



OCCOQUAN YACHT CLUB

P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125

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

Web site: www.OccoquanYachtClub.org

Commodore

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Vice Commodore Rick Sorrenti

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THE DAYMARKER Editor Tom Coldwell

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Commodore's Comments



Mary Lynn Snowman

"Oh, the

weather outside is frightful..." wish it were snowing. Today it's just a rainy mist. Seems that we've had them for so many days over the last couple of weeks, but the weather was absolutely gorgeous the weekend of the Hardy Souls Cruise. If you missed that weekend you missed a great time. The dogs had wonderful dog walks and the scavenger hunt was so much fun. Ned and Arleen came up with some clever ways to make your purchases help win some really cool prizes. Thanks, Ned and Arleen, for a job well done—and fun!

Then, if that wasn't enough, Randy and I absolutely fell in love with Alexandria and went back the next weekend. Of course, I got to go shopping again, and friends came down Saturday evening to go to dinner and see the new boat. (I still refer to it as a boat and not a vacht.)

Somewhere that weekend I quit giving the "tour" and now anyone who comes aboard is more than welcome to look but please don't expect me to give a tour. I think it all began when a stranger was looking and asked if he could come inside and look around. He had the cutest dog that Skipper was having a good time with so of course the door was opened. Seven friends and an hour later I was no longer giving the tour. Since they came from Belmont Bay Marina and are not members of a yacht club I would have been remiss in not giving them a membership brochure. Haven't heard anything about new members yet but you never know. At any rate, it was fun meeting them and we'll see them on the water.

Last weekend was Occoquan Yacht Club's first Silent Auction and Wine and Cheese function. (More than fifty percent of the proceeds will go to PRYCA to promote safe boating.) For those of you who didn't make it, I'm sorry, you missed a really fun time,

even if the weather was frightful. Rick Sorrenti is just fabulous at selling stuff.

I want to thank the Hoffmaster's for opening their showroom for OYC to use. They have recently renovated the showroom and it is beautiful. It has become quite clear that no matter what size of boat that you give to Randy Snowman he can have a good time. He spent most of time at the Silent Auction either trying to sell a boat or pretending he was buying one. He gave a thorough inspection of every boat in the showroom. I am happy to report that he has no complaints about any of the boats.

Even though the boating season may be coming to an end for some of you please don't think that OYC has stopped getting together. You can check the Daymarker for any upcoming events; we always cover them in the copy. You can also check our web page for any upcoming event as well. Hopefully you have already RSVPd for the Holiday Party.

OYC always has lots of fun things happening; make it your new year's resolution to attend at least one function a month with OYC. You'll want to be sure and mark your calendars for the Planfest on Saturday, January 18, 2003. Plans are to have it at Gecko's from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. Please plan to attend.

Randy Sr., Meagan, Randy Jr., Skipper, Blackie and I wish you all a happy holiday season and a joyous (and fun) new year. See you on the water.

Hurry, reserve for the Holiday Party, Dec. 7th. Join the fun. See Page 7.

The Datemarkers BIRTHDAYS

Bill Dalgetty 12/3 Gordon Cawelti 12/5 Jon Irwin 12/14 Dana Lotspeich 12/18 Cynthia Martin 12/24 Jim Johnson 12/27 Jim Bell 12/4
Judy Thompson 12/7
Ray Kelly 12/17
Claudia Fanes 12/20
Susan Thompson 12/26
Patricia Garverick 12/28

ANNIVERSARIES

Ned & Arleen Rhodes 12/21 David & Shahin Hodge 12/23 Michael & Susan Dugan 12/30

Welcome New Members

Richard (Buddy) and Jeanne Axtell of Burke. They keep their 44' Gibson, *Jazzy Lady*, at OHM.

Maurice J. "Maury" and Patricia F. "Patty" Shumaker of Manassas. They keep their 32' Bayliner, *KikiBird*, at Hampton's Landing.

