

The Daymarker

OCCOQUAN YACHT CLUB

P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125

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

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Commodore's Comments

Sue Thompson

THE EFFECTS OF WIND ON SMALL CRAFT

Can you remember the very first time you took your very first boat out on to the river? I can. It almost made me decide to never go boating again. That's because the wind was blowing up a storm. When I mentioned this to the two dealer reps who were taking my husband and me on our shake down cruise, they said that there was a small craft advisory in effect. I said "In New York you don't take out boats under such an advisory". They said, "It's the same in Virginia". Things were bad then but didn't get much better when we turned around to go back to the slip and all I could see was water when looking out the window on the port side and one of the reps was screaming "Trim It" at my husband (aka Captain).

Ever since then I have been especially sensitive to wind and wave height. So, what does a small craft advisory mean? Well, first you have to define "small craft". That's easy enough. Any boat that is less than 33 feet in length is considered a small craft (as defined by the US Coast Guard). That doesn't provide me with much comfort as I believe that boats greater than 33 feet in length would also behave badly in some "small craft" advisories. But we'll forget about that for now and move on.

In addition to the length of the boat you also have a wind speed associated with the advisory. But, as usually is the case, nothing seems to be an exact science when it comes to boating. Until the late 1960s the wind speed was defined



to be between 32 and 38 miles per hour (28-33 knots). Then the lower limit was reduced to 23 MPH (20 knots). Nowadays the general rule of thumb is anything between 25 and 38 MPH (22-33 knots) is considered a small craft advisory. Anything above 38 MPH and you run into a Gale Warning. If you are out in that type of weather you had better have your life insurance paid up.

Okay. So we have boat size and wind speed. These are the parameters that define a small craft advisory but what about the affect the wind has on the water. Here again, it all depends on where you are. In the open ocean you could see waves from six to thirteen feet. But I assure you waves of this size are rare in the upper Potomac. However, since it is only the wind that defines the advisory, you will probably see waves of about three to six feet in height.

Occasionally you will hear club members talking about the NOAA weather broadcasts on the VHF. They will say that if NOAA reports one to two foot waves, they are actually one to two feet over the bow of the boat. Well NOAA cannot be precise about all the waves' heights throughout the bay so occasionally you will come across one that is larger than what have been reporting. However, I will tell you that the height of the wave that breaks over the bow is directly correlated to the speed and angle at which the boat hits the wave. The faster the boat is going, the higher the wave is going to splash over onto the bridge.

(Cont.)



Vice Commodore

Joe Livingston

HELLO ALL MEMBERS

Approximately thirty-five days and the Spring boating season will be upon us. I am sure looking forward to that and it will happen. However, I would also like to have our "cruising schedule set with coordinators onboard and working on reservations and creating a great event. So please volunteer. We still need, as they say, adult leadership for a *cruise to Port Kinsale Marina over the Labor Day weekend in September, a cruise to Aquia Harbour YC for the End of Summer Party on the weekend of 18-20 August, and a cruise to Tall Timbers Marina for the Columbus Day weekend in October.* Talk to me about the great reward package available for volunteering for one of these cruises.

Mark your calendar now for the Occoquan River Maritime Association (ORMA) sponsored **Blessing of the Fleet** on the Occoquan River. This event is being planned now with guidance from Chris Webster, Coordinator of ORMA, and in conjunction with Marinas and the Yacht Clubs along the Occoquan and the Occoquan Town Merchants Association. On Saturday morning, the **13th of May**, invite family (especially children and grandchildren) and friends aboard and you will certainly note an unusually large presence of police, fire, and Coast Guard Auxiliary vessels just south of the Route One bridge *about 1030...*this will signal the forming of the parade of boats down the Occoquan with sirens and water cannon displays to the blessing site at Belmont Bay Marina. The blessing will be from **1100 to 1400 (11am to 2pm)**. Enjoy.

Upcoming Events:

March 25 (Sat)—General Membership Mtg. at Fairfax YC/Al Jorsey @ 703-850-2888.

April 21-23 (Fri-Sun)—Early Bird Cruise to Alexandria/Linda & Laslo Bozoky @ 703-590-8440.

