

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

On the water again!!! That is, right after I finish this article. My first mate said lets go last night, Thursday, but knowing I had to do my duty, I said no ... I have an article to write ... it may be short.

The Club's annual Flag Raising is scheduled for Saturday, 3 May, at 1200. Your Board has worked hard to organize this event so please come out and enjoy this time honored maritime celebration, visit with our VIP guests, enjoy a picnic, and "jump" to this years on-time response to Rick's cannon. The QM will have **new items for sale** and this year's edition of the **OYC Directory** will be distributed.

On Saturday, 10 May, be sure to participate in the ORMA Blessing of the Fleet. The Reverend Craig Muffley of the Saint Paul-UMC will officiate aboard the blessing boat, *Sea Duck Too*, and be



hosted by our Past Commodores Teresa and Rick. Some twenty boats out of Prince William Marina will have "wounded warriors" from Walter Reed Medical center aboard and be displaying the burgee shown above. Please recognize



their sacrifice.

Note that mandatory boating education passed in the last session of the Virginia State legislature and that the process of enactment is underway. Comments generally bemoaned increased requirements rather than offering substantive suggestions. The educational requirements will be phased in with the first phase starting 1 July of 2009. View comments at www.dfig.virginia.gov.

Request that you follow up on my email concerning Senate Bill #2766. S2766, The Clean Boating Act of 2008, fully restores the longstanding exemption for recreational boats to have a permit for water discharge. Your action is needed for successful passing and avoiding the required permit after September, 2008.

Our next board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 8 May. All members are welcome to attend and encouraged to forward items for board consideration. Call to get location/time of the meeting.

Cheers, Joe.



Rear Commodore

Allen Jorsey

ETHANOL

One state has taken the step to exempt boats and aircraft from using gasoline with 10 % ethanol in it. As you know, ethanol is a solvent and E-10 fuel can dissolve residue in boat gas tanks which clogs the filters, carburetor jets and fuel injectors and that may cause the engine to stall. It also dissolves the walls of fiberglass tanks. Ethanol also absorbs water which causes the water to settle near the fuel line intake at the bottom of the tank and engines that set for long periods of time then pick up the water and stall. Let's hope that all the states pass the law like Oregon did.

Plane to Sea, back to plane



There seems to be a bit o' the green happening.

Bayeux Tapestry and Donald's Troosers

by Nabil Dubraque, Historian

History is a great teacher. Two examples follow.

Chunky Matilda jumps up and down on the dock, calling, "Bye, Billy, give 'em 'ell," as William the Bastard(1), well dressed in warm clothing provided by Matilda, sails off to conquer England. That, with his expected success, she would now be introduced to the social set as "Mrs. Conqueror" rather than "Mrs. Bastard" no doubt lends added enthusiasm to her bounce. The warm clothing protects William from the cold easterly wind and the channel spray flying over his drakkar's bow.

And, at a later time, disgusted British Redcoats watch as pink-bootied Scotts moon them from across the river. This they had just forded by hiking their kilts over their heads, emerging on the far bank pink-cheeked but dry-clothed and little the worse for wear.

The accouterments of British military sartorial splendor preclude speedy pursuit, even were their legendary reserve to permit it. A consequence was the banning of kilts from 1745 to 1782, and the replacement of "Scotland the Brave" with "Donald, Where's Your Troosers."

The cold-shriveled point to all this is avoiding hypothermia, a quickly debilitating condition made much quicker in wet conditions. Heat will transfer about twenty five times faster in water than in air of equivalent temperature. Exactly how much faster depends on body mass (fatter people *do* have more insulation), upon clothing which can act as insulation keeping a warm layer of water next to the body and reducing heat loss, and upon general physical condition. Falling overboard, or intentionally entering the water to service something, isn't the only way to invite trouble: a bit of rain, a touch of spray, even clothing that may hold sweat while rowing or paddling can do it. While we will likely see remarkably warm spring days, water temperature will remain consistently cool. At 60 degrees, survival time is only one to six hours, with exhaustion and loss of consciousness occurring long before then.

A missing piece of the Bayeux Tapestry reportedly recorded William's emergency cold weather procedures. Aside from warm clothing, avoiding getting wet, and ensuring a ready means of re-boarding if in the water, it describes the fetal curl and the limbs-to-body stances as means of reducing heat loss. For more than one person in the water, it also describes the Group or Norman Huddle to conserve body heat (and to get to know one another better). It was later adopted by the NFL as a means of staying warm on the field and, with time, lore developed that through it play strategy was imparted to the players. Sadly, at least in the case of the Redskins, results show this to be pure myth. A major problem for the Normans was that they had yet to invent PFDs, a real bummer when you consider how much armor they wore.

