

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

# The Daymarker

March 1992 Vol. IX Issue3

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

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

## Coming Events

March 14

General Membership Meeting and St. Patrick's Day Party. Fairfax YC.

April 4

Sizzling Breakfast and Inter/Intra Yacht Club Boat Gear Swap Meet.

May 2

Flag Raising and Dock Party at OHM. Optional overnight to Mattawoman.

May 23

Memorial Day Weekend cruise to Yeocomico.

## Commodore's Comments



David Yarnell

### Potomac River Clubs Teeming with Energy

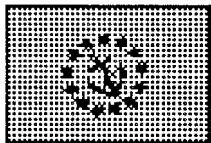
Area newsletters and invitations to various events with fellow Yacht Clubs have been circulating like confetti, and the season is well underway if you are — dinghy raffles, St. Patty's parties, swap meets, slide shows, and energizing your own batteries out of winter hibernation are all part of getting the 1992 season underway. So far this one has all the ingredients for a season filled with fellowship, camaraderie, and good times. If you are having any difficulties shaking off winter, please call the OYC help line at 703-491-3797 for a free consultation — maybe commit yourself to the many upcoming events, and there are some, and we need some, and you are some.

Historically, anyone who has been there will tell you that if you want to feel like the club is an integral part of your social life and activities, it is as simple as saying "Sure, why not? I guess I can do that" and throwing yourself into the action. My

personal experience was very similar to many new members. I was really pretty unfamiliar with exactly what and how a yacht club works within the boating community, and honestly, when I first joined it was really quite intimidating to me! My reasons for joining were simple enough — I wanted to improve my social life and get better acquainted with fellow boaters like you! For three seasons, as a new member, I wondered why I didn't feel close to the club, and that intimidation I felt kept me and my boating activities at the perimeter of this great circle of friends! I helped fill out the ballot and run for office — any office — coordinated a cruise, signed up for one or another activity, and the result was participation and improvement of my social life and getting better acquainted with fellow boaters like you. There ya have it — the Zen Method to Happy Yacht Clubbing! So throw yourself into the goings-ons and experience the self-fulfilling prophecy. We will need some cooks and front-line help for the Breakfast Swap-Meet event; some takers for the D.C. Blessing of the Fleet; Garland needs an all-volunteer set-up crew for picnics and meeting events; and every member is encouraged to submit items of interest to this "Spiffy Newsletter" by fax to Ned Rhodes at 703-237-9654. And one more thing: If you or your marina flotilla (and you know who you are) come up with some events of your own —

spaghetti dinners? restaurant happenings? how about "Hunan Steve and Mary Jo? — the schedule of events has openings for the purpose of "SRUs" (spontaneous raft-ups) whether on land or at sea! The club is about its members, for its members, and that is who you are. This has been a paid announcement by the makers of Verbal Pep Rallies, Inc.

See you all at the St. Patty's General Membership Meeting and Party!



## Vice Commodore's Comments

Tom Coldwell

For the first time since First Mate Mary Ann and I became boat owners almost five years ago, we took an off-season, ten-day vacation away from home and our boat.

We drove to New Bern, NC, a mighty pretty town on the Neuse River, and checked out places one might keep a boat while living nearby. Then we moseyed on down to Skidaway Island, GA, visited some friends and checked out places one might keep a boat, etc. And then we pressed on into Florida, Brandon, Tampa-St. Pete, Fort Lauderdale, Fort Myer, Punta Gorda, Sarasota and bunch of other towns just sight-seeing and sun-soaking.

Each new stop raised the same questions about how and where and how deep, about the boat, of course. We found some swell boating country down South, where never is heard the winterize word.

On the way back home, 3,000 miles wiser, we were greeted by a mini-blizzard at the Virginia state line, a fitting justification to our Florida escape.

Nice as Florida was this time of year, we still figure that the Florida scene doesn't offer the range and variety, short of ocean cruising, available here in our own Chesapeake region.

Only we want the boating season to begin now!

For a little while longer, however, we'll have to be like winterized boaters making love, sit on the dock and talk about how great it's going to be.

