



# 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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## COMMODORE

### Bud Bishop

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



Feel that? It is spring coming our way!!! The Planfest date is behind us (incomplete unfortunately, but we'll fix that), the year is filling out with boating activities, and we are ready to show our newest members what the investment in that hole in the water is all about!

March is typically the time when water starts flowing in the pipes in the marinas and we all get a chance to work out the kinks from the winter, put our boats back together, move the stuff from the garage and restock, clean and wax, paint the bottoms, and whatever else you have on your to-do list.

Your executive board is in the planning stages for the Flag Raising; and we are getting the invites out to the VIPs and local dignitaries, as well as invites out to the boat inspectors. Consider making arrangements to have your boat inspected at this function since you'll be down by the boats anyway. Small groups might find it advantageous to get together and knock out a bunch of boat inspections in your own marinas as well; there are a number of good reasons to get one, safety being the biggest. Finding out you don't have working safety gear while you are taking on water is not a good thing. I myself have experienced fire in the engine room from lack of cooling water flow, flooding from a worn shaft seal, engine failures that could have resulted in the boat drifting onto rocks, etc. Not having working flotation gear or fire extinguishers is a bad thing and a simple, 45-minute inspection will give you the peace of mind

you deserve. It also helps your fellow boaters enjoy a stress-free environment when you join a raft and proudly display that sticker! They have invested a lot of love in their boat and will not want to see it endangered.

Rafting courtesy: I should include some general notes about rafting up with other boats, whether at Georgetown or out on the river/bay. Captains should always seek permission to raft up against another boat. Captains should not join that boat until the host captain has waved you in—he/she will need to ensure bumpers are out and set at the right height and rig lines if you haven't already done so. In seeking permission, captains should understand that permission to join may not be given—and there really is no recourse when that occurs. If this happens at Georgetown or at the Occoquan town dock and you are refused permission to raft alongside, consider asking other boats up the line or simply anchor in a safe area and utilize a dingy to move to the dock. As a matter of courtesy, I will almost always try to host someone needing to join—times when I won't is when I am getting ready to leave (and then I'll give them an ETA in case they want to stand off and take my place) or when I don't know the boat and I don't see their safety sticker (anything that happens will directly affect me and my boat if they are made fast alongside).

To remind: now is the time to start talking to your boating buddies to encourage them to join OYC. It is amazing how much more use you get out of the boat-investment when you are part of such a fun boating/social club... and the sheer fact that there is safety in numbers helps convince the newer-to-boating folks that boating is not something to be feared.

See you at the upcoming meetings or perhaps down at the marina as you check up on your boat...I'll be the guy standing at the wheel making engine noises!

Bud Bishop, *Hi-Jinx*<sup>2</sup>, Commodore 2015

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# Vice Commodore

## Pat Schondel

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### Vice Commodore's Log, end of

**February** – last year's Polar Vortex's had a nice ring compared to this year's Siberian Express. Our trip to the British Virgin Islands last week did not prepare us well – we returned to a 90-degree

change in temperature (from 85 to minus 5) getting off the plane at midnight on Sunday. This is the most ice I've seen on the river since we moved here in 1996. It is a good time to check in on your boat if you winterized in the water. Of course, you are doing that regularly to make sure the electric continues operating for your engine heaters and bubblers. The weather has been so sever these last couple of weeks we had to cancel our 21 February Planfest, which was a smart move on the part of Commodore Bud Bishop. So my opportunity this month is to clarify how we are going to handle cruise sign up now and solicit volunteers as Cruise Coordinators.

The information below is an updated and edited list of the events OYC will have in 2015. Please feel free to review and consider which cruises you would like to participate in; and if you're feeling especially giving, think about volunteering to be a Cruise Coordinator. You will see that we are firm on most dates and have a lot of volunteers already signed up. But we do have several cruises for which we are seeking volunteers. Also, as I wrote in last month's article, feel free to make any suggestions you have for adding other cruises or events to the list. We look forward to everyone's input. As always feel free to contact me at [jpatmans@yahoo.com](mailto:jpatmans@yahoo.com) or (281) 216-9358 if you have recommendations or would like to get a head start on signing up for cruises. You should also expect an email blast from Commodore Bud Bishop with an electronic copy of the signup sheet that you can edit, or somehow indicate, your interests and send it to me or the contact info that comes in that email. Finally although we don't want to take too much time away at the upcoming March Membership Meeting and Photo Contest, we will discuss briefly the event list at that time and accept people signing up on hardcopies that we'll hand out at the meeting. As a reminder the **General Membership Meeting is at Fairfax Yacht Club on 14 March and starts at 2pm.**



## 2015 OYC Events \*

### January

- 02 Happy Hour at the Electric Palm
- 24 Pre-Planfest

### February

- 06 Happy Hour at The Electric Palm
- 21 Planfest - 3:00 at The Landing at OHM

### March

- 06 Happy Hour, 5:00 PM, The Landing at OHM
- 14 General Meeting & Photo Contest, 2:00 PM, FYC
- 17 St. Patrick's Day Happy Hour at Madigan's

