



# The Daymarker

**2009 & 2011 PRYCA Cup Champions  
OCCOQUAN YACHT CLUB**

P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125

Member: PRYCA, CBYCA; Boat U.S. Accord #GA80979Y

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## COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

**Tom Lensis**

### ICW South

This year we had three OYC boats accompany Donna and I down the ICW to Carolina Beach, NC: Ned Rhodes aboard *Impulse* along with mates Steve and Pat Worcester, and Scott and Teri Miller and their guard dog Hughie aboard *Miller Time*. *Copy Cat* and *Impulse* were going to Carolina Beach, and *Miller Time* was going on to Charleston. We decided to keep *Copy Cat* in the Wilmington area for the next few months before heading south to Florida in January. *Copy Cat* and *Miller Time* were getting the finishing touches on their maintenance at White Point Marina, so Ned Rhodes and crew made the trip down the Potomac from OHM to meet up with us on Friday.

*Impulse* arrived early afternoon, and it was quite comical to see three captains try to dock the boat in a 20-knot wind, all doing their own thing. It reminded me of a Chinese Fire Drill, with Captain Rhodes at the helm. Rumor has it that there was almost mutiny on board. We spent the first night at White Point getting the boat ready to go. Dinner Friday night was at a local Kinsale establishment known as Backdraft that has great food at reasonable prices. We were early to bed and early to rise.

The Captains met on Saturday morning at 0600 for a weather report. A cold front came through and the wind was blowing 25 knots, and the Chesapeake Bay was reporting over

6-foot seas. Needless to say we decided to stay an extra day at White Point. Everyone had a leisurely day - some went to lunch at the Mooring Restaurant at Port Kinsale, and the girls checked out the local consignment shop and visited with the proprietor who is a friend of Donna's.



*Left to right: Ned Rhodes, Pat & Steve Worcester, Scott & Terri Miller, and Donna Lensis at Backdraft in Port Kinsale*

The winds died down in the afternoon to allow the boats to fuel up for our first leg of the trip of over 130 miles to Coinjock, NC. That evening we all piled into Scott Miller's SUV for a wonderful dinner at the Luna Restaurant in Callao. Rob and Jan Redfearn, owners of White Point Marina, joined us for dinner. We went back to the marina after dinner and enjoyed some after dinner libations on *Copy Cat* and planned for our departure the next morning.

Sunday morning's forecast was favorable for our trip down the Bay with northeast winds at 10 knots and waves of about 2 ½ feet in the Bay. We left White Point a little before dawn at 0615. With trailing seas our trip down the Bay was a little choppy, but not too bad. Our plan was to make Norfolk by 1030 and time the bridge openings so we didn't have to wait any length of time for openings.

*(cont. on p. 2)*



*Left to right: Steve Worcester, Rob & Jan Redfearn, Scott & Teri Miller, Ned Rhodes, Donna Lensis, and Pat Worcester at Luna Restaurant in Callao*

As it turned out we couldn't have done better and we arrived in Coinjock at about 1630. Little did we know but the weather that held us up on Friday and Saturday had a penned-up effect with all the boats heading south and we could only get one slip for three boats at Coinjock for the night. *Miller Time* had to raft up to *Copy Cat*, and *Impulse* rafted up to a 70' Sportfish. Once we were fueled up and secure for the evening we made reservations in the restaurant for Coinjock's famous 16-oz. prime rib dinner. The prime rib didn't disappoint. We even had leftovers for sandwiches the following day.



*Morning fog leaving Coinjock, by Pat Worcester*

On Monday at 0630 we were off on our 133-mile trip to Oriental NC. From Coinjock we encountered a lot of surface fog for the first hour or so with bright sunlight from above. By the time we got to Albemarle Sound, the fog burned off and we had a calm 25-mile crossing into the Alligator River.