Fortunately OYC gets *that* chance March 14. *Read on.*

**General Membership Meeting and St. Patrick's Day Party, March 14, 7:30 p.m., Fairfax Yacht Club**

See, you already knew that from the season schedule you saved from the last *Daymarker*. But there's some details you need:

The Club will be providing the utensils, set-ups and ice, and you are asked to Bring Your Own Beverages and a favorite snacking dish or dessert for all to share.

The evening agenda includes a period of sociable guzzling and munching, interrupted by a short bidness meeting and questions from the floor, opportunities to sign up for this year's cruises, and a resumption guzzling and munching, schmoozing and grooving, get down and what all. Hey, it's a privilege of being a member of this outfit.

As in the past, we will need some volunteers to help restore order in the hall, stack chairs, sweep, clean-up the galley, etc. It will be quick work if we all pitch in before we have to "check out" by midnight.

*Please be sure to attend this meeting. Your fellow OYC members want to know how you are surviving the off-season! And you will want to stay up to date with and take part in OYC's plans for the Great New Boating Season of 1992.*



## Exec. Rear Commodore Comments

Garland Dobbins

### A Little of This and a Little of That

Some OYC bodies were strong while others were weak, and unfortunately the first planned event of the 1992 year was canceled for lack of participation. In order to make the trip to Atlantic City, a total of 30 members were needed to reserve the bus — well, to be honest, we could reserve the bus, but in order to reserve our cash flow the Club had to "book" at least 30 paying members. The count was steady but when it hit the figure 19, it came to a crashing halt — sort of like betting your bundle and losing on that last chance. For the members that signed up, deepest apologies for the trip falling through. With a little bit of "Lady Luck", maybe we can make the trip next year, or maybe in the fall this year.

Dinghy sales are going well. After non-boating people realize what a "dinghy" is, they are willing to spend a buck or two to take a chance. Tickets will be available at our next scheduled event, the St. Patrick's Day Bash on March 14. The meeting will start promptly, give or take 30 minutes or so, at 7:30 p.m. Come early and plan on offering the new board your candid comments and/or suggestions. Location for the event is once again Fairfax Yacht Club and, as in the past, we are asking the members to bring a "snack food" for sharing while enjoying your favorite beverage. There are tales of green beer — quite frankly, can you imagine not drinking green beer on St. Patrick's Day?? Regardless if your beer is green or not, pack up your favorite dish — whether it is a hot food, cold snack, bag of chips, 7-11 dip, or an age-old family recipe, and be at this event. The clubhouse is equipped with a kitchen including microwave — the only problem is remembering how to work it! I'm sure with all the brains around, someone will eventually figure out the magic combination. See you there!

Now for something new and unusual — the April 4 breakfast and swap meet at the newly named "Woodbridge Marina". Yes, Harbor Pointe, home of the annual Chili Cookoff, has been renamed — again. So for 1992, the Woodbridge Marina (or whatever you want to call the place) will host a challenging event. Breakfast will be an "all you can eat", but don't expect a spread like Bob's Big Boy. There will be plenty of coffee, donuts, and something hot — perhaps hotcakes, sausage, and some type of gravy — what would an early morning breakfast be without gravy? Currently, we are looking for some cooks who can make gravy — volunteers have already signed up to man the coffee pots and hand out the paper plates and napkins but we need some members to lend their talents in the cooking arena. Nothing fancy, just basic breakfast cooking. Contact any board member of fleet captain if you are interesting in cooking. After all, the cooks get a free breakfast — can you beat that offer?

Oh, the swap meet — what an excellent way to unload your junk, or should I say treasures? As they say, “one man’s junk is another man’s treasure”, and when it comes to boating equipment/cleaning supplies, etc., everything is precious. This is an opportunity to get rid of a few items that are currently cluttering your basement, storage shed or, perish the thought, maybe your boat — a little Spring cleaning to get that old stuff out of the way to make room for the new equipment that you must have in order to get through the summer. There will be tables set up. So put a price on your items and if all goes well, you’ll leave Woodbridge Marina with a few extra bucks in your pocket!



