



Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association



Volume 8

Issue 2

April 1996

Officers 1996

Commodore

Penny DeMarco
(National Potomac)

Vice Commodore

Bud Clark
(Tantallon)

Rear Commodore

Steve Donock
(Mount Vernon)

Secretary

Ineke Lavoie
(National Potomac)

Treasurer

Harriet Douglas
(District)

Immediate Past Commodore

John Hancock
(Aquia Harbour)

Members-At-Large

Monica Lovell
(Occoquan)

Mark Viehoever
(Washington)

Jim Ball
(Mount Vernon)

From the Commodore

Penny DeMarco

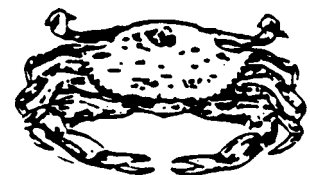
NBF Spring Meeting

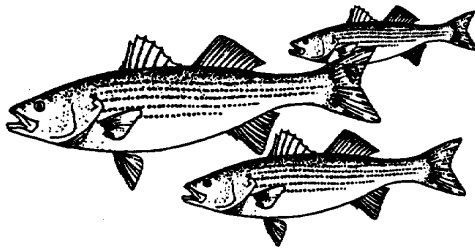
PRYCA members have a great opportunity to meet people from other parts of the country who have the same interest in recreational boating that we do. The annual Spring National Boating Federation (NBF) Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 27, 1996 at Old Dominion Boat Club in Old Town Alexandria, VA. The NBF Executive Committee will meet on Friday, April 26. Both meetings begin at 0830. The invited guest speakers for the annual meeting on Saturday include: The Honorable James P. Moran (D-VA); Admiral Robert E. Kramic, Commandant United States Coast Guard; Kerry Donley, Mayor of the City of Alexandria; Fred Messmann, Northern Virginia Boating Law Administrator; Paul Brouha, Chairman, American League of Anglers and Boaters; Mick Blackistone, Executive Director, National Marine Manufacturing Association; and Philip Keeter, Executive Director, National Marine Retailers Association. In addition, each member Yacht Club Association (including PRYCA) will give a report of their activities, and on Saturday afternoon, the election of the 1996 NBF officers will occur. PRYCA is providing a continental breakfast on both Friday and Saturday, starting around 0800. A cold cut buffet lunch will be served by Old Dominion Boat Club both Friday and Saturday at the cost of \$7.50 each day. There will be a cocktail party on Friday evening from 1700 to 1800 at Old Dominion, hosted by NBF Consultant, Larry Innis. Following the cocktail party, there will be a NBF dinner at the "Fish Market" across the street from Old Dominion. The menu will include: fresh broiled Maryland crab cakes, Norwegian

salmon, New York strip steak, or grilled Perdue chicken breast for an entree; preceded by "Admiral" salad or New England clam chowder, and served with broccoli and new potatoes, and followed by a hot fudge sundae. Coffee and tea are included for a cost of \$24.50, including tax and gratuity.

Since the meetings are being held in PRYCA territory, I hope we will have a good turnout for the cocktail party, dinner, and the annual meeting. All PRYCA Board Members, as well as members of our Member Clubs are invited to attend. (We are also invited to attend the Executive Committee.) NBF Vice President, Jim Webster, needs to have paid reservations in advance for the dinner and lunch each day. I am collecting reservations for PRYCA members who plan to attend. I need these reservations by Friday, April 12.

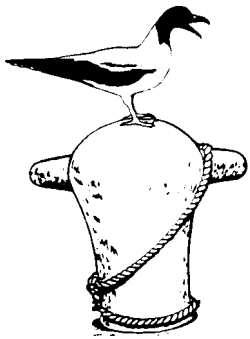
One caution. As most of you know, parking in Old Town is a problem. Old Dominion DOES NOT have sufficient parking to invite us to park there. NBF is trying to arrange parking at the nearby Burke & Herbert Bank for Saturday. Be careful about using meters. You will get a ticket if you park too long. I suggest just putting your car in a parking lot (or come by boat and stay at the Alexandria City Marina next door to Old Dominion). NBF does have a block of rooms reserved at the Ramada Plaza Hotel and has planned some Friday and Saturday activities for "mates." If you want details about these or have any questions, please call me at 703-525-2902 (home), 301-261-2488 (work), or 202-544-8163 (boat). I will be attending both days and hope to see lots of you.





Exciting Powerboat Event Planned for Portsmouth, VA

On February 29, 1996, Joe and I attended a planning session held at the Tidewater Yacht Agency (TYA) in Portsmouth, VA. This familiar marina located at Mile Marker Zero on the Intracoastal Waterway is to be the site for a spectacular rendezvous on August 16, 17, and 18, 1996. This event is being held in cooperation with the City of Portsmouth, about a dozen Tidewater Yacht Clubs, and many local marine businesses. The purpose is to bring together 200 power boaters for a weekend of fun. With many interesting sites nearby, Virginia's largest in-water boat show taking place across the river, dancing in the streets of Portsmouth, and great eating available from a large number of nearby restaurants, and a spectacular crab feast on the docks of TYA, every one can look forward to a special time enjoying Portsmouth and all the other boaters. There will also be a yacht rally, Blessing of the Fleet, and a host of other activities such as a pool party, art galleries and museums, golf and tennis, tours of historic areas and more! Make you plans now, because it is first come on the 200 available slips. If you want to make a reservation or need more information, please call Ports Events, 1-804-393-9933 or 1-800-296-9933.



From the Immediate Past Commodore

John Hancock

As I am the CBYCA Liaison for PRYCA, I am submitting Virginia Legislative Report by CBYCA DSLVA Nicole Sours Larson from the March issue of Chartroom Chatter.

