

April 2004, Vol. XXI, No. 4

The Daymarker

OCCOQUAN YACHT CLUB

P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125
Member: PRYCA, CBYCA Boat/U.S. Accord # GA80979Y
Web site: www.OccoquanYachtClub.org

Commodore
Rick Sorrenti
703 590-6724

Vice Commodore
Sue Thompson
703 440-8114

Rear Commodore
Alan Gorenstein
703 938-6516

Secretary
Vicki Hamp
703 335-0976

Treasurer
Harry Croft
703 451-9147

Quartermaster
Rebecca & John Heinze
703 924-9365

Membership
Maury Shumaker
703 331-2159

Historian
Dana Phan
703 690-2435

PRYCA Delegate
Joe Livingston
540 373-9203

THE DAYMARKER Editor
Steve Thompson
703 440-8114

New Marine Life Discovered in Occoquan Bay!



© KURT JONES 2003

HURRICANE ISABEL HAD AN UNEXPECTED EFFECT ON THE OCCOQUAN BAY, LOCATED ON THE POTOMAC RIVER JUST SOUTH OF WASHINGTON, DC.

Reprinted with permission.

For the first time since Hurricane Isabel local officials are now confirming reports of a new resident plying the waters of Occoquan Bay and its environs. Until the surreptitious release of this photo, the Prince William County Marine Patrol would only say that they were in the process of investigating several reports of "incidents" in the bay. The photo was

taken shortly after Isabel's passing as high winds continued to stir up giant waves on the Potomac. This reporter discovered the investigation actually began after reports started coming in of bass fishermen not returning home after local outings. Shortly thereafter bass boats started washing ashore in various states of destruction, many with large chunks of their hull missing.

Originally, investigators chalked the accidents up to boater error, most probably use of excessive speed for prevailing conditions. However, this theory was dismissed when another incident occurred on a very calm day. The investigation then turned to possible marine life digestive deprivation intervention when a photographer provided the above photo to authorities.

The photo was taken to confirm a bet that the individual pictured could actually surf the waves in the bay resulting from the winds of Hurricane Isabel. On his initial trip into the bay a shadow of something in the water caught his eye. Frantic yelling from on shore

quickly confirmed his thinking. He made it back to shore so quickly that he is considering going to the Olympic swimming trials. Asked about the situation the surfer said that he was very happy he was able to save his surfboard, which was attached to his ankle by a safety cord.

Prince William County authorities emphasized that no further incidents have occurred in the past several months and say that it is, indeed, safe to go back into the water. However, they ask that all swimmers wear some sort of identification. This, they say, would greatly assist in notifying next of kin.



The OYC Boat Has Come In

Many of you who have been active in the Occoquan Yacht Club for more than a couple of years have heard numerous members speak of the need to have a club facility. Over the years we have had members who shared that vision. Each and every time we wanted to move forward the actual financial investment costs scared off the Board and the club backed away from the property. I am pleased to announce that our boat has indeed finally come in. Several years ago the club befriended a serious investor, Benjamin Welldon, who over his life, invested in property along the Potomac and Occoquan Rivers. Ben left the local area for retirement in New Mexico and we assumed the property he had acquired was sold. Six weeks ago the Board received word that Ben had passed away and, unknown to us, he had left one of his properties to OYC! As you can see in the above photo, this property is now an OYC asset and we are fortunate to offer each of you the opportunity to share in the fulfillment of Ben's last wishes. Ben's will is very explicit as to how OYC needs to handle the ownership of the facility. There are 60 slips. One 60 footer and 59 slips ranging from 22 feet to 45 feet. Each slip has 30/50 AMP services, water, Cablevision, and wireless Internet. I guess Ben knew we would be grateful and could immediately fill the marina to

capacity by our members.

Many of you are paying considerable annual slip rental fees, and some of our members own slips, but now is the time to be a member of a true yacht club. OYC has signed an initial management contract with River Properties to make our ownership truly enjoyable. The company will be contracted to perform all required routine maintenance and hold the insurance binders on the club's behalf. After legal review it's now time to roll this out to our membership. The executor of Ben's estate will be reviewing applications beginning on May 1st. In order to allocate the limited number of slips equitably, we will implement a drawing after Ben's executor has approved your application. The approval process includes a credit check and employment verification. If you are interested, call me so I can mail the application and associated legal descriptions, membership costs, and time lines.

