



# The Daymarker

## OCCOQUAN YACHT CLUB

P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125

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

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

**Commodore**  
Tom Plewes  
703-978-3546

**Vice Commodore**  
Jim Dooley  
703-493-8481

**Rear Commodore**  
John Heinze  
703-888-3837

**Secretary**  
Jill Stanley  
703-425-0158

**Treasurer**  
Joe Livingston  
703-505-8313

**IPC**  
Tom Lensis  
703-794-9589

**PRYCA/CBYCA Delegate**  
Joe Livingston  
703-505-8313

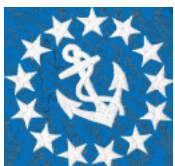
**Quartermaster**  
Heidi Bishop  
703-455-9776

**Membership**  
Bud Bishop  
703-455-9776

**Historian**  
Don Bennett  
540-752-9244

**Webmaster**  
Don Bennett  
540-752-9244

**THE DAYMARKER Editor**  
Anne Bennett  
540-752-4250



## COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Tom Plewes

### MEMBERSHIP MEETING ELECTS NEW BOARD, CHANGES DUES STRUCTURE (AND ENJOYES SOME FABULOUS CHILI!)

The General Membership meeting held on Saturday, October 20, at the clubhouse of the Fairfax Yacht Club was both decisive and fun. The Club is set on a great course for next year.

The membership elected the Board for 2013, which will be inaugurated at the December 8 Change of Watch Ceremony at Laurel Hills Country Club. The new elected officers for 2013 are:

Commodore – Jim Dooley  
Vice Commodore – Don Bennett  
Rear Commodore – Bud Bishop  
Treasurer – Joe Livingston  
Secretary – Carol Belcher

The incoming board will appoint the remaining leadership positions, to include the Quartermaster, Membership Committee Chair, Historian, *Daymarker* Editor and Web Master.

In other business, the membership approved the new dues structure to begin with dues for 2013. The change in the dues structure had been proposed by the Board and, in accordance with the by-laws, was taken to the membership at this meeting.

For some years now, the Club has been operating in the red in that dues and fees have not kept up with rising costs of the *Daymarker*, cruise expenses, and the annual Change of Watch function. The shortfall has been made up by 50/50 raffles, Quartermaster sales profits, and contributions from members of the Board and Club. Although the Club has avoided special assessments or general dues increases, because of these measures it is becoming more difficult with each passing year to make ends meet. The Club's major expense is the *Daymarker*, which costs an average of \$35 per year for each member. It has been suggested that we could make ends meet if we were able to cut back on the costs of printing and mailing the monthly newsletter by converting to an all-Web (email) distribution. However, some members would prefer to have a monthly hard-copy version.

The Board proposed to raise the annual dues to \$95 for family memberships, \$75 for individual memberships and \$50 for associate memberships. Each of these membership categories would be given a \$20 discount if the member would elect to receive the *Daymarker* via the Internet. For those opting for Internet delivery, the dues would be \$75 for a family membership, \$55 for an individual membership, and \$30 for an associate membership. This new dues structure was approved at the meeting.

The new forms that will be sent to the membership along with the invitation to the Change of Watch party will incorporate this new dues structure. For those electing to get an Internet copy of the *Daymarker*, dues will remain the same as in 2012. For those who wish to receive a hard copy in the mail, the increase of \$20 will come close to covering this expense.

Also the membership decided that along with the newsletter and occasional email blasts, the Website, which has recently been upgraded by Don Bennett, would be the primary means of communicating with the members. The membership decided not to approve a proposed rejuvenation of the Facebook page, which has been dormant for a while.

The annual Chili Cook-Off first prize was won by Steve Prada who agreed to share his Carolina-based recipe with the membership. Other chilli honors went to Harry Croft and the DelMontes.