So if you intend to venture out for an early cruise, please be safe.

(1) Guillaume le Bâtard as he was known, was the illegitimate son of Robert I and Herleva, the daughter of a tanner. He became Guillaume "le Conquérant" after he took up boating, crossed the English Channel, and conquered England. Cruise coordinators, you have a lot to live up to.

The Daymarker
Published monthly by the Occoquan Yacht Club

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

Teresa Sorrenti, 5/4	Linda Bozoky, 5/7
Ed Dodd, 5/11	Jim Hawley, 3/4
Gail Livingston, 5/14	Tom Coldwell, 5/15
Steve Worcester, 5/15	Beth Francis, 5/23
Steve Stanley, 5/24	Dave Moore, 5/26
Gina Croci, 5/29	Bill Johnson, 5/29

Lynn Wilson, 5/30

Anniversaries

Katherine and John Corley, 5/1
Paula and Stephen Wexler, 5/5
Jennifer and Bryan Burrows, 5/21
Heidi and Dwayne Johnson, 5/21
Jeanne and Buddy Axtell, 5/22
Diane and Frank Machi, 5/26

Welcome New Members

Al and Jun Stewart of Manassas. They keep their 40' boat, *Nite Breeze*, at Occoquan Harbour Marina.

National Harbor Report

by Barbara Freedman, Takin' To The Sea

The Freedmans cruised to National Harbor recently and even though the project has a ways to go before being completed, there were a few things open and we had a very good time.

National Harbor will be completed in three phases. When completed, National Harbor is going to be very impressive, complete with mid to high end stores, restaurants and condos. There are state flags surrounding the property. It was fun to walk around looking for my home state flag.

The marina has very wide slips and there is plenty of power; all the docks float and are wide enough to accommodate a very nice OYC Happy Hour. The showers are not yet open, but no need to worry - we are hearty (and a little smelly) boaters.

There are two biking / jogging paths: the green trail and the red trail. The red trail is not yet completed. Dogs are welcome and



It appears someone woke up and moved.



A View of the River from National Harbor.

Wilson loved digging in the sand.

National Harbor is planning a few summer concerts, fireworks, tree lighting in November, as well as a wine and food festival in May.

There are four restaurants open in the Gaylord. Bring your wallet, all your credit cards and your first born if you plan on dining at Old Hickory Steakhouse, located on the second floor of the Gaylord. A more reasonable option is the Italian restaurant downstairs. We dined at the steakhouse, and let's just say, I was a little shell-shocked. The meal was excellent and the service was superb, but dinner for two will cost you a week's worth of groceries.

Stay tuned as we are planning to go back for another weekend in May and hope to find more buildings completed.



Lunch ! ?

We are looking to organize a weekend trip with our OYC members for sometime in either June or August for one of the Harbor's summer concerts. We will keep you posted once we find out which bands are playing and on what dates.