I look forward to hearing from you soon. Rick Sorrenti, 590-6724.

The One that Didn't Get Away



Another phenomenon attributed to Hurricane Isabel was a record setting catfish. It was caught in infamous Belmont Bay by two local professional fishermen.

OYC Member Plans Comcast Takeover

A fledgling Northern Virginia technology startup has made an unsolicited hostile takeover bid for Comcast, the \$56-billion media giant, in a strategic move to gain control of Walt Disney, the film studio soon to be acquired by Comcast.

Software Systems Group (SSG) chairman and CEO Ned Rhodes, who is also a member of Occoquan Yacht Club, says his firm is poised to lift the struggling cable and broadcast conglomerate into profitability by commencing round-the-clock broadcasts of "The Simpsons," a crudely drawn but popular cartoon series about a family which some sources believe is the inspiration for Rhodes' current lifestyle.

The bold move began as an effort to gain control of Walt *Disney*, after a mistaken and failed attempt to gain control of Walt *Cheatham*, which turns out not to have been a media giant nor available for control.

SSG will leverage the Comcast buyout to pay down long term debt on SSG holdings of a sprawling Arlington, Va. estate, a yacht, some motor vehicles, an Apple iPod digital music player, and a multi-year subscription to Wine Spectator.

If the deal goes through, the Disney film "Snow White" will be re-released, and an eighth dwarf, "Ned," will be added and placed in line right after "Dopey". A character in other Disney films, "Goofy," will be redrawn with a beard.

The acquisition was unanimously approved by the SSG board, whose members include Rhodes' wife Arleen, a legendary kielbasa-wielding former Pittsburgh society diva, and the couple's kibbles-gorging golden retriever Abby, now earmarked to replace Lassie in a remake of the film "Timmy's in the Well!"

If the takeover is successful, SSG would become the nation's largest media conglomerate, lending credence to insider characterizations of its CEO as "the loudest broadcast entertainment outlet on the dock."

Call Your Cable or Satellite Service Sign up for "The Boating Channel"

Some exciting and informative television programming devoted to boating and boaters is now available through local satellite and cable TV services. A sample of the shows:

"Diesel Eye for The Gas Guy"—Five diesel captains tastefully detail a different gas-powered boat each week.

"Third Dock from The Pumpout"—Zany madcap sailboaters from outer space confront life in a powerboat marina.

"Who's Line Is It, Anyway?"—Four boating thespians improvise humorous sketches about raft-ups.

"Socks in the City"—Fashion clueless boat chicks try dressing up to seek love and adventure ashore.

"60 Midgets"—Little reporters expose scandalous conditions existing in cramped engine rooms.

"Okra"—An afternoon talk show featuring tearful reunions of vegetarian siblings separated at birth.

"Dr. Dave"—Psychobabble from yet another bald guru, this one helping distraught boating couples follow the Rules of the Road.

"Antiques Rode Show"—A Captain and First Mate try to anchor their boat while friends watch from ashore. One hour.

"CSI Woodbridge"—Detectives investigate wild dock parties in a Washington suburb.

"SpongeRick SquarePants"—Kiddie show hero morphs himself into a yacht club commodore.

"Everybody Loves Duane"—A fun sitcom for the whole family.



Tech Boating – What's New This Year

We boaters are now getting some attention from the inventor's realm of things. An Australian company named *Brushworks Downunder*, and appropriately named, has come up with a boat bottom automated cleaning system designed actually much like your local car wash equipment. It softly brushes and cleans the hull of your boat while your boat remains in the water.

Just like a car wash, you pull your vessel up to the starting point which is marked with scuff-free poles for alignment. The attendant hooks a towline to the bow and off your boat goes. The underwater electronics read the shape, size, and contours of the hull, and adjust the cleaning tools and brushes accordingly. The boat is slowly towed through the approximately 150 foot device and when completed, your boat bottom has a clean, faster, and smoother surface.

When you start the process, the attendant asks if you wish the premium wash, which then includes brushing the sides of your boat up to the rubrail or a maximum of five feet above the waterline.

There are now several dealers set up for this service including one on the Potomac River near Croci-Moore Point. The service should be available late spring 2004. Cost is yet to be determined but estimates are \$1.00 - \$1.25 per foot. Sounds like a winner. Those downunder guys are amazing.



