



www.windsurfbaba.org

BABA Annual Meeting and Racing Awards Banquet

by Marc Rosen

One common theme about any BABA event is lots of food and lots of prizes. Hmm..... wait,that's two common themes. Okay, two common themes about BABA events are lots of food and lots of prizes and lots of happy people. Hold on....., that's three themes. Okay, let's just say that at there is usually a lot of food, a lot of prizes and a lot of happy people at BABA events, and that's what was going down in Annapolis on Sunday, November 14 at Three Brother's Restaurant in the Festival at Riva.

The day started off with a blowout sale at **East of Maui**. Mark and Mark opened their doors at 0930 to welcome BABA members to a 30% special sale on all windsurfing gear and many a BABA member took advantage of this generosity to purchase booms, masts, and lots of accessories. While the sale was winding down, the restaurant was filling up. Danny Schweitzer and staff (Many thanks to Kelly, our waitress) kept an endless supply of pizzas, salads and sodas flowing into the dining area where more than 55 BABA members and their guest had assembled. The pizza topping combinations were numerous and creative; sausage and mushrooms, vegetarian with lots of onions, pepperoni and olives, to name a few. A couple

BABA IX/MAS Race, Sept 19 at Gunpowder

of pizzas were also graced by the addition of some home grown HOT peppers brought in by Race Director and Certified Gardener, **Tom Sargent** (Peppers of Mass Destruction? Definitely!).

As the crowd settled down after filling up on carbs and carbonated drinks, Tom ushered in the awards ceremony with some very special trophies donated by **Tim Ortleib of EZZY Sails, USA**. These awards consisted of a miniature EZZY Infinity or Wave SE, personalized by **Mark Raginsky** to show the winners' sail number, fleet, and place of finish. The sails were fitted to a 100% carbon-steel wire mast and placed in a custom made walnut board shaped by BABA's official board shaper, Tom Sargent. The lacquered boards were bottomed off with rubber feet to protect any furniture they might be set on.

In addition to the racing awards, **Tom Sargent and Richard Knox** received commemorative sails for their efforts as Race Director and Committee Boat Captain, respectively. After the Race awards were handed out, **Chuck Schnee** was honored with this year's presentation of the **Pat Pugh Service Award** for his tireless efforts to obtain

Continued on page 3



Rich Knox and Chuck Schnee

Host Needed for the Mid-Winter Party

February is just around the corner and BABA is looking for a volunteer family who is willing to host our Annual Mid-Winter Party. BABA and its members will provide all the food and drink. You just need to provide the space for about 50 people and let us know if there will be access to a barbecue grill. Please contact Marc Rosen if you are interested. (410-374-1230 or duckbite@qis.net)

Thanks,
Marc



BABA Steering Committee

Chairman

Marc Rosen
410-374-1230
duckbite@qis.net

Clinics

Janice Emerling
410-457-4001
jemerling@earthlink.net

Newsletter/Webmaster

Daphne Lathouras
& Steve Melnick
703-538-4388
BABANews@mac.com

Racing Coordinator

Tom Sargent
301-854-6442
tomus919@worldnet.att.net

Sponsorship

Chuck Schnee
410-592-7681
cschnee@comcast.net

Treasurer & Hatteras Coordinator

Fred Thomas
410-692-5409
FThomas@cms.hhs.gov

Members at Large

Bill Anderson
410-757-8705
wilmeaux@verizon.net

Mark Raginsky
410/964-4335
rags.mail@verizon.net

Helen Van Gelder
410-757-8705
helenvg@earthlink.net

Membership

Ann Jackson
410-315-8481
ajax.tmm@verizon.net

Chairman's Message

Many thanks to all those that joined in the fun at the Awards Banquet and Fall Meeting. Very little meeting took place, but there was a lot of eating, and that's a good thing. I've heard comments from several BABA members that the club is too race-oriented and that we do not do enough activities for the non-racer. It's true that last year we had 10 race days scheduled plus 1 fun race around Hart Miller Island, however, we also listed 2 Hatteras trips, 2 Petra Kanz Clinics, a Learn to Windsurf clinic and a BABA Fun Day (with wind this time!). Next year, the Race Committee is looking at ways to get more non-racers to the beach during our races and one idea is to have speed challenges or drag races for those who do not like course racing. Another thought was to have food- pizzas or subs/sandwiches and drinks at all of the races- provided by the club or a sponsor- to entice those motivated by the phrase "Free Food".

My challenge to you is to offer us some suggestions for activities that you would like BABA to pursue. No, your suggestion does not mean that you have to help - but that would be nice if you did- but it will give us some ideas that we can try to pursue to get more members together on the beach. All suggestions are welcome and will remain anonymous if desired. Either send your idea to me or another Steering Committee member by email or postal service. We'll see that it gets reviewed and maybe it will be an enjoyable activity.

