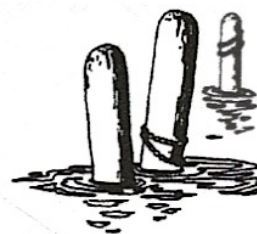


The Dockline
Chesapeake Bay
Catalina 34
Fleet 12



July 15, 2006

Volume 15, Number 3

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Catalina Yachts would like to invite you and your family to join our festivities and be part of "Carnival Catalina!", July 28th, 29th, and 30th, 2006 on the East Coast. Catalina Yachts will be hosting its annual Catalina Rendezvous.

These unique events include a weekend of information, fun and socializing with fellow Catalina owners, dealers and factory representatives.

To facilitate the organization of this event, please register early.. For the East Coast Rendezvous, the deadline will be **Monday, JULY 17th**. To catalina@catalinayachts.com

Captains Signal

Catalina 34, Fleet 12

A Birthday on the Bay: The Chesapeake Bay's Catalina 34 Fleet 12 held a raft-up on the same weekend that the Fleet's Captain was celebrating his birthday. As was stated in the announcement of the raft-up, written by the fleet Captain of course, presents would be accepted, however, food and wine would be fine. Four boats made it to Baby Owl Cove, off Leadenham Creek, off Broad Creek, off the Choptank River, off the Chesapeake Bay.! Boy, that's a lot of offs. The four skippers must really know their navigation in order to traverse all those offs.



"Apache" and "Irish Lady", shown in the photo, arrived first, followed by the host boat "Second Wind" and joined later on by "Blue Horizon".



Food and wine for all (see photo), good conversation, sharing of boat tips, and a general good time continued way into Saturday evening. Naturally, there was a birthday cake for dessert.



If you look closely at the picture of the cake, you will see a hole where a single candle was. It's bad enough to light one candle on a boat, but if there was one candle for each year of the birthday boy's age we would have had to call for the fire boats to stand by. What about presents you say. Well, in fact, there were some; a baked-on-board birthday cake (also shown in the photo), and a bottle of wine. After a leisurely breakfast on Sunday morning the boats went their separate ways, three to head for home port and "Apache" to continue its annual, spring six week cruise on the Bay

Fleet Captain, Lou Berman
louberman@qoeaston.net

C 34 Fleet 12, Activity News

Report on raft-up on Whitehall Bay, May 13.

Joan and Phil Davies hosted a raft-up on Whitehall Creek (sort of) on May 13. They arrived on *Gambol* in time to see Ron and Phyllis Hill on *Apache* proceeding past Whitehall Bay and into Ridout Creek. The raft-up was moved to Ridout Creek due to threatening weather. As all of you, familiar with the Bay, know the weather never turns bad.

his
In due course, Denise Gill and friend Kathy arrived on *First Point of Aries*. Dave Ewing arrived on *Charette*. Then Kathleen and Bill Nutall on *Irish Lady* joined us. *Apache* and *Irish Lady* rafted together while *First Point of Aries* and *Charette* rafted with *Gambol*, Ron Hill used his dinghy to bring Dan Brail to the festivities. Dan had been working on his boat at a nearby marina. One interesting note, Phil had tried calling *Charette* on the VHF earlier in the day and received a response from someone on *Charette*. It didn't sound like Dave and Phil quickly established that it was the wrong boat. The captain asked if Dave was an architect and, upon learning that he was, said that all architects name their boat *Charette*. The assembled sailors ate and drink until the wee hours (well until nine or ten anyway), told tall tales and generally had a good time with decent weather. All in all it was a good time and a good turn out considering the threatening weather. Phil and Joan also joined a mini raft-up the week before in the Magothy with Bill and Dot Beck on *Tango* and Ralph Caruso and Lynn Merritt on *On Y Va*. Lin and Corky Dalton were aboard *Gambol* with Joan and Phil. The Dalton's are momentarily boatless so there was a lot of discussion of boat possibilities, the price of fuel and the amount consumed by a boat without sails. There was also some discussion of the meaning of "momentarily" boatless and how long the moment would be.

