



The Daymarker

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

P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125

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COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Tom Plewes

The Business Side of OYC

In preparation for writing this month's column, I reviewed the last couple of years of *Daymarker* publications to find discussions of the business side of the Club. Most organizations to which I belong seem to spend a lot of their time on what I would call management functions -- by-laws, rules, treasurer reports, and the like. Well, except for reminders about renewing memberships and announcing elections, our official record -- *The Daymarker* -- contains little discussion of business issues. That is as it should be, for, as Rear Commodore John Heinze points out in his article this month, we are a virtual Yacht Club and are blessed to be unburdened with the day-to-day issues that come from maintaining a fixed facility and keeping up with all the responsibilities that come with owning a piece of terra firma. Our status has given us the freedom to do what we please, and what we please is to focus on cruising, navigation and safety issues.

Nevertheless, at times we need to put some issues before the membership. We will do that *briefly* at our annual General Membership meeting to be held on March 17 at Fairfax Yacht Club. Your Board stresses the word *briefly*. Our spring General Membership meeting is a time of fellowship and is an opportunity to display the photos of a very talented bunch

of amateur photographers who happen to be boating enthusiasts on the side.

Here are a few of the issues that should be surfaced:

Meeting Venues. John Heinze's article this month spells out our latest challenge with the new rules at the Fairfax Yacht Club. Frankly, we had taken their hospitality in the past as a given. We appreciate the tremendous support we have received and will continue to receive under the new rules. However, the relationship between the clubs has become more business-like. For example, the OYC Board is no longer welcome to have its monthly meeting at the facility. As John's article suggests, we need to see if there are other options. Your ideas are solicited.

Dues. This is always a hot topic. OYC has always strived to keep dues to a minimum and has generally been successful at doing that. The current membership fees (\$75 for a family, \$55 for individuals and \$30 for associates) has been unchanged for some time and is a real bargain. As we will learn at the General Membership meeting, the Treasury is in quite good shape at the present time, even though we haven't gotten all of the membership renewals that we expect. (Please send in your renewal if you haven't already.) Nonetheless, the costs of our active program, *The Daymarker*, and other necessary expenses have gone up; and subsidized event expenses have also risen as we have sought to keep event charges to a minimum. We have very little cushion, and in that environment the idea of a small increase in dues is always on the table. I expect your Board will be reviewing

the financial picture and dues structure this fall as we prepare the budget for 2013.

Memberships. OYC has long been a member of both the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association (CBYCA), which represents yacht clubs all around the Bay, and the Potomac River Yacht Club (PRYCA), which represents clubs up and down the Potomac. We have really benefitted from both of these memberships. Joe Livingston is our official delegate to both clubs and Pat Croft is an officer of the PRYCA. This past year has been a difficult year for the CBYCA, with fairly intense struggle for control taking place between two competing leadership factions. The status of CBYCA is being contested in a court of law in the State of Maryland. We have stayed neutral in this matter, and your Board has recently notified both factions that we do intend to keep our membership when we know which faction is the legitimate organization.

Governance. Your Board meets on the second Wednesday of each month. Recently we have met at the home of Commodore Tom and Liz Plewes. The Board takes official minutes and operates with an agenda that is published to the Board members in advance. If you are interested in issues of governance, please let us know. All members are welcome to attend the Board meetings.

Tom Plewes, *Double Eagle*



Vice Commodore

Jim Dooley

The Sails Are Set for 2012 !!!!

Thanks to the efforts from our 2012 Board and past Cruise Coordinators, the 2012 Cruise Calendar is set and the year is planned! The group met for a Pre-Planfest on Sunday, February 5, and took off our Superbowl hats long enough to put on our thinking caps and carve out a 2012 draft cruise itinerary. I dare any PRYCA club to even come close to OYC's venue of cruises for 2012. Almost every weekend for the entire 2012 boating season has something for us Cruising Crustaceans.



On February 18, thanks to the generosity of the Mount Vernon Yacht Club for the use of their facility, the 2012 OYC Cruise Calendar was rolled out to the Club. Combined with the MVYC's harbor location and warm weather, we all walked away primed for an exciting year. The Planfest began with an impromptu introduction by the Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla Commander, Rich Miller. Rich outlined the mission of the Coast Guard Auxiliary and distributed a "Boaters Guide to the Federal Requirements for Recreational Boats" for our reading pleasure.



