



The Daymarker

2011 PRYCA Cup Champions OCCOQUAN YACHT CLUB

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COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Tom Lensis

OYC Brings the PRYCA Cup Home Once Again!

For those of you who may not have participated in a PRYCA Float-In before, this is an annual event put on by the Potomac River Yacht Club Association where member yacht clubs compete in events designed to promote boater safety and knowledge. The winner gets to keep "The Cup" until the following year's competition, along with bragging rights for the whole year. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the float-in.

This year's event, which was held in July at Coles Point Plantation Marina, included 66 boats and 147 people. OYC was well represented with 10 boats competing with 11 other yacht clubs for The Cup. OYC was represented by Tom and Liz Plewes on *Double Eagle*, Rick and Teresa Sorrenti on *Sea Duck Too*, Ralph Mason and Kris Butera on *Party Time*, Jim and Judy Dooley on *Just Chill-N*, new members Pat Schondel and Christi Rauker on *It's Noon Somewhere*, Steve and Sue Thompson on *Forever Dreamin'*, Joe and Gail Livingston and their son Jay on *Gail Lynn II*, Harry and Pat Croft and Amy Fletcher on *Bay Dreamer*, Mike and Karen Crouch on *Makia III*, and me and Donna on *Copy Cat*. Joey and Pam Sowell on *Emma Caroline II* were also participating, but they were representing Quantico Yacht Club. New members Chet and Beth Hahne joined the club via land for dinner and awards on Saturday night.



The competition consisted of Vessel Safety Examination Participation, Navigation and Safety Test, Scavenger Hunt, Bosun Skills – Ring Toss Challenge, Life Vest Challenge, and a Dinghy Relay Race. Each team consisted of one male and one female except for the Bosun Skills- Ring Toss Challenge, in which we had two male and female teams. Each event awarded points for the top five places starting with five points for first place. The club that received the most points overall was the winner. Exact details of the events were not known until we received registration packets upon arrival. On Friday night we held a planning and strategy meeting and happy hour aboard *Copy Cat* to assign team captains and participants for each event.

All vessels had to have their boats inspected and have a vessel safety sticker displayed on their boat prior to 11 a.m. on Saturday. Inspectors were available at the float-in to do an inspection on your vessel. For the first time in float-in history, all of the boats in all of the clubs had their inspection stickers!

The first event was the dreaded **Navigation and Safety Test and knot tying**. We didn't have any volunteers that wanted to take the test, but after much arm twisting, Jay Livingston and Sue Thompson agreed to

(cont. on p. 2)

take the test. They said that if they were going to take the test, they would be ready and make OYC proud. They spent most of Friday night and Saturday morning before the event studying whatever boater safety materials we could come up with, and practiced, or learned, various knots. Sue and Jay both mastered all the knots and obviously knew their stuff, because they took first place in the event and earned five points for the club. Way to go, Sue and Jay!

The **Scavenger Hunt** was led by Vice Commodore Tom Plewes. He took command of the event with military precision. This event was timed in case of a tie and, since OYC was spread out over four different docks, we had walkie talkies on most boats and Liz Plewes was stationed at a central collection site. Tom read the list of items on the air and members searched their boats and brought the items to Liz. Rick Sorrenti had some of the hardest items to find like a *Chapman Piloting and Seamanship* book and a thermometer in his first aid kit. New member Christie Rauker had a Washington Nationals memorabilia hat. Another hard-to-find item was a little drink umbrella, but I don't recall who came up with that. Jay Livingston came up with a copy of fishing regulations for the Bay. OYC managed to come up with everything on the list and be the first club to finish, which earned us first place and another five points. Great job, Vice Commodore and Team OYC!

Two teams for each club participated in the **Bosun Skills – Ring Toss Challenge**. Our OYC teams consisted of Amy Fletcher and Jay Livingston as Team 1 and Donna Lensis and new member Pat Schondel as Team 2. It was a timed relay race event in which each team had to rescue the other with a life ring toss and pull the victim across the pool to safety. Amy Fletcher was the victim treading water in the deep end of the pool and Jay Livingston the rescuer on Team 1. The victim was not allowed to swim to the ring, but Jay nailed the ring toss the first time and pulled Amy to safety. Then the process was repeated with Pat Schondel in the pool as the victim and Donna Lensis throwing the life ring. On Donna's second attempt, the rope on the ring got tangled and fell short of Pat. With the crowd yelling and cheering on the contestants, she calmly untangled the rope, took careful aim, made the toss to Pat, and pulled him across the pool to safety. Our OYC teams made record time, completing this event in less than two minutes, and were several minutes ahead of any of the other clubs thus earning us another five points for first place. We were now three for three with a nice lead.



