

# The CAT Tales

January 2009



**Newsletter  
of the  
Chesapeake  
Catalina  
Yacht  
Club**

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**Web Site: [www.SailCCYC.org](http://www.SailCCYC.org)**



## **View from the Bridge Jon Van Tassell, Commodore**

As we begin the 2009 CCYC sailing season, I am pleased to report to the members that your Club is in excellent shape other than the usual and sundry holiday over-indulges. The good shape part of this is due to the hard work, dedication and leadership of past Commodores and Club officers. Past Commodores are listed on our website. In particular, I want to thank my predecessor, Jim Bergeron, for his untiring efforts to make the 2008 season such a resounding success. We now have 68 member boats and more than enough money in the bank to support – not lavishly, mind you -- our 2009 activities. I have met with the Club's Officers and we have mapped out an event-filled calendar for the 2009 sailing season. Upcoming events are presented in subsequent paragraphs of this issue of the Cat Tales.

For this season, I'd like to particularly encourage all Club members to give a warm welcome to our newest members and encourage everyone to participate in this year's events. Rather like the camaraderie expected between midshipmen and plebes without the hazing and the drunken brawling. After all there are only two kinds of Catalina sailors on the bay: Those who are members of CCYC and those who missed the sign-up sheet.

Let's show those new members who did find the sign-up sheet that they have entered a family they will not want to leave for so many reasons like Mamma Marie and Zio Mario's cooking, the guest appearance of Nancy Sinatra at the Folly's Raft-up, our hardware aficionados, among them Gerry Heldorfer, Mike Vaccaro and Bob Klimek, Kim

Wolkins' uber-cookie contribution to many raft-ups, our uber-webmaster Mike Davis and so many more enthusiastic participants in the club. Enjoy discovering the Chesapeake with us! Pen in those CCYC dates on your calendars; you won't regret it.

Commodore Jon 

## **CCYC Asian Cookout and Game Night Lohman Landing, Edgewater, MD January 31<sup>st</sup>, 4:00 PM**

**Al and Vicky Lohman, *Rhiannon***

Well, the holidays are over and winter is truly setting in. Let's chase away those winter blues with a night of fun, food and friends. This year's theme is Asian cuisine. Bring your favorite, Chinese, Japanese, Thai, etc., appetizer, entree or dessert. Be it homemade or your favorite takeout!!!!

### **Where**

Al and Vicky Lohman  
3950 West Shore Drive  
Edgewater, MD 21037  
410-798-0208 (home)  
410-991-7374 (cell)

### **When**

January 31, 2009  
4:00 appetizers  
5:30 dinner

### **What to Bring**

Bring your favorite Asian dish with plenty to share.

Also bring a favorite game to play!!

BYOB (We will provide sodas, etc.)

We have a fairly good sized driveway for parking, as well as parking in the cul-de-sac and street. Please RSVP with the dish you plan to bring and number of people attending.

### **Directions to Lohman Landing**

3950 West Shore Drive, Edgewater, MD

Ph - 410.798.0208

☞ Take Rte 2, Solomons Island Road to Rte 214, Central Ave

☞ Turn onto Rte 214, Central Ave/Mayo Road (east)

☞ Continue on Rte 214 for 2.5 miles

☞ Turn right at West Shore Drive

☞ Lohman Landing is at 3950

☞

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## **Food Glorious Food!**

### **Marie Yates, Prego**

This is a delicious, simple recipe which can be modified in 100s of ways; add diced artichokes, olives, asparagus or anything else you fancy.

### **Mini Frittatas**

(Courtesy of the Food Network)

Tried and True by yours truly.

- ☞ Nonstick vegetable oil cooking spray
- ☞ 8 large eggs
- ☞ ½ cup whole milk
- ☞ ½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- ☞ ¼ teaspoon salt
- ☞ 4 ounces thinly sliced ham, chopped
- ☞ 1/3 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese
- ☞ 2 tablespoons chopped fresh Italian parsley leaves

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees F.