We begin our cruise calendar this year in **MARCH!** Even before the Early Bird Cruise, a new Cherry Blossom Cruise to Gangplank Marina is set for March 30 to April 1. The cruise came about for those that want to take advantage of Washington's Cherry Blossoms. As details were not known at the time of the Planfest, an email has been sent out with instructions for those who want to participate. The cruise comes just in time, since our unexpected warm winter has contributed to the pains of cabin fever and an early spring is fast approaching.

The Early Bird Cruise will follow on **April 13-15**, most likely to Old Town Alexandria due to lack of slip availability at National Harbor. Details to follow for those who signed up or express interest.

May begins the official opening of the 2012 boating season with our OYC Flag Raising on Saturday, May 5, at OHM. A week later is the ORMA Blessing of the Fleet on Saturday, May 12. May closes with OYC's traditional Memorial Day Cruise (May 25-28) to Colonial Beach. As noted in my February 6 email, be sure to call Colonial Beach at 804-224-7230, ask for Robin and say you are with OYC, to sign up early, as the slips may be limited at the Colonial Beach Yacht Center. There may be other slips available at nearby marinas. The venue will include our annual pilgrimage to the Berry Farm and Ingleside Vineyard, along with dock happy hours.

June kicks off with a Margarita/Fajita Fest at OHM on Saturday, June 9. On June 15-17, we travel down to the PRYCA Cobb Island Summer Kick-Off cruise. Remember to participate in the scavenger hunt for the beads! If you don't have your stowaway bikes, hitch hiking may be your mode of travel. From Cobb Island, Pat and Harry Croft will begin a 5-part, 4-week Mid-Bay Cruise. Part 1 (June 15-17) is to be the Cobb Island weekend. Part 2 (June 17-21) will be fun and fishing around Pt. Lookout. Part 3 (June 22-28) is to include Onancock, Shad Landing and Vera's. Part 4 (June 29-July 7) continues to La Trappe, Herrington South, Baltimore for 4th of July, Annapolis and to White Point. Finally, Part 5 (July 8-13) heads back to Coles Point for our PRYCA Float-In. Harry notes that you can join in on any part of this cruise, at any time. Weather and safety are to play a major part in the cruise destinations, while allowing newbie's the opportunity to explore the Chesapeake Bay with a seasoned Captain.

The July 4 week/weekends offer our club many choices. From Baltimore Harbor, Tim's I or II, National Harbor, Washington Marina or Old Town, there is something for all. The difficulty will be in deciding where you want to celebrate our country's 236 birthday! Earlier than usual this year (July 13-15) is the PRYCA Float-in at Coles Point. Last year, besides capturing The CUP (THE CUP!), Coles Point proved to be an ideal location with accommodating facilities, good food, sandy beaches and illuminating moon rises. This year, the same is on our scope. The weekend is the perfect time to get to know our other PRYCA clubs that share our waters, and show them which club is the BEST. Following the PRYCA Float-In, Tom and Liz Plewes head out for a Tourista Cruise (July 15-20) of the Mid Bay. While Harry's Mid-Bay cruise tends to be more aggressive, Tom's Mid-Bay Tourista Cruise will follow a more laidback tourist venue. Ports of call will be more of the 2 ½ hour hops. The last weekend in July (28-29) is an open weekend. The weekend is available for anyone to suggest a raft-up, or particular cruise that has not been scheduled. There has been a suggestion to meet up at Tom Lensis' pool to celebrate our CUP Victory again and practice for this year!

