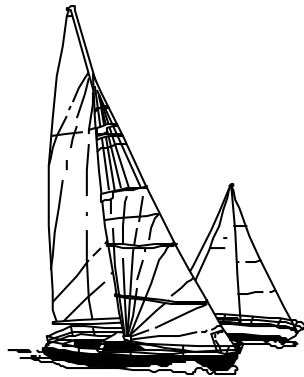


# The CAT Tales

Chesapeake Catalina Yacht Club

October 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](http://www.SailCCYC.org)**



## View from the Bridge

**Rich Miller, Commodore**

Well, another summer has slipped by, and autumn is now upon us.

Some folks will tell you that September and October are the best months to sail on the Chesapeake Bay. The wind is blowing much more consistently, and the air has a certain snappiness to it. The trees are shedding their green coats for their more diverse fall wardrobe, and the humidity has moved south for the season. If it sounds to you like fall is my favorite time of the year, you are right!

I can't help but think we've been especially lucky here this year after watching what our friends in Florida have been going through. If you have friends and/or relatives living down south, I hope that everyone came through this trying time safely and that their homes and possessions are still intact. Our best wishes to everyone who has had to face these weather challenges this year and our hopes for a quick recovery.

We have certainly had a great season as a club this year. The turnout for our events has been strong, and I hope everyone had an opportunity to get out to at least one of the club's raft ups. If you have not, or if you're like me and you're not ready for this to end yet, please consider coming out to join us for the Halloween Cruise to Purdy Point. Check out the details inside and on the web site. We had a great

turnout last year at this event, so let's send the year out with a full raft.

Autumn also is important for CCYC as we begin making preparations for turning over the reins to a newly elected group of officers. While we don't have anything as complex as the Electoral College or red states and blue states, we do have a process that guarantees a peaceful and transition of shore power. So we're currently accepting nominations for next year's club officers, with the voting to be held at the next member meeting on November 13<sup>th</sup>. Whatever your political leanings, if you know of someone you believe would make a good candidate for Commodore, Vice Commodore, Secretary or Treasurer, please feel free to forward your nominations to a current club officer for inclusion on the ballot. Look for more information on the meeting time and location, the nominees and the election as the member meeting weekend draws closer. Be sure to attend to cast your vote, have a good time, hear our speaker and share your opinions on the club's direction for next year.

We've had a suggestion to add a section to the web site where members could contribute information about their favorite cruising destinations on the bay. Other members could then take advantage of this information when looking for new places to try or when suggesting cruising locations for club events. Send us some feedback to let us know what you think of this idea. If you agree that this would be

useful we will get something put together.

To catch up on some other news, we held our drawing at the Crab Feast for the winners of the Mexico raft up. Congratulations go out to *Mike and Lynn Steer* and *Don and Mary Anne McBride*. We'll see you in Puerto Vallarta! We've also held a number of events since our last newsletter. Be sure to catch up on some of the recaps inside this newsletter, or navigate on over to the club web site to look at some of the fun as captured through the lens of our intrepid club shutterbug.

That's all for now. Smooth sailing! ☸

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### **Halloween Raft-up Purdy Point October 23-24**

**Walt and Sue Dennison, *Foxfire***

Autumn, our most beautiful time of the year is here. *Foxfire* and Purdy Point await your arrival for the last CCYC raft-up for the season.

Purdy Point is at the top of Sillery Bay, off the Magothy River. Enter the Magothy through the channel marked by a green beacon on a large set of wooden pilings and once inside the river past red "4", turn to starboard. Head roughly northward, keeping to the western side of Sillery Bay, with Dutchman's Island (aka Dobbin's Island) to your port. At the top of Sillery Bay, follow green "3" and red "4" through the Magothy Narrows, past Holland Point on your starboard side. The next point to starboard is Purdy Point. Our anchor will be down by 3:00 pm and we will monitor Channel 72 on the hour and half hour. If you have any questions, send an email to: RaftCaptain@SailCCYC.org.

We will greet you with hot Apple Cider (with a shot of rum, if you like). Bring hors d'oeuvres to share at Happy Hour.

This is to be our Tall Tales Halloween raft-up, so be prepared to top any story told!

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### **Crab Feast Cheshire Crab, Bodkin Creek August 14-15**

**Pete and Kathy Bruzik, *Pekabu III***

What if you had a crab feast and no boats came? Disaster you say? Not for the CCYC! Hurricane /

Tropical Storm Charley had something to do with a ZERO boat count and if we had planned better we could have had a car raft in the parking lot! But the raft captain forgot his bumpers so all the cars settled securely into their parking spots - no one reported dragging!