Upcoming events:

Santa Cruise to Occoquan, November 30, call Walt Cheatham, 703 243-2430

Holiday Party, December 7, call Rick Sorrenti, 703 590-6724

Parade of Lights in Washington Channel, call Lorraine Lloyd, 703 838-4200, ext. 209

Rob and Marg's (*Three Gs*) Second Annual "Ain't No Cure for the Wintertime Blues Potluck Dinner," January 11, call Rob Grant, 703 250-9539

PRYCA Change of Watch, Sheraton Crystal City, January 25, call Joe Livingston, 703 250-8764

Cruise Coordinators needed

Are you interested in coordinating a cruise but are reluctant to it alone? The OYC board recognizes this concern and has just appointed a Cruise Coordinator Advisor. Becky Heinze will be available to work with anyone wishing assistance in coordinating a cruise in the year ahead. Please contact any board member with your interest and we will forward the information on to Becky.

The Daymarker

Published monthly by the Occoquan Yacht Club Tom Coldwell, PC, Editor; Mary Ann Coldwell, Editor's Editor Randy Snowman, Circulation

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.net

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



Vice Commodore

Rick Sorrenti

Looking across what used to be a parking lot at Occoquan Harbour Marina, you can quickly surmise that the boating season is now over. Looking back over this past season, your yacht club has accomplished a lot and we had a great time. Many people only want to watch, others will wet their toes but some of you have truly been fantastic in helping the club really accomplish what we all love—boating and fellowship. But I do believe that it is only fair to participate—not just take advantage of the cruising, eating and partying—but to pitch in and help make it happen. For 2003, we want and need help; so, many of you will be asked to help, since it's only fair to be wanted!

We want to thank Ned and Arleen for another great job on the Hardy Souls Cruise! I know there is a recap elsewhere in this issue, but those of you who wimped out missed a great time. Perfect weather and a great time! Kind of glad it was rescheduled since the original weekend a week later was really lousy. But it has always been an event that separates the wheat from the chaff and this year was no exception. Thanks also go to Randy and Mary Lynn for hosting a wonderful happy hour!

Our next event will be taking the old white bearded fellow up the Occoquan. As you read this Santa should be safely deposited somewhere along the river. Not real sure what happened to the plan to build a transient dock but I guess that was shelved due to winter. OYC will have the honors of delivery on November 30th along with PWYC.

At press time the sign-ups for the December 7th Holiday Party are only trickling in, so I hope that the telephone calls result in many more reservations. OYC has never had a slow party, and this promises to be no exception. Your 2002 and 2003 board have a lot of surprises (read: really great gifts) in store for you along with a wonderful menu; no wondering if you will get the chicken and wish you had the fish. With the great buffet Ft. Belvoir has planned, you can eat it all, or gorge yourself on the item you like best. Add in the great music from Peggy Castle, and you have all the ingredients of another fun evening. So come on out and have a great time. If you have not signed up, give me a call right away—final numbers are due in a matter of days.

Even if you can't boat for a couple of months, we have many events scheduled over the winter, so keep reading the Daymarker. In fact, sometimes the Board and the Editor get their most creative during the winter months when there is no boating to write about, so don't skip an issue, you never know what you might find.

Certainly you will want to know about the Planfest at Gecko's in January, where we go over the 2003 agenda and ask for your help while doing what we do best...eating and drinking. As members of the Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association, we are invited to their annual Change of Watch January 25—a great event with live band for dancing but not so stuffy to prevent OYC from throwing napkins and doing the "O-Y-C-A" for all to see. And you will want to know more about the annual back-by-popular-demand potluck

dinner at the Grants in January. So if we don't see you at the party, we hope you have a happy and safe holiday season, and look forward to making it happen in 2003!

Oh, By The Way.....

In a bid to comply with the Bush administration's competitive sourcing initiative, the Coast Guard is planning to turn a 99-person office in West Virginia into a government corporation.

