

**June 2009**

**Inside this issue:**

**The Race Season Begins**

The turnout of 11 boats was encouraging- sailing is still an activity in Berks!

The Ferron family was out in force. Donna sailed with Sean; John and brother Darryl sailed with Lou; and Darryl's son Dylan and daughter Sloan sailed with me. Dylan and Sloan were new to sailing so it took a couple races to get the hang of it, but soon were doing quite nicely. Dylan took the tiller as we took in the buoys under sail. Hope we see more of them this season.

Marty had to work, but that did not deter Nancy from driving the boat up to the lake. A voice from the past, Larry Bortz, took a day off from his drumming chores to crew for Nancy. It looks like she has really gotten the racing bug after her win at last year's Turkey race!

Confusion seemed to reign in the second race as we called an ABC twice around. Sean and Jerry, our speed monsters , got around in no time flat while the rest of the fleet took forever. An inadvertent sounding of the horn might have thrown the fleet off. In any event the poor times were thrown out because of the 25% throw-out rule.

I am looking for someone who will take over the racing committee. Jan will not be at the next race due to a class reunion and Joan will be moving soon. If you can spare one Saturday a month and want a front row seat to the action, give me a call.

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**It was a great day for the first race of the season.....good wind, sun, pleasant temps, and a good turnout of participants.**

**June Events**

**Sat., June 6-----Nockamixon Day-sail**  
**Fri.-Sun., June 12-14-----Spring Cruise**  
**Mon., June 15-----June Board Mtg.**  
**Sat., June 27-----Regatta/Picnic**

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## May 18, 2009 Board Meeting Minutes

*Hello, Fellow BMSA Members!*

BOLO!\* BOLO!\* I think an All Points Bulletin is in order! BMSA members are missing! Where are they? Kidnapped? Hiding? I wish I knew!

The May 13 general meeting was sparsely attended. The annual auction WAS scheduled for that meeting, but due to lack of attendance / interest, the auction has been postponed until the July picnic (7-8-09, at the Temple playground). Let's see if we can turn this into a fun, profitable endeavor for all involved! Bring your treasures, toys and excess junk.

What happened for the Sail-to-Bernville on 5-16-09? Although the weather was iffy, it actually turned out to be a really nice day to sail. John WARD, Mary and I were the only BMSA members to show up. After checking the picnic site and finding no one there, John opted to go home for the day. Mary and I sailed for a few hours. It was great! The winds were fairly consistent in direction and speed; we sailed around the island, went over to the dam, and generally had a nice time on the water. The sun even appeared, albeit briefly, on-and-off throughout our travels. You should've been there!

June '09 has the first of our annual vagabonds (a day sail at Lake Nockamixon), on Saturday, 6-6-09; John WARD is point-of-contact.

*Continued next page.....*

May Board Meeting:

Called to order by Commodore Anthony Stajkowski at 7:43 PM.

Those attending were Anthony & Mary Stajkowski, Mike & Kristel Adair, Joe & Michele Rutolo, Ron Bukowski, Jane Moyer, John Ward, Heidi Moser and Donna Ferron.

Treasurer reports balance of \$4,661.20 in bank.

Secretary moves to accept minutes of last board meeting that were printed in the last Tell-Tale.

Equipment reports the committee boat, trailer, and motor has a trailer license in the works. Hopefully it will soon be moved to Reading Boat Works to be sold on consignment.

Donna Ferron is working on By-Laws and Constitution. We are a not-for-profit entity.

CBYCA: Conrad and Russ may be attending that meeting and will probably get a few books from CBYCA to bring to our next meeting.

Fleet reports that 11 boats are going on the spring cruise June 12, 13, and 14. Contact Mike Adair for more info.

Membership reports 70 paid members.

Auction is set for July 8 at Temple Playground. So bring things to sell and a side dish to share. More info in next Tell-Tale.

Safety at the Lake is June 14, 12:00 PM until 5:00 PM at the day use area. This is a fun filled day of events and the admission is free.

June 27 picnic More info in the Tell Tale as to what side dishes to bring.

Plans for the November Commodore's Ball have met a snag. We may be looking for other places to rent due to the economy.

Training would like to do some tactical training on how to race. More info at racing days and Wednesday night sails at the lake.

Sail to Bernville had only 3 people, hope to see more coming to future vagabonds. Next one is a day sail June 6 at Nockamixon. See Tell-Tale for more info.

July is Cheseapeak sail.

Old Business: Budget spending more than we take in. Need to pay John Hackman for web work. Wants to take the membership dues out and pay him the rest.

Racing, the board supports the by-laws as to how the race committee runs racing.

New Business: none.

