



# 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

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### Vice Commodore

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## COMMODORE

**Bud Bishop**

[commodore@occoquanyachtclub.org](mailto:commodore@occoquanyachtclub.org)



*Bud & Heidi Bishop*

A brief introduction for some of the new members I may not have met yet. Heidi and I joined OYC five seasons ago and have both enjoyed serving on the board. We have three grown children and an assortment of furry, four-legged live-aboards. Originally from Denver, Colorado, we started boating during our assignment with the Navy to Whidbey Island, Washington, in the 1980's. Our 23' sailboat grew to a 27'. Over the years our assignments to Germany, Japan, and Italy from 1993-2009 brought about a boating hiatus that finally ended in 2010 with the acquisition of *Hi-Jinx*, predecessor to our current boat, *Hi-Jinx<sup>2</sup>*, both SeaRays. We're looking forward to another great season with you on the water in 2015.

As the calendar marches on into a new year and we enter the winter doldrums, a short look back into November and the Change of Watch Holiday Party brings a bright reminder of how fortunate we are to enjoy good times, good friends, and good boating together. The festive evening, with 50 party-goers celebrating in formal attire, was the culmination of another delightful boating season.



The esteemed **Bent Prop Award** went to Scott and Linda Del Monte for an actual bent prop... they endured and overcame a

prop change and various other attached equipment up to and including an ENGINE. Yikes!

The infamous **Golden Snorkel Award** went to yours truly, Bud Bishop, for taking an unexpected dip in the Occoquan off the swim platform as I tried to install an outboard motor on my dinghy. I missed the transom and followed the engine into the deep. Fortunately, I was able to hold onto it and saved it thanks to the quick reach of my crew (Heidi) and the fact that I had the foresight to put down my boarding ladder first. Whew!



And the **Commodore's Cup** went to Chris Rose for his faithful and generous support of OYC



events. Chris is always there when needed, and is always waiting in the wings if not

needed...then we realize we need help and he jumps on in. Planning never quite goes right, and it is always a blessing to have someone standing by to assist... Thanks Chris!

A special thanks goes to the impromptu party committee, including Les and Kathy Bergmann, Don and Anne Bennett, Johnny and Michelle DeDitiis, Pat Croft (special thanks to Harry for lending us his nurse...she didn't wear her nurses uniform to the setup though...), Jim Dooley, and of course, Chris Rose. If you were not able to attend the party, we enjoyed another great evening of dancing, cocktails, dinner, and visiting with friends (in clothes vice swimming suits...nice!!!).

The OYC Board will be meeting in December, and the Board and former cruise coordinators will be meeting in January to plan the cruising and event schedule for the coming year. Stay tuned for the February Planfest when we will present that calendar of events and give you a chance to sign up for another season of great cruises.

In the meantime, consider attending the PRYCA Change of Watch dinner dance, coming up 16-18 JAN in Alexandria, to join in the celebration of our near victory in winning **The Cup!** I look forward to an exciting year for OYC. Welcome aboard!

Bud Bishop, *Hi-Jinx*<sub>2</sub>  
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**Vice Commodore**

**Pat Schondel**

[vicecommodore@occoquanyachtclub.org](mailto:vicecommodore@occoquanyachtclub.org)



Pat Schondel & Christie Raukar

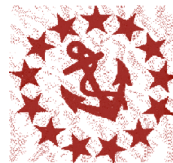
**Vice Commodore's Log, Thanksgiving 2014** – I'm thankful we have such a great Occoquan Yacht Club with so many enjoyable people and many fun cruises to look forward to in 2015! Thank you all for endorsing my nomination to this post, and more thanks for coming to the Change of Watch to see all of last year's awards finally go to deserving recipients. In this new role my job is to plan a cruising agenda for the year that has opportunity for everyone, from new boaters to experienced cruisers to stowaway land lubbers, so we get as many of our boats out as we can and enjoy our local – and far away – waterways. Always embrace the parties that somehow magically spring up on the water.

Luckily I am following the lead of one creative Bud Bishop, now Commodore, who established a precedent

for cruise planning that I am more than happy to copy. I'll start with his cruise plan from last year and add or change it to include any ideas that all of you may have for trips to take in 2015. Please feel free to send me email at [vicecommodore@occoquanyachtclub.org](mailto:vicecommodore@occoquanyachtclub.org) or text me or call at 281-216-9358. Between now and the Planfest at our next OYC meeting sometime in February (think Feb 21 or Feb 28, 2015) we'll organize all the options to have them displayed for discussion at that event. As we confirm the date, please put a hold on your calendar and plan to attend. It is a great opportunity to share your thoughts and think warm cruising thoughts in the middle of winter. I'm glad to have seen fuel prices drop as we closed out the season, and I'm looking forward to their holding steady so we can kick off the next cruising year on RhumbLine with a lot of trips.

