



THE DAYMARKER

Volume XXXVIII
Issue No. 6
June 2021

Occoquan Yacht Club
P.O. Box 469
Occoquan, VA 22125
www.occoquanyachtclub.com



Member: PRYCA,
CBYCA, & BoatUS;
Accord #GA80979Y

From the Commodore:



I hope everyone is well into making the most of the great boating weather we have been enjoying in May. Anamchara and CarRUISIN (Vicky & Bob Carr) departed 14 May on the Northern Bay cruise. First stop was Corinthian Yacht Club near Point Lookout. It's a beautiful peaceful getaway with very friendly members. From there we travelled across the bay to Cambridge. It's a great eastern shore town with many shops and sites within easy walking distance. We enjoyed exotic cocktails at Blue Ruin

and sampled craft beer at a local brewery. Next stop was St Michaels. No need to describe it as I'm sure most of you have been there or heard about it. We had a great visit. Following St Michaels we headed north through Kent Narrows and up the Chester River to Chestertown. The city recently built new floating docks and their dock master maintains a very professional operation. We enjoyed nearby restaurants and shopping in a city full of 18th century history. Our three day stay seemed to fly by and in the blink of an eye we were on our way to Havre de Grace at the mouth of the Susquehanna River. Havre de Grace is another town with many shops, restaurants, and historic sites. They have done a great job of highlighting their history with multiple displays, markers, and murals commemorating their history. We stayed at Log Pond marina and met many friendly boaters. CarRUISIN headed home from Havre de Grace and we are now docked in Annapolis for a couple of days. Following Annapolis we will work our way back to the Memorial Day cruise at Colonial Beach. For the first week of the cruise we enjoyed cool weather and calm waters with areas of the bay like glass. I'll try to remember it when taking spray over the bridge.

Attached to this Daymarker and distributed separately is the signup for this year's PRYCA Float-In. If you haven't done so already please log on to our website and indicate your intention to attend or not. We need to start identifying participants for the various competitions that determine the winner of The Cup. OYC has a long history of strong competition and wins. If you plan to attend please have your boat inspected by the USCG Auxiliary or Power Squadron since OYC gets a bonus point if all our boats are inspected. Sometimes it's that one point that makes the difference between first and second place.

Cheers,
Steve Preda
Commodore
Anamchara

Special Point of Interest:

- ★ *Happy Hour June 4 @ Alli's 10716 Richmond HWY, Lorton, after 5:30*
- ★ *OYC Summer Land Event-Picnic in the Park June 12 @ 1:00 Picnic Area 2 Occoquan Regional Park*
- ★ *PRYCA float in bonus points for registration by June 17*



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From the Vice Commodore:



As I write this, our Commodore, Steve Preda aboard *Amchara* is leading boats from OYC around the Northern Chesapeake Bay on our first cruise of the year. They're taking advantage of one of the greatest cruising areas in

the world. People come from far and wide to visit and live on the Bay and we get to use it all the time. Our mild climate, the Bay's forgiving bottom and many quaint towns and major cities to visit make it a vacation every time we leave the dock. It's the main reason we exist so enjoy the opportunities the club offers.

Be sure to check the event schedule and sign-up page on the OYC website for the other cruises and land events to stay current on the dates and places of upcoming events. The board and the cruise directors are working hard to make this season a memorable one and as I've said before, even if you're not sure, a "maybe" on the sign-up page will keep you in the loop to receive information on an event.

By the time you read this we will have returned from the Memorial Day to Colonial Beach, but there is still the Fourth of July at the Wharf in Washington. Also, as a late addition to the schedule, Karen Hart is leading a cruise to Virginia Beach in August. Be safe.

Jerry Sandors
Vice Commodore
Maverick



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From the Rear Commodore:



Where did May go? It just flew by and now here we are getting in to June already! Moving forward, happy hour will be June 4th at Alli's Restaurant, 10716 Richmond HWY, Lorton, 5:30-?. Alli's (used to be called Cody's) has an outdoor patio so weather permitting we'll be outside; however, in the case of

inclement weather there's ample space to sit inside.

While I'm on the subject of happy hour I owe an apology to everyone, in particular hosts Bud and Heidi Bishop, for not getting out a mass email reminding everyone the day before May 14th that happy hour was still going to happen. As it turns out, I did send out the reminder the day before but I later learned no one, except for myself, received it! I'm so sorry. Lesson learned, from now on I'll double check my sent email folder and make sure the email actually went out.



