

**January 2004**

**GROG, RAISING THE  
SPIRITS OF SAILORS  
FOR ALMOST 350  
YEARS**

Do you know the origin of GROG ? Or the fact that it remained a daily ration within the American Navy up to the Civil War and through both World Wars until 1970 for the Royal Navy ? Do you even know what I'm talking about? If you're a sailor you should.

While the U. S. Coast Guard today would undoubtedly arrest you for partaking of a sailor's daily ration while afloat, or maybe even confiscate your vessel, there is probably good reason. The sailors of old probably didn't fall out of the rigging just because of the winds or high seas. It probably had more to do with weather a seaman's Tot was more Gulpers than Sippers that morning.

To learn more, BMSA will be making the call to "Up Spirits" at the first general meeting of the new year on **Thursday, January 8, 2004**. This will be somewhat a departure from convention and you won't want to miss it.

*Rick Spleen  
Program*

**2003 HOLIDAY PARTY**

Despite cold blowing snow, the BMSA Christmas party was held on Friday, December 5 at the Lower Heidelberg Fire Company. Over thirty members braved the elements to partake in Christmas food and cheer. The Miller family provided the delicious ham while members brought various side dishes and desserts. Our "Santa" got snowed in at Lincoln Park, but his first mate, Conrad Vanino hosted the Chinese auction with humor and charm. The fish, chicken, fender and an old, but new one...the turkey... all found new homes.

My thanks to everyone who helped with the planning and decorating of the party, and all who brought food and attended...even Mother Nature couldn't curtail our festivities!

Best wishes for a bright and prosperous  
2004!

*Sally Koch*

**Smooth Web Sailing**

For New Homes, Pre-Owned Homes, Schools or Municipality Info At

**[www.ConradVanino.com](http://www.ConradVanino.com)**

**Century 21 Park Road 610 372 5633 Extension 3111**

**Inside this issue:**

Commodores Msg	2
Learning to Sail	2
Membership	2
Call for Photos	2
December Minutes	3
Sailing Seminar	3
Land Cruise	4
Michigan Charter	4
2004 Events	5
Regatta Del Sol al Sol	5

**Events For January**

Thursday 1/8:

General Meeting  
Raising Winter  
Spirits with Grog.

Monday 1/12:

Board Meeting.

Saturday & Sunday  
1/17 & 18:

Gettysburg Land  
Cruise.

## Commodore's Corner

I hope everyone has had a wonderful holiday. Kristel and I suffered with flu all through Christmas week - so much for the flu shots this year :( . We're hoping to be back to full health by New Year's!

We have some great stuff coming up this winter in BMSA. In addition to some informative programs, we have the Land Cruise to my hometown of Gettysburg January 17-18, the start of this year's Learn to Sail program on February 7, and a St. Patty's dinner social at Ganly's Pub combining it with our membership meeting on March 11. We also continue to make plans for the July cruise on Lake Michigan. To date we have three captains who have reserved their boats. This should be a great trip!

As we patiently wait out the winter until sailing weather returns, let's take advantage of the opportunities that Blue Marsh offers to get together and enjoy each other's company, as well as to expand our knowledge of sailing and plan some terrific events for the coming year. I hope I'll see you in Gettysburg... I'd love to show you around!

*Mike Adair  
Commodore*

## Learn to Sail Training

The plan for this year's Learn to Sail training is to break down our half day session into smaller, shorter sessions covering terminology, how a boat sails, points of sail, reading the wind, safety equipment, docking, and more. This year's program will hopefully include a few extra topics such as using the radio and reading charts. Our hands on session in May will involve rigging boats, this time at the ramp with real launching and retrieval. If you are new to sailing or have taken the course before and would like a refresher on some basic skills, please join us. The schedule is as follows:

Saturday, February 7th  
Saturday, February 28th  
Saturday, April 3rd  
Saturday, May 8th

All sessions will begin at 9AM and last 2-3 hours. I plan to hold them in my home unless the group gets too big. I'll be happy to provide directions to anyone who needs them.

