

# the Tell-Tale

**BLUE MARSH  
SAILING ASSOCIATION**

**August 2002**



Long messages from the Commodore don't seem appropriate in the middle of summer. Our attitude has changed even if our latitude hasn't. And, the August attitude calls for brevity.

Our plans for vagabonds, picnics, races and evening sails at Blue Marsh Lake were made during the cold weather. Now, we should be involved with enjoying those activities and the other spontaneous summer plans for ballgames, band concerts and beach trips that develop when friends are together in a vacation mode.

Even during the summer, Board attendance has been high. However, the August Board meeting is canceled because at least three officers could not be in attendance making it impossible to have the quorum required to conduct business. Most of us will be at the August picnic and can have a quick summit meeting if anything needs an urgent decision. Please contact me if you or your committee has an item requiring immediate attention.

Enjoy those summer breezes!

*Joan Whan  
Commodore*



## Final Summer Picnic

The final picnic of the summer season will be held at the US Coast Guard Auxiliary Building grounds on River Road, Thursday, August 8, at 6 PM. Bring your lawn chairs and come and relax and get acquainted with the members of BMSA. Drinks must be purchased at the Coast Guard but everyone is asked to bring a covered dish. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided. Hope to see all our members attend this event. This picnic is free to members. Any guest or non member will be charged \$2.00.

A-M — Bring a Salad    N-Z — Bring a Dessert

Visit our website at <http://hometown.aol.com/kristela/myhomepage/club.html>

Meetings are held at the Lower Heidelberg Fire Company  
the second THURSDAY of each month unless otherwise announced.  
(7:30 Social, 8:00 Meeting)

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### Events For August

- Thursday 8/8:  
Picnic USCGA, 6:00.
- Monday 8/12:  
Board Meeting  
CANCELLED.
- Saturday 8/17:  
Race # 4.
- Sat & Sun 8/24 & 25:  
Vagabond #3.

## Minutes of the July Board Meeting

July 15, 2002

### Attending:

John Hackman, Russ Marker, Lou Brown, Alex and Joan Whan, Jan and Mike Dougherty, Dave Miller, Dick Durofchalk, and Ray Hemphill.

The meeting was called to order by Commodore Joan Whan at 7:35. June Board Minutes were accepted as read by Jan Dougherty.

### Treasurer:

Dick reported the current balance is \$3,299.12.

Committee Reports were read in reverse order. Any committees not listed below had no report.

### Vagabond:

Alex reported that the July vagabond to Havre de Grace was very successful. We had 4 boats with 14 sailers, dinner for 14 Saturday evening, and although there was no wind, we had a very good time enjoying being with our fellow sailers. Alex expressed his appreciation to Mike Dougherty for making all the arrangements. The next vagabond will be August 24/25 in the Severn River/Round Bay area. The October vagabond will be the weekend of October 12/13 and may take place in the Tom's River area using the Tom's River Yacht Club facilities.

### Tell-Tale:

John reported that he would welcome stories and pictures of events. The Spring Cruise and regatta was featured in the July edition.

### Stores:

The going away gifts to the Didyoung's (hat and boat bag) were very popular with picnic attendees and generated new orders. Kathy will be placing another order soon.

### Social:

Phyllis has handed over her book of arrangements for the remainder of 2002 events. All arrangements are complete and we thank her for her hard work in getting everything ready in advance. The August picnic will be hosted by Linda Hensley and Heidi Moser. September's social will be a trip on the Skipjack Martha Lewis out of Havre de Grace at a cost of \$14 per person and will include nibbles; October will be a square dance. Jan moved and Dick seconded that the Club absorb the charges for the caller so no admission charge will be necessary. November's Commodore's Ball will be held at Crystal Springs. Dinner selections and entertainment choices were discussed.

### Safety:

Dave Miller reported that this is a slow time and activity won't pick up again until Spring.

### Publicity:

Ray reported the Website has not progressed. A committee will be formed to try to get this activity finalized.

