

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 MORE FUN THAN EVER

I hope all of you had a great holiday season! Teresa and I made our annual trek to the frozen tundra of Michigan once again. It's truly amazing to see how boaters in the state with the largest number of registered boats cope with winter. It was in the single digits all week with wind chills around minus 10 degrees. The Lake St. Clair shoreline has some of the nicest restaurants, open year around, co-located with the marina complexes. As you look out, all you see are thousands of blue shrink-wrapped boats. But owners are the same no matter where they live. The motto of "Its Saturday lets go to the marina" was alive and well. There they all were telling boat stories, having a great time and dreaming of warmer weather.

As we move into January, I wanted to add my thanks to all of you that attended the 2004 Holiday Party. We had over 100 paid but a couple never showed. It was rumored that they went to the Community Center and joined some other party, and just thought they looked like boaters. That can't be true, as the sequined, suited/tuxedoed crowd we had at the Officers Club was barely recognizable as the OYC t-shirt and shorts crowd we see on the docks all summer. Everyone looked great and I do hope all of you had a good time. Special thanks go to Susan Thompson for all her efforts and the entire board who jumped in and helped make this a special evening.

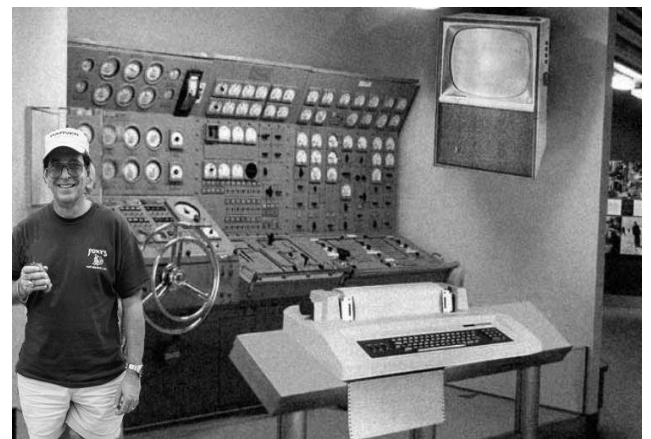


Our Commodore Cup winners, Liz and Andrew Kalweit, were taken by surprise when their names were announced. Congratulations Liz and Andrew. Ilona Zsairi was gracious in accepting the 2004 Golden Snorkel Award winner. It just proves that no deed, whether good or embarrassing (or both) goes unnoticed in OYC.

We have a lot in store for January so pay particular attention this month's Daymarker. More parties are scheduled along with rollout of the 2005 Cruise Itinerary later in the month.

Trivia question for January: He is credited with the invention of the screw propeller and the designer of the U.S.S. Monitor. Where is his memorial located in Washington? The first member who e-mails me at Sorrenti_rick@bah.com with the correct answer will receive \$10.00 off your next custom OYC boat mat. Until then.....

Sea Duck Too Back to One Six



Rick's Christmas Present from Santa - A New Command Bridge for Sea Duck Too



Vice Commodore

Sue Thompson

MY CAPTAIN

It's 30 degrees outside, the weathermen are predicting our first snowstorm, Christmas is less than a week away and what am I doing? I'm not home in my nice warm house baking cookies, or wrapping presents, or shopping. Can you guess where I am? I am at the marina with my captain and his latest project. We are preparing to shrink wrap our boat. Now as you all have probably heard my captain is not afraid of hard work. I mean who waxes our boat (all 37 feet) not once but at least twice a year? Who does his own bottom painting? Who is not afraid to change oil or winterize all the systems in his boat? Well that would be my captain. You are probably saying to yourselves "this guy must be real cheap or crazy." Well I can tell you it is neither one. He does live for a challenge. So back to his latest challenge. After much thought he decided it would be most cost effective to shrink wrap our own boat. So off to the internet he went to find the materials. After ordering the materials he told me of our decision. So on a cold Sunday morning we set out with my captain, daughter and future son-in-law, ever faithful dog and a VERY hesitate me. He had watched all the videos and read all the manuals and we were ready. All he had to do was tell us what to do. Well I will let him tell you the details of how this was accomplished (I'm sure he will be glad to tell the story), but here are my observations.

