



The Daymarker

OCOQUAN YACHT CLUB

P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125
Member: PRYCA, CBYCA Boat/U.S. Accord # GA80979Y
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Commodore's Comments

Joe Livingston

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Where is everyone? Seems the cold weather has caused some of our Members to travel. I hear some have gone off to Hawaii, to Florida, to Texas and some to California. Was it the Christmas Holidays or warmer weather and sunshine? What a great and fortunate group of folks we are...give yourself a pat on the back and tell your family members you love them.

December has passed and as tradition would have it, our Holiday Party-Change of Watch has been declared a great success. There was some question about the overall quality of the food and maybe service, but our members really enjoyed good conversation and a jumping dance floor with a music mix by Carol of Mix Master DJ's. Good people made the evening and for those members that could not make the party, try again next year. Harry Croft was awarded the Commodore's Cup for exceptional and continued service to the OYC. Congrats!! The Worcester's (Patrick & Sabrina) earned the Bent Prop Award...I heard they

sunk their boat ... and since they were not there to defend,

explain, or tell us

what really happened, the membership is invited to remind them of this dubious honor at each opportunity and seek out the whole truth. Whoops!! Enjoy the 2008 boating season and we expect your award aboard as you cruise.

Membership dues are payable as of the 1st of January for the 2008 season. We have tried various means of notifying and seeking payment. Some work...some don't; and we have often been told that you would liked to be billed. Therefore, a "Statement for 2008 Membership Dues" is enclosed in this issue. Paying of dues at this time (please don't put it off) really assists your Board as it allows for a developed budget and for allocation of funds to support our various cruises and land events. The requested personal data is also important so that the roster can be updated with good contact information to include cell phones and email addresses. Thank you...your Board.



IPC Sue administering the oath of office to Commodore Joe.

Our next board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 17. All members are welcome to attend and encouraged to forward items for board consideration.

Cheers, Joe



The 2008 Board, obviously enjoying the evening.



Vice Commodore

Harry Croft



Rear Commodore

Allen Jorsey

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

First of all, I would like to thank the Board for presenting me the Commodore's Cup this year. There are a lot of good names engraved on the Cup, and I am honored to be among them. OYC is blessed with many people who volunteer time and effort to make it all work and the cup is really for all of them. Secondly, I am really, really glad that my name isn't on the Bent Prop award! And even though we had some close call candidates (Mark Schall, we haven't forgotten you!) for the Golden Snorkel award, no one actually hit the water as far as we know! Better luck next year.



Your Vice Commodore and Treasurer

Moving on to lighter things, even though the boating season seems at a standstill, we are already beginning to think about the 2008 activities. We need your help! While we always try to set up an agenda that is exciting and interesting, your ideas would make our efforts even more inclusive. Please send ideas for cruises, places and ports you'd like to visit, get together, etc., etc. to me, hpcroft@verizon.net when you have a breather from all the holiday madness. We will assemble all the options and present them at the Planning Fest sometime in early February.

More importantly, we need volunteers to lead the cruises or head up the events. OYC even has a cruise coordinator handbook available on line!! Compared to rounding up and herding feral cats, coordinating a cruise or event is a snap!! The benefits are enormous: we'll print your name in the Daymarker and give your phone number out to anyone who asks a question. You also get a refund of the Virginia gas sales tax for all your refills at Virginia marina pumps, AND if you cruise with me, I'll guarantee a least one hangover. WOW, who could turn down all these benefits? Lastly, and perhaps the best benefit of all, people will actually thank you for volunteering and providing a fun time for all of us.

Through-out your travels as this holiday season ends, be safe and healthy and let's get ready for another great year with the Occoquan Yacht Club. A Happy and Prosperous New Year to all!

DIDN'T GET WHAT YOU WANTED FOR THE BOAT THIS CHRISTMAS?

