

Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association



Volume 12

Issue 2

July 2000

15th Annual PRYCA Float-In July 14-16, 2000

Officers 2000

Commodore

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(Occoquan)

Vice Commodore

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(Aquia Harbour)

Rear Commodore

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(Aquia Harbour)

Secretary

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(Capital)

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Fleet Captain

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(Aquia Harbour)

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Members-At-Large

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(Occoquan)

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Wayne Kuster, wjkuster@aol.com
(Swan Point)

Andrea Storey, awstorey28@aol.com
(District)



Practice Session for PRYCA Dinghy Race

From the Commodore

Monica Lovell

On behalf of the PRYCA Board, I welcome you to the 15th Annual Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association Float-In. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable weekend full of fun, laughter, and good memories.

Although we say it every year, it really does take tremendous effort from the entire Board and the many volunteers to pull off an event as large as the Float-In. Our appreciation goes out to Ft. Washington Marina for working with us to make this such a successful event. Also, a big thank you goes to Float-In Coordinator Randy Semper for an outstanding job!

With the 2000 boating season well underway (though, thanks to my "day job," I would have no idea what boating is, what my boat looks like, or even where she's berthed!), the PRYCA Board has been busy attending various club events, such as flag raisings, Blessing(s) of the Fleet, and Cobb Island Days. It has been a busy, satisfying start to the first boating season of the new century.

In addition, I would like to welcome all returning member-clubs, as well as new member-clubs to PRYCA. PRYCA is growing each year. In this connection, participation in events has flourished, not just by PRYCA Board members, but by many other members as well. It is particularly gratifying for us to attend an event and see officers and members from other clubs in attendance supporting their fellow member-clubs.

As mentioned in previous newsletters, thanks to the hard work of PRYCA's own webmaster, Ned Rhodes, PRYCA is able to boast a new web address (www.potomacriveryachtclubs.org). The site is very informative and contains, for example, the regularly-updated schedule for the 2000 boating season, pictures from past events, previous newsletters, and much more. Please "stop by" and browse our website.

Again, have a fun and safe weekend. Should you have any questions and/or comments at any time during the weekend or thereafter, please do not hesitate to contact me or any other member of the Board.



From the Editor

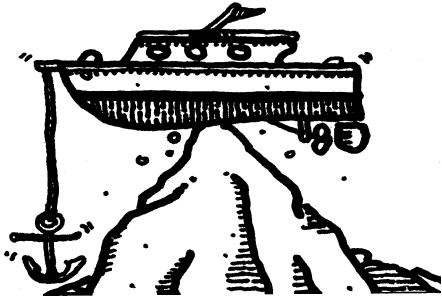
Ned W. Rhodes

Have you been checking the PRYCA web site (<http://www.PotomacRiverYachtClubs.org>) for the latest news and event forms? You haven't? Well let's get with the program! The site continues to grow as I find the time to collect and post new information. As a service to the PRYCA members clubs, I have started to scan and post the newsletters that I receive in the mail. If you check the resources/links page, you will be able to read newsletters from Occoquan Yacht Club, Aquia Harbour Yacht Club, Quantico Yacht Club, Dahlgren Yacht Club, Cobb Island Yacht Club, Colonial Beach Yacht Club and Fairfax Yacht Club. You can download a PDF version or read the newsletters online. Put me on your mailing list and I will post your club's newsletter. It is worth noting that Cobb Island has a different theme each issue and plenty of pictures. Check it out.

Because the site is running on my hardware, I have almost unlimited disk space and have tried to get as many pictures up there as I can. If you have pictures of PRYCA events on your web site, email me their locations and I will link them into our site.

As I find the time, I will be posting an archive containing all the PRYCA newsletters that I have and I have them back to 1990 (ten years, get out!), when I took the job of editor. It is interesting to read the old issues and see how much has changed and how things have remained the same. The newsletters are posted in Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) for downloading and a free reader can be downloaded from <http://www.adobe.com>.

Please tell your membership where the web site is and you can email me at rhodesn@softsysgrp.com with questions and suggestions.



