

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

Sue Thompson

THE LABOR DAY CRUISE THAT ALMOST WASN'T

It was a cold dark morning and there was the threat of rain in the air. The water level on the river was exceptionally high and there was all kinds of debris floating around. So what was I doing on my boat? Why preparing to get underway of course. After all, what kind of a holiday weekend would it be if my Captain and I weren't off to some far away port-of-call to enjoy a few days "away from it all" on the boat. Does it matter that less than 36 hours before there was a tropical depression overhead and storm surge was so high that boats on lift-slips at the marina were slipping away? Heck no. Or at least that is what three hearty, or you could say crazy, crews thought that day.

Just the day before, we were notified that our reservations at Point Lookout were cancelled by the marina. Water was two feet over the docks, there was no electricity, and dock planks were starting to come loose and float away. So where to go ... how about White Point? It's just across the river from Point Lookout so they must have easily skirted the same fate, right? So after several calls to the marina, with no answers, we were off. But being the good First Mate that I was I suggested that we first top off the fuel tanks just in case we couldn't get any fuel down river. Others in the group didn't see the need.

So, after a lot of stop and go traffic on the river (boy, I never thought I'd ever hear myself saying that about boating) due to the limbs, whole trees, and even picnic

table floating about we three crazy boat crews pulled in to White Point. One boat, that shall remain nameless, pulled up to the fuel dock to get enough fuel to make it to their next destination, and immediately discovered that without electricity you can't pump fuel. Imagine that! Well, at least the docks were now above the high tide level. So we tied up, found the marina owner, and were welcomed with open arms showing that there are some boaters out there that will go the distance. Some of the other crews with boats home ported there might have thought otherwise but what did we care. We made it!

Everyone easily got into a slip – there weren't any availability problems typically found during a holiday weekend. With no power we ran the generators for a couple hours every now and then just to ensure that the house batteries didn't discharge too much. The weather was cool so sleeping with hatches open was a viable and enjoyable option, the hum of land-based generators in the distance lulling us to sleep. There was also the need to have a little hot water, something that most folks in the area had gone without for a couple days now. But Wait! You need water in the tank in order to heat it. What's this? Someone didn't fill their tank before departing? There was no water at the marine. You can't pump water from a well without electricity. Well, with the generous offering of water at only \$2.50 a gallon from their fellow boaters (the negotiations were at times tense and heated) this forlorn crew who shall remain nameless, managed to enjoy the comforts of hot showers and the use of their head facilities.

(Continued on Page 3)



Vice Commodore

Joe Livingston

Fall Membership Meeting (Annual Chili & Dessert Cook-Off)

Change is in the Air

HELLO ALL MEMBERS

Several of our members participated in the "Party on the Potomac" at the Old Dominion Boat Club the weekend of 8-10 October. My mate was out of the loop sitting for our Grandson Alex in Albuquerque, so I signed on as 3rd mate aboard "Sea Venture" for the weekend. The cruise up the Potomac was fantastic, Joan's docking guidance was impeccable and when they departed Saturday afternoon for a separate function, there was a nice cocktail event aboard...after all Walter did say "make yourself at home; you know the boat as well as I do". I know Walter heard many stories upon his return. The raft-up was again a non-event with approximately 4-6 boats, but there was a great deal planned for the weekend (Tiki bar, Boatyard Sale, Art Festival on King Street, Band, and Bloody Boater Breakfast on Sunday). Cost (\$\$) may have been a little high, but it was billed as a donation and the Sunday breakfast was great. I enjoyed seeing and visiting with members from the various yacht clubs, walking the docks and viewing art up and down King Street...that's framed oils and pastels! Think we numbered twenty for the weekend with some cruising (La De Da-*** Sea Drive-Sea Venture) and the Jorsey's and Johnson's Driving. On Sunday, the crew of the 19th Hole called seeking a "pilot" for a run to Georgetown for lunch. I volunteered for the free boat ride and lunch and then, finished the weekend back at Hoffmaster's for cocktails--great weekend!

Note your calendar for the Annapolis Boat Show, scheduled for October 12th thru the 15th. Thursday is VIP Day @ \$30 per ticket. Friday thru Sunday is \$16 for adults and \$8 for children 12 & under. Opens at 10AM each day. See you there.