May 6 (Sat)—Occoquan YC Flag Raising at Occoquan Harbour Marina/Sue Thompson @ 703-440-8114.

May 13 (Sat)—ORMA Blessing of the Fleet/Joe Livingston @ 540-373-9203.

May 27-29 (Sat-Mon)—Memorial Day Cruise to Colonial Beach/Stephanie & Ed Karpinski @ 703-590-2260.

Cheers, Joe.

(Commodore's Article – Cont.)

So, to all those fair weather cruisers out there, I have two things to say. Boats are made to get wet so don't worry about the rain and waves. And two, know how to handle your boat in the wind. You never know when some foul weather will appear in the middle of a fabulous day. It's one thing to be safe. It's another to be foolhardy.

Now for the recipe of the month, this is a recipe I haven't made yet but have had at parties where I work. Enjoy!

Beer Dip

1 loaf round rye, pumpernickel, or marble bread
1 8 oz package of cream cheese
1 jar of draft old English cheese
1/8 teaspoon garlic powder
1-2 teaspoons of beer

Take center out of bread leaving a bowl shape. Cut center of bread into cubes and set aside. Combine cheeses and garlic and let stand at room temperature. Just before serving, add enough beer to cheese to make a dip consistency. Pour the dip into the bread bowl. Place cubes around bowl and serve.

Till next time I'm Forever Dreamin'



**This is what it looks like when the wind blows the water out of the Occoquan.
Picture taken from Fairfax Yacht Club.**

The Daymarker

Published monthly by the Occoquan Yacht Club

Steve Thompson, Editor

Sue Thompson, Editor's Advisor on Worldly Matters

Ruth Eisenman, Circulation

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



Rear Commodore

Allen Jorsey

HOW TO DO FIVE DAYS OF THE MIAMI BOAT SHOW IN ONE DAY

Last week the crew of Plane to Sea was able to get one day at the Miami Boat Show. With only a day to see almost 2000 exhibits is no small task. I had made a list of areas to visit which included prop repair, Nobeltec, bilge pumps, generators and engine replacement for our son in law. My plan was to hit these areas first then have time we hoped to just look around. After wasting time to find a parking place, first good decision was to use valet parking and walk right in. With the show directory in hand, I mapped out my route of attack to get to all of these in an efficient manner.

Just finding the right aisle with all the people was time consuming. Then in the best OYC fashion we had to have time to eat and drink.

Bottom line, got to all the places we wanted to see and still had time to tour one boat, a 52 foot Bluewater live aboard which could be delivered to Hoffmasters for just under \$900,000.00. The first mate did not care for the color, so we departed.

Plane to Sea II, back to Plane

OYC Early Bird Cruise

by Laslo and Linda Bozoky

It's that time again to start planning for the first cruise of the season. This year we are going to Old Town Alexandria City Marina on April 22nd and 23rd. The marina is renting the slips on a first come basis, which requires an application to be completed and rental fees paid in advance. At the plan-fest, we had 16 boats which showed interest in attending this cruise. It will be great if everyone can get a slip. If you don't have an application, please contact the Alexandria Marina directly at (703) 838-4265. We've been told that the Marina will only accept the applications that are postmarked on March 1st or after. Please do not put off sending in your applications, as Old Town is a very popular location, and other clubs may have the same idea about getting slips that weekend. The slip fees are \$1.00 per foot for each 24 hours. Each boat slip has one (1) 30 amp electrical connection and water hose bib available at \$2.00 per day. Overnight visiting pleasure boats must checkout and depart the marina by Noon.

We will be at the marina at noon on the 22nd to greet you when you arrive. We will have a happy hour at 5:30 pm at the marina, and later can go out to dinner at one of the many restaurants in Old Town. This is such a great location if you have never been to Old Town. Sunday morning we can meet for brunch, and later in the day for a possible raft-up. Hope to see a big turnout for the early bird cruise. In the April Daymarker we will let you know who got slips.