## Secretary's Comments

Monica Storz

It's been a long, slow winter. I don't know about everyone else, but these 50-60 degree days have us itching to get to the boat and take off. It's nice to know the de-icers haven't had to work much this year. It doesn't matter where we go, just to get back on the water and feel the slap of the waves against the hull and hear the roar of the engines.

After a successful planning meeting we are looking forward to a great St. Patrick Day meeting/party on March 14th. We are looking into the possibility of some live music to add even more “spring” into the jig of all OYCers.

Since “the man whose boat I share” has become a Fleet Captain, I am constantly being bombarded with “orders from the bridge” as to “the correct course” for OYC! Henry has a lot of great ideas, as I am sure all of the Fleet Captains do. The OYC board is looking forward to their joining us at our upcoming meeting.

Another big event right around the corner is the April 4th breakfast/swap meet. We are all looking forward to a very successful, fun-filled day. “One man’s garbage is another man’s prize,” so bring all of your extra boat “garbage”.

I have been looking into a few women’s boating courses in Annapolis this winter and have found a lot of classes offered. If anyone is interested in taking a weekend this spring to participate in one of these classes, please call me and I will start a sign-up list and get back to those people with the final course offering.

See you at the next Daymarker.

## Alexandria Waterfront Festival — Sign Up

**NOW!**

Monica Storz

Last week, the Alexandria Dockmaster confirmed that OYC is on the waiting list for the Alexandria Waterfront Festival, to be held June 5-7. There was only one condition — that we send him a list of boats interested in attending. This is a very popular event, so slips go quickly. If you are interested in attending, please contact Monica Storz now at 703-451-3494 (if you leave a message on the answering machine, please leave your name, boat name, LOA, and your phone number). Slips will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis.

## Cordial Invitations From Other Clubs

Dave Yarnell

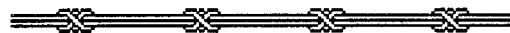
Other clubs have been responding early in the season with cordial invitations to their club events. OYCers have been extended invitations to three noteworthy events.

Prince William Yacht Club, Friday, April 3rd, 1992: A Pot-Luck Speaker Evening in Burke with the famed “Dick and Dixie Goermiller Slide Show”. Dick and Dixie are cruise writers for Chesapeake Bay Magazine and editors of “Guide to Cruising the Bay”. They will present a slide show and talk at 8:00 p.m. with a PWYC planned “pot luck supper” (bring a dish) at: Oaks Community Center, 5708 Oak Leather Drive, Burke Center. RSVP Carole Casey, Co-Fleet Captain of Prince William Yacht Club, by March 27 (703-823-1230 or 703-250-7571, home).

Seafarers Yacht Club, May 23-25, on the Anacostia: Seafarers Memorial Day Float-In. OYCers are cordially invited to a weekend float-in with the Seafarers. Planned: Saturday evening barbecue cookout and disco; Sunday with Captain Joe’s bloodies and brunch, afternoon horseshoes/cards/badminton/pool or cruise to Alexandria and Georgetown waterfront; Monday departure. Slips \$10; electricity \$3; Saturday barbecue \$7; Sunday brunch \$5. RSVP Bill Gilbert, Seafarers, 1950 M Street, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003.

Boat Parade to Celebrate the 200th Birthday of Kinsale Postal Service, Saturday, June 13, Yeocomico River. OYCers are invited to this event plus a full day’s land activities including a street parade, arts and crafts fair, historic exhibits, games, contests and more. Food and entertainment will also be available. The boat parade is open to both sail and power boats, and trophies will be awarded based on decorations pertaining to the theme “Memories of the Past.” The parade will leave the Yeocomico Marina at noon and be reviewed at the Great House in Kinsale, and the awards ceremony will be at 3:30 p.m. in the Town Square. If you are interested, please contact Lynn Domas at the Mooring Restaurant (804-472-2971) and provide her with the following registration information: your name, address and phone number, name of boat, type of boat, and boat size. You may also write to her at Yeocomico Marina, Box 38, Kinsale, Va. 22488.

Also, Earl Bassett, Commodore of the Miles River Yacht Club in St. Michaels, has sent OYC officers, members and guests a cordial invitation to use their club house and anchorage for the ‘92 season. Thank you all!



