



Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association

Volume 6

Issue 5

November 1994

Officers 1994

Commodore

Ned W. Rhodes
(Occoquan)

Vice Commodore

John Hancock
(Aquia Harbour)

Rear Commodore

Penny DeMarco
(National Potomac)

Secretary

Ineke Lavoie
(National Potomac)

Treasurer

Harriet Douglas
(District)

Immediate Past Commodore

John Robey
(Mount Vernon)

Members-At-Large

David L. Goodman
(Aquia Harbour)

Mark Viehoever
(Washington)

Bud Clark
(Tantallon)

From the Commodore

Ned W. Rhodes

Welcome to the PRYCA Election night meeting for 1994. The nominating committee, chaired by IPC John Robey, has put together a great slate of officers. With this much talent on the Board, we can't help but have a great 1995. I would like to thank the 1994 Board for all their hard work this past year. Because of you all, we had a great year.

Just to recap the past year, I personally had a couple of goals. First, I wanted to carry on the tradition of last year, where PRYCA sponsored four events throughout the year. I believe that we have met this goal, with the final event being the Change of Command Party at the Army Navy Country Club on January 28th. This was a lavish event last year and we will do everything we can to surpass ourselves this year. Rear Commodore Penny DeMarco will be heading up the committee for this event and more information will be supplied once we have things nailed down.

My second goal was to try and keep involved with legislative issues that are important to local boaters. To this end we have helped to support the efforts of CBYCA when we could. In addition, we have used this newsletter to publicize legislative issues. Again, I think we have succeeded here as well.

I think the thing that I am most proud of is the interaction between the different Yacht Clubs up and down the Potomac. I know my club (Occoquan) has benefited greatly from this interaction and a number of members have remarked how much more friendly the Potomac seems now that we know so many other boaters in different clubs.

I have had a great time this year, but I am still looking forward to becoming the Immediate Past Commodore. Thank you all for your help and support this past year.

From the Vice Commodore

John Hancock

The leaves have turned color, the mornings have a distinct crispness in the air, and as the last frost-bite cruises are planned and executed, we must admit that the boating season for 1994 is coming to a close. But it has been a GREAT year!!! We have been blessed with no reported serious accidents or injuries involving PRYCA clubs/members, and the summer weather has been some of the best in recent years. In addition, the PRYCA under the very able leadership of Commodore Rhodes and his Bridge has had a "banner" year. Starting with the Change of Watch in January, the annual Float-In held in July, the End of Summer Party hosted by Tantallon Yacht Club, and the well-attended and organized Delegates meetings throughout the year, the PRYCA has had an outstanding year—reported as one of the BEST ever. We have done all that and still were successful at creating a solvent balance in the treasury which provides the foundation for necessary funding for the events to be planned for 1995.

Speaking of 1995, with the election of Officers and Bridge at the November 7 Delegates meeting, we will be initiating a series of planning sessions to create another spectacular year to come. Increased emphasis on legislative matters and a full committee structure are just a few thoughts for pursuit. However, we need your participation and involvement to continue our success. Those of you who have become involved know we have a good time in making the PRYCA function. We will

be reaching out to a "few good people" to fill out the committee structure so be prepared to assist or, better yet, please let one of the new Bridge members know of your interest and talents to serve.

All in all, I think we can look back to 1994 with a lot of pride, thanksgiving, and fond memories. As we move ahead, may God's blessings continue to grace the PRYCA and all its members. Have a most wonderful HOLIDAY season and start the new year with enthused energy at the PRYCA Change of Command in January 1995.

From the Rear Commodore

Penny DeMarco

For those of you who are computer buffs/hacks, the boating world seems to be going to computers just like everyone else. Here is a rundown on some boating bulletin boards/information available on-line.

Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association (CBYCA)

CBYCA is currently starting up an electronic Boater's Bulletin® (BBB) to enhance its lobbying capabilities and to improve its internal communications and services to its club members. Initially, the CBYCA BBB will be a voice mail service, but it will expand shortly to E-mail. The service will provide status reports on national and state (Maryland, Virginia/DC, and Pennsylvania/Delaware/New Jersey) legislative issues relating to recreational boating, informational data (i.e., telephone numbers and addresses of legislators and CBYCA clubs, etc.), want ads, and a place to leave messages for and/or retrieve messages from CBYCA.