Motion to adjourn made and accepted Meeting adjourned at 9:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted by

Mary Stajkowski



Commodore's Corner, continued

And don't forget the Spring Cruise, scheduled for June 12 through 14, 2009. Mike ADAIR is in charge of that trip.

The Pennsylvania Senate is considering the closing of 35 state parks, due to budgetary problems:

(<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/news/newsreleases/2009/0509-budget.htm>). Right now (as of 5-26-09), it's uncertain if this is a "done deal", or merely a feeler to see what the citizenry's reactions might be. More, as we receive information...

Don't forget the annual Water Safety Festival, scheduled for 6-14-09, at the Day Use Area of Blue Marsh Lake. If you're not on the Spring Cruise, why not swing past and visit Heidi MOSER.

Here's hoping to see a lot more of you in the future!

/s/ Tony S

\* Cop-talk: i.e. "Be On the Look-Out"

### "Sail to Bernville" a Bust

The "Sail to Bernville," which traditionally opens our vagabond season, had only one boat attending. I waited at the Blue Marsh launch site from 9:30 AM until 11:00, but only Tony and Mary showed up. Perhaps it was too early in the season, the foggy conditions early in the morning of the 16<sup>th</sup>, or the threat of rain that kept people away, but with such a low turnout, I decided to cancel the picnic at the Bernville destination. I wished Tony and Mary a great sail around the Island and drove to Bernville to see if any non-sailors had turned up. Finding none, I called it a day and headed home for an afternoon of grass cutting. Perhaps next year's weather will be better.

Our next scheduled day sail vagabond is Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. We are going to sail Lake Nockamixon. For those of you who have not sailed there before (I can't really think of anybody in the usual vagabond group) the launch site is in Nockamixon State Park on the west side of the lake off route 563. Since there is not a single best way to get to the lake (some people go up 100, others take I-78 to 309 in Quakertown, and other hardy souls like Carol and I take the back roads), I suggest we all meet at the launch site around 9:30 on the 6<sup>th</sup>. To save some hassle and avoid congestion at the ramp, I would be happy to pick up the launch and parking permits the day before and people can reimburse me when they arrive. Please contact me either at 610-856-7221 or email me at [kazooward@gmail.com](mailto:kazooward@gmail.com) and let me know if you are planning to attend. Please count on bringing a dish or snacks for an afternoon picnic. Once I know how many people will be attending, I will make arrangements for hamburgers, hot dogs and a grill.

Hope to see you there!

John Ward

Vagabond Chairman



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### BMSA Birthdays for June

Nancy Katzin

Tony Mack

Tony Stajkowski

Did we miss anyone? Please let us know.

*Racing, Continued from Page 1*

The change requiring the rounding of the buoy marking the finish line seemed to work O.K. The change was made to keep all boats moving in the same direction at the finish line whether finishing or just rounding the mark as part of the race pursuant to finishing.

The racing seems to be attracting some observers as well as potential members to the club.

Welcome back to Sam McGuire. He was a member several years ago and raced then. He has been involved in work the last couple years and now has a little more time to sail. He had his son, Nate, as crew.

There was a call to run a race around the island. I didn't call it because the wind seemed to be dying and I thought the lee side of the island would be slow. However on hindsight the wind would have been O.K. and the lack of a chase boat would not have been as much a deterrent because with one rounding the fleet would have been closer together and thus able to provide assistance. Please give me your thoughts for future race days.

We will be starting our mid-week sailing on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. It's a great way to get your boat out and your skills sharpened. If you want on our e-mail mailing and have not been getting them, please let me know. Tom Stoner 610-223-3593 (cell) or [tjstoner@msn.com](mailto:tjstoner@msn.com).



**Armando and Russ in the heat of competition. You can tell by the filled sails and the ripples on the water that this was a good day for a race.**

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**And what would a race be without a committee? Joan Whan and Betty Brown are here to assist Jan Stoner in keeping track of all participants, not to mention starting and calling an end to all the races.**

|                        |
|------------------------|
| <b>Events For 2009</b> |
|------------------------|