Ahoy Ye Landlubbers – Cruise the Bay with Ye Mateys!

by Harry Croft

This is the first formal announcement for a one week cruise to the upper mid-bay, the Chesapeake Bay that is! The plan is to leave on Saturday, June 24th and back home on Sunday, July 2nd. I've tried to minimize long runs as much as possible. The itinerary is:

Pt. Lookout Marina; Solomon's Island; St. Michaels; Cambridge; and back into the Potomac at White's Point on July 1st. The last stop will allow those who want to hook up with the Fourth of July trip to stay at White's Point or to go up river to hook-up with the Washington Basin bunch. So far nine boats have indicated interest. If you are interested and haven't already signed up at the Plan Fest, drop me an e-mail at hpcroft@verizon.net. More details and a confirmation request forthcoming as we get closer to cruise time.



For those of you who missed the boat show, here's a glimpse.

OYC Land Cruise to Cambridge, Maryland

by Gail Livingston

The OYC Land Cruise was a great success! There was partying, swimming, hiking, SPA massages, and a new dice game was introduced – ZAP or FARGLE – whatever you wanted to call it.

Joe and Gail (*GAIL LYNN II*) left Fredericksburg on Friday morning and traveled route 301 up the VA & MD Peninsula. The wind was at least 30 knots and we could see the white caps on the Potomac. There were no boats running but a few large ships moored off shore. The wind just about detoured us into the fields and water as we traveled. We arrived Friday afternoon and checked in just in time to avoid the hoards of couples, parents with toddlers, and conference people. There was a Baptist Church Conference and a nearby hospital that put on a Ball and Auction and the rooms were maxed at the Hyatt.

With strong winds and near freezing temperatures we were grateful that the hotel shuttle transported us to the “Blue Point Provision” marina restaurant located at the far end of the resort. After dinner we all gathered in the Michner Library Lounge for a social and S’moors. Joan Hicks volunteered Walter Kraus (*SEA VENTURE*) to toast the marshmallows! Walter went out and Joe, Dave, and Gail followed. Walter was sitting by himself on one of the large rocking chairs in front of the two-story fireplace and all of the chairs were rocking because of the high winds – what a spppooky sight that was. With the winds stirring the fire and blowing outward, Walter was covered with sparks and charcoal. It took 2 minutes to char the marshmallows and we were back inside!! Dave, with April, DeHanas (*APRIL’S SUNSET*) was delighted to say that “that was his first S’moor” and that they were delicious.

The view of the Choptank River from the Hotel was breathtaking. Looking at the water we were all excited and looking forward to the summer cruises; the first of which will be the **Early Bird Cruise** to Alexandria on 22-23 April, coordinated by Linda and Laslo Bozoky (*HOT SCHATZ*).

Saturday, Ted and Ilona Zsirai, (*EMPTY POCKETS*) arrived, and met us at “Waters Edge” for breakfast and a social. Even though they could not get into their room until that afternoon, it did not prevent them from enjoying the relaxation of the hotel and

hiking. With the snow falling and covering the hiking trails, we enjoyed our walk. There was some controversy as to where the **REAL HIKING TRAIL** led and where it started and ended but the good thing was that we didn’t get lost! As we hiked we spotted a few live ducks and birds. There is a dead tree to the right of the bridge as you drive into the entrance of the resort

that is uniquely carved with an eagle at the top, a blue heron, an owl, a squirrel and a duck, which was completed in 2005.

The “Waters Edge” restaurant provided us with a side room where the eight of us had a warm social, wonderful view of the water, and excellent food. We broke up late and the guys went to Michner Library for a nightcap. With the Library overflowing, they finally got a table, sat down and the waitress said “**last call!**”, as their drink order was filled.

On Sunday Ted and Ilona were able to catch up on early bird fun at the Hot Tub before the little ones swarmed the pool. We all enjoyed breakfast and headed towards home on Sunday.

It was unanimous that Cambridge provided the OYC Land Cruisers with all that was needed – mixers, spirits, and the water view of the Choptank River!!!!



Boaters can have fun, even in the middle of winter.

Did you know . . . How unique is your boat’s name?

You can find out how many Coast Guard documented boats have the same name as your boat. There is a link on the NOAA Fisheries web site – www.st.nmfs.gov/st1/CoastGuard/index.html. Select the link to “Search by Vessel Name”. Then type the name of your boat. All of the information on your documentation form is shown, as well as the previous owner and boat name, if applicable.

Unfortunately, this database does not include boats registered through a state agency.



