



The Daymarker

OCCOQUAN YACHT CLUB

P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125

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

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Candy Clevenger
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Commodore's Comments

Peggy Ball

What a ride! It is hard to believe my time on the Board has come to an end. It has been a fabulous four years! I have met many wonderful people and made some fast friends (yes, both definitions!) OYC has made boating an experience I never guessed it could be. I can't believe how many different marinas we have visited and explored. I also can't imagine boating without all the wonderful OYC'ers we have traveled with. It is definitely the people who make OYC the best club to be a part of. Still lots to visit and do in the coming seasons. I will be less visible, but not less active. You can't get rid of me that easily!

I must take this opportunity to thank the best Board a Commodore could ever have. Debby Zimmerman, Candy Clevenger, Nabil Dubraque and Mary Lynn Snowman have made this year so much fun for me as well as the members. They were supported by wonderful volunteers like Jay Wilmeth (PRYCA Delegate) and Duane and Jan Jierles (the BEST Quartermasters). A very special THANK YOU to Tom and Mary Ann Coldwell for

publishing this wonderful Daymarker. Also to Susan Brown our Historian and my captain, Jim Ball, our Membership Chair. And where would we be without our Fleet Captains to help us out? And what about those creative, tireless coordinators? All these folks deserve a big thanks from everyone. They are the glue that keeps us in touch and helps us have all this great fun. I thank you one and all again. Looks



**Don't Drink
and Fly!**

Halloween Casualty —Due to a navigation error caused by a faulty GPS or a cargo-load of Thunderbird-laced chili, this unfortunate witch failed to get home from OYC's Halloween Party and Chili Cook-off last Saturday. The witch's identity was not revealed, although several were observed at the party.

like it takes a village to help us party and boat!

I do think the most fun has been introducing new people to OYC. I may have the best luck with non-boaters. Jim and I can take some credit for corrupting—er, I mean enlightening the Wilmeths and the Heinzes to the joys of boat ownership. Yes, Jay, I know you had a boat before, but now you have a REAL boat. [Next year, real heads!—Ed.]

This boating season has really been a blast. Your Board has supported as many kinds of activities as we could find coordinators for. I well remember the first time we announced there would be a two-week cruise and most told me nobody could join in on something like that. The next summer OYC offered *two* two-week cruises. See, it is fun to corrupt your friends and their work schedules! There is always something for everyone, whether you want to bowl, boat, eat or compete. This is even the case where you can do it all!

I hope to see most of you at our remaining events. You can certainly join the Hardy Souls in Alexandria by car if you can't come by boat. That's the great thing about such wonderful nearby ports of call. Old Town has such fantastic restaurants and shops, I never can get up there enough.

Another highlight of November is the Santa Cruise. We have had such outstanding weather in years past for this event. What fun to see the kids pile on one boat and escort Santa to Occoquan. Last year's Santa sang with them and a good time was had by all. I hope all the clubs on the Occoquan will participate this year and make it even bigger and better.

I am especially excited about the Holiday Party Debby Zimmerman has been planning for us. Be sure to see the flyer in this Daymarker, inside back cover. I do believe she has set a new benchmark for future parties. Of course, it is always fun to see how we clean up and look in our party clothes. Yes, this is definitely the time to get out the tux or formal wear. Maybe we can even get the guys to repeat their rendition of ZZ Top's "Sharp Dressed Man." That was great last year!

A big congratulations to Candy Clevenger and her new Board. Please help them by volunteering to assist with events as well as suggesting new activities that you think your fellow members may enjoy. The Board will begin putting together the 2001 calendar soon, so please give them your thoughts.

Again, thanks for all the support and fun.



Vice Commodore's Comments

Debby Zimmerman

Watch your emails for information on the Santa Cruise coming up the 25th of this month. OYC was lucky enough last year to actually carry Santa and we all have our fingers crossed that our luck will hold another year. This is a last minute planning event so stay tuned to your computers and if you are interested in attending let Walt Cheatham know now. [See article on Page 5] That way he will know who to get in touch with once the town of Occoquan firms up their plans.