From the Vice Commodore

Phil W. Bolin

I have enjoyed being a member of Aquia Harbour Yacht Club for over 10 years now. After my Commodore's tour in AHYC, Dave Goodman talked me into starting to participate in PRYCA. After some hesitation I did. Today as I look back on my boating experience and the association with my home club and PRYCA I find that I made the right decision to become involved in PRYCA. I would never have met Ned Rhodes, Tom Andrews, Steve Wexler, Penny Orth and many others without the connection to PRYCA.

Another example of how valuable this connection can be occurred several years ago when I had the misfortune to pick up a canvas around my prop...no problem...a member of one of the PRYCA clubs went home, got his scuba gear and cut the canvas out of the prop. And he wouldn't take a dime for working over one solid hour underwater in his gear. I just don't think you can get this kind of help normally outside your club.

PRYCA is trying its best to provide events that allow member clubs to meet more boaters and expand their circle of boating friends. I hope with the Float-In and our new Dog Days of August that we are doing just that. With over 100 boats at Cobb Island Days I think we're well on our way.

The point of my paragraph or two is that I ask each of you to consider joining in on the PRYCA activities to expand your circle of friends, especially the boating kind.

PRYCA is currently discussing how we can better facilitate interaction of the various clubs. We don't want to just have PRYCA activities and there is some discussion that we should only help start the interaction of clubs. An

outgrowth of that discussion is the Dog Days event at Colonial Yacht Club. In conjunction with Colonial Beach Yacht Center and PRYCA, we're trying a new event. To foster meeting people from other clubs, we'll have a group dinner and dance. It also tests whether we can put a lot of boats in various marinas in one general location (Monroe Bay) and still all get together. There are 3 or 4 marinas in Colonial Beach ready to support as many people as want to come by for the Dog Days. We'll have buses and water taxis. Will it work? I think so. It will be different.

On another note let me remind all of you that the PRYCA is always actively seeking the names of people who would like to work in the PRYCA. In fact, during the Float-In we'll be seeking names of people willing to serve on the Board. Interested? Let a Bridge member know.

From the Rear Commodore

Curt Johnson

tailhookboater@cs.com

(540) 659-4811

The PRYCA Float-In is probably the largest single summer event on the Potomac River in terms of the number of boats and boaters attending. For the first 7 years this event was held at Aquia Harbour, but soon grew too large for the Aquia Harbour marina to handle. The Float-In was then moved up river to Fort Washington. This year marks the 8th time PRYCA has held this event at Fort Washington and it looks to be as big and as much fun as ever.

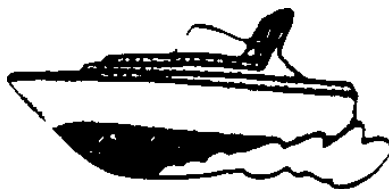
The informal, just-for-fun activities will begin Friday evening with a walk-on-water contest and other fun games of semi-skill. On Saturday morning at 10:00AM the competition for the PRYCA Cup begins in earnest. Every event is given a score of 1-5 with the team placing first receiving a score of 5

for that event. Clubs compete against each other in events consisting of boson skills, a written navigation/safety test, cardboard boat building, dinghy racing, scavenger hunt, and a timed race in the boat made from cardboard. At the end of the day the scores are tallied up, with the club or cup team with the highest score being awarded the PRYCA Float-In trophy at the dinner dance Saturday night. To help smaller clubs compete, the rules allow clubs with four or fewer boats to join with other clubs to form a cup team as long as the combined total does not exceed eight boats.

The dinner dance is a nice catered affair held under a large tent with an excellent DJ providing dining and dancing music. During the course of the evening, big prize raffles will be held with four winners receiving Horizon hand-held VHF radios, thanks to BoatUS. There will be two prizes of 100 gallons each of boat gas compliments of Prince William Marina. Another raffle prize includes free boat gas up to \$150.00 at Fort Washington Marina and PRYCA will also pay the dinner fee for two people who attend the Float-In. Last but not least, there will be three 50/50 drawings held during the night.

In addition to the big raffle prizes, door prizes include dinner for two at Tim's River Shore, and one night's free slip at Fort Washington, Coles Point Plantation, Port Kinsale, or Cobb Island. Other door prizes include two free rounds of golf at Swan Point's beautiful golf course, and two nice folding deck chairs, compliments of Boaters World.