Shalimar in Europe – During last season's locally rain-soaked boating season, Tom, Mary Ann, and his brother Phil and wife Carol Anne escaped with *Shalimar* to scenic Venice, Italy. "The boating was nice," says Coldwell, "but everywhere else in town the streets were flooded."

Did you know . . . Adding a half-pint of Captain Morgan's rum to a 250 gallon tank of gas will decrease average fuel consumption by 5 gallons per hour. However, it does not appear to have the same affect on diesel, which prefers Barcardi.

Another Local Marina Plans Upgrades

Occoquan Harbour Marina (OHM) has filed permits with Prince William County authorities and state and federal offices to upgrade their marina facilities. Blue prints on file reveal that all current docks will be upgraded using state-of-the-art composite materials and new steel pilings height enough to weather storm surges of up to 15 feet. The docks will be fitted with both hot and cold running water, complimentary telephone access, cable TV subscription service (with internet access), and individual pump out fittings, for each slip. All finger

piers are to be fitted with a hydraulic lift capability that will raise and lower that portion of the dock. This was required to allow easier access to slipholders' boats in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Boat lift facilities will also be expanded to allow for lifting boats in excess of 125 feet and 110 tons.

New shore facilities are also scheduled for construction. A banquet hall, capable of seating 1,000 people, is planned; as well as an indoor Olympic-sized heated swimming pool, tennis courts, and according to sources "one heck of a big barbeque pit". To make room for this new construction some of the marina's parking facilities will have to be relocated to a planned new three level parking garage. Due to its distance from the shoreline, escalators and moving walk-ways were included in the blueprints.

When asked about the upgrades marina management said they needed to enhance their facilities a little in the hope of attracting desperately needed new clientele to keep the marina at or near 100 percent occupancy. Management also alluded to the fact that their annual barbeque had become so popular it has outgrown its previous location. Next year's event will include a live entertainment, possibly Bon Jovi, and an evening fireworks display.

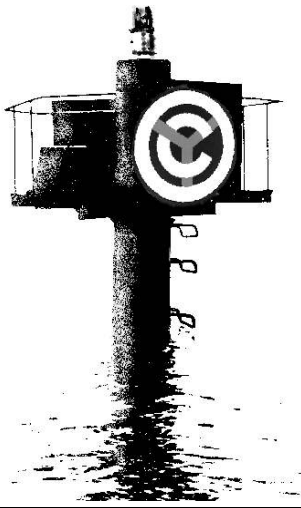
Construction is scheduled to begin May 1st of this year and should be completed by May 2nd, 2006.

In a second undertaking, Occoquan Harbour Marina (OHM) has come up with a novel slip arrangement that will give boat owners a wider choice in how they can dock their boats. For only \$3000 per year, you can dock your boat in their new *Water-Side* (trademark and patent pending) slips.

Here we see OHM owner Dick Lynn demonstrating this new slip with his Hatteras. "We expect high demand for these slips," he is quoted as saying. "And we don't feel that only being able to access the water twice a day is really a hardship. Most serious boaters go out for the entire day or for weeks at a time."



The innovative and revolutionary new "Water-Side" slip.



The Daymarker

OCCOQUAN YACHT CLUB

P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125

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

Web site: www.OccoquanYachtClub.org

Commodore

Rick Sorrenti
703 590-6724

Vice Commodore

Sue Thompson
703 440-8114

Rear Commodore

Alan Gorenstein
703 938-6516

Secretary

Vicki Hamp
703 335-0976

Treasurer

Harry Croft
703 451-9147

Quartermaster

Rebecca & John Heinze
703 924-9365

Membership

Maury Shumaker
703 331-2159

Historian

Dana Phan
703 690-2435

PRYCA Delegate

Joe Livingston
540 373-9203

THE DAYMARKER Editor

Steve Thompson
703 440-8114



Commodore's Comments

Rick Sorrenti

THE WATER IS ON

In last month's article I mentioned the annual wash your boat day on the 28th of March. The last couple of weeks have fooled many of us, including Occoquan Harbor, who turned the water on this past week into thinking it was spring. Well tonight it's going down to 25 degrees and the wind is blowing at 20 knots. Not much fun washing your boat in this weather, but next weekend is the big one. We probably won't have water pressure at the end of C Dock but who cares, ITS BOATING TIME again! Speaking of washing your boat, I'm

sad to inform you that one of the premier boat care product manufacturers has declared Chapter 11. Dolphinite Company, the maker of a fantastic soap and wax combination apparently has been caught in a nationwide class action lawsuit over some bottom paint that washed off and provided zero protection. Dolphinite was a very small company founded by 2 boaters in search of providing superior boating products. According to Dolphinite, their manufacturer, who failed to follow the formula correctly, caused the bottom paint issue. So I'm in search of the next great boat soap and wax combination, any suggestions?

