

September 2003



It was a steamy hot August Wednesday night; it was a different sort of night to be sailing at Blue Marsh. Tonight there was no wind and there was a low haze that set a red cast to the sun as it reflected off the lake but that's not what was different. There was a background murmur of jet skis and even a mosquito or 2 but that's not what was different. Tonight what was different is that as 4 sailboats with Blue Marsh Sailing Association members drifted on the lake there was a strange disturbance in the lake. That strange intermittent swell skimming across the lake, was it the infamous Marshy, the Blue Marsh Lake sea monster. Those members who stopped at the lake to see what was happening could not see rising ripples of Marshy from the shore. If you want to see the infamous Marshy first hand come out sailing with us on a Wednesday night. Sum-

mer sails are over, but September evenings are fine to be out sailing in the evening and there's less power boats and jet skis as well.

This month's general membership meeting is going to be a very important meeting to attend so please put it on your calendar. The primary item on the agenda for September is to vote on the changes to the club's bylaws and dues structure. Our September program with guest speaker Gregg Petry, a racing sailor, rigger, and sail-maker will be discussing how to properly set-up and trim your sails for optimum performance.

In the end of September we have the fall cruise, the winds are always better in the fall and the bay is still warm. We will rendezvous in Swan Creek for the first evening and then sail to Still Pond for the second evening so make

your plans to sail with your friends from Blue Marsh Sailing Association on the Fall Cruise.

*Dave Miller
Commodore*

ATTENTION MEMBERS

There are important changes to the By-Laws and Constitution of the Blue Marsh Sailing Association being proposed. A vote of the general membership will be held at the Thursday, September 11 meeting. Please read pages 2 and 3 of your August Tell Tale for additional information.

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Events For September

Saturday 9/6:

DaySail to Lake Nockamixon.

Thursday 9/11:

General Meeting.

Monday 9/15:

Board Meeting.

Thurs to Sun 9/25-28:

Fall Cruise to Rock Hall / StillPond.

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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 August 11, 2003 Board Meeting

Attending:

Dave Miller, Kristel and Mike Adair, Bob Hartwich, Tom Stoner, Sean Hollis, Joan Whan, Ray Hemphill, Mike and Jan Dougherty

Commodore Miller called the meeting to order at 7:35pm. July Board Minutes were accepted as printed in the Tell Tale.

Treasurer:

Balance is \$3,152.37.

Fleet:

The fall cruise will be to Fairleigh Creek/Swan Creek area. Ray's intent is that everyone will anchor out both nights. Further details will be printed in the Tell-Tale.

Historian:

Pictures from the trip to Antigua will be placed in the Club's album.

House:

Dave reported that Sunday breakfast may likely resume at the Fire Hall this Fall.

Program:

We're hoping that the September meeting will prove to be of great interest to all club members. The program on sail trim, along with the Club business to be voted upon, should make for a full evening. Plans for the Commodore's Ball are underway and will be announced in the Tell-Tale.

Vagabond:

The August 23/24 destination will be Rock Hall. All previously reserved rooms are now taken. September 6th day sail will be to Lake Nockamixon.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. The Nominating Committee (Mike and Kristel Adair) will present a slate at the September meeting.
2. Ballots will be prepared for the general membership vote on dues increase and change in membership status as previously outlined in the Tell-Tale. A simple majority is required to amend the Bylaws (the dues issue), while a 3/4 majority is required to amend the Constitution (the membership class issues). A list of members eligible to vote will be on hand at the meeting.
3. Sean presented a quote for Club liability insurance. It is hoped we can get additional quotes from other insurers.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The Corinthian Yacht Club (CBYCA) invited BMSA officers to join them at Ridge Maryland on 9/13 to help them celebrate their anniversary. This celebration will be held from 2:00 to 5:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Janice Dougherty
Secretary

September Daysail

We have one more day trip, scheduled for September 6, and we will be going to Lake Nockamixon to do some inland lake sailing. For this trip we will be leaving from the parking lot of Home Depot on Route 422 in Exeter Township at 8:30 A.M. Please contact Sean Hollis by phone (610) 406-9320, or e-mail, shollis@ptd.net if you are interested in participating in either of these events.

Sean Hollis
Vagabond



September & October Membership Meeting

Our September General Membership meeting returns to the Lower Heidelberg Fire Company on September 11th after our venue of summer picnics. The September meeting is an important meeting as proposed changes to the Blue Marsh Sailing Association's Constitution will be discussed and voted on by the General membership.