There will be champagne for the winners of the walk-on-water contest and for the club or team that builds the best looking or most unique cardboard boat. It's quite evident that there are some great prizes to win and fun to be had.



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This year's PRYCA Float-In promises to be a top-notch affair and one of the major events of the summer boating season. Have fun!

From the Fleet Captain

Randy Semper

The 25th Annual Washington Waterfront Blessing of the Fleet

This year marked the 25th Blessing of the Fleet in the Washington Channel. While the weather could have been better, it will be hard to top many aspects of this year's event.

The weather May 20 and 21st put the only damper on an otherwise fine weekend. We awoke Saturday morning to a cold rain. Prior to leaving home I contacted the USCGA and called off the safety events planned for Saturday. We didn't want to see a USCGA member slip while performing a Vessel Safety Check and we didn't think many of you would want someone with wet shoes wandering around your boats doing the safety checks. Thanks to the USCGA for volunteering to show up Sunday when they were able to perform several Vessel Safety Checks.

Saturday night NPYC sponsored the Pre-Blessing Dinner for PRYCA clubs at the Gangplank Marina. The turnout was modest due to the weather but the caterer did a great job with the food and liquid refreshments flowed all evening. But it was cold, so cold someone found gas heaters to position around the Gangplank outdoor patio where the dinner was held. It was unfortunate the weather didn't cooperate more because the music and show provided by DJ Tyler was outstanding. Thanks to NPYC Commodore John Corley for setting up the evening.

Sunday morning, the clouds again looked like rain and the cold remained.

However, as the hour of the blessing neared the skies began to clear just a little and the temperature rose to a near comfortable level.

The Blessing of the Fleet in the Washington Channel was truly a spectacle to see. The Blessing dock was at the Gangplank marina with the boats approaching from down the channel. The procession started with the DC Fire Boat *John Glenn* and companion spraying water skyward as they moved up the channel. This year they were followed by the Tug Boat *Theodore*, that I understand is featured on a Canadian television show. After the tug boat, there were representatives of the DC Harbor Police and two USCGA boats. During the blessing, even the *Nina's Dandy* from Alexandria made a surprise appearance.

Capital Yacht Club helped celebrate the 25th annual blessing by presenting each boat with a bottle of champagne to pour over the bow while being blessed. The MC of the event was Vic Gold who did a fine job conducting the ceremonies. I understand he has been the MC at every Washington Waterfront Blessing of the Fleet. Coast Guard Chaplain James Fisher and local minister Rev. George Holmes both did an outstanding job delivering the blessings. The banter carried on by the Chaplain kept everyone entertained. There was a boat-decorating contest and I understand the judge's decisions will be announced at the PRYCA Float-In.

Thanks to Past Commodores Mark Viehoever and Bud Clark for their assistance identifying boats and to all of the fleet captains who gathered the information about who planned to attend and on Sunday kept the interval between boats to an absolute minimum. Finally, thanks to Gangplank Marina manager Damien Buckley and his staff for the marina's hospitality throughout the weekend.

From a MAL

Walt Cheatham

Operation Sail (OpSail) 2000 is bringing even more tall ships to the Eastern seaboard than did its predecessor event twenty-four years ago celebrating America's bicentennial. The ships will visit nearby Norfolk (June 16-20) and Baltimore (June 23-29), will be in New York again for July 4th, and will ultimately parade as far north as New London, CT and Portland, ME.

The event started May 25th in San Juan, PR and concludes July 31st in Portland, ME. Forty-nine moored in Norfolk (including 6 over 300': *San Sebastian de Elcano*, 306', Spain; *Dar Mlodziezy*, 357', Poland; *Kruzenshtern* and *Mir*, 376 and 367', Russia; and *Amerigo Vespucci*, 330', Italy), and 31 are confirmed for Baltimore (only *Amerigo Vespucci* above 300'). Local favorites include the replica of Captain John Smith's *Susan Constant* (116') from Jamestown, the Skipjack *Norfolk* (80') from Norfolk, the replica of the *Dove* from St Mary's City and the *Pride of Baltimore II* (173') from Baltimore. At least 18 foreign countries are participating in the event: Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Ukraine, USA, US Virgin Islands, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

OpSail 2000 fulfils an original vision of President Kennedy yet again. It thrills with its magnificent display of the grace and beauty of a bygone era as it did in OpSail 1964 for the New York World's Fair, 1976 as already mentioned, OpSail 1986 for the Salute to the Statue of Liberty, and OpSail 1992 for the Columbus Quin-centennial. What better way to celebrate the coming Millennium?



