



OCOQUAN YACHT CLUB

P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125

Member: PRYCA, CBYCA Boat/U.S. Accord # GA80979Y

Web site: <http://members.aol.com/occoquanync>

Commodore

Janine Washington
703 590-3653

Vice Commodore

Peggy Ball
703 569-2159

Rear Commodore

Jay Wilmeth
703 968-9760

Secretary

Gordon Cawelti
703 960-4325

Treasurer

Gary Linck
703 494-7028

Quartermasters

Duane & Janet Jeirles
703 430-7282

Membership

Jim Ball
703 569-2159

Historian

Susan Von Schaack
703 339-6404

PRYCA Delegate

Teresa Sorrenti
703 590-6724

THE DAYMARKER Editor

Tom Coldwell
703 323-1675



The new *Saint 'n Sinner*—Steve and Mary Jo Worcester have taken possession of this beautiful vessel, shown here in a Kentucky marina. The boat will be delivered to Occoquan Harbour Marina around the first of this month. For a close-up view of this handsome new acquisition, see Page 3



Commodore's Comments

Janine Washington

For the die hard crowd, February marks the official end of the holiday season. The last of the gift giving ends with Valentine's Day. President's Day marks the last long holiday weekend we'll have for a while. This period also ends with the Washington, DC boat show. Usually, this is a fitting end for the festivities. However, this year's event was a little anti-climactic. There weren't as many boats or booths. In fact, the whole thing seemed a little...bare. So, for most of us multi-tasking types, it's back to the "rock pile" in anticipation of the upcoming boating season. Meanwhile, over the next few weeks your board will be working hard on its 1999 goals and objectives.

I'd like to extend a hearty thanks to Jay and Ann Wilmeth for the wonderful job they did on this year's Sweetheart's Night event at

P.J. Skidoo's. From the decorations to the dessert, they continued the tradition in style.

The first Women's Boating class will be held at Tantallon Yacht Club on Wednesday, March 3rd at 7:30 p.m. The current plan is to have weekly, two-hour meetings running for about 6-8 weeks. This class focuses on boating and "nautical knowhow" for women. While I'll be the first to admit that the original e-mail which couched this class as "primarily intended for the spouses, female friends and significant others of male boaters" left the feminist in me a little rankled, I couldn't ignore the fundamental objective which is EDUCATION. This course promises to provide boaters a basic body of boating knowledge that will enable everyone to actively participate in the safe and enjoyable operation of a variety of boats. The fact that the course will be taught for women, by women only makes the quality of the education

more valuable. This is a good thing, as Martha would say. So, OYC Sisters unite! See Jim Ball's e-mail or give me or Tantallon Yacht Club a call and plan to be there. (I'll get down off my soap box now!)

Did I say something about the party being over? Not quite! Don't forget the General Membership meeting and St. Patty's Day party will be held at Fairfax Yacht Club. Bring your potluck dinner (it's also BYOB) and join us at 6:00 p.m. This will also be your chance to sign up for any of the events you may have missed at the Planfest. The club provides softdrinks. Don't forget to wear something green!



Vice Commodore's Comments

Peggy Ball

Can you believe we made it through February and didn't get enough cold weather to really matter? What is the use of winterizing? I think Gary Linck has the right idea with heaters and such. At least he got to enjoy the boat on those gorgeous winter days. I know, you can't count on the mild winters, but really, this is two years in a row, right? I hope the weather continues to be mild and my captain gets secure enough to just go for it.

Speaking of going for it, be sure March 13th is on your calendar for the St. Patrick's Day Party and General Membership Meeting at Fairfax Yacht Club. This is one of our famous potlucks—you bring the food, OYC buys the drinks and supplies. This is one sure way of seeing how the board spends your money and you don't even have to buy fuel! Party time is 6:00 p.m.

The sign-up sheets for 1999 events will be out for your review and use. Please let us know what you are interested in so the cruise coordinators can get busy confirming dates with the marinas. This looks to be a busy year for several of the clubs on the Potomac, so we want to be sure we get our slips booked early. There are so many ways to join your OYC friends and use your boat at the same time. I hope this mild weather continues all summer and we have the greatest boating weather ever.

