

The Maydarker

OCCOQUAN YACHT CLUB

P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125

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

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OYC Membership Drive Underway!



A PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBER CHECKS OUT THE AMENITIES OF SORRENTI SHORES (PICTURED HERE), PART OF A NEW-MEMBER BONUS PLAN.

The Occoquan Yacht Club is increasing its efforts to recruit new members. Its current Commodore has taken a personal interest in this new program. To help out in this effort, he has arranged a premier discount offer. New OYC members are eligible for reduced pricing on prime residential real estate at Sorrenti Shores on Three Mile Island. Located in pristine Occoquan Bay it is said that the sun is guaranteed to shine 365 days a year (excluding weekends and holidays).

Commodore Sorrenti reports that the planned estates will be expansive and offer new owners that feeling of being on a remote tropical island paradise. Every residence will have its own, private, shoreline with white

sand beach and access to a deep water pier capable of handling boats up to 59' 1". For those who like to golf, there is a world class par-2 course immediately adjacent to the island (SCUBA certification required).

Never before has such an offer been made and the limited number of estates are expected to go quickly. If there is enough interest in this offering the board of the Occoquan Yacht Club has several other discounts they anticipate to introduce. One such idea is to offer free hamster sitting at club events.

(Legal Notice: This offer not valid to ambidextrous individuals during the third consecutive visit on partly cloudy days where the temperature is progressively lower by 9 percent. You must be an owner of a 1989 Ford Escort that has less than 97,000 miles and so on and so forth....

Non-Disclosure Agreement required to discuss further terms of this offer.)

New Boat Maintenance Product Hits the Shelves of Local Boater Supply Stores

The Washington Boast, in its commercial news section, reported on the introduction of a new and innovative product called *Liquid Boat®*. The inventor of this new product, Slick Jelcote, said she got the idea from another fairly new product with a similar name. Ms. Jelcote believes her product is sure to become a staple product in every boater's supply cabinet.

Knowing how much boaters hate to spend time waxing their boats, Ms. Jelcote, who likes to be called "Ms. Slick", said that she set out to come up with a product to eliminate, or drastically reduce, the need for this dreaded task. To that end Ms. Slick developed a clear liquid that, when applied to a freshly waxed boat, adheres to the surface creating a protective boundary over the fiberglass. Using a simple foam paintbrush it dries to an almost clear smooth surface and lasts for up to six months. If the surface should become dirty a simple once over with a water hose and spray nozzle brings back the original shine.

It should be noted that due to the slippery nature of the product after it dries, Ms. Slick recommends that the product not be used on surfaces where you walk. The makers of *Liquid Boat®* decline responsibility for any injuries that may result from the misuse of this product.

During product testing it was discovered that its protective properties could possibly be put to use as a replacement for bottom paint. Further tests are now underway but preliminary results have shown it to be a viable alternative with an added benefit. It seems that the exceptionally smooth surface of *Liquid Boat®* helps to increase cruising speeds with a corresponding decrease in fuel consumption of almost 15 percent. There has been reported interest in the product by other industries, such as aviation, the US Navy, and NASA.

Ms. Slick has an introductory offering of *Liquid Boat®* available through the QVT shop at home channel. A quart container, at a cost of \$32.995 (discounted at two for \$65.99), will completely cover a 25-foot boat. Liquid Boat is a registered trademark of Ms. Slick, Inc. Patent, still, pending.



A Smiling Ms. Slick Prepares to Show How Easy it is to Use *Liquid Boat*.

Boaters are Risk Takers

Unbeknownst to many, a recent nationally funded study has found that boaters actually have an increased chance of personal injury over that of non-boaters. The possibility of injury was found to directly correlate with the risks taken by boaters. Insurance companies have taken notice and are placing boaters into a higher rate category, grouping them with race car drivers and stuntmen.

Here are some of the risks reported in the study:

- Boaters often move about while underway. This can be exceptionally dangerous, especially if the individual is on the bow as the boat crosses a wake or wave.
- Boaters are more apt to receive rope burns; usually obtained while trying to single-handedly pull a 60' boat into a slip (without using a piling).
- Boaters tend to ignore their personal safety by jumping from their boat to the dock with their arms full (like while carrying a folding chair) and end up in the water.
- There is an increased instance of foot and toe injuries among boaters resulting from collisions with anchors.