On to the next event, the **Life Vest Challenge**. This event was designed to demonstrate the challenges of donning a life

vest while treading water. Each team, consisted of one male and one female treading water in the deep end of the pool. Once both had completed donning and securing their vests, they had to remove and trade life jackets, and once they had them again secured, they raised both hands to indicate they were finished. During the competition one team actually slipped out of their vests without undoing them first and pulled them over their heads. The judges made them repeat the event, so they wouldn't be disqualified. Then, not to let them have an advantage over the other clubs, we were allowed to try to better our time with another try. The OYC team was made up of Jim Dooley and Karen Crouch and was first to be timed. When the second chance came along to have an opportunity to better our score, they jumped on it with OYC spirit and improved their time to place third. The difference in first and third place was only 3.74 seconds.

The last event was the **Dinghy Relay Race**. The objective was to demonstrate the degree of difficulty when maneuvering a dinghy under a time constraint. Participants had to traverse the pool in the least amount of time. One person was the passenger and the other person was the rower, and they paddled down one length of the pool. Then they switched and the other person became the passenger and the new rower paddled the dinghy back to the starting line.

Rick Sorrenti and Karen Crouch participated for Team OYC. Once again, we were one of the first teams to participate. With Karen rowing first and Rick



second, they made a great time of 48.72 seconds. This was a very close race, and the difference in time from the winner to the fifth place finisher was about five seconds. Rick and Karen came in fifth place for OYC. Occoquan Yacht Club finished in first place with a total of 24 points, Mt. Vernon Yacht Club second with 21 points, and Middle Potomac third with 20 points (Middle Potomac was formed by members of Swan Point Yacht Club, Cobb Island Yacht Club, Colonial Beach Yacht Club, and Westmoreland Yacht Club).

OYC was up for the challenge and faced stiff competition, but we pulled together as a team, and the OYC group effort in placing in each event resulted in our winning first place. In our club history, OYC had previously won The Cup four times, 1992, 1993, 1997 and after a long spell of 12 years, we won again in 2009 under the leadership of Commodore Harry Croft. Our club demonstrated great heart and determination, and we are now the team to beat in future competitions.

Tom Lensis, *Copy Cat*



Vice Commodore

Tom Plewes

A Trip into History

Sixty-four vessels, 3 RVs, and 147 cruised into history on the weekend of July 15-17, joining fellow members of the PRYCA at the annual Float-in, held this year at Coles Point Plantation in Virginia. Among those were ten vessels and twenty-three members of the Occoquan Yacht Club. As they say in the Midwest, a good time was had by all. In fact, for reasons given in the above article by our Commodore Tom Lensis, an especially good time was had by the OYC members!

The float-in and the venue both share a special place in history. This year was the Silver Anniversary of the Float-in – the 25th in a string that began at Aquia Harbour Yacht Club in 1986. The float-in has moved among a number of venues over the years, from Aquia Harbour to Fort Washington to Somers Cove at Crisfield to Port Kinsale, where it had resided since 2006. This year was the first time the event was held at Coles Point Plantation on the historic Northern Neck, in an area settled by descendants of the founders of the Chesapeake Bay Colony.

A number of OYC members have fond memories of Coles Point Plantation. It was the destination of many club members for years for July 4th weekend. The volleyball matches between the gas and diesel teams were stuff of legend. Nonetheless, some of us were a little apprehensive about the choice of venue. The marina had gone into disrepair and even bankruptcy in recent years, and those of us who had frequented it recently had visions of further decay. Nothing could be further from the facts this year. Under Marina Manager Trina and Chef Chris, the facility and the food operation have recovered nicely and the hospitality couldn't have been warmer.