Whether your season is over or still active, here's hoping you have a fun Winter and we'll look forward to some great activities on the water next year.

Marc (USW 41187)



BABA Mission Statement

The Baltimore Area Boardsailing Association (BABA) is a network of Northern Chesapeake Bay windsurfers. Our purpose is to promote the sport of windsurfing through seasonal racing, instructional clinics, social events and group travel to windsurfing destinations. The club is an advocate for windsurfer access to clean, safe launch sites. Our events focus on an enjoyable social experience while developing further windsurfing skills.

For Membership information contact

Ann Jackson at (410)315-8481 or ajax.tmm@verizon.net,
or any member of the BABA Steering Committee.

Membership and other club information is also available online at
www.windsurfbaba.org

Racing News



A Fleet - Open: 1. Kurt Nagai - Accepting the award for Mr. Nagai is Alan Bernau (c) 2. Tom Sargent (l) 3. Tom Caswell (r)



A Fleet - 7.5
1. Mark Raginsky (l) 2. Collin Pitts (c) 3. Fred Thomas (r)

Continued from page 1 sponsors gifts, assistance with clinics, and his perseverance in showing up at all of the races without being able to race. (For those unaware, Chuck was sidelined all season with a shoulder injury but still made it to all of the races to “raise the flags”, help out, award raffle prizes, and just hang out with friends. Thanks for your help, Chuck.) **Bill Anderson and Tom Sargent** were also thanked for their hard work in rebuilding the shed at **Ultimate Watersports** concession at the Gunpowder.

Hal Ashman of Ultimate Watersports then addressed the crowd and congratulated club members for their success over the club’s 18-year history, with BABA growing from a shop club to one of the most active windsurfing organizations in the country. Hal thanked BABA for their continued patronage of his facilities with our races and Learn to Windsurf clinics, and offered to work closely with the club next year - planning more Fun Days and additional clinics. He also announced the stepped up partnership between **Ultimate Watersports, East of Maui, and HiFly Sports** by announcing their plan to give away a new HiFly board of choice to a BABA member next year. (Stay tuned for more details in the months ahead.)

The banquet ended with the anticipated raffle giveaway. Our 26 sponsors generously contributed great products to support this banquet and all of our events



Thank You

I hereby would like to say I feel very sorry for not having been able to show up the awarding ceremony at Three Brothers Sunday. I was bombarded with a number of assignments from Japan and I could not help but stay around DC for work.

I am also grateful for all the BABA members who have been so kind and hospitable to a newcomer from Far East throughout the season. In particular my thanks goes to all the committee and other kind of volunteers without whom we could in no way run a good series of events. I really really appreciate you all, and I hope I will try to reciprocate this by focusing more on promoting a regatta rather than winning one.

Katsuro “Kurt” Nagai

ありがとう

私はこれによって私があることのために非常に残念に3人の兄弟日曜日で受賞式を示していただけることを言うことを望む。私は日本からのいくつかのアサインメントと衝突され、助け作業のためのDCのまわりにとどまることができなかった。私は極東からの季節中の新来者にとっても親切、もてなしの手厚いすべてのパパのメンバーのためにまた感謝している。特に私の感謝は私達が絶対にイベントのよい一連をランすることができなかったボランティアのすべての委員会そして他の種類に行く。私は実際に実際にすべて認め、私がレガッタを促進することよりもむしろ1つにことを勝つことに多くを焦点を合わせることによってこれを交換することを試みることを望む。

during the season. Prizes included a boom, mast extensions & universals, a shorty wet suit, harnesses, back packs & gear bags, limited edition prints, videos, t-shirts, caps, sport sunglasses, gift certificates and other products any windsurfer would be pleased to win. A big thanks to Chuck Schnee for his work on sponsorship again this season.

This banquet was made possible by a generous donation from **Eric Skemp**

of HiFly Sports, Dan Van Hoos of Chinoook Sailing Products, Marks Bandy and Saunders from East of Maui, Annapolis, and Hal Ashman of Ultimate Watersports. Please let these guys know you appreciate what they’ve done for your club. (all contact numbers can be found in the sponsors section on the BABA website at www.windsurfbaba.org).