This past Saturday we hosted the annual General Membership Meeting at Fairfax Yacht Club. Thanks to the Fairfax Board who



FYC – Gracious Hosts

allowed us to use their beautiful clubhouse. Hopefully the joint efforts to get Fairfax owners out on the water in conjunction with our cruises will be successful. We look forward to having them join us in the 2004 boating season. Additional thanks goes to the members who took the time to attend and provide the great food and drink enjoyed by over 40 members. Many topics were discussed but the next three events coming are:

First on April 24th is the Early Bird Cruise to Gangplank Marina, hosted by Linda and Laslo Bozoky. If you want to go, better hurry and call Laslo today. Next will be the Annual Flag Raising on May 1st, at Occoquan Harbour Marina. No reservations are needed. This is one of the events that you can re-coup your annual membership dues on the food and drink provided. You will witness the flag raising and the annual cannon shoot announcing the opening of the 2004 season. Last but not least in order, is the Occoquan River Blessing of the Fleet, coordinated by the Occoquan River Maritime Association and jointed sponsored by the yacht clubs on the Occoquan. Read on to find out more!

It's going to be an exciting season, so I encourage you to help me to fulfill my motto this year....Every Boat Owner Needs To Boat. Come out, bring your family and enjoy the season.

Sea Duck Too back to One Six



Vice Commodore

Sue Thompson

IT'S SPRING!!

The sun was shining. Boaters were together enjoying food and drink and each other's company. We watched boats (but not many) pass by on the Occoquan. This was the setting for the March 2004 General Membership meeting on Saturday March 20, the first day of Spring. Lots of us joined together to celebrate spring, to hear more about upcoming events, and to participate in the annual photo contest (everybody got to vote this year). So let me begin by congratulating all the winners. All the photos were great and the historian (Dana Phan) appreciated all your contributions to our ongoing history.

AND THE WINNERS ARE!

Animal Photos: 1st place – Tom Coldwell, 2nd place – Liz Kalweit, 3rd place – Steve Thompson. People Photos: 1st place – Tom Coldwell, 2nd place – Teresa Sorrenti, 3rd place – Ned Rhodes. General Boating Photos: 1st Place – Ned Rhodes, 2nd place – Steve Thompson, (only two photos entered). Landscape Photos: 1st place - Andrew Kalweit, 2nd place – Sue Thompson, 3rd place – Ned Rhodes.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

Early Bird Cruise – April 24-25, 2004; see Linda and Laslo's article later in this Daymarker for details.

OYC Flag Raising – May 1, 2004 at Occoquan Harbour Marina from Noon till the food and drinks run out. This is the official OYC kickoff for the 2004 boating season. Your OYC board will provide dogs (that's hot dogs) and burgers along with lots to drink. Please provide a dish to share to round out our menu. If you know of any boaters (new or old) that are not OYC members this is a good time to introduce them to the club.

Occoquan Blessing of the Fleet – May 15, 2004; see ORMA announcement later in this Daymarker.

Memorial Day Cruise – May 28-31, 2004; see Steve Thompson's article in this Daymarker. → → →

Let's get out there and enjoy some great cruises and events with OYC.

As always, I'm *Forever Dreamin'*

IT'S COME AND IT'S GONE!

Memorial Day Cruise – by Steve Thompson

What you may ask has passed us by. Definitely not winter, although one can always hope. But what has passed is the OYC Planfest, which means it's time to start planning those summer cruises. And, for my part, I am officially announcing the start of planning for the Memorial Day Holiday Cruise to Colonial Beach to be held the 29th thru the 31st of May.