Tom Plewes, *Double Eagle*



**Vice Commodore**

**Jim Dooley**

## PRYCA AQUIA CREEK END OF SUMMER CRUISE!

REFRESHED and PAMPERED describes how we all felt after returning from Aquia Harbour's PRYCA End of Summer Cruise, October 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>. PRYCA & OYC cruisers maneuvered up Aquia Creek Friday to an outpouring of hospitality, garnished by appetizers, hamburgers, hot dogs and whatever wets your whistle, hosted by the Aquia Harbour Yacht Club & PRYCA. Early arrivals included *Bay Dreamer* with Harry & Pat Croft and Sharman Harris; *Takin' it Easy* with Randy & Susan Willetts; *Emma Caroline II* with Joey & Pam Sowell; *Makia III* with Mike & Karen Crouch; *Bout Time* with Steve & Jill Stanley; *Party Time* with Ralph Mason & Kris Butera; and *Miss Kadie* with Dan Parsons & Katherine Cook. Cruising in at dusk were *Jus Chill~N* with Jim & Judy Dooley, and new OYC members, Mike & Kari Joyner, on *Maz Fest*.

Saturday's daybreak brought us warm temperatures and sunny skies, topped off with a delicious brunch buffet at the club house. Saturday afternoon came soon with competition of mariner skills for those who needed improvement to their "CUP" skills (which might explain why no one from OYC attended, or it could have been that the Harbour Golf Course was just too tempting). Later Saturday afternoon, AHYC hosted a grand cruise by private boat to tour the island.

Saturday night's event was not just fine dining, it was a feast capped off by an awards ceremony and dancing to a live band, until the wee hours of the night.



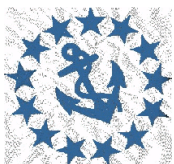
Sunday morning brought in cooler temperatures while the pampering continued with a Continental Breakfast & Bloody Mary Bar. Just when you thought that the weekend was coming to a close, out came Chili & Cornbread as a side to the Redskin's game. Some cruisers braved the inclement weather and took the shuttle to the Taste of Stafford, which offered even more treats to eat. For those of us who had to show up to work Monday morning, Sunday's cruise proved to be a chilly trip back up the Potomac.





We just cannot say enough about our weekend up Aquia Creek and visit to Aquia Harbour. Times like this, make you want the summer cruising season to never end!

Jim Dooley, *Jus Chill~N*



**Rear Commodore**

**John Heinze**

## THE SHRIMP FEST – WHAT A FEAST!

Thirty-five OYC members participated in the 2012 Shrimp Fest at Hoffmaster's Marina, September 29<sup>th</sup>, on what turned out to be one of those gorgeous autumn days in Virginia – sunny, temperatures in the 70's and light breezes, an ideal day to get together with OYC friends and enjoy good food and good cheer.



Indeed, we had more than 35 participants as OYC members Steve and Sue Thompson and Rick Sorrenti dropped by late in the afternoon just to say hello. Since they have relocated down to Wilmington, NC, otherwise known as OYC South, it was great to see them again.



And we certainly had lots of good food and good cheer at the Shrimp Fest! The main course was our "Low Country" (Carolina-style) shrimp boil, featuring lots of shrimp, red potatoes, sweet corn, and Kielbasa sausage. But that is not all – we also had a cheese tray for appetizers, green salad (for the health conscious), and – for the rest of us - a large selection of cakes for dessert.



The good cheer was amply provided by Hoffmaster's Marina, which generously donated a half-keg to the festivities. And it was a premium brew. Wow. Our OYC group hardly made a dent in the contents, but we certainly enjoyed what we consumed. Thank you, Joe Hoffmaster!

And as usual in these events, there are lots of people to thank. First, I would especially like to thank Tom and Liz Plewes for purchasing the food and bagging it into batch size servings. I would also like to thank Tom Plewes and Carl Maxwell for their help with cooking and Jim Dooley for the use of his extra large lobster pot, burner and propane tank for cooking. The prep work, the extra large lobster pot, the assistance with cooking, plus the Club's lobster pot and burner, made cooking the shrimp boil go like clockwork.

