

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

The Daymarker

September 1996 Vol. XIV Issue 9

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

JF

Commodore
Tom Egmore
703-256-8442

Vice Commodore
Steve Wexler
703-437-0687

Rear Commodore
Teresa Sorrenti
703-590-6724

Secretary
Walt Cheatham
703-491-3956

Treasurer
Dave Moore
703-494-0651



Commodore's Comments

Tom Egmore

Norfolk was awesome. The highlight of the OYC Week-Long Cruise was our two-day stay in Portsmouth's Tidewater Yacht Marina directly across the channel from Norfolk and in the oldest and largest ship yards in the U.S. Upon approaching, and also when leaving the marina, we passed the Norfolk Naval Base and the large commercial shipping docks. It was really something to cruise down the channel past the Navy's Atlantic Fleet that included two aircraft carriers, three submarines and a host of other various ships such as destroyers, frigates, tenders, etc., not to mention commercial containers ships and more tug boats than one could count. As if this was not enough, the Zimpels hosted everybody on board *Courchevel* for an evening happy hour cruise up and down the ship channel. Can you tell I was impressed?

The Norfolk area was the middle of the week stop. The rest of the stops in the lower Potomac and lower Bay were also great. Coordinator Ray Steele and his able mate and assistant Pat did a fantastic job in picking the marinas and providing a fun-filled itinerary. We had a flotilla of thirteen boats ranging from the 23-foot *Sea Brat*, piloted by "Captain Courageous Bonnie," to the 62-foot *Courchevel*, captained by "Only likes to cruise at night Steve." We, as always, had a great time and only a few misadventures.

I'll let Dave and the others fill you in on the details.

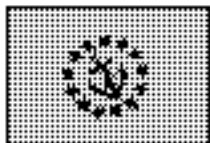
We just got back from the Colonial Beach Cruise. When I first mentioned Colonial Beach as a possible cruise destination I got the feeling that nobody was real excited about the idea. But let me tell you, Colonial Beach Yacht Center is a sleeper. There was a turn out of thirteen boats and we had one of the best times so far this year. Most of us went to the Hot Rod Car Show in town Saturday (the marina lent us two

courtesy cars). Saturday evening we had happy hour on and around *Impulse* and then it was off to Hawaiian Night at the Dockside Restaurant. The highlight of the buffet dinner was three tables of 30 OYC club members batting balloons back and forth all through dinner trying to break them in the ceiling fans. (It doesn't take much to amuse us.) Sara Stephens (*Morning Mist's* Junior First Mate) brought honor and fame to the club by winning the Hula Hoop contest. I think that we will end up including Colonial Beach Yacht Center on our list of regular cruise events. George and Barbara Mehrtens aboard *Ondalay* picked a great event as their first club cruise. Carol Walsh, event

coordinator, and Gary (who tried to claim that he was the coordinator but in reality only Carol's assistant) did an outstanding job at their first try as coordinators. Gary, we'll be looking for you to volunteer for another event, and we will let you do it this time.

"Norfolk was awesome"

Even though this is becoming known as the year without a summer (rain and cool weather) and a slow start for many club members, we're on a roll now. We still have some great events scheduled before the season ends, so be sure to sign up. Be sure to give Aaron your order for the Shrimp Feast that is scheduled for September 14-15, and following the Shrimp Feast is the PRYCA End of Summer weekend at Tantallon the 21st and 22nd. OYC will need you all to help win the tug-of-war and canoe races. A special reminder, don't forget the General Membership Meeting September 28th at Fairfax Yacht Club. This will be your chance to vote for next year's Board, enjoy another of our infamous Pot Luck dinners, and catch up on all the latest gossip. See you there.



Vice Commodore's Comments

Steve Wexler

As most of you know, Paula and I have been unable to participate in OYC's annual week-long cruise over the years because we spend the first two weeks of August in Bermuda each summer. As we were traveling to Bermuda on August 3rd this year we were discussing the weather and camaraderie which the OYC cruisers had experienced during the preceding week...and we thought about what it would be like to share those experiences...and then it came to us (much like those Bud-Lite commercials)...we had the plan:

THE OYC WEEK-LONG CRUISE TO BERMUDA

Yes, Tommy C., forget about just going past Point Lookout into the Chesapeake Bay. And for PC's Tilmon and Martin, this is not just another rehash of previous journeys. And for the oldest Steve (as in Worcester), when you suggested "Let's do something new!"—well, you asked for it, you got it. Yes, this little Fun Index is gonna pop right through the 100% mark when OYC sets the standard for all future cruises. Here's how it's going to work:

Day One—Depart Occoquan River between 0800 and 1000. Most boats should arrive at Yeocomico Marina between 1200 and 1400. *Courchevel* will arrive on Day Three, and that Steve will have to figure out what happened to the fleet.

