



The Daymarker

OCCOQUAN YACHT CLUB

P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125

www.OccoquanYachtClub.org

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COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

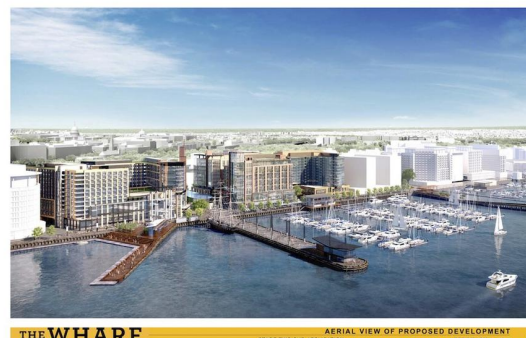
Tom Plewes

BIG THINGS IN STORE FOR DC WATERFRONTS

Big things are in the cards for two of the three District of Columbia waterfronts, and it is not at all clear that they will benefit boating. An hour and a half away, the DC waterfront has long been a day trip destination for OYC boaters. Whether to tie up at the Georgetown bulkhead or to visit one of the main marinas that welcome transients (James Creek, Gangplank, and Washington Marina), the attractions that are offered are great draws for cruisers. The annual raft-up in the Washington Channel on the Fourth of July weekend and the new September cruise to see the Nationals at Nationals Park on the Anacostia have enticed many OYC boats to venture up the Potomac. Now, things are about to change.

Change was probably inevitable. The Southwest Waterfront along the Washington Channel has long been anchored by the Fish Wharf and Fort McNair. A few good and several tourist restaurants fill in the between. Now that idyllic scene will be, according to developers, transformed into a "vibrant world-class urban community." Plans are underway to redevelop the area into a mixed-use development with approximately three million square feet of residential, office, hotel, retail, cultural, and more than eight acres of parks and open space including a

waterfront promenade and public piers. The waterfront will be renamed The Wharf.



Construction has begun, and the first phase of the development that includes about 1,200 residential units, 400,000 square feet of office, a luxury hotel, 200,000 square feet of retail and 100,000 square feet devoted to cultural activities and more than 12 acres of parks and open space is projected to open in 2015. New docks will accommodate the Gangplank Marina, with fewer available slips, and the historic private Capitol Yacht Club. On the negative side, the development will extend into the Channel reducing space for anchorage and probably eliminating the Channel as a venue for the annual raft-up.

It was inevitable that the development of Nationals Park would spill into its surroundings and the adjacent waterfront on the Anacostia. The newest development is The Yards—located on the riverfront, between Nationals Park and the Washington Navy Yard. The new Anacostia Riverwalk with its walking/jogging/biking trail runs through The Yards, connecting with numerous locations upriver. Someday the Riverwalk will extend to The Wharf and run along the Potomac as far as Georgetown.



Plans for a second (not-yet-scheduled) phase of development call for a new public marina. The developers are promising transient slips as well as a water taxi service to other river points. Already this development is changing the Anacostia Waterfront; and long-time yacht clubs, such as Seafarers, are feeling the pressure of the development... at the present time being relegated to short-term leases from the city, which now owns most of the waterfront.

So there is promise for the future of the DC waterfront as a continued destination of choice, but school is still out as to whether the ambitious plans will be good for boaters or will crowd transients out. The Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association, of which OYC is a member, is keeping a close eye on these developments.

Tom Plewes, *Double Eagle*



Vice Commodore

Jim Dooley

IT'S FIVE O'CLOCK SOMEWHERE??? **December 8th Holiday Party/COW**

*Pour me something tall and strong. Make it a hurricane before I go insane. It's only half past twelve but I don't care... **It's five o'clock somewhere!***

As our cruise season 2012 sails to a close, the OYC Holiday Party/Change of Watch continues the OYC mariners' tradition on **Saturday, December 8th**. The OYC celebration/COW will again be at the **Laurel Hill Golf Club**, with the "five o'clock" starting at **6:30**. Dinner

will be served at 7:25 and will include salad, a prime rib carving station, a "buffett" of grilled Atlantic salmon w/orange basil sauce, chicken marsala & fresh mushroom glaze, roasted bliss potatoes, and steamed veggies... all masterfully prepared in concert with "Jimmy Buffett". After the presentation of awards and installation of the new board, we'll dance the night away with a command performance by our Son of a Son of a Sailor - DJ. Included in the evening's events, our traditional 50/50 drawing, door prizes and table prizes. The suggested attire for the evening is black tie optional, **but if an occasional Parrot Head or Cheeseburger shows up, they will feel in Paradise.**

We hope that if you have not responded back with your invitation reply card, that you... **ACT NOW**. The deadline is December 1. If you did not receive your formal invitation in the mail, please contact Pat Croft ASAP at 703-451-9147 or hpcroft@verizon.net.