Now for our OYC advertisement on volunteers! We are looking for Cruise Coordinators (I just gave you all promotions by creating that title in capitals) to make all of our cruises next year successes. We have a handbook that lays out all the steps, experienced Cruise Coordinators from previous years (when they were just cruise coordinators) to consult with, and lots of fellow cruisers with plenty of advice for Coordinators. So please attend the Planfest in February when we'll ask folks to stand up and volunteer to be Cruise Coordinator. Oh, and if you don't attend a meeting at work, you know how it goes . . . the absentees get assigned the actions. Have a great holiday season everybody and we look forward to seeing you in February!

Pat Schondel, *RhumbLine*  
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**Rear Commodore**

**Bob Hill**

[rearcommodore@occoquanyachtclub.org](mailto:rearcommodore@occoquanyachtclub.org)



Bob Hill & Min Lee

I would like to start off by saying thank you to both the nominating committee and the membership at the Chili Cook-Off for electing me to be the Rear Commodore for

the coming year. I hope I can live up to the confidence you have placed in me to perform these functions.

I'll begin with a little about myself as a way to introduce myself to the general membership. I have been an OYC member for three years, at Occoquan Harbour Marina (OHM) for nine years, a boat owner for twenty years and boater for many more, having grown up in a boating family. Min and I have our boat on B Dock at OHM, so stop by sometime for a glass of wine! We have been cruise coordinators for several events in the past, to include the Memorial Day cruise to Colonial Beach and a cruise to The Tides Inn. We have been on many of the OYC and PRYCA cruise events up and down the Potomac River as well. In addition, we have cruised a good portion of the Chesapeake Bay to include Annapolis, Solomon's Island, Baltimore, St. Michaels, and the Hyatt at Cambridge.

One of the primary roles of the Rear Commodore is to coordinate our club's land events. They include the Planfest in February, March General Membership Meeting and Photo Contest, May Flag Raising, a Fajitafest in June, Shrimpfest in September, and the October Chili Cook-Off and Elections. For those who are new or have not attended any of these functions in the past, I would like to say first of all, you should! They are a lot of fun!! As a brief explanation of the events:

#### Planfest

This is the first opportunity to sign up for the planned events (both land and water). Each cruise coordinator will introduce their planned event. There is a pre-planfest where cruise coordinators get together to map out the years events. If you would like to be a cruise coordinator please let us know so you can get an invite to the pre-planfest event.

#### General Membership and Photo Contest

This is a general membership meeting to discuss OYC business as well as share your photos with the group and win valuable prizes!

#### Flag Raising

This will be in early May and is a traditional 'beginning-of-the-season' flag raising. Traditionally you're asked to bring a dish to share and OYC will also provide food and drink.

#### Fajitafest

Typically an early June event and always popular. This is a set-fee event and includes food and drink provided to includes fajitas, Mexican food, Margarita's, etc for all.

#### Shrimpfest

This September event is a classic shrimp boil! It is another set-fee event and includes lots of shrimp and beer and mom's apple pie!

#### Chili Cook-Off and Elections

This event is in October and is true to its name. Bring your chili and vote for next year's board.

I look forward to serving you and hope to see everyone around the docks, at a land event or on a cruise!

Safe boating everyone!

Bob Hill, Rx to Relax

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**Secretary**

**Kathy Bergmann**

[secretary@occoquanyachtclub.org](mailto:secretary@occoquanyachtclub.org)



Kathy Bergmann - Secretary  
Les Bergmann - Historian

During our marriage we considered buying a boat a number of times, but for some reason it just didn't seem to be the right time. Both of our children were swimmers and the summers were always spent at the pool watching them compete in swim meets. When they moved on to other activities, the desire to own a boat came on very strong. A friend took us out on his Silverton and we finally decided that the time was right. We started our search and found the boat we wanted to buy. The next step was finding a marina close to home. When we visited Belmont Bay and sat on a bench waiting to speak to the harbourmaster, we noticed that the slip in front of us was empty. We loved the view and decided it was the place for us. Our two years of boat ownership have been absolutely delightful and humbling at times. It seems that most of our challenges have been wind related.

When it came time to name our boat we wanted all our family to be involved in the decision. We found it difficult to find something all four of us would agree on until I mentioned that all of us had been given the nickname *Bergie* or some form of the name throughout our lives. Once that name was suggested it was an easy decision.