Upcoming Events:

- October 7-9 (Sat-Mon) – Columbus Day Cruise to James Creek & Ft. Washington/Joe Livingston @ 540-373-9203.
 - October 21 (Sat) – Membership/Election Meeting at Fairfax YC/Al Jorsey @ 703-850-2888.
 - October 28 (Sat) – Crab Feast at Hoffmaster's/Joe Livingston @ 540-373-9203.
 - November 10-12 (Fri-Sun) – Hardy Souls Cruise to Alexandria/Arleen & Ned Rhodes @ 703-741-0861.
 - November 25 (Sat) – Santa Cruise (OHM to Occoquan)/Susan & Walt Cheatham @ 703-243-2430.
- Cheers, Joe



No. It's not New Orleans after Katrina ... it's Colonial Beach after Ernesto.

Our Fall membership meeting will be held at Fairfax Yacht Club on Saturday, October 21, from 2-5 pm. Remember, this is also our Chili and Dessert Cook-Off. We will be awarding 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes in each category and the judges will be all of you.

Everyone attending will get to vote for their favorite Chili and Dessert. Please remember that OYC will provide soda and water but if you have a thirst for anything else you must bring your own. The most important item on the agenda that day will be the election of officers for the 2007 board. We will have a presentation by NOAA on weather and boating.

Are You Hardy?

by Ned W. Rhodes

The Hardy Souls Cruise this year will be November 10, 11 and 12th and we will once again be going up to Old Towne and staying at the city marina. Other than morning dog walks, dinner, and cocktails, I have not finalized the schedule. But rest assured this will be a fun cruise. Since the Alexandria City Marina will not take group reservations, you must make your own reservations. You can find the reservation form on the web at http://www.ci.alexandria.va.us/recreation/marina/plea_res.pdf. You will need to fill it out, and send it in, along with full payment to the Marina. Don't send the form and money to me, send it to the City Marina.

Once you have sent in your form, then send me an email (ned@softwaresystemsgroup.com) to let me know that you done so. Once the City Marina has returned a card to you with your slip assignment, email me a second time to let me know that you have secured a slip and which one it is.

In years past, we have had sun, rain, wind, cold, warmth, and snow. This year, who knows? That is why it is the Hardy Souls Cruise.

The Daymarker

Published monthly by the Occoquan Yacht Club

Steve Thompson, Editor

Sue Thompson, Editor's Advisor on Worldly Matters

Ruth Eisenman, Circulation

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(Continued from Page 1)

The next question was what to do when everything around you is closed due to no power. Can you say Road Trip? With the kind offer of a means of land conveyance, the first night we traveled north in search of an open restaurant for dinner. After traveling halfway to Richmond we stumbled upon a diner. (Actually it wasn't quite that far nor did we just happen upon it.) Dinner was great and the ride home was event free. The results of our search for electrical life were few and far between.

Day two arrived and what to do. How about another Road Trip!? (Pinocle on the boat came in a very close second.) So off we went to discover the unknown in a land of fallen trees and power lines but, more specifically, what the heck did happen to Windmill Point Marina? I have to say that there is nothing like seeing first hand the affects of a tropical storm. Watching it on TV just isn't the same. Fortunately we only had to run over one downed power line on our trip. Finally reaching our destination we were just amazed at the state of Windmill Point. There was so much that had changed, and for the good. But the money ran out and everyone just dropped what they were doing and left, to await more money. Brand new floating docks were piled high on dry land. Concrete piers were poured, standing out in the water with nothing attached. Buildings were left standing only partially complete. I have to say though that, if they ever get renewed funding, this place will stand out as a premier marina sometime in the future.

So, now it was time to get back to the boat and turn on that generator to recharge the old batteries. On the way back we decided to stop in Kilmarnock for a little bit of shopping and a quick bit to eat. Forgetting where we were, we all sat down and ordered some Mexican food. When the waiter said it will only take a minute we discovered a new term – the “Northern Neck

Minute”. An hour and a half later the food arrived.

On departure day you may ask how that other boater managed to leave with so little fuel when the marina never got power back. Well, with a little luck in finding an area where we could get cell phone coverage, fuel (and electricity) was found at a marina nearby. With a couple heavy sighs of relief off everyone went for a beautiful day on the water.

Every cruise is a learning experience. So what did I learn from this one? I learned that boating can be fun and enjoyable in even the not-so-great of conditions. Another crew, I'm sure, learned other valuable lessons such as the importance of ensuring tanks are full. Ironically, along the empty tank line of thinking, they had pumped out prior to departure. One can only imagine what the circumstances would have been had this not occurred. I always wondered how they were able to travel so fast, often boasted of this feat. The secret is out now – less weight equals more speed. Perhaps on this occasion less speed would have been the more advantageous option. Yet with perseverance, and a little luck, even a few inconveniences didn't dampen the high spirits on this cruise. Let's Do It Again!