### April

- 03 Happy Hour, 5:00 PM, The Osprey's at Belmont Bay
- TBD Cherry Blossom Cruise (3/20-22, 3/27-29, 4/3-4/5, or 4/10-12 ? ...blossom dependent)
- 25 OYC Flag Raising

### May

- 01 Happy Hour
- 01 National Harbor Wine and Food Festival (5/1-3)
- 16 ORMA Blessing of the Fleet
- 22 Colonial Beach Memorial Day (5/22-25)
- 22 Solomons Island Memorial Day (5/22-25)

### June

- 05 Happy Hour
- 06 OYC Fajitafest
- 19 Cobb Island Summer Kick-Off (6/19-21)
- 27 Tim's Rivershore Fireworks

### July

- 03 Happy Hour
- 03 National Fireworks (2 Options) (7/3-5)
- 14 OYC South visits the Chesapeake (7/14-26)
- 17 PRYCA Float-In & Cup Competition (7/17-19)
- 19 Croft Chesapeake Cruise (7/19-8/14)

### August

- 01 Gilligan's Cruise (8/1-2)
- 07 Happy Hour
- 14 Dog Days of Summer at Aquia (8/14-16)

### September

- 04 Happy Hour
- 04 Corinthian Cruise (9/4-7)
- 04 Tall Timbers burning of the boat (9/4-7)
- 18 End of Summer (18-20)
- 19 Shrimpfest
- TBD Nationals Baseball Game (late September)

### October

- 02 Happy Hour
- 24 General Membership Meeting & Chili Cook-Off

### November

- 06 Happy Hour
- 06 Hardy Souls Cruise (10/6-8, Veteran's Day)
- 14 OYC Change of Watch

### December

- 04 Happy Hour
- 05 Parade of Lights or Santa Cruise to Occoquan

**\* Please go to the end of this newsletter to see more information, including brief cruise descriptions, cruise coordinators and their contact information.**

**Please plan to attend the General Membership Meeting at Fairfax Yacht Club March 14 at 2:00 PM!**

You will be able to sign up for cruises during the meeting and even volunteer to lead one or more if you so desire. Be warned that while we conduct the Planfest we will ask folks if they would like to be Cruise Coordinators. For those who haven't done it yet, we have a Cruise Coordinator Handbook on our website for reference if you do decide you are interested. Generally in OYC we simply ask the Cruise Coordinator to arrange slips (close together if possible); set up a welcoming libation for the club boats that come in after; and if applicable, come up with an agenda for dinners or breakfasts on land or hosted on the boats or on the dock (BYO-Food and Drink). Please note that the cruise plan we discuss isn't necessarily carved in stone. Feel free to suggest new cruises, and we'll include them on the list. With fuel prices having dropped so much – and maybe some more – we hope to see a lot more folks out on the water this season!

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

**Bob Hill**

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



February started off great from an OYC land events perspective. We had a fantastic Happy Hour at The Electric Palm on February 6th. We had nearly 30 members show up and had a fantastic time!!! I strongly encourage you to come to the next Happy Hour on March 6<sup>th</sup> at 5 PM. It will be at The Landing, located at the Occoquan Harbour Marina. Hope to see you there so we can set a new attendance record!!

So now the not so good news, we had to cancel Planfest. I can tell you that the Board was very disappointed because it is our chance to tell you about the great events we have planned. So, to make it up, at the Happy Hour on March 6th, we will hold a 'mini-me' Planfest. We will have the information available and give a few minutes on each event as time and being HAPPY permit! ☺ We will also add time at the **General Membership meeting on March 14<sup>th</sup> at the Fairfax Yacht Club at 2:00 PM.** The main event for the March membership meeting, however, is our Annual Photo Contest. The rules are as follows:

Bring your pictures for the contest to the clubhouse to be registered and posted on the display boards. Pictures can be any size and should have a caption on the back

denoting who, what, where, when, etc. Members will vote for their favorite photo in each category. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place photos in each category, and the winning photos will be published in *The Daymarker*. The overall theme should be nautical, and the photographer must be an OYC member. The photo must have been taken during the past year and never entered in previous OYC Photo Contests. Photos may be kept by the OYC Historian to add to our archives. Categories are as follows:

- **People:** On boats, on docks, in the water, on an OYC cruise, on an OYC outing, on an OYC land event, etc., etc., etc.
- **Places:** Landscapes, waterscapes, sunrises, sunsets, marinas, towns visited on a cruise, etc., etc., etc.
- **Pets:** Dogs, cats, animals of any variety, your pet on a boat, your friend's pet on a boat, waterfowl, etc., etc., etc.
- **Phantasy:** Pictures that you have electronically enhanced, modified, or created, using whatever digital means at your disposal – just be sure to keep in mind the nautical (not naughty!) theme!
- **Just Boats:** This category gives you a chance to show off that great boat of yours, or a boat that strikes your fancy.

