



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Passing of Charlie Peck	2
Training Corner	3
From the Bay	4
MDRU Update	5
Treasurer's Report	6
Memorial - Terri Pinnell	6
News of Interest	8
MDRU Flyer	9
Help Wanted	11

## The PSC Racing Squadron **Hal Moore**

**T**he Pentagon Sailing Racing Squadron (RS) had its birth in 2006, after the initial efforts of John Cavedo and Charlie Peck to train a group of Pentagon Sailing members in sailboat racing, the nuances of sail trim, and the ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing. The program continued to a more formal status in 2007, when PSC put together a formal racing squadron with its own charter, qualification process, and organizational rules. PSC also joined the Dangerfield Island Sailing Club (DISC), which sponsors races on the River on Tuesday nights and weekends.

As we continue to grow and build our expertise as racers, we are also continuing to improve the competitive position of our boats. Our current spinnaker capable boats, Fal-

con and Eagle, are our two principle racers. We recently outfitted Falcon with completely new lines and halyards, and made other improvements. We have also purchased new sails for her, which should arrive soon.



These include a new 150 Mylar genoa that we will only use for racing.

We will shortly have a newer donated Capri 22 that will hopefully be our new fast boat. Most of the boats in the series are larger (25-30 feet), but we are aided by a handi-

cap rating that can improve our score. On the docks, this boat will take the place of KESTREL, which we will place on the hard, until we can figure out what to do with her.

The Racing Squadron has grown to over 25 members, and for two years, has represented the most rapidly growing focus of interest in the club. The Racing Squadron members have also provided the lion's share of maintenance support over the past year for the river fleet, which all Pentagon Sailing members benefit from.

As we have grown in number, a number of our members have extensive racing experience, including the Naval Academy racing teams. Some

*continued on page 7*

## UPCOMING EVENTS See our web site for details and more events

### May

- 7 & 14 Basic Sailing Class 1 - Classroom Sessions, Furnari Hall
- 21 Membership Meeting, Floyd's Bar & Grill, Alexandria
- 24-26 Memorial Day Raft-up

### June

- 11 & 19 Basic Sailing Class 2 - Classroom Sessions, Furnari Hall
- 14-15 Overnight Sails (2 boats) on Chesapeake Bay, Annapolis
- 18 Membership Meeting, Floyd's Bar & Grill, Alexandria
- 28-29 Day Sails on Chesapeake Bay, Annapolis



## State of the Ship **Commodore Tony Skivo**

### Passing of PSC Club Member Charlie Peck

PSC member and Racing Squadron founder, Charlie Peck passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, April 8, 2008. Charlie was a valuable member and was the driving force behind our Racing Squadron. If not for his tireless efforts both on and off the water the program would not be where it is today. Charlie served as our Chief Racing Skipper and as a member of the Racing Committee. Charlie's passion for sailing was second to none. He was always more than willing to share his experiences.

I am saddened to have to tell you of the death of PSC member and Racing Squadron founder, Charlie Peck. Bill Hallam has informed me that Charlie departed unexpectedly on Tuesday 8 April 2008. Charlie was a valuable member and was the driving force behind our Racing Squadron. If not for his tireless efforts both on and off the water the program would not be where it is today.

Charlie served as our Chief Racing

Skipper and as a member of the Racing Committee. Charlie's passion for sailing was second to none. He was always more than willing to share his experiences. He will be missed by all.

Charlie is survived by his wife Judy, son Christopher and daughter Brianna. Services and interment will take place in California. No memorial activities are planned for the Washington area at this time.

Bill Hallam has contributed the following Remembrance of Charlie on behalf of Darrell Harris and himself. I'd like to join them in their sentiments.

Sincerely,

Tony Skivo  
Commodore, Pentagon Sailing Club

Charlie was the most enthusiastic sailor I have known. He arrived at the dock for every Tuesday evening race overflowing with such contagious delight at getting back on the water that we boat mates couldn't help being filled with the spirit too.

He was at his best when the wind kicked up and the spray flew. But I remember even more, those weak-winded upper Potomac evenings when we drifted along at less than a knot and some of us could easily have drifted off into a nap. Charlie never stopped racing. He had us tweak and re-tweak every conceivable sail control. We balanced and rebalanced the boat. We craned our necks for the first sighting of a little patch of breeze on the water. He never gave up.

Ashore, Charlie could be bodacious and outrageous. He could not hold an opinion inside. They came bursting out, Katy bar the door. His computer fired missives that looked like they could spontaneously combust. Charlie was a colorful personality!