No compass
The three boats met behind Gibson Island off the Magothy and *Tango* proceeded to set an anchor for the raft. For reasons that will remain a mystery, the anchor would not set. No matter where or how, it still wanted to drag. After four or more tries and having tired of this, the party adjourned to Broad Creek and had more success with anchoring (using two anchors for three boats after one brief episode of anchor slippage). With two anchors out, a good, and peaceful night was had by all. The wine may have helped! Hope to see everyone at the crab fest.

Phil and Joan Davies *Gambol*

Wye Island Raft up held on May 20th

We couldn't ask for prettier weather. That plus the serene ambiance of the northern side of the Wye Island made what most gunk-holers wish for every weekend. Although the raft up was originally planned for

DeCoursey Cove, we decided to drop Bay-Tripper's anchor just slightly east of DeCoursey Cove because of shoaling found inside the cove. We didn't want to get any recognition for being the founder of another Hank's lump. First to arrive was (and appropriately named) First-Point of Aries with Captain Denise Gill and her crew of two, Cathy and Mary. Then came Blue Horizon commandeered by Captain Dave and First Mate Joan (aka Chicken) Schreder, immediately followed by TreeHouse with Admiral Linda and Swabbie Jack Dunnigan. We all wondered how they arrived at the name TreeHouse. Jack said "when I was a kid, I always wanted a treehouse". Actually, it was one of those family things. Anyway, that made for a lopsided raft up, one to starboard and two on port. But, after several hours, low and behold, there in the distance came drifting another Catalina 34, unbeknownst, never announced, we just couldn't figure out who in the hell they were. As they drew closer, we spotted their handle—SKIPPER—our newest (just joined two weeks prior) members. Skipper's crew, Captain Jim (sorry-forgot his last name), son Ryan and buddy Todd, deserve a big hand of applause for joining in on the raft-ups so soon after joining Fleet 12. Now visualize this. You just bought a boat. Your first mate doesn't want to join in until you fix up the place. So you get a couple of buddies to sail to this raft up sponsored by this new club you just joined not knowing what to expect. You arrive only to find a nice table of fine wines and beers and all kinds of great appetizers and deserts. Jim calls out "May we join you, we got a bag of Doritos". Boy did we have a good time razzing Jim. You're all going to like Jim. We sure did. Skipper tagged onto our starboard and made the raft up symmetrical which sure came in handy especially when the winds kicked up later that evening. Next morning, all were up by 8AM. Forecast indicated that a front was coming in later that afternoon from the southwest with small craft warnings and winds gusting up to 30 knots. By 9AM, all departed. Later that afternoon—my foot—no sooner than leaving the Wye River, the southwest winds were clocking 15-20 knots. The race was on for the #1 Green at the mouth of the Eastern Bay. Made for great tacking down the Eastern Bay. What a ride home!

Hank & Susan Recla
Bay-Tripper #954

From Jim Brenner June 3-4

Jackie and I were in Leadenham Creek this weekend. Some notes of interest. Lou's warning about entering the Narrows is right on, hug rounding the red 4. When we were entering the Bay

from the Narrows on Monday, a sail boat was grounded at that spot, traffic was heavy and a well meaning powerboater tried to get the sail boat free. Instead of waiting for the traffic to clear and alert the bridge tender and others on channel 13, they pulled the boat directly in front of ours and we had no place to go with boats behind us and shoals to the right (an) left. We managed to stop and hold position but then touched bottom going a just little wide (about 15 feet from the red 4) to the North to avoid the sail still under tow, but plowed through it. Another note, as you enter Baby Owl Cove, there is a point of land forming the East side of the Cove. From that point there is an unmarked shoal extending South about 40 yards from the point. Stay in the middle of the Creek and hand a sharp right into the Cove. We should know, several years ago we were following other sails into the creek just a little to the North of their line and grounded hard about 10 feet from deep water at high tide. Took Tow Boat 10 minutes to break us free and we were quite happy to have paid the extra coverage for unlimited towing on our BoatUS policy.