Our annual OYC Summer land event will be a Picnic in the Park on June 12th at shelter 2, Occoquan Regional Park at 1:00 PM. Shelter 2 is directly across the river from Prince William Marina and there is ample parking. It's covered, has several large picnic sized tables, and a large grill. Hamburgers, hot dogs, sides, buns, condiments, water, beer, and wine will be provided by OYC. The shelter is down a path from the parking lot and while an easy walk, Dave and I could use some help in unloading, setting up, cooking, and cleaning up. It would be much appreciated. The shelter is shaded with lots of trees around so please bring your bug spray!

MEMBERS, I NEED YOUR HELP PLEASE. I need 5 volunteers to bring their boats to Belmont Bay Marina and agree to be a host for the Fall land event on Sep 18. Most of my hosts are already berthed at Belmont Bay but I still need a few more hosts. I will assist you in making your reservations and paying your slip fee for 2 nights. If you wish to volunteer to be a host please contact me as soon as possible as I only need 5 so first come first served. Call or text **703 509-0001**, or email kdhart99@comcast.net.

Karen Hart
Rear Commodore
Hart 2 Hart



May Bay Cruise Photo Gallery



From the Membership:



Hello Members! It is great to see people finally being able to get on the water. We are 52memberships strong! Please give a warm welcome to our newest members: Teresa Amundson and Matthew Grimm whose boat "Problem Solver" is berthed at Belmont Bay Marina and Glenn and Jennifer Robinson whose boat "Brown Eyed Girl III" is also berthed at Belmont Bay Marina. If you would like to know who our members are, please look at our club directory.

Many members have posted pictures of themselves and/or their boat which is very helpful. If you haven't already uploaded a photo please do so, it really helps members place a boat and face with a name. You can upload your photo very easily by logging into the website at www.occoquanyachtclub.com, go to "Your Profile", scroll down towards the bottom, browse and upload a photo. It will now appear in the directory. If you know of anyone interested in joining OYC, please let me know and I will reach out to them directly. I hope to see you all on the water very soon!

Debbie Tucceri
Membership Chair
Did It Our Way

Memorial Day Cruise Photo Gallery



From the Treasurer:



Deposits since last report-\$270.00
Expenses - \$964.02

Ledger Balance as of May 12, 2021
\$8595.78



Dave Hart
Treasurer
Hart 2 Hart

★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

Vicky Carr June 2

Judy Dooley June 10

Tom Deputy June 12

Mary Jo Worchester June 15

Charley Justice June 21

Karla Justice June 22

Mark Lawton June 27

Jennifer Robinson June 28

Bruno and Susan Millonig
June 1

Jerry and Susan Terasek
June 1

Chris and Alison Rose
June 4

George and Kay Baird
June 17

Steve and Mary Jo Worchester
June 21

Dave and Karen Hart
June 25

Karen and Gill Stokes
June 28

Happy Anniversary

From the Daymarker Editors:

Please send items for the July Daymarker to us by Monday, June 28. Thanks, [Mike and Barbara Bruhn](#)

The Jackie B-III



Honorary Member Profile: Meet Jim Brooks

I sat down with a longtime fixture on the River, Belmont Bay Harbormaster Jim Brooks. One might call him equal parts cantankerous old fart and a big softie, but to most of us, he's



simply Jim. From his childhood on the Hudson River, to the rivers of VietNam, to the mighty Potomac, there's no question he has "been there, done that, and got the T-shirt". After several attempts (including 2 water main breaks), I finally got to sit down with him for this Daymarker interview.

Bruno: Jim, tell us a little about your history on the river.

Jim: Well, Uncle Sam dropped me off here in 1973. In 1975 I bought my very first boat, a 17' Winner. It was an open bow with a 470 Mercruiser (Bruno's note: I had to Google that one. It's a 3.7L I4, 170hp) and I bought it in the month of February and stored it in my carport. As soon as the weather warmed up, it rained every weekend until probably the end of July. It was driving me crazy, I couldn't use my brand new boat! So one day I couldn't stand it anymore. I made myself a couple of sandwiches, put a couple of beers in the cooler, picked up a copy of the Sunday Washington Post, and launched out of Pohick park. It rained so hard that the canvas was leaking, the sandwiches got soaked, and eventually I was so wet I decided "this is stupid", so I packed up, went home, and waited for a nicer weekend. That's how I got my start on the Potomac.

Bruno: How did you get your start in the Marina business?