A word about Coles Point. Located 18 miles from the Chesapeake Bay, it is on a peninsula that opens to the southeast, giving a fantastic view of the sunrise. There is a campground, a half-covered swimming pool, a large recreation hall, a sandy beach without nettles even in the middle of July, and a restaurant (AC's Sports Bar and Restaurant). The float-in used these facilities to

good advantage – the pool was the site of many of the PRYCA Cup triumph events, and the beach was the site of a huge bonfire on both nights. The weather - low 80s with no humidity - couldn't have been better.

Three of the OYC vessels took advantage of the great weather by arriving a day to help set up events. PRYCA Vice Commodore Mike Crouch and first mate Karen (celebrating below) were in charge of the overall arrangements, which owing to their great planning went off with nary a hitch.



Our PRYCA rep, Pat Croft, was in charge of the contests, and Harry welcomed the incoming boats with a smile, a quick tie-up, and often a cool drink. Of course, our Commodore Tom and Donna Lensis were there early to make sure all was prepared for members and to have the opportunity to move their boat at 3:30 a.m. on Friday morning because of a slip assignment mix-up.

The rest of the members arrived over the day on Friday, and all were aboard in time for the Pig Roast on the beach that evening after the OYC organizing meeting on *Copy Cat*. On Saturday morning, Mike Crouch gave a seminar about cruising in the British Virgin Islands and Tom Lensis provided an illustrated presentation on cruising in the Bahamas. Both seminars were solid hits.

The contests came late in the afternoon, and a seafood feast at the AC Restaurant was followed by the awards ceremony and dancing in the recreation center. On the day of departure, the OYC crew had one more opportunity to celebrate the victory at a 9 a.m. buffet breakfast, where the taste of victory was enjoyed by all before turning the vessels north to return to home ports.

This was the third PRYCA float-in for your Vice Commodore/Coordinator and first mate, and the events just seem to get better each year. We hope even more OYC members will join us next year for a guaranteed good time.

Tom Plewes, *Double Eagle*



Rear Commodore

John Heinze



Secretary

Jill Stanley

Labor Day Cruise to Corinthian Yacht Club, September 2-5

We had such a great time on last year's Labor Day cruise to Corinthian Yacht Club, we decided to go back this Labor Day weekend. After all, the club is located on a beautiful wooded and grass-covered knoll overlooking the Smith and Jutland Creeks, 6.5 miles from the mouth of the Potomac River near Ridge, Maryland. The club features a swimming pool and gazebo overlooking the water, multiple gas grills and smokers, clean showers and restrooms, and a large clubhouse with fully equipped kitchen, air conditioning, TV, and computer. However, the most important reason we are going back is the hospitality they offer. It seems they always want to help us enjoy our visit in any way that they can.

A highlight of last year's trip was the crabfest and potluck dinner on Sunday night in which we had all-you-could-eat crabs and a delicious potluck dinner supplied by the members of the CYC, who apparently just love to cook. Needless to say, we will try to do this again this year! More details on the crabfest to follow.

The other special activity on this cruise is that Harry Croft has offered to take folks fishing on *Bay Dreamer* as he has a fishing license and knows the hot spots for fishing in the area. If you are interested, please contact Harry for further details. Our other plans call for happy hours and cookouts Friday and Saturday nights and a farewell brunch Monday, and lots of time for swimming and relaxing by the pool.

If you haven't already signed up, please contact me (my home phone is 703-888-3837) so that I can make sure we have slip space for you.

CYC is located across Smith Creek from Point Lookout Marina, about 80 nautical miles from the Occoquan River. The closest restaurant, Spinnakers, is at Point Lookout Marina, which unfortunately is not within easy walking distance. CYC also has a very informative website at <http://www.cycchesapeake.com>.

John Heinze, *Great Escape*



Search for "Occoquan Yacht Club" on Facebook and click "Request to Join" (OYC members only). Web space for occoquanyachtclub.org, potomacriveryachtclubs.org, and ormaweb.org is donated by Software Systems Group, Ned Rhodes, President and CEO.

Getting to Know New Members – Scott and Teri Miller

The Millers are originally from Florida near Pensacola. Scott was in the Air Force, and after his service, he came to Virginia to work for Raytheon. Scott is now working for Microsoft. They have lived in Virginia for twenty-two years and have two children, both in their 20s.