2. Spray 2 mini muffin tins (each with 24 cups) with nonstick spray....or any size muffin pan you have.
3. Whisk the eggs, milk, pepper and salt in a large bowl to blend well.
4. Stir in the ham, cheese and parsley.
5. Fill prepared muffin cups almost to the top with the egg mixture.
6. Bake until the egg mixture puffs and is just set in the center, about 8 to 10 minutes for the mini tins. (You can use a toothpick in the center to check if muffins are 'set').
7. Using a rubber spatula, loosen the frittatas from the muffin cups and slide the frittatas onto a platter.
8. Serve immediately.

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## **Over The Transom**

### **Bob Klimek and Lucia Casale**

*(The phrase "Over the Transom" is somewhat archaic now. At one time it referred to how manuscript submissions were offered to a publisher. The writer would shove his petty piece through the small window over the publisher's door. Then the writer would slink away before anybody caught him in the act. In a nautical context, that is exactly what I intend to do: gather information about CCYC Members that is figuratively thrown "over the transom", present it here and slink away. If you catch me in the act and want to make a comment, please feel free to do so – Bob Klimek)*

JON ("Our Commodore Jon") and MARYLYN VAN TASSEL are on their way South – I mean really SOUTH! Like Cape Horn South! Jon and Marylyn boarded the *Norwegian Sun* in Valparaiso, Chile. The *Norwegian Sun* is one of the new luxury cruise ships of the Norwegian Cruise Line. It is all "free style": free style dinning; free style fun. After a week leisurely cruising down the Chilean coast, Jon and Marylyn "round the Horn" and make their way up the East Coast of South America to Buenos Aires before flying back to Washington on 2/2/09. (Now we know who to nominate to be one of our guest speakers at a CCYC on-shore event.) Take lots of

pictures, Jon!

MIKE AND MARIE YATES (S/V *Prego*) are going East to the other side of the pond, Mike and Marie will spend some of January 2009 round and about the haunts and ski slopes of the Austrian Alps and the beer parlors of Munich. (Marie is Cat Tales food editor; stand-by for some interesting Austrian recipes).

Closer to home, DAN and MARTHA BLISS (S/V *Brunelle*) are back aboard *Brunelle* which was moored in St. Augustine, FL while Martha had two partial knee replacements on 12/11/08 (her birthday!). They are now on their way South to Key West for Race Week and then on to the Bahamas. As we all know, Martha is intrepid; surgery on both knees and back sailing after only a couple of weeks. Given her hardiness, it may sound a little trite to say that CCYC wishes Martha a speedy recovery. See [sailbrunelle.blogspot.com](http://sailbrunelle.blogspot.com).

Other Southern cruisers, ED and CONNIE DOOLEY (S/V *Surprise*) took the waterway to Brunswick, GA last fall before flying back to DC for the holidays. They will continue south later this month.

DAVE ("Dr. Dave") and LOIS ZONDERMAN (S/V *Walkabout*) tucked *Walkabout* away in Solomons and flew west to Talihina, OK until mid March (Talihina is Choctaw for "Railroad" – population 1400, plus Dave and Lois). So why are Dr. Dave and Lois in Talihina? Dr. Dave is providing his skilled medical expertise to Native Americans at the Choctaw Nation Health Center – most laudable, Dave.

More at home, JIM (Past CCYC Commodore) and SUZANNE BERGERON (S/V *Quebecois*) were caught surfing the web for a larger Catalina. Or maybe it was just Jim!

The Editor says: "That's enough for now, Bob." ☞

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## Meet a Member

### Mike Vaccaro – Vice Commodore

I had been around the water and sailing most of my life but never sailed. I had many hobbies - I was an avid golfer, bowler, and private pilot. I enjoyed hiking, camping, canoeing and rock climbing. But never sailed. My first sailing experience was in 1978. I was on a cruise and at a port in Jamaica. I

convinced them that I knew how to sail and they rented me a Sunfish. After a while, I was drifting out to sea and they came and towed me in. Undaunted, two years later, I went to rent a sailboat on Mission Bay in San Diego, CA. I think it was one of the small Catalina day sailors. This time, I accepted the 15-minute lesson and had a wonderful sail for my allotted time. I even sailed it back to the dock myself this time.