This is open to members only; non-members who are interested will need to join BMSA to participate. I ask that you contact me by phone or email ASAP if you plan to attend so that I can plan to have the right amount of materials available.

Contact Kristel at 610-775-2438 or [kristela@aol.com](mailto:kristela@aol.com)

*Kristel Adair, Training*

## Membership Update

Thank you to all our current members who have returned their 2004 membership dues. Renewals are continuing to come in and I hope to see many more before our January 12 board meeting. The sooner you return the membership renewal the sooner we will have an accurate idea of where our budget will stand for 2004. If you have any questions about membership or need a 2004 renewal form please contact me at: 610-678-4437 or email me at [membership@bluemarshsailing.org](mailto:membership@bluemarshsailing.org) and I'd be happy to answer your questions.

I'd also like to welcome new member Doug Hill. Doug joined us for the 2003 Turkey Race and is interested in learning to sail. Below is the contact info for Doug.

Doug Hill  
950 Kutztown Road  
Myerstown, PA 17067  
717-933-1154  
[drh1968@yahoo.com](mailto:drh1968@yahoo.com)

*John Hackman*




---

## A Call For Photograph Submissions:

Your photos are needed for both a new online section of the BMSA website, as well as for future association-related events, such as next year's Commodore's Ball. We need photographs that showcase the people, boats, and events of our association. The subject matter should be association-related or pictures that promote the enthusiasm of sailing in general. For privacy reasons, only sailing-themed pictures will appear on the website, and pictures of a more personal nature, such as photos of social events, will be used at association-related activities only. Our goals of this project are to share memories of past events and experiences with other members, and also to help promote the association. Please email digital submissions to Tom Zerkowski at: [tomz1@ptd.net](mailto:tomz1@ptd.net) or lend your printed pictures to John Hackman (for scanning). Thank you.

*Tom Zerkowski, Publicity*

## Minutes of the December 8, 2003 Board Meeting

### Attending:

Mike & Kristel Adair, Tom & Jan Stoner, Mike & Jan Dougherty, Rick Spleen, Tom & Lara Zerkowski, Sean Hollis, Russ Witzke, Anna Grace, Sally Koch, & Kathy Arentz

Commodore Mike Adair called the meeting to order at 7:30PM.

### Changes to the November Minutes:

The Spring Cruise will be held on June 4, 5, & 6, 2003.

The Vagabond will be held on June 19 & 20, 2003.

### Treasurer:

Balance as of 11/16/03 was \$3,032.76.

### CBYCA:

Russ Witzke reported the next meeting is in February and either himself or Conrad Vanino will cover it. The dues have been paid.

### Chaplain:

No Report

### Equipment:

The grill was checked by Dennis Arentz and it was determined that both propane tanks will need to be filled. The grill will be cleaned in the spring. It is not clear at this point if anything will need to be done to the committee boat besides the winterizing of it in the fall. The trailer registration will need to be renewed this year.

### Historian:

Jan Stoner reported that pictures taken at the Xmas party would be sent to the Tell-Tale.

### House:

It was discussed whether the breakfasts at the Fire Company have ever been advertised in the Tell-Tale.

### Membership:

It was determined that BMSA has received 17 renewals from members as of the date of the meeting.

### Publicity:

Tom Zerkowski reported that he would be sending out a letter to 10-12 businesses to solicit them to advertise in the BMSA logbook.

### Safety:

No Report

### Stores:

Anna Grace announced that she would bring the merchandise catalog to the general meetings in case anyone would like to order BMSA merchandise. The possibility of checking into BMSA window clings was discussed.

### Tell-Tale:

The Tell-Tale needs articles for January.

### Fleet:

It was reported the Michigan trip looks good at this point. They have at least 5 boats and they will be in need of crew.

