

Occoquan Yacht Club
P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125

The Daymarker

December 1991 Vol. VIII Issue 12

Member: PRYCA, CBYCA Boat/U.S. Accord # GA80979

77

Commodore
David Yarnell
703-491-3797

Vice Commodore
Tom Coldwell
703-323-1675

Rear Commodore
Garland Dobbins
703-221-4643

Secretary
Monica Storz
703-451-3494

Treasurer
Allen Herskowitz
703-860-2043

Sign Up Now For OYC Christmas Party

December 7

Pearl Harbor Day,
Santa Cruise to Occo-
quan, Boat Decorating
and Christmas Party.

December 25

Christmas, time to
winterize your boat.

January 18

1992 Planning
Meeting. 1PM at
Harbour Inn.

February

Check your boat, she
misses you.

Commodore's Comments



David Yarnell

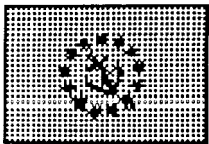
The light bulbs in the bilge are burning almost nightly now as we baby-sit our beloved vessels, awaiting that last OYC engagement of the 1991 season. The burgees will be hung with care...and the Christmas decor will adorn our railings from stem to stern...Decking the Hulls with Bows and Holly to bring Santa up river to the delights of those many children who annually gather for this wonderful event!

THE 1991 SANTA CRUISE & BOAT DECORATING CONTEST

Mid-morning December 7th, 1991 at Occoquan Harbour Marina, this event is a must for those of you who haven't participated in past years...Egg Nog & Toddies on the dock (sober skippers to boot). Lots of OYC camaraderie and a warm feeling for all...Santa comes down the dock at about NOON. Greets junior OYCers who are present and then boards the designated vessel in our assembled flotilla of boats

who stave off "Winterizing" for this event! If you have already put your boat to bed, you are encouraged to board a participating boat! Isn't that the way it should be? And, to make this year's Santa-Cruz even more festive, Past Commodore Martin has called for an ALL-STOPS-OUT BOAT DECORATING COMPETITION. Judging will take place before NOON DEPARTURE TIME, as Santa needs to be at P.W. Marina by 1:00 PM where he is picked up by the Fire Department and driven through the streets of Occoquan for the children gathered there. So put your Santa-thinking caps on and join in the fun! The 1991 Christmas Party and Change of Command Banquet takes place the evening of the 7th as well. Details elsewhere in this issue. So please read on!





Vice Commodore's Comments

Tom Coldwell

No score and four and a half years ago, Mary Ann and I decided to get into boating. Our first step was to rent a slip, at a time when they were scarce on the Occoquan. A month later we fumbled our way into the purchase of a splendid boat, whose primary splendor lay in teaching us we had bought a boat which was, for us, absolutely and definitely and totally wrong. This was a good lesson, a rite of passage which led us to fumble our way into the purchase of our present boat, which fortunately is totally right.

Getting started in boating, as any fool knows, is up to here in lessons born of experience, of others' as well as one's own. This is why Occoquan Yacht Club has been so important to the crew of Shalimar. Shortly after getting into boating, someone invited us to join OYC (which hurt my throat when I tried to pronounce it). OYC accelerated our climb on the learning curve, as well as hurling us into a new circle of good friends up and down our dock and up and down the river (which also hurts).

So here I barely have my feet wet and you have elected me Vice Commodore. Aw, shucks, well, let me say it, I'm pleased. I look forward to the new year as another safe, fun-and-friend-filled chapter in the de-riching experience of boating for you, for me and for everyone in the good old OYC.

The season isn't ending, just pressing on with different sailing orders. On Dec. 7, there's one last cruise, to haul Santa to Occoquan, plus a change of command whizbang at Fort Belvoir both on that infamous anniversary (ask your dad). We'll learn who wins the Commodore's Cup and the Bent Prop Award; and there'll be great food, alcolobelic haulerages, music, wild care-free dancing and billions of lies told.