The marina has been contacted, and yes Colonial Beach Yacht Center is back on line and ready to accommodate us. But they are already pressing for specifics, i.e. number of boats, lengths, beam, and draft. I'm halfway there with the signup sheet from the Planfest but am sure there are others who would like to join in on the fun. To help you decide if this is the place to be here are some details:

The dates: 29 thru 31 May (you may decide to arrive Friday night, the 28th)

Slip fee: \$1.25 per foot, per night

Electric: \$5.00 per night

Distance from OHM: 47 Nautical Miles

Tides at High Point (Occoquan River) and Colonial Beach:

28th (Occoquan) – 2:27 pm (high); 9:00 pm (low) – (Colonial Beach) – 4:16 pm (low)

29th (Occoquan) – 9:45 am (low); 3:28 pm (high) – (Colonial Beach) – 11:03 am (high)

31st – Rising tide for your trip home starting at 10 am

Activities:

Morning Dog/Puppy walks

Happy hours on the docks or in the restaurant

(Saturday night is crazy hat night)

An evening Bar-b-que

Possible dinner at the restaurant

Trip to a vineyard (Sunday from 1:30 to 4:00 @ \$15 each – ***need to know your interest***)

Day trip(s) into Colonial Beach for shopping/touring (the trolley will be running or rent a golf cart for about \$75 a day)

Sunday Brunch

If you want more info on the marina visit their web site at www.colbchyachtcenter.com. There is a copy of the menu for the restaurant located at the marina. They even have a nice kids menu.

So, if I've peeked your interest, call me (Steve Thompson) at 703 963-8783, or send an email to opsco@earthlink.net. The sooner you let me know, the sooner I can get you a slip. For those that signed up at the Planfest I request that you also contact me to confirm your continued interest. And in case you forgot (I wouldn't blame you cause we had such a great time that day) here is a list of who has already signed up: Bozoky, Coldwell, Croft, Hamp, Hawes, Heinze, Rhodes, Snowman, Sorrenti, Steinert, Thompson, Wilcox.

Hope to be hearing from ya real soon.

The Daymarker

Published monthly by the Occoquan Yacht Club

Steve Thompson, Editor

Sue Thompson, Editor's Advisor on Worldly Matters

Maury Shumaker, Circulation

The deadline for submission of materials to **The Daymarker** is the 20th of each month. Please submit copy by e-mail to: opsco@earthlink.net



Rear Commodore

Alan Gorenstein

TAX REFUND TIME

Hopefully, you have filed your tax return by now and are awaiting a huge tax refund. As retired folks, we are now accumulating our refunds with plans to buy a really big boat in 20 years. On a more serious note, Virginia gasoline and diesel fuel taxes may be refunded if you file a Tax Refund Form 216 within 12 months of the date of purchase. So, as you think about taxes it is also timely to remind everyone to file for their fuel tax refund.

Associated with a .175 per gallon tax on gas and .16 for diesel, you may wish to obtain the Application for Fuels Tax Refund on the WEB by going to www.dmv.state.va. As you will note in reviewing form 216, receipts for all fuel purchases are needed to obtain the refund. If you have not saved your receipts for 2003, resolve to save them in 2004 and next year you too can look forward to getting huge tax refunds.

Hopefully, these few tips may help you and your family and friends to have a safe boating season.

SHOP AND SWAP

After a hiatus of a few months, during which we all hibernated waiting for the return of Spring, your OYC Board is happy to wake up **Shop and Swap**. For those of you in need of a "like new" boating accessory, take a careful look at the wonderful deals that are being offered by OYC members. If you have an interest in an item, make a phone call and maybe you too can latch on to a boating related item at a great price.

And for those of you that have again realized that it is time to get rid of some "stuff" that has been sitting around all winter, **Shop and Swap** offers a unique opportunity to sell the item and pick up a few bucks. If you would like to list a boating related item, drop an email to Agoren@biztech.net providing a brief description, the desired price and your name and phone number. Of course, only boating items may be listed and the offer is only available to OYC members.

Most importantly, take an interest in **Shop and Swap** so that we can keep the program going.

– Used 128 Quart Igloo Cooler with Cushion. Listed by Boat US at \$236.98. Yours for only \$85.00. 65% off of retail is a cool price for a top-of-the line cooler. Call Walt Cheatham at 703 588 7323.

– 45 Pound Delta Fast-Set Anchor. Excellent holding power in our Potomac sand and mud. Retail at \$380.00. Buy for \$125.00 or make an offer. Call Rick Sorrenti at 703 590 6724.