Teri and Scott also have a dog named Huey, affectionately known as "the Porkie Yorkie" because of a little weight problem. Teri keeps telling Huey he's a Labrador in hopes that he might believe it and act like a real boat dog. So far, Teri doesn't see this working. Old Huey still acts just like a good Yorkie.

Teri was a teacher, but now spends her time writing her own blog of weekly devotionals, which are wonderful and inspirational. She would eventually like to write a book on devotionals told through her stories. Make sure you read her story, "Woman Overboard!" from April 7, 2011, about a misstep on the bow. <http://tuesdaywithteri.wordpress.com>.

Scott and Teri have been boating about 12 years. They started with a Sea Ray and then moved up to Chaparrals that they kept at Hoffmaster's. They currently have a 2004 48' Silverton named *Miller Time*, which they recently moved from Belmont Bay Marina to the West River on the Chesapeake to Shady Oaks Marina, where they purchased their boat. They have explored almost all of the Potomac – a favorite spot is Wades Bay - and want to try this new location for the rest of the summer and see how they like it.

Next year Scott will go on sabbatical for three months. He and Teri hope to take the boat down to Florida for those three months and maybe tour the Bahamas. They would also like to stop and visit their daughter in Charleston as they make their way down south.

From this interview I found Teri and I have a lot in common. We both love Wades Bay, kayaking, and fishing. Even better, we both enjoy a good glass of wine with good friends. What better people to have as new members.

Jill Stanley, *'bout Tim*



Treasurer

Arleen Rhodes

Moving On

July and August have certainly been busy months for us as we prepare for our move to Wilmington. Some things we had planned for – a yard sale, multiple charity pickups, endless de-crapifying of our home of sixteen years. Other things we hadn't planned – the loss of our sweet dog Abby (see Ned's story to follow), and three trees falling in our Arlington back yard over the 4th of July weekend (one through our roof). We thank you for your many expressions of sympathy on Abby's passing; these have been difficult days for us and your kindness and support surely helps.

In view of all that's going on, our boating activities have definitely suffered this year! We try to visit the boat for her weekly washing and occasionally fit in a brief cocktail cruise, but we have certainly missed cruising with you this season.

Given our imminent departure, Joe Livingston has graciously agreed to take over for me as OYC Treasurer. Joe serves OYC in so many ways – as Past Commodore, PRYCA delegate, cruise coordinator, and now as treasurer. Thank you, Joe!! Ned and I will be in touch with reports on life and boating in North Carolina. We're going to miss our OYC friends, so come visit us!

Best wishes, Arleen Rhodes, *Impulse*



Three Boats and Three Dogs

If you look through the *Daymarker* archives, you will find that dogs have always been a part of boating for the Rhodes family. Growing

up and through adult (?) life, I have always had a boat and a dog. The boats have all be different, but the dogs have all been Golden Retrievers.

Besides the small boats (and even a sailbote), my first real boat was a 29-foot Cruisers that we kept on D Dock at OHM. Ginger was the original boat dog, and after she moved on, Jess enjoyed many a good cruise on that boat. She enjoyed the dinghy and was even featured in the paper wearing a horse collar life jacket at one of the PRYCA float-Ins. We moved up to a Sea Ray 400EC and switched over to C Dock, and Jess loved the big backseat for snoozing. Once I heard the call of diesels (BFD), there was no stopping the move up to our current Sea Ray 410 Express. Arleen claims it has a smaller

cockpit, but Jess made herself right at home. And look out if you tried to crowd her out of her seat!

After a time, Abby (photo, left) joined us and we taught her to jump in off the swim platform and to use the swim ladder to mostly haul herself up so she could jump in again to chase her duck. She also liked the rear facing backseat and managed to take up its entire width. We like to think that she taught some of the younger dogs to swim. She was aging gracefully, but you never knew it when she jumped out of the car at the marina. She would run down to the boat, barking her hello and prancing around until you got her duck and took her to the launch ramp for some swim time. The boat is empty without her and we miss swim time.

Some have pointed out that I already have the fourth boat which is a Boston Whaler that was my father's boat in North Carolina. All that is missing is a fourth Golden for the fourth boat.

