



December 2016, Vol. XXXIII, No. 12

The Daymarker

OCCOQUAN YACHT CLUB

P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125

www.OccoquanYachtClub.org

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THE DAYMARKER

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COMMODORE

Bob Hill

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Commodore's Log: First of all, I would like to thank all of you that attended the Change of Watch at Fort Belvoir. We had a fun time with great food and a really good band! Min and I would like to thank Anne Bennett and Kathy Bergmann for their

invaluable assistance in preparing for the COW as well! And special thanks to those that showed up early including Anne and Kathy, Mark Lawton, Don Bennett, and Les Bergmann.

I would also like to thank IPC Pat Schondel and the 2016 Board for all they did this past year. In addition, a special thanks to PC Bud Bishop for all he did this past year as well.

The December Daymarker has traditionally been a "get to know your Board" Daymarker so who am I to break with tradition! I have been boating since I was 8 and learned to waterski that same year thanks to the help of a Baptist Minister who helped me in the water getting set as my Dad drove the boat. I've owned an 18 ft boat and then a 28 footer before meeting Min. And low and behold Min said go bigger so I did and got a 40 ft Formula PC. And then Min said again, go bigger so we now have Lady Min, a 50 ft. Aft Cabin. Telling a guy to get a bigger boat is, well awesome! With that I knew I had to marry her!



For those of you that missed the Change of Watch I would like to recap a few of the highlights for you. There are several awards given out, some more serious than others. The most important award is the Commodore's Cup

which goes to a very deserving person in the club that has given more than their fair share of effort to the club. This year the award went to



Anne Bennett. Anne is always there, helping out for every land event, being a cruise coordinator and active supporter of club events.

The Bent Prop Trophy this year went to both Russ and Bill of Nauti Buoys. While heading down to the Float-In last July, they decided to do point-to-point navigation rather than follow the channel. I think they will probably follow the channel from now on!



The Golden Snorkel was awarded to Steve Preda this year for his unexpected swimming demonstration!

I would also like to note that IPC Schondel also made a special presentation to Ray Maestas at the COW. For those that aren't aware, this year Ray rescued one of our fellow OYC members at Occoquan Harbor Marina. The fellow member apparently lost his footing and fell off the dock. Ray, hearing a splash, investigated and discovered him partially under the dock unconscious. Ray performed CPR, got him breathing again and fellow OYC'ers Greg Cumbey and Jim Patterson arrived to help Ray pull him out of the water. Thanks for your quick reaction and saving one of our member's lives! Remember, if you see or hear something that does not seem right, it probably is not. Take a moment to investigate, you just might be saving someone's life!

December is always a bit of a slow boating month, a time to recharge for the coming boating season. Your board will be busy planning out the

coming year though. We will be getting ready for the Pre-Plan Fest in February and the General Membership Meeting and Annual Photo Contest in March. So, if you are interested in going to a new location this year or would like to be a cruise coordinator, please contact Vice Commodore Jerry Tarasek. Jerry will be planning out the events for the year and he needs your help in doing it. Remember, this is your club and we are all just volunteers trying to help each other have a good and fun season. We will do our best to do our parts, but we need your help too!

Rear Commodore Wayne Beal will be planning out and coordinating the land events this year. This is one of the biggest and hardest jobs in the club so please help Wayne out with ideas and when he calls for folks to help set up or take down events he really needs it. I know, I've been there so please help make our club a success!

I also want to take a moment reflect upon this past year. We had a few boating incident or situations that are worthy of mentioning. What would you do if your boat started dragging at anchor in high winds while rafted up? What would you do if you ran aground and bent a prop, propeller shaft or worse? What would you do if you lost an engine or other casualty? What would you do if your boat caught fire? These are all important questions to ask yourself. We had members in each of these situations this past year. For most of us boating is our way to relax and get away but we still need to keep our wits about us and be able to respond to emergency situations. Thankfully, all of our members did and they are here to talk about it. There were several boating incidents on the Chesapeake and Potomac this year that resulted in the loss of life, thankful none of us. December and January are good months to get back in the books and review safety procedures, rules of the road, and even take a boating safety class update.

