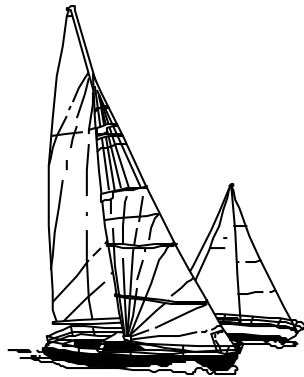


The CAT Tales

Chesapeake Catalina Yacht Club

July 2004



Commodore
Richard Miller
610.725.8624

Vice Commodore
Al Lohman
410.867.3384

Treasurer
Diane Benyus
443.482.9553

Historian
Sue Dennison
301.262.4985

Editor/Webmaster
Mike Davis
571.522.6481

Web Site: www.SailCCYC.org

NEW!



View from the Bridge

Rich Miller, Commodore

Greetings to everyone. It's been a busy month for the club with three big events in the books and our next raft up is fast approaching. We've been extremely fortunate with the weather this year, and all of our gatherings have been very well attended. I hope everyone has had a chance to come out at least once, and if you haven't – well don't worry, we'll be in your neighborhood soon. Make sure to see the articles inside to help you make your plans. We'd love to see as many people as possible make it to one or both events.

Big news in Catalina-land. During his speech at the Rendezvous, Frank Butler announced that the company is building a new 440 model that will have a two-level main saloon. They are in the process of completing the first boat, and their hope is to have it ready for a preview at this year's Annapolis Sailboat Show. When pressed on the idea of coming out with a 50+ footer, Frank was less enthusiastic, so those of you waiting for the ultimate cruiser may have to be a little more patient.

Speaking of the Annapolis Sailboat Show, we have discussed in the past having some sort of CCYC presence there to promote the club and attract new members. It's never too early to start thinking about it, so if anyone has any ideas they can contribute, or if you have a contact we could use to organize

something, please feel free to mention it to one of the club officers so that we can put together a plan. At the very least it would be great to try to have a club get together in Annapolis during the show.

Other good news from the rendezvous. Claire and I walked away with one of the grand prizes – a week's stay in Frank Butler's four-bedroom condo in Puerto-Vallarta, Mexico (see our rendezvous article inside). The minute we won it, the first thing that came to mind was to have a Mexican "raft up." Because we only need one of the bedrooms, we are going to hold a drawing to give away the other three bedrooms for the week to three other CCYC club members. We hope to hold the drawing at the crab feast once we have the schedule worked out with Catalina. So keep your eyes on the club web site for more details.

More good news – our club is getting younger! Younger, you say? How is that possible, and where can I get some of that? Well, it's not what you think. We've had a wonderful turnout of children at our last few outings. Our youngest member, Sammie Steer, took quite a liking to your Commodore at the July 4th outing on Mill Creek. As nervous as that makes me (it must have been the chin whiskers), I would love to be able to keep a good thing going and attract more families who may just be getting into sailing with their children. What better way to enjoy the adventure than to share it with other families in our wonderful club? If you know someone like that,

be sure to tell them about us.

Just a quick reminder to our raft captains with smaller boats. Fear not – you don't have to tie up to nine boats and hold them with your 22-pound Danforth. As the raft captain, you are the event organizer, and you have the responsibility to put the raft together in a way that works best for the boats involved. There is no reason you cannot break the boats up into multiple rafts or ask a captain with a larger boat to help out and set an anchor. Don't let the size of your boat discourage you from joining the ranks of CCYC raft captains. If you are scheduled to be a raft captain at an upcoming event, or if you would like to be a raft captain in the future, you can review our rafting guidelines on the club web site.

That's all for this month. Smooth sailing! ☸

Crab Feast
Cheshire Crab, Bodkin Creek
August 14-15

Pete and Kathy Bruzik, *Pekabu III*

Details are still being worked out, so look for the post card with the final plans, as well as check the schedule page on our web site. ☸

Catalina Rendezvous
Baltimore Inner Harbor
June 25-27

Rich and Claire Miller,
Exploring The Blue

June ended with the arrival of the Catalina East Coast Rendezvous in Baltimore. The rendezvous brings together owners of boats of all sizes with a wide array of different experiences. A number of different fleets are represented, and sailors from Alaska to Ohio to Florida are gathered. If you ever daydreamed about the possibilities of sailing a Catalina, you only needed to see *Alaskan Poor Boy* floating peacefully in its slip, packed from bow to stern with every imaginable item one would need to survive a long boat passage alone.

The Inner Harbor Marina proved to be an excellent location for the event, with Federal Hill overlooking the docks on one side and the National Aquarium flanking us on the other. All of the activities were held under the tent on Rash Field across from the



marina, and the rainy skies of the first evening gave way to breezy early summer weather for the remainder of the weekend. Friday night saw everyone gather in the tent for a dinner of crab cakes and stuffed chicken breasts with all of the accompaniments. While some of us wandered off to the Orioles game, everyone else gathered for a quiet social evening.

After breakfast on Saturday, many of the group went off to explore Baltimore's Inner Harbor and the neighborhoods surrounding the marina. With Oriole Park at Camden Yards and Inner Harbor shopping and restaurants within easy walking distance, everyone found someplace of interest to explore. Others attended the Catalina-sponsored seminars under the tent. Of course, one of the highlights of any Catalina rendezvous is the tour of the "big boats." This year, the 400 and 470 models were on display, complete with margaritas and munchies. Thanks go out to Sail Annapolis for providing the new Catalina 470 as our happy hour destination – I guess they only wish they knew in advance we were coming.