Thank you all for your kind words on Abby's passing. She was a wonderful dog and a great companion.

Ned W. Rhodes, *Impulse*



Nautical Bulletin Board

FOR SALE: *Wilderness Systems Pamlico 100 Kayak* – Like new - \$350. Will throw in the Car Top Carrier, Cockpit Cover, and half of a double oar (an \$80 value) for free.

Sevylor YTL280 8', 4-person, inflatable dinghy – inflated once but never used - \$220 obo.

Contact Steve Thompson at 703-963-8783 or fd4060@verizon.net.

Have a nautical item looking for a new home? Send a brief description to oyceditor@gmail.com by the 20th of each month for the next issue. Items from OYC members only. Published items and length of description at editor's discretion.

Wanted: Lighthouse Photos



Please collect any photos you have of you, your boat, or your dog with a lighthouse background. We need these for the December Holiday/Change of Watch party. Please identify the lighthouse, and e-mail the photos to Liz Plewes at ehplewes@aol.com or send them to her at 4510 Banff Street, Annandale, VA 22003.

The Datemarkers

Birthdays

| | | | |
|------|------------------|------|-------------|
| 8/1 | Alison Rose | 8/21 | Diane Ward |
| 8/3 | Sandra Myers | 8/28 | Robert Hill |
| 8/11 | Carolyn Bell | 8/29 | Elaine Lee |
| 8/12 | Sharon Striker | 8/31 | Jim Larkin |
| 8/17 | Edward Karpinski | | |

Anniversaries

| | |
|------|-----------------------------|
| 8/4 | Scott & Teri Miller |
| 8/17 | Larry & Barbara Freedman |
| 8/15 | Don & Anne Bennett |
| 8/18 | Goodwyn & Janice Morgan |
| 8/18 | Randy & Susan Willetts |
| 8/22 | Timothy & Maria Gibbons |
| 8/26 | Rick & Frances Fellenz, Jr. |

New Members

- Michael & Janet Higgins - Regal *Sea Monkey*, Belmont Bay Marina
- Bud & Judi Jennison - Sea Ray *Schatz1*, OHM
- Jay & Alex Livingston - Macgregor *Keolaha*, Elephant Butte, NM

Third sign: Not to be outdone, *Hi-Jinx* dinghy motor dies. Up to 18 announced and unannounced visitors are aboard by now and Tim's taxi is overworked and will not be able to provide service.

Fourth sign: The a/c pump gives up the ghost on *Hi-Jinx*; Captain Bud calls for all hands on deck and signals the quartermaster to "open the deck covers and prepare for higher temperatures." At this point, Bud also regrets not working out on the rowing machine more.

Enter the classic fireworks display from Tim's barge. Beautiful, awesome, exquisite; the show begins with a bang! Shortly followed by the unannounced exit off the back of the *Hi-Jinx* by one border collie mix who, in the dark, sees the dark shape of trees and sets off on her very first swim away from the noise (unbeknownst to the fireworks-entranced crowd). Into the shadowy waters goes the dog. Other dogs in attendance aboard decide either that the fireworks are too noisy or want to complain that the border collie didn't take them with her and begin barking.

One astute spectator notices the border collie is nowhere to be found - 10:30 p.m., crowds, fireworks, boats moving about...no dog. Search *Hi-Jinx*. Search every other boat. No dog. Some silently mourn the new member of Davy Jones yacht club. Others jump on jet-skis; Bill from *Morgan Jane* sets off down current (after dark...jet ski...police boats...you get the picture here).

A *Hi-Jinx* young adult decides to make a running jump onto his jet ski to help, starts it up, and zips across four or five floatee lines, one of which ends up in the motor. His eight-second run ends with "expletive deleted" and other terms of endearment. Capt. Bud from *Hi-Jinx*, minus a motor and a jet ski, rows ashore to look for the dog. Unsuccessful, he returns and begins to row the first set of three people (of the 18) visitors aboard *Hi-Jinx*. (To make a long story shorter; 18/3 = 6 rowing trips, in the dark, with a dingy whose starboard oar continually falls out of the receptacle. Capt. Don from *Heart of the Sun* jumps in to assist with no motor and a cracked plastic oarlock. Combined, we make a great circle-row show. Eventually, all visitors are ashore and you can hear the comments, "What kind of a show are these guys running here...LOL?")