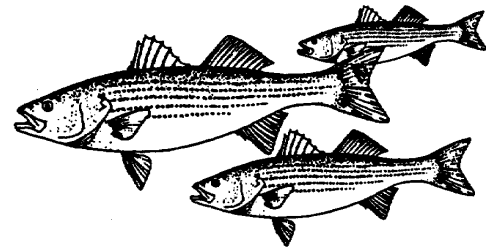
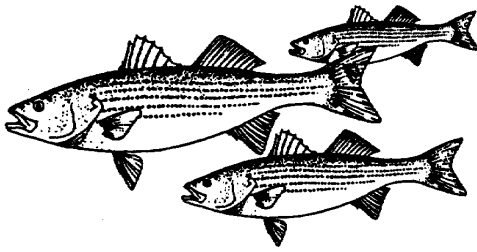
The Virginia General Assembly wrapped up its biennial 60 day "long session" on March 9th. The legislature considered very few bills relating to boating this year. There were, however, a few noteworthy developments. For the first time in recent years, no bill was introduced to change any fees for fishing licenses. New this year in Virginia, as in Maryland, is a concerted effort to protect the future of crabbing and impose meaningful, if limited, restrictions on the crab catch; however, only the mildest bills survived committee action. Unlike Maryland, there has been no action whatsoever to restrict use or operation of personal watercraft. In fact, not a single bill was introduced in either House relating to personal watercraft this year. Here's a brief round-up of the boating-related bills in this year's General Assembly.

HB (House Bill) 820 would have authorized counties, cities, and towns to establish "no wake" zones within 200 feet of public boat landings. This bill died in committee. There is, however, broader legislation already on the books which allows localities to apply to the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries for permission to create "no wake" zones.

HB1313, which has sailed through both Houses without any opposition, relates to zero tolerance for drunken boating. **HB1313** revokes the privilege of boating for six months and imposes a

\$500 fine on anyone under 21 who operates a boat while having a blood alcohol of 0.02 to 0.08. (Note: Legislation is already on the books prohibiting operation of a boat by anyone with a blood alcohol content greater than 0.08, in parallel with the legal limit for driving a motor vehicle. This bill reduces the legal limit for those under 21; this also parallels driving laws.) This bill is deemed "emergency legislation," and will become effective immediately upon the Governor's signature.

HB1320 establishes new reimbursement requirements and procedures for dealers' warranty work on watercraft. Under this legislation, manufacturers must pay dealers 100% of the dealers' costs for parts (including shipping costs), plus 20% of the dealers' cost, or \$250, whichever is less. In addition, manufacturers must reimburse dealers at their normal labor hour rates for warranty work, must approve or disapprove dealers' reimbursement claims within 30 days, and must make payment within 30 days or be subject to interest charges. This bill has the strong support of the Virginia marine retailers industry. It passed unanimously in the House. In the Senate, the bill ran into difficulty in the Civil Justice Subcommittee, which unanimously voted to carry the bill over to 1997 for further consideration on the Courts of Justice Committee. **HB1320**, if it ultimately passes, will give an incentive to boat dealers to treat warranty work with equal consideration as other work. Currently, most warranty work is reimbursed by manufacturers at a significantly lower rate than dealers normally receive for their work. The net effect is to delay warranty work to "slow times," which often deprives new boat owners of the use of their watercraft during peak boating season. **CBYCA strongly supports this bill.**



HB103 would create a commission to look into ways to promote and increase the role of water recreation in tourism in the coal mining region of Virginia. This bill has been carried over to 1997.

SB (Senate Bill) 362 makes it a misdemeanor for an individual to operate a watercraft when that person's operating privileges have been revoked for operating while intoxicated. This bill has passed both the Senate and house unanimously and appears headed for approval by the Governor. **CBYCA strongly supported this bill.**

Nicole went on to describe four bills relating to crabbing. I am not including these here, but if you are interested in the particulars, please do not hesitate to contact me at 540-659-2882 (home) or 202-776-8738 (work).

