



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

Commodore
Tom Lensis
703-794-9589

Vice Commodore
Tom Plewes
703-978-3546

Rear Commodore
John Heinze
703-888-3837

Secretary
Jill Stanley
703-425-0158

Treasurer
Joe Livingston
703-505-8313

IPC
Pat Croft
703-451-9147

PRYCA/CBYCA Delegate
Joe Livingston
703-505-8313

Quartermaster
Patricia Maxwell
703-680-0090

Membership
Bud Bishop
703-455-9776

Historian
Nabil Dubraque
703-791-3755

Webmaster
Don Bennett
540-752-9244

THE DAYMARKER Editor
Carolyn Wixson
703-490-6416



COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Tom Lensis

Mark Your Calendars for the Change of Watch/Holiday Party

This year we are having our annual Change of Watch/Holiday Party on December 10 from 6:30-10:30 pm at Laurel Hill Golf Club in Lorton. This is one OYC event you do not want to miss. Under the leadership of Vice Commodore Tom Plewes, the party committee - consisting of Liz Plewes, Donna Lensis, Donna Carr, Pat Croft, Susan Willetts, Jill Stanley, Catherine and Sharman Harris, and Rebecca Heinze - have been busy making preparations to make this year's party one that will be remembered for years to come.

The theme this year is Lighthouses. The *Daymarker* printed an article asking for pictures of members, your boat, or dogs with lighthouses in the background. If you have any photos please send them to Liz Plewes at ehplewes@aol.com. The committee has also decided on the menu selections and has been busy making the decorations for the party.

The Chef at Laurel Hill Golf Club, Edison Rosales, will prepare a fabulous dinner starting with Hors d'oeuvres, Raspberry and Almond Brie and Oversized Meatballs, a Field Gathered Greens Plated Dinner Salad, and a buffet consisting of a Prime Rib Carving Station, two entrée selections of Grilled Atlantic Salmon with your choice of Chardonnay Butter Sauce or Orange Basil Sauce or Three Cheese Tortellini with Pesto

or Alfredo Sauce, and side dishes of Roasted Bliss Potatoes and Steamed Vegetables. Dessert will be the customary OYC Signature Cake.

There will also be door prizes, a 50-50 drawing, and dancing to the music of the band Small Town. Beverages will be available via cash bar. The dress code for the evening is black tie optional as this is one of the few opportunities for everyone to dress up from their usual boating attire. OYC members can enjoy all this for the reasonable cost of \$85 per person. Watch your mail for the invitation and RSVP card that will be sent out along with a postage-paid return envelope for your convenience.

This is our annual event where we present our new Board of Directors for the upcoming year, thank and recognize the present board for a job well done, and have a year-end party with your fellow yacht club members. We will also keep with OYC tradition and present the following prestigious awards:

- 1) "The Golden Snorkel Award," given to the member who took an unintended swim from a boat or dock
- 2) "The Bent Prop Award," given to the club member(s) that have successfully ventured off course and removed blades from their vessels prop or props
- 3) "Commodores Cup," given to the club member(s) who continuously supports the club above and beyond what is expected

(cont. on p. 2)

I am looking for nominations for these prestigious awards as most members that qualify may be too humble to come forward on their own. So I'm looking to you, our members, to nominate any of your fellow members who have demonstrated the skills, or lack of skills, to qualify them for one of these awards. Please send me your nominations along with a short justification to support how the Captain or Crew may be qualified to receive one or more of these awards via e-mail to tom.lensis@gmail.com. As you can see, we have another wonderful OYC event planned, and I look forward to seeing everyone there!

Tom Lensis, *Copy Cat*

Immediate Past Commodore: Tom Lensis
 PRYCA/CBYCA Delegate: Joe Livingston
 Membership Chairman: Bud Bishop
Daymarker Editor: Anne Bennett
 Quartermaster: Heidi Bishop
 Membership Directory: Jim Hawley
 Webmaster: Don Bennett

The Administrative Management position of Historian is still to be filled and volunteers are earnestly being sought. During the meeting, Anne Bennett volunteered to the position of *Daymarker* Editor starting in January and that Heidi Bishop would become Quartermaster.

