

November 2004

Christmas Party

The annual BMSA Holiday party will be held on **Friday, December 3** at the Lower Heidelberg Fire Company. Festivities will begin at **6:30** with a buffet dinner featuring the delicious Miller's ham plus an assortment of side dishes and desserts. Members are asked to bring a favorite side dish, dessert or both! The always-exciting Chinese gift giving will follow the meal. Remember to receive a gift you have to bring one... be it old or new, funny or sincere, it's always lots of fun! The evening will end with music and singing to welcome in the holidays...so cancel everything else and join us for a night of fun and frolic!

Turkey Race—Nov 6

It's that time of year again when we start wrapping up our sailing season and start thinking of winterizing our boats. Our next race is the Turkey Race on Saturday, November 6th. Anyone looking to crew for someone else, or needing crew please contact Sean. We are looking for volunteers for the committee boat. Come on out and enjoy an afternoon on the water, it beats raking the leaves every time. Races start at about 11:00 AM and are preceded with a skippers meeting at 10:30 AM.

Meeting Night Change Proposal for 2005

It has been proposed that the General Membership meeting be changed from the current Thursday nights to Wednesday nights.

The board is in agreement that a change to Wednesday nights will allow Heidi Moser the ability to be nominated for the post of Vice Commodore in 2005. It was further suggested that the change to Wednesday night meetings be made permanent. Numerous members have indicated as well that Wednesday is a better night to attend meetings than Thursday.

The board has decided that a vote of members to change the meeting night will be held at the Christmas Party in December.

Please attend the Christmas Party meeting to vote for the change.

Thank You!!

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Events For November

Saturday 11/6:

Turkey Race.

Saturday 11/13:

Commodores Ball.

Monday 11/15:

Board Meeting.

Membership Cards and Logbooks

If any BMSA member has not received a 2004 LogBook or 2004 membership card please contact John.

In order to ensure a smooth transition from my role as membership chair I need to ensure the member files are up to date and correct.

Thanks, John Hackman
jlhack@yahoo.com

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Visit our website at www.blumarshsailing.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)

Commodore's Corner

My year as Commodore is quickly drawing to a close, and I have one thing I'd like to share about my experience. Admittedly, I went into this reluctantly, like some others before me, because it seemed like such a big position to take on. I had just started a new job a few months before, and didn't have a sense yet of what that would demand from me. Still, the club was struggling to find a leader, as seems to happen every year, and I finally agreed to take the helm.

It's not a decision I regret. While I needed to plan meetings and oversee the planning of the calendar and the determination of the budget, I did not have to do it alone. I had the support of my officers and board to help shoulder the load. and I had the benefit of several Past Commodores on the board to help guide the effort. I am grateful for the contribution of everyone involved and I hope I get the chance to thank each of you personally at the Commodore's Ball.

I think the biggest misconception of those who are asked to take on a leadership role in this club is that you're out there by yourself. That is simply not true. The board members help each other, and support comes from the membership itself as well. But if MORE people would say "yes, I'll give you a hand with that", the jobs become even easier and more enjoyable.

The nominating committee does its best to recommend capable people for the various positions, yet so many are reluctant or unwilling to serve. We are currently without a Vice Commodore for next year, for the first time in our history. If we end up changing the meeting night to Wednesday, we have a solution for that, but that vote is up to you.

The next time you are asked to help with an activity or to take a post, consider what would happen if everyone said no. Then say "YES!".

*Mike Adair,
Commodore*

Minutes of the October 18, 2004 Board Meeting

The October board meeting of the Blue Marsh Sailing Association was called to order at 7:33 PM by Commodore Mike Adair. Also in attendance were: VC John Hackman, T Bob Hartwich, Dave Miller, Jan Stoner, Sean Hollis, Heidi Moser, and Kristel Adair.

The minutes of the September board meeting were accepted as published in the Tell-Tale. Treasurer Bob Hartwich reported the balance as \$2736.40. The social budget was reviewed.

Committee Reports

CBYCA:

The notice for 2005 dues was received and paid.

Chaplain:

Word was received of the passing of Dennis Arentz's father. The board extends its condolences to Dennis and his family.

Equipment:

The gas grill is ready for winter; the committee boat will be stored at Paul Dovin's for the winter.

House:

Fire company memberships will go out with BMSA membership renewals in December or January. There is a firehall breakfast Oct. 24th.

Membership:

The roll stands at 114 with new members John Ward and fiancée Carol Clark joining at the October membership meeting.