### Racing:

Sean Hollis reported that he is trying to set up a weekend in January for a racing committee meeting.

### Training:

Kristel Adair reported the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in March needs to be re-scheduled to the end of February.

### Vagabond:

It was discussed by Tom Stoner and the board, the dates he has planned and where they will be held. So far he is looking at May 22 & 23 for Codorus State Park and Hances Point for July 31 & August 1. The Chester River is also being planned for July 10 & 11.

### Programs:

It was reported by Rick Spleen that the January General Meeting Program would be Grog. There will be non-alcoholic samples of Grog and there will also be regular Grog and Rum Cider available for a small donation. The February General Meeting Program will be about Marine Batteries & Electrical Systems and will be given by Bruce Hail of East Penn Manufacturing Co. Other programs for the rest of the year are being scheduled.

### Social:

Lara Zerkowski announced the Land Cruise dates of January 17 & 18. The RSVP date will be January 5. There will be a carpool. The March General Meeting will be held at Ganly's Pub. Corn Beef & Cabbage will be the highlight of the evening. Galen Hall is being looked at for this year's Commodore's Ball.

### Old Business:

No Report

### New Business:

The board discussed the new projected annual budget in detail. It has not yet been finalized.

The next board meeting will be held January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2003.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20PM.

*Respectfully Submitted*  
*Kathy Arentz*  
*Secretary*

---

## Seminar with Lin and Larry Pardey

The North East River Yacht Club is proud to host an all-day seminar with Lin and Larry Pardey Saturday, January 24, 2004, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The seminar is titled Priorities for Confident Cruising.

Sign-in starts at 8:30 with morning coffee and snacks. The seminar starts at 9 AM with a coffee break at 10:30, lunch break at 12:30 and will end at 5:00 PM. There is time during the sessions for questions. Register now as attendance is limited to 125 people and this seminar will sell out quickly. The dining room and bar will be open in the evening for those wishing to stay after the seminar has completed.

For more information and to register, for the seminar with Larry & Lin Pardey please visit:

[www.neryc.com/  
pardey\\_cruising\\_seminar.  
htm](http://www.neryc.com/pardey_cruising_seminar.htm)

## Gettysburg Land Cruise!

January 17-18, 2004

Join your Blue Marsh Sailing friends for a fun weekend getaway to historic Gettysburg! Less than two hours away is the charming little town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, site of the famous Civil War battle of 1863. The battlefield, which surrounds the town, is carefully tended by the National Park Service to maintain the appearance it held during the battle era. Little Round Top, Devil's Den, Spangler's Spring, and the field across which Confederate General Pickett marched 15,000 men on that fateful July 3rd are all familiar to the history buff, but just as compelling to the non-historian as well. The battlefield can be seen by bus or car, and there are high-quality Park Service museums open during this weekend to fully appreciate what happened in this quiet little town during that three-day battle:

Bus Tour (2 hours) with recorded tape: \$17.00 group rate, minimum of 10 people

Nat'l Park Service Visitor Center: FREE Electric Map (excellent!): \$3.00

Nat'l Park Service Cyclorama (360° painting depicting the battle): \$3.00  
Eisenhower Farm tour: \$7.00

Other attractions available in and around Gettysburg include outlet shopping at the new Outlet Center just off Rt. 15 on Rt. 97, the campus of Gettysburg College, and skiing at Ski Liberty in nearby Fairfield, or just explore the battlefield by car on your own.

LODGING: We have gotten prices at three motels in the area, and all are between \$59 and \$69 a room. The motels we are considering are the Battlefield Holiday Inn, Days Inn, and Hampton Inn (only one with a pool). The Holiday Inn is within walking distance of the bus tour, museums, and restaurants; however, parking should not be a problem in January. Let us know your preference and we will book as the majority wishes. Let us know if you wish to share a double with another couple. We will make the initial contact to arrange for rooms to be set aside, and will contact you when that is done. You will need to call to hold your

reservation with your credit card.

SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER: We have spoken to the manager of the Dobbin House Tavern, a fine restaurant set in an historic home built in 1776, where diners are served by costumed waiters. The food is excellent, and entrees run \$15-25 (see the sample menu). They will provide us with a private room at no extra cost, assuming our group is large enough (minimum 12-14). There are many other restaurants in the area if you choose not to join the group. Please advise us if you wish us to include you in the reservation. Dinner will be at 7:00 or 7:30PM.

TRAVEL: We will caravan to Gettysburg on the morning of Saturday, January 17th, leaving from AC Moore's parking lot in Shillington at 9AM. Those wishing to ride together should arrange it in advance.

RESERVE YOUR SPOT! Sign up deadline is January 8th, so don't delay. We hope you'll join us!

Contact Lara at 610-779-2305 or tomz1@ptd.net

*Lara Zerkowski  
Social*

---

## Lake Michigan Charter Cruise

Join Blue Marsh Sailing for a July Charter trip on the turquoise blue water of northern Lake Michigan. The water here is sparkling clear like that of the Caribbean although 20 degrees cooler. This area is characterized by farmlands and quaint towns with names like Acme, Elk Rapids, and Mackinaw City. Most of these towns are small enough to be toured on foot and July is a time when the region hosts cherry festivals. The town of Charlevoix also holds a Venetian Festival in July.

So far we have 3 boats that have been reserved and we are looking forward to

seeing a few more captains and crew sign-on. If you are interested in this trip but new crew or are crew looking for a captain please contact Ron Bukowski and he will pair you up with others who are interested.

We have contacted a charter company in Traverse City, MI called Bay Breeze Yacht Charters. They have a substantial size fleet of charter boats. The charter company will not give us a group discount so it is best that each Captain contacts Bay Breeze Yacht Charters and makes arrangements for a boat. They can be reached on line at their website [www.bbyc.com](http://www.bbyc.com). All of the information that you will need is on the site: boat list and descriptions, price list, conditions of charter and a resume that can be filled out on line. If you would rather talk to someone on the phone, their number is 231-941-0535 and the name of the charter coordinator is Sandy Kraft.

The date of the charter is Saturday July 17, 2004 to Friday July 23, 2004 with early boarding on Friday night July 16. We plan on driving to Traverse City, Michigan, but it is also possible to fly.

I will hit the charts shortly and work out an itinerary to cover the most interesting places. Anyone who wants to fly to Traverse City will have to make their own arrangements. If you are interested in driving, it is about a 14 hour drive. I intend to take two days at least to get there. If you are interested in caravanning I will work out a trip plan and you are invited to join me.

I hope that there will be several boats from BMSA and that this is one of the best charter trips in our history. If there are any questions or you just want to discuss any of the plans, give me a call or see me at a BMSA meeting. In any event, I will be interested in knowing who is going to charter so that I can coordinate a crew list.

*Ron Bukowski  
Fleet Captain*

## Events Schedule for 2004

### January

8 Thursday General Meeting – Grog!  
 12 Monday Board Meeting  
 17-18 Sat- Sun Gettysburg Land Cruise

### February

7 Saturday Classroom Training  
 12 Thursday General Meeting  
 Boating Batteries & Electric  
 16 Monday Board Meeting  
 28 Saturday Classroom Training

### March

11 Thursday General Meeting  
 Ganly's - Corn Beef & Cabbage  
 15 Monday Board Meeting  
 28 Sunday Outdoor Expo at RACC

### April

3 Saturday Classroom Training  
 8 Thursday General Meeting  
 12 Monday Board Meeting

### May

1 Saturday Season Kick-off Race  
 8 Saturday Outside Training Day  
 13 Thursday General Meeting  
 16 Sunday Spring Race  
 17 Monday Board Meeting  
 22-23 Sat – Sun Vagabond / Daysail  
 Codorus State Park

