



# The Daymarker

## OCCOQUAN 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

Okay, it's time for Mother Nature to make up her mind. Spring and the boating season are here, **no more freeze warnings**. Not that a little cold weather keeps OYC members off the water. As you read this article, some 8-10 boats will have finished the 2001 OYC Early Bird Cruise to Gangplank Marina. Now that the Season is underway, it's time to get your copy of the OYC 2001 Schedule of Events posted on the front of the refrigerator as a reminder of upcoming cruises and activities that you don't want to miss.

We look forward to seeing all of you at the Flag Raising on May 5<sup>th</sup> at Occoquan Harbour Marina. Be there by noon to see the national ensign and OYC burgee raised to officially start the season. The club provides hamburgers, hotdogs and beverages. Don't forget to bring a covered dish/casserole, salad, veggie, or dessert to share. A spontaneous raft-up at Mattawoman afterwards is always possible, weather permitting.

Just make sure you are up and ready the following morning to participate in the Annual Occoquan Blessing of the Fleet 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The procession of participating boats will begin near Sandy Point at Marker No. 4 and proceed toward Smoot's

Island along the route marked, turning left and passing by the Blessing Boat to receive a chaplain's blessing.

While the blessing is open to all boats in the area, we want to see lots of OYC burgees out there on the water Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup>. Don't have your OYC Burgee as yet, you say it got moth eaten over the winter? Never fear, our OYC Quartermasters Jan and Duane Jeriles will be at the Flag Raising with the whole gamut of OYC store items including burgees.

Thanks to Gary Linck who once again pulled off a great outing to Tim's Rivershore for April Fool's Day. Of course we all got fooled when it turned out that Tim's wasn't able to procure crabs to serve.

Commodore Candy Clevenger  
and the 2001 Board  
- Occoquan Yacht Club -  
cordially invite OYC members and  
their guests to the  
18th Annual Flag Raising  
Inaugurating and Celebrating  
The 2001 Boating Season  
1200 Saturday, May 5, 2001  
Occoquan Harbour Marina

OYC will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments and liquid refreshments. Members should bring side dishes---a casserole, veggies, salads or a dessert to share.  
Please arrive at OHM by noon.

Although *Oasis II* was temporarily out of commission we now have her engines humming and we're ready for the Memorial Day Cruise to Olverson's Lodge Creek Marina on the Yeocomico River. **See Steve Wexler's article in this Daymarker** and let him know you plan on being with us over the Memorial Day weekend.

### PRYCA Float-In coming soon

It's time to begin preparing for the Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association's Float-In. We want to bring the Cup home this year. PRYCA has planned some exciting changes for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Float-In to held July 20-22 at Ft. Washington Marina. One important change will be an emphasis on boating safety. An element of the Cup Competition this year will be Vessel Safety Checks. Points will be based on the percentage of boats from OYC that arrive at the Float-In with a 2001 safety decal. In addition, there will be some hour-long safety seminars and demonstrations between 9:00 a.m. and noon Saturday. A representative from an Annapolis based company that specializes in boating courses for women will talk about what to do in an emergency if the skipper is incapacitated. A tugboat operator will speak about safe boating near tugboats.

You also won't want to miss the Friday night Blow Boat races. And of course the PRYCA Cup competition will be held on Saturday afternoon. It's never too early to practice and hone your skills for the Navigation & Safety Test, Bosun Test or start pumping iron now to get ready for the Dinghy Race. Whatever your poison the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Float-In promises to be a blast. See Susan Von Schaack Brown's article on how to sign up and pay for this event.

Remember "Safety Afloat" is our watchword, please keep it in mind as you set out this season. See you on the water.



### Vice Commodore's Comments

Mary Lynn Snowman

### Easter Seals Cruise For Kids 2001

Calling ALL Captains. This year's Easter Seals Cruise starts in Washington, DC, on Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup> at the Capital Yacht Club. Volunteer orientation starts at 8:00 a.m. and boarding starts around 9:00 a.m. If you aren't able to join the Washington cruise join in on the Solomons Island cruise set for Sunday, July 29<sup>th</sup>.

Registration forms for the cruises will be available at the Flag Raising Ceremony, Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Easter Seals' annual Cruise for Kids hosts children with disabilities in Easter Seals programs on a cruise in the waters near local marinas.

Easter Seals is a non-profit organization that provides quality programs for individuals with disabilities to live with dignity and independence. Whether the disability is caused by a birth defect, a disease, an accident, or the normal aging process, Easter Seals is there to provide help for the individual and support for the care provider. The local Easter Seals office provides three core programs: early education and childcare, home and community-based therapy, and adult

senior day services.

OYC is still looking for a coordinator for this event. Please contact any board member if you are interested. Assistance from the Board will be available as with all of our events.

### Welcome new members...

Chris and Mary Jo Webster, of Centreville, Va. They keep their 32' Chris Craft, *Cadenza III*, at Fairfax Yacht Club.

Dan and Phyllis Meginley Fairfax, VA. They keep their 38' Chris Craft, *Ode to Joy*, at Hoffmasters.

Bill and Kathy Steele of Oak Hill Va. They keep their 31' Chris Craft, *Steele Away*, at Hoffmasters, VA.