August begins with an Old Town Alexandria Excursion (Aug 3-5), a cruise designed for the shopper in you. While Old Town has some of the best pubs around for

the men, the women can shop till the men drop. The Saturday morning Farmers Market is one not to miss. While this market does not allow pets, they have a good range of produce (flowers, veggies, fruit), fresh baked bread, roasted nuts & pretzels, goat cheese, handmade soaps, handmade jewelry and specialty sauces, dips and pastas. August (17-19) is the PRYCA Dog Days Cruise to Aquia Harbor. For those who have never meandered up to Aquia Harbor, this is a real treat! The trick is to plan your cruise at high tide. But for those of you like me who get there when you can, be careful around the lily pads (hydrangeas) and cautiously follow the day markers. You will be ok. The one phrase that I always hear going up Aquia Creek is "Are we there yet?" The weekend will prove to be a memorable weekend with the main course being Hospitality! For those of you who just can not get enough of the Bay this year, Mark Schall is offering to lead the charge for a Solomons/St. Michaels/Cambridge/Pt. Lookout cruise August 24-31. Mark keeps his boat at Solomons and knows these ports. What a wonderful opportunity to visit some of the prime Bay locations.

September is packed full of amazing cruises. There will be a Tanger to Crisfield cruise lead by the Freedmans, leaving toward Tanger the 29th of August, eventually arriving in Crisfield just in time for the world's only crab races and crab boat docking contest Labor Day weekend. If you can imagine a 600-horsepower crab boat, slamming the engine in reverse to back up between two pilings, then this is the adventure for you! Tanger Island, in itself, is a trip back to times lost, a must-see-to-believe location. Other Labor Day cruises include the popular cruise to Corinthian (Sept 1-3) and the Tall Timbers cruise for the Boat Burning! Even though they are separate destinations, those of you who stay at the luxurious Corinthian but want to see the Boat Burning, there is planned a short hop over for the festivities! Ok, how about the Nationals! Go Nats! September 7-9 is our second annual trip up to James Creek Marina. Plan on Saturday the 8th, an afternoon game against the Marlins. James Creek offers an idea location to walk over to the stadium and enjoy the game, food and beverages. Other modes of transportation will be available to and from the marina to the stadium. Be sure to pull up to the gas dock for your slip assignment and measurement. September 21-23 is the cruise to National Harbor Oktoberfest! This cruise has always been a favorite for those Jägermeister-loving pirates! As where most of our cruises are ones to remember, this one is hard to remember! Tickets must be purchased separately for the Oktoberfest via on line. Last year the tickets sold out, so I encourage those interested to buy your tickets early. September closes on the 29th with our Shrimp Fest at Hoffmasters.

October (5-7) begins the wind-down of 2012 cruises with a trip to the PRYCA End of Summer Colonial Beach Cruise. Normally, the colors of fall are beginning to appear and the trip down is one of crisp air and smooth waters. Colonial Beach has so much to offer and this is

the time to be involved. Toward the end of October, our own Snow Goose, Tom Lensis, is planning a 10-day trip to Florida. Tom noted that any boat wishing to follow him down the ICW, contact him. When asked about return dates, Tom notes, "why would anyone even consider a return?" October 20 is our Election Meeting/Chili Cook-Off.

Okay you Hardy Souls, mark November 9-11 down! As in recent years, the Hardy Souls cruise to National Harbor has been anything but Hardy. But, 2012 just may be the year to pull out that windbreaker and long johns! Saturday, November 24th is the Santa Cruise.

Finally, December 8 will be our OYC Holiday/Change of Watch Party. We have reserved Laurel Hill Golf Club again this year. Well... there you have it. An awesome Cruise Packed 2012 OYC year.

If I may leave you with one last thought... Make SAFETY your # 1 concern this year and have fun!

Jim Dooley, *Jus Chill~N*

The Datemarkers

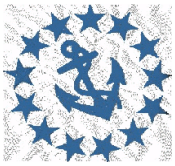
Birthdays

Steve Preda 3/1	Bill Francis 3/20
Catherine Harris 3/1	Theodore Zsirai 3/20
Janice Morgan 3/1	Duane Jeirles 3/24
Lucy Dubraque 3/4	Michael Dugan 3/26
Ralph Mason 3/4	Greg Lee 3/26
John Corley 3/13	Lynanne Jorsey 3/30
Allen Jorsey 3/15	Betsey Nalevanko 3/30

Anniversaries

Chet & Beth Hahne 3/27
 Eric & Carol Belcher 3/22
 Jim & Judy Dooley 3/24
 Kevin & Pamela Bell 3/16
 Mike & Karen Crouch 3/23