Back now to the rafters. With all visitors safely ashore, the mariners quietly discuss the fate of the valiant swimming dog (while others are hidden below sniffing their farewells). It is time now for Don and Anne to set out to take their dog *Shadow* for his nightly duties ashore. Shortly, Don and Anne return and make a huge announcement - the missing border collie has braved the slicing-dicing boaters, made it to shore, searched for a familiar spot, and waited to be found and joyfully join her boyfriend, *Shadow*, for the dinghy ride back to the raft. Yes, Davy Jones will have to wait another year for



TRIP REPORT: Tim's Not-on- the-Fourth Fireworks

A great time was had by all at the OYC float-in at Tim's on June 25th!! That's my story, and I'm sticking to it.

The adventure started with both planned and unplanned guests who kept adding themselves to the mix aboard the hospitable host's boat *Hi-Jinx*. Five boaters rafted up, and three others either rafted with others elsewhere or planted their hooks within earshot - overall a great group. However, those who weren't with the big raft missed quite a sideshow. Read on faithful boaters, and I'll let you be the judge!

As boats and guests without boats arrived, they were met with mojitos and joined the burgeoning crowd in revelry, jet skiing, tubing, etc. Members of the raft were *Heart of the Sun* (Capt. Don Bennett), *Morgan Jane II* (Capt. Bill Akers), *Gail Lynn II* (Capt. Joe Livingston) and *Plane to Sea II* (Capt. Al Jorsey). (The wave action was rough enough to cause mooring lines between two boats to snap.) *Insatiable* (Capt. Bill French) was quietly observing the raft from 150 yards to starboard and must have enjoyed the show. *Makia* (Capt. Mike Crouch) rafted opposite from our group (across the fireworks exclusion zone). *Jus Chillin'* (Capt. Jim Dooley) was in the area as were *Great Escape* (Capt. Steve Quentmeyer) and *Assisted Living* (Capt. Jim Larkin).

The first sign of trouble was when the captain of *Hi-Jinx* did the two-leg split on his dinghy and ruined his second new iPhone. Note: no cell phone = future issue. Second sign: *Heart of the Sun* dinghy motor dies.

(cont. from p. 6)

the new member of his club. Celebrations ensue, and finally folks turn in around 2 a.m.

Skip to 7 a.m. Glassy water, no humidity, members of *Hi-Jinx* do okay without a/c overnight. Captains Bill and Bud decide that it is time to dig the lines out of the casualty jet ski from the prior night's mishap. While lifting it on Bill's dinghy lift, the right side of the lift drops with a loud crack. The next half hour is spent rigging lines to hoist the lift out of the water so *Morgan Jane* can limp home in style. Successful, and with no desire to experience any more disasters, the raftees collectively decide to enjoy Tim's breakfast buffet.

Joe Livingston, the mariner's mariner who must have been cackling quietly to himself as he observed the hi-jinx (pun intended) occurring around him for the past 14 hours, kindly picks up the breakfast tab for all present. Following a wonderful meal (no pictures; prior iPhone swimming experience noted again), the raftees return and start slowly shedding boats for the return home. *Morgan Jane* and *Hi-Jinx* still have a problem; two jet skis, no lift, and line wrapped inside one of them. Heidi, the stalwart first mate of *Hi-Jinx*, volunteers to drive the jet ski home with the other in tow. A minute or two after departure, she sportingly asks from afar, "Is half a tank going to be enough?" Capt. Bud and Capt. Bill give her two thumbs up. "No problemo."

Noting first mate Heidi off in the distance, the two valiant guardians in 40-plus foot boats return on plane, sipping coffee, with the wind whipping through the rigging. Suddenly, we note that the first mate is pretty close to shore, not making way, with wild hand gestures being made to two fishermen who seem to be in the wrong place at the right time. Yes, she is out of petrol. Bill, 48 Searay, and Bud, 40 Searay, both begin the risky approach into big-boat no-go zone outside of the Belmont Bay island (starboard side as you pass the first two marks outbound from the no-wake zone). Capt. Bud makes it halfway to the first-mate and is immediately aground (fathometer 0.0...sigh) while Capt. Bill nonchalantly maneuvers around him to her aid. After a rough road back the way he came in, Capt. Bud frees the *Hi-Jinx* from the bottom while the bigger 48 again passes without mishap over what appears to be the same path used by *Hi-Jinx*.