Besides, this meeting will be a great chance to get the scoop on the Miami Boat Show and the Worcester's new boat. Rumor has it several other OYC captains are starting to dream of new boats. This could get very interesting as always. Are there OYCers out there coveting another member's boat? Can we continue to get new members by telling them the boat they just bought prefers to travel with OUR club? Show up on March 13th and don't miss out on any gossip, food, fun or frolic.

Cheers!



Welcome New Members

Welcome to new members Stephen and Carolyn Stott of McLean, VA who keep their 25' Sea Ray *All Systems Go* at Prince William Marina.

The Datemarkers

Anniversaries

Mark & Susan Goodin 3/24

Birthdays

Dottie Jacobsen 3/3	Sandy Mriscin 3/5
Bonnie Fulford 3/10	John Cunney 3/12
Martha Jane Dodd 3/13	John Corley 3/13
Roxana McCarter 3/16	Roger Dahl 3/18
Theodore Zsirai 3/20	William Fulford 3/21
Duane Jeirles 3/24	Robert Barron 3/26
Audrey Puckett 3/26	Mary Lynn Camden 3/26
Robin Ryan 3/31	

New Acquisitions

Paul and Maria Koenig have sold *Erdnuss* and are eyeing a twin Diesel sundeck motoryacht up on the Great Lakes. If the survey and sea trials go well, they will likely bring it down late May or June via the Erie barge canal to the Hudson, etc. Paul calls it the trip of a lifetime; sounds neat.

Congratulations to Mitch and Jane Mutnick who have acquired a 43' Bayliner that is up in New York on Long Island. Mitch will also be making a journey to bring it around in a month or so and will probably be looking for crew—what a great trip that will be. Mitch's highly upgraded 38' Bayliner motoryacht *Halfspeed* is for sale. Anyone who would like to help him not be a two-boat owner should call him, 644-3030.

Steve and Mary Jo Worcester report that their new *Saint 'N Sinner* is a 1992, 42' Jefferson Viscount. Says Mary Jo, "We have always liked the Jefferson's lines, layout, etc., so we are very excited to have found this one. We flew to Louisville, KY in December to look at it. Steve then flew back again for the sea trial, survey, etc. It's currently on the Ohio River and will be trucked to OHM. Weather permitting, we should once again be 'with' boat by March 1st."

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.

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.

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



Rear Commodore's Comments

Jay Wilmeth

St. Valentine's Revenge, or, How neat was the party?

You Occoquanites don't know how lucky you are having me as your Rear Commodore. Why, who else has the utter nerve to champion a mid-winter cruise down the Love Canal and have fun doing it? But where does it say that this is my job in the first place? Nonetheless, I respectfully submit my after-action report to you, the members.

Most will agree that P.J. Skidoo's was a hit. Their party room is very conducive for get togethers such as the OYC Sweetheart's Shuffle. Their party staff is most cooperative and very easy to work with. One must, however, follow up. My estimate for 40 Occoquinians resulted in a set up of eight tables of five!! Think they might have turned those numbers around. Don't you? Why did they look surprised when I told them that most of the attendees would show up in *pairs*?

Earlier in the day, I inventoried the Valentine party favors and table decorations that belong to the Club. I found that perhaps we needed something to add to the table centerpieces to complete the package. Off I went to the "Party Store" where upon I ran into a bit of trouble. I began to sweat profusely as I navigated the narrow aisles of the store. Everything was red, shaped like hearts, and expensive! The place smelled like chocolate-flavored helium! I had absolutely no idea what to get or even where to look until this wonderful sales person (I call him Saint Jude) approached and found this "lost soul." He said, "Buy these balloons. Put them at each table. No problem."

He was right!

Keith Robinson, the disc Jockey for the evening, had the right music at the right time. He was able to satisfy each request that our erstwhile partygoers had requested—except for two: he did not have the "Booty Call," and he couldn't find the one Ann and I had requested,— the "Chipmunk Song." We did, however, dance our "booties" off. At least I had difficulty the next morning finding *my* booty.