MAR	17 (Sat), 2 - 4 PM	General Membership Mtg/ Photo Contest at FYC
	30-Apr 1	Cherry Blossom Cruise to Gangplank Marina
APR	14 (Sat)	River Clean-up Day
	13-15 (Fri-Sun)	Early Bird Cruise
MAY	5 (Sat)	OYC Flag Raising at OHM
	12 (Sat)	ORMA Blessing of the Fleet in Occoquan River
	25-28 (Fri-Mon)	Memorial Day Cruise to Colonial Beach
JUN	9 (Sat), 2 - 5 PM	Margarita/Fajita Fest at OHM
	15-17 (Fri-Sun)	PRYCA Summer Kickoff/ Cobb Island Day (and Part 1)
	17-21	Mid Bay Cruise Part 2 (From Cobb Island)
	22-28	Mid Bay Cruise Part 3
	29-7 (July)	Mid Bay Cruise Part 4
	30 (Sat)	Tim's I Fireworks/Raft-up
JUL	1-4 (Sun-Tue)	Fireworks at National Harbor
	4-5 (Wed-Thur)	Fireworks in DC/ Wash. Channel/Marina
	8-13 (Sun-Fri)	Mid Bay Cruise Part 5
	14	Tim II Fireworks Raft-up
	13-15 (Fri-Sun)	PRYCA Float-in/Coles Point
	15-20 (Sun-Fri)	Mid Bay Tourista Cruise
AUG	3-5 (Fri-Sun)	Old Town Alexandria
	17-19 (Fri-Sun)	PRYCA Aquia Harbor Dog Days of August
	24-31 (Fri-Fri)	Solomons/St Michaels/ Cambridge/Pt Lookout
SEP	8/29 - 3 (Wed-Mon)	Tanger to Crisfield
	1-3 (Fri-Mon)	Labor Day Cruise (Corinthian)
	1-3 (Fri-Mon)	Tall Timbers - Boat Burning
	7-8 (Fri-Sat-Sun)	James Creek Nats vs Marlins
	21-23 (Fri-Sun)	Oktoberfest National Harbor
	29 (Sat)	Shrimp Fest at Hoffmasters
OCT	5-7 (Fri-Mon)	PRYCA End of Summer Cruise to Colonial Beach
	20 (Sat), 2-5pm	Election Mtg/Oktoberfest Chili cook-off at FYC/
	21-31 (10 days)	ICW to Florida (10 days)
NOV	9-11 (Fri-Sun)	Hardy Souls Cruise
	24 (Sat), 10 AM	Santa Cruise from OHM to Occoquan
DEC	8 (Sat), 6 -11 pm	OYC Holiday/COW Party



Rear Commodore

John Heinze

Looking for Venues for Futures OYC Events

The Planfest at Mount Vernon Yacht Club (MYVC) on February 18th was a great success. Part of what made it such an enjoyable event was the lovely facilities provided by MYVC. As OYC Commodore Tom Plewes pointed out in his opening remarks, one of the advantages of OYC is that we just focus on cruises and land events and consequently have very low dues. A disadvantage is that we don't own a club house - which would require much higher dues and a lot of time and effort to manage - and so we are always looking for places to have OYC functions. That was the reason that when the Fairfax Yacht Club (FYC) clubhouse, where we usually have the Planfest, was undergoing renovations, we had to look for an alternative site and found MYVC.

Fortunately, FYC will very shortly have completed their renovations and, assuming our user application is approved, we will have the benefit of use of a new kitchen, carpet and tile at the FYC clubhouse for the OYC General Membership Meeting and Photo Contest on March 17th, 2-4 pm. This will be another fun activity with an opportunity to sign up for cruises, a chance to show off and win prizes for your favorite boating photos from 2011 and a brief OYC business meeting.

However, OYC members should know that with the renovation, FYC has instituted a new policy of charging \$250 cleaning fee deposit which is forfeited if the room is not left clean. The cleaning fee deposit should be no problem as we intend to leave the clubhouse cleaner than we found it. In addition FYC is also charging a \$50/hour user fee for any use of their facilities that is not an FYC function. This use fee has caused us some concern.