I have a collection of pictures of Charlie in my mind that will be with me for a long, long time:

One is in that Alexandria bar where we sometimes have Club meetings. It is of Charlie and me, right in each other's faces, shouting insults and accusations at each other that we really didn't mean over some matter that I've completely forgotten I would have called him the next morning to apologize, but he got up earlier and got to me first.

Another picture is Charlie at any Tuesday post-race beer and burger fest at the Slip Inn. Charlie reveled in those affairs, trading sea stories and gossip with us like-minded folk.

Another picture is at sunset, in the Bolling AFB Marina. It's Charlie, standing ramrod straight on Falcon's foredeck, with his hand on his heart while the Base speaker system played the Star Spangled Banner.

I'm going to miss him.

Bill Hallam and Darrell Harris

## Training Corner Roger Hammer

The Winter Training Program finished up in April for the 2007-2008 season with two Red Cross CPR/First Aid classes. Thanks to Red Cross Instructor Rich Fellner for providing this important training for our members.

We are going to make some changes to next winter's training program so I would like to hear your ideas for additional classes and changes to current classes you'd like to see next winter.

Our bay training began on April 26th and 27th with back to back day sails. Early classes are filling up fast so check the PSC calendar and contact Bay Training Coordinator, Ken Skelps at [baytraining@pentagonsailing.org](mailto:baytraining@pentagonsailing.org) for more information and to sign up. Because of the demand for bay sails we have added a second boat for the June 14th and 15th overnight bay sail. There are only a few of these night sail-

ing opportunities this year so sign up right away if you want to experience the bay the way few sailors ever see it.

The PSC Beginning Keelboat (B-KBS) Classes start on Wednesday, May 7th with a classroom session at Furnari Hall. Note that most classroom sessions have been moved back to Wednesday evenings except when that would conflict with the monthly membership meetings. Please check the PSC calendar to make sure of the class dates. Because of the demand for our Basic Sailing Classes this year, we have added a fourth class in August. The May and June classes are already full. Contact the River Training Coordinator, Jim Mead at [rivertraining@pentagonsailing.org](mailto:rivertraining@pentagonsailing.org) for more information or to sign up.

Contact Jim also if you are interested in serving as an instructor on the river. Remember that Bay Skipper Candidates now must teach on the river to qualify as D-CS skippers.



*"...most B-KBS classroom sessions have been moved back to Wednesday evenings..."*



# From the Bay **Ray Widmayer**

**J**ust a quick update on the PSC Bay Program. You are all probably getting a bit weary of hearing about the Memorial Day Raft Up and the British Virgins Islands trip...both pretty much done deals at this point as far as planning and participants are concerned; so let's focus on our next big event on the Bay...the fabulous PSC Labor Day Raft Up. As in the past, the PSC goes somewhere really nice over the Labor Day Weekend (August 30<sup>th</sup> to September 1<sup>st</sup>)...and this year is certainly no exception. This year we are going to Oxford Maryland...as nice a

amples of boat already restored. Again, great yachting eye candy. Hey...try not to drool too much...it messes up the docks.



*"I've added a second boat for the bay overnight sail... June 14th & 15th."*



place to visit as St. Michaels, Maryland...the venue for this year's Memorial Day Raft Up.

Oxford, located off the Choptank River, is a truly captivating place...steeped in bay and boat-building heritage. Although our plans are in the early stage of formulation, my present intention is to dock at the Hinckley Yacht Services Marina...Chesapeake Bay's Eastern Shore location of the Hinckley Yacht Company. For those not familiar with Hinckley Yachts...there are none finer...and this place is just crawling with them...great yachting eye candy, to be sure. Just walking around the Oxford waterfront, particularly visiting the "Cutts and Case" Shipyard, is an education in boating. For example, at "Cutts and Case," you can see the great old wooden boats they are restoring, and can see at their docks ex-

Per our normal raft up policy, we will be rafting on Saturday, August 30<sup>th</sup> at an anchorage not too far from Oxford (the call of the yet-to-be-named LDRU 2008 coordinator...hint-hint), and we will be dining in Oxford somewhere on the evening of Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup>...again, specific details TBD. Back to our home ports on Monday, September 1<sup>st</sup>...Labor Day.

So mark your calendars for the Labor Day Weekend with the PSC...and stand by for more details as available. And remember that we still need a LDRU coordinator. The raft-up coordinator goes on the raft-up for half price AND earns PSC Frequent Volunteer Sea Miles coupons. This is a great opportunity for somebody; benefits galore and a lot of the work has already been done.

On another subject...I have added a second boat for the bay overnight sail on the weekend of June 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>. A 2006 37' Delphia Sloop...a sweet boat. Sign up soon before the berths on that boat are gone...as is the case for most of our other bay sails this year...selling out fast! Yes...that would be another hint.

