. He got in touch with Drew Dowling about MRSA, and Drew encouraged him to join us at the Brunch and on Wednesday nights. Phil has just moved to the area from Richmond.

David and Karen Piccoli have two kids (Sarah and Joshua) who are on the list for the Junior Training Program this summer. Dave grew up sailing in R.I. The kids are very excited about getting to junior training again. Dave and Karen and their kids live in Severna Park near Commodore Debbie Lund.

Make sure to give these new MRSA members a warm welcome.

Racing Corner

Magothy Wednesday Night Races start April 18th

Please contact Angelo Guarino at race_committee@magothysailing.com ASAP to get in on the excitement of this year’s racing season. Sail safely out there and be sure your crew wears life jackets and knows man overboard procedures – especially in the cool racing months. The air has been warmer than usual, but the water is still in the brrrr range. So sail fast – AND SAFELY!

Junior Sailing Program – Ages 9 - 16

Junior Training
2012 – Sign up
March 1 - - - NOW!

By Zoe Forsyth, Fleet Captain Junior Training

Registration for this year’s Junior Training Sailing Program (scheduled for June 18-29 at the Grachur Club) began on March 1. At press time, a few
spaces in the program remain. If you have not already done so, submit your application(s) as soon as possible; member applications must be received by April 1, 2012 in order to receive their priority status over non-affiliated families. Commitments to MRSA and Grachur Club members will start on April 1. Applications received after April 1, 2012 will be enrolled in order of receipt, space-permitting.

Applications must be submitted on the 2012 Junior Training Registration Form (one student per form), which is available on the MRSA website (www.magothysailing.com in the “Juniors’ bin) and in the 2012 Redbook. The Medical Waiver and the Sailing Course Release Forms, also available on the MRSA website/Redbook, must be completed and returned with the Registration Form and payment.

Because MRSA is a volunteer club, we rely heavily on parents for assistance with boat preparation, daily supervision during the Course, and the graduation picnic. Parents will be expected to participate in some way in each of these activities, and are asked to indicate their availability on the registration form.

Boat Preparation will be held on Saturday June 9 (rain date is Sunday June 10), and Boat Move to Grachur will take place on Sunday June 17. Help with either or both of these important tasks to ready the fleet will be greatly appreciated and all are welcome, whether or not you have a student in the Sailing program. Please contact Dave Kemp at fleetmaster@magothysailing.com for more information on these important Boat preparations.

With this support we will once again be able to provide an outstanding educational and fun program for our young sailors. Questions? Call Zoe Forsyth (410-315-9548) or Joe Tierney (410-544-1723) or E-mail your questions to: junior_training@magothysailing.com. Again, if you are interested in having your kids attend the sailing course, be sure to go to the website NOW and send your applications in as soon as possible.

Classified Advertisements – special good deals – “check it out, sailor”

**30’ PEARSON SLOOP RACER/CRUISER –**

**PRICED FOR QUICK SALE – only $4,000**

Solid boat built in 1976 that needs interior cosmetic work. Trophy winner on the Magothy River and Chesapeake Bay and also great for family sailing. Hull was Awlgripped 2 years ago and bottom sanded & painted this spring.


LOA 29’ 10”  Beam 9” 6”  Draft 5”  Displacement 8,300 lbs.  Ballast 3,560 lbs.

For information call Jill at 410-353-2454.

**Pico Laser Sailboat** Pico Laser Sailboat Good condition asking $999. Please call Dave Blanch (H) 410-437-2212 (C) 410-294-7621

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**Oh, By the Way**

**Bye-Bye Smart Buoys**

Enjoy them while you can. “In these austere funding times,” the country’s FY-13 budget
axe is aimed at the series of smart buoys marking the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Tail. There are now 10 yellow buoys running from the Susquehanna to the mouth of the Bay – nearest being at the mouths of the Severn and the Patapsco Rivers. They collect weather and water quality data which is available to boaters, researchers, and others via www.bouybay.org, 1-877-BUOY-BAY, and "apps" on Android and iPhones. The Chesapeake Conservancy is trying to restore funding, but chances are this will be the last year for awhile.