A great time was had by all! A total of 20 came and consumed a CCYC amount of food! Those in attendance were Pete Bruzik (*Pekabu III*), Mike and Bev Davis with Diana and friend Mahalia (*Ayewash*), Wayne and Joan Savage with Joan's Dad Mr Smith (*Jubilee*), Rich and Claire Miller (*Exploring the Blue*), Ray and Lynn VanHorn (*Scimitar*), Diane Benyus and Richard Schatz (*Scimitar*), Brian and Hsaio Smith with Grant and Julia (*Chili Breeze*), and Dan and Martha Bliss (*Brunelle*).

An exciting climax to the dinner was the drawing for the MEXICO Rendevous! The winners were Don and Mary Ann McBride(*Coelumar*) and Michael and Lynn Steer (*Whodathunkit*).

If any of the above attendees had GPS in their car I can guarantee they did not get lost like me on the way out!

In summary - Great Place! Great Food! Great Fun! Next time we will have to bring our boats! ☸

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### **Labor Day Weekend Cruise Plaindealing Creek and Dun Cove September 4-6**

**Rich and Claire Miller, *Exploring The Blue***

Labor Day weekend on the Chesapeake was transformed into summertime in the Caribbean as our group of salty seafarers and nefarious pirates gathered for two nights of merriment. *Exploring the Blue* and "Charlie the Parrot" formed the raft in Plaindealing Creek on Saturday afternoon, and we were soon joined by a lively group including Jeanne and Gerry Helldorfer on *Ragtime*, Pete and Kathy Bruzik on *Pekabu III*, club Secretary Mike and Bev Davis on *Ayewash*, Vice Commodore Al and Vicky Lohman on *Rhiannon*, Rich and Tecla Murphy aboard *Semper Fi*, Lois and Dave Zonderman from *Walkabout*, and Marilyn and Jon Van Tassel aboard *Resolve*. Gerry was soon appointed chief recruiting officer, and he was off to invite Dave and Pat to join us from *Illumination*, which was anchored not far away.

Rich Schatz and Diane Benyus sailed up aboard the pirate ship, *Scimitar*, wielding weapons, wearing head scarves and eye patches, dressed for a fight in “Surrender the Booty!” tee shirts. Rich yelled “Aaargh, Matey!” and threatened to board us by swinging over on his jib halyard, but with appetizers and drinks that proved tough even for an experienced ex-Commodore (ok, maybe that last part didn’t really happen). Once the initial terror had subsided, the party started to get into full swing with tropical tasting treats and drinks of all kinds. Al Lohman took a break to don his dive tank and wet suit to look for sunken treasure and check out props and hulls for everyone. Thanks for the assist, Al! The party continued into the night as the air got cool and the stars took over the sky.

Saturday morning brought with it all of the pleasing aromas of brunch on the water. With all of the wonderful contributions of quiche, eggs, scrapple, sausage and mimosas, it was hard to go away hungry. Any lingering hunger problems were quickly erased when Pete and Kathy Bruzik brought out what must have been the largest sheet of crumb cake seen in these parts. No further explanation needed for why *Pekabu III* was riding so low in the water on the way into the creek. Thanks for the

wonderful contribution to the brunch!

After loosening belts and pulling up anchors, the raft moved out of the Tred Avon and down the Choptank for night two in Dun Cove. The wind had picked up considerably, making for an easy genoa-only sail down the river. *Ayewash* established the anchorage, and was joined by *Ragtime* and your squeamish raft captain (after some prodding and cajoling – what can I say, my keel gets deeper as the anchorage gets more shallow). *Rhiannon* anchored slightly aft of the main raft, and *Resolve* not far away. Tucked away aboard *Ayewash* behind a protective piece of land, we enjoyed another round of appetizers and watched the other boats as they jockeyed for position in the crowded anchorage. Jon Van Tassel demonstrated excellent form in the dinghy version of the man overboard drill as he recovered a getaway life jacket. Who says these events can’t be educational?

Thanks to everyone for their contributions to a wonderful weekend! Special thanks to Al and Vicky Lohman for helping with the hosting activities and to Mike and Bev Davis for anchoring duties as usual. ☞

Date	Event	Location	Raft Captain
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 (Severna Park, MD)	Rod and Pat Waite



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