



The Daymarker

OCCOQUAN YACHT CLUB

P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125

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Commodore's Comments

Teresa Sorrenti

Finally, we are able to report on *boating events!*

After all these months of land events, we can now discuss those afloat. We started with a great Early Bird Cruise. Despite being detoured at the last minute to Gangplank, there was a good turnout of ten boats. Every-one was together on "H" Dock, and the weather was wonderful (little did we know we would not see the sun for the next several weeks).

Capital Yacht Club was again gracious enough to let us camp out in a corner of their club, and the kids even learned some new games there. Dinner at Phillips was great food,

but what a madhouse at the buffet. We were so grateful our cruise coordinators booked us a private room away from the crowds. What a great job for first-time coordinators, Linda and Laslo Bozoky! Suffice it to say that OYC can get their money's worth at a buffet!

I am also happy to report that the "Commodog" Corky's debut cruise went off without a hitch. She was so entertained at watching the comings and goings on the dock she forgot to nap during the day and gave us a peaceful night. The only jarring note on the weekend was the logs in the river, but our Vice Commodore Janine can fill in that item [or view Gary Linck's photojournalism below].

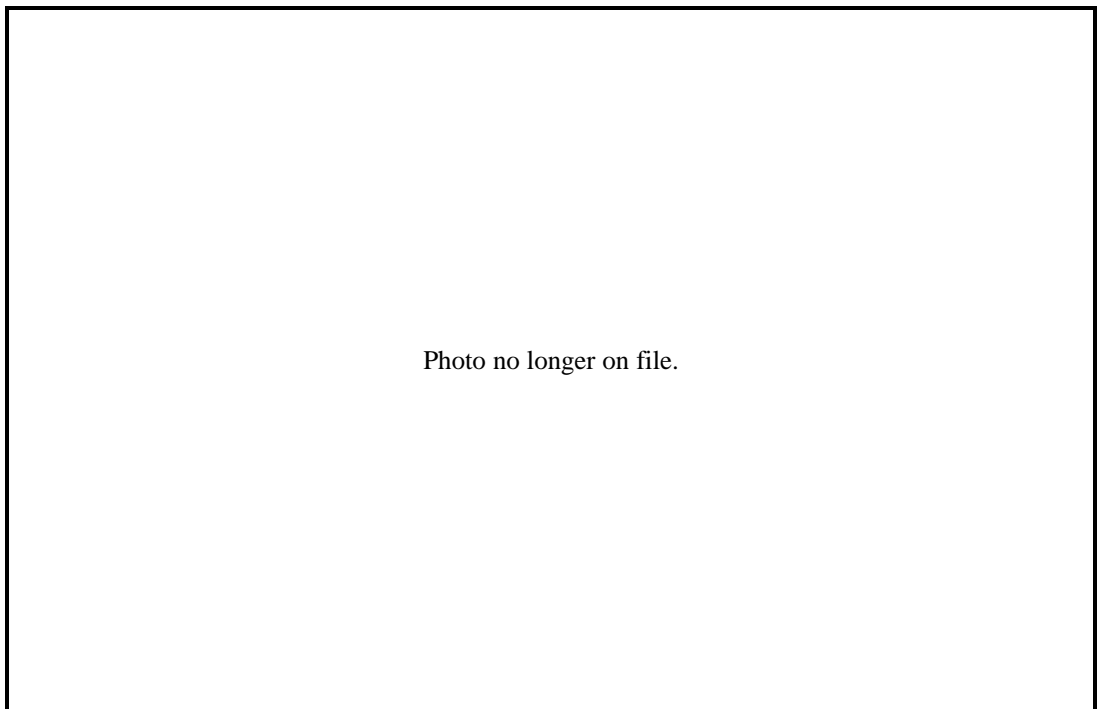


Photo no longer on file.

