

February 2003



It's cold out side and if you're not an ice boater then you're not sailing at Blue Marsh, so what's a sailor supposed to do. If you're a member of BMSA it's a good time to renew your club membership. This month you can spend some time with your fellow sailors by attending the Reading Royals Ice Hockey game. Tickets are still available contact Sally Koch.

This is the time of year that the BMSA officers and committee chairs sit down and make a new calendar and budget for the year. Both of these items are complete except for some fine-tuning as the year goes along. This year's budget is very tight and so we have made some minor cuts in order to avoid a raise in the dues. We are also seeking some sources of extra revenue by better promoting advertising in the Logbook, the Tell Tale and on our

newly designed website. How can you help, if you or some one you know is interested in advertising please let us know. Renew your membership as soon as possible so we have a better idea how many members we will have this year. You can also help out by bringing a new member into the club and by participating when we have an event that requires the club to buy tickets in advance. It's not a good situation when we have to pay for tickets we don't use.

We have some great Programs and Social events scheduled for this year so plan now to attend and support your club. as well as all the usual sailing events that make BMSA the club it has been for the last 23 years.

Dave Miller

Reading Royals Ice Hockey

When: Friday February 28, 2002 @ 7:05.

Where: Sovereign Center Penn Street, Reading.

Who: Reading Royals vs. Roanoke Express.

Cost: \$12.00 per person. Seats are in the Executive section.

Details: Tickets will be distributed at the general meeting on February 13. If unable to attend the meeting, call Sally Koch at 610-693-5613.

Watch the Royals battle the Express on the ice and enjoy the evening with friends.

Several Tickets are still Available.

Lets make this a sell out for BMSA!!

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Events For February

- Thursday 2/13:
General Meeting.
- Monday 2/17:
Board Meeting.
- Friday 2/28:
Reading Royals
Ice Hockey.

Receiving the Tell Tale via Email

In the past we attempted to send the Tell Tale to our members via email. The results were mixed with some people able to read it with no problems and others unable to open the file. The board has decided that in order to save some of the costs of printing and postage we will give the digital version another try. Beginning with this issue I will be creating an Adobe Acrobat pdf file of the Tell Tale. This file is formatted to be printed if you so desire. I do not plan on sending the digital version to you unless requested. I am asking that those wishing to receive the Tell Tale as an Acrobat file to please call or email me to opt-in.

Thanks, Your Editor. 610-678-4437 or jlhack@yahoo.com

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

Minutes of the January Board Meeting

January 13, 2002

Commodore Dave Miller called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm. Attending were Dave Miller, Mike Adair, Jan Dougherty, Bob Hartwich, Joan Whan, Joanne Solarek, Sean Hollis, Sally Koch, Heidi Moser, Ralph Bibbus, John Hackman, Ray Hemp-hill, Kristel Adair, and Jeff Weikel.

The Secretary's report was accepted as read.

The Treasurer reported a balance of \$1,653.07. All bank papers were signed to enable Bob to write checks.

Equipment: The Fire Company has received a grant for the purchase of a new boat. Our Committee Boat needs to be moved before March. We need to store it, hopefully, near the lake. Would any of our members like to volunteer space?

Membership: We have 78 renewals to date. Affiliate membership status was discussed.

Tell-Tale: Cost for printing the current issue was \$101.76. This was the second issue printed commercially. Costs of Advertising in the Tell Tale and log were discussed.

Social: The trip to the Reading Royals hockey game will be 1/28/03. Tickets are still available. March will feature a bowling event while April will be the annual GPS Rally.

Program: Jim Shotwell will give a seminar on wooden boat building in February, and

March will feature searching for and financing your dream boat.

New Business:

The budget line items were discussed. More work remains to be done.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jan Dougherty

Upcoming Programs 2003

Our speaker scheduled for the regular February membership meeting has unfortunately had to cancel. In his place we are tentatively scheduling a roundtable discussion on a soon to be decided sailing topic. As in the past members contributing to the roundtable made for an engaging and interesting evening. We hope to see a big turnout and lively discussion.