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

Notice to Mariners

Occoquan River Blessing of the Fleet

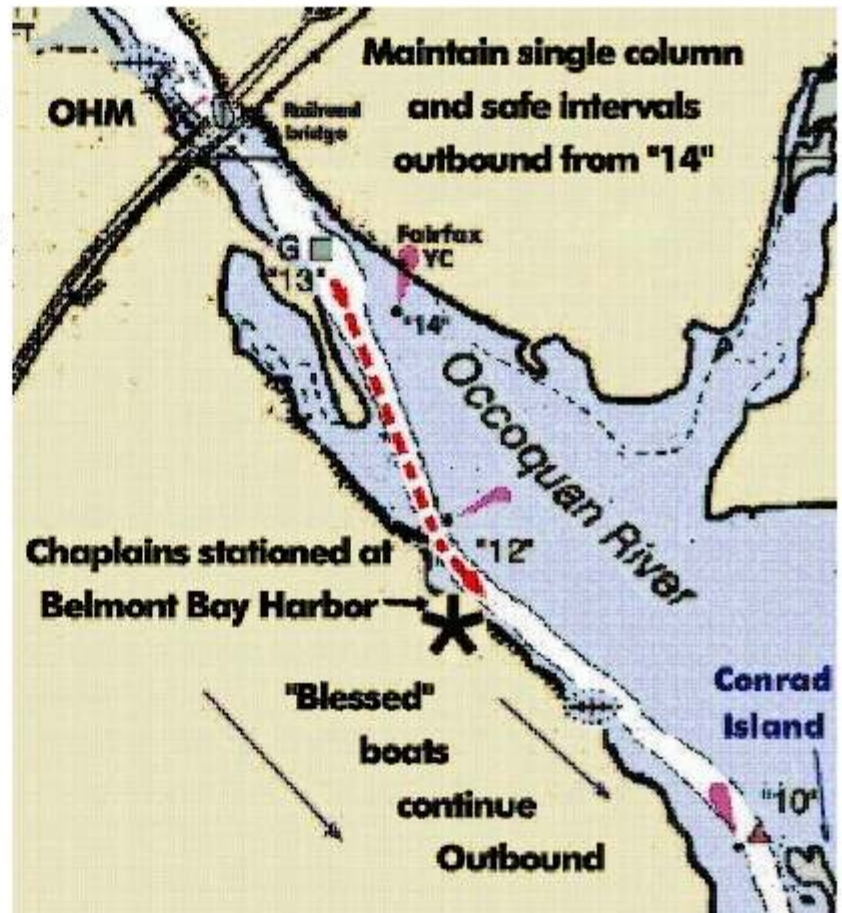
May 10, 2008, 11:00 A.M. -- 2:00 P.M.

**Dedicated to Boating Safety and
Celebrating the Opening of the 2008 Boating Season**

Enter the parade route at Marker No. 14, just past Fairfax Yacht Club, and proceed outbound toward Belmont Bay Harbor and pass alongside the gas dock where a chaplain will invoke a blessing on each passing boat. *Please maintain safe intervals between boats*

Guard VHF Ch. 9 to hail and Ch. 71 as a working channel. Marine bulletins regarding the event will be broadcast starting at 0930 on VHF Ch. 22A.

The Occoquan River Maritime Association (ORMA) is coordinating the efforts of the Prince William, Fairfax and Occoquan Yacht Clubs, with support from the Coast Guard Auxiliary and Fairfax and Prince William County public safety agencies.



Boaters *NOT* wishing to take part may pass the procession to port, staying clear of the blessing area during the designated hours. This is a U.S. Coast Guard-designated marine regatta and law enforcement vessels will be patrolling to ensure that safety is maintained in the area. Thank you for your consideration.

ORMA is a civic organization dedicated to coordinating activities involving commercial and recreational use of the Occoquan River. ORMA's major initiatives are maintaining the Occoquan channel depth, working with the Town of Occoquan to reestablish its historic seaport for recreational boaters, and preserving the environmental quality and safety of the river.

The Memorial Day Cruise to Colonial Beach

by Bill Hamp

Memorial Day is fast approaching. Before we know it, the cold weather will be just a bad memory and spring time work on our boats will commence. Memorial Day is usually our first cruise of the year as is the case for many others.

If you were at the Plan Fest and signed up for the Colonial Beach cruise, your information has been forwarded to the marina. As of right now, there are 21 boats signed up. The marina has room for a few more but they will need to know by 3/15/08 because they have another club coming in as well. We will be on "A" dock, same as last year. Also, the marina will **NOT** have any splitters to loan out. "A" dock is mostly 50amp service, therefore if you require 2/30 amp you will need to have your own splitter. I will be there Thursday evening and would request that upon arrival, call me on the radio (Daddy's Harley) instead of the marina to get your slip assignment. With the marina hosting another club I told them we would not require much of their staff.

We're looking forward to the same activities as in past years with the wine trip, cookout, putting contest, happy hours and plenty of eating and drinking. Also, bring your kids or grand kids, there will be dinghy and jet ski rides courtesy of Kenny Harris (Darn Toot'in). Please call me or e-mail before 3/15/08 as to get final conformation from Colonial Beach Yacht Center.

Thanks, Bill Hamp 571-259-0403
bhamp@comstockhomebuilding.com



A Little More of that Green Stuff.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Cobb Island Days Cruise!

Apparently the organizing committee for Cobb Island Days has gotten so good at organizing the event that they are just finalizing the plans as we hit the Daymarker deadline. But - rest assured OYCers - the fun events that are part of the annual Cobb Island Days celebration - and the partying sponsored by the Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association - will occur! And for the fuel price concerned, Cobb Island is one of the closest destination marinas on the Potomac, about the same distance as Colonial Beach, an easy 3-hr cruise in most boats.