But the Office of Management and Budget has yet to sign off on the plan, which would not give companies a chance to compete for any federal jobs at the National Vessel Documentation Center in Falling Waters, W.Va. office. The office documents the nationality of vessels that fish, trade or cruise in U.S.waters.

As a government corporation, the NVDC would set its own budget and be exempt from federal personnel and procurement rules. Congress has created more than 20 government corporations, including Amtrak, the Tennessee Valley Authority and the U.S. Postal Service.

So if you think it took a long time to get that federal documentation number before...maybe the Bush administration has a better plan.

Sea Duck Too back to 16

2003 Membership? It's time to renew, Bubba. See coupon on Page 7



Rear Commodore

Ann Shipley

Well, my wonderful boating friends, here is my last installment of your cooking corner. The weather is turning colder and the marinas are less and less populated. We have to move indoors and keep company by the warmth of a fire and over hot bowls of soup and bread. It's nice to have the other 8-9 months on the water to talk about and know that it has brought us together. As for me, this is the toughest time of year. To admit that it is time to get off the water is difficult. I need one of those light hats to get me through the next few months!

So without further ado, here is a wonderful soup that will keep you warm on some cold night.

CORNY CHEESE SOUP

1 medium onion, chopped
2 medium carrots, chopped
3 ½ tbsps flour
3 ½ tbsps flour
3 cups chicken broth
½ lb sharp Cheddar cheese, shredded
1 ½ cups mild
1 (5 ½ oz.) can corn niblets, drained (I like more)
chopped parsley

Saute' onion, celery and carrots in butter. Add flour and cook until bubbly. Add chicken broth stirring constantly, until boiling Add cheese a little at a time until all is melted. Add milk, do not boil. Add corn and heat. Serve hot with chopped parsley.

2nd Annual!

Pull out that DayTimer now!

Ain't No Cure For The OYC Winter Time Blues Pot Luck Dinner

January 11, 2003 Rob & Marg (Three G's)

please rsvp by Jan. 6th : robgrant@starpower.net

or call: 703-250-9539

Time: 7:00pm

Address: 7337 Wayfarer Drive, Fairfax Station, VA 22039

(off Ox Road, between Henderson & Burke Lake Road)

If your <u>Last Name</u> begins with...... please bring per list below to share. We'll supply soda, beer & wine. Kids are welcome.

A-E: Appetizer F-K: Salad L-S: Main Dish T-Z: Dessert

Disclaimer:

Enjoy...... otherfellowbeerwinedrinkingboatersawaitingspringlookingforagoodtime

DECEMBER 2002

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We Were Hardy, Where Were You?

by Ned W. Rhodes, Cruise Coordinator

Ten boats were hardy enough for the Hardy Souls Cruise to Old Town Alexandria the first weekend in November. Recall that we had to switch from our normal Veteran's Day Weekend to the weekend before due to the fact that all the large slips had already been reserved.

Impulse, Snowman, Shalimar, Sea Duck Too, Oasis, Empty Pockets, and Day Dreamer all made it up for Friday night. The schedule of events called for arrival at 3:00pm with cocktails starting at 3:15. I believe we were true to our agenda.

The people just kept on coming over to *Impulse* Friday night and we saw people we have not seen in years show up for cocktails and dinner. Dinner was on your own, and I think most people finished up at Ben and Jerry's for ice cream.

Four dogs and twice as many people showed up for the 8:00am Saturday dog walk to the Drooler. We took the obligatory picture and remarked that there was not much water coming out of the Drooler this year. Tom Coldwell kept

sucking in his stomach whenever the joggers went by and Corky tripped many a walker. We made it as far as "Ralph's



obligatory picture and remarked that there was not much water coming out of the Randy, Ned, Glenn and Ralph out for a long walk on the Alexandria waterfront.

Tree," and all posed for the standard picture which I am sure will be a winner at the photo contest in January. Randy

Snowman showed off his gas bike and Mary Lynn remarked that he never had to go to a gas station to fill up his tank.

