

RANGE MARKS

Official Newsletter of the Dahlgren Yacht Club
<http://www.nswc.navy.mil/C2/dyc/>



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From the Commodore:

Croakers are everywhere! If you enjoy fishing, especially with those little ones (yesterday I saw one little guy, about 5 years old tearing them up), then hit the river. It seems like some fish peak in cycles. Well this is the year for croakers! Actually, if you are going to join us at Tall Timbers Memorial Day weekend, bring your pole and try your luck.

A couple of weekends ago I came back to the dock late on a Sunday afternoon and found our dockmaster Tom Saft up to his elbows (literally) in plumbing repairs. The reason I mention this is because he and David Thompson (asst dockmaster) devote a lot of time and hard work keeping our facilities in great shape. I would like to ask all of the members to help them out. Be kind to our facilities. Please don't trash the bathrooms. If the ramp chain is left off, hook it back up and lock the gate after you enter or leave the dock. And if you see kids throwing all of our gravel in the water (we keep hauling it in and it keeps disappearing), tell them to knock it off. If you see someone there that you don't know, ask them if they are a member. If they are, could be that you just made a new friend. Our facilities are here for us to enjoy. Please help us take care of them and don't forget your fishing pole.

See you on the water, Ron

ANYBODY GOT A GOOD STORY?

Range Marks is looking for articles written by members. Got a good fish story? Want to tell everyone how you did in a race? Want to thank a member who has helped you out? Send your story to the Editor.

CONGRATULATIONS

MELEE brought home third place at the Fairfax Yacht Club Spring Regatta.

Important Dates:

Tall Timbers Cruise	May 27-29
Centerboard Regatta	June 10
Cobb Island Days	June 10
PHRF Spring Series	
Awards Dock Party	June 19
Centerboard Dock Party	
	July 13
New Moon Cruise	July 28

From the Dockmaster:

Reminder - Please secure boats properly in the wet slips. Several boats do not meet proper tie up requirements.

NOAA has indicated high probability of hurricanes and tropical storms this season. Please pay attention to local forecasts concerning SEVERE Thunderstorms, Tropical Storms, and Hurricane notifications.

Training and Seamanship by Will Carmean

Safety is a full time job for all members of the DYC. Heavy winds or tidal conditions are the most obvious hazards. However, working around and normal use of the piers can also be dangerous.

As a reminder, the DYC Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), Section 11.D, requires that "All dock lines will have excess length at the cleat on the boat to allow slacking of lines." It is also a good idea to criss-cross the stern lines to allow the boat to move vertical with minimum horizontal movement.

DYC in the news!

DYC was featured in The Free Lance-Star on May 16th. It was a real nice article with pictures. There were a couple of small errors but still some nice exposure for the club. Thanks to the crew of Radio Flyer for helping generate some great PR for DYC.

USING THE CLUB'S LAUNCH

A few things to remember if you want to use the club's launch, especially if you are a first time user. The boat has several quirks and will cause you much grief if you don't treat her nice. The engine requires at least 10-15 minutes to warm up properly. If you are in a hurry, she will not behave well. The best way to avoid any problems is to have an experienced member train you. If you are planning to use her for Race Committee duty, please contact the Training and Seamanship Governor and he will see that you are properly trained.

DYC Merchandise

BURGEES

On sale now to DYC members. Just \$21! Show your pride when you visit other yacht clubs or just cruise around. Get them while they last! Call 804-224-7690.

HUGGIES

Don't let your drink get hot this summer! Keep the cold in with a DYC huggie. On sale now for just \$3! Special Offer: Act Now and get two for just \$5 -- that's \$1 off the Regular Price! Call 540-775-7249.

SHIRTS

Polo Shirts in many colors and sizes with the DYC burgee! Get yours embroidered with your name and boat for no extra charge! Price is just \$29.50. Special Offer: Buy more than one shirt and get a \$3 discount per shirt when shipped together to the same address! Call 540-775-7249.

BASEBALL CAPS

Embroidered caps are also available in many two-toned colors! Just \$18.50! Special Offer: Buy more than one and get a \$3 discount per cap when shipped together to the same address! Call 540-775-7249.

DYC Racing by Tom Owen

The PHRF Spring Series is off to an interesting start. Conditions have ranged from very light air to severe threatening weather. The 1st race was abandoned due to impending lightning, while the 2nd race was a slow drifter as reported in the last edition of Range Marks.

The 3rd race was heavy air for most of the entire race. In fact, several boats had too much sail set and were greatly overpowered. However, the real trip was the broach by Radio Flyer (The boat heeled over at least 75 degrees!) while a reporter and photographer from the Free Lance-Star were on board. Dennis knows how to treat VIP guests! They must not have been too scared since both managed to stay in the boat and still produced a very good article on the DYC Racing Program in the 5/16/2000 edition.

The 4th race had good winds that resulted in a reaching course for both legs of the windward/leeward course from the Junction Buoy to "29" and back. This proved to be a drag race from start to end.

The 5th race had a very interesting start. The wind was very unstable, and the committee boat had a very difficult time of determining a course. In addition, two boats decided to play "bumper cars" with the committee boat at the start. After all boats finally started, the first leg turned out to be a great beat out to "29", but the wind slackened while the opposing current increased making a very slow ride to "32", the next mark. Later the wind slackened to the point where the race had to be abandoned since no one could complete the course prior to 19:00. While there were no results to paste in the book, the evening was wonderful and there was strong competition amongst several boats. Hopefully, the wind gods will be more tolerant in future events.

The 6th race appeared to be in serious jeopardy due to ominous weather. The rain, cool temperatures, and threats of thunderstorms reduced the number of participants. However, the weather held, the wind held, and the Triangle A course turned out to have 2 beats and reach. This was a really great race with the closest finishes yet this year. In addition, a new crew member was on Blue Heaven as a result of the press in the Free Lance Star. Additional new crew are expected for the next race after Memorial Day.

The DYC Racing Program is looking for more participants, both boats and crew. Anyone that is interested in participating in either keel boat or daysail types of events, please contact the DYC Race Committee at dycracecom@nswc.navy.mil or the Race Governor at (540) 653-7614.

Upcoming Events:

Centerboard Regatta - June 10, 2000. Registration begins at 09:00 and the first race is expected to begin at 11:00. This event is open to all open hull sailboats 20' or shorter. For more information, check out the web site at <http://www.nswc.navy.mil/C2/dyc> and navigate to Racing Program, Invitational Races, Centerboard Regatta or contact Bill Armstrong at (540) 663-5455 or email wtarmst@crosslink.net.

The Race Committee is scheduled to meet the 4th Wednesday of each month from February through October at 17:00 in JD's Training and Conference Center. Interested parties are always welcome to attend. For more information concerning the racing program, call the Race Governor at (540) 653-7614.

FOR SALE by Members

22' Cabin Cruiser \$6,500.00
New motor (302/100 hrs) Rebuilt ALPHA 1 Merc I/O
New Epoxy (Interlux 2000E) bottom, tandem axle trailer,
VHF, AM/FM Tape, 2 depth finders, new upholstery, head,
galley. Coast guard inspected last year. Dependable.
Great for fishing and camping. Call Ron x7544 or 540-775-2057

19-foot Glassmaster
165 HP I/O
Clean, Good condition, New bottom paint.
Asking \$3,000.00
Location: Lottsburg, VA.
Call 804-514-4715



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