

Art Show Brings Out Local Best

by Judy Mitchell

On Sunday, February 13, the Artists of Dogue Creek presented their first Art Show at the Mount Vernon Yacht Club. Local artists were invited to display their works. A wine and cheese reception added to the celebration of this event.

The "grand salon" at MVYC's Clubhouse provided a wonderful ambiance for the arts and crafts, with its large windows providing excellent natural lighting for the simple and elegant décor that was a backdrop for the artwork.

Among those who shared their talents with the members were Chris Baden-Mayer, Bob Beggan, Michele Downey, Susan Fitzgerald, Mary Galloway (K. Young sharing Mary's fine needlework), Carol

(See *Art Show* on page 2)



Clay sculptures by MVYC member Jerri Pogue were among the many works displayed at the recent well-attended art show. (Photo: Russell Poe)



A lively crowd was on hand to enjoy the exhibits as well as the food and drink at this show by the Artists of Dogue Creek. (Photo: Russell Poe)

Membership Meeting
Thursday, 3 March 8pm

Next Board Meeting: 21 March 7:30pm
Next Membership Meeting: 7 April 8pm

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PRYCA Report

Ed Zebrowski

PYRCA conducted its monthly Board meeting and quarterly Delegates meeting at MVYC on Monday 7 February.

Steve Donock, past PYRCA Commodore, set up the chairs & tables, and hosted the Board meeting. MVYC Commodore Bonnie Breneman hosted the Delegates meeting. Thanks to both of you and to George Holthaus for transforming the Clubhouse from a Superbowl cabaret to a meeting facility.

Key dates on the PYRCA calendar for the 2005 boating season are:

- 11 May - Commodores Night at Port of Washington YC 1800hrs. (Member club Commodores accompany their respective PYRCA Delegates to this meeting, at which Commodores discuss their club's highlights and 2005 calendar).
- 14 May - PYRCA Flag Raising at Washington YC, 1300hrs.
- 15 May - Blessing of the Fleet, Washington Channel 1300hrs.
- Early June - Cobb Island days.
- 11 - 15 July - PYRCA Float-In at Somers Cove, Crisfield, MD
- 15 July - Float-In Golf Outing
- 13 - 14 August Dog Days of August at Colonial YC
- 3 - 4 Parade of Lights, Alexandria & Washington



Above: Needlepoint by Mary Galloway. Below: A photo, by Russell Poe, of some photos by Russell Poe. (Photos: Russell Poe)

(From *Art Show*, page 1)

Hamrick, Marvel Luykx, Mary McGowan, Matt Mitchell (provided by Judy Mitchell), David Miskimens, Madeline O'Malley, Russell Poe, Jerri Pogue, Jean Scully, David Sharpe, Nancy Valley and Karen Young.

During the three-hour showing, over 50 guests visited to view the exhibits. By the end of the afternoon, the room was teeming with laughter and conversation, and had all the atmosphere and conviviality of a successful Yacht Club party.

Many thanks to the committee for providing a new event that will hopefully be repeated next year. Those who were in the planning and executing the art show were Pamela Beggan, Gloria Curry, Carol Hamrick, Susan Fitzgerald, Carol Kennedy, Judy Mitchell, Madeline O'Malley and Karen Young.

Members and friends of the Mount Vernon Yacht Club with artistic talent, come forward and present your fine work as an Artist of Dogue Creek at the next show.

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All Club members may submit articles, letters and notices for editorial review and possible publication. Submission by e-mail or diskette is encouraged.

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Cover artwork by
Don Cannavaro

**Deadline:
15th of month**

Beacon@MountVernonYachtClub.com

The Bosun's Whistle

Bonnie Breneman, Commodore



How about this weather? It's February 15 and just 2 weeks ago, Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow, foretelling six more weeks of winter. With temperatures in the fifties more often than not, I am beginning to wonder when the six weeks begins! I hope that by April 1, we will have seen the last of winter weather and the reorganization of the marina will be complete.

The Marina Committee is busy with slip assignments as well as supervising the C & D dock revision. If the weather cooperates, it promises to be a great season on the water. Thanks to all who have already paid your dues and fees. Prompt pay-

ments really help the club to move ahead with the activities for the year.

February's been a busy month so far... the overland cruise to Tim's, the first annual art show, and Valentine's Day are all behind us. Speaking of the art show, what talented members we have! If you missed it, tune in next year for an even more impressive event.

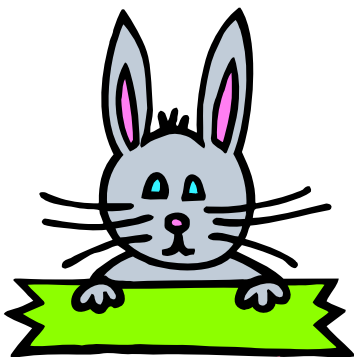
I am sad to report the passing on January 25th of long-time member Ben Bennett after an extended illness. Services were held at the Fort Belvoir Chapel.