### The Datemarkers

#### Birthdays

David Wilks, 5/4  
Alfred Hobson, 5/5  
Tony Berta, 5/5  
Judie Hemingway, 5/9  
Ed Dodd, 5/11  
Robert Moffitt, 5/13  
Steve Worcester, 5/15  
Doug Earhart, 5/21  
Stephanie Troup, 5/23  
Dan Meginley, 5/28

Teresa Sorrenti, 5/4  
Jack Ryan, 5/5  
Linda Bozoky, 5/7  
Rich Wellhouse, 5/10  
Lisa Kuzma, 5/12  
Tom Coldwell, 5/15  
Jane Mutnick, 5/15  
Al King, 5/23  
Dave Moore, 5/26  
Martin Betts, 5/29

#### Anniversaries

John & Kathy Corley, 5/1  
Donald & Diana Uber, 5/7  
Mitch & Jane Mutnick, 5/9  
Ann & Scott Shipley, 5/23  
Steve & Paula Wexler, 5/5  
Bill & Sue Sholar, 5/8  
Bill & Bonnie Fulford, 5/22  
Richard & Bronwyn Ziegler, 5/28  
Jack & Robin Ryan, 5/28



## The Daymarker

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Tom Coldwell, PC, Editor; Mary Ann Coldwell, Editor's Editor  
Randy Snowman, Circulation

The deadline for submission of materials to **THE DAYMARKER** is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.. If possible, please submit copy by e-mail to:

**tcoldwell@cox.rr.com**

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



## Recalling OYC's first flag raising...



**It was tough back then**—When our forefathers and foremothers had to fight for the privilege, a determined OYC board opened that long-ago boating season in style, providing hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, condiments and beverages while members brought snacks, veggies, salads or desserts—a tradition that lives on today, specifically this Saturday noon, May 5<sup>th</sup> at OHM.



### Rear Commodore's Comments

Andrew Kalweit

I had forgotten about the first boating month of the season. I had forgotten how capricious and shiftY April can be. It really brings to mind the saying “If you don't like the weather, wait a minute,” and tags on the addendum “it'll get worse.” This is the best and worst part of the season for boaters on the Potomac, occasionally at the same time. It can be a bright blue day with warm temperatures, yet with the wind screaming away at a pace only a sailor could love, creating 3-foot waves with whitecaps on the River as a result. Or it can look like a tee-shirt day that actually requires 2 or 3 shirts to stay warm

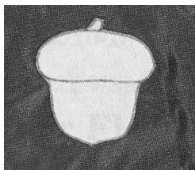
I think “temperature swing” is far too modest a term to describe the weather of April. I can remember sitting on the foredeck of *Lizzie Bitz* in nothing but a swimsuit on Sunday, working up a sweat as I waxed and polished, then by Tuesday I was wearing a down coat and gloves just to walk the dog (a very short walk, by the way).

Spring can sometimes drive one crazy. It sometimes seems that we only get “beneficial” rains on the weekends, some of which could be likened more to monsoons. The yard

seems to be growing at a pace even a goat couldn't keep up with, the mildew bags in the boat are working overtime, and the bilge has rainwater in it (again!). At least I know that having the top restitched with seam tape was a good idea. We don't seem to have any raindrops falling on our heads as we sit in the cockpit and watch it raining.

But I know that, as in years past, when May arrives it brings with it a bit more stability in the weather. The sun climbs a bit higher, it feels even warmer, and we might even leave the house without an umbrella. I can turn my face to the sky to feel the warmth of the sun without as much fear of it getting wet. Trips to Mattawoman include discussion of the word “overnight,” and I can pack a lot less clothing for weekends on the boat than I did last month. Cabin heat becomes a much less essential part of our boating experience. And Abbey looks at the water a little more longingly with each warm day that passes. Maybe in June, Pup.

We look forward to seeing more of our OYC friends on the water as the weather gets warmer and we start cruising to new places and some old favorites. The flag-raising at OHM on May 5 brings out many OYC'ers we haven't seen in a while and is a great opportunity to get acquainted or re-acquainted with your fellow members. I look forward to it every year as a way to put faces with the names I see in the *Daymarker's* new members column.



## Treasurer's Comments

Nabil Dubraque

### Helpful Hints from Chapman's... and Nabil.

With the coming of a new and exciting boating season, it serves us well to review some basic nautical knowledge. Being both cheap and a sometime blowboater, I still use my 1944 edition of Chapman's *Piloting, Seamanship, and Small Boat Handling* which I keep next to my world-cruising \$1.00 gas fund and change of underwear. The following quotes are from an extensive helpful hints section (pages 368-377).

"A small amount of canvas on a motor boat will steady her a lot offshore in a beam sea." Eat that, stinkpotters!

"In a pinch, ordinary soap will seal a gas line leak." Also provides the potential for a great nautical bonfire.

"A strainer in the gas line will trap more dirt than a carburetor will swallow." Great line for a fortune cookie.

"River sailing is intriguing. One always wonders what lies just around the bend ahead." Would you believe Conrad Island Shoals, the Graveyard of the Occoquan?

"Thin ice will often damage a hull more than a thick coating. 'Window pane' ice, an eighth of an inch thick, cuts cedar like a sharp chisel. Sheet copper at the waterline will protect the hull." Every well-dressed boat this season will sport a copper skirt. Hubba hubba.

"New lines have a mean habit of twisting themselves into hard kinks. They can be worked out by towing the line astern, one end made fast to the after bit." Spring on the Potomac becomes reminiscent of a Palermo spaghetti factory.

