



The Daymarker

OCOQUAN YACHT CLUB

P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125

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

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Commodore's Comments

Candy Clevenger

The 2001 OYC event schedule is off to a resounding success thanks to Susan Von Schaack Brown and Peggy Ball. Once again Susan and Eugene were our hosts at the Fort Belvoir Officers Club for Sunday Brunch. What can I say, the food was fabulous and so was the company. And since it was daylight, Allen and I managed to leave the base without getting lost.

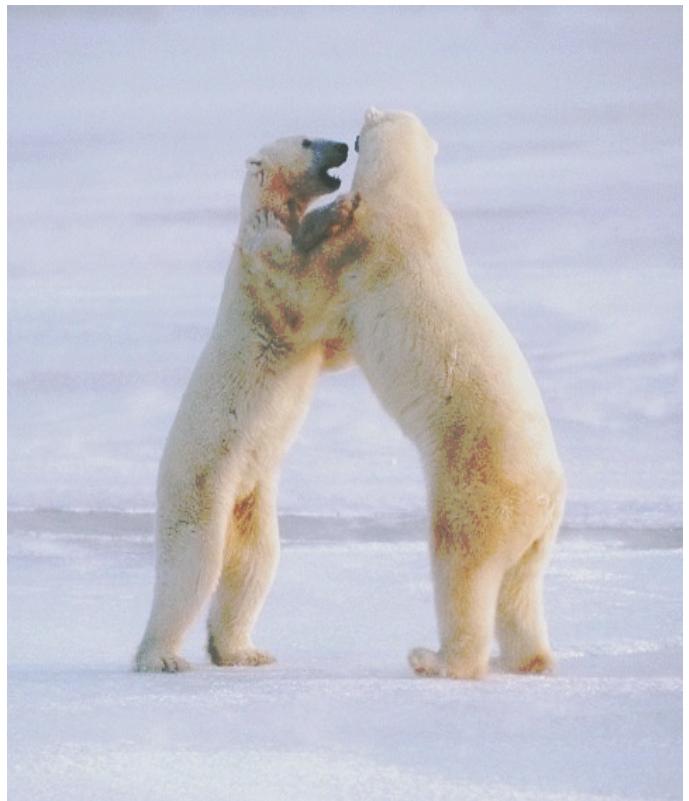
A hearty thanks to Peggy Ball for the wonderful job she did in coordinating our 2nd Ocean City Sweethearts excursion. We had it all President's Day weekend—great weather, friends, food, a stroll on the boardwalk and even a boat show.

It is great to be in a group where you not only have people who want to participate, but also people who are willing to make it happen. Coming up this month will be another two popular OYC events. A Bowling Party coordinated by Mary Lynn Snowman, see her article, and the Annual OYC Saint Patrick's Day Potluck Dinner and General Membership meeting. Beer and soft drinks will be provided by OYC, you provide the potluck dish. Don't worry the meeting part will be short and sweet. You'll have another opportunity to hear about the

cruises planned for this year. Also, if you have not renewed your membership for 2001, feel free to bring a check! So pull out that favorite recipe and join us on March 17, from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at the Kingstowne Community Center. (See directions next page)

We are still looking for someone to coordinate an OYC Tax Day party.

OYC Pets Cavort in Ocean City



A dozen OYC families spent a frosty Presidents Day weekend at an Ocean City hotel which kindly allowed pets, two of which were observed dancing on the beach.

If you haven't checked out the OYC website at <http://www.OccoquanYachtClub.org> you're missing out. Our webmaster Ned Rhodes and webmistress Liz Kalweit have been doing some great things. There are some great links to other nautical websites, as well as pictures from past OYC events and archives of previous Daymarkers. OYC owes Ned and Liz a big thanks for their time and efforts spent maintaining and improving our website.

February and the holidays are behind us! Good weather and another boating season are just around the corner. Bad news, our boats are still winterized. Every time we have a really nice day I have an attack of Spring fever. Makes it really hard to wait patiently for the boating season to begin. About this time of year we start hanging out at the marina more, looking for little things we can do to get the boat ready for another season. Time to think about putting in that work order to dewinterize. It will soon be time to get back to some serious boating. Taking a look at the 2001 event schedule, it appears that we have a great group of events to help you do just that. See you at the OYC Bowling Party on March 11th and the St. Patty's Day party on March 17th.