Then, on Jan. 18, at 1:00 p.m., the 1992 Planfest, at the Harbour Inn, cash bar, finger food, chicken lips, etc. Here we'll get our first assurance of a new season and the vision of adventures that will sustain us through the rest of the dark, cold and forbidding winter. (I think I'm gonna get sick.) Anyway, we'll scope out the 1992 season and have some other fun. So please plan to be there and join in the planning and the fun.

Looking forward to seeing you on Dec. 7 and Jan. 18.



Secretary's Comments

Monica Storz

When one hears the words "Hardy Souls", it invokes in one's mind a picture of an old sea Captain and his crew all bundled up ready to battle the elements on the high seas. A group not afraid of what the seas have waiting for them...actually looking forward to the challenge.

OYC started out with 22 boats signed up for the Hardy Souls cruise. Eight boats actually showed up (8 boats and 16 people). Phone calls the night before verified 17 boats going. Well, let me tell you, even with only 8 boats, we had the best

time ever because added to those 16 "hardy souls" were 8 "walkers".

Friday found *Hanky Panky* leaving her slip at approximately 2:30 (Of course we were behind schedule. *Hanky Panky* likes being behind!) Upon arriving in Old Towne we were greeted by a very merry *Sundown* and guests! After plugging in shore power we turn on the heat (in more ways than one!).

Saturday there was a nip in the air as we anxiously awaited the arrival of the other 15 boats. The first boat to arrive was *Moosie Doodle*, sporting here new OYC burgee and George and Judy Motley, berthed out of the Pilot House Marina. *Moosie Doodle* was closely followed by *Pasha* and her twin *Cap'n D*, *Southern Nites*, with mulled wine in hand. *Saint 'n Sinner* and *Handsome Transom* completed the OYC contingent, though at the time, we were not aware of that fact.

The festivities began on *Pasha* with talk of the upcoming hors d'oeuvres contest and Ned making numerous trips back and forth to *Southern Nites* for more of his (Arleen really made it) mulled wine. We all knew Ned had had enough when we saw him boarding *Cap'n D* a few times thinking it was *Pasha*. He tried to play it off though by telling us he was checking her lines! We didn't see much of *Handsome Transom* who was conveniently located a slip on a private pier with a gazebo. We hear that the seas were pretty rough Saturday, slapping her transom all night!

After cocktail hours ended, everyone flocked to the *Hanky Panky* for the First Annual Hors D'oeuvres Contest. That's when we found out who *Sundown's* guests were...they were the judges. Now everyone regretted all the nasty things that they had been saying about the fact that they were rag haulers. We had a total of 22 people (Terri and Bill Petrey, Carl and Janeal Way and Paul and Kathy all came by foot or car) on board and Steve Worcester informed us that our swim platform was about a foot under water!

Sunday bought everyone pulling out early because the weather called form rain and sleet. OYC would like to thank Bill and John for judging our Hors D'oeuvres Contest...everyone enjoyed their wit and good taste.



Treasurer's Comments

Allen Herskowitz

Well, I just found out that I have to do two things that I had not planned on when I was elected to this job (thank you one and all). The first unexpected job requirement is to write these notes, and the second is to actually tell the membership what is happening to their money. I can deal with the first without much trouble—I've always had an excess supply of words available anyway (just ask the folks on C Dock). The second is a little more troublesome—handling other people's money is truly a joy, but having to report on what I do with it—well, that could put a damper on things, couldn't it!

The fact is that, except for a fist full of cash and checks Meryl Piper passed to me recently, I haven't the foggiest idea what our financial situation might be. Barb and I have not yet had a chance to meet for the ritual passing of the books and accounts. By the time you read this, however, that

momentous event will have occurred and the financial future of OYC will be firmly in my clutches...hands, I mean.

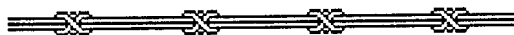
I have already set up the OYC accounts on a financial program called Dollars & Sense. I will be able to report income and expenses to about any level of detail the membership wants, but as a rule I expect to report only summary balances in the Daymarker so there will be enough space for all of the goings on the new board will undoubtedly undertake. If anyone would like accounting reports on events that they are responsible for organizing, please just let me know a little in advance.