Jim: I used to be in corporate america, making a good living, but traveling from Philadelphia all the way to Miami as much as 3 weeks a month. Eventually the grind and living out of a suitcase got to be not worth the paycheck and I decided I'd had my fill. Friends of mine lived in Belmont at the time and told me about the opening here, so I submitted my resume and went to Annapolis for an interview. While chatting with the company president, he asked "why does such a big fish like you want to swim in our small pond?". I had to convince him it wasn't about the money any more, it was about my sanity, and this is perfect for me. Now, 16 years later I'm still here!

Bruno: In your time on the river, I'm sure you've seen a lot, how has boating changed?

Jim: It's changed a lot, not only has boating changed, but the River has changed. Back when I started boating, the hydrilla wasn't here. You could go over to the sand dunes in Mattawoman creek and beach your boat on the closest thing to a Hawaiian island you'll ever see on the east coast. It was beautiful. But now you couldn't get back there for love or money. But the plus side to hydrilla is it has dramatically cleaned

up the river. Back then, you never saw a Bald Eagle, they simply weren't here. The fishing was terrible, and the river was just plain dirty. Now, if the water has settled, you can actually see the outrives on the boats. I hadn't seen that in years. The biggest change in boating itself is in the navigation. When I started boating, you had a compass...and a chart. If you didn't know how to read either one of them, you were S.O.L. I had a 8 1/2 x 11 sheet of paper with every heading from marker to marker from Georgetown all the way to Pt. Lookout, and on the other side, I had the reverse headings marked all the way back up. I had it laminated and carried it with me every trip. Nowadays, people fire up their dual 12" displays, turn on their radars, communicate with satellites, and then go 2 miles out to Sandy Point and drop the hook. That's the extent of their use of electronics...I just find that funny as hell.

Bruno: So as you look at the future of boating, are you an optimist or a pessimist?

Jim: I'm a little of both. After the crash of 2008, this industry was just devastated and it took a long time to recover. Every marina went from full (with a waiting list), to barely hanging on. Banks were down here on a regular basis repossessing boats, and people were actually trying to give bankers their keys just to get out from under them. It's been recovering steadily, but the pandemic really kicked things into high gear. Last year I brought in 28 new boats, so business is good. The boat clubs are thriving, and we've got far more interest than we've seen in years. But the downside is that there's so much inexperience out there. Of the 28 boats, 26 of them had never boated before. They took a safety test, but that doesn't mean they know what they're doing. Within 2 weeks, 2 of the 28 were already out of commission. One poor guy ripped off both his stern drives by running aground at full speed. The boat clubs might make good sense from a business standpoint, but these part time boaters don't have the savvy or the experience to know how to handle themselves in tight quarters around the marina... I cringe every time they come around the corner because you never know what to expect.

So there you have it folks, 50 years of Potomac history with Jim and trust me...more stories than you can count. I've enjoyed many of them in our 6 years at Belmont Bay, usually over a cup of coffee in the morning (Maxwell House brewed in his Keurig), or even once in a while a cold Miller Lite (always a bottle please). Not long ago, he was looking at a nice 53' Ocean Yacht at a marina he liked in Myrtle Beach and pondered retirement, but decided the time wasn't quite right just yet. When he decides the time is right, I hope he'll get to keep enjoying the River he's called home for so many years.

Bruno
Millie Gael
Fleet Captain,
Belmont Bay Marina



Comedy Corner:



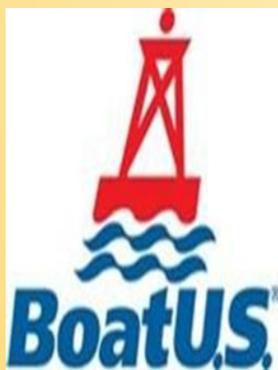
WHO WAKES UP ONE DAY
and says, "We're going tubing...get the cat"



Welcome to May's Knot's Landing. This month's video is on the Anchor Bend knot. Check out this short informative video.



Happy Fathers Day



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 www.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 coopgroups@boat.us or by entering it in the BoatUS Coop Group# field when renewing on www.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 | ★ Boat graphics and lettering |
| ★ Marine insurance | ★ BoatUS Magazine |
| ★ Discounts on fuel, slips, repairs & more at over 1,200 boating businesses | ★ Boater representation with lawmakers |
| ★ Shopping rewards at West Marine | ★ Boat finance |
| | ★ Free MMSI number |

Tow  BoatUS.

2021 PRYCA FLOAT-IN



~ Calling all PRYCA Member Clubs ~ Rally Your Teams to Compete for The Cup!

Registration includes a weekend of nautical fun and games with PRYCA members and their guests at Coles Point Marina, 190 Plantation Dr, Hague, VA 20680.