- Just walking down a dock risks an injury from the many obstacles present. Ask any boater who has sustained a severe toe injury from a cleat that jumped in front of them.
- Another common risk associated with walking down a dock is that of falling into the water. This could occur simply while trying to take a picture, but especially when the photographer just has to get the entire boat in the frame.
- Boaters take risks every time they pull up to a dock. Crew members may obtain injuries while jumping from the boat to the dock. This usually occurs when crew members are wearing flip-flops.
- Any boater that voluntarily jumps into water where they can't see the bottom (or even their legs) takes on a serious risk to their health.
- And, finally, similar to tennis players, it was found that boaters tend to suffer from boaters' elbow; a direct result of all the happy hours they attend.

The next time you review your life insurance policy, check to see if there is a "Boater's" clause included.



SELECTED PROBLEMS FROM THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD CAPTAIN'S TEST

By Aye Bea Captain

Many of you have asked how hard the Coast Guard Captain's test was and I wanted to share a few select problems so that you can get a feel for what is actually involved. These are actual, for sure, questions from the exam that we just took, to the best of my recollection.

Question 1: A grease fire in the galley is an example of what class of fire? Possible Answers:

- A. The answer is B
- B. B
- C. The answer is B
- D. All of the above

Discussion: This is an easy one. Normally, unlicensed captains would choose D, which is mostly correct, except that B is the more correct answer. A & C are close, but too wordy.

Question 2: When leaving your slip you should sound what signal on your whistle? Possible Answers:

- A. 1 long blast
- B. 1 prolonged blast
- C. 1 toot, 2-3 seconds in duration
- D. Lay on the horn until the waterway is clear

Discussion: This is actually a tricky question that involves knowing secret stuff. The secret stuff is that the Coast Guard only defines a prolonged blast, which is 4-5 seconds in duration. There is no such thing as a long blast or a toot. And don't even ask about the difference between a horn and a whistle.

Question 3: Which vessel must keep out of the way of a power-driven vessel? Possible Answers:

- A. A sailing vessel sailing
- B. A vessel not under command
- C. A big assed barge
- D. A seaplane

Discussion: This question took awhile for us to get, since we thought the answer was all of the above. And based upon our experience in the Occoquan River Channel, we figured that all vessels were not under command. But, it turns out that a seaplane is the only vessel that has to keep out of the way of a power-driven vessel. Go figure.

Question 4: BOTH INTERNATIONAL & INLAND: In determining "safe speed", all of the following must be taken into account EXCEPT the: Possible Answers:

- A. Maximum horsepower of your vessel
- B. Presence of background lights at night
- C. Draft of your vessel
- D. Maneuverability of your vessel

Discussion: This was another hard question for some of us to grasp. I mean who cares about B, C and D if you have a lot of A? Well, it turns out that is not the correct way to think about it and more horsepower does not mean you can run at a safer speed. Just memorize this one.

Question 5: BOTH INTERNATIONAL & INLAND: A vessel not under command shall display: Possible

Answers:

- A. Two red lights at night and two black balls during daylight.
- B. Two red lights at night and three red balls during daylight.
- C. Three red lights at night and two black balls during daylight.
- D. Three tiki lights and a martini flag during daylight.

Discussion: D was the obvious choice for inland waters, but things are different in international waters. It turns out that red over red, the captain is dead is what you need to remember and so A is the correct answer.

There was also a section on plotting and let me go over a few of those questions. First an easy one.

Question 6: You are piloting your boat from Occoquan to Point Lookout. In Occoquan, 17 people get on the boat; at Tim's I, 6 people get off, 9 people get on; at Tim's II, 2 people get off, 4 people get on; at Captain Billy's, 11 people get off, 16 people get on; at Cobb Island, 3 people get off, 5 people get on; at Coles Point, 6 people get off, 3 people get on, then you finally dock at Point Lookout.

What was the name of the Captain of the vessel? Possible

Answers:

- A. Don't know
- B. Don't care
- C. Me
- D. 27 People

Question 7: You are on course 083 degrees per standard magnetic compass when you take the following bearings: Branford Reef Light, 344.5 degrees psc, Falkner Island Light 053.5 degrees psc, Mattituck Inlet Light 141.5 degrees psc. What is your position? Possible Answers:

- A. LAT 41 10.4' N, LONG 72 49.2'W
- B. LAT 41 10.4' N, LONG 72 49.2'W plus a gnat's ass
- C. LAT 41 10.4' N, LONG 72 49.2'W minus a gnat's ass
- D. Look at the chart plotter

Discussion: This one you actually have to plot on a chart and figure the true course from the compass course and all that jazz. D looks like the correct answer, but it turns out it is really C.