The Albemarle Sound has a reputation for being some of the roughest water in high winds since it is only about 12 feet deep. We were pleased we had smooth waters for our crossing. We decided to take the canal route versus taking the Pamlico Sound route past Manteo to Oriental. As we entered the 26-mile Pungo/Alligator Canal, we began to see all the sailboat and trawler

traffic that was heading south. We passed 15 or so boats in the canal.

It turned out to be a beautiful day on the water, and we arrived at Oriental around 1430. It was a beautiful sunny and warm day with temperatures in the 70s. Oriental Marina is a small marina with about a dozen transient slips as well as a hotel, tiki bar, and the Toucan Grill Restaurant. After fueling up in our slips, we spent a few hours on boat maintenance and then ate a great meal in the Toucan Grill. We haven't had any late nights so far so after dinner we had a few libations on I and called it a night.



*Left to right: Tom Lensis, Ned Rhodes, and Steve Worcester at Oriental Marina*

Tuesday we slept in a little and left Oriental at about 0700 for our final destination to Carolina Beach. We would have liked to go the ocean route from Beaufort, but with a tropical storm a few hundred miles of the East Coast, they were calling for 7- to 9-foot seas offshore. The inside route has many no-wake zones and a number of bridges that had to be timed. So it was a long day inside and we arrived at Federal Point Yacht Club in Carolina Beach, NC, at about 1600.

Federal Point Yacht Club is now home for *Impulse*, and Ned Rhodes (photo at right) arranged for us to have a slip for *Copy*



*Cat* for a few months. *Miller Time* got the transient T-head for the night. We were met by a welcoming committee consisting of Randy the Dockmaster, Arleen Rhodes, and Mary Jo Worcester. After checking in and settling in we had a welcome cocktail on *Copy Cat* with Randy and his wife Diane.



*Left to right: Ned and Arleen Rhodes, Pat & Mary Jo Worcester, and Teri Miller at new Rhodes home in Wilmington*

Ned and Arleen graciously invited us to their new house for dinner, and they loaded us into their van and gave us a ride as well. We had a great meal in their beautiful new home. Among all the great amenities in their home, they have a gourmet kitchen with a huge island and a very large, well-appointed, formal dining room. A great time was had by all. Pat Worcester, who is a professional photographer and videographer, took some fantastic photos of our journey. He also plans to make a video of the experience, so during the evening he conducted interviews with each of us to include in the video. It should be very entertaining to say the least.

Ned took us back to the marina later that evening. Miller Time left bright and early Wednesday morning to continue their trip to Charleston. Lucky for us, Ned had to go back to Virginia for business so he picked us up at the marina and drove us and Pat Worcester back to Virginia.

Tom Lensis, *Copy Cat*



**Vice Commodore**

**Tom Plewes**

### **“All Hail” the Cruise Coordinators**

Suddenly, as I write this column, OYC has just one more cruise on its schedule. Time has gone so quickly from the exciting days when a cruise schedule was created in the February Planfest activities. With the Santa Cruise to Occoquan on November 26, the 2011 season officially was drawn to an end.

At the beginning of the cruise season, we had little comprehension of the enormous task before us. I learned a bit about the OYC level of commitment when I attended an annual meeting of representatives of the various Potomac River yacht clubs last spring and heard the presentations of the other clubs on the river. Some complained about the price of gas, others pledged to participate in the excellent menu of cruises that the

PRYCA was about to organize again. When it came time for an OYC presentation, there was much silence (which I took for awe, but which could have been taken for disbelief) when we reported on our plans for 17 cruise activities (not to mention several land activities) that were upcoming for the OYC.

Looking back on the cruising season, it is clear that we had bit off a lot back in the spring. After all, this is a virtual yacht club, with no clubhouse and a spread of dockage that extends most of the length of the Potomac. This is a group that meets formally just twice a year, and informally, just a few more times. Yet we managed to pull together a cruising and activity schedule that is second to none on the Potomac, and, from what I have been able to find out, second to none on the Bay.

So how did it all come together? Two words: Cruise Coordinators. Those unsung heroes of the OYC made it all come together.