Our advice to everyone is to get involved on some level and to attend as many OYC events as you can. We have enjoyed everything that we have done with OYC and look forward to expanding our horizons next year. During our first year we participated in local events. As we felt more confident we decided to participate in some of the longer cruises. Maybe next summer we will tackle Chesapeake Bay with the help of our OYC friends.

Kathy Bergmann, *Bergie*  
\*\*\*



## Treasurer

**Michelle DeDitius**

[treasurer@occoquanyachtclub.org](mailto:treasurer@occoquanyachtclub.org)



*Michelle & Johnny DeDitius*

I was born in Norwich, CT and grew up around the water. My father was in the Navy and spent 26 years in the submarine service. I lived in a variety of places including Connecticut, Hawaii, California, Scotland and Virginia, and never enjoyed the constant upheaval that Navy life entailed, like moving, new schools and having to meet new friends. I was so turned off by the continuous disruption that I vowed to never get involved with a military man, which I memorialized in a school paper I wrote when I was in high school.

However, during my sophomore year at Christopher Newport University, I met Johnny who was in the Navy and stationed on the pre-commissioning unit of the USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72). We married shortly after I graduated, when we quickly started the chaos all over again by moving from Hampton, Virginia to Alameda, California.

During Johnny's military career there continued to be moves, meeting new friends and finding new employment. I've lived in Alameda, San Diego, Washington D.C., Virginia Beach and back to Washington D.C.

I currently work for an Alaskan Native Corporation (ANC) government contractor in Herndon, Virginia as an accountant. Throughout my accounting career I have worked for one of the best-known sourdough companies, a leading hot tub manufacturer and a value-added reseller of computer networking equipment.

Our first boat, *Irish Legacy*, was a Regal 3010 that we purchased to see if we really were going to enjoy the boating lifestyle. After the first couple of outings on the boat we knew this was the relaxation we needed after a long exhausting week of work. It was amazing that within 20 minutes of leaving the marina we felt as if we were in another world, away from the hustle and bustle of the DC area.

We kept *Irish Legacy* for two seasons when we finally contracted a terrible case of "foot" disease. At that time we decided we needed something that was a little more comfortable and took a 10-foot leap to a Sea Ray 40DA. I named the new boat *Liquid Leisure* after scouring the Coast Guard documentation database to make sure the name was unique and not claimed by any other boat.

Johnny and I are entering our sixth season where we continue to enjoy boating. We joined the OYC in 2011 and have appreciated the new friendships we have made within the club. Johnny was recently Membership Chair, and we are active members who pitch in when needed and can always be found hosting the 4<sup>th</sup> of July raft-up between the Memorial and 14<sup>th</sup> Street bridges. Hope to see you there or at one of the other events!

Michelle DeDitius, *Liquid Leisure*  
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## QUARTERMASTER Monica Fineberg

[quartermaster@occoquanyachtclub.org](mailto:quartermaster@occoquanyachtclub.org)



*Paul & Monica Fineberg*

Happy Thanksgiving everyone. I hope you all have a great holiday. Paul and I started boating in 1999 with our first boat, which was a 29 Maxum. We were in Virginia Beach and boating on the Chesapeake Bay. After that we moved to Syracuse, New York, and continued boating on the lakes in the area. When we moved again to Rhode Island, we sold the Maxum and bought a Chaparral, which we kept for a while until we bought our current SeaRay (which we like very much). Paul and I feel that boating in Rhode Island was a lot of fun and there's nothing like boating on the open ocean. You have to be prepared for whatever comes your way. We moved to Woodbridge in 2011, and have enjoyed boating more because of OYC.

Now that the weather is cold and the boats are put away for the winter, I just want to let you know that the Quartermaster shop is open for business during the winter months. For all the new members, you can get a head start on clothing for the next season by contacting me at [quartermaster@occoquanyachtclub.org](mailto:quartermaster@occoquanyachtclub.org).

I do have polo shirts, short sleeve shirts and a couple other items here at the house already. If you want your boat name on the shirts, I would like a picture emailed to me so I can have it embroidery the right way.

I'll be happy to help you with anything you might need for the next season.

Again, have a great Thanksgiving.....

Monica Fineberg, *The Weekender*  
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## MEMBERSHIP John Cornicelli

[membership@occoquanyachtclub.org](mailto:membership@occoquanyachtclub.org)



John & Suzy Cornicelli

I am glad to be taking over as your new Membership Chair; and no, Heidi did NOT zap me with vodka and

ask me to volunteer. It was decent red wine, as well it should have been. My wife, Suzy, and I have been happy members of the club for a couple of years now, and we would like to assist our members as necessary and recruit new ones to join us in our fun club. Feel free to contact us at 202-834-0117 or drop by our vessel, *Persephone*, at the Occoquan Harbor Marina.