Second, I want to thank every one else who helped with the event. I thank Liz Plewes for collecting the registration money and Rebecca Heinze for organizing and collecting the 50:50 raffle. Who knew you could do a 50:50 raffle with yellow notepad paper? I thank Tom, Liz, Jim and Rebecca for help with set-up and everyone who helped with the clean-up.



And thanks to Joe Hoffmaster for once again allowing us to have the OYC Shrimp Fest on the Hofmaster's marina grounds and for the staff, who couldn't have been any more helpful. They were terrific.

Having a shrimp boil and a brew with your friends in a marina yard on a beautiful autumn day – it doesn't get much better than this!

John Heinze, *Great Escape*

START YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING EARLY!  
CONTACT QUARTERMASTER, HEIDI BISHOP,  
NOW FOR THE BEST SELECTION OF OYC ITEMS.  
heidib703@verizon.net



**Secretary**

**Jill Stanley**

## NEW MEMBERS JOHN & MICHELLE DeDITIUS

My interview with the DeDitius for this article again validated my belief of what a great job I have to be able to interview new OYC members. The DeDitius were so obliging to let me come over to their house one evening and take their valued time after a full day of work.

John and Michelle live in Springfield. Michelle is originally from the Hampton Roads area and is an accountant. John is from Dallas, Texas. He retired from the Navy two years ago as a Commander, and now works as a financial manager for the Justice Department. John and Michelle met when John was stationed at the Pentagon. They have two girls... Crystal, who is 29, and Katie, who is 26 years old.

The DeDitius started boating four years ago with a 33' Regal. John explained that when he bought his first boat from a boat brokerage, they threw the keys at him and let him go on his merry way with no instructions on how to run a boat. John who slips his boat at Belmont Bay was concerned about the damage he could do to his boat and others with no experience on how to operate or dock a 33' boat. Then along came Scott DelMonte to his aide. Scott took John out on his new boat and helped John master the art of boating. After two years with the Regal, like most true boaters, John and Michelle moved up to a bigger and better boat. They now own a 40' Sea Ray express cruiser.

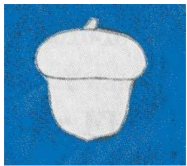
One of the DeDitius' favorite boating destinations is Solomon's Island. A place they first traveled after only having their first boat for a month. They went with the DelMonte's and a couple other boaters. As Michelle explained they rode their boat in the middle of the convoy feeling safe surrounded by experienced boaters. The same group still makes this an annual trip every Memorial Day weekend.

John and Michelle are planning to take their boat to Solomon's next June to leave there for the month. They are hoping this will enable them to take short weekend trips to different locations on the Chesapeake.

At the end of the interview I asked the DeDitius's if they were attending the OYC Holiday Party. They assured me they would be there, so I ask all OYC members to be sure to welcome our newest members to OYC. They are all a good group and a great addition to our club.

Jill Stanley, *'bout Time*





## Treasurer

Joe Livingston

### WINTERIZATION CONTINUED...

Continued from last month's *Daymarker*. We spoke of moisture and odor. A simple thing to assist in and around berths. Place a bar of soap under the edge of mattresses and also place laundry fabric softener sheets under the mattress...really helps with odors. If you have a foam mattress, place something under the mattress to allow additional air flow and remove bedding if you will not be using the bed. Cabinet doors and drawers can be left slightly ajar to allow additional air flow.

Do you winterize your own potable (drinking) water systems? Two methods are often used. One, drain/empty the holding tank and service lines and then use an air compressor to blow the remaining water from the system. This can be effectively done by opening the faucet farthest from the fill fitting. If you have a shore water system as well, make sure you blow that additional system out as well. Plan also to disconnect and blow out your wash down/fill hoses from dock faucets. When preparing for this method, prior to draining the water, add 6-8 ounces of household Clorox and let set for several hours or over night to help kill bacteria. The second method is to run the pink (potable) anti-freeze through the system. Here you drain the system and then add back enough anti-freeze to run throughout the system...making sure you open each faucet and shower head...and that they are running pink. You can also add the Clorox to keep bacteria down. With either method, pour a quart or so of pink stuff in each drain to protect the drain pipes and traps (anti-back flow/siphon). Do not forget the water in the hot water tank, if installed. Some systems have by-pass valves and some have only drain valves. In either case, make sure electrical power is shut off prior to draining so heating elements are not damaged. One more warning, if you have ice makers installed or units in a refrigerator, make sure you disconnect and drain these lines...they are small and prone to freeze damage.