In March we have tentatively scheduled two guest speakers from the Annapolis Sail Yard. The first speaker is boat broker Scott Morrison. He will be discussing how to go about locating the boat of your dreams. Of course once you've found that boat you'll want to buy it, that's were our second guest speaker joins in. Our second speaker will be discussing financing the boat and what you should know before you sign on the dotted line.

Ralph Billus
Program

Advertising in the Log & Tell Tale

As in past years the membership and publicity chair will be soliciting advertisements for the Membership Log. If anyone has a business they would like to advertise or knows someone looking for a good deal on advertising please contact Jeff Weikel at 610-370-0272 as soon as possible. A half page ad is \$25 and a full page ad is \$40. A savings of \$10!

Advertising space is also available in the Tell Tale. A noncommercial ad of business card size is free to any member and \$5 for non-members. So if you or family or friends have anything you'd like to advertise please contact John Hackman at 610-678-4437.

Anyone interested in placing a commercial ad in the Tell Tale please contact John Hackman. These ads can be business card or banner ads and will be priced accordingly.

Proceeds from the ads will be used to offset printing and publicity costs.

In the near future we will also be looking for sponsors for our redesigned website. These ads will be in place for the entire year and will allow visitors to click to the sponsors site.

Thanks
John Hackman
Jeff Weikel

February 2003 Birthday's

This month our birthday calendar becomes a list.

Lets wish the following folks a Happy Birthday.

- 6 John Banis
- 7 Anna Grace
Bob Hartwich
- 10 Dennis Bixler
- 11 Armando Antonini
- 12 Emerson Hoffman
Dennis Gaugler
- 14 Dennis Snoko
- 21 John Didyoung
- 22 Jim Spinka
- 25 Ron Alesin
Sandi Bukowski
Jackie Jungjohann
- 28 Jan Stoner
Dennis Arentz



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

Have a Happy Valentine's Day!!

Events Schedule for 2003

FEBRUARY

13 Thursday General Meeting
 17 Monday Board Meeting
 28 Friday Reading Royals Hockey

MARCH

13 Thursday General Meeting – Boat Brokerage
& Financing
 15 Saturday Social Event - Bowling
 17 Monday Board Meeting

APRIL

5 Saturday GPS Rally
 10 Thursday General Meeting
 14 Monday Board Meeting
 26 Saturday Lake Clean-up

MAY

3 Saturday Training Day
 4 Sunday Day sail under Bay Bridge / Bridge
 Walk
 8 Thursday General Meeting
 10 Saturday Race #1 Kickoff
 12 Monday Board Meeting
 17 Saturday Day Sail
 17-24 Sat-Sat Antigua Trip
 29-31 Thurs-Sun Spring Cruise

JUNE

1 Sunday Spring Cruise
 8 Sunday Water Safety Festival
 12 Thursday Picnic USCGA
 14 Saturday Regatta / Picnic USCGA
 16 Monday Board Meeting
 27-28 Sat-Sun Vagabond #1

JULY

10 Thursday Picnic USCGA
 12-13 Sat-Sun Vagabond #2
 14 Monday Board Meeting
 26 Saturday Race #3

AUGUST

11 Monday Board Meeting
 14 Thursday Picnic USCGA
 16-17 Sat-Sun Vagabond #3
 23 Saturday Race #4

SEPTEMBER

6 Saturday DaySail / Social
 11 Thursday General Meeting
 15 Monday Board Meeting
 25-28 Thurs-Sun Fall Cruise Annapolis

OCTOBER

2-5 Saturday Annapolis Boat Show
 9 Thursday General Meeting Photo Contest
 13 Monday Board Meeting
 25 Saturday Social