"A vessel's draft in salt water is roughly one-quarter inch per foot less than in fresh water." That's a lot more beer you can carry without overloading.

"There is a tendency to overestimate the distance of an iceberg." Boy, did the Titanic find that out!

"It is dangerous for the navigator to depend on his memory." Especially as the boating population ages. Ginko Biloba, anyone?



## PRYCA Delegate

Joe Livingston

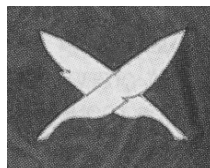
The Potomac River Yacht Club Association (PRYCA) 2001 calendar offers several special and fun events this boating year with themes that will focus on boating safety and camaraderie. OYC, as a member club, joins the other nineteen member clubs in supporting these themes and events:

! A PRYCA Blessing of the Fleet—not to be confused with the Occoquan Blessing—will be on Sunday, May 20, at 1:00 p.m. in the Washington Channel. The event will include pre-blessing of the fleet activities on May 19 along the waterfront and channel.

! June 15-17—Cobb Island Days. This is a great place to

"When the star Mizar of the Great Bear and the star Ruchbah of Cassiopeia, which are in line with Polaris, are either above or below that star, the latter is bearing north true, and the error of the compass may be easily obtained." And, when the moon is in the seventh house, and Jupiter aligns with Mars, then peace will guide the planets, and love... Well, you get the picture.

We ain't broke yet.



## Secretary's Comments

Liz Kalweit

I'm sitting in a classroom in Old Town Alexandria, looking out at the Potomac, and I can barely tear my eyes away from the river. I wish they would close the blinds. I don't know how anyone can get any work done around here, with such a gorgeous view. My thoughts keep straying to—what else?—boating.

*Lizzie Bitz* is back in the water for another season, and all's right with the world. Back in December, on the day she was pulled out for the Winter, I made myself scarce. The last time I witnessed that sad event, I burst out crying, right there at the marina. I'll bet you know the feeling.

It's such a joy to just pile aboard *Lizzie Bitz* again and zoom over to Mattawoman, my favorite place to anchor, to relax and to catch up with OYCers we haven't seen in awhile. It was especially neat to see Ted and Ilona Zsirai there in mid April, taking their new Silverton, *Empty Pockets*, out for the first time. Anchoring out on a perfect Spring day, snoozing under the hot sun, feeling the cool breeze carrying with it the scent of blossoms (note to self: remember to thank allergist)—it just doesn't get any better.

Back in class, I'm watching one boat's stately progress through the no-wake zone, and now it's zooming back up on plane. If boats had moods, I'd say that one looks like it feels thrilled to be back in the water.

I'll bet you know the feeling!

cruise and may be a must-do affair built on family entertainment. See Walt Cheatham's article on this event.

! June 24—Easter Seals Cruise for Kids 2001. Cruise for Kids offers children an unforgettable experience, everyone leaves tired yet rejuvenated, with a great sense of fulfillment. Events will also be held July 29 (Solomons Island, MD) and August 4 (Baltimore, MD). For more information, see Vice Commodore Mary Lynn Snowman's article or talk directly with the Easter Seals team at 800-886-3771, ext. 105.

! July 20-22—PRYCA FLOAT-IN. A must-do event and OYC's chance to win (again) the annual PRYCA Cup competition. As part of this year's focus on safety, we'll win points for the Cup if we show up with a 2001 Vessel Safety Check stickers on our boats!

! August 24-26—Dog Days of August Party at Colonial Beach, including a wine tour of Ingleside Plantation Vineyard.

# Occoquan Blessing of the Fleet

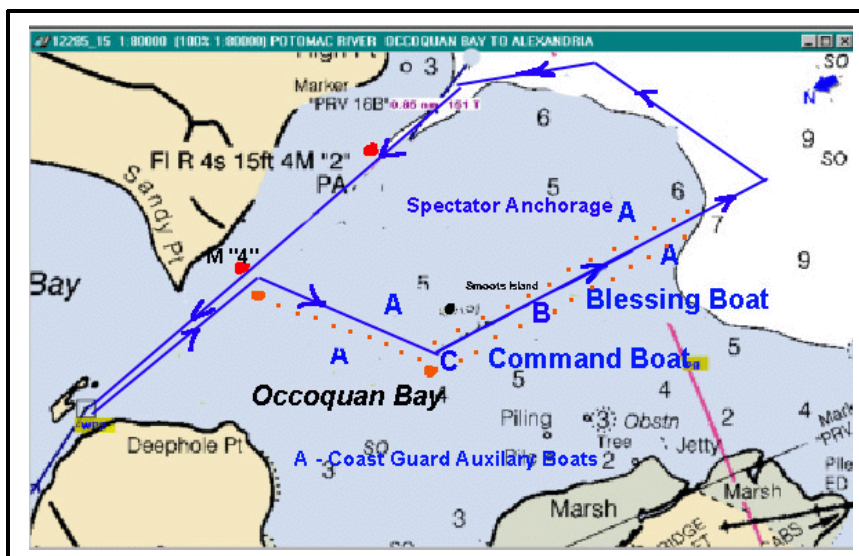
## Occoquan Bay, Sunday, May 6, 11:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

Dedicated to Boating Safety and  
Celebrating the Opening of the 2001 Boating Season

Sponsored by the Occoquan River Maritime Association,\* coordinating the efforts of the Prince William, Fairfax and Occoquan Yacht Clubs, with support from the Coast Guard Auxiliary, Potomac Marine-TowBOAT/U.S., and Fairfax and Prince William County public safety agencies.

