

March 2003



This year the winter is lasting longer, the snow is deeper, old man winter has been keeping a tight grip on us and in general we have seen more foul weather. This kind of winter will make the long awaited spring sailing season all the better. We have some great events planned for the 2003 season. All we need now is some warm weather and your participation to make it the best spring sailing season in years.

Have you added our events to your calendar? Will you be joining us on Wednesday nights over the summer to sail at Blue Marsh and then socialize at Ganley's? What about our summer picnics at the Coast Guard Auxiliary? Will we see you there? And also don't forget we have an active group of racers who are always looking for a new challenger to take there ranking away on race days.

Okay, that's enough looking at the future events. Let's look at the present. We have a reason to brave the cold. This month at our general membership meeting we will have a boat broker from the Annapolis Sail Yard on hand to discuss finding your dreamboat and another discussing how to finance it. For the monthly social we have plans to meet up at Berks Lanes to bowl a few games and socialize with friends. Plan on coming out to our events to socialize and to begin to make those plans for summer sailing with your friends.

Remember winter is over as soon as we see the first boat on Blue Marsh Lake regardless of what the groundhog told us. I believe after this wild winter we will all be looking forward to this spring more than ever. Lets make this a sailing season to remember!

Dave Miller

BMSA Bowling Night

When: Saturday March 15

Where: Colonial-Berks Bowling Lanes.
Shillington Road
Sinking Spring.

Time: 7:00 PM

Cost: \$7.00 for two games & shoes.

We must have 10 or more bowlers for this special price!

Contact: Sally Koch
610-693-5613 or
salkoch@email.msn.com

Get rid of the winter blahs.....Join us for bowling or just to cheer on your BMSA friends!

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Events For March

Thursday 3/13:
General Meeting.
Saturday 3/15:
Bowling Night.
Monday 3/17:
Board Meeting.

Interest Grows in Receiving the Tell Tale via Email

In the first month of offering the Tell Tale to our members via email we have had a strong response. So far almost 20 percent of you have responded expressing interest in the digital version. Those who have received the newsletter via email have reported great results and state it prints well, thus you can still have a paper copy. If you are interested in a digital copy please contact me. The digital Tell Tale is in an Adobe Acrobat (pdf) format. 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 Board Meeting

February 24, 2002

Attending: Dave Miller, Joan Whan, Mike and Kristel Adair, Joanne Solarek, John Hackman, Heidi Moser, Sean Hollis, Bob Hartwich, and Jan Dougherty

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm by Commodore Dave Miller. The January Minutes were accepted as published in the Tell Tale. The Treasurer reported our current balance is \$2,432.24.

Equipment: Joan Whan reported for Alex that Harold Peffley, of Sinking Spring, will store the committee boat in his building as soon as snow has been removed to allow the boat to be moved. Because Mr. Peffley prefers not to hand out a key to the building, we will need to make access arrangements with him whenever we need the boat.

Safety: Heidi reported the new Safety Boating Education Certificates will be required for 25 hp or above boats. Fees for use of the lake will increase to \$3.00 per vehicle, \$30.00 per year with second vehicles costing \$15.00. A demo will be decided upon and planned for the Safety Day at the lake.

Social: Five tickets are available for the hockey game. Sally has been given the Boards' approval to sell them to any interested persons, as time is too short for further publicity.

Membership: Dues notices were sent out and responses are still coming in.

Program: Upcoming programs include Sailboat Financing, BaySail Yacht Charters, Racing Tips and Techniques, and our annual Photo Contest.

Publicity: BMSA will be represented by John Hackman at an Outdoor Expo at Penn State 3/16. Numerous organizations will participate. Mike and Kristel Adair volunteered to assist. We will have informational material available for any interested parties.

Tell Tale: Approximately 22 members so far have expressed a preference for receiving the electronic version of the Tell-Tale. There is significant cost savings to the Club by using this method of distribution instead of US mail.

Vagabond: Sean announced the first vagabond will be the week-end of the Bridge Walk at Annapolis with members participating in whichever event they prefer.

New Business:

- Because of savings anticipated from e-mailing the Tell-Tale and the sale of advertisements in the Tell-Tale, the 2003 Budget will not be out of balance.
- After discussion on selling the committee boat, a committee was formed to investigate whether this is something the Club wishes to pursue.
- The new website is progressing and is almost completed.
- The Board discussed the dues structure of the Club. Dues have not been raised for many years and the amount received from dues no longer covers the cost of the Club's programs and activities. A committee was named to further discuss this issue and make recommendations on proposed solutions.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:11.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jan Dougherty

Upcoming Programs 2003

In March we have 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.