Remember, it should be a photo that was taken in 2014, and it should be boating related. Please be considerate of others and don't bring more than a few for each category. **As is our custom, please BYOB and a dish to share.**

Our last activity for March will be St. Patrick's Day celebration at Madigan's in Occoquan. It will be on St. Patrick's Day, which is March 17th and falls on a Tuesday this year. And of course, everyone is Irish on St. Patty's Day so please come join us. Please let me know in advance if you are coming so I can make a reservation for enough people!

For planning purposes, please mark April 3<sup>rd</sup> on your calendars now. That will be the April Happy Hour and it will be at The Osprey's in Belmont Bay with a 5 PM start.

As a reminder, the Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 25-8 will be conducting the course "About Boating Safety" on Mar 28, Apr 25, May 30 and Jun 27. The course is a one-day course and meets the boater education requirements for Virginia, Maryland and DC. The cost is \$40 (\$60 for two sharing the same text) and will be at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 8592 Richmond Hwy, Alexandria, VA. Contact Jean Ponton at: [herpomp79@yahoo.com](mailto:herpomp79@yahoo.com) or 703-362-7079 to sign up and get more details. Let them know OYC sent you! We



strongly encourage all to take the course or one like it periodically. Things change out on the water and this is a good way to keep up with the latest procedures and requirements.

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
PHOTO CONTEST**

March 14, 2015

2:00 PM Fairfax Yacht Club

Bring your favorite 2014 photos!

BYOB & A DISH TO SHARE

Bob Hill, *Rx to Relax*

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**February 6 Happy Hour at the Electric Palm**



Bob, Scott, Min, Kathy & Linda



Susan, Kathy, Jerry & Min



Michelle, Min & Heidi



**Secretary**

**Kathy Bergmann**

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



Continuing member introductions:

John and Suzy Cornicelli have been members of OYC since May 2012. The following is an article John submitted to the Junk Rig Association's journal last fall.

*Persephone is a modified Tom Colvin designed "Gazelle" pilothouse junk schooner here seen anchored in peaceful Mattawoman Bay, near where the Occoquan and Potomac Rivers meet. Her steel hull was laid down in St-Augustine, Florida, but we found her in Galveston in need of a complete refit and rerigging. Two years of patient advice from Junk Rig Association members on rigging, and from steel boat captains on the Potomac and Chesapeake, and we were sailing. Our drive system is an experimental design using an 11 kilowatt electric motor mated to a Norwegian HVP-15 Controllable Pitch Propeller transmission salvaged from an old Sabb Diesel engine. Turned out to work pretty well, even in the sometimes tidey Potomac River.*

*We could not decide on her name, so we gave the job to my (at the time) 10 year old daughter Catherine. She promptly formed a committee of her little friends. They were seen with a pile of books on Greek mythology, their Harry Potter set, and my Patrick O'Brian. Greek mythology won out, thank god. I couldn't bear radioing "Hermione Granger" to the Coast Guard.*

*I grew up small boat sailing and working riverboats (think the stern wheeler Tom Sawyer steamboats) and Suzy grew up in Florida, so we are both drawn to living on the water. We are both new to schooner sailing, but our little vessel has been patient with us, reminding us that captaincy decisions are in reality....consensus agreements. This area is a sailing challenge, with tides, currents, radical depth changes, and flukey winds. But we enjoy teaching the kids boat handling, navigation, and seamanship close to home. Handing a 50' schooner's helm to Valerie (age 9), while we make coffee is pretty easy with a junk rig....although we learned together how an unplanned jibe can turn into Horatio Hornblower wearing ship. Saying she is a forgiving vessel is an understatement. The rig helps. Literally one handed jobs tacking or wearing, and repairs under sail are easy. Persephone's schooner (sail) balance has been our most enjoyable learning experience, and when she's happy, she COMES ALIVE and says so. We've run aground on sandbars only*

twice....once on her maiden voyage and once in front of George Washington's house, god help us.

For now we plan on staying close to home to explore the Potomac and Chesapeake Bay with our kids and Sally the Wonder Puppy, our morale officer. Later, when the kids are grown....sure, England, the Med, the Pacific. But for now, the world comes to us. After the motor boaters all go home on Sunday night, and we have our little bays and rivers to ourselves, the cruisers show up. Especially around hurricane season, this area is a stopover destination for many making the Gulf Stream circuit from Europe to the Caribbean and back. Which gives us the chance to ship visit and share recipes and wine.



*Persephone*

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



## Treasurer

**Michelle DeDitius**

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



Many members have already remitted dues for the 2015 boating year. It may be hard to think of boating when it's so cold out, but **the renewal deadline is technically January 1**. If you have not paid your dues and updated your membership, please remit payment payable to "OYC", c/o Michelle DeDitius at 8821 Lake Hill Drive, Lorton, VA 22079. The dues structure is as follows and the form is at the end of this newsletter.