|                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                               |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>June</b>                                                                                                                                          | <b>July</b>                                                                                                                            | <b>August</b>                                                                                                                                                 |
| Sat., June 6 – Nockamixon<br>Fri.-Sun. June 12-14 – Spring Cruise<br>Mon., June 15 – Board Meeting<br>Sat., June 27 – Race/Regatta                   | Weds., July 8 – Picnic-Temple<br>Sat.- Sun., July 11-12 – Chesapeake Vagabond<br>Mon., July 13 – Board Meeting<br>Sat., July 25 - Race | Weds, Aug. 12 – Picnic-C Guard<br>Mon., Aug. 17 – Board Meeting<br>Sat., Aug. 22 – Day-sail<br>Sat., Aug. 29 - Race                                           |
| <b>September</b>                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                        | <b>October</b>                                                                                                                                                |
| Wednesday, Sept. 9 – General Membership Mtg.<br>Fri.-Sun. Sept. 11-13 – Fall Cruise<br>Monday, Sept. 14 – Board Meeting<br>Saturday, Sept. 26 - Race |                                                                                                                                        | Sat.-Sun. Oct. 10-11 – Chesapeake Vagabond<br>Wednesday, Oct. 14 – Gen. Membership Mtg.<br>Monday, Oct. 19 – Board Meeting<br>Saturday, Oct. 31 – Turkey Race |
| <b>November</b>                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                        | <b>December</b>                                                                                                                                               |
| Saturday, Nov. 14 – Commodore's Ball<br>Monday, Nov. 16 – Board Meeting                                                                              |                                                                                                                                        | Friday, Dec. 4 – Christmas Party<br>Monday, Dec. 7 – Board Meeting                                                                                            |

### RACING RECAP- MAY 30, 2009

Our first outing of the year was raced under sunny skies and fresh breezes all day. We had a good turnout of eleven boats. Participants included some new people as well as a couple members from the past. We were able to get started in fairly good time considering that for most it was the first sail of the year. There were four races run and the results are listed below:

| Skipper       | Handicap<br>Next Race | Champ Points | Finish after Handicap correction by race |                 |                 |                 |
|---------------|-----------------------|--------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|               |                       |              | 1 <sup>st</sup>                          | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | 3 <sup>rd</sup> | 4 <sup>th</sup> |
| B. Ciferri    | 1.638                 | 34           | 1                                        | 3               | 2               | 7               |
| J. Nichols    | 1.040                 | 32           | 3                                        | 1               | 6               | 5               |
| S. McGuire    | 1.054                 | 31           | 6                                        | 5               | 3               | 2               |
| M. Katzin     | 1.173                 | 30           | 7                                        | 8               | 1               | 1               |
| T. Stajkowski | 1.421                 | 29           | 4                                        | 4               | 4               | 6               |
| A. Antonini   | 1.131                 | 24           | 5                                        | 6               | 9               | 3               |
| S. Hollis     | 1.041                 | 19           | DNS                                      | 2               | 7               | 8               |
| L. Brown      | 1.272                 | 18           | 2                                        | 9               | 8               | 10              |
| T. Stoner     | 1.098                 | 18           | 9                                        | 11              | 5               | 4               |
| R. Hemphill   | 1.250                 | 10           | 8                                        | 10              | 10              | 9               |
| J. Rutolo     | 1.286                 | 8            | 10                                       | 7               | 11              | DNF             |

Points represent number of boats beaten plus 1/race.

*Racing Continued...*

The next race is our annual Regatta on June 27. Consider participating in this fun sailing activity. Races are held locally at Blue Marsh Lake on the State Hill side. Help on the race committee is also needed. Race committee is located on shore.

### **Regatta Picnic**

The picnic will start after the Regatta on Sat., June 27 at 5:00 PM and once again will be held at the home of Conrad, Barb and Hexi Vanino. Hot food will be served at approximately 6:00 PM, compliments of BMSA. Soda and beer will also be supplied, with donations being accepted to help offset the cost of the drinks. Members and guests are invited to use the pool, so come prepared with swimsuits and towels if you want to cool off, since no skinny dipping is allowed! Members whose last names begin from A-O are asked to bring a side dish, salad or appetizer, and those from P-Z should bring a dessert. The Vanino's live at 222 Pennsylvania Ave. in Shillington (accessed by turning onto Waverly St. from either Lancaster Ave. or Museum Rd.). GPS coordinates are: 40°18'31"N / 75°57'56"W.

### **July Picnic**

The July Picnic, which will be held on July 8 at the Temple Playground at 6:00 PM (rain or shine) will also include the auction. The Temple Playground is located at Euclid Ave. and Kutztown Rd. Hot food, soda and various beverages as well as paper products are provided by BMSA. Beer will also be available for a donation. Those attending are asked to bring the following according to the first initial of your last name: A-K are asked to bring a dessert, and L-Z are asked to bring a side dish, salad or appetizer. In addition, the auction which was scheduled for the May General Meeting will also be held during the picnic. So start gathering your used boating items, toys, and excess junk. A 10% portion of the profits go to the BMSA. Ron Bukowski will be the auctioneer and our hosts are Tony and Mary Stajkowski.

