

CIYC

KISS... Rehearses for Cobb Island-Days

Member PRYCA

Boat/U.S. Accord  
#GA83611Y

## COBB ISLAND YACHT CLUB NEWSLETTER



Ace Frehley and Gene Simmons hit a few licks for Cobb Island Days

Commodore: Chuck Johnston  
(301) 259-4628  
Vice Commodore: Bob Jackson  
(301) 934-8690  
Rear Commodore: Don Thayer  
(301) 259-0164  
Treasurer: Ken Semler  
(301) 932-2440  
Historian: Sandra Johnston  
(301) 259-4628  
PRYCA Delegate: Bob Jackson  
(301) 934-8690  
Fleet Captain: Nancy Jackson  
(301) 934-8690  
Membership Chair: Tom Ehman  
(540) 582-9576  
Secretary: Bernie Williams  
(301) 259-2349  
Quartermaster: Roger Fajans  
(301) 259-0206  
Dockmaster: Gary Golden  
(540) 785-0398

*Sold our soul for Rock and Roll...* I'm pretty sure these things start out innocently enough... OK, I haven't been around the office as much as I probably should have been. Truth is, I was in the Bahamas doing, um, research. Yeah! That's it! Research! And the boys have pretty much been running things back here. So anyway, Rear Commodore Don Thayer submits this article about keeping things simple (called the Demise of K.I.S.S.) Next, even though I've begged him not to do things like this, Scoop leaves a copy sitting out where Flash can see it. Then Flash, who will be Captain of the US Conclusion Jumping Team in the next Olympics, decides that KISS is doing one last concert before they break up (again). Where else? Cobb Island Days. Now I wish someone would explain to me where he gets this stuff, but on the brighter side, talks with KISS's attorneys have been going very well. We expect to wrap up negotiations very quickly now that they realize we're almost broke.



*In the Line of Fire...* So like that's not bad enough. Then we were running a story on BOATU.S. membership and somehow Flash got POTUS out of that which is the Secret Service acronym for President Of The United States (get it?) and the next thing you know Secret Service Agent Frank Horrigan shows up. After a brief explanation by Flash, Horrigan stuck out his chin and said "Listen, punk..." (we're not allowed to print the entire text of his remarks, but suffice it to say: No, flash wasn't feeling lucky and No, he didn't want to make anybody's day, and What exactly did being an organ donor have to do with it?) We think Horrigan still blames himself for JFK.

*Jobs.com...* Wayne Kuster's term as Southern Member At Large (MAL) is ending soon. Since Wayne expects to be wintering in Florida, his position will be open. He says it's a piece of cake: attend a few meetings, call the folks from CIYC, Swan Point, Colonial and Dahlgren to see what they're up to, and submit the occasional article for the PRYCA Newsletter. So if you're looking for something to do, contact Wayne at wjkuster@aol.com. As far as I know, the job does not include Secret Service Protection.

*This just in....* The General Membership Meeting is scheduled for 6:00PM, May 19<sup>th</sup>, at Shymansky's. There's a lot of stuff to cover.

1. Sign-up for Potomac River Yacht Club Association Float-in and for
2. Colonial Yacht Club's Dog Days of August
3. Get Pig Roast Tickets.
4. Get work assignments for Cobb Island Days.
5. Dragoon an unsuspecting person for PRYCA Member-At-Large. (previous article)
6. Get proposed changes to bylaws.

*Calling all Zantzingers...* One of the popular features of our web site is the ability to leave private messages in our Guest Book. One recent entry: "Too bad it is so far away! Sounds like fun; I'm glad distant relatives are living the good life there as well." Gretchen Zantzing. The next item:"Toby and Joann asked us to join them for Cobb Island Days if you have room for us. We are a 60' steel trawler, draw 6'." (Even if we have to tear down the bridge. ed)

*Milestones...* John Seymour's mom passed away early this month. She had a long and productive life. The best epitaph anyone could wish for.

### View from the Bridge.



Chuck, the Commodore we have.