Racing News



A Fleet - IMCO 1. Albert Pritchard (pictured) 2. Doug Palmer



B Fleet - Classic: 1. Jack Ames (r) 2. John Bickford (l)



B Fleet - Women 7.5: 1. Helen Van Gelder (c) 2. Daphne Lathouras (r - with Sam Melnick) 3. Janice Emerling (l)



Novice
1. Fan Pat



B Fleet - Sport
1. Randall Rainey (c) 2. Bill Anderson (r)
3. Marc Rosen (l)

FIBERSPAR 
PERFORMANCE PRODUCTS

BARE



Racing News



Hampton Roads Sailboard Classic & East Coast Formula Championships

by Daphne Lathouras

Windsurfing Enthusiasts of Tidewater (WET) organized another great 3-day regatta to close the 2004 Mid-Atlantic Series. Twenty-six competitors from the East Coast and beyond were on hand for racing, including many BABA and WET members. Long distance travelers included Al and Susan Simmons from Connecticut, Chip Ehrhardt & Kevin Gaston from New Jersey, Steve Myer from Pennsylvania, Eric Rahnenfuerher from Cleveland, and Karsten Kloecker who was spending three months in Tidewater on work assignment from Germany. Friday started with 18 - 25 mph winds and big shore-break at Buckroe for the first day of the East Coast Formula Championships. The wind was strong, the sea was huge!



Saturday's racing moved to the Days Inn at Willoughby Spit and the first day of the HRSC racing that included both formula and longboard racing. Racing was very competitive in 10 - 15 mph winds. The MAS Season banquet was held at a Golden Palace Chinese Buffet on Saturday night and the evening included a raffle for competitors in the 2004 MAS. The big winner was BABA member **Kurt Nagai** who won a Starboard Hypersonic courtesy of Starboard and Beach Sports, the Tidewater area's local windsurfing shop and long-time WET sponsor.

Sunday's winds were too light for formula, but the longboards got in several races in chilly 8 - 10 mph winds. After lunch, WET member Dave Kashy conducted the awards ceremony and awarded trophies for the HRSC and East Coast Formula Championships. Then came the announcement of the MAS Season Awards with a twist (lemon or lime?). Instead of trophies, the committee awarded bottles of spirits with the first place winners in each class taking the big bottles (1.751+) of premium gin, rum, vodka, etc. and each level of finisher in each class getting a progressively smaller bottle of spirits. They will make a nice addition to the winners' trophy shelves (hic)!

A big thank you to all the WET volunteers who were involved in making this a great weekend. In addition to the two regattas hosted by WET this season, thanks go out to the BABA Race Committee for conducting three MAS events in conjunction with the 2004 BABA Race Season.

Racing News

Hampton Roads Sailboard Classic



Al & Susan Simmons lead the fleet on Prodigy gear



John Perry, Lisa Cook and Dave Kashy (l-r)



Chip Earhardt (r) chooses his MAS Season Trophy



John Contos with Al and Susan Simmons (l-r)

2004 MidAtlantic Series Season Results

Formula

1. Dave Kashy
2. **Katsuro Nagai**
3. Tom Caswell
4. Alan Bernau

Sport Unlimited

1. **Bill Anderson**
2. **Randall Rainey**
3. **Chris Honkomp**

Unlimited Open

1. John Contos
2. **Kevin Gaston**
3. **Chip Erhardt**

Sport Limited 7.5

1. **John Bickford**

Sport Limited 7.5 Women

1. **Daphne Lathouras**
2. **Helen Van Gelder**
3. Marcy Kennedy

Limited 7.5 Open

1. **Mark Raginsky**
2. **Colin Pitts**
3. John Perry

BOLD = BABA Member



Marcy Kennedy, Helen Van Gelder, Daphne Lathouras (l-r)



Mountain Boy in Hatteras

by Lorin Droppa
Long-distance BABA member
Augusta County, Virginia

After years of living in the standing-water deficient land of Blue Ridge mountains and Redneck trucks, I decided to throw caution to the wind [hopefully] and rent a room at the house called "Island Gust" for the Fall 2004 BABA week. I've tried lots of other stuff, and not quite been killed by any of it yet. What could be worse than shacking up with 50 other windsurfing nuts 40 minutes south of the nearest hospital? I did not have to find out, because this week was great.

The internet pictures of the accommodations gave the impression that this was a good place to go to sail, and it was about as good as it gets for less than \$500 a week. Of course, not quite as plushy as that flatwater Caribbean resort with scantily-clad natives rigging your gear and massaging away all those kinks... but that cost a bit more plus the tip, the bar tab, the bail money... Oh anyway, Hatteras.



Nick Bertolini & Sandy Rollins

The trip truly had something for everyone. Even folks who regularly race at the Gunpowder River windsail-rowing event. iWindsurf forecast held out anticipation of 6.0, 8.5, 5.5, 4.5 and yes, even 12.0+ and 3.3- meter sessions were on the list. As usual, Mother Nature held little regard for our supremely educated yet uncertified forecasting wizards at the pay-me-now wind-may-blow headquarters.org.