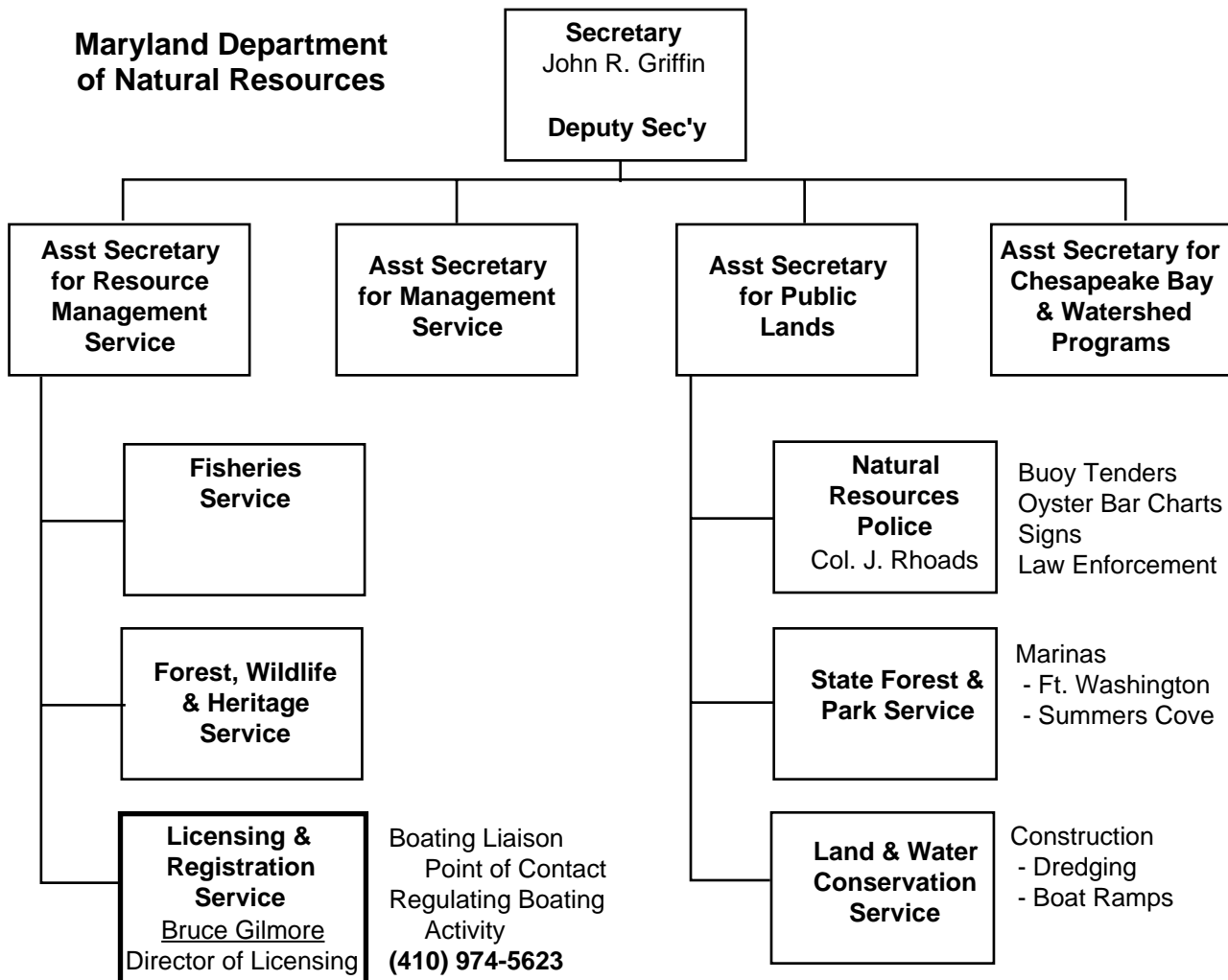


Local Governmental Activities

Vice Commodore
Bud Clark

• Maryland

The speaker at the February PRYCA Delegates meeting was Bruce Gilmore, Director of Licensing and Registration Services in the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. He also serves as Point of Contact for boating liaison and activities; he can be reached at (410) 974-5623. (See new organization of DNR, below.)





SHEET OR
BECKET BEND



FIGURE EIGHT

Pending or proposed boating legislation/regulations in Maryland include:

- A single noise standard throughout Maryland waters, tidal and non-tidal.
- Registration fee for boats under 16' and 7.5 HP (currently no fee).
- Increase in boat title fees to cover costs.
- Restrictions on recreational and commercial crabbing.
- Minimum age (16 years) and separate certification of required operator safety course for Personal Water Craft.
- Increased fines for homicide by motor vehicle or boat.
- Personal floatation devices for children under 12.

Other Changes:

- Eliminate state funding for large public marinas.
- Change in funding for abandoned boat program. Will be operated through grants to local Maryland counties and municipalities.
- Continue dredging creeks and rivers using state Waterway Improvement Fund from excise tax on sale of new boats.

• Virginia Proposed or pending regulation/legislation includes:

- Increasing legal trailoring width from 8' to 8 1/2'.
- A warranty bill requiring boat manufacturers to pay full costs of repairs.
- Allow local jurisdictions to control no-wake zones within 200' of public piers.
- Provide for zero tolerance for those under 21 who drink and boat. Also increase, to a Class II misdemeanor, violation of a court order against drinking and boating.

- Personal floatation devices for children under 12.

Information in this article is based on:

- Comments by Bruce Gilmore, Maryland DNR, at the 5 February 1996 PRYCA delegates meeting;
- *Chesapeake Bay Magazine*, page 7, January 1996;
- *CBYCA Chartroom Chatter*, page 1, February 1996.

Every effort has been to present this information accurately; any errors are the result of misunderstanding or misinterpretation by the author and not the fault of the original sources.

1996 - A Busy Year Planned

Steve Donock, Rear Commodore

After a snowy and long winter, we're all looking forward to boating season. Member clubs have scheduled some rather early cruises to tempt Mother Nature, but I'm sure we'll all make it just fine.

The year started with a great Change of Command dinner/dance. Even the weather cooperated this year! Thanks to Bud Clark and all the folks that helped make it happen. I've taken notes for next year.

PRYCA has several events planned for 1996 already. See the calendar in this newsletter for everything, but let me highlight just a few here.

We're working with Mt. Vernon Yacht Club and the US Coast Guard Auxiliary to start this season off with a safety day on May 11th. The program officially starts at 1300, but if you're coming by boat, let the tide be your guide. Low tide at Mt. Vernon that day is 1000 and high is at 1600. We have many activities planned to include: safety demonstrations, kid's boating safety presentations, flare demonstrations and vessel safety

examinations. Attitude adjustment begins at 1600 followed by a pot luck dinner at 1700. We'll supply the grills, you supply the food.

On May 18th, National Potomac Yacht Club will be hosting a pre-Blessing dinner at their club. They did a great job last year and we're all looking forward to another wonderful time. This will be followed on the 19th with the traditional Blessing of the Fleet in the Washington Channel.

And don't forget the Float-In at Fort Washington from July 19-21. Your Board is working closely with the Fort Washington Boating Association to make this a special weekend.

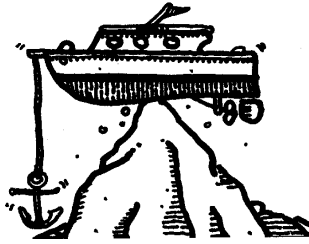
And this is only the beginning. We're looking forward to a great 25th Anniversary year for PRYCA.