How did you do? If you got any wrong, you need to do more studying. If you got them all correct, then you are a good liar.

Developments in Boat Anchors Yields New Product Offer

THE DISPOSABLE BOAT ANCHOR. The Acme Qubed Co. (AQC) has announced its plans to enter into the marine equipment and supply business. As its first major project AQC is introducing a new line of anchors. With such a formidable task as taking on the experts in their field, *Danforth* and *Lewmar*, AQC had to come up with a product guaranteed to keep your boat safely secured to the bottom and at the same time offer a product that could effectively compete with their pricing. Finding an intuitive solution they will soon be mass-marketing the *Toss, Cut, and Go*, or TCG, anchor. Simply stated the user deploys the anchor when desired and just cuts it loose when it is time to leave. This is because they are so inexpensive and easy to obtain. There are several models and sizes to choose from, starting with the Standard 4 and progressing through the V-6 and V-8 models. For experimental boats AQC will be offering their Rotary model. AQC has entered into contracts with several local companies who have offered an unlimited supply of raw materials. But, as with most new ideas, AQC has not yet found a way to decrease shipping costs due to the products' weight. Final approval is still being sought from the EPA, FTC, State offices, and the YMCA.



A new owner demonstrates proper anchor deployment.

The Official 2005 Boating Season Weather Forecast

A new addition to the Farmer's Almanac this year is weather forecasts for select bodies of water.

Starting in May and ending in November, with forecasts for months that do not end in "er", the report covers the Potomac River from Washington D.C. to the Chesapeake Bay. Here are some excerpts.

May – The month will start out sunny with above normal temperatures north of the Route 301 Bridge while heavy rains and below normal temperatures are expected to the south. (Boaters are warned to be careful of the sudden transition at the bridge.) Temperatures during the rest of the month will be average, upper 50's to low 60's with a wetter ending. The rain at the end of the month is expected to coincide with OYC's annual Memorial Day trip to Colonial Beach.

June – There was no forecast filed. Perhaps they meant "e" or "r" and not "er".

July – Unfortunately, there is no report for the July Fourth weekend. Since this is a national holiday, the weather will be on vacation during that weekend. However, the remainder of the month will be wetter than normal with hotter temperatures in the north and cooler and dryer to the south allowing for a really good excuse to go South for the summer.

August – Hot and Humid the first week, but south of St. Clements Island it will be more Hazy than Hot. The second week will see the Hazy moving north and the Hot moving south. By the third week it will be mostly Humid with no Hazy or Hot along the entire river. The fourth week will see a little rain traveling north with a cold front but it will clear up during the fifth week. The sixth week of August will have cool temperatures with little humidity, providing perfect boating weather.

Strange as it may seem, while there was a forecast for the Potomac River, none could be found for the Chesapeake Bay or other rivers in the Virginia and Maryland area. Perhaps this addition was due to the recent Congressional mandate that placed a \$5,000 bounty on the snakehead fish. It appears that members who have been identified as avid fisher persons pushed the new legislation thru Congress.

As is customary with weather forecasting the report is guaranteed to be 100 percent accurate. However, the Farmer's Almanac accepts no responsibility for any errors due to temper tantrums by Mother Nature. They advise that any legal actions contemplated should be filed directly with Ms. Nature herself.

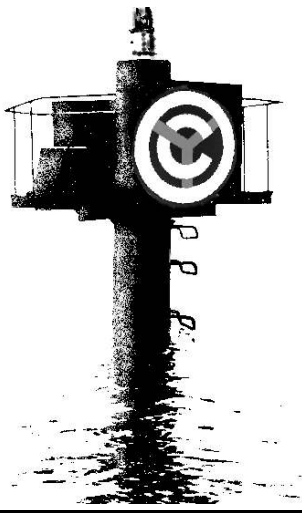


A new wine for seniors

California vintners in the Napa Valley area, which primarily produces Pinot Blanc, Pinot Noir and Pinot Grigio wines, have developed a new hybrid grape that acts as an anti-diuretic. It is expected to reduce the number of trips older people have to make to the bathroom during the night.

The new wine will be marketed as Pino More.