Windsurfing Hatteras held clinics on a variety of topics, from basic rigging techniques to planing jibes. **Ezzy, HiFly and Chinook** demo gear was available and by God it got demo'd. Firewood was gathered and burned on the surf-side beach on a fantastic night of man-made fireworks complimented by nature's display of lightning clouds out to sea and even a falling star exploded in green splendor. It almost made the sand in your shorts feel good.

Without giving a play-by-play of the wind conditions, suffice it to say that it was possible to sail every day and practice some skill that need practicing. And practice was needed to calm the nerves, for iWindsurf had spoken – Friday it was going to blow in the 30s with gusts in the 40s. And finally Friday came.

And Mother Nature was on a different page. After waiting all morning, I finally hit the water after lunch to practice some sail-handling skills. Not gusting 40. Nor 30. Maybe 10. Might as well get good and worn-out, since I was headed out early the next morning for home. Putted around on the water until late afternoon. With the sun headed towards the water, it was time to give up & pack up. Quitter. De-rigged the works and got the trailer filled. Oh yes, I was planning ahead. 30 minutes before sunset, it

First things first. Food. You can't windsurf without it. I don't know about the other 6 houses, but the Island Gust was the Bomb when it came to eats. Beer. You can't windsurf without it. Well. Once these two basic human needs are provided for, the wind and the surfing can be undertaken with reckless abandon.



Paula Rosen & Karen Bertolini

Hatteras Thanks!

by Tom Cobin

Just had to acknowledge and express my appreciation for all the hard work & planning that enabled so many of us to have so much fun in Avon in October. Trying to sail in fluky local conditions the day after I returned home to Annapolis really made me appreciate the conditions & amenities down in OBX.

So many people deserve specific gratitude, including:

Helen Van Gelder, Bill Anderson and Fred Thomas for all the organization.

Maureen Pritchard for putting together an outstanding meal for the Monday Night Party -- for 50 people!

Marc Rosen for bringing all that awesome **Ezzy, HiFly and Chinook** demo gear.

Phil Anderson for capturing us on video-tape.

The "pyros" who kept the bonfire burning on the beach and the fireworks lighting up the sky.

Great to get to know new sailors: **Don, Clark, Dennis, Sharon, Audrey, Mark, John, Gordon, Jordan, Mark & Meighan...**

Great to see old pals: **Glenn, Kathy, Marcie, John Q., Tom, Randy, Theresa, Roger...**

We may not have gotten as much sailing as we'd hoped, but it was a great vacation nonetheless! Can't wait 'til next year!

Al Marani




Continued on page 10



by Bob Catzen

In order to leave for a week in NC to windsurf at Avon with BABA, think of what you have to go through. Scrambling to get caught up at work, serious compromises at home to assuage guilt laid on by those trained to do so, loading up your windsurfing world into too little space in order to roll it for seven hours – to go where (?) - to Avon, North Carolina. Avon, NC is not exactly on every travel agent's destination list.



Bob Catzen

“Why Avon with BABA” is really two questions; why Avon and why with BABA?

Avon, NC is a small fishing and beach community located on a spit of sand 30 miles out in the Atlantic ocean. (I did



Nick Bertolini

Why Avon with BABA?

not want to make it sound too enticing, or everyone will pack up and go there.) Because of its unique location, it enjoys winds that are unimpeded by land related topography. This means, when the winds are not good, Avon is like everywhere else that has no wind, but when it is good, it is very, very good.

After deciding to write this article for BABAnews I copied comparative wind speeds from the charts of iwindsurf.com. I selected the 2nd week I was there (following the BABA week). Here are the comparative wind speeds with Dewey Beach and Gunpowder:

	<10mph	15-20 mph	20-25+mph
Avon	1	2	4
Dewey	2	2	3
Gunpowder	3	3	1

But the intensity of the wind does not tell the whole story. Part of the joy of sailing in ocean breezes is that they tend to be steadier which is a boon to board sailors. I used 20mph as a comparison, and here are the differences between the lulls and the max gusts at 20 mph during this same week. At Gunpowder, there was a 13 mph spread between lulls & gusts. At Dewey, it ranged from 12 - 18 mph. At Avon, it was a more comfortable 7 - 8 mph. The point is that it is a lot easier and more fun to sail in winds that are steadier, and less gusty.

So, as the spin specialists of the political campaigns would describe it, “It’s the wind stupid”, and it really is.