NOVEMBER

1 Saturday Turkey Race
 8 Saturday Commodore's Ball Chef Alan's
 West Reading
 10 Monday Transition Board Meeting

DECEMBER

5 Friday Holiday Party
 6 Saturday Baltimore Boat Parade
 8 Monday New Board Meeting
 13 Saturday Annapolis Boat Parade

May 3rd Training Day

Attention new sailors and old salts! We have scheduled a training day on May 3rd, and I'd like to tailor it to best meet the needs of our members. For the past two years, we have done a 1/2 day, hands-on session for those who want to learn to sail. We can do that again, or we can modify or expand it to include some topics for our more experienced sailors.

I welcome your input as I put together an agenda of material. If you are interested in attending, please get in touch with me by phone or email, and let me know what topics would interest you. My main objective is to get our beginning sailors started so that they can join in our sailing adventures.

Call me!! kristela@aol.com 610-775-2438

*Kristel Adair
Training*

Membership

2003 membership renewals have been flowing rapidly back. If you have not sent yours in yet please do so soon so we can add your name to the Log Book. If you lost your renewal and need a new form please contact me at 610-370-0272 so I can send a new form.

Lets try to boost our membership in 2003. If you have friends or family interested in sailing pass your Tell Tale on to them. Or drop me a note with their name and address and I can mail out a copy of the Tell Tale and membership information.

Keep those 2003 membership renewals coming in!! Thanks.

*Jeff Weikel
Membership*

From the Nav Station

This is the second in a series of articles covering the various aspects of safe and effective coastal piloting.

The compass is an invaluable tool to a navigator. It establishes a directional reference that becomes more essential when out of sight of land or other aids to navigation. Not only is it used to steer a course, but also in the taking of bearings to help determine one's location.

To use a compass most effectively, it is important to understand its basic function and what affects its performance. We all know that a compass works magnetically by pointing to north, but there's north and then there's north. Confused? Read on.

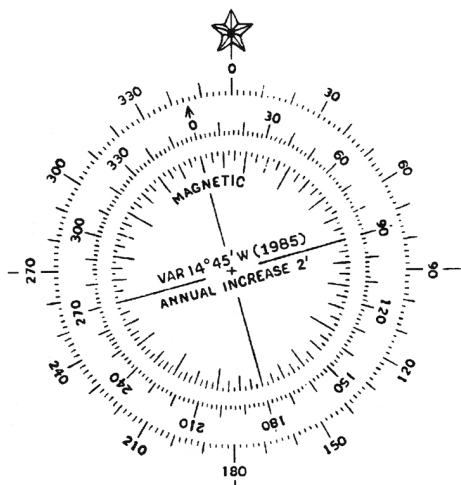
What is North?

The Earth is a giant magnet. However, the center of magnetism is at a point that is not quite the same spot as what we think of as the north pole, or geographic north. It is actually at approximately L 74°N and Lo 101° W. Expectedly, the south magnetic pole is slightly off of geographic south as well. A compass will point to magnetic north. The difference between geographic north and magnetic north is called Variation, and it is measured in degrees east or west.

Calculating Variation

The amount of variation changes as you move across the surface of the earth. So how do you know what the variation is in your area? Find the compass rose (looks like a compass card) on the chart closest to your location. In the center, the variation is indicated in degrees for the year stated along with an annual change amount. Since the magnetic poles are constantly shifting location, it is important to take the date and annual change into consideration when determining variation.

Look at the compass rose below. The outer scale shows geographic or "true" direction, and the inner scale shows magnetic direction. Note the indication of variation in the center. What would the variation be for 2003? 14° 45' West, plus a 2' annual increase since 1985 (18 years x 2' = 36') or 14° 45' + 36' = 15° 21'. For purposes of further calculations, we'll just round to the nearest degree, or 15° W.