Past Commodore's Comments

Aaron Martin

Now that elections are over we can settle back and concentrate on the Christmas Party and Change of Command Ceremony. The final planks have been laid and it shapes up like this... The Christmas Party and COC will be held at the Fort Belvoir Officer's Club in the Potomac Room on the 7th of December 1991. Attitude adjustment will be from 6:45 to 7:30. Dinner will follow from 7:30 to 8:30. The Change of Command ceremony follows and then there will be dancing from 9 till 12 to the platters of "PJ the DJ". So far we have about half the number of reservations we need so don't delay sending in your reservation form. I want to express my "Thanks" to Monica Storz and Phil Urick for their help in getting Ft. Belvoir for the party and to all the board members for their assistance. There will be a choice of entrees so you will need to indicate on your reservation form whether you want steak or chicken. The reservation form is attached to this Daymarker. To make your reservation just fill out the form, enclose a check for \$25.00 per person, indicate your choice of entree and mail it to me. My address is on the form for your convenience. Looks like a great party so be sure to get those forms in early. Only about two weeks left before "ZERO" hour. See you there... Oh yes, we still need boats for the Santa cruise. The rumor is out that your Past Commodore is importing a specialist to help decorate the *Maggie Lynn*. Hope that the competition is stiff and the hot chocolate and eggnog is as good as last year.



Past Rear Commodore Comments

Linda Dobbins

Even though boating is becoming a warm summer memory, there are still many events left for the members of OYC to participate in. As you know, the carrying of Santa to Occoquan is December 7 - Pearl Harbor Day! The boat decorating contest is the 7th as well as the annual Christmas Party and Change of Command. Be sure to send in your reservations now for this gala Christmas party. For many members, it is an opportunity to share experiences on the water that only fellow OYC members can appreciate.

A personal note to Rosie and Marty Betts, the 1991 OYC Commodore's Cup recipients. We wish them well on their

upcoming trip to Savannah. They will be departing Occoquan shortly after Thanksgiving for an eventful trip down the coastline. We wish them a safe and happy voyage and look forward to seeing the *Slo Coasta* on the Occoquan in the spring.



Past Secretary Comments

Patti Urick

The Hardy Souls Cruise turned out to be just that. Friday was a little chilly, but the ride up the Potomac was delightful! Too bad only two really hardy souls made it on Friday. Saturday the weather degenerated a bit, but six more boats ignored the less than desirable weather and made it into Old Town. Several other less-than-hardysouls came by car! We all joined in for a great docktail party aboard the *Hanky Panky*. Kudos to Henry and Monica for opening up their boat and inviting us in from the cold and wet dock.

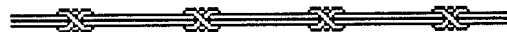
As promised, the hors d'oeuvres contest proceeded with some attempts of bribery (guess the \$20 worked, Ned!) of the judges, who were John O'Connell and Bill Yardi. Actually, Arleen Rhodes took first place with a marvelous country pate, Mary Jo Worcester was second with a great smoked salmon spread, and Sandy Phillips captured third with delicious meatballs. I'm sure the judges had a difficult time making a decision, because there were so many appetizing goodies. Afterwards, many sobered up by attending the walking and talking ghost tour and afterwards continued on for a bite to eat at a local beanery.

On Sunday the weather was about the same, and several souls met at Bullfeathers to evaluate the "Bloody Mary Bar" and have breakfast. (Don't order French toast.)

The trip back was much easier than anticipated, and we were really glad we followed through on the cruise regardless of our reservations about possibly being hardy fools.

Well, we are now rapidly approaching the last two functions of the year, the Santa cruise and the Christmas Party. I would like to encourage all of you to join us Saturday, December 7, around noon on C dock where we will have Christmas-type refreshments, a boat decorating contest and, best of all, give Santa a ride to Occoquan.

Hope to see you there!



