



The Old Man

The Monthly Newsletter of the Magothy River Sailing Association

Margaret Burri, Editor



July 2020

Commodore's Comments

Jeff Thompson

2020, you will not soon be forgotten. This has been one heck of a year and it's only half over. I can thankfully say that our Wednesday Night Racing and cruising are back on all cylinders while exercising proper social distancing measures.

From time to time, the Magothy River Sailing Association Board of Governors presents the J. Hambleton "Ham" Palmer Memorial Sportsmanship & Service to Sailing Award to a sailor who has made a particularly noteworthy contribution to good sportsmanship or service to the Association.

This year, the board would like to recognize Homer Sandridge, who served as MRSA treasurer for an exceptionally long term of 9 years, retiring from that position at the end of 2019.

Over the years, Homer consistently provided an extraordinary level of service in carrying out his many responsibilities, including accurately keeping track of Association revenues and expenses, giving guidance to the BOG on financial decisions, and providing knowledgeable advice on insurance coverage options. Homer's response in returning reimbursements to members was always quick and accurate, even when done long-distance from Florida! Homer has been an exceptional asset and a contributor to MRSA. Let us raise a glass and toast, to Homer.

Racing Corner

Racing Is Back!

Chris Adriance and Mike Mullarky

July 1st saw the official start of Wednesday night racing on the Magothy. The delay gave the COVID-19 guidelines time to adjust to allow us to race within the confines of the pandemic best practices.

The first two races were the typical mark rounding separated by class splits. The third race we tried something new. A small group of racers were running self-governed pursuit races prior to the official start of racing. Using their model, the race leadership decided to amend the SIs to allow a pursuit race to be run with the committee boat also participating in the race.

This decision was made to not remove a boat from the fleet each week, expecting COVID to lower the overall number of boats racing this season. While the first attempt wasn't totally devoid of issues, overall it seemed to be a success. Some minor adjustments will be made, and the racing RC option may continue past the 2020 season.

With the pandemic still causing issues nationwide, Anne Arundel County has required masks be worn both inside and outside when social distancing isn't possible. The race leadership is strongly recommending that racers wear a face covering when not racing with immediate family or someone you live with.

Cruising Corner

July 4th Cruise

Toni Hughes

Fantastic hosted the July 4th Cruise. Our cruise started on Thursday July 2nd. We motored (no wind) to Gray's Inn Creek off the Chester. It had been years since we enjoyed that spot. We had the creek to ourselves to swim and enjoy the sunset.



Friday July 3rd we were joined by **Chapter Two**, John and Debbie Lund, **Josephine**, Chris Adriance and Kristin Mullins, and a neighbor on his 28ft power boat. The swimming was good but not all of the small boat traffic. We social distanced with happy hour that evening.



Saturday we gingerly followed **Chapter Two** across the Chester into Reed Creek. The water was thin but deep enough for all of us. There were several rafts of boats, but we were able to find a quiet spot further up the creek. Again, swimming was part of the afternoon activities. Did I mention that Chris and Kristin had purchased a swimming “raft” for the trip? The raft took 2 pumps to inflate and was almost as big as their Catalina 25! That night we were delighted with two fireworks shows. One may

have been Queenstown the other a backyard event.

Sunday those who had to return to work on Monday sailed off for the Magothy. We were happy to spend the day sailing to Whitehall to join **Frequent Flyer**, Mike and Laura Bonham in Rideout Creek. They could not join us earlier in the cruise, something about neighborhood fireworks. We rafted for a short time until the heavens looked threatening. It did rain and cool us off for a while.

Monday morning as we began to depart again the heavens opened, we waited about 30 minutes for the clouds to pass. We were able to sail all the way home! A **Fantastic** holiday with 2 days of sailing. And not only sailing, but both Debbie and Kristen went up the masts of their boats!