CBYCA will maintain the voice recordings for various files and the E-

mail files when implemented. CBYCA felt that it was important to have voice mail as every club has a telephone, but may not have a computer with E-mail capability. CBYCA will be able to record a Legislative Alert, transmitted to every club automatically, asking clubs to check the BBB when grassroots support is needed for a key legislative issue. When E-mail is up and running, CBYCA can leave draft letters on the BBB which would be available to club members to send to their representatives.

The CBYCA BBB will have a 1-800 phone number for access and will utilize a prepaid phonecard system. Initially, CBYCA will be issuing phonecards with a Personal Identification Number (PIN) and some amount of free time (approximately 3 minutes) to CBYCA clubs and club members. Each individual or club wishing to use the BBB will have to prepay by cash, check or credit card deposit with the company running the BBB. Credits to increase a deposit can be obtained by browsing through the advertisements and charges will be deducted from the deposit at an established rate based on minutes of use. In addition, the cardholder can use the BBB to place credit card calls at a lower rate than provided by Bell Atlantic or AT&T.

As I write this article, CBYCA currently has a demonstration tape for the BBB which is accessible through 1-800-351-6702. There is no charge to hear this demonstration tape. You may recognize the voice. It is Marsha Crossley, Past Commodore of PRYCA from Capital Yacht Club. (There is a chance this number will no longer be operational when this newsletter is printed.)

Boating Magazine

Boating has announced that its monthly Boat Tests as well as some

columns and features will be available on American Online. *Boating* is also setting up message boards for exchange of ideas on a variety of topics including fix-it tips, electronics, engines, boat buying, and fishing. According to an article in the September issue of *Boating*, "you'll even be able to have live, keyboard conversations in the party-line style 'Chat Rooms.'" *Boating* says that all current subscribers should be getting postcards announcing the start of this service. When you sign up for American Online, you will get the software you need plus 10 free hours on the system. The monthly service costs \$9.95, which includes five hours on-line each month. Each additional hour is \$3.50. American Online can be contacted at 1-800-827-6364.

Marine Weather Forecasts

The same information you get on your VHF radio, but in text format, is available on-line from PC Weatherman from Flight Data Centers Inc. You can have 24-hour access to the National Weather Service and get local marine and extended forecasts for anywhere in the U.S. Full-color Accu-Weather satellite photos and radar maps (like you see on the six o'clock news) can be downloaded for \$1 per minute (average cost is \$2 to \$3 per map). Contact Flight Data Centers at 1-800-438-7296 for the \$39.95 program.

Cruising On Line

From the October 1994 issue of Power and Motor Yachting

ComputerTell has developed an on-line information service for boaters worldwide called "The International Cruising and Boating Information Index" (ICABII). The ICABII includes an index of most articles appearing in major boating publications over the last three years, an index of available navigation charts, Coast Guard Local



Notices to Mariners, a list of marine towing services, and forums for special interest groups. For more information, dial (610) 647-7082 on your modem and get a free tour, or write ComputerTell, Dept. PMY, 195 W. Lancaster Ave., 1st Floor, Paoli, PA 19301.

Some Local Bulletin Boards

Tom Coldwell, Occoquan Yacht Club, culled the list below from a list of 550 local bulletin boards known to exist as of November 1993. He warns that the data may have changed and says that he has only tried two—World Net and Osprey's Nest. According to Tom, World Net offers both paid and free (but limited) access; among its many conferences, Tom found one for Boating. This was the only place Tom has found a boating conference! He says that it is a networked conference which may be available through any number of Bulletin Board Services in the area.

- CLU-IN EPA: Environment, Cleanup, Superfund; (301) 589-8366 (Silver Spring, MD); 2400 baud

- Crow's Nest (D. Poole): SCUBA, Boating; (301) 843-5247 (Oxon Hill, MD); 9600 baud

- Dept. of Interior: Federal Offshore Oil and Gas Leasing, Production, Safety, Environment; (703) 787-1181 (Herndon, VA); 14400 baud

- ENVIRO (K. Riegel): Environmental Protection, Ecology, Wilderness, Endangered Species, Astronomy; (703) 524-1837 (Alexandria/Arlington, VA); 14400 baud

- NPS - EPA: Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds; (301) 589-0205 (Silver Spring, MD); 9600 baud

