



OCCOQUAN YACHT CLUB

P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125

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Commodore's Comments

Janine Fordham

Well it's time to wrap up another fantastic summer. I trust that all OYCers, far and wide, prevailed during the almost back-to-back onslaughts of hurricane/tropical storms Dennis and Floyd. September has certainly been busy starting with our first official OYC Holiday at Tim's Rivershore and ending with the End of Summer Party at Tantallon. I must say that if I ever had doubts about the *joie de vivre* of our club members, those doubts were put to rest as over 35 truant OYCers showed up to hang out at Tim's on the 1st for the OYC Holiday. The event was such a success the board believes it bears repeating next year. Thanks to Gary and Nikki Linck for their coordination efforts.

Mike and I weren't able to attend this year's End of Summer Party because that weekend we were busy throwing a farewell party for my son who joined the Air Force on September 22nd. I'm sure, however, that IPC Teresa Sorrenti has this covered elsewhere in the Daymarker.

Shrimp Feast—Ahhh, what fun!

This year's Shrimp/Lobster Feast was certainly a memorable event. We were blessed with beautiful 80° weather as over 30 OYCers descended upon the Dunes.

As expected, the shrimp were meaty and the lobsters succulent. As mentioned in previous articles, the theme of the day was the Battle of the Sexes. Despite my best attempts to stack the odds against them, **THE MEN WON!** I don't know how it happened. One of the events was a scavenger hunt. The scavenger list consisted of items that could be found in any typical (and a few not-so-typical) boating households. The only rule was that the first person—male or female—to produce the item, by any means necessary, would get the point

for their team.

The women should have been able to do this with their eyes closed! After all, we NEVER have trouble remembering where we put things! Like clockwork, the first few items were effortlessly produced by the women. We were in the lead. The men, realizing they were outgunned, *became creative*. The judge (a.k.a. your Commodore) was so impressed by their ingenuity that many er, uh, questionable submissions were eventually ruled in the men's favor. The score for men vs. women was 17-17. The men finally pulled ahead when Gary Linck was actually able to produce the last item on the list, a picture of his mother-in-law! Kudos to the men of '99 Shrimp/Lobster Feast.

Columbus Day

Cruise—Discoveries in D.C.

Don't delay in getting your reservations to John Corley for this event on October 9-11. It's always a lot of fun even if you're too late to get theatre tickets. There will be enough OYCers to keep happy hour going or to get a group together for dinner.

Mark your calendars for the October 30 Membership Meeting/Chili & Dessert Contest at Fairfax Yacht Club. Bring your favorite chili recipe for judging and prizes. Note: if you get the recipe from Eugene, make sure you verify whether he's using *hamburger* or *lamb-burger!*

For you **real boaters**, there's the Hardy Souls Cruise to Alexandria on November 11-14. This is a date change, slipping one weekend and giving us a full four days away!

Don't miss this one. It's always a great time. See Mary Jo Worcester's article on Page 7 for details.

Just bring warm socks!



Vice Commodore's Comments

Peggy Ball

Okay, it is always better to return home a winner. I know we said it was fun to just participate, but we lied. Teresa has all the details on our triumph at the End of Summer Party, but suffice it to say, we had reason to celebrate and party as hard as we did! What a great weekend!

Jim and I had the pleasure of traveling to Swan Point Yacht Club to represent OYC at the PRYCA Delegate meeting last month.. It was a glorious sunny day to be out. Okay, it would have been better on the water, but it didn't work out that way. The clubs in attendance reviewed the events they have coming up this fall and I was shocked to hear that many people think boating season has ended. WHAT? I put my hands over my ears and refused to listen!

I think some of the best boating and non-boating events your board has helped plan for you take place in the beautiful months of the fall and winter. I mean, what about that great trip to Gangplank this month? I certainly hope no one lets that one slip by them We have always had more to do there than we could fit into the schedule. This is an event to be enjoyed by the whole family. If you can't think of why, call me or someone who went last year. It was a weekend we still laugh and talk about.