From the Treasurer

Steve Wexler

Another year has passed and we're back together again at the Float-in—the PRYCA's annual extravaganza and opportunity for our member clubs to conduct warfare on Piscataway Creek waters. It's not bad enough that in September—at the traditional Tantallon rain fest—that we inundate ourselves with water cannons...we deluge our friends with water balloons...and we paddle canoes until the rowers fall out in the travelway waters. Then we move on to January—where the introduction of clubs and distinguished individuals becomes more raucous than a grammar school dance contest. In May we ask the blessing of a higher power (e.g. the PRYCA Commodore) for the upcoming boating season. In other words, we know that at some point we're going to slam other member club members and we are just apologizing up front.

So yes, we're here. Let the battles begin...and to the last club standing...please remember to turn out the lights.

Here's the Statement of Financial Condition for 2000 to-date:

Opening Balance (1/1/00)	\$7,861.99
Deposits:	
Dues	\$1,165.00
Change of Watch	\$8,780.00
Float-in	\$4,343.50
Interest	\$31.51
Other (Inventory Sales)	\$220.00
Total Deposits:	\$14,540.01
Expenses:	
Newsletter/Website	\$242.05
Boat Roster/Handbook	\$106.62
NBF Dues	\$250.00
Change of Watch	\$11,021.14
Float-in	\$1,000.00
Other	\$366.49
Total Expenses:	\$12,986.30
Closing Balance	\$9,415.00

From a Member At Large

Wayne Kuster
301-259-0061
wjkuster@AOL.com

As we start another boating season, I am excited with all the nice activities PRYCA has planned, especially the ones in our area, and I would like to truly thank the clubs who travel from the Washington area to attend.

Cobb Island Days June 9-11

This was another huge success as a PRYCA sponsored event with over 60 boats in attendance. From all of us who attended, we would like to thank the Cobb Island Yacht Club, their Commodore Don Thayer, his first mate Barbara Finch, and many others who did a marvelous job. The hospitality started when you arrived to a slip marked with your name, a complete Captain's package, a happy hour and finished with a brunch on Sunday morning. A good time was had by all. From myself, our Officers, and Members—thanks again, Don and Crew.

**PRYCA Dog Days Of
August 12-13**

With the help of the Colonial Beach Yacht Club, Dockside Marina & Restaurant, this should be another nice activity for our members to attend. There will be a full day of events including a Board and Delegates Meeting with guest speaker, a dinner dance and much more. Our Vice Commodore, Phil Bolin, has put a lot of work into this event and we need your support. If Phil or I can be of any help, please contact us.

I hope you all have a safe boating season and great cruising.



Who Wants To Be A...

*Steve Donock
Past Commodore*

...member of the 2001 PRYCA Bridge? What, you were expecting a different question? No, I'm not Regis Philbin. We can't make you a millionaire, but we are looking for people who want to help lead PRYCA and hopefully have fun while they're at it. Having been involved with the Bridge for several years now I can attest to the fact that it is indeed very rewarding. Sure, there's work to be done but as we've grown as an organization and had more people get involved with our events and programs, it's well worth the time.

If you've been around a while you know that summer is the time we start planning the Bridge for the following year. The Float-In is a great place for the Nominating Committee to talk to interested people and it's also a good time for people to ask questions about the organization and what's involved in running it. Over the years a lot of folks have ended up serving on the Bridge because they were interested in seeing changes in certain areas and wanted to be part of the process. So be looking around at the Float-In for Mark Viehoever, who is Chairman of the Nominating Committee, or your MAL, and find out what it's all about.