As in years past, the Holiday Celebration presents an opportunity to adhere to our club motto: *Dancing away again in Margaritaville. Searchin' for my lost shaker of salt. Some people claim that there's a wave to blame, Now I think, - hell it could be my fault.*



Hope to see you at Laurel Hill, December 8th!

Jim Dooley, *Jus Chill~N*

MAKE YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING EASY!
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NOW FOR THE BEST SELECTION OF OYC ITEMS.
heidib703@verizon.net



Rear Commodore

John Heinze

FINAL REPORT ON MY WATCH AS REAR COMMODORE

At the OYC Holiday Party and Change of Watch on December 8th, I'll be handing over the fun task of being the OYC's chief party coordinator, i.e. Rear Commodore, to the very capable hands of Bud Bishop. Although our boat is for sale, Rebecca and I will remain active members and assist in land events in any way that we are able.

I must say that serving as Rear Commodore for the past four years has been a great pleasure for us. First of all, it has enabled us to get to know so many more club members that we would not have otherwise met.

This was brought home to us when we recently traveled to Willington, N.C. to look at possible retirement homes. We stayed with Tom and Donna Lenses, whom of course we know through OYC. Saturday night, Tom and Donna organized a "meeting," i.e. pizza party, of "OYC South," the members of OYC who now live in Willington. The rest of the group included Ned and Arleen Rhodes, Rick and Teresa Sorrenti, Steve and Sue Thompson, and Steve and Mary Jo Worcester. All of the group is doing well, really enjoys living in Willington, and sends their best regards to the rest of the club. All of these folks, and many, many more, we have met thought OYC.

2012 Activities Report

Secondly, we have really enjoyed putting on all the events. Just this year we had the Plan Fest at the lovely Mount Vernon Yacht Club, the General Membership Meeting and Photo Contest in March at the redecorated Fairfax Yacht Club and the Flag Raising in April at Occoquan Harbor Marina, where we served hamburgers and hotdogs to over 75 members and dignitaries. Two of my favorite events were the Fajita-Fest in June, with the all-you-can-eat Mexican food plus Harry Croft cranking out the adult libations on the blender, and the Shrimp Fest in September, where we enjoyed the shrimp boil and brews on a gorgeous autumn day. And then there was the season capper, the Fall Membership Meeting and Chili Cook-off at FYC, with the leaves in full color and great chili – yum.

Secrets of "The Shed" Revealed

Certainly the most intriguing aspects of serving as Rear Commodore is that you are presented with a set of keys to "the shed." If your reaction is like mine, you first questions are, what the heck is it, what's in it, and where is it?

The shed is OYC's storage shed for tables, tents, and other Rear Commodore supplies. The building itself is like a backyard storage shed, but larger than most backyard sheds – it's 12 ft by 12 ft square and 8 ft tall. It's all-wood construction, with wood floor, wood frame, panel walls, pitched ceiling and asphalt shingle roof. And it is located in the Holly Acres storage yard.

The shed has an interesting history. It was originally a utility building for OHM that Dick Lynn allowed the club to use for storage and special events such as auctions when the club was first formed in 1984. In June, 1996, when OHM was expanding its service facilities, the building was moved to its current location at Holly Acres.

In May of this year, Harry Croft and I replaced the wood siding on the west side of the shed, added more shingles to the roof to repair leaks and painted the front (south) side of the shed. Since this was the first maintenance activity the shed has needed that anyone can remember, our hope is that these few repairs will keep the shed usable for at least another ten years.

As for contents, I think after four years, I have finally inventoried everything in the shed!

My four years as OYC Rear Commodore certainly has been great fun. And there is more fun to come with Bud Bishop as your new Rear Commodore.