From the Editor

Ned W. Rhodes

Here is the second newsletter of the year and I don't even have the boat dewinterized. What a winter this has been! I have been down to the boat and started to make that never-ending list of things that need doing. My mid-ship bilge pump decided to stop working. Don't know why, but that will be the first thing replaced. It sure beats shoveling snow.

This past winter, I had *Impluse* shrink wrapped in the slip. Yes, you heard me correctly. My logic was that I did not think that the canvas (because of the slope on the back and the window) would stand up to an substantial snow. In addition, my canvas is not truly watertight, so I wanted to keep as much of the wet stuff out. Boy, did I make the correct decision. The shrink wrap held up to all the snow and kept the insides dry. How did all that dirt get in there then? At least now we are unwrapped, canvas up and in the water, ready to start the 1996 season.



As we go through the year, make sure that you keep me on your newsletter mailing list. As always, you may submit articles to me at 2001 North Kenilworth Street, Arlington, VA 22205. We prefer 3.5 inch floppy disks or direct submission over the internet to rhodesn@aol.com. Microsoft Word is our preferred format, although we can handle Wordperfect 5.1 easily as well. Let's hope we get on the water soon.

Make this Boating Season a Safe One
PRYCA Safety Day May 11, 1996
Jim Ball, MAL

The Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association will host its annual Safety Day at Mount Vernon Yacht Club on Dogue Creek Saturday, May 11, 1996. U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 14-06 will host a number of events that will get you prepared for a safe boating season.

Events start at 1:00PM and will include courtesy marine examinations, boating safety videos, safety presentations, a fire extinguishing demonstrations, a towing demonstration, live firing of flares and other visual distress signals (you get a chance to actually fire so you will know how to do it safely if you ever have to), and a special boating safety program for kids at 3:15PM. Come and ask all those questions about boating safety, new laws, and other things that you always wanted to know about boating and were afraid to ask. (No question is too stupid, we were all there once.)

Following all of the events, we will have a social hour starting about 4:00PM which will turn into a pot luck dinner about 5:00PM. Charcoal grills will be available, so bring your main course and a salad or dessert to share.

PRYCA member clubs are invited to attend by land or by sea, and if by

sea, you may wish to remain overnight. While Mount Vernon does not have a lot of slips, they will do their best to find a slip or support raft-ups in Dogue Creek with a shuttle service. Vessel skippers wishing to remain overnight are asked to notify MVYC Marina Chairman and PRYCA Past Commodore John Robey at 703-680-2257 by 1 May 1996. For other information, contact Jim Ball, PRYCA Coordinator at 703-866-4740. Upon arrival at Buoy 67, contact *Last Resort* on VHF Channel 16 or 72.

Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association
Board Meeting
Capital Yacht Club
Monday, February 5, 1996

Present:

Commodore: Penny DeMarco
Vice Commodore: Bud Clark
Rear Commodore: Steven Donock
Secretary: Ineke Lavoie
IPC: John Hancock
PC: Ned Rhodes
MALs: Mark Viehoever
Jim Ball
Monica Lovell
Guest: Del. Henry Lovell

Absent:

Treasurer Harriet Douglas

The meeting was called to order by Comm DeMarco at 6:05PM.

Old Business

-January Secretary's report was accepted as printed with two corrections: Meeting date was January 15 (postponement due to 'blizzard of the year') and IPC suggested wording in fourth paragraph of New Business to be changed to read "D.C. incorporation renewal papers" rather than "D.C. registration papers.

-Comm DeMarco requested comments and input on Handbook to be submitted to her no later than February 19.

VC Clark:

-issued final report on the very successful Change of Watch January 27. Especially appreciated was the USCG Color Guard's Posting of Colors. There was discussion of how to handle Officer's Call and cost (this year's Officer's Call was generously donated by Comm DeMarco), and suggestion was made to maybe have Board donate \$10 per person to help offset its cost.

-suggested following people as Qualifications Committee Members: Comm Howard Gasaway of Seafarers, Comm John Ludwig of Tantallon, Comm Gary Farrell of Landmark, and VC Bud Clark. All were approved.

-mentioned Swan Point, Corinthian and Bolling AFB as potential new clubs.

-suggested PC Dottie Strunk as member of Legal & Legislative Committee, while continuing to look for others.

-mentioned that PC Gasaway will be point of contact with D.C. Harbor Police and Fire Dept., PC Rhodes with Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments and Potomac River Fisheries, and MAL Viehoever with Washington Waterfront Association.

-RC Donock issued updated PRYCA 1996 calendar, and mentioned he would be in contact with Steve Wexler on the upcoming Float-In July 19-21.

-FC Robey was absent, but IPC Hancock and MAL Viehoever volunteered to sell PRYCA memorabilia at the upcoming Delegates Meeting.

-Secretary Lavoie requested final Boat Roster and Officer Roster information to be submitted no later than the March 4 Board Meeting so they can be distributed at the April 1

Board/Delegate Meeting at TYC.

-Due to Treasurer Douglas' absence, there was no treasury report.

-MALs Viehoever, Lovell and Ball all reported they had sent letters to their assigned clubs or had been in touch with each Delegate, and MAL Lovell submitted all the needed Officer Roster information from "her" clubs.

-IPC Hancock detailed four bills regarding boating legislation which are currently pending in the Virginia legislature.

-PC Rhodes reminded all of March 24 Newsletter deadline for submissions.

New Business

-Comm DeMarco said PRYCA will organize continental breakfast for NBF members at their semi-annual April 27 meeting at Old Dominion YC.

-MAL Ball submitted program for Safety Day, which will be hosted by Mt. Vernon YC with assistance of USCG Auxiliary on Saturday, May 11; please contact Coordinator Jim Ball at 703-866-4740 for further information.