Have a great time at the Float-In and remember, you can make a difference to PRYCA!



The Dog Days of August

PRYCA Delegates Meeting
Saturday, August 12

Jewel Hudson, who is the Administrative Assistant for the Potomac River Fisheries Commission (PRFC), will give an informative presentation at the August Delegates meeting. She will present a brief overview of the operation of the PRFC, which is the Maryland/Virginia bi-state commission composed of eight members who are responsible for regulating the harvest of finfish, crabs, oysters, and clams in the tidal Potomac River. She has been employed by PRFC for the past 12 years and her responsibilities vary from issuing sport and commercial licenses to assisting the executive secretary.

Jewel is extremely well versed regarding the regulations controlling sport and commercial fishing on the Potomac River and she'll be ready to answer your questions. She is highly respected at the PRFC and promises to provide us with an interesting program.





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PRYCA
Board of Directors Meeting
Seafarers Yacht Club
5 June 2000

Present:

V.C. P. Bolin
R.C. C. Johnson
Sec. C. Reed
Treas. S. Wexler
F.C. R. Semper

MAL W. Cheatham
MAL J. Hadley
MAL W. Kuster
MAL A. Storey
MAL T. Jarman

Absent:

Commo. M. Lovell
I.P.C. M. Viehoever

Others Present:

P.C. S. Donock
P.C. P. Orth

The Vice Commodore called the meeting to order at 1831. A motion to accept the minutes of the May meeting was made, seconded, and passed.

Reports:

V.C.—No new member clubs are ready for action by the Board or the Delegates. Flyers for the “Dog Days” are out and Colonial Beach has assured us they will be ready; however, the V.C. has still some areas of concern. AHYC has already registered 15 vessels for the event.

R.C.—The inventory of slips for the “Float In” has been completed. The R.C. has an extensive list of prizes for the event along with six door prizes for the 50/50 drawing. The Bridge Members who would like to arrive on the 13th can have a free slip for that date. R.C. presented the schedule of events for the “Float In”. The July Board Meeting will be on the 10th at Fort Washington Y.C. in the Restaurant. R.C. is still waiting on the ‘bio’ for the speaker at “Dog Days.”

F.C.—There will be 100 slips available for the “Float In”. Three clubs (30 slips) have been spoken for to date. The Blessing of the Fleet had 75 boats this year and the best entertainment to date. The F.C. recommends that in future events that PRYCA not participate unless it is identified as a Joint Activity with WWA. PRYCA did most of the work for the waterside element and several issues were discussed by Board Members. The conclusion was that PRYCA form a committee as follows:

C. Reed Chairman
R. Semper
M. Viehoever
S. Donock
P. Orth.

The committee should be charged with approaching WWA to resolve past issues and problems and to work out an agreement for “Blessing of the Fleet” as a Joint Function. F.C. continued his report and provided the Q.M.’s report of no sales last month. P.C. Orth requested a new P.C. Burgee.

MAL Reports:

MAL W. Cheatham—Currently searching the web for issues needing attention and has found nothing to date.

MAL J. Hadley—No Report

MAL T. Jarman—Still waiting on return contacts for the D.C. Police and Fire liaison. Requested what PRYCA expected to gain from these contacts. After discussing the issue the consensus of the Board was to keep open lines of communication so that should something important occur that required PRYCA attention, Member Clubs could be kept informed. P.C. Orth stated that CBYCA also has a liaison with D.C. fire and Police and if PRYCA has issues in this area CBYCA could be another avenue for assistance. T. Jarman advised that there may be a need to change the December Board Meeting time and/or location. Fairfax Y.C. was suggested as an alternative. T. Jarman will investigate and get back to the Board.

MAL W. Kuster—Cobb Island Days have registered over 60 boats so far. The logistics of the event were presented plus the agenda for the weekend in general. Potomac River Fisheries Commission will be at the Float In.

MAL A. Storey—Proposals for the development of the Anacostia Riverfront were discussed along with the special impacts that development would bring to Member Clubs on the Anacostia River. Concern was expressed about the future of all clubs on the rivers in D.C. Discussion followed and the conclusion was that National Park Service (the lessor) seems to be willing to help the clubs who help themselves. It appears there is a valid concern here that needs to be monitored.