The Datemarkers

Birthdays

Lucy Dubraque, 3/4	Wilma Spikes, 3/4
Sandy Ludwig, 3/5	Roger Dahl, 3/8
Bonnie Fulford, 3/10	John Corley, 3/13
Martha Jane Dodd, 3/13	Terrie Dowd, 3/14
Allen Jorsey, 3/15	Ginny Frank, 3/20
Theodore Zsirai, 3/20	William Fulford, 3/21
Duane Jeirles, 3/24	Robert Barron, 3/26
Audrey Puckett, 3/26	Randy Snowman, 3/26
Glen Brodie, 3/28	Lynanne Jorsey, 3/30
Robin Ryan, 3/31	

Anniversaries

Donald & Diane Carlson, 3/9
Mike & Cindy Hollingsworth, 3/28

2001 Dues 'R Due, Dude

by Rick Michael, Membership Chairman

Just a reminder, annual membership dues are due (actually they are overdue!). The deadline to renew your membership for the 2001 season is April 1, 2001. The current roster lists 116 members, of which only 68 have sent in dues for 2001. Please help support the club, Nabil will gladly accept your check—\$60 for Family membership, \$40 for Individual, \$30 for Associate (no boat). Send check payable to OYC to OYC, P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125

Membership Cards

Membership Chairman Rick Michael will have membership cards to distribute at the March 17 General Membership Meeting and St Patrick's Party. Please note that only members who have renewed for the 2001 season will receive cards.

St. Patrick's Day Party and General Membership Meeting

Join your OYC family on Saturday, March 17, 2001, from 6-9 p.m. for the St. Patrick's Day Party and General Membership Meeting. The party/meeting will be held at the Kingstowne Community Center in Alexandria, VA. On the agenda: potluck dining, frivolity, and a wee bit o' business (for example, this will be the perfect opportunity to renew your OYC membership, if you haven't done so yet.). Yes, potluck—you bring the food, we'll bring the drinks and supplies. See you there!

Directions from the Capital Beltway:

Exit the Beltway at the South Van Dorn exit and proceed south on South Van Dorn Street.

Follow South Van Dorn across Franconia Road where you will enter Kingstowne (you will see the Kingstowne brick wall on your right).

Continue on South Van Dorn, passing a Giant Food Store on your right, and turn right onto Kingstowne Boulevard.

You will pass a Kohl's Department Store and a Wal*Mart on your left. Turn left onto Kingstowne Village Parkway, and follow it for about a mile and a half, through the traffic light at Hayfield Road.

Continue on Kingstowne Village Parkway, turning right into the parking lot of Kingstowne's Thompson Center at 6090 Kingstowne Village Parkway.

Questions? Contact Elizabeth Claire Irene O'Donnell Kalweit, 703-404-0171 (LizKalweit@aol.com).

Our Dearly Beloved Websites

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>

The Daymarker

Published monthly by the Occoquan Yacht Club

Tom Coldwell, PC, Editor

Mary Ann Coldwell, Editor's Editor

Rick Michael, 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:

tcoldwell@cox.rr.com (A new address)

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



Vice Commodore's Comments

Mary Lynn Snowman

While many of you were enjoying the waters at Ocean City President's Day Weekend, I was enjoying the waters at Quincy Bay, Massachusetts.

My daughter Amie lives just blocks from this peaceful part of the Boston area. She moved there five years ago, received her Bachelors degree three years ago and this past weekend she received her Masters. Although I have traveled to this area for many decades, I still find the trip long, boring and something that I just endure. The houses look as if they are falling down (and most of them are). The streets all need to be repaved, the snow that is left is dirty, and the water in the bay area has all but disappeared.

I couldn't seem to locate the pier that I ran down and jumped off into the cold waters one Memorial Day weekend—decades ago. Don't let anyone tell you that the water isn't cold in New England Memorial Day weekend. (It was the last time I believed anything my brother told me.) And while I was riding along this bay I noticed that the marinas are all but empty. There was one boat still at the marina. It, too, was covered and protected from the weather.

For the longest time I couldn't understand why my oldest brother and my oldest daughter found this area a nice place to live. If it wasn't for them living here I would never have found this a nice place to visit. That is until recently. It isn't the horn blowing or the darting in and out of traffic. It's not the apple pancakes that I love or the Chinese food that I learned to like there. It's not the accent or the people. It's the rest of it. It's the

water. It is the quaint little town. The tiny streets. The neighbors you get to know because you live so close (only a car's width apart). Everybody you meet is related to someone else you know. In spite of it being near a large metropolitan area, Quincy has remained a small town beside a big city. It is its own family and town.

