



The Daymarker

2009 PRYCA Cup Champions

OCCOQUAN YACHT CLUB

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COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Patricia Croft

June is the month for graduations, weddings, and the OYC Dinghy Regatta. So why can't I find the Dinghy Regatta on the OYC Calendar of Events? The June 5th event was listed as "Regatta of some kind/Potluck" on the first calendar, presented back in February; more recent publications have dubbed it the "Prep for the Float-in Fajita Fest." Not exactly a dinghy regatta.

Okay, so the title needs a little work, but it takes a few trial/error attempts when you're transitioning from a long-standing tradition to a new, updated version of an old classic.

The Dinghy Regatta was designed to provide a little blind rowing practice and to identify the best rowing team to represent our club in that game at the PRYCA Float-in. For the uninitiated, the activity requires the rower to be blindfolded and guided through a marked course by signals from his or her partner, who is not blindfolded. The fastest time wins; the ensuing trip around the course provides some pretty comical entertainment for those on shore, whose comments as they observe each team are often more hysterical than helpful. This activity has always been accompanied by good food and refreshing libations.

But in recent years, the games at the PRYCA Float-in have changed, and the dinghy competition has been replaced with other challenges. In fact, the organizers keep a tight lid on exactly what events will be included in the competition, so practicing for a dinghy race has become unnecessary.

Your OYC Board decided that, as long as we are changing the Dinghy Regatta, we would completely revamp the whole event. It will not be a potluck event! Repeat, you will not have to bring anything for this event! (Well, you will have to bring your wallet—the meal will cost \$12 per person.) But you will not have to make that agonizing decision between slaving in the kitchen to make your favorite picnic side dish, or hoping no one notices that the chicken you're serving on your grandma's antique platter came from KFC, or just throwing pride out the window and bringing apple pie from Costco, serving it right from the box.

This time, just come on down to the OHM picnic pavilion, where Dick Lynn has once again graciously offered us meeting space, and enjoy a Fajita Fest, catered by El Charro Mexican restaurant. For \$12 per person, you will be served steak and/or chicken fajitas with all the fixings, refried beans, rice, and beverages. Couldn't be easier! **You do need to let us know if you plan to attend, as we need to know how much food to order, but you don't need to pay ahead of time.** You just pay as you enter, and you will be 'banded' with a colorful wrist band, just like at the boat show. Then you'll be set to cha-cha-cha through the fajita line.

We will be including some activities that we are calling preparation for the Float-in, but they are really just a means of focusing on boating skills and safety, which is also the focus of the Float-in. Even if—in fact, especially if—you are not going to the Float-in, the Prep for the Float-in & Fajita Fest should be on your calendar for June 5th. There will be knot-tying demos and competitions, a boating safety primer and quiz, a life-ring toss, and some form of dinghy or kayak exercise, all good activities

(cont. from page 1) to practice as we get back into the habit of being safe on the water.

Another important detail to note about this event is the start time—12 noon. We will begin serving food about 12:15. This midday start time means you can attend the party and still have a little time for boating later in the afternoon!

Plan to attend, and call John Heinze to let us know how much food to order. His contact information is in the OYC Directory. Did you pick up the latest edition of the directory at the Flag Raising? If not, then you really must attend the Fajita Fest so you can get your copy—it will be the last chance to get the printed version before it goes to PDF. So, until you get your directory, here is the info: **call John at 703-888-3837 to let us know you're coming.**

See you June 5th at noon!
Pat Croft, *Bay Dreamer*



Vice Commodore

Tom Lensis

Prep for PRYCA Float-in: A Quiz on General Boating Knowledge

It's that time of year again—planning for the annual PRYCA Float-in at Port Kinsale, VA, in July. The PRYCA Float-in is where all 13 yacht clubs compete for the coveted PRYCA Cup. The events are different each year, and the content of the competition is kept close to the vest. Therefore, the only way we can prepare is to use prior years' contests to practice those skills for the competition. With our victory last year, we will have all the PRYCA clubs gunning to take possession of the cup away from OYC. I'm sure that Pat and Harry Croft will be proudly displaying the PRYCA Cup at the Cobb Island and Memorial Day cruises.