October 30th is the date to mark on your calendars for the General Membership Meeting. This has so much going on that a full page flyer is required to list the potential fun. Bring the whole family, come in costume and prepare to party. The chili and dessert contests get a little competitive, so start planning your best efforts.

October 30th is also the time to come and elect your board for 2000. Please come show your support for OYC and bring your ideas for events you want to see on the calendar. The success of every season depends on the creativity and suggestions of the members. Let us know what you want to do and where you want to go. Your board will do its best to help

put it together for you.

HOLIDAY PARTY—keep December 11th open. I am working out the final details now and I will get them out soon. This is a great time to see how your fellow OYCers look cleaned up and dressed to the nines. Yes, tuxes will be spotted, even with lit ties! This is our chance to wrap up 1999 with a big blowout party!

See you on the water!

Welcome New Members

by Jim Ball, Membership Chairman

Welcome to new members Tony and Marcelle Jawhar, of Vienna, VA who keep their 24' Sea Ray (unnamed as yet) at Fairfax Yacht Club.

Mel and Karen Ray, who keep their 32' Chris *Friendship III* at their home dock just downriver from Hoffmasters on the Occoquan.

The Datemarkers

Birthdays

Marilynn Dalgetty 10/02
Stephen West 10/06
Kathy Zimpel 10/19
Herb Saunders 10/27

Bob Wilcox 10/02
Anna Burner 10/11
Beth Chaffin 10/24
Ellen Lazarus 10/29

Anniversaries

John & Sandy Ludwig 10/01
David & Sandra Rolston 10/03
Rick & Teresa Sorrenti 10/05
Rick & Debby Zimmerman 10/10
Sean & Dannette McGurk 10/12
Peter & Lisa Kuzma 10/20

OYC Items For Sale

by Duane Jeirles, Quartermaster

Enclosed in this Daymarker is an OYC Order Form. Since the Club has grown, we are trying to make our OYC items more accessible. If you would like to purchase any items, please complete the form and mail along with a check Payable to: **Occoquan Yacht Club**. Upon receipt of your order, I will contact you by phone for delivery arrangements. Shipping is available, however there will be an additional charge.

Also, we have introduced a lightweight jacket that is now available to order. It comes in several colors and sizes, Medium to XXL at a cost of \$55.00. An E-mail was sent to everyone, previously, via Jim Ball. If you are interested in ordering a jacket, please E-mail me at softdev@erols.com or call me, 703-430-7282. We have placed the first order and will order again November 1st following the Halloween Party/ Chili Cook-Off. We will have a sample of the jacket at the meeting. This will be the last time we order prior to Christmas.

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

Websites for OYC Members:

Occoquan Yacht Club:

<http://members.aol.com/occoquanyc>

Ned Rhodes, Webmaster

Jim Ball's boating website:

<http://www.geocities.com/ResearchTriangle/System/3240/Boat.html>

Potomac River Yacht Clubs Assn:

<http://members.aol.com/prycanews/>
Ned Rhodes, Webmaster

Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Assn.:

<http://www.cbyca.org>



Summer Memories—OYC cruisers gathered aboard Dave and Carol Moore's *Evermoore* at St. Michaels during their week-long cruise on the Bay, July 2-11. From left, Dave and Carol, Ilona Zsirai, Nicky Linck, Dodie Cawelti, Ted Zsirai, Rick Sorrenti, Teresa Sorrenti, Randy Snowman and Gary Linck. Photo by Gordon Cawelti or Mary Lynn Snowman, neither of whom are in the picture... and if not, where *were* they?



Rear Commodore's Comments

Jay Wilmeth

How 'bout them hurricanes!

Au Contraire made it through in fine style, but it would have taken a Category 7 storm to dislodge her from the way I had her tied up! She looked like a bug caught in a spider's web over on the West River. There were sustained winds close to 70 knots for a three-hour period during Floyd. Many boats lost their canvas. One sank! Next time, I'm putting to sea!

