



# 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](http://www.OccoquanYachtClub.org)

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### WARMER WEATHER IS COMING?

I'm sitting in the den writing this article as the forecasted 4 to 8 inches of snow begins to fall. I stopped by the marina this morning to check on Sea Duck Too to make sure she was still floating. Believe it or not there were 5 or 6 boaters checking on boats and were surprised the Planfest had to be cancelled and rescheduled for February 5<sup>th</sup>. I won't repeat some of the adjectives used but it was the better part of valor to reschedule since our weather person(s) told us that the snow was to begin at 7AM, which by the way they were wrong! Hopefully we will have a great turnout for the rescheduled Planfest, as your Board has some great activities planned for the 2005 boating season.

Some late breaking news from the Potomac. The City of Alexandria is trying to obtain the property that has been owned by Old Dominion Boat Club for 125 years. It appears that since ODBC won't sell their property the City is trying to obtain it by "eminent domain" laws. ODBC has asked for Potomac River Yacht Club Association (PRYCA) to help in their efforts by publicizing this information to all yacht club members. Efforts to help have also been launched by the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Club Association (CBYCA). I've been told that ODBC has been fighting the City on and off for several years but this year it has been taken to a new level. Alexandria's intentions have been to create a waterfront boardwalk



Reuters/Vasily Fedosenko, '97

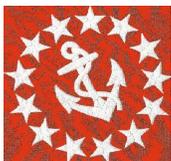
### I think it is a tiny bit on the cold side.

and ODBC is in the way. I remember last year when a couple of Alexandria's Council members blamed all the trash in the Potomac on the boaters that use the river, so absent any other reason to seize privately owned property, and to reduce the number of polluters, I guess this is as good excuse as any. You can go to [www.theodbc.org](http://www.theodbc.org) and read all about this subject but we'll keep you informed as this ongoing saga unfolds.

Some more winter entertainment. During the week preceding Washington's Birthday Weekend (Feb 19-20th), Fawcetts in Annapolis has their annual store-wide clearance sale. Teresa and I only need a small reason to go to Annapolis so remember this event. You will find some great buys as we prepare for the upcoming season. Give me a call or drop me an e-mail if you are interested in having an OYC lunch gathering on the 19<sup>th</sup> in Annapolis.

Until the Planfest.

Sea Duck Too Back to One Six



Vice Commodore

Sue Thompson

**SHOULD I OR SHOULDN'T I?**

As I sit here watching the snow melt on this bright sunny day (yes it is January) I can't help but think about the upcoming boating season. Is this the year I drive the boat for more than 5 minutes at a time? Will I actually pull the boat out of the slip or better yet put it in the slip? Well in thinking about my commanding our ship I have come up with a pro and con list. Pro list equals why I should drive the boat and the con list equals why I shouldn't. So here goes!

**PROS**

Safety (What if Steve gets sick)

Calling myself a Captain

Just to say I can drive something

Proving to those doubting Captains that I can drive the boat

Learning to use all those neat expensive toys in the helm station

Claiming the Captain's Chair

**CONS**

Steve never gets sick

Everyone knows the First Mate is more important

Why start now?

Proving them right

Why bother, I have Steve or any other Captain in the club to play with them

Oh wait, my feet don't touch the deck, bad idea.

So as you can see I have come up with no good reason to drive our boat. I will continue to monitor the radio (both VHF and Sirius), take care of Nick, feed and water Steve, and anything else I feel like doing. As the plaque hanging in our boat says, "The Captain makes all the important decisions, the First Mate decides which decisions are important." (Anyone got a good Nora Roberts book?)

Coming Up:

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

**February 5** – Planfest at Oasis (OHM) 2-5 pm, Board Event

**February 20** – Brunch at Fort Belvoir, Fort Belvoir Officer's Club, Rick Sorrenti

**March 19** – General Membership Meeting, Fairfax Yacht Club, 2-5 pm, Board Event

Till next time, I'm Forever Dreamin'.

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**Sunday Brunch**

by Rick Sorrenti

Join Teresa, Jillian and Rick Sorrenti for the **4<sup>th</sup> Annual February Sunday Brunch** on February 20<sup>th</sup> at the Ft Belvoir Officer's Club. We will begin promptly at 11AM and enjoy a buffet selection that will simply amaze those attending. Please abide by the Officer's Club request that appropriate attire (no jeans etc) be worn to this event.

Reservations are required so contact Rick Sorrenti at Sorrenti\_rick@bah.com or call him at 703 590-6724 as soon as possible.

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**History of Alexandria Seaport Presentation**

by Carolyn Dabney (via the PRYCA)

My name is Carolyn Dabney. I Chair the Publicity Committee for the Old Dominion Boat Club (ODBC). This year is our 125th Anniversary. For 2005 we are offering a series of programs that are open to club members and the local community.