If you only got a bag of coal for Christmas and want to make up for the loss, then the Miami International Boat Show is the place to go to see what you missed. This show has everything to do about boating. This year it runs from Feb 14-18, 2008. It is put on by the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) at the Miami Convention Center in Miami, FL. At the Convention Center they exhibit boats from 15-85 feet in 2.5 million square feet of floor space and on the bay side they have many larger ones. I've found things at the show that I didn't know I could not live without. Hope to see you there; and of course the temperature is about 85 F and the Cuban food is to die for. Plane to Sea, back to plane

You're Busted!!

by Steve Thompson

I read an interesting article in "Boating Magazine." It listed the top ten "most common offenses that power boaters are likely to get busted for". Here they are:

- 10) No backfire flame control device in compartment spaces.
- 9) Negligent operation.
- 8) Placard violation.
- 7) Inoperable or missing navigation lights.
- 6) Inoperable or missing sound-producing device.
- 5) Fire extinguisher violations.
- 4) Missing or out-of-date visual distress signals.
- 3) Drunken boating.
- 2) State or federal documents missing or improper markings.
- 1) Missing personal flotation devices.

I noticed that many of these offenses are items checked during free Coast Guard Auxiliary vessel safety checks. So, why not be safe this coming season and place a safety check at the top of your spring to-do list. Contact the author for more info and assistance.

The Daymarker
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Steve Thompson, Editor
Sue Thompson, Editor's Advisor on Worldly Matters
Ilona Zsirai, 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 Datemarkers

Birthdays

Patrick Worcester, 1/2
Al Gorenstein, 1/14
Stephanie Karpinski, 1/19
Shane Hatton, 1/23

Daniel Kent, 1/10
Walt Cheatham, 1/15
Ned Rhodes, 1/22
Jan Wilcox, 1/31

Ooops – forgot someone last month – Larry Freedman, 12/9



Anniversaries

Kathy and Shane Hatton, 1/19
Rebecca and John Heinze, 1/30

Welcome New Members

No new members reported for December.

Santa on Water Skis, on Christmas Eve!

by Steve Thompson

Yes, don't worry, your eyes are still working right. And your mind translated the signal from your eyes correctly. Santa came to town, yet again, and this time it was by way of water riding upon a pair of skis.



In fact, this was the 22nd year that Santa graced D.C. with a Potomac entrance, appearing from around the entrance of Columbia Island Marina.

With a large crowd of "I Believe"ers present, both young and old, everyone applauded when Frosty arrived in a dingie only to be followed shortly thereafter and later harassed by the Grinch on a jet ski. Everyone present expressed their displeasure with the Grinch's behavior and he soon found a warm spot in his heart for the big white guy.



Shortly thereafter elves appeared on hydro skis to clear the way for Santa. One particular elf was so happy he was doing flips in mid air. Santa soon appeared, preceded by several reindeer on wake boards. After a couple passes it appeared that remedial instruction was required by all as everyone ended up in the water. Santa appeared once more in his water sleigh as he headed back down the river.



It's NEVER Too Early to Think About Buying a New Boat.

Don't forget the Baltimore Boat Show is from the 23rd to the 27th of January at the Baltimore Convention Center.



A penguin and polar bear helped in the safety boat.





Secretary

Pat Croft



OLD TOWN PARADE OF LIGHTS

Some avid boaters stretch the season to include the Hardy Souls Cruise, which typically happens on the four-day Veterans' Day weekend in early November. A few hold off on their winterizing chores until after the Santa Parade, the Saturday after Thanksgiving. It's the rare captain who hangs in there until the Parade of Lights in front of Old Town Alexandria, the first weekend in December.

OYC members Larry and Barbara Freedman, with daughter Kirsten, on *Takin' To The Sea* are among those rare few who participate in this traditional event. Each year they add more lights and displays, with toy trains, stacks of fake, wrapped presents, a huge, air-filled snowman, and, of course, Santa, adorning every inch - port, starboard, bow and stern - of their vessel.