Kitt —and caboodle Vice Commodore Janine and Captain Mike discover the wonders of Potomac River debris during their return from the Early Bird Cruise. *Gary Linck photo*

Several inches of rain later, it was time for Flag Raising. Ever an optimist, I was convinced those patches of blue sky would expand, even after the second brief shower. Luckily, OYC our "clubhouse" canopy kept the food and Quartermaster items dry. Special thanks to Walt Cheatham, who started fires even Mother Nature could not douse; and to Steve Worcester, who held a cardboard roof over the flames so he and Tony Mirando could grill the burgers. Jim Ball pitch-hit for Peggy and turned out to be a great grocery shopper. We appreciate the representatives from Fairfax Marine Patrol, Coast Guard Auxiliary and Towboat braving the elements to speak to us. And, after watching PCs Steele, Coldwell and Rhodes raise the flags, (not to mention the big BOOM of my Captain's cannon) I think everyone felt the season had been inaugurated.

Although many of us were afraid of another Breakfast in the Rain, Mother Nature did an about face just in time and we had a gorgeous day on the 16th. PC Ray Steele and Pat did a fantastic job of cornering the breakfast food market, right down to an extra coffee pot to ensure we caffeine addicts were taken care of. Thanks go to Dave Yarnell and Debbie, Tony Mirando, Tom Shank, Janine Washington, Mike Fordham, the Ushers, Moores, Hayes, Jeirles and Coldwells for being chefs for the day, and to all the members who came to partake. Even our newly boatless IPC Steve and Paula Wexler managed to stop by between golf tee times. The Blessing of the Fleet seemed to arrive with summer; what happened to spring? After so many weeks of rain, the 90 degrees and sunlight were welcome but surprising. The weather, buffet and DJ at Columbia Island were all great. We may have only had four boats (*Sea Duck Too*, *Kitt*, *Amazing Grace*, and *Touch of Fate* plus a drop in by *Class Act*), but we also had our own Steve Donock, PRYCA Commodore, who gave an appropriate welcoming address.

The next morning, we hung our pennants, followed our leader Mike Fordham, and fell in behind Aquia Harbor Yacht Club. We did have to "tread water" in the Washington Channel for a while, but no one complained because we had front row seats to watch *HMS Endeavor* arrive, cannons firing and sails billowing! An impressive sight, and worth the delay. Unfortunately, we then had to let the *Odyssey* and the *Spirit of Washington* dock, but our boats DID get blessed, with the chaplain acknowledging the "little dog, too" so I guess even Corky is blessed! In fact, the next day's Washington Post picture of the *Endeavor* had a side view of *Touch of Fate*, and an itsy bitsy *Sea Duck Too* in the background. Unfortunately, the Post will only provide copies for \$85 and we can get better pictures from OYC members!

We understand that the blessing on the Occoquan at Fairfax Yacht Club also went well. OYC will evaluate this alternative next year, in order to try to get higher attendance. Every blessing helps!

As I write this we are getting ready for the first long weekend, the Memorial Day Cruise to Port Kinsale on the Yeocomico. We look forward to seeing many of you there, or at Cobb Island the following week.

By the way, if you see Dick Lynn of OHM or Steve and Chad from Gecko's, be sure to thank them for their support of OYC—use of their facilities, power, tables, chairs, etc. is critical to this clubhouse-less group!



Rear Commodore's Comments

Peggy Ball

Boat Tax Fever Hits Fairfax

(distributed previously by E-mail)

Following on the heels of Prince William County's reduction of the boat tax to non-existence, Fairfax County Supervisor Gerald Hyland (D-Mount Vernon) has publicly stated that the action could "close all marinas in Fairfax because there will be no incentive for owners to port their watercraft here" (in Fairfax County). He further stated that the tax elimination in Prince William County would diminish the income from retail and wholesale boat dealers and suppliers in Fairfax and hurt the county's economy.

Apparently marina owners in Fairfax have expressed their concern to Hyland, and he has taken up the charge with Fairfax County Supervisors, according to an article in the Fairfax Connection. He has asked that Fairfax County Supervisors come up with an action plan to counter the move. Fairfax's boat tax revenue is reportedly only \$200,000 annually, and hardly a drop in the bucket compared to other sources of revenue. We also know that it is sporadically enforced.

