



~ ~ ~ *The Mooring Buoy* ~ ~ ~

Volume 3, No 1, January 2013

***From the Commodore***

As I write this tonight it's cold outside and I'm already wishing for warm weather. But it will probably be a while before my wish comes true and we're back on the water again.

Mary Jane Smith, our new Secretary, will be posting the updated membership list, and we now have 61 members.

We hope you had a Merry Christmas and we wish the very best for the New Year. Take care and let's all dream about warm weather and boating!

**2013 Bridge**

Commodore – Phil Bolin  
Vice Commodore – Chris Smith  
Rear Commodore – Carey Bolin  
Secretary – Mary Jane Smith  
Treasurer – George Cajigal  
Immediate Past Commodore – Diane Burton

**Contact WYA**

Mail: PO Box 325  
Colonial Beach, VA 22443  
Web site: [www.wya-va.com](http://www.wya-va.com)  
Email: [commodore@wya-va.com](mailto:commodore@wya-va.com)  
Email all members: [wyamembers@wya-va.com](mailto:wyamembers@wya-va.com)

***Events***

**The Plan Fest, December 1.** That Saturday was a triple header day for the Club as we held the Plan Fest at the Lighthouse at 11 AM, then enjoyed a Dutch treat lunch there, and, later that day, many of the WYA members boarded Bill Bowman's Burger, Cherish, and participated in the Colonial Beach Lighted Boat Parade. Cherish won second place due the hard efforts of the volunteers that decorated the boat. The entire day was very enjoyable. Carey, our Rear Commodore, got the members' views on events for 2013 and, with the group's participation and approval, put together our proposed schedule for cruising and land events. She's distributing the draft calendar within days to all for edits and comments before it is posted on our website. Due to Harry's impending knee surgery, he and Lori will be unable to host the St. Patrick's Day party. Any volunteers? It's a great event that needs a fill-in venue.

At the planning session, we welcomed our two newest members, Phil and Patti Rodgers, seen below. Phil is the Fleet Captain and MAL (South) for PRYCA and they keep their boat at Coles Point. You can see more pictures at our web site, [www.wya-va.com](http://www.wya-va.com).





~ ~ ~ *The Mooring Buoy* ~ ~ ~

Volume 3, No 1, January 2013

During the Plan Fest Ralph and Kris, to our surprise and delight, presented the club with a beautiful sign that they had made when the club was started in 2005. We will find a place to hang the sign very soon. Thanks, again, Ralph and Kris.



**Old Town Alexandria Christmas Tour, Dec 8.** Nancy Vineyard found a way to get some of us in the Christmas Spirit. Old Town Alexandria held a Christmas Event that included touring four historic buildings. Four couples (Masons, Bolins, Vineyards, and Blunts) attended the tour and then stopped in at Landini Brothers Italian restaurant on King Street for a 4 star meal. We preceded this event by attending Bob and Norma's Christmas Open House in Alexandria. Just the perfect way to begin the Christmas season. We had a wonderful day and evening!



*Preview of Upcoming Events*

The first major event is the PRYCA Change of Watch, to be held January 26 at the Springfield, VA Hilton. Ruth Lovelace, who will be the MC tells me the event will be one of the best in years, with some special events planned for the evening. Everyone should register themselves. You can get the facts by reading the next page or going to our web site. Just below are pictures from the last PRYCA Change of Watch. Don't miss this formal affair and take your dancing shoes!





~ ~ ~ *The Mooring Buoy* ~ ~ ~

Volume 3, No 1, January 2013

If you register please email Phil Bolin ([philbolin@mvapologia.com](mailto:philbolin@mvapologia.com)) and Ruth Lovelace ([ruteanpleasure@verizon.net](mailto:ruteanpleasure@verizon.net)) that you will be attending.

Potomac River Yacht Club  
2013 Change of Watch-Dinner Dance  
Saturday, 26 January 2013

at  
The Springfield Hilton  
6550 Loisdale Road  
Springfield, VA 22150  
703-971-8900

Hospitality Suite Open: 1700 – 1745 (and again after the dance)  
Photographer: 1700 - 1845  
Cocktails & Appetizers: 1800  
Dinner: 1900  
Change of Watch Ceremony: 2000  
Dancin & Rockin to follow to DJ Chuck Norris  
Winter Uniform/Black Tie Optional or Business Suit  
\$70.00 per person – please help us help all and register ASAP – thx!

**Menu**

One bottle Merlot/table  
Minestrone Soup  
Bistro Steak complimented w/Horseradish Mashed Potatoes & Tuscan Roasted Vegetables  
Tuscan Chicken complimented w//Horseradish Mashed Potatoes & Tuscan Roasted Vegetables  
Vegetarian Lasagna  
Tiramisu Cup Chocolate

**Rooms**

A block of rooms have been reserved at the per room rate of \$99.00 (plus taxes) until 29 December 2012. Reservations can be made online at [www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/S/SPRSHHF-PR0124-20130124/index.jhtml](http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/S/SPRSHHF-PR0124-20130124/index.jhtml) (enter the group code PR0124) or by calling the Hilton directly at 703-971-8900

+++++  
Meal Selection: Bistro Steak# \_\_\_\_\_ Tuscan Chicken# \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian# \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Guest Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Titles: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Yacht Club: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount  
Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail Registration and Checks to: PRYCA Treasurer Joey Sowell, 10 Old English Way, Stafford, VA 22554



### *Trivia*

Here are pictures from our past. Always fun! Gary setting the table with the Low Country Boil in 2011 and, at right, Jack teaching Dick and Anita the game of Farkle at National Harbor. For those unfamiliar with the game, it's a real favorite of boaters....and you can play it with or without alcoholic refreshments....but, the former is preferred.