-MAL Viehoever will be organizing the Pre-Blessing Dinner at Columbia Island Marina on Saturday, May 18. FC Robey will be the coordinating point of contact with James Creek Marina for those member clubs spending the night to attend the Sunday, May 19 Blessing of the Fleet.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20PM until the next Board Meeting on Monday, March 4 at 6:30PM at District YC.

Respectfully submitted,
Ineke Lavoie, Secretary

**Potomac River Yacht Clubs
Association
Delegates Meeting
Capital Yacht Club
Monday, February 5, 1996**

Club Delegates Present:

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Aquia Harbor: | John Hancock |
| District: | Herman Parker |
| Eastern: | Gina Puglisi |
| Ft. WBA: | Pinkney Little |
| Landmark: | John Hancock |
| Marinette: | John Hancock |
| Mt. Vernon: | Mitchell Mutnick |
| National Potomac: | Steve Shipley |
| Occoquan: | Henry Lovell |
| Prince William: | Tim Abel |
| Quantico: | Bill Gooding |
| Tantallon: | Joe Pokorney |
| Washington: | Mark Viehoever |

Absent:

Capital, Colonial, Seafarers

The meeting was called to order at 7:30PM by Comm DeMarco who requested PRYCA Board Members to introduce themselves, as well as each Club's Delegate.

Comm DeMarco introduced guest speaker Bruce Gilmore, Director of Licensing and Registration Services at Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources. Mr. Gilmore, who handed out a detailed DNR organizational map, mentioned that DNR has fewer (approximately 2,000) federal employees in 1996 than in 1994, and is responsible, among other things, for dredging channels, building boating access points, putting out markers, regulating boating, and using ice breakers; they manage Somers Cove Marina, and rebuilt Ft. Washington Marina; the "Waterway Improvement Fund," to which all Maryland boat owners pay a 5% excise tax, was used to rebuild Ft. Washington marina, as well as building small boat ramps elsewhere.

He mentioned that legislation is pending in Annapolis which will regulate boat noise decibel levels, and personal watercraft like jet skis. Maryland had three watercraft-related deaths in 1995 with accidents among renters higher than among owners. Same bill will also require those born after July 1, 1972 to require a safety certificate and minimum age of 16 (not 14) for operating personal watercraft; a Maryland decal will now cost \$24 bi-annually. Mr. Gilmore thanks that legislation will have more than a better chance of passing.

RC Donock inquired about CG Auxiliary not carrying VHF radios, and Mr. Gilmore said that they're trying to upgrade current equipment, possibly get cellular phones. Mr. Gilmore said silting in of Ft. Washington as mentioned by Delegate Little is being looked into, as well as Delegate Puglisi's inquiry about submitted petition, supplied with 75 signatures on it, regarding use of personal watercraft in The Cove. PRYCA promised to invite Mr. Gilmore to our next Float-In. Mr. Gilmore suggested if you have problems as individual owner or as a Yacht Club to contact him by writing to: Bruce A. Gilmore, Director State of Maryland DNR Boating Administration, Tawes State Office Building, Annapolis, MD 21401, or call him at 301-974-5623.

Comm DeMarco highlighted all of PRYCA's planned events for 1996: Safety Day at Mt. Vernon YC on Saturday, May 11; Spring Event—Saturday, May 18 Pre-Blessing Dinner at CIM, followed by Sunday, May 19 Blessing of the Fleet; Summer Event—Float-In at Ft. Washington Marina Friday through Sunday, July 19-21; Fall Event—End of Summer Party planned and hosted by Tantallon YC on Saturday and Sunday, September 21-22; and Winter Event—the 1997 Change of Watch, with date and location as yet to

be determined. She also reminded all Delegates that April 1 will be combination Commodore/Delegates Meeting, with dinner provided by Tantallon YC, details of which will be provided at later date.

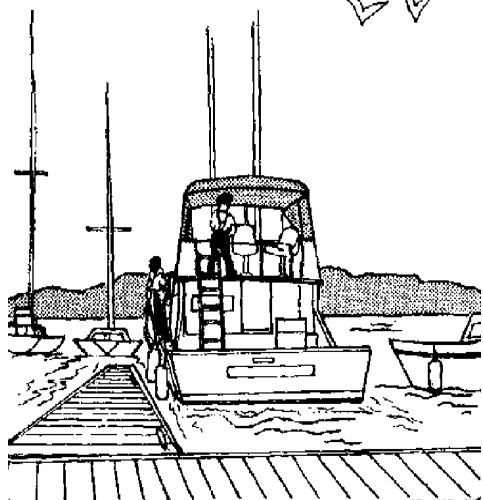
VC Clark gave a report on the very successful Change of Watch, and mentioned the Qualifications and Legal/Legislative Committees' members.

RC Donock passed out the updated 1996 calendar, requested Club's input to help keep it up to date; three to four months of the calendar will be included with each new Newsletter.

IPC Hancock thanked the 1995 Bridge for their hard work and provided an update on legislation pending in Virginia. Quantico YC Delegate Gooding mentioned that QYC organizes five annual cruises and sponsors three sailraces each year.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05PM until the next Delegate/Commodore meeting Monday April 1 at Tantallon Yacht Club at 7:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ineke Lavoie, Secretary



**Potomac River Yacht Clubs
Association
Board Meeting**

March 4, 1996, at District Yacht Club

Present:

Commodore: Penny DeMarco
Vice Commodore: Bud Clark
Rear Commodore: Steve Donock
Treasurer: Harriet Douglas
IPC: John Hancock
MALs: Mark Viehoever
Monica Lovell
Jim Ball

Guest:

PRYCA Float-In
Coordinator Steve Wexler

Absent:

Secretary: Ineke Lavoie

The meeting was called to order by Commodore DeMarco at 6:20PM.

Meeting minutes were taken by MAL Lovell in the absence of Secretary Lavoie.