## New Members

John Piper

The OYC welcomes new members Jolanda Janczewski and Dennis Lauchner, Family aboard *Guide A Star*, berthed at OHM; Ray and Pat Steele, Family aboard *Pat & Ray*, berthed at Fairfax Yacht Club; Tom and Barb Egmore, Family aboard *Sara III*, berthed at OHM; Cliff and Kiki Stone, Family aboard *Flosshilde*, berthed at OHM; and Patrick and Teresa Sorrenti, Family, and Jillian Sorrenti, Junior, aboard *Sea Duck*, berthed at home.

## Travels with Joyce and Dennis

February 12, 1992

*Joyden* sails again!

Yes, after 4-1/2 months we are once more being powered by those flying white sheets hanging from the sticks we have on our deck, unlike most of you. Our stay in Mobile turned into four weeks. We played tourists some days and walked through the battleship *Alabama*, a submarine, and a Civil War fort. On the few warm, sunny days we were able to do some varnishing — earliest ever. Decent sized crabs were \$4 per dozen and super delicious.

Where the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway crosses Mobile Bay we turned east for a few hours to return a chart kit for some friends to Pirate's Cove Marina. OHM it was not! Grounds and facilities were considerably more than a tad primitive, and it wasn't difficult imagining Jean Lafitte or Blackbeard ducking in there 200 years ago. A bunch of friendly residents made the overnight stay worthwhile, and there are beautiful anchorages in just about every bayou off the channel.

Retracing part of the previous day's run we headed west, anchoring in Navy Cove and taking the dinghy to the beach at Fort Morgan, the defense on the eastern spit of land at the entrance to Mobile Bay. Climbed around the old ruins, then continued on to Dauphin Island.

Valentine's Day was the first ever in this *Joyden* that we sailed all day, no motor — away from the dock, 18 miles along the Mississippi Sound barrier islands, and didn't drop the sails until the anchor was down off Petit Bois. It was great just gliding along at 4 knots in a partly sunny 70 degrees. Flipper and friends swam along side us for miles. Oil platforms dot the horizon these days; there were none fifteen years ago when we were here with our Venture 25.

On our way to Biloxi we encountered a furious-looking storm, dropped sails and prepared for the worst; but surprisingly there was little wind and no rain. The front passed over us, the skies cleared, and we anchored off the Biloxi waterfront in time to watch a stunning red sunset.

Mardi Gras parades, balls, and decorations are going on all of February until March 3. Mobile was the first city to have an official celebration — 1831. By 1837 New Orleans picked up the idea. Masking and throwing of candy and trinkets are traditions; tossing of specially minted theme doubloons is a recent addition. The official colors of purple for justice, green for faith, and gold for power are seen in flags, wreaths, and costumes. The metallic and sequined gowns and headaddresses must weigh a ton. Pastry shops and even the local Piggly Wiggly grocery have King Cakes. These originated as a symbol of the Three Kings' visit to the Christ Child on the twelfth day of Christmas, the beginning of Carnival season. They were served at balls with a bean baked inside. Whoever got the bean in their piece of cake became king or queen. The one we bought had a plastic dollhouse baby in it. If I had served it to company, whoever got the baby would have to give the next party. So much for things you never knew (and could care less about), but it's fun learning new things about different areas.

There is also a seafood industry museum here we want to see before checking out an old fort on Ship Island, Gulfport, then on to New Orleans. Will let you know next month how we survived the wild festivities!

*Joyden*

---

---

### Blue Crabs to the Rescue?

Boyce Rensberger

"Science Notebook", *The Washington Post*, 2/24/92

Zebra mussels — those prolific, tiny mollusks that were recently introduced by accident into U.S. waters and are clogging water treatment facilities and pipelines in the Great Lakes and elsewhere — might be controlled with blue crabs, scientists at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science have speculated.

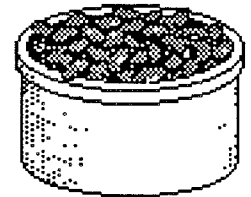
"Blue crabs would eat zebra mussels like popcorn," says Romuald N. Lipcius, who has watched one do so in an aquarium.

