

# The Daymarker

## OCCOQUAN YACHT CLUB

P.O. Box 469, Occoquan, VA 22125

Member: PRYCA, CBYCA Boat/U.S. Accord # GA80979Y

**Commodore**  
Steve Wexler  
703 437-0687



### Commodore's Comments

Steve Wexler

**Vice Commodore**  
Teresa Sorrenti  
703 590 6724

**Rear Commodore**  
Janine Washington  
703 590-3653

**Secretary**  
Walt Cheatham  
703 491-3956

**Treasurer**  
Peggy Ball  
703 569-2159

**Quartermasters**  
Bill & Bonnie Fulford  
703 591-2118

**Membership**  
Elaine & John Robey  
703 680-2257

**PRYCA Delegate**  
Henry Lovell  
703 799-1322

**Historian**  
Dottie Jacobsen  
703 250-7736

**THE DAYMARKER Editor**  
Tom Coldwell  
703 323-1675

**W**ell, when you read this article, Rick Sorrenti will have cleaned the cannon, dried his matches, and loaded the gunpowder pouch. Yes, it's that time of the year again—THE BIG BOOM DAY! On Saturday, May 3rd, at Occoquan Harbour Marina, the Occoquan Yacht Club will welcome the 1997 boating season at our own Flag Raising Ceremony. At 12:00 noon, the flags will be raised, the big gun will be shot, and I will proudly announce that it's time

And finally, please remember that the function is hosted by Dickie Lynn of Occoquan Harbour Marina, an honorary member and long-standing friend of OYC. Depending on the weather, we plan on organizing a raft-up at Mattawoman Creek starting at about 4:00. On your way out of the Occoquan Channel feel free to call Sweet Gussie on VHF channel 72 to arrange for a photo of your boat as you come up on plane; we'll be waiting for you at the channel entrance.

### Early Bird laid an egg; Egmores hatch party

The Early Bird Cruise almost became a mud wrestling contest. Fortunately, IPC Egmore contacted everyone early enough to let us know that there was only 2 feet of water in Aquia Creek;

apparently we would have been able to walk to Hope Springs Marina. Never daunted, the OYC clan gathered at Morning Mist at about 6:00 PM for a great happy hour of over thirty people. A special thanks to Barb and Tom for having all of us aboard.

### Busy, Busy, Busy

There's so much going on during May and June, it's hard to figure out where to start. I already mentioned the OYC Flag Raising. If that isn't enough for you, we've been invited to attend the Tantallon Yacht Club Flag Raising on Saturday, May 10, 1997. The ceremony takes place on the Yacht Club grounds and starts at 2:00 PM. If you would like to attend (either by boat or car), please contact Dave Moore who

**“There's so much going on during  
May and June, it's hard to figure  
out where to start.”**

for calm winds and smooth cruising. The club will provide soda, beer, hamburgers and hot dogs (along with all the fixin's). Please bring a side dish or dessert to share with us.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary will be at OHM from about 11:00 on to provide Courtesy Marine Examinations. Remember, it's one of our goals this year to get every boat in the Club inspected with a CME. So if you can float in, please do and see one of the auxiliarists. In addition, we expect that Captain Terry Hill of Potomac Marine will be at the Flag Raising with the Potomac Marine Towboat. Potomac Marine has joined OYC and we always try to use the services of our members. The Fairfax County Police have been invited to inform us of their patrol activities on the Occoquan River this summer.

has agreed to coordinate our club's participation. See his article elsewhere in this grand journalistic masterpiece.

### **(Ship)yard Sale, Breakfast, Dinner**

The very next week-end is the OYC Breakfast/Yard Sale, the PRYCA pre Blessing of the Fleet Dinner, and the Washington Waterfront Association Blessing of the Fleet. The OYC Breakfast/Yard Sale will be held at Occoquan Harbour Marina starting at 8:00 AM on Saturday, May 17th.

You can participate in many different ways. First, we always need volunteer food preparers and servers. For those who are interested, please contact either Dave Yarnell (490-0923) or Bill Fulford (591-2118). Second, we need you to bring your appetites, friends and wallets. The breakfast is an all-you-can-eat eggs, pancakes, hash browns, bacon, sausage, and Dave Yarnell's sausage gruel over biscuits for the absolutely low price of \$5.00 per person. Just another chance to commune in a cholesterol-free environment with your fellow members. And finally, bring that classic boat lamp, mint condition tool set, or just something from your garage that didn't move in the last yard sale. Bring it on down—we'll take care of auctioning it off; and if you really have a good time, you can donate all or some of the proceeds received on your priceless gems to your favorite cause—yes, the Occoquan Yacht Club.

