

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

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Commodore's Comments

Rick Sorrenti

IT'S TIME

After 4 years on the Board and the last 2 years being your Commodore it's time to step aside, watch, and participate as new leadership steps forward. Most of you do not know but Teresa and I have served a combined total of 9 years in various Board positions for the OYC and we have absolutely loved every minute. This record of service was only possible because of the enjoyment we have had with all of you, the Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association (PRYCA) and the many great cruises we have had throughout the years. With 13 years under our belts we are certain that the time honored traditions of cruising, eating/drinking, and telling stories that are the hallmarks of OYC will continue well into the future under our new leadership.

I really do have to thank a couple of folks who have helped over my last 4 years. Teresa and Jillian are first on the list for their support, trust, and sense of humor. Tom and Mary Ann Coldwell, Ned and Arleen Rhodes, Lazlo and Linda Bozoky, Steve and Sue

Thompson, and all the other members on C Dock at OHM for the great times and great stories! My thanks to the 2005 Board; Sue Thompson, Alan Gorenstein, Harry Croft, and Vicki Hamp and for the great assistance of Dale Steinert, Quartermaster; Maury Shumaker, Membership Chair; and Dana Phan, Historian. Thanks to you all!!

I hope to see all of you at the Holiday Party on December 10th. It's guaranteed to be a great time for all and it is our official change of watch, so send those RSVPs that you received in the mail back to Sue immediately. Coming up in January is the PRYCA Change of Watch. By confirming your attendance now with Steve Thompson will save you about 15%.

In closing, Teresa and I wish you all a joyous holiday season and New Year. Remember that the only way that the Occoquan Yacht Club will prosper in the year ahead is for you to step forward and volunteer a few hours of your time. Be ready at the Planfest in February!

Until I see you on the water.....
Sea Duck Too Back to One Six



Vice Commodore

Sue Thompson

LET'S LOOK TO THE FUTURE

It's that time of year again, we run into each other on the docks carrying gallons of that pink stuff, oil, oil filters etc. The days of lugging wine, beer, and lots of food are behind us. Now it's time to winterize. Even though we won't be cruising OYC is still hard at play. Before I talk about what is coming in the future, I would like to take this time to thank our Commodore Rick Sorrenti for all his hard work for the past two years. It has been great to work with and watch him and hope that he has prepared me to take over the reins.

You have elected a great new board who are full of enthusiasm and raring to go. We need your help and would like to hear from you.

We need suggestions on what you would like the club to do. It seems that the same people plan the schedule each year but we want to hear from Everyone. Is there someplace you would like to visit or do you have an idea for a land event? This is your club and we want to hear from you. Please email me at foreverdreamin@earthlink.net with your suggestions. (I have a high spam filter so you may not get through right away but once I see you are an OYC member you will be good). We especially need to hear from new members; the old timers have their favorites spots but we need to know what you are interested in. Don't wait for the next guy to email me, please send me your ideas.

Coming Up:

Please see articles in the Daymarker or contact the cruise coordinator directly for more details.

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

December 3 – Alexandria Parade of Lights, Allen Jorsey, (703) 971-7120

December 4 – Georgetown Parade of Lights, Allen Jorsey, (703) 971-7120

December 10 – OYC Holiday Party/Change of Watch, Fort Belvoir Officer's Club - 6:30 to 11pm, Board Event

January 21 – PRYCA Change of Watch, see article in this Daymarker

February 5 - Planfest, see January Daymarker for details.

Till next time, I'm Forever Dreamin'



Seasons' Greetings

Did you know . . . The city of Alexandria is having a difficult time in finding a dockmaster?

This job isn't for everyone but if you're thinking of retiring from that 9 to 5 job, and you have some experience in marina operations, why not contact Julie (see info below) for more information. The salary is posted at \$36,044 to \$59,614.

Julie Rasmussen, Division Chief
Dept. of Recreation, Parks, and
Cultural Activities
1108 Jefferson St.
Alexandria, VA. 22314
Office: 703-838-5095 ext. 352

[Editor's Note: This is an unpaid advertisement posted at the editor's discretion as the filling of the position would be of benefit to all boaters in the upper Potomac River region.]

It Was Hard to be Hardy But We Did It Anyway

by Ned W. Rhodes

The last cruise of the year is always happy and sad all at the same time – happy to be out on the water, and sad because it is usually the last cruise for many of us. Due to damage from Isabelle, the club has not been able to return to our normal destination of the Alexandria City Docks for the last two years. But this year, things were different. On a reconnaissance trip to Old Town for lunch with my sister, I discovered that many of the slips were empty and thought there might be room for the OYC flotilla. And so we played the waiting game as boats made their own reservations, and all seven of us got slips. Once word got out that we were going to Old Town, four additional boats tried for spaces and two were successful.

The crew of *Impulse* figured that we could leave at noon on Friday and still be one of the first to arrive. Little did we know that everyone else had decided to leave early, and so we were among the last to arrive.