Hey Frosty! Don't Melt!

This year, they headed for the City Dock at Old Town on the Friday before the event, to spend the night docked there, all the better to get an early start on Saturday morning, installing the displays they had been assembling for several weeks at home. Despite the best laid plans, a few more lights and accessories are always necessary, so first-mate Barbara made a hasty trip to local stores to obtain whatever it might take to surpass the competition. And the competition is keen; with 68 boats in the fray, every captain is determined to out-do the next and take home a prize in at least one of the many categories in play.

As the day wears on, and participants finalize their decorating, a sense of camaraderie replaces competitive spirit, and everyone is happy to just be a part of the merriment. Crews head for the festivities and food provided on the main dock. Patrons walk the docks, admiring the handiwork of the entrants. Guests begin to arrive, and the captains and crews take to their vessels, with radios at the ready for



The stern shows a well rounded design.

instructions. With the sun still dimly lighting the way, one by one, the boats depart the docks.

Captains are instructed to look out for one particular boat name, with the idea that if each captain gets in line behind his designated leader, they will all end up in the right order. Well, it sounds like a good idea, but as the sun goes down and the Christmas lights come on, it's impossible to read the boat names, so the captains just fall in line wherever they find a space. It looks like a fine parade to the hundreds of onlookers gathered on the docks, but the judges in



Now that's boating.

the reviewing stand have a list of the proper order, and the boats coming past them don't match the list. Fortunately, each boat hails the Judging Stand as it passes, announcing its name, and the judges can alter the order of the roster to be ready for the second pass.

On the second pass, with its name and position clearly identified, *Takin' To The Sea* was judged to be - a lovely entry in the dazzling Parade, but not a prize winner. As guests along for the ride, Harry and I judged her captain, Larry, to be the Grand Prize winner, hands down, for his seamanship and handling skills in guiding his boat through the perils of the parade without mishap: never once hitting one of several boats without lights, Christmas **or** navigation, that loomed suddenly in the darkness, and managing to keep pace behind boats that stopped or stalled without warning, and avoiding the yacht that anchored, without benefit of lighting, in the path of the parade to get a better view, and, most impressive of all, maneuvering *Takin' To The Sea* back into her berth at the dock without a scratch, despite the tight turns required by the close proximity of a tourist boat tied up in front of his slip.

Hats off to Captain Freedman! Kudos to first-mate, Barbara, and crew, Kirsten, and of course, Mr. Wilson!

On the Internet

Occoquan Yacht Club: www.OccoquanYachtClub.org *

Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association:
www.PotomacRiverYachtClubs.org*

Occoquan River Maritime Association:
www.ormaweb.org*

and Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association:
www.cbyca.org

* Web space donated by Software Systems Group
Ned Rhodes, President and CEO



Treasurer

Trish Mattke

WE LEAVE IN 2 HOURS FOR SAN DIEGO

Your Treasurer (and Treasurer Spouse) want to say, "Thank you," all for the support you have given the club in the past year.

May 2008 bring **PEACE, HEALTH AND HAPPINESS, PROSPERITY, FAMILY, GOOD FRIENDS AND SAFE BOATING**" for the upcoming season.

In the interim, as we stand by our snow blowers, impatiently waiting for the first glimpse of Spring and the ceremonial striping of the shrink wrap off our true loves, here's a recipe that can only hurt you if you drink the entire serving:

WHITE HOUSE EGGNOG (30 Servings)

- 1 gallon commercial eggnog mix
- 2 1/2 cups bourbon
- 1 2/3 cup rum
- 1 2/3 cup brandy
- 1 quart eggnog or vanilla ice cream, optional
- Vanilla and nutmeg to taste

Mix eggnog, bourbon, rum and brandy.

Pour over ice cream if desired. Add vanilla to taste, if desired and sprinkle to with nutmeg.