In closing, I would like to tell you that we are going to be exploring new ways to communicate with the club and would like to get your inputs. We are working on bringing a facebook page to life that members helped set up this year, the possibility of a twitter account, better ways to post photos, a discussion group, electronic invites for functions, web updates and more. We don't intend to stop doing what we are doing but want to enhance the experience for all. So, if you have ideas on how to enhance the club's communication processes please send me an email at: commodore@occoquanyachtclub.org and I will make sure it is added to the options we look at!

Cheers, Happy Holidays, and hope to see you at an OYC Happy Hour or some other function! Be safe.

Bob & Minn, *Lady Minn*



VICE COMMODORE

Jerry Tarasek

vicecommodore@occoquanyachtclub.org



From the Vice Commodore: OYC certainly closed out November with a prolonged blast. Those who attended the Hardy Souls cruise at National Harbor marina would agree that we could not have had a better weekend with respect to the weather, river cruising, food and drinks than we did the weekend of November 4th. It felt like a cool summer weekend. A special shout out to Bud and Heidi for coordinating this cruise and for scoring front row seats at Bobby McKey's Saturday night. I believe National Harbor marina is one of the finest marina's on the Potomac River and it's about to get better with the opening of the MGM hotel and casino next month. There are so many restaurants and shops to choose from, and most all are walking distance from the marina. We saw the opening of The Yards Marina this summer, which is located on the Anacostia river near the Washington Nationals Ballpark. Plus the completion of the renovations at the Wharf Gangplank Marina in the Washington Channel which provides boaters a walking distance location to the downtown restaurants, monuments and museums. I'm really looking forward to spending more time upriver next year. In the meantime, let's get over boats winterized and close out the 2016 boating season.

As we hunker down for the winter, try to think back on the OYC land and cruise events you liked best this past year, and any new and different cruises you might like to try in 2017. In about a month, I plan to send out a "Survey Monkey" to solicit your thoughts and ideas for 2017 prior to assembling next year's cruise schedule. It should only take 5-10 minutes to complete. We'll share the results of the survey at our February Plan Fest, where we will present the 2017 OYC land and cruise event schedule to the membership. Cruising the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay area is absolutely some of the best boating in the Country. So let's take advantage of our unique location and start thinking about where you would like to cruise next season.

Finally, Susan and I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe Holiday season. Thanksgiving is a time to spend with friends and family and to reflect and give thanks with a grateful heart for continued prosperity. We feel blessed to be part of the OYC family and look forward to seeing you over the holiday season. Yours truly in boating.

Jerry & Susan, *Dig Life*





REAR COMMODORE

Wayne Beal

rearcommodore@occoquanyachtclub.org



From the Rear Commodore

Jerry has left a wonderful path to follow and I hope I can do as well as he has... I look forward to the opportunity to serve and with that in mind, I'll also be looking for folks to help out with future events so please don't be shy in volunteering.

In carry on with tradition, I would like to host our next happy hour on December 2nd at Codey's Bar & Grill located at: 10716 Richmond Hwy, Lorton, VA 22079. Hope to see folks for happy hour around 5 or later where we can swap party stories or help each other troubleshoot boating problems or help with winterization tips.

We had a blast at the Hardy Souls cruise which Bud Bishop coordinated (Thanks Bud)! It was a great success with many boats attending. We had boats on A, B, and C docks so we had the place surrounded. Many people also went to Bobby Mckey's Dueling Piano Bar where shots, jello shooters, dancing, and singing occurred. OYC Rocks adorned at least one of the glass mirrors all night long!

While some of us are winterizing and tucking our boats in for the year others are not quite done just yet... We are looking forward to Washington, DC's 24th Annual Parade of Lights which sets sail on Saturday, December 5, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. The annual holiday Parade will feature more than 50 decorated boats sailing across the Potomac River to Washington, DC, from Old Town Alexandria.

From the Warf: There will include FREE landside events along The Wharf, including the first snow fall of the holiday season; lighting of the Gangplank Marina Christmas Tree; photos with Santa Claus; live holiday music; a roaring s'mores fire pit; gingerbread cooking decorating; holiday sailboat making; a hot chocolate toast to the season; the illumination of vessels docked at Gangplank Marina and the Capital Yacht Club; and a water-filled salute to the DC Fireboat John Glenn.