### Program:

October's program will be the photo contest. Information will be printed in the Tell Tale.

### Membership:

Joan reported that 3 new members joined at the July picnic giving us a total of 166 (53 in the Fire Company).

### House:

Dave reported that the hall will continue to be available to rent, but at this time they have no volunteers to continue the breakfasts, etc.

### Equipment:

Joan questioned whether the Committee Boat has been run since the repair. Alex, Mike Dougherty and Dave Miller will verify that the boat has been properly repaired and is in good working order.

### Fleet:

Mike Adair reported the Fall Cruise will be below the Bridge. At least one charter vessel will be sailing the entire week before the Fall Cruise weekend.

### Chaplain:

Russ reported that John Hackman's grandfather died.

### OLD BUSINESS:

- The donation basket at social events was successful.
- Alex discussed membership in the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Information will be presented at the September Board Meeting.
- Nominating Committee: Work is progressing on the 2003 officer slate.

### NEW BUSINESS:

- Joan reported that most BMSA officers will be out of town and unavailable for the August Board meeting so any urgent business will be handled at the August picnic.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jan Dougherty*  
Secretary

## Get Ready to Skipjack

For the second year BMSA has reserved the Skipjack Martha Lewis for an evening Cruise. This year's September 14th social event will be a wine and cheese cruise aboard the traditional oyster boat of the Chesapeake Bay. Last year's event was well attended and the wind gods were with us. This year we will be departing from Hutchins Park at 5 p.m. and will be cruising for 2 hours.

The price will be \$14 per person. BMSA will be providing cheese, crackers and other munchies. Feel free to bring your own wine, beer or other beverage. I am now taking names and collecting payment to reserve your place. We can take 28 passengers.

Contact John Hackman at 610-678-4437 or email me at [jlhack@yahoo.com](mailto:jlhack@yahoo.com) to reserve your space.

Thanks!!

*John Hackman*



## August Vagabond Severn River

August 24-25

If you plan to join us on this vagabond of exploring the Severn River outside of Annapolis please call me and leave a message if I am not there. I plan to release any rooms not reserved by Thursday, August 22. We plan to sail it from our entry point upriver at Round Bay down to its terminus in Annapolis. We will use the ramp at Smith's Marina (\$10.00/day). We will sail on the river on Saturday; stay at the Days Inn on West Street & Riva (5 miles from the ramp and 2.5 miles from Annapolis) on Saturday night; sail again on Sunday returning to Reading early evening. Unfortunately the marina does not have room for us to store our boats overnight so we will have to pull the boats on Saturday and take them with us to the motel where there is parking space available. If participants would like we could sail the South River on Sunday rather than returning to the Severn. The South River is just below Annapolis and is easily reached via Rt. 2. Pier Seven Marina just off Rt. 2 has a ramp-two venues for the price of one!

Reservations can be made at the Days Inn by calling 410-224-4317. Rates are \$90.49/2 Queen size or 1 King. I reserved 5 double bed rooms. Mention Blue Marsh and move your room off my credit card onto yours. If you want a King request it. Call Tom Stoner 610-678-0683 for additional information and to be included in this fun sailing weekend.

*Tom Stoner*

## July Race Results

Mother Nature certainly has it in for the BMSA racing program. The day was overcast with very little wind. Five boats showed up to do battle but it soon became obvious that it was to be a case of who could drift the fastest. The first race was a simple SBCF once around and it took an hour to get to the first mark! The wind picked up a little and the first boat finished in an hour and 34 minutes. The second race was shortened to a SBCF with two boats dropping out. That even took 28 minutes for the first boats to finish. Armando with his 1st today and 2nd in the Regatta is on a hot track to take the season overall.