Travels with Joyce and Dennis

November 13, 1991

Dear OYC Friends,

Anyone who shudders at the thought of bracing the weather for the "Hardy Souls" cruise should consider this. We left Chicago after a week of rain which caused the rivers to flow many times faster than normal. First day out we got caught in a cross-current where two canals meet and no amount of power (not that we have much available) could prevent us from being slammed into a passing barge. The collision

cracked our dinghy into four pieces, broke an arm of our stern platform and took a chunk out of our caprail. Not a good start to this leg of our journey! Next day we almost lost the whole boat trying to tie up to a floating dock, and then for a week we had conditions like -14 degree wind chill, 3 inches of snow and a record low temperature of 1 degree. I was ready to jump ship. Nobody in their right mind should be boating at times like these. I guess therein lies the problem.

There are very few marinas for pleasure boats on the Illinois River, especially ones with enough depth. Not a town along the way had a municipal dock. We had to tie up to barges or against old lock walls. Thank goodness we usually could plug in to electricity and use our heaters. Our little propane "fireplace" keeps us warm but seems to create even more condensation. Really miss our dehumidifier.

We are on the mighty Mississippi now, playing Huck Finn, Marquette and Jolliet or whatever character fits your fancy. There are all kinds of places to see, both historical and modern, but not a wall or marina at which to park. Sure hope that when we get to the Kentucky Lakes and further south there will be more attractions, but the time of year is a problem too. Will just have to look forward to the Gulf Coast and Florida after the first of the year.

Since England is a dead issue we have no schedule. There is a possibility of a job in Savannah, but it's not very high tech — a prison instead of a pharmaceutical or semi-conductor plant. Just doesn't spark an interest.

Flash! Just spotted our national bird, followed him for awhile, but he must have been at the end of his territory because he turned back. Have to look for these diversions on 8-10 hour long days. One exciting thing, we were actually doing 11 knots past St. Louis — 6 of our own and 5 from "Old Man River."

P.S. Some comments about past Daymarker articles. *Hanky Panky* mentioned a storm on the Day, Sunday, July 7. We were tied up in the Genessee River, Rochester, NY, off the Erie Canal and experienced an equally fierce storm. People along the way coming from Lake Erie said many boats were lost there also. The whole eastern half of the country must have been hit.

Saint 'n Sinner reported it took them four days to get to Norfolk. It must be a shorter trip sailing north since it only took us two days to get from Willoughby Harbor to Occoquan. Also, Mary Jo, ask Steve if you could possibly us a broom instead of your head next time for a bridge clearance gauge. My Captain was nice enough to agree and take a chance losing the handle.

And, a final rebuttal to Editor's note on Commodore's Comments - September. What's this "at least you weren't towed by a sailboat this time!" I'm sure he considered it an honor. We gave him a nice, easy 5 knot ride home, not planing along at 25 like his powerboat "friends" would do. So there!! (Editor's note: Being towed home as the *Joyden* dinghy has made such an impression on Aaron that he tries to do it each time he is in Old Towne.)

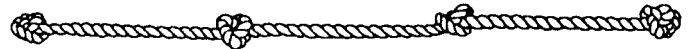
Joyden

Federal Legislative Report

CBYCA Chartroom Chatter, November 1991

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Users Fee has been defeated in the U.S. Senate! The House of Representatives passed HR 1674 which contained provision for a \$10 per year FCC users fee to be charged on top of the new \$35 license fee initiated last year. Senator Ernest F. Hollings (D-SC) of the Senate Appropriations Committee managed to have it amended out of the bill by the Committee in the first week of October. GOOD NEWS, isn't it? Drop Senator Hollings a thank-you note to: 125 Senate Russell Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-4002. As a routine it is important to say thanks when any representative takes an action you have wanted him to do.

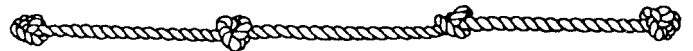
With regard to the Coast Guard Users Fee, at the recent National Boating Federation meeting in Tacoma, Washington it was predicted that legislation to repeal this hated TAX will begin to move in late October. We should all be lobbying the President in order to avoid a veto of whatever bill contains the repeal. Please ask your members to call 202-456-1111 and tell whoever answers that you support repeal of the Coast Guard Users Fee. At this time only about 10% of the boaters have paid the tax.