With that said, we need as many OYC members to participate in the **Prep for the Float-in/Fajita Fest** at OHM on Saturday June 5th. Last year's contests all required a man/woman team for each event. Events included Navigation/Skills Testing, Knot Tying, Life Jacket Skills, Bosun Skills with a Twist, a coordinated male and female Kayak Relay Race, and a Talent Show. Each yacht club also gets points in the competition if all club boats display current Vessel Safety Check stickers before the start of the contest. The following USCG Rules of the Road questions will help prepare for the competition, as well as provide a refresher of your general boating knowledge. (Answers on page 7.)

Tom Lensis, *Copy Cat*

1. There is a provision to depart from the Rules, if necessary, to avoid:

- A close-quarters situation.
- An overtaking situation.
- Immediate danger.
- Any of the above.

2. The rules state that vessels may depart from the requirements of the Rules when:

- There are no other vessels around.
- Operating in a narrow channel.
- The Master enters it in the ship's log.
- Necessary to avoid immediate danger.

3. A vessel is "in sight" of another vessel when:

- She can be observed by radar.
- She can be observed visually from the other vessel.
- She can be plotted on radar well enough to determine her heading.
- Her fog signal can be heard.

4. Navigation lights must be displayed in all weathers from sunset to sunrise. They also:

- Must be displayed when day signals are in use.
- Must be displayed when moored to a pier.
- May be extinguished at night on open waters when no other vessels are in the area.
- May be displayed during daylight.

5. The lights prescribed by the Rules shall be exhibited:

- From sunrise to sunset in restricted visibility.
- At all times.
- From sunset to sunrise, and at no other time.
- Whenever a lookout is posted.

6. The Rules state that a vessel overtaking another vessel is relieved of her duty to keep clear when:

- She is forward of the other vessel's beam.
- The overtaking situation becomes a crossing situation.
- She is past and clear of the other vessel.
- The other vessel is no longer in sight.

7. A vessel approaching your vessel from 235 degrees relative is in what type of situation?

- Meeting
- Overtaking
- Crossing
- Passing

8. Every vessel that is directed by these Rules to keep out of the way of another vessel shall, if the circumstances of the case admit, avoid:

- Crossing ahead of the other.
- Crossing astern of the other.
- Passing port to port.
- Passing starboard to starboard.

(cont. on page 3)

9. When two power-driven vessels are meeting head-on and there is a risk of collision, each shall:

- a. Stop her engines.
- b. Alter course to starboard.
- c. Sound the danger signal.
- d. Back down.

10. You are aboard the give-way vessel in a crossing situation. What should you NOT do in obeying the Rules?

- a. Cross ahead of the stand-on vessel
- b. Make a large course change to starboard
- c. Slow your vessel
- d. Back your vessel

11. A proper lookout shall be maintained:

- a. Only at night.
- b. Only during restricted visibility.
- c. At night and during restricted visibility.
- d. At all times.

12. A vessel must proceed at a safe speed:

- a. In restricted visibility.
- b. In congested waters.
- c. During darkness.
- d. At all times.

13. "Safe Speed" is defined as that speed in which:

- a. You can stop within your visibility range.
- b. You can make proper and effective action to avoid collision.
- c. You are traveling slower than surrounding vessels.
- d. No wake comes from your vessel.

14. When two power-driven vessels are crossing, the vessel that has the other to starboard must keep out of the way if:

- a. She is the faster vessel.
- b. The situation involves risk of collision.
- c. The vessels will pass within half a mile of each other.
- d. Whistle signals have been sounded.

15. The rule regarding lookouts applies:

- a. In restricted visibility.
- b. Between dusk and dawn.
- c. In heavy traffic.
- d. All of the above.

16. In which situation do the Rules require both vessels to change course?

- a. Two power-driven vessels meeting head-on
- b. Two power-driven vessels crossing when it is apparent to the stand-on vessel that the give-way vessel is not taking appropriate action
- c. Two sailing vessels crossing with the wind on the same side
- d. All of the above

17. Underway at night you see the red sidelight of a vessel well off your port bow. Which statement is true?

- a. You are required to alter course to the right.
- b. You must stop engines.
- c. You are on a collision course with the other vessel.
- d. You may maintain course and speed.