- Do not wait until the end of December, pick a nice sunny day.

- As far as I could tell a couple large tarps, strategically tied down, would serve the same purpose.

- Have an unlimited budget so your captain can sit back and watch someone else do the hard work.

- Be patient and bring warm clothing.

Now as you can probably tell this really was a huge project but I congratulate my captain for a job well done. I know he is "Forever Dreamin" of his next project.

Coming Up:

Please see articles from the cruise coordinators about

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

the upcoming activities throughout the Daymarker.

January 15 – Winters Blues Party – Rob and Marge Grant – (703) 250-9539

January 22 – Planfest – Board Event at Oasis on the Occoquan 2-5 pm

January 29 – PYRCA Change of Watch – Joe Livingston – (540) 373-9203

February 20 – Brunch at Ft. Belvoir Officer's Club – Rick Sorrenti

Till next time, I'm Forever Dreamin'.

Did you know . . . There is a new marine engine that will go faster and get better mileage than Ned Rhodes' boat.

The new Volvo IPS I/O engine is made for larger, 32 to 65 foot, boats. It pulls the boat through the water and eliminates rudders, shafts, and thru-hulls required for standard inboard engines. Check out the current issue of "Yachting" and "Motor Boat and Yachting" (and possibly other mags) for more details.



Captains, this sounds like a compelling reason to go ahead with that upgrade you've been putting off. Who will be the first OYC member to put Ned to shame?

Sunday Brunch

by Rick Sorrenti

Join Teresa, Jillian and Rick Sorrenti for the **4th Annual February Sunday Brunch** on February 20th 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.

Thank you from the 2004 Commodore's Cup Recipients

Happy holidays, everyone, and thank you for sharing our pleasure and surprise at receiving the Commodore's Cup during the holiday party at Fort Belvoir!

During the holiday dinner at the Fort Belvoir Officer's Club, when Rick Sorrenti announced that we were the 2004 recipients of the Commodore's Cup, we were too stunned to say anything, even though he gave us the chance to, and even though we waffled a few times.

But if we could do it over again, we would say two things: first, thank you! to the 2004-2005 Board for thinking of us for this honor. Second, we would tell everyone to come to the January Planfest and sign up to participate in the many cruises and club events planned for 2005!

Just to give you a few examples of the ways in which you can participate, here are a few of the things we've done over the years:

- We both served on the board, as secretary and rear commodore.
- With Webmaster Ned Rhodes' blessing, Liz signed on as co-Webmaster with the grand title of

"Webmesserupper" and had a great time updating the site, taking pictures, and reporting on club events. Some new members at the time said that www.OccoquanYachtClub.org was one of the reasons they joined – they could see how much fun we were having!

– We contributed to the Daymarker, again, taking pictures and playing "cub reporter" by covering events OYC either sponsored or participated in, and by spreading information important to boaters.

– Liz updated the Event Coordinator Handbook and the membership form.

– We've participated in countless events that were OYC-based, and PRYCA-based as well. We've scavenged, volleyed, canoed, kayaked, dinghied blindfolded, balloon-tossed, played tug-'o-war, showed off our bosun skills, navigated, knotted, laughed, and learned a lot. Equally importantly, sometimes we simply turned up to



Andrew and Liz were Very surprised.

cheer on our fellow OYCers.

– Liz took a breather to go back to school to finish her master's degree, and Andrew pitched in at home to help out. Once we were finished with school, we started to get involved in club activities again. Over Labor Day Weekend 2003, we coordinated what might have been the largest OYC cruise in the club's history – 29 boats – and it was the first cruise we'd ever coordinated! We coordinated another cruise last year, to Solomon's Island.

At any club event, a helping hand is always appreciated for even the simplest things – setting up chairs and tables, sharing a potluck dish or a pot of coffee, helping with clean up afterward, etc.

