

Happy Valentine's Day

The Daymarker



Occoquan Yacht Club
P.O. Box 469
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www.OccoquanYachtClub.com

Member: PRYCA; CBYCA;
BoatUS, Accord #GA80979Y

From the Commodore:



The 2020 season is off to a rousing start! And... can you feel it? Waking our boats up from their long winter's nap is just around the corner. I'm already starting to make a list of the things I need to do to get Mille Gael back to tip top shape before we get back out on the water. I can't believe how much I miss being on that boat! Soon...

Thank you to Karen Hart for organizing a fun happy hour at "Paint Your Heart Out" in Occoquan. Not gonna lie... I totally went into this thinking I'd do more drinking than painting! To my surprise, I got pretty involved in painting an adorable little turtle box! Can't wait to put that little guy on Millie Gael! As per the OYC usual - tons of food, lots of drink, and great friends to hang out with on a Saturday night. I'm looking forward to trying my hand at mosaic tiles...

This month we have our Pre-Planfest. Steve and Karen have diligently worked to put together a preliminary

schedule of our upcoming season. We've got some interesting new ideas on the agenda. Please see their articles for more information. If you're at all interested in planning, hosting, or volunteering for an OYC event, please come out to Belmont Bay on February 8th. We're going to roll from the Pre-Planfest to Madigan's for a fun happy hour - Dueling pianos in Occoquan... I can't wait!

Congratulations to our own Pat Schodel for assuming the position of Commodore of the PYRCA. What a fun change of watch party! Bruno and I were honored to help host the hospitality suite and celebrate Pat's big night. I know he's going to do a fantastic job leading the association. Thank you to Michelle Johnson for your leadership and steady hand at the helm. PYRCA is stronger because of your leadership.

Looking forward to seeing everyone soon! Cheers!

*Susan Millonig
Commodore
Millie Gael*

The Daymarker Occoquan Yacht Club

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Special points of interest:

- ☉ FEB 8, Pre-Planfest, 485 Harbor Side St, Belmont Bay
- ☉ FEB 8, Happy Hour, Madigan's, Occoquan
- ☉ Pay 2020 dues at "Your Profile", OYC website



Inside this issue:

Commodore	1
Vice Commodore	2
Draft Event Schedule	3
Membership	3
Rear Commodore	4
Treasurer	5
Webmaster	5
PRYCA Representative	6
Secretary	7
Birthdays	8
Action Alert	9

Days to April 1st: **60**

From the Vice Commodore:



The 2020 pre-planfest will take place on 8 February from 3-5 PM at Belmont Bay followed by the monthly Happy Hour at 6 PM at Madigan's. The

Belmont Bay location is the community room at the high-rise condo located at 485 Harbor Side Street. Unless otherwise marked, parking is available on all the streets around the building. Any interested member is invited. We will review the draft event sched-

ule (see page 3) and edit or append as appropriate.

If you are unable to attend but have recommendations please e-mail them to me, vicecommodore@occoquanyachtclub.com. We are an organization based on volunteering and it helps when everyone gets involved so please consider attending and/or volunteering as a Cruise Coordinator. The event is BYOB.