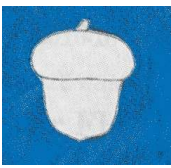
What we know so far is that the event is scheduled for June 13-15th (Friday thru Sunday). We will try to reserve spaces for all OYCers at the same marina, Bob's. So far, the following have indicated an interest in participating: Eric & Carol Belcher (Time 2 Play), Jim & Judy Dooley (Jus Chillin'), Bill & Beth Francis (TDY), Larry & Barbara Freedman (Takin' to the Sea), Kenny & Sharman Harris (Darn Tootin'), Duane & Jan Jierles (Touch of Fate), Ed & Stephanie Karpinski (Stephanie Ann), Bob & Betsy Nalevanko (SeaNisle), Ned & Arlene Rhodes (Impulse), Steve & Sue Thompson (Forever Dreamin'), and Bob & Lynn Wilson (19th Hole).

Further info will be provided (via OYC broadcast e-mail) as soon as it is available. In addition to the boat info you've already provided, we will likely need a deposit (probably by June 1st), and confirmation as to whether you will be arriving on Friday, June 13th or Saturday, June 14th. The festivities start Friday night so we plan to be there then.

Should be lots of fun!

--John & Rebecca Heinze

Great Escape

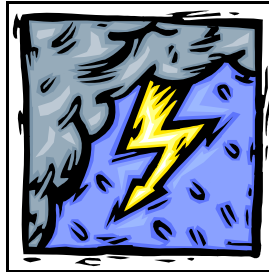


Treasurer

Trish Mattke

**GLOBAL WARMING? BUT IT'S COLD AND WET ...
INSIDE MY BOAT!**

Have you noticed? Sometime, depending on whose side you favor, the candidates for President may get it wrong, may sound good but not have the BIG picture. I was thinking about their problem the week before our first cruise, the much anticipated Early Bird spawning run up the river to Alexandria.



We had taken BAT TOO out for a little shake down cruise and decided to spend Saturday night aboard to "check her out." We didn't think about the rain. We've been in a Spring drought and who listens to the weather man? It's hard for the Weather Channel to get it right even though they don't have to fit glacial changes into a Party Platform. The rest of us can be forgiven if we get caught out in the rain now and again.

Anyway, there we were, sitting on a young five year old boat, beautiful to look and FAST, but leaking like a sieve. Under the deluge every seam and stitch oozed tiny droplets that trickled into little streams.

How long does this expensive fabric last? I wondered. And can it be restored, re-waterproofed?

For the answers I turned to the internet, that all knowing resource. And from its data came the following information:

Our Bimini tops are almost all made from acrylic canvas, like cotton canvas, a tight-weave fabric. It is waterproof yet breathes; it stands up to ultraviolet radiation (sun exposure) better than any other fabric; it snubs mildew; it resists staining; it is colorfast and comes in every color imaginable; and it looks marvelous. Not surprisingly, acrylic canvas -Sunbrella being the best known - is the most popular marine fabric by a wide margin.

The article went on, "Acrylic canvas does have one negative characteristic, other than high cost. It gets its water repellency from a chemical treatment, not from swelling fibers, and eventually that treatment loses some of its effectiveness. Generally speaking, acrylic canvas in continuous use may start to leak after about three years." And, "Scrubbing or the use of detergents to clean the canvas may hasten the failure of the coating. Fortunately, re-proofing the canvas is easy."

The right treatment

The manufacturer goes out of their way to caution *against* use of a waterproofing treatment that *contains silicone* on acrylic canvas. This is important.

Silicone is incompatible with the original treatment. The factory waterproofing chemical, which is a fluorocarbon, will repel the silicone, resulting in patchy coverage.

The best treatment for acrylic canvas is a **fluoropolymer-based** product. This type of treatment is compatible with the original finish, and it gives excellent and long-lasting results.

Waterproofers that have a petroleum-based vehicle have demonstrated better performance on acrylic canvas than water-based treatments. Needless to say, we can identify a petroleum-based product by its strong odor.

To late for the Early Bird

But not too late for the rest of the year. Hose the fabric and, if needed, scrub it with a soft brush and a mild detergent, such as Ivory. Do not use hot water. Do not use a harsh detergent. Do not machine wash the canvas. And never, ever, put acrylic canvas in a dryer. Finally, no matter how difficult the stain, do not use a shotgun to remove it.