The institute is seeking funds to determine whether blue crabs can be induced to stay in fresh water, which they occasionally visit naturally. If so, Lipcius would like to plant them in the Susquehanna River, which drains into the upper Chesapeake Bay, where the mussels are becoming a problem.

### M.Lou's Shrimp and Grits

#### Shrimp and Grits

1 lb. fresh shrimp, shelled and deveined  
6 slices bacon  
peanut oil  
2 c. sliced mushrooms  
1 c. sliced scallions  
1 large garlic clove, minced  
4 t. lemon juice  
chopped fresh parsley  
hot sauce  
salt, pepper  
Cheese grits (recipe follows)



Wash shrimp and pat dry. Dice and cook bacon until crisp. Drain and reserve bacon. Add oil to bacon fat. Add shrimp and stir, cooking until they begin to turn pink. Add mushrooms, scallions, garlic, lemon juice, and parsley. Season to taste with salt, pepper, and hot sauce. Crumble reserved bacon over shrimp mixture. Spoon over cheese grits.

#### Cheese Grits

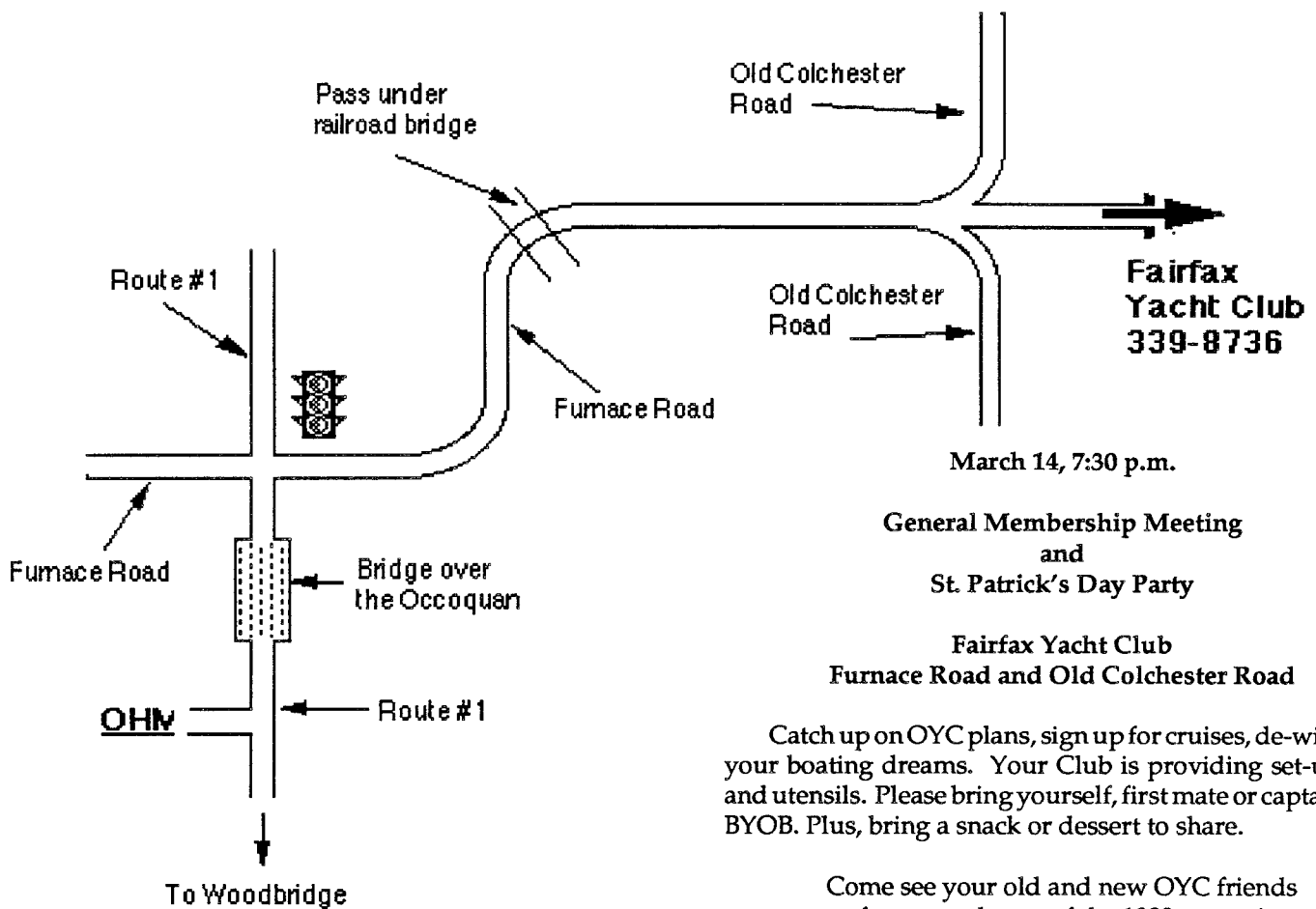
Prepare boiled grits according to package directions.