Cheers, Ray

## 2008 Memorial Day Raft-Up!!!

24 to 26 May 2008

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



## Memorial Day Raft-up Update **Hal Moore**

If you are thinking about the raft up, this year we will be going to St. Michaels. St. Michaels is a beautiful town, with a wonderful bay museum, lots of historic buildings, great restaurants, and lots of neat shopping. It is a great place for all ages. It corners the market for "boutiquey-chiquey-weekey" on the Eastern Shore.

We will be berthing at the Harbour Inn (<http://www.harbourinn.com/index.html>) in St. Michaels. They have free bicycles for our use, a pool, Jacuzzi, and an on-premises spa. It has wireless internet, free cable hookup, and complimentary newspapers and coffee, shuttle service



through town, and free water taxi to take you over to the museum side of the harbor. However, you will probably want to walk in St. Michaels.

The Chesapeake Bay Museum ([www.cbmm.org](http://www.cbmm.org)) brings to life the story of the Chesapeake and its people with nine exhibit buildings and the world's largest collection of traditional Bay boats. Explore our 1879 Hooper Strait Lighthouse, working boatyard, and hands-on displays. The boatyard specializes in maintaining traditional Bay boats using traditional methods. It is very much like Williamsburg in that there are exhibits with craftsmen, with whom you can interact. Discover exhibitions detailing the Bay's roll throughout history, oystering, steamboats, water fowling, and more. There are usually skipjack captains and boat builders giving presentations. It also has an historic bay lighthouse that you can explore.

The St. Mary's Square Museum has historical exhibits on St. Michaels the way it was from the 1800's. Open from May to October, Sat/Sun, 10 AM - 4 PM. Other times by

reservation. Private tours are available; please call 410-745-3984. St. Mary's square has a number of beautiful buildings in the area.

Wives can go to "3 Krazy Ladies" to shop for SHABBY-CHIC-UNIQUE From fancy to funky, country to crazy, you are sure to find something you like, while husbands can gravitate to the boatyard at the museum.

The St. Michaels website ([www.stmichaelsmd.org](http://www.stmichaelsmd.org)) has a complete list of activities.

There is still room on the Memorial Day Raft Up boats. This is a great deal for those who enjoy sailing and interesting places to visit. For those interested in getting signatures for their Bay qualifications, you can get three days of sailing (enough to complete Senior Crew) for the price of four days on the bay.

For those of you who have never been on a bay sail with PSC, I have posted a video of a PSC sail last fall. (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lgVUbHO2CdA>). We are sailing hard and fast to make our dinner reservation in Solomons Island.

Remember that you can use an FVSM for each day. Check out the PSC MDRU web site ([www.pentagonsailing.org](http://www.pentagonsailing.org)) or send a note to [mdru@pentagonsailing.org](mailto:mdru@pentagonsailing.org)



## Treasurer's Report **Larry Paulson**

**T**hanks to the work of 2007 Treasurer, Joe Rymal, the Pentagon Sailing Club generated income that exceeded expenses in excess of the \$5,000 Joe used to establish a Capital Improvement Fund. The annual cash flow through the club was approximately \$65,000 for 2007.

The 2008 Bridge developed and recently approved a balanced budget for 2008 with cash flow projected around \$54,000. Major expenses are approximately \$22,000 for Bay Operations, \$12,000 for River Operations, and \$4,000 for the annual Holiday Party.

Our most significant capital improvement investment this

year will be new sails for Falcon; a Dacron Main and 110 Jib, and a 155 Mylar racing Genoa. We will continue to add to our Capital Improvement Fund so that we can continue to upgrade our river fleet which now numbers five boats as well as other club-wide improvements.

Copies of the 2007 Income-Expense Statement as well as the 2008 Budget are available upon request.

Larry Paulson  
Treasurer  
Pentagon Sailing Club

*Treasurer's Report April 2008*

## In Memoriam - Terri Pinnell

**L**ong time PSC members will remember former club member Terri Pinnell.

Terri Suzanne Pinnell, 65, a resident of Annapolis for several years and previously of Reston, Va., died March 31 in her home. Ms. Pinnell was born Jan. 11, 1943, in Orlando, Fla., and attended Ohio State University. She was a program analyst with the Drug Enforcement Administration. She was a member of MENSA. Ms. Pinnell loved sailing, and was devoted to her feline family. Survivors include one son, Michael Pinnell of Phoenix, Ariz.; one sister, Wendy Carvalho of Sunnyvale, Calif.; and one grandchild. Funeral services and interment are private.



## Racing Squadron

*continued from page 1*

of our members are participating in racing seminars, such as the J World Annapolis racing clinics.