Rinse the canvas well and let it air dry completely before continuing.

Cautions

Treatment should only be done where there is good ventilation, preferably outdoors.

In the spirit of nothing should be easy, the spirit-based treatment will damage plastic windows and plastic zippers, so you must take steps to prevent the treatment from getting onto these. Remove plastic windows or protect them with foil, and take care not to spray the zipper halves that remain on the dodger.

Some water repellents can also damage gelcoat, and all will make hard surfaces dangerously slick. So unless you are in a hurry to relieve the author of the Golden Snorkle, the best course is to remove the canvas from the boat to treat it. Naturally, even with precautions, there is small print. It is usually a good idea to spot test the treatment to make sure it doesn't cause a color change.

Spray it on

The application instructions for the particular product you choose will be on the container, but most call for spraying on two light coats, the second applied perpendicular to the first. This "plaid" pattern tends to yield more uniform coverage.

Consult your product and let the treatment dry completely before reinstalling the canvas. The odor will dissipate completely. After drying, the treated canvas should once again be completely waterproof. The treatment does not affect the fabric's other qualities, including breath ability (although I've never personally noticed any of our boats breathing.).

Re-application

The best part is the durability. How often you will need to reapply a waterproofing product to acrylic canvas depends on the kind of use the fabric gets, "but even in harsh conditions" it will last a year.

Occoquan Yacht Club

May 2008

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
Get Caught Reading Month Motorcycle Safety Month National Correct Posture Month				1 * May Day	2 No Pants Day	3 ** OYC Flag Raising
4 Respect for Chickens Day	5 Cinco de Mayo	6 National Teacher Day	7 Great American Grump Out	8 No Socks Day	9	10 ORMA Blessing of the Fleet
11 Mother's Day	12 Limerick Day	13	14 Receptionists Day	15 National Chocolate Chip Day	16 National Pizza Party Day	17 Armed Forces Day
18 NASCAR Day	19	20 Weights & Measures Day	21 I Need a Patch For That Day	22 National Maritime Day	23 National Taffy Day	24 Mem. Day Cruise Col. Beach
25 *** Memorial Day Cruise	26 Memorial Day	27	28 Senior Health & Fitness Day	29 *****	30 Hug Your Cat Day	31

* Mother Goose Day
*** Indy 500

** Kentucky Derby
***** International Day of UN Peacekeepers

June 2008

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
Effective Communications Month National Ice Tea Month National Accordion Awareness Month						
1 Pen Pal Day	2 National Bubba Day	3	4 National Tailors Day	5 World Environment Day	6 D-Day; Donut Day	7 Dinghy Regatta/ Shrimpfest
8 Upsy Daisy Day	9	10 Ball Point Pen Day	11	12 Nursing Assistants Day	13 * Friday the 13th	14 ** Flag Day; Army's Birthday
15 Father's Day	16 Fudge Day	17 Stewarts Root Beer Day	18	19 Garfield the Cat Day	20 Take Your Dog to Work Day	21 *** Vinegar Day
22 America's Kids Day	23 Public Service Day	24 Fairy Day	25	26 Hand Shake Day	27 Decide to be Married Day	28 9-Day Mid-Bay Cruise
29 Log Cabin Day	30	* Blame Someone Else Day ** Cobb Island Days 13-15 June *** 16-Day Cape May Cruise				

Have You got Your Season Planned Yet?

Inside . . .

National Harbor is Now Open,

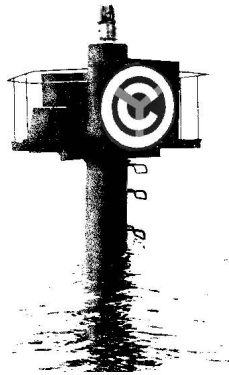
OYC Goes Green,

Watch for Wounded Warriors at the
Occoquan Blessing of the Fleet,

Bayeux Tapestry,

And Much, Much More.

- May 3 OYC Flag Raising at Occoquan Harbour Marina Joe Livingston
- May 10 ORMA Blessing of the Fleet Belmont Bay Marina Board Event
- May 24-26 Memorial Day Cruise to Colonial Beach Bill Hamp
- June 7 Dinghy Regatta/ Shrimpfest at Hoffmasters Al Jersey



The Daymarker

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Occoquan, VA 22125

Change Service Requested