– Child's yellow Columbia brand rain jacket. Guaranteed waterproof. Value \$50. Sell at \$25. Call Tom

Egmore at 703 256 8442.

– BOSE Sound System – Model 131 marine speakers, 10-80 watts per channel, exceptional sound quality and reliability. See Boat US Item 302703 for full details. Retail \$239.99. Buy the pair for \$180. Call Ralph Burner at 703 765 1906.

– Stainless Steel Props – Need an extra? If not, turn into a decorator item! Size 15" x 19" LH and 13" x 19" RH. New \$400. Buy at \$75 each. Call Tom Edgmore at 703 256 8442.

– Reverse Y Adapter - Connect two 30-amp marina outlets to a 50- Amp boat receptacle on your next cruise. Retail \$400.00. Make an offer. Call Tom Edgmore at 703 256 8442.

The Datemarkers

Birthdays

Donald Carlson, 4/5	Joanne Lester, 4/10
Fred McLaren, 4/10	Glenn Heinle, 4/10
Diane Carlson, 4/11	Peter Van Steyn, 4/11
Daria Lepisko, 4/12	Tony Mirando, 4/15
Paula Wexler, 4/19	Susan Cheatham, 4/19
Victoria Van Steyn, 4/23	Peggy Ball, 4/23
Joan White, 4/27	Laslo Bozoky, 4/27
Arleen Rhodes, 4/29	

Anniversaries

Bill & Marri Jo Gamble, 4/3	William & Clara French, 4/5
Peter & Victoria Van Steyn, 4/6	
Robert & Joanne Bassam, 4/9	
Randy & Mary Lynn Snowman, 4/10	
Roger & Joanne Mays, 4/12	
Gary Lee & Donna Gochenour, 4/19	
Andrew & Liz Kalweit, 4/20	Huy & Dana Phan, 4/29

Welcome New Members

Christian and Alison Rose of Chantilly. They keep their 26' Chaparral, La-Dee-Da, at Hoffmaster's Marina.

On the Internet

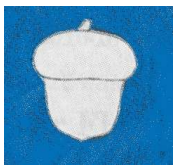
Occoquan Yacht Club: www.OccoquanYachtClub.org *

Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association:
www.PotomacRiverYachtClubs.org*

Occoquan River Maritime Association:
www.ormaweb.org*

and Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association:
www.cbyca.org

* Web space donated by Software Systems Group
Ned Rhodes, President and CEO



Treasurer

Harry Croft

LEAKY BOATS

Do your zincs dissolve overnight? Does your battery go dead even when everything seems to be off? If either of these is true, you may have ground leaks. Ground leaks are small amounts of stray current because of poor wiring, faulty switches and connections and improper equipment installation. Leaks are an ever present danger because of the wet environment, such as bilge pumps and wiring in close proximity to water. Leaks are too small as to cause a short circuit, but they can cause devastating corrosion problems and dead batteries, not to mention poor performance of your electrical system.

The first step is to determine if you have ground leaks. This is an easy test that only requires a multi meter device. Switch off all equipment and the battery isolation switch. Disconnect the positive cable from the battery and connect the multi meter between the cable and the battery post. On the 12 volts DC scale, the meter should give no reading, zero volts, zip! If it reads 12 volts there are two possibilities: the first is that one or more circuits are still on such as the radio or bilge pump between the battery and the isolation switch (the older the boat the more chance of unusual wiring scenarios exist) and the second possibility is that you have ground leak! Now switch the meter to the 250 milliamp scale (mA) (in case you have left on equipment inadvertently) and progressively switch to a lower scale until the meter gives a good mid-scale reading; this is the leak.

If you are lucky, you will be able to find the leak quickly. Here's an easy start. Clean up the battery and isolation switch terminals for and disconnect individual

circuits (pull the fuses) one at a time until the leak disappears. If you have several leaks, the meter will drop part way to zero. You should start your hunt low in the boat and in the dampest locations. Remember that some circuits are not on breakers or fuses. For instance the hot cable from the battery selector switch to the starter motor solenoid, which in turn feeds the engine ignition circuit. As you remove ground wires from individual circuits, be careful not to touch or cross other wires! This is also a good time to label your wires, check for loose connections, and to inspect for corrosion. Ground leaks can be as dangerous as water leaks and they both need attention.