The BABA factor is just as appealing. For most of us, windsurfing is squeezed between work and family related obligations. This may be OK for a tennis or golf game, but for wind dependent activities, it is really a pain. Matching up a good wind day with the family dinner plans and/or work schedules is most unusual. Imagine an environment where windsurfing is the priority. Where dinner does not start until the windsurfing is over – where everything is scheduled around the wind. WOW. That is Avon with BABA. On two occasions when the wind had dropped in the late afternoon, I rigged a big sail at 5:00pm, got on a long board, and sailed until dark; the last off of the water.



Simeon Boyd got both feet in the footstraps for the first time on this fall's trip

There is sailing day after day. It does wonders for your confidence and skills. It also gives you time to try different combinations of sails, boards and fins. It is a leisurely kind of sailing in that there is no real rush to rig and get out there. For most of us, there will be more opportunity to sail than available energy. There'll be no need to dash out to get your sailing in so that you can get to other commitments. The dinner and cocktail conversations can be about windsurfing without listeners yawning or running for cover. No apologies needed here.

Avon with BABA is the ultimate for the wind starved, boardsailing junkie in need of a sailing fix. For most of us it is a treat and a privilege to be there and we are deeply indebted to those BABA members who work so hard to make this week what it is year after year.

April and October.....Avon with BABA.....Just do it.



Dave Iseri, Audrey Noguera, Don Caplan (l-r)



Postcard from Japan

by Chris Zeitvogel

Well yeah, I guess that WAS the first BABA Hatteras trip that I actually WENT ON...as opposed to crash in on since I was already on Hatteras anyways.....

Gee, this is tough. Obviously, there were what, a hundred BABA members there? All with differing experiences. And I was absent for two days while on business in Newport News, and missed the beach bonfire, a lightning show that was on the drive back, eh?

No doubt, the best sailing for me was Saturday afternoon, when it finally filled in SW enough to sail 5.8 nicely powered out on the reef and beyond. Many BABA members had left by then, but I did have several WET friends out there for awhile. Not to say that the lightwind freestyle earlier in the week wasn't fun as well. BTW, I traded that Comet longboard in on



Chris can always find something to work on in light wind

a new-old-stock 1999 Drops 299 freeride once i got back to Colorado. At 299cm, the drops sure FEELS like a longboard, ha! But it can also act as an 8.5 platform as well as a lightwind freestyle board.

Speaking of 8.5s, lemme plug **Ezzy**s here. Once again, **Marc Rosen** was on site with a full quiver of **HiFly boards and Ezzy sails**, and since I wanted to Sail them all, I helped to rig a few. The Ezzy Infinity 8.5 rigs

as easily as any 6.5 sail. I can say that with authority, since the last 8.5 that I owned, I could neither rig nor de-rig without cussing up a storm and breaking downhaul lines.

Also speaking of **Marc and Paula Rosen**; it is worth noting that since I shared a house with them, I spent a week on seafood-famous Hatteras and ate venison every day instead. I sure aint complain' though.

I planned my time back in the USA so that I could go to Hatteras with BABA and see a bunch of old friends. Made a few new ones too. Missed a few as well. I was surprised though at the sheer number of BABA folks there, and how many houses we had rented.

Well, maybe next year we can demo 4.5 sails instead of 8.5 sails.

(ed note: Chris has been living in Japan since 1999 or so. Watch for more "Postcards from Japan.")



Marc Rosen(r) practicing his light wind skills



Clark Green (l)



Daphne Lathouras



Dave Iseri



More light wind fun - David Livingston with daughter Gabrielle and Sam Melnick



Steve Melnick



Sandy Rollins



Marc Rosen



Tom Sargent

In Memory of Sharon Chickering

Sharon Ann Chickering, 64 of Stevens Point, Wisconsin died October 19, 2004 in Chesapeake, Virginia after a courageous battle with multiple myeloma. She had been out windsurfing at Hatteras when she became ill.

Sharon had been a BABA fall trip goer for the last 3 years. She was a 64 year old grandma who took up windsurfing late in life. She made the annual 1,000 mile sojourn to Hatteras from Wisconsin, and always brought us cheese and local Wisconsin beer, along with her good company and zeal for life. She was a person that you always felt comfortable with. Her BABA friends will greatly miss her.

Sharon refused to let her illness get in the way of her passion and enthusiasm for living. She was well known in national and international windsurfing circles and was a member of the Rib Mountain Ski Patrol for 25 years.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to a memorial fund that will be established in Sharon's name that will benefit the activities she loved and interscholastic athletics.

"Mom's request was that her ashes be spread three places: North Dakota, Rib Mountain, and Aruba. The family will be in North Dakota over Thanksgiving, Aruba April 13, and the date for Rib Mountain has yet to be determined. If you would like to join us for any of these occasions, please e-mail me at any time for details.

