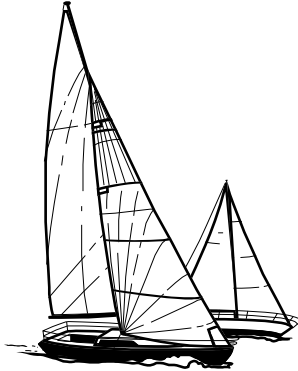


The CAT Tales

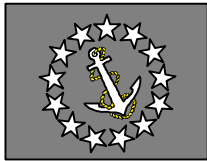
March 1999

Chesapeake Catalina Yacht Club
International Catalina 30 Association Fleet 11



Commodore: Bill Weeks 703-848-1848
Vice Commodore: Pete Denholm 703-313-0864
Treasurer: Joan Savage 301-762-6752
Historian: Sue Dennison 301-262-4985

Web Site: members.aol.com/SailCCYC/



View from the Bridge

**Bill Weeks
Commodore**

From the Helm and Honolulu,

I am sitting in my hotel room wondering what to say. I don't like being on the road, but if one must be away, this is as good as it gets. I am in Honolulu, overlooking the Ala Wai Yacht Harbour. The Ala Wai is the major yacht harbor in the Islands and is very active. I am looking forward to the spring outfitting ritual. The weather is warm, high 70's, warm breezes, lots of sunshine and a beautiful view, from Waikiki to Pearl Harbour. It doesn't get much better than this.

Our January meeting was very successful. We had over twenty people and a good speaker, Mr. Andrew Bass. Mr. Bass is the weather forecaster for the Naval Academy and he spoke on bay weather. He discussed where to look for wind and the atmospheric conditions that give the bay wind. I, for one, learned a great deal about bay conditions.

We also held the meeting in a new place (the Potomac Restaurant) just south of Reagan National Airport. We tried a new place so members that live in the Washington DC metropolitan area would not have to drive so far. All the members I spoke with

were pleased with the location. We will return to the Fleet Reserve Club in Annapolis for the March meeting.

I have been thinking about where the club is going. I spoke to the budget in the last newsletter and our membership numbers. I have spoken to Joan Savage and the club expenses are about \$1200 to \$1500 per year. Where does this money go?

☞ Winter Meetings (\$100ea.).....	\$500
☞ Newsletter	\$500
☞ Christmas Party	\$200
☞ Oktoberfest.....	\$100
☞ Ice Breaker	\$100

Spending \$1500 per year, and the dues being \$35 per family, that works out to be about 42 dues paying members are necessary to maintain our current level of activity (boy, I write like the bureaucrat that I am, albeit very minor).

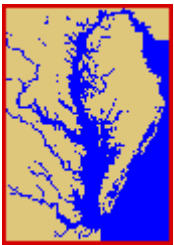
If we must cut costs, where can we do it? I would like to hear from you on this subject. We do not need a response today, but I will be talking to you over the summer. I do feel the newsletter and the Christmas Party are sacred, the newsletter keeps us together and the Christmas Party is well attended.

One of my thoughts is on the number of meetings we have. The Catalina 36 club only holds two meetings

per year, one fall and one spring. If we did two meetings per year, or found a cheaper place to meet, this would reduce our costs. With two meetings and then keeping the Christmas Party, this would be three winter gatherings.

I hate to change the dynamics of the club, but something must happen. Please give me your thoughts.

I am dreaming of the Spring and the Bay. See you on the water. ☞



**Member Meeting
March 19th
Fleet Reserve Club
Annapolis, MD**

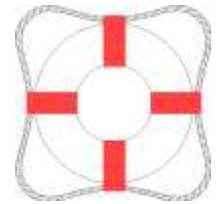
The March member meeting will be at the Fleet Reserve Club in Annapolis. For those members interested in joining us for dinner at 6:00 PM, please call the FRC at 410-263-4614 for reservations. Dinner will be followed by a pre-meeting social at 7:30 in the meeting room upstairs, with the meeting starting at 8:00.