### **Later that night**

The PRYCA is hosting a pre-Blessing dinner, with dancing and music, hosted by National Potomac Yacht Club at Columbia Island Marina on the evening of May 17th. Slips will be available at Gangplank Marina, and our faithful PRYCA Delegate Henry Lovell is coordinating the activities for OYC. The registration form is enclosed. Here are the basics:

#### **Schedule for Saturday, May 17th**

6:00 PM dinner at Columbia Island Marina, \$17.00 per adult, \$ 8.00 per child

Dock your boat at Gangplank. **Please let Henry know right now that you're coming—slips are limited.**

Water taxi will be provided by either PRYCA or a designated driver from OYC. If you can avoid it don't float in to Columbia Island. Their dock space is very limited.

#### **Schedule for Sunday, May 18th**

11:30 AM—PRYCA Brunch at a waterfront restaurant to be determined

1:00 PM—Blessing of the Fleet starts with laying of the wreath.

3:00—5:00 PM—Post-Blessing Barbecue at Capital Yacht Club (if you plan on going to Capital, re-dock your boat at Gangplank and walk over.)

As I've often noted, with the number of logs and other obstacles in the Potomac River, it doesn't hurt to get blessed early in the season. If you have any questions, please call Henry or some higher power as soon as possible. The absolute sign-up deadline is May 7th.

### **Memorial Day Weekend Cruise**

The very next week-end is the OYC Memorial Day Cruise to Point Lookout Marina. PC Ned Rhodes is

coordinating and I'm sure that he has a great weekend planned for us. Please contact Ned, 741-0861, with questions.

### **One more May fling**

And finally, if you haven't had enough by the last weekend in May, Aquia Harbour Yacht Club and Landmark Yacht Club are jointly hosting a PRYCA Mid-River Raft-up on May 31st at AHYC. The slip fees will be \$11.50 (while they last)—raft-ups pay no slip fee. See the bulletin on another page, and if you have questions, either contact the names shown or call Henry Lovell, 799-1322.

### **Looking ahead**

Just so you can start planning, in June OYC is sponsoring its Spring Cruise to Cobb Island on June 7th and 8th. In addition, OYC has been invited to participate in the Tantallon Yacht Club Shipwreck Party on June 21st—Dave Moore is coordinating for OYC. As an alternative, the Cobb Island Yacht Club is sponsoring Cobb Island Days on June 21st and 22nd. This event will include a "craft fair on the green" on Saturday afternoon, and that evening there will be a Pig and Chicken Roast with corn-on-the-cobb and potato salad. To complete the weekend, there is a Sunday brunch at the Cobb Island restaurants included in the registration fee of \$25 per adult and \$14 per child. If you're interested in Cobb Island Days, you can contact Commodore Don Thayer (301-259-2166) for information.

### **A-huff-a-huff**

I'm out of breath, space and time. But I must remind you that the PRYCA Float-in will take place at Fort Washington Marina on July 18th—20th. Look for the preliminary flyer in the Daymarker—and be prepared to sign-up early next month. Our own Monica Lovell is coordinating the event for PRYCA and I hear she's doing a bang-up job! I want to make sure that we support her this year by having the most participation in the Float-In over all other member clubs.

And remember—if you ride your bikes tonight—wear white!! See you on the River!!!

## *The Daymarker*

Published monthly by the Occoquan Yacht Club

Tom Coldwell, PC, Editor

Elaine & John Robey, labels; Jim Thrift, production

News and other materials for publication are welcome from any member of OYC. The deadline for submission of materials to **THE DAYMARKER** is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. If possible, please submit copy by e-mail to: [coldwell@erols.com](mailto:coldwell@erols.com).

Fax service is not available. Word-processed copy may be mailed on a 3.5" IBM/MSDOS-compatible diskette to the editor at 10319 Commonwealth Blvd., Fairfax, VA 22032-2613. The preferred format is WordPerfect for Windows or DOS, but we accept Microsoft Word and ASCII text as well.

Photographs may be submitted for publication provided they comply with contemporary community standards for decency and do not reflect adversely on the club or its officers... unless it's a really good shot.

The editor may be reached by phone at home, 703-323-1675, or at work, 202-737-2300, extension 726.

