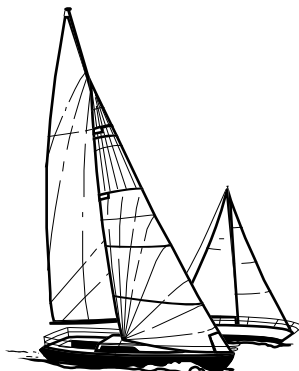


The CAT Tales

Chesapeake Catalina Yacht Club

May 2000



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View from the Bridge

Pete Denholm
Commodore

With the Flag Raising brunch and Icebreaker cruise under our belts, we can joyfully state that the cruising season is HERE! *Scimitar* was a little cranky at first on the morning of the Icebreaker. When the engine wouldn't start after *Scimitar*'s long winter nap, I had a few well-chosen words for her. But after a brilliant suggestion from Karen, "Why don't you put 'Stabilizer' into the diesel fuel like you do at the beginning of every year?" we were able to get Simi started right up. Oh yeah, I must have been so excited about the prospect of cruising once again on the Bay waters that I forgot a very important step in *Scimitar*'s dewinterizing procedure. The cruise up to Paula's Landing was less eventful. In fact, after tussling with our 150% jib and later the spinnaker, we decided to motor up with *Ayewash*. You can read about the rest of the evening in the article by Joan Savage, *Jubilee*.

The cruise home the next morning was wonderful. *Scimitar*'s new instruments (wind, speed, and depth) are in the process of being installed by the same genius that couldn't follow a simple dewinterizing list. So we were sailing "blind", but my guess is that the wind was never under 20-25 knots for the sail home. It was a nice way to break the ice for our first sail of the season.

Like the rest of you we are looking forward to the Memorial Day raft-up on the Choptank. Be sure to read about the details of the cruise in the article by Ray Nieves, *Classie Chassie*. With luck, the boating gremlins will have installed our instruments and we won't have to sweat so much during the passage through Knapps Narrows. The Narrows seems to be shoaling more and more every year. Does anyone know if there are any plans to dredge it? It sure would be nice.

With June right around the corner, Karen is looking forward to the Wahine cruise. This cruise gives the women an opportunity to sail with other women without the evil, overbearing but well intended support from their counterparts. This event was a wonderful success the last time the club held it. Sue Dennison, *Foxfire*, who has tons of experience from Womanship (whose motto is "No yelling"), and Joan Savage, *Jubilee*, will lead the event.

See you on the Choptank. ⚓

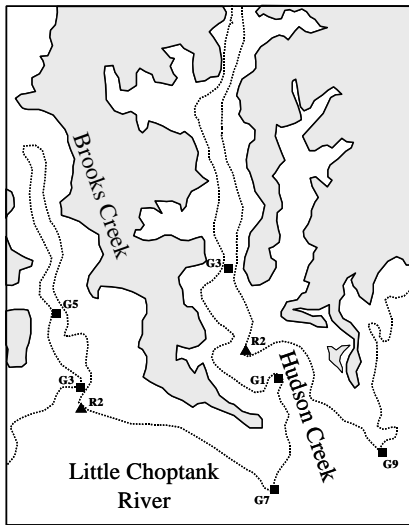


Memorial Day Weekend
Cruise and Raft-up
May 27-29

Ray and Carolyn Nieves
Classie Chassie II

Our game plan is to start on Saturday in Hudson Creek off the Little Choptank River.

Enter the Little Choptank River, passing green marks 1, 3 and 5;



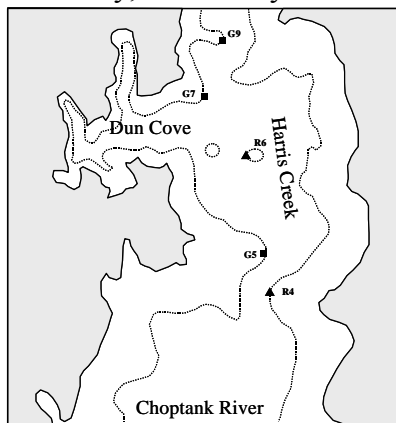
and then pass Brooks Creek to port and head for green 7 off Casson Point. Round green 7 and head north to green 1. After green 1, turn west and you should spot **Classie Chassie** anchored just ahead. We will set up by 3:00 PM

and monitor VHF Ch 72 every half hour.

(Ed note: Keep in mind, **Classie Chassie** grew 6 feet since last year and is now a C36!)

We will have a wine wind down on Saturday night. Folks with a birthday on an even day should bring red wine and folks with a birthday on an odd day should bring white wine - and of course the ever tasty finger foods of their choice.

