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Dockline



Volume 6 Issue 2

Catalina 34 Fleet #12 Chesapeake Bay

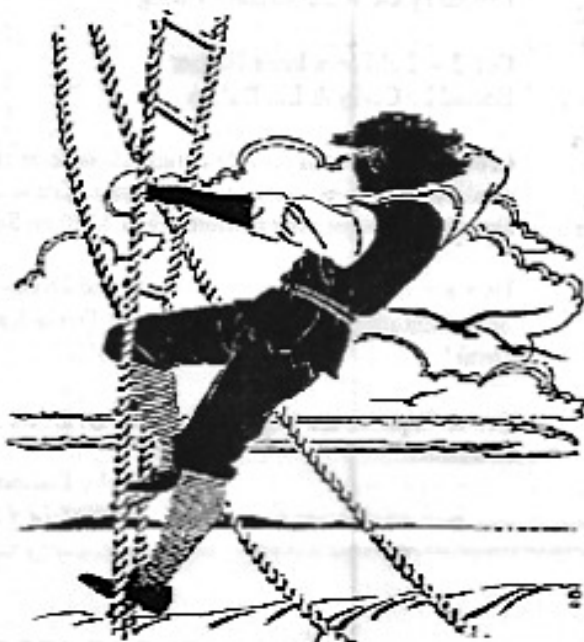
April 1996

FLEET CAPTAIN'S SIGNAL

Captain Dave's Miscellaneous Rambings

This month, the most wonderful of all the year when our boats are back in the water, when Claire called me for my article reminder, there were no deaths to write about. Instead it was Earth Day. How appropriate for sailors who are more involved with nature than most people. We see the results of pollution in dirty waters or some places that are clean. We feel the clean or dirty air. We become involved in garbage because on a boat you don't just put it down the disposer or put it out front for the invisible early morning truck to take away. Everything we do on a boat involves our complete involvement with all the forces of nature and we alone have complete responsibility for our own destiny. I think we all really like this responsibility and self-reliance. Yet there is another aspect of sailing that is the opposite of this individuality, and that is when we get together with our fellow sailors for camaraderie and fellowship. The wonderful turn out at our Spring meeting shows that togetherness is important to us. I think there were almost 38 people at

Harpers Ferry on a freezing cold March weekend. Lynn Merritt had warned us about nature's way of allowing winter to be full upon us in this part of the country at this time of year, but we ventured out anyway and we



were fully warned by all the wonderful friendships that have ensued with our group. We all thank Lynn and Ralph for planning and organizing this meeting. If you haven't yet contributed to the booze booster fund, I'm sure Lynn will be happy to receive your contribution! As I've said before, I say again: How wonderful to have people like Lynn and Ralph in our group who take all this time and effort to

plan our get-togethers. From all of us, we again thank Ralph and Lynn for helping us beat the winter blues.

We now are ready for all our summer events. I'm sure the list of Northern Bay raft-ups is printed somewhere in this newsletter. Claire and Duane will host the first traditional Whitehall Creek Drag Your Anchor Fun Time and Party, so those of you who haven't witnessed our hospitality recently, be sure to show up with some food goodies to share. As usually happens there is so much food nobody has to cook dinner for themselves. There will be many more events this summer including a Skipjack Crab Cruise from St. Mary's City. Start saving your money now as this promises to be a truly unique experience. There will also be an all-Catalina Weekend in Baltimore, so look for information on this one. It may be early, but Jan and Walt Rupp have already volunteered to host our Fall meeting November 9th at Solomons Island. Give them any suggestions now.

As reported at our Spring meeting and reiterated in the Mainsheet, if it ever comes out, Fleet 12 members are taking over the National C34 Association. Jan

Rupp continues as National Treasurer, De Winchell continues as Mainsheet Editor, and we welcome Bob Bierly as new Vice Commodore, unless somebody else wants this position (and I'm sure he would give it up if asked.) He will eventually move up to Commodore. And finally, Ron Hill will be the Mainsheet Technical Guru and Consultant. But he needs your help if everyone would write down a question and send it to Ron, he would have a good start and enough material for several issues. Phyllis and De will be helping Ron by typing this material so you don't have to put anything on disc if you don't want to.

