

The CAT Tales

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Newsletter
of the
Chesapeake
Catalina
Yacht
Club

Commodore	Jon Van Tassell	571.434.9036
Vice Commodore	Mike Vaccaro	717.451.4690
Treasurer	Diane Benyus	443.482.9553
Historian	Sue Dennison	301.262.4985
Editor/Web	Michael Davis	571.522.6481
Cruise Director	Mario Taisch	703.412.1128

Website: www.SailCCYC.org



View from the Bridge Jon Van Tassell, Commodore

Well, here we are at the halfway point of our cruise through 2009. If you have not been to a raft-up, don't let the opportunity slip away. A trip to St Mike's is just over the horizon.

I have an observation to share with you. As a general rule, there are usually 8-12 member boats at a CCYC event. However, at the Full Moon (Food Moon) Raft-Up in the Rhode River on June 6th, there were 21 member boats – and if Lucia had not been in Syracuse, NY there would have been 22. There were three rafts of seven boats each. By any statistical analysis, this participation was well outside the curve. So what caused this turn out? Well, as those members that attended recall, *Sea Cara* and *Prego* supplied an excellent dinner for all - plus dessert. Moreover, there were many after-dinner libations. Some of the after-dinner libations were rather unusual concoctions; but the dinner, dessert and libations all blended together to add to the joie de vivre (or should I say godersi la vita since it was an Italian evening.) It was a spectacular turnout and a memorable event.

Based on the above observation, I have concluded that good food and libations are an incentive to membership attendance. Which leads me to further conclude that the membership needs to be reminded that good food and libations are present at every CCYC raft-up. There is never enough room on the host boat to hold all the bountiful appetizers that appear as if by magic from boat-totes and open hatches. There is always lots of good food to share, libations and, best of all, good companionship. I

have also had occasion to observe the freeboard on the "dinks" when they are coming to the party boat and when they are leaving. For sure, no one leaves hungry!

I especially encourage those members that have not joined a raft-up for some time to once again experience the joy of being with fellow CCYC members at an exotic anchorage in the Chesapeake Bay. Come, experience joie de vivre/Godersi la Vita/Joy of Life all rolled up in one at every CCYC event. ☺

Over The Transom And Under The Keel

Bob Klimek and Lucia Casale



(At the suggestion of our esteemed vice-commodore, Mike Vaccaro, we have added another phrase to the title. You can ask him why. Bob and Lucia)

We have been listening in on conversations at recent raft-ups. More and more we are picking up snippets of discussion about heading south for the winter. Most recently we overheard MAUREEN NEMECEK (*S/V Sevilla*) quizzing JEANNE HELLDORFER (*S/V Ragtime*) about heading south and crusing the Bahamas. Perhaps there will be a flotilla of CCYC members heading south this winter.

We are saddened to report the passing of one of our most cherished and intrepid competitor. It was always a joy to see her racing up and down the Chesapeake with all her sails flying, leading the pack or quietly gliding with dignity and grace toward the raft-up at days end. *S/V Foxfire* (SUE AND WALT

DENNISON) has passed to a new owner! As they say, that is the bad news. The good news is that she left Sue and Walt to carry on her long association with CCYC.

WARNING: Watch out for "Mohitos by Deb" (DEBBIE SMITH) (S/V *Resolve*) or "Painkillers by Ray" (RAY DONAHUE) (S/V *Snapshot*²). These both are very addictive concoctions. ☞

Food Glorious Food!

Marie Yates, Prego

This month's recipes reflect the ease of quick and tasty appetizers just in time for a season of sailing, cruising and entertaining. I have made both of them on several occasions. And, they are back in keeping with my KISS promise...keep it simple sailor" ENJOY.

Crostini with Olives

- ☞ 7 oz black olives, pitted
- ☞ 1-3/4 oz salted capers
- ☞ 2 oz anchovy fillets
- ☞ 2 Tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- ☞ Juice of One Lemon
- ☞ Slices of Bread (baguette or your choice)

1. Rinse, dry capers and put them in a food processor with the rest of the ingredients. Process into a smooth paste.
2. Serve on grilled or toasted slices of bread.

Serves 6.

Celery with Gorgonzola

- ☞ 1/3 lb. Piccante Gorgonzola (if available) at room temperature
- ☞ 1/4 lb. Mascarpone Cheese at room temperature
- ☞ 1/4 tsp Salt
- ☞ 1/4 tsp Black pepper
- ☞ 6 Celery stalks, tops removed

☞ 1/4 cup Walnut halves for garnish

1. Cut celery into 2" long pieces. Shave bottom of each celery piece to flatten.
2. Cream together Gorgonzola and Mascarpone. Blend in S & P.
3. Spread mixture into each celery piece.
4. Garnish with walnut halves.

Makes 30 pieces.

☞

Meet a Member

Martha and Dan Bliss (C400 *Brunelle*)

We have long histories of sailing in our families. Martha's great-grandfather was a captain of a full rigged sailing ship (named *Brunelle*). My great-grandfather homesteaded in North Dakota.