- Family -- \$75
- Individual -- \$55
- Associate -- \$30

Burgee included for Family and Individual Membership for new members only

Michelle DeDitius, *Liquid Leisure*  
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## HISTORIAN Les Bergmann

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

Some of the previous events listed on the Website don't have pictures because we can't publish what we don't have. If you have pictures you'd like to share on the Website's Photo Galleries, please send them to [historian@occoquanyachtclub.org](mailto:historian@occoquanyachtclub.org).

I'm looking forward to all the great, fun photo opportunities 2015 will provide!

Les Bergmann, *Bergie*  
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## QUARTERMASTER Monica Fineberg

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

Hi everyone,  
I hope that you are all staying warm and safe. I know this weather is just awful and we can't wait for it to end so that we can get back on the water. It is a good time for you to look through your clothing and see what you might need for the upcoming season of boating. Shirts, hats, sweatshirts, ect....

I will have items for sale at the General Meeting on March 14. I also purchased some koozies for beer bottles. They are navy blue with our name on them. They do zip up in the back. They are \$6.50 each. I am still looking for other ideas that you would like to see for purchase. Please let me know what you would like.

See you next month...

Monica Fineberg, *The Weekender*  
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## IMMEDIATE PAST COMMODORE WEBMASTER Don Bennett

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

As we put the finishing touches on the 2015 schedule, I wish to remind all of the use of the website to maintain your profile information and select your cruises and events for the season. Mother Nature threw us a curve for Planfest, but we'll make up for it at the 6 March Happy Hour, 5:00 PM at the Landing, and the General

Meeting, 2:00 PM at Fairfax Yacht Club. The current weather can only heighten our anticipation of a great upcoming season.

In order to access your page, please log onto [www.occoquanyachtclub.org](http://www.occoquanyachtclub.org) and enter your username and password in the lower left. Once logged in, the "Members Only" section will appear at the bottom of the left column and you will see the "Your Profile" and "Cruise Sign-Up" options. Use the Profile option to update your personal and boat information, and use the "Cruise Sign-Up" option to select your cruises (2015 is posted). Don't forget to select "Submit" at the bottom of the page. When you save your cruise selection an email will be sent to the Vice Commodore, Webmaster and you with a copy of your choices. Please keep your information current to include birthdays and anniversaries (month / day) for use in *The Daymarker*, and contact and boat information for use by the Board and Cruise Coordinators.



As a club, boating safety and education are our first priorities. In the left column of the website you will find "Boating Resources." On that page you can select a link to find a boating course or schedule a boat inspection.

Our goal is to have 100% of our boats displaying the green 2015 safety decal.

If you have any suggestions, questions or issues accessing the site, please send me an email at [webmaster@occoquanyachtclub.org](mailto:webmaster@occoquanyachtclub.org)

Looking forward to the 2015 season!  
Don Bennett, *Heart of the Sun*

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## MEMBERSHIP John Cornicelli

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

Greetings, all.

Thanks to all who renewed their memberships, as this greatly helps our club fund its events. Just a reminder if you haven't renewed, **dues for the upcoming boating season were payable as of January 1.** So, please go back to our Treasurer Michelle's message or to the form at the end of this newsletter for payment information.

Spread the word so more may join our fun. Next month I will preview for you a printable flyer to put up in your marinas.

John Cornicelli, *Persephone*  
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## Birthdays

Steve Preda 3/1  
Janice Morgan 3/1  
Kris Butera 3/4  
Lucy Dubraque 3/4  
Allen Jorsey 3/15  
Sherry Mannino 3/16  
Mike Schneider 3/17  
Nadya Lippman 3/18  
Katherine Cook 3/18  
Bill Francis 3/20  
Ted Zsirai 3/20  
Bruno Millonig 3/22  
Susan Millonig 3/28  
Suzy Cornicelli 3/30  
Lynanne Jorsey 3/30  
Betsey Nalevanko 3/30  
Susan Tarasek 3/31

## Anniversaries

Kevin & Pamela Bell 3/16  
Mike & Karen Crouch 3/23  
Jim & Judy Dooley 3/24

## 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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### THE DAYMARKER EDITOR Anne Bennett

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

Is there anything you'd like to see in your newsletter?  
Input from our members is always appreciated...to  
include articles.

We would like to publish a list of certified boating safety  
courses and Coast Guard Auxiliary inspectors on the  
Website and in *The Daymarker*. I would greatly  
appreciate your emailing any recommendations and  
information to me at the above address. **Thanks!**

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## Cruise News YAY!!!

Since Planfest was cancelled, here is a bit of information  
on some of this year's activities...

### Early Bird/ Cherry Blossom Cruise

March 20 – April 12. Our Early Bird Cruise takes us up  
to the Washington Channel to enjoy the beauty and  
festivities of the Cherry Blossom Festival.  
<http://www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org>. Average  
peak bloom is April 4<sup>th</sup>, but it's still a bit early for  
accurate predictions. Accordingly, we'll be posting the  
cruise dates soon.

### National Harbor Wine & Food Festival

May 1-3. Although not an official OYC event, there are  
some boats going. You will need to buy wine-tasting  
tickets on the website [www.wineandfoodnh.com](http://www.wineandfoodnh.com) and  
work with National Harbor folks to get either a slip or a  
mooring ball for your stay.