After a few days I'm ready to leave (almost before I get there). This is just too much closeness for me and I'm starting to get claustrophobic. The thoughts of getting back to Maryland and Virginia are on my

mind. Soon it will be time to start spending the weekends on the boat again (less than six weeks). More time with family and friends. More time on the water (even if we don't leave the dock). A trip coming up in July and wait...a St. Patrick's Day Party/Membership Meeting on March 17th; an April Fool's Day Party at Tim's River Shore; a Tax Day Party (if someone pulls it together); an Early Bird Cruise and, of course, our annual bowling party planned for the 11th of March. (Details: Bowl America, Edsall Road and I-395, 11:00a.m.—3:00 p.m. The cost is \$2.29 per game; shoe rental is \$2.75.) For details on the other upcoming events please continue to read the newsletter.

Gear up for the season

Say, is that old OYC burgee kind of faded and torn. Can't tell what color it was? Never fear, our OYC Quartermasters Duane and Jan Jeirles will be at the St. Patty's Day Party, March 17th, with all of their great OYC wares to sell. Your Commodore announced at the January Planfest that special orders will be discontinued while the search for new Quartermasters goes on, but that doesn't mean we will not have some great stuff to sell. Jan and Duane still have a supply of those terrific OYC long sleeve denim shirts, T-shirts, polo shirts and some new OYC hats. And don't forget to replace that yucky old burgee with a brand spanking new beautiful blue OYC burgee.

Ever wonder why the OYC store doesn't carry OYC nose rings, tattoos, or blue, yellow and red OYC hair dye? Well, now is your chance to have your say. Volunteer to be OYC's Quartermaster for a year and find new goodies for club members to proclaim their membership in OYC. Contact Commodore Candy Clevenger, day or night. to volunteer as OYC Quartermaster, 703 273-3073, alclev@hotmail.com.

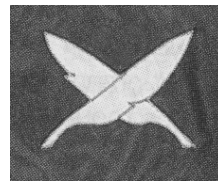


Happy Birthday, Ed—Ed Rhodes, far right, father of Daymarker Editor Emeritus Ned Rhodes, with his family during a Presidents Day weekend celebration of his 80th birthday, shown here at an undisclosed marina in North Carolina. From left, Ed's wife Mary LOU, Ned's wife Arleen, Ned, his sister Sallie, and Father Ed. The party was reportedly underwritten by a manufacturer of sunglasses and goofy hats.



Rear Commodore's Comments

Andrew Kalweit



Secretary's Comments

Liz Kalweit

Projects. Improvements. Upgrades. Call them what you will, every boat owner I know has a list of them somewhere. All the things we plan to do in the off-season while the boat is blocked in dry storage or winterized in her slip.

My list wasn't that long; a new, longer swim ladder, touching up bottom paint, getting the prop overhauled, things like that. Except now it's almost spring and I haven't even scratched the surface on most of the things I wanted to get done over the "long, long" winter. Where does the time go? Is Nabil hoarding it to "treasure" at his leisure? Or is Tom Coldwell holding it over my head in the form of a deadline? Spring seemed so far away back in early December when *Lizzie Bitz* was hauled out of Neabsco Creek for her winter hibernation. P-l-e-n-n-t-y of time to do all these little things on my list.

So now here we are going into March. The birds are starting to sing a little happier song, the nights are (finally) starting to get a bit shorter. And there are even some signs of life around the marina as people start coming more frequently to "check on" their boats and fantasize about being back on the water.

Most sane people, and I'm not including myself in this category, would at this point say "Why not just pay someone to do all that little stuff?" Well, I'm just not that type of person, never have been. Probably should be sometimes. But I have worked with my hands for most of my life, be it in construction building cabinets or whole homes, to repairing cars, either for pay or for fun. I just like getting my hands dirty, using power tools (guy thing), and being able to say at the end of the day that "I made this." It's just who I am.

Ah, well. There's no sense in fretting about things. I just need to focus my energy and schedule on getting the things done that can only be done on land while I still have the opportunity. Starting at the bottom (paint) and working my way up. So if you happen by the back lot at Hampton's Landing and hear a sander buzzing away, just tap me on the foot and I'll gladly take a short break to say "Hey" while I work on getting my second favorite *Lizzie Bitz* ready to go for the 2001 boating season. My favorite *Lizzie* is the one I married 16 years ago and she will always be my First Mate.