18. Under the Inland Navigation Rules, what is the meaning of one short blast signal used when meeting another vessel?

- a. "I am turning to starboard."
- b. "I am turning to port."
- c. "I intend to leave you on my starboard side."
- d. "I intend to leave you on my port side."

19. Which statement is TRUE concerning a vessel equipped with operational radar?

- a. She must use this equipment to obtain early warning of risk of collision.
- b. The radar equipment is only required to be used in restricted visibility.
- c. The use of radar excuses a vessel from the need of a lookout.
- d. The safe speed of such a vessel will likely be greater than that of vessels without radar.

20. A stand-on vessel is:

- a. Required to give way in a crossing situation.
- b. Required to sound the first passing signal in a meeting situation.
- c. Free to maneuver in any crossing or meeting situation as it has the right-of-way.
- d. Required to maintain course and speed in a crossing situation, but may take action to avoid collision.

21. Every vessel should at all times proceed at a "safe speed." "Safe speed" is defined as that speed in which:

- a. You can stop within your visibility range.
- b. You can take proper and effective action to avoid collision.
- c. You are traveling slower than surrounding vessels.
- d. No wake comes from your vessel.

22. When action to avoid a close quarters situation is taken, a course change alone may be the most effective action provided that:

- a. It is done in a succession of small course changes.
- b. It is NOT done too early.
- c. It is a large course change.
- d. The course change is to starboard.

23. A vessel nearing a bend or an area of a channel or fairway where other vessels may be obscured by an intervening obstruction shall sound:

- a. One long blast.
- b. One prolonged blast.
- c. The danger signal.
- d. Two short blasts.

(cont. from page 3)

24. Risk of collision may exist:

- a. If the compass bearing of an approaching vessel does NOT appreciably change.
- b. Even when an appreciable bearing change is evident, particularly when approaching a vessel at close range.
- c. If you observe both sidelights of a vessel ahead for an extended period of time.
- d. All of the above.

25. Your power-driven vessel is underway when you sight a sailing vessel on your port bow. Which vessel is the "stand-on" vessel?

- a. The sailboat, because it is to port of your vessel
- b. The sailboat, because it is under sail
- c. Your vessel, because it is a power-driven vessel
- d. Your vessel, because it is to starboard of the sailboat

26. You are overtaking another power-driven vessel in a narrow channel. The other vessel will have to move to allow you to pass. You wish to overtake the other vessel and leave her on your starboard side. Your FIRST whistle signal should be:

- a. One short blast.
- b. Two short blasts.
- c. Two prolonged blasts followed by one short blast.
- d. Two prolonged blasts followed by two short blasts.

27. A power-driven vessel has on her port side a sailing vessel, which is on a collision course. The power-driven vessel is to:

- a. Maintain course and speed.
- b. Keep clear, passing at a safe distance.
- c. Sound one blast and turn to starboard.
- d. Stop her engines.

28. A vessel proceeding along a narrow channel shall:

- a. Avoid crossing the channel at right angles.
- b. Not overtake any vessels within the channel.
- c. Keep as near as safe and practicable to the limit of the channel on her starboard side.
- d. Sound a long blast of the whistle when nearing a bend in the channel.

29. If it becomes necessary for a stand-on vessel to take action to avoid collision, she shall NOT, if possible:

- a. Decrease speed.
- b. Increase speed.
- c. Turn to port for a vessel on her own port side.
- d. Turn to starboard for a vessel on her own port side.

30. Two power-driven vessels are crossing so as to involve risk of collision. Which statement is TRUE, according to the Rules?

- a. The vessel that has the other on her own port side shall keep out of the way.
- b. If the stand-on vessel takes action, she shall avoid changing course to port.
- c. If the give-way vessel takes action, she shall avoid changing course to starboard.
- d. The give-way vessel should keep the other vessel to her starboard.

(See answers on page 7.)

Online with the Occoquan Yacht Club



Now on Facebook! Search for "Occoquan Yacht Club" and click "Request to Join." Your request will be

confirmed with the membership roster. The private group is open to all active members.

Web space for occoquanyachtclub.org, potomacriveryachtclubs.org, and ormaweb.org is donated by Software Systems Group, Ned Rhodes, President and CEO.