We were again reminded of the importance of the Cruise Coordinators to the positive experience of the OYC cruisers in the recent example of Don and Anne Bennett, who had early-on volunteered to coordinate the Hearty Souls Cruise to National Harbor on November 11-13. This has been a great end-of-the-season venue for OYC, and previous cruises were a fairly straightforward matter of soliciting interest, getting the information together, and showing up.

Not so this year. It turns out that National Harbor management has decided to maximize slip leases and minimize transient support. Over a matter of several months, Don and Anne communicated with the marina many times in an effort to match the interested OYC cruisers with the severely limited dockage. In the hectic weeks before the cruise, their e-mail traffic with the marina reached a crescendo. I expect that the National Harbor managers, who are very accommodating as a matter of course, got a new appreciation for this outfit called the Occoquan Yacht Club. In the end, another successful cruise (read about it on page 6).

The super efforts by Don and Anne exemplify the unheralded work that many other cruise coordinators have done for their fellow OYC mates this year. It was a year to make the heart glad – no major glitches, no accidents, much fun and fellowship. Did I mention that everybody, but especially the Cruise Coordinators, reported that their “fun indexes” were at the maximum?

We need to recognize and thank these fellow members who served as Cruise Coordinators this boating season: Laslo and Linda Bozoky; Rick and Teresa Sorrenti; Harry and Pat Croft; Steve Quentmeyer; Jim and Judy Dooley; Bud and Heidi Bishop; Joe and Gail Livingston; Mike and Karen Crouch; Carl and Patricia Maxwell; John and Rebecca Heinze; Don and Anne Bennett; Ralph and Chris Mason; and our Commodore and First Mate, Tom and Donna Lensis.

The 2012 boating season is just around the corner. In the cold months of January and February OYC will be cooking up another ambitious schedule of interesting, challenging, and enjoyable cruises, and going through a tried-and-true process of aligning interests with opportunities. Then we will be turning it all over to those who will volunteer to serve as 2012 Cruise Coordinators.

Tom Plewes, *Double Eagle*



## Rear Commodore

John Heinze

### Hope to See All of You at the OYC Change of Watch & Holiday Party!

It is that wonderful time of year again! The OYC Change of Watch and Holiday Party Invitations have been sent out, and now is the time to send them back in, if you haven't already done so. The reservations were due December 1st, but I suspect that there are a few members – there always are - who haven't yet sent in their reservations. If so, I want to encourage all of you to RSVP as soon as possible.

You don't want to miss OYC's most fun event of the year. The planning committee headed by Liz Plewes has been working to make this our best holiday party yet. We will be back at the beautiful Laurel Hill Golf Club for the event, so you know the facilities, the food, and the service will be at the highest standards. And we will have an excellent live band, Small Town, for music and dancing.

We will also have our Change of Watch this evening as we recognize the 2011 officers and install the 2012 officers. In addition, we will award the prestigious Commodore's Cup and the inglorious Bent Prop and Golden Snorkel awards. As last year's recipient of the Bent Prop award, I am especially looking forward to officially being rid of that "award"!

### OYC's Change of Watch and Holiday Party is a Terrific Value for the Price

Once again this year, a lot of effort has gone into the planning to ensure that we maintain the quality of this event and keep costs within reason. The planning committee looked hard at other venues but came back to Laurel Hill Golf Club because, as a new establishment, it is hard to beat the quality of facilities and, as a Fairfax County supported facility, it is hard to beat the price. We offer a cash bar because that works out best both for members and for keeping costs in line.

Not only has there been the hard work on keeping costs in line, but the Planning Committee has been working hard to make this once again a lovely and enjoyable event. Some of the results of this are already evident in the invitation, which I thought was particularly attractive. I understand that these reflect the decorative theme for the party, again suggesting that the Planning Committee has outdone themselves this year.

The bottom line is that the costs are comparable to PRYCA and other yacht club COW/holiday parties, and it is terrific value for the price.