*Tom Stoner  
Racing*

### Official Race Results:

<u>Boat</u>	<u>Race 1</u>	<u>Race 2</u>	<u>Overall</u>
Antonini/Bibbus	1	2	1
Stoner/Miskie	2	1	2
Dougherty/Moser	4	3	3
McGuire/Ryan	3	DNS	4
Brown/Whan	5	DNS	5

## Farewell to the Didyoung's

Our July picnic included a farewell toast to John and Phyllis Didyoung. The Didyoung's decided on their winter trip to Florida to relocate to the sunshine and warm weather offered in southwest Florida. John stepped down as Vice Commodore and Phyllis as Social Chairperson in preparation for the move.

The farewell picnic included a thank you for all they did for BMSA speech to the Didyoung's by Commodore Joan Whan. They were presented a farewell gift of a Blue Marsh Sailing Association hat and t-shirt. A sheet cake sporting a sailboat was also provided. We all hope John and Phyllis enjoy their new home and that they keep in touch and continue their membership and friendship with the rest of us here in Pennsylvania.



## August Race

Our racing season continues with the race on August 17. This will be our last race of the summer before the Turkey Race on October 19. Come out and enjoy a fun day on the Lake. Experience is not necessary but if you would like an experienced crew give me a call. If you would like to crew there are always boats available. Have your boat in the water before the skippers meeting at 10:30. The first race is at 11:00 and we usually close out between 2:30 and 3:00. See you there! Call Tom for details at 610-678-0683.

*Tom Stoner  
Racing*



## Chapter Thirteen

### The Conclusion

The morning passed with a pleasant run before a sprightly breeze. Sea birds followed them for a distance out of St. Bart's, calling and laughing as they hovered nearby hoping for a tasty bite of croissant tossed into the wind. Everything on the boat was working perfectly. That alone should have made Rusty wonder. But it was Ramón's ears that perked up at the soft thudding sound that came from the bow.

"What do you suppose that was?" Ramón asked.

"Probably just some gear shifting in that locker up front. We are getting some swells out here," Rusty said.

"Last I looked, there were just extra sail bags in there. By the way, that's not just a locker, it's the crew quarters. This was a small luxury yacht once, wasn't it?" Ramón asked.

"You're kidding, right? Who could even fit in there? I've been throwing all kinds of stuff in there to get it out of the way," Rusty responded. Ramón caught Jenny rolling her eyes and laughed.

"That's our Captain Keelbolts, always ship-shape!"

By the afternoon, the air became still. The sky took on a grey-green cast and thick darkening clouds were rising on the horizon in the direction of weather. "Looks like we're in for something," Rusty mused, "and it doesn't look good."

"Ya, I see dis kind off sky very much in Sveden. Iss bat wedder cummin. Very bat," Ilsa said softly, sounding a little scared.

"Do you want us to reduce sail, Captain?" Ramón asked.

"Yeah, dig out the storm jib from the forward locker. We'll put that on and reef the main. We can always shake it out if this passes us by."

Flappin' Jenny stared at Rusty with her mouth open. "Geez, Rusty, you sound... so... nautical! I'm impressed!"

Rusty grinned. "I've been reading up. That book you gave me is really pretty good. Lots of good advice on how to at least speak like a mariner, even if you don't know what a dang boom vang is."

Ramón turned to open the forward locker and was knocked

backward onto the deck when it was opened with force from below. A hulking, dissheveled figure emerged on deck with a roaring voice and a gun.

"Hello, mates," a low guttural voice boomed. Everyone froze. Ramón recognized the blond, beefy man from the Peg Leg Pub in Marigot. The man motioned with the gun for Ramón to move to the cockpit. "Hello, Ilsa," the man snarled.

"Olaf! Iss it really yew?" Ilsa pasted a surprised and happy smile on her face and moved toward the man. "Yew ver not lost after all! Vat good news dis iss..."