Day Two—Depart Yeocomico at 0900 and arrive at Norfolk in time to be loaded into the ocean-going container ship (thereby avoiding those nasty insurance riders—yes, your boats won't touch open seas). Evening entertainment includes a walking tour of heavily equipped ocean-going vessel with fine dining in crew's mess.

Day Three—Depart Norfolk. Pat Steele becomes disoriented when she doesn't have to handle dock lines—you know what I mean?

Day Four—At sea. Rick Sorrenti organizes mutiny so that he can be directly in control of radar, sonar, GPS, Loran, and every other piece of electronic equipment aboard ship—including the remote control to the wardroom television. Captain reassumes control in time to implement course corrections resulting in only a four-hour course reversal and

invites the Captain of *Sea Duck Too* for dinner in Captain's quarters (locks door and retains key pending arrival in Hamilton Harbour in Great Sound).

Day Five—OYC Fleet unloaded and forms up for transit along North Shore past Fort St. Catherine and through cut at Cut Fort into St. George's Harbour. Arrive at St. Georges Dinghy and Sports Club (hereinafter St.GD & SC). St.GD & SC has over 40 transient slips available at \$0.75 per foot (including power and water). Beautiful three-story clubhouse overlooking the Harbour with fantastic bathroom and shower facilities—not to mention bars on floors one and two (with pool tables and dart boards in the lounge). The beaches at Achilles Bay and Tobacco Bay are within walking distance. Restaurant facilities in St. George's include the White Horse and The Wharf.

Day Six—The OYC water cruise of Bermuda along South Shore including snorkeling at Castle Harbour and short swimming stops at Elbow and Pink Beaches with lunch at Horse-shoe Bay. Afternoon of Day Six—back to container ships with Dinner and entertainment at the Hog-Penny Pub on Reid Street.

Days Seven and Eight—See Days Three and Four (without mutiny).

Day Nine—Depart Norfolk and arrive Occoquan River late afternoon—with Rum Swizzle Party at Fairfax Yacht Club.

If you think the proposal is absurd you've passed the sanity check and need to read no further. If you're still reading—what's wrong with you??? For further information and sign-up opportunities call this Steve at home. I'll certainly tell you where to send your deposit checks.

Talking about reality checks, I thought that a bit of radio chatter from the Summer Cruise to Colonial Beach Yacht Center was interesting. Specifically, the Captain of OYC's *QEII* was entering Mattox Creek preparing to turn into Monroe Bay when he advised *Sweet Gussie* that he was down to one engine because the port fuel tank had been "sucked dry." The Captain of *Courchevel* aka *Alicia M* aka *San Moritz* wasn't sure who or what had done the sucking, but he assured me that he could get "unsucked" at the fuel dock—Paula told me to avoid the fuel dock and just go straight to slip!!! A special "Welcome Aboard" to George and Barbara, new members aboard *Ondalay*.

I understand that during our two weeks in Bermuda the OYC Schedule of Events sort of fell apart...the Dinghy Regatta moved to Mattawoman, the Board forgot to tell the membership about the PRYCA End-of-Summer Party, there was some real confusion as to which Point to head to for Labor Day (i.e. Cole's, White, Dennis, or Pencil???), and the Fall Cruise destination was still up for grabs.

Well here's the real story:

The OYC Dinghy Regatta was overtaken by a wedding at Prince William Marina. Seems to me that most people who get married at a marina are a little dingy anyway, so our event and theirs should have worked out just fine. The event coordinator, Steve Zimpel, quickly recovered and scheduled the regatta aboard *Alicia Moritzevel* in Mattawoman Creek—everyone enjoyed.

The Labor Day Cruise went to Cole's Point Plantation...and through the untiring efforts of Rick Sorrenti, the OYC mem-

bers are ready for next year's volleyball match against Quantico Yacht Club.