Treasurer's Report—Presented the Statement of Financial Condition for June, copies of the General Ledger and the status on Club Dues. The Treasurer presented a motion to expel for non-payment of dues Marinette Y.C. and Washington Y.C. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously. The Ad-Hoc Committee reported on dues increase proposals. Considerable discussion ensued. The Committee recommended that dues remain as is for the time being. The Board concurred in the Committee recommendation. V.C. requested that Board members look into special issues that PRYCA should address.

V.C. requested topics for the next newsletter: Blessing of the Fleet, Cobb Island Days, PRYCA Bridge nominations, OpSail 2000, etc. MALs were requested to let clubs know of the nomination process and request names if Clubs had someone they wanted nominated to the Bridge

P.C. reports

P.C. Orth passed out information on the upcoming Cruise For Kids. Requested that more boats sign up they currently have 13 boats committed and a need for 78 families.

Secretary's Report—Requested MALs contact clubs to get their info in on the Boat Roster.

Old Business:

The Sheraton in Crystal City will be sent a check for \$500.00 as a deposit for the 2001 Change of Watch. The board concurred in increasing the deposit amount from the originally approved \$200.00.

The V.C. thanked Seafarers for hosting this Bridge Meeting.

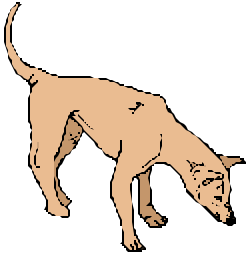
The CBYCA 2000 Yearbook was given to Board Members present.

The meeting was adjourned at 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher R. Reed
Secretary

Dog Days of August



The first Dog Days of August Party Sponsored by PRYCA and Colonial Yacht Club

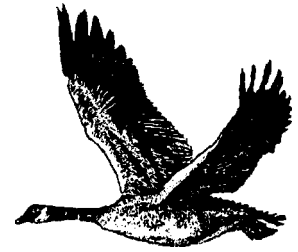
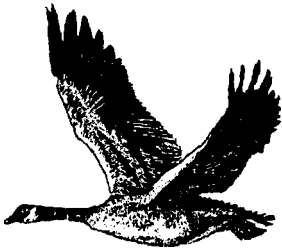
The Event takes place at the Colonial Beach
Yacht Center (804.224.7230)

The event takes place on 11-12 August 2000 and here's
what's happening

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location & comments</i>
Friday, 11 August	Afternoon	Boats Arrive	CB Yacht Center
Saturday, 12 August	1030	PRYCA Board Mtg	CB Restaurant
	1130	PYRCA Delegates Mtg	CB Restaurant
	1200	Lunch	Dutch Treat lunch at CB Restaurant
	1330-1700	Wine tour – depart from CBYC	Tour to Ingleside Plantation Vineyards. Optional for attendees.
	1800	Social Hour	Open bar social hour hosted by PRYCA at CBYC.
	1900-2000	Pig Roast	Complete dinner/BYOB.
	2000-2300	Dancing	Dancing with live band
Sunday, 13 August	0900	Pot Luck Brunch	Bring your breakfast dish to the community table.
	1200	Boats Depart	

Come join the PRYCA members and the Colonial Yacht Club for the first of what will probably be an annual event. A good day ... meet new friends ... tell sea stories.

Each club desiring to attend please fill out a form
(available at <http://www.PotomacRiverYachtClubs.org>)
and mail it with payment to
Rel da Schick at P.O. Box 400, Colonial Beach, VA
22443.



Improving the Civilian Global Positioning System (GPS)

May 1, 2000

"The decision to discontinue Selective Availability is the latest measure in an ongoing effort to make GPS more responsive to civil and commercial users worldwide. This increase in accuracy will allow new GPS applications to emerge and continue to enhance the lives of people around the world."

President Bill Clinton
May 1, 2000

As part of his on going effort to bring the benefits of government investments in science and technology to the civilian and commercial sectors, President Clinton ordered that the intentional degrading of the civilian Global Positioning System (GPS) signal be discontinued at midnight tonight. Without any additional costs to users or the government, the President's actions will bring tangible benefits to millions of individuals and business around the world that use GPS. The increased performance is also expected to accelerate its acceptance and use by businesses, governments, and private individuals in the U.S. around the world that will enjoy increases in productivity, efficiency, safety, scientific knowledge and quality of life.