Those of us with slips in Fairfax (or Fairfax residents desiring to "return home") will want to express our support to Supervisor Hyland and our own supervisors to support the move to accommodate "no boat tax" with the no car tax movement. You can do this easily via e-mail or get your supervisor's name and address on the web at http://www.fairfaxea.org/fairfax_county_board_supervisors.htm.

Send a note today!

The Daymarker

Published monthly by the Occoquan Yacht Club

Tom Coldwell, PC, Editor

Mary Ann Coldwell, Editor's Editor

Jim Ball, Circulation

News and other materials for publication are welcome from any member of OYC. The deadline for submission of materials to **THE DAYMARKER** is the 20th of each month. Catch the article by Pat Garverick. That's the idea, a club member sending in a story about an interesting boating experience! Good for you, Pat, and thanks!

If possible, please submit copy by e-mail to:

coldwell@erols.com.

Fax service is not available. Word-processed copy may be mailed on a 3.5" IBM/MSDOS-compatible diskette to the editor at 10319 Commonwealth Blvd., Fairfax, VA 22032-2613. The preferred format is WordPerfect for Windows or DOS, but we accept Microsoft Word and ASCII text as well. By the 20th of the month.

Photographs may be submitted provided they comply with contemporary community standards for decency and do not reflect adversely on the club or its officers... unless it's a really good shot.

The editor may be reached by phone at home, 703-323-1675

Late Spring Cruise to Cobb Island, June 6-7

...and you may be too late to sign up. Walt Cheatham is coordinating OYC's cruise to Cobb Island, about 50 miles down the Potomac, specifically, to Shemansky's Marina across Neale Sound from Cobb Island, on June 6 and 7. But there still may be room. Give Walt a call, 243-2430.

About Cobb Island

Our ever-inquisitive Jim Ball reminds those OYCers going to Cobb Island that according to *This was Potomac River* by Fred Tilp, the island and adjoining land were granted to Captain James Neale, a privateer master-owner in 1642. He specialized in the capture of Spanish treasure ships from the West Indies. His confiscated gold coins were cut up into smaller pieces named "cubs". With this golden money, Neale bought the land here and called it "Cubs Neck".

At the Vickers' house on the island, the first intelligible speech over wireless radio was sent and received in 1900 by Professor Reginald Fessenden.

Charts of 1901 show Shipping Point and Liewellyns Warf on the land promontory of the south entrance to Neale Sound. The sound was originally named St. Raphael's Creek and, according to 1862 charts, was closed at the north end by a sand pit.



Treasurer's Comments

Tony Mirando

I know that there has been a rumor going around that there might be a year book made for the year 98-99. Well the rumor is still a rumor, but what I would like to know, is there a desire for one?

I think this would be really nice to have and to hold on too. It would be something that we would have to remember the great times that we have though out the year. Our Historian Susan Brown has opened up the discussions with the OYC board, and I have been assigned the wonderful task of helping Susan determine the yearbook's destiny.

What I need to know is do you have a interest, and if so how much would you pay for one, \$5, 10, 15, 20, 30 etc. The more money we are willing to spend the nicer it would be. We also need volunteers from the membership on putting the book together. I know that we have several people who have experience that could come in handy. Susan will be taking pictures, but she may need help. We will need someone who knows how to write well to go with the pictures. We need a few good people to handle to actual layout of the book, (like you Gary Linck, hint hint). We will need a committee to actually go through the pictures to put in the book (I'll volunteer for this).

You all may start to think up the name for the year book, for example calling it the *Yearmarker*. I guess what I trying to do is get some sense of what everybody else thinks, please let either Susan Brown or me know of your ideas, concern, and desires either way. All comments are welcome; this is your club and we strive to make it better with your help.

Tantallon Yacht Club's "MASH 4077th" Party

by Dave and Carol Moore, OYC Coordinators

"Attention please, attention please, incoming Occoquan Yacht Club members arriving at the Compound 13 June 98." Radar O'Reilly would have said something like that but we repeat that Tantallon Yacht Club has invited OYC to attend their theme party in the true rendition of a MASH 4077th camp with the proper fixins.