### *Birthdays*

Congratulations to our birthday people for January: Donna Bukevicz on 1/23, Nancy Vineyard on 1/27, Lori Wehr on 1/29, and Bob Blunt and Carol Abbott on 1/30.

### *Washington Water Front*

Marv Storey, our PRYCA keeper of all facts up north, has reported that plans are underway for the rework to the Washington waterfront. If you are interested, you can visit the web sites listed below. You can also take a peek at the new look by viewing the artist rendition on the next page.

<http://www.swdcwaterfront.com/index.htm>

[http://www.swdcwaterfront.com/about/water\\_st\\_phasing.pdf](http://www.swdcwaterfront.com/about/water_st_phasing.pdf)

[http://www.swdcwaterfront.com/about/Presentation\\_Community\\_Forum.pdf](http://www.swdcwaterfront.com/about/Presentation_Community_Forum.pdf)



The picture shows the fish market and Capital Yacht Club at left. Both are located on Main Avenue. Appears they have some fancy plans. Can't wait to see it in real life.



### *Boating Facts*

And, here is a real life story from our own Shannon Ritter. Shannon reports:

We had a mishap with our boat, S.S.Ritter, and Phil thought that there may be a little lesson for all of us. So, here I go trying to tell this story. Several weeks ago we took our boat to Coles Point to hide from the storm Sandy. I always like to get a short haul and check things out, so this sounded like a good time to have this



~ ~ ~ *The Mooring Buoy* ~ ~ ~

Volume 3, No 1, January 2013

done. Art Buswell assisted me with the trip and it was like so many trips before, not very eventful...just the way we all like it. Sandy, as we all know, was way out in the Atlantic when she passed us and for us she became the storm that wasn't.

Several weeks later; Sue, Bill Bowman and I went down to bring her back to Colonial Beach. Sue's job was to drop Bill & me off and then meet us at our home slip. So off we go out of Coles Point and all systems are at 100%. We had a cool but sunny ride to look forward to and a very light chop. Had a great time. I like to travel at 2500 RPM's, with normal conditions that gets me 9 to 11 knots so we are on the water between two and a half and three hours on this trip. Other than dodging a couple of fish traps and a lot of crab pots, we had no excitement on our return.

As I am backing into our slip (and if anyone has ever seen my slip it is not the easiest dockage), Sue calls out "Our swim platform is under water" and I knew instantly we had taken on water. What was going on? I didn't even suspect a problem. What the \$\*&@&!/? I ran down to the rear stateroom to find that the carpet was in standing water, the master shower pan was full...just a total mess. Now that the boat had leveled, the forward bilge pump was running on automatic and is the only one of three on board that has a float. I switched the other two pumps on and we popped back out of the water soon after.

OK, bullet dodged, but what happened? Where is the water coming from? I noticed that one of the stuffing boxes was leaking pretty badly but could that cause that amount of water we had just pumped out? We tightened the bad stuffing box to shut it down completely. Bill, Sue and I got into cleaning mode. After all of that we decided that a few beverages would lighten our mood while all the time checking on the stuffing box. The next day I discovered the true problem. A \$2.00 hose clamp had rusted in half on the oil cooler. The fitting on the oil cooler is so short that you can't get 2 clamps on it. As long as the starboard engine was running there was a stream of water like someone had a garden hose running. I have no idea how long this was going on. Yep, a \$2.00 part will cost me hundreds and maybe more. This clamp is in a place you can't even see. You guys know the old touch and feel technique. So, after replacing that clamp I have been on a search for other clamps that are questionable. So far I have found three that I have replaced and I just pray that I get all of them. Our boat was repowered 10 years ago and has about 1200 hours on it now. So that is the time it took for that one clamp to fail. Is this a good indicator? I don't know, but it is a starting point. The other thing is, don't use the cheap clamps. Yes, they all say stainless steel, but some of them only have a stainless steel strap and a lesser material in the screw section. That is where mine failed, in the screw section. So spend the extra quarter or so and get the good stuff. You all know the drill, check, check, check!!!!

Shannon Ritter      S.S.Ritter



*Westmorland Yachting Association Newsletter*

~ ~ ~ *The Mooring Buoy* ~ ~ ~

Volume 3, No 1, January 2013

***Maintaining Diesel Engines***

In the upcoming winter months of the year you may want to refresh yourself on how to maintain Diesel Engines. I've just added a good article to our web site (Boat Facts Tab) from Seaworthy on just this subject. ([www.wya-va.com](http://www.wya-va.com))

***Sign Off***

Signing off for another month. Send in articles if you want. We also take classified ads. Want to tell a sea story ... give it to me and I'll publish.