Pete Denholm has arranged for John Griffiths to speak to us about blue water sailing, its joys and pitfalls, and how to get ready for it. He will specifically talk about preparing for a DelMarVa circumnavigation.

John Griffiths is a very experienced blue water sailor, with more than 20 voyages of over 1,000 miles each. He served as captain on all but two of those voyages, on vessels ranging from 3 to 140 tons. Four of the voyages were Atlantic Ocean crossings. John is currently a yacht surveyor and consultant specializing in damage claims, condition and valuation, and purchase surveys. He has also owned a boat building firm which provided custom boat building, repair and custom yacht joinery for all phases of construction, fiberglass, electrical and mechanical. He also managed Prospect Reef in Tortolla, which included constructing and operating the harbor, sailing school and charter fleet.

John's boat experience began in 1950 and continues today. He has participated in numerous boat-buildings and major repair projects in Spain, West Indies, and the US, including a complete rebuild of a 1925 Winslow yawl and rebuild of a late 19th century Cornish fishing vessel. He also completed the finishing of the 50' cutter, FD 12 *Brendan's Isle*, from a bare hull, and as an English boat builder, surveyed pleasure vessels.

Also at the meeting, I will hand out sample inspection forms used by the USCG Auxiliary when performing courtesy marine examinations, provided by new members, Phil and Linda Ferrara. (Phil is a member of the USCG Auxiliary.) Courtesy Marine Examinations are conducted on a planned and announced basis at local marinas, yacht clubs, etc. or if a person wants a separate, private exam of their boat, they may call George Mikulski of Flotilla 15-1 in the USCG Auxiliary at 1-410-757-4931. George lives in Annapolis and has a listing of 40 volunteer vessel examiners from Annapolis to the Solomons. He will take a person's name and number and assign a nearby volunteer to arrange to inspect a person's boat. An inspection is generally done in the evenings or weekends at your slip.



A CME is a great deal because:

- ☞ It's free!
- ☞ There is no report to anyone except you, the boat owner, whether you pass or fail.
- ☞ You know your boat meets safety standards.
- ☞ Insurance companies will often grant a premium credit.
- ☞ You get a sticker to post on your mast, which means the USCG/DNR will have no interest in boarding you for a check.
- ☞ You often learn something you were unaware of about your boat.

Just in time for Spring launch. ☞

Flag Raising Brunch April 17th

Bill and Sharon Weeks
Fortnight III



The Annual Spring Flag Raising Brunch will be held at the Topsider Inn in Galesville, MD this year. The date is April 17th and will begin at 8:30 AM with an eye-opener and breakfast will be served at 9:00. The Topsider has prepared a special menu for us. It is pretty traditional, and what one would expect at that hour of the morning. The cost will be about \$7.50 per person, depending on what you ordered. Pete Denholm is arranging for a guest speaker to follow breakfast. We should be finished by 11:00, leaving plenty of time for spring outfitting.



The Topsider Inn is a quaint little old restaurant in Galesville with good food. The view is of the West River and Pirates Cove Marina. We will not have window seating, as we will be in the meeting room, behind the bar.

Directions are:

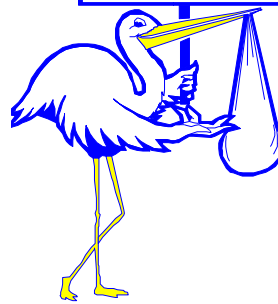
From Annapolis MD, take MD route 2 south about 10 miles to route 255. Turn left onto route 255 and continue all the way to Galesville. The Topsider is on the left at the end of the road.

From The Washington Beltway, Take MD exit 11, Rt. 4 south about 10 miles. Turn left at Waysons Corners onto route 408. About 4 miles later, 408 will intersect with route 2. Take route 2 north about 1.5 miles to route 255. Take 255 into Galesville and the Topsider will be on your left.

RSVP: I need a tentative head count. Please give me a call at 703- 848-1848.

