



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

State of the Ship	2
Training Corner	3
On the River	4
PSC Racing Squadron	5
From the Bay	6
BVI Trip Update	7
Membership Meeting	8
News of Interest	9
MDRU Flyer	10
Help Wanted	11

2008 PSC Memorial Day Raft-Up Hal Moore

Rafting-up is the colloquial term when cruising yachtsmen get together and sail to an “exotic” destination, anchor, and tie their boats together into a “raft.” It is normally accompanied by festive food and drink once the raft is set. Some rafts get so large and complex that they have barges with bands on them.

PSC normally rafts with five to eight boats in the Chesapeake Bay. Often we are joined by PSC members who own their own boats, and our rafts build to more than a dozen boats! The second night we stay at a marina and enjoy dinner together in a local restaurant. The third day we set sail for our home ports.

For this year’s PSC Memorial Day Raft-up, May 24th to

May 26th, we will be rafting in the Wye East River, which is on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, on the eastern side of Eastern Bay and north of St. Michaels. We will then sail to St. Michaels for our Sunday night dinner. St.



Michaels is a quaint community on the Eastern Shore, with a wonderful maritime museum, historic lighthouse, and lots of unique restaurants and shops. The shoreline of this area is lined with historic estates.

Our first day is normally spent sailing as boats gradually work their way to the rafting site. The largest boat normally anchors first. The skipper of the largest boat is normally considered the “Raft Captain” and it is primarily on his or her anchor or anchors that the raft relies. As the boats arrive at the raft site, they normally “blossom ship” by hauling up their decorations, flags, and donning costumes that are in keeping with the raft up theme.

This year’s theme is “International” where each boat will adopt the identity of a country, and adopt a motif for their nationality. We are liberal on what is considered a “country” as the definition does not necessarily imply that the “country” must have

continued on page 8

UPCOMING EVENTS See our web site for details and more events

March

- 19 Membership Meeting, Floyd’s Bar & Grill, Alexandria
- 29-30 Safety-at-Sea Seminar, U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis

April

- 5 Winter Training Program, Red Cross CPR & Adult First Aid, TESST College, Alexandria
- 12 Winter Training Program, Red Cross CPR & Adult First Aid, TESST College, Alexandria
- 16 Membership Meeting, Floyd’s Bar & Grill, Alexandria
- 26-27 Day Sails on Chesapeake Bay, Annapolis



State of the Ship **Commodore Tony Skivo**

Commodore's Log:
17 Mar 2008

Fellow PSC Sailors,

Well, another sailing season is about to begin. From my perspective it looks like it will be another GREAT year for the Pentagon Sailing Club.

The first thing I want to draw your attention to is the new night for PSC General Membership meetings. Starting on 19 March 2008 meetings are moving to the third Wednesday of each month. So come on out and have a half priced burger at Floyd's and see what the club and other members have been up to.

We had another great turnout for the Winter Training Program. Once again this year's WTP instructors were tops. Many thanks to all of them for volunteering their time and sharing their experience. Professional instruction and friendly encouragement has been the hallmark of all the training this year; Jimmy and Judy Manning (Navigation), Jim Battles (Rules of the Road), Don and Lynnette Hupman (Anchoring and Raft-Ups), and the late Rupert Knowles (Heavy Weather/Safety) - all truly outstanding instructors.

The Bridge also worked new sails for Falcon into the budget this year,

so a big thanks to Bill Hallam for all the hard work he put into finding the right sail maker. This now gives us two PSC Boats with new sails. So come on down to the Marina and give them your own sea trial and see some of the other new changes at the Marina.

We need your help to fill the Basic Sailing Class on the river. Remember we have a special membership/learn to sail package, so let's all get the word out about the great opportunities the PSC has to offer. Bolling AFB has asked us to conduct Basic dinghy sailing courses for them again this year and Roger Hammer is looking for PSC members to help teach the both ours and Bolling's classes. This is also a fun class for any of you out there who didn't learn to sail in a dinghy.