It's not that the amount of the fee – it's the principle that is the issue. A number of OYC members are also members at FYC and thus pay significant yearly assessment fees, which include the cost for upkeep of the clubhouse. Consequently, the user fee seems like a duplicate charge. On the other hand, a suitable option for an alternative site was not easy to find on short notice. After discussion and vote, the OYC Board decision was to hold the General Membership/Photo Contest meeting at FYC and to continue looking for alternative venues for the OYC events that we have traditionally held at FYC. Those events include the Election Meeting/Chili Cookoff (October 20), Planfest (mid February, 2013), and General Membership/Photo Contest meeting (mid March, 2013).

In this search, we welcome input from all OYC members. The parameters for a meeting space include inside seating space for up to 60 people with kitchen facilities, location in the Occoquan/Woodbridge area (broadly defined) [we are the Occoquan YC] and costs lower than FYC (otherwise what is the point?).

I hope this discussion of the cost for use of the FYC clubhouse doesn't discourage you from attending the General Membership Meeting and Photo Contest. On the contrary, please come and see the lovely new FYC facilities. And if you have any ideas for any place that would be better to meet, we would love to hear them.

John Heinze, *Great Escape*



Secretary

Jill Stanley

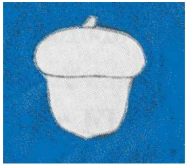
Getting to Know Your New Board Members

As you have read from my articles about our new OYC Board, we have quite an interesting and active group! Getting near the end of our introductions, we have Joe Livingston, who is holding two positions on the Board. He is our Treasurer and has kept his previous position as the OYC PRYCA/CBYCA delegate. He also holds the current position of Secretary/Treasurer for ORMA... the group that brings the "Blessing of the Fleet" to the Occoquan. I asked Joe how long he has held a position on the OYC Board, and he had to think about it a while. Joe finally came up with the year of 2003. If you have not met Joe, you should! He is a wealth of knowledge about rules and regulations pertaining to boating.

Joe and his first mate, Gail, have been a couple since high school. They both grew up on Lake Erie in Erie, PA, where they spent their summers at the beach and water skiing. Gail graduated from Edinboro University and Joe from Bowling Green State University. Joe spent 28 years in the Army, in tactical-strategic imagery. Gail was with DOD for 21 years, 20 of which were within the Joint Staff, culminating as Legislative Affairs Staff for the Chairman. They have a daughter and two sons, all married, and four grandchildren. They both enjoy volunteering, or so it would seem. He served as Commodore of OYC and PRYCA. Gail has been a past OYC Secretary and has contributed to all of Joe's positions along the way.

Joe and Gail berth their boat, the Gail Lynn II, a 42' Chris Craft, at Hoffmaster's Marina. They started boating on the Occoquan in a 1995 with a 33' Chris Craft and have been enjoying the water ever since.

Jill Stanley, *'bout Time*



Treasurer

Joe Livingston

PRYCA Change of Watch/Dinner Dance

The PRYCA Change of Watch/Dinner Dance was again a great success and well worth attending. The start of the main event had a couple of "road bumps," but...!! First, they could not figure out where the OYC table was...two clubs assigned, and then not enough seats at the next table. We ended up commandeering the band's table, so all was well. Of course, the "PRYCA Cup" was on display at the OYC's head table with VC Dooley and his Mate, Judy, insuring its safety. We soon realized our brash move to the bands table had no consequences. The second little bump, the band was a no-show!! Serving as PRYCA's VC and Treasurer, our own **Mike Crouch** and **Joey Sowell** saved the night. Mike made some calls and found a DJ who could come immediately, and Joey paid him. Knowing these guys, you might guess the DJ's name: Chuck Norris.



THE CUP!!!

As most recreational boating events demand, the activities started with an informal "meet and greet" at the hotels bar, followed by a well-attended cocktail party hosted by the Mount Vernon Yacht Club...great opportunities to say hello to old friends and make new acquaintances with members from other Clubs of the Potomac River. The main event started with our ladies arriving, dressed to a "T" (you know what that means...looking good!!) and the continuance of cocktails and hors d' oeuvres. The formal program was initiated by P/C Curt Johnson, serving as MC, with the President's Own Honor Guard presenting the Colors, followed by the introduction of the PRYCA 2012 Board.