MEALS **Friday Evening:** Heavy Hors d'oeuvres provided; adult beverages BYOB
Saturday: Lunch and Buffet Dinner

EVENTS **Friday Evening:** Mingle and get to know fellow boaters by sharing your club's favorite signature cocktail on the beach while watching the sunset and enjoying a bonfire.
Saturday Morning: Seminars and Demonstrations
Saturday Afternoon: **Competition for The Cup!**
Saturday Night: Awards Ceremony and festivities.
***Vessel Safety Inspections available Friday and Saturday

All participants in The Cup Competition must be paid registrants of the Float-In. (The Competition for The Cup includes the Seamanship Skills and Knot Tying exam, Scavenger Hunt, games, Vessel Safety Inspection participation, and any bonus point offers.) **A bonus point will be awarded to clubs submitting their paid registration form by June 17, 2021.**

FUEL: Coles Point Marina will offer a discount off posted fuel prices for Float In attendees the weekend of the event. Final price will be distributed to clubs approximately one week prior to the event.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Notice of all cancellations must be made to Vicky Carr at Treasurer@pryca.us. **No refunds will be made for cancellations received after July 16, 2021.** (2 weeks before event)

SNAG-A-SLIP / RECIPROCITY / SLIP ASSIGNMENTS: All slip reservations are made through PRYCA during the registration process. Coles Point Marina will NOT accept any Snag-a-Slip or reciprocity slip reservations during the event dates. This will enable PRYCA to maintain control of the event registrations. Slip assignments will be managed by PRYCA and based on vessel size, power requirements, and registration date until all available slips are booked.

COTTAGE RESERVATIONS: Cottages can be reserved through Coles Point Marina. Please mention the PRYCA 2021 Float In. (Separate event registration required.) As of 4/14/2021, Cottage #1 is the only available cottage left. Cottage #1 is a 5 bedroom rental.

RV HOOKUPS: RV hookups can be reserved through Coles Point Marina. Please mention the PRYCA 2021 Float In and they will give a \$10 off per night hook up fee. (Separate event registration required.)

Please save the dates and spread the word with everyone in your club!

MARDI GRAS ON THE POTOMAC

Where it's cool to wear a mask!

Please contact PRYCA Rear Commodore, Bill Bukevicz, with any questions: RearCommodore@pryca.us

REGISTRATION FORMS WILL BE SENT ELECTRONICALLY TO PRYCA DELEGATES AND COMMODORES SOON!
REGISTRATION FORM WILL INCLUDE PRE ORDERS FOR FLOAT-IN SHIRTS

Individual Registration Form

PRYCA 2021 FLOAT-IN

E-Mail address for captain of the vessel: * _____ Cell ph. # * _____

** It is important that we have this contact information for every vessel registered.*

Club Name: _____

Boat Name: _____

Beam: _____ Length: _____

Circle Power Cord Requirements: 1x30, 2x30, 1x50

Circle Arrival Day: Thurs (29th), Fri (30th), Sat (31st)

Circle Number of Nights: One, Two, Three

List All Registrants: Name:

Club Position, if any:

Captain _____

Please indicate A (adult 13+), Ch (child 5-10,) or T (toddler 4yrs or less,) next to each name.

Determine Slip & Power Fee:

1. Length of boat x \$1.75 x number of nights = Total Vessel Cost _____

2. Power Cord: \$5/night (1x30) or \$10/night (2x30, 1x50) X number of nights = Cost _____

A. Total Slip & Power Fee: (1) + (2) = _____

Determine Registration Fee:

1. Number of Adults x \$125.00 = _____

2. Number of Children (ages 5-10 yrs.) x \$60.00 = _____

Toddlers, age 4 & under, are free.

B. Total Registration Fee: (1) + (2) = _____

C. Pre Order Float-In Shirts: Men's: XXL, XL, L M, S Women's: XXL, XL, L M, S (Circle Size)

Number: _____ x \$25.00 = _____

Determine Total Costs: Slip & Power Fee (A) plus Reg Fee (B) = \$ _____ Check # _____

Float-In Shirts(C)

Please make check payable to PRYCA.

Submit this completed form, along with your personal check to: Vicky Carr, PRYCA Treasurer

9004 Barb Anne Ct.

Springfield, VA 22152

** If you send directly to Vicky, be sure to notify your Club POC.*

Cancellations: Notice of all cancellations must be made to Vicky Carr at Treasurer@pryca.us.

Bonus Point awarded with paid registration by June 17, 2021

No refunds will be made for cancellations received after July 16, 2021.