I don't think we will go back this coming weekend, don't like to be around "old" people, so have fun, see you all another time and Lou, have a Happy Birthday and many more seasons under sail.

Jim
Wind Spirit

Around the BAY

From Denise Gill in case you missed page 1! Thanks Denise.

UPCOMING EVENTS

At the end of July Catalina Yachts is sponsoring their bi-annual Catalina Rendezvous, scheduled to be held at the Inner Harbour in Baltimore, Maryland. The Rendezvous is available by land or sea. If by sea there are docking expenses. The event also has admission expenses. July 28, 29, & 30

Also that same weekend the Corsica River Yacht Club is hosting their Annual Regatta which culminates in a bluegrass / fabulous chicken BBQ dinner event held there at Conquest Beach on the Chester River. (This event is promoted by Dan and Maryann Brail.) The Corsica River Yacht Club event has but a dinner expense. There is a nice basin for anchoring and a sandy area to land a dingy. On a nice weekend this event is a good excuse to sail up the Chester River and relax on the hook, eat some great food and listen to music. July 29 & 30

Please let the Fleet Captain know which event you would commit to attending. It would be great to have a Fleet 12 presence at either event or both!
Denise Gill

Final 2006 Raft-up Schedule Chesapeake Bay C34 Fleet 12

Date Location Raft Captain

CRAB FEAST

26 Aug (Dundock Power Sgdn) Bill Nuttall
Haven Harbor - Rock Hall Md.

Come by Land or Sea

For your information

"Deltaville Market GreatValu Food Store -- New Ownership!

Check out our Marina Express Service. ... express delivery service to your boat -- just call or fax in your grocery order, you can even come in and shop yourself, and we'll deliver your groceries to you FREE! A great idea if you're planning an extended boat trip or just a weekend getaway, or if you travel by boat and have no vehicle to transport your groceries! Deltaville Market Great Valu is glad to help... 804-776-6131" The flyer includes a \$5.00 off coupon from purchase of \$25 or more good June 1-30. In the past when stopping in

Deltaville on extended cruises we've called for a ride to buy groceries. Since West Marine is next door Ron could run in there while I started grocery shopping. Might be useful info for someone else. Phyllis Hill

Navigation Information

One of our members asked for local info concerning traversing Knapps Narrows and suggested I send it out to all of you. So here it is:

For Knapps Narrows, when entering or leaving on the bay side you have to stay close to the south side. On the Choptank side you have to stay close to the north side. For example: Entering from the Bay, stay close to the last red (#4), then take a 45 degree turn to your right and head for the rip-rap. When close to the rip-rap you angle left into the narrows. Reverse this on the way out. Leaving to go into the Choptank, from red (#6) head towards the last green. Do not go close to the first green. The shallowest area is about half way between that red and green, and stays somewhat shallow till that first green.

Hope this helps. Lou.

Membership Information

Lou and Joan,

The new address and telephone no. of Mercedes Casanova and Henry Heck. Effective Jan. 19 they will become:

9536 25th Bay St.

Norfolk, VA 23518

(757) 228-1032

(252) 945-0319 (cell)

Hello!

Is this the proper way to contact the Chesapeake C34 fleet? New owner C34 MkII to be delivered 6/06

Barry Smoger

s/v LOON From s/v Loon

Please update my e-mail-to <sailormac6@msn.com>

We have new e.mail addresses:

Dan Brail - dbrail@comcast.net

Maryann Brail - mbrail@comcast.net

Hi:

I have Ron's keel bolt nut wrench. If you would like to borrow it, please let me know. If you need to tighten your nuts, you should do so with the boat on the hard.

Dan Brail

410-757-2938

Vessel Safety Checks by Jeff McKinney, AP, VE
(*Event Horizon*, #1734)

Even though this is boating season, did you know that this is a perfect time to start preparing for your annual Vessel Safety Check (VSC)? What, that? You don't know what a VSC is? The Vessel Safety Check Program is a **FREE** service provided by Maryland DNR, the US Coast Guard (USCG), USCG Auxiliary (USCGA), and the US Power Squadrons. (USPS).