Meanwhile, the end of the summer looms heavily over the Occoquan Yacht Club. We can only hope that this fall turns out as nice as last fall did. One good thing this year is the plethora of new members, many of whom are participating in the great lineup of post-Labor Day club events. It was refreshing to see new faces at the First Annual OYC National Memorial Holiday on September 1st at Tim's Rivershore. It was windy and threatening but fun—and well attended! New members were spotted at the Labor Day Cruise, the Shrimp Feast, and the End of Summer party at Tantallon.

With regard to the latter, hats are definitely off to the substantial OYC turnout at Tantallon for the PRYCA End of Summer Party. We did it! We took back the trophy. OYC is *numero uno* among the Potomac River yacht clubs for participation as well as athletic prowess (if you can call watermelon seed spitting athletic). It was refreshing to see some new members not only contributing, but also winning events! Andrew and Liz Kalweit are to canoeing what Jim Ball is to e-mail. They "smoked" 'em! Then there was the Tug-o-War. How did we ever beat those gorillas from Aquia

Yacht Club? Finesse, that was it, finesse. The Shipley daughters are delightful, and with practice will be water-balloon-tossing champs!

Our other hats are off to the great preparation that the Tantallon folks made to host the annual event. The games, the food, the music, the dancing all were wonderful. Naturally, the Y-M-C-A tune became O-Y-C-A again. This time, we had lights! Everyone was basking in our victory jumping around the dance floor like a bunch of crazy people! (Where was Walt?)

Who in heaven's name thought of having a hog-calling contest??

Don't forget Columbus Day at Gangplank. This is the greatest cruise and an excellent opportunity for new members to get involved. There's plenty to do and see, and the three-day weekend makes it even better. Read on....

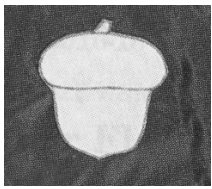
Columbus Day Cruise

To remind, the OYC Columbus Day Cruise will be to the Gangplank Marina on the waterfront at Washington Channel. There still may be time to reserve a slip for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights, October 8-10. Check with Cruise Coordinator John Corley, 703-532-5429.

Boaters arriving on Friday will have the afternoon and evening for sightseeing and dining on their own.

Once again our friends at Capital Yacht Club have graciously invited us to use their clubhouse for our pot luck HAPPY HOUR at 6:00 PM. Saturday is theater night, for the 9:00 PM showing of "Shear Madness" at the Kennedy Center. If you didn't respond to last month's Daymarker announcement, you may be fresh out of luck for this for this showing, at least for sitting with the OYC group, but check John to make sure.

See last month's Daymarker for details concerning this great holiday weekend cruise.



Treasurer's Comments

Gary Linck

The first OYC Holiday was held Wednesday, September 1, 1999, at Tim's Rivershore Restaurant. Everyone who showed up for this Holiday considered it a great success and a terrific idea. Some of us are already planning on taking the day off again next year. We had a total of eight boats tied up to the docks at Tim's and a total of 40+ people enjoying the holiday.

The weather was sunny and in the mid 80's with a cool breeze blasting us down river. The Occoquan Yacht Club feasted on several bushels of crabs, bowls of steamed shrimp, crab legs, sandwiches and cold drinks. This sure was better than spending a long hot day in the office.

We had our mandatory board meeting before lunch and we all agreed to cut it short when the food arrived. It's good to know that this year's board has its principles in the right place. Many of us made it an all day holiday and didn't leave until it was getting dark. We headed back home on the real *Lovin' Life!* and noticed the traffic on the I-95 bridge was still backed up from the folks that had to work on a Holiday.