- OEA: Interior's Office of Environmental Affairs; (202) 208-7119 (Washington, DC); 9600 baud

- Osprey's Nest: Birding, Nature, Conservation; (301) 989-9036 (Layhill, MD); 9600 baud

- Ship to Shore: Sailing, Ham Radio, anything maritime; (703) 525-1458 (Alexandria/Arlington, VA); 14400 baud

- World Net #2\$ (McClenny); Rime->Virginia, multiple CD-ROM drives; (703) 648-0250 (Fairfax/Vienna, VA); 9600 baud

- World Net #1 (McClenny): (20 Nodes) Rime and other conferences, Ham Radio; (703) 648-1841 (Fairfax/Vienna, VA); 9600 baud

I would love to hear from any of you out there who have tried any of these bulletin boards or know of any more. Just call me at (703) 525-2902 and leave a message.

Mark Your Calendars

The PRYCA Change of Watch Dinner Dance will be held on Saturday, January 28, 1995 at the Army Navy Country Club. We are currently finalizing all the details (meal selection, cost, etc.) and will forward this information to you shortly. In the meantime, please encourage your club members to come. It is another chance to get together with all those friends in other clubs you have made at all the great PRYCA events this year!!!

End-of-Summer and More!

MAL Bud Clark

These articles seem to alternate between discussions of boat operations and development and the social activities of PRYCA. This time social activities are definitely the winner, so here goes.

PRYCA sponsored its first-ever "Fall Event"—the End-of-Summer Party at Tantallon Yacht Club on 17-18 September 1994, and there is no doubt that it was a grand event. Just look at the participation: 45 boats

cruised in for the event; 190 people attended; and nine different yacht clubs were represented. Just a great show of the Potomac River Yacht Clubs spirit!

As those of you who were there know, there were a few unplanned activities too (that is to say, a few *minor* difficulties): the waste water (let's be blunt—sewer) pumps failed (everything is now back in working order); then there was the rain, but with the canopies and the new rooms upstairs, the party went on as planned; finally, there was a power failure, so we used the generator on Alan Lee's boat to power the band's amplifiers and candles to light the way. The point is that the party went on as scheduled and everyone had a great time, thanks to Mary Ann Garges' extraordinary efforts. As Mary Ann points out, it was truly a team effort. So many thanks to all of those, not only from Tantallon, but from the other clubs as well, who did their part to make the 1994 End-of-Summer Party such a great success!

To refresh the memories of those who were there and whet the future appetites of those who could not make it, the activities at the party included: wine tasting; a magnificent dinner buffet with choices among three cuisines—American, Mexican and Cajun; music by Dan Yeager's Band; a dance contest; "joke-off" contests for both kids and adults; a tug of war; and a caricature artist who provided all who wanted them with personalized drawings. All of the contests went well and there were prizes for the winners. (Perhaps I should note that the tug of war team that tied their rope to the pilings near the gas dock did not win, although they thought they had an unbeatable strategy for avoiding a loss!)

There were other prizes as well. PRYCA donated hats and shirts for door prizes, which also included a marine book, compass, tote bag and a man-overboard recovery system. The 50/50 raffle paid off in cash, while fuel and a marine radio were also raffled off. Occoquan Yacht Club received a bottle of champagne for being "best represented" by the largest number of participants. Congratulations to the many winners.

For the End-of Summer party, a special effort was made to establish prices so that the party would be both affordable and a good value. The many contributions of time and material made this possible. Of note is the fact that the Tantallon Marina owners rebated 10 cents per foot of slip fees, and these were passed on to PRYCA, for use as PRYCA sees fit. PRYCA also supported an extra hour of the caricature artist, so that everyone in line could have a drawing done.

Exchange visits among the PRYCA clubs adds to our boating enjoyment. One of the great things about PRYCA social events is that they give us an opportunity to visit or revisit our member clubs and enjoy exchanges with friends, old and new. The End-of-Summer party included participation by Landmark, Mt. Vernon, Prince William, National Potomac, Eastern, Aquia, Seafarers, and Occoquan Yacht Clubs, as well as Tantallon. The Seafarers even showed up a day early so they could hold a birthday barbeque on the lawn at Tantallon—a great idea!

Two weeks later, on 1 October 1994, National Potomac Yacht Club held their annual Octoberfest and auction at Columbia Island Marina. The weather was just perfect—National Potomac style, the food was great and everyone had a grand time! Representatives from Tantallon attend-

ed on a drive-in basis.