OK...my dad, who graduated from HS in North Dakota, got an appointment to the Naval Academy in 1934...he did become active in the sailing program at Annapolis before changing career paths and transferring to Lehigh but the love of sailing held on and he built a 16 ft. boat when I was a kid and bought an H-28 when I was in HS in NJ. I had the opportunity to use the H-28 on several occasions over the next 8+ years.

Martha's dad's career at Yachting magazine took the family to several emerging cruising grounds during the 50s and 60s. During her high school years, Martha used to brag about getting a new bathing suit for her Easter suit each year. Her sailing began earlier than mine, as she was taken sailing every weekend in the family's 18' sloop from the age of 6 months on. She worked her way through the junior program on the Jersey shore and raced from the age of 9 on. Between racing, crewing and teaching sailing, she stayed active through her teens and twenties, including racing with King Constantine of Greece, King Juan Carlos of Spain and taking part in the 19th Baltic Regatta in Tallinn, Estonia as the only American to do so. Marrying Hank Hinckley afforded her the opportunity to sail and deliver several great Hinckley boats. It also gave her three great kids!

Martha and I each went through first marriages that resulted in children born in 1974 and 1977 (Martha one-upped-me by having twins in 1977). After divorces we met racing "small wooden catboats" (class name to be withheld because...) near the homes of our parents in NJ. Before long we were married with "twins" born in '74 and "triplets" born in '77.

We chartered on the Chesapeake with friends and family on several occasions after moving to central PA. We also made an annual trek to the BVI to sail with Martha's parents for years. When they gave up their boat, we chartered there and down through the Leeward and Windward Islands.

We have had wonderful times sailing on Martha's dad's boats (on the Jersey shore and in the Caribbean,) chartering, sailing small boats, and finally graduating to Catalina...first a 250 and later our 400. We have had *Brunelle* since 2001 and have had a blast with it. We've taken a few relatively long trips (Maine in 2003, Mystic in 2007, Mystic again in 2008, and the Bahamas for the winter of 2008-2009). Every once in a while we contemplate a bigger boat but conclude that we are pretty happy with C-400 *Brunelle*. We enjoy most of all (when family activities don't interfere) joining CCYC for raft-ups and other gatherings!! Thanks to all those that make that possible. ☞

Welcome New Members!



Welcome aboard to new members:

- ☞ Brett Cureton, Catalina 380 *Jazz*
- ☞ Linda and Dick Mann, Catalina 380 *Southerly*
- ☞ George and Lisa Thuman, Catalina 42

We're looking forward to seeing you at the next event. ☞

Electrolysis & Galvanic Corrosion

Mike Vaccaro – Vice Commodore

I am fairly good with electricity...or so I thought

until I purchased a boat. 12 volt systems are sure different than the 120 volt systems I was used to. The wiring principles are largely the same but batteries, chargers, isolators, combiners, inverters, etc. sure make my head spin. Then throw in electrolysis and galvanic corrosion and I'm lost. Bob Klimek (S/V *Lucia*) sent me an article about this subject, so I thought I'd look into it further and report here.

Electricity and the fact that our boats are usually in the water can lead to problems with electrolysis and galvanic corrosion. The more we know about these two conditions will allow us to take preventive measures and avoid costly repairs.

Electrolysis

In simple terms, electrolysis is caused by stray voltage, from your boat, shore power, or your neighbor's boat, and passes through metal components causing them to be eaten away. Any fault in a connection, whether it is positive or ground can cause stray current.

To protect your boat from electrolysis, a check of your wiring is in order. At the connections, make sure they are tight and not corroded. Investigate all loose wires to make sure they are completely disconnected. Because of their proximity to water, bilge pumps are prime culprits. Inexpensive, do-it-yourself projects installing isolators to the charging circuits from generators and shore power definitely help.

Galvanic Corrosion

Galvanic corrosion is when 2 dissimilar metals, i.e., your stainless steel prop shaft and your bronze prop, are submerged in salt water. This becomes like a battery and produces current causing the softer metal to become the anode. The anode in a battery is the metal that is slowly consumed. In this example, it would be the prop that would eventually be eaten away.

The best way to prevent this from happening is to install a softer metal, zinc anode, to the prop and shaft. These are also referred to as sacrificial zincs. The reason being that they are consumed - sacrificed - to this corrosion rather than the more expensive components.

Since we require electricity on our boats, we need to be able to prevent the effects of electrolysis and galvanic corrosion. Low cost isolators, tight clean

electrical connections and zincs are cheap insurance compared to the cost of repairs due to these two types of corrosion. Ⓜ

Remaining Schedule for 2009

Date	Event	Location
Aug 15-16	Crab Feast	Masthead, Oxford, MD
Sep 5-7	Labor Day	Langford Creek/2nd location TBD
Sep 26-27	Oktoberfest	Lake Ogleton
Oct 31- Nov 1	Halloween	Mill Creek (Annapolis)
Nov 14	Member Meeting	Havre de Grace
Dec 5	Holiday Party	Van Tassell Landing



Chesapeake Catalina Yacht Club
Michael E. Davis, Editor
7030 Balmoral Forest Road
Clifton, VA 20124-1539