Our first program titled the "History of Alexandria Seaport" is on Wednesday, February 16 from 7:00pm - 9:00pm at the ODBC, 1 King Street, Alexandria. Steven J. Shephard, Ph.D., RPA with the City Archaeologist office will offer a power point presentation with some intriguing documentary and archaeological findings. Dr. Stephard's intent is to provide a better understanding of the 18th century transformation of the Alexandria waterfront.

Please extend an invitation from the ODBC to the Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me.

Regards,  
Carolyn

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Rear Commodore

Alan Gorenstein

### ST. CLEMENT'S ISLAND – A PLACE TO VISIT

As I look forward to those nice warm days on the Potomac and OYC cruises, I am listening to today forecast for five to ten inches of snow, anticipating burning a few logs in the fireplace and completing a wall papering project. No doubt, the shovels will also be put to good use as we grovel about the cold and snow.

But, in less than 60 days we will be enjoying Spring in Washington and our talk will turn to Cherry Blossoms and boating. In fact, just last evening a friend who keeps his boat on Chesapeake Bay at Herrington Harbor said he needed to call this weekend to make a reservation for March to have his boat taken out of its shrinkwrap and put back in the water. It felt so good hearing of his plans as it reminded me that Winter is not eternal.

As you may recall from the December Daymarker, I mentioned that additional information about St. Clement's Island would be provided. For those of you that have noticed the large 40-foot white cross memorial just south of Cobb Island, St. Clement's is a place filled with history and things to see. The St. Clement's Island Potomac River Museum chronicles Maryland's early history. Using a journal prepared 350 years ago by a passenger on the Ark, the museum has recreated what life was like in the early 1600's. Just 14 years after the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock and with years of planning, Leonard Calvert (Calvert County) and the Arundell Family (Anne Arundel County) set sail on the Ark. Within a few days of their departure from England with hopes of settling in their own land where they could worship freely, the winds died down and they anchored.

As they waited for better weather, a wind gust pushed a French cutter into the vessel. The crew saved the ship cutting the anchor (a Leatherman all purpose knife was not available). According to the journal of Father White, the incident occurred on St. Clement's Feast Day.

Four months later the Ark had crossed the Atlantic, sailed up the Chesapeake and into the Potomac dropping anchor off a beautiful island. Going ashore Mr. Calvert met with the local tribes and gained permission to make a permanent settlement. March 25, 1634, Father White conducted the first Roman Catholic Mass of the English Speaking Colonies at this lovely island. During the ceremony they honored St. Clement for watching over their winter sail by naming the island after him.

Today, at St. Clement's Museum, interactive exhibits, things to touch and hold bring history back to life. In one corner there is a trunk of period style clothing for children to see how they would have looked dressed in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Scale models of the Ark, a life size mural of the first Mass and many other exhibits are sure to add to our

understanding of history.

In addition, during the Summer, a one-act outdoor play dramatizing the first landing on St. Clement's Island is presented. To learn more about the Tide Of Tolerance or the annual Potomac Jazz and Seafood Festival held on the lawn of the Museum in July, call (301) 769-2222. One of the museum staff will be pleased to provide more information.

So, this summer when you contemplate where you might cruise for a day or stop for a few hours as you cruise further south on the Potomac, consider tying up at the docks by the St. Clement's Museum. I am sure the time spent will be interesting and fun for young and old.

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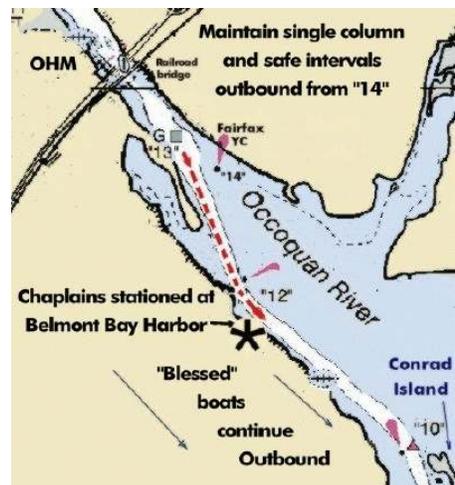
### ORMA – What Is It?

by Sue Thompson

The Occoquan River Maritime Association (ORMA) is a group of parties (businesses, Marinas, Yacht clubs, etc. whose interest is with the Occoquan River. Some of their goals are to preserve and enhance the use of the Occoquan River as well as the beauty and its environmental vitality.

They also schedule and coordinate events like the Annual Occoquan River Blessing of the Fleet. One of the greatest accomplishments to date, for ORMA, was in successfully lobbying local and national leaders for the dredging of the Occoquan River. Without ORMA the much needed dredging would not have been possible.