Old Business:

- February's Board/Delegate meeting minutes were accepted as printed with one correction pointed out by MAL Ball: In the Delegates Meeting Minutes, fourth paragraph—"RC Donock inquired about **CG Auxiliary...**" should be the "**DNR**" not CG Auxiliary.

- Commodore DeMarco mentioned that she received comments on the Handbook from Vice Commodore Clark and MAL Lovell. Commodore DeMarco stated that they would be incorporated into the new Handbook. Commodore DeMarco also asked all other Bridge members to send any comments to her ASAP so that she could also incorporate those for a final vote.

- Commodore DeMarco also mentioned that the audit will take place. We are waiting for "Roger" and will schedule the audit at the next meeting.

- Vice Commodore Clark reported that he sent a thank you letter to Bruce Gilmore (the Director of Licensing and Registration Services at Maryland Department of Natural Resources) for speaking at the PRYCA 5 February 1996 Delegates Meeting.

- VC Clark recommended that an invitation should be sent to Mr. Gilmore inviting him to the July PRYCA Float-In.

- VC Clark asked the Bridge for \$200 to pay the deposit for the 1997 Commodore's Ball. He suggested that, unless there were objections, we again hold the Ball at the Holiday Inn in Old Town, Alexandria. The date for the 1997 Ball will be 25 January. RC Donock made a motion that the money be given to VC Clark. MAL Viehoever seconded. The Bridge approved.

- Rear Commodore Donock thanked VC Clark for scheduling the speaker for the 1 April Delegates/Commodores Meeting at Tantallon Yacht Club. Commodore DeMarco asked RC Donock to "lean" on PC Robey to bring the ship's store items to sell at the 1 April Delegates meeting. She also suggested that if PC Robey cannot attend/bring the items, that RC Donock do so. Commodore DeMarco also related that she has twenty pins she will return to the store that she had intended to sell.

- RC Donock handed out the most recent "calendar of events" and asked everyone to review/make any changes, and add any events that he does not currently have on the calendar.

Commodore DeMarco mentioned to RC Donock that he may want to contact the MALs for possible additions...RC Donock stated that he had already done so.

- RC Donock asked the Bridge to consider ideas for the September Delegates Meeting. Commodore DeMarco suggested that we invite the Airport Police to speak (she talked with them at the Washington Boat Show). MAL Lovell informed RC Donock that she had the brochure from the Airport Police and will forward it to him.

- RC Donock pointed out that the “official” Coast Guard Auxiliary operational season begins in May. The ERT is effective now (for the upper Potomac).

- RC Donock asked if any Bridge member had ideas for an “inner club competition” for the Float-In. He mentioned that he would raise this at Saturday’s PRYCA Float-In Meeting.

- IPC Hancock mentioned that he spoke with Darrell Edgar re “store” supply list—Darrell will inventory all and send to IPC Hancock. Also, it was stated by IPC Hancock that Darrell found the MAL burgees along with \$15 cash.

- IPC Hancock reported on the Virginia Legislative Report—he will give a copy of pending legislation to PC Rhodes for the PRYCA newsletter.

- IPC Hancock stated that there is no legislation pending that he felt the Bridge would oppose.

- Treasurer Douglas has been speaking with Commodore DeMarco regarding the Boat Roster.

- Treasurer’s report was accepted as read. Treasurer Douglas noted that she still has not received dues from the following member clubs: Colonial, Ft. Washington, National Potomac, and Washington. She asked that the MALs contact their clubs and mention the past due dues.

- Treasurer Douglas mentioned that Commodore DeMarco owes \$100 to PRYCA.

- MAL Lovell stated that she sent letters to her clubs re the 1 April meeting. She said that she will follow up the letters with phone calls next week.

- MAL Lovell mentioned that she faxed an updated Quantico Yacht Club Officer Roster to Secretary Lavoie.

- MALs Viehoever and Ball stated that they had not sent letters out regarding the 1 April meeting but expected to do so this week.

- MAL Viehoever reported that there was a meeting scheduled for 2 April regarding the “Blessing of the Fleet.” The meeting will take place at 7:00 p.m. aboard MV *Finished Business* docked at the Gangplank Tower Dock.

- MAL Viehoever informed the Bridge of the renovations taking place at Washington Yacht Club.

- MAL Viehoever noted that we (MALs) need to get a “head count” from member club Delegates/Commodores re the 1 April meeting. Tantallon needs to know so that they can plan the dinner.

- MAL Ball informed the Bridge that he had received a letter from Richard Charles from Marinette Yacht Club along with a club newsletter.

MAL Ball called Mr. Charles upon receipt of the letter and extended an invitation to him for the 1 April meeting.

New Business:

- Commodore DeMarco stated that she received a letter from Jim Webster of NBF regarding the NBF meetings to be held 26/27 April at Old Dominion Yacht Club in Old Town, Alexandria. PRYCA will supply donuts and coffee on Saturday morning. More about this meeting will be mentioned at the 1 April meeting. NBF will need a “head count” as soon as possible.

- MAL Viehoever attended the WWA meeting wherein the Cherry Blossom Festival was discussed.

- MAL Viehoever noted that he would like to have a “pre-blessing dinner” meeting immediately proceeding PRYCA Float-In Coordinator Wexler’s 9 March meeting. He stated that he would like to get a band for the dinner (in lieu of a d.j.).

PRYCA Float-In Coordination:

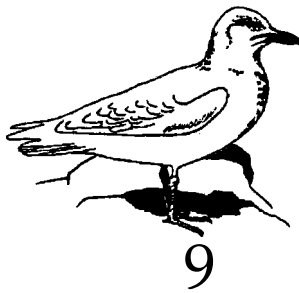
- Ft. Washington Marina is already secured for the Float-In.

- FIC Wexler stated that the band, the “Wright Touch,” was already scheduled to play at the Float-In.

- FIC Wexler noted that the tent is tentatively reserved through McLean Rentals.