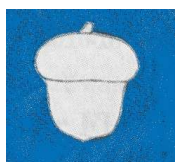
Several OYCers became even further involved in boating through the Coast Guard Auxiliary, Power Squadron, and the Occoquan River Maritime Association. Andrew earned his U.S. Coast Guard captain's license and is a professional towboat captain with TowBoat U.S. on occasional weekends. (A few of you have been towed in by him, but I won't mention names.) He recently participated in a huge search-and-rescue drill organized by the Potomac River Rescue Association. Some of you might have listened in on the radio.

It's your club, so pitch in, participate, and have fun with it! Best wishes for a safe year of boating in 2005.

Capt. Andrew and Liz Kalweit



Ilona was so excited about receiving the award that she broke it.



Treasurer

Harry Croft

DECEMBER DOLDRUMS OR TIS THE SEASON TO BE JOLLY!

While it is the season to be jolly, if you go down to the marina docks, it is anything but! Descriptive words such as gloomy, empty, chilly or downright cold seem appropriate and if weren't for those sicko bass fishermen, nobody would be on the water! We all know why they are still fishing: hockey season was canceled, holiday shopping pressures, household chores (actually that's a good reason to be on the water all year round), and most importantly to make US feel bad. I hope the Occoquan freezes real soon – that will keep those dedicated fishermen off the water and at home trying to select what color of paint for the bedroom.

Even though things appear dire this time of year, you can do some meaningful things that are productive and help pass the time away. Now these things are from my own personally tried and true experiences, so you know they are good! Visit your boat often. This is both a practical and fun thing. The practical part is to make sure all is well, i.e., the boat isn't lying on the bottom or your neighbor forgot to turn on their bubbler (then you would have to buy one yourself!!) The fun part is taking a nap when the wind is howling and your wife thinks you are working on the electrical system. Another fun activity is going through all the boat catalogs to determine all the stuff you will need for the upcoming boating season; you know, the really important safety things such as colored chart plotters, fishing gear, multi-band radios, fishing gear, flares, fishing gear... Another fun thing is looking over the charts to see where you might want to cruise next season. Picking new destinations or looking at old ones, it makes no difference. Measuring the distance, looking at the depths, or entering the data into the GPS unit...it always seems to shorten the boredom of not actually cruising. Perhaps one of the most fun things is visiting other boaters who are also hiding out, er, surveying their boats. Important information is often exchanged during these visits. Things such as "What new fishing gear are you getting?" "Wanna another beer?" "Where are you going to go next season?" "Wanna another beer?"

I'm hoping there's only 90 days of winter left before I can really get serious about cruising again. Until then I think I'll go down to the "Bay Dreamer" and check on things before I take a nap. If I should by chance see you down there on the docks, I always keep beer at the ready!

The Datemarkers

Birthdays

Fred Foss, 1/1
Rob Cavaleri, 1/10
Janet Sobie, 1/12
Roger Mays, 1/14
Tom Shank, 1/16
Mike Fordham, 1/19
Shane Hatton, 1/23
Vicki Hamp, 1/28

Jim Ball, 1/7
Daniel Kent, 1/10
Alan Gorenstein, 1/14
Walter Cheatham, 1/15
Jane Skolnick, 1/17
Ned Rhodes, 1/22
Michael Katalinas, 1/27
Jan Wilcox, 1/31

Anniversaries

Linda and Laslo Bozoky, 1/4
Kathy and Shane Hatton, 1/19
Gigi and Nadir Hanna, 1/30
Rebecca and John Heinze, 1/30

Welcome New Members

Sorry, it was a slow month for the Membership Chair; there were no new members joining the club in December 2004.

Captains ...

It's not too early 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 9th to the 13th of February. Check out their web site at www.washingtonboatshow.com.

Santa Cruise to Occoquan

by Walt Cheatham

Six boats participated in the annual Santa Cruise on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. That's the event where we meet at Occoquan Harbour Marina in our decorated boats, have snacks and libations on the dock, and take Santa up the river to Occoquan to meet the kids at the town dock as sponsored by the Occoquan Merchant's Association. This year we were blessed with sunny, 50 degree weather – although it clouded up and turned cold as we motored home. Participating were



The decks were all decked out.