March 27, 1984. Not exactly a day that will live in infamy, but it's on my calendar. The Day of the Daffodils. After a notable high school career, I took off for Potsdam, New York, to attend college, on my own for the very first time, full of hope, excitement, and endless possibilities. But just three and a half years later, there I was, "taking a semester off" to live with my sister in the suburbs of Washington, DC, after living with another sister in Syracuse, NY, briefly.

Just like you can convince yourself that the "E" on the gas gauge stands for "Enough," I convinced myself that all those "F"'s and near "F"'s I was collecting every semester stood for Fun. I had a Lot of Fun. I was active on the school paper, in dorm council, student government, an officer in my sorority, among other things, and just couldn't seem to find time to study. But I

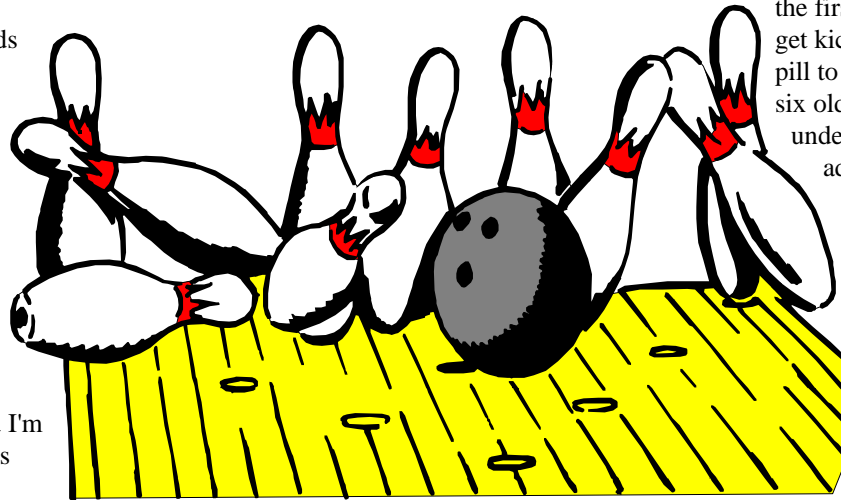
was also on the verge of becoming the first woman in my family to get kicked out of college, a bitter pill to swallow if your Mom and six older sisters have undergraduate and a few advanced degrees.

I'll never forget March 27, 1984. Stepping out of National Airport, breathing in the fresh, clean air, and the sweet fragrance of the daffodils blooming along the George Washington Parkway. Daffodils! Flying in from a gloomy winter day in Syracuse—Syracuse, where the snow had been plowed into high ugly piles, mixed with road-treatment chemicals, sand, and winter debris, guaranteed not to thaw until August—to this promise of Spring, this glorious promise kept,

brought tears of relief to my eyes.

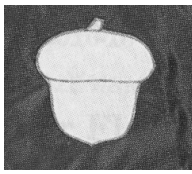
Days later, in April, I landed my first "grown up" job, rented my first apartment, and met Andrew (we were married the following April). In the years that followed, other high-water marks took place in the early spring, too. For example, I finally graduated from college (with honors, duly noted by my Mom, and my older sisters Alice, Frances, Gail, Karen, Colleen, and Lorraine), and we signed the lease on our first home. Always, the arrival of the daffodils preceded these events, heralds of endless possibilities to consider, and yes, promises kept.

It's no wonder spring is my favorite season. Is it yours? The possibilities are endless.



Get Off the Street and into the Alley

OYC's annual bowling party is set for Sunday, March 11th at Bowl America, Edsall Road and I-395, 11:00a.m.—3:00 p.m. The cost is \$2.29 per game; shoe rental is \$2.75. This is a boating-related event: remember, the company that makes bowling balls also builds SeaRays and Bayliners. Questions? Contact Vice Commodore Mary Lynn Snowman, 301 869-2885



Treasurer's Comments

Nabil Dubraque

Hi, Ho

The other day, watching Disney on Ice with my very excited grandkid, I found myself wondering whether there were dwarves who didn't make the cut still wandering through the enchanted forest. Sleazy, Drooley, Stinky, and Swacked shuffling off to Buffalo to the tune of a Puff Daddy rendition of "Hi, Ho."