Your Treasurer,
One of Two Bats

Another Santa Sighting

On the 24th of November members of the Occoquan Yacht Club sighted Santa at Occoquan Harbour Marina. It seemed his sleigh was prematurely shrink wrapped and he was looking for an alternate means of transportation to visit all the good little boys and girls awaiting him in the Town of Occoquan. It just so happened that several members were present celebrating the arrival of the holiday season. Here are a couple pictures of the event.



The Stephanie Ann saves the day and delivers Santa.

A Few Pictures From the December Change of Watch/Holiday Party



He must be doing something right.



Smiles were contagious that night.



Holiday Spirit



Captains Cordially Converse



Some of the members in holiday dress.



**OCCOQUAN YACHT CLUB
STATEMENT FOR 2008 MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Renewal Membership Dues are annual and payable as of the 1st of January. First time (new) members who joined on or after 1 October 2007 are deemed paid for the 2008 year. **Please update personal data and renew your membership now:**

***** Clip and Return with Payment *****

Captain's Name _____ Home Phone _____

First Mate _____ Cell Phone _____

Address _____ Email _____

City, State, Zip _____ Child(s) Name _____

Boat Data:

Name _____ Captain's BD (mo. /Day) _____

Builder _____ Power ____ Sail ____ First Mate's BD (mo. /Day) _____

Where berthed? _____ Wedding Ann. (mo. /Day) _____

Family Membership (\$60) _____

Please make check payable to Occoquan Yacht Club.

Individual Membership (\$40) _____

Mail check and completed statement to:

Associate Membership (\$30) _____

Occoquan Yacht Club

OYC Burgee (\$20) _____

P.O. Box 469

Occoquan, VA 22125

Total Enclosed _____

Occoquan Yacht Club

<i>January 2008</i>						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
National Hot Tea Month		1 New Years Day	2 55 MPH Speed Limit Day	3	4 Trivia Day	5 Fruitcake Toss Day
6	7 Thank God It's Monday Day	8 Show and Tell Day at Work	9	10	11	12 Penguin Awareness Day
13	14 Organize Your Home Day	15 Humanitarian Day	16 Nothing Day	17 Customer Service Day	18 Winnie the Pooh Day	19 PRYCA Change of Watch
20 World Religion Day	21 * Martin Luther King Day	22 ** Celebration of Life Day	23 National Pie Day	24 National Compliment Day	25 Fun at Work Day	26 National Peanut Brittle Day
27 Holocaust Memorial Day	28 Bubble Wrap Appreciation	29 Free Thinkers Day	30 National Write to Congress Day	31		
* National Hugging Day and Squirrel Appreciation Day ** Rid the World of Fad Diets and Gimmicks Day						
<i>February 2008</i>						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
Bake for Family Fun Month National Cherry Pie Month Return Shopping Carts to the Supermarket Month					1 Bubble Gum Day	2 Groundhog Day
3 Super Bowl XLII	4 USO Day	5 Pancake Day, Mardi Gras	6 Ash Wednesday	7 Chinese New Year's Day	8 Boy Scout Anniversary Day	9
10 Man Day	11 * White Shirt Day	12 Darwin Day	13 Get a Different Name Day	14 Valentines Day	15 National Gum Drop Day	16
17	18 President's Day	19 Chocolate Mint Day	20	21	22	23 Clam Chowder Day
24 Academy Awards	25	26 For Pete's Sake Day	27 **	28 National Chili Day	29 Leap Year Day	
* Westminster Dog Show ** Inconvenience Yourself Day						

Celebrating Boating, and The Holidays

Inside . . .

**Comodore's Cub and Bent Prop
Awardees Revealed,**

Santa Sightings Reported,

**Boating in December? What Else to do But
Decorate,**

And Much More.

**January 19
PRYCA Change of
Watch
Springfield Hilton
Harry croft
February
(Date/Place to be
Determined)
OYC Plantfest
Harry croft
Look for Other
Activities in
OYC e-mail
Broadcasts
Joe Livingston**



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Change Service Requested