### ORMA Blessing of the Fleet

May 16. ORMA Blessing of the Fleet - A nautical  
tradition sponsored by the Occoquan River Maritime  
Association. This is not a cruise you need to sign up for  
- just cruise downriver past the Blessing Boat docked

alongside the fuel dock at Belmont Bay Marina. The  
crew of the Spotter Boat will radio the name of your boat  
to the clergy onboard the Blessing Boat; and as you  
pass close by, the clergyman will pronounce a blessing  
upon your vessel for calm seas, fair winds, and safe  
journeys all season. **May 16, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., (rain  
date May 17.)** The official start of the parade past the  
Blessing Boat is from Prince William Marina, but  
captains may simply fall in line as the flotilla, led by the  
Fairfax County Fire Boat with fountains of water spraying  
as they go, passes by. If you miss the parade  
altogether, not to worry - the Blessing Boat will be on  
station until 2 p.m.

### Colonial Beach Memorial Day Weekend

May 22 – 25. A long weekend in riverside Colonial  
Beach is just what you need for Memorial  
Day. Lounging on the dock and local bike rides through  
town, fishing, a wine tasting trip, and a berry picking trip  
to a local farm are some of the activities participants will  
enjoy!

### Cobb Island Summer Kick-Off

June 19-21. As those who have been to this event can  
attest, the PRYCA-sponsored event at Cobb Island is a  
blast! This season the theme is again Cobb Vegas, but  
with some new twists; and it once again coincides with  
Cobb Island Day. That means there will be a parade  
and festival to boot. Bring your bikes and enjoy this  
lovely little island and the great party they always  
provide. You won't want to miss it!

### Tim's Rivershore Not-the-Fourth Fireworks

June 27-28. This year we plan to raft-up at Mattawoman  
and enjoy the fireworks Saturday evening. This will be a  
change of location from previous years. Everyone  
should bring their water toys, food and drink, and plan to  
relax and enjoy the show. Please remember to have an  
up-to-date safety inspection completed before joining the  
raft-up.

### National Fireworks

July 3-5. OYC boats will visit our nation's capital to  
enjoy the fireworks again this year. Depending on your  
desires, you can choose to join the raft at the 14th Street  
Bridge or the Washington Channel, or perhaps get a slip  
at a local marina. Construction will limit the slip  
availability, so a safety inspection will be an important  
item if a raft-up will suit your needs.

### PRYCA Float-In AND Cup Competition

July 17-19. Location TBA. The biggest boating event of  
the season! Boaters from the 21 member clubs of the  
Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association converge at one  
marina for fun, food, and merry-making. Activities like a  
Friday night barbecue and DJ, Saturday seminars on  
boating topics, and the Competition for The Cup  
culminate in a Saturday night dinner/dance and award  
ceremony. The event ends with a Sunday Brunch  
before boats head back for home port or set off on a Bay  
cruise.

### Cruisin' the Chesapeake with Pat and Harry

July 19 – August 14. (Editor's note: Harry is so excited about this cruise he got a little carried away and wrote a bit more than "a few sentences." Well worth the read!)

#### **Plan your vacation NOW!!!**

As we near the boating season (yes, it is getting closer!) and in spite of the cold weather, it is time to make your cruising plans! There are many destinations that require some serious cruising, but those do not include Mattawoman Bay or National Harbor. I am talking the BAY!! This season will probably be the last time Pat and I coordinate a Bay trip as we plan to move West to be near two of most beautiful and smartest grandsons in the western hemisphere. Once again we have an ambitious itinerary, 700 miles and about 34 days on the water.

Our cruise will start from the PRYCA Float-in on Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup>. If you haven't been to a Float-In yet, you are really missing a premier event. It's a long weekend of great fun, and of course, competition for The Cup! When the fun has wound down and The Cup is safely back in OYC's possession, we will set off across the Bay. After a month of cruising the Bay, we will head back up the Potomac and end our trip with the Dog Days of August at Aquia Harbor, Aug. 14-16.

Now, I know it is hard for many of you to take off 34 days unless you are retired or have a lot of annual leave to burn up, but you can join us at any point in the cruise for a long week. Most of the places we will visit are reachable within six hours from the Occoquan (that's with a slow boat!). So you can either start off with us from the Float-In, cruising with us as long as you are able, or if you are adventurous enough to cross the Bay on your own, you can join up with us at a later time. The beauty, the splendor, and the history of Chesapeake Bay will provide you with many experiences that only boating can provide.

The plan is flexible and, as always, depends on weather. I have never lost anyone yet!! If the bay is rough, we stay in port another day or two. This cruise will also provide you with an opportunity to really practice your navigation and seamanship skills.