The OYC Shrimpfest will be held on September 14th and 15th at Mattawoman Creek dunes. Get your shrimp order into Aaron Martin immediately. For the wimp crew, the renegade cruise will be at Fairfax Yacht Club this year. The wimps know who they are!!!

The PRYCA End-of-Summer Party will be at Tantallon Yacht Club on September 20th-22nd. Reservations were due to Delegate Henry Lovell by August 21st. But if you didn't get the word, or were just too slow to get your money in, please call either Henry or yours truly and we'll see what we can do.

The OYC General Membership Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. at Fairfax Yacht Club on September 28th. The official business will be officer reports and election of next year's Board. The nominating committee appointed by Commodore Tom Egmore has proposed the following slate of officers:

Commodore	Steve Wexler
Vice-Commodore	Teresa Sorrenti
Rear Commodore	Janine Washington
Treasurer	Peggy Ball
Secretary	Walt Cheatham

Naturally, additional nominations from the gathered brethren will be accepted and welcomed. This is a pot-luck dinner event so remember to bring a treat to share—Ray and Pat, remember to bring dessert.

The Fall Foliage / Columbus Day Cruise will be on October 12th, 13th and 14th (optional). The destination will either be Smallwood State Park (in Mattawoman Creek) or Gangplank Marina (in Washington Channel). The final destination will be determined by Steve the coordinator by the middle of September and the participating boats will be notified. Next month's Daymarker will also announce the destination. If you're interested in participating, call Steve Zimpel, tell him yes, and voice your choice of destinations. I'd like to tell you that majority will rule, but "it ain't necessarily so!!"

See you on the River!!!



Exec. Rear Commodore Comments

Teresa Sorrenti

Another Perspective On The Weeklong Cruise

Probably you have read, throughout this edition, of how wonderful the weeklong cruise was. Unfortunately the Sorrentis weren't able to go "with the group" since our daughter was working and you all know that her dad wasn't about to leave her Home Alone.

Teresa and I set out (Jillian safely in Band Camp in SC) on our weeklong two weeks after the official group left and we have decided to explore a much different way of ranking the marinas that were visited. Unlike the original method of ranking the restaurants, marina, pools, etc., we have now concluded that the Economic Assistance Ratio (EAR) is the way to go. The EAR is based on the amount of money spent on

a per capita basis for each location visited. So here we go on our EAR rankings:

Number 5: Portsmouth with an EAR of \$.01. Broken down as walking 22 blocks one way, to buy one antique compass which I had to carry 22 blocks back. Even with this, a nice dinner at Il Porto, Nauticus tickets, etc., this didn't help the Norfolk EAR.

Number 4: York River with an EAR of \$.03. Rented a car, and even bought water repellent spray for boat canvas (yes it rained at night) but the historic area and marina pool were still cheap entertainment.

Number 3: Colonial Beach with an EAR of \$.04. Hawaiian buffet with hula hoops plus breakfast still didn't amount to much. Happy hour was free, Zimpel provided most of the entertainment at no cost plus his son was a hot item.

Number 2: Coles Point Plantation with an EAR of \$1.40. No don't get carried away here. Not too many people live there so fuel, and the August Beach Party (not just for us) should have provided a college course for Peter's kids.

Number 1: Deltaville with an EAR of \$2.60. Now folks, we are talking some serious economic assistance here. After riding a bike for 5 hours, we found a sale on inflatables, ice cream sodas, breakfast at Taylors, dinner at the Red Sky Restaurant, fuel, dockage. My God what a time! The entire population was on the docks to bid us a fond farewell and a speedy return.

Well that is our appraisal of the weeklong locations. This should set the standard for future generations to follow.



Secretary's Comments

Walt Cheatham

This will not be a witty article because I do not feel creative. Instead I feel instructive and must tell you that the October General Membership Meeting formally planned for Oct 5th has been changed to Sept 28th—a week earlier—due to a conflict with Fairfax Yacht Club scheduling. **I SAY AGAIN: THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED FROM SATURDAY OCTOBER 5th TO SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 28th AT FAIRFAX YACHT CLUB. BE THERE AT 6 PM, AND BRING A DINNER DISH TO SHARE!** This is the one time per year we assemble a quorum, elect a board, listen to the treasurer try to report, and then abandon decorum in order to party on land.

Having said that, I can now be silly.