All of this cannot be done without the help of volunteers. Volunteers like fellow OYC member Jim Ball who founded ORMA and Chris Webster, another OYC member who is now heading up the organization. But ORMA needs some help. As the saying goes many hands make light work. So why not check out the ORMA



The 2004 Blessing Route

website (go to [www.occoquanyachtclub.org](http://www.occoquanyachtclub.org) and click on OYC links) and find out more. If you are interested in helping ORMA, contact Chris Webster or any board member for more info. We are currently planning the 2005 Occoquan River Blessing of the Fleet, so stay tuned for details.

# The Datemarkers

## Birthdays

Nabil Dubraque, 2/1	Barbara Swengel, 2/7
Ronald Marx, 2/8	Maria Price, 2/9
Rick Sorrenti, 2/9	Candy Clevenger, 2/11
Paul Koenig, 2/14	Thomas Lucey, 2/17
Belinda Nichols, 2/21	Rudy Noori, 2/21
Vince Zumbo, 2/23	Bruce Tulloch, 2/26
Gigi Hanna, 2/28	Jack Striker, 2/28

## Anniversaries

Bob and Betty Zaegel, 2/5  
Clete and Lin Shultz, 2/12  
Steve and Sue Thompson, 2/16

## Welcome New Members

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

## Captains ...



It's not too late to start thinking about *Valentines Day*.

Why not take your special someone (that's First Mate for those of you still trying to get over the celebrations of the new year) to someplace just as special.

Yes, now is the time to plan a trip to the Washington Convention Center and let your First Mate pick out that new galley configuration or stateroom layout with a long overdue increase in berth size. While your at it, check out the electronics displays. I'm sure your mate will say YES when you mention that the ONLY reason you need it is for their safety while out on the water.

That's right, the Washington Boat Show is scheduled for the 9<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup> of February. Check out their web site at [www.washingtonboatshow.com](http://www.washingtonboatshow.com).



What did you do on your summer vacation? Oops, change that to during your winter lay-up.



Secretary

Vicki Hamp

### HOW TO GET IT ALL DONE SO YOU CAN GO BOATING!

How many boats do you see sitting in the Marina weekend after weekend? Is yours one of them? If so, is it because you've lost your passion for boating? Or are you simply having difficulty finding the time? Perhaps, you are one of the few who boats every weekend. Are you falling behind on other responsibilities?

The key to balancing your life is setting goals, prioritizing, and managing your time. You'll find volumes of literature on this subject at your local book store. Here are few things that may help you get jump started.

### WE ALL HAVE THE TIME THERE IS

Everyone has 24 hours in a day. Precisely 1440 minutes. You must make do with what you have. Those who accomplish the most know precisely where each minute is spent.

#### Cumulative Effects of Wasted Minutes

Minutes Per day	Minutes Per Week	Hours Per Year	8-hour days per Year
5	35	30	3.8
10	70	60	7.6
15	105	90	11.4
30	140	120	15.8
60	280	340	31.6

### YOU CANNOT SAVE TIME – YOU CAN ONLY SPEND IT OR INVEST IT

Which activities can you invest time on now to give you the greatest Return on Time Invested? The Pareto Principle a.k.a. the 80-20 Rule. Eighty percent of your results come from 20% of what you do. Everything else you do is busy work. Identify the 20% of your activities which have the greatest impact on the results you want. In order to organize your life you must know the results you are looking for. In other words what are your goals.

### PUTTING IN MORE HOURS IS NOT THE ANSWER

Work Smarter not Longer

- ! Place your inbox on the outside of your door – this will minimize 5 minute interruptions.
- ! Delegate – Am I the only person who can do this? Is this the best use of my time?
  - \* You can apply this to home, as well as work. (i.e. Use PeaPod. Com for your grocery shopping, your time is well worth the \$5.00 charge).
- ! Perfection – The extra time you spend perfecting your project, is it really necessary? The time you spend perfecting may be more effective completing another project.
- ! Reading File – Having difficulty keeping up with industry periodicals. Place articles in a reading file for those in-between times. You've arrived on-time for a meeting, but can't get started because others are late – this is a good time to look at your reading file.
- ! E-Mail – Use Action Folders. If your e-mail system lists your personal folders alphabetically, you might create: @Action and @Waiting for and @Read/Review.
  - \* The @ will put those important folders at the top of the list of folders for easy viewing. (The @Waiting for are for those items you delegated to someone else).

I hope you'll find these tips useful; more importantly I hope to see you on the Potomac!



### Hey! Guess What!!

It's the beginning of the new year. But that isn't news to you. However, what you may have forgotten is that **OYC dues for the new year are due**. Take a look at the address label on this issue. If you see a ☺ then you have not yet paid your 2005 dues. (If you have and still see the symbol then things probably crossed somewhere in the mail.) So, keep yourself informed of OYC, PRYCA, and other boating activities on the Potomac. You also get your subscription to the Daymarker renewed as well.