I'm sure glad that we took a day off in the middle of the week to enjoy a fun filled day of boating with family and friends of the Occoquan Yacht Club. The only yacht club on the river that has its own official holiday. Good thing we got some boating in before the Labor Day weekend mess!

before—this last year at about 3:00 PM when the first applicant arrives. Soon after a list is placed on the front door as others arrive, and several of us spend the whole night in cars at the city office where the applications are received. At 8:00 AM on the given day, the door swings open and the applications are received in the order on the list that has been posted on the door. Some think a lottery would be easier, but I don't because I like to win...every year.

We are looking forward to the Columbus Day cruise and spending the weekend with OYC friends in DC. I always thought "Shear Madness" to be a bit beneath the expected Kennedy Center calendar of events, but it hangs on forever so maybe I've been a bit harsh on it. After all, they have crummy plays on Broadway too, don't they? But people keep coming and so shall we. As Oscar Wilde once said, "The public is wonderfully tolerant. It forgives everything except genius."

Nineteen plus Dennis equals three....

by Debby Zimmerman, Cruise Coordinator

Friday morning all weather reports were still saying that our lollygagging hurricane Dennis was still off the coast of North Carolina and expected to go south. So....This cruise coordinator provisioned the vessel, made sure the gas tanks were full and went to bed early in preparation for an early departure Saturday morning.

Whoa.... Don't cast off those lines, shut down the engines. Overnight Dennis had finally decided to move but was headed in the wrong direction. Northwest instead of south and that meant bad weather for the OYC cruisers. The marine forecast that morning was calling for 3 foot seas on the Bay and building. It also predicted 3 foot on the Potomac and building for Saturday, and Sunday.

What is a cruise coordinator to do???? Have a cup of coffee, sit back and think. About 7:30am the cellphones began ringing. The "Rick" report follows:

"Hey Rick, it's Rick. It doesn't look good up here."

"Hey Rick, it doesn't look good down here either. I think maybe we should cancel."

"Well if you are canceling, I'm canceling"

"I think I am canceling"

"Me, too"

And so it continued. With several new members and several smaller boats signed up for this cruise, it did not make sense to put anyone at risk. Those who had not already called us were contacted and given the options. My thanks to the Sorrenti's for making several calls for me and to Mike Fordham for making a special trip to the marina just to check on the status of a few boats we had not heard from.

Rick and I along with the crew from the Moonbeam, drove down to Point Lookout to check in with the Rhodes who we knew had gone in on Friday and to see if a couple of wayward OYC vessels that we could not get a hold of were there. When we arrived, we found the Worcester's in the slip next door and the Egmore's on the gas dock. By 1:00 all vessels signed up had been accounted for. We gave the bad news to the marina and the restaurant and then returned to Solomons to batten down the hatches. Bonnie Breneman



Secretary's Comments

Gordon Cawelti

Those of you tied up at a floating dock marina have much for which to be thankful, but the gloom-and-doom forecast as Floyd went on a rampage was vastly overstated. I was out of the city when I got word that the Alexandria City Marina docks were expected to be under water the next day. Not a comfortable feeling when you can't get back, but the dockmaster assured me he would check my lines as the high tides came in. While they were higher than normal, they did not flood the docks, and only minor adjustments were required. It seems to me that when there is weather, the local forecasters who are usually bored tend to get a bit excited and get people overly excited with a little snow or other abnormal conditions.

Speaking of the Alexandria marina, some OYC members may not know the procedure for obtaining a slip in this choice location where each year there are more applications than there are slips available. One important factor in selecting the slip holders in the annual process is to be an official resident of the City of Alexandria. The other factor is getting in line on the day the applications are received, usually in mid-February. While the doors open on the specified date for receiving applications, the process actually begins the day

arrived shortly after we left and had dinner with the group before getting a cabin down the road for the evening. She headed home Sunday afternoon.

Sunday evening cocktails were held aboard the Morning Mist and then everyone went to dinner at Spinnakers. Our landcruisers had brought us back to join the “extreme boaters”. We were joined by Phil Bolin and his wife Anne who have just moved onto their boat. After the normal conversations regarding whimps and weaklings (who made the cruise and who did not) the conversations got even more interesting. Several notable quotes were quickly written down so I would not forget. (Heaven help me if I did not have an article for editor Tom.)