In case you haven't noticed, the *View from the Bridge* just keeps getting shorter. Couple more issues and a few more contributing writers and it should completely disappear. Pretty clever, eh? Ever notice that little box in the lower right hand corner of the horizontal picture on page 1? That identifies us as a cooperating group of BOATU.S. This means that members get a discount on annual BOATU.S. membership dues (\$9.50 instead of \$19.00), also discounts on fuel, slips and repairs at cooperating marinas. The Association lobbies on behalf of recreational boaters and promotes safety via the BOATU.S. foundation. Finally, they offer unlimited towing via TowBoatU.S. for \$99.00 per year. One tow can justify that amount. We don't want to sound like a commercial (especially since we don't get a kickback) but they offer a pretty good deal.

### Vice Commodore's wardroom.



Bob, the Commodore we *could* have.

The PRYCA Float-In trip, scheduled for July 20-22, sign-up is set for the May meeting. I will provide

you with a handout and take sign-up information (and your check made out to CIYC - see article in the April Newsletter). It should be a great trip.

Also at the CIYC May meeting we will be signing-up for another PRYCA sponsored event and it's just across the river at Colonial Beach! I will have sign-up sheets and information packets on this one too! The Colonial Yacht Club (CYC) "Dog Days" of August will be held on August 25 and 26, 2001. Dinner and dancing is \$25.00/person; the wine tour (which was a big hit last year) is \$10.00/person. Dockage is \$1.00/ft; \$2.00 for 30-amp cord; \$4.00/50-amp cord. I will need a check made out to CIYC for this one too. CYC points out that some may choose to come by car! The Colonial Beach event offers an opportunity to support a "neighbor" yacht club and PRYCA. It should be a good August short trip.

Bob Jackson

**I don't know** how we'd do it without Bob Jackson, who was a great help in getting out this issue. He volunteered once more to stay late one night at the editorial offices to run off the galleys of this page... CJ

### Fleet Captain's Hailer.

Memorial Day weekend is rapidly approaching. Reservations have been made with Point Lookout for Friday and Saturday and Susan is busy planning the menu. I want to take this opportunity to remind all those who don't have reservations at Point Lookout, but are planning to attend the cookout at the Fuhrman's to call Susan @ 301 994-0860 to give her a "head count" by May 18. Oh yea, let's not forget to bring a covered dish.

June is promising to be a very busy month for CIYC.

On the 9th the 50th Potomac River Fest and Boat Parade will be held at Colonial Beach. Any one interested in attending, let me know, so I can make the arrangements. I understand they usually have a large turnout for this.

Then the biggest event of the season for CIYC -- Cobb Island Days (June 15, 16 and 17). If you missed the General Membership meeting on March 30 and haven't signed up to lend a helping hand, just give the Commodore a call. I'm sure he can add your name to at least one of the lists.

All sail boaters listen-up! We've planned an anchor-out on Canoe Neck Creek on June 23. We also have several power boaters planning to attend. We should

be able to do a large "star burst" or maybe several small ones. If we're lucky maybe Ken will volunteer to orchestrate the formation.

The last event for June and the first for July is the "Family Cruise/Independence Day Celebration on June 30. However, some boats are planning to arrive at Dennis Point Marina on Friday, June 29.

Saturday can be spent swimming in the marina's pool, relaxing, chowing down, and then enjoying the fire works. Dennis Point has a restaurant - so the First Mates have the option of cooking-in or eating-out.

It promises to be a great weekend. If you haven't signed-up for this trip, but would like to go, give me a call and maybe Dennis Point can squeeze you in.

The only other event planned for July is the PRYCA Float-In (Friday 20-Sunday 22). Since this event is covered by our PRYCA Delegate, I won't dwell on it. However, the Cruise Committee figured this was a golden opportunity to cruise the upper Potomac. So, when we depart from the Float-in on Sunday morning, we'll head for Old Town Alexandria.

There are many, many excellent restaurants and wonderful sites to see within walking distance of the Marina. Correct me if I'm wrong, but didn't Bernie purchase his Kazoo on the last CIYC trip to Old Town? And of course a short taxi ride could take you to many points of interest in D.C.