Tuesday nights are practice nights through most of April, while the racing on Tuesday nights kicks off the last week of this month. We will race in almost all of the weekend races this year with DISC, which are usually on Saturdays. We are setting up Sunday afternoons from 1500 to Sunset as a regular "practice time".

How does it normally work? Just to get a planning idea, we ask that all RS members notionally sign up at the beginning of each year for races that they are planning each year. This step helps the RS to ensure that we have enough racing skippers of record (SOR) for the races based on the number attending. The week prior to the race, the SOR for that boat will send out a coordination message to the entire RS announcing who the crew is, and other information such as the race course, weather, tides, and currents. The SOR may get additional people who want to sail or cancellations. We may need to get an addi-



tional SOR for an additional boat if we have a lot of people wanting to race. We also may have a "training boat" go out if we don't have a Racing SOR, but have members who want to sail.

On the day of the race, we arrive an hour and a half early and start getting

the boat ready. In addition to the normal boat preps that river skippers may be used to, we have to get our gear bags out of the RS locker in the club house as well as the spinnakers and racing sails, which are in the sail loft. We normally like to get out to the racing areas, which are south of our marina, across from Old Town Alexandria, or at Haines Point, which is to the North, across from the airport.

Once on station, we start to practice our line up for the start. The races normally take an hour to two hours, and we often, on Tuesday nights, do not return until sunset or later. After we return, we put away the boats and gear, wash down the boats, and then adjourn to the clubhouse to drink beer, eat, and tell tall tales.

The next day the racing SOR puts out a recap of what transpired. We repeat this cycle each week. We limited our racing last year to Tuesday nights, but this year we will be adding weekends.

The fee to join the Racing Squadron is \$200. Some may ask "why so much?" First, racing on the river is hazardous, and there is an added insurance cost to the club. We do not eat this cost as part of general club revenues, because not everyone is interested in racing. Second, the most intensive use of the boats by club members comes from the RS, which adds wear and tear. Third, there is a fee to participate in DISC. Fourth, the funds build up a fund for making improvements in the fleet to benefit the RS. For example, this year we have purchased special high performance sails and gear for Falcon, which are only for use by the RS.

Do you have any hope of becoming an SOR? Absolutely. Racing is obviously a bit different from what we normally teach and expect in the B-KBS course. There is a lot of spinnaker work, and it takes some additional training to learn the additional complications (and

hazards) of using it. The racing rules and sailboat racing tactics are different as well. As a result, we want you to feel comfortable with all of the crew positions, as well as these aspects of racing, before becoming a racing skipper of record. We are always looking to do what it takes to get people qualified.

If you have never raced, it is the most fun that you will ever have sailing. It isn't a "read a book in the cockpit" activity like cruising can be, but it definitely generates sea stories. But more importantly, it is probably the best thing you can do to build your skills as a sailor. When you have raced for a while, you definitely take with you a feeling of confidence whenever you head out cruising on the bay or the ocean.

The RS had a kickoff meeting on 1 April, where we helped to get the boats ready for the season, as well as having



an organizing meeting, and elect new RS governance. The RS elected as its representatives on the Racing Committee Charlie Peck, Stephanie Vavonese, and Hal Moore. Darrell Harris continues as the sponsoring Bridge member in his capacity as River Commodore.

Come and Join Us!





## News of Interest **Don Hupman**

### **BoatU.S. Members' Top 10 Favorite Boating Movies**

**B**oatU.S. film fans participated in an online poll of favorite boating movies. With over 2,200 replies posted, here is the final tally of which movies got the most votes. Note that WWII movies were excluded as they are not really "boating" but a genre all their own!

The top vote getters were:

1. Captain Ron (1992)
2. Master & Commander:  
The Far Side of the World (2003)
3. The Perfect Storm (2000)
4. Jaws (1975)
5. The African Queen (1951)
6. Wind (1992)
7. Pirates of the Caribbean:  
The Curse of the Black Pearl (2003)
8. Dead Calm (1989)
9. Captains Courageous (1937 or 1996)
10. A River Runs Through It (1992)

*Extracted from BoatU.S. Magazine, March 2008.*



**Captain Ron:** [*Lost in a heavy storm*] We should be okay. 'Cause I know we're near land.

**Martin Harvey:** Great, Cap. Great. Ya hear that? We're almost there. Explain to the kids how you know that, Captain Ron...

**Captain Ron:** Alright, now stay with me: When we left, we had just enough fuel to make it to San Juan. And we're out of fuel.

**T**he 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](http://www.pentagonsailing.org)

## Help Wanted Don Hupman

**N**ewsletter 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](mailto:commscommodore@pentagonsailing.org).

**C**oordinator 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](mailto:baycommodore@pentagonsailing.org).