The party really heated up on Saturday night with dinner followed by dancing under the tent. The sailors made the most of the shaky electrical power to shake their sea legs on the dance floor. Like the truly sedate group we are, we got tattooed, drank and wrapped ourselves up in glow sticks. The limbo contest captured everyone's attention, and the competition was fierce.

Breakfast and a few last comments from Frank Butler capped off the festivities on Sunday morning. Our table got on a lucky streak and came away with a number of the door prizes. When it came time for the last grand prize to be drawn, our weekend was made with Sharon Day's announcement, "Would Rich Miller like to go to Mexico?" I definitely wanted to go, so I went up and collected our prize -- one week's stay at Frank's condo in Puerto-Vallarta. We are looking forward to sharing the trip with three other lucky club members, so stayed tuned for more information.

The club had great representation at the rendezvous this year. Thanks to everyone who came out to have a good time and to support CCYC. We saw the Davis clan (Mike, Bev, Diana and Copper) aboard *Ayewash*, Gerry and Jean Helldorfer on *Ragtime*, Al and Vicky Lohman on the shiny new *Rhiannon* (they

didn't get the prize for traveling the greatest distance to get to the marina; however, they did win for the most distance traveled *within* the marina after arriving – glad you were finally able to get settled), Brian, Hsaio, Grant and Julia Smith on *Chili Breeze*, Ed and Connie Dooley from *Surprise*, Dave and Lois Zonderman on *WalkAbout*, Bob Klimek and Lucia Casale on *Lucia*, and Wayne Savage from *Jubilee* (good to see you Wayne, and give our best to Joan and her father). ☞

Round Bay on the Severn River.

Richard Schatz and Diane Benyus, *Scimitar*

The day could be described as “Squirrelly” - Lots of shifting and gusting winds, 9 to 19 knots and every point on the compass. This made for an interesting challenge sailing up the Severn past the Naval Academy and under its two bridges leading to our destination. It was usually threatening rain but it held off until we were finally anchored and even then, it did not dampen our spirits. It was an unusual summer day on the Chesapeake. It wasn't muggy and there was plenty of wind. The Severn, of course, is beautiful in any weather.

At the top of the Severn, the river blossoms into a pretty and large circular bay. Hence the name, Round Bay. Diane did research for just the right site and came up with a spot just behind a good sized island called St. Helena (as mentioned in Chesapeake Life magazine). It is very peaceful there and we wound up spending a quiet night (except for our raucous happy hour) much to the general content of those in our raft. In fact, except for a few locals cruising around, we had the water pretty much to ourselves. This is a fairly unusual occurrence on the Bay as we all know, especially for such a terrific place in the middle of summer.

We only had four boats, but there was no lack of gracious entertaining in the group. *Lucia* not only was our anchor boat, but also became our host for the evening. We had everything from Lucia's Gazpacho to Mike's Rum “Pain Killers” ala Pussers, at the happy hour and a great deal of good company. New members Martha and Dan Bliss of C400

Brunelle provided some great history about the name of their boat whose ancestry goes back to the “square rigger” days. The conversation covered everything from lawyer jokes to how to achieve world peace. It was indeed a lively group.

Breakfast was hosted on Mike and Bev's boat and featured two incredible sausage and egg quiches by Mike (real men **do** eat quiche) and Martha and Dan provided the eye openers in the form of Bloody Marys. Quite a fine way to start the day. We all sat around quite contented enjoying the dawn of a fine day oblivious to any possibility of rain.

It's nice to have large raft-ups of dozen or more boats, but the intimacy of a four-boat raft is not to be denied. It was cozy and comfortable, a nice balance. We could have been sitting in one of our living rooms having a cocktail party except for the grand view around us reminding us where we were and how lucky we are. Life is good!

Fair Winds. ☞

Web Site and Email Update

Mike Davis, Webmaster

As noted before, we now have a new web site and address - www.SailCCYC.org.

However, even though I host our web site, I still use an Internet Service Provider (ISP) to get access to the internet and for email. With the recent crackdown against SPAM by most of the ISPs (in my case AOL), all my SailCCYC.org email aliases (Webmaster, Editor) have been labeled as SPAM and blocked whenever I try to send an email to more than 3-4 people. That's why you haven't been receiving the email reminders about upcoming events.



I am working an alternate arrangement but until you hear otherwise, please continue to check the web site for the most current news. ☞

Date	Event	Location	Raft Captain
Aug 14-15	Crab Feast	Cheshire Crab/Bodkin Creek	Pete and Kat Bruzik, <i>Pekaboo III</i>
Sep 4-6	Labor Day Cruise	Plaindealing Crk/Dun Cove	Rich and Claire Miller, <i>Exploring the Blue</i>
Sep 18-19	Cruise/Raft-up	Queenstown	Don and Mary Ann McBride, <i>Coelumar</i>
Oct 2-3	Oktoberfest Raft-up	Rhode River	Wayne and Joan Savage, <i>Jubilee</i>
Oct 23-24	Halloween Cruise	Purdy Point	Walt and Sue Dennison, <i>Foxfire</i>
Nov 13	Member Meeting	TBD	Al Lohman
Dec 11	Holiday Party	Waite's Landing	Rod and Pat Waite



Chesapeake Catalina Yacht Club
 Michael E. Davis, Editor
 7030 Balmoral Forest Road
 Clifton, VA 20124-1539
 Email: Editor@SailCCYC.org