The Old Town Marina rates are:  
\$1.00/ft slip fee  
\$2.00/Cord

They do **NOT** accept credit cards! Cash or Check only!!

The current plans are to spend Sunday the 22nd and Monday the 23rd at Old Town, then on the 24th return home.

Let me know by June 20 if you plan to go to Old Town so I can make the reservations.

If you have any questions e-mail (JckNnc@aol.com) or call me (301 934-8690).  
Happy Boating!  
Nancy Jackson

### The Demise of K.I.S.S.

The other day, while cleaning up the residual of a leak in the hydraulic steering mechanism of Rocinante, our new Mainship 430, I reminisced with

a certain nostalgia the days when the principle of "Keep It Simple Stupid" was alive and well. It, like baling wire, was a critical element in successful living in the "old" days. While duct tape has largely filled the gap left by the demise of baling wire, there are times when such wire would still be handy. The same goes for KISS.

On "Loose Ends," there were no such things as "zincs" in the engine or its accouterments. These were things you put on shafts and rudders to keep them from being eaten by something called electrolysis. Folks with workboats tossed old galvanized pipe into the water under their boats for the same purpose. On Rocinante, there are "ten or 11" zincs or zinc rods per engine, although I have yet been able to find any parts numbers to determine what size such things are. To complicate matters, I understand that Caterpillar zincs are metric thread but the brass fittings into which they screw are standard thread. Of course, these zincs are in addition to the ones on the shafts and the big one attached to the stern. Oh Boy!!

For fifteen years I cruised the Chesapeake and its environs with nothing but a compass and a long boat hook. Now, I couldn't leave the dock because I could not figure out how to turn on the darn depth sounder, the autopilot, or the GPS on the fly bridge. We thought the things were broke, but it turned out that they were wired to switches other than the labeled ones. This requires conferring with the dealer and spending time reading manuals. Used to be when I bought a boat, the seller said there's the key, there's the blower switch, and that button there is the starter. Oh yeah, you had to take the cover off the compass, stick the fuel tank to determine the amount of fuel and turn on the fuel valve. Ah, for the simple life!!

A trick I learned from a fellow lawyer years ago, is that when inviting folks to join for an inexpensive outing, have it pot luck and have everyone bring food for themselves plus one additional person. For whatever reason, this magical formula works. For the first three or four "Summer Kickoffs," the predecessor to Cobb Island Days, the events were announced, invitations were disseminated, and the above KISS formula was the order of the day. We did provide a keg of beer, gallons of wine, and a couple cases of soft drinks, plus a volley ball and horse shoes. I do not remember exactly when events got complicated by things like cooking pigs, assigning slips etc--guess it goes with getting older and thinking life is better. In the early days of the memorial weekend

cruises, we followed the old formula except that Skip and Marcia Shepard, and later Susan and Bill Fuhrman provided cookers, charcoal, and horse shoes. Bill and Skip also provided some water taxi services to boats rafted or anchored out. Somehow it seems that the old KISS days were less complicated as we did not have to worry about how many were coming, collecting monies, assigning slips, etc. When we all agreed to cruise to a known spot, we would plan to provide a joint dish for happy hour, but all planned to eat on our own boats. We all knew who fixed the best hors d'oeuvres and endeavored to be rafted next to them, and to be sure to try to get them to come along on the trip.

As our needs for air conditioning, refrigeration, heat, etc. have increased, our boats have grown and become more complicated. Also, as the distances we cruise has grown, so have our needs for sophisticated navigational aids, autopilot, gen sets, etc., etc., etc. Although loathe to admit it, our physical capabilities are somewhat less than they were 30 or so years ago, so things like anchor windlasses are a necessary evil. Stand up showers with lots of hot water ain't bad either, compared to a bath over the stern and a rinse from a solar shower bag.

So, adios KISS, dig some ice cubes out of the icemaker and serve the cocktails in air-conditioned comfort!!!

By Donald Thayer, Rear Commodore, CIYC.