In addition to all this exciting news, a committee has been formed consisting of Duane Maher and Phil Davies to consider the possibility of Fleet 12 hosting a C34 East Coast Regatta. More people are welcome on the committee as we hope to plan a cruising regatta rather than a racing one like they do on the West Coast. We can do whatever we want as our Fleet is now the number one dominate fleet in the nation!

The last piece of news involves our own Bill Brown and the article he wrote that was accepted by Bay Magazine titled "No more Rode on the Rhode." Look for it sometime.

I'm really looking forward to the best summer yet this summer! I'll be lookin' for ya!

— Cap'n Dave

Schedule of Events

May 18 -- Raft-up in Whitehall Creek (off Whitehall bay)
Hosted by Duane and Claire Maher

June 22 -- Raft-up in Reed Creek (off Chester River)
Hosted by Lynn Merritt/Ralph Caruso

July 27 -- Crab Feast sail aboard a Skipjack, St. Mary's River
See advertisement on last page of newsletter

Aug 9-11 -- All Catalina party at Harbor View Marina, Baltimore
Hosted by Backyard Boats/Catalina. See advertisement page 6.

Aug 10 -- Raft-up in Swan Creek (near Rock Hall)
Hosted by Bill & Suzanne Brown

Sept 7 -- Raft-up near Dobbins Island, Magothy River
Hosted by De Winchel/Dave Ewing

Oct. 5 -- Baltimore Inner Harbor
Hosted by Corky & Lin Dalton

Cruise Captains will provide details about their cruises in *DOCKLINE* or will send mailings in advance of their cruises. Cruise captains and participants should start monitoring Channel 78 at 1200 on Saturday.

How about a theme for your cruise? Food-Drink-Dinghy Race-Best Hat-Best T Shirt-Charades-Treasure Hunt-Fleet 12 Trivia-Karaoke-Fastest Bowline-Food-Drink!

Cruise Captains are requested to write an article about their cruises for the newsletter.

Corky Dalton
WINDY LIN D.
Upper Bay Cruise Coordinator

For all you computer people we have compiled a list of member e-mail addresses. I hope I've typed them correctly but if there is an error let me know and I'll correct it in the next newsletter.

Dave Ewing/De Winchel: cherette@aol.com
Duane/Claire Maher: duane_maher@prodigy.com
Joan Davies: jedavies@arachne.princeton.edu
Phil Davies: pdavies@prudential.com
Bill Beck: wrbeck@mra.ffx.mobil.com
Bill Brown: wbrown4451@aol.com
Ed/Pat Land: elcinc@lannews.inf.net
Art/Ann Massey: aamassey@aol.com
Gene Norris: enorris@gnu.edu



BALLADE OF THE CATALINA THIRTY-FOUR

(A Drinking Song Sung to the Tune of *Abdulla Bulbul Amir*)

Come gather 'round sailors from all ports of call
From Newport to old Singapore
And hear how the Bay was preserved for us all
By a Catalina thirty-four.

Long years we have suffered from brutal onslaughts
The ruin of our nights and days
By Avengers and Trojans, those wild juggernauts:
Bayliners, Mainships, and Sea Rays.

Though battered and bashed by those go-faster craft
Which make our sails flutter and flail,
We've known in our hearts that those skippers are daft!
So we've continued serenely to sail.

But then, just last year, the beginning of May
And as if under a spell,
A crew labored hard to put into the Bay
The Cigarette boat that came straight from hell.

Sixty feet LOA, she soon got under way
With a thunderous roar from her stern
Her name, quite succinctly, was *Outta Mah Way*
Her wake and bow wave seemed to burn.

The skipper, it's said, dressed entirely in red,
Appeared to have a long tail
Which he twirled 'round his head as he fiendishly said:
"Well now I'm gonna get me some sail!"

From Still Pond to Oxford, from Crisfield to Deal
From the Sassafras down to the James,
This devilish craft, with a devilish zeal
Sent each sailboat she met up in flames.