Secretary

Liz Kalweit

FOR THE BEGINNER

[Editor's Note: Liz is enjoying writing to Elusive OYC Member Ken Hawes (Marine Fox), plus she is a professional correspondence writer, so she decided to just write to Ken every month to see if she can coax him out to more club events. Ken's okay with this, but we'll see if he actually shows up. If nothing else, maybe we'll see other elusive OYCers at future OYC events (Oh, hi, Pete!). In case you haven't noticed, you're noticed, you're missed, and you're missing out on the fun!]

Dear Ken:

Thanks for stopping by our home port when you were passing through last weekend. We had a great time going out for lunch with you, and I'm glad you got to meet our new rescue cat, Gracie. Well, four years old isn't exactly new, but she's new to us. Thanks, too, for helping me dispatch my little fish from its aquarium to its final resting place. That was sort of embarrassing; I swear it was alive that morning. It was our first day back from our Tucson trip. Maybe the aquarium long-term feeder just didn't go over well.

Did I remember to show you the pictures from our February Tucson trip? One of our first trips together in years that didn't involve a boat. It was warm and sunny, in the 70s and 80s, every day. We rented a convertible and screamed around the desert every chance we had. Didn't find any water to float a boat, though; a major drawback. We spent an entire day at the Pima Air and Space Museum. It's the place with the enormous military-plane bone yard, the one that's been featured on the Discovery Channel. The Sonora Desert Museum was beautiful. Their hummingbird exhibit is amazing. Did you know those tiny little birds are quite territorial? I didn't know. I was strafed by a hummingbird. That was a memorable first.

We were thinking of you when we were in Arizona. There we were driving around in our red Audi Quattro convertible, with the top down, and there you were in ... Massachusetts. I wasn't surprised to hear that you detoured off to the nearest boat show while you were up there. Spring fever is really kicking in. I already turned in my vacation slip for the Annapolis Boat Show in October. Opening day is October 12! And let's not forget shopping the sales at Fawcett's, but who's waiting? I'm willing to bet most of us have been shopping all season and are ready to get going.

Well, Ken, before I sign off, I have to congratulate you on your new boat-show purchase! She's a beauty!

I just don't know where you're going to find a slip she will fit in comfortably! As my Mom would have said, "Enjoy her in good health."

Your friend, Liz

PS, See you at the March Membership meeting. ... riight? And don't forget to bring pictures of your new baby.

The Datemarkers

Birthdays

Sharman Harris, 3/1	Lucy Dubraque, 3/4
Debbie Minard, 3/4	Wilma Spikes, 3/4
Bill Gamble, 3/6	April DeHanas, 3/12
John Corley, 3/13	Martha Jane Dodd, 3/13
Allen Jorsey, 3/15	Kimberly Newman, 3/16
Kendra Whitaker, 3/20	Theodore Zsirai, 3/20
Duane Jeirles, 3/24	Mary Lynn Snowman, 3/26
Lynanne Jorsey, 3/30	Walter Sobie, 3/30

Anniversaries

Mary Tatum and Bob Sellers, 3/8
Patty and Maury Shumaker, 3/20
Anne and Alan Gorenstein, 3/29
Linda and Rob Cunningham, 3/30

Welcome New Members

The Occoquan Yacht Club would like to welcome Joe Hoffmaster, from Hoffmaster's Marina as a new honorary member. The board approved his membership to acknowledge all of the contributions he has made to help the club with activities held at the marina.



High and Almost Dry at Hoffmaster's.

The General Membership Meeting/Photo Contest

by Sue Thompson

The General Membership Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 25, 2006 from 2:00pm – 5:00pm at the Fairfax Yacht Club. At this meeting we will be reviewing the 2006 OYC cruise schedule, discussing a member directory and reacquainting ourselves with the *PRYCA Boat* program. We'll also be reacquainting ourselves with fellow members in the true OYC manner, with food, drink, and tall tales of last seasons boating adventures. The annual Photo Contest is also held during this meeting. Prizes will be awarded in 5 categories: animal, landscape, people, general boating, and a brand new category, photo-shop art. The first four are self explanatory but the 5th is new and exciting. This category is for all you digital camera fans. This can be any photo you have created using Photoshop or similar programs. Use your imagination, but remember they must be done in good taste and have something to do with boating. Please bring your pictures to share. All photos will be returned, however we would appreciate copies for the historian. Everyone will be

voting for the winners. Prizes will be awarded. The meeting will be a Potluck and BYOB. Please bring the following: A-E – Salad, F-K – Main Dish, L-S – Dessert, and T-Z – Appetizer. The club will supply soda and water.