### June

4-6 Fri – Sun Spring Cruise - Kent Island  
 12 Saturday Regatta and Racing Picnic  
 13 Sunday Water Safety Festival  
 14 Monday Board Meeting  
 19-20 Sat – Sun Vagabond / Daysail

### July

8 Thursday Picnic  
 10-11 Sat – Sun Vagabond / Daysail  
 Chester River  
 12 Monday Board Meeting  
 17-23 Sat – Fri Charter Trip to Lake Michigan  
 31 Saturday Vagabond / Daysail  
 Hance's Point YC, Northeast, MD

### August

1 Sunday Vagabond / Daysail  
 12 Thursday Picnic  
 16 Monday Board Meeting  
 21 Saturday Race  
 28-29 Sat - Sun Vagabond / Daysail

### September

9 Thursday General Meeting  
 12 Sunday Race  
 13 Monday Board Meeting  
 17-19 Fri – Sun Fall Cruise

### October

2 Saturday Race  
 14 Thursday General Meeting  
 16 Saturday Social  
 17 Sunday Race  
 18 Monday Board Meeting

### November

6 Saturday Turkey Race  
 13 Saturday Commodores Ball  
 15 Monday Board Meeting

### December

3 Friday Holiday Party  
 6 Monday Board Meeting

### 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](mailto:jlhack@yahoo.com) for more information.

### Regatta & Festival Del Sol al Sol 2004

Here's a sailing challenge to beat the winter blues. The St Petersburg Yacht Club will be holding its Annual Regatta Del Sol al Sol on April 16-30, 2004. The regatta sails 465 nautical miles from St Petersburg, Florida to Isla Mujeres, Mexico. Isla Mujeres is a small island off the Yucatan Peninsula just north of Cancun. Besides the fun and festivities the objective of this race is to deliver educational, medical and humanitarian supplies to the host community in Mexico.

For more information about this regatta please visit [www.regatadelsolalsol.org](http://www.regatadelsolalsol.org) or call 727-822-3873

2004

## BLUE MARSH SAILING ASSOCIATION

### OFFICERS

COMMODORE	Mike Adair	610-775-2438
VICE COMMODORE	John Hackman	610-678-4437
SECRETARY	Kathy Arentz	610-921-9631
TREASURER	Bob Hartwich	610-779-4520
REAR COMMODORE	Pat Shalter	610-678-1531

### COMMITTEE CHAIR PERSONS

CBYCA DELEGATE	Conrad Vanino	610-777-2599
CBYCA ALTERNATE	Russ Witzke	610-775-9704
CHAPLAIN	Jan Dougherty	610-926-5581
EQUIPMENT	Dennis Arentz	610-921-9631
FLEET CAPTAIN	Ron Bukowski	610-777-4338
HISTORIAN	Jan Stoner	610-678-0683
HOUSE	Dave Miller	610-678-7121
LIBRARIAN	vacant	
MEMBERSHIP	John Hackman	610-678-4437
PROGRAM	Rick Splenn	610-369-8812
PUBLICITY	Tom Zerkowski	610-779-2305
RACING	Sean Hollis	610-406-9320
SAFETY	Heidi Moser	610-779-5582
SOCIAL	Lara Zerkowski	610-779-2305
STORES	Anna Grace	610-678-8709
TELL TALE	John Hackman	610-678-4437
TRAINING	Kristel Adair	610-775-2438
VAGABOND	Tom Stoner	610-678-0683

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

## Smooth Web Sailing

For New Homes, Pre-Owned Homes, Schools or Municipality Info At  
[www.ConradVanino.com](http://www.ConradVanino.com)

Century 21 Park Road 610 372 5633 Ext. 3111

THE TELL-TALE 1-04  
c/o John Hackman, editor  
101 Delta Court  
Wernersville, PA 19565