If you owned a 65 foot yacht would you be seen on the docks of a rural Virginia marina wearing long pajamas at 10 o'clock in the morning in August? Steve does, and you know, as long as he is in the shadow of the *Alicia Courchevel* it really doesn't matter—he looks absolutely captainsome. But why does he wear pajamas?

One theory is that his boat is so large it actually has drawers on board. (Most of the ladies were wondering if he was wearing such under his pajamas.)

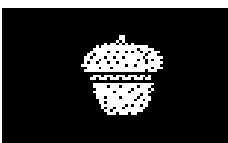
Another theory is that he brings pajamas from home each time in his ditty bag. (Which raises the question of why the rest of us are too uncouth to so practice.)

Someone suggested that he actually uses his air conditioners (which makes it too cool on board to go without—like those of us who disdain AC but can't stay awake enough to reap the rewards).

The winning theory has to do with the proper way to walk your parrot (something else none of the rest of us know anything about).

In any case Steve is quite a guy. So young, so slim, such a happy smile. I'm sure he gets special powers from that specially constructed radar halo overhead as he is cruising down the river up there in the thin air—much the same as other people get them from sitting under inverted pyramids. It's this big concave fiberglass thing that focuses youth and talent and money and taste right on his head. And he still has his hair too.

Coldwell is so lucky to be docked next door. Maybe some of it will spill over so he won't have to continue going on weeklongs alone.



Treasurer's Comments

Dave Moore

'Week-Long' Notes Worthy of Recognition

Yes, we all had fun on the week-long trip to Portsmouth, Va. and back with adventurous stops along the way, both planned and unplanned.

First stop, Coles Point Plantation, a favorite always, included the company of *Down the Hatch*, who remained at Coles rather than continue the OYC journey. Sorry, Carol and Gary, you missed a good trip. We hope you got the cables fixed.

Next stop was Club On Fishing Bay, where we all got to exercise our BOAT/U.S. discounts on both fuel and dockage. A good deal, I believe, and they threw in all the jellyfish (and what I think was Portuguese Man-O-War) you wanted. I've never seen so many! *Marietta* tangled with a dock line that wrapped around the prop and crew members Cindy and Terry had to see the jellyfish at close range as well as receive a few stings! Harold, you did the right thing bringing them along! (Just kidding) *Dealmaker* gave everyone a twilight cruise up the Piankatank River to Berkley Island. After shifting "OYC cargo" forward, planing was achieved! Thanks to the Ziegler crew for a nice outing.

Leaving Club On Fishing Bay, *Evermoore* went smack into a horrid thunderstorm with lightning all around the boat. Visibility went to zero and several of Carol's dormant opinions came to life and much advice was given. Carol, I was not lost, I knew where I was but just couldn't figure out how to leave safely and where to go (don't even think it). Disoriented, yes; even a GPS can err when the boat is not moving. (When lost, you don't know where you are, not the case here, and no, I've not outdone Ned from last year.) (Ed. Note: Nothing happened last year.)

Next stop, Tidewater Yacht Marina, Portsmouth, Va. There was plenty to do here since every half-hour the ferry went across the Elizabeth River to Norfolk. Much like Baltimore's Inner Harbor, there was good eats, shopping,

touring and people watching. The Zimpel clan gave everyone a grand cruising tour of the Norfolk shipyards with Steve's brother, who lives in the area, pointing out the many local sights. A real treat, so many ships and busy traffic on the waterway. Thanks again to the crew of *Courchevel*.

Captain Mike from *Kitt* entertained us when he began disrobing for a shower in the Ladies' vs. Men's room. What a look of surprise when he came out that door! It's a hard one to live down (clever) but Mike's getting used to the ribbing and he's good a sport. It could happen to anyone, right? (Right.)

Deloris of *Marietta*, made homemade ice cream for all to celebrate Harold's birthday (and also Barb Egmore's). It was delicious, so delicious that we got her to make some more another evening. Thanks!

Moving on to the York River Yacht Haven, many of us got caught in another storm just south of Hampton Roads. Five boats huddled together, dropped speed and stayed in contact with *Half Speed* who had radar and kept us abreast of when things might improve. Yes, Carol, I'd love to have radar. Thanks, Mitch, for your assistance at a time when things could have gotten hairy (I love that word). Several boats were greeted by a large school of dolphins in the river and *Happstance*, *Kitt* and *Cheers II* were greeted by a larger sea creature, namely a submarine in the channel semi-submerged and pushing so much water Bill says he thought his boat was ready for a rollover and *Cheers II*, although a bit larger, got a good seawater rinse. *Kitt*, likewise, got a real surprise, not having seen the submarine until it was very close. Who has the right-of-way? Always the BIG guy.