I hope to see you there.



One last photo of Hoffmaster's Marina.

2006 Tide Predictions: High Point, Occoquan Bay, Va.

(Reference station: Washington DC, Corrections Applied: Times: High -1 hr. 2 min., Low -1 hr. 28 min., Heights: High +0.57, Low *0.59)

March

Date	Day	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
03/01/2006	Wed	02:04AM LST	-0.2 L	07:47AM LST	1.8 H	02:33PM LST	-0.2 L	08:14PM LST	1.8 H
03/02/2006	Thu	02:49AM LST	-0.2 L	08:35AM LST	1.9 H	03:25PM LST	-0.2 L	09:05PM LST	1.7 H
03/03/2006	Fri	03:34AM LST	-0.2 L	09:24AM LST	1.9 H	04:17PM LST	-0.2 L	09:57PM LST	1.7 H
03/04/2006	Sat	04:19AM LST	-0.1 L	10:13AM LST	1.8 H	05:10PM LST	-0.1 L	10:50PM LST	1.6 H
03/05/2006	Sun	05:07AM LST	0.0 L	11:05AM LST	1.8 H	06:05PM LST	0.0 L	11:47PM LST	1.5 H
03/06/2006	Mon	05:58AM LST	0.1 L	12:01PM LST	1.7 H	07:02PM LST	0.1 L		
03/07/2006	Tue	12:47AM LST	1.4 H	06:54AM LST	0.1 L	01:02PM LST	1.6 H	08:00PM LST	0.1 L
03/08/2006	Wed	01:47AM LST	1.4 H	07:55AM LST	0.2 L	02:06PM LST	1.5 H	08:59PM LST	0.2 L
03/09/2006	Thu	02:47AM LST	1.4 H	08:58AM LST	0.2 L	03:09PM LST	1.5 H	09:58PM LST	0.2 L
03/10/2006	Fri	03:44AM LST	1.4 H	09:58AM LST	0.2 L	04:08PM LST	1.5 H	10:47PM LST	0.2 L
03/11/2006	Sat	04:36AM LST	1.5 H	10:52AM LST	0.2 L	05:01PM LST	1.5 H	11:34PM LST	0.2 L
03/12/2006	Sun	05:24AM LST	1.5 H	11:44AM LST	0.1 L	05:48PM LST	1.5 H		
03/13/2006	Mon	12:16AM LST	0.2 L	06:08AM LST	1.5 H	12:30PM LST	0.1 L	06:30PM LST	1.5 H
03/14/2006	Tue	12:54AM LST	0.1 L	06:47AM LST	1.6 H	01:13PM LST	0.1 L	07:08PM LST	1.6 H
03/15/2006	Wed	01:26AM LST	0.1 L	07:22AM LST	1.7 H	01:53PM LST	0.1 L	07:44PM LST	1.5 H
03/16/2006	Thu	01:58AM LST	0.1 L	07:53AM LST	1.7 H	02:32PM LST	0.1 L	08:17PM LST	1.5 H
03/17/2006	Fri	02:27AM LST	0.1 L	08:21AM LST	1.7 H	03:09PM LST	0.1 L	08:50PM LST	1.5 H
03/18/2006	Sat	02:55AM LST	0.1 L	08:51AM LST	1.8 H	03:45PM LST	0.2 L	09:25PM LST	1.5 H
03/19/2006	Sun	03:26AM LST	0.2 L	09:25AM LST	1.8 H	04:24PM LST	0.2 L	10:04PM LST	1.5 H
03/20/2006	Mon	04:06AM LST	0.2 L	10:06AM LST	1.8 H	05:07PM LST	0.2 L	10:49PM LST	1.5 H
03/21/2006	Tue	04:51AM LST	0.2 L	10:52AM LST	1.8 H	05:58PM LST	0.2 L	11:41PM LST	1.5 H
03/22/2006	Wed	05:44AM LST	0.2 L	11:48AM LST	1.7 H	06:59PM LST	0.3 L		
03/23/2006	Thu	12:42AM LST	1.5 H	06:46AM LST	0.2 L	12:52PM LST	1.7 H	08:06PM LST	0.3 L
03/24/2006	Fri	01:46AM LST	1.5 H	08:00AM LST	0.2 L	02:03PM LST	1.7 H	09:12PM LST	0.2 L
03/25/2006	Sat	02:54AM LST	1.5 H	09:17AM LST	0.2 L	03:15PM LST	1.7 H	10:12PM LST	0.2 L
03/26/2006	Sun	03:55AM LST	1.7 H	10:28AM LST	0.1 L	04:19PM LST	1.8 H	11:08PM LST	0.1 L
03/27/2006	Mon	04:51AM LST	1.8 H	11:31AM LST	0.0 L	05:18PM LST	1.8 H	11:59PM LST	0.0 L
03/28/2006	Tue	05:44AM LST	1.9 H	12:28PM LST	-0.1 L	06:14PM LST	1.8 H		
03/29/2006	Wed	12:47AM LST	-0.1 L	06:34AM LST	2.0 H	01:23PM LST	-0.1 L	07:03PM LST	1.8 H
03/30/2006	Thu	01:33AM LST	-0.1 L	07:22AM LST	2.1 H	02:15PM LST	-0.1 L	07:54PM LST	1.8 H
03/31/2006	Fri	02:16AM LST	-0.1 L	08:09AM LST	2.1 H	03:06PM LST	-0.1 L	08:44PM LST	1.8 H