John Heinze, *Great Escape*



Secretary

Jill Stanley

THE NEW SECRETARY OF OYC, CAROL BELCHER

Carol and Eric Belcher are OYC members who have been away for two years. On their return Carol graciously agreed to take over my position as Secretary to OYC. Because I was unable to meet with the Belchers, Carol offered to answer by email my questions that I normally would have asked in person. Thanks Carol! The following information is Carol's reply to my questions:

"Eric is an 'army brat' which means that he was born in North Carolina where his Dad was stationed at the time, and then spent the rest of his childhood moving from Army post to Army post. The moves included many of the Army posts in the US and a post in Germany when he was four years old. He remembers all of his

childhood experiences with great fondness and met many of his lifelong friends through the army.

I am a Canadian who grew up in the rolling foothills of central Alberta, the province that is directly north of Montana. I grew up on a farm and enjoyed my rural childhood which included many four-legged pets and horses.

My horse---sadly I had to put her down in 2011 while we were in Kansas. She was getting crippled from her advancing arthritis in her left front knee. Both Birdie and I knew it was time and she died at the end of May 2011. I now have two thoroughbred geldings to replace her. I am currently training them in the art of dressage (which Ann Romney has made famous! LOL)

I met Eric when he came to Toronto, Ontario, Canada, in 2005. He was selected by the US Army to attend the Canadian War College's year-long strategic leadership course. There are a small number of foreign military officers who are selected to attend the Canadian War College by respective governments every year. I attended the course as well, as a Canadian military officer who was selected by my branch to attend the course. I met Eric during the first week of the course. He impressed me with his excellent leadership qualities and calm competence during emergency planning, a skill that some of our peers on course sadly lacked. So, that means I respected his intelligence, integrity and leadership long before I loved him.

We currently live in Woodbridge VA, having just completed a two-year post at Ft. Leavenworth KS. At Ft. Leavenworth, Eric commanded 15 MP Brigade which is responsible for manning two military prisons, (one maximum security and one medium security prison) as well as providing specialized prisoner custody, command and control in foreign war zones. Upon completion of his brigade command, Eric was selected to be the Chief of Staff of Arlington Cemetery, which also includes all Army cemeteries in the continental US. As for me, I am retired and loving it!

Eric has loved boats all of his life and grew up around water, learning to water ski and operate boats from a very young age. He continues to get near water and play on water as often as he can. His favorite 'first' boat was a 32-foot Maxim called 'Y We Work' which he co-owned with one of his long-time good friends, Skip Beall. Prior to meeting Eric, I had absolutely no experience with boats and actually disliked water, having never learned to swim very well at all... I can do 'water survival techniques' from my military training but would prefer not to test my skills out with an unintended splash into the drink, as it were. That's why you will see me always wearing a life-jacket when I am moving around on the outside of the boat during docking or departures. Our

current boat, a 38-foot Cruiser, 'Time2Play' was purchased when Eric returned from deployment in Afghanistan in the fall of 2007. She is currently getting some repairs done in southern VA at the Dare Marina facility. We will be bringing her back up to the DC area and docking her at Hampton Landing Marina, near Rippon Landing VA, which is a five-minute drive from the house. (Eric planned that!)

We love going to see new places, but we also love going to wonderful marinas that we have been to in the past. To us, wonderful marinas are places that have a great reputation for friendly and competent service and that have the added attraction of being shared with our boater-buddies in the OYC. We are looking forward to the next boating season to get on the water with everyone!"

As you have just read, Carol and Eric are a great couple to have back with us in the club and hopefully you will be able to join them and get to know the Belchers on one of the many cruises that OYC will have to offer next cruising season.

Jill Stanley, *'bout Time*



Treasurer

Joe Livingston

PRYCA AND CBYCA UPDATES

Over the last couple of weeks, I have attended the Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association (PRYCA) and the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association (CBYCA) meetings as the Delegate from the OYC. The PRYCA meeting was the Association's annual meeting and the 2013 Slate of Officers were elected; the CBYCA meeting was the Association's Board/Delegates meeting and the Change of Watch (COW) for the 2013 Board was conducted. These meetings provide an opportunity to meet folks from clubs similar to OYC along the Eastern seaboard from Pennsylvania to Virginia, and also to learn of events and regulatory actions affecting recreational boaters.