And if that wasn't bad enough, there was the embarrassing episode at the BJ's parking lot. With the car's heater churning out summer, friend Buffet on the stereo, and the goosed-seagull shriek of BJ's rooftop-saver triggering flashbacks of summer, Lucy had to pretend to rub my back with cocoa butter before I snapped out of it and agreed to leave quietly.

I'm told I'm getting better, now that the days are getting longer, the boat is unwrapped, and the process of splashing her has begun. I now seldom shuffle down the aisles of our favorite chandler, credit cards pathetically proffered to any sympathetic employee happening by, whimpering, "More boat stuff, please." I now have *purpose*, for there is cleaning and waxing to be done, zincs to be replaced, grease to be applied, and a sassy, *sassy* bottom to be painted, as the detritus of winter is replaced by the promise of a new season.

And what promise it holds! First unveiled at the Planfest, the long list of exciting events will once more be available to tickle your fancy at the St. Patty's Day bacchanal at Kingstowne, an event best known for green stuff, great fun, sumptuous feasting and grand people. So be there, it just wouldn't be the same without you.

And, speaking of green stuff (well, you know I *had* to get it in there), we need your dues if you haven't yet paid them. Otherwise, like Sleazy, Drooley, Stinky, and Swacked, you may not make the cut, and be doomed forever to wander the enchanted forest. Hi Ho.

Early Bird Cruise to D.C., April 28-29 2001

by Cruise Coordinator Laslo Bozoky
Tel. 703-590-8440 E-Mail: Hotschatz2@aol.com.

Just a quick reminder for OYC members who couldn't make it to the Planfest in January. Thus far, 19 boat owners signed up for the "EARLY BIRD CRUISE" to Gangplank Marina in Washington. This will be a one-nighter with dinner at Phillips most likely and no visit to a theatrical production. We always have a great time so please sign up A.S.A.P. by e-mail or just call and leave a message.

More details about the cruise in the April Daymarker!

Bay Cruise News...

The OYC One or Two Week Chesapeake Bay Cruise this July is taking reservations now. We plan to be in Annapolis over the Fourth of July and in Baltimore the 5th and 6th of July, and we need to know *now* if you are planning to join us.

Currently we have nine boats committed to the cruise. If you want to join in the fun please complete the form that was included in last month's Daymarker and send it with your check made payable to Nicky Linck, 1328 Devils Reach Road, Woodbridge, Va. 22192. Boaters planning on the one week cruise should make their check out for \$60. If you are going for the entire two week cruise, we need a check for \$80. If you can't find the form [or decline to deface your Daymarker by ripping it up], just indicate your name, phone number, e-mail address, boat name, its length, beam and power requirements. Also tell us how many tickets you want for an Orioles game, Friday, July 6th, and include \$38.90 for each ticket requested.

For more information about our ports of call, please contact Nicky Linck, 703-494-7028, or e-mail her at nlinck@email.com. Whether you choose the one week or the two week cruise, this looks like another OYC event not to be missed. If you've never experienced boating on the Chesapeake Bay there is no time like this July. And what better way to experience boating than with a bunch of your OYC cohorts.

Everything I Need to Know About Boating I Learned at Happy Hour

by Beckie Heinze

My husband and I joined OYC last year as know-nothing wannabe boaters. We have kept our eyes and ears open for the year and are now ready join this group of enthusiastic people as real live boat owners

After a year of listening to all the advice we could, we are feeling very knowledgeable and ready for the season to start.

The following is a list of what we feel are the most important things we have learned.

- ! To keep your boat looking sharp just go out in "sporty seas" this is a good way to wash off the bow.
- ! To wash out the cockpit try anchoring off the stern.
- ! Radar is probably not the best tool to use as a depth finder.
- ! You can magically make the river flow up stream by using 12 feet of anchor line in 12 foot waters.
- ! If you fall off the deck with your new \$1000 camera around your neck just leave it on the bottom. You may want to consider staying down there with it.
- ! Don't bother with those mundane and expensive things like GPS. Just use your cell phone and call Tom Coldwell for directions.
- ! If you spend a lot of time on the water before taking a boating class you will be able to participate more fully in the class room discussion on safety.
- ! A road map from Mobil may make a good chart but one from Exxon is really better,

Thanks to everyone for all the useful information. John and I will see you on the water if you don't see us first!

Spring Commissioning and Your Batteries

by Jim Ball

As Spring approaches, it is time to ask yourself about your batteries. Will the ones you have get you through another boating season? Many factors will play in answering the question.