- PRYCA Float-In Coordinator Wexler passed a letter out to MALs Lovell, Viehoever, and Ball to send to their respective Delegates regarding the Float-In.

- The Bridge felt that it should be

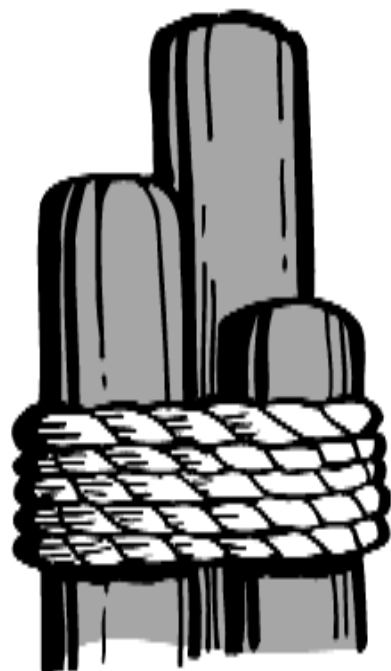


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mentioned in the letter to Delegates as well as in the letters to the "sponsors" that it is PRYCA's 25th Anniversary.

• It was discussed that this year the individuals working the scavenger hunt table as judges would not have to sit there the entire time...there would be shifts. Some members of the Bridge felt that this was not a good idea as the same people should be there to judge all the clubs. If the judges varied, some judges may be "tougher" on clubs submitting items...if it is the same 2 or 3 people then the judging would be fair for everyone. It was decided instead to decrease the scavenger hunt time.

• Commodore DeMarco reminded FIC Wexler that if we have any problems at Ft. Washington we could contact Bruce Gilmore. After some discussion, the Bridge felt that we needed to be careful about doing so. If there are any problems, we (the Bridge) should deal with them.



• FIC Wexler noted that we need to make sure that there are two invoice books at the Float-In this year. That way we can mix registration and sales.

• It was reported that PC Rhodes spoke with Soundings regarding the Float-In. It was also mentioned that we hoped to have the article printed in Soundings in the August or September issue, but definitely before January 1997!

• FIC Wexler reported that Tom Coldwell of Occoquan Yacht Club spoke with Chesapeake Bay Magazine regarding coverage of the Float-In.

• Ft. Washington Marina has informed FIC Wexler that there will be 115 slips available. Slips reservations will have to be "first come first served"—no exceptions—this year. FIC Wexler stated that if the clubs don't get their registration in on time, they won't be able to attend the Float-In.

• The price will remain the same (\$90), but power will be going up. Commodore DeMarco inquired as to "drive-ins"...FIC Wexler stated that we will have to reprice. Dinner this year will have to cover the cost of the tent and the band.

• MAL Viehoever noted that he will call the bartenders from Tantallon who tended bar for us last year. All agreed that they did a great job.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. The next Board Meeting will take place (briefly) on 1 April before the Delegates/Commodores arrive for the dinner/meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Monica Storz Lovell
Member At Large

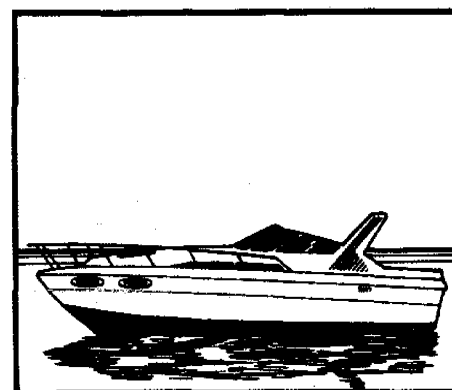
Potomac River Yacht Clubs
Association
Treasurer's Report
March 4, 1996

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$4,282.58 |
| Deposits: | |
| 2/6/96, Interest | \$ 19.46 |
| 2/28/96, Dues | 120.00 |
| 3/4/96, Dues | <u>60.00</u> |
| Total Deposits | 199.46 |
| Deductions: | |
| 2/6/96, Service charge | \$ 19.76 |
| 2/21/96, Awards | 191.08 |
| 2/26/96, Postage | 31.35 |
| 3/4/96, Newsletter | <u>80.00</u> |
| Total Deductions | <u>322.19</u> |
| Ending Balance | <u>\$4,159.85</u> |

Clubs that have not paid 1996 Dues:

- Colonial Y.C.
- National Potomac Y.C.
- Washington Y.C.
- Ft. Washington Boating Assoc.

Respectfully submitted,
Harriet Douglas, Treasurer



**Volunteers Needed for Potomac
Cleanup**
Potomac Basin Reporter
 Nov./Dec. 1995

The eighth annual Potomac Watershed Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, March 30, 1996, from 9 a.m. to noon, rain or shine. Your help is needed to continue the effort's great record of success.

This year, more than 50 sites all along the Potomac and its tributaries will benefit from coordinated cleanup events. Volunteers are needed at all the sites. Participants are asked to wear sturdy shoes and expect to get a bit damp or dirty. Bags and gloves will be provided by leaders at each site.

The cleanup is a result of a unique cooperative effort by federal, state, county, and local governments working with environmental and civic organizations, and most importantly, concerned citizens. In Maryland, the effort is partially funded with a grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust.

During last year's cleanup, almost 2,000 volunteers removed 53 tons of debris, from golf balls to tires to whole cars. The winter's flooding of the river doubtless has brought much trash and debris with it.

The cleanup is a great way to meet your like-minded neighbors, have fun, and share your pride in and care of the area's most valuable resource—the Potomac River. For information on how individuals, families, and groups can get involved at sites throughout the Potomac basin, call the Alice Ferguson Foundation at 301-292-5665.