The party room set-up went very well and I must thank the Board (you know who you are) for their support as we gathered early to decorate the room. It was interesting to see

how folks arrived. I don't know if you have ever noticed how we, as Occoquines arrive at functions. No one arrived at the appointed time. Some came very early, before the start time, while the rest defined the term "fashionably late!"

We're still waiting for two couples!

Don't worry, I have the balloons.

All in all, I must declare victory. The food was hot, the beer was cold, the music was a-plenty, and Wexler showed up with his checkwriting hand in a cast. Just about everyone stayed until the last dog was dead—maybe I'll rephrase that—until the last dance! I suggest we consider P.J. Skidoos again for another land cruise.

Dave, I hope you found your ring!

Boats Still Qualify as Second Home

from BOAT/U.S. Reports, January 1999

Fortunately for boat owners, Congress did not tamper with federal tax law this past election year and the interest deductions for mortgages, including loans on boats, remain intact. This important provision was preserved in 1986, due to BOAT/U.S.'s lobbying efforts, and has been successfully defended ever since.

Provisions going back to 1986 allow a boat to be considered a second home for tax purposes, similar to land-based second homes such as vacation condos and mobile homes. If certain criteria are met, mortgage interest paid on a boat loan should be deductible.

Under IRS rules, a boat is considered a "second home" if it has "basic living accommodations" including "sleeping space, cooking and toilet facilities." (The IRS does not get any more specific than that.) The boat loan must also be "secured," which means the boat is held as collateral by the lender. There are no minimum days of personal use of the boat required by the IRS, unless the boat has been rented during the year.

As in the past, the second home mortgage interest deduction should be entered on Schedule A, Itemized Deductions. Which line you enter the amount of interest paid on depends upon whether or not your lending institution reported your interest paid with a Form 1098. If you did not receive a 1098, enter the amount on the designated line and provide: the name of the person or institution to whom loan payments are made; their address; their employer identification number or social security number. *(continued)*



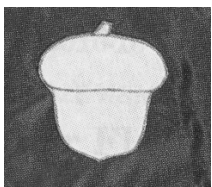
Coming soon!—This 42-foot Diesel-powered Jefferson aft-cabin motoryacht is Steve and Mary Jo Worcester's new *Saint 'n Sinner*.

There has been much confusion in recent years over having or not having a Form 1098. Many lending institutions will not issue a Form 1098 for boats as a blanket policy because they are not in a position to determine whether or not the boat fits the criteria of a second home. However, the taxpayer is not required to have one in order to qualify for the interest deduction, i.e., the 1098 is not a "test" of deductibility.

For boat owners who used a home equity loan to purchase a boat, that interest should also be deductible with no restrictions on boat type or amenities.

More detailed instructions may be found in the 1998 IRS Form 1040 booklet. Internet surfers may also check out the IRS Web site where information, forms and other tantalizing tidbits can be found at www.irs.ustreas.gov.

Taxpayers in the higher tax brackets should also be aware that if they fall into the "alternative minimum taxpayer" category, the rules are different and many deductions may not apply. All boat owners are advised to consult their own personal financial or tax advisor on specific boat loan, chartering or other tax questions.



Treasurer's Comments

Gary Linck

Booty Call, Booty Call, Booty Call . . .

The sweethearts dance was a very special event. Jay Wilmeth, our organizer looked very dapper in his official OYC. sweethearts sports jacket, and did an exceptional job planning the event at P.J Skidoo's. Someone made a suggestion that all the men should get official (Oh Why Sea) jackets just like Jay's. All of the OYC ladies look exceptionally nice and were dressed as lovely as ever.

The room looked *sweet*. It was decorated with traditional Valentine's Day decorations with lots of red heart-shaped helium balloons everywhere. The only thing missing was the official OYC sweetheart boat-safe party favors that Rick Sorennti ordered a gross of at the last board meeting. I understand that the vendor said they don't make them that small. (Sorry, Rick).