They also expect to tap the vast boating market where wine is usually consumed in large quantities and the availability of facilities to relieve oneself is often limited.



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Commodore's Comments

Rick Sorrenti

GREEN OVER WHITE?

Fishing tonight! Red over red...Captain's dead. These are just two of the hundreds of rules and light definitions that you learn when you sign up for the Captain's Course at the Mariners School. Tony Mirando, Ned Rhodes and I decided to sign up for a course that we believed was a "walk in the park". It became obvious that this was not going to be an easy endeavor and would require lots of time. The first stage of the course takes three full weekends and dozens of hours of "home-work". You have three areas of study; Navigation, Rules of the Road, and Deck General. Deck General covers fire fighting, weather, knots, emergency procedures, and vessel handling characteristics. Navigation includes both multiple choice and practical exercises. The Rules of the Road covers both international and inland rules including day marks, vessel lighting, and classes of vessels. Things like "restricted in its ability to maneuver", "vessel not under command", "vessel constrained by draft" are just a sampling. The interesting aspect is that a USCG captain's license course is for commercial vessels. Recreational boaters find themselves trying to relate the course material to our experiences, very difficult in the beginning but once you reconcile this you move forward.

Our class was about 60% sail boaters, so you can imagine the bantering that occurred. One benefit of this particular school is that they are certified by the USCG, so the final test is drawn from a much smaller set of

questions from the Coast Guard's data base of questions. The final test consist of 30 questions on Rules of the Road, which you must obtain a 90% score, 60 questions on Deck General, and 20 on Navigation along with 10 plotting questions. All of which you need 70% score. The plotting questions consist of determining ETA, course made good, three point fix, and set and drift. Throughout the course you have plenty of practice in all areas of study. Ned had a brilliant idea of producing "flash cards" for all areas and this paid for itself many times over. My thanks to Arleen, who provided all the hours of data input to produce the cards!! I encourage all members to consider taking this course, if for nothing more than the knowledge you obtain plus we need all the help we can get for the PRYCA float-in navigation test. This was no walk in the park but after it's over, it was fun. Now for all the paperwork that needs to be completed.

Our first official event occurred this past Saturday. The Spring General Membership Meeting was a great success. Some of the best photos ever were shown as entries for the photo contest. The food was absolutely wonderful and this is only the beginning. For members who did not attend, some reminders. First, please send your 2005 membership renewals. Go to Occoquanyachtclub.org for renewal forms and mailing address. 2005 cruises that require reservations are being finalized now, so pay close attention to future Daymarkers as details will be made available early and most require advance reservations. Until then.....

Sea Duck Too back to one-six.



Vice Commodore

Sue Thompson

TIME TO STOCK THE BOAT

The Daymarker Editor (A.K.A. *My Captain*) has just contacted me and asked me to POLLEEEASE write my article early this month. My usual response was given, "I don't know what I'm going to write about". Then it came to me. Our first cruise is exactly seven weeks from today and *My Captain* needs to remove the shrink wrap (see January 05 Daymarker for details), and get rid of all that pink stuff running through all the pipes on the boat. And I need to stock the boat! So, my article this month will be more of a checklist. What do I need to stock the boat?

- Nuts (nah, not really, I have Steve)
- Bacon (For Captain Blighe a.k.a. Capt. Ned)
- Captain Morgan's Rum (Rule No. 1 for any Vice Commodore – keep the Commodore happy)
- Dog Biscuits (we don't want a mutiny)
- Lots of Mountain Dew (Rule No. 1 for any First Mate – keep the Captain happy)
- Diet Coke with Lime (Bryan is thirsty, Again!)
- Lots of toilet paper and milk (in case there is a storm and we can't get to the store. This is a offshoot of a particularly popular winter activity)
- Okra wraps (my most requested appetizer)

Now let's get a little more serious. However, I must note that the above items will be stocked in addition to those listed below.

- Toiletries (to include soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, etc.) If you don't have an extra set then keep that travel case ready for packing.
- Dog food and pet medication if needed (e.g. ear cleaning solution, antihistamine, etc.)
- Water (don't forget to drink lots of water when out in the elements)
- Munchies (you never know when there will be an impromptu raft-up)
- Water toys (floats, tubes etc.)
- Paper goods (napkins small and large, plates, cups)
- Don't forget condiments (look for travel sized packaging)

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

– and, most importantly, check all your safety gear and replace if needed! Pay particular attention to the First Aid kit and include extra doses of any medications you may take on a regular basis.