You can get about three years of use from every battery, mainly by taking care of the basics. Check each battery's fluid level regularly, knowing that dry plates harden and become less effective. If you find a battery to be low on fluid, refill the water level only high enough to cover the plates before recharging. Since the electrolyte solution expands during recharge, this will prevent overflow. When the charger switches to a lower amperage near the end of the recharging process, it's OK to add the needed amount of distilled water to bring the battery to its proper fluid level. Batteries stay healthiest when fully charged. Their biggest killer is being drained to zero percent. While deep-cycles are designed to resist draining, charging this type of battery after a complete drain decreases the unit's life.

Cold temperatures are ideal for storing batteries. Heat accelerates discharge. A battery will retain its charge indefinitely at temperatures less than 37 degrees F. so leaving batteries out or onboard for the winter isn't a problem as long as they are kept charged. A deeply discharged battery's acid lowers a specific gravity similar to water and can freeze at temperatures near 10 degrees F. Fortunately, we haven't gone there yet this winter, so your battery has probably not frozen and cracked no matter what the charge.

If your batteries are three years old or more, best consider replacing them before they quit - because it will always happen at the worst time imaginable, most likely when you are out in the middle of the river or the bay and the waves are building under stormy skies.

The first consideration in replacing the batteries is always to buy the right ones. Many boaters assume they need a deep-cycle battery. After all, a deep-cycle is a marine battery... right? Well, yes and no. There are actually several different types.

A true deep-cycle has relatively few, yet stout, grids. These batteries resist the damage caused by repeated draining, but don't produce as much cranking power as an automobile battery, which has numerous thin plates. Then, there's the dual purpose starting/deep-cycle battery that lies somewhere between the two. The ideal situation is to have a starting battery for each engine and a "house" battery for all on-board systems, and a fourth battery for starting the genset if you have one. Most installations have a starting battery for one engine, a deep cycle/starting battery for the other engine, and a separate battery for the genset. All should be connected to the battery charger, and certainly all should be charged by the engines when they are running.

Whether you are keeping your batteries another year or replacing them, they still have to be maintained properly. To

understand how to maintain a battery, you must know the enemies of long life.

A little known fact is that batteries must be kept clean and dry. If the top surface of the battery gets dirty or wet, a small flow of electricity will flow between the terminals as the water creates a conductive path. If installed in a location where water can drip onto them, this can cause the batteries to discharge fairly rapidly.

When a battery discharges, the material on the negative and positive plates chemically changes to lead sulfate. The plates become more similar in electrical charge, and the battery's acid, which conducts electricity between the two poles, grows weaker. The result is a drop in due to the lessened polarity difference between the plates, as well as the strength of the acid. When the battery charges, the process reverses itself. Thus when your battery is left discharged for a long time, the damage can be permanent and no amount of charging will recover it. If you run a battery down, charge it as soon as possible and don't wait until the day before you go on a cruise.

Most of us have battery chargers, and most of them shut down when batteries reach fully charged state so the batteries do not overcharge. Check your charger's manual to be sure this is the case. This is important, because overcharging a battery can be worse than a just a dead battery. Why, because overcharging causes battery acid to percolate, which can then overflow or escape as gas

through the vent, with resulting heat buildup, the plates will soften and shed the charging grid's active material, causing a dramatic decrease in productivity. It also creates an explosive hydrogen atmosphere in the vicinity of the battery.

Battery location also needs to be considered. Most boats have the batteries in the engine compartment, which is the equivalent of sending them to Death Valley for the summer - especially when engines are running. You can counter extreme engine compartment heat by partitioning off your battery box or compartment with styrofoam panels. If the batteries are not in the engine compartment where there is ventilation, then make sure you have some ventilation where they are, since batteries do emit flammable hydrogen fumes that accumulate and ignite if a terminal wire is loose.

Finally, make sure your battery terminals are cleaned and covered. Cleaning each season once or more should be done with a battery terminal brush (available at all auto stores). Make sure you clean both the battery post and the wire terminal end. Coating with silicone grease will help to keep down corrosion. Covering is important so if you inadvertently drop a wrench or screwdriver, it will not fall across the positive terminal and some grounded portion, causing a spark and possibly igniting a flammable gas.