"Save it, Ilsa," Olaf cut her off. "Yew know why I haf come, don't yew, Ilsa? It took me some time to figure it out, but I hat nottink but time. Time to tink aboot vat I hat done, time to tink about my wife's betrayal vit anodder man, time to understant all dat happent. Time to know it vass not Sylvie dat day I come home and find her... it vass yew! YEW!" Olaf was shaking with rage, the gun pointed right at Ilsa. The clouds had grown darker and lightning slashed across the sky. The thunder that followed was deafening.

"Now I vill hev my revenge!"

"Olaf, yew are wrong, Vhy would I do such a tink?" Ilsa yelled, her voice weakened by the rising wind.

"Because yew vere jealous of Sylvie, jealous of her happiness vit me. Yew wanted to destroy her, and yew used me to do it. Ahhh!" Olaf cried in anguish. "Yew made me tink she vass havink an affair. Yew as good as put de gun in my hend. Yew made me kill my own wife!"

"I did nottink off de kind, yew stupid man. Iff a little suggestion iss all dat it took for yew to do dis horrible ting, den yew are de von who is evil. De two off yew, yew made me sick vit all yer luffy-duffy talk. Sylvie always got vat she wanted. But yew vere veak, and it vass easy to start a little bit off trouble between yew. I laughed at how easy it vass," Ilsa put her face close to his and smiled wickedly.

The backhanded slap knocked Ilsa to the deck, stunned. Olaf turned to the others and waved the gun at them. "Get into de dinkhy and cast off. Now!" he commanded. "Dis iss my Valhalla once more."

Rusty didn't want to give up the boat but knew his first priority was to protect his crew. Ramón, Jenny, and Rusty fought the rising waves and climbed into the dinghy and set themselves free from the boat. It started to rain in large pelting drops. They watched the drama unfolding aboard Valhalla as Olaf and Ilsa

*(Continued on page 5)*

screamed at each other, with the sails flapping madly and crashing waves tossing the boat about. Ilsa stood on the cockpit bench hurling abuse at Olaf at the helm while he threatened her with the gun. Suddenly the boat jibed, sending the boom sweeping across the cockpit from port beam to starboard and knocking Ilsa overboard, lifeless before she hit the water.

Ramón had the oars in his hands and was rowing furiously to reach Ilsa, but the waves carried her away and she disappeared. Rusty and Jenny called to Olaf to give up his gun and let them come back aboard, but he couldn't hear them in the howling wind. He moved forward to the bow and stood grasping the head stay as he bellowed mournfully into the wind. "Sylvieeeee! Sylvieeeee! It's ended. Forgiff meeee!"

The sky was almost black now. The rain pounded the sea around them and the lightning flashed. The dinghy floated about 100 feet from the Valhalla, its three occupants straining to see through the turmoil to where Olaf stood at the bow. They called to him again but their voices were lost in the storm. In a flash of light another form appeared near the bow of the Valhalla, but floating somehow above and beyond Olaf's reach. Only he could hear the words that were spoken, barely audible in the keening wind, but words he understood. Come to me, the voice said.

Olaf reached up for a better grasp of the head stay and found the sharp wire he had cut just days ago. He cried out in pain and pulled back his hand, losing his grip. As he fell into the black water, he heard the voice whisper again. Come to me. And he was gone.

The wind whipped furiously at the full sails of the Valhalla and she rocked madly on the waves. Suddenly the head stay broke at the point of weakness where Olaf had cut the wire. The rig shuddered and slowly the mast came crashing down through the deck, leaving a sizable hole in the side of the hull. "Nooooooo!" Rusty yelled, his cry in vain.

The Valhalla went down in less than three minutes, its once beautiful deck and brightwork swallowed up by an unforgiving sea. And just like that they were alone in the stormy darkness, adrift.

After a few hours of fighting the waves and the whipping rain, the storm passed and the three of them gave in to sleep. When they awoke, it was a bright, clear morning. Within sight, perhaps five or six miles off stood the towering edifice of Saba. Without a word, Ramón began rowing. Nothing had been said the night before about what happened on the Valhalla, and Jenny couldn't wait any longer to talk about it.

"So, what happened last night?" Jenny asked.