Send in your check, made payable to "OYC" today. Mail your payment to: Occoquan Yacht Club, PO Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125. Or save a stamp and bring your check with you to the next OYC event and just give it to a board member.

For those who have forgotten, membership fees are yet again the same as last year (Wow! What a bargain.):

- \$60.00 – Family (with boat)
- \$40.00 – Single (with boat)
- \$30.00 – Associate (any member(s) without boat)

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## **Boater's Top Ten New Year's Resolutions**

From the BoatUS Foundation

To help boaters have even better boating experiences in 2005, the BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water suggests these top ten New Year's resolutions that will make your boating safer, cleaner, and more rewarding for everyone aboard:

1. Teach a child or friend how to sail, or introduce them to boating. You can get them started by sending them to the Foundation's free online boating safety course at BoatUS.com/Foundation.
2. Check your flares, fire extinguisher and other safety equipment to be certain it's in good condition and up-to-date. The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and U.S. Power Squadrons offer free vessel safety checks that can help identify these or any other potential problems.
3. The next time you go fishing, experiment with circle hooks. These fish-saving hooks will save an angler's excitement of the catch for another day – or perhaps even for your own child.
4. Familiarize yourself with an online weather service so it becomes a routine part of your pre-departure planning. Knowing potential conditions before you go makes float planning easier.
5. Fuel up your boat without spilling a drop overboard this entire season and contain engine room drops and spills with bilge pads and socks. The cumulative effects of a little drop here and there can add up.
6. Purchase and wear an inflatable life jacket. Being comfortable in your life saving, personal floatation device means you will use it.
7. Tune your engine. An engine running at top performance can drastically reduce harmful exhaust or oil emissions and you'll get more miles to the gallon.
8. Set up some easy to identify, separate trash and recycling containers aboard. A readily available disposal system helps everyone keep trash out of the water.
9. Save the alcohol for when you arrive safely back at the dock. The majority of all boating fatalities are alcohol related.
10. Make a donation to your favorite educational or marine conservation group. In doing so, you will make a positive difference for every boater in 2005 and gain a great sense of personal satisfaction.

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### ***Ain't No Cure For The Winter Time Blues***

by Sue Thompson

Eat, Drink and Go Boating?

Well two out of three isn't bad. Those of you who attended the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Winter Time Blues Party hosted by Rob and Marge Grant know exactly what I am talking about. Forty or so members got together to eat, drink, play ping pong, eat some more, play pool, drink some more and, oh yes, talk a lot about boating and the upcoming season. Everyone bought a dish to share and as usual all the food was great. Although most of the evening was devoted to partying we did take the time to watch football on the Rob's new toy, a projector TV, and listen as the drums

were played. We also wished Walt Cheatham and Tony Mirando a Happy Birthday (yes, Tony's birthday is in January). All in all, if you missed it you missed a great time. Now lets get this winter stuff over and start boating.



**A different kind, and less desirable type, of Winter Time Blues**

## Occoquan Yacht Club Calendar

<i><b>February 2005</b></i>						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
National Pet Dental Health Month		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Ground Hog Day	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Planfest at Oasis (OHM)
<b>6</b> Super Bowl Sunday	7	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Chinese New Year/ Ash Wednes.	<b>10</b> First of Muharram	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Lincoln's Birthday
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Valentine's Day	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Ashura
<b>20</b> Brunch at Ft. Belvoir's Ofcr. Club	<b>21</b> President's Day	<b>22</b> Washington's Birthday	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> Academy Awards	<b>28</b>					
<i><b>March 2005</b></i>						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
National Caffeine Awareness Month		<b>1</b> Peanut Butter Lover's Day	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	7	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Ides of March	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> St. Patrick's Day	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> General Membership Mtg - FYC
<b>20</b> Palm Sunday	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Organize Your Home Office Day	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Good Friday	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> Easter Sunday	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		
<b>Due to the rescheduling of the Planfest the official 2005 calendar will appear in March's issue of the Daymarker.</b>						

# Is It Boating Season Yet? Almost.

*Inside . . .*

To Drive or Not to Drive (The Boat),

St. Clements Island (redux),

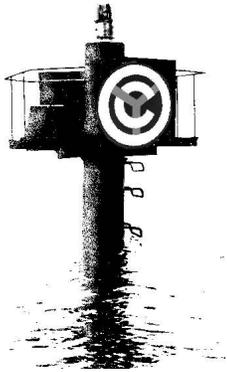
New Year Resolutions (boating style),

And Much More.

March 19  
General Mbrship  
Meeting at FYC  
Sue Thompson

February 20  
Brunch at Ft.  
Belvoir Ofcr. Club  
Rick Sorrenti

February 5  
OYC Planfest  
Oasis (OHM)  
Sue Thompson



*The Daymarker*

**Occoquan Yacht Club  
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**Change Service Requested**