**Did we mention** BOAT/US? For those of you who automatically skip the commodore's column, we reprint the coherent version that they sent us in their press kit:

**WE'VE SIGNED ON FOR** Another Big Year With BoatU.S.

The BoatU.S. Cooperating Group Program has proven so popular with members that club officers are renewing our "partnership" for another year. Because of this special arrangement, you get 50% off when you join the nation's largest Association of recreational boat owners. You pay one-half of the regular BoatU.S. dues of \$19.00 – only \$9.50 a year!

If you're already a BoatU.S. Member, you can now renew your membership at the low \$9.50 rate.

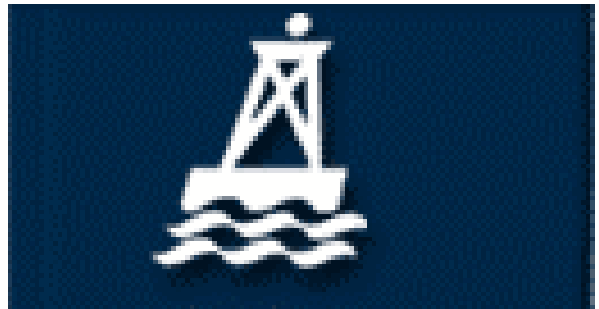
BoatU.S. Membership benefits include:

- An effective lobby that fights unfair taxes, fees and government regulations that single out boat owners.

- A 700-page Discount Equipment Catalog, plus special discounts and Member Rewards with purchases.
- Discounts on fuel, overnight slips or repairs at more than 600 marinas.
- Low-cost, high-protection boat insurance, including special programs for trailerable boats and PWCs.
- On-the-Water Towing, with your choice of service levels – from \$50.00 per incident (free with membership) up to Unlimited Service – provided by the nation's largest towing network, TowBoatU.S.!
- BOAT/U.S. Magazine – a full year's subscription is included with Membership!

To join BoatU/S call 800-395-2628. If you are renewing your BoatU.S. Membership, be sure to mention our Co-op Group # GA83611Y to get the special \$9.50 rate

Contact Chappie Chapman in regards to TowBoatU.S. benefits.





**COBB ISLAND DAYS...  
a time and a land apart!**

Cobb Island days proceeds at full speed ahead. Reservations are up to 27 paid boats and 8 more pending payment.

In order to fall in line with this year's PRYCA emphasis on safety, we will have a USCG Auxiliary Flotilla on hand to conduct a Courtesy Marine Examination (CME) for each vessel that desires one. Note that one of the award qualifications for the PRYCA Float-In later this year is the highest percentage of CMEs per member club.

The plans for Cobb Island Days follow our successful days last year. For those who choose to join us on Friday, we invite them to stop by Don and Barbara's (12092 Neale Sound Drive – *Someplace Special*) for Cocktail HOUR (1700 to 1800) on their way to dinner at **Fish Tales**, **Shymansky's** or **Captain John's**.

As those who have enjoyed visiting with us at past Cobb Island Days recall, Saturday is built on family entertainment with emphasis on events and activities that the whole family can enjoy.

Horse-drawn wagon rides, fire engine rides, crab races, the corn-shucking contest, and other events that are both fun to participate in and fun to watch. Splice the mainbrace at Captain's Hour on **Shymansky's** Deck then stroll back across the bridge to work up an appetite. The day's final event is a pig roast at **Fish Tales**, followed by music and dancing. Sunday morning will be the usual great brunch buffet, at **Shymansky's**.



OK... OK... Hold that pig... right... there!

**Cobb Island Yacht Club**

Office of the Editor

P.O. Box 295

Cobb Island, MD 20625



***The Mission:***

*Boating Safety*

*Education in seamanship*

*Partnering with the community*

*Sail and Power events*

*Organized cruises, raft-ups and gunkholing*

*Monthly newsletter*

*PRYCA events and*

**so much more...**

[HTTP://ciyachts.tripod.com](http://ciyachts.tripod.com)

Join us! For information:

[www.ceejays@erols.com](mailto:www.ceejays@erols.com)