### And Don't Forget to Renew Your OYC Membership!

And while you are at it, don't forget the best bargain on the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay, your annual membership in the OYC. At just \$75 for a family membership (\$55 for individual and \$30 for associate members, those unfortunate individuals without a boat), you get a full-year subscription to *The Daymarker*, our award-winning monthly newsletter, the inside track on all our land-based events including the Planfest, flag raising, Fajitafest, Shrimpfest, etc., and our very active cruise calendar from the Early Bird Cruise in April to the Hardy Souls Cruise in November. For only \$75 per family!

What are you waiting for? If you are even remotely interested in having fun boating, then OYC membership is a no-brainer. See you at the OYC Change of Watch/Holiday Party!

John Heinze, *Great Escape*

## The Datemarkers

### Birthdays

12/3	Eric Belcher	12/21	Harry Croft
12/4	Don Bennett	12/22	Becky Quentmeyer
12/9	Larry Freedman	12/26	Susan Thompson
12/15	Anne Bennett	12/29	Karen Joyner
12/15	Thomas Plewes		

### Anniversaries

12/6	Miroslaw & Lidia Rays
12/21	Ned & Arleen Rhodes
12/28	Steven & Becky Quentmeyer
12/30	Susan & Michael Dugan
12/31	Ryan & Sabrina Waters

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**Secretary**

**Jill Stanley**

### **'Tis The Season**

November has come and gone. This is the time of year I love. I love the fall for the colors it brings to the trees and the crisp cool breezes, but putting the boat away for the winter brings sadness to this season.

Our last trip for the boating season is always a trip down the Potomac to Aquia Creek where we dry dock our boat for the winter. This year's trip was one of the most beautiful. We had a late start taking off. It took longer to prepare the boat for the trip than we had expected. In the long run this worked in our favor. By the time we started down the river, the day was perfect – no wind and calm waters. The water was like glass. The only drawback about the trip was the debris in the water, although this didn't seem to be a drawback either; it just made us travel slower down the river and enjoy the beautiful fall foliage. Entering Aquia Creek, I am reminded how beautiful this creek is. For the last trip of the season this was a good one to end on. It was a trip to remember.

Now, we have put the boat away and December is here, I turn my thoughts to the holiday season. I have received the OYC Change of Watch Holiday invitation. A party not to miss! It is always great to see everyone all decked out in their holiday finest. We're a great-looking bunch when all dressed in our best. Sure is a change from our summer attire :)

I will be having my family for the Christmas dinner and have already started to plan the menu. I have one dessert that is always a hit and would like to share. It calls for a lot of rum, which is on every boaters must have list. This recipe is the Bacardi Rum cake and is a holiday favorite in my house.

#### **BACARDI RUM CAKE**

##### **CAKE**

- 1 cup chopped pecans or walnuts
- 1 18 ½ -oz. pkg. yellow cake mix
- 1 3 ¾ -oz. pkg. instant vanilla pudding mix
- 4 eggs
- ½ cup cold water
- ½ cup vegetable oil
- ½ cup dark rum (80 proof)

##### **GLAZE**

- ¼ lb. butter
- ¼ cup water
- 1 cup sugar
- ½ cup dark rum

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Grease and flour 10" tube or 12-cup bundt pan. Sprinkle nuts over bottom of pan. Mix all cake ingredients together. Pour batter over nuts. Bake for one hour. Cool. Invert on serving plate. Prick top.

For glaze, melt butter in saucepan. Stir in water and sugar. Boil for 5 minutes, stirring constantly. Remove from heat. Stir in rum. Drizzle and smooth glaze evenly over top and sides, allowing cake to absorb glaze. Repeat until glaze is used up.

Happy Holidays to you all and enjoy....

Jill Stanley, *'bout Time*



**Treasurer**

**Joe Livingston**

### **2012: A Year of Renewal**

Thanks to all who have responded to the invitation to attend the Holiday Party/Change of Watch. It's your opportunity to support your Club and enjoy a fantastic evening with friends. And remember, if there is a conflict, and you can not attend...respond by renewing your membership for the 2012 recreational boating season. Early renewal (renewal is actually the 1st of January) will enable your Board to more effectively budget and plan for coming events and keep OYC's finances healthy.