The following weekend is our Annual OYC Holiday Party and Change of Watch at Fort Belvoir Officers Club. We are having a seat down dinner this year so reservations are needed early. Cocktails and Hors d'Oeuvres are at 6:30pm with dinner served at 7:15. After a short program, get ready to dance the night away with your fellow club mates. This is one event where we actually get to see who cleans up the nicest. After running around in swimsuits and cutoffs all year, it is a little strange to see everyone looking so dashing and debonnaire.

More information is located elsewhere in the Daymarker with menu and RSVP information. [Page 7.] Please sign up quickly. This is a hectic time of year for everyone, so do it now before you forget!

Maryland Shore Updates.....

Last weekend was so nice and we just couldn't stand sitting at the dock another minute, so the heck with the freshwater winterization plans, we were going out! Well, the weather was great, the Bay was flat and as much as I hate to admit it, our bottom was dirty. After sitting in the slip for almost six weeks, we were running a little sluggish. If anyone has a secret to keeping bottom paint on the props and shafts, or any other way to keep those little barnacle critters from adhering themselves to them, I would be real interested. We have tried just about everything. Guess we better not let her sit so long next time huh? Before long we will be putting her away for the season but are already looking forward to next year and seeing everyone on the Bay during their cruising.

Razadaz II standing by on 16, 68 and 72

The Datemarkers

Birthdays

Katherine Corley, 11/2	John Heinze, 11/3
Cookie Zimpel, 11/5	Ann Wilmeth, 11/6
Tim Chaffin, 11/15	Brenda Johnson, 11/15
Paula Wexler, 11/16	Clara French, 11/16
Monica Lovell, 11/19	Ed Sledziona, 11/22
Ilona Zsirai, 11/27	Dodie Cawelti, 11/28
Joe Livingston, 11/30	

Anniversaries

Greg & Susan Wilson, 11/2	Ted & Ilona Zsirai, 11/7
Frank & Wendy Holland, 11/8	Gary & Nicky Linck, 11/14
Ralph & Anna Burner, 11/2	Kevin & Kristie Kelm, 11/26
Tom & Judie Hemmingway, 11/22	

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.

Y'know, sometimes there's copy in this mullet wrapper that just begs for comment by the editor, so if you see text bracketed like so [...], it's yackety-yack from the editor. Wait, you mean this is the first time you've read this little box? When Rhodes was editor, he buried all of his best slams in here. Probably just as well.

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

coldwell@erols.com.

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



Rear Commodore's Comments

Candy Clevenger

Bringing Up the Rear

Just what is a Rear Commodore anyway? When Peggy

Ball conned me into, oops, that's asked me if I wanted to volunteer to be Rear Commodore last summer, I had no idea what a Rear Commodore's job responsibilities were. Peggy was smart and mentioned being Rear Commodore while we were on a two week cruise of the Chesapeake Bay. Everyone on the cruise was rested, chilled out and just a little tipsy.

When Allen and I came home from the cruise I started searching the Internet for any information on Rear Commodore. Surely, I thought, I could find something related to a naval rank that would explain my responsibilities. Finding nothing I started my search of Webster's Dictionary. Rear, according to Webster's, means bring up, elevate, foster, lift, nurture, raise, support, train, build, erect. After reading this I thought maybe being Rear Commodore meant always being the last boat when we came into port—following behind all of the other vessels when we go on a OYC cruise. Now for those of you who have been on a Cruise with the *Oasis 2* you know what I was thinking, "Boy am I in big trouble." My captain believes in trying to be the *first* to arrive in port.

Then I looked up Commodore in Webster's. This didn't tell me much either as the definition is, a naval officer ranking below a rear admiral and above a captain, the senior captain of a line of merchant ships. Now I am thinking, "I couldn't dock the *Oasis 2* if my life depended on it, heaven forbid that I should be the senior captain."

So at the Holiday Party last year I asked Tom Coldwell,

"just what is a Rear Commodore? What does the Rear Commodore do?" To which Tom replied, "It's a rank that yacht clubs made up. Why don't you write an article about What is a Rear Commodore?"

So Tom, here it is, my article about What is a Rear Commodore. My answer, a Rear Commodore's responsibilities are anything that our Commodore says they are, after all she is the Commodore.

Let me say that I feel very fortunate that Peggy approached me last summer and asked if I had thought about volunteering to be on the OYC Board. It has been a wonderful year. I can hardly believe that my term as Rear Commodore is coming to an end.