Coming Up:

Please see articles from the cruise coordinators about the upcoming activities throughout the Daymarker.

April 22 - 24 – Early Bird Cruise to Gangplank – John Corley – (703) 532-5429

May 7 – OYC Flag Raising at Occoquan Harbour Marina – Board Event, Noon till ?? (Sue Thompson) – (703) 440-8114

May 14 – Occoquan River Blessing of the Fleet (Belmont Bay Marina) – Occoquan River Maritime Association Event

May 27 - 30 – Memorial Day Cruise to Colonial Beach – Shane Hatton – (703) 493-8122

June, July, Aug – Impromptu Raft Ups at Mattawoman, Hail any OYCer and raft up

June 4 - 5 – PRYCA Cobb Island Days Cruise, Alan Gorenstein

June 11 – 2nd Annual Raft-up at Fairview Beach, Bill Johnson

June 25 – Dinghy Regatta, and Shrimpfest, Dana Phan and Fred Foss

Till next time, I'm Forever Dreamin'.



When there aren't any cups a good Vice Commodore will overcome, improvise, and adapt.

OYC Member E-Mail Addresses

by Maury Shumaker

Several member's e-mails have been returned as undeliverable over the past two or three months. It is important that the Club have current and valid e-mail addresses for all of its members so that important news bulletins and other information can be communicated rapidly. If you have not received an e-mail from the club in the last two months, please send your current e-mail address to your Membership Chairman as soon as possible. Your updates should be sent to: w4hyb@aol.com.

Again this is important especially if you are planning on participating in an upcoming cruise or for alerting members to special events or boating conditions.

Your OYC Membership Chair



Rear Commodore

Alan Gorenstein

COBB ISLAND DAYS

Yesterday at the OYC Membership Meeting there was a rumor that must be shared with each of you. Although there have been a few times during the past 24 hours when it was cold and rainy and I hesitated to share the rumor, I think it is getting close to the time to disclose the secret.

Yes, many, many of your OYC boating buddies were all whispering on March 19 that Spring is coming and within the next few weeks they plan to de-winterize their boats. Can you imagine that we have just changed seasons and soon will all be out in the sunshine cruising down the Potomac? I bet before too long we will even hear about people sleeping on their boats and taking a weekend away from mowing the lawn and washing the car!

Well, it is now time to start signing up for those OYC cruises that will excite our weekends and bring the comradery that we all enjoy. In fact, one of the first post-Memorial Day cruises will be to Cobb Island. A lovely spot about 2 ½ hours from the Occoquan that is really an island. Yes, you can walk back to the "mainland" by crossing a bridge that is about 150 feet long. But, while on this island, you are guaranteed to have a good time.

Starting Friday evening June 3, the Cobb Island Yacht Club sponsors their annual TGIF party. Then, a little bit later there is music on the Green for listening. Of course, a few find the live music a good time to chat, nap, or enjoy the starlight.

Saturday, June 4 the big excitement begins. First, there is a Firemen's Parade at which there are more fire engines than you thought might have existed within 50 miles of Cobb Island. In addition there are a few cute floats and a Cobb Island Princess. Pretty soon the craft booths open on the "Green" for those that like to collect home-made things to add to their collection. Hot dogs, hamburgers and who knows what else and even a few games of chance (or laughter) are added to the fun of the afternoon.

Finally, we get to Saturday evening when a Captain's Hour takes place at the infamous Shymansky's Restaurant. Come and have a few beers of your choice and share your stories. Then, we all proceed to sit and indulge in the Pig Roast. Yes, they really roast a pig. But, you don't need to be there to watch.

Sunday AM soon arrives with an all-you-eat brunch at Shymansky's. Surely there will be enough food for everyone to start their trip back north with full stomachs.

The final cost figures for the 2005 Cobb Island Days event have not yet been announced. But, for the Captain's Hour, Pig Roast, Brunch, entertainment, etc. the price in 2004 was \$28.50 for adults and \$17.50 for children. Slip fees were \$1.25 per foot / per night. I expect the prices will

be quite similar for this year and a real steal given all of the fun and good weather that is promised.

Usually 40 to 50 boats from the various Potomac River Yacht Clubs show up for Cobb Island Days. At this time OYC has already booked up 14 slips and if you would like to take the first warm and sunny weekend in June and have fun on your boat, we need for you to call and sign up.