On a personal note to all of you, Mom had a really great life. She loved doing what she did and she absolutely

loved being with all of you. Thank you for providing many fun times for my mom. Maybe I'll get to meet you in North Dakota, Rib Mountain, or Aruba. Let's give her one heck of a send-off!"

Dawn Knutzen
(Sharon's daughter)
ddknutzen@comcast.net

Sharon with Fred Thomas on
the Fall 2003 BABA trip.



Continued from page 7

was time for hot tub surfing.

So of course, the wind kicks up. Those fortunate few with rigged equipment and rested muscles headed out for a great hour session of sunset surfing. Too late for me, I'm cooked. Actually, simmering. Hot tubs are goood. The wind would be there tomorrow, but I'll be on the road. Yeah, road surfing again. At a weak moment, somebody tricked me into writing an article about this trip. Sucker. But I will do it again. Just need to find those natives to rig my gear...



Avon 2005: It's time to sign for the April 2005 trip!

By Fred Thomas & Bill Anderson

Two trips in 2003
Spring: April 2 - 9
Fall: October 8 - 15



We are now the largest group visiting the Cape, and when we come, it's BABA week in Avon. The houses that we rent are the newest in Avon, are very spacious, have hot tubs, great launch site on the Pamlico Sound, just out the back doors, nice grassy rigging areas with ample room for all that equipment, secure indoor equipment storage rooms, and nice gathering areas. In April, the air temperature will be in the low 60s, while the water will be in the 50s, and the wind will be in the 30s. Historically, April is the windiest month on the Cape.

The last two April trips have been unusually cold, so we would like to reposition the trip later in the month. However, we have been unsuccessful so far in moving the date back. Therefore, we will be accepting reservations based on the April 2- 9 trip date, with the possibility of moving the trip to the later part of the month. We will not know if the trip can be moved back until the middle of January. If the trip can be facilitated later, persons who sign up now for the April 2 - 9 date can have their trip fee refunded in full if they cannot make the later date. We will solicit for the October 2005 trip in spring 2005, so please do not send any money in for that trip at this time.

Unfortunately, the rental prices have increased by 10% over last year's rental rates. Therefore, we must increase the price slightly over last year as follows: \$225 for a shared room (no change since 2003), and \$425 for private (an increase of \$25). We have not raised the prices in 3 years, and have passed the savings on to BABA members. **In order to reserve your place on the April 2005 trip, we need your payment by December 22, 2004.** In order to guarantee your place in the wind, please complete the following form and send it, along with your check for the appropriate amount to **Bill Anderson, 1084 Poplar Tree Drive, Annapolis, MD 21401-4812**
E-mail wilmeaux@verizon.net

Reservation Form: April 2005

Name _____

Email _____

I want to reserve my share of the wind and fun with BABA in Avon, April 2 - 9, 2005:

_____ Queen / private room @ \$425, most with private bath

_____ Shared room @ \$225

Name of person sharing room (for shared room election only); _____

TERMS

Cancellation policy: No change from previous trips: With notification of at least 2 months before a trip, BABA will provide a 100% refund of any monies. After that date, refunds are made as demand merits. The potential change in trip dates and special refund policy is discussed above. In the 10 BABA organized trips to Avon since 2000, everyone who gave adequate notice had their choice of a future trip credit or a refund.

Signature

Date

PAYMENT:

Make your check out to BABA and send by December 22, 2004 to:

Bill Anderson
 1084 Poplar Tree Drive
 Annapolis, MD 21401
 E-mail: wilmeaux@verizon.net

Chesapeake's Prime Season

by Mark Weinman

Fall and Winter on the Chesapeake provide great short-board opportunities and some of the windiest conditions of the year. There are many days with 6.0 conditions or better in late October. By November 4.5 - 5.0 conditions are not hard to come by and December usually delivers several 4.2 days.

There is very little boat traffic and fall foliage on the Bay is beautiful. Most winter sailors stop sailing mid-December and January. Assuming it is a moderate winter it is possible to resume sailing by February. March and April offer strong consistent winds. If you want to put some miles on your short-board and are looking for consistent wind to wire your carving jibe, check out one of these launches on the "off season".

If the winds are NW check out Rocky Point Park (golf course side). Rocky Point offers side shore winds, with parking and grass rigging area close to the water. Kentmoor Marina on Kent Island is another good launch for NW winds. Launching from Kent Island provides challenging open water sailing with large swell and ramps for bump and jump. For the occasional NE wind, Sandy Point State Park is hard to beat. For SW try North Point Park in Edgemere. North Point offers a sand beach launch, flat water on the inside and



Fred Hylla (l) and Mark Weinman (r) at Rocky Point

good waves on the outside. Check with the ranger before launching.