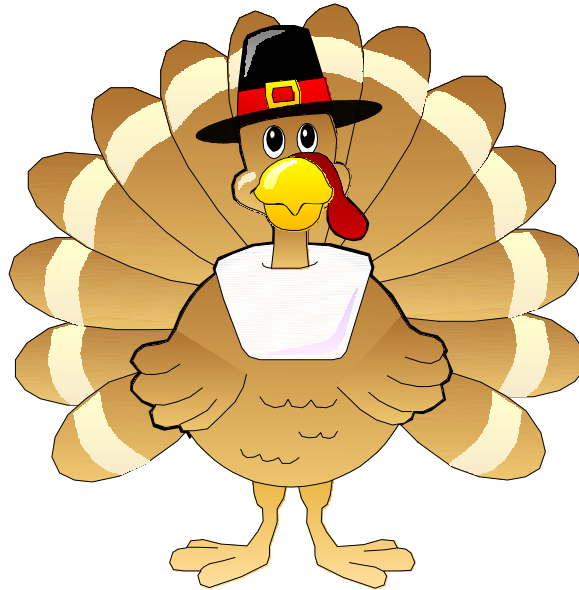
Thanks to the other 2000 OYC Board members and to everyone who has pitched in this year and helped cart items from the OYC shed, set up and helped to clean up. We have a large club that is spread out over many marinas with a lot of water and land events scheduled during the year. Without everyone pitching in and participating your Board would not be able to pull these events together each year.

And thanks to Peggy Ball for passing on her knowledge to this year's board and to Tom and Mary Ann Coldwell for editing my articles.

See you at the Chili and Desserts Contest/General Membership Meeting. If you are thinking ahead to the holidays, mark your calendar for the Annual OYC Holiday Party on December 2nd at the Fort Belvoir Officers Club. Debby Zimmerman has worked hard on this year's

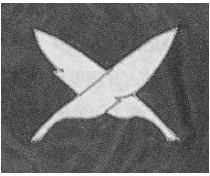
party. If you can attend you won't be disappointed. Debby has been a terrific Vice Commodore and we will miss her on the 2001 Board.

Maybe being Rear Commodore means always being the last Board member to turn in your article to the Daymarker editor. If so, I have lived up to that responsibility beautifully.



"I am a Seasprey, a cross between a Seagull and an Osprey. I fly freely across the gentle waves of the Occoquan, proud of my kinship with other endangered species, the Eagle, the Spotted Owl and Golden Condor, who like me are of noble avian heritage and *not at all good to eat*. Do not eat the Eagle, do not eat the Spotted Owl or the Golden Condor, and above all especially at this time of year, *do not eat the Seasprey*. Cows and Pigs and Dogs are okay. In fact, Dogs are in plentiful supply this season; flying low over the End of Summer Party, I spotted 17 Dogs on one dock at Ft. Washington. Steamship oven-roast terrier. Mm-mm!"





Secretary's Comments

Mary Lynn Snowman

It was another beautiful day in the neighborhood. That would be the Occoquan neighborhood. It has become our practice to enjoy these days in our dinghy so we took off for another casual ride. We were tagging along beside Rudy, Cookie and Molly Zimpel. As you know the more people the merrier the adventure. Just what this was—an adventure.

We slowly made our way to the end of the “no wake” zone then quickly made a mad dash into the new marina before we swallowed up in the wakes of several large boats. (Any boat looks large when you’re in a dinghy.) We visited the new marina for a little while, again, giving it our seal of approval. Then we headed out to bigger waters, the Occoquan Bay.

We were on our way to check out the marina to the right just as you get out into the Occoquan Bay. We never made it! Somewhere in all the fun and with a “follow me” wave from Rudy we took off for Tim’s. That’s right folks, I can now tell you from first experience that going to Tim’s in a dinghy is not recommended. However, I’m sure I’ll be doing it again, but next time I’ll be driving.