I sailed rather infrequently in the coming years on an 8 meter S2 with relatives on Lake George, NY and in 2002, after a great sail, I was really hooked. I began sailing seriously with the purchase of my first vessel in 2003. She was a MacGregor 25 (*Acushla*) that I slipped at Codorus State Park (Lake Marburg) in Hanover, PA. In 2004, I took my first trip to the Chesapeake Bay. A friend from the lake invited my family to join him at the Columbia Rendezvous. His previous boat was a Columbia 36 but he was trailer sailing a MacGregor 26 at the time. We put in at Sandy Point State Park and sailed to Bodkin Creek to meet the group. After a great night of eating and drinking at what was then the Cheshire Crab, we retired for the evening.

At the end of the 2004 season, I couldn't pass up a good deal on a bigger boat so I purchased a MacGregor 26 (*R&R*). Memorial Day 2005, I trailered with my friend back to Sandy Point and sailed single-handed to Chestertown for the annual Tea Party. By then I was obsessed with sailing and hooked on the Bay.

I spent most of the first half of 2005 single-handing until I met Debbie in June. Debbie was just as obsessed with sailing as I was with one exception, she had never sailed. She grew up around the water and powerboats but yearned to sail. We met at the lake and I took her for her first sail. I invited her to join me at the Columbia Rendezvous that August and she agreed. We arrived at Sandy Point on Friday, one day ahead of my friends. We rigged and spent the day sailing mostly in the Magothy River. Our first anchorage was at Purdy Point. The next day, we met my friends and sailed to Bodkin Creek where once again we had a wonderful time with the Columbia group. We were rafted to a Columbia 40 and sat in the cockpit thinking..."this is more like a boat..." At dinner we met a couple from Buffalo, NY in a Coranado 42. They left NY in April after selling two houses and most other possessions, left

the important things with their children and cast off. They were spending their time exploring the Bay and "practicing anchoring" until October 1 when their insurance would allow them to head south. Where?...they weren't sure.....How long?.....(and this is my favorite quote).... "until they got tired of it". They instantly became our new heroes. The rest is history. I decided to buy a bigger boat and experience the Bay on a full time basis.

I bought a Catalina 30 (*Frisky Business*) in October of 2005. I joined the International Catalina 30 Association and a long time member of CCYC and the IC30A's treasurer; Max Munger, emailed me and said I should look up the CCYC group. We showed up for our first event at the Van Tassell's for the Holiday Party. After a few minutes, we knew this was the group for us.

We have been sailing on the Bay and with the group ever since. We learned a lot from our 30 and really loved her but we were hooked on cruising and eventually want to move aboard and head south. So in preparation we purchased *Resolve* last spring. She is a 1995 Catalina 42 Mk II 2 cabin. In 2008, we spent virtually every weekend and two separate week-long vacations cruising to some Bay destinations and learning the ropes of our larger

vessel. We are not quite ready to cut the dock lines yet so you'll have to put up with us a couple of more years. We have been known to add a day before or after some of our events. Email us if you have the same idea. ☞

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## Membership renewal

**Mike Davis, Secretary**

If this article appears in your copy of the newsletter, it's because our Treasurer, Diane Benyus has not received your dues for 2009. If you have paid your dues, please contact Diane as soon as possible.

If you have not paid your dues, please review the information in the Membership Renewal Form you should have received in December and correct anything that is wrong or missing. This will be the information we use to contact you and to list in the Member Directory.

After checking the information, staple your check to the bottom of the form and fold, staple/tape, stamp and mail it to Diane.

If you do not have a form, let me know and I can send a replacement. ☞



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