Keeping warm- As a general guideline, when the water and air temperature combined equal 100 degrees or more, it is reasonably safe to sail in a 3/4 steamer with a hood. Adding a thin layer of synthetic long underwear under your suit can add a lot of extra warmth. If the combined temperatures are below 100 it is highly recommended that you sail in a dry suit. If you want to sail from mid-November up to the end of March, it is worth the investment to buy a dry suit. There are several dry-suit styles on the market and \$400 is very inexpensive life insurance. A dry suit will allow you to sail with confidence in cold water. Water temps in the winter can be as low as 35 degrees, at times, tributaries to the bay do freeze over. The suits are very efficient and allow you to be comfortable in cold

water for extended periods of time. Remember there is little to no boat traffic in the winter so you are on your own if the wind dies or something breaks on your rig. Dry boots will keep your feet toasty warm. O'Neill makes a great 5mm winter boot. For the hands, I suggest neoprene mittens with the palms cut out. Avoid thick palmed gloves, these will require your hands to work very hard which results in rapid forearm fatigue.

Cold weather sailing is a lot of fun but it can also be dangerous. BE SMART, NEVER SAIL ALONE AND AVOID OFF-SHORE LAUNCHES IN COLD WEATHER. A sailor will tire much faster in the cold air and water and there is no boat traffic available to assist you. If you think it may be too windy for your skill level wait for a calmer day. Remember that short boards do not sail upwind as efficiently as longboards. Before you blast off to the opposite shore, try a few practice runs back to your launch site. Keeping hydrated is important in the cold weather as well. Make sure to drink lots of fluids such as Gatorade or eat an energy bar before you sail.

There are a group of sailors that go out on a regular basis to Sandy Point, Rocky Point or Kentmoor during the off season. If it is blowing solid 18 or better, chances are there will be someone else out there.

Annapolis Wind
AnnapolisWind@aol.com



Hurricane Ivan blasted through the area on September 18 with 30 - 40 mph winds. The first day of racing at the BABA /MAS event at Gunpowder was scrapped in favor of shortboard speed runs and chop hopping, with 25 sailors showing up to get in a high wind session.



Linda Grande



Roger Fitzgerald (l and below)



Bonaire Winter Blast with Isthmus Sailboards

JANUARY 23-30, 2005

Join Gary Stone from Isthmus Sailboards and Ann Phelan on an exciting windsurf trip to the sunny island of Bonaire. Ann is the promoter of King of the Caribbean and she is the only windsurf vacation travel agent based in Bonaire who also windsurfs! Bonaire, long known as Divers Paradise is now highly recognized as one of the world's best windsurf vacation hot spot.

Some exciting news is that they will be joined by Roger Jackson, windsurfer extraordinaire and Windsurfer of the Year. Roger will offer complimentary lessons and tips on site. This is a great opportunity for beginners so bring down the family or a friend. Roger will make sure they get on the water and sail.

Choose from cozy private cottages and apartments or oceanfront condos. Land, car and gear packages start at \$580 per person for a private cottage minutes from windy Lac Bay. We have also rented a villa for a group or family. BonHome, a spacious 4 bedroom, 3 bath villa in upscale Belnem, is minutes to windy Lac Bay.

Our package includes: airport meet and greet, free on island Concierge Service and a welcome cocktail party. You will have a windsurf orientation meeting with Ann and Gary as well as an opportunity to book lessons at Jibe City or take a clinic with Roger.



BABA members can opt to join this trip, OR 5 or more BABA members can have their OWN week (subject to scheduling with the shop) with:

- 15% off cars
- 15% off gear at Jibe City
- Up to 10% off accommodations
- Free on island Concierge
- Free orientation cocktail/fruit punch party



Discounted massages on the beach
Coupons and goodie bags and much more
Bulk (pre commission) air from BWI to Bonaire on Air Jamaica (savings 20.00-100.00 USD per ticket). Ann can also arrange special programs for your children or non-sailing partner.

The current weeks available for a BABA Bonaire Blast are:

Jan. 30 - Feb. 13; March 19- April 2; May 1-31

Summer is wide open, however Ann suggests the group week NOT be Aug - Nov due to inconsistent winds.