If you can't join us on Saturday, on Sunday we will move to Dunn Cove off Harris Creek and the Choptank River. This will make it easier for those heading north after the weekend. We will again set up by 3:00 PM.



Each boat should also bring a board game in case of bad weather. We can split to various boats and if we are bored, we can play board games.

Let me know if you need more info. ☞



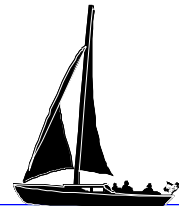
**Wahine
Cruise
Dividing
Creek
June 10-11**



Sue Dennison, **Foxfire**, &
Joan Savage, **Jubilee**

We women need to know how to handle a boat on our own. This is your chance to learn. Come and be a part of our all-women-boat cruise. We will meet and raft-up with the men (who will sail together) at Dividing Creek off the Wye River. Women - if you want to take part in this cruise, please call Sue Dennison (301-262-4985) or Joan Savage (301-762-6752) before June 1st so we can determine interest and make plans. ☞

**CCYC 2000
ICEBREAKER!**



**April 29 – 30
Paula's Landing
Spa Creek**

Joan, Wayne and Winston Savage
Jubilee

What a great time. Even the weather cooperated – mostly. At least no rain; a little cool, but no rain. Folks started showing up early. Paul and Sharon Payne had been in town for business during the week and decided to stay for another day to see the club members again. They showed up at about 3:00 PM, enough time to catch up on the last several years' activities.

Over the next couple of hours, boats and cars showed up on Spa Creek to participate in the fun. Sue and Walt Dennison on **Foxfire** arrived at Paula's dock. They were followed shortly by Bev, Mike, and Diana Davis on **Ayewash**, and Pete and Karen Denholm on **Scimitar**.

While the boats were docking and preparing for the festivities, others began arriving via auto. Bill Wesley (*True Blew*) arrived, followed by Tim Feldmann and Connie Browning (*Second Wind*). New members Ken and Joyce Stoppelbein (*Wind Tyme*) and Harvey and Susan Silver also arrived by auto. A new couple Diane Benyus and Richard Schatz who recently moved to the Annapolis area from New Jersey and have extensive small sailboat racing experience also attended as their first event. They have recently purchased a Catalina 25 (*Aire-Borne*) and joined in the last week.

All brought Horse Devours or other dishes to celebrate a new sailing season. After re-establishment of old friendships over a glass or two of wine or other beverages the group lined up for real food. The dishes were great and everyone had their fill. Following dinner, folks continued catching up around the covered pool until the late hours.

Winston and Copper, the fleet mascots, also re-discovered each other, racing around the yard. Copper running under the tables and chairs and Winston running around the fences, while Copper jumped through.

In the morning, breakfast coffee and rolls were served around the pool by Sue Dennison and others as they prepared to return to their home slips. Folks said good-bye and set out for the day, vowing to get together for the Memorial Day raft on May 27-29th.

We'll all see you there. ☞

GPS

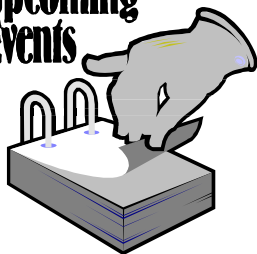
Gerry Helldorfer
Ragtime

For those who might not have heard, the intentional distortion of GPS signals to reduce accuracy ended May 1st. Until then, civilians using GPS for navigation got a less accurate reading than the military out of fear that potential enemies could use the system to target missiles. Effective midnight May 1st, the US stopped jamming the signal for civilian users, but can still selectively block the improved GPS over any given region at will. The military will still use an encrypted, highly accurate version of the system for guiding precision weaponry such as the missiles used in the Persian Gulf War and last year's Balkan air strikes. The change will make GPS receivers people already own 10 times more accurate and will not require the purchase of new machines.

The market for GPS users is expected to double in the next three years to more than \$16 billion annually. The system of US GPS satellites is free, but all kinds of businesses profit from it. Commercial interests have long asked the government to loosen its hold on the most accurate GPS information, but officials said outside pressure was not a factor in the decision. The decision follows the development of the new technology that allows the U.S. to block certain regions while offering the improved service everywhere else. ☞



Upcoming Events



- May 27-29 Memorial Day Cruise and Raft-up
Hudson Creek, Little Choptank River & Dun Cove, Choptank River
Raft Captain: Ray and Carolyn Nieves, *Classie Chassie II*
- June 10-11 Wahine Cruise and Raft-up
Dividing Creek, Wye River
Raft Captain: Sue Dennison, *Foxfire* and Joan Savage, *Jubilee*

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