OYC was well represented as VC Mike Crouch and Mate, Karen; Secretary Joey Sowell and Mate, Pam; and Member at Large Pat Croft and Captain Harry were among those honored and introduced.



The PRYCA 2012 Commodore is Commodore Don Basham, representing Landmark and Mount Vernon Yacht Clubs. One of our newest members holding dual membership, Steve Preda was recognized as Quantico's Delegate to the PYRCA. We welcome Steve and his Mate, Ginny, to our Club...good leadership potential!

Dinner was well presented, and dancing followed. My Mate, Gail, said "the music provided by DJ Chuck Norris provided for a more relaxed social evening". Something was right, for those gathered were still scuffling the shoe leather at 2330 and going strong. The evening was not over, however, for there was the traditional "PJ Party" to follow in the 12th-floor hospitality suite. The last I remember, a robe-clad OYC member was sleeping on the floor following a lap dance. OYC is represented everywhere...that's my story and I am sticking to it.

This is a special annual event to have on your calendar...come on out next year, expand your list of boating friends, and enjoy cruising the waters of the Potomac more.

Joe Livingston, Gail Lynn II

CHERRY BLOSSOM CRUISE, March 30 – April 1

This year is the 100th anniversary of Japan's gift of over 3,000 Cherry Trees to the United States.

(<http://www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org/about/>)

For the past 6 years the best days to view peak bloom have been between 30 March and 1 April. This year the 30th falls on a Friday. To take advantage of this opportunity we're proposing a cruise to Washington DC and the Gangplank Marina (<http://www.gangplank.com/>) from Friday 30 March through Sunday 1 April. For those not familiar, Gangplank is situated on the Southeast Waterfront in the Washington Channel. The marina is very convenient to the Tidal Basin, which can be accessed via the Francis Case Memorial Bridge (I-695) walkway. In addition to the Tidal Basin and cherry trees, the waterfront is also convenient to the National Mall and all its attractions, and there's a Metro stop and a well-stocked Safeway one block from the marina. We've set aside 10 slips but need to provide a list of participants to

Gangplank as soon as possible since it is on a first come first served basis. Please let us know soonest if you are interested. Once Gangplank is at capacity we're out of luck. The only information we need is:

Owner's name	Boat's name
Length	Beam
Draw (if more than 4')	Phone number

All paperwork will be taken care of upon arrival. Note - all power is 50 Amp. The marina has a limited number of adapters for those who need them so please advise if you will require one. POC for more information, Steve & Ginny Preda, sdpreda@comcast.net, 540.845.5858. Hope you can join us!

Steve & Ginny Preda, *Anamchara*

EARLY BIRD CRUISE to Old Town Alexandria, April 13-15

National Harbor has instituted new policies, and the marina cannot guarantee us slips this year. However, the City Dock at Old Town Alexandria is happy to host our club for the Early Bird Cruise. As such we will be working with the dock master over the next month to prepare for the cruise. As we get closer (and the marina opens registrations) we will provide more information as to deposits, slip information, timing, etc. There are currently nine boats listed as having an interest in the cruise and the early feedback was positive for having a slip for all. If you wish to be on the list, please contact Don & Anne at bennettdon@comcast.net.

Don & Anne Bennett, *Heart of the Sun*

COLONIAL BEACH MEMORIAL DAY, May 25-28

This is traditionally one of the major cruises of the season, and we will have much more information next month regarding activities such as the bus trip to Westmoreland Berry Farm and Ingleside Winery. If you even think you might want to go, be sure and call **Colonial Beach Yacht Center NOW** at 804-224-7230, ask for Robin and say you are with OYC to reserve your slip. After securing your reservation, please contact Pat Croft at hpcroft@verizon.net to be sure you are on the cruise list.

Bay Dreamers, Pat & Capt. Harry Croft

PRYCA KICKOFF at COBB ISLAND, June 15-17

The 2012 theme will be Mardi Gras. This year's necklace is loaded with Mardi Gras colors and themes. There will be lots of activities, good food and fun. Attendees will learn about local waterfowl, boating safety, and Cobb Island in the 1940's. Participants in this year's Scavenger Hunt will have an opportunity to find more handmade limited-edition beads than ever before. Again, more information is forthcoming; meanwhile, POC for forms, etc. is Bud Bishop at bbishop@spa.com.