This is a recipe that will get you through some tough times. Remember a little goes a long way. This is one of those drinks that will catch up with you.

321

3 oz's cranberry juice

2 oz's orange juice

1 oz lemongello liqueur (an Italian lemon liqueur)

Mix all ingredients and pour over ice. For those preferring a non-alcoholic drink, just omit the lemongello. This makes a single serving. For a pitcher full use 12 oz's cranberry juice, 8 oz's orange juice, and 4 oz lemongello liqueur.

As always, I'm *Forever Dreamin'*



Rear Commodore

Allen Jorsey

WHY KNOT

Having been involved with teaching and checking boaters, the bowline hitch with the old standby “the rabbit comes out of the hole, goes around the tree, and back in the hole”, I was pleased when I came across a website that teaches all the important knots with step by step animation. For example, the website shows the right and wrong way to tie a cleat hitch, the most wrongly tied knot on the docks.

The site is www.animatedknots.com and I will be available at BOATR classes and PRYCA competitions to see what the First Mates have learned and taught the Captains.

Plane to Sea back to plane



The Datemarkers

Birthdays

Marilynn Dalgetty, 10/2

Bob Wilcox, 10/2

Richard Lewis, 10/6

Anna Burner, 10/11

Cheryl Garrison, 10/14

Peggy Johnson, 10/24

Diane Machi, 10/26

Suzanne Lewis, 10/2

Mark Schall, 10/4

Buddy Axtell, 10/10

Terry Mattke, 10/11

Caroline Lynn, 10/19

Jana Burton, 10/26

Gordon Goodnough, 10/29

Rebecca Heinze, 10/31

Anniversaries

Sally and Joe Hoffmaster, 10/1

Teresa and Rick Sorrenti, 10/6

Pamela and Peter McLeod, 10/26

Welcome New Members

Jean Hannah of Alexandria. She keeps her 32'

Chris Craft, *C'est La Vie*, in Alexandria.

When Does a New Boat Become a Used Boat?

by Steve Thompson

Some may say a boat becomes "used" the day you take delivery, others may say the day you start your first cruise or the day you put it up for sale. I say it's when you stop having fun with it; you know, when the hassles of keeping it working takes up more time than the time you spend enjoying it (that is unless you enjoy the trials and tribulations of performing your own maintenance and repairs). And this definition can be applied to previously owned boats as well as one straight from the factory.

This was the main reason I got rid of my second boat. The hassles of maintaining it usurped the pleasures of ownership. Here's my story.

My first boat, a 2001 Bayliner 2850, was new off the lot. But after

a one week cruise, there was a near mutiny by the crew. It seemed that a little more interior space was required. New became used. It was time to get something a little more

accommodating (read pleasing to the crew). Of course, as the Captain, I was just as happy to move up to something a little BIGGER, arrgh arrgh (author's poor Tim Allen imitation).

The second one, a 1997 Carver 360 Mariner, was about four years old when we got it. Granted it was a beautiful sight to see. But below the deck I seemed to



find myself always fixing this or that. One could say that it was a good "learning" boat, where

you can increase your understanding of maintaining it. And, after one episode of water entering the bilge at a faster rate than most would consider safe, I decided it was time to move up. New became used.

Boat number three, a 2004 Carver 366 Motor Yacht, was all I dreamed of in a boat. It was custom-made at the factory to add to our boating pleasure. Now being a new boat there were warranty issues but



the engines and electronics were spot on. I had two years of sheer pleasure sitting in my custom helm seat. Unfortunately,

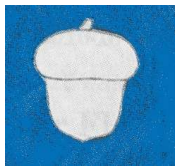
it didn't quite fit our style of boating. My wife (your Commodore) and I like to invite guests on board and just anchor out on the water. I can count the number of times we did this in two years on one hand. We began to think of it as a second home, not a water-born recreational vehicle. Thus new, unfortunately, became used.

This brings us to present day. Another brand new boat, Bigger, Better, and more Powerful. It, a 2006 Regal 3860, answers all the questions of past weaknesses; lots of room below deck, lots of room above deck, and no maintenance worries. Wait! Did someone say no maintenance worries? Well, two out of three ain't bad, right? Some may say yes, some may say no, and others may say the jury's still out. (It all



depends on the day you ask.) Sometimes manufacturers' way of thinking can really get to you. After all, if customers complain about the aft sump box always backing up it makes perfect sense to reroute the A/C condensate drain (which drains pure clean water not capable of clogging up anything except maybe your mind) into the engine compartment bilge where it sits waiting to accumulate to a sufficient height for the bilge pump to suck most, but not all, of it overboard. And the maintenance list goes on, slowly but eventually becoming shorter.