### The Blessing of the Fleet procession...

Starting at 11:00 A.M., participating boaters should follow the Fairfax County Fireboat and ORMA Flagship (with distinguished guests and media embarked) starting near Sandy Point at Marker No. 4 and proceeding toward Smoot's Island along the route marked, turning left and passing by the Blessing Boat to receive a chaplain's blessing. (see below). Communications: VHF Ch. 9 for hailing and Ch. 71 as a working channel. Marine bulletins regarding the event will be broadcast starting at 1000 on VHF Ch. 16 and Ch. 22A.



**Boaters electing not to participate in this event are requested to stand clear of the procession of participating boats.**

\* ORMA is a non-profit, all volunteer organization dedicated to coordinating activities involving commercial and recreational use of the Occoquan River. ORMA's major initiatives are maintaining the Occoquan channel depth, working with the Town of Occoquan to reestablish its historic seaport for recreational boaters, and preserving the environmental quality and safety of the river. For additional information, visit the ORMA web page at [www.ormaweb.org](http://www.ormaweb.org).



# Saint 'n Sinner Slithers Soothingly South

by Captain Steve Worcester

First, the disclaimer. Ned Rhodes was part of my crew helping to sail *Saint 'n Sinner* to Wilmington, NC. So, no matter what he writes about, the key thing to remember is that it didn't happen! For any of you readers who have been around Ned for very long, you know that his veracity is inversely proportional to his girth.

We left OHM at 7:50 AM on a dark and foggy Thursday morning. Temperature was about 55 degrees with drizzle. Visibility varied at times between 100 yards to one half mile. Fortunately the wind was non-existent and we had flat water all the way to Smith Point. My crew consisted of Ned (part time navigator/cook), Ron Tilmon (general dogsbody and famed Carolina boat mooch), and Bruce Sherer (brother-in-law). Now I know what the Captain of the Minnow felt like.

We had to cover nearly 500 miles and I had estimated three to five days for the trip, depending on weather and mechanicals. We made it in three. Again, luck was with us because the weather was fair to good and the boat ran smoothly. In retrospect, I probably pushed harder than was necessary but in view of the rare skill of my crew, I felt that the shorter the trip, the better.

We passed through Great Bridge lock and bridge Thursday evening and watched the sunset from the fuel dock at Atlantic Yacht Basin at milepost 12. We'd covered about 190 miles. On Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>, we passed through Coinjock, crossed the Albemarle Sound, and reached Oriental, NC, where we overnighed at the town marina. This is a very friendly little marina with a very decent restaurant. Although Oriental's reputation is the sailing capital of North Carolina, we power boaters were warmly welcomed until they found out we had Yankees aboard. This leg of the trip covered approximately 170 miles.

On a sunny Saturday morning we departed on the final 115 mile leg of the trip to *Saint 'n Sinner's* new home port. We passed through Beaufort, NC, approximately noon, and had a leisurely 80-mile trip down the ditch. I say "leisurely" because this was Easter weekend, sunny and 70 degrees, and every boater in Eastern North Carolina was on the waterway. Adding the traffic to numerous "no-wake" zones it took seven hours to run from Beaufort to Carolina Beach.

We pulled in to *Saint 'n Sinner's* new home, Inlet Watch Yacht Club, at 7:30 PM where our respective first mates welcomed us with cold champagne. Trip "high" points:

- ! Ned's gourmet scrambled eggs and Spam breakfast.
- ! Running IFR down the Potomac from OHM to the 301 bridge. (Without GPS and Chart Plotter, we'd never gotten started till afternoon.)
- ! Running parallel with a LARGE Navy cruiser into the

Elizabeth River.

- ! Losing cell phone coverage (Alltel and Nextel) from Norfolk to Wrightsville Beach, NC.
- ! Ron and Bruce's failure to pass Anchoring 101 at Steel Bridge. (They blamed it on lack of training and conflicting orders from acting bosun Rhodes.)
- ! Frisky conditions on Albemarle Sound, which caused the TV to do a one and a half gainer to the deck.
- ! Ned's petulant behavior in the Oriental Marina Restaurant because we sat in the smoking section.
- ! The light dusting of cigarette ash the boat received due to the religious weekend.
- ! Inability of my crew to make a simple, two-digit bathroom combination work.
- ! Exploring the invisible channel into Beaufort Town docks which the navigator insisted was there because his computer said so.



(L.to R.) Worcester, Tilmon, Rhodes, Sherer

- ! Ned's petulant behavior in Beaufort Harbor because there was insufficient time to stop for lunch.
- ! The entire crew's neglect of their duties to conduct voluptuousness testing of the go-fast passengers off Beaufort and Moorhead City.
- ! Heroic action by the Captain in avoiding a head-on collision with a trawler north of Surf City, resulting in only a light grounding of the boat's bow.
- ! The entire crew's failure to pass Ungrounding 101 north of Surf City.

However, the truly highest of high points occurred when attempting to pass two tugs and a barge in a narrow part of the ditch.

The Captain asked various members of the crew (all captains in their own right) for opinions regarding passing options. For the first time in the 15 years that I've known Ned Rhodes (I know this will be hard to believe but I swear it's truth)... he had no opinion!