GPS IS A CRITICAL TECHNOLOGY FOR INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES AROUND THE GLOBE. GPS is a dual-use system, providing highly accurate positioning and timing data for both military and civilian users. There are more than 4 million GPS users worldwide, and the market for GPS applications is expected to double in the next three years, from \$8 billion to over \$16 billion. Some of these applications include: air, road, rail, and marine navigation, precision

agriculture and mining, oil exploration, environmental research and management, telecommunications, electronic data transfer, construction, recreation and emergency response.

GPS IS THE GLOBAL STANDARD. GPS has always been the dominant standard satellite navigation system thanks to the U.S. policy of making both the signal and the receiver design specification available to the public completely free of charge.

NEW TECHNOLOGIES ENHANCE AMERICA'S NATIONAL SECURITY. The U.S. previously employed a technique called Selective Availability (SA) to globally degrade the civilian GPS signal. New technologies demonstrated by the military enable the U.S. to degrade the GPS signal on a regional basis. GPS users worldwide would not be affected by regional, security-motivated, GPS degradations, and businesses reliant on GPS could continue to operate at peak efficiency.

GPS IMPROVED SIGNAL WILL BRING INSTANT BENEFITS TO MILLIONS OF GPS USERS. It's rare that someone can press a button and make something you already own worth more, but that's exactly what's happening today. As of midnight tonight, all the people who've bought GPS receivers for boats, cars, or recreation will find that they are ten times more accurate.

The technology that makes this extraordinary technology possible grows directly from our past research investments in basic physics, mathematics, and engineering supported from NSF, DARPA, NIST and other Federal agencies over a period of decades. GPS works because of super reliable atomic clocks — no mechanical device could come close. These clocks resulted from Nobel-prize winning physics, and creative engineering that managed to package

devices which once filled large physics laboratories into a compact, reliable, space-worthy device. The improved, non-degraded signal will increase civilian accuracy by an order of magnitude, and have immediate implications in areas such as:

- **Car Navigation:** Previously, a GPS-based car navigation could give the location of the vehicle to within a hundred meters. This was a problem, for example, in areas where multiple highways run in parallel, because the degraded signal made it difficult to determine which one the car was on. Terminating SA will eliminate such problems, leading to greater consumer confidence in the technology and higher adoption rates. It will also simplify the design of many systems (e.g., eliminate certain map matching software), thereby lowering their retail cost.

- **Enhanced-911:** The FCC will soon require that all new cellular phones be equipped with more accurate location determination technology to improve responses to emergency 911 calls. Removing SA will boost the accuracy of GPS to such a degree that it could become the method of choice for implementing the 911 requirement. A GPS-based solution might be simpler and more economical than alternative techniques such as radio tower triangulation, leading to lower consumer costs.