I’ll let you figure out who said what.....and in what context.....

“My, your thighs are warm”

“Get it out and dust it off” (said shortly after the previous quote)

“Your vessel is running well, right?”

“I do have tools aboard” (response to previous question)

(Still don’t know if Ned rode along with Tom on Monday.)

“One does not need to know one’s stuff. One only needs to be confident of what one doesn’t know”

(This one gets the prize for the best quote)

“I have it on good authority that I have never screwed up a screw in my life.”

“Ned’s stabilizer keeps him pointed straight.”

At the end of the evening, we watched as the Egmores, Rhodes, Worcesters, and Bolins waded through the water to get back to their vessels. The docks were totally submerged. I heard no splashing so I assumed everyone made it back to their boats and we waded to our cars. We headed north to Solomons to find our vessels floating high but no water yet over the docks.

It may not be an OYC cruise to go down in history, but we can say that OYC cruised in spite of a hurricane.

In case you didn’t read it elsewhere **Annual OYC General Membership Meeting with Election of Officers**

by Candy Clevenger, Event Coordinator

Can you believe that it’s October already? Believe it or not it’s time to start thinking about marking your calendar for one of OYC’s best land event. The annual Halloween Party with Chili Cook Off, Dessert Contest and General Membership Meeting—including the election of officers—will be held on Saturday October 30th at Fairfax Yacht Club.

So dust off your chili or dessert recipe, patch those moth-eaten Halloween costumes and plan to attend. Lots of fun, prizes and frivolity. Most importantly come in costume or not and bring the whole family. This is one of the year’s best events.

For those OYC old timers the photo contest is being moved to the March General Membership and Planning Meeting. This gives everyone extra time to get as many great pictures as possible. Never fear, though, there will be plenty of prizes. Besides 1st, 2nd, and 3rd for the Chili Cook Off and Dessert Contests there will be prizes in the costume categories of Best Duo, Most Outlandish, Creepiest, and Most Original.

OYC! OYC!

By Teresa Sorrenti

OYC’s End of Summer Party Coordinator

Maybe the tropical storms are worth it, if they bring a weekend like this one! Blue sky, mid seventies, low humidity, OYC winning the End of Summer events. Yes, you heard it right! The Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association End of Summer Party continues to improve each year, and considering the challenges Tantallon had to overcome to host this year, it is nothing short of remarkable. OYC sent eight boats and we stayed at Fort Washington Marina, with “ferrying” service provided by Jay Wilmeth, Ann Wilmeth, and Bud Clark of TYC, plus the use of Tantallon Commodore Tom Andrews’ speedboat. It did get a bit confusing, and I likened it to herding kittens, but we managed to get our 22 people back and forth several times. (Rick and I even biked over and back. Those hills look much nicer from a car, and I was told it was indeed one of the dumbest things I have talked him into.

For the first time in a long while we actually had enough people there in time to field a team for the Tug-o-War, and we even won—ten points right there. The rest of the day we learned that many OYCers have hidden talents: Rick Sorrenti, taking second place and Tom Shank third in the Watermelon Seed Spitting Contest, and our two teams of Andrew and Liz Kalweit and Tom Shank and Susan Brown took the Canoe Race by a mile (is this an Olympic event we can sign them up for?). Unlike in some years, both canoe teams were able to get in and out of the canoe gracefully and dry! Combining those events with third place in the Water Balloon Toss and also in the Water Cannon (of course no one knows how Steve Donock was able to count “hits” in that one) gave us a runaway score over Tantallon, Landmark, Aquia, and National Potomac. It did make us wonder, though that the most popular contest was the Watermelon Seed Spitting; we had to close out the sign-up sheet for that one.