York River Yacht Haven is a beautiful retreat and special to me. Many boats of all sizes including many for sale with a broker and dealer on site and an unusual number of Grand Banks trawlers present, perhaps 20-25. I admire G.B.'s in case you couldn't tell. I also liked this stop because on site was a custom rod shop and yours truly ordered a custom-crafted personal fishing rod to my specifications. As of this writing, I'm anxiously awaiting the phone call saying it's ready for pick-up.

Uff Da gave all a cruise up the York River with trailing winds and waves rolling. Jim learned that when extra weight is in the bow, namely many OYCers, it became very difficult to steer. Good job, Captain Jim and First Mate Dottie, for a fun time. Jim remarked as some 30 people boarded *Uff Da* that his depth finder was working well...the numbers were changing as we sat still at the dock and people came aboard!

At this marina we did have an unplanned swim. First Mate Peggy of *Cheers II* decided to check out the underwater zincs on the boat. We all hope you are losing the bruises quickly (you know this had to be mentioned).

Leaving York River as well as our cruise coordinator, who had to return home by way of rental car to fetch his truck and trailer to retrieve *Pat & Ray* for repairs, we all headed on the long leg of our journey to Yeocomico Marina, a familiar stop to most of us. Good food welcomed us at the Moorings Restaurant as did the Coldwells, a pleasant surprises for sure. They picked up *Shalimar* after repairs from the week before and headed from Pt. Lookout to Yeocomico. We shared tales of the high seas and watched the local campers and slipholders entertain us by demonstrating their "spud launcher." Potatoes were going into orbit it seemed! Jim Ball took notes and

is making plans for an improved model. By the way, Jim also writes lyrics for music and would be happy to sing for you.

Sunday morning before heading for home port, *Evermoore* took a small side trip down the south branch of the Yeocomico River and found something very special. Our previous boat *One Moore Toy* resides in it's own boathouse and looked just fine.

"Gilroy" made his rounds and slept on many vessels during the trip. As of this writing it is understood that perhaps Gilroy is visiting another yacht club further north in D.C waters. We all wish him well, and you never know when he might return to the OYC. The Zimpels epoxied his bill and he looks just dapper...thanks Steve.

Sea Brat received the award for the most people per foot of vessel. You guys did well. Bonnie, Bob, Tracy and Susan somehow found sleeping space along with the books, flags and towels.

The *Happenstance* crew once again provided quartermaster supplies for sale. Thanks for bringing all the wares. And thanks to Bonnie for tales of high school beer drinking adventures—you continue to surprise us!

All in all, despite some wet weather, I am sure everyone enjoyed themselves. A heartfelt thanks to Ray Steele (and Pat) for all the time, effort and hard work for coordinating this great event. A job well done.

A survey poll was taken to keep with tradition at the end of the cruise and the results appear elsewhere in the Daymarker. Thanks to those involved.

P.S. Thanks to Janine for teaching me how to properly eat a crawfish. Biting off the head was most memorable!

Shrimp Feast Upon Us Again

Aaron Martin

The latest breaking news is that the OYC is making special arrangements to purchase shrimp for the upcoming OYC annual shrimp feast. Yes my friends, we have succeeded in locating a source for fresh shrimp sized on the order of 10 to 15 count. I've looked at these shrimp and talked to the distributor and have been able to negotiate an unbelievable price of \$5.50 per pound (min. 50 lbs, with heads on). My friends, this is a golden opportunity to buy your shrimp for the feast at the Dunes on September 14th and 15th (and maybe an extra pound or two for the freezer at home). Again this year we can look forward to great weather, lots to eat, telling of bawdy sea tales and cooking marshmallows over an outside bonfire (after dark.) We look forward to seeing you at the Dunes on the 14th (RAIN or SHINE.) Remember, the distance is not far, the weather will be good, the cooking and eating will be unbelievable and the salty sea tales will fly. Don't miss this g..r..e..a..t.. event. It only happens once a year.