We will also be having guest speaker, Gregg Petry. Gregg is a racing sailor with 16 years experience including 4 years as collegiate dinghy team captain. Sailed the Chicago-Mac, and competed as watch captain in the Bermuda Ocean Race. Competed in North American Championships in the following classes: Jet 14, Lightning, Soling, J-24, and J-35. Experience as both a Rigger and a Sailmaker. He is competitive in every position from bow to helm. ISAF Group 2 classification. Gregg will be presenting a talk about how to look at your mainsail and identify problems, and how to properly set up the mainsail for best results.

Be sure to come out and learn about sail trim and how to get the most efficient use out of your sails.

Our October program will be held October 9. Mark your calendar now and get those incredible photos out because it is time for our yearly photo contest.

Ralph Billus
Program

Rock Hall Vagabond Wrap-up

Saturday morning 10 members of BMSA and two boats met at the Windmill Restaurant to trek down to Rock Hall for the weekend. The weather was sunny, not too warm, and the wind was up! Lou Brown and Tom Stoner hurried to ready their boats for launching at the convenient ramp in the harbor. Wives Betty and Jan plus Dave Miller and Deanne Sandt made up their crews. Mike and Kristel Adair with crew Tony and Mary Stajkowski hurried over to their slip in Swan Creek to get launched. We spent the day sailing under strong winds in the Bay outside the bar protecting Rock Hall. Only a minor touch with the board full down (5 feet) reminded us of the bar as we crossed it to return to port. We were allowed to pull the boats and leave them on the trailers in the ramp area as long as the cars were hitched- no problem with the short walk to the Mariner motel and Waterman's Crab House. We enjoyed a nice meal and music at Waterman's before retiring. Sunday started with a buffet breakfast at Waterman's. A quick launch and we were off again for some daysailing but the winds, which looked good initially, soon started to wane and eventually we had to motor back. But it was a great day on the water and you can't ask for more than that! Armando Antonini and Rick Spleen sailed over from Middle River and spent the night moored in Swan Creek but unfortunately we didn't get hooked up. This was our last vagabond for the year. Hopefully next year more of our members with trailerable boats will participate and realize the fun that can be had sailing with their fellow members on these trips to the Bay.

Tom Stoner

August Racing Awash

Mother Nature really doesn't like us! We just managed to get the first race in before the thunderstorms rolled in. We just got off the lake; in fact, we had to seek shelter under the bulletin board as the rain came down in torrents. We retired to Ganly's to wait out the storm, as it didn't seem to want to quit. An hour and a half later we went back to the lake but by that time we lost our committee so we did a practice race around the buoys, which we had left on the lake.

Paul Dovin finished first; Sam McGuire with crew Mike Dougherty came in second; followed by Sean Hollis with crew Willie Moser and Steve Hartwich. Fourth was Tom Stoner with Dave Miller and John Ellington as crew. Lou Brown with crew Tom and Lara Zerkowski finished fifth. Bob and Dave Hartwich are still getting the hang of their new craft and wisely sought shelter without finishing. Our final race is the Turkey race on November 1. Come on out- who knows you may win Thanksgiving dinner!

Tom Stoner
Racing

Fall Cruise

The fall cruise will be Friday September 26 and Saturday September 27. We plan to anchor in Swan Creek on Friday and to anchor in Fairlee Creek on Saturday. Swan Creek is one of my favorite destinations for its rural beauty and access to Rock Hall. Rock Hall has existed since colonial times. Picture George Washington, Tomas Jefferson and the financier of the revolution, Tench Tilghman going to Rock Hall and taking a coastal schooner to Annapolis. In 1776 it was called Rock Hall. In colonial times there were no rocks in the harbor and no obvious reason for the name Rock Hall. The origin of the town's name has been lost in history. During the cruise we need to come up with an explanation for the name. Does the "rock" refer to oyster shells? Local watermen brought in great numbers of oysters and perhaps the piles were in front of "Rock" Hall. What about gratitude? Gratitude for what?

Fairlee Creek will be our other destination. To enter Fairlee Creek requires courage. To enter Fairlee requires you to follow the markers - and believe them. You start out by going startlingly close to the shore just before you have to turn ninety degrees to starboard in less than a dingy length. A fairly strong tidal current occurs at the turning point and adds a little challenge to the maneuver. Once inside there is plenty of room. Our plan is to anchor stern to stern away from the crowds located just inside the harbor.