All times are listed in Local Standard Time(LST) or, Local Daylight Time (LDT) (when applicable). All heights are in feet referenced to Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW).

The Daymarker Editor would like to get feedback as to whether or not it is a good idea to publish tide charts.

Occoquan Yacht Club

March 2006						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
National Frozen Food Month National Noodle Month			1 Ash Wednesday	2	3 **	4 Hug a GI Day
5	6	7	8 Int'l Women's Day	9 Panic Day	10	11
12 Girl Scout Day	13	14	15 Ides of March	16 Lips Appreciation Day	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 National Quilting Day
19	20 Act Happy Day	21	22 National Common Courtesy Day	23	24	25 General Membership Meeting
26 ***	27 Kite Flying Day	28	29	30 Mule Day	31	
** What if Cats & Dogs Had Opposable Thumbs? Day *** Make Up Your Own Holiday Day						
April 2006						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
National Kite Month (of course) Straw Hat Month						1 April Fools Day
2 * Daylight Savings Time Starts	3 National Workplace Napping Day	4	5	6 National Fun At Work Day	7 No Housework Day	8
9 Palm Sunday	10	11	12 Passover Begins	13	14 Good Friday	15 Husband Appreciation Day
16 Easter	17 Blah! Blah! Blah! Day	18	19	20	21	22 ** Early Bird Cruise to Alex.
23 Early Bird Cruise to Alex.	24	25	26 Admin/ Secretary's Day	27	28 Arbor Day	29
30 National Honesty Day	* Peanut Butter Lovers Day ** Also Earth Day and Jelly Bean Day					

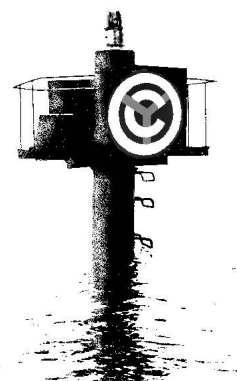
"Anticipation", It's a Song All Boaters can Relate To. Inside . . .

**Land Cruising, What Is It and Where do
People Go,**

**Tis the Season to go Boat Showing,
The Wind, She is a Blowing,**

And Much More.

March 25
OYC General
Membership
Mtg at Fairfax YC
Al Jersey
April 21-23
Early Bird Cruise
to Alexandria
Linda/Laslo Bozoky
May 6
Occoquan Yacht
Club Flag Raising
Occoquan Harbour
Marina
Sue Thompson
May 13
Occoquan River
Blessing of the
Fleet
Joe Livingston



The Daymarker

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Change Service Requested