John Cornicelli, *Persephone*  
\*\*\*

## HISTORIAN Les Bergmann

[historian@occoquanyachtclub.org](mailto:historian@occoquanyachtclub.org)

(Please see Secretary's article)

As always if you have pictures to share, please send them to the [historian@occoquanyachtclub.org](mailto:historian@occoquanyachtclub.org).

Les Bergmann, *Bergie*  
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## IMMEDIATE PAST COMMODORE WEBMASTER Don Bennett DAYMARKER EDITOR Anne Bennett



Anne & Don Bennett

We are both originally from Cleveland, Ohio. Don graduated from the Naval Academy and went into the Marine Corps, which is ultimately what brought our family to Virginia in 1989. We have two sons, who are both musicians. David, a composer and teacher, and his fiancé, Julie, live in Texas. Brandon is a high school music teacher, band director. He and his wife, Jill, live on Long Island and have two beautiful, little daughters.

Our first boat was an 18-foot jet boat, which we put into the waters of Aquia Creek for a brief time in 2008. After

eight hours of mostly fighting with hydrilla lodged in the jet intake, we traded it in for a Sea Ray 290 “decked-out” deck boat, which was infinitely better. However, at that time there was a third “child” to be considered...

Shadow, a 90-pound Alaskan Malamute, not your basic boat dog. So a year or so later we were “forced” to upgrade again to something with guaranteed shade, indoor space and air conditioning, a 44 Sundancer, which can be found docked at Belmont Bay Marina.

Since joining OYC in 2010, our life has been greatly enriched by making many wonderful friends and learning so much about boating and our local waterways from fellow members. Whether cruising to a favorite destination or a new adventure, rafting, or partying on land, we are always grateful for the friendship and the great times we enjoy together. Looking forward to 2015!

Don & Anne Bennett, *Heart of the Sun*

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## Crew's News

### HARDY SOULS CRUISE TO NATIONAL HARBOR

A large gathering of Hardy Souls enjoyed the sights and sounds of National Harbor on 7-9 NOV: Don & Anne Bennett along with Catherine Dudley (*Heart of the Sun*), Bud & Heidi Bishop (*Hi-Jinx<sup>2</sup>*), Mike & Karen Crouch (*Makia III*), John & Michele Adams (*Our Therapy*), Les & Kathy Bergmann (*Bergie*), Scott & Linda Del Monte (*ScottLin Yard*), Paul & Monica Fineberg (*The Weekender*), Richard Henry (*Dutch*), Pat Schondel & Christie Raukar (*RhumbLine*), Rich & Carole Ellison (*Jolly Mon*), and Robert Hill & Min Lee (*Rx To Relax*).

The event began with arrival beverages served by yours truly as boats arrived, and then the beverages and arrivals just kept happening. Soon it turned into a dockside happy hour. The weather was cool and windy, but the wind died down as the weekend progressed, and it turned out to be a pleasant weekend despite the forecasts otherwise.

The scheduled Saturday morning early-riser walk never occurred...the evening festivities might have contributed to that omission. The scheduled bridge walk never materialized either, as the ladies decided to go shopping instead! The shopping excursion turned into hours of spending and a pleasant encounter with David McCallum, a.k.a. Illya Kuryakin in *The Man from U.N.C.L.E.* and “Ducky,” the doctor from *NCIS*, at ‘Charming Charlie’s, seen here with Michele Adams. The ladies happened to be shopping for their “tacky tiaras,” which all participants then modeled at the COW! (See pics at end)



Dinner options were split for the crowd with some choosing to use the reservations at Rosa Mexicana and others choosing to head to the Cadillac Ranch for hearty portions of beef! After a scrumptious dinner, many headed to the dueling pianos at Bobby McKey's, then returned for nightcaps on the dock.

Sunday was another nice day, and a sizeable brunch crowd headed to Public House for breakfast and Bloody Marys. Then the departures started, as many had to work on Monday. For the rest who had the day off on Monday, the remainder of the weekend was spent relaxing at National Harbor. A group tried out Redstone American Grill Sunday night, and Monday brunch at the Gaylord and more shopping were added to the activities.