The hard work of announcements and elections completed, the membership turned to what it does best: eating and socializing. Vice Commodore John Heinze and Immediate Past Commodore Pat Croft again surpassed all expectations with a delicious meal of shrimp, low country boil, and all the fixings. And, of course, the event would not have been complete without the opportunity to furnish everyone's fall wardrobe with clothing and equipment from our Ship's Store ably run by Quartermaster Patricia Maxwell. The treasury was once again rescued by the 50/50 raffle run by Rick Sorrenti, who makes parting with a contribution almost seem like fun.

The new Executive Board takes office at the Holiday Party/Change of Watch at the Laurel Hills Country Club on December 10. This annual party, along with the two remaining cruise events – the Hardy Souls Cruise on November 11-13 and the Occoquan Santa Claus Trip on November 29 – cap off another very busy, fun, and fulfilling year for OYC.

Tom Plewes, *Double Eagle*



Vice Commodore

Tom Plewes

**All-You-Can-Eat Shrimp,
 Low Country Boil, and Elections:
 It Doesn't Get Any Better Than That**

The 46 OYC members who participated in the Annual General Membership and Election Meeting at the Fairfax Yacht Club on the afternoon of Saturday, October 22, got a lot more than they bargained for. Due to some very foul weather on October 1, the popular annual ShrimpFest at Hoffmaster's Marina had to be postponed. It was rescheduled to go along with the annual general membership meeting in place of the equally popular chili cook-off, which will be rescheduled early in 2012. The OYC membership is nothing but flexible, for sure.

The general membership meeting portion of the festivities was, in longstanding OYC tradition, short and sweet. Our Commodore, Tom Lensis, quickly assured the necessary quorum, called for the mandatory reports, and proceeded to announce the Nominating Committee's slate of candidates for the Executive Board and Administrative Management of the Club. The following slate of officers was elected to office by acclamation:

Commodore: Tom Plewes
 Vice Commodore: Jim Dooley
 Rear Commodore: John Heinze
 Secretary: Jill Stanley
 Treasurer: Joe Livingston

The following members were presented as the Administrative Management positions:

Time for a New Burgee?

Is your OYC Burgee looking a little under the weather? Has it been through some rough seas? This winter is the time to get a fresh new OYC Burgee to fly on your boat next Spring.

OYC will be placing an order for new Burgees this winter. You can obtain a new one by ordering it as part of the OYC order. Cost is \$25 per Burgee.

Send a check made out to Occoquan Yacht Club for the new Burgee to:

Tom Plewes
 4510 Banff Street
 Annandale, VA 22003-4513





Treasurer

Joe Livingston

Behind the Acronyms

The OYC checkbook is balanced, however, I report we have less money than last month as we had no income and have started funding costs for the Change of Watch/Holiday Party that is scheduled for Saturday, December 10.

Have you frequently noted the abbreviations PRYCA and CBYCA in monthly *Daymarker* articles or in broadcast e-mails and wondered what they stand for? If your answer is "NO," then skip to the next article in this newsletter. Just in case there was a little spark of interest you might want to know PRYCA/CBYCA stands for Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association and the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association, respectively.

The CBYCA is a nonprofit volunteer association of some 129 yacht clubs located from Washington, D.C., Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. This association, which OYC is a member club, serves the interests of member clubs, advocates safe boating, and represents recreational boating community interests in legislative matters. The Director of State Legislation for Virginia is Jacque Knight of Mount Vernon Yacht Club.

Although smaller with 22 member clubs, the PRYCA's purpose is also to support recreational boating activities, and specifically to "encourage and promote yachting, boating safety and the advancement of yacht clubs within the Potomac River Basin. Combined, these organizations have served us well.

Several OYC members have served in leadership positions with these organizations, including Pat Croft currently serving as a Member at Large (MAL) on the PRYCA Board. I also served and my first mate often attended meetings and events with me...a great experience.

Hope you have benefited from the "little spark of interest" mentioned above. But the real reason for this article is to encourage ALL to get involved and realize the fun, education, and life experience our pastime has to offer. We have made so many good and interesting friends cruising the Potomac.