Cheers,

Steve Preda
Vice Commodore
Anamchara

The OYC 2020 Board

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PROPOSED 2020 OYC EVENT SCHEDULE					
Month	DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	COORDINATOR
January	18 (Sat)	6:30 PM - 9:00 PM	Happy Hour	Paint Your Heart Out	Karen Hart
	24, 25 (Fri, Sat)	8:00 PM	Pub Crawl/PYCA COW	Hilton Alexandria Old Town	Bruno Millionig
February	8 (Sat)	3 PM - 5 PM	Pre-Planfest	Belmont Bay	Steve Preda
	8 (Sat)	6:00 PM	Happy Hour	Madigan's	Karen Hart
March	7 (Sat)	5:00 PM	Happy Hour	Fatty's Seafood and Taphouse	Karen Hart
	17 (Tue)	2:00 PM	St. Patrick's Day		
	21 (Sat)	3:00 PM	General Membership Meeting/Sock Burn	Deditis Home	Susan/Steve
April	3 (Fri)	5:00 PM	Happy Hour		Karen Hart
	TBD		Cherry Blossom Cruise/Early Bird	DC Wharf/The Yards	TBD
	26 (Sun)	12:00 PM	Flag Raising	Belmont Bay	Susan/Steve
May	1 (Fri)	5:00 PM	Happy Hour - National Harbour	National Harbor	Karen Hart
	1-3 (Fri, Sat, Sun)		National Harbour Food & Wine Festival	National Harbor	Steve Preda
	16 (Sat)		ORMA Blessing of the Fleet	Occoquan River - BBHM	ORMA
	22 - 25 (Fri - Mon)		Memorial Day Cruise - Colonial Beach	Colonial Beach	TBD
June	5 (Fri)	5:00 PM	Happy Hour		Karen Hart
	6 (Sat)	2 PM - 5 PM	Summer Land Event	Occoquan Regional Park	Karen Hart
	5, 6, 7 (Fri, Sat, Sun)		PYRCA Summer Kick-Off	Cobb Island	TBD
	14 - 29		Carolina Cruise	Chesapeake/ICW/Pamlico	Debbie Tucceri
	19, 20, 21 (Fri, Sat, Su)		Beer Bourbon BBQ Cruise	National Harbor	Steve Preda
July	3 (Fri)	5:00 PM	Happy Hour	DC Wharf	Karen Hart
	4, 5, 6 (Fri, Sat, Sun)		4th of July	DC Wharf	TBD
	17, 18, 19 (Fri, Sat, Sun)		PYRCA Float In/Commodore's Cup	Coles Point	Susan/Steve
	19 Jul - 1 Aug		Southern Bay Cruise	Start at Coles Point	Bruno Millionig
August	7 (Fri)	5:00 PM	Happy Hour		Karen Hart
			Aquia Crab and Shrimp Fest	Aquia Harbor	
			Tides Inn Cruise	Irvington, VA	Wayne Beal
September	4 - 7 (Fri - Mon)		Labor Day	TBD	
	26 (Sat)		Fall Land Event/Photo Contest		Karen Hart
	TBD		National Baseball Cruise	The Yards	Bruno Millionig
	TBD		Neptune Festival	Virginia Beach	Dave Hart
October	2 (Fri)	5:00 PM	Happy Hour		Karen Hart
	9 - 12 (Fri - Mon)		Columbus Day Weekend Cruise	TBD	
	18 (Sun)		General Membership Meeting/Chili Cookoff		Susan/Steve
	Oct 30 - Nov 1 (Fri - Mon)		Alexandria Halloween Cruise		Karen Hart
November	6,7,8 (Fri, Sat, Sun)		Hardy Souls	National Harbor	Bud Bishop
	6 (Fri)	5:00 PM	Happy Hour		Bud Bishop
December	21 (Sat)		Change of Watch	Laurel Hill Golf Club	Steve Preda
	4 (Fri)		Happy Hour		Karen Hart
	5 (Sat)		Parade of Lights	DC/Old Town	Bud Bishop

From Membership:



Greeting OYC !

Please welcome our new members, Edith Eshleman and Carol Zirkle. Their boat, Escapade III, is berthed at Belmont Bay, Slip E3. Be sure to say hello the next time you're

there. We currently have 44 active memberships. Of these, 33 are family, 3 are associate, 3 are individual and 5 are honorary. We would love to have more people join, so please let me know if you have anyone who is interested. Better yet, invite them to one of our land events. There's no better way for a prospective member to learn about the club then to have them spend some time with us.

If you're getting bored with our winter weather, you can always go onto the OYC Website and check your profile. Please consider adding a picture of yourself and your boat. When you're done

updating, be sure to click save at the bottom of the page.

Questions, you can reach me at:

membership@occoquanyachtclub.com or

datucceri@aol.com.

Can't wait to see everyone back out on the water.

Debbie Tucceri
Membership
Did It Our Way



From the Rear Commodore:



Greetings all!

Let me start by saying thank you to those of you who were able to make it to the Jan event at Paint Your Heart Out. It was something new for OYC and we enjoyed it so much we're going to do it again, maybe later this year, but try mosaics instead of painting. We had 20 people in attendance and I was impressed by the artists in our group! I picked up the glazed and fired items and they look amazing. See the picture on page 5. I didn't realize we had so many talented artists in our club!