**Emergency contacts via the MVA**

Maryland’s Motor Vehicle Administration has added an emergency contact option to driver’s licenses. You can add up to three emergency contacts so police will know who to call if an accident occurs. Info is stored electronically on an individual’s driver’s license and will be available only to authorized personnel. You can go to www.mva.maryland.gov to take advantage of this service. Click DO IT ONLINE, then EMERGENCY CONTACTS, then add your info. Takes about 10 minutes for the technically un-challenged.

**Our River Gets a D – ...so what else is new?**

Receiving a score of 22 percent, same as in 2010, the Magothy River water quality stayed about the same in 2011, according to the Magothy River Association. Culprits were poor water clarity, low dissolved oxygen, and sparse underwater grasses. There was also record low salinity – a big factor in high oyster mortality. In 2005 there were about 360 acres of SAVs; last year, only 2 acres. Recent attempts to grow underwater grasses along the river, including two locations at the Grachur Club, did well for a couple of years, and then died off completely. No specific solutions have been given other than continuing to plant grasses and hoping the small oyster bar seedings will survive. Those two actions will result in more dissolved oxygen and cleaner water.

**The Greatest Non-Event of the Season - Ogdensburg, NY**

*Submitted by FRAM, Cruise Leader*

The Frederic Remington Art Museum had such a great response to last year’s Frederic Remington’s April Fool’s Day Ball that we decided to not invite you again. Our Non-Event of the Season will take place on April 1, 2012, wherever you want it to be, at a time that suits you, with the following attire: black tie – barefoot – comfortable.

Important information:
- **Donate $25** - One person stay at home and miss the ball.
- **Donate $50** - One person to NOT ONLY skip the ball, but even the party beforehand.
- **Donate $75** - One person that NOW gets to skip the ball, forget the party before hand and does not have to go to the "Special Celebration" afterwards!
- **Donate $100** AND OVER per person: Wow - You get to skip the entire evening and get a special Invitation not to come to next year's April Fool's Day Ball!

Every $25 donated enters you in a raffle of the following gifts: a small reproduction of The Broncho Buster (a $575 value); a Frederic Remington print on canvas; Frederic Remington Art Museum Catalog of the Collection by Brian W. Dippie; and a one year family membership to the Frederic Remington Art Museum for you or someone you choose. The drawing will be April 1 after the ball – the lucky winners will be notified by phone or E-mail.

Response to last year’s Ball was great and a few of the MRSA non-attendees also commented:
- "What a clever idea! Because it's a non-event, everyone can attend. It's pretend for grown-ups. Thanks for the invitation."
- "I'm in. I will call in my donation and I'm wearing nothing but flip flops. Ha Ha"
- "Thanks for the wonderful idea – enclosed is our check and sincere gratitude that my husband doesn't have to go to a dance, he is such a hermit – a fun and novel invitation."
• “Please accept my donation; I am sorry I can’t attend your party – dining at the White House that night, thanks for the invite!”
• “Costs associated with attending ball: 1350 miles round trip approx. 66 gals. Gas @ $4 per gallon = $264, Vehicle wear and tear/depreciation @ $.10 per mile = $135, Lodging and meals = $201, Appropriate formal wear = $400, Donation to museum = $50, TOTAL = $1,050 (Enclosed is my $50 donation – thanks for saving me approximately $1000 by not requiring my presence.)”

Please R.S.V.P by March 31 to: FRAM April Fool’s Day Ball, 303 Washington Street, Ogdensburg, New York 13669 or online in our Museum Shop. For more information call us at (315) 393-2425 or E-mail us at info@fredericremington.org.

The Frederic Remington Art Museum is located at 303 Washington Street, Ogdensburg, NY 13669. The Museum is dedicated to collecting, exhibiting, preserving and interpreting the art and archives of Frederic Remington, and contains an unmatched collection of his works. The Museum is open October 15 - May 15, Wednesday -Saturday, 11 am to 5 pm and Sunday, 1 to 5 pm and May 16 - October 14, Monday -Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday, 1 to 5 pm.

* For those arriving by boat, Ogdensburg, NY is easily accessible on the south side of the St. Lawrence Seaway, at the Ogdensburg–Prescott International Bridge, and almost due south of Ottawa, Canada. But you knew that. Slips are available for a nominal cost – or just donate and skip the ball!

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Treasure the Chesapeake!

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

http://www.magothysailing.com

Picture by Bill Paul

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