"You saw what I saw," Rusty said with a little hesitation. He looked at Ramón who raised his eyebrows.

"Uh huh..." Jenny said, looking from one to the other. "Ramón?"

"I don't think even I could tell a taller tale than what happened last night," Ramón grinned.

"But you'll certainly try," Rusty laughed.

Ramón smiled as he looked toward the horizon. "Damn skippy."

*by Jess Pokinfun*

(The final chapter in an ongoing tale of fiction - see past Tell-Tales for the previous twelve chapters)

## Creative Writers Wanted

This month draws to a close the final chapter of the Nautica story. After thirteen chapters Jess Pokinfun has concluded the story of the crew of Valhalla.

Now the editor is wondering if anyone else out there is willing to submit a monthly creative story? It doesn't have to be a serial of 13 chapters a short monthly story will be fine. How about writing about your real life sailing adventures? I'm willing to change names to protect the innocent.

Don't be shy. Put your ideas on paper. Please let me know if you'd like to fill the slot left empty by the demise of Valhalla's crew.

P.S. If no one is interested I'll have to write some boring column about how to watch bottom paint dry!

Thanks!

*John Hackman*  
Editor

## Fall Cruise Below the Bridge

The 2002 Fall Cruise will be a "below the bridge" event and I hope that our bay boating members will join us. We'll enjoy the day Friday with a TGIF sail without all that weekend traffic, and we'll meet up Friday night in St. Michaels where I plan to reserve slips at the Miles River Yacht Club. On Saturday, we'll cross the bay to the Rhodes River for an evening raft up and potluck happy hour. (Does anyone really need to eat dinner after one of these?) Sunday will be a return to your home ports.

If your port of call is above the bridge, we hope that you can perhaps take an extra day or two to join us. I realize your sail is longer, but the fun and fellowship we enjoy on these long weekend cruises is really worth it. For myself, Kristel and I will be chartering out of Annapolis for the week leading up to the Fall Cruise with Hemphills and Nicholls. If anyone would like to tag along in our wake, we'd love the company.

**CAPTAINS:** I plan to hold a captains' meeting at 7PM on our meeting night September 12th at the fire hall. Prior to that, I need to know if you plan to participate so that the appropriate slip reservations can be made. Call me or e-mail me with your name, crew, boat name, length and draft. We'll firm up all details at the captains' meeting.


**THOSE WANTING TO CREW:** I need to hear from you ASAP. I will try to get you a spot with one of our captains, but the more notice I have, the better your chances are. You have to speak up!

**EVERYONE!** We have quite a few capable captains out there, many of whom can charter, so let's make this the biggest and best cruise yet! Contact Mike for more info 610-775-2438 [mike4sail@aol.com](mailto:mike4sail@aol.com)

*Mike Adain  
Fleet Captain*

Land • Cultural • Natural Resource Conservation

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Web site: [www.berks-conservancy.org](http://www.berks-conservancy.org)

## Events Schedule for 2002

### SEPTEMBER

12	Thursday	General Meeting
14	Saturday	Social Skipjack Martha Lewis-Havre de Grace
16	Monday	Board Meeting
20-22	Fri-Sun	Fall Cruise Annapolis

### OCTOBER

5	Saturday	Annapolis Boat Show
10	Thursday	General Meeting Photo Contest
12-13	Sat-Sun	Vagabond #4
14	Monday	Board Meeting
19	Saturday	Race #5 Turkey Race
26	Saturday	Square Dance Halloween Party

### NOVEMBER

9	Saturday	Commodore's Ball Crystal Spring
11	Monday	Transition Board Meeting

### DECEMBER

6	Friday	Christmas Party
7	Saturday	Baltimore Boat Parade
9	Monday	New Board Meeting
14	Saturday	Annapolis Boat Parade

## Upcoming Programs

Regular Fall programs return September 12th, at the Lower Heidelberg Fire Company. Ted Taylor will be presenting a program about his sailing trip to Greece in September 2001. He plans to detail what it was like being in a foreign country aboard a boat and learning of the attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon.