Featured on Facebook: Pictures from the OYC Flag Raising, May 1, 2010





Rear Commodore

John Heinze



Secretary

Myndi Harbin

**Prep for the Float-in & Fajita-Fest
June 5th, 12-4 pm
Occoquan Harbour Marina (picnic pavilion)**

Please note the 12 noon start time—the food will be served shortly thereafter. We are going to have a great time!



I hope by the time you receive this, you have already made your reservations for the Prep for the Float-in/Fajita-Fest. If not, please give me a call (703-888-3837) so that we have food and beverages for you.

The deadline for reservations is noon on Thursday, June 3rd. The cost is only \$12 per person for all food and beverages. You will not need to bring anything to this OYC event. All you have to do is tell us if you are coming, so we have enough on hand for everyone. And of course, if you say you are coming, please come—we will miss you.

And the food will be terrific—chicken and beef fajitas with all the fixings prepared by El Charro restaurant, known for its authentic and delicious Mexican food. And I'm sure you will be pleased with the beverage selection.

And this is the Prep for the Float-in—not only will we have a great time but it's a great way for everyone to refresh and hone their boating skills. The OYC Board will be providing a variety of fun and informative activities that will be of interest to everyone. These will include refreshers on navigation and radio skills, knot tying, and a life buoy ring toss, all very useful boating skills. We may even have a dinghy or kayak race (always fun) and who knows what else.

And it's OYC's chance to get ready for the PRYCA Float-in and the competition to win the PRYCA Cup for the second year in a row. So we want to encourage everyone to come help us get ready to win the Cup again.

See you there!

John Heinze, *Great Escape*



It's Eatin' Time!!

FINALLY, the weather seems to be breaking and boats are back on the water. With summer upon us, OYC has several cruises and events planned that are right around the corner! Most of these events have a "potluck"/"bring a dish" portion. What to bring, what to bring, what to bring? What do you do if you have a REALLY old boat with no refrigeration (except the ice chest) or cooking (Magma grill) appliances on board?

There are the reliable standbys of cheese and crackers, fruit or veggie platter, salsa and dip with chips. I am a HUGE dip lover!! And I have several mixes from the Green Harvest Company that are easy to prepare ahead of time and that travel well in the heat. And then there is what I call the *Wii Fish Special*— **Boat Snack**. It is a twist on Caprice Salad. Diced fresh tomatoes, cubed smoked mozzarella cheese, and chopped fresh basil. Place them all together in a plastic container with some salt and pepper. Toast some Italian bread slices (place in separate Ziploc bag) and take a sandwich bag with extra virgin olive oil and balsamic vinegar mixed. When you are ready to nibble, take the toast slice, add the "caprice" mixture on top and drizzle the olive oil mixture over all that. (My mouth is starting to water as I am writing this).

But for larger events, I need something that can be made at home, travels well in the cooler, and is slightly more substantial. I have decided to share two of my favorite Boat Party Salads...even kids will enjoy them.

Broccoli Slaw Salad

- 2 packages beef ramen noodles
- 1 16oz package broccoli slaw
- 1 cup sunflower kernels
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans or almonds
- 1 bunch green onions

Dressing:

- 1 cup oil
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/3 cup red wine vinegar
- 2 ramen noodle seasoning packets

Mix dressing ahead (even 2 days) and refrigerate. Crumble noodles. Mix slaw, onions, seeds, and nuts. And the noodles and dressing just before serving. YUMMY!!

(cont. on page 6)

Rice Salad

2 cups rice (cook and allow to cool)
1 cucumber, diced
1/2 green pepper, diced
3 green onions, diced
2 stalks celery, diced

Mix together:

1 small jar Miracle Whip (no eggs, so it won't go bad in the heat)
Sugar, vinegar, lemon juice (to taste)

Add to the rice mixture and allow to mingle and chill for 3-4 hours. Garnish with cherry/grape tomato halves and parsley.

See, now I have made myself hungry!! Time to raid the fridge!! Hope to see you on the water soon!

Myndi Harbin, *Wii Fish*

- **Best dressed boat.** Judging in the afternoon, awards presented during Captain's Hour.
- **Captain's Hour.** Commodore Don Thayer and his wife Barbara will greet all yacht club members and guests at "Someplace Special" (their house, which will have a big tent rigged in front). Attitudes can be adjusted while enjoying the view and collecting prizes for the Scavenger Hunt and the Best Dressed Boat. The crowd will also be honored by the presence of the newly appointed 2010 Cobb Neck King/Queen Crab.
- **Scuttlebutt's Sundown Pig Roast.** The Scuttlebutt Bar & Restaurant is just over the bridge onto the island, across from the Cobb Island Gallery and in front of Scuttlebutt Marina.
- **Coast Guard Inspections.** Check the box on the registration form to let the inspectors know to look for your boat.