I’m sure now that is where I made my mistake. I let Randy drive on this day and Rudy was driving and, well, let’s just say that boys will be boys. And not to let Rudy outrun us Randy tried to keep up. And the faster we went the more bouncing I did and if I hadn’t been holding on to the ropes I



First Mutt—Well, hardly a mutt, the finely pedigreed Baron Ludwig Von Schnitzel keeps watch aboard Jim and Peggy Ball’s *Cheers*

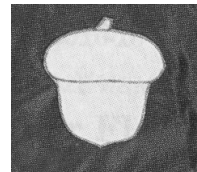
would have been somewhere in the Occoquan Bay.

Captains, let me say two things: Fiberglass is not soft! Especially when you are smacking across the rolling waves on the Occoquan and your mate is trying to sit on it. Second, the rope lines on a dinghy are there for a good purpose. They help keep your passengers in. They are not just for looks.

I smacked most of the way to Tim’s. Had a couple of drinks, ate some crabs and hushpuppies, got a couple of hugs from some friends and then we headed back!

This time I bounced my way back to the Occoquan. I sat on the side on the tube this time and held on to a different rope. And screamed! Meanwhile, Randy is telling me not to hold onto the rope too tight. Yeah, right!

It was fun! And it was such a nice day. And the company was great, too. The back pain went away around Tuesday. The pain in my hands and the soreness in my butt were gone by Monday. The rope burns on the dinghy may never go away (no joke). A decision has been made to see if we can put a console in the dinghy (a suggestion I’ve been making for over a year).



Treasurer's Comments

Nabil Dubraque

November Winds

November winds lament around

Our boats in slips, so heed:

Take time and start to think of things

To winterize with speed.

A little time is all that’s left

Before we fog and bleed

Singing hush, my engines fair

‘Tis time to rest a while,

For oil protects your metal bare

While winter damps your style.

In time the cruise of Hardy Souls

Will end a season fair,

Though only some, a hardy few

Alexandria’s docks will dare.

The rest will think of things we’ve done

To ward off winter’s care

Singing time for oyster stew

And turkey, ham, and greens,

Of lights and sounds of Yuletide too,

And friends who share the scene.

‘Tis time, ‘tis time to pay your dues

To keep our coffers filled,

For as we start our fiscal year

Your funds we need to build

That dreams of fun in zero one

Can be next year fulfilled

Singing songs of checks and cash

That keep our checkbook true.

We need your bucks to build our stash,

Our fate depends on you

Membership Chairman Search

Okay, ladies and gentlemen, now is the time to step forward and let your talents shine. OYC is in need of a new Membership Chair; the current one is in the process of migrating way too far out of town. This job needs someone with database skills to maintain our list of members. The rest of the job involves getting welcome aboard information packets to new members, as well as help attract newbies.

Interested and want to know more? Please contact Jim Ball, 499-8081. C'mon, have some fun and help out your yacht club. Volunteer for this important job.

Santa Cruise to Occoquan

The Saturday after Thanksgiving will again inaugurate OYC's holiday season as we gather on the OHM docks for food and drink followed by the ferrying of old St Nick to downtown Occoquan. So, decorate your boat, bring some libation and munchies to share, and be in place on the OHM gas dock 10:45 a.m. so we can have an hour of merrymaking before blasting off at 11:40 in order to have Santa arrive promptly at noon for the Occoquan Merchant's Association's Christmas kick off.

It's been shirt sleeve weather the past two years, so no one has an excuse for missing this fun event. See you November 25th at 10:45.

Potential skippers please call Senior Elf and Santa Cruise Coordinator Walt Cheatham, 243-2430, so he can make sure we have sufficient boats.

Is there still time to be hardy?

Well, there might be. This year's Hardy Souls Cruise to Alexandria's City Dock is set for this weekend, November 3-5. Mary Jo Worcester is the coordinator. And while her sign-up deadline has passed, there may still be space available. Call her, (703) 201-0513.

That sharp Mary Jo surmises that we'll have some form of weather, ranging from fabulous to rain, snow, sleet and hail. The club has been doing this cruise for years. For those new members, it's one not to miss. We have seen gorgeous weather, and yes, we have also had rain, snow, sleet and hail!! But does that deter us? Does that keep those hardy captains home? Does that keep those "shop till you drop" folks out of the stores? &*\$## NO!!

This is a very "unplanned" event; you can arrive Friday, or you can arrive Saturday. Weather permitting, we'll gather Saturday evening for cocktails on the dock. Weather NOT permitting, we have always found a very cordial member to offer up their boat for cocktails.

