

The Daymarker

OCCOQUAN YACHT CLUB

P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125

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

Web site: http://www.OccoquanYachtClub.org

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Duane & Janet Jeirles
703 430-7282

Membership Rick Michael 703 791-3775

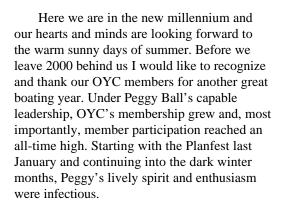
Historian Susan Von Schaack 703 339-6404

PRYCA Delegate Jay Wilmeth 703 968-9760

THE DAYMARKER Editor Tom Coldwell 703 323-1675

Commodore's Comments





Vice Commodore Debby Zimmerman kept everything running smoothly right down to the final OYC event for 2000, our holiday party. What a great job she did coordinating this year's party. She's kept us all on our toes this year. Thanks, Debby.

Secretary Mary Lynn Snowman kept the record straight and our course true throughout the year and our Treasurer Nabil Dubraque assures us at each Board meeting that while we've spent some money we still have some money.

Duane and Jan Jeirles came up with some



OYC's First Planfest —A search of The Daymarker's archives yielded this photograph of some old salts gathered to plan their cruising for the next boating season. The 2001 Planfest is set for 2:00 p.m., January 21 at Gecko's Restaurant.

great new OYC items for us to buy. We are sorry to see them move out of the Northern Virginia area, but Duane and Jan assure us that they will not be strangers. Due to their move we are looking for new Quartermasters. This is an important club position that we really need to fill. See our help wanted ad.

Thanks also go to Susan Von Schaack our Historian who also manages to coordinate some of OYC's favorite events each year.

With assistance from webmistress Liz Kalweit, Ned Rhodes kept the new and improved OYC website up and running. Thanks, Ned and Liz.

Many thanks to our ever faithful Daymarker editor Tom Coldwell and our retiring Membership Chairman Jim Ball. Our Daymarker editor and our Membership Chairman are in the know and they keep all of us in the know as well through the club newsletter and emails.

The 2001 Board will miss our outgoing PRYCA delegate, Jay Wilmeth. Jay has had to step down as our PRYCA delegate because of other demands on his time, like **work**. This is another opportunity for someone who would like to get more involved and meet and work with boaters from other Potomac River yacht clubs.

And last but not least we want to say a final thank you to all those who coordinated or in some way supported an OYC 2000 event. We know who you are and we will be looking for your support again this year.

It was my great pleasure at the holiday party to have the honor of presenting the 2000 Commodore's Cup to this year's winners, Gary and Nicky Linck. Each year OYC recognizes a person(s) for their contribution to the club, not just in time, but knowledge, good humor and seamanship. Gary was club Treasurer during 1999 and traditionally coordinates several events like the OYC Holiday Cruise to Tim's Rivershore. Having our own holiday was actually Gary's idea. Both Gary and Nicky are always ready to lend a helping hand to others. Their sense of fun and creativity is appreciated by all. Gary and Nicky along with Dani and Buoy personify what pleasure boating is all about. Congratulations to the Lincks.

And so now its time to start the cycle anew.....The 2001 OYC Board has already been at work drafting a boating schedule for 2001, see next page, that has a little bit of everything to tickle the fancy of the most experienced to novice boater. If you attend every OYC event in 2001 you won't have many open weekends. We've brought back your favorite OYC events and are working on a few new ones just to keep you guessing.

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 20^{th} of each month.

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

coldwell@erols.com.

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

Please Attend the Planfest

Of course, the best way to make sure you are in on all of the fun is to attend the OYC Planfest, January 21st, 2:00 p.m. at Gecko's. There will be free food and lots of information including a peek preview of the 2001 Bay Cruises. We have one group planning to head North on the Chesapeake Bay with a stop in Annapolis over the 4th of July and another group planning a more southern cruise in August. Either way you will be able to go for one or two weeks as you choose and experience boating on the Chesapeake Bay. Oh, and don't forget to bring your 2000 OYC photos with you to the Planfest. See Mary Lynn's article for more information on the Planfest and this year's Photo Contest. We also have a special surprise for you at this year's Planfest. A beautiful lighthouse replica has been donated to the club. This particular lighthouse replica normally sells for around \$300. It is approximately 3'6" high and is approximately 1'5" across at its base. We will hold a silent auction for the lighthouse replica at the January Planfest. Bidding will start at \$50 and go up in \$5 increments. Be there or be square.