Another follow-up on the PRYCA-sponsored End-of-Summer party was a visit to Landmark Yacht Club at the mouth of Aquia Creek. Ten Tantallon boats stopped at Mattawoman Creek on Saturday, 8 October, and half of these then proceeded to Landmark on Sunday. To say that the Landmark club members made Tantallon welcome is a gross understatement! Saturday night the Landmarkers served a superb buffet dinner with smoked turkey and London broil as the main dishes. And the brunch on Monday morning was even grander! This is just another example of the hospitality of the PRYCA clubs and the wonderful people in them. Landmark is in a lovely location, and their friendliness and enthusiasm is almost beyond description. Don't miss a chance to visit them! All it takes is a call to their commodore or fleet captain.

Cooperative activities and exchanges among the PRYCA clubs enhance all aspects of our boating. These are just a few examples of the many benefits, and may suggest other activities we can undertake. Potomac River Yacht Clubs boaters are indeed "special" people!"



Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association Board Meeting Mt. Vernon Yacht Club Monday, 12 September 1994

Present:

Commodore Ned Rhodes
Vice Commodore John Hancock
Rear Commodore Penny DeMarco
Treasurer Harriet Douglas
Secretary Ineke Lavoie
IPC John Robey
MAL Bud Clark
MAL Dave Goodman
MAL Mark Viehoever
Alan Lee, TYC Fleet Captain
Charles Wilkerson, LYC Fleet Captain

The meeting was called to order by Comm Rhodes at 7:10 PM. We were all glad to see MAL Dave Goodman back after his hospitalization, and hope he continues to do well with his recovery. The Secretary and Treasurer reports were accepted as read and printed.

Old Business:

Comm Rhodes reviewed 1995 Officer List; Steve Wexler (Occoquan YC) has expressed interest in becoming a MAL, replacing Dave Goodman, who'll in turn serve on the Nominating Committee. Delegates will be asked to look for candidates to fill Rear Commodore position.

VC Hancock mentions CBYCA strong lobbying group and making that available to PRYCA. Three (3) PRYCA members will be on the 1995 CBYCA Board: VC Hancock as new Qualifications Officer, NPYC Comm Joe Orth as Publicity Director, and NPYC Penny DeMarco a MAL for Virginia and South Maryland clubs. Congratulations to them all.

New Business:

1. PRYCA Fall Event at Tantallon YC: MAL Bud Clark and Fleet Capt. Alan Lee gave us details on planned activities and participation in upcoming weekend's "End of Summer Party" at TYC. More than 140 people and 40 boats have registered so far, special T-shirts have been printed and will be for sale at \$10.00, a raffle will be held and some of the items to be raffled off are a VHF radio and a BOAT/U.S. gift certificate. VC Hancock suggests donating PRYCA items for the raffle (hats, visors, etc.)

2. Ft. Washington Boating Association: Decision to vote on this Club's PRYCA membership application was delayed pending qualifications' review.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM until the next Board Meeting Monday, 3 October at Tantallon Yacht Club at 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Ineke Lavoie
Secretary



**Potomac River Yacht Clubs
Association
Delegate Meeting
Mt. Vernon Yacht Club
Monday, 12 September 1994**

Club Delegates Present:

AQUIA HARBOUR YC - MAL Dave Goodman
DISTRICT YC - Roger Lavoie
EASTERN YC - Gina Puglisi
LANDMARK - Charlie Wilkerson
MT. VERNON - IPC John Robey
NATIONAL POTOMAC YC - Comm Joe Orth & Steve Shipley
OCCOQUAN - Steve Wexler
PRINCE WILLIAM YC - Phil McKnight
TANTALLON YC - Bud Clark & Fleet Capt Alan Lee
WASHINGTON YC - Mark Viehoever
Absent: CAPITAL, COLONIAL, FORT WASHINGTON, MARINETTE & SEAFARERS

The meeting was called to order by Comm Rhodes at 8:20 PM, and the Treasurer's Report was accepted as read.