**Radio License Fees to Go;
Maybe in '96**
The Lookout
 NBF, March/April 1996

Boaters got some good news and some bad news in early February when President Bill Clinton signed the much publicized Communications bill which calls for zeroing license fees for VHF-FM marine radios.

This action will ultimately cut the current \$75 fee to nothing. This change won't occur immediately, though, in that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) must follow a cumbersome routine that starts with a "Notice of Proposed Rule Making." The process for implementing the new regulation was outlined for the National Boating Federation by Justin Zimmerman, a spokesman for Representative Bart Stupak (D-MI). Stupak was a chief sponsor of the measure along with Representative Jack Fields (R-TX).

Zimmerman explained that the FCC will issue the notice for public comment but that won't be done until, at the earliest, sometime in the second quarter of this year. This is because the bill was written with no set time for implementing the elimination of the fees.

Following the notice of hearing the new rule will be written and put into effect. The whole process, it is believed, will take anywhere from six months to a year.

The FCC said that until the new measure goes into effect, the full fee now in effect must be paid by boaters. Zimmerman said it was not known if refunds might be considered for those who buy the \$75 license before the fee is zeroed.

Last fall the NBF adopted a resolution that called for a nominal fee

to be charged for recreational marine radio licenses, rather than nothing, fearing that dropping fees entirely would affix a stigma to marine radio on the order of Citizens Band radio. The so-called CB radio band is derogatorily likened to a zoo by many who listen to the clutter of "good buddies" of the road on the nation's waterways. The NBF recognizes the importance of marine radios as primary safety devices carried aboard recreational craft.

SAV Benefits
Potomac SAV News
 Winter 1996

Submerged aquatic vegetation are essential components of a healthy aquatic ecosystem. SAV provides shelter and habitat for fish and other organisms, as well as food for wildfowl and a variety of water-grazing animals. These aquatic plants also enhance water quality by contributing oxygen to the river (during photosynthesis), filtering sediments flushed into the river from land sources, and absorbing excess nutrients delivered to the river from urban and agricultural areas.

**Tax Time Tip for Boat
Owners from BOAT/U.S.**
News from BOAT/U.S.
 March 1, 1996

The 1995 federal income tax return filing deadline is fast approaching and BOAT/U.S. advises boat owners to remember that interest paid on a secured boat loan is tax deductible if the boat meets the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) criteria for a "second home."

"For tax purposes, many boats are used and qualify as second homes just like weekend cabins in the country, beachfront condos and mobile homes,"

said BOAT/U.S. Government Affairs Director Michael Sciulla.

The IRS defines a second home as having "basic living accommodations such as sleeping space, toilet and cooking facilities." A secured loan is one in which a lending institution holds the boat as collateral. Interest on the loan should be reported on the federal income tax return, Form 1040, Schedule A. If you received a 1098 form from your bank, enter the amount on line 10. If you did not receive a 1098 form, enter the amount on line 11.

For more specific tax information, boat owners should consult their own financial or tax advisor.

Danger Gasoline
Submitted by Art Murray,
CBYCA Safety Committee
Chart Room Chatter

May 5, 1995

This article is aimed primarily at the owners and operators of boats with inboard gasoline engines. Gasoline use is so widespread in automobiles, lawnmowers, edge trimmers, outboard motors, and many other applications that many people have become indifferent to its potential danger. This volatile highly flammable fluid is one of the most dangerous substances in common every day use. One liquid ounce of gasoline when allowed to vaporize has the explosive power of two sticks of dynamite. Gasoline vapor is heavier than air so it will tend to settle in the lower compartments and bilge of a boat. The slightest spark can ignite this vapor and cause an explosion. Every year there are a number of such explosions and the resulting fires complete the destruction of the boats. All too often adjacent boats are damaged or destroyed if the explosion occurs in a marina or similar facility.

Most gasoline explosions on boats occur immediately after refueling. This is when some of the gasoline has spilled onto the deck and the resulting vapor has found its way into the interior compartments and bilge. There are any number of things that can cause a spark to ignite the vapor. Loose fittings on fuel lines can weep enough gasoline to provide a potential explosion. Fuel lines whether made of metal or some rubber composition can deteriorate or become damaged with the same result. The prudent boat owner will make it a habit to check the integrity of his fuel system periodically. He should also make sure there is a grounding wire between the fuel tank and the fill pipe to prevent the possibility of a static spark when refueling. The two things the skipper must do every time before starting the boats engine are one, open the engine compartment and use your nose to sniff for gas vapors and then run the engine compartment and bilge blower motor for at least four minutes. This will remove any explosive vapors that may have collected in those spaces.

Denial of Funding Troubles Boaters
The Lookout, NBF, March/April 1996

Recreational boaters continue to express concern about the denial of funds to state boating safety programs while Congress is not in session.

The National Boating Federation was explaining to state politicians why it is important that the Senate version of the U.S. Coast Guard Authorization Bill be adopted as a means of providing a permanent appropriation of funds for the Boating Safety Account, a component of the Wallop-Breaux Trust Fund. Some state officials have contacted their Washington counterparts on the issue. Others are being asked to do so.

The NBF has been devoting extensive effort explaining to members of Congress that money collected from boaters and fishermen is not money from the general fund, rather it is dedicated money for boating safety. Its appropriation to the states will not have any effect on reducing the deficit nor increasing public spending.



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ALLEN'S COPY CENTERS



2001 North Kenilworth Street • Arlington, Virginia 22205 • (703) 534-2297
FAX: (703)237-9654

president
Ned W. Rhodes, CDP

Software Systems Group



May 6 PRYCA-Board Meeting @ Washington YC 6:30
Jun 3 PRYCA-Board Meeting @ Prince William YC 6:30
Jul 1 PRYCA-Board Meeting @ Fort Washington Y 7:00

Upcoming Events



Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association

1600 N. Oak Street, #1610
Arlington, VA 22209

Address Correction Requested