The country-western theme was great (complete with hay and a live goat). Susan Cheatham showed some hidden cowgirl blood, with her western shirt, boots, and multiple bandanas. Susan and Eugene Brown also sported cowboy boots, while the rest of us made do with plaid shirts and jeans. The chicken, ribs, and barbecue pork were outstanding, and it is a good thing we had dancing afterwards to work it off. During “our” song, we created a new way to spell “OYCA” using the glow-stix provided by TYC, we had lighted “O” (Courtesy of Tom Coldwell); “Y” (Tony Mirando, using two stix); “C” (from Susan Brown); and “A” (a most impressive maneuvering of three stix by Eugene Brown). As usual, we all spent a lot of time on the dance floor, but the Shipleys win for the dancingest family (Ann, Scott, Harmony and Myan). We must admit, it took us a while to do the Chicken Dance correctly without Steve Wexler’s lead, though.

The highlight of the evening was the Hog Calling Contest, won by none other than Alabama’s gift to OYC, Ann Wilmeth. Her “sooooooweeeeee” was breathtaking—earsplitting, even, and combined with Jay’s hog imitation in response, well, you had to be there.

How I Spent My Summer Vacation

by Little Neddy Rhodes

Dad says that since we are not on a fixed income, like that funny Mr. Coldwell, that we have to work for a living and that is why we could not take our summer vacation until after Labor Day. That funny Mr. Worcester says that we took a vacation so late because my Dad is so cheap and that's when the rates drop. In any case, we packed the boat on the Friday before Labor Day and headed down to Point Lookout.

Dad did his usual, "Where the hell is the waypoint list?" and was pushing buttons as we went by those friendly fish stakes in the St. Mary's River, where nothing happened many years ago.

We looked forward to the arrival of the other 13 boats on Saturday, but all that showed up were the Worcesters, the Egmore's and [Hurricane] Dennis (and the Zimmermans, Ludwigs and Mrs. Breneman by car).

The highlight of weekend was helping the 56' Jefferson dock and then trying to get a tour. We invited them over for drinks on the smallest boat, we invited them to dinner, we knocked on their boat, we helped them carry groceries and we took their trash to the dumpster. This guy was just not going to invite us onto his boat. Dad said that this guy reminded him of some members of the Yacht Club.

After two days of white caps in our slip and ankle deep water over the dock (hey, Dad, you really can walk on water!), Monday comes around and it is looking a little windy. Mrs. Egmore quickly accepted Mom's invitation to drive to Solomon's Island for a shopping expedition while "the Men" take Mr. Egmore's boat around to Herrington Harbor.

This was all made possible by the greatest of boating accessories, "someone else's car." Mr. Henry had some work done at Point Lookout and through a lot of good planning, wound up with a car and a boat at the same place. In exchange for attempting to get the car back to Northern Virginia, Mr. Henry lent us the keys. Various plans were discussed as to how to get the car back, but the best suggestion was to leave the car unlocked with the keys in the ignition and a note saying where to deliver the car.

The Worcesters decided to leave first and as Mr. Worcester was "counseling" his wife on the proper way to undo a line, Dad noticed that there was no water coming out the starboard engine exhaust. There was much discussion about opening through-hulls and "damn, that plate is hot," and what degree burn forms blisters. Mr. Egmore then showed us why you should always carry Vaseline and Tywraps on a boat. It was only weeks later that Mr. Worcester finally found out where those little black rubber pieces go and that they can actually clog a hose.

After a lot of toe tapping and only minor use of the loudhailer, "the Men" took off for a "three hour cruise." Dad was supposed to be Mrs. Egmore for the trip and shag beers. After the first one, he decided that was enough and placed the cooler next to Mr. Egmore and suggested that he get his own. Mr. Egmore was so shocked that he spilled a beer all over the console and muttered to himself.

As we approached Solomons, we had a very impressive array of electronics going. There was a Loran, two GPS units

and two cell phones going at the same time. Dad called everyone he knew and told both of them where we were and no one believed him. The biggest problem we had that trip was paying \$1.75 per foot at Herrington Harbor ("because they can"). Mr. Egmore showed Dad how to whine and get an extra glass from the marina. Very impressive!