Here are a few of the places we will visit: Onancock, Pocomoke River (this is the most beautiful of all cruising places), Crisfield, Solomons Island, Oxford, St. Michaels, Whitehaven, Salisbury, Chestertown, Rock Hall, Georgetown, Hart Miller Island, Annapolis, and Herrington Harbor. We may also hit Baltimore's Inner Harbor. I try to limit our travel times to 2-3 hours for each segment and stay at least 2 nights at each place. We also plan to be on the hook several nights.

If you can't make any part of this adventure, please have a good reason: "My boat is broken" is the best one. Unacceptable reasons (with retort) include: 1. "My boat

is too small" (we cruised the entire Bay in a 21' cuddy cabin with a porta-potty, no electronics) 2. "We may get lost" (head either east or west and eventually you will hit land!); 3. "My wife is scared" (come-on now, it's you that is scared!); 4. Foul weather (as I alluded to before, I do not take risks, safety is a nautical imperative); 5. "I have no experience" (this is how you GET IT!). Here is a chance to use all those fancy electronics!!

For those who haven't been on a long cruise with us, there are many details that I will go over in advance to be sure you have a safe and fun time. Remember, you don't have to do the whole 34 days – we can customize a shorter itinerary for whenever you can join us. So, submit those leave requests now!!! If you want a detailed cruise plan, email me and I will forward one to you, [hpcroft@verizon.net](mailto:hpcroft@verizon.net). You can also sign up or express interest on the OYC website for cruises.

A few pictures from past cruises to whet your interest!

Capt. Harry & First Mate Pat  
*Bay Dreamer*



Cruising through the Dismal Swamp



Bascule Bridge On the Pocomoke River Opens for OYC!

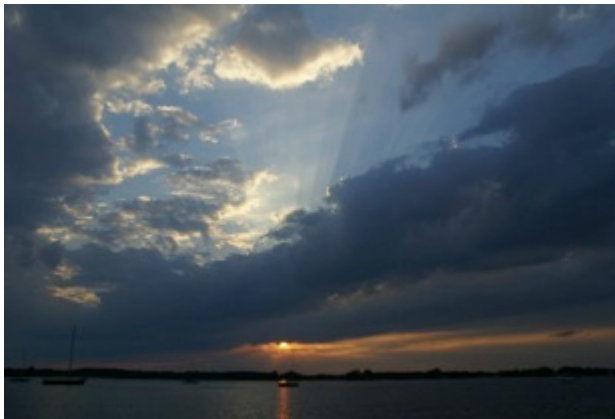




Newest OYC Member



Thomas Point Light



The Beauty of the Bay!

*Thanks, Harry! You sure got us "Baydreaming" about being on the water with you and Pat this summer!*

#### Gilligan's Cruise

August 1-2. OYC will meet at Gilligan's (near the 301 bridge) for another raft-up. There are three restaurants in the area to try and a small beach setting to enjoy. If you would like to check out Gilligan's, their web address is [www.gilliganspier.com](http://www.gilliganspier.com).

#### Dog Days of Summer at Aquia

August 14-16. This year's Dog Days cruise is even more special because Aquia Harbour Yacht Club is celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary with all of PRYCA. Always a wonderful weekend with great food and fun events! And yes, you can get up the river.

#### Corinthian Yacht Club Labor Day

September 4-7. We are grateful to once again be hosted by the wonderful folks at Corinthian Yacht Club, who open their lovely marina, club house, grounds and pool to us. Bring your bikes and kayaks, enjoy neighboring restaurants and the countryside, which includes Slack Winery where we'll do a little wine tasting...an adventure in itself!

#### End of Summer hosted by OYC at Belmont Bay Marina!

September 18-20. We will be throwing one heck of a weekend-long party, inviting all the clubs in PRYCA. Mark the dates on your calendar. You'll be hearing lots more about this event. We'll be asking for you to volunteer some of your time and talents, but getting involved is half the fun and a great way to make new friends on the water! Shrimpfest, September 19<sup>th</sup>, will be incorporated into the End of Summer event.

#### Hardy Souls Cruise to National Harbor

November 6-8. This is a perfect end of season cruise before winterizing your boat. There will be dockside happy hours, relaxation, numerous restaurants to explore, shopping opportunities, a bridge walk, and many other activities to choose from. You might even want to take a few days off work and hang around for Veteran's Day that Wednesday.

#### OYC Change of Watch – November 14

Great food, great music, happy dancing, and the best of friends...all dressed up in fancy duds.

#### Parade of Lights

December 5. Brrr! If a December cruise is within you, then plan early on how you would like to decorate your boat with lights. Few strings on many outlets will save you from blowing fuses when passing the reviewing stand at Old Town, Alexandria. Prizes are awarded for participating and include cash awards, free slips, and a grab bag of goodies. There is plenty of eggnog for all, but warm coats are a must (and mandatory PFDs (see Maryland river regulations for the period DEC- MAR).

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Occoquan Yacht Club\*

Deadline for submission of articles is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each prior month.