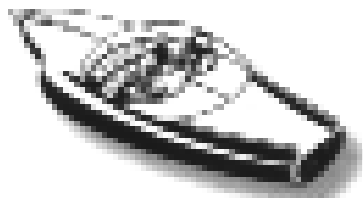
Comm Rhodes introduced Guest Speaker John McDonald with DC Fireboat Co., who is a 20-year veteran with that organization, as well as a Marine Engineer. Mr. McDonald gave us background on DC Fireboat Co., which started in 1905 with the 101' long *Firefighter*, replaced in 1946 with a 110' Navy war-time tug-boat *William T. Belt*, which in turn was replaced in 1960 by another *Firefighter*, 82' long. In 1977 the *John H. Glenn* was purchased from New York City. It has a 12KW generator aboard, is the only Fireboat ever to be named in honor of an astronaut, and is still in service at this time. In 1984 the Fire Dept. purchased a 26' Boston Whaler, known as *Fireboat #2*,

which can reach a top speed near 50MPH. In 1989 the new, existing quarters for Fireboat and Metropolitan Police Dept., Harbor Unit were opened, where both boats are docked at Pier 5, 550 Water St, SW. Fireboat crews (4 for the *John Glenn* and 2 for *Fireboat #2*) work 24-hr. shifts, provide emergency maritime services, such as: Surface Search & Rescue, Emergency Medical Services, Ice Breaking Operations, and have mutual-aid agreements with Virginia and Maryland, responding to incidents as far down river as Ft. Belvoir. Their marine frequency is VHF Channel 17.

RC DeMarco mentioned CBYCA start-up of electronic Bulletin Board in agreement with RTI (Reliance Teleservice Inc.) to provide improvement of legislative responses and internal communications and services to Club members. They'll use an 800 phone # and a prepaid phonecard system, i.e. CBYCA will issue phonecards containing a PIN # to clubs and their members. Each club or member wishing to use the Bulletin Board would prepay a deposit to RTI by cash, check or credit card. The initial plan is to have a voice mail service on line by 1 October 1994, and RC DeMarco was appointed to the Bulletin Board Committee.

IPC Robey reviewed 1994 Float-In, where 11 member clubs participated: MVYC 16, AYC 16, NPYC 14, OYC 12, PWYC 10, TYC 9, Capital 6, Seafarers 6, Landmark 4, Washington 2 and DYC 1. Delegate feedback on the event was requested, and the suggestions made were to have a no-entry and no-refund policy after a certain set date, and keep the Friday nite pot luck dinner, enjoyed by all.

AQUIA HARBOUR YC—MAL Dave Goodman: Labor Day weekend saw 28 boats going to Ragged Point planning an October cruise to Olde



Towne, a bus trip to the Annapolis PowerBoat Show, and a possible Frostbite cruise to Dennis Pt.

DISTRICT YC—Roger Lavoie: Labor Day weekend cruises to Aquia and Dennis Point, planning an Octoberfest and Auction October 22, and mentioned that the National Park Service didn't increase Club's 1995 annual lease rate.

EASTERN YC—Gina Puglisi: organizing a 29 October Halloween Party, and mentioned that a petition had been sent to Dan Stensel at MD Boating Administration regarding waterskiers in the Cove. They agreed to conduct a survey with NRP (Natural Resource Police) on shoreline traffic Spring '95, followed by a review meeting. If all goes according to plan, there'll be a hearing Summer '95 with the Boat Act Advisory Committee, and a decision is expected on this issue. Buoys will be installed advertising that area is under survey for restrictions.

LANDMARK—Fleet Capt. and Alternate Delegate Charlie Wilkerson: Landmark is a small club which had 4 boats going to Fairview Beach, and are planning a possible October cruise to Crisfield.

Mt. VERNON—IPC Robey: MVYC went to Colonial Beach for a cruise, and their Fall Dinner Event consists out of taking 4-5 larger boats out, invite all who are interested for drinks and snacks, followed by dinner at their Club House.

NATIONAL POTOMAC YC—Steve Shipley: had August meeting during a cruise to Olde Towne, followed by dinner and Sunday brunch at Chart House Restaurant. An October 1 Octoberfest and Auction, October 15 cruise to Gangplank Rest, and 5 November Oyster Roast are being planned.

OCCOQUAN—Steve Wexler mentioned that since Occoquan has no

Club house, their members are forever cruising, to Colonial Beach, to Mattawoman Creek for their Shrimp Feast 24 September, and Chili cook-off 22 October.