To reserve your share of shrimp you will need to send in a shrimp reservation form for the number of pounds of shrimp you want at

\$5.50 per pound. Be sure to enclose your check and send it to:

Aaron Martin
11988 Point Longstreet Way
Woodbridge, VA 22192

Your order needs to be placed by September 9th. If the total order is less than 50 pounds, the cost will be greater than \$5.50 and you will need to ante up the difference on the 14th. You can use the order form below. (Please bring marshmallows, coat hangers for the marshmallows, wood for the fire, and a hearty appetite. We will share side dishes.)

The Temperature Was Moderate, The Rain Plentiful

Ray Steele, Weeklong Cruise Coordinator

The 1996 Weeklong Cruise began on Saturday, July 27th with a warm day and calm seas. *Morning Mist* started the cruise with a prop change and *Courchevel* blew a transmission cooling line. *Shalimar*, concluding her weeklong cruise, was discouraged from joining the group at Coles Point by a leaking circulating pump and *Marietta* passed right by, although Captain Usher had backed off the throttles at Colonial Beach. All other participants arrived at Coles Point Plantation without mishap. *Down The Hatch* decided to drop out at this point because they realized that the further they traveled, the longer the return trip would take!!!!

The Sunday departure from Coles Point was delayed because many cruise members wanted more time there. The second story Captains' Lounge at Club on Fishing Bay was put to good use during Happy Hour and the Red Sky Restaurant provided us with an outstanding dinner, although it took time for First Mate Bronwyn Ziegler to become convinced that yes, we were going to walk to dinner! *Courchevel* received a new transmission pump at this stop and *Sea Brat* was said to be intermittently losing power. *Marietta* wrapped a line, carelessly left by a previous occupant of their slip, around one of their props. Captain Usher and Mates Terry & Cindy went into the water on this one. While we were here *Dealmaker* provided an outstanding tour of the Piankatank River and returned to the sounds of the OYC Theme Song. Our thanks to the Zieglers for providing this service.

Tuesday was rough. Heavy wave action, limited visibility and rain added together to provide the most difficult run to date. *Pat&Ray* began losing power during this leg and the Tidewater Yacht Agency was a welcome sight indeed. Once docked, *Uff Da! 3* found their holding tank to be emitting an unwelcome odor, which was quickly corrected. That evening the Norfolk Waterside provided our group an assortment of evening eating choices. Upon our return, 1st Mate Deloris Usher, of *Marietta*, made Grape Sherbet, which was eaten during ceremonies celebrating the Birthdays of Captain Harold Usher and 1st Mate Barbara Egmore. Captain Fordham, of *Kitt*, struck the colors at the sound of Taps. Wednesday afforded cruise participants the opportunity to explore, but the evening showers came early. Captain Zimpel and his crew offered an evening cruise around the Elizabeth River, which was delayed by a downpour. *Courchevel* proved to be a palatial setting to wait out the storm, as well as a wonderful boat to see the harbor in. Many thanks to the Zimpels for their outstanding generosity. During this stop *Pat & Ray* received a coil. *Sea Brat* performed well without maintenance.

On Thursday our fotilla left Tidewater for the York River Yacht Haven. This was the shortest run of the cruise, but was

delayed by rainy weather. Captain Moore of *Evermoore* rose to the challenge and coordinated our entrance into bay waters with the cessation of the rain, at least for a while. *Pat & Ray* was heard to be knocking upon entering the York River Yacht Haven "No Wake" zone. Further investigation revealed a chipped tooth in the outdrive. The crew of *Happenstance* found themselves unable to operate their port engine at idle and *Courchevel* found breakfast to be a smoky affair; Captain Zimpel was heard to mention that he finally understood a reason for allowing the salon windows to be operable. This location proved to be my favorite, with a pool, restaurant and automotive transportation. Our evening cookout proved to be a wet one, but complaints were seldom heard. On Saturday Captain Jacobsen and the crew of *Uff Da! 3* catered to our cruise participants during an evening cruise of the York River, during which their aux generator quit. Thank you very much for your hospitality. *Pat & Ray* was forced to leave the cruise at this point and was trailered home. The crews of *Half Speed* and *Evermoore* accepted the Cruise Coordinator responsibilities for the final stop of this cruise. Many thanks!!