February: Mark your calendar for Sat, Feb 8th at Madigan's in Occoquan, 6:00-?. Madigan's doesn't have a Saturday happy hour so this is more like an OYC night out. I talked to Cathy, the manager at Madigan's, and she's going to try and make a drink special just for OYC. I'll be contacting her about that next week so we'll see what she comes up with. This will be a fun evening as dueling pianos start at 8:30. Piano bars are lots of fun so if you're ready for a fun night out please come! I will try to be there around 6:00 and grab some tables.

March: Our last Sat happy hour will be Mar 7, at Fatty's Seafood and Taphouse, 225 Garrisonville Rd, Stafford, 4:00-?. This is a very cool self-pour beer bar. If you've never been to one of these

come give it a try. I promise you won't be disappointed.

Also in March, our annual General Membership meeting is scheduled for the 21st. This is the time we meet and present the proposed 2020 OYC Event Schedule to the membership. I'll be asking everyone to bring a dish, drink, and a chair to the home of Johnny and Michelle Deditis. They have graciously opened their beautiful home to us as we're changing things up by adding a fun "say good-bye to winter" theme. We're going to burn those socks, (yes, literally we really are) and say good riddance to winter! I'll be putting more out on this later but don't miss it, it's going to be fun! Long time members are probably now wondering, what about the photo contest, which was held in the past at the March meeting? That is being moved to the end of the upcoming boating season. If you've got a 2019 photo you've been saving and were planning on entering it in the contest, no worries, just hold onto it for a few more months and we'll include those photo's along with photos from 2020.

In April I plan to move happy hours back to Fridays as we get closer to dewinterizing those boats and start heading back to our marinas!

Cheers,

Karen Hart
Rear Commodore
Hart-2-Hart

Comedy Corner:

Why don't pirates shower before walking the plank?



Because they will wash up on shore later!

Looking for Flag Pole Mounts???

The Swiveler Flag Pole Set design fits our Club's 12" burgee and the pole is made of solid machined 316 stainless steel, with rotating clips. The mount is machined iodized aluminum. Ask Club members what they think of this flag pole or review at www.originalswiveler.com.

To order, send Joe Livingston an email indicating how many sets you want and give the exact diameter of your rail (please measure...do not guess). 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".

A set costs \$70 payable by check or cash to Joe Livingston. Additional information, contact



From the Webmaster:



I would like to remind and encourage everyone to make sure your information is updated in the on-line club directory for the new year.

Many members do not have profile pictures. Having a current profile picture of the captain and first mate helps us all recognize each other. Updating your profile is easy, just sign-on to <http://occoquanyachtclub.com/> click on "Your Profile" then click the "Edit Membership" link and update your profile information and picture. Also remember to print your OYC membership card for the 2020 season while updating your profile. Just click on the "Display Your ID Card" button and print your ID card. Now you can even print the membership directory for a quick on hand reference to keep on your boat. Click on the "Club Directory" link on the home page then click the "Print Directory" button.

If you are having any issues with website access or want to join the OYC Members Only Facebook page just email me at: webmaster@occoquanyachtclub.com.

Safe boating is happy boating!

*William Dornetto
Webmaster
Nauti-Buoys*

From the Treasurer:



Deposits since Dec 11,2019:
\$1,005.00

Expenditures: \$688.66

Ledger Balance as of Jan 8, 2020:
\$10,131.05

Dues paid for 2020 membership
are 63% of anticipated dues.

Let's make this a great year.

*Dave Hart
Treasurer
Hart-2-Hart*



From the PRYCA Rep:



Happy February to everyone! It's been a mild winter so far, and we had a blast at the PRYCA COW.

I've talked in the past about how to have your voice heard, and if you've been following the new Georgia anchor laws (<https://www.waterwayguide.com/latest-news/news/10286/georgia-law-further-infuriates-boaters>), you'll understand why it's so important for individuals to keep in touch with their lawmakers. Associations and Clubs can make a difference, but unless they have deep pockets and lawyers to help (like BoatUS), their reach is limited. What does get lawmakers' attention are voters...and large numbers of vocal voters are a much more effective way to implement changes that protect our environment, prevent pollution (like VA Coal Ash ponds last year) and keep boating safe & accessible for millions. If you haven't looked up your representatives lately, maybe take a look the next time you have a few minutes. It's like voting, your voice can make a difference, but only if you speak up! See page 9 for an Action Alert concerning management of a fishery in the Chesapeake Bay.