PRINCE WILLIAM YC—Phil McKnight: went to Yeocomico River Labor Day Weekend, and planning a cruise to Georgetown 22 October; their '93 membership drive was very successful.

TANTALLON YC—MAL Bud Clark and Fleet Capt. Alan Lee mentioned Club's cruises to Norfolk, Mattawoman, Cobb Island, and their planned 8 October Frostbite Cruise. They finished the Clubhouse construction and redecorating, and invited all to attend their Club's "End of Summer

Party" September 17-18.

WASHINGTON YC—MAL Mark Viehoever mentioned his club's planned October Crab Feast.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 PM until the next Delegate Meeting Monday 7 November at Capital Yacht Club at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ineke Lavoie
Secretary

Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association

Treasurer's Report
September 12, 1994

Beginning Balance		\$2,905.38
Deposits:		
8/8/94, Interest	\$18.46	
8/8/94	153.00	
8/11/94, Float-In	<u>530.25</u>	
Total Deposits		\$701.71
Deductions:		
8/8/94, Service charge	\$18.77	
8/8/94, 50/50 Weekend	125.00	
8/8/94, Ft. Wash. Marina	20.70	
8/15/94, Postage	26.00	
8/24/94, Flowers	41.80	
9/6/94, Newsletter	39.46	
<u>Float-In Refunds:</u>		
8/8/94, Allerton	113.75	
8/8/94, McFarland	120.50	
8/8/94, Williams	101.75	
8/8/94, McKnight	108.50	
Total Deductions	<u>716.23</u>	
Ending Balance		2,890.86

Potomac River Yacht Clubs
Association
Board Meeting
Tantallon Yacht Club
Monday, 5 October 1994

Present:

Commodore Ned Rhodes
 Vice Commodore John Hancock
 Rear Commodore Penny DeMarco
 Treasurer Harriet Douglas
 Secretary Ineke Lavoie
 IPC John Robey
 MAL Bud Clark
 MAL Dave Goodman
 MAL Mark Viehoever
 Guests

Michael Strunk, Commodore TYC
 Joe Orth, Commodore NPYC

The meeting was called to order by Comm Rhodes at 7:15 PM after enjoying a delicious gourmet dinner prepared by Mary Ann Garges and Katie Lee—thank you very much! The Secretary and Treasurer reports were accepted as read and printed.

Old Business:

1) Comm Rhodes reported that thank-you notes went out to all who donated items for the '94 Float-In, and that a letter was sent to Mr. Otis Lancaster, Commodore Colonial Yacht Club.

2) MAL Clark gave Treasurer Douglas a \$54.57 check; this was 50% of the income made by TYC on the slip fees during the "End of Summer" party hosted at their club September 17 & 18.

3) The Qualifications Committee, chaired by VC Hancock with Comm Mike Strunk and Comm Joe Orth, reported that a letter was sent to Mr. Norris Sydnor, Jr., President of Ft. Washington Boating Association on 16

September, but was returned due to wrong address. It was decided to delay the vote on their PRYCA membership application pending further qualifications' review.

4) The Nominating Committee, chaired by IPC Robey with MALs Dave Goodman and Mark Viehoever, presented the slate for the '95 PRYCA Board of Directors, which will be printed in the Newsletter.

New Business:

1) The Agenda for the 7 Nov Delegate Meeting at Capital Yacht Club was discussed, and the following items are to be discussed: vote on the 1995 Board; 28 January 1995 Change of Watch party at Army Navy Country Club, which will be chaired and set up by RC DeMarco; reports from each Delegate.

2) TYC Comm Strunk suggested putting together a boat roster with member boat club information on it, which will be available to all club members. Information will be collected from Club Delegates.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM until the next Board Meeting Monday, 7 November at Capital Yacht Club at 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Ineke Lavoie, Secretary



Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association

Treasurer's Report

October 3, 1994

Beginning Balance		\$2,890.86
Deposits:		
9/7/94, Interest	<u>9.80</u>	
Total Deposits		\$9.80
Deductions:		
9/7/94, Service charge	11.59	
9/12/94, Ft. McNair refund	<u>33.00</u>	
Total Deductions		<u>\$44.59</u>
Ending Balance		\$2,856.07

Respectfully submitted,
 Harriet Douglas, Treasurer

Potomac Lights

Potomac Basin Reporter, Aug. 1994

The Potomac is one of the nation's oldest rivers from a cultural standpoint. Sailing the "Nile of America," as historian Mike Humphries calls it, can evoke a feeling of sailing through history. The river and its environs that boaters see today, however, is much different than the Potomac of 70 or more years ago. The history of today is largely seen in the imagination. Probably to the benefit of the river's health, the Potomac of today is a river less traveled. Multitudes of steamships, fishing vessels, and other commercial craft have largely been replaced by a smaller but growing number of primarily pleasure craft. Along with this change has been the switch to the automatic beacons that have replaced the Potomac's manned lighthouses.