Nearly everyone eats out on Saturday night at their favorite Old Town restaurant. We do not make reservations, as most restaurants don't take them. We also do not try to all go together as it's nearly impossible to get us all seated together. Rather, many people form groups of 4, 6 or 8. (Actually, I've heard that we are such a, um, boisterous group, no restaurant wants all of us!)



Abominable Snowman—Randy and Mary Lynn Snowman's Pacemaker powers its way home from the End of Summer Party.

Columbus Day at Gangplank

by Barb Egmore, Cruise Coordinator

The weather played a switch on us—Saturday was windy and quite chilly at night. Sunday was cold most of the day. However, there were still some members who braved the trip, practicing for the Hardy Souls cruise to Alexandria in November. They were *Cheers*, *Hot Schatz*, *Nextasea*, *Check Six*, *The Golden Years*, *Bella Dona*, *Sea Brat*, and *Rock'N Robin*. *Miss Vivian* was the luckiest—she didn't have to travel anywhere. Several others attended by land.

Morning Mist went by land, due to antifreeze leaks in one engine. Also, Tom had a conference to attend in DC on Monday. After Tom replaced the engine water pump, the engine still overheated, so he got an impeller and thermostat, finishing up on Sunday). It was one of those Rosanne RosannaDanna days—“it's always something.”

Back to Gangplank. Although I had confirmed our 6 p.m. happy hour at Capital Yacht Club, I got a call at work, 9 a.m. Friday, the day before the trip, from Capital Yacht Club. They advised they were having an Octoberfest at 7 p.m., \$10 per individual and we were all invited. I told them it was too late for me to contact everyone. It was my understanding we still had 6 to 8 p.m. open for us. Since our standard plan is for everyone to bring hors'd' ourvres, it wasn't a good idea at this late date to announce a change of plans.

By the time Tom and I got there by land, we saw Capital was setting up for the evening festivities. However, I was advised we could still have our happy hour at 6 p.m. since the Octoberfest didn't start until 7 p.m. Walking over to Gangplank, however, we learned one of our members was told earlier in the day by someone at Capital that we were scheduled for 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. So, understandably those members present ruled out the happy hour at Capital. So much for faxing advanced reservations in accordance with the current procedures.

Being as resilient as OYC members are, a few scenarios were discussed for happy hour. Final decision was to accept Tom's and Tony's gracious offer to have happy hour on *Miss Vivian*. After happy hour, a few left for their own theater event, others did their own thing at the marina and several of us went to the Octoberfest at 7 p.m. Bonnie Breneman, the Corleys, the Ralstons, Tom and Tony and guests and Tom and I enjoyed the sauerkraut, bratwurst, etc. Later, we were entertained by German dancers and a song from the “Sound of Music” using cow bells. We even got to learn a German dance.

Websites You Should Visit

Occoquan Yacht Club:

<http://www.OccoquanYachtClub.org>

Ned Rhodes and Liz Kalweit, Webmasters

Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association:

<http://www.PotomacRiverYachtClubs.org>

Ned Rhodes, Webmaster

Occoquan River Maritime Association::

<http://www.ormaweb.org>

Jim Ball, Webmaster

Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association:

<http://www.cbyca.org>

OYC's Annual Holiday Party and Change of Watch Saturday, December 2nd Fort Belvoir Officers Club

6:30pm Cocktails & Hors d'Oeuvres
Cash Bar
7:15pm Seated Dinner
Choice of Beef Baron Strip Steak with
Burgundy Sauce
Or
Flounder Stuffed with Seafood
8:00pm Program
8:30pm DJ & Dancing
Bar open from 6:30 - 10:30pm
\$35.00 per person

Come welcome in the new board, congratulate the 2000 winners of the Commodore's Cup and Bent Prop awards. Celebrate the holidays with your OYC family

RSVP with menu selection to:

Debby Zimmerman
12604 La Grange Court
Fort Washington MD 20744
301-292-9893
razadazii@aol.com



Top Trophy —OYC gets a big mouth bass for beating the competition at Tantallon's End of Summer Party. Tom Shank, who led our team to victory, and Commodore Peg Ball hold the prize.