Then one day she ventured down Occoquan way
In search of more vessels to burn. =
There she saw a sleek sloop out of Fairfax, VA
And proceeded to make a fast turn.
The sleek sloop, *Apache*, a C-34
Was planning to tackle the "Ditch."
Provisioned to cruise well for eight months or more

To the Abacos without a hitch.

But the devil-boat skipper, a sneer on his lips,
Proposed to cut that trip short.
The flame-throwing weapons he shot from his hips
Would very soon make them abort.

But *Apache's* bold skipper, who'd seen things this strange
While flying around Ton Son Nhutt,
Announced to his mate they were going to change
That Cigarette boat to a cigarette butt!

This intrepid skipper, friend Col. Ron Hill,
Quickly threw a bow line 'round his fee.
Yanked him onto *Apache* where good first mate Phyllis
Greeted him with a "Gee-ronimo!"

The devil-boat skipper was caught unawares.
He'd never had such a fright.
And before he could save himself or say his prayers,
Phyllis had trussed him up tight.

Well he let out a wail as they wrapped him in sail,
Keelhauled him despite all his moans.
Then they weighed him down well with some lead in a pail
And sent him to meet Davy Jones.

Just one thing remained in reclaiming the Bay,
So *Apache's* stout spinnaker pole
Rammed right through the port side of old *Outta Mah Way*
And left a neat waterline hole.

So the Cig boat was holed and her skipper keelhauled,
As should be all who plague the Bay.
And Ron and Phyll Hill, be it ever recalled!
For our sailboats they sure saved the day.

So glasses high, shipmates! Let's never forget!
In Newport or old Singapore
That the boat that put out a real mean Cigarette
Was a Catalina Thirty-four.

Bill Brown (with important contributions by Suzanne)
Plaisir d'Amour

STATUS OF THE FLEET
Spring 1996

Dues are over due from some of you. So if your label is yellow, please send me 20 bucks fellow! (Actually, I will accept the lady's check just as well.) More seriously, this newsletter is directed to 32 active 1995 members of which 21 are paid up, card carrying members for 1996. At the fall meeting, the assembled membership agreed to raise the annual dues from \$15 to \$20, so PLEASE send in your dues today to:
Bob Bierly, 6817 Ontario Street, Springfield, VA 22152. If you are not sure about whether your label is yellow from highlighter, old age, the mailman's tobacco juice or excessive pollen, feel free to give me a call at 703-451-2258 and I will happily report the status of your dues.

For the first time in several editions of the newsletter, we have no new members to introduce in this space. So as you pull off the tarps, shine the topsides, cetol the teak, sand and repaint the bottom, install the new GPS, refit the bimini and dodger, bend on the sails, and dust out the cobwebs, please introduce yourself to the new Catalina 34 owner who just moved into your Marina and sell him/her a membership in the best fleet of the best boats Catalina makes. If past is prologue, we will lose several of our 1995, unpaid-up as of now, members, due to changing interests, sale of boat (I know of at least one), moves to new areas, etc., etc., etc.. So, to keep our Fleet healthy and active (not to mention wealthy enough) and if you need sales help in pitching the fleet, please send me any Catalina 34 owners' names you run across (NOT

INTO) during your spring fitting out. I have found the club newsletter sells the Fleet. I will mail an invitation, newsletters, and a membership application to each.

Bear in mind, there was a NEW Catalina 34 Mark II shown in the EXPO in Atlantic City. If you sight one, not only can you recruit a new member for Fleet 12, you can also get a guided tour of the new improved (??) version in the transaction. Our membership is now not dependent solely on current owners and new owners of resold boats. Hope to see you all about the Bay this season. Let's hope the spring and summer are not as extreme as this winter was. Happy Sailing!