Despite any rumors of this event not happening, be assured it is on, just a little late in getting started due to some logistics. But because of the now-tight schedule and some slight restrictions, anyone desiring to attend needs to follow instructions carefully—and immediately.

The plan is: Arrive Saturday June 13. A reasonable but limited number of slips of various sizes will be available with power given first to those responding with payment. Additional slips will be available but without power. The full schedule:

Saturday 13 June— arrive afternoon or time of your choosing but not tardy (Colonel Potter gets angry).

1830 Hawkeye's Happy Hour (cash bar)

1930 Margaret's Magnificent Meal (roast beef, potatoes and vegetable. Chicken provided for those not wishing red meat)

2030 Potter's Party Time. Music provided so we can make the moves on the dance floor.

Sunday 14 June

1000 BJ's Bloody Marys

1100 Burn's Brunch (SOS, eggs, bacon and sausage)

Throughout the weekend, attire should be MASH 4077-related for maximum fun. Olive drab is definitely *in* for this event. Cost is naturally \$40.77 per couple.

Reservations and payment are due now.

Call Dave or Carol Moore at 703-494-0651 or e-mail EVERMOOREX@aol.com for reservations and to supply information on vessel size and power requested. Order in which reservations with payment are made determines slip assignments. No exceptions. You can come by land, by jeep, armored vehicle or personal land cruiser (even helicopter if you wish but let us know in time to have the landing pad ready; Klinger sunbathes there). This will be a fun event as always whenever OYC and TYC get together.

See you there. Be advised that there is no fuel available for your boats at the marina at this time. Marina slip fees to be paid at arrival to marina. Exact amount unknown at time of this printing.

Once again: Call Dave or Carol Moore at 703-494-0651 for reservation and immediately make payment of \$40.77 per couple made out to Dave Moore. Mailing address is PO Box 4463 Woodbridge, VA 22194 Consider the deadline is NOW!

Dock Line Hygiene

Are your dock lines stiff and creaky? Have you decided to go replace them with new ones for lotsa money? Before you do that there are some less expensive alternatives. Try soaking them in a 5 gal bucket with a mix of soap and fabric softener. Betcha they will be much softer and flexible, and you may not have to replace them. —*Jim Ball*

Viewing Whitbread Leg 8 Start from the Liberty Ship *John W. Brown*

by Pat Garverick, *EZ Commute*

I wanted to share with you the adventure Rick and I had on Sunday, May 3. As you may know, the eighth leg of the Whitbread Around the World Race for the Volvo Trophy started on May 3rd.

We were there on a 730-passenger, restored Liberty Ship, the *John W. Brown*. This was one of the large spectator vessels chartered for people to watch the start of the race.

The actual start of the race was off of Annapolis, Maryland, about a half mile north of that particular section of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge. It so happened that day was also the day of the Bay Bridge Walk". One of the spans of the bridge was closed to auto traffic and used by the walkers.

If you have access to the Internet, look at <http://www.whitbread.org>, where you can see photos of the Leg 8 start. Look closely at a picture of the race start from above and you can see one of the bridge spans is full of traffic and one of the bridge spans is full of people.

Again on the Internet, go to <http://www.liberty-ship.com> and you will see a picture of the *John W. Brown*. The *Brown* is a refurbished World War II freighter. *Brown's* current mission is to take people on historical reenactment cruises. They have brightly painted World War II fighter planes that buzz the ship and the crew fires the guns at the planes. The guns are re-worked now to fire compressed air, which, it is said, sounds like the real thing.

John Buchheister, a sailor himself, organized the chartering of the *Brown* for this event. Buchheister gave a seminar at the beginning of the voyage on sail racing starts and tactics.