Another important renewal you will want to complete is your Boat U.S. membership. Keep in mind that by being a member of the Occoquan Yacht Club, you can receive a 50% discount on Boat U.S. membership dues. Therefore, membership is only \$15. Our group code is GA80979Y, and this code should be identified when completing your application to join or renew your membership. There is no cost for our organization to participate in the Boat U.S. accord/Boat U.S. Group Program; however you will have access to over 26 benefits and services, including on-the-water and on-the-road towing service, low-cost marine insurance, discounts at West Marine, and discounts on fuel, repairs, and transient slips at over 900 marinas.

When you join Boat U.S. or renew your membership, I highly recommend you consider the "unlimited" towing option. The cost is low when compared with the actual costs involved with one tow on the water. A breakdown on the water might spoil your day, but it will not break your budget.

Do not forget Group Accord # GA80979Y, but if you do...remember it is printed in the header of *The Daymarker*.

Joe Livingston, *Gail Lynn II*

## CRUISE REPORT: Hardy Souls Cruise to National Harbor, November 11-13, 2011

With this year's season winding down, a group of truly hardy souls ventured to National Harbor for a chilly, sometimes windy, fun-filled weekend. The Bells on *Déjà Vu*, Bennetts on *Heart of the Sun*, Bishops on *Hi-Jinx*, and Sowell on *Emma Caroline II* braved the cold and rough seas to be rewarded by a warm Friday happy hour held on *Heart of the Sun*. The OYC group was joined by guests of the Bennetts who were with them to celebrate the 236th birthday of the Marine Corps.



The weather, and even the seas, cooperated, as Dooleys on *Just Chill-n*, Freedmans on *Takin to the Sea*, and Mansours on *Island Paradise* arrived on Saturday to join in the fun. Joey and Pam Sowell hosted a happy hour. Later most of the Hardy Souls cruisers, plus Joe and Gail Livingston, Tom and Donna Lensis, Pat Croft, and Kenny, Jr., descended on The Public House.

Meanwhile, the Bennetts and Bishops put on their finest attire and joined a few thousand Marines and their guests at the Commandant's Marine Corps Birthday Ball.



Sunday brunch was held at Harrington's Pub. As we departed for home, everyone made regrets that winter would soon be upon us but expressed how much we are looking forward to seeing everyone at the COW.

Anne Bennett, *Heart of the Sun*

## CRUISE REPORT: Santa Cruise to Occoquan, November 26, 2011

Every year since 1985, the Saturday after Thanksgiving has marked the final cruise of the year for OYC – a short trip from OHM to the city dock at Occoquan to deliver Santa to a cheering throng of admirers to kick off the holiday shopping season for the merchants of Occoquan. Since 1995, OYC members-emeritus, Walt and Susan Cheatham, served as the coordinators of that event, dutifully providing a delightful holiday experience for the hardiest of OYC cruisers who put off winterizing their boats until the bitter end. But Walt and Susan have retired from boating, and have passed the coordinator's torch to Pat and Harry Croft, who have enjoyed participating in the Santa Parade for many years, and hope to keep the tradition alive for many years to come.

This year marked the transition from the Cheatham years, but with basically the same turnout: 5 OYC boats and 26 Santa fans gathered at the gas dock at OHM to enjoy OYC camaraderie with holiday snacks and libations. As in recent years, Santa arrived to be transported by Capt. Perry, president of the Occoquan Merchants Association and captain of the *Miss Rivershore*. With the OYC boats leading the way as the 'reindeer' and *Miss Rivershore* as his sleigh, Santa arrived in style, with the OYC banner proudly flying aboard *Bay Dreamer*, the lead boat, with *Forever Dreamin'*, *Gail Lynn II*, *Morgan Jane II*, and *Plane to Sea II* in line in front of *Miss Rivershore*, where Santa stood at the bow, waving to his fans as the procession passed fishermen and boaters who were out on the river to take advantage of the delightfully warm weather.