Overall, it was an enjoyable experience. I sincerely appreciate the help from my volunteer crew to relocate *Saint 'n Sinner*. I invite you all to give us a call enroute or come by. We live approximately two miles from the marina. Our new address is: Steve and Mary Jo Worcester, 227 The Cape Blvd., Wilmington, NC 28412. Ph: 910-790-9389. Email: worcester@worldnet.att.net. Marina: Inlet Watch Yacht Club, Milepost 293

## Official Intracoastal Waterway Notice

No matter what Steve Worcester says to the contrary, we, the undersigned were absolutely not driving when we went aground. And let it be known that our standing advice to the "Captain" was "stay in the middle of the channel."

Signed, Ned W. Rhodes, Ron Tilmon, Bruce Sherer

# A Memorial Day to Remember

by Steve Wexler, Cruise Coordinator

During my four year tenure as a Board Member I faithfully wrote an article per month for the Daymarker. For those of you who are mathematically challenged, that's over 40 articles—but who's counting? When Jim and Peggy Ball invited Paula and me aboard *Cheers* for the Memorial Day Cruise, it was never made clear that the invite included coordination responsibilities. But that's actually okay, because I've done it before. When Mary Lynn wrote in her recent e-mail "Where's your article regarding your cruise?" I thought, I can do that because I've done it before. And as I sat down to plan the weekend, I thought – I can do that because I've done it before. So here's the article and the plan – and we'll see that weekend if I have actually coordinated anything.

- Where: ~~Port Kinsale~~ Olverson's Lodge Creek-Marina in the Yeocomico River
- When: Friday, May 25<sup>th</sup> through Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup>. It is an elective decision as to when you would like to start your personal cruise. For the engine challenged cadre of OYC boaters I guess you can leave right now! In any event the Marina will love to see you whenever you arrive.
- What: The ~~1999 2000~~ 2001 OYC Memorial Day Cruise
- Schedule: Arrive when you can. When you arrive I will (in no specific order) ask how your trip was; laugh at your attempted docking maneuvers, assist you in refueling and Ask You If You Want to Attend Dinner on Sunday.  
Saturday night—cocktail party at a location to be determined ~~on the pool deck~~ (heavy hors d'oeuvres)  
Sunday night—cocktail party at a location to be determined ~~on the pool deck~~ (light hors d'oeuvres) followed by dinner with the gang at Bambery's (courtesy cars will be available) ~~at the Moorings~~.  
Monday morning—Communal brunch at a site to be selected.

As may be apparent from the above, there will be three opportunities for you to share food and/or liquid refreshment with others.

Mary Lynn never said that it had to be a *new* article and I did say that I had done this before!!!

The following members/boats had previously signed up: *Southern C's*; *Cheers*; *Great Escape*; *Sea Duck Forty Three*; *Evermoore*; Wellhouse's boat; *Shalimar*; *Hot Schatz*; *Touch of Fate*; *Impulse*; *Alexander's Dream*; *Oasis II*. See the attached reservation slip which requests certain important data. Please fill it out *QUICKLY* and return it to me so that I can let the Marina know who, how many, when, etc.

Or, pump out (what a concept) the same information in an e-mail to me, [steve@marcherconsultants.com](mailto:steve@marcherconsultants.com).

The Cruise is wide open to all other members, their friends (albeit limited), guests, family members, etc. But you must fill out the slip and get it to me *QUICKLY*. Have any of you noticed the emphasis on *QUICKLY*? That means that after Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> you might *NOT GET IN*.



**Titanic shenanigans**—Gordon and Dodie Cawelti tussle over who gets to be the "King (or Queen) of the World." Leonardo and Kate, eat your hearts out!

## OYC 2001 Memorial Day Cruise

Boat Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Boat Occupants: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of nights \_\_\_\_\_ Boat Length \_\_\_\_\_ Beam \_\_\_\_\_

Power Required (check one):

one 30 amp. \_\_\_\_\_ two 30 amp. \_\_\_\_\_ one 50 amp. \_\_\_\_\_

Preliminary (non-binding) estimate  
of number attending dinner: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this coupon (or e-mail information from it) to:  
Steve Wexler, 3601 Deerberry Court, Fairfax, VA 22033

E-mail: [steve@marcherconsultants.com](mailto:steve@marcherconsultants.com).

## Happy Hour at OHM, May 19

by Jim Henry, Event Coordinator

Mark your calendars and join fellow club members on May 19, from 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. for the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Happy Hour at Occoquan Harbour Marina. Like last year, we will gather in the picnic area adjacent to the boat ramp. Please bring an hors d'oeuvre to share and whatever you want to drink.

For our newer members this is great opportunity to get to know other members of the club. Last year's event was well attended with over 40 club members braving rather damp conditions. While I have complete confidence that the weather this year will fully cooperate, as a reminder this is a rain or shine affair. A special thanks to Occoquan Harbour and Dick Lynn for offering the picnic area for the club's use. Please call me at (703) 690-3523 should you have any questions.