Be careful of battery acid whenever you are around the batteries. Wear eye protection and avoid getting it on your skin - if you do, wash it off with water immediately, it will burn. Finally, make sure you are not wearing your Sunday best. Battery acid invariably will get on your clothes and wherever it does will create new ventilation in your wardrobe.



Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association—What is it?

by Jim Ball OYC's CBYCA Delegate



Yes, Virginia, OYC is a member of Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association. Okay, so what's that? Maybe the old timers in the club remember, but how many newbies do? That's what I thought. Anyway, since I am now the newly designated delegate from OYC to CBYCA, I thought you might want to know *whasssup*.

I attended a delegates meeting over the President's Day weekend and learned that CBYCA is essentially the best deal we can have when it comes to sifting through all sorts of legislation that could be a problem for boaters on the Chesapeake and the Potomac. The association's legislative review committee, under the guidance of our former Member-at-Large (MAL) Tim Abel from Prince William Yacht Club, has looked at several hundred bills from Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Delaware to be sure that boating interests are represented.

Why should we care? Well, don't forget almost all of us do our boating in both Virginia and Maryland waters, and many of us on the Bay. We belong to and support CBYCA so we can be aware of what's going on in the legislatures and so we don't get slapped with taxes we don't like, unreasonable environmental restrictions (like not being able to operate gasoline powered boats in the DC area on weekends), or being the target of enviro-fascists that have no clue about boating. For instance, a year or so ago, an article in the Washington Post blamed boaters for all the trash in the

Potomac, not even considering that storm sewers deliver everything dumped in the streets and roadways in the entire DC Region into streams which flow into the Potomac.

In subsequent Daymarkers, I will be letting you know more about important issues that CBYCA has defined that you need to know about. If things get really hot on some issue, expect an e-mail to let you know about it and what you can do. There is a bill that was passed by both houses regarding discharges in Virginia waterways that on the surface appears to only implement current Federal regulations on discharging to Virginia waterways, which most of us thought was law already. I will get a clarification from Tim.

Getting back to taxes, don't forget to save your fuel receipts once you start boating again. The state of Virginia rebates 17% of your fuel receipts back to you for fuel bought in Virginia marinas.

ORMA Update - February 2001

by Jim Ball, ORMA Coordinator

The highlight of the month was the presentation of the resolution of thanks by the Town of Occoquan to Rep. Tom Davis for his support in obtaining the appropriation for maintenance dredging of the River. ORMA assisted the Town Council in drafting the resolution and I was honored to assist in its presentation at the ceremony at Occoquan Town Hall on February 9th. Over 50 people were in attendance, including three representatives of the Prince William County Board of Supervisors. We still have yet to hear from the Corps of Engineers on their plans, although we have passed on the town's needs in this area to Mr. Davis' office.

Belmont Bay Marina will be presenting a request for extension of the no-wake zone to protect the marina in the very near future. ORMA will support this request with a recommendation to extend the no wake to a point one-third of the way from its current location to the islands. Meanwhile ORMA will continue to evaluate the concern of a number of members regarding safety issues related to wakes in the narrow channel and the queuing of boats in the restricted area near the Belmont Bay Marina and its fueling facility.

Planning for the Blessing of the Fleet is underway, with a possibility of an afternoon and evening "Mini-Float In" event preceding it at Belmont Bay Marina. More information next month.



Occoquan honors Tom Davis—ORMA coordinator Jim Ball participated in a February 9 ceremony at the Occoquan Town Hall, where Mayor Patricia Conway presented the key to the Town to Rep. Tom Davis (center) in appreciation for his continuing support to the Town.

St Patrick's Day Party and General Membership Meeting

**Saturday, March 17, 2001, 6-9 p.m.
Kingstowne Community Center
Alexandria, Virginia**

**Join your OYC family for an evening o'
potluck dining frivolity and a wee bit o'
business. You bring the food, we'll bring the
drinks and supplies!**

Questions? Contact

**Elizabeth Claire Irene O'Donnell Kalweit
703 404-0171 (LizKalweit@aol.com)**

March 11

**OYC Bowling
Day
Bowl America
Mary Lynn
Snowman
301 869-2885**

**March 17
(Announcement
at left)**

**April 1
April Fool's Day
Party
ask Gary Linck
494-7028**

**April 14
Tax Day Party?**

**April 28-29
Early Bird Cruise
Laslo Bozoky
590-8440**



**Occoquan Yacht Club
P.O. Box 469
Occoquan, VA 22125**

Change Service Requested