The Sorrentis anchored at the A/B T-pier, along with the Mattkes, Crofts, Thompsons, Rhodes, Nalevankos, and Coldwells. The Freedmans were put on the T-pier next to the Dockmaster. The Livingstons and the Jorseys occupied the North T-pier for Friday night only and had to move up to Capital Yacht Club when the *Highlander* arrived for its Saturday reservation.

Friday night, the Rhodeses on *Impulse* and the Nalevankos on *Sea N Isle* hosted joint cocktail parties. Bob and Betsy were proud to show off their new 40' Sea Ray Sedan Bridge and their new antique ice bucket.



A New Boat With Room to Spare

Arleen provided apple pie and ice cream for a late night dessert.

Multiple dogs showed up for the 7:30 dog walk on Saturday. We made our annual trek to Jones Point and observed the Wilson Bridge construction along the way. We then all looked at the first boundary stone laid down to mark the District of Columbia. It is almost at the water's edge, behind a little fence, under the old lighthouse and you have to know where it is to



Boundary Marker One

ourselves for a day of shopping.

Commodore Rick and Teresa hosted the group for our



The Anal Center? Whatever – Everyone Had a Great Time.

Saturday cocktail party on the OYC Flagship *Sea Duck Too*. Terry Mattke took the opportunity to dress up for cocktails as shown in the accompanying pictures, and it is rumored that the wait staff and bus boys gave him a standing ovation when he arrived for dinner. T-Shirts were presented to the cruise coordinator. Brian Young, the Robins, the Wexlers, the Lynns, Steve Donock (who we shamed into rejoining OYC) and Bonnie Breneman all joined the cocktail party.



All Dressed Up.

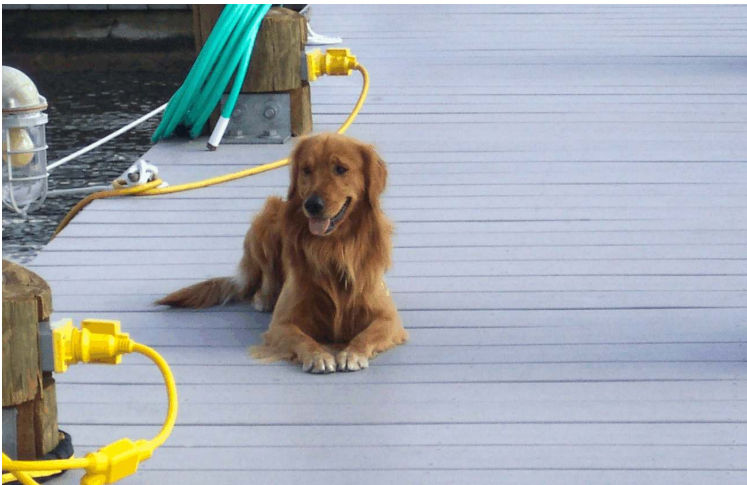
find it. After the dog walk, Arleen provided a fabulous breakfast buffet with two kinds of egg casserole (thanks to Sue and Teresa for baking them!) and bacon and muffins. Bloody Marys, champagne, and orange juice also made an appearance, and we all fortified

Ralph Burner, Ginger, and Arleen all joined us for the 7:30 dog walk to the Drooler, Anal Center and beyond. As you can see, almost every boat carries at least one dog, and some even carry a backup dog. Brunch was on your own and the Sorrentis and the Rhodeses enjoyed crab benedict (and a drink or two) at 219.

After much shopping and sitting in the sun, the flotilla departed for home ports and impending winterization tasks the next weekend. Who knows, maybe we can do this again next year.



**Occoquan Yacht Club Members Occasionally Like to Have a Little Fun.
This one shows award potential at the annual photo contest.
The Editor thinks it would be better without the beard.**



**When you are the Editor and you run out of copy
you can fill in with whatever you want.**

***Question. If you were
to spell out numbers,
how far would you have
to go until you would
find the letter "A"?***

Answer. One thousand

***Question. Most boat
owners name their
boats. What is the
most popular boat
name requested?***

Answer. Obsession



A familiar sight that you won't be seeing next year.



Secretary

Vicki Hamp

FOR THE BEGINNER

Having difficulty remembering some of the basics? Here are a few tricks to help your memory:

1. Port – left side of the boat (there are four letters in Port and four letters in left). You'll never confuse Port from Starboard again.
2. Docking – when you're coasting you have the least ability to steer. The more power you have the better steering ability you have. I'm not suggesting you throttle full power to dock! The key is intermittent power. A short shot of forward gear can help get a boat back on course.
3. Knot tying – When aboard a boat ropes are no longer called ropes, they are called lines. If the lines are white; don't let them hit the Potomac River or they won't be white anymore. Be sure to learn the "Cleave Hitch" and the "Bowline". Ask Gale Livingston for a lesson.
4. VHF Communication – the standard procedure for a non-emergency call:
 - a. Call the vessel, marina or restaurant on channel 9 or 16 and say the name of the vessel or establishment 3 times.
 - b. Next say "This is (name of your vessel); Over
 - c. Wait for an answer
 - d. Once answered, suggest going to another channel to continue your conversation.
5. Navigation Aids – What's the difference between a Beacon and a Buoy? If the navigation aid is unlighted it is a Day Beacon, if it is lighted it is a Buoy. Red Navigation Aids mean "Red, Right, Returning". In other words keep the red marker on your right when you are returning from sea. First Mate's should take notice of the numbers on the Navigational Aids as you cruise by. You'll be glad you did if you are ever in distress and need to tell someone where you are.
6. Always have a good joke ready for an OYC Happy Hour. Here's two courtesy of Justin and his 1st Grade Class:

What did the 0 say to the 8?
nice belt.
 Why did the cookie go to the hospital?
he was feeling crummy.



The Datemarkers

Birthdays

Tricia Matke, 12/6	Dave DeHanas, 12/8
Larry Freedman, 12/9	Kenneth Brunsvold, 12/10
Gary Lee, 12/13	Mike Robins, 12/13
Frank Machi, 12/20	Debbie Kent, 12/22
Susan Thompson, 12/26	Don Miller, 12/27

[Editor's Note: It sure was a good thing that Sue's birthday was listed in the membership roster.]

Anniversaries

Ned and Arleen Rhodes, 12/21

Welcome New Members

Sorry, it was a slow month for the Membership Chair; there were no new members joining the club in November 2005.

PRYCA Change of Watch 2005

by Steve Thompson

The event is certainly on at the Springfield Hilton on 21 January (Saturday), 2006. Reservations must be made NOW!

The cost is \$55 per person (the same low price as last year). Black-tie optional or Business suit with Complimentary Parking. A reduced room rate of \$89 is available until 13 January by calling the Hilton at 703 971-8900.

Program for the evening is – Cocktails with hors d'oeuvres and cash bar (1800), Dinner entrees are Prime Rib, Chesapeake Crab Cakes, or Vegetarian Pasta and includes Salad, Rolls, Chef's choice of vegetable and starch, and Chef's Dessert Selection and Coffee/Tea.



Send your check payable to "OYC" to Steve Thompson, 7908 Edinburgh Drive, Springfield, VA 22153-2905 along with coupon below. Cancellations after January 13, 2006 are non-refundable. Reservations after 01 January will require a \$5 late fee and acceptance will be subject to availability of space.

Reservation Information for PRYCA 2006 Change of Watch.

Name: _____ Title: _____

Guest: _____ Title: _____

Entree Choice (# of each): _____ Beef _____ Crab _____ Vegetarian

Check Enclosed (Payable to OYC): \$ _____

The 2005 Alexandria and Georgetown Parade of Lights December 3rd and 4th

Stop by the shore and enjoy the show.



Occoquan Yacht Club Calendar

December 2005						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
National Tie Month				1 World Aids Day	2	3 Parade of Lights ** - Alexandria
4 Parade of Lights ** - Georgetown	5 Bathtub Party Day	6 Special Kids Day	7 Pearl Harbor Remem. Day	8	9 Day of the Horse	10 OYC Holiday / COW Party
11	12	13	14	15 Bill of Rights Day	16	17 Wright Brothers Day
18	19	20 Mudd Day	21 Humbug Day	22	23 Letter Writing Day	24
25 Christmas	26 Kwanzaa & Hanukkah Begins	27	28	28	31	31 New Year's Eve
** The Parade of Lights events are Non-OYC Events but have an OYC Point of Contact/Coordinator.						
January 2006						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
Jump Out of Bed Month Oatmeal Month						
1 New Year's Day	2	3	4 Dimpled Chad Day	5	6	7 Fruitcake Toss Day
8 Elvis' Birthday	9	10	11	12	13 Blame Someone Else Day	14 Penguin Awareness Day
15	16 Martin Luther King Day	17	18	19	20 National Cheese Day	21 PRYCA Change of Watch
22	23	24	25	26 Australia Day	27	28
29	30 Bubble-wrap Appreciation Day	31				

And So Starts the Wintertime Blues – But You Can Still Party. Inside . . .

Hardy Souls Cruise or Summer Walk ?,

Beginners Corner,

Another New Boat ! ?,

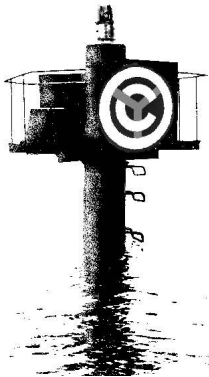
And Much More.

**January 28
PRYCA Change
of Watch
Steve Thompson**

**December 10
OYC change
of Watch
Sue Thompson**

**December 4
Georgetown
Parade of Lights
Allen Jersey**

**December 3
Alex. Parade of
Lights
Allen Jersey**



The Daymarker

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

Change Service Requested