## Happy Day at Dave's, June 2

by Dave Moore

Come one, come all but let me know your intentions so I can plan for a fun time. It's a picnic, play day, lazy day, short boat ride day or an excuse to not work day on June 2, 2001. Come by boat preferably or by land barge too. The place...Dave Moore's on the Occoquan Bay shoreline. The plan is to arrive **early afternoon** and relax, visit, chat, play volleyball, horseshoes, croquet or games of choice and of course eat, drink and be OYC partiers! **Eats around 4:00 pm** but snacks all the time. The dock will hold a few boats but mainly anchor off shore and Dave will pick you up in the pontoon boat (just like at Tim's). Tide on June 2 is as follows: Low at about 11:00 a.m. and High about 4:30 p.m., so the afternoon will be great for any of those that have that fear of the Occoquan Bay because the charts show it to be on the shallow side. There is three and a half feet of water at the dock at normal low tide. Rarely a problem for most boaters. The bay on approach, 5-6 feet.

Burgers and 'dogs' will be provided as well as drinks (hard liquor BYOB) and everyone **bring a side dish to share**. The weather will be perfect (I just know it).

Directions for those of you coming for the first time...at about daymarker 2 on the Occoquan channel, head west for the Virginia shoreline. You will see Tyme and Tyde Marina buildings a bit north of my dock. As you look at the shoreline, the homes to the left are new and enormous! I am the house just to the right of the new development and the 'little' house. The OYC banner will be flying on the dock and you can radio me on channel 16 for pickup from your boat after anchoring.

By land, it's **14813 Bayview Drive, Woodbridge, VA 22194**. Take Featherstone Road east off of US 1 and go about a mile and cross the RR tracks, turn an immediate left, then immediate right on Seaview Ave. Go one block to Bayview. At that corner is my hidden drive but marked with a sign and OYC marker will be there. Easy as 1-2-3.

Those by boat arrival may stay anchored for the night and coffee and pastry will be served Sunday morning and the party can continue. (It has in past years!)

**Please RSVP for food planning purposes preferably by e-mail [Evermoorex@aol.com](mailto:Evermoorex@aol.com) or Dave Moore, PO Box 4463, Woodbridge, VA 22194-4463 or 703-494-0651.**

## Off to Cobb Island, June 15-17

by Walt Cheatham, PRYCA Member-at-Large

Cobb Island, MD entertains Potomac and nearby Chesapeake Bay boaters this year again in June with Cobb Island Days—a total community effort put on by the Cobb Island (CI) Citizens Association, the CI Fire Department, and the Charles County Watermen's Association.

Four local restaurants are available Friday evening (pay as you go), and Saturday has free family entertainment including a flag raising, craft fair from 10 to 4, horse drawn wagon rides, fire engine rides, live crab races, and a corn shucking contest for kids up to age 13 (with the shucked corn being cooked later for the pig/chicken roast)—all on the community green right next to the marinas.

All this will be followed by a happy hour, dinner, dancing, and Sunday morning buffet covered by the admission fee (see below). There is no pool available, but the island is flat and great for walking or bicycling.

The January Planfest resulted in signups by 14 boaters, and I have contacted each of you individually to remind you of the event. Registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis with you guys having first priority unless you miss my May 15 cutoff. Anybody else interested in going should contact me ASAP after receiving this Daymarker, and I will add you to the list. The Cobb Island area marinas fill up by mid May, so time is of the essence, especially for larger boats and boats that must have 50 amp service. I will submit the reservation on Tuesday, May 15.

Prices for the food/entertainment (mandatory) are \$27 per adult (over 12) and \$14 for kids (7 thru 12). Children under 7 are free. This buys you happy hour on Shymansky's deck followed by the Saturday night chicken/pig roast dinner at Fish Tails Restaurant, admission to dancing, and a breakfast/brunch buffet Sunday morning at one of the participating restaurants. Boat prices are \$1.10 per foot per night and \$5 per night for electricity (either 30 or 50 amp service).

I need to know captain, phone, e-mail, boat name, length, beam, draft, and names of all guests for name tags/meal tickets. Please send all info and check made out to me ASAP. I am Walt Cheatham, 1600 N Oak St #1612, Arlington, VA 22209. Phone is 703-243-2430 (home) and 703-588-7323 (work where the fax is 703-588-1178). E-mail is [CheathamWalt@home.com](mailto:CheathamWalt@home.com).

Last year saw over 70 boats participating, with 36 of them arriving Friday night. This year promises to be even tighter, so sign up early. Get the reservations and checks to me by May 15. Last year they let us cancel out up to June first, but after that you are committed—no refunds.

## Changing the Name of Your Boat?

From old Irish sailing lore. When you change the name of a boat, to avoid bad luck, you must take a potato, cut it in half, plant one half at the farthest corner of your back yard. Take the other on your first cruise; as you get underway, toss it over the stern. This will keep the sea demons and leprechauns away.

Also, the first drink you have on board, tip a generous splash overboard for Poseidon, so he will not bother you. (NO, he does not prefer that you digest it first).



# On April 1<sup>st</sup>, All the Fools Rushed in to Tim's

by Gary & Nicky Linck, *Lovin' Life!*

What can I say, winter was wayyyyy too long this year! I have been going around topless as much as possible this winter and freezing my \*^#!s off. What ever happen to some warm days during the winter season? I think we should shoot that ground hog and start our own OYC way of determining when spring begins. How about if we place a lime in a Corona bottle and if we see a shadow of the lime on the bottom of the bottle, then it's time to start boating season.

Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, it was time to party at Tim's. The weather was close to 80 degrees and sunny. The Lincks were the first to arrive in their new Cruisers 53 foot Express – hull #1. (Currently featured on the front page of wcys.com.) We were the first to arrive because we remembered to turn the clocks ahead for daylight savings!! Most OYC members came late by boat.