I will be calling those folks who seem likely to attend, but any BMSA boat is welcome. As with the spring cruise we expect about 5 boats and will be able to provide a berth to any member of BMSA who would like to crew as part of our fall cruise.

Ray Hemphill
Fleet Captain

Welcome New Members

Welcome to new members Ted Danko and Harold and Martina Roach.

Ted has a Luhrs 32 in Tolchester, Maryland. Harold and Martina are new to sailing and have a Venture 17. They have joined us for Wednesday night sails at Blue Marsh and are looking forward to getting involved in our activities.

Here are the details for your logs:

Ted Danko
27 South 23rd Street
Reading, PA 19606
610-779-3708

Harold & Martina Roach
605 Hillcroft Road
Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972
610-779-2305

From the Nav Station

This series of articles covering the various aspects of safe and effective coastal piloting will return next month. Training Chair Kristel decided to go sailing in August!

Sailing the web

It's almost Fall and many of us will be getting ready to winterize the boats and become armchair sailors for the winter. Below are several weblinks submitted by Larry Seward. If you have a favorite sailing related website please forward it to the editor at: editor@bluemarshsailing.org. Enjoy sailing the web!

www.wb-sails.fi/news/95_11_Tellingtales/Tellingtales.html

www.practicalsailingsolutions.com

www.prr.msu.edu/boaterpanel/

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. We also accept business card or banner sized commercial ads!

Our website needs sponsors too! We have space for clickable links available on our home page. Proceeds from the ads will be used to offset printing and publicity costs.

Please contact John Hackman at 610-678-4437 or jlhack@yahoo.com for more information.

Events Schedule for 2003

OCTOBER

9-13	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

September 2003 Birthday's

Nate Arndt	6
Dottie Crosby	9
Eric Nicholls	9
Jay Ullman	12
Martina Roach	16
Sally Koch	18
Jan Dougherty	20
Ruth Smith	27
Pat Gery	27
Donald Miller	28



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



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BMSA COMMODORE'S BALL

Saturday, November 8, 2003

Chef Alan's Bistro, West Reading

Come join us to honor our past officers, welcome our new officers, and have a wonderful evening of dining, dancing and socializing.

A cash bar will be available at 7:00 pm with full buffet dinner at approximately 8:00 pm. Music will be provided, and we'll enjoy the last business/social meeting of the 2003 season.

Cost for the evening is \$36.00 per person, and reservations must be received no later than **October 28, 2003**.

Please take a moment now to fill out the form below and mail it and your check payable to Blue Marsh Sailing Association!

*Mail to: Heidi Moser
2440 Fairview Avenue
Mt. Penn, PA 19606*

Names: _____

Number attending: _____

Amount enclosed (\$36.00 per person) _____

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
REAR COMMODORE	Joan Whan	610-396-1416

COMMITTEE CHAIR PERSONS

CBYCA DELEGATE	Russ Witzke	610-775-9704
CBYCA ALTERNATE	Conrad Vanino	610-777-2599
CHAPLAIN	Joanne Solarek	610-779-4516
EQUIPMENT	Alex Whan	610-396-1416
FLEET CAPTAIN	Ray Hemphill	610-678-6754
HISTORIAN	Jan Stoner	610-678-0683
HOUSE	Dave Miller	610-678-7121
LIBRARIAN	Will Moser	610-779-5582
MEMBERSHIP	Jeff Weikel	610-370-0272
PROGRAM	Ralph Bibbus	610-779-6702
PUBLICITY	Jeff Weikel	610-370-0272
RACING	Tom Stoner	610-678-0683
SAFETY	Heidi Moser	610-779-5582
SOCIAL	Sally Koch	610-693-5613
STORES	Anna Grace	610-678-8709
TELL TALE	John L. Hackman	610-678-4437
TRAINING	Kristel Adair	610-775-2438
VAGABOND	Sean Hollis	610-406-9320

Contact the Tell Tale Editor John L. Hackman
Home: 610-678-4437 Mobile: 610-334-8668
E-Mail: jhack@yahoo.com

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Century 21 Park Road 610 372 5633 Ext. 3111

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101 Delta Court
Wernersville, PA 19565