Looked on as symbols of constance and security to mariners, there were once 11 lighthouses along the Potomac, whose lights shone from the early 1800s. In the 1900s, the lighthouses were gradually decommissioned in favor of automatic lights. Some were damaged in storms and never replaced. Several of the Potomac lighthouses built on screw-piles—trussed iron platforms in the water—were torn down, and beacons were mounted on the platforms.

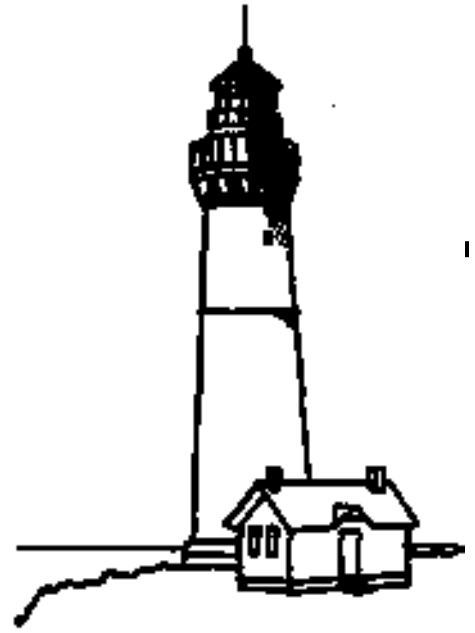
Four lighthouses remain on the Potomac. In addition to Piney Point, houses remain at Point Lookout, on the Maryland side of the Potomac's mouth; Fort Washington, Md., less than 10 miles downstream from Washington; and Jones Point lighthouse in Alexandria, Va. The tower at Fort Washington is the only lighthouse still used as a navigational aid.

Point Lookout

The light, which was housed in a tower atop a two-story house, was first shone in 1830. At a height of 43 feet, its white light was visible for almost 12 miles. For a short time, its 13 lamps were fueled by gas instead of oil. During the Civil War, the lighthouse was heavily guarded as it resided next to the Confederate prison camp. The lighthouse was unique in its later generating equipment. In 1930, it became the only lighthouse in the U.S. to experiment with a wind-driven generator powering 16 batteries. The lighthouse, which also served as a buoy maintenance station, was replaced with a navigation light placed off the point in 1965. The house, which can be seen at Pt. Lookout State Park, is part of a naval tracking facility, and is closed to the public except for tours given once each year. A Navy spokesman said that the house may be renovated in the future using Department of Defense grants, but there are no immediate plans. Over the years, some people have insisted that the house is haunted, and the site was visited by psychic Hans Holzer in the 1960s.

Fort Washington

A cast-iron column topped by a light was installed at the wharf below the fort in 1857. The light was later installed in the belltower, which was raised several feet so that the light was visible up and down the river. The white light was changed to red (because of other white lights in the area) in 1920, according to Fred Tilp in his book, "This Was Potomac River." In 1954, the light was changed to an unwatched flashing red light. It remains as the only operational lighthouse on the Potomac.



Jones Point

In the late 1700s, Alexandria was a bustling seaport, shipping tobacco and later, wheat, to other U.S. ports and Europe. By the early 1850s, it was the third-largest port in the Chesapeake region. In 1856, the Jones Point lighthouse shone a white light from the tower atop the house. The light, 17 feet above the water, was visible for 9 miles, protecting ships approaching the city's wharfs from sandbars, tides, and winter ice. The facility, next to the first boundary stone marker of the District of Columbia, included a buoy house and a tide-cleansed privy. A seawall was later added. The sperm oil lamp was replaced by gas in 1858, and changed to a red oil lamp in 1900.