Reverse cycle heat/air conditioning systems can be winterized in much the same methods as the fresh water systems. The compressors have cooling tubes that use water to cool the system by the use of a circulating pump that pulls sea water in through a seacock and pumps it back overboard at a thru-hull fitting. You must protect this system from freezing either by blowing all the water out or by running anti-freeze through the system. The pink stuff is good here as it is better on the environment than usual engine anti-freezes. You normally introduce the anti-freeze at a strainer above the attached seacock and you must protect the hose and the

seacock as well. I usually disconnect the hose at the seacock which drains it and then vacuum the connecting pipe to the seacock and then fill it with anti-freeze.

As an additional comment, I normally close all seacock's and the disconnect, drain and reconnect all hoses attached to all seacock's after pouring anti-freeze in the fitting, if the vessel will remain in the water during lay up. On the other hand, if stored on shore, leave all seacock's open so they will drain freely. Remember also check the condition of the hoses and clamps (double clamps) as part of this procedure.

Maybe we can get to heads next month...

Cheers, Joe Livingston! Gail Lynn II

During the boating season, the *Daymarker* is chock full of information on cruises and events. Now that things are winding down, we have a little more space for other things, such as boat/boating items for sale. If you have something you would like to sell, please email [oyceditor@gmail.com](mailto:oyceditor@gmail.com). This will also soon become a service on our Website.

\*Please note that they must be boat-related items for sale by an OYC member in good standing.

### For Sale

#### **Aerator (very effective at preventing ice around boats)**

Guest D-Icer Model 6208, 3/4 hp, 10 amp, with 50 ft cord, plus 24-hr timer.  
New price would be ~\$425. Used, asking \$125.  
John Heinze, [703-888-3837](tel:703-888-3837).

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#### **Boat Dehumidifier (for that closed-up boat any time of year)**

West Marine Turbo Dryer Model 7867518 A/C, uses less voltage than 100w bulb but controls humidity in 1000 cu ft space.  
New would be \$58, In box, asking \$20.  
John Heinze, [703-888-3837](tel:703-888-3837)

# CRUISE NEWS and LAND EVENTS

As noted last month: The ICW Cruise to Florida scheduled for October 21-31 has been postponed until after the New Year.

## November 9-11 Hardy Souls Cruise

The new dockmaster at National Harbor has been very accommodating, and it looks as if we'll have slips for everyone who signed up. When there is more information, Don or Anne will again contact those on the list. If you're interested in being on the standby list or have questions, please contact Don at [bennettdon@comcast.net](mailto:bennettdon@comcast.net).

## Saturday - November 24 Santa Cruise from OHM to Occoquan

More information will be provided by blast email as the date draws closer. However, if you're interested, please contact Pat and Harry Croft at [hpcroft@verizon.net](mailto:hpcroft@verizon.net)

## Saturday - December 8 OYC Change of Watch / Holiday Party

Laurel Hill Golf Club,  
Lorton, VA

*(Check out the pictures on the right as a reminder of how much fun we had last year!)*

Watch for your invitation and more information.