New Members

John Piper

The OYC welcomes new members Steve and Jan Ammon, Family aboard the *Ammon Joy* berthed at Prince William Marina.



Top 10 Reasons For Not Attending the Hardy Souls Cruise

10. It's too cold!
9. We need time by ourselves.
8. There are small craft warnings on the lower Potomac.
7. My fly bridge doesn't have any protection.
6. I couldn't get one of my engines started.
5. I had to wash my hair.
4. I had an office function to go to instead all of a sudden.
3. I got sick and couldn't get the boat back together.
2. Ned's going to be there.
1. Only an idiot would go out in this kind of weather.



VHF Radio 'User Fees' Sunk — For Now

BOAT/U.S. Reports, November 1991

The U.S. Senate has pulled the plug on a controversial proposal to charge VHF radio licensees a "user fee" to support the Federal Communications Commission — for this year at least.

The plan to raise \$65 million by charging a \$50 "fee" to anyone with an FCC license — on top of the \$35 licensing fee already required — was approved by the full House of Representatives in September. But when the bill went to the Senate, Sen. Ernest Hollings (D-S.C.) stood firm as Chairman of the Senate Appropriations panel handling the FCC's budget for 1992 and said no to any new fee programs for this year.

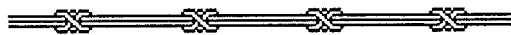
Credit must also go to Sens. Warren Rudman (R-N.H.) and Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) who also opposed the so-called "user fees" for the FCC.

BOAT/U.S. has opposed yet another federal fee for boaters ever since it was first proposed in the President's federal budget sent to Congress last February. The money was to pay for such traditional FCC agency work as rulemaking, policymaking, enforcement and international functions.

BOAT/U.S. argued that a VHF radio is an important piece of safety equipment on a boat, particularly in an emergency situation, and that boat owners make no real use of FCC services, other than applying for a license. Ironically, amateur, or "ham" radio operators were given an exemption because the House Committee said they perform a public safety role.

Hollings has termed the Administration's "user fee" proposal a "deceit and subterfuge" because the President and Congress are "unwilling to pursue honest solutions to our federal budget crisis."

It is very likely that the FCC fee proposal will come up again in 1992 when there will be even more pressure on Congress to reduce the federal deficit and cut spending.



Some Nautical, Some Knot

Reproduced from the Aquia Harbor
Yacht Club Newsletter

May 1991

"Hey Sparky? This here's Billy. You know, down here at the Bank in Atlanta? Listen, I just wanted to call and thank you guys at the Coast Guard for choosin' our bank to sell all of them tax stickers.

What? Yea, yea, user fee decals, that's what I meant. Well anyway, I wanted to say thanks 'cause near as we can figure there's about 4 or 5 million poor suckers — I mean recreational boaters — out there and that's a goodly amount of commission on this contract, not to mention the interest on the increased card balances.

Great idea you guys had, figuring out that all those boaters, bein' rich and all, would have credit cards to charge their fee to. Oh sure, some of them's gonna complain but they'll pay. It's the law ain't it? Ha ha.

Yea, you're right. Maybe it will take their minds off of the

taxpayer bailout of the banking industry for a while, we sure could use it.

Well anyway, thanks again, I'll be talking to ya."

August 1991

"Hey Sparky, Billy here. Listen up. I think we got ourselves a little problem brewin and I need to run a couple of things by ya.