Joe Livingston, *Gail Lynn II*

UPDATE: Hardy Souls Cruise to National Harbor, November 11-13, 2011

The Hardy Souls Cruise to National Harbor, November 11-13, is drawing near. Scheduled events will include the traditional welcome happy hour on the dock Friday, and a group dinner Saturday and brunch Sunday at restaurants. More complete information will be distributed closer to the event. If you're not cruising, but wish to attend, please let us know soon so reservations can be arranged.

We are still having difficulty getting enough slips to accommodate the fifteen members who expressed interest. National Harbor Marina continues to guarantee only six slips on the floating docks, and these have been assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. We hope for more as the marina's slipholders pull their boats for the winter.

The mooring ball option, though available, is not a particularly good one, since there is no shuttle service or dedicated dinghy landing area at this time. However, some boats with a high bridge (for egress, due to tide fluctuation) can be accommodated on the fixed pier outside the marina. There is power, and the marina has indicated they will discount the slip price. We are asking for volunteers with appropriately sized boats to take this option so that more of our members with cruisers can attend. Let us know if you are willing to consider this choice.

If you have any questions, are willing to be on the fixed pier. or wish to be included in restaurant reservations, you may contact Don or Anne at 540-752-4250 or bennettdon@comcast.net.

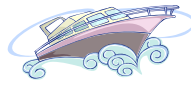
Wanted: Lighthouse Photos



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.

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

TRIP REPORT: Washington Nationals Game, September 17-18



Play ball! Over the weekend of September 17 a hardy group of OYCers braved an otherwise gloomy afternoon to converge on James Creek Marina as the rally point to attend a Washington Nationals ballgame.



Most folks arrived by early afternoon, and after the requisite libations and revelries, we headed over to watch the "Nats" take on the Florida Marlins. For those not familiar with

James Creek, the marina is adjacent to Fort McNair on the Anacostia River and is within walking distance to the ballpark. For many of us this was a first to the National's stadium and I was struck immediately by the festive atmosphere. If you weren't interested in the game, there was still plenty to do.

This wasn't an offensive juggernaut, and through nine innings played in well under three hours, the score was 1 to 1. Did I mention the game lasted 13+ innings – geez! If you were a baseball addict, you were in heaven. If you were "enduring" it, the game was, well, long. And the Nats had an opportunity to win with men on the corners and only one out – but.... Regrettably, the Marlins ultimately blew the game wide open scoring three unanswered runs.



We gathered the following morning for an ad hoc breakfast and mimosas, and most folks departed before

noon. In attendance were the Zsirai, Crouch, Schondel/Raukar, Johnson, Livingston, Bell, Dooley, Croft, Willetts, and Nelson crews. In the end, all had a great time, and it wouldn't surprise me if this doesn't become an annual event.

Mike Crouch, *Makia III*

TRIP REPORT: Oktoberfest Cruise to National Harbor, September 24-25



Although the weather and debris on the Potomac were challenging (but when aren't they lately?), an adventuresome group of OYC members and their dogs cruised to National Harbor for Oktoberfest. Tom and Donna Lensis on *Copy Cat*; Bud and Heidi Bishop plus Izzy, Katy, and Winston on *Hi-Jinx*; Jim and Judy Dooley plus Bailey on *Jus Chill-in*; and Don and Anne Bennett plus Shadow on *Heart of the Sun* enjoyed what turned out to be a great weekend with beautiful, fiery sunsets. *Copy Cat*, *Hi-Jinx*, and *Heart of the Sun* arrived on Friday, and happy hour became happy hours as everyone partied on *Heart of the Sun* until late.



Saturday Jim and Judy arrived and were joined by friends Roy and Teresa Perkins. The day was filled with beer tasting, lederhosen, oompah bands, and great people watching, followed by a few naps. Tom and Donna hosted a gathering on their boat before everyone headed to McLoone's Pier House for dinner. Wanting to make good use of those naps, the party continued on the dock where we experienced some sort of freak wave action. At first we were convinced it was another earthquake but found no news reports. Our next-best guess was a stealthy ghost ship passing closely in the night, but it was still more than a month to Halloween. Hmmm? Guess it will remain a mystery.

As is tradition, we rounded out the fun weekend with a nice brunch on the dock Sunday morning before everyone headed home safely.