# Occoquan Yacht Club's Annual Breakfast & Yard Sale\*

Occoquan Harbor Marina

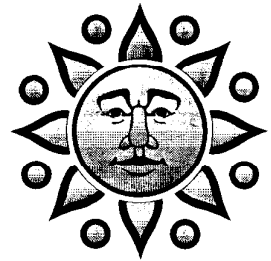
Saturday, May 17, 1997

8:00 to 11:00 AM

\$5.00 per breakfast (All you can eat!)

Eggs, pancakes, french toast, bacon and  
our infamously delicious sausage sauce!  
Bring Your Family, Friends and Lawn Chairs!

\*All contributions from the yard sale will be greatly appreciated.



## Vice Commodore's Comments

### Teresa Sorrenti —Boatless in the Spring

Such an unnatural condition, being Boatless in the spring. When we ordered it, March seemed so far away, but yet it gave us time to get the boat "shipshape" before the Early Bird Cruise. Much better timing than last year, we thought, when we got everything loaded one hour *after* we should have left for Blessing of the Fleet! Then came one little delay after another. Early Bird approached—but thanks to the generosity of this club, you  *canceled* this first chance to go boating rather than have to go without *Sea Duck Too!* What a group! (I know Tom had that story about only two feet of water in Aquia Creek, but who believed that one?)

Friday Rick called me at work and the sigh over the phone line was worse than the north wind outside. He had just spoken to the factory, and there would be one more week. "I'm despondent," he said. Now, when Rick uses a three syllable word to describe his feelings, we are talking serious! This delay has hampered all of our preparations: the various boaters' stores are concerned that the expected annual blitz of Sorrentis-Outfitting-Another-Boat has not come to pass. The best we have been able to do are some fenders and lines, items that do not require exact measurements, style, colors. Where is the time to choose towels, pillows, important things??

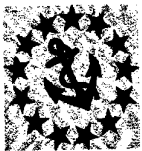
And another problem: we have not seen the basement floor in months. Now, it could be worse, but only if you are in North Dakota. There are boxes, and there are rows of plastic bags filled with all those things that came out of the former *Sea Duck Too*. First of all, we are not sure where it all came from. I remember the sore muscles that day from unloading it all, but it was amazing that so much stuff can come from such little "cubbies.". The next question I keep asking is, should we have a plan, a sequence for which of these many bags goes on board the new vessel first? Of course the Captain says "No, it will all just fall into place," but I am afraid it will not....

So here we are waiting another week. Sure, you say, but

there are no boat payments! Well, I would counter, we will make up for that shortly. Boatless is sad—no way to "bond with the new boat" as Ricky says. Boatlessness is something that should not happen to anyone; it's obvious, since Spell check keeps stopping on the word!



Memorial Day Weekend Destination—Point Lookout Marina on Smith Creek near the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay, May 24-26. Underway at last!



## Rear Commodore's Comments

### Janine Washington (April Fool's *redux*) The Boating Safety Test

For Mike and me, the primary theme this year will be Safety. You might wonder why safety wouldn't be our priority every year. I can only respond by saying we had a *different* theme last year. Since this is a family-oriented newsletter, I won't go into specifics. You're welcome.

So with safety as the focus, I've developed 'The Boating Safety Test'. This test should be particularly useful to the newer members. Seasoned boaters who find that the test is too easy should try variations such as taking the test with both hands tied behind your back...or, with both eyes closed.

Each correct answer counts for ten points. Since there will be no prizes given, feel free to look at the answers first. Go ahead. I won't tell anyone. Choose the best answers:

1. The location and proper use of your boat's VHF radio should be reviewed with:
  - a. All onboard guests.
  - b. The guest best able to replace it if it's broken.
  - c. No one. The Captain never learned to share.
  - d. None of the above.
2. When should you perform a 'sniff test' on the bilge to check for gasoline fumes?
  - a. After taking on fuel.
  - b. After running the exhaust fan for 3-5 minutes.
  - c. Only when you've had Columbian drug lords aboard.
  - d. A and B.
3. You're approaching a marina and you hear one long blast from a boat's horn. This means you should:
  - a. Be on the lookout for another boat leaving its slip.
  - b. Check to see if you're leaving a wake.
  - c. Begin monitoring Channel 16.
  - d. Get dressed.
4. After three burritos and a cream soda from Wang's Deli, Bait & Tackle, the Captain has turned a lovely shade of green and is curled up on the cockpit floor. There's a marina up ahead so you:
  - a. Grab the cell phone, dial 911 and give them your coordinates.
  - b. Radio the marina to request an ambulance and possible docking assistance.
  - c. Run to and fro on your vessel screaming, "We're gonna die!"
  - d. None of the above.
5. A quick horizontal slicing motion across his throat means the Captain's telling you:
  - a. He swallowed a bug.
  - b. To cut the engines.
  - c. Put the engines in reverse.
  - d. You're gonna get it!
6. The Coast Guard boards your vessel for a routine search. To be helpful you:
  - a. Provide the documentation papers and respond only to questions directed at you.
  - b. Explain that after 15 years of marriage you've learned it's best not to argue with the Captain when he's been drinking.