The Semi-Annual Membership Meeting always tends to pack them in.

DEWINTERIZE THOSE CAMERAS!

By Dana Phan

This year will be full of fun and exciting activities. As historian, I would like to encourage everyone to dust off their cameras and capture the moment.

I would like to start a new chapter in OYC history with the year 2004! But I also need to fill in some gaps in prior years with any pictures that are floating around. Anyone that has any such pictures and would like to share them with the club, please send them to me via email or regular mail. Please label the photo with the date, event, names of people, and any other comments you think will add to its enjoyment. I will record all the information for OYC's history book.

Dana Phan "Historian"



The beauty of winter is sometimes lost in its hazards to boating.

Did you know . . . Typically, currents run faster in deep water and slower in shallow water.



Secretary

Vicki Hamp

OYC MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Many of us have come to depend on the Occoquan Yacht Club as our source of boating fun. We all love to play and vacation, but sometimes we just don't have the time to plan our play. Isn't it great that all we have to do is go to www.occoquanyachtclub.org to retrieve the latest information about what's happening on the Potomac. Of course, this activity doesn't just happen by itself. There are many people who are coordinating these events throughout the year. There is one person who has graciously accepted responsibility for leading and guiding the host of volunteers and his name is Rick Sorrenti.

Rick is OYC's 2004 Commodore. Rick's vision for 2004: "EVERY BOATER NEEDS TO BOAT".

Rick and his wife, Teresa love to boat. Rick is dedicated to helping the rest of us enjoy our boats as well. He's been boating for the past 20 or so years and is currently on his 8th boat known as Sea Duck Too. Although I should mention, this has been the name of most of Rick's boats. The name originated with his daughter, Jillian who at age 10 crafted a ceramic duck while the family vacationed in Cancun, Mexico. Jillian named the duck, "Sea Duck" and the family has kept the name ever since.

Rick and Teresa met in 1989 at a Redskin Tailgate Party and were married one year later in 1990. It's not surprising that the topic of conversation at that first encounter was boating. Teresa grew up in Michigan and

always loved the water. Rick grew up in South Carolina and spent many of his days fishing on Lake Murray. Rick and Teresa are the first couple in OYC history who have both been an OYC Commodore.

Boating isn't the only thing Rick and Teresa have in common; both are in the Information Technology Profession. Rick is currently a Principal with Booz, Allen & Hamilton and leads a team that is responsible for the information and avionics systems of the Presidential aircraft fleet and other US Air Force aircraft. Rick's 22 year career in the Air Force was always around aircraft, primarily serving with the Special Operations community. He spent 3 tours of duty in Vietnam and several years in the Persian Gulf. Teresa has over 30 years as an employee with the General Services Administration of the Federal

Government and leads technology modernization efforts for acquisition systems for over 20 US Government Agencies.

Rick's advice to fellow OYC Members is "Always boat in waters you are extremely familiar with or with other boaters who are familiar with the waters; Enjoy boating with your Family – it's a family thing; and support your club".

We're in good hands for our 2004 Boating Season! Please join us in kicking off the Season at our 21st Annual Flag Raising Ceremony at the Occoquan Harbour Marina on May 1st. Festivities will begin at Noon. See you there!



Could this be Jillian's long lost ceramic duck which inspired Rick's most recent upgrade?

Early Bird Cruise to Gang Plank Marina, D.C April 24th & 25th, 2004!

Cruise Coordinator: Laslo & Linda Bozoky, Hot Schatz Email: Hotschatz2@aol.com Phone: 703-590-8440.

Plans are finalizing and we are excited to host the first cruise. So far we have 8 confirmed boats to Gang Plank Marina: Bay Dreamer, Ki Ki Bird, Impulse, Sea Duck II, Forever Dreaming, Bat Too, Miss Vivian, and Hot Schatz. There are plenty more slips available, so don't hesitate to sign up for the first cruise of the season which will give you the opportunity to meet new members and get an early start for the new boating season. In case you can't come by boat, join us anyhow for Happy Hour and Dinner on Saturday, or Sunday on the dock for breakfast and a good time!