A couple of highlights from the PRYCA meeting. Mike Crouch of the OYC was elected Commodore for the 2013 boating season. In addition, three other OYC members (Joey Sowell as Treasurer and Pat Croft and Steve Prada as Members at Large) were elected to the Board. Thanks to all for serving and representing OYC

in these positions. A cruise event of note is the Summer-kickoff Cruise to Cobb Island to be held on the weekend of 14-16 June. Save the date. January 26 a COW-Dinner Dance will be held at the Springfield Hilton where Mike and the others will assume their positions. Additional information to follow, but plan now to attend and to show support for our Club members.

Tom gave us some great information in his article this month (on page 1). If you're interested in continuing to keep track of what is happening on the DC waterfront, go to www.swdcwaterfront.com.



At the CBYCA meeting the annual change of watch was conducted and Commodore Parson relinquished command to Incoming Commodore Mike Death. The meeting was held at Bush River Yacht Club in Abingdon, MD, outside Baltimore. Thirty-nine clubs were present and represented at the meeting. Most of the meeting was devoted to the COW; however a new member club, the Universal Sailing Association, was voted membership. Normally, much information is available from the National Boating Federation (NBF) and the Association's Directors of Legislation to the Various States on items affecting boaters. The Association will hold a Commodore's Ball on 8 December in Baltimore.

Cheers, Joe Livingston! *Gail Lynn II*

CRUISE NEWS and LAND EVENTS

As previously noted: **The ICW Cruise to Florida** scheduled for October has been postponed until after the New Year.

OYC Santa Cruise **CANCELED!**

The Miss Rivershore will escort Santa to Occoquan on December 1; however, OYC will not participate this year.

Saturday - December 8

OYC Change of Watch / Holiday Party

*** Check out Jim Dooley's article on page 2 ***

Saturday – January 26, 2013

PRYCA Change of Watch! Information next month

HARDY SOULS CRUISE, Nov 9-11

For the last official cruise of the season, a group ventured to National Harbor for a beautiful fall weekend. Bells on *Déjà Vu*, Bennetts on *Heart of the Sun*, Freedmans on their new cat *Barbara Ann*, and Del Montes on *Scott Lynn Yard* arrived on Friday, all in time for a traditional happy hour on the dock. The OYC group was joined by guests of the Bennetts, visiting to help them celebrate the 237th birthday of the Marine Corps Saturday night at the Commandant's Marine Corps Birthday Ball.

OYC was well represented at the Harbor that weekend. Also at the marina were the Crouchs, the DeDitijs, and Manninos, along with friends (and hopefully members), the Adams, Nelsons, and Don Treador from Mt. Vernon.

Saturday was a day of walks, bike rides and exploring the many shops and restaurants at National Harbor. The weather and seas cooperated again as Dooleys arrived on *Just Chill-n* to join in the fun. "Salty dogs" Bailey and Mr. Wilson had a great time romping on the dock. Later the group, joined by friends of the Dooleys, walked up to The Public House for an evening of camaraderie and a nice dinner; and the Bennetts put on their finest attire and joined a few thousand Marines and their guests at the Ball.



Dinner at The Public House

Given the potential for cold weather, Sunday brunch was held at Harrington's. As we departed for home, everyone made regrets that winter would soon be upon us but expressed how much we were looking forward to seeing everyone at the Change of Watch Holiday Party.

Don & Anne Bennett, *Heart of the Sun*

CRUISING THE GULF ISLANDS OFF VANCOUVER ISLAND IN LATE OCTOBER

It was cold, overcast, rainy, windy and it was perfect!

Living in the desert of New Mexico, it is always a challenge to get salt water boating time. So taking the American Sailing Associations (ASA106) – Advanced Coastal Cruising eight-day live-aboard course was just the ticket for this fall's boating respite.

Starting from Vancouver on the mainland we headed 34 miles across the Strait of Georgia to the archipelago



Gulf Islands to anchor the first night in Nanaimo (famous for the “Nanaimo Bar”, a dessert of graham, vanilla and chocolate). The crossing was interesting as a new crew,

captain and boat (Beneteau 36.7 First Sloop Rig) got used to each other while the winds built to 30 mph ++ and the seas became a little choppy.

The Pacific Northwest is beautifully dominated by granite rocks, cliffs and hills with giant evergreen trees. Everything is just a little bigger in size and scope than it ought to be, including the fast moving ferries, cargo ships and sea planes. You always had to have an ear out for the hum of a sea plane engine as they are a main source of transport between the islands and the mainland; and while they are the lowest on the “right of way” pecking order, they didn’t seem to give it much thought as they would swoop down and land or rev up and be gone within seconds.