You know this little credit card deal, right? With the stickers? Well I think we might have shot ourselves in the foot on this one. NO, no they're paying all right. It's just that these boaters are a little smarter than we gave em credit for. Let me explain. We've got one law that says all recreational boats using navigable waters must buy the sticker. Yea, thought it was neat the way you included all the water that flows into the ocean, that about covers all of it, don't it. But anyway, we got this other federal law that says if anyone purchases goods or services using a credit card, and the goods or services aren't what they've been advertised to be, they can write a letter to the bank that issued the card and dispute the charge. Yea sure, and then the bank must remove the charge from the cardholders statement until the bank investigates the complaint. And until it's resolved, we can't collect the money, or dun the cardholder or nuthin'. What? Sure we expected some. But we've sold about 850,000 of these stickers so far, and I've got notifications from 625,000 cardholders that they're disputing the bill! How can they? Let me read you a sample letter. Dear sir, it says, I authorized you to charge \$50.00 to my mastercard for the purchase of a User Fee Decal, as I read about in the newspaper. Since ordering, I've discovered that this isn't a user fee decal at all but a Tax Stamp. I feel this is a blatant case of false advertising and am therefore disputing the charge on my credit card statement. Please remove this charge from my bill until you have investigated the matter and provided me information proving that what I purchased was properly advertised.

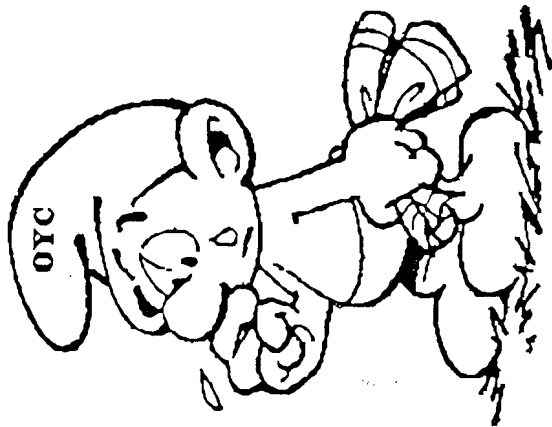
No, I don't know what we're going to do. Do you? Yea sure, you talk to some of those guys up on the hill, maybe they can come up with something. And Sparky, better make it quick, so far there's about 31 million worth of charge payment on hold and that's one boatload of interest! Call me, OK?

Oh, one more thing. You'll get a kick out of this. Got a letter here from some guy in Virginia. He paid by check, sent it to the address we gave him. You know U.S. RVF. Well, he thinks RVF stands for Recreational Vehicle Fund and wants to know how come he ain't seen no stickers on the Winnabagos at the truck stop? Yea, I thought it was funny too. Well, let me know what you find out, I sure as heck wouldn't want to have to refund all this money, Yea, you neither. Bye."



Supplemental OYC Member Roster as of 11/21/91

| | |
|---|---|
| Ammon Steve & Jan 9423 Park Hunt Court Springfield Virginia 22153 | Telephone (703) 455-1077 Boat Name AMMON JOY Location Pr. Wm. Marine |
| Berard Mike & Debbie 8305 Pinyon Pine Court Fairfax Station Virginia 22039 | Telephone (703) 239-0564 Boat Name NICE N' EASY Location OHM |
| Drabick * Lindsay 6279 Gentle Lane Alexandria Virginia 22310 | Telephone (703) 960-6039 Boat Name MUTUAL FUN Location |
| Drabick Mahlon & Pat 6279 Gentle Lane Alexandria Virginia 22310 | Telephone (703) 960-6039 Boat Name MUTUAL FUN Location |
| Funkhouser Jerry & Myra 13217 Kephart Lane Woodbridge Virginia 22193 | Telephone (703) 670-6931 Boat Name TREASURE CHEST Location Pilot House |
| Masterson Peter & Zoe 14821 Hoxton Square Centreville Virginia 22020 | Telephone (703) 830-9357 Boat Name KATIE III Location OHM |
| Norcross David 4394 Pembroke Village Drive Alexandria Virginia 22309 | Telephone (703) 780-9522 Boat Name PANDEMONIUM Location Herrington Hbr. |
| Schwartz Frank & Ursula 14885 Ursula Court Woodbridge Virginia 22191 | Telephone (703) 491-6556 Boat Name URSULA Location Harbour Point |
| Shortnacy Scott & Beverly 1710 W. Abington Drive, Apt.102 Alexandria Virginia 22314 | Telephone (703) 739-6681 Boat Name SUN CLUB Location OHM |
| Smith Alfred & Carolyn 2932 Madeira Court Woodbridge Virginia 22192 | Telephone (703) 491-5006 Boat Name WIND SONG Location Hampton's Marina |
| Storz Monica 7818 Marconi Court Springfield Virginia 22153 | Telephone (703) 451-3494 Boat Name HANKY PANKY Location Fairfax Y.C. |



We'll miss you.
This will be your final
issue of the Daymarker!
Unless you renew now.
Use the form below
and continue with
the Club for another year.