Add: 1 c. grated sharp cheddar

1/2 c. parmesan

Season with white pepper, cayenne, and nutmeg to taste.

Serves six to eight, depending on how many plates you have. Yum, yum, eat it up.



## April Issue of the Daymarker

The Editor

Your editorial staff (Arleen, Jess, Sally, Willie and I) is making plans for another special April issue. We know that many of you are closet authors and are waiting for just the right forum to publish your prose. Well, the April issue is it! This year we will actually verify each and every event that is published (just like last year). If you did something last year that you do not want published, please send a written request to the Daymarker. Include a detailed description of the event (suitable for publication) as well as the reason why you do not want it published and a check for a sizable amount. Each article will be reviewed by our editorial staff and, depending upon the amount of money enclosed, we will determine which events are published and which are not.

In addition, we are seeking contributions for the issue to include boat offerings, advertisements, letters to the editor, random babblings and incoherent slobberings. If you can write it, we can print it. So, give us a hand this year. Think of it as insurance.

Steve Worcester's mother has again reminded me to publically ask that Steve call his mother. Also, we are seeking reliable information concerning an event in Olde Town last

weekend. For now, we will withhold the names of the participants (pending a review of their checks), but it involved four OYC members, the Fish Market, a snitch, a public street corner, tripping, break dancing, butts, running, laughing, promises not to tell and general embarrassment. Does anyone know the real story? We would like to know, and we know that you gentle readers would also.



# ★ Occoquan Yacht Club 1992 Schedule of Events ★

Save this schedule.

Unless otherwise noted, dates listed are Saturdays. Schedule changes will be reported in The Daymarker.

## FEBRUARY

- 1 Open
- 8 Land Yacht (Bus) Cruise to Atlantic City casino, gambling with Garland. Garland Dobbins, cruise coordinator, (703) 221-4643.
- 15, 22, 29 Open

## MARCH

- 7 Open
- 14 General meeting and St. Patrick's Day Bash and early bird cruise sign up at Fairfax Yacht Club. Potluck munchies.
- 21, 28 Open

## APRIL

- 4 Sizzling Breakfast Cookout and Inter/Intra Yacht Club Boat Gear Swap Meet at Harbour Pointe Marina.
- 11, 18, 25 Open

## MAY

- 2 Flag raising and dock party at OHM, CME inspections, optional overnight rendezvous in Mattawoman Creek
- 9 Mother's Day Weekend (10th) Open
- 17 (Sunday) \* PRYCA Blessing of the Fleet and boat parade in Washington Channel. **Cruise coordinator needed for this event.**
- 23 Memorial Day Weekend cruise to Yeocomico Marina. Tom & Barb Egmore, cruise coordinators, (703) 256-8442
- 30 Open

## JUNE

- 6 Alexandria Waterfront Festival. Henry Lovell, cruise coordinator, (703) 490-5986.
- 13 Photo-Afloat Day, OYC photographer gets a great picture of your boat underway.
- 20 Dinghy regatta at Harbour Pointe Marina. Gas and people powered dinghy events, a great way to kick off Father's Day weekend
- 27 Overnight to Ragged Point Marina. Linda Dobbins, cruise coordinator, (703) 221-4643.

\* Indicates tentative dates

Indicated "Open" dates in season are available for SRUs (Spontaneous Raft Ups).