In 1926, a fixed green light placed on a 60-foot steel tower erected on the the river's edge replaced the lighthouse. A keeper remained on watch at the site until 1934. Deactivation of the light occurred in 1962, with mariners using the navigation lights installed on the Woodrow Wilson Bridge. Over the years the lighthouse fell victim to vandalism, erosion, and decay. The lighthouse's exterior has been restored through the efforts of the National Park Service and the Mt. Vernon Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Plans are underway for restoration of the building's interior.

COG's 1994 Harvesting Season Underway

Potomac SAV News, Summer 1994

Harvesting is in full swing for the 1994 Potomac Aquatic Plant Control Program coordinated by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG). This summer marks the program's ninth season. The principal objective of the program is to provide and maintain access to public use areas along the shores of the Potomac River by removing submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV).

SAV can become quite abundant by late summer and may clog navigation channels. Public use areas benefiting from the program include marinas, yacht clubs, commercial docks, boat ramps, groupings of private docks serving shoreline communities, public swimming areas, and other recreational areas serving the public.

The control program is funded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; the Commonwealth of Virginia, through its Department of Game and Inland Fisheries; and the State of Maryland, through its Department of Natural Resources. COG has been responsible for overall management of the program since its inception in 1986.

Results of SAV Ranking Survey

In early July, COG completed a ranking survey of SAV growth at the 26 harvesting sites along the Virginia and Maryland shorelines. The survey assesses species diversity, distribution, density, and height in order to prioritize harvesting sites. COG staff schedules harvesting operations based on these survey results.

In Virginia, SAV was quite dense along the Alexandria waterfront site. Several species of SAV were present, in addition to commonly found hydrilla

and watermilfoil. However, several sites just south of Alexandria and north of Occoquan Bay had little or no vegetation. Further south along the Virginia shoreline from Cherry Hill to Aquia Creek, SAV was abundant. Common species along these sites were hydrilla, watermilfoil, wild celery, and coontail.

In Maryland, aquatic vegetation was relatively sparse from Treasure Cove to Fort Washington, with the exception of Broadwater Estates in Broad Creek, where SAV was dense. Vegetation along the shoreline from Calvert Manor to Mallows Bay also was abundant. The dominant species were hydrilla, watermilfoil, wild celery, and coontail.

1994 SAV Aerial Survey

In September, an aerial photographic survey of the tidal Potomac River will be taken from the U.S. Route 301 Bridge to Chain Bridge. Aerial photographic interpretation and computer mapping of SAV distribution will be performed by the Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences as part of the Chesapeake Bay Program's SAV tracking efforts. COG staff will conduct an extensive shoreline survey to assist in the photographic interpretation. The survey will help COG determine the control program needs for 1995.

From the Fleet Navigator

Tantallon Yacht Club

It is sometimes necessary to control the engine from a remote location, from the foredeck when anchoring or weighing, for instance. The Navy system of bell commands can easily be adapted. It is simple, effective, and seamanlike. It also does away with noisy misunderstandings on board and Laurel-and-Hardy shows for dockside

spectators. The scheme illustrated is for single screw boats with two-lever engine controls.

Instead of striking bells, whoever is conning shows 1, 2, 3 or 4 fingers to the cockpit/bridge crew, who responds as follows:

1 finger: AHEAD SLOW—Shift lever AHEAD, throttle lever IDLE.

2 fingers: STOP—Shift lever STOP (neutral), throttle lever IDLE.

3 fingers: BACK SLOW—Shift lever BACK, throttle lever IDLE.

4 fingers: Shift lever AHEAD or BACK, throttle lever set for Full Speed (Full Speed in the direction that the propeller is currently turning).

Notes:

1. Modify for single lever controls.
2. For twin screws, use both hands—right for starboard engine, left for port.
3. If full speed seems to much, designate an appropriate rpm.

Ode to a Sailboter Pennsbury Power Squadron

I don't understand how a sailboter can cope

Yanking and tugging on all that rope.

Clinging in fear of imminent doom,

Sure to be nailed by that treacherous boom.

And all the pleasure of being able to say,

"Guess what—I traveled a mile today!"

As reprinted from the Delaware River Yacht Club newsletter.



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MORNINGSTAR-MSI

Med W. Rhodes, CEO
President

Software Systems Group



Dec 5: PRYCA Board Meeting @ TBD Yacht Club 6:30
Jan 28: PRYCAChange of Command @ Army Navy Country Club

Upcoming Events



Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association



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Address Correction Requested