Bud & Heidi Bishop, *Hi-Jinx*

SUPER DUPER CRUISE, June 15 – July 15

Once again the *Bay Dreamer* will be heading down the Potomac and cruising all over the Bay from **June 15th to July 15th**!! It all starts at the Cobb Island Cruise and ends with the PRYCA float-in at Coles Point. The cruise is divided into one-week segments so that you can enter and leave the cruise at key ports.

The PLAN: After leaving Cobb Island we plan to fish (the boat has a license for all and rods for many) out of Pt. Lookout Marina until Friday when other intrepid cruisers will join us for crossing the Bay to Onancock. It's a beautiful eastern shore town with lots of charm. From Onancock we will go up the Pocomoke River to Shad Landing State Park. The Pocomoke River is tea colored from all the overhanging Bald Cypress trees and other organic sources. It's a special trip for adventurous cruisers. The river is deep from bank to bank with lots of places to explore by kayak or canoe or bicycle. We will bicycle (rented at the park) seven miles over to Chincoteague Bay from Snow Hill over country roads to a place called Public Landing; white sands, and clear salt water, gorgeous! After chilling out at the park for a couple of days, it's across the Bay to Vera's marina off the Patuxent River. This would be a good meeting spot for new cruisers to join us for the next segment.

From Vera's, it's one night on the hook off Tilghman Island and then the next day through Knapp's Narrow Bridge, and over to Herrington Harbor South, another hot spot for beaching it. From there it's off to Rock Hall or another nearby spot before crossing the Bay once again to Baltimore for the Fourth of July. Reservations pending, we will stay at Inner Harbor East within walking distance of Little Italy and downtown.

To cut down on travel times back home, we will stop off at Annapolis before entering the Potomac and heading for home. **WAIT..not so fast!!!** The *Bay Dreamer* plans to lollygag around the lower Potomac, new cruisers welcome, until the PRYCA float-in at Coles Pt. Fishing, on the hook in small bays, and just plain soaking up the beauty of the river is planned. There are lots of destinations and lots of opportunities for OYCers to select any or all parts of the cruise. More details are available on request, at hpcroft@verizon.net. We do the planning, you do the cruising. Join us...we have never lost anyone yet!!

Briefly: June 15th FYC – Cobb Island – Pt. Look Out – Onancock – Pocomoke River – Patuxent River – Tilghman Island – Herrington Harbor – Rock Hall – Baltimore – Annapolis – Lower Potomac – Coles Pt.- July 13th-15th. All subject to change!

PLEASE NOTE regarding JULY 4th in Baltimore! For those intrepid cruisers who may want to join *Bay Dreamer* for the 4th, you must make reservations **NOW!!**. We have a block of slips on hold, waiting for your credit card info. Please call us at 703-451-8147 or e-mail, hpcroft@verizon.net for more information.

Bay Dreamers, Pat & Capt. Harry Croft

Mark these dates...

**OYC General
Membership Meeting**
March 17, 2012
Fairfax Yacht Club
2 - 4 PM

Cherry Blossom Cruise
March 30 – April 1
Gangplank Marina

River Clean-Up Day
April 14

Early Bird Cruise
April 13-15

OYC Flag Raising
Occoquan Harbor Marina
May 5

**ORMA Blessing of the Fleet
in the Occoquan River**
May 12

More inside...

Inside this issue...

Our exciting 2012 Cruise Schedule!

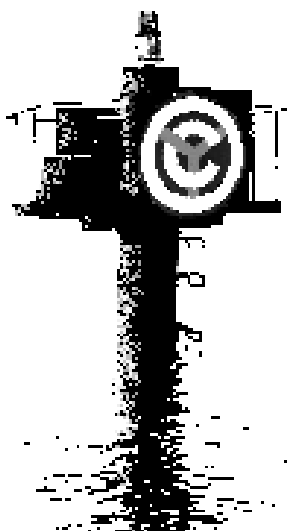
Will this be your last issue of *The Daymarker*?

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<http://www.occoquanyachtclub.org/2011/OYCappplicationbrochure.pdf>

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The Daymarker

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