For April we have scheduled Kim Richards from BaySail in Havre de Grace to speak. Kim will be talking about learning to sail through the

American Sailing Association courses and what you should know when chartering a boat.

In May our very own Sean Hollis will be discussing sailboat racing tactics and how to drive the boat to be the first across the finish line.

During our summer break we will be having picnics as in years past.

Lastly, we are planning ahead to the Fall. In September we are planning on having a sail maker on hand to discuss sails and sail trim.

Ralph Billus

March 2003 Birthday's

Lets wish the following folks a Happy Birthday.

- | | |
|----|-----------------|
| 4 | Dick Durofchalk |
| 6 | Linda Reitnour |
| 7 | Alex Whan |
| | Bob Dudek |
| 12 | Joe Witkor |
| 17 | Willard Smith |
| 19 | Chuck Gundlach |
| 22 | Ingrid Hemphill |
| | Ted Taylor |
| 23 | Joan Whan |
| | Bob Shimmer |
| 26 | Russ Marker |
| 31 | Martin Radvanyi |



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

Happy St. Patrick's Day!!

Events Schedule for 2003

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—CANCELLED
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

Attention, Schedule Change

At the February Board meeting it was decided that the Thursday night June picnic will be combined into a larger post-Regatta picnic. More details to follow.....

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.

Contact me!! kristela@aol.com or 610-775-2438

*Kristel Adair
Training*

Membership

Membership renewals have slowed to a trickle and we are beginning to pull together the 2003 Membership Logbook. If you have not sent in your renewal do so soon as soon as possible.

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 third in a series of articles covering the various aspects of safe and effective coastal piloting.

On large bodies of water, it is wise to know your location at any given time to avoid hazards and safely reach your destination. There are many ways to do this and with varying degrees of accuracy. The three most common are the dead reckoning (aye, matey, doesn't that sound nautical!), the estimated position, and the fix. This month's article will discuss the dead reckoning.

The dead reckoning (DR), of the three, is the least accurate, but quickest to determine. It is solely based on time, speed, and distance. Its formula, called "60 D Street", is $60D = ST$. If you know two of the three elements of time (T, expressed in minutes), speed (S, expressed in knots to the nearest tenth), and distance (D, in nautical miles to the nearest tenth), you can determine the unknown third by use of the formula.

The result can be plotted onto your chart working from the last known point or DR. For example, your boat has been travelling a straight course at a speed of 4.5 knots for the last 45 minutes since you last took a DR. How far have you gone along your course? Using the formula, you can solve for distance:

$$\begin{aligned} 60D &= ST \text{ or } D = ST \div 60 \\ D &= (4.5 \times 45) \div 60 \\ D &= 202.5 \div 60 \\ D &= 3.375 \text{ or rounded } 3.4 \text{ nautical miles (nm)} \end{aligned}$$

Questions from the Nav Station

Ready to put it to work? Here are four problems to solve:

1. You pull up anchor at 0815 and set a course of 050° for buoy GC1, which according to your chart is 3.2 nautical miles (nm) away. You are to rendezvous with another boat at that location at 0900. What speed must you make to arrive precisely on time?

2. Upon meeting the other boat at GC1 at 0900, both boats immediately depart on a new course of 083° . You increase your speed to 5.0 knots. At 1012, you change course again to 098° . What distance did you cover since leaving GC1?

3. At 1032, you are hailed on the radio by friends and asked to join them for lunch. The rendezvous point is 9.3 nm away on a heading of 068° . Pushing your outboard to its maximum 6.2 knots of speed, what time will you arrive for lunch?

4. After leaving the morning anchorage, how many DRs should have been taken according to the information given above?

See the answers on page 5.

Measuring this distance from your last known point in the direction of your course will give you an approximation of your location. Be sure to use the latitude scale, not the longitude scale, for measuring distance.

The rule for taking dead reckonings is every hour on the hour, plus at the time of each bearing or fix taken, plus at the time of every change of course. "Oy! I hear you cry. I have a sailboat and I'm tacking all the time. This is too much work!"

Ok, in recreational sailing on the Chesapeake Bay where you can follow your position from one buoy to the next, it isn't likely that you'll want to expend the effort of figuring a DR at each tack. And in these days of convenient electronic devices like a GPS, we tend to rely on them doing the work for us. However, electronics can fail and weather can sometimes interfere with visual sighting, so the prudent boater will have a working knowledge of basic piloting to help him find his way. In larger bodies of water, it becomes even more necessary.