Tim was ready for us. He had plenty of crabs – the largest were the most plentiful. They were so large that just one was enough for a meal. Janine, you came too late, Gary ate the last ones. From the photo, you can see Gary showed the group the proper way to eat a crab.

The wet t-shirt contest was GREAT. Tom Coldwell actually won. What a hottie! Ned, if you had been there, you would have taken the honors. In all seriousness, we had a



Gary Linck shows fellow fools how he feeds his funny face.

wonderful time. The turnout was good and it was great to gettogether with everyone. Thank you to all the "fools" who joined in on the fun and feast.

## Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association Annual Float-In

by Susan Brown, OYC's co-coordinator for the Float-In

The 16th Annual PRYCA Float-In will be held July 20-22, at Ft. Washington, Marina. New activities this year should make it the highlight of the summer. Added this year are boating seminars, demonstrations, Friday night Blow Boat races, and the first PRYCA Blow Boat Regatta.

For those who are not familiar with this marina, the marina is located on the Piscataway Creek off Potomac River buoy #79.

The Fort Washington Channel was dredged in early 1999; the fairways between the docks and the entrance channel out to Red Day Marker 2 were dredged to 5'6" MLW. It is a full service marina featuring 296 slips, fixed piers with floating docks, 30 and 50 amp electrical service, fuel (gas and diesel),

heads, showers, Laundromat, ship's store, tennis courts, and pool. This Marina is also the home of Proud Mary's Restaurant. OYC members who ate at Proud Mary's last year gave it rave reviews.

The cost for this event is reasonable, \$44 per adult, \$22 for a child 7-12. Children 6 and under are free. Nightly boat slip fees are \$1.00/ft. and \$3.00/per 30-amp cord or \$6.00 per 50-amp cord.

Plan now to attend this event. PRYCA says that the first club to register will get priority treatment on slip assignments. That is of prime importance at Ft. Washington Marina. So get out that checkbook and send your check to me ASAP. We want to be the first club registered. Tom Shank and I will consolidate the registrations and forward them to PRYCA.

**Register now by filling out the registration form below and sending it and your check**

**(payable to OYC) to Susan Von Schaack Brown, 6117 Fox Run, Fairfax Station, VA 22030**

Captain name and guests (for name tags) : \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Boat name: \_\_\_\_\_ Length \_\_\_\_\_ Beam \_\_\_\_\_ Power Requirement 1-30\_\_\_ 2-30\_\_\_ 1-50\_\_\_

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_ Total number of nights \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fees: For the people: Number of adults X \$44 plus number of children 7 to 12 years of age X \$22. For the boat: Length of boat X \$1.00 plus \$3.00 for each 30 amp cord or \$6.00 for a 50 amp cord. Take this times the number of nights you're staying.

*People cost:*

# attending of Audts X \$44 = \_\_\_\_\_ PLUS # of Children attending X \$22 = \_\_\_\_\_ EQUALS \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Boat cost:*

Length in feet X \$1.00 \_\_\_\_\_ PLUS electric cost (\$3 or \$6) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per night X No. of nights EQUALS \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Enclose check for this total cost: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Cruising on the Chesapeake Bay has always been fun



**July Cruise on the Bay** Just a reminder, this is a last call for anyone who wants to join the July Cruise on the Chesapeake Bay. There is still a chance that you can participate in the July 4<sup>th</sup> one week cruise if you act now. The one week cruise will start June 30<sup>th</sup> from Point Lookout Marina, make a one night stop at Shipwright Harbor Marina in Deale, Md, before stopping at Chesapeake Harbour Marina in Annapolis for a three night stay over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. On the return trip you will visit Spring Cove Marina in Solomons, Md. for a two night stay and then Coles Point Plantation Marina before heading back up the Potomac to home on Sunday July 8<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in getting in on this trip, email Nicky Linck at [nlinck@email.com](mailto:nlinck@email.com) or call 703-494-7028. You must act quickly as all reservations and deposits are due to the marinas no later than June 1<sup>st</sup>.

## OYC Items to be Discounted at Flag Raising

If you didn't already have enough reasons to attend the 18th Annual Flag Raising, celebrating the 2001 boating season, being with your OYC friends, enjoying lunch by the river, enjoying being back on the river, here's one more: shopping! **Prices will be slashed on many OYC items, including shirts, watches, totebags, and more.** OYC will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments, and liquid refreshments. So bring a side dish—a casserole, veggies, salad, or a dessert; and bring your checkbook, too!

## The Daymarker in color?

Did you know that current and the past few years' worth of Daymarkers are available for viewing OYC's website? Many of the pictures you see in the black and white in the printed version show up on the website in *color*. Check it out!

<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>

## **What's new from ORMA**

Occoquan Dredging - ORMA participated in a meeting hosted by three members of Congressman Davis' staff, with PWC Supervisors Hilda Barg and Ruth Griggs, Occoquan Mayor Pat Conway and Treasurer Win Frank, and Terry Hill of Potomac Marine to address the Corps of Engineers position on the dredging issue. The Corps has so far taken a position to "study" the problem and considering the non-viable option of having the Coast Guard just move the markers to solve the problem. This "study" activity could last until they expend all the appropriated funds and have none left for dredging. One might ask "move the markers where?" Good question, because unless you dredge, there isn't any place to move them. The staffers will meet with a Corps representative on the 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss this issue.