... The Marina Committee is busy with slip assignments ...

Thanks to all who attended the membership meeting on February 3. Please check out my letter to the Alexandria City Council regarding Old Dominion Boat Club's property issues; it will accom-

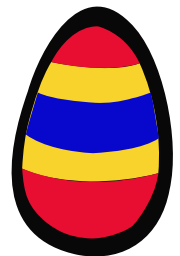
pany the meeting minutes in anticipation of the next membership meeting, March 3, 2005, 8:00 PM. See you there.

Hey, Bunny! Tell the Kids! It's an Easter Egg Hunt!



Sunday, March 20th - on the Point!
1:00 to 2:30 pm

Hop on down to the Point, have lunch, and hunt for eggs filled with goodies! It will take place rain or shine, so bring a basket to fill and a dish to share and come on down!



Questions? Call Julie Thomas
at 703-780-6308

On Your Mark —

Mike MacNair, Swim Team



The MVYC Dolphins will start their season with the pancake breakfast starting just before Clean-Up Day on April 2 at 8:00 AM. We need your help, so email iamellen@aol.com to volunteer.

We will hold our kick-off banquet on May 1st at 6pm at the Clubhouse. We welcome Brooke Sorber back as head coach, and she will be assisted by Regan Doyle. As a member of the Dominion Country Club league, MVYC typically has 40 swimmers competing each Saturday from mid-June to the end of July. We practice daily with a variety of skill levels and ages. We have sent 7 swimmers to all-stars the last 2 years with great results. The team is a great way for your kids to spend their summer making friends, getting some great exercise as well as learning to swim — and boaters know how important that is. Stop by the pancake breakfast or contact Ellen MacNair 703-780-9713 with any questions.

2005 MVYC Dolphins Schedule

Apr 2	8:00 AM	Pancake Breakfast	MVYC
May 1	6:00 PM	Kickoff Pot Luck Dinner	MVYC
May 15	4:00 PM	Stroke and Turn Clinic	George Mason
May 31	4:00 PM	PM Practice Begins	MVYC
Jun 10	5:30 PM	Time Trials	MVCC
Jun 17	6:00 PM	Pizza and Pictures	MVYC
Jun 18	9:00 AM	Fairfax Country Club	MVYC
Jun 25	9:00 AM	Westwood	Westwood CC
Jun 27	8:00 AM	AM Practice Begins	MVYC
Jul 4	10:00 AM	Softball and pool games	MVYC
Jul 7	5:00 AM	Springfield CC Meet	MVYC
Jul 9	9:00 AM	Mount Vernon CC Meet	Mt. Vernon CC
Jul 10	9:00 AM	Relay Carnival	Fairfax CC
Jul 12		Kings Dominion Trip	
Jul 16	9:00 AM	Hidden Creek	MVYC
Jul 23	9:00 AM	Evergreen CC	Evergreen CC
Jul 30	9:00 AM	All-star qualifiers	Springfield CC
Jul 31	10:00 AM	All star finals	Fairfax CC
Jul 31	6:00 PM	Banquet	MVYC



Pancake Breakfast Marina & Grounds Clean-up Day Saturday, April 2nd 9:30 a.m.

Enjoy delicious pancakes in the Clubhouse at 8:00 before working them off at Clean-up Day. It's a great way to support the Swim Team!

Only \$5/person or \$15/family

- Help make the Marina "ship-shape"
- Help with Landscaping
- Help with Sprinklers
- Help with the Pool Area

Please bring your work gloves, shovels, clippers, rakes, etc.



Questions? Call Joanna Meletis (703-495-9160)



*Greg Rehe,
Sail Fleet Captain*

News from the Weather Rail

ANNUAL POTOMAC YACHT RACING CLUB AWARDS DINNER

Who were the prize winners in the PYRC spinnaker division for 2004? Who were the non-spinnaker winners? How much "fun" was the Master of the Potomac regatta, and who were the winners?

If you are at all curious about the answers to these questions, and like "sea stories" about Potomac River sail yacht racing, you should not miss this year's PYRC awards dinner on Sunday, 13 March 2005.

This early evening event will not be a late-night affair, so you can go to work or exercise class on Monday having not been deprived of sleep the night before. What I am saying is that all members of the MVYC sailing community (racers or not, skippers, crews, race committee members, and spectators) are invited to join with their racing counterparts for a night out at the 2005 PYRC awards dinner. This year's gala event will be held on Sunday, 13 March 2005, at the Oasis on the Occoquan restaurant at 13188 Marina Way, Woodbridge, VA 22191. The restaurant is on the waterfront adjacent to the Occoquan Yacht Club, between the I-95 and US Route 1 bridges in Woodbridge. One can reach the Oasis by turning right immediately after crossing

the US Route 1 bridge southbound over the Occoquan River. (Last year's awards dinner was held at the same restaurant.)