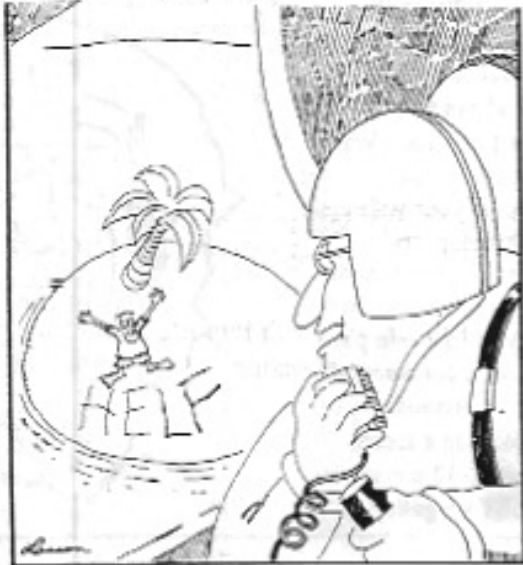
Bob Bierly
Secretary/Treasurer



Classified

SAIL FOR SALE --
1993 135% Genoa - \$675
Contact Ed Land at Home
717-569-6275
elcinc@lannews.inf.net

DATASCOPE FOR SALE
Monocular fluxgate compass.
Like new - Retails for \$350
Yours for \$100
Contact Duane Maher at Home
301-570-9356
duane_maher@prodigy.com



"Wait! Wait! ... Cancel that, I guess it says 'help'."

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Those of you that were at the Harpers Ferry meeting in March know that De Winchell called and I volunteered to take over the C-34 Technical Notes section of the MAINSHEET. Seems Herb Schneider is moving up to a new C-42.

I was somewhat reluctant because Phyllis and I could do about APACHE an average of 14-15 weeks each year (may even go down the ICW this fall). I don't want this commitment to cut into our sailing time, but neither do I want our C-34 MAINSHEET Technical section to falter for lack of an editor.

This is where the members of Fleet 12 come in. When I'm out of contact, you can expect De to be calling some of you into helping out for an issue. I think we're fortunate as our fleet has all kinds of expertise in all aspects of the C-34. Maybe we can even get a 2 or 3 page article out of Art Massey on installing a towel rack. Only kidding, Art!

De and I hope to expand the number of contributors by not restricting articles to only a disc with only a Windows format, although that is preferred. We'll even take handwritten articles, but give us a break. If your wife can't read your handwriting, try printing. I hope to insure that an article on a fix or modification is complete. It should include part numbers, telephone numbers (if appropriate), cost, manufacturer, etc. An example was a recent article in the last C-32 section on the MAINSHEET on galley

modification. The writer made some dividers for the top drawer in the galley. An absolutely great idea, but he didn't give enough information so the reader could immediately purchase the necessary materials to complete the job. It was frustrating to me as our top drawer really needed organization - it was a disaster. Fortunately, a few days after I read the article, Phyllis found a white plastic covered wire (similar to the icebox/refrigerator shelves) cutlery separator with 3 long sections and 1 across. It fits in the C-34 top galley drawer with a little extra room on the side and front/back. Where? West Marine #232425 at a whopping cost of \$4.95.

Lastly, I'm not on line, but do have f-mail (a fax machine), U.S. Mail, UPS, FedEx, Ron-a-gram, or channel 16! My fax # is the same as my home phone number (540) 891-5297. When we are cruising, we check our answering machine regularly.

Ron Hill
Apache



ANOTHER PARTY

Backyard Boats and Catalina are sponsoring a rendezvous for August 9-11. Final plans have not been set but here is what we know so far.

The event will be held at Harbor View Marina in Inner Harbor, Baltimore. It's open to all Catalina's from anywhere. Slips (about 100) will be available on a first come basis. The price is still being negotiated. The social events planned feature a registration/cocktail party Friday evening; events during the day on Saturday (no races), a dinner Saturday night and a farewell breakfast Sunday. John Middleton of BYB will be in touch with me as the plans become finalized.

I will publish the details in the July newsletter. However, if you are interested, you should reserve your slip soon.