OCCOQUAN YACHT CLUB
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
FOR THE 19__ SEASON

Date _____
 New Membership
 Renewal Membership

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, ZIP _____
 Spouse Name (Family Member) _____
 Junior Member Name(s) @\$5 ea. _____

Family \$45

Individual \$35

Associate \$25

Junior \$5
 (to 21 yrs)

Burgee \$12.50

Phone () _____
 Length _____
 Power or Sail? _____
 Where Berthed _____ Slip # (if OHM) _____

BOAT DATA (will be held as confidential):

Boat Name _____

Builder _____

Where Berthed _____ Slip # (if OHM) _____

Call Sign _____

Please make check payable to OCCOQUAN YACHT CLUB
 P.O. BOX 469, OCCOQUAN, VIRGINIA 22125

COCKTAILS
6:45

DINNER
7:30

**Occoquan Yacht Club
Christmas Party and Change of Command !!**

Ft Belvoir Officer's Club December 7th, 1991

*menu...
mixed green salad*

*New York Sirloin Steak
or
Chicken Breast Stuffed With Broccoli and Light Sauce*

*Asparagus Hollandaise
Parsley Buttered Potatoes*

Dessert: Parfait

*Dance to the platters with...
"PJ" the "DJ"
Music from 9 till 12*

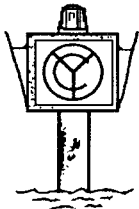
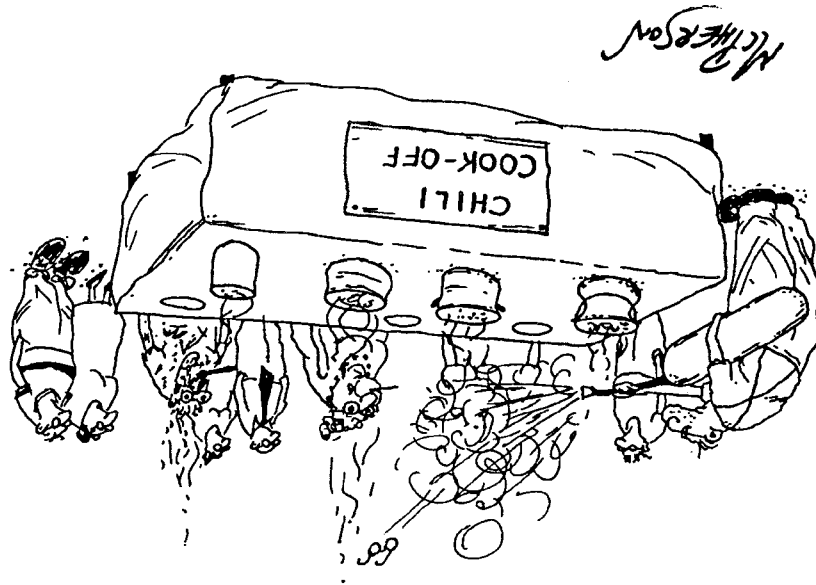
Name: _____ Selection: _____

Name: _____ Selection: _____

Please remit \$25.00 per person by check to:

*Past Commodore Aaron R. Martin
11988 Pt Longstreet Way
Woodbridge, VA 22192*

**OCCOQUAN YACHT CLUB
CHRISTMAS PARTY
AND
CHANGE OF COMMAND**



The Daymarker

Occoquan Yacht Club
P.O. Box 469
Occoquan, VA 22125

Address Correction Requested