Finally I again want to say thanks to all of you for your confidence in selecting me as Commodore, a daunting task when you have Peggy Ball to follow. I appreciate the cards, letters and phone calls of congratulations, encouragement, and support as I begin my tour as Commodore. Together with the 2001 Board—Mary Lynn, Andrew, Liz, and Nabil—we will do our best to ensure a safe and fun-filled boating season.

A final note: Our hearts and prayers go out to Ted and Ilona Zsirai whose 21 year old son Mark lost his life in a car accident in the early morning hours of December 16th. It is always difficult to lose someone we love, but that loss is compounded when the loss is of one so young.

The Datemarkers

Birthdays

Diana Uber, 1/1	Jim Ball, 1/7
Richard Ziegler, 1/8	John Ludwig, 1/9
Nikki Cavaleri, 1/10	Vonda Barrow, 1/12
Sandra Rolston, 1/14	Walter Cheatham, 1/15
Tom Shank, 1/15	Mike Fordham, 1/19
Mike Czop, 1/21	Ned Rhodes, 1/22
Bill Walker, 1/23	Jan Wilcox, 1/30

Anniversaries

Roger & Laurie Dahl, 1/2 Laslo & Linda Bozoky, 1/3 Alfred & Janis Hobson, 1/11 John & Becky Heinze, 1/30

Welcome new members

Rich and Becky Wellhouse, who keep their 30' Maxum at the Pilot House Marina.

Help Wanted...

PRYCA Delegate—To attend four PRYCA Delegate meetings and communicate back to the OYC Board. Facilitate the coordination of OYC participation in PRYCA events.

Quartermaster—Select and stock OYC merchandise for sale. Coordinate OYC store at land-based events.

Contact Commodore Candy Clevenger, 703 273-3073, alclev@hotmail.com.

Vice Commodore's Comments



Mary Lynn Snowman

If you haven't been to one of OYCs January PlanFests you've been missing out on a lot of fun and a lot of news. My first PlanFest was when I learned that on the average a boater only owns his boat for 18 months. After that he moves on to another boat, usually bigger with a bigger payment. I thought the person who told me this was a nut. She was right;soon Randy was talking more money.

The PlanFest is a casual time (well, you can wear your fur coat if you want to, Susan). It was also at this first event that I was starting to feel that maybe Randy and I were a little out of our league. A fur coat! It is absolutely beautiful and Susan looks gorgeous in it. But this is a come as you are event. All are invited. Bring the kids, but not the dogs—sorry!

It is at this time that more information is given to you about each event. You can also sign up for any (or all) events if you want to. Signing up does not obligate you in any way.

It just lets the cruise coordinator know who is interested in the event.

And here's more info for you. Once again it is at Gecko's! It's on Sunday, January 21, 2001, from 2:00-5:00 p.m. There are no football playoffs that day so no excuses, guys! We will have appetizers for you. (Usually a little dinner planning is done among the group(s).) And this year the cash bar will be in the room with us.

The Photo Contest will take place at this event. This is always a great time to look back over the year. We have some great photographers in our club. [See article on Page 7.]

Also, Susan will have a display of previous year's events. These are so much fun to take time to look over.

Don't forget the PRYCA (Potomac River Yacht Club Association) Change of Watch is January 20th. We have a brunch planned at Fort Belvoir's Officers Club on February 4th. There is an Ocean City Sweethearts Getaway the weekend in February 16-19, 2001. A bowling party is being planned on Sunday March 4th. Our annual St. Patrick's Day Party and Membership Meeting at the Kingstown Community Center is March 17th—sometime in the evening.

More details to follow at the PlanFest—so be there so you don't miss out.