- c. Pretend you're a narcoleptic.
  - d. None of the above.
7. What do you do when you hear a 'Mayday' call on Channel 16?
    - a. Turn off your radio.
    - b. Radio the following response: "Wah, wah, wah! We all have problems you know!"
    - c. Wait a few seconds to see if a closer boat responds to the call. Otherwise, respond by getting the key information and sticking with the call until someone takes it off your hands.
    - d. B and A (in that order!).
  8. When should you *not* check the weather forecast before going out on your boat?
    - a. When the weather looks clear.
    - b. When you positively have to be there overnight.
    - c. When you're planning to buy a new boat anyway.
    - d. Never.
  9. When is it okay to violate the navigational *Rules of the Road*?
    - a. When you're overtaking a sailbote.
    - b. On Sundays after 6:00 p.m.
    - c. When avoiding a collision.
    - d. It's never okay.
  10. When are you required to use your navigational lights?
    - a. At night or whenever visibility is poor.
    - b. If you want your boat to look festive for a party.
    - c. When you don't want to be mistaken for a U.F.O. (Unidentified Floating Object).
    - d. None of the above.

Answers: 1-a. 2-d. 3-a. 4-b. 5-b. 6-a. 7-c. 8-d. 9-c. 10-a.

Scoring: 90-100 Way to go, Boater! It's no surprise. You're a member of the coolest yacht club on the Potomac! OYC! OYC!

60-80 Not bad. You may want to work on your attitude a bit though (especially if you chose b for question number 7).  
50-0 You're killing me! You're just *killing* me! Take the test again. And this time, read the answers first. Sheesh!

## August week-long cruise shapes up; deposit checks due May 15

Here's the schedule from Barb Egmore, coordinator for the second of OYC's week-long cruises, August 2-10:

August 2, 3—Saturday and Sunday nights at Dennis Point Marina

August 4, 5—Monday and Tuesday nights at Tides Lodge

August 6-8—Wednesday through Friday nights at Coles Point Plantation

August 9—Saturday night at Colonial Beach Yacht Center.

Boats signed up thus far: Morning Mist, Hot Schatz, Dodie One, Evermoore, The Golden Rule, Alexander's Dream, Down the Hatch, Kitt and Happenstance.

Call Barbara, 256-8442, if your plans have changed or if you are not on the list and would like to be added. A non-refundable deposit of \$125 (check payable to Barbara Egmore) is required by May 15.



**The Washington Waterfront Association  
and the  
Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association**



## **Invite You to the 22nd Annual Washington Waterfront Blessing of the Fleet**

[Revised - 21 Mar 97]

**>> Saturday, 17 May 1997 <<**

- **The Fleet Arrives @ James Creek & Gangplank Marinas**
  - For Overnight Accommodations, contact your Fleet Captain.
  - Slips & Transportation to Pre-Blessing Dinner Coordinated by PRYCA
  
- **Pre-Blessing Dinner @ Columbia Island Marina**
  - Hosted by National Potomac Yacht Club - Come by Car or Boat
  - 6:00 pm: Social Hour
  - 6:30 pm: Catered Buffet with SPECIAL MENU of:
    - >> Green Salad, Pasta Salad & Cole Slaw; Rolls & Butter
    - >> Beef Kabobs, BBQ Pork, & Marinated Chicken Teriyaki
    - >> Soft Drinks & Desert of Pineapple Upside-Down Cake
  - After Dinner: Music and Dancing

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**>> Sunday, 18 May 1997 <<**

- **9:00 to 11:30 am: Brunch at a Waterfront Restaurant**
  - Details will be provided during coordination meetings
  
- **1:00 pm: Blessing of the Fleet @ Washington Waterfront**
  - Prizes for Best Boats Power, Sail, Classic, Decorations, etc.
  - See your club Fleet Captain or Representative for Details
  
- **3:00 to 7:00 pm: Boaters Barbeque at Capital Yacht Club**
  - Capital Yacht Club has invited all participants for hot dogs and hamburgers @ \$5.00 per person.