Touch of Fate and Hot Schatz joined the group for the Saturday activities and the big event of the day was the Scavenger Hunt. Unlike last year where you collected cocktail napkins from local bars, this year you actually had to solve puzzles and take pictures at various places around town. It turns out that most teams got all the questions correct so the winners ultimately were chosen on the basis of their creative photos.

Commodore and Commodorable Snowman hosted the Saturday cocktail party aboard *Abominable Snowman* and a good time was had by all. I can say that all reports of deviant behavior are greatly exaggerated and you can't believe anything you see in a photograph.

Impulse continued the fun by eating in that night, while many of the group ate out. And guess what, even though it was 40 degrees out, we still finished the night at Ben & Jerry's.

After the Sunday morning dog walk



Top Scavengers—Coldwells (4th), Mirando and Shank (1st), Zsirais and Brown (2nd), Sorrentis (3rd) in the Saturday afternoon chase through Old Town Alexandria. The real winners were Ned and Arleen Rhodes, led morning walks, bought cameras for scavenger participants (for contest evidence) and coordinated another fantastic Hardy Souls Cruise.

to Jones Point and the second annual picture in front of the Boundary Stone, most of the group went up to the Virginia Brewing Company for a fantastic brunch. Ham, waffles, omelets and BACON were put out in great quantities and we all ate until we could eat no more.

At the crack of noon, we announced the winners of the Scavenger Hunt which were: 4th place, Tom and Mary Ann Coldwell, 3rd place, Rick and Teresa Sorrenti, 2nd place Ted & Illona Zsirai and Susan Brown, and 1st place Tom Shank and

Tony Mirando. Randy (who had waited so patiently) proceeded to fumigate the riverfront by starting his engines (Dee Troits), and the mass exodus home was begun.

The final activity of the weekend was to drink a toast to *Impulse* on her final club trip since she was being moved to Annapolis the following weekend to make room for the new *Impulse*.

The pictures from the weekend will be posted on the club web site in the very near future so you can see all the fun you missed. Mark your calendar for next year.

Nautical Nuances

by Gordon Cawelti, Class Act

All of us OYCers have found ourselves from time to time being tied up next to sailing vessels. Here is a tip for dealing with that. We always carry along some Courvoisier and Brie so that in case people from these vessels drop in, we have something to talk about.

You may have heard that over the winter they will completely replace and modernize the docks at the Alexandria City Marina. Some of you have sniffed that we slip holders are getting a bit snooty about our superior facilities, but just because we are going to also have maid service next year doesn't mean we are any better than you. Just cleaner.

It is really helpful to have such a fine club newsletter to help keep us all informed about club activities and the incisive comments of our officers help pull the now large club together. Each month Dodie and I read every word of the Nightchecker.

The decision to go with the "officers for life" plan can best be termed ill timed. With our leaders on Capitol Hill showing such courage in their efforts with term limits, perhaps OYC should follow their lead in preparing the slate. (kidding...kudos to those who contribute so much time.)

We did not stick around for the hugely successful Hardy Souls Cruise (but did attend the cocktail party). The reason was that to have *Class Act* moored there among all those huge vessels would be rather like walking into a room full of tuxedoes wearing brown shoes.

The Gangplank cruise in October was well planned and hosted by Tom Shank and Tony Mirando. Some felt "The Misanthrope" production verged on being forgettable, but it is really about striving for moderation in all things which has never been a trait held by OYCers, especially regarding food and drink. Actually, Moliere felt that moderation itself can be excessive for some people.

Pictures wanted

Dana Phan, OYC's new Historian, is in need of pictures for any OYC function. All years are being requested. Please send copy to attention Dana Phan in care of OYC using our P. O. Box. Note any information with the pictures and the function (i.e. location, date of function, and members in the picture, if known). As always, we will accept pictures from any function at any time. Please provide as much information as you can so that the files can be kept accurate and current.