We weathered another horrible storm this winter when Rupert Knowles passed away suddenly in January. Rup was a great sailor and PSC member who brought a lot to our club. Rup's service was well attended by the members of the DC Police Department, members of the US Army Special Forces community and PSC members, a true testament to the great guy he was and how highly we all regarded him. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his wife Delores. We all miss Rup. I know I will truly miss his wise council and those great Dark 'n Stormys he liked to mix up.

We also solved the base access issue this year and can finally get ID cards for Non DoD members. This was a HUGE undertaking and step forward for us. It took a lot of time and effort to accomplish. The cards are good for one year. If you need access and want to get a card contact Jim Battles, Larry Chapman, or Darrell Harris.

Your 2008 Bridge continues to work for you. Please let us know about any concerns or things you would be interested in; it's YOUR club, and you DO have a say in how we operate.

Again my very sincere thanks to all of you for the important parts you play in keeping the PSC the organization we are today, and will be tomorrow.

Fair Winds and Following Seas,

Tony Skivo
Commodore 2008



Training Corner Roger Hammer

The Winter Training Program wraps up in early April with Red Cross CPR/First Aid classes.

This year we are offering the combined classes on Saturday, 5 April and again on Saturday, 12 April. Unlike previous years, classes will be conducted at the TESST College, [6315 Bren Mar Drive, Alexandria, VA 22312](http://www.tesst.edu) instead of the Red Cross Office at Ft Belvoir. CPR will be conducted from 8:30 AM to Noon, and First Aid will run from 1:00 PM to approximately 4 PM. The fee is \$35 for the two classes. This represents a savings of over \$70.00 from the fees Red Cross normally charges for these two classes if you sign up for them on your own. All the details and directions to the TESST are posted on the PSC web site. Please contact the Winter Training Program coordinator, Bill Mahoney to sign up for CPR and First Aid.

On Thursday March 27th from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm there will be a meeting for all current Bay Skipper Candidates and anyone interested in learning more about the program in the Beatley Library Meeting Room in Alexandria. The purpose of the meeting is to provide an overview of the Bay Skipper Program for new members and discuss changes to the program for 2008. This meeting was rescheduled from the original 11 March date which was cancelled at the last minute.

The 2008 sailing season is fast approaching and we are in the process of recruiting both Lead and Assistant Instructors to teach the Beginning Keelboat Classes scheduled for May, June and September. Serving as a

River Training Instructor is a terrific way to sharpen your basic sailing skills and acquire on-the-water sailing time creditable toward your Senior Crew qualification. On Saturday, April 26th, we will be holding a River Instructor Training Clinic for all members interested in teaching the Beginning Keelboat classes. Anyone who has earned their B-KBS+ qualification within the past year is eligible to serve as an Assistant Instructor. If you are interested in serving as an instructor this year, please contact the River Training Coordinator, Jim Mead at river-training@pentagonsailing.org.

The first Bay Training Sails for the season are scheduled for the weekend of 26 and 27 April. We will be using boats from ABC Charters again this year which is located over at Port Annapolis Marina. This season we have sails scheduled on at least two weekends per month from May through October including 3 night sails. The cost of a one day bay sail is \$135.00 (\$110.00 with an FVSM). This is a \$15.00 reduction over last year's prices. Spaces on Bay Training Sails can be reserved with a deposit of just \$50.00 with the balance due 30 days before the sail date. Sail dates, the size and type of boat and the names of the skippers for all sails are available on the Cruising Skipper (Bay) page on the PSC website. This year, all checks and Bay Activity Registration Forms should be mailed directly to the PSC Treasurer, Larry Paulson. You are not guaranteed a space on a sail until your check has been received. Please contact the Bay Training Coordinator, Ken Skelps at baytraining@pentagonsailing.org for more information.

"The first Bay Training Sails... are scheduled for... 26 and 27 April."



On The River Larry Chapman & Darrell Harris

PSC RIVER ACTIVITY

The River Commodores Need Your Help!