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**DON'T MISS IT - MAKE RESERVATIONS NOW!**

- Contact your Fleet Captain or Representative for Details
  - Registration Form on Back
- Other Questions? Contact Peggy Ball @ (703) 569-2159



**The Washington Waterfront Association  
and the  
Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association**



**BLESSING OF THE FLEET REGISTRATION**

(To be filled out by each vessel; returned with your club's registration package)

[Revised - 21 Mar 97]

**Club or Organization Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Vessel Name:** \_\_\_\_\_; **Type** \_\_\_\_\_ (if coming by boat)  
**Captain's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**First Mate Name:** \_\_\_\_\_; **Guest** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Guests Names:** \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

• **Overnight Slip (17-18 May 1997) @ James Creek or Gangplank**

**Vessel Length:** \_\_\_\_\_; **Beam:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Fees:**   **Length @ \$0.50/day/ft =** \_\_\_\_\_ **ft x .5 =** \_\_\_\_\_  
              **Electric 1 - 30 amp @ \$3.00/day =** \_\_\_\_\_ **x \$3.00 =** \_\_\_\_\_  
              **1 - 50 amp @ \$5.00 /day =** \_\_\_\_\_ **x \$5.00 =** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Daily Rate = \$** \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL = No. of Days x Daily Rate =** \_\_\_\_\_ **days x \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **= \$** \_\_\_\_\_

• **Pre-Blessing Dinner & Dancing, starting at 6 pm, 17 May 1997**

**@ Columbia Island Marina (List names above)**  
**Costs: \$17.00 per person; Children 12 & under: \$8.00 per child**  
**No. of Adults:** \_\_\_\_\_ **x \$17.00 = \$** \_\_\_\_\_  
**No. of Children:** \_\_\_\_\_ **x \$8.00 = \$** \_\_\_\_\_   **TOTAL = \$** \_\_\_\_\_

• **REGISTRATION TOTAL = SLIP FEES + DINNER = \$** \_\_\_\_\_

- **Make Checks payable to:**                   **PRYCA**  
- **Send payment to:**                         **Peggy Ball @ (703) 569-2159**  
  **6833 Spring Beauty Court**  
  **Springfield, VA 22152**  
- **Registration & Payment Due**               **NOT LATER THAN 7 May 1997**

• **Brunch at a Waterfront Restaurant, 9 - 11:30 am, 18 May 1997**

- **Details will be provided during coordination meetings**

• **Blessing of Fleet @ Washington Channel, starting 1 pm, 18 May 1997**

**List vessel above and register for Prizes with your Fleet Captain or Representative.**  
**Return with your club's Registration Package**

• **Hot Dogs and Hamburgers @ Capital Yacht Club - 3 to 7 pm, 18 May 97**

**No reservations; \$5.00 per person**



## Secretary's Comments

Walt Cheatham

Spring has sprung and I have two boats. That's two bottoms to paint and two hulls to wax. Plus one yard to mulch and grass to cut every 6 days. Where is leisure?

On top if that we are in search of (ISO) all sorts of stuff for the new boat and have all the stuff from the old boat in the middle of the floor of the new boat. That is because we cannot coordinate ourselves to organize. Worse yet, the word organize means different things in each of our vocabularies.

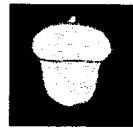
Organize per SMC: Do the teak and make the new boat look nice and presentable so people can be invited aboard. Do one thing at a time in within near-term time-frame requiring little scheduling.

Organize per WHC: Start all the things now that are required to be done later so the preparations will all come together as final products at one time. Think through ahead of time where everything goes and then put everything in it's final, proper place for once and for all.

Notice how the words time and schedule frequently appear in the two preceding definitions. We cannot even get our schedules organized. She still brings work home on the weekend and I have to go mess around with the old boat on the weekend. We can't get it done during the week because the day she comes home from work with some modicum of energy left, I am exhausted, and visa versa. When I come home on time, she is late, and visa versa. Then when we are both have everything in sync, a cold front comes through or it rains. We might be ready by July.

Ready for boating that is, because the mulch will still be stacked up in the drive and the kid will be home from college wanting to park there. But the kid can spread much, right. Wrong! He has to get a job and entertain his girl friend. Betcha I'm going to hide the key on the new boat in a more secure place than on the old one.