Thanks, see you at the March meeting. ☞

It's a boat!



ju-bi-lee *n.* a time or occasion of rejoicing.

For those who haven't heard, Joan and Wayne Savage have a new (and bigger) boat. I asked Wayne to give us some juicy tidbits before we see **Jubilee** at the first raft-up.

Wayne sez - **Jubilee** is a 1994 Catalina 36 (not Mk II) standard rig. She was purchased in Florida and brought up to Hilton Head by her owners who sailed her in the Port Royal Sound, and sometimes out in the blue water. **Jubilee** was available this year as her owners were moving to Colorado to start an Inn and be closer to family.

Jubilee is well fitted out with complete electronics, including depth, speed, and wind instruments; autopilot; radar; and GPS. It is also equipped with a Hart inverter to support internal creature comforts such as the TV, microwave, and A/C-heater.

We plan to bring **Jubilee** to Annapolis in April, hopefully coordinating with some of the returning CCYC Winter Fleet. We expect the trip to be about two weeks, and we are planning our crew lists accordingly. Joan and I will likely be splitting those two, with Joan taking the first leg. I will meet her somewhere along the way with a fresh crew and bring her the rest of the way to the Bay and Joan will drive back to Washington. Too bad we both don't have enough vacation time to cover the whole time.

If anyone is interested in crewing with us for part of the trip please give us a call. (301-762-6752) ☞

All Catalina Rendezvous June 18-20

Ron Marcuse, Commodore, Intl C400 Assn
C400 #74 **Good Vibrations**

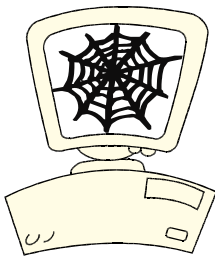
The Catalina Rendezvous to be held June 18-20, 1999 in Solomons Island will be called "Sail of the Century". The price of the Rendezvous will be \$160 per couple/boat - "all inclusive", including weekend

dockage, before May 10. After May 10, it jumps to \$180. Extra people and boatless people will be \$60 each before May 10, \$70 after. The price covers everything (dockage, 5 meals, beer and wine, music, tents, seminars, gifts and prizes, etc.). The Regatta/Race is funded separately (\$40 per boat). Cruisers and pedestrians (no boat) are invited to crew with the racers.

There will be 2 races on Saturday, and one on Sunday morning. There are just too many classes to do it all on one day. We can give out the trophies for the 1st 2 races on Saturday night, and the others at Sunday brunch.

For additional information, you can access the web site at <http://www.catalina400.org/>. ☞

Speaking of web sites, you will notice a new address in the newsletter's masthead for the club's web site.



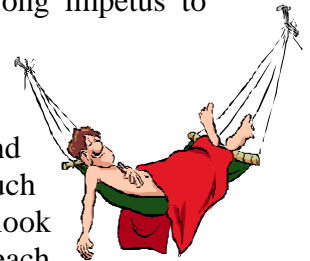
The former address was for the club's site developed by Paul Payne, a member who moved to Florida in 1997. Paul developed and maintained the web site at his own expense and did a wonderful job. However, it was difficult to keep Paul in on all the club's activities and Paul has his own web business to keep him busy, so I developed a new site. Please check it and set a book mark to check out CCYC activities. If you see something wrong or something I should add, please send me a note. ☞

Charles and Freda Gandy
LUV IT

Hello, All,
After several sets of company and then a rash of things broken and repaired, we'll be leaving Key Largo at the next opportunity. That could be any time in the next 5 days. We need a North through East wind for moving down to Marathon, then an East through West wind for crossing over to NW Cape, in the Everglades. One thing for sure: after sailing this many years, we won't go until the transit will be comfortable. That we've learned.

We were led to believe that we would be able to cross from the West Coast of Florida back to the East through the Okeechobee canal, but it appears that that will not be possible. Though cruisers said that we would be able to make it, we were concerned about the 49-foot bridge and our 53-foot mast. Ron Kemper assisted with information gathering from the people who assist in heeling boats to clear that bridge, and came up with a recommendation that it might be possible, but likely we couldn't. We would lose at least 4 days in finding out, so we'll cruise the western shore a while then return the way we came.