Saturday 4/24

- Arrival at noon or later. Welcome gathering on the dock. Visit new and old yacht club members on their boats. Linda and Laslo will be there to help new members with docking. We'll stand by on Channel 16.
- 5:00 Happy Hour on the dock.
- 7:30 Dinner at Phillips Seafood Restaurant. There are other good restaurants nearby also. We don't have any scheduled plans after dinner, but there is entertainment within walking distance. Downtown is only a short cab drive away for the Hardcore OYC party animal.

Sunday 4/25

- 10:00 Coffee, donuts, and memosa's on the dock by Hot Schatz.

Gang Plank Marina fee: \$1.25 per foot/day. \$5.00 for electricity. Be aware there is only 50 AMP hook up. Bring your own adapter. No adapters are available at the marina. Phillip's Buffet: All you can eat, has a great selection of seafood, pasta, beef, and alot more. \$24.95 plus tip. We will call everyone who signs up with the exact cost.

April 24th will be here faster than you think, so please sign up ASAP! Looking forward to seeing everyone at Gang Plank, Linda and Laslo, Hot Schatz!

Begin a great Occoquan boating weekend with the

Blessing of the Fleet

May 15, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Bring your boat and crew to share in this time-honored seafaring tradition...

- **dedicated to boating safety**
- **celebrating the new boating season**

Plan now to “parade dress” your boat with festive flags and colors. Invite family and friends to witness a chaplain’s solemn invocation of blessing and safe cruising for the year ahead *for your boat and crew*.

This simple ceremony harks back to ancient times when fishermen and other seafarers yearned for good fortune and safety at sea—with priests invoking a blessing upon each vessel as it departed for sea. Years ago, the Occoquan community sponsored an annual Blessing of the Fleet, and in 1999 the tradition was re-instituted by the yacht clubs of the Occoquan and the Occoquan River Maritime Association.



How does it work?

The Fairfax County fire boat will lead a procession of boats outbound from Prince William Marina and passing the chaplain’s station vessel moored at the Belmont Bay Harbor Marina fuel dock. Boats will continue outbound for a day of cruising as desired or, upon safely clearing the area, may return to their respective marinas. The procession will include a host vessel with local dignitaries and media representatives embarked.

A detailed float plan and Notice to Mariners will be posted at local marinas and will be distributed through yacht club newsletters and Internet websites.

Plan now to take part!

The Blessing of the Fleet—an Occoquan tradition—is sponsored and coordinated by the Occoquan River Maritime Association (ORMA) and its member organizations, with support from the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and Fairfax and Prince William County public safety agencies.

Questions? Contact ORMA Coordinator Chris Webster, WebsterCw@msn.com.

Occoquan Yacht Club Calendar

<i>April 2004</i>						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				1	2	3
4 Palm Sunday	5 (4 th – Day-light Savings Time)	6 Passover	7	8	9 Good Friday	10
11 Easter	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Admin Professional Day	22	23 Early Bird Cruise to Gangplank	24 Early Bird Cruise to Gangplank
25 Early Bird Cruise to Gangplank	26	27	28	29	30	
<i>May 2004</i>						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						1 OYC Flag Raising at OHM
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Mother's Day	10	11	12	13	14 (15 th – Armed Forces Day)	15 ORMA Blessing of the Fleet
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 Memorial Day Cruise to Col. Beach	29 Memorial Day Cruise to Col. Beach
30 Memorial Day Cruise to Col. Beach	31 Memorial Day Cruise to Col. Beach	(31 st – Memorial Day)				

Occoquan Bay Mystery Solved Inside . . .

Is it safe to go back into the water?

Lots of improved marina facilities on their
way to the Occoquan,

Every Boater Needs to Boat,

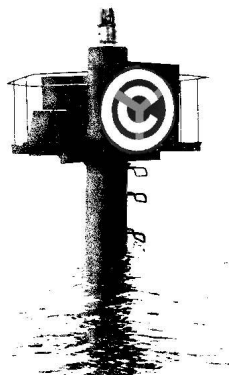
OYC is ready to start the season,

And much more

Apr 23-25
Early Bird Cruise
Gang Plank, DC
Lazlo Bozoky
703 590-8440

May 1
OYC Flag Raising
OHM
Sue Thompson
703 440-8114

May 15
Occoquan River
Blessing of the
Fleet
See Flyer Inside



The Daymarker

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

Change Service Requested



See the frowny face on your address label?
Better get your membership dues in the mail.