Racing:

Chairman Sean Hollis cancelled the October 17th race for unfavorable weather. The Turkey Race on November 6th is the last race of the season. Volunteers and cook-stoves are needed for preparing the hot dog lunch.

Safety:

The 2005 Safety Fest has been set for June 12th.

Social:

Kristel Adair reported for Lara Zerkowski that plans for the Commodore's Ball are well in hand, although membership signup was slow. The board decided to do a mem-

bership calling to encourage people to attend and get their reservations in promptly. An emcee is needed. Plans for the Christmas party were discussed, including the need for a volunteer Santa.

Stores:

Orders were taken at the October meeting and will be placed with any shortfall filled with ball caps.

Tell-Tale:

John Hackman will be assisted by upcoming editor Doug Hill in preparing the November newsletter.

Training:

Kristel pulled together a quick training program for the October meeting when the speaker cancelled. The virtual weekend cruise project was very well received.

OLD BUSINESS

Open positions for the 2005 board include Vice Commodore, Program, and Chaplain. John requested input as to how to fill out his board or handle the shortfall. Suggestions included 1) trying to shift chair people from less critical positions to more critical positions, 2) combining committees or assigning certain committee duties to officers, 3) doing without certain committees for this season, and 4) changing the meeting night to resolve schedule conflicts of potential candidates.



minutes continued from page 2...

Regarding a change in meeting night, the board is in accord that a change to Wednesday nights will allow Heidi Moser the ability to be nominated for the post of Vice Commodore. It was further suggested that the change to Wednesday night be made permanent. A vote on the meeting night change will be held at the Christmas Party in December.

NEW BUSINESS

The changeover meeting of the new board will be held at 7:30 PM on November 15th. John has notified his incoming chairpeople of the importance of attending. In anticipation of the calendar planning that will begin at that meeting, Commodore-Elect John Hackman held a brainstorming session for program and activity ideas for the 2005 season.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:14PM.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Kristel Adair*

Fire Company Breakfasts

The Lower Heidelberg Fire Company will once again be serving Sunday morning breakfasts. The breakfasts begin at 7:30a.m. and run until 12 noon. There will be a wide menu to chose from. The breakfast dates are as follows:

- November 21
- December 19
- January 30
- February 27
- March 13
- April 10

Welcome New Members

This month we would like to welcome two new members to Blue Marsh Sailing. We look forward to see John Ward and Carol Clark at our upcoming meetings. We now have 1xxx members. Renewals for 2005 will be sent in late November. Please send your renewals promptly so we can better determine our events schedule and budget for next year.

For you logbooks:
John Ward & Carol Clark
546 Homestead Lane
Mohnton, PA 19540
610-856-7221
michmaniac49@aol.com

Change of address:
Doug Hill
1605 Green Lane Apt B-6
Lebanon, PA 17042
717-228-2342
drh1968@yahoo.com

Does Our Logo Need a Fresh Look?

It was brought up at the September board meeting that our club logo might be due for an updated look. We realize that this has been brought up before, which means it has concerned some of us in the past, but we have not found a design that we liked better so we have stayed with the original designed by Charlene Jamison, one of our past Commodores.

What made the board pursue this is that several of our members didn't realize the clever illustration actually spelled out the letters "BMSA". Perhaps too clever? While we might have a sentimental attachment to this logo, we need to consider whether it is working for us as well as it should.

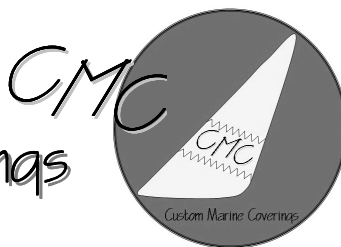
Having designed logos professionally for the last 20 years, the rules for an effective design have always been the same: 1) Readability, 2) Conveying the essence of the organization, and 3) communicating a tone or attitude. What do we want the BMSA logo to communicate in the most effective way possible? Here are some key words: sailing, boats, water, fun, friends, relaxing, group, togetherness, sociable... you can add some of your own. These are the impressions we want to communicate with our logo.

With this modern age of computers and lots of typefaces at our disposal, and lots of us having graphics programs available, we'd like to have our members help us come up with some new designs to consider. If you want to participate, bring tight sketches or computer-aided graphics of your logo idea(s) to the Christmas party. Since designing a logo is rarely a once and done effort, we'll take as much time as is needed to combine ideas or finetune them. Hopefully, sometime this winter we can adopt an exciting new identity for our logo that will serve us well in the future.

If you have any questions about helping with the logo design, please contact me.