Finally free of OYC members, we were now able to start our boating vacation. Since the Bay was still rough from Dennis, we decided to try out the 1983 Caprice Classic Land Yacht. A few words need to be said about the Caprice Classic. First of all, there is the rejection sticker. Mom read off the list of defects as we drove. Something about brakes and steering and wheel cylinders. This should be fun! We were worried that we would "stick out" driving around St. Mary's County, but it turns out we had one of the newest cars.

Our travels that day took us to St. Mary's City. Our dog Jess had visited this place (without us) about eight years ago when we were at Dennis Point and we saw where she ate ice cream and swam. Not sure this is a "do over." Our next stop was the Texaco station for power steering fluid (\$1.78) which seemed to stop the squealing and then on to Piney Point Lighthouse and a drive all over St. George Island. The next day we rode bikes, went to the State Park on the point and had a great meal of croaker at Courtney's (in the fishing village).

Dad made a command decision not to go to Windmill Point and just take a 30 minute cruise over to Coles Point Plantation. We docked in the infamous H-8 slip, home of the Jim Henry Crab Feast Half Gainer. So we were careful.

We walked over to the Driftwood for dinner and feasted on crab cakes and were able to bum a ride home with the Manager at Coles. He offered us their van the next day for sightseeing and we quickly made plans. The next day, as Dad was helping our neighbors with their lines, we look up to see Mr. Zimpel sneaking around the parking lot with a pail of diesel fuel. He and his older brother Rudy were taking Rudy's new boat back to the Occoquan. The boat has everything, including a navigational system tied to a cell phone. To use it, you just drive your boat in what you think is the correct direction and when you hit land, you call Mr. Coldwell on the cell phone, give him your location and ask him to plot you a course to where you want to go. Course corrections are provided every half hour by cell phone and it saves you from having to buy charts. That Mr. Zimpel has all the newest stuff!

So the van turns out to be the marina truck, which is unusual in that toilet paper and paper towels fall out of it when you open the doors. But it was transportation and it wasn't going to rain so that wiper would not be needed. Off we go to tour the Northern Neck and Stratford Hall, Robert E. Lee's boyhood home. Now this is a really cool place. The building is unique with eight chimneys (16 fireplaces) and a great view of the Potomac. We walked the grounds and smelled the barn.

The next day, we got up early and headed up to Cobb Island for the last night. Dad had a PRYCA meeting that morning. That evening a friend stopped by and we went for a short boat ride at 60 MPH. Now that is moving! We had dinner that night at Captain John's with the Wexlers and our new best friends (the Jarmans) from Prince William Yacht Club. Mr. Jarman was celebrating his birthday that night and

Dad was never able to fully explain why they needed extra whipped cream to take back to the boat.

Well, the trip was fun. We spent a week on the boat and used three tanks of gas—one tank in the boat and two tanks in cars we borrowed along the way. *The end.*

PRYCA News

by Jim Ball

Former OYC Delegate and PRYCA Member at Large
(For our newer members, OYC is a member club of the Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association. PRYCA is dedicated to promoting boating safety and social interaction among all of the yacht clubs on the Potomac River.)

Peggy and I attended the Fall PRYCA Delegates meeting September 11 at Swan Point—what a nice place. If they ever get the channel dredged into Cuckold Creek it will be a super place to visit by boat. As of now, the creek is limited to about 3 ft draft. Anyway the place is a gorgeous country club with golf course (as OYC Past Commodore Steve and Paula Wexler will attest), and nearly all of our 17 clubs attended.

PRYCA publishes an annual boat roster with boat names and owners so you can tell who you are passing on the river. Next year, we will ask who does or does not want to be listed in it so that OYC can be represented.