A really, really tentative outline of the rough draft quick-and-dirty way cool pipedream assumptions to be hammered out and nailed down at the Planfest, 2:00 p.m., January 21 at Gecko's Restaurant, located approximately at Occoquan Harbour Marina:

February 4 OYC Brunch—Fort Belvoir Officers Club

February 16-19 Ocean City Sweethearts Getaway

March 4 Bowling

March 17 St. Patrick's Day Party/Membership Meeting—Kingstown Community Center

April 1 April Fool's Day Party at Tim's River Shore

April 14 Tax Day Party

April 28-29 Early Bird Cruise—Gang Plank or Alexandria

May 5 OYC Flag Raising

May 6 Occoquan Blessing of the Fleet

May 19 OHM Happy Hour

May 20 PRYCA Blessing of the Fleet

May 26-28 Memorial Day Cruise—Olverson's on the Yeocomico

June 15-17 PRYCA Cobb Island Days
June 16 Happy Day at Dave Moore's

June 24 Easter Seals Cruise—Capital Yacht Club
? Tim's Pre-July 4th Party—Tim's River Shore

June 30-July 7 Part one of 1st Two Week Cruise on the Chesapeake Bay, includes July 4th in Annapolis

July 4th in DC

July 8-15 Part two of 1st Two Week Cruise on the Chesapeake Bay

July 20-22 PRYCA Float In—Fort Washington

August 11 Dinghy Regatta—OHM

August 25-26 PRYCA Dog Days of Summer—Colonial Beach
? OYC Two Week Cruise on the Chesapeake Bay

August 29 OYC Official Holiday—Tim's River Shore

September 2-3 Labor Day Cruise—Port Kinsale on the Yeocomico

September 8-9 Lobster/Shrimp Feast—Mattawoman Dunes

September 22-23 PRYCA End-of-Summer Party

October 6-8 Columbus Day Cruise—Gangplank &Taste of DC

October 11-14 Annapolis Power Boat Show

October 27 Halloween Party/Membership Meeting (evening)—Kingstown Community Center

November 9-12 Hardy Souls Cruise—Alexandria November 24 Santa Cruise to Occoquan

December 1 Holiday Party & Change of Watch—Fort Belvoir

January 19, 2002 2002 Planfest

Rear Commodore's Comments



Andrew Kalweit

Boy, oh boy! What a can of worms I opened up! I had no idea of the degree to which a person can suffer information overload just by shopping.

As mentioned last month, Liz and I are just beginning our search for a suitable, larger replacement for *Lizzie Bitz*, our 26-foot Bayliner Ciera express cruiser. A logical place to start such a search is on the Internet (No, Al Gore didn't take it with him when he left).

Stop #1 was the BoatUS website*, which I have found to be one of, if not the, best boating sites on the 'Net. They have both an in-house, although rather limited members' section of boats for sale, and access to Boat Trader Online through a link to their site. Sounds easy? Well, it is. You can specify what type, size, manufacturer, and even model year and price range of the boat you are looking for. You can further narrow down the geographic region of the *world* you wish to search in. (I found Croatia to be just a tad too far from home). Once you set the specs, hit the magic search key and off she goes into the far reaches of cyberspace to find matches to your desires.

I tried first selecting by size and year without specifying a manufacturer.

Oh, NO! Over 300 hits! Well, let's try being a little more specific. Selecting Maxum, whose product we both liked at Annapolis, brought the number of selections down to a more reasonable 50odd, about 20 within a reasonable distance. OK, I think I'm getting the hang of this.

Two other web-based boat search sites, BucNet, and Yachtworld.com, work in very similar ways to BoatTrader Online, although offering up results in slightly different formats, Yachtworld's

being somewhat easier to view, BucNet's slightly less user-friendly. Still, the amount of information can be overwhelming, since, not only can you look at your particular selections, you can also browse a dealer's entire inventory online. (Maybe a 65-foot Bluewater... No, no, stay focused!)

Cruisers, Inc., and Sea Ray are the two other manufacturers that are primary choices for us in our search for a *Lizzie Bitz II*. Cruisers makes a somewhat faster boat with good cabin space utilization. Sea Ray is, of course, Sea Ray, known for their sturdy build quality and good value. They are a heavier boat than the Cruisers, but this should add some ride quality in less than perfect conditions. Maxum, which is owned by the same parent company as Sea Ray, seems to offer a lot of boat for the money; not as fancy as a Sea Ray, yet well put together.