**Blessing of the Fleet.** All is falling into place for the blessing on Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. in Occoquan Bay. Two Navy Chaplains will provide the invocation to each boat as it passes the Blessing Boat which this year will be captained by Commodore Russ Salter of

Fairfax Yacht Club. The procession will be managed by Past PRYCA Commodore John Robey and the Occoquan Flotilla of the Coast Guard Auxiliary with participation of Fairfax County police and fireboats, Potomac Marine, and other public safety vessels.

The distinguished guests' boat, *Cocolobo*, captained by Occoquan Yacht Club's Rudy Zimpel and First Mate Cookie Zimpel for the second year in a row, will host Occoquan Mayor Pat Conway and three members of the Occoquan Town Council, Supervisors Sean Connaughton, Hilda Barg, and Ruth Griggs from Prince William County, Supervisor Elaine McConnell from Fairfax County and hopefully Congressman Davis who successfully sponsored the appropriation for the dredging of the Occoquan.

**No Wake Zone.** PWC Supervisor Ruth Griggs advises that the PWC Board of Supervisors intends to approve the extension of the no wake zone to 300 ft past the new Belmont Harbor Marina at their next meeting, and that will clear the way for Belmont Harbor to put in the new no wake marker. We are unsure of the time frame for accomplishing this, but we should expect it to happen this month of May.

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## **A Quest for Lost Ground**

by An Unnamed Source

Someone genius said that boating is an obnoxious way to display wealth and a foolproof means of disposing of it. I make no claim for wealth but I can attest to the disposing part, in which I have become an expert.

A few weeks ago the Raritan Crown heads in Shalimar decided not to flush unless the battery charger was on; without the charger, not even a click at the switch. Which meant we could only flush while on shore power or genset, which intervals do not always coincide with the need. Each head requires 32 amps to flush, and the battery charger could give it only 22 amps at best; so it would flush, but without much gusto. I called Raritan and they were perplexed.

I agreed with my dock neighbors who suggested I had a bad battery. So even though both main batteries checked out "good" with a load tester (which I bought), I replaced the two batteries and upped the series from 24 to 27 just for good measure. Now let's flush without the charger. Nothing.

Next suspect, the battery charger. I hired an electrician to accomplish some unrelated work and asked him to check the charger. It's erratic, he says. I called the manufacturer, who said they no longer make that type of charger and had no suggestions to offer. So I bought a snazzy new charger and let it work on the new batteries overnight. Next day I turned it off for the crucial test. Press the flush button. Not a sound, not a gurgle.

Enter the saintly Ned Rhodes. Electronics engineer, seasoned boater, dogmaster, plus he owns meters and things. He helped me trace the circuits between heads, batteries.... and, oh yes, ground.

Ground? Well, gee whiz, ground is important, even I know that.

Tracing the wiring for the heads was a chore, but soon enough I followed the ground wires to a single, solitary, out-of-the-way, sneaking-under-the-starboard-engine ground lug,

to which were attached four or five cables, including a black cable from each head. And the nut holding the connections was loose! Omigosh, you don't suppose.

Tightened that nut about 14 foot-tons and pressed the flusher button. Wow, the heads never worked so well.

Total cost of this adventure: \$430. Total needed: nothing—other than the knowledge or experience to check for loose grounds. So, naturally, I've been rationalizing, to my First Mate and myself; after all, I had been urged some time ago to get bigger batteries and a state-of-the-art battery charger (which this episode enabled).

You think it's difficult to rationalize like this? Of course it isn't. I bought a boat, didn't I?

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## **A last gasp on gas from Dave Moore**

### **G.A.S.\* Test Update**

by Dave Moore

Last month many of you read about my unbelievable secret about being selected last year to try a new additive with your fuel that is being tested and can boost power and also cut fuel consumption by up to forty-five percent. The continued testing this boating season had many responding to me to get on the list to become possible participants and share the wonderful results on your own boat.

The list is now full so if you did not respond, it's a bit too late now. I received e-mails and phone calls and updated the eager *wannabe* participants. I can reveal the list of signed-on participants but for some reason those selected wish not to be identified now. Wonder why?

Oh, by the way, G.A.S.\* stands for Gas Alliance Suckers. When will you people learn about the notorious April issue of the *Daymarker* anyway! Please don't be hard on me, but you guys are soooooo gullible, my job is so easy every April as a ghostwriter.



Inside...

## Big events this weekend —

OYC's 18<sup>th</sup> annual Flag Raising (and picnic cookout) at OHM, this Saturday noon, and maybe a raft-up Saturday night,

Third annual Occoquan Blessing of the Fleet, Sunday, 11 a.m.- 2 p.m.

Oh-oh, if there's an asterisk on your mailing label, this is your last Daymarker (unless you renew your membership).



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

Change Service Requested

**May 5**  
**Flag Raising at OHM**  
**Be there at Noon**

**May 6**  
**Third Annual**  
**Blessing of the**  
**Fleet**

**May 19**  
**Happy Hour at OHM**  
**Jim Henry**  
**690-3523**

**May 20**  
**PRYCA Blessing of**  
**the Fleet in**  
**Washington**  
**Channel**  
**Joe Livingston**  
**250-8765**

**May 26-28**  
**Memorial Day**  
**Weekend Cruise to**  
**Olverson's**  
**Steve Wexler**  
**437-0687**