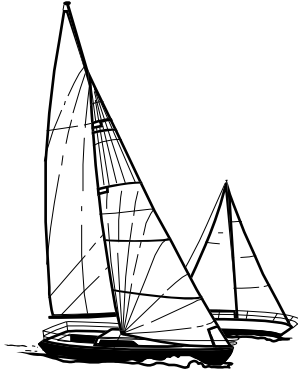


The CAT Tales

February 1999

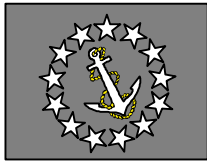
Chesapeake Catalina Yacht Club

International Catalina 30 Association Fleet 11



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View from the Bridge

**Bill Weeks
Commodore**

Where are we going? Where are we going as a club? I ponder this question as I try to compose my thoughts for the newsletter. We had our annual cruise planning meeting last Friday night and I personally considered it a success. We laid out the schedule for the next year, meeting dates, traditional activities, and some new items. We have a date for the Flag Raising Brunch, Saturday, April 17th. I had planned to hold the event at Bobby D's in Deale. When I went to the restaurant Saturday morning, a big Closed sign hung in the window, "What Now". A little further investigation revealed that it had indeed closed, however, it was scheduled to reopen under a new name, sometime in April, date unsure. If not Bobby D's, then where? I considered the remaining restaurants in Deale and rejected them all. I then considered the "Topsider Inn" in Galesville, and I hurried up there to make arrangements. For those of you who are not familiar with the Topsider, it is a quaint, old restaurant, with reasonably good food. They have a nice meeting room in the back and will host the club. The next question, how many will attend, and this brings me to my original thought. With a group of 20, the Topsider will provide a special menu. If we have 30, then they can provide a buffet. How many will attend?

Our club has been stable for the last few years, about 25 yachts and crews each year. A few leave, a few arrive, but basically about 25 yachts. Our core membership has been in the club for many years. The friendships developed inside this core will last forever. As new crews join, they are made welcome and enjoy the benefits of our club.

Joan Savage, our treasurer, presented the finances of the club. The bottom line is . . . to maintain our level of activities, we need 35 to 40 yachts. We need to expand our membership. I can just hear the comments now, "Oh no, we have heard this before." I am going to try and expand the membership. I have a few thoughts, I have contacted Clipper Bay Yacht Brokerage in Herrington Harbour Marina and they are willing to buy membership in our club when they sell a used Catalina 27, 30, 32, 34, or 36. They move about 12 to 15 Catalina's a year. I will post some invitations at various Marina's in the area, Maybe we can improve the membership. I am also very receptive to any ideas some of you may have.

This is enough for now, more later. Please mark, Saturday, April 17th on your calendars for the Flag Raising Brunch, at the Topsider Inn, in Galesville, 11:00 AM. I will have more to say on the membership subject next month.

Good Sailing, or maybe just dreaming of it. ⚓

February Meeting Marine Weather



1999 Cruise and Raft-up Schedule

Pete Denholm
Scimitar

The February meeting is going to be at a different location, not at the Fleet Reserve Club in Annapolis.

The meeting will be at the Potomac Landing Marina, 1 Marine Drive, Alexandria (off GW Parkway between National Airport and Old Town Alexandria). We will meet for the social in the bar area at 6:00 PM, then dinner will be in the main dinning room (6:30-8:00 PM). After dinner, we will move to the After Deck Cafe for the meeting and speaker. The After Deck Cafe is closed in the evenings during the winter, but will be available to us. We will have it all to ourselves, at NO CHARGE!

The speaker is from the Boat/US Speakers Bureau. His name is Andrew Bass and he will speak on Marine Weather. Mr. Bass has been the Fleet Navigator for the Annapolis Naval Academy for the past 19 years. As such, he is in charge of special marine forecasting for the Naval Academy. He is an Institute of Navigation Fellow and was involved with the development of GPS. He also assisted with the rewrite of American Practical Navigator (Bowditch). This should prove to be an entertaining as well as informative meeting. I ask all members to make a special effort to attend. Ⓜ

The schedule for the 1999 sailing season has been drafted, hopefully with something for everyone. Raft Captains have not been assigned to all the events, so if you see a cruise you would like to captain, contact Commodore Bill Weeks.

Date	Event	Location	Raft Captain
Apr 17	Flag Raising Brunch	Topsider Inn	Bill & Sharon Weeks
May 8-9	Ice Breaker	Cindy's Dock	TBD
May 29-31	Memorial Day Cruise	Wye River	Bill & Sharon Weeks
May 31 – Jun 13	Informal 2-week cruise to Harborfest	Norfolk	Pete & Karen Denholm
Jun 18-20	All Catalina Rendezvous	Solomons Island	TBD
Jul 3-5	4 th of July Cruise	Oxford	Pete & Karen Denholm
Jul 17-18	Wahine Cruise	TBD	TBD
Aug 7	Crab Feast	Gandy's Landing	Charles & Freda Gandy
Sep 4-6	Labor Day Cruise	Chester River	Mike & Bev Davis
Oct 2-3	Oktoberfest	Rhode River	Wayne & Joan Savage
Oct 30-31	Halloween Cruise	Harness Creek	TBD
Dec 4	Holiday Party	Davis's Landing	Mike & Bev Davis