So, if I asked you if you thought my latest boat was new or used what would you say? Well, today I think it is still new. If you had asked me yesterday I would have told you I was looking at the Four Winns web site. And who knows, I may be looking again next week. All I can say is that this year's Annapolis Boat Show is going to be VERY interesting.



Treasurer

Trish Mattke

BAT TOO HITS 17 FOOT WAVES – LUCKILY NO ICEBERGS!

O.K. you know we would not be here to write this article if the captain and crew drove Bat Too into gale force winds and two story waves in the North Atlantic. However, provided some good advice from yacht club friends, we were safely onboard the QM2, cruising at 24.5 knots on a transatlantic journey from Hamburg, Germany via South Hampton, England to New York, and hardly felt any movement.



Cruising the Mosel, Note the Vineyards.

Everyone has to have their share of hardship. Jet lag is not fun! We tried to make up for it by our day trips in Germany, starting from Traben Trarbach, a pair of beautiful, small towns built a long time ago on opposite shores of the Mosel River. Famous for wine and ambience the region is perfect for a day on a river



A Fraction of the Crowd, Ashore and Afloat, Wishing Us Bon Voyage.

boat sipping Riesling from local wineries – just what the doctor ordered.

There isn't much that can compare to a week-long cruise with the friends, boats and dogs of the OYC, but I'm here to tell you that the Queen Mary 2 from Hamburg was awesome. The flotilla of boats escorting QM2 from Hamburg felt like a presidential parade, only

we were on the water, sipping champagne and waving. The Germans really know how to celebrate and participate. For 2 1/2 hours as we were departing Hamburg on the Elbe River we were surrounded with police boats, tour boats and various sizes of powerboats. The next day the papers reported there were 200,000 to 300,000 people!!!

I'm not here to be an advertisement for Cunard but the ship, service, amenities and, of course, the food and wine were outstanding. The weather on the other hand could have been better. A low pressure



The Author and her Captain.

system off Newfoundland put us in 17 foot waves even though we diverted our course to avoid it. The open North Atlantic can be pretty surreal, unless of course you have your scopolamine patch to prevent even the slightest feeling of nausea which would prevent you from enjoying ALL the aspects of your cruise.

We say special thanks to our friends, Jan and Bob Wilcox who recommended the transatlantic voyage and we would whole-heartedly endorse the trip to all our OYC friends.

Till next time, it's *Bat Too* signing out.

OYC 2007 Club Board Nominations

In accordance with the OYC By-Laws, you are officially notified of the nominations for the 2007 Occoquan Yacht Club Board. These positions will be voted on by the general membership at our October 21st General Membership Meeting to be held at Fairfax Yacht Club. My sincere thanks to this year's nomination committee: Teresa Sorrenti and Arleen Rhodes, who were assisted by Corky Sorrenti and Abby Rhodes AND all of you that expressed an interest in really helping the Occoquan Yacht Club.

The 2007 nominations are:

Commodore – Joe Livingston
Vice Commodore – Ted Eisenman
Rear Commodore – Allen Jorsey
Secretary – Pat Croft
Treasurer – Trish Mattke

Rick Sorrenti
IPC, Chair 2007 Nomination Committee

Columbus Day Weekend

by Joe Livingston

Hello Club Members. Have planned a fun weekend with cruising to James Creek Marina for Saturday the 7th of October and then to Fort Washington Marina on Sunday the 8th. On Columbus Day, we plan to head for home berths with a stop at Tim's Rivershore for a late lunch.

If you would like to join the cruise, call James Creek Marina at 202-554-8844 to reserve a slip for Saturday night and Fort Washington Marina at 301-292-7700 for Sunday night. Let them know you are with the OYC/Livingston group. Slip fees are \$1.00 per ft. at James Creek and \$1.25 at Ft. Washington. Then contact me by email or phone (540-373-9203 (h) or 703-505-8313 (c)) and let me know when you will arrive and depart so I can get you included in the rest of the activities.

Will have some cocktail parties so bring food/snacks to share. We have reservations for dinner at the Proud Mary Restaurant on Sunday and will do a play and/or dinner on Saturday. Will have transportation available at James Creek to support our activities. Have invited some other Yacht Clubs to join us for Cocktails. Have fun.

Call with questions.

Mark Your Calendars!

The OYC Holiday Party/Change of Watch

This is a fun-filled celebration of boating and volunteer service.