I just read thru this mess and decided it is but a slight variation on last year's "Susan likes a clean boat" theme.



## Treasurer's Comments

Peggy Ball

First, I want to thank all you great OYCers who have sent in your renewal checks. The bad news is this is your last Daymarker if I haven't seen your money. Take a moment and write that check right now so you don't miss a single weekend of fun this year. Enough business, now on with the good stuff.

Baltimore-our next port on the Northern Cruise. Home will be the Inner Harbor East Marina, located on the north side of the harbor. There is a large deck for our happy hours and we have a \$50 CBYCA member club credit with their restaurant for our munchies!

The hard part will be deciding what to do in the 2 nights and days that we are there. Art museums, historic areas, trolley tours, submarines, Ft. McHenry, antique shops as well as the obvious attractions-all easily reached by foot or water taxi. The taxi makes regular stops at our marina from 11am to 11pm. Unlimited, all-day tickets are just \$3.50. What a deal!

If any of you missed this cruise, please consider joining us at one or several of our stops by land. There are plenty of hotels around-unless you can steal a berth on a friends boat.

## Tantallon Yacht Club Flag Raising, May 10, and we are invited

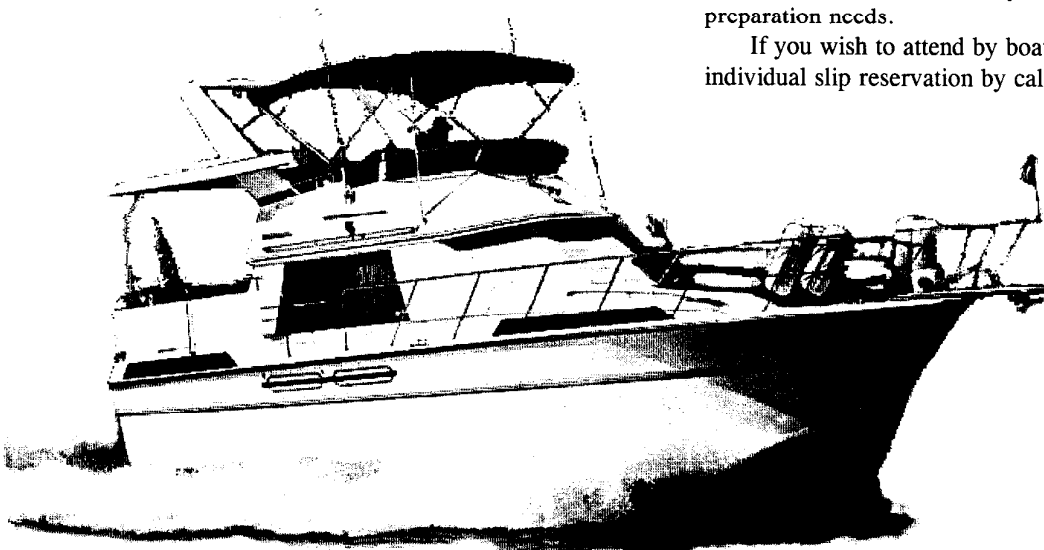
Tantallon Yacht Club has invited all OYC members to their annual Flag Raising Ceremony by way of a formal letter to the Moores from TYC Commodore Della Fleury. The ceremony commences at 2:00 P.M. on the Yacht Club grounds with the U.S. Coast Guard Silent Drill Team performing. The event will last about 45 minutes, to be followed by a champagne reception at the TYC Clubhouse, for which there is no charge.

If you wish to attend please RSVP to Dave or Carol Moore at 703-494-0651 with your reservation *by May 5* so OYC can provide the courtesy of advising TYC on food preparation needs.

If you wish to attend by boat please make your own individual slip reservation by calling Tom or Jay at Backyard Boats at 703-548-1375.

Call Dave or Carol if you have any questions or need additional information.

*See the next page for more news from our friends at Tantallon Yacht Club*



Lucky Ducks underway

## Breathing Easier for Spring

by Jim Ball

Finally! Boating season is here and we are all scrubbing, polishing and starting up those engines—what a beautiful sound. Reminds me of that old tune “Nothing’s quite as pretty as the sound of inboards in the morning.” Anyway, I thought I’d note a few pointers about air conditioners that will make life aboard more pleasant this Spring.

The first suggestion is to look at your air conditioner to see if it has an air filter. Betcha’ it doesn’t. This means that all the dust inside your boat is being re-circulated into your lungs whenever you crank up the unit.