So, with these three boat lines in mind, the search begins. I actually have made a couple of dealer contacts so far, and all we are waiting for is a break in the weather and the conclusion of our busy holidays to really begin our patient search for *Lizzie Bitz II*. We have plenty of time to look around and, if we don't find something that suits us, we're perfectly happy to keep on dancin' with the one whut brung

Join us at the Planfest and share your boat buying stories with us on January 21st. Until then!

*Please feel free to call or e-mail me for web addresses for the sites mentioned.



different formats, Yachtworld's Commodore's Cup—Commodore Candy (1.) just presented Gary and Nicky Linck the coveted trophy for their outstanding service to OYC during 2000.



Bent Prop Award "Winners" —Rudy and Cookie Zimpel are all smiles having been awarded the trophy no one wants. If you want to know how much Rudy spent to win this piece of junk-on-mahogany, you'd better bring a calculator to keep track.



Secretary's Comments

Liz Kalweit

As we begin a New Year, I find myself looking back—not very far, just five years. My little trip down Memory Lane has inspired me. I hope you will find something in it to inspire you, too.

Most of us keep ship logbooks, of one sort or another. Cruises, hours logged, maintenance, really good boat drinks, whatever. I'm looking through a different logbook tonight: my pilot's logbook.

Long before my husband Andrew and I took up boating, we were pilots. More specifically, he has a private pilot's license; I'm an erstwhile student pilot. Andrew learned how to fly when he was 13 years old. His Dad owned a plane, and gave him a few highly illegal turns at the wheel. Andrew got his ticket on my sister Lorraine's 30th birthday. She joined us on that warm July afternoon for a flight from Gaithersburg to Washington National Airport. We had a perfect ride. Shortly afterward, Lorraine decided that she was out of her mind to fly with us on our first "official" flight, to such a busy airport, and perhaps rightly so. Andrew's wings were still wet! As a matter of fact, she hasn't flown with us since.

Well, Lorraine was always the nervous type. On the other

hand, Andrew and I adapted to flight very quickly. It sure beat the heck out of driving to the beach! We would congratulate ourselves, high fives all around, as we flew over the Bay Bridge, watching the cars far below us snake eastward along Route 50 ever so slowly, towards the promise of cool relief on the Maryland shore. And we thought nothing of renting a plane and flying off to Nantucket for a weekend here and there.

I was looking at my logbook tonight, reminiscing, noting the hours I logged—only 60 or so, some at night, some during solo cross-country runs to Pennsylvania (York, Lancaster, Gettysburg), Maryland (Gaithersburg, Frederick), and Virginia (Culpepper, Winchester, Leesburg, Manassas). I have never experienced anything quite like flying a plane solo (except, maybe, for the first time I ever stepped into an airplane, to go skydiving. That was pretty unusual, too. But that's another story.).

The flying lessons tapered off, then stopped altogether, when I was fairly close to getting my license. It was hard to explain that to the people who had enthusiastically followed my progress. I shrugged it off as a toy crisis: "Well, you see, we have this new house. This new dog. I'm learning to golf. Just bought our first boat. I have this candy-apple-red cue stick named Emily, and I like to shoot pool some week nights. I have this really cool new job that takes up a lot of time. I have this great digital camera, lots of pictures to post on the website I'm building. Too many toys." And so on.

But lately I've realized it's more than a toy crisis. It's a time crisis. With the New Year, I guess most people get a little bit introspective, and they make resolutions. I have never made a New Year's Resolution. But this year, I find myself thinking about what really matters to me. With whom do I really want to spend my time? How do I really want to spend my time? What's important here?

I used to follow a simple, but very effective, litmus test when it came to making some decisions: "When I'm 80 years old, looking back at the way I lived my life, will I regret that I did/didn't [insert event here]? For example:

Question: When I'm 80 years old, will I regret that I had the chance to rob a bank and I didn't take it?

Answer: No.

Question: When I'm 80 years old, will I regret that I had the chance to jump out of an airplane, and I didn't take it?