From Old Town Alexandria: DC media personality Tommy McFly of 94.7 Fresh FM will be the parade

announcer. The boats are dressed to impress a panel of judges who will award prizes in a dozen categories including Best in Show, Thinking outside the Christmas box, and Hardest Souls. At the marina before the parade, Santa Claus is scheduled to appear at the Alexandria City Marina at 4:15 p.m. He will arrive by Alexandria's fire boat The Vigilant and will walk to the Torpedo Factory Art Center where he will be meeting with children until 7 p.m.

Before and after the parade, visitors are invited to stop in to the Torpedo Factory Art Center's 'Holiday Festival: Take a Walk in the Woods' between 4 and 9 p.m. to enjoy live music and festive activities including gift shopping in open artist studios. Throughout the evening the Torpedo Factory will offer free snacks and drinks, and the Alexandria Choral Society and Braddock Brass Quintet will play seasonal favorites. There will be prize drawings and visits with Santa Claus until 7 p.m.

Garnetta and I wish you and yours a Happy Holiday!

Wayne Beal, *Wayne's World*



QUARTERMASTER

Ilana Cumbey

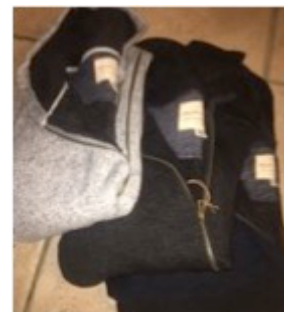
quartermaster@occoquanyachtclub.org



Even though the 2016 boating season is pretty much over, it's always shopping time... especially with the holidays coming! With that in mind, I have some non-boating jewelry for you and your non-boating family and friends. I can even arrange for you to have a home shopping party to raise funds for the Club and earn some free stuff for yourself. Let me know if that interests you.

Remember, send me your boat logo, and we can have it digitalized (small one-time fee) and then put it on **ANYTHING! Brand New! Fleece-lined Hoodies (email me to order)** 3 colors: White/Grey, Grey/Black, Navy/Black

Available in M, L, XL, XXL
\$45 with either OYC Flag Monogram or your Boat Logo



Last, for the little girl in your life, how about one of these beautiful handmade necklaces, **only \$28**.



Pictured: Mermaid and Ballerina (blonde and brunette available), Cupcake & Seahorse

Also available: Dogs (Basset Hound, Chihuahua, Cocker Spaniel, & Poodle), Flora, Tuttle, Elephant, Giraffe, & Octopus (email me for more pictures)

Ilana Cumbey, *Lala's Para'Dice*



MEMBERSHIP

Mark Lawton

membership@occoquanyachtclub.org



Cindy and I joined OYC in 2015 shortly after taking possession of our Beneteau Gran Turismo 38, *Serenity*. (Cindy likes to say that after raising our four kids, she was hoping to find some serenity on the water ...

I'm pleased to report that, so far, she

has!). We were new to boating and when we arrived in our slip at Occoquan Harbour Marina, we had the good fortune of being slip neighbors of Bob and Min Hill. Ever the OYC ambassador, shortly after introductions Bob told us all about OYC and just happened to have a membership application ready for us to complete. We gladly signed on the dotted line and have been happy members of OYC ever since!

First, a note of thanks. As new boaters, Cindy and I had far more questions than answers. We (mostly me!) are still playing catch up. We've met so many new friends at OYC, all of whom have been so very generous (and patient) with both their time and helpful hints, as well as unbounded hospitality. One of the reasons we got into boating was to meet new friends on the water, and it has worked out far better than we'd hoped!

On to business. I'm privileged to have been asked by this year's board to serve as the Membership Chair and

it is my pleasure to do so. Thanks for the opportunity, and thanks to Wayne Beal for such a great turnover! While I am delighted to serve as the Membership Chair, I like to think of this as an "all hands evolution." If you know of anyone that might be interested in joining this great yacht club, please share with them the 2017 membership form (included with this newsletter) or refer them to me. Thanks in advance for your help!

We have the 2017 OYC membership cards printed for all of our members and will be distributing them at the next happy hour. Hope to see you all there! You are eligible for your 2017 membership card once you have paid your dues for 2017, so if you haven't already done so, be sure to get your check to our treasurer, Johnny DeDitius, at:

Occoquan Yacht Club

[P.O. Box 469](mailto:P.O.Box469)

[Occoquan, VA 22125](mailto:Occoquan,VA22125)

Thank you! For our new members, if you want to join BoatUS, you can do so at a discounted rate if you're a member of OYC. You will need to provide the OYC club number (GA80979Y) which appears on both the attached 2017 membership form and on your new 2017 membership card.