Anne Bennett, *Heart of the Sun*

TRIP REPORT: Colonial Beach Columbus Day Cruise, October 7-9



The PRYCA End of Summer Cruise to Colonial Beach, hosted by CYC, was a huge success with 31 boats from all over the Potomac River in attendance. OYC had 5 boats; Ted and Ilona Zsirai and son on *Empty Pockets*, Bob Hill and Min Lee on *Rx to Relax*, Steve and Ginny Preda on *Anamchar*, Pam and Joey Sowell on *Emma Caroline II*, and Ralph and Kris Mason on *Party Time*.



Most everyone arrived on Friday and were treated to a "meet and greet" with the other visiting yacht clubs from 6-7 p.m. at the Dockside Restaurant and Blue Heron Pub. The CYC furnished appetizers, which consisted of cheeseburgers in paradise and margaritas. Bob and I were competing for who ate the most burgers and I believe Bob won. (She may look great. but Min Lee cannot count...) Some even remembered their yacht club shirts plus their own boats afterwards.



At 7:30 p.m. Dockside held a boat trivia night. This consisted of three rounds of 10 questions each. OYC did not win this one. (In fact I think we went negative... too many margaritas....)

Saturday morning was relatively quiet until 3:00 p.m. when the band, which played mostly Jimmy Buffet songs, provided entertainment. Dinner was a buffet consisting of Red Beans and Rice (these were not New Orleans style but close to it), Shrimp Scampi, Caribbean Jerk Chicken Breast, and Roasted Potatoes. There was a 50/50 drawing, games, and a contest for the best "parrot head" costume. OYC did not win any of these events either, so I reminded everybody as to who won

the PRYCA Trophy and was immediately accused of being HARRY CROFT or at least trained by him. Go figure.... (We may not look alike but we are both thin.)



At 9 p.m. 'til dark thirty, Dockside had the band Kicking Norman playing for the evening. The band is a favorite at the beach and was enjoyed by all. You should have seen Steve and Ginny dance. Wow!

Finally on Sunday the fabulous Hubcaps played at Dockside from 1 p.m. until very late. Some OYC members left on Sunday and some on Monday to various ports of call. Kris and I were left with a lot of good memories. Thanks to all that attended.

Ralph Mason, *Party Time*

The Datemarkers

Birthdays

Joey Sowell	11/2	Clara French	11/16
Kathy Corley	11/2	Christian Rose	11/18
John Heinze	11/3	Randy Willetts	11/20
Heidi Bishop	11/6	Donna Lensis	11/23
Trish Mattke	11/6	Ilona Zsirai	11/27
Dick Lynn	11/7	Joe Livingston	11/30
Kevin Bell	11/11	Kenneth Harris, Jr	11/30
Ryan Waters	11/16		

Anniversaries

Theodore & Ilona Zsirai	11/7
Mark & Mary Ann Schall	11/13

AHOY, BOATER!



You and your crew are cordially invited to join



Come aboard! We've been looking for you.

**Meet new friends
Expand your skills,
Extend your horizons,
Enrich your boating life.**

What more could you ask to make your boating an even more fantastic part of your life (other than taking over your payments)? Join OYC and enjoy the raft-ups, cruises, social activities ashore and afloat, safety awareness and fun-filled competitions.

From the Early Bird Cruise in April to the Hardy Souls Cruise in November, the fun is non-stop, and it includes all-night raft-ups, holiday weekend trips and some one- and two-week cruises to the Chesapeake Bay and beyond.

As a member club of the Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association, we also attend PRYCA's annual Float In and Change of Watch formal dinner.

Stir in potluck meals, cookouts, a chilli cook-off, photo contest, annual flag raising, two annual meetings, Coast Guard Auxiliary Vessel Safety Checks and safety instruction—demonstrations to make your boating experience complete.

Where is the Occoquan Yacht Club?

OYC has members in almost every marina on the river—from Washington DC to Point Lookout—plus some out-of-towners in Florida and North Carolina who keep in touch with the growing network of friends acquired since OYC's founding in 1984. There's no clubhouse or dues-supported mortgage.

How do I join?