In summation, the crews participating in the 1996 OYC Week Long Cruise proved to be flexible, mature adults that remained positive throughout. They clearly understood their responsibility to enjoy this cruise and were a joy to be with. Everyone found time to help others, yet enjoyed the opportunities that arose. To my great surprise three boats, to remain nameless, were found to have been provided a fresh coat of wax. Who would have thought..... My thanks to all of you, let us prepare/repair our boats, choose a new Cruise Coordinator and hit the water again soon.

P.S. Advice for the organizers of the 1997 Weeklong Cruise: Organize two cruises, one North, one South, to be scheduled, one in June and the other in August.

The Wonders of Solo Renegade Cruising

(This is my story and I'm sticking to it.)

by Tom Coldwell, Extremely Past Commodore

Strength in numbers is not always the case. Sometimes it's better to go alone—as the crew of *Shalimar* learned in her renegade week-long cruise one week before the OYC-sanctioned week-long cruise at the end of July.

For one job thing or another, Mrs. Coldwell and I could not take part in the scheduled cruise so masterfully coordinated if, regrettably, not entirely completed by Past Commodore Ray Steele. Moreover, we were unable to arrange an alternative group renegade cruise; we couldn't scare up a fourth for bridge, let alone another boat to join us.

So it was to our good fortune that we embarked on a solo renegade cruise. We hit most if not all the ports-of-call visited by the larger group, and our reception at each stop was unbelievable!

Example: departing from the PRYCA Float-In, we cruised to Coles Point Plantation, stopping enroute for fuel at Quantico. There, believe it or not, a contingent of Marines jogged out to the gas dock bearing frosty mugs of iced lemonade for Mary Ann and me. Dee-licious. "Anything for the solo boater on a week-long cruise," they said.

As Steve Zimpel would say, that's my story and I'm sticking to it.

Arriving at Coles Point Plantation, one of the scheduled stops for the next week's cruise, the entire marina staff ran out to meet us and bring us a free sample of mud pie from the Pilot's Wharf restaurant! Trust me. Even gave us a 40% discount on gas! Understandably they could do this for one boat but certainly not an entire group.

Another example: After the next two nights at Tides Lodge (complimentary mint each night on our PFDs), we pressed on to Club on Fishing Bay, another destination for the group which followed us. Those people at COFB were so nice, again, since we were by ourselves, they invited us to an evening happy hour on their luxury jet ski. Hey, there was plenty of room for everyone.

Then our schedule varied somewhat as we stood into Onancock Creek and tied up for two nights at the beautiful town of Onancock—smack dab in the middle of their annual Potomac River Friendship Days. Since we were the only boaters in town from the Potomac River, we were "guests of the city fathers," and try as we might, we couldn't pick up a check in the entire visit. Honest.

We left Onancock bound for Coles Point Plantation and looked forward to meeting OYC boaters who would join us there on their first day outbound. (We decided not to say anything about the mud pie and cheap gas.) Unfortunately, a failure of one of our water circulating pumps forced us to divert to Point Lookout Marina. We retrieved *Shalimar* a week later, in time to meet the OYC week-long fleet on the way home hitting their last stop at Yeocomico. It was great to see everyone and hear all the sea stories.

Without doubt, it is truly great fun to cruise with other OYCers. But if you can't join 'em, then go it alone. Besides, who will be around to check out your sea stories?

This is *my* story and I'm sticking to it.

Anniversaries

Happy Anniversary to the following couples for the month of September.

Jim & Dottie Jacobsen, September 6
Michael & Dottie Strunk, September 6
Allen & Susan Herskowitz, September 9
John Piper, September 14
Timothy & Beth Chaffin, September 18
Martin & Rosie Betts, September 28
Laurence & Christine Budd, September 30
Gary & Carol Walsh, September 30
Tom & Twila Lytle, September 30

Birthdays

September Birthday Wishes to:

Bronwyn Ziegler, September 8
Ralph Burner, September 10
Mitchell I Mutnick, September 13
Tom Egmore, September 13
Steve Zimpel, September 15
Pat Steele, September 21
Roxana Grosson, September 25
Steve Donock, September 25