That's plenty for now. Thanks again for the opportunity to serve and look forward to seeing you all soon!

Mark Lawton, *Serenity*



HISTORIAN

Les Bergmann

historian@occoquanyachtclub.org



If you have pictures of your boat, crew or friends at any of our 2016 events, please send them to me for inclusion on the website. Don and I are working to re-post the 2016 pictures and will let you know when that has been accomplished. Also, I have a few 2016 Directories so if you didn't get one yet please let me know.. Kathy and I send best wishes for the holidays.

Les Bergmann, *Bergie*



WEBMASTER

PC Don Bennett

webmaster@occoquanyachtclub.org



Anne and I want to wish everyone safe and wonderful holidays. We're looking forward to seeing everyone in the 2017 season!

For any new members or in case you need a refresher... Please log onto www.occoquanyachtclub.org and enter your username and password in the lower left. Please contact me if you don't have one or if you've forgotten it. 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 just update all of your personal and boat information. Don't forget to select *Submit* at the bottom of the page. The 2017 schedule will be published and posted on the website in a few months, after Pre-Plan fest. In the meantime, our new Vice Commodore Jerry Tarasek will welcome any ideas you have for cruises and volunteers to act as cruise coordinators in 2017.

PC Don Bennett, *Heart of the Sun*



THE DAYMARKER EDITOR Ray Maestas

editor@occoquanyachtclub.org



Thank you all for allowing me to be your *Daymarker* Editor, this is going to be a challenge for me, but I'm up to the task! I have some pretty big shoes to fill and I need/request your input as we go along.

As Mrs. Bennett said in the last issue of *The Daymaker*, this is your newsletter. Please feel free to send suggestions or tales of your boating adventures. Send your suggestions and tales to the OYC Editor's email addresses, oyceditor@gmail.com and editor@occoquanyachtclub.org.

Reminder, December has a multitude of activities and events in the surrounding area that would be great with family and friends. One website I've come across that has a wealth of information is:

<http://dc.about.com/od/monthlyeventcalendars/tp/December-Events-in-Washington-DC.htm>

Hope you have a wonderful December!

Ray Maestas, *Drippin' Wet*



FROM OUR MEMBERS (STORIES, MEMORIES & ADVICE)



DoYourOwnPestControl.com

William "Bill" Dorentto was approached and asked by many of our members on what type of insecticide he used to get rid of all the spiders that are lurking around on our boats... well he wanted us all to know he uses the Talstar P Professional Insecticide, Do It Yourself Pest Control. This pest control

has gone by several names over the years such as Talstat P, Talstar Pro, Talstar One, or just plain Talstar. While the name has changed, the product is still the same reliable product. It contains the active ingredient Bifenthrin 7.9%. Bill reports you can mix some in a spray bottle and spray the whole boat inside and out. The inside spraying last about 3 months and the spraying of the boat its self can last about a month. This product is what Bills environmentally safe exterminator uses. (Green Pest).



Bifen I/T 1 gallon

A little research on the product shows there is a similar product called *Bifen IT* which contains the same active ingredients as Talstar for a lesser price. Bill has a tried and tested product but for those of you who want to try to get a little more bang for your buck, test out *Bifen IT* and get back with us with the results.

Cost Comparison

Talstar P Professional		Bifen IT	
Pint:	\$29.90	Pint:	\$19.45
Quart:	\$36.50	Quart:	\$24.99
¾ Gallon:	\$39.00	¾ Gallon:	\$35.50
1 Gallon:	\$50.00	1 Gallon:	\$47.50

If you would like to find more information on these products, please go to: <http://store.doyourownpestcontrol.com/talstar-pro->

[one-insecticide/?utm_source=bingads&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=talstar-pro](#)

Both products, once dried are harmless to people and pets.