Ann has the following group trips booked through Caribbean Wind and Sun Vacations slated for 2005:

Jan. 23-30 - Bonaire Blast with Roger Jackson, Eric Skemp and Gary Stone
March 20-27 - Singles Windsurf Week
June 18-25th - iWindsurf Summer Splash
July - Dates TBA - Petra Kanz / Beth Powell
Women's Clinic

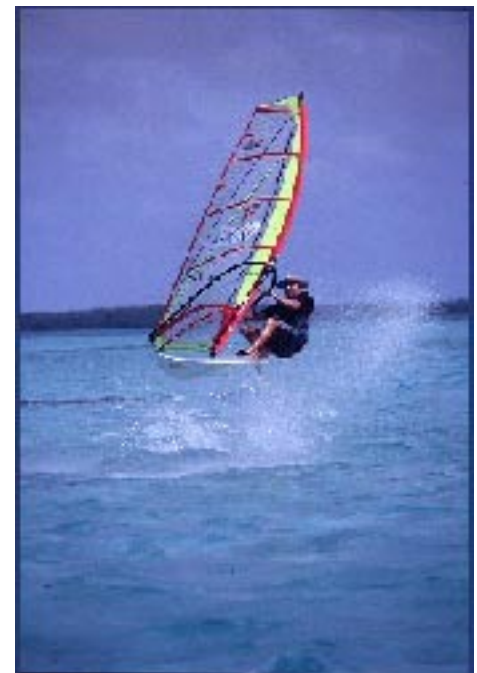
For more information about putting together a BABA trip, or joining any of the trips already scheduled **contact:**

Ann Phelan
ann@bonairewindsurfing.com
or 1-800-219-0118
www.bonairecaribbean.com

Also within the sport Bonaire is known as being one of the best training grounds for freestyle windsurfing. The top 4 and 5 freestyle spots in the Professional Windsurfing Association (PWA) belong to two electric Bonaire sailors, Tonky and Taty Frans. Many of the locals from Bonaire are sponsored team riders for the biggest names in the business.

Bonaire, the windsurf Mecca in the Caribbean has several fun and professional events slated for the 2005 windsurf season:

Jan. 29th - Bonaire Expression Session
Feb. 5th - Bonaire Freestyle Frenzy
May 22-29 - 3rd Annual PWA Bonaire Freestyle Event



Classifieds....Classifieds....



BABA Dry Shirts Make a Great Holiday Gift!

BABA has stay dry board shirts for sale. These shirts are cut with a loose traditional T-shirt fit rather than a tight fit of a rash guard. Some of the key features are:

- Ultra Sun Protection - 50 UPF - the highest sun protection rating allowed equivalent to 150 SPF!
- Blocks 98% of Sun's Harmful Rays.
- High Quality 80/20 Nylon Lycra.
- Guards Against Wetsuit, Surfboard and Bodyboard Rashes.
- Limited Water Absorption-Very comfortable in the water and quick drying out of the water

BABA is offering these shirts for \$32 each. If interested in purchasing, please contact Mark Raginsky, windz41@verizon.net



For Sale:

2004 EZZY Wave SE (All in great cond.)
3.7 - \$328; 4.2 - \$335; 5.2('03) - \$320;
5.8 - \$ 370; 6.3 - \$380

2004 EZZY Infinity (good to great condition): 5.3 - \$355; 5.7 - \$360; 7.5 - \$380; 8.5 - \$385; 9.5 - \$395; 10.5 - \$400

2004 Chinook booms

Carbon Big Wave (152-198cm) \$315

Aluminum Wave (129-191cm) \$120

Aluminum Slalom (152-214cm) \$120

Aluminum Course (182-244cm) \$120

2004 HiFly Move 105 Great condition, two fins \$700

HiFly MADDs 165L or 135L (2 weeds, 2 pointers) \$1000 each

MADD 115L (2 weeds, 2 pointers) \$1100

Marc Rosen 410-374-1230 or

duckbite@qis.net

Wanted:

Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled longboards...

Junker boards wanted. Must be floaters.

Preferred free, or very, very cheap.

Needed for scienTerrific experiments to be unveiled in the Spring.

Marc 410-374-1230 or duckbite@qis.net



Shop News....



WWW.ULTIMATEWATERSPORTS.COM

410-335-5352

Gunpowder State Park

Hammerman Area

White Marsh, Maryland

Since 1985



www.eastofmauiboardshop.com

410/573-9463

Women's Snow Night

Thursday, December 2

Call the shop for times & details.

2303 Forest Drive, Suite E

Annapolis, MD 21401

410/573-WIND (9463)



Classified Policy: To place a BABA Classified ad, call 703/538-4388 or e-mail BABAnews@mac.com
Free to members, \$10 charge for non-members - no additional charge for multiple insertions. Ads will run for 1 issue and must be renewed by phone or e-mail. Next deadline is January 1 for the Jan/Feb issue.

Baltimore Area Boarding Association
c/o Chuck Schnee
17 Holly Branch Court
Glen Arm, Maryland 21057
cschnee@comcast.net

Baba is a member club of



Support your sport.



**SPEEDMATE
KNOTMETER/LOG**



www.windsurfbaba.org