Membership Renewal Due Now

Send in your check to renew your membership in OYC, \$60 for Family, \$40 for Individual, \$30 for Associate (no boat). Check payable to OYC. Mail to OYC, P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125. OR, better still, use the coupon on Page 7 to pay for your renewal AND your holiday party.



For Sale: Impulse, 1992 Sea Ray 400EC

On an "impulse," we decided to replace our 1992 *Impulse*. She is 40 feet in length, powered by T-340 gas engines. Fully loaded and a great Bay boat. 20 knot cruise with 775 hours. Email me at rhodesn@softsysgrp.com if you need more information or contact Todd Juckett at 410-956-3444. The boat is currently on the South River waiting for a new owner.

Steve Thompson



Treasurer

When it comes to boating you can definitely tell that, just as the earth orbits the sun creating the four seasons, boaters work and play according to the boating seasons. Boaters don't think in terms of spring, summer, fall, and winter. They think of the seasons a little differently. I refer to them as prepping/launching, boating season, winterizing/haul-out, and hibernating, respectively. Let's take a moment and look at them.

The season every boater knows and enjoys the most is boating season. This is the time of year that finds the river and anchorages filled with boats. You find yourself constantly on the lookout, weaving and swerving to avoid those other, inconsiderate and uneducated boaters. There is the constant hassle of getting to your favorite anchorage early enough to claim *YOUR* spot, only to have someone anchor practically on top of you. And let's not forget all of those other boaters that don't know the meaning of "No Wake." But despite all of the hassle and concern you still find yourself smiling and enjoying the experience, just as long as you are on the water.

Winterizing/haul-out season is perhaps the saddest season for boaters. It is also one of the most laborious and, except for those calls to *Boat U.S.* for a tow with the resulting repair bill, perhaps the most expensive. For many of us, we have to haul our boat and put it in storage, or at least winterize it. This is also the time we want to get any repairs or engine maintenance done that we put off during boating season. Then there is the farewell, that last glimpse of heaven on earth till the time arrives to get ready for the next boating season.

The hibernating season shows virtually no boating activity anywhere; nothing on the river and just about as much (little) activity at the marina. I like to refer to this season as the banking season. This is the season where the boater is collecting all of his or her pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, etc. Then you put them in a high interest-bearing account in the hope of amassing the small fortune required to operate your boat, in the manner to which you are accustomed, during boating season. Unfortunately it just doesn't seem to last long enough to amass this amount of money.

And, finally, there is the prepping/launching season. This is when you work your butt off getting your boat ready for the next season. If you were diligent over the hibernating period you now have enough money to get your boat ready, and out on the water during boating season. If you weren't diligent enough, then you now have a boat ready to sit at the dock all boating season long. Here you might say, "At least I'm enjoying the boat, if not the river."

The reason why I wrote this article is to make a point. We are now in the most important season for the boater. Let's watch those pennies, etc. so that we will be able to fully enjoy next year's boating season. One note here; I wouldn't advise physically going in to hibernation. There is still plenty of boating pleasure to enjoy (Holiday Party, PotLuck Dinner, etc.) that won't dig too deep into your savings. I hope to see you around this season

If you get this in time... Santa Cruise to Occoquan

The folks down at the worldwide headquarters of The Daymarker take a dim view of publishing "advance" notice of events which precede the current month's issue. For Santa Claus, and his affable and bewildering elf Walt Cheatham, we make an exception.

So, on the chance that you have received this December issue anytime before Saturday, November 30th, please do read on about your chance to observe and perhaps participate OYC's traditional heavy lift of Santa Claus to Occoquan.

As Elf Cheatham says, "We gather on the OHM docks for food and drink followed by our traditional ferrying of ole St Nick himself to downtown Occoquan. So, decorate your boat, crank up some holiday music, bring some libation and munchies to share, and be in place on the OHM gas dock around 10:45 AM so we can enjoy an hour of merry making before blasting off at 11:40 in order to have Santa arrive promptly at the old Prince William Marina bulkhead at noon for the Occoquan Merchant Association's Christmas kickoff.