The whole thing was awesome. There were hundreds—no, thousands of individual boats in the spectator fleet. We were anchored just south of the bridge. We could see the start. John Buchheister manned the microphone and gave a running commentary. He told us what the first gun meant and announced when the smoke from the gun was visible from the Coast Guard Cutter. Then he called out the tacking maneuvers being played out by the Whitbreads. Then, the final gun and they were across the start. John continued the commentary of events as the race proceeded down the course in front of our ship.

The Whitbread fleet tacked right down in front of where we were. Then, as they passed, the spectator fleet began to follow, still keeping to the sides of the laid-out course. The spectator fleet streamed down, merging with the boats that were still awaiting the Whitbreads to come past them. Finally, there were boats as far as the eye could see.

The Coast Guard was out in full force. Something like 230 patrol boats kept the course clear. In fact, the possible fine for any boat entering the off-limit zone was \$25,000. The Coast Guard was really quick to keep things organized. If you happened to see any of the Whitbread starts in other countries, you may have seen that the race boats had to literally take defensive actions to avoid collisions with spectator vessels when those crowds got out of control.

Another enjoyable part of the experience was viewing all of the beautiful boats that composed the spectator fleet. There were wooden boats, Trumpy boats, big charter boats, small boats. There were flags and burgees. There were Whitbread-team sponsored boats carrying hundreds of supporters of one team or another.

This was an awesome experience. We hope that the next Whitbread, four years from now, will again come up the Chesapeake. We'll be there when they do.

Easter Seals Cruise for Kids

by Commodore Teresa Sorrenti

Some of you may be aware that last year Easter Seals had a Cruise for Kids on the Chesapeake Bay. It was not very organized, the insurance requirements were unclear, and there was an implied sign-up fee of \$1000. Your Board elected to pass, although the idea of "giving back" to the community was pushed by IPC Steve Wexler.

I am happy to report that this year the program is much better organized, and PRYCA is coordinating a Potomac River Cruise For Kids. Here are some of the highlights:

! All proceeds support the therapy, education, rehabilitation, summer camp and other assistance provided to the children and their families. For every child receiving this help there are seven others on the waiting list.

! Each Captain will be asked to get pledges from friends, co-workers, and neighbors, at \$x/foot: similar to pledges for so much per mile in walk-a-thons. Easter Seals will collect the money.

! Easter Seals has the insurance

! Every child will have an adult companion

! You do not need to take the child/children out all day.

! There are appreciation prizes like shirts, jackets, tote bags, etc. Weekend get-aways are a prize for big bucks (we are checking if OYC can qualify as a group for this prize, and if we qualify, we would raffle it off to our members).

Unfortunately, we are finding out about this rather late. The Cruise date is June 28 (no OYC Events) from DC. If anyone is interested in participating, PLEASE CONTACT ME ASAP and I will send/fax you the pledge cards and more details. teresas@erols.com or (703) 590-6724 (H)

Welcome New Members

Jim Ball, Membership Chairman

The following new members have recently joined us, please extend a hearty welcome when you see them:

Mike and Irene Tercy, of Woodbridge, who keep their 34' Maxum, *Whata Thrill* at OHM.

John Cunney, and daughter Mary, of Falls Church, who keep their 28' Regal *Harmony* at OHM.

Ed and Linda Wisniewski, of Lake Ridge, who keep their 32' Wellcraft St Tropez *Anthurium* at OHM.

Frank and Wendy Holland, of Burke, who keep their 34' ChrisCraft *El Viento III* at OHM.

Chris and Karla Reed, of Fairfax Station, who keep their 40' Sea Ray *Sea Reed* at PWM.

Come one, come all! To the second week-long, August 8-16

by Susan Von Schaack Brown, Cruise Coordinator

The plans are all made. The marinas are ready for OYC. All you need to do is mark your calendar, send in your registration and deposit (as soon as possible), gas up your boat and join us for this fun Potomac and Chesapeake Bay cruise, August 8-16. Here's the schedule:

August 8-9: First stop is Port Kinsale Marina on the Yeocomico. We'll be grilling Saturday night and doing dinner at The Moorings Restaurant on Sunday night. We can enjoy the pool and even a dinghy ride or hike into town on Sunday. As always, every morning will begin with the Cruise Coordinator Coffee Call and Morning P.T.