Some much sought out personal time with Santa.

(in boat name alphabetical order): **Bay Dreamer** with Harry & Pat Croft, **Gail Lynn II** with Joe & Gail Livingston, **Our Dream** with Shane & Kathy Hatton, **Seaclusion** with Fred Foss & Belinda Nichols (who had the honor of transporting Santa), **The Robins Nest** with Mike & Sara Robins, and **Walt's on Water** with Walt & Susan Cheatham.

PRYCA Change of Watch 2004

by Joe Livingston/PRYCA Delegate

The event is certainly on at the Sheraton Crystal City on 29 January (Saturday), 2005. Reservations must be made NOW!

The cost is \$60 per person (late registration now). Still Winter Uniform/Black-tie optional or Business suit with Complimentary Parking. If still available, reduced room rate of \$89 by calling the Sheraton at 703 486-1111.

Program for the evening is – Cocktails with hors d'oeuvres and cash bar (1730), Dinner entrees are Roast Prime Rib, Chicken Picatta, Salmon Florentine or Vegetarian Pasta and includes Salad, Rolls, Chef's choice of vegetable and starch, and Chocolate Mousse in edible cup and Coffee.



Send your check payable to "PRYCA" to Joe Livingston, 259 Bridgewater Cir, Fredericksburg, VA 22406-8410 along with coupon below. Cancellations after January 21, 2005 are non-refundable and acceptance of late reservations will be subject to availability of space.

Reservation Information for PRYCA 2005 COW.

Yacht Club: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Guest: _____ Title: _____

Entree Choice (# of each): _____ Beef _____ Chicken _____ Fish _____ Vegetarian

Special Requests: _____

Check Enclosed (Payable to PRYCA): \$ _____

Ain't No Cure For The Wintertime Blues.....

Our 4th Annual Pot Luck Dinner

Featuring such all time favorites as:

Ping Pong
Billiards
Big Screen TV
Music
Dancing In The Family Room
Drinking
Eating
and Drinking and Eating

Please join us!

*yeah, I woke up this
mornin' and had them
wintertime boat 'n
blues.....better get on
over so as I don't lose*

January 15, 2005 7:00pm
Rob. Marg & Emily "Three G's"
7337 Wayfarer Drive Fairfax Station, VA 22039
rsvp by Jan. 10

call 703-250-9539 or preferred e-mail: robgrant@cox.net
(We will e-mail directions & potluck dish info. back to you)

The 2004 OYC Change of Watch and Holiday Party



The Infamous OYC(A) Dance.



Could this be a new OYC tradition?



Some of OYC's Newer Members.



A large crowd, a great location, and fun was had by all.

Occoquan Yacht Club Calendar

January 2005						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						1 New Year's Day
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Winter Blues Party at the Grants
16	17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	18	19	20 (Eid) al Adha	21	22 OYC Plan-Fest at TBD
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 PRYCA Change of Watch
30	31					
February 2005						
<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	5
6	7	8	9 Chinese New Year/ Ash Wednes.	10 First of Muharram	11	12 Lincoln's Birthday
13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18	19 Ashura
20 Brunch at Ft. Belvoir's Ofcr. Club	21 President's Day	22 Washington's Birthday	23	24	25	26
27	28	29				
Stay tuned for next month's Daymarker for the official 2005 calendar.						

It's January – Time for a New Boating Season. *Inside . . .*

2004 Commodore Cup Winners Speak Up,

To Shrink (Wrap) or Not to Shrink,

What Boaters do in the Winter,

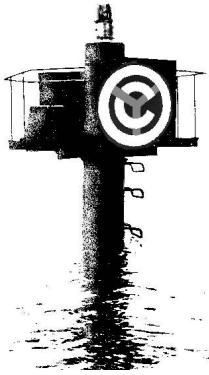
And Much More.

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

January 29
PRYCA Change
of Watch
Joe Livingston

January 22
OYC Planfest
Place TBD
Sue Thompson

January 15
Wintertime Blues
Party
Rob/Marge Grant



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Change Service Requested