Following the no-host social/cocktail hour from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., attendees will order from the menu. After dinner, the 2004 PYRC sailing awards will be presented. A short business meeting will follow, during which nominations for and election of officers for the 2005 sailing season will be held. A review of the proposed PYRC-sponsored sail racing events for 2005 will conclude the evening.

Please join us for this fun event. If you have questions about how to get there, call the restaurant (703-494-5000).

Upcoming Sail Fleet Events

April

- 10 Sun Spring Kick-Off Potluck Brunch
- 24 Sun Sail Fleet Tune-Up Race

May

- 15 Sun Race 1
- 21 Sat Kids Kup Quantico
- 22 Sun Race 2
- 28-30 Memorial Day Raft-Up

June

- 4 Sat Spring Fling Regatta (Series Races 3,4)
- 5 Sun Race 5
- 12 Sun Race 6
- 19 Sun Make-up Race
- 25 Sat Craney Island Night Race

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Don't just sit around in a stew – make one and bring it to the March 4th TGIF Party! Cold weather is a time for soup, stew, chowder, gumbo, goulash or bisque. Bring your favorite. Others not so inclined, bring a salad, bread (crackers/cheese), or dessert to complement the all-in-one hearty winter dishes popular around the world.

Whatever you do, come and get stewed.

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Power Fleet News

*David Miskimens,
Power Fleet
Captain*

Our most recent Power Fleet event was the annual Overland Cruise to Tim's Rivershore crab house. It was a beautiful Saturday for a drive over the hills and through the woods to Tim's. We had over 45 members show up for rock-fish, crab cakes, hush puppies and more. Check out the picture of MVYC folks filling the entire bar area. It was great!

The Power Fleet will meet on March 10th at 7PM to discuss the 2005 Power Fleet events and lay out plans for the boating season. I would really like to get many of you to join us to come up with ideas for raft ups, boating parades, and cruises or this year. We especially welcome new captains to bring new ideas to the group for the year.

Hmm, only two months to Commissioning Day!

Above: A full house at Tim's. Below: There's nothing as sad and lonely as a view of the dock at Tim's Rivershore when it's completely empty! (Photos: George Holthaus)



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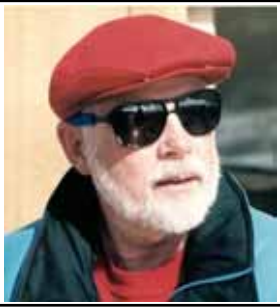
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Membership News

Bart Hewitt,
Membership



I'm writing this on Valentine's Day. LOVE is in the air. Like, I LOVE being Membership Chair (I'm not really a chair - I'm really a musician. Evelyn says I'm a ... OUCH! never mind).

One thing is sure: all of you will LOVE our newest members who joined MVYC just this month - Patrick Stallings and Karan Cerutti, who moved into Yacht Haven recently and are already active in Club activities, like carousing with the rest of us at Tim's. They are super people - seek them out and introduce yourselves. They will LOVE that.

And speaking of Annual Billing, did you know that, as of Valentine's Day, almost one-third of you have paid your dues? I LOVE that! Jill, our Treasurer (she really is a treasurer) LOVES that, too. As of March 1st, I will LOVE it if the other two-thirds have paid and we don't have to assess any 5% late fees. You will LOVE that, too. Wink, wink.

I mean, paying dues is fun! Our list of March MVYC membership anniversaries shows that some folks really LOVE paying dues. Jo Bennett has been loving our dues since 1968! Ernest & Denise Dauray have sorta liked them since 1978. Chuck & Arlene Dietz, Ed & Estelle Gibson, Roy & Linda Gurnham, Jim & Carol Hamrick have tolerated them since 1979, and, well, Ben & Jerri Pogue have been griping about them since 1980.

In conclusion, if you haven't received your Billing Statement yet, call me SOON. If you have any suggestions, membership concerns, a change of phone, address or E-mail, or if you want to hear how you, too, can learn to LOVE paying dues, please call me at 703-799-0401, or E-mail me at hewitts.house@verizon.net.

New Member Spotlight



New Members: We would love to introduce you by publishing a few paragraphs describing your family. Please contact Marge Skelly (mmskelly@cox.net or 703-360-8374) or Membership Chair Bart Hewitt (Hewitts.House@Verizon.net or 703-550-6023).

PATRICK STALLINGS & KARAN CERUTTI

Pat was born in San Diego, and grew up in Germany, North Carolina, New Jersey and Louisiana. He graduated from McNeese State U. in 1980, then joined the US Army as a commissioned Armor Officer and served in Texas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Germany, Georgia and Virginia. He also served in Bosnia, Kosovo, Iraq and Afganistan. In 2000, he graduated from the National War College with a Masters in National Security Studies.