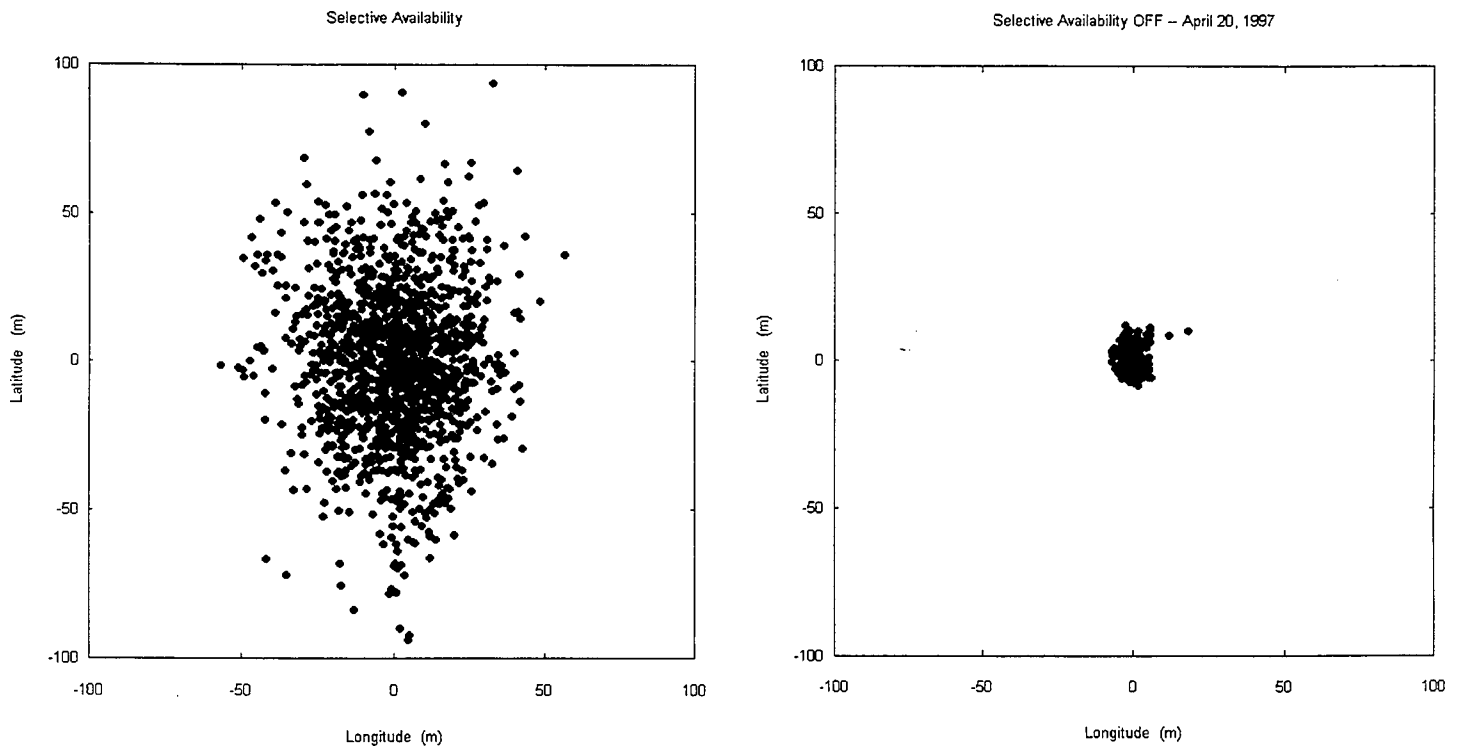
- **Hiking, Camping, and Hunting:** GPS is already popular among outdoor enthusiasts, but the degraded accuracy has not allowed them to precisely pinpoint their location or the location of items (such as game) left behind for later recovery.

- **Boating and Fishing:** Recreational boaters will enjoy safer, more accurate navigation around sandbars, rocks, and other obstacles. Fishermen will be able to more precisely locate their favorite spot on a lake or river. Watermen will



be able to find and recover their traps more quickly and efficiency.

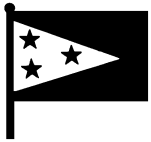
- Increased Adoption of GPS Time: The accuracy of the time data broadcast by GPS will improve to within 40 billionths of a second. Such precision may encourage adoption of GPS as a preferred means of acquiring Universal Coordinated Time (UTC) and for synchronizing everything from electrical power grids and cellular phone towers to telecommunications networks and the Internet.



The images above compare the accuracy of GPS with and without selective availability (SA). Each plot show the scatter of 12 hours of data, in which SA causes 95% of the points to fall within a radius of 60.7 yards. Without SA, 95% of the points fall within a radius of 7.9 yards. As an illustration, consider a football stadium. With SA activated, you really only know if you are on the field or in the stands at that football stadium; with SA switched off, you know which yard marker you are standing on.

Upcoming Events

Aug 12	Dog Days of Summer, PRYCA Board and Delegates Meeting @ Colonial Beach YC
Sep 22-24	End of Summer Party @ Tantallon YC
Oct 7	PRYCA Board Meeting at Dahlgren YC



Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association

2749 North Wakefield Street
Arlington, VA 22207

Address Correction Requested