William Dornetto



HARDY SOULS CRUISE

A large gathering of Hardy Souls enjoyed the sights and sounds of National Harbor between 4 and 6 November. Bud & Heidi Bishop, Brian Field and Ally Thompson (*Hi-Jinx III*), Bob Hill & Min Lee (*Lady Min*), Bruno & Susan Millonig (*Extra Innings*), Jerry & Susan Tarasek (*Dig Life*), John & Michelle DeDitiis (*Liquid Leisure*), Jim & Pam Poulus (*Pamela Jean*), Harry & Patricia Croft (*Bay Dreamer*), Goodwyn & Jan Morgan (*Golden Opportunities*), Gary & Jo Brown (*TWO*), Jeffery & Luciana Hughey (*Fear Knott*), Dan Everton & Debra Solowan (*Wanderlust*), Mark & Vanessa Davis (*Good Grief*), Glenn & Nicole Gore (*Jewel D'Nile*), Jim & Judy Dooley (*Jus Chill-N*), and Randy & Susan Willetts, After Hours with Eric Reuter and Lisa Grabill were in attendance as well. With 16 boats, filled the entire National Harbor Marina. Filling slips from A dock all the way to C dock. With over 34 members, one can imagine there was no hope of making an all-inclusive meal happen at any restaurant in this popular destination. Instead, boats in close proximity worked out smaller restaurant meal plans and many dockside extravaganzas occurred as opportunities arose.

Boats arrived on Friday and celebrated the OYC Happy Hour event on A-Dock—there was food for all with BBQ ribs, honeyed ham, and assorted sides. Then the beverages and arrivals just kept happening and soon it turned into an extended dockside happy hour that really never ended. The weather was cool and windy, but eventually the wind died down as the weekend proceeded to become a pleasant weekend.

The scheduled Saturday morning early riser bridge walk never materialized... the prior evenings festivities might have contributed to that omission. However, many of the ladies decided to go shopping instead! The shopping excursion turned into hours of spending and bags of goodies!

Dinner options were split for the crowd with some choosing Redstone, Crab Cakes, 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 McKeys--crazy

as always--then returned for nightcaps on the dock. Or morning caps?

Sunday was another nice day. Smaller groups headed to local establishments to have brunch and Bloody Mary's. In warmer weather, a dockside brunch is always welcome but with the cold breeze and boats spread across the marina, it was easier to find local establishments with indoor dining. After brunch, boats departed throughout the day and spent a beautiful day on the water returning to home marinas.



For potential future cruise coordinators, there are a couple of lessons learned: big groups are tough to handle at any restaurant in National Harbor as restaurants require large deposits in advance. Boaters' value flexibility, and large deposits don't allow that. Big groups are also tough to keep in close proximity in marinas that don't have large transient facilities. National Harbor slips are all owned or leased and we usually have to wait until the last minute for final openings. In this case, I simply listed preferences and the marina did their best to honor those; and I thought they did really well. Thanks to all attendees for your understanding. A Dock is most popular due to the proximity to the facilities at National Harbor and I did not see any open slips. They put us in every one that was empty. I also need to emphasize closing out bills at marinas. The only way we enjoy continued support at local marinas is if we get our payments in on time to the marina managers. Please help us continue enjoying these facilities by handling those chores expeditiously. Finally, we did have some boaters who quietly cancelled their attendance; please do call or email the cruise coordinator in such a case as there are usually waiting lists and your cancellation will open up an opportunity for others to join. Special thanks to Harry Croft who found a cancellation and got Bob Hill's boat a slip at the last minute. Great team effort by all; but this really does highlight how important good communication is for the whole group; rest assured the Cruise Coordinator is checking all forms of communication ALL the time as there are many issues that need to be taken care of to ensure the members of OYC enjoy their time and fuel expense! Communicate, communicate, communicate... and raise a glass or two to a GREAT CLUB!!!!

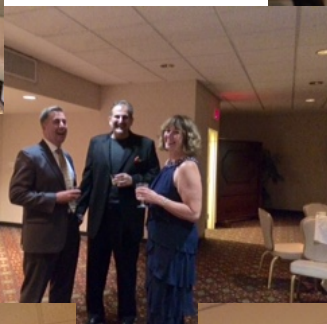
Bob Bishop



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 the 20th of each prior month.
 Please submit your copy by email to
editor@occoquanyachtclub.org

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

PHOTOS FROM THE CHANGE OF WATCH



FOR SALE!

As a benefit to members, we will publish a listing of personally-owned, boating-related items (not just boats) 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.