Upcoming Cruises & Raftups



June 18-20: The 2nd Annual PRYCA Summer Kickoff Event is run by the **Cobb Island Yacht Club**, and you sign up with CIYC to attend. If you are interested in going, e-mail larry.freedman@appliedis.com. Cobb Island is an easy and scenic cruise from the Occoquan (3 hours for us from OHM @ 16 knots) and the destination poses no trouble getting into (just don't cut inside the spider light at the entrance to the Wicomico River—ask Larry if you don't know what this means). You need to sign up as soon as possible as there are a limited number of slips available on the island. Planned activities are:

- **Kayak Adventure.** A local naturalist takes paddlers through interesting and historical areas (home of the "Oyster Wars"). A small number of kayaks will be available, but we recommend bringing your own kayak, water shoes, and PFD.
- **Scavenger Hunt.** Participants are given a series of challenges and/or clues for the all-day, island-wide private scavenger hunt. Hunters with the most items collected will receive special awards, presented during Captain's Hour.
- **Cobb Neck Crab Cook Off.** Held at the Cobb Island Gallery and Coffee Shop. Entries limited to 12 cooks, who compete for the coveted Cobb Neck Crab (King or Queen) Crown. Attendees/tasters welcomed for a small fee. All proceeds donated to the local Wayside Food Bank.



June 18-July 5: It's not too late to sign up for the **June Bay Cruise**, which begins with the PRYCA Cobb Island event, June 18–20, and continues to the Bay on June 20. The first destination after leaving Cobb Island is Chesapeake Beach Resort. From there, the cruise heads to Havre de Grace for three days, and then moves on to Rock Hall, spending two days at Osprey Point Marina. We'll stay two days at St. Michaels Harbor Inn Marina before moving on to Oxford, where we will be at Mears Yacht Haven. We'll finally motor back across the Bay and up the Potomac, stopping at White Point Marina. The cruise will end at National Harbor, July 5.

Although reservations have already been made for the eight boats set to make the trip, we can still add boats to any of the destinations except the final two days at National Harbor, July 3 and 4. We reserved the last slips available at NH for that popular fireworks weekend when we called in February; the marina is completely booked. But all other destinations for the trip have slip availability, so if you have an interest in joining us for any part of this big adventure, contact Harry Croft, Cruise Coordinator, at 703-451-9147.



June 26-27: Raft up with the *Princess of Tides* at the **Tim's I "Not on the 4th of July" Fireworks**. For the next morning, Carolyn Wixson and Dave Tuttle have reserved a table for Tim's breakfast buffet (\$8.95/person), complete with \$5.50 Screwdrivers or Bloody Marys. Contact Carolyn at 703-490-6416 to sign up.

Labor Day Trip to Crisfield, MD: Boat Docking Contest, Crab Derby, & Carnival

For those of you who are planning on joining us in Crisfield for Labor Day weekend, or thinking about it, please call Somers Cove Marina at 401-968-0925 or reserve at <http://www.somerscovemarina.com/reservations.html>.

Even if you are placed on the waiting list, there is a very good chance you will be able to get in. I have yet to hear of anyone who was not able to get a slip, but the key is to at least get your name on the list and the time to do that is now. Also, be sure to say you are with OYC to assure the marina office puts us all together. Somers Cove is a very large, state-run marina that you could get lost in, so if you fail to mention you are with our group, you may be placed way out, and I do mean way out.



Somer's Cove is a really nice, well kept marina with a very large pool, picnic areas, barbecue pits, and free private hot showers. The marina hosts a carnival right on the grounds, as well

as a crab derby (see photo above) and crab cook-off. In addition, there is a live band on the grounds for Saturday night and Sunday night. The boat docking contest is held on Sunday and is a very short walk into town (literally 5 minutes). Get there early to get a seat in the shade. Somer's Cove ends the festivities with a very nice fireworks display on Sunday night.