The "60D Street" formula is easily manipulated to help you solve for any of the three elements: speed, time, or distance:

$$\begin{aligned} D &= ST \div 60 \\ S &= 60D \div T \\ T &= 60D \div S \end{aligned}$$

*Kristel Adair
Training*

Pennsylvania Mandatory Boating Education

A new mandatory boating education bill, Act 199 of 2002, passed through the State legislature late last year. It states that persons born on or after January 1, 1982 shall not operate motorboats of more than 25 horsepower on Pennsylvania waters without first obtaining a boating safety education certificate. The certificates will carry a \$10 fee. This Act 199 goes in effect on February 7, 2003.

Blue Marsh Lake Fee Change

The fees for the three developed areas (Dry Brooks and State Hill Boat Launches, and the Dry Brooks Day Use Area) have increased from \$2 to \$3 per vehicle. It still costs \$1 for walk-ins, and the Annual Permit is \$30 (Duplicate permit is \$15). Also, there has been a change to the pavilion daily reservation fee. Lakeview and Hillside Pavilion have gone from \$30 to \$60, and Vista Pavilion costs \$55 (less because there is no running water or electric at Vista).

BMSA to Participate in Great Outdoors Expo

On Sunday March 16 from 1 to 5 p.m. the Berks Community Hiking Club will host the Great Outdoors Expo at Penn State Berks Campus Perkins Student Center. Sponsors for the event are A & N Outfitters and the Penn State Berks Outdoor Club. Cindy Ross a local author, adventurer and speaker will present a multimedia presentation, "Scraping Heaven—A family's Journey Along the Continental Divide". Cindy and her family hiked the 3,100 mile on the Pacific Crest Trail.

This event is occurring along with the Berks Home Show so we expect to see a large crowd. This will be an opportunity to interact with other organizations as well as educate the public.

Organizations expected to attend include: Buck Hollow Llamas, Blue Mt. Eagle Climbing Club, Bowers Photo, Keystone Canoe Club, Mengle Natural History Society, Baird Ornithological Society, Berks Amateur Astronomers, Zephyr Adventures, A&N Outfitters, Berks Mineralogic Society, Blue Marsh Lake, Nolde E.E. Center, Reading Roc, Monocacy Hill Conservancy, Sierra Club, Boy Scouts Eagle Scout & Ventures Programs, and Pagoda Pacers.

This event will be promoted in the Reading Eagle. Any BMSA member available to help with the event please contact John Hackman at 610-678-4437.

Boat For Sale

19' 1989 Bayliner Cuddy Capri

125hp Force o/b, low hrs, excellent condition except needs re-upholstery incl. trailer, porta-potty, camper canopy, depth/fish finder, fishing rod holders, anchor, spare prop, ski equipment w/ tube, safety equipment and other accessories.

Contact Rick Spleen for more information at 610-369-8812 or raspleen@aol.com

Committee Boat Needs a Home

We need a place to store the club's 16' boat and motor. If you would like to adopt a boat and are a member of Blue Marsh Sailing Association contact Alex via phone or email: Alexanderwhan@aol.com or at 610-396-1416.

The Fire Company is getting their own boat and will not be able to continue storing the BMSA boat after March 1. It would be best if the boat could be kept under cover to protect it. However if there is a space that is not inside I would also like to hear from you.

In lieu of actually storing the boat if you have any suggestions for free or reasonable storage please contact any board member or me.

*Alex Whan
Equipment*

Ad Space in the Tell Tale

Advertising space is 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, 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. 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.

Sailing the Web

Sailing the web is once again taking the month off.

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.

From the Nav Station Answers

Answers:
1. $S = 60D \div T$. $S = (60 \times 3.2nm) \div 45 \text{ minutes}$. $S = 4.26$ or 4.3 knots (kn) .
2. $D = ST \div 60$. $D = (5 \times 72 \text{ minutes}) \div 60$. $D = 6.0 \text{ nm}$
3. $T = 60D \div S$. $T = (60 \times 9.3 \text{ nm}) \div 6.2 \text{ kn}$. $T = 90 \text{ minutes}$. $1032 + 90 = 1202$.
4. A total of 6 at these times: 0900, 1000, 1012, 1032, 1100, 1200.

2003

BLUE MARSH SAILING ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS

COMMODORE	Dave Miller	610-678-7121
VICE COMMODORE	Mike Adair	610-775-2438
SECRETARY	Jan Dougherty	610-926-5581
TREASURER	Bob Hartwich	610-779-4520
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