CHAPARRAL SIGNATURE 330 FOR SALE!



Beach House

2012 Chaparral Signature 330 - \$157,000 – **reduced and a Motivated Seller!**

Brokered for Jim and Pam by
James Ross at Seabreeze Yacht
703-490-5490 (work)
703-853-0235 (mobile)

james@seabreezeyacht.com

You can find more information and pictures at: <http://www.seabreezeyacht.com/boat/2012/chaparral/330-signature/1010/>



FOR SALE!

Flag Poles and Mounts

Contact PC Joe Livingston



The Swiveler Flag Pole set is designed to fly the club's 12 " burgee. Many of our members consider this flag pole the best on the market; and the solid machined 316 stainless steel pole, with rotating clips and machined iodized aluminum mount, securely holds and protects the flag. Review at www.originalswiveler.com.

Each set costs \$65, and the mount is milled to a specific diameter. To order, send me an email indicating how many sets you wish to purchase, give the exact diameter of you rail (measure please...do not guess). I find it easiest to use an adjustable wrench slid over the rail and then measure that opening in inches. Many rails are 1", 1-1/8", or 1-1/4" in diameter. Sets are currently available.



The \$65 will be payable by check or cash to Joe Livingston. Please contact me at joseph.livingston@verizon.net or at [703-505-8313](tel:703-505-8313).

"Please note...Cost of Flag Poles will increase by 15% as of 1 January 2017. Want to save? Get your order to me by 15 December and I will order for that Christmas gift or just because!!"

Joe Livingston, Gail Lynn II





PARADE of LIGHTS

from the docks of Old Town Alexandria to the District's Southwest Waterfront

25th Anniversary

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, FROM 6-8PM

Along the District's Southwest Waterfront at Gangplank Marina Park—600 Water Street SW

Join us for a magical night of merriment as we celebrate the holidays with a colorful parade of lighted boats and the first snow fall of the season

- 6:00PM:
 - ✦ Delight as snow begins to fall along the waterfront
 - ✦ Enjoy holiday brews in the Corona Beer Garden
 - ✦ Marvel at the decorated houseboats and docked vessels
 - ✦ Watch the lighting of the Gangplank Marina Christmas Tree
 - ✦ Celebrate the season by wearing a festive balloon hat
 - ✦ Pose for a family photograph with a very jolly Santa Claus
 - ✦ Test your skill at s'mores making by the roaring bonfire
 - ✦ Sip hot chocolate and enjoy tasty gingerbread cookies
 - ✦ Craft your own holiday sailboat and show your creativity
 - ✦ Savor barbecue delights at King Ribs BBQ
- 7:00PM:
 - ✦ Herald the arrival of the parade of boats from Alexandria
 - ✦ Vote for your very favorite decorated boat in the parade
- 7:45PM:
 - ✦ Cheer at a light-filled salute to the 25th Anniversary
- 8:00PM:
 - ✦ Enjoy last call at Cantina Marina before they close for the winter

Please consider walking, taking Metro, using Capital BikeShare or alternate means of transportation, as no public parking is available at The Wharf

Parade of Lights is presented by THE WHARF

through the generosity of Hoffman-Madison Waterfront, developers of the District's new, world-class, mixed-use waterfront

Parade of Lights is co-produced by Washington Waterfront Association and Old Dominion Boat Club with the support of Cantina Marina, Capital Yacht Club, Corona, Destination DC, DC Fire Department, Entertainment Cruises, EventBrite, Gangplank Marina, Gangplank Slipholders Association, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, MPD Harbor Patrol, On Tap Magazine, PhotoGenics, Port of Washington Yacht Club, and SW BID

This is a FREE outdoor event, held rain or snow. Parade of Lights is best viewed at 600 Water Street SW in Gangplank Marina Park—within four blocks from L'Enfant Plaza and Waterfront Metrorail stops. More information regarding the 25th Annual Parade of Lights: visit www.wharfdc.com or call 202-688-3590. To register a boat in the parade: www.dcboatparade.eventbrite.com

Join us online:    



OYC SCHOOL OF SHIP: TOPIC #1

VISUAL DISTRESS SIGNALS (VDS)



Requirements: All power boats 16 feet or greater in length shall be equipped with visual distress signaling devices at all times when operating on coastal waters. This regulation applies to all coastal waters and those rivers 2 miles or more wide at the mouth and up to the first point the river narrows to less than 2 miles.