Deviation

There are also magnetic influences on the boat that can affect your compass readings. They might be caused by iron in the engine or electrical fields created by other instruments or metal objects near the compass, and they are different from boat to boat. These influences can vary as the boat is headed in different directions and will cause your compass to point to "compass north". The difference between magnetic north and compass north is called deviation, and it is also measured in degrees east or west.

Many captains develop a deviation table for their vessel which provides the measurement of deviation for every 15° change in the boat's heading. Below is a partial example of a deviation table.

Magnetic Heading	Deviation	Steer by Compass
000	5E	355
015	0	015
030	4W	034
045	8W	053
060	11W	071
075	14W	089

Ok, so what are you supposed to do with all this? First, understand that the direction you are reading on your compass is not exactly the direction you are traveling on the chart. You need to correct for variation and deviation. Conversely, if you determine from the chart what direction you want to head, you need to correct for variation and deviation to determine what compass course to steer. How do we do that?

True Virgins Make Dull Companions, so add Whiskey... If you can remember this mnemonic device (not my invention!), you can remember how to work from true to magnetic to compass and back again. TVMDC+W tells you the formula.

See below:

- T= True
- V= Variation
- M= Magnetic
- D= Deviation
- C= Compass

+W means, if Variation or Deviation are westerly, you add them working from True to Compass. If they are easterly, you subtract them. Conversely, if you are working from Compass to True, you subtract west and add east.

*Kristel Adair
Training*

Questions from the Nav Station

Let's try an actual example using the variation determined from the compass rose and a deviation value from the partial table provided on the previous page. Let's say you have determined from the chart that the course you want to travel is 030°. What compass course should you steer?

- T 030°
- V + 15°W
- M 045°
- D + 8°W
- C 053°

The answer is 053°. If you had not corrected for variation or deviation, you would have been way off course. Let's try a few more (the answers are listed below).

1. If you are steering by compass 355°, what is your true heading?

- T _____
- V _____
- M _____
- D _____
- C _____

2. To avoid a shallow area, you need to make a true heading of 060°. What compass heading do you steer?

- T _____
- V _____
- M _____
- D _____
- C _____

3. What is your deviation if your true heading is 015°?

- T _____
- V _____
- M _____
- D _____
- C _____

Racing News

Hello Fellow Sailors,

I know you are not thinking much about sailing with the cold and miserable weather we have been having but I wanted to jiggle your memory a little! Our Kick off Race is May 10th. If you own a trailerable boat there is no reason not to use it. So why not come out and enjoy it in the company of your fellow sailors on your local lake- Blue Marsh. This is not cutthroat racing, folks! We are intending to give you another reason to enjoy your favorite pastime (it is- isn't it?) and I bet once you try it you will be back for our next race. We only have one a month- no overkill here! Jan and I will be doing our cookout thing after the race so mark it on your calendar now and make that firm resolve to use that boat this year. Any questions? call me at 610-678-0683 (leave a message- I'm down south) or better yet send an e-mail (we read them all the time).

tjstoner@msn.com

*Tom Stoner
Racing*

Sailing the Web

Welcome to this months sailing the web links list. This month we link you to several Maritime Museums. Now is the time of year to begin planning your visit to these places. Many of the Maritime Museums have interesting events on their calendars early in the warm weather seasons.

www.maritimemuseums.net
A page to search for you favorite museum.

www.cbmm.org
The Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in St Michaels, Maryland.

<http://seaport.philly.com>
Independence Seaport Museum in Philadelphia.

www.mystic.org
Mystic Seaport Museum in Mystic, Connecticut.

www.cwb.org
For those of you who really like to travel the Center for Wooden Boats in Seattle, WA.

If you have a favorite sailing related website, or would like to see a series of sites on a specific topic, let the editor know so it can be included in future issues.

1. 345° 2. 089° 3. 4° W

From the Nav Station Answers

2003

BLUE MARSH SAILING ASSOCIATION

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REAR COMMODORE	Joan Whan	610-396-1416

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