Please let Larry or I know if you plan on attending so we know how many to reserve for at Waterman's Inn for dinner on Saturday night. Larry and I hope to see you there. We can be reached at 703-855-1826

Larry & Barbara Freedman, *Takin' to the Sea*

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Carolyn Wixson, Editor
Ilona Zsirai, Circulation

Deadline for submission of articles to ***The Daymarker*** is the 20th of each month. Please submit your copy by e-mail to:

oyceditor@gmail.com

Answers to General Boating Quiz (pages 2-4)

- | | | | | | |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. C | 6. C | 11. D | 16. A | 21. B | 26. B |
| 2. D | 7. B | 12. D | 17. D | 22. C | 27. B |
| 3. B | 8. A | 13. B | 18. D | 23. B | 28. C |
| 4. D | 9. B | 14. B | 19. A | 24. D | 29. C |
| 5. A | 10. A | 15. D | 20. D | 25. B | 30. B |

The Datemarkers

Birthdays

Shay Seaborne	6/1
Bill French	6/5
Steve Bell	6/8
Myndi Harbin	6/9
Judy Dooley	6/10
Goodwyn Morgan	6/11
Timothy Gibbons	6/12
Steven Quentmeyer	6/15
Mary Jo Worcester	6/15
Steven Thompson	6/16
Buzz Lasch	6/19
Bill Shannon	6/20
Brian Johnson	6/22
William Myers	6/27
Bill Hamp	6/28
Janet Jeirles	6/29

Anniversaries

Tom & Donna Lensis	6/1
Bill & Vicki Hamp	6/1
William & Sandra Myers	6/2
Christian & Alison Rose	6/4
Bill & Beth Francis	6/6
Tom & Robyn Strobel	6/8
Duane & Janet Jeirles	6/15
Bob & Jan Wilcox	6/15
Nabil & Lucy Dubraque	6/19
Joe & Gail Livingston	6/20
Steve & Mary Jo Worcester	6/21
Bill & Peggy Johnson	6/22
Kris Butera & Ralph Mason	6/25

Welcome New Members!

Don & Anne Bennett	<i>Heart of the Sun</i> , OHM
Bud & Heidi Bishop	<i>Hi-Jinx</i> , OHM
Lee Moyer & Jim Crabill	<i>ENCORE</i> , OHM
Brian & Amanda Johnson	<i>State of Comfort</i> , FYC
Matt & Elizabeth Legg	<i>Sea Legg's</i> , OHM
Michael & Sarah Robins	<i>ROBIN'S NEST</i> , OHM
Bob & Nancy Stegon	<i>FANTASY</i> , OHM

5 June
Float-in Prep & OHM Fajita Fest
John Heinze
703-888-3837

18-20 June
PRYCA Kickoff at Cobb Island
Larry & Barbara Freedman
703-855-1826

20 June-5 July
Bay Cruise to National Harbor
Harry Croft
703-451-9147

26-27 June
Raft-up for Tim's I Fireworks
Carolyn Wixson/Dave Tuttle
703-490-6416

4-5 July
Fireworks Raft-up in
Washington Channel
Al & Lynanne Jorsey
703-850-2888

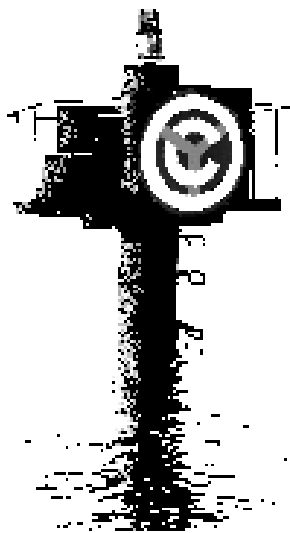
10-11 July
Raft-up for Tim's II Fireworks
John & Rebecca Heinze
703-888-3837

Inside this edition...

**Our first catered event of the season!
Feast on fajitas June 5th while
practicing to defend our title as PRYCA
champions.**

**Be the smartest Cup holders on the
river—sharpen your pencils & take
Tom's Rules of the Road quiz.**

**Blustery winds blew off the Blessing,
but check out photos of the Flag
Raising Ceremony on Facebook.**



The Daymarker

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

**Change Service
Requested**