July 18-19th Marina/Non-Marina Cruise to Eagle Cove

Kristen and Chris Adriance

The cruise planned for July 18th and 19th was originally slated to be a marina cruise. With mid-July weather typically being hot and still, a marina with a pool and shore power seemed like the place to be, when the cruise was planned in late February.

However, a good idea in February seemed like an unnecessary risk in July, with the ongoing pandemic. We decided a short cruise with the option to return home seemed like a better idea. Eagle Cove was chosen, as it is typically a quieter and less crowded anchorage on the Magothy. The Lunds, accompanied by the Poes, were the first to reach Eagle Cove and reported it was very crowded. With that, the decision was made to head up Cornfield Creek to seek a quiet refuge, away from the crowds.

We soon arrived in Cornfield to find the Lunds anchored with the Bonhams in their

powerboat. With the anchorage only being 500 yards from the Bonhams house, we won't deduct any points for their 2 outboards! We tied **Josephine** up to the port side of **Chapter Three** and everyone decided it was time for a swim. It wasn't long before we were entertained by a large powerboat attempting to cut across the shoal and promptly running aground.



After happy hour, no one was brave enough to anchor out and brave the heat. Everyone pulled anchor and headed for home. As usual the Magothy sunset did not disappoint. While the cruise was shorter and closer than planned, any sense of normalcy in this odd time is welcome.

Cruising Awards for 2019 Season

Debbie Lund

The cruising awards for the previous season are usually given out at the March Brunch. This year has been very different. The March Brunch was cancelled, the Sock Burner was cancelled, the June Picnic was cancelled so I thought the Awards could be given out at the August Picnic. Wrong! The August Picnic has been cancelled. I decided to announce the awards in the *Old Man*.

During the 2019 season, there were 10 cruises, and 19 couples that participated. Some cruises had no boats and everyone used a Land Yacht, i.e. the Frost Bite Cruise. The most boats on a cruise was 8, which was for the Labor Day Weekend. There were 6 events that had at least 4 boats. There were 3 cruises that were cancelled due to no leaders. The Long Cruise was cut short due to a hurricane. The year before it was too hot. Can't win.

The **Cruise Leader Award** goes to Rich and Toni Hughes. They organized the Memorial Day Cruise, July 4th cruise and the Church Creek/Omelet Cruise.

The 2nd place **Cruising Award** goes to Chris Adriance and Kristin Mullins on **Josephine**, a Catalina 25. By boat, they attended the wine cruise, July 4th at Rock Hall, Dog Day in the Magothy and Galesville for Labor Day. They also drove to meet the cruise for Mother's Day weekend, Church Creek and Frost Bite.

The 1st place **Cruising Award** goes to John and Debbie Lund on **Chapter Three**. I know this is a total surprise! We attended all the cruises. We also came home early during the long cruise because of the hurricane. We have been known to ride out a hurricane in Chrisfield when it interrupts our two-week vacation.

We had as many cruises scheduled for 2020 but COVID-19 has changed the world. The official 2020 cruising season started on July 2nd and the location was changed-see the article above by Rich and Toni Hughes. Cruising is safe. We can social distant in our cockpits. Let's see people and boats participate in the remaining cruises for 2020.

The Spring Brunch That Wasn't

Peggy Poe

March and April 2020 have certainly brought us all challenges that we didn't expect, to say the least. Joe Jackins and I spent a good bit of time in early 2020 putting our heads together to think of how we could create a really nice Spring Brunch for MRSA that would bring a lot of people together for a fun event. We were pretty sure that we had the right formula.

First, pick a really nice place that people want to visit. Got that right. Many people have not had a chance to check out Annapolis Yacht Club. We were able to plan our Brunch for a Sunday at AYC. Brilliant!

Then, find a speaker who will interest many MRSA people. Our speaker sent us samples of his photography of Birds of the Chesapeake Bay. A speaker who could let us know about the birds we see in our area, at our homes, on the beaches, while we are sailing or walking, and out on the Bay. People were interested, and reservations poured in. Great!