Captain Carl (Vancouver Sailing Club) gets the VIN # off a departing Sea Plane

Some of the highlights of the trip would have to be the quaint small towns at each port or anchorage. With the Ganges and Pender Islands being must stops on our itinerary. The Poets Cove Resort on South Pender Islands was a real treat with a heated outdoor pool and hot tub and great restaurant with a grand fireplace to dry all our soaked foul weather gear.

The trip back was a real treat as we left Silva Bay at 7:30 at night in the calm of dusk and arrived back across the Georgia Strait at 3:30 am in 25 mph winds and driving rain in the pitch black of night with the lights on the coast to guide us home as we made 9 knots with a double reefed main sail and a shortened jib, sailing close hauled (into the wind) all the way into English Bay, Vancouver B.C.

Jay Livingston, OYC Member



December DATEMARKERS

BIRTHDAYS

Eric Belcher 12/3 * Paul Mannino 12/4
Don Bennett 12/4 * Larry Freedman 12/9
James Nix 12/10 * Anne Bennett 12/15
Tom Plewes 12/15 * Mary Locklin 12/18
Kelly Jackson 12/19 * Harry Croft 12/21
Becky Quentmeyer 12/22
Sue Thompson 12/26 * Kevin Locklin 12/26
Karen Joyner 12/29 * Kari Langerman 12/29
Tricia Smith 12/31 * John Cornicelli 12/31

ANNIVERSARIES

Ned & Arleen Rhodes 12/21
Steven & Becky Quentmeyer 12/28



Occoquan Yacht Club 2012-2013 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, softcopy newsletter)

___ Family--\$95 (includes Burgee, mailed newsletter)

___ Individual--\$55 (includes Burgee, softcopy newsletter)

___ Individual--\$75 (includes Burgee, mailed newsletter)

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

Membership Renewal:

___ Family--\$75 (softcopy newsletter)

___ Family--\$95 (hardcopy newsletter)

___ Individual--\$55 (softcopy newsletter)

___ Individual--\$75 (hardcopy newsletter)

___ Associate--\$30 (add \$20 for mailed newsletter)

2012 fees paid after 1 OCT will cover both initiation and 2013 calendar year) Total Enclosed: _____

* newsletters are distributed monthly via the website and email unless members elect to receive it by mail (additional cost noted above); members can purchase additional burgees--add \$20 to above prices for additional burgee

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

___ Contribute articles to the OYC newsletter, <i>The Daymarker</i>	___ Assist event coordinators
___ Contribute pictures from club events for <i>The Daymarker</i>	___ Serve as a PRYCA/CBYCA delegate
___ Contribute pictures and short articles to the OYC Web Site	___ Serve as a fleet captain
___ Assist with Web Site programming	___ Serve as a safety officer or board officer
___ Other: _____	___ Coordinate an event

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 2012

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PYCRA & CBYCA Delegate
Joe Livingston 703-505-8313
Daymarker Editor Anne Bennett
540-752-4250
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 at: www.OccoquanYachtClub.org

Mark these dates...

**Santa Cruise
canceled**

**OYC
Change of Watch
Holiday Party
Dec 8**

**PRYCA
Change of Watch
January 26**

More info inside...

**Did you get your invitation to the
Change of Watch Holiday party?
Don't miss out on the fun!**

**Your *Daymarker* delivered by the Postal Service
or delivered via email?**

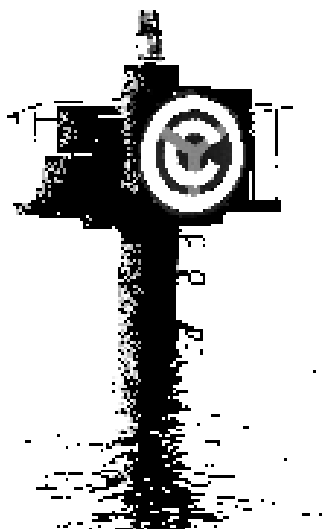
**Questions about our new membership structure?
Contact a Board member.**

**Have you checked out the OYC Website lately?
www.OccoquanYachtClub.org**

*1992, 1993, 1997, 2009, 2011 & 2012 PRYCA Cup Champions

* * *

The Daymarker is published monthly by the Occoquan Yacht Club*.
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submit your copy by email to oyceditor@gmail.com



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**Occoquan Yacht Club
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