On October 10th our yearly photo contest will be held with prizes awarded to our most skilled photographers. Our categories this year include the following areas:

Sailing	Landscape	People
Abstract-Creative	Miscellaneous	

Photos must be 5x7 or larger and should ideally be mounted for display.

So spend your summer adventures camera in hand looking for that award winning shot.

*Joanne Solarek  
Program*



## August 2002 Events & Birthday's

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Paul Dovin Linda Hensley
4 James Miller Neil Hoffman John Miskie Richard Zvitkovitz	5 LouAnn Snoke	6	7	8 Picnic USCGA	9	10
11 David Rohrbach Marianne Durofchalk	12	13	14	15	16	17 Race #4 Dave Page
18	19	20	21	22 Nancy List	23 Sean Hollis Sara Summy	24 Vagabond #3
25	26	27 Mike Dougherty	28	29	30	31

**Happy Birthday to all Members Celebrating August Birthdays**

### Welcome New Members!

Blue Marsh Sailing grew a little bit larger at the July picnic with three new members joining. First we welcome Scott Shanaman, a long-time friend of Dave Miller's. Another crewman to help you sail the Albacore, Dave! Also joining at the picnic were John and Vivian Koller, who found our website. John and Vivian are new to sailing now that they are empty-nesters and are keenly interested in a MacGregor 26'. Lastly, Scott Thyng introduced himself to us at the last race day at the lake. Scott has an avid new interest in sailing and a newly acquired Catalina Capri 14' with which to practice his skills. Hope to see you at the August race, Scott. We welcome you all and look forward to having you join us on the water and at our other events.

Everyone, please keep me informed of any other changes.

*Kristel Adair*  
*Membership*

### Sailing the Web

Sailing the Web Links will return in September. Everyone's out actually sailing right now.

If you have a favorite sailing related website let the editor know so it can be included in future issues.

### Members, for your logs:

Scott Shanaman  
411 James Street  
Sinking Spring, PA 19608  
610-378-7925  
scottbshanaman@cs.com

John and Vivian Koller  
70 Lamms Mill Road  
Wernersville, PA 19565  
610-693-6497  
vivianrn@aol.com

Scott Thyng  
6105 Schaller Court  
Germansville, PA 18053-2317  
610-767-4568  
thyngsd@erols.com

I also have address changes to report:

Joe Fleming is now at kbfoe@comcast.net.

John & Phyllis Didyoung are now at  
2123 SE 3rd Terrace  
Cape Coral, FL 33990  
239-242-8401

2002

## BLUE MARSH SAILING ASSOCIATION

### OFFICERS

COMMODORE	Joan Whan	610-396-1416
VICE COMMODORE	Dave Miller	610-678-7121
SECRETARY	Jan Dougherty	610-926-5581
TREASURER	Dick Durofchalk	610-678-0642
REAR COMMODORE	Lou Brown	717-933-8560

### COMMITTEE CHAIR PERSONS

CBYCA DELEGATE	Russ Witzke	610-775-9704
CBYCA ALTERNATE	Conrad Vanino	610-777-2599
CHAPLIN	Russ Marker	610-678-5606
EQUIPMENT	Dennis Arentz	610-921-9631
FLEET CAPTAIN	Mike Adair	610-775-2438
HISTORIAN	Jan Stoner	610-678-0683
HOUSE	Dave Miller	610-678-7121
LIBRARIAN	Bob Hartwich	610-779-4520
MEMBERSHIP	Kristel Adair	610-775-2438
PROGRAM	Joanne Solarek	610-779-4516
PUBLICITY	Ray Hemphill	610-678-6754
RACING	Tom Stoner	610-678-0683
SAFETY	Dave Miller	610-678-7121
SOCIAL	Depends on Event	
STORES	Kathy Arentz	610-921-9631
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