Call Alan or Anne Gorenstein, cruise coordinators, or drop us an Email at Agoren@Cox.Net if you want to reserve a spot for Cobb Island Days. Just as soon as the final registration form is received, I will make sure it is sent to you. That is when, the Cobb Island Yacht Club asks that checks be prepared and mailed to the cruise coordinators.



A forgotten sight. The Alexandria City Dock is nearing completion for the 2005 boating season.

Occoquan River Dredging is Finished

Subject: Occoquan River Dredging Project

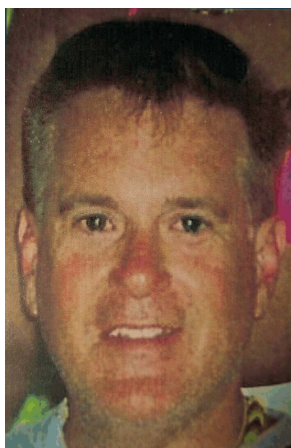
The deepening effort for the subject Federal navigation channel is finished!!

The Corps is planning to conduct an After Dredge (AD) survey to confirm that the dredging contractor has provided the mandatory channel depth of 9 feet Mean Lower Low Water. I will provide each of you a copy of the AD survey to share with your constituents. A copy of the AD survey will also be sent to the US Coast Guard who will review the survey and determine if the existing navigational aids need to be relocated to better delineate the new channel alignment.

Finally, I want to thank you for your cooperation and support. Local commercial and recreational boaters will be pleased with the new channel.

Signed
Steve Garbarino
US Army Corps of Engineers

It is with great sorrow that we report the death of Michael (Mike) Fordham. Born on January 19, 1958, Mike passed away on Sunday, March 20th, after struggling with cancer. Mike and Janine loved boating so much that it was mentioned in the funeral program. Janine is a past Commodore of the Occoquan Yacht Club. Our prayers go out to Janine, her family, and loved ones.



Mike and Janine are on the far left. Photo taken at Olverson's Marina in 2002.

Occoquan River Blessing of the Fleet

by Chris Webster

Mark your calendars! More than two hundred boats are expected to cruise along the Occoquan River to take part in the area's fifth annual Blessing of the Fleet, Saturday, May 14, 2005 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The event is sponsored by the Occoquan River Maritime Association (ORMA).

ORMA is coordinating efforts of the Occoquan, and Prince William Yacht Clubs, with support from the Coast Guard Auxiliary, Potomac Marine-TowBoat/U.S., and Fairfax and Prince William County public safety agencies.

The event is open to all boats in the area. Local dignitaries are being invited to take part and observe while embarked with Captain Carlton Phillips on a motor yacht which will depart from Prince William Marina.

This is a very special year as ORMA celebrates the deeper and wider Occoquan Channel brought to us by the Army Corps of Engineers in a project funded with the support of Congressman Tom Davis.

Established in 1999, ORMA coordinates activities of businesses and boaters relating to navigation, commercial, and recreational use of the Occoquan river, environmental preservation, safety and education. In addition to

coordinating the annual Blessing of the Fleet, ORMA has played a leadership role in promoting federal funding for the dredging and Occoquan's successful bid to obtain federal grants for construction of transient docking for recreational boating. ORMA's presiding coordinator is Chris Webster, the point of contact for this event. He can be reached at WebsterCw@msn.com.

OYC Flag Raising

by Sue Thompson

Boating Season is just around the corner! OYC will officially start the 2005 boating season at their annual flag raising on May 7th, at Occoquan Harbour Marina. The ceremony will start at noon but why not arrive early to enjoy the festivities. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be served along with lots to drink. You are asked to please provide a dish to share to round out our menu. If you know of any boaters (new or old) that are not members, this is a good time to introduce them to the club. In addition to raising the flag, the Quartermaster will have new items for sale. The Coast Guard Auxiliary will also be present to perform courtesy vessel safety checks. And don't forget about our Commodore's annual cannon fire. If you have any questions contact any board member. Hope to see you there!