There was a great presentation by the historical society that is restoring Piney Point Lighthouse and managing the museum there. They are building a new dock that will be a definite day trip in the future for us when we are at Coles Point or Point Lookout. Lots of history stuff on the Potomac, including an extensive presentation on Mallows Bay and the hundreds of sunken ships there. The historical society is selling a super book on Maryland lighthouses of the Chesapeake, complete with photos, drawings and history of all of the lighthouses ever built, including the ones on the Potomac. The beautiful hard cover book is only \$20 and all proceeds go to the historical society foundation. If you are interested in buying one, please let me know and I will put a list together and get them for the club. If you want to see the book, look at mine aboard *Cheers*.

The National Boating Federation is having their Fall Meeting at Capital Yacht Club on October 22-23 with a dinner cruise on Friday Night. Anyone interested in attending, please let me know (569-2159) and I will get you the registration information. The next delegates meeting is November 1st at Capital Yacht Club.

Cheers!

Four Day Weekend For Hardy Souls-Hardy Fools Cruise

by Mary Jo Worcester, Cruise Coordinator

I can not believe it is once again time to begin thinking about the infamous “Hardy Souls” cruise, or in some cases, the one that has become known as the “Hardy Fools” cruise! The OYC schedule of events has this cruise listed for the weekend of November 6 & 7th. However, Veteran’s Day falls on Thursday November 11th. SO....I, being the cruise coordinator, have *CHANGED* the date to November 11-14th. What a great way to spend the last cruise of the year—with a 4-day weekend *AND* in Old Town! Attention parents, Fairfax

County schools are out on that Thursday and Friday; Prince William County schools will close Thursday but not Friday.

For new members, this is a really fun cruise, although one must be prepared for all kinds of weather. We have had hot, cold, rain, sleet, and snow (yes, snow!). The slips are located behind the Torpedo Factory. We usually have cocktails on the dock (what else is new!) *IF* the weather is nice. Otherwise, we congregate on some poor soul’s boat that we have convinced that this is the epitome of friendship, good will, blah, blah, blah. When we couldn’t find such souls, we have done a “rotating” happy hour with about 3 boats involved, going from boat to boat bringing snacks to share and BYOB).

Everyone is pretty much on his or her own to shop, eat out, etc. We have found that Old Town is not conducive to large dinner parties. Most places just don’t have the room; don’t take reservations, and waiting for a restaurant to seat 10-12 people or more becomes a nightmare. So, small groups usually get together to dine at the restaurant of their choice. And Old Town certainly has a lot of great choices. (Stephen, did you notice, I have NOT mentioned shopping!! Don’t need to, it’s a given.)

I have spoken to the manager of the Town Docks and have told him to reserve about 15 slips. Back in January, the following signed up for the cruise: *Saint N’ Sinner; KITT; Abominable Snowman; Morning Mist; Oasis; Alexander’s Dream; Shalimar; Sea Duck Too; Amazing Grace; Evermoore; Sea Brat; Sassafras; Courchevel; Hot Schatz; Down the Hatch; and Dream Catcher.*

Now, first I must know if the above members are still planning to attend. Secondly, I need to know who else would like to attend. Thirdly, I need to know for how many nights and which ones. And last, I need the size of your boat (length, beam) and electrical requirements. SO, to make it easy for us all, please fill out the attached form and mail to me no later than October 12th. No money is involved; everyone pays his or her slip fee upon arrival. I only ask that you make your reservations with me by the 12th and PLEASE, PLEASE, let me know if you need to cancel for any reason. Slips are scarce and the dock manager really works hard to accommodate us. Hope to see you there!

NOTE: Please remember to get your reservations to me no later than October 12th. If you have any questions call me at (703) 494-2383

**Hardy Souls Cruise to Old Town, Alexandria
November 11-14, 1999**

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Boat Name _____

Length _____ Beam _____

Electrical (circle) 1/30 amp 2/30 amp 1/50 amp
Staying Which Nights? (Circle) 11th 12th 13th

Please mail this form to:

Mary Jo Worcester
2601 Woodfern Ct.
Woodbridge, VA 22192

Or E-Mail the above information to Worcestersmj@erols.com