Please submit your copy by email to

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

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

## 2015 OYC Events

Month	Days	Time	Event / Location	Contact	Email
January	02 (Fri)	5:00 PM	OYC Happy Hour at the Electric Palm	Bob Hill	<a href="mailto:bhill53@yahoo.com">bhill53@yahoo.com</a>
	17 (Sat)	2:00 PM	PRYCA Change of Watch	Bud & Heidi Bishop	<a href="mailto:bud9515@yahoo.com">bud9515@yahoo.com</a>
	24 (Sat)	1:00 PM	Pre-Planfast	OYC Board, Pat Schondel	<a href="mailto:jpatmans@yahoo.com">jpatmans@yahoo.com</a>
February	06 (Fri)	5:00 PM	OYC Happy Hour at the Electric Palm	Bob Hill	<a href="mailto:bhill53@gmail.com">bhill53@gmail.com</a>
	21(Sat)	3:00 PM	Planfest	OYC Board, Pat Schondel	<a href="mailto:jpatmans@yahoo.com">jpatmans@yahoo.com</a>
March	06 (Fri)	5:00 PM	OYC Happy Hour at The Landing at OHM	Bob Hill	<a href="mailto:bhill53@gmail.com">bhill53@gmail.com</a>
	14 (Sat)	2:00 PM	General Membership Meeting / Photo Contest at FYC	OYC Board, Bob Hill	<a href="mailto:bhill53@gmail.com">bhill53@gmail.com</a>
	17 (Tue)	5:00 PM	St. Patrick's Day OYC Happy Hour at Madigan's	Bob Hill	<a href="mailto:bhill53@gmail.com">bhill53@gmail.com</a>
April	03 (Fri)	5:00 PM	OYC Happy Hour at the Osprey's	Bob Hill	<a href="mailto:bhill53@gmail.com">bhill53@gmail.com</a>
	Mar 20		Cherry Blossom Festival Begins		
	TBD		Weekends in between open for Early Bird Cruise	Seeking Volunteers	TBD
	12 (Sun)		Cherry Blossom Festival Ends		
	25 (Sat)	12:00 PM	OYC Flag Raising at OHM	OYC Board, Bud Bishop	<a href="mailto:bud9515@yahoo.com">bud9515@yahoo.com</a>
May	01 (Fri)	5:00 PM	OYC Happy Hour at TBD	Bob Hill	<a href="mailto:bhill53@yahoo.com">bhill53@yahoo.com</a>
	02 (Sat)		National Harbor Wine & Food Festival (5/1 - 5/3)	Bud & Heidi Bishop	<a href="mailto:bud9515@yahoo.com">bud9515@yahoo.com</a>
	16 (Sat)	TBD	ORMA Blessing of the Fleet	OYC Board, Pat Schondel	<a href="mailto:jpatmans@yahoo.com">jpatmans@yahoo.com</a>
	22 (Fri)		Colonial Beach Memorial Day (5/22 - 5/25)	seeking volunteers	TBD
	22 (Fri)		Solomons Island Memorial Day (5/22 - 5/25)	seeking volunteers	TBD
June	05 (Fri)	5:00 PM	OYC Happy Hour at TBD	Bob Hill	<a href="mailto:bhill53@yahoo.com">bhill53@yahoo.com</a>
	06 (Sat)	2:00 PM	OYC Fajitafest at OHM	OYC Board, Bob Hill	<a href="mailto:bhill53@yahoo.com">bhill53@yahoo.com</a>
	19 (Fri)		Cobb Island Summer Kickoff (6/19 - 6/21)	Don & Anne Bennett	<a href="mailto:bennettton@comcast.net">bennettton@comcast.net</a>
	27 (Sat)		Tim's Rivershore Fireworks Raft at Mattawoman	Bud & Heidi Bishop	<a href="mailto:bud9515@yahoo.com">bud9515@yahoo.com</a>
July	03 (Fri)	5:00 PM	OYC Happy Hour at TBD	Bob Hill	<a href="mailto:bhill53@yahoo.com">bhill53@yahoo.com</a>
	03 (Fri)		National Fireworks (options) (7/3 - 7/5)	Bud & Heidi Bishop	<a href="mailto:bud9515@yahoo.com">bud9515@yahoo.com</a>
				Johnny & Michelle Deditius	<a href="mailto:john.f.deditius@usdoj.gov">john.f.deditius@usdoj.gov</a>
	14 (Tue)		OYC South visits the Chesapeake (7/14 - 7/26)	Harry & Pat Croft	<a href="mailto:hpcroft@verizon.net">hpcroft@verizon.net</a>
	17 (Fri)		PRYCA Float-In & Cup Competition (7/17 - 7/19)	Bud & Heidi Bishop	<a href="mailto:bud9515@yahoo.com">bud9515@yahoo.com</a>
	19 (Sun)		Chesapeake Cruise (7/19 - 8/14 with shorter options)	Pat & Harry Croft	<a href="mailto:hpcroft@verizon.net">hpcroft@verizon.net</a>
August	01 (Sat)		Gilligan's Cruise (8/1 - 8/2)	seeking volunteers	TBD
	07 (Fri)	5:00 PM	OYC Happy Hour at TBD	Bob Hill	<a href="mailto:bhill53@yahoo.com">bhill53@yahoo.com</a>
	14 (Fri)		Dog Days of Summer at Aquia (8/14 - 8/16)	seeking volunteers	TBD
September	04 (Fri)	5:00 PM	OYC Happy Hour at TBD	Bob Hill	<a href="mailto:bhill53@yahoo.com">bhill53@yahoo.com</a>
	04 (Fri)		Corinthians Cruise (9/4 - 9/7)	Don & Anne Bennett	<a href="mailto:bennettton@comcast.net">bennettton@comcast.net</a>
	04 (Fri)		Tall Timbers Burning of the Boat (9/4 - 9/7)	seeking volunteers	TBD
	18 (Fri)		End of Summer by OYC at Belmont Bay (9/18 - 9/20)	OYC Board, Pat Schondel	<a href="mailto:jpatmans@yahoo.com">jpatmans@yahoo.com</a>
	19 (Sat)		Shrimpfest (as part of End of Summer)	OYC Board, Pat Schondel	<a href="mailto:jpatmans@yahoo.com">jpatmans@yahoo.com</a>
	TBD		Nationals Baseball Game	seeking volunteers	TBD
October	02 (Fri)	5:00 PM	OYC Happy Hour at TBD	Bob Hill	<a href="mailto:bhill53@yahoo.com">bhill53@yahoo.com</a>
	24 (Sat)		General Membership Meeting / Chili Cook-Off	Bob Hill	<a href="mailto:bhill53@yahoo.com">bhill53@yahoo.com</a>
November	06 (Fri)	5:00 PM	OYC Happy Hour at TBD	Bob Hill	<a href="mailto:bhill53@yahoo.com">bhill53@yahoo.com</a>
	06 (Fri)		Hardy Souls Cruise (Veteran's Day) (10/6 - 10/8)	seeking volunteers	TBD
	14 (Sat)		OYC Change of Watch	Pat Schondel	<a href="mailto:jpatmans@yahoo.com">jpatmans@yahoo.com</a>
December	04 (Fri)	5:00 PM	OYC Happy Hour at TBD	Bob Hill	<a href="mailto:bhill53@yahoo.com">bhill53@yahoo.com</a>
	05 (Sat)		Parade of Lights or Santa Cruise to Occoquan	seeking volunteers	TBD