The Datemarkers

Birthdays

Donald Carlson, 4/5	Glenn Heinle, 4/10
Joanne Lester, 4/10	Diane Carlson, 4/11
Peter Van Steyn, 4/11	Kenny Harris, 4/12
Daria Lepisko, 4/12	Tom Shank, 4/15
Sarah Robins, 4/17	Susan Cheatham, 4/19
Paula Wexler, 4/19	Peggy Ball, 4/23
Victoria Van Steyn, 4/23	Patricia Maxwell, 4/24
Laslo Bozoky, 4/27	Joan White, 4/27
Arleen Rhodes, 4/29	

Anniversaries

Bill and Merri Jo Gamble, 4/3
 William and Clara French, 4/5
 Peter and Victoria Van Steyn, 4/6
 Randy and Mary Lynn Snowman, 4/10
 Ronald and Karen Marx, 4/12
 Roger and Joanne Mays, 4/12
 Gary Lee and Donna Gochenour, 4/19
 Andrew and Elizabeth Kalweit, 4/20
 Ray and Cindy Kelly, 4/26
 Huy and Dana Phan, 4/29
 Vince and Peg Zumbo, 4/29

Welcome New Members

Sorry, new members will be introduced in next month's issue of the *Daymarker*.



Secretary

Vicki Hamp

OYC MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

There aren't many not familiar with the boisterous antics of our ever so loved Ned Rhodes. So, I'll introduce you to his wonderful wife, Arleen. Arleen started boating "officially" in 1989 when she met Ned. The relationship started with the words "GET ON HIS BOAT" shouted by a close friend. You see Arleen was an hour late for this blind date. Ned refers to the experience as the "Popping Advil like M&Ms" date. Arleen says "I'm not sure it was love at first sight, but good enough that we decided to continue". They've now been married 14 years ("fabulous years" Ned adds), are on their 3rd boat and their 3rd dog.

I asked Arleen what she likes best about boating. She answered "we always manage to have fun; it always involves food & drink – and what could be wrong with that?" She shares "Ned always makes me laugh and OYC is a real fun bunch of people".

Arleen's most memorable boating experience was a challenging trip to Wilmington, NC. It was their first trip to Wilmington and they were joined by two other boats. It was the first day of vacation; a day where they really shouldn't have left the dock given the forecast. They were

in their 29 Foot Cruisers and encountered bad weather at Smith Point. It was pre-GPS and pre-Radar. Ned says Arleen wore a thumb print in the chart while hyperventilating into a brown bag. The lesson learned: never listen to the friend who encouraged them to depart.

As Arleen and I sat and spoke during the interview, Anne Gorenstein reflects: I saw this woman on the bow of the boat who just knew how to do everything. She quickly tied the lines and was very comfortable doing what she needed to do. This woman was Arleen. If you have ever watched Arleen you'll know she is an inspiration to her fellow OYC First Mates. Arleen says "I really have to give credit to Ned – he stops the boat at the poles so I have the time I need". Arleen's advice to her fellow First Mates is have all long lines (35 feet).

Arleen also enjoys cooking. She tends to be a spicy cook and likes to experiment. Once such experiment included a time when Ned invited a business associate to dinner. Arleen decided to cook Kashka rather than rice. She said it smelled awful! She quickly opened a box of Uncle Ben's. She says the secret to cooking is having a well stocked pantry. Her biggest fear is that they won't have enough food and drink on the boat, a characteristic inherited from her Polish Grandmother. She also enjoys reading mystery novels.

The question we all wanted to know is "how does she keep Ned in line?". Arleen didn't really answer this one – so I'll leave this question with each of you to ask again, and again during our 2005 Boating Season.

Early Bird Cruise

by: John Corley

Spring is here, and so is the OYC cruising season. The Early Bird Cruise to Gangplank Marina, in Washington DC, is scheduled for the weekend of April 22-25, 2005. Ten boats are currently registered. There is still time for you to join in this season's inaugural boating event. Just fill out the Registration Form below and return it to John Corley, Cruise Coordinator, addressed as indicated.



Registration Form - Early Bird Cruise - April 22-25, 2005

Captain's Name _____ Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Crew _____, _____, _____, _____

Estimated Time/Date: Arrival _____, Departure _____

Boat: Name _____ Length _____ Beam _____ Shore Power _____

Special Requests: Please indicate any Sites / Events / Theatre / Restaurants, that you would like included on the itinerary for the OYC Early Bird Cruise., Please reply on the back of this form, by e-mail, or by phone.