OYC Weeklong Cruise Survey
by some First Mates

Best Marina:	Tidewater, Portsmouth
Worst Marina:	None—No Oxfords on this cruise
Best Restaurants:	First Prize: Red Sky, Deltaville, 1st Runner-up: River's Inn, Gloucester Point 2nd Runner-up: Waterside, Gloucester Point
Best Pool:	Club on Fishing Bay
Best Happy Hour:	8 way tie. They were all great.
Best Captain:	Bonnie of <i>Sea Brat</i>
Best First Mate:	Bob on <i>Sea Brat</i>
Most Improved Captain:	Nominees not on this cruise
Most Improved First Mate (In alphabetical order):	Bonnie, Carol, Dottie and Peggy
Mr. Congeniality:	Ray
Ms. Congeniality:	Pat
Best Evening Cruise:	3 way tie: Piankatank River aboard <i>Dealmaker</i> Norfolk aboard <i>Alicia M (Courcheval)</i> , York River aboard <i>Uff Da!</i> Provided by Captain Bill aboard <i>Happenstance</i>
Best Sighting Of Drawbridge:	By Dave at final Happy Hour
Best Speech:	Niko aboard <i>Courchevel</i>
Best Whistler:	Steve Jr. & Ashley on <i>Courchevel's</i> aft deck
Best Gilroy Display:	First Runner-up: Dottie Second Runner-up: Beside <i>Evermoore</i> . Where is he now? Jim on channel 16 from <i>Cheers II</i> : "This is Gilroy, OYC, OYC, OYC".
Best Gilroy Impersonation:	The 3 absent Zieglers.
Best Kids:	None on this cruise.
Worst Kids:	(one out of nine is more fun than none.) Tie: Carol, Gary and Ashley on <i>Down the Hatch</i> & Tom and Mary Ann on <i>Shalimar</i>
Best One-Day Cruisers:	Tracy
Best Van Cruise:	Tie: Mitch and Rich
Best Shoppers:	Janine
Best Seafood Eating Instructor:	<i>Courchevel</i>
Most Expensive Repairs:	<i>Pat & Ray</i>
Longest Unplanned Land Cruise:	<i>Uff Da!</i> 3 with Jim
Most People In Engine Room:	Peggy
Biggest Splash:	Cindy & Terry
Best Swim With The Jellyfish:	<i>Kitt</i>
Closest Encounter With A Submarine:	None
Days Over 90 Degrees:	8
Days With Rain:	5
Highest Number Of Ice Cream Flavors Sampled:	Aft of <i>Marietta</i>
Best Ice Cream:	From the OYC pot provided almost every morning by Cruise Coordinator Ray and Pat. They also provided pastry one morning and a full breakfast on another. Thanks you two for all your hard work.
Best Coffee:	Only three: Deloris, Kathy and Steve (There was only one Steve on this cruise)
Captains and First Mates that DID NOT GET YELLED AT:	Tie: Gilroy and Peggy
Most Laughs:	Tie at 4+: Peggy and Susan of <i>Sea Brat</i>
Most Books Read:	Michael
Most In Need Of Help Reading Signs:	What a fuelish question.
Did cruisers spend more money on food or fuel?	<i>Half Speed</i>
Most Helpful With Radar:	Vote not taken on this one.
Do you fully understand GPS?	a. Global Positioning System, b. Garbage and Stuff c. Gilroy Piled on top of Stuff, d. All of the above Bronwyn and some Zimpels
Latest Sleepers:	The Carver Group
Most Blatant Advertising:	Tom of <i>Morning Mist</i>
Most Knowledgeable Observer Of Beer Cans:	Harold, 1st runner-up: Barb. We wish a great year of cruises to both of you
Best Birthday Celebration:	Nominee not on this cruise
Scruffiest Beard:	Girls night out aboard <i>UFF DA!</i> 3
Best After Cruise Party:	



**OYC Shrimp Feast/Dunes
Reservation Form
September 14th**

Name: _____

Address: _____

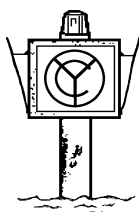
Phone No: _____

Boat Name _____

How Many Pounds of Shrimp _____

Enclose with check for \$5.50 per pound to Aaron Martin,
11988 Pt. Longstreet Way, Woodbridge, VA 22192.
ABSOLUTELY NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 9TH.

**Don't Forget the General
Membership Meeting has
been changed to to Septem-
ber 28th at Fairfax Yacht
Club. 6PM Pot Luck. Vote
for you favorite dish. Vote
for the new officers. Vote
early and often.**



The Daymarker

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

Address Correction Requested