Captain Brian's Comments: **That's right, if you do not sail south of the 301 bridge, you do not need VDS.**

Pyrotechnic VDS must be: 1) USCG approved, 2) in serviceable condition, 3) readily accessible, 4) not expired.

Selecting the Best Flares for your Boat - Boaters may select any group or combination as long as it meets the requirements.

How many do I need? If pyrotechnic devices are selected, a minimum of three signals are required for day use and three signals for night use. Some pyrotechnic signals meet both day and night use requirements (combination flares). See table below:

Number on device	Description	Accepted use for	Number required
160.021	Handheld red flare distress signals (500 candela)	Day & night	3
160.022	Floating orange smoke distress signals	Day only	3
160.028	Pistol-launched parachute red flare distress signals	Day & night	3
160.036	Handheld Rocket-propelled Parachute Red (20,000 candela)	Day & night	3
160.037	Handheld orange smoke distress signals (50 seconds)	Day only	3
160.057	Floating orange smoke distress signals (15 minutes)	Day only	3
160.066	Distress signal for boats, red aerial pyrotechnic flare (10,000 candela)	Day & night	3
160.072	Distress signal for boats, orange flag	Day only	1
161.013	Electric distress light for boats	Night only	1

How far flares can be seen? (Depends the altitude they reach)

- Hand-held:
0' altitude / ~5 NM range
- 25mm meteor flares:
375' altitude / ~21 NM range
- 12-gauge meteor flares:
500' altitude / ~27 NM range
- 25mm parachute flares:
1,000' altitude / ~47 NM range

Captain Brian's Comments: Based on the estimations above, if you do not sail out the Potomac River, hand-held flares are most likely a good solution for you. If you travel the Chesapeake Bay, you should consider a flare with longer range, such as a meteor flare.

Never Want to Buy Flares Again?

Will my visual distress signals expire? Pyrotechnic signaling devices expire 42 months after the date of manufacture. Typically this means you replace flares every third boating season.

Non-Pyro Solution: An electric distress signal is approved for night only, and must carry the marking: "Night Visual Distress Signal for Boats Complies with U. S. Coast Guard Requirements in 46 CFR 161.013 For Emergency Use Only."

At this time (2016), there is only one device approved by the U.S. Coast Guard, the Sirius Signal SOS Distress Light. To meet the requirements for both day and night use, the SOS Distress Light is packaged with an orange distress flag.

You can search for it on Amazon or you can purchase it here:
<https://siriusignal.com/shop/sos-c-1001/>



Upcoming Events - Disposal & Practice:

Disposal: Have a box full of expired flares onboard, and don't know how to dispose of them? Need new flares for next year?

In Fairfax County it is permissible to dispose of flares in the trash, after soaking in water. I would recommend a 24 hour soak.

Captain Brian's Comments: Save them for next year's flare demo!!!

Flare Shooting Demo - Latest estimates show that over 90 percent of all boaters have never activated a handheld signal or smoke flare, or fired an aerial flare, as it is illegal to do so in a nonemergency situation.

Captain Brian's Comments: Standby for event details for an OYC flare familiarization safety shoot during an upcoming event in the spring of 2017. You can bring any expired, near expired or any other flare you wish to get familiar with, and we will safely and legally provide you an opportunity to learn about and launch each kind of flare. Afterwards, I will safely dispose of any remaining flares.

Comments/Questions/Recommended topics for the next issue of SOS - Contact BrianField40@yahoo.com



Occoquan Yacht Club 2017

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 2017

Commodore Bob Hill
703-402-1796

Vice Commodore Jerry Tarasek
703-244-8329

Rear Commodore Wayne Beal
703-400-7733

Secretary Jeff Hughey
703-599-2569

Treasurer Johnny DeDitiis
757-270-0762

Immediate Past Commodore
Pat Schondel 703-477-1594

Membership Mark Lawton
703-576-7693

Quartermaster Ilana Cumbey
703-201-1443

Historian Les Bergmann
571-334-2522

PRYCA & CBYCA Delegate
Bruno Millonig 703-371-0997

Daymarker Editor
Ray Maestas 202-525-9987

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

WELCOME ABOARD!