Please return to: John Corley, Cruise Coordinator
927 N. Nottingham Street, Arlington, Virginia 22205
703 532 5429 TheGldnRle@aol.com



Spring Membership Meeting

by Sue Thompson

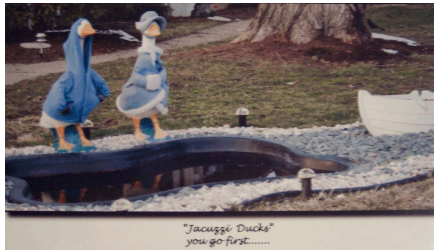
On Saturday, March 19, about 60 members of the Occoquan Yacht Club joined together to do what we do best. Eat, drink and have fun. We held our general membership meeting, which included lots of information on the upcoming boating season. We had presentations on the PRYCA Boatr program by Shane Hatton, a presentation on vessel safety inspection from Steve Thompson (for more information on these programs contact Shane or Steve) and of course our annual photo contest. And the winners are....

Animal

1st Place – Ned Rhodes
2nd Place – Rob Grant
3rd Place – Steve Thompson



Animal – 1st Place



Animal – 2nd Place

People

1st Place – Arleen Rhodes
2nd Place – Anna Burner
3rd Place – Andrew and Liz Kalweit



People – 1st Place



People – 2nd Place

Landscape

1st Place – Lucy Dubraque
2nd Place – Ned Rhodes
3rd Place – Rob Grant



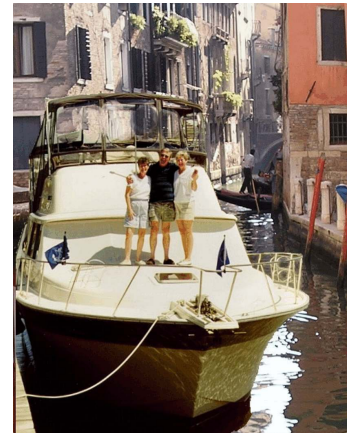
Landscape – 1st Place



Landscape – 2nd Place

General Boating

1st Place – Tom Coldwell
2nd Place – Teresa Sorrenti
3rd Place – Andrew and Liz Kalweit



General Boating – 1st Place



General Boating – 2nd Place

So, as you can see, lots of folks have their cameras ready to snap that candid shot. Fair warning – be prepared, you could be the subject of an award winning photo.

[Editor's Note: Due to space limitations only the top two photos in each category are shown. Also, because of time constraints, some photos are not of the best quality.]

Occoquan Yacht Club Calendar

April 2005						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
National Soft Pretzel Month					1 April Fools Day	2
3 Daylight Savings Time Begins	4 National Workplace Napping Day	5	6	7 No Housework Day	8	9
10	11	12 Walk on Your Wild Side Day	13	14	15	16 Husband Appreciation Day
17	18	19	20	21	22 Earth Day/Jelly Bean Day	23 *Early Bird Cruise to Gangplank
24 Passover	25	26	27 Secretary's Day **	28	29 Hairball Awareness Day	30 National Honesty Day
* Early Bird Cruise – April 22 nd to the 24th ** Also known as Administrative Assistant's Day						
May 2005						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
More Than Just A Pretty Face Month						
1 Mother Goose Day	2	3 National Teacher Day	4 Kite Day	5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7 OYC Flag Raising at OHM
8 Mothers Day	9	10	11 Eat What You Want Day	12	13 Blame Someone Else Day	14 ORMA Blessing of the Fleet
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Armed Forces Day
22 National Maritime Day	23	24	25 Great American Grump Out	26	27 OYC Colonial Beach Cruise	28 OYC Colonial Beach Cruise
29 OYC Colonial Beach Cruise	30 *OYC Colonial Beach Cruise	31	* Memorial Day			

Can Anybody Say "April Fools"?

Inside . . .

OYC Membership Drive,

Do Boaters Take Risks?,

The Summer Weather Forecast,

And Then You Can Read the Commodore's
Article,

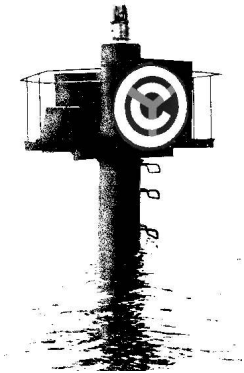
And Much More.

April 22-24
Early Bird Cruise
to Gangplank
John Corley

May 7
OYC Flag Raising
Occoquan
Harbour Marina
Sue Thompson

May 14
Fleet Blessing
Belmont Bay
Chris Webster

May 27-30
Memorial Day Cr.
Colonial Beach
Shane Hatton



The Daymarker

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

Change Service Requested