## Occoquan Yacht Club 2015 New Membership Application and Membership Renewal

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

Captain \_\_\_\_\_

Captain's Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

First Mate \_\_\_\_\_

First Mate's Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Captain's Email \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

First Mate's Email \_\_\_\_\_

Captain's Birthday (mo/day) \_\_\_\_\_ First Mate's Birthday (mo/day) \_\_\_\_\_ Wedding Anniv (mo/day) \_\_\_\_\_

BOAT DATA : Name \_\_\_\_\_ Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Length/Beam/Draft/Height \_\_\_\_\_ Power Req'd (circle): 1-30 2-30/1-50 1-50

Fuel Type (circle): Gas Diesel Where Berthed? \_\_\_\_\_ Slip# \_\_\_\_\_

### New Membership:

\_\_\_ Family--\$75 (includes burgee)

\_\_\_ Individual--\$55 (includes burgee)

\_\_\_ Associate--\$30 (add \$25 for burgee)

### Membership Renewal:

\_\_\_ Family--\$75

\_\_\_ Individual--\$55

\_\_\_ Associate--\$30

**Members can purchase additional burgees -- add \$25 to above prices per additional burgee.  
Fees paid after 1 OCT will cover both current and following year.**

**Total Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_ Contribute articles to the OYC newsletter, *The Daymarker*  
\_\_\_ Contribute pictures from club events for *The Daymarker*  
\_\_\_ Contribute pictures and short articles to the OYC Website  
\_\_\_ Assist with Website programming  
\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Assist event coordinators  
\_\_\_ Serve as a PRYCA or CBYCA delegate  
\_\_\_ Serve as a fleet captain  
\_\_\_ Serve as a safety officer or board officer  
\_\_\_ Coordinate an event

Please make check payable to **Occoquan Yacht Club**. Mail your check and this form to: **Occoquan Yacht Club, P.O Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125**. Please allow 2 weeks for processing application and return of membership packet.

### Occoquan Yacht Club Officers for 2015

**Commodore** Bud Bishop  
703-801-3075

**Vice Commodore** Pat Schondel  
281-216-9358

**Rear Commodore** Bob Hill  
703-402-1796

**Secretary** Kathy Bergmann  
571-334-4138

**Treasurer** Michelle DeDitiis  
757-348-9009

**Immediate Past Commodore**  
Don Bennett 540-220-1709

**Membership** John Cornicelli  
202-834-0117

**Quartermaster** Monica Fineberg  
401-419-6679

**Historian** Les Bergmann  
571-334-2522

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

**PRYCA Delegate / Daymarker Editor**  
Anne Bennett 540-842-6118

**Webmaster** Don Bennett  
540-220-1709



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