### **The Ethanol Dilemma**

About two weeks ago Michele and I took our boat out for it's first cruise of the season, our shakedown cruise, where we could refresh ourselves on rigging, launching, sailing, and all that good stuff. I was pleasantly surprised that our motor started on the second pull, after being in storage all winter. After a few very pleasant hours on the water, we were in for a big surprise. Upon getting ready to return to the dock the motor would not start. We managed to successfully sail to the dock and landed safely with the help of another boater who caught our bow line. A few days later we took the motor to the nearest Nissan dealer in Pottstown to find out our carburetor was fouled by gunk left behind from the effects of ethanol. It turns out this stuff eats away at fuel lines, gas tanks, gaskets, and leaves behind a residue that clogs carburetor jets. Ethanol also attracts moisture, further complicating the situation. I was very disappointed to hear all this as I had been a long time supporter of ethanol to help ease the overseas oil problem, as well as to help the environment. What I didn't realize was how nasty this stuff is to marine engines. There are some naysayers who feel this is all a lot of hype, but I have spoken with more than one boater this season who had an engine not start when they didn't have problems before ethanol became so prevalent. So what's a boater to do? According to our mechanic and several articles I read, including one from Nissan Motors, you are best to avoid the evil ethanol, if possible. I did manage to find a Gulf gas station at 433 Penn Ave., West Reading, where I was able to purchase gas without ethanol. The owner said he didn't know how long the ethanol-free stuff would be available, but for now it's still there. There is considerable disagreement among mechanics as to whether it's best to run your engine dry at the end of the season or not. Regardless if you do or not, it's a good idea to put some marine Sta-bil in the engine's last tank of the season and to spray a fogging agent in the air intake just before the engine is shut off for the season. You should also remove the spark plug and spray some fogging agent (Sta-bil also makes this product) in the engine before replacing the spark plug. Good luck motoring.

Joe Rutolo

**2009 BLUE MARSH SAILING ASSOCIATION OFFICERS**

|                    |                       |              |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| COMMODORE.....     | Tony Stajkowski ..... | 610-370-0505 |
| VICE COMMODORE.... | Donna Ferron.....     | 484-678-4592 |
| SECRETARY.....     | Mary Stajkowski.....  | 610-370-0505 |
| TREASURER.....     | Jane Moyer.....       | 610-374-8956 |
| REAR COMMODORE...  | Ron Bukowski .....    | 610-670-4850 |



**COMMITTEE CHAIR PERSONS**

|                         |                                           |              |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------|
| CBYCA DELEGATE.....     | Russ Witzke.....                          | 610-775-9704 |
| CBYCA ALTERNATE....     | Conrad Vanino.....                        | 610-777-2599 |
| CHAPLIN.....            | Evelyn Marker.....                        | 610-678-5606 |
| EQUIPMENT.....          | Mike Dougherty (temp)...                  | 610-926-5581 |
| FLEET CAPTAIN.....      | Mike Adair.....                           | 610-775-2438 |
| HISTORIAN.....          | Jan Stoner.....                           | 610-678-0683 |
| HOUSE.....              | Dave Miller.....                          | 610-678-7121 |
| LIBRARIAN.....          |                                           |              |
| MEMBERSHIP.....         | Sandi Bukowski.....                       | 610-670-4850 |
| PROGRAM.....            |                                           |              |
|                         | Co-chair....                              |              |
|                         | Co-chair....                              |              |
| PUBLICITY.....          | Mike Gent.....                            | 610-775-6534 |
| RACING .....            | Tom Stoner.....                           | 610-678-0683 |
| SAFETY.....             | Heidi Moser.....                          | 610-779-5582 |
| SOCIAL.....             | Michele Rutolo.....                       | 610-678-6206 |
|                         | Assisting Kristel Adair and Sharon Hrabak |              |
| STORES.....             | Anna Grace.....                           | 610-678-8709 |
| TELL-TALE.....          | Joe Rutolo.....                           | 610-678-6206 |
| TRAINING.....           | Donna Ferron.....                         | 484-678-4592 |
| VAGABOND ...co-chair... | John Ward.....                            | 610-856-7221 |
|                         | co-chair...                               |              |

Visit our website at

[www.bluemarshsailing.org](http://www.bluemarshsailing.org)

Meetings are held at the Lower Heidelberg Volunteer Fire Company on the second Wednesday of each month unless otherwise announced.

(7:00 PM Social, 7:30 PM Meeting)

Your comments and contributions are always welcome and can be sent to the editor at

[Rutolo@aol.com](mailto:Rutolo@aol.com)

Anyone interested in joining BMSA may contact Membership Chair Sandi Bukowski at 610-670-4850 for more information. Single membership is \$25, \$40 for couples or families.

If you are renewing your BoatUS Membership, be sure to mention our co-op group no., GA87894S, to get the special \$9.50 rate.

THE TELL-TALE 6-09  
c/o Joseph J Rutolo, editor  
3032 Octagon Ave.  
Sinking Spring, PA 19608