Claire Maher
Editor

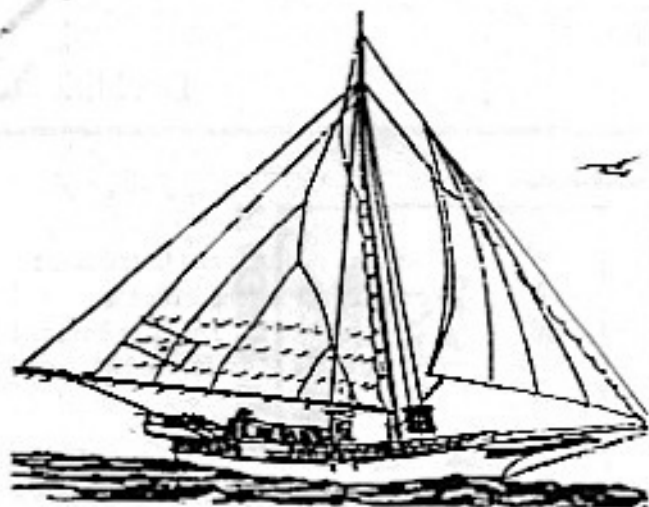
Season Opener Raft-Up
May 19-19

Hosted by Ozuro & Claire

Where: somewhere in Whitehall Creek.

Our anchor will be set by 1:00 for early arrivals. We'll be listening on Channel 78 to direct you to our spot. (We have a good anchor now!)

Bring your favorite drink and food. Maybe Cap'n Dave will lead a sing-along. (After lots of drinks.) Hope to see you there.



FLEET 12 CRAB FEAST
3:00 P.M. SATURDAY, JULY 27, 1996

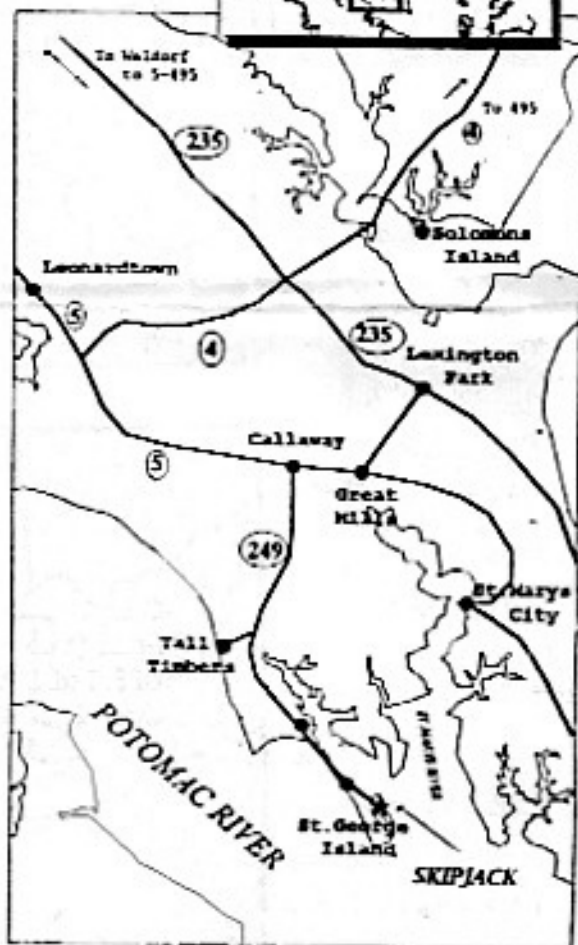
Feast aboard the Skipjack "The Dee of St Mary's" while cruising for three hours on the St Mary's River. We'll dredge for oysters and have a discussion by Captain Jack Russel on the vessel as well as Chesapeake Bay bottom creatures and features.

Meal: Steamed spiced crabs, corn on the cob, steamed soft shell clams, tomatoes, watermelon, cantaloupe, iced tea, and ham and biscuits for the non crab eaters. BYOB wine and beer.

Foul weather plan: Same date and time, but eat off the menu at Evans Seafood Restaurant, St. George's Island (they have a dingy dock).

Anchor in Price Cove on St George's Creek and dingy to the skipjack or see strip map if you arrive by car.

Cost: \$30 per person. We need a minimum of 20. Maximum is 38.



FOLLOW DIRECTIONS ON MAP TO ST. GEORGE ISLAND. ONCE ACROSS BRIDGE, CONTINUE FOR 3 MILES AND LOOK FOR THE SKIPJACK MAST!

HAGGAR THE HORRIBLE



BY DIK BROWNE



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