Speaking of Clubs and Associations, I immensely

enjoy representing our Club to both PRYCA and CBYCA, but the Associations and frankly the Clubs that support them, are in a desperate fight for their lives as their memberships across the board are suffering. That's one of the terrific things about OYC, because we don't have facilities, our price stays low but the fun stays high! And it's all thanks to Karen, Steve, Susan, and the long line of volunteers that preceded them. You've heard me say it before...our Club depends on volunteerism for its success because volunteers bring new ideas, new life, and are absolutely essential if our Club is to achieve its goals. I'm beyond thrilled to see so many new faces on this year's Board and I hope that trend will continue with this year's cruise coordinators. Have an idea for a destination? Let Steve know! Don't know where to start? Give any of the Board a call, we can help! We're blessed with a number of experienced coordinators and while I won't say we're completely out of ideas...it sure would be great to get some fresh ones!

C'mon Spring!

Bruno Millonig

PRYCA/CBYCA Representative

Millie Gael



PRYCA Change of Watch

From the Secretary:



Greetings to all.

I know some you are followers of the AGLCA, "America's Great Loop Cruisers' Association", Facebook group. During a recent online visit to their page, I came across an exchange where someone posed the following question (excerpted for brevity): "So now what do you do with your time? Haha". The person

this was directed to was someone named Jane Ainsworth, who replied: "Everything you can't do on a boat. Next trick is cycling the Great Allegheny Passage next Spring."

This got me wondering as some seem to treat doing the loop as a bucket list item:

- Do Great Loop/sell boat - check
- Hike Appalachian Trail - check

Most, though, are like our club members with many future "Loopers" or former members doing the Great Loop now. So I innocently asked the following question to the group: "Is it just me, or does it seem like a lot of Loopers get out of boating once they finish the loop? Or do it again then get out of boating?"

Here is a sample of the answers:

"I was thinking the same thing. Makes me second guess doing the loop. I plan to boat as long as I'm Vertical."

"Maintaining a boat and cruising with a couple is amazing and an un-replaceable adventure. It is also a lot of work maintaining a boat putting all those hours on systems that need constant maintenance. It's certainly not a full time vacation. It can also be very expensive. Very different than cruising for the summer and laying up for the winter."

"We're platinum loopers over a 12 year period of owning and accumulating 3500 hours on our Krogen Express. We've missed lots of other travel opportunities to see what else is out there, so we're getting out. At least for awhile."

And finally...

"We're British and don't live in the US. If America was our permanent base, I think we would have kept our boat and spent a lot of time on her. Before we did the Loop, we had a share in a narrow boat & cruised the English Waterways. We do miss the boat, and doing the Loop was amazing, but a live aboard life wouldn't be my choice as a permanent lifestyle....and no I'm 70 and I don't have a bucket list. I just enjoy every minute as it will never come again."

This last response was from the lady who started this whole thing, Jane Ainsworth. She and her husband, Ian, completed the loop in May of last year. What made their trip notable is that they live in England and did the loop over a period of five years, laying up the boat each winter to fly back to England. Their boat, Carina, is a 38' Marine Trader with a single 120hp Lehmann diesel engine. Jane kept a blog of their entire trip and I thought she was a professional writer (she's a retired dentist!) as the blog is beautifully written with charts and photos from start to finish. There are two links here. The first:

<https://talesfromtheamericanwaterways.com/home/>

is strictly the details of the trip with dates and maps showing each leg of their journey. The second:

<https://www.talesfromtheamericanwaterways.com>

is a "photo journal" of the entire trip. It is actually her blog of the trip including many, many photos, charts and commentary about everything they saw in the five years of their loop. Because it was done in near-real time, the first entries are the latest so as you look at it you are going back in time.

I thought it was a fascinating perspective on another way of doing the loop.

Jerry Sandors
Secretary
Escapade





Bud Supervising the Budding Artists



BoatUS offers discounted membership dues for members of OYC. You can join or renew your BoatUS membership for \$15 per year (instead of \$24) plus 10% off Unlimited Towing packages. To join, visit

BoatUS.com/Join and enter our BoatUS Cooperating Group Number: **GA80979Y** in the Promo Code field. Existing members can add our Group Number to their membership by emailing coop-groups@boatus.com or by entering it in the BoatUS Coop Group# field when renewing on BoatUS.com/Renew. You can also call BoatUS at 800-395-2628 to join or renew your membership.