Dock life here at Marina del Mar is so comfortable that we have not had a strong impetus to leave. There are cruisers who have spent the last 13 winters here, and several who have been here around five. They keep in touch throughout the years, and look forward to gathering each winter. Much activity and visiting back and forth goes on at the dock, and a group gathers in late afternoons to visit at two picnic tables.



Through the years they have slowly made improvements for the good of the group. One boat from Michigan brought a device that looks like an outdoor cooker, but has holes all around the sides. It is a free-standing wood-burning stove for the chilly evenings (60 degrees or so) when there are card games or cookouts. A vertical post with lamp attached to the end of a picnic table provides light. Some gather each morning at the tennis courts, and they claim to play equally poorly but with energy. Any boat that leaves the dock for fishing or snorkeling can easily gather crew and riders.

Some commercial tour boats that go out our canal are in jeopardy when they pass our tables. Someone will shout to the Captain, asking when he got his license back. "How long have you been out of detox?" they will ask. We only do this to the captains that live on the dock and are good friends. You should see the faces of some of the tourists. It raises their excitement level.

In addition to the Dock Rats, we have enjoyed the friendship of Ed and Cori Summersett, who are

retired from NSA, and long-time friends. They live aboard their sailing vessel *FANTASY* here full time. Pam and Tom Dove from Kent Island were in a condo nearby for 6 weeks. We got together with them several times, and they took our dinghy out exploring.

Diana and Barry Carter are here. They cruised south two years ago and had planned to travel to the Bahamas with us. They lost their engine during the crossing, aborted back to Florida, and have been here ever since. He is now the manager of West Marine, and we have kept him busy. His store does more business than any other in the U.S. of comparable size, and gives excellent service.

We've driven to Key West six times, thoroughly enjoying the beautiful drive down, then Key West's uniqueness and the sunset entertainment at Mallory Square. There is a magician-comic currently performing that is fantastic. With his clever subtlety, one must listen closely to catch all of the second- and third-meanings of his veiled comments, and his routines were different each time we saw him. Key West is a favorite place of ours.

We've made a list of things that must be done before we leave Key Largo. Fill the water tanks, do the laundry, things like that. But an imperative on the list is one more meal at Calypso. We've eaten out a lot since arriving Dec. 8th, and quickly found Calypso to be our favorite. It is seldom crowded (a little off the beaten path, so the hordes have not yet found it), and the food is top quality at reasonable prices. They carry the standard Florida fare of cracked conch and fried or broiled fish, as well as some very unusual items. One in the latter category that we especially enjoyed was grouper or dolphin coated with ground-up peanuts and deep fried, then topped with a mild banana sauce. Incredibly delicious! The best thing on the menu, though, is a side order of corn on the cob. It's not steamed or boiled, but deep fried, and then sprinkled with seasoning! Very different! Extremely delicious!

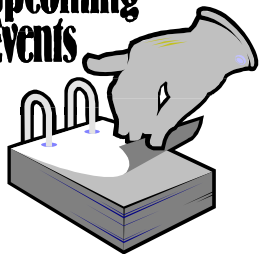
That's the Keys for you: very different, very entertaining.

Much love, The Adventurers 🍷

So many nights, I just dream of the ocean, God, I wish I was sailin' again!

Jimmy Buffet
Changes in Latitude, Changes in Attitude

Upcoming Events



March 19 6:00 Dinner - FRC (Reservations - 410-263-4614)
7:30 Pre-meeting social - FRC
8:00 March Meeting

April 17 Flag Raising Brunch
Topsider Inn
Raft Captain – Bill & Sharon Weeks

May 8-9 Ice Breaker (By land or by sea)
Cindy's Dock
Raft Captain -

May 29-31 Memorial Day Cruise
Wye River
Raft Captain - Bill & Sharon Weeks, Fortnight III

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