Morgan Jane, now with two jet skis in tow, enters the go-fast zone near the Belmont Bay island/entrance. Despite numerous channel 16 calls, arm waving, and pointing, the stalwart first mate is repeatedly cooled by large, voluminous waves as she makes her way back to the fuel dock. But successful she is thanks to *Morgan Jane's* incredibly-delivered seamanship skills and artful shiphandling...and wheels on the bottom??? Come on, what gives!?! How can a 480 draw less than a 400? (Captain Bill's answer: "I just looked at the chart.")

And so ends the eventful OYC Not-on-the-Fourth-of-July Fireworks raft-up. Hope to see the rest of you for a repeat attempt next year where we will seek to provide even better entertainment (it can get better?).

[Postlude: air-conditioner pump (\$400), jet ski rope disentanglement (4 hours), *Morgan Jane* lift arm (at least six hours of swimming so far for Capt. Bill under his swim platform chipping away the broken fitting).

Dog, I have some bad news for you...don't you ever THINK about me and boats again! EVER! I mean it. Seriously!

Bud and Heidi Bishop, *Hi-Jinx*



TRIP REPORT: 4th of July in the Washington Channel

Once again we celebrated our country's independence and remembered those who have and continue to serve to protect our freedoms. This year the weather was hot, but the water was flat and there wasn't as much congestion along the waterway as we had anticipated.

This was a first time for us to anchor out and watch the fireworks in DC. *Copy Cat* arrived in the Washington Channel by Hains Point around 2:30 p.m. on Monday and saw the *Lori Ann* already anchored so we tied up to her. Jim Hawley and Meimei Tidrow had a full house of Meimei's relatives from China onboard (photo below). Soon thereafter *Gail Lynn II* arrived. They too had a boatload of relatives and friends. Last to arrive was *Plane to Sea II* with Al, Lynanne, and their grandson A.J.

After securing all the vessels we got busy decorating our boat and serving up appetizers



and beverages. Later, we got the grills out and cooked our dinners, then gathered on the bows of our respective boats. At dark, around 9:15 p.m, we watched the spectacular display of fireworks that were launched from the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool and lit up the sky over the Washington Monument. All but the *Gail Lynn II* spent the night. The celebration continued well into the night. The next morning we were once again blessed with flat water as we returned to our home port.

Donna Lensis, *Copy Cat*

PRYCA Aquia Harbor Dog Days
August 5-7
Carl & Patricia Maxwell
703-680-0090

Labor Day Cruise to Corinthian
September 2-5
John & Rebecca Heinze
703-888-3837

Washington Nationals Game
James Creek Marina
September 17-19
Mike Crouch
703-906-8822

Shrimp Fest @ Hoffmasters
October 1
OYC Board & John Heinze
703-888-3837

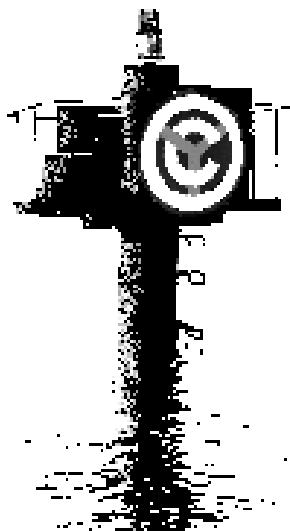
PRYCA End of Summer Cruise
to Colonial Beach
October 7-9
Ralph & Kris Mason
703-790-1920

Inside this edition...

**We got the gold! Congratulations to
OYC: PRYCA Cup Champions again!**

**A Must Read! Hysterical Hi-Jinx at the
Tim's Fireworks Raft-up!**

**We bid farewell to Ned and Arleen as
they move to Wilmington. Thank you
both for your devotion to the OYC.
Enjoy your Carolina cruising!**



The Daymarker

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

Change Service
Requested