A special thanks goes to Sue and Steve Thompson, who came to participate in their final Santa Parade before moving to Wilmington, NC; to Bill Akers, who came for his second parade and hosted Tom and Donna Lensis aboard *Morgan Jane II*; to Al and Lynanne Jorsey, who rarely miss a Santa Parade; and to Gail and Joe Livingston, who faithfully bring a full cadre of enthusiastic passengers to the event every year. All agree, this is a tradition worth keeping!

Pat Croft, *Bay Dreamer*





# Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association



[www.PotomacRiverYachtClubsAssociation.org](http://www.PotomacRiverYachtClubsAssociation.org)

## Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association 2012 Change of Watch-Dinner Dance

Saturday, January 21, 2012

at

**Hilton Springfield**

6550 Loisdale Road

Springfield, Virginia 22150

703-971-8900

Hospitality Suite Open: 1700-1745 Cocktails in Ballroom:

1800 Dinner: 1900 Change of Watch Ceremony: 2000

Dancing to follow w/music provided by "25<sup>th</sup> Hour Band"

Winter Uniform/Black Tie Optional or Business Suit

\$70 per person before December 31/\$75 per person after December 31<sup>th</sup>(No  
refunds after January 14<sup>th</sup>)

### Menu

**Bistro Salad** -Arugula, macerated golden raisins, chopped bacon, and hazelnut vinaigrette

**Bistro Steak** complimented Truffled Mashed Potatoes & Roasted Baby Vegetable Medley  
"or"

**Chicken Marsala** complimented Truffled Mashed Potatoes & Roasted Baby Vegetable  
Medley (Vegetarian Meal available upon request)

Hotel Block of Rooms reserved at per room rate of **\$99.00** (plus state and local taxes) until December 31, 2010.

Reservations can also be made online. At [www.springfieldva.hilton.com](http://www.springfieldva.hilton.com) enter the group code **PRYCA** in the  
Group/Convention Code field or make reservations directly with Hilton Springfield at Telephone 703-971-8900.

Hospitality Suite open's at 5:00-5:45PM and again at 11:00-12:00PM Continental Breakfast will be offered on  
Sunday Morning from 9:00-11:00

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Meal Selection: \_\_\_ Bistro Steak \_\_\_ Chicken Marsala \_\_\_ Vegetarian

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_ Titles \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Yacht Club \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Please Send Coupon & Check to PRYCA Treasurer Joey Sowell, 10 Old English Way, Stafford, VA 22554  
or To your Club's PRYCA Delegate

**Member National Boating Federation**

Holiday Party/COW @  
Laurel Hills Country Club  
December 10, 2011  
Tom Plewes  
703-978-3546

PRYCA COW @  
Springfield Hilton  
January 21, 2012

OYC Planfest/  
Chili Cookoff  
February 19, 2012

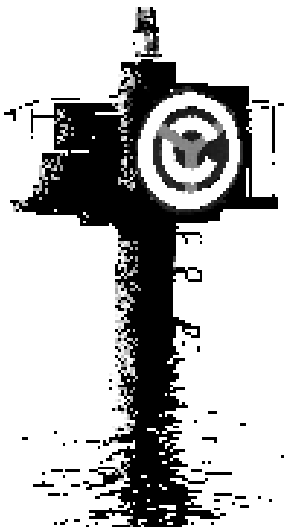
OYC General  
Membership Meeting  
March 17, 2012

*Inside this issue...*

**See you at the OYC Change of Watch  
on December 10 at Laurel Hills Country  
Club – shoes and socks optional!**

**Give yourself a Christmas present that  
will ensure fun in the sun in 2012.  
Renew your OYC membership!**

**Read about the final cruises of the  
season, from the South Pole (or at  
least the Carolinas) to the North Pole,  
a quaint little town on the Occoquan.**



## *The Daymarker*

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

Change Service  
Requested