Answer: Yes.

Such a simple question. Such simple answers.

As we start a New Year, I resolve to spend more time with the "whos" and on the "whats" that really matter to me. And I've decided to re-write my litmus test. Instead of starting with, "When I'm 80 years old" I shall ask, "When I go to sleep tonight, will I regret that I missed the chance to do something that matters, or to tell someone that they matter to me?"

Because, really, all I have is today. I resolve to make the most of it.

Repeating, Help Wanted...

PRYCA Delegate—To facilitate the coordination of OYC participation in PRYCA events.

Quartermaster—Select and stock OYC merchandise for sale. Coordinate OYC store at land-based events.

Contact Commodore Candy Clevenger, 703 273-3073, alclev@hotmail.com.

Treasurer's Comments

Nabil Dubraque

We need to talk. It's about money. I mean, once a year we have to get serious. No little blue men, no bad poetry, no William the Conqueror and his wife Matilda. That's not asking too much, is it?

First, our revenue sources. Dues. Your dues. The dues that some of you haven't sent in yet. We get about \$6,500 in dues revenue per annum, and supplement it with a dribble (another \$65) from 50/50 raffles, while Quartermaster sales have tended to break even. Your dues are what keep us going.

Next, our expenses. They fall into two general categories: spent directly on you, and spent indirectly on you. The first category covers the full or partial expenses of general membership meetings and other club functions such as the October Halloween and Chili Bash, the legendary Planfest (that's coming right up, keep your calendar free), the St Patty's Day Bacchanal, the Dinghy Regatta, and the list goes on and on. It also covers the cost of publishing the Daymarker.

Money spent indirectly on you include dues to parent organizations (PRYCA, CBYCA) and contributions to ORMA, and run about \$250 per annum.

Our income and expenses balance by design, so we come out neither very much ahead nor very much behind *vis a vis* the previous year. As we currently stand, our balance sheet as of the 19th of December looks like this:

ASSETS

Cash and Bank Accounts

Checking	\$3,866.36
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	\$3,866.36
Other Assets	
Refundable Deposits	\$ 600.00
TOTAL Other Assets	\$ 600.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$4,466.36

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EOUITY	\$4,466.36
EQUITY	\$4,466.36

To date 35% of you have sent in you dues. Cool. Thank you. The rest of you, take a hint. Time's a wastin', baby needs a new pair of props. In short, please send in your dues.

Next month's article will deal with the case for hairy legs in inclement weather.

A Blessing for OYC

Rob Grant's eloquent blessing at the OYC Change of Watch and Holiday Party, December 2 at Fort Belvoir bears repeating:

Here is a quote from author and guru Ram Daas that rings true for me:

Don't think about the future.

Just be here now

Don't think about the past

Just be here now.

Often, when I'm on the boat or on the water or just on the dock, time seems to be forgotten and almost becomes an endless line. And I think it's what makes boating so special for me and I suspect maybe for many of you as well. Whether it be taking a trip together with members of this group, helping each other make a repair, giving advice, or just enjoying each others company it is what makes the yacht club special and adds to the enjoyment factor even further.

We are all very lucky to have such a luxury of time and possession. This in itself should be recognized as a blessing already attained.

Looking toward the next year... and the future:

Let us all be thankful for what we have and please not forget those who have much less.

Let us share the water with other safe boaters, travel in calm seas and boats that take us to our destination safely.

May we remain healthy for our selves and loved ones. Because as many of you already know, nothing else seems to matter much when one's health becomes poor.

As our bodies are sustained with this food, may our hearts be nourished with true friendship.

And finally, may none of us ever encounter the Perfect Storm!

Food, Friends, Fun and Frolick, February 4th at Fort Belvoir

by Susan Brown

Do you like good food, sharing time with members of OYC, reminiscing about boating days on the Potomac? We have a special activity for you to satisfy these questions. On Sunday, February 4, you are invited to join Eugene and Susan Brown at the Annual Brunch at Fort Belvoir Officer's Club. There is plenty of food, from "order your own omelet" to carved beef and ham to Belgium waffles. If you're thirsty, indulge in unlimited champagne, mimosas, various juices and coffee/tea.