"We've had very mild weather the past three years, so no one has an excuse for missing this fun event. See you there November 30th at 10:45. Bring your own grog and munchies.



PRYCA Delegate

Joe Livingston

PRYCA Update

Randy Semper (Aquia Harbor YC) has been elected Commodore of the PRYCA for the 2003 Season. Congrats to Commodore Semper as he assumes his Watch on the 25th of January.

Speaking of the PRYCA Change of Watch, did you miss the article in the November "Daymarker?" Well, it is time to make reservation so the OYC will again be well represented and all will have a great evening.

Pretty simple. Send \$50 (payable to OYC) per person and tell me beef, chicken or fish. Mail to Joe Livingston, 9716 Churchway, Burke, VA 22015.

For reservations (checks) received after 26 December, the cost will be \$55 per person.

Consider attending The 2002 Holiday Weekend Boat Parade of Lights which will be held December 7th and 8th. Some club members are considering going on the 8th following OYC's Holiday Party.

For further information, contact Lorraine Lloyd at 703-838-4200, ext. 209 or llloyd@funside.com. Complimentary slips are to be available at Alexandria and the DC waterfront.

See you at the Holiday Party COW...Gail Lynn II's crew reservations are in! Are yours?



The Commodore and 2002 Board, Occoquan Yacht Club, cordially invite you and your guests to

The 2002 Holiday Party and Change of Watch



a fun-filled celebration of boating and volunteer service

	Saturday, December 7, 6:30 p.m.
Place:	Fort Belvoir Community Club. Take I-95 to Ft. Belvoir/Newington Exit 166 to Fairfax County Parkway; proceed south to U.S. 1; turn left on U.S. 1 and go about one mile to Pence Gate (main gate); inside gate take first left and an immediate right. Due to heightened security there may be some delay entering Fort Belvoir.
Dress:	Black Tie Optional
Schedule:	6:30 p.m Cocktails (Cash Bar) and hors d'oeuvres—Hot Crab Dip & Breadsticks, Cheese Platter, Smoked Chicken Quesadillas, Vegetable Relish Tray
	7:15 p.m Buffet Dinner
	Installation of Officers, Recognition of Event Coordinators, Presentation of Awards and Door Prizes
	Dancing to Your Favorites presented by DJ Peggy Castle
Buffet Menu:	Green Beans <i>Almondine</i> , Scalloped Potatoes, Herb Roasted Chicken with Gravy, Sliced Roast Beef, Assorted Breads, Fruit Salad, Pumpkin Pie & Whipped Cream, Coffee, Iced Tea
Price:	\$35 per person
Send o	coupon below and check payable to OYC and no later than November 23 th to: Rick Sorrenti, 3401 Carly Lane, Woodbridge, VA 22191-4008
Names of p	persons in your party:
Number A	ttending: X \$35 = Total for Party \$
□ I an	m including my 2003 membership renewal (Family, \$60; Individual, \$40; Associate, \$30) Total for Renewal \$
	Total Enclosed \$

Inside . . . BUT WAIT, READ THIS:

You have about eleventy-six minutes to cop your place at a Holiday Party table. It's next Saturday, December 7; still time to reserve, but do it, like, you know, now. See Page 8.

Authoritative report on the Hardy Souls Cruise to Old Town,

Again we say, Sign up for the Holiday Party at Ft. Belvoir, AND you can renew your 2003 OYC membership at the same time—one coupon, one check and one stamp. Go for it.

November 30 Santa Cruise to Occoquan Walt Cheatham 703 243-2430

December 7 Holiday Party Rick Sorrenti 703 590-6724

January 11
2nd Annual
Potluck Dinner
with Rob & Marg
703 250-9539

January 18
Annual Planfest



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

Change Service Requested