The VSC consists of a voluntary inspection of your boat (either in or out of the water) by specially trained and certified Vessel Examiners (VE). A variety of items listed on the inspection form will be checked. The size and type of boat, propulsion systems, and other factors will determine what is inspected, but there are a number of key things that are required for any boat operating in the bay or ocean. A specific list can be seen at http://safetyseal.net/what_is_vsc.asp. This list will help you identify what you might need to correct or replace prior to start of the boating season.

The exam typically takes less than an hour to complete. If your boat passes, you will receive a sticker which is applied to either the port side of your mast or cabin window. You will also receive a copy of the examination form signed by the VE. Keep this with your registration or documentation paperwork during the boating season. If the DNR or USCG pulls you over to conduct an inspection they will see the sticker and probably send you on your way. If they still ask to board to conduct an inspection, present this form to them along with your boat's paperwork. It will likely be sufficient for their needs, and you are on your way. Please note that passing an exam will NOT exempt you from an additional inspection by DNR or the USCG. Polite cooperation with these folks is always the wise decision.

Other added benefits include knowing your boat is up to the standards AND a possible reduction in your annual insurance premium. Not all carriers offer this benefit (most notably Boat US does NOT), but it never hurts to ask. You can also avoid a hefty fine by the DNR or USCG if your required equipment is not compliant with the regulations when they stop you.

The most common things that causes a boat to fail the inspection are non-functioning navigation lights, expired signal flares (the date is printed on the outside), expired registration, and non-compliance with state or local regulations. If you don't pass, you will be given a copy of the examination form that indicates what deficiencies need to be corrected. Once the corrections or repairs have been completed, you should contact an examiner for another inspection. Go to <http://safetyseal.net/> for additional information. There is also a search tool for locating Vessel Examiners based on zip codes at this website.

I usually carry the exam forms and stickers with me during the cruises so can even do one during a raft-up. Another prime times to get this done would in your own marina, and National Boating Safety Week May 20-26, 2006. The USCGA and USPS frequently conduct inspections during the Saturday of that week. Check with your local groups and marinas for details

For Sale (These may have sold but check anyway)

Bottom Sider cockpit cushions for a Catalina 34 (1986). Color, Royal blue, with white accent stripe. Asking \$50.00 or reasonable offer.

Contact: Dave Zonderman, 973.584.3981

Email sail274@optonline.net

Keep Cool!

A Cruise Air, air conditioner for your hatch opening is available just in time for the summer season hot spells. Enjoy comfort in your Catalina 34 cabin at the dock. This unit was used for two seasons and now is ready for a new owner.

Asking \$475.00 or any reasonable offer.

Contact Walt Rupp, 301-863-0175

Redneck

church

1. You Know You're in a Redneck Church if... the finance committee refuses to provide funds for the purchase of a chandelier because none of the members knows how to play one.

2. You Know You're in a Redneck Church if... people ask, when they learn that Jesus fed the 5000, whether the two fish were bass or catfish, and what bait was used to catch 'em.

3. You Know You're in a Redneck Church if... when the pastor says, "I'd like to ask Bubba to help take up the offering," five guys and two women stand up.

4. You Know You're in a Redneck Church if... opening day of deer season is recognized as an official church holiday.

5. You Know You're in a Redneck Church if... a member of the church requests to be buried in his 4-wheel-drive truck because "It ain't never been in a hole it couldn't get out of"

6. You Know You're in a Redneck Church if... the choir is known as the "OK Chorale".

7. You Know You're in a Redneck Church if... in a congregation of 500 members, there are only seven last names in the church directory.

Author not known

Editors Corner

We welcome any suggestions and look for inputs for the next "Dockline" due in November 2006. These items include pictures rafting write op's and other information.

Note: we are changing our email address from: Jan and Walt Rupp, jrupp@chesapeake.net to

Jan and Walt Rupp, brigadoon5@verizon.net

We have gone DSL!

Jan and Walt Rupp