Kristel Adair
610-775-2438 or kristela@aol.com

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Trainer's Talk

A Virtual Cruise

If you missed the meeting in October, the program was about cruise planning. You'll have to provide your own materials -- chart, tide table, and cruising guide -- if you want to work through the exercise. These are just examples of things to consider, other than food, to be well prepared against those unpleasant little surprises that can take the fun out of cruising. This exercise is based on using a trailerable boat; you choose the boat and determine its draft.

Intended itinerary:

Friday, Sept 17: Launch Rock Hall, MD, sail south to Chester River, thru Kent Narrows, to Crab Alley Bay for anchorage.

Saturday, Sept 18: sail north, back thru Kent Narrows, and up the Chester River to Reed Creek for anchorage

Sunday, Sept 19: sail back to Rock Hall

What is the estimated distance for each leg, and how many hours will it take at your estimated speed? Be sure to have sufficient fuel in case part of the trip must be motored.

Check the tide table. Consider height of tide and whether it is ebbing or flowing at your location.

- What will the tide be doing when you launch at Rock Hall Harbor public ramp at 10AM Friday morning?
- Which way will the tide be flowing when you go thru the bridge at Kent Narrows early afternoon on Friday?
- If you are anchoring later that afternoon in Crab Alley Bay, what will the tide be doing?
- Which way will the tide be flowing when you go thru the bridge at Kent Narrows Saturday morning?
- Where will the tide be when you anchor Saturday afternoon in Reed Creek?
- Where will the tide be when you haul out at Rock Hall Sunday afternoon? Do you need to be concerned about having enough water to haul out?

Check the forecast.

- The marine forecast for Friday calls for a high of 78° and clear, winds from the south at 10 knots dropping to 1-2 knots overnight with a low of 65°.
- Saturday: high of 75° and partly cloudy, south winds at 7-10 knots settling at a steady 5 knots overnight, low of 62°. Possible passing shower overnight
- Sunday: A wind shift to the NW is expected by Sunday morning, freshening to 10-12 knots, high of 72°.

Plan your course on the chart.

- What is the lat/long of your launch ramp in Rock Hall Harbor? (state in decimal)
- There are a pair of notable landmarks in Rock Hall that are readily visible from the water. What are they?

- Determine your waypoints (usually buoys), and for this exercise write them down with lat/long so they can be plugged into your GPS and made into a route.
- As a matter of piloting, you should have an idea what the navigational marks look like. E.g.: 1. What would a GC"3" look like?
 2. What about a RN"2"?
 3. What is the blue curly shape around the mark off Love Point that is identified as Fl 6s 35ft 7M?
 4. Can you decipher the code next to each mark to help identify what you will see on the water?
- What is your boat's draft? With winds from the south, you'll need to tack into the Chester River. With the tide level in the morning, can you safely traverse the Swan Point Bar?
- You'll be passing thru the bridge at Kent Narrows. Look at Inset 19 for a closeup of the area. What is the clearance of the bridge(s)? How often does the bridge open? How can you find out? Who has the right of way when the bridge opens?
- Take a look at the course to Crab Alley Bay, particularly the shoal area around Parson's Island. Consider setting danger bearings as waypoints to avoid the shoals.
- Considering the weather conditions, choose the area of Crab Alley Bay where you might want to anchor. What are the bottom characteristics and water depth? How much anchor line will you need?
- You want to get an early start on Saturday so you can do some exploring in the Chester. You want to gunk-hole up the Corsica River and Langford Creek before heading to Reed Creek for the night. Your Chesapeake Bay cruising guide had information on Reed Creek that you want to review again. Navigating the entrance to Reed Creek is just a little tricky but you're up for the challenge. You'll make sure you have the guide on hand with your chart.
- With more breeze expected Saturday night plus a wind shift, you'll want to select your anchorage carefully and be sure to have sufficient anchor line. If you're rafting up with other boats for happy hour, you consider your plan to either stay with the raft or break off and anchor on your own before retiring for the night.
- On Sunday, return to Rock Hall.

I've not provided answers for this exercise because a lot of this is up to you. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kristel Adair
Training Chairman

Events Schedule for 2004

November

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

December

3	Friday	Holiday Party
6	Monday	Board Meeting

Thank You Everyone for Working with me on the Tell Tale!

This Edition is my final Tell Tale as the Editor

It has been 3 Years and 36 Editions

What a great time I have had being the Editor

I look forward to being your Commodore in 2005

John Hackman



2004

BLUE MARSH SAILING ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS

COMMODORE	Mike Adair	610-775-2438
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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, Jr.	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
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