River Boat Maintenance Day

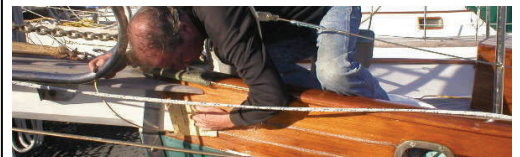
**Saturday, 29 March 2008 from 0900
Meet at the PSC Club House, Bolling AFB**

**It's an opportunity to hang out, work on the boats, and
earn hours towards a FSVM Certificate!**



Please RSVP to Darrell Harris or
Larry Chapman if you are coming.
janeanddarrell@verizon.net
Tel: 240-686-0167

r3lyc@aol.com
Tel: 202-359-4223



PSC Racing Squadron Charlie Peck

Great news from Racing Committee:

New sails have been ordered for Falcon, and plenty of upgrades and other improvements too. The Racing Squadron is now up to 20 members, all itching to get racing!

Here's the Racing Squadron's April schedule:

- April 1 - First Tuesday practice (4 pm at PSC Boat House)
- April 1 - Meeting for all Racing Squadron Members
(7 pm at PSC Boat House)**
- April 5 - DISC Cherry Blossom Regatta (8:30 am at PSC Boat House)
- April 8 - Tuesday practice (4 pm at PSC Boat House)
- April 15 - Tuesday practice (4 pm at PSC Boat House)
- April 22 - Tuesday practice (4 pm at PSC Boat House)
- April 22 - DISC Spring Skipper's Meeting
- April 29 - Tuesday practice (4 pm at PSC Boat House)

Don't miss out on all the fun right here on the Potomac River!

--Race Committee Member, Charlie Peck



"The Racing Squadron is now up to 20 members, all itching to get racing!"



From the Bay Ray Widmayer

The Bay Commodore's job basically involves chartering boats and finding and helping folks to run the Memorial Day Raft-Up, the British Virgin Islands charter trip, and the Labor Day Raft-Up.



So far this year, I have chartered the boats from Annapolis Bay Charters for our raft-ups and other Chesapeake Bay sails, I have a superb coordinator for the Memorial Day Raft-Up...Hal Moore. I have an equally superb team of coordinators for the BVI trip...Team Moy, Brenda and Wesley. And I am very pleased to say that the planning for each of these terrific events is running like a fine Swiss watch.

The Memorial Day Raft Up...to St. Michaels with an International theme...is well along in planning. Hal has the raft location, the St. Michaels Harbour Inn and Marina, the St. Michaels Restaurant, and theme plans all well in hand. In fact, he has written a separate article in this edition of the Lubber's Line...so check it out...and check out

the MDRU info on the PSC website as well. Note at this point two of the three chartered boats are already *full*...and the third boat is filling up quickly. So don't hesitate...sign up with Hal...Now!

The BVI planning is going so well that there, unfortunately, are no more berths available. So, check out the trip update on page 7 and the website info on the BVI for details, including the latest on a wait list and the potential for adding more boats...still an option. The message in all this is that when we do this again next year...sign up fast to not miss out. The BVI is *always* a hot sailing ticket...heading into the sixth year in row with this Summer's trip. Kudos to Brenda and Wesley for working this trip so expertly and vigorously. I personally can't wait to get down there and cast off, 12 July for 10 days of sailing in paradise.

I would like to make one additional comment relating to the BVI trip. We have been going to the BVI each year for several years because our members really enjoy sailing in one of the best sailing areas on the planet. But in the past couple of years some of our members have also sailed in Greece and elsewhere. What does it take to put together one of these trips to a new sailing destination? All it takes is for someone to step up to coordinate

a trip just like Brenda and Wesley are doing this year for the BVI trip. So, if you have always wanted to sail in the Windward Islands, the South Pacific, New Zealand, the Pacific Northwest, the Mediterranean, or some other exotic sailing location and would like to put together a PSC trip, let me know and we will see what we can do.

Finally, the one job I have *not* filled as yet is that of **coordinator/s for the Labor Day Raft-Up**. The venue and theme for this raft up are up for grabs...and the club really needs someone to run with this. Please contact me on my cell...202-255-5664 or raywidmayer@aol.com sign up as Labor Day Raft-Up coordinator. It is a great way to contribute to the PSC...everyone really appreciates all that the coordinators (raft-up and BVI) do for the rest of us. A truly serious club contribution!