Simple solution. First, clean your heat exchanger by blowing compressed air through it or carefully (electrical power off) spraying it with water to wash it out and let it dry. Second, pick up a nominal size air conditioner filter at the store for less than 2 bucks, and cut it to fit your unit. Simply put it in front of the heat exchanger (the fan is normally on the back side), turn on the unit to see if the air is flowing through it before it gets to the heat exchanger, and you have solved the dust and pollen problem. Since I have two units aboard *Cheers*, I get one filter that is big enough to cut in two and use it on both of the units.

Secondly, as it was running all last summer, your air conditioning unit produced a constant drip of condensate (water) into a drip pan underneath it which drained somewhere (hopefully overboard and not into your bilge). Anyway, while that water sat around in the drip pan under the unit, it most likely supported the growth of those relatively unintelligent life forms which some of us refer to as mold. That forest of green stuff is likely still there, although it might not be green anymore. So, as soon as you crank up your A/C this season, you are going to be breathing air that is circulating alien species into your lungs. The simple solution: pour a bleach solution into the pan, let it sit a while, then flush it out with water when you clean the heat exchanger out as mentioned above. Keep the water out of the fan motor, and let everything dry before turning any electrical power back on.

A final note for safety, change the batteries in your on-board smoke detector in the cabin and test your CO monitor(s). You do have these installed, don’t you? Better yet, get a Coast Guard Auxiliary Courtesy Marine Exam. I’ll be glad to do it for you. Cheers!

# Shipwreck Party

## Tantallon Yacht Club June 20, 21, 22

OYC Cruise Coordinators  
Dave & Carol Moore 703-494-0651

Many OYC members know Tantallon Yacht Club for the gracious hospitality of its members and their great parties. TYC is located about a quarter mile up Swan Creek from Potomac River green can ‘81’ north of Fort Washington. This year they have invited OYC members, as well as members of other yacht clubs, to attend a SHIPWRECK PARTY. Here’s the schedule:

Friday, June 20—TYC Clubhouse

5:00 (approximately) ‘till? Cash bar.

7:00 (approximately) TYC Traditional Steak Night  
(You bring your own steak or other meat to cook on their gas grills on the Clubhouse Deck, and bring a side dish or dessert to share with others attending.)

Saturday, June 21—SHIPWRECK PARTY—noon ‘till?

Dress: Use your imagination, but absolutely no bathing suits in the clubhouse.

Afternoon SHIPWRECK activities - TYC Grounds

6:30—Cash Bar in the Clubhouse

7:30—Dinner in the Clubhouse

8:30 - ‘till? Dancing and Entertainment

Sunday, June 22—Brunch in the Clubhouse

Eighteen OYC boats signed up for this event at our Membership Meeting in January.

To confirm your reservation, complete the form below and send it along with your check payable to Dave Moore to the Moores at P. O. Box 4463, Woodbridge, VA 22194, before the **June 13 deadline**. As slips may be limited, *assignment will be made in the order that payments are received.*

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### SHIPWRECK PARTY AT TANTALLON YACHT CLUB June 20, 21, 22

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Boat Name \_\_\_\_\_ Length \_\_\_\_\_ Beam \_\_\_\_\_

Power Request (circle one): 1-30 amp; 2-30 amp; 1-50 amp

Nights slip desired (circle one) Friday; Saturday; both nights

Shipwreck Party, Saturday 6/21 (includes afternoon activities, dinner and dancing):

Marina Deposit: \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Brunch, Sunday 6/22:

Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 6.00 \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL Deposit/Payment \_\_\_\_\_

## The Datemarker

### Anniversaries

John & Katherine Corley, May 1  
Steve & Karla Donock, May 6  
Donald & Diana Uber, May 7  
Mitchell & Jane Mutnick, May 9  
William & Bonnie Fulford, May 22  
Richard & Bronwyn Ziegler, May 28

### Birthdays

Teresa Sorrenti, May 4  
Al Hobson, May 5  
Linda Bozoky, May 7  
Barbara Mehrrens, May 10  
Ray Steele, May 11  
Ed Dodd, May 11  
Michael Foster, May 14  
Jane Mutnick, May 15  
Ken Jones, May 15  
Tom Coldwell, May 15  
Steve Worcester, May 15  
Dolores Silverman, May 16  
Charles Barrow, May 19  
Judith Bradbury, May 25  
Dave Moore, May 26  
Paul Silverman, May 26  
Martin Betts, May 29  
Terri Petrey, May 30

## Tradition, Tradition

The tradition of all hands taking a drink where you run aground was started by Christopher Columbus back in 1492. When his ship, the Santa Maria, ran aground on Egg Island, it signified the end of their long crossing. To celebrate, all hands had a drink of Canary Isle wine, thus the tradition began.