In keeping with OYC tradition, we will present the following prestigious awards at the COW:

- 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) who 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

We are looking for nominations since most members who qualify may be too humble to come forward on their own. Please nominate any of your fellow members who have demonstrated the skills, or lack thereof, to qualify

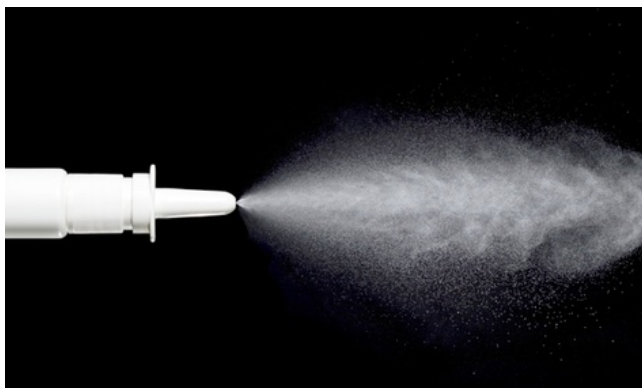
them for one of these awards. Please send their names along with a short justification to support how the Captain or Crew may be qualified to receive one or more of these awards via email to Jim Dooley at [jdooley@gilbaneco.com](mailto:jdooley@gilbaneco.com)

**Saturday – January 26, 2013**  
**Start out the New Year right at the**  
**PRYCA Change of Watch!**  
More information next month



Your 2012 Board, Tom Plewes, Jim Dooley, John Heinze,  
Jill Stanley and Joe Livingston  
Staff members, Bud and Heidi Bishop, and IPC Tom Lensis

**Rejoice, Ye Sufferers of Sickness,  
Whether of Space, Car, or Sea!  
NASA Has Your Back!**



*Water filters. Cordless tools. Shoe insoles. The list of life-improving products developed at NASA is long and nerdy and wonderful. And it is, wonderfully and nerdily, about to add a new item: a nasal spray that fights motion sickness.*

*Yes. Rejoice, ye sufferers of sickness, whether of space or car or sea! NASA has your back.*

*Motion sickness, of course, is a long-standing problem for astronauts -- particularly those on the space station, who spend much of their time flipping and flopping in the stomach-tossing environs of zero gravity. And NASA researchers have found that nasal sprays can work much more quickly -- and much more reliably -- than other methods to mitigate space's stomach-churning effects. So the agency has contracted with a Epiomed, a California-based pharmaceutical firm, to develop a nasal spray that will fight motion sickness. Because the team-up makes sense! And because you can't spell "nasal" without NASA.*

*NASA and Epiomed will initially collaborate on clinical trials and work together to ensure that their products are meeting FDA regulations. The agency will then transfer sponsorship of future trials and approvals to Epiomed.*

*And here's the good news for the Earth-bound: Epiomed is planning to commercialize whatever nose-born stomach-soother emerges from the collaboration. Soon, if all goes according to plan, we'll all be able to end motion sickness with a spray. And we'll all have NASA to thank for it.*

Forwarded by Steve Thompson from *The Atlantic*



## November DATEMARKERS

### BIRTHDAYS

Kathy Corley 11/2

Joey Sowell 11/2

John Heinze 11/3

Joe Derenda 11/4

Heidi Bishop 11/6

Dick Lynn 11/7

Kevin Bell 11/11

Kathy Derenda 11/13

Clara French 11/16

Christian Rose 11/18

Randy Willetts 11/20

Donna Lensis 11/23

Ilona Zsirai 11/27

Joe Livingston 11/30

Kenneth Harris Jr 11/30

### ANNIVERSARIES

Brian & Tricia Smith 11/2

Theodore & Ilona Zsirai 11/7

Mark & Mary Ann Schall 11/13

Mark these dates...

Hardy Souls Cruise  
Nov 9-11

Santa Cruise  
Nov 24

OYC  
Change of Watch  
Holiday Party  
Dec 8

PRYCA  
Change of Watch  
January 26

More info inside...

**Don't miss out on the last events of the season!**

Have you checked out the OYC Website lately?  
[www.OccoquanYachtClub.org](http://www.OccoquanYachtClub.org)

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*The Daymarker* is published monthly by the Occoquan Yacht Club\*.  
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submit your copy by email to [oyceditor@gmail.com](mailto:oyceditor@gmail.com)

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



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Occoquan, VA 22125

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