Next, make sure we have a delicious menu. AYC was taking care of that for us. We were ready for a great day.

You know the rest. Joe Jackins, The Board of MRSA and I were sorry to have to cancel what I am sure would have been a great Spring Brunch.

Spring Brunch 2021 will be fabulous!

Mil-Bur Picnic Cancelled

Dave Pirone

As of this time, the Mil-Bur Board has not changed the restrictions regarding the use of the pool and more importantly, the use of the restrooms. A few of the rules will make the use of the Mil-Bur Park impossible for the August 8th MRSA picnic. The very first restriction of the Mil-Bur waiver form is "Outside guests are not permitted to use the pool facilities. Only household members are permitted to use the facilities at this time (which include the bathroom facilities)." Also, "No pool parties or large gatherings will be permitted."

In addition, I have only received one response with regards to the Day Mark Letter that was interested in the August Picnic. The sudden resurgence of the Covid-19 in many states may influence the tight Maryland Restrictions to remain in force. We can only hope and pray that next year will bring all to what we know as "normal."

SAVE THE DATE: MRSA Long Cruise September 8-11, 2020

Debbie Lund

Let's hope the long cruise of 2020 is not as hot as 2018 or a hurricane like 2019. As I am writing this article, the heat index is over 100 degrees. Hopefully the hot weather will be gone by the Labor Day Weekend, which is the start of the long cruise.

Our plans are very open at this time for the long cruise except that we will arrive in Church Creek off of the South River on the 12th. We will probably remain in the Maryland waters instead of pushing too far south since it is only one week of sailing. We will have a planning meeting sometime in August. If anyone is interested in participating in the long cruise, please contact us at dlund210@gmail.com or 410-544-2551.

Welcome New Members!

Peggy Poe

For sailors, this was not a normal spring! However, we do have news of new members joining MRSA. In March, the Board voted to accept the application of Kim and Todd Utz of Severna Park.

Kim and Todd, parents of Kelley and Memphis, were looking forward to helping out with Junior Training this summer, and I'm sure their enthusiasm will carry over for next year!

Welcome aboard to the Utz family.

When Covid19 keeps you cooped up in the house and there is nothing to do but Zoom, read the newspaper, and watch really depressing news on TV, really intelligent people decide to get their boat ready to race on the Magothy River.

Meet one of those really intelligent people. Daniel Wolin, lives in Annapolis, and has been a crew member on ***Wabbit*** for about 13 years. He has sailed all his life. This year, he is racing on his own boat, a Catalina 30, formerly named Infusion – now named ***Masquerade***.

The MRSA board voted on Dan's membership application at our Zoom Board meeting on Monday night, July 13th. Please welcome Dan as the newest member to MRSA.

Images from the Shut-Down

Even though the shut-down kept us from recreational boating for part of the spring, MRSA members returned to it with a vengeance, using the downtime to do some needed work! Thanks to the Lunds, Bonhams, and the Poes for sharing how they spent their quarantine time. If you have photos you'd like to share, feel free to e-mail newsletter@magothysailing.com.

After ***Fantastic*** returned home, Rich Hughes checked out the lazarettes just to be sure no-one is hiding there!





“Magothy Mike” Bonham took advantage of the fishing exception to try his luck by G3. Inquiring minds want to know if he caught anything!

The Bonhams and the Lunds also socially distanced on Broad Creek, and shared some time in Melbourne, Florida.



And the Poes enjoyed some land-based time in their amazing garden!





FACEBOOK

You have heard a lot about our Facebook effort but have you done your part? Please take a moment today and go to [facebook.com/magothysailing](https://www.facebook.com/magothysailing) and “like” each article and each photo. You could click the link right now and then come back to the riveting articles in the Old Man! Put it on your calendar to do all the time! Help us spread the word about MRSA to attract new members!



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

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