And remember...the bay training sailing season officially kicks off on 26 & 27 April...just around the corner! Check out the PSC website calendar for details, and sign up with Ken Skelps, the Bay Training Coordinator, to join in on the fun...and, by the way, to learn how to sail a large cruising sail boat.

Ray Widmayer, BC, 2008

2008 Memorial Day Raft-Up!!!

24 to 26 May 2008

Our Raft-Up Theme: International Day!!!

BVI Trip Update **Brenda & Wesley Moy**

Aloha PSC Sailors!
Here's a quick update on our trip to the British Virgin Islands.

We're now up to six boats and 36 sailors for our BVI trip on July 11th to 20th. In addition, we have four people currently on a wait list. If you're interested in the trip please let us know right away. We are still able to add additional boats subject to availability of

both boats and skippers.

The Bitter End Yacht Club has offered to host us with a bowl of Rum Punch at their facility in North Sound. If you have been to the BVI, you know about their fabulous facility. And of course, there's the Rum Punch!

For more information or to be added to the wait list, please contact us at bvitrrip08@pentagonsailing.org.



March Membership Meeting **Will Kelchner**

Please mark your calendar for the next PSC monthly membership meeting on Wednesday evening, March 19, 2008, starting at 7:00 PM, at Floyd's Bar and Grill in Alexandria, VA. Come early, the private meeting room and bar will be open at 6:30 PM.

PSC membership meetings are now on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Why Wednesdays? - well because Floyd's offers:

1/2 price burgers all day Wednesdays

This should be an interesting meeting and opportunity to meet with your sailing colleagues and friends. Many thanks to Larry Paulson for arranging to have member Lynnette Hupman speak about Cruising on the Bay and Raft-Ups at the meeting.

Floyd's has provided a more private room and more personalized service for PSC and we have many Frequent Volunteer Sea Miles to distribute!!!

Fair Winds and Following Seas,
Will Kelchner, Vice Commodore

Memorial Day

continued from page 1

a seat at the United Nations.

But it needs to be an "entity" with an identifiable culture. For example, Puerto Rico, Hawaii, Quebec, and Texas might be good candidates for "countries." However, New Jersey would not make the cut.

This year will add a new touch to the raft up. Each skipper will E-mail to the other skippers the answers to a set of trivia questions about which country his or her boat will be. Each boat will try to guess the "national" identity of the other boats, and must place a cell phone or VHF call to the raft coordinator identifying the top three ranked guesses as to the country of each boat. These guesses must be submitted before each boat enters the Wye River.

After securing the raft, each boat starts cooking and bringing up their food and refreshments. Normally, each crew eats on their own boat, but soon participants begin to walk around the other boats, sampling

their food, drink, and music.

A representative from each boat joins the Raft-up Coordinator to form an awards committee to decide on prizes. These normally include:

- Best Food
- Best Costumes
- Best Boat Decorations:
- Best Ambience (music, attitude, energy)
- Best Overall

A member of the awards committee may not vote for their own boat. The prize awards are announced at the Sunday night dinner in port.

After the festivities and weather permitting, all crews normally settle down and sleep the night. The next morning everyone awakens leisurely and the boats at the extreme end of the raft break the raft and either maneuver out for sailing, or head to the Sunday night in port destination.

This year we will be mooring at the Harbour Inn at St. Michaels, which is a luxury resort in St. Michaels. It has swimming pools, a Spa, a water shuttle to the other side

of the harbor, and free bikes for marina users to go around town with. We will be eating at the Town Dock Restaurant, where we will have our own seating and a great view of the harbor. After dinner, we normally sleep onboard our boats pierside.

The next day, crewmembers can wait around and spend time in town, or head back to their home ports.

The advertised cost of the raft-up is to defray the cost of chartering the boats. The normal cost of a boat for the three day weekend is \$1,500-\$2,500. Money for the meal is collected separately. The cost of marina slips is paid by each boat and is normally split among crew members, as well as the fuel and pump out costs.

If you are bringing your own boat, there is no cost other than the marina fees and the cost of the dinner. However, you need to let the Raft-Up Coordinator know before 1 April in order to have enough slips available.