Fill out the form inside, detach and mail it to the Occoquan Yacht Club along with a check for the membership you choose. **The membership year runs from January 1 to December 31.** Soon you'll receive your membership packet: membership card, information about OYC, and the latest edition of the club's freshly written, irreverently amusing, informative, never award-winning newsletter, *The Daymarker*. *New members also receive* receive our handsome blue (and red, yellow, and white) burgee to fly on your boat.

Want to know more?

Talk to one of our officers listed on the back page of this form. Contact OYC's Membership Chair, Bud Bishop, at 703-455-9776, and be sure to visit our website at www.OccoquanYachtClub.org



Occoquan Yacht Club 2012 New Membership Application and Membership Renewal

Date _____

Captain _____

Home phone _____

First Mate _____

Cell phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

City, State, Zip _____

Child(ren)'s Name _____

BOAT DATA

Name _____ Length & Beam _____

Captain's Birthday (mo/day) _____

Builder _____ Power Sail

First Mate's Birthday (mo/day) _____

Where Berthed? _____ Slip# _____

Wedding Anniversary (mo/day) _____

New Membership:

___ Family--\$75 (includes Burgee)

___ Individual--\$55 (includes Burgee)

___ Associate--\$30 (add \$20 for Burgee)



Membership Renewal:

___ Family--\$75

___ Individual--\$55

___ Associate--\$30

___ For OYC Burgee add \$20

(2012 fees cover both initiation and remaining calendar year dues and will not be pro-rated)

Total Enclosed: _____

I am interested in the following volunteer opportunities (check all that apply):

- ___ Contribute articles to the OYC newsletter, *The Daymarker*
- ___ Contribute pictures from club events for *The Daymarker*
- ___ Contribute pictures and short articles to the OYC Web Site
- ___ Assist with Web Site programming
- ___ Coordinate an event

- ___ Assist event coordinators
- ___ Serve as a PRYCA/CBYCA delegate
- ___ Serve as a fleet captain
- ___ Serve as a safety officer or board officer
- ___ Other: _____

Please make check payable to **Occoquan Yacht Club**. Mail your check and the form above to: **Occoquan Yacht Club, P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125** Please allow 3-4 weeks for processing your application and return of membership packet.

Occoquan Yacht Club Officers for 2011

Commodore Tom Lensis
703-794-9589

Membership Bud Bishop
703-455-9776

Vice Commodore Tom Plewes
703-978-3546

Quartermaster Patricia Maxwell
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Daymarker Editor Carolyn Wixson
703-494-1092

Immediate Past Commodore
Pat Croft 703-451-9147

Webmaster Don Bennett
540-752-9244

OYC is a member club of the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association and the Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association. We maintain a membership accord, #GA 80979Y, with the Boat Owners Association of the United States (BoatUS), entitling our members to BoatUS membership at half price. OYC supports the Occoquan River Maritime Association (ORMA).

Visit our Website:
www.OccoquanYachtClub.org

ICW South to Florida
November 6-20
Tom & Donna Lensis
703-794-9589

Hardy Souls Cruise to
National Harbor
November 11-13
Don & Anne Bennett
540-752-4250

Occoquan Santa Cruise to
Town of Occoquan
November 26
Pat Croft
703-451-9147

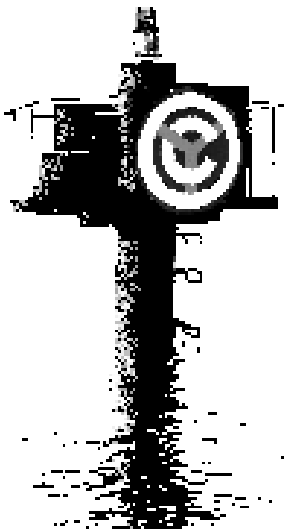
Holiday Party/Change of Watch
@ Laurel Hills Country Club
December 10
Tom Plewes
703-978-3546

Inside this issue...

Watch your mailbox for your invitation to the OYC Holiday Party and Change of Watch on December 10 at Laurel Hills Country Club.

Fellow OYCers are enjoying fall on the river from National Harbor to Colonial Beach.

Pass along membership information to new friends or renew your own membership and look forward to 2012 on the water with the OYC.



The Daymarker

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

Change Service
Requested