## JULY

- 4 Independent cruising in Potomac waters for 4th of July fireworks.
- 11 Marina/Slip Swap. Get a new view in one night in a different home marina.
- 18 \* PRYCA float-in to Aquia. Raffle drawing for the dinghy and motor. Sandy Leathers, cruise coordinator, (703) 690-0038.
- 25 Water sports at Gunston Cove.

## AUGUST

- 1 - 9 August Odyssey to Tidewater/Norfolk. Tom Coldwell, cruise coordinator, (703) 323-1675.
- 8, 15 Open
- 22 Cruise for crabs to Robertson's and overnight at Port Tobacco's Chapel Point (anchored) or Goose Bay Marina (in slips). Pam Delancey, cruise coordinator, (703) 830-3918.
- 29 Open

## SEPTEMBER

- 5 Labor Day cruise to Point Lookout Marina. **Cruise coordinator needed for this event.**
- 12 Open
- 19 Shrimp Feast/Bonfire at the Dunes. Aaron Martin, cruise coordinator, (703) 491-1287.
- 26 Open

## OCTOBER

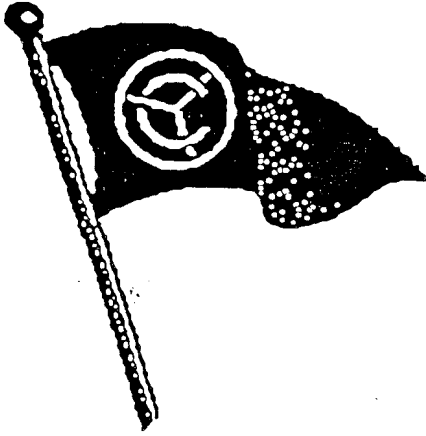
- 3 General Membership Meeting, election of officers.
- 10 Open
- 16 or 17 (Friday or Saturday) Car-avan to the Annapolis Boat Show
- 24 Chili and Dessert Cook-Off/Photo Contest at Harbour Pointe Marina.
- 31 Open

## NOVEMBER

- 7 Hardy Souls Cruise to Alexandria. Mary Jo Worcester, cruise coordinator, (703) 494-2383.
- 14, 21, 28 Open

## DECEMBER

- 5 Santa Cruise and Change of Command Dinner-Dance at CC Company, Occoquan, VA
- 12, 19, 26 Shop 'til you drop.



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

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:  
Al Herskowitz  
(703) 860-2043

THE FIRST ANNUAL  
OCCOQUAN YACHT CLUB

SIZZLING BREAKFAST COOKOUT  
AND  
NAUTICAL SWAP MEET & FLEA MARKET  
HARBOUR POINT MARINA PARKING LOT  
(Marina next to Hoffmasters)

Saturday, April 4th  
Breakfast at 8:30-10:30  
\$3.00 all you can eat

Trading and Sales will commence after we eat!

Clean out yer Bilges Matey, and Go thru the Garage to revive those treasures of Nautical Nature and bring 'em to the Swap meet/Flea market to negotiate their destiny with someone who will truly appreciate their worth! Find that special "Nautical Necessity" your collection has been without for so long and talk the owner out of it...tell a few lies...and enjoy the boaterly comradery of those guys who belong to a fellow Yacht Club!

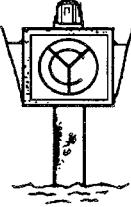
THIS IS AN OPEN HOUSE EVENT AND ALL PRYCA AFFILIATED YACHT CLUBS AND OTHER POTOMAC RIVER YACHT CLUBS ARE INVITED & ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE!

THE PARKING LOT IS BIG SO YOU CAN SETUP AS A CLUB OR AS AN INDIVIDUAL !  
(Used Boat Sales limited to Photos and Dingys Please)

FELLOW CLUBS R.S.V.P. to Dave Yarnell, Commodore, OYC. 703-491-3797

If you are coming by water, call Marina manager, Tom Tokash 703-491-1385

*Dave Yarnell*



**The Daymarker**  
Occoquan Yacht Club  
P.O. Box 469  
Occoquan, VA 22125

Address Correction Requested