Please contact Hal Moore, the 2008 MDRU coordinator, at mdru@pentagonsailing.org.

News of Interest **Don Hupman**

The 29th annual **Safety at Sea Seminar** will be held on March 29 & 30 at Alumni Hall, U.S. Naval Academy, in Annapolis. The seminar will focus on offshore and inshore safety issues. The live on-the-water demonstrations and helicopter rescue are features of the Annapolis seminar that are unmatched in this country. The seminar is sponsored by the Marine Trades Association of Maryland and the U.S. Naval Academy Sailing Squadron.. Contact the [Marine Trades Association of Maryland](#) for information and to sign up.



Current State Boating Course Requirements (information extracted from *Chesapeake Bay Magazine*).

Delaware: Required for boaters born on or after January 1, 1978.

Maryland: Required for boaters born on or after July 1, 1972.

Pennsylvania: Required for boaters 12-15 years old and all personal watercraft users.

Virginia: Required for personal watercraft users ages 14 and 15.

District of Columbia: Required for all boaters.

The PSC is an organization run by volunteers, so we need your help in every single function we provide for our members!

The "Frequent Volunteer Sea Miles" (FVSM) Program compensates you with coupons for your volunteer time. FVSM coupons can be redeemed for use of the river boats, trips on the Bay, or for other PSC activities like the Holiday Party!

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS: You invest some of your talent and expertise into the club. Every 8 hours that you volunteer earns you a Frequent Volunteer Sea Mile coupon. Each FVSM coupon is worth \$25, and can be redeemed to offset use of the River boats, the cost of a Bay sailing trip or other

PSC activity. FVSM coupons are valid for one year from the date of issue.

This is an exceptional deal! You work at the marina, help maintain boats, instruct in the Basic Sailing Classes, etc. And in return, we'll reward you with Frequent Volunteer Sea Miles! Plus, we'll give you the training you need to do any job right; for most volunteer opportunities, no previous experience is required! Just think, while doing something enjoyable and helping the PSC, you'll collect coupons to use towards great sailing opportunities on the River and the Bay!

The PSC needs your time and commitment in order to survive and thrive ---VOLUNTEER TODAY!!



2008 Memorial Day Raft-Up!!!



Our Raft-Up Theme: **International Day!!!**

Boats pick a country and compete for the best international theme, including:

- **Decorations**
- **Costumes**
- **Food**

Raft Location: **Wye East River**, Sat, 24 May

Marina Location: **St. Michael's**, Sun, 25 May

Cost: **Premium Boat Berth, \$375; Standard Boat Berth \$325**

These are **cost REDUCTIONS** from last year

ST. MICHAELS is *THE* place to be...Wonderful walking, Maritime Museum, Tons of history...and *lots* of shops!

Meal: \$45 per person (Town Dock Restaurant...inclusive of meal, gratuities and tax...cash bar)

Docking Cost: approx \$25 per person (based on boat length)

Docking at St. Michaels Harbour Inn and Spa...a **first class resort**

Please contact the raft up coordinator Hal Moore by E-mail (<mailto:mdru@pentagonsailing.org>) or phone (877-639-7682)
Click here for a [registration form](#). More details on the PSC website



Pentagon Sailing Club

Pentagon Sailing Club
P.O. Box 23422
Washington, DC 20026-3422



Pentagon Sailing Club—The best recreational sailing opportunity in the region!!!

www.pentagonsailing.org

Help Wanted Don Hupman

Newsletter editor for the Lubber's Line. The Lubber's Line is currently being prepared using MS Publisher. It is published every other month. Future plans are to publish the Lubber's Line monthly during the sailing season and every other month during the winter. Any member who would like to volunteer for this critical and important task (and earn some Frequent Volunteer Sea Miles) should contact Communications Commodore Don Hupman at commscommodore@pentagonsailing.org.

Coordinator for the 2008 Labor Day Raft-up, Aug 30th to Sep 1st. The raft-up coordinator can train on the job. If you would like to help with this event (and would like to attend the raft-up at half price and earn Frequent Volunteer Sea Miles) contact Bay Commodore Ray Widmayer at baycommodore@pentagonsailing.org.