The party was fun and I think everyone got on the dance floor and shaken a little booty! We even had a special guest, Dee, who tried to teach us the latest dance called THE BOOTY CALL. I sure hope that this dance replaces the Macarena in a big way. Everyone seemed to pick up on the dance pretty quickly, but Janine Washington tried to add some of her own moves by adding the "Booty Bounce" Good thing I was behind her to catch her just at the right time and keep her groove going. I'll keep practicing the Booty Call and hope I can perfect it in time for spring fever.

OYC rumor has it!

Peggy Ball showed up to the party in a neck brace and Steve Wexler showed up with a brace on his hand. Some think that they were in the same car accident together but others say Steve stopped short with Peggy in the car, hurting Peggy's neck and breaking Steve's hand. Actually Steve Wexler had carpal tunnel surgery performed on his hand and

we are glad that he is doing well. I understand that some famous people have died because of this carpal tunnel thing. We also hope that Peggy is feeling better in time for boating season.

Don't forget to mark your calendars: The First Official OYC Holiday, September 1st.



Secretary's Comments

Gordon Cawelti

Top Ten Reasons Why We Powerboaters Are Different From Sailboaters:

1. We don't whine when there is no wind.
2. We prefer filet mignon to tofu and brie
3. We like to stand up when we are in our boat.
4. It seems unnecessary to strap oneself to one's boat in order to survive.
5. Most cruise guests prefer to lounge about, not work at sailing.
6. It is more sophisticated to set a dinner table by placing wine glasses on a coaster rather than to velcro beer cans to the top of the table.
7. The roar of 500 hp engines and slight fumes afford constant assurance of the power of our vessels compared to a lazily drifting sail boat.
8. It is preferable not to always be running aground because of a keel that extends halfway down to China.
9. We fail to see the thrill in requiring six hours of zig-zagging to get from Point A to Point B when we do it in 45 minutes.
10. Power boaters don't submit the world to endless reports of round-the-world races that end up at the bottom of the sea for some.

Cruisin' Cuisine

If you have time for only one meal in Kent Narrows, let me make a recommendation based on the lunch Dodie and I had there earlier this month. Oh, if you want a fancy-schmancy restaurant you can probably find one, or if you want a chicken fried steak with local fisherman, go to Angler's. But if you want a great crab cake or lobster, you must go to the Harris Crab House on the north side of Rt. 50 under the bridge over the drawbridge. It affords a great view of water traffic passing through Kent Narrows and a spectacular sunset at the end of the day.

This is a paper table cloth, high table and bar stool kind of operation that serves its own very fresh seafood and is a favorite of locals. I had the crab cake with great fries with good draft beer while the guy next to me gulped down a huge lobster. Dodie had her vegetarian delight, as usual, with some corn on the cob and other stuff. Key lime pie is as good as the place that invented it in Miami.

If you want to get a second opinion, read Whitey Schmidt's *Chesapeake Bay Waterside Dining Guide* (1997), or better still, hop in you car for the hour-plus ride from the Wilson Bridge and try it out yourself.

A Quiz for Dormant Boaters

(To keep your nautical skills sharp)

by Dave Moore

Select one answer for each question. (Answers appear on Page 7, but no peeking!)

1. Which of the following lines would you consider easiest on the hands?

- (a) Braided line
- (b) Laid or twisted line
- (c) Nylon
- (d) Polypropylene

2. The square knot or reef knot:

- (a) is excellent for joining the ends of a single lightweight line
- (b) is prone to slipping
- (c) can be used for joining line of different sizes and materials
- (d) is sometimes called a granny knot

3. The longitudinal (fore and aft) balance of your boat is called:

- (a) trim
- (b) ballast
- (c) equilibrium
- (d) stability

4. When two power-driven OYC vessels are crossing so as to involve a risk of collision, the vessel that has the other on her starboard bow must:

- (a) increase speed to pass in front of the other vessel
- (b) maintain her course and speed to avoid a possible accident
- (c) sound three blasts on her whistle/horn to alert the other vessel.
- (d) take early and substantial action to keep well clear of the other.