Bud & Heidi Bishop, *Hi-Jinx<sup>2</sup>*  
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### DATEMARKERS

#### Birthdays

Dan Parsons 12/1  
Don Bennett 12/4  
Paul Mannino 12/4  
Larry Freedman 12/9  
Anne Bennett 12/15  
Thomas Plewes 12/15  
Harry Croft 12/21  
Debbie Kent 12/22  
Les Bergmann 12/25  
Susan Thompson 12/26  
Kari Langerman 12/29  
Karen Joyner 12/29  
John Cornicelli 12/31

#### Anniversaries

Ned & Arleen Rhodes



## FOR SALE!

As a benefit to members, we will publish a listing of boating-related items for sale by OYC members only. Please send a BRIEF description of the item(s), your asking price, etc., and contact information to me at [editor@occoquanyachtclub.org](mailto:editor@occoquanyachtclub.org).

Thanks! Anne

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## REGAL 4260 FOR SALE!

"Pure Enjoyment" - 2004 Regal 4260 Commodore

2 Staterooms / 2 Heads

New canvas in 2012

New cockpit carpeting in 2013

New house battery in 2013

Bottom paint spring 2014

Props refurbished & tuned spring 2014

All TV's upgraded to digital in 2012

\$197,000 OBO

Contact: [pamannino@comcast.net](mailto:pamannino@comcast.net) or 703-282-5276

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OYC members, Bill and Beth Francis are selling their amazing 5 bedroom/ 3-1/2 Bath Woodbridge home, conveniently located with easy access to the river. Relax on the 2-level deck, by the heated in-ground pool or down on the private/community dock. Enjoy the breathtaking views of the Potomac River. Fenced yard w/ sprinkler system. large kitchen w/ Corian. sunroom, brick porch with tin roof, jetted tub; main level HW floors, finished basement w/ wet bar w/ 2nd fridge and DW, theater room, wine room, rec room. Community beach, pier and boat ramp. 1 mile to VRE & 95 They ask that you contact their realtor Carol Krill at 540-287-3564 (cell)

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## Change of Watch 2014-15



Your 2015 OYC Board and Staff

Don, Les, Anne, John, Monica, Michelle, Kathy, Bob, Pat & Bud  
PRYCA & CBYCA Delegate Joe Livingston was not able to attend



2015 Commodore Bud Bishop takes the oath



Commodore Bud presents an appreciation gift to IPC Don



2014 Commodore's Cup recipient, Chris, and Allison





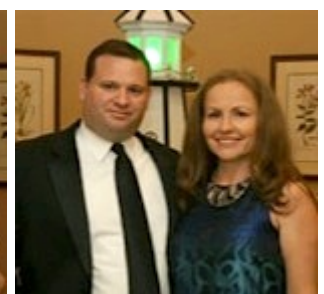
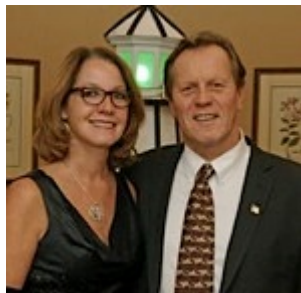
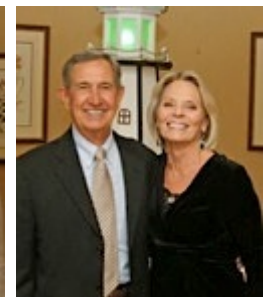
Scott, a.k.a. "Don Bennett, Webmaster" (for the night), and Don entertain



The "Tacky Tiaras" from Hardy Souls party at the COW Min, Kathy Anne, Carole, Susan, Monica, Heidi, Karen & Linda



"Tacky Tiara" wann'a-bes  
Jerry, Don, Bob & Bud







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Please submit your copy by email to  
[editor@occoquanyachtclub.org](mailto:editor@occoquanyachtclub.org)

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



*Join a Holiday Tradition*



# PARADE OF LIGHTS 2014

*Saturday December 6, 2014*

From Alexandria to Washington Channel

Land Festivities at the Wharf on the Southwest Waterfront

Tommy McFLY, of Fresh 94.7, will emcee Alexandria leg of Parade

**BOAT PARADE OF LIGHTS FROM ALEXANDRIA TO WASHINGTON CHANNEL - 5pm**

Awards Party at the Channel Inn, Hosted by the Washington Waterfront Association and the Wharf  
Live music, food, prizes and lots of fun!

Mark Your Calendar - Captains' and First Mates' Orientation Meeting and Reception hosted by the  
Old Dominion Boat Club - December 4, 2014 (7pm)

**JOIN YOUR FELLOW BOATERS FOR SOME FUN AND FRIENDLY COMPETITION  
CASH PRIZES, WEEKEND GETAWAYS, MARINA STAYS & MORE**

Complimentary Slips available  
[www.paradeoflightedboats.eventbrite.com](http://www.paradeoflightedboats.eventbrite.com)

For registration information:

[www.paradeoflightedboats.eventbrite.com](http://www.paradeoflightedboats.eventbrite.com)



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