Got a sweet tooth? Try out the chocolate-dipped strawberries injected with Grand Marnier or any other tempting delicacy from the dessert table. If you need a reference, just ask the Commodore. Cost is approximately \$13.00 per person with a minimal tip for the service. Children, half price. Please dress appropriately; it is the Officer's Club and jeans are not allowed.

It's another time to strut your stuff in something nice we don't usually bring on the boat. If interested, please contact me at 703-815-5891 or email at:

svonschaack@fc.fcps.k12.va.us.

Call or email on or before February 1st.

Plan on spending at least two hours. We have been know to walk out with the help and Laslo with a few bottles of champagne tucked under his coat. If the weather is good, a boat trip might follow on *Lovin' Life!* You'll think it was the greatest day on the river, but the pictures tell the truth. Just a reminder, the brunch is an "all you can eat." Wear something that expands!

Enter Your Best Shots in the Photo Contest

The January 21st Planfest will again this year include the Annual OYC Photo Contest. The rules are simple: photos must have been taken in 2000. You must limit your entries to one per category. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each category. We have several categories for your to participate in, so dig up those 2000 photos or just get them developed and share them with us. The categories

Landscapes Boat Profiles People Wildlife

are:

Have more photos you just want to share? Let our Historian Susan Von Schaack know and she will be sure to have plenty of display area ready.

So remember, those of you who make snap judgments get their just rewards.

See you at the Planfest.

An End of Year Message from ORMA

by Jim Ball, Coordinator Occoquan River Maritime Association

A Happy Holiday to all of you who have supported the initiatives undertaken in year 2000 by the Occoquan River Maritime Association (ORMA).

We achieved two of our major goals in succeeding to help the Town of Occoquan with its grant process and the bridge, and are happy to advise that the town has received a \$125,000 grant for the initial phase of the town dock project.

The revised Energy and Water Appropriation Bill was passed with \$1M for dredging the Occoquan. We hope to meet with the Corps of Engineers to discuss their action plan.

The no-wake zone issue remains unresolved. ORMA recommended that a public hearing be held on the issue so that all concerns could be heard. The issues: safety and wake interference with the Belmont Bay marina operation and safety issues with large vessels in the narrow channel vs. time off plane and convenience for Occoquan boaters.

MetroMarine is still planning for fast ferry operations and discussing same with ORMA. Along with the no-wake issue, ORMA needs to start planning with the yacht clubs of the Occoquan for the Blessing of the Fleet.

Finally, as you all know, I have moved to Williamsburg. I am in this area weekly, but we need to find a successor to move forward with the efforts that we have started. (See ORMA's new web page at www.ORMAWEB.org)

All the best for a great new year!

Last call! Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association Change of Watch Dinner-Dance Saturday, January 20, 2001. <u>Reservations due January 4th</u>

Sheraton Crystal City, 1800 Jefferson Davis Highway, Intersection of 18th and Eads Street, Arlington, Cocktails: 5:30 pm - 6:45 pm; Dinner: 6:45 pm - 8:00 pm; Change of Watch: 8:00 pm - 8:30 pm; Music & Dancing: 8:30 pm - Midnight

Dress: Winter Uniform or Business Suit (Black Tie Optional)

Cost: \$45.00 per person - cash bar

Parking: Complimentary

Hotel Reservations: Call the Sheraton, 703 486-1111,

and ask for the "PRYCA rate."

Mail your reservation coupon (below) and check (payable to PRYCA) to OYC's Delegate, Jay Wilmeth, 13560
Northbourne Drive, Centreville, VA 20120 or mail to:
Steve Wexler, PRYCA Treasurer, 8230 Leesburg Pike,
Suite 610, Vienna, VA 22182.

Change of Watch reservations must be received by January 4th. Cancellations after January 15 are subject to full fare.

Please make your reservations now and join the fun!

Dinner Registration—Occoquan Yacht Club				
Name:				
Guest(s):				
Yacht Club: Occoquan Yacht Club				
Dinner selections: #prime rib: #chicken: #salmon:				
Check enclosed payable to PRYCA for number in party X \$45.00 = \$				