5. The natural tendency of a right-hand single-screw boat is to:

- (a) back to starboard
- (b) back to port
- (c) back in a straight line
- (d) turn to starboard when going forward
- (e) go in circles

6. If you should run aground in your powerboat, your first action should be to (swearing does not count):

- (a) try to back your vessel into deeper water
- (b) stop your engine(s) or shift into neutral
- (c) contact the Coast Guard for assistance
- (d) transmit a MAYDAY message

7. Fires are classified by letters based on the burning material. Electrical fires are Class ___ fires.

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D

8. Clouds that usually indicate that violent weather is most likely to occur soon are:

- (a) cirrus clouds
- (b) cumulonimbus clouds
- (c) stratocumulus clouds
- (d) altostratus clouds

9. Which of the following fuels used for galley stoves is the easiest to extinguish with water?

- (a) diesel oil
- (b) propane
- (c) alcohol
- (d) white gas

10. You are offshore 21 miles (lost?) and you see a yellow flare off of your starboard bow. What does this indicate to you?

- (a) A boat is in trouble
- (b) Ned is playing with matches again
- (c) A submarine is approaching the surface
- (d) It's a yellow submarine's exhaust
- (e) OYC is having a raft-up party and this marks the location

Many (but not all) of the questions above are similar to the United States Power Squadrons' class questions which help us all become better boaters. Have you considered taking a local class to improve your skills and knowledge? Call 703-758-4442 to see if a class starting soon can include you, your spouse and young boater-to-be. It's fun, inexpensive and rewarding.

PRYCA honors Ned Rhodes

OYC PC and former Daymarker editor Ned Rhodes received a Meritorious Service Award from PRYCA at the PRYCA Change of Watch, January 30. Ned was cited for his creation and maintenance of the PRYCA website and for his editing of the association's newsletter. Ned says he "was truly surprised that evening as I was hovering around waiting to get pictures of all the award recipients and here I had to get someone to take my picture."

Congratulations, Ned!

**Visit OYC's Internet web site,
<http://members.aol.com/occoquanyc>**

**Visit Jim Ball's new boating web site,
<http://www.geocities.com/ResearchTriangle/System/3240/Boat.html>**



PRYCA Delegate Report

Teresa Sorrenti

Well, I need to thank Steve Wexler and Jim Ball for talking me into being the OYC delegate to PRYCA. Just when I thought I was THROUGH writing articles....Seriously, having attended my first meeting of the Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association, I think this experience will add another level of my boating knowledge.

First, remember Safety Day at Mt. Vernon Yacht Club April 24 [See Page 7]. Many of you may be reluctant to attempt the notorious low water at Dogue Creek, but think about driving over. We have done that and it gives you a chance to see the various presentations, and even fire some expired flares! Contact Bonnie Breneman for details.

This year we will have a new event with PRYCA sponsorship, the Cobb Island Days on June 19-20. OYC was notified too late last year to change our spring event but this year sounds like a great party. First of all, the newly refurbished Cobb Island Marina—the one on the island, but before the bridge—has promised a rate of \$0.75 a foot to PRYCA members! There are also three good anchorages nearby. I will have more details after the April meeting but I need to know who is interested by MARCH 31. Call me at 590-6724. All I need is the boat name and LOA.

PRYCA has agreed to release to interested parties the address of member clubs (postal, phone, e-mail) to those who want to provide mailings of special deals such as marinas, marine supplies, etc. No names will be provided.

This year's Float-In is already in the preliminary planning stages, and they promise to have another new event to trip us up (personally I hope they keep the cardboard boat building contest!). 120 slips should be available at his fun event at Ft. Washington Marina. The End of Summer Party will be held as usual in September, although the location is undetermined at this time.