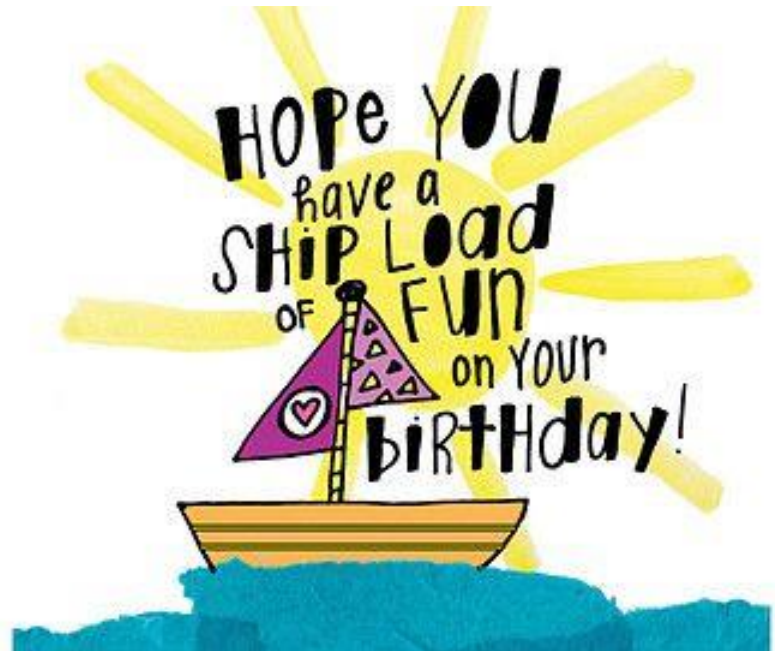
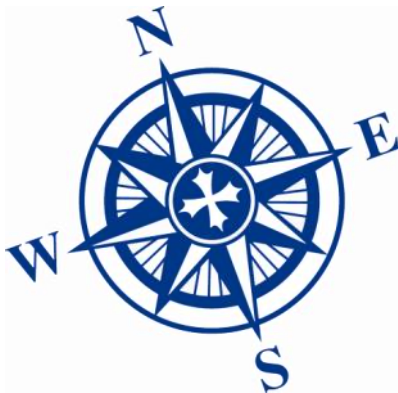
Membership benefits include:

- ◆ Water & trailer towing service
- ◆ Marine insurance
- ◆ Discounts on fuel, slips, repairs & more at over 1,200 boating businesses
- ◆ Shopping rewards at West Marine
- ◆ Boat graphics and lettering
- ◆ BoatUS Magazine
- ◆ Boater representation with lawmakers
- ◆ Boat finance
- ◆ Free MMSI number

February Birthdays ...

In alphabetical order (by last name):

- Tony Atabaki — February 17
- Wayne Beal — February 24
- Edith Eshleman — February 26
- Cindy Lawton — February 15
- Jim Poulos — February 21
- Vanessa Schondel — February 12





January 28, 2020

Legislation is currently under review in Richmond to fix how Virginia manages an important forage fish, Atlantic Menhaden, which is vital to the health of the Chesapeake Bay. We urge you to ask your state legislators to pass the bills that will transfer the authority to manage this fishery from the General Assembly to the Virginia Marine Resource Commission (VMRC).

You can easily send a message to your state representative and senator by [clicking here](#) or paste the link at the end of this email into your browser address bar.

Currently Virginia is not complying with Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) regulations on the management of menhaden. Healthy, well-managed menhaden stocks support a healthy Chesapeake Bay. Unfortunately, menhaden have been targeted by commercial companies that have violated the ASMFC's harvest limits.

VMRC has the expertise to make science-based fishery management decisions for the menhaden fish stocks as it currently does for all other salt-

water fisheries managed in the state. The transfer of management authority to VMRC will not have a negative impact on the menhaden fishery, but instead will ensure Virginia's timely compliance with ASMFC's interstate fishery management plan as do all other neighboring states.

[Take Action](#)

Please speak up now and share this information with your fishing and boating friends, neighbors, yacht clubs and marinas.

If you have any additional questions, please contact BoatUS Government Affairs at GovtAffairs@boatus.com

Thank you for being a BoatUS member!

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<https://advocacy.boatus.com/boatusv2/app/onestep-write-a-letter?2&engagementId=505939>



Smith Island—Chesapeake Bay