August 10-11: On Monday morning, we'll depart for Windmill Point on the Rappahannock and enjoy dinner in the restaurant that evening. Try your hand at nine holes of golf or maybe a little tennis. Take a walk on the beach or enjoy relaxing by the pool. Tuesday will find us grilling again and maybe even a scavenger hunt for a gift certificate.

August 12-13: On Wednesday, the convoy will travel across the Chesapeake Bay to Somer's Cove Marina at Crisfield. We would like to do dinner both nights at local seafood restaurants. For those who have never visited Tangier Island, we can discover the charm with a ferry ride over and lunch at one of the outstanding family-style restaurants on Thursday. For the golfers, there is a new 18 hole course within driving distance and the marina will assist us with transportation. For the shoppers, there are numerous stores and for the history buffs, some museums.

August 14-16: Sometime Friday, the group will travel back across the Chesapeake and up the Potomac to Colonial Beach Marina. We will start the celebration of the Summer Cruise preparing the slips for those less fortunate OYC members [who are only doing the weekend]. Friday night will find us grilling dockside. Saturday will include the festive pig roast with our fellow members. We'll close our trip with Sunday breakfast on the dock hosted by the cruise coordinators and, of course, the traditional voting session.

There will be plenty of game playing and maybe a new GPS course for newcomers. A more detailed itinerary will be published in the July Daymarker with nautical mileage and approximate travel time. In the meantime, if you have any questions, call the Brown's at 703-339-6404 or email Susan at svonschaack@fc1.fcps.k12.va.us.

The Datemarkers

Anniversaries

Richard & Audrey Puckett, 6/7
Bob & Jan Wilcox, 6/15
Ray & Pat Steele, 6/16
Allen & Candy Clevenger, 6/18
Chris & Karla Reed, 6/18
Richard & Patricia Garverick, 6/19
Steve & Mary Jo Worcester, 6/21

Birthdays

William French, 6/5
Jim Jacobsen, 6/6
Tom Lytle, 6/7
Michael Tercy, 6/9
Mary Jo Worcester, 6/15
Janet Jeirles, 6/29
Peter Kuzma, 6/29
Mary Lynn Camden, 6/5
Russell Stout, 6/6
David Rolston, 6/8
Gary Walsh, 6/10
Allen Clevenger, 6/19
Edward Wisniefski, 6/29

Slips... while they last

Yes, there are still some Fairfax Yacht Club slips available for purchase or lease from OYC members. The slips come in varying sizes, covered and uncovered. Call Walt Cheatham, 243-2430; Rick Sorrenti, 590-6724 (H), 917-2659 (W); Bronwyn Ziegler, 590-4630; Steve Wexler, 437-0687.

Stolen Boat

The Fairfax County Police Department is searching for a **1975 Sleekcraft 25 foot boat**. The boat is beige in color. The Hull Identification Number is **SLE3055M751**. The boat has a 350 Chevy inboard motor. When stolen the boat was displaying an expired Virginia Boat Registration **4774SS/94**.

The boat was on a black boat trailer which was displaying an expired Virginia tag **TR790891**, and was covered with a black boat cover. This boat was stolen from the area of Alban Road and Springfield Oaks Drive in the West Springfield area of Fairfax County.

If you see this boat, or have any information concerning the whereabouts, please call Detective Lieutenant J. F. Bowman, Criminal Investigations Section, West Springfield District Station, Fairfax County Police at (703) 644-5047 or (703) 644-7377, or call your local Police Department.

Sign-up form for the August 8-16 week-long cruise

Captain and crew names: _____ Phone number: _____

Boat name _____ Length _____ ft. Beam _____ ft.

Electric service requested (check one): One 30 amp _____ Two 30 amp _____ One 50 amp _____

Fill out this form and send it, along with a \$40.00 deposit check payable to Susan Brown, addressed to Susan Brown, 9652 Eaton Woods Place, Lorton, VA 22079, due to Susan by July 25.