The next Delegates meeting is in April, and I will update you in the May Daymarker—and by then we will be boating! But wait, there's more:

Coast Guard Training Plans

At this PRYCA meeting we had an excellent guest speaker, John Malatak, from the Coast Guard office of Boating Safety Policy, who is also a member of Aquia Yacht Club. He began by emphasizing that the majority of the safety problems come from that category with the majority of boats—20 feet or less—that he knew would not be applicable to our group. Unfortunately, he chose to illustrate this by having everyone sit down in turn when he listed the length of their boat. As he called out lower and lower LOA figures he seemed puzzled to have people still standing, until we explained that we have members who are “between boats”. John Robey and Steve Wexler (of course) were among those chuckling at his confusion.

The major causes of fatalities, in order, are boat collisions, falling overboard, hitting an object, and capsizing. In 85% of these situations, however, the boaters had no training! Nearly a third involve alcohol, which is probably low due to the time lapse until the average boating accident is investigated.

Boating education is required by 25 states and 14 others have legislation pending. While it appears to be a worthwhile goal, there are issues such as reciprocity when one relocates, etc. The current goals of the USCG are to create a program that will target certification of curriculum, rather than any national license. They will also push for a national proctored exam, so that one can get their education from the Power Squadron, the USCG, the Internet (which is already the training source for more people than the USCG) or even “life experience.”

The insurance companies are belatedly getting behind the issue, realizing that even if they do not insure a lot of boats, they may be insuring the cars that are pulling those trailers, possibly with boaters under the influence.

The Top Controllable Causes of the 11,306 boating accidents creating \$18 billion in property damage were: inattention, inexperience, improper lookout, and speed. It is also true that a little knowledge may be just that; John reported that two-thirds of people surveyed knew “red right returning” but did not know “returning from what?”

The issue of proctored exams has now arisen in Maryland, where they are considering not accepting the Boat/US on-line Boating Course Certificate because it is not a proctored exam. Look for Virginia to follow suit, however also remember that the Potomac is Maryland waters, and the DC Harbor Police are dispatching any who come into DC waters that they find without a boating course certificate.

St. Patrick's Day Party



and General Membership Meeting

Fairfax Yacht Club
March 13th, 6:00 p.m.



Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association

SAFETY DAY '99–April 24

Mount Vernon Yacht Club, Dogue Creek, Virginia

hosted by Mount Vernon Yacht Club, with the assistance of
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 14-06

Schedule of Events

- 1:00 PM Courtesy Marine Examinations by the Coast Guard Auxiliary (Until 4:00 PM)
- 1:15 PM Boating Safety Videos shown throughout the afternoon
- 1:30 PM Boating Safety Presentation on the Point (Displays, literature and questions answered by the Coast Guard Auxiliary all afternoon)
- 2:00 PM Fire Extinguishing Demonstration at the Fire Pit on the Point
- 2:30 PM Visual Distress Signal Demonstration on the Point
- 3:00 PM Towing Safety Demonstration (at the Gas Dock)
- 3:15 PM Special for the Children–Boats and Kids by the Coast Guard Auxiliary
- 4:00 PM Social Hour
- 5:00 PM Pot Luck Dinner Begins (Grills Available)

April 24 tides: H: 4:02 AM. L: 9:57 AM H: 4:17 PM L: 10:39 PM

Vessel skippers wishing to remain over night are asked to notify PRYCA Member at Large, Bonnie Breneman at 703-550-6023 or seabrat1@juno.com by April 17.

Upon arrival at Buoy 67, contact *Last Resort* or *Seabrat* on VHF Channel 16 or 72. Some rafting may be necessary in Dogue Creek, and shuttle service will be available.

Answers to Quiz for Dormant Boaters 1-A, 2-A, 3-A, 4-D, 5-B, 6-B, 7-C, 8-B, 9-C, 10-C



New for OYC this year...

Cobb Island Days

June 19-20

A PRYCA sponsored event
at the newly refurbished Cobb Island Marina
(the one on the island, but before the bridge)

Details to follow, but our PRYCA Delegate, Teresa Sorrenti, needs to know by March 31 if you are interested in cruising to historic Cobb Island for this event. All she needs now is your boat name and LOA. Call Teresa, 590-6724, or e-mail her, teresas@erols.com