Saturday, December 9, 2006

6:30 pm to 11 pm

Place: **Fort Belvoir Officer's Club**

Dress: **Black Tie Optional**

Schedule: 6:30 pm – Cocktails (Cash Bar) and hor d'oeuvres

7:15 pm – Seated Dinner

8:15 pm – Installation of Officers,
Recognition of Event Coordinators,
Presentation of Awards, & Door Prizes

Watch for details in upcoming Daymarkers. Questions?
Contact Joe Livingston

Crab Feast at Hoffmaster's

by Joe Livingston

WANT CRABS???? WILL YOU ATTEND AND NOT HAVE CRABS??? ARE YOU A CRAB??

The Occoquan Yacht Club is having a CRAB FEAST at Hoffmaster's on Saturday the 28th of October at 1PM till ?. This event seems to have a difficult time each year in the planning stage because we have some "crabs" that don't like crabs. Well, it will also be a potluck so bring dishes and deserts to share and grills will be available to cook your meats. Drinks provided.

Please. If you plan to attend or will attend, please respond soonest so we can know how many to plan for. Hoffmaster's is also supporting this event. Thanks for making our task easy.

IF YOU WILL ATTEND, FILL OUT THE COUPON BELOW AND EMAIL INFORMATION TO joseph.livingston@verizon.net AND IF YOU **WANT CRABS** COMPLETE THE COUPON AND MAIL IT TO: JOE LIVINGSTON, 259 BRIDGEWATER CIR., FREDERICKSBURG, VA 22406



NAME(S) _____ HOW MANY PEOPLE _____

DISH I WILL BRING _____ CONTACT TELEPHONE # _____

I WANT CRABS (\$15 per doz.): _____ ONE DOZ. _____ TWO DOZ. _____ THREE DOZ. _____

ENCLOSED IS CHECK FOR \$ _____ PAYABLE TO JOE LIVINGSTON

(PAYMENT FOR CRABS MUST BE RECEIVED NLT SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21)

Occoquan Yacht Club

October 2006

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
|--|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| National Cookie Month National Pajama Month | | |  | | | |
| 1 Fire Pup Day | 2 World Habitat Day | 3 | 4 Balloons Around the World | 5 World Teachers Day | 6 Mad Hatter Day/World Smile Day | 7 Columbus Day Cruise |
| 8 Columbus Day Cruise | 9 Columbus Day Cruise | 10 | 11 Emergency Nurses Day | 12 | 13 World Egg Day | 14 Be Bald & Be Free Day |
| 15 National Grouch Day | 16 National Boss's Day | 17 Mulligan Day | 18 Confucius's Birthday | 19 | 20 | 21 OYC Mbrship Meeting |
| 22 Mother-in-Law Day | 23 | 24 United Nations Day | 25 | 26 | 27 Cranky Co-Workers Day | 28 OYC Crab Feast Hoffmastrs |
| 29 Daylight Savings Ends | 30 Haunted Refrigerator Night | 31 Halloween | 11th – National Bring Your Teddy Bear to Work & School Day | | | |

November 2006

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| | | | 1 All Saints' Day | 2 National Men Make Dinner Day | 3 Cliché Day | 4 Sadie Hawkins Day |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 National Parents as Teachers Day | 9 Viet Vets Memorial Day | 10 Hardy Souls Cruise | 11 Hardy Souls Cruise |
| 12 Hardy Souls Cruise | 13 Gingerbread House Day | 14 Loosen Up, Lighten Up Day | 15 | 16 Great American Smoke Out | 17 | 18 Married to a Scorpio Support Day |
| 19 Have a Bad Day Day | 20 Name Your PC Day | 21 World Television Day | 22 | 23 Thanksgiving Day | 24 Black Friday / Flossing Day | 25 Santa Cruise to Occoquan |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 Electronic Greeting Day | 30 | | |

11th – Veteran's Day

28th – Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree Lighting Day

A Cool Autumn Still is Great For Good Times on the River.

Inside . . .

**Time to Vote for Your New Commodore (and
Bridge),**

Labor Day Cruise? Yes - We Dared to Go,

New Boat / Used Boat - You Tell Me,

Seventeen Foot Waves? No Problem.

And Much More.

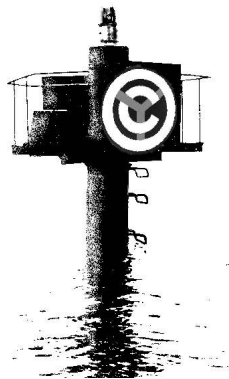
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Occoquan Yacht Club
P.O. Box 469
Occoquan, VA 22125

Change Service Requested