One of the problems we have today is the reversal of the tradition. Many times now the consumption of the spirit is accomplished *prior to* the grounding. Accordingly, therefore, to whit and so forth, consider and adhere to any or all of the following guideline: Don't drink and dink. Too much beer will affect how you steer. Drink too much liquor and you'll sink a lot quicker. It's not smart to sail after sucking up too much ale. Drinking too much brew is bad for the crew. If you're going to swill some draft, be secure in the raft. Before you enjoy your cheer, be tied up to the pier. It isn't good to cruise after drinking a lot of booze. It's hard on the chine, running aground from too much wine.

Dick Curtis  
Commodore, Spring Cove Yacht Club

## Slips for Sale or Lease

... at Fairfax Yacht Club, E-13, 40' covered slip for sale or lease. And, D-18, 40' open slip for sale. Contact Richard Ziegler, 703-590-4630.

## Salad Dressing for Your Head

by Jim Ball

Here's a little maintenance tip to take care of that most troublesome of accessories afloat, the head.

Over time, "stuff" that goes through the plumbing connected to your head forms a scale on the inside of the lines which traps odors and causes your cabin atmosphere to become less than fresh.

A natural, non-polluting way to help break up the scale is to pour vinegar into the head and flush it only enough to get the vinegar into the lines. If you can close the Y-valve to trap the vinegar, do it. Let it sit in the line for about an hour, then open the Y-valve and flush it through. Follow that up with a little vegetable oil to lubricate your impeller and seals, and you have just salad-dressed your head in an environmentally friendly way. Cheers!

## 12th Annual PRYCA Float-In July 18-20, 1997

The 1997 Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association Board invites OYC to attend the 12th Annual Float-In at Fort Washington Marina on July 18-20. OYC's registration package will be arriving soon and will provide you with all the details. This year we expect another sell-out crowd so don't find yourself on the outside looking in!

Friday, July 18—Registration and Welcome, Potluck Dinner  
Saturday, July 19—Registration and Welcome, PRYCA Cup Competition, Boat Decorating Contest, Catered Dinner & Dance under the PRYCA Tent.  
Sunday, July 20—Catered Brunch under the PRYCA Tent

Look for registration information in next month's Daymarker and sign up early for the 1997 Float-In.

## 1997 PRYCA Mid-river Raft-up

Place: Aquia Harbour Yacht Club (We will christen their newly renovated clubhouse)

Date: May 31, 1997

Cost: Slips are \$11.50, but the quantity is limited. They will be rented on a first come, first serve basis.

When the slips have been filled, the additional boats will be rafted up. A shuttle service will be provided. Raft up or anchor outs will NOT incur slip fees.

Dinner: AHYC will put on a chicken barbecue, \$4.50 per person

Pool: Passes available. Cost is TBD; between 0 and \$2

Directions: Boats will be available to those needing assistance navigating the channel. It is narrow, but you can count on 3 ½ feet MLT.

For reservations contact: John Kenyon, 540-659-7393, jkenyon@erols.com; or Phil Bolin, 540-659-4358, pwbolin@earthlink.net

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**Inside: At last, boating in earnest in the massively merry month of May; a boating safety quiz (hey, it's the *quiz* that's unsafe); the LAST Daymarker if you don't renew!**

**And get ready for...**

**May 3**  
Flag Raising, Cook-out, Photo day & raft-up

**May 17**  
Breakfast & yard sale, then Blessing of the Fleet Weekend

**May 24-26**  
Memorial Day weekend cruise to Pt. Lookout

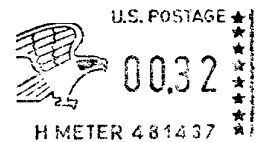
**May 31**  
PRYCA mid-river raft-up at Aquia Harbor Yacht Club

**Coming this month, your OYC Membership Roster.**



## *The Daymarker*

Occoquan Yacht Club  
P.O. Box 469  
Occoquan, VA 22125



***Address Correction Requested***

Tom & Mary Ann Coldwell  
10319 Commonwealth Blvd.  
Fairfax, VA 22032