Pat is currently assigned to US Army Human Resources command in Alexandria as the Combat Arms Division Chief for Officer Assignments. Pat has three kids: David, 22, an electrical engineer in Newport News, VA; Theresa, 21, a senior at Northwestern Louisiana U.; and Jeremy, 16, a high school junior in Shreveport, LA.

Karan was born in Pittsburgh, PA, and graduated from the Univ. of Pittsburgh in 1977. In 1978, she joined the Army as a drug & alcohol counselor, and was assigned in Germany. She was commissioned as a 2nd Lt. in 1980, and served as a Personnel Officer in Germany, Maryland, Georgia, Korea and Virginia. She received her Masters in Business Management in 1983 from Central Michigan. She retired in 1999 as a Major.

Pat and Karan married in 1995 in Heidelberg, Germany. Both enjoy boating, baseball, home renovation, travel and biking. Pat's other interests are history & racquetball, while Karan is into cats (all animals), reading and Pittsburgh Steelers football. They have already started to take an active part in MVYC, and look forward to contributing their time and effort here.

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CBYCA Report

Jacquie & Ed Knight

Virginia Acts on CBYCA Support for Lifejackets on Children

It appears Virginia will no longer be the only coastal state without a law requiring lifejackets for children.

Virginia state senators finally listened to CBYCA and other supporters about the need for a state law requiring lifejackets for children on recreational boats. But the bills did go to the House with an amendment reducing the age requirement from 12 years to 6 years.

SB1061, introduced by Senator L. Louise Lucas of Portsmouth, and companion bill SB909, introduced

by Senator Thomas Norment of Williamsburg, went from the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources to Courts of Justice Committee and were reported out on an 11-2 vote. The Senate passed the bills by an amazing 40-0 vote on February 8.

CBYCA appeared at two sessions of the Senate committees and sent statements to chairmen and committee members of both the Senate and House committees that considered the proposed bills.

The House Committee passed the amended Senate bills by a vote of 15 to 7 on Wednesday, February 16, and they were scheduled to go to the floor of the House within five or six days.

A recreational boat operator who violates the Virginia lifejacket law for children would be guilty of a Class 4 misdemeanor, which would be dismissed if the operator completes a boating safety education course. If passed as expected, the law will become effective date of January 1, 2006.

ODBC Update

CBYCA's web site posted a press release in early February supporting Old Dominion Yacht Club's campaign to save its facility from a takeover by the City of Alexandria for a public access park.

The city delayed action in mid January, pending a 90 to 120 day feasibility study by architects to be followed by a community discussion period of about 60 days.

ODBC is concerned that architects have so far not included the club in the park site plan, and that the city will try to move the club from its longtime, prime site at the foot of King Street in Old Town.

CBYCA also informed state senators of support for SB 1271, a bill that would have amended the definition of public uses for which localities could exercise eminent domain. But by a vote of 9 to 6, the Committee on Local Government failed to move the bill ahead for action.

Follow the ODBC saga at www.cbyca.org.

St. Patrick's Day Party at the Clubhouse



- When: Saturday, March 19th at 6 pm (RSVP by March 17th)
- Dress: Irish Green!
- Who: Adults only, please
- Where: MVYC Club House
- Cost: \$25 per person



Irish Food Provided by Old Town Deli. Beer and Irish Coffee and... a prize for best Irish dressed.

DJ music to dance the Irish spirits!

Early Bird Raffle for those who send checks in by March 10th.

Committee Chairs for this event: Gene Diotalevi and John Leary III

Cut-off date March 17th, Your check is your reservation.

Send check to: Zita Pojeta, 8726 Parry Lane, Alexandria, VA 22308



In the Spirit

Susana Gomez & Zita Pojeta
Social Committee

The Super Bowl Party was a lot of fun. A large group of members and guests attended. The Club's four TVs were put to good use as members watched the game and commercials. There was food galore. Members brought every kind of chili imaginable. There was white chili, chili without beans, chili with beans, black bean chili, and chili with a kick, as well as a lot of other "football food." Many enjoyed the free beer thanks to the beer fairy, also known as Russell Poe. A gigantic thank you to Mary Ann & George Holthaus and Helen & Bill Benz for hosting the party, and to Russell for making sure that the beer lockers were full.

The St. Patrick's Day Party will be held on Saturday, March 19, 2005, at 6:00 P.M. This year's party will be co-hosted by Gene Diotalevi and John Leary. **Old Town Deli** will cater the food. Enjoy Irish music during cocktail hour, and DJ music to dance to after dinner. Of course, there will be keg beer, and Irish whiskey at the bar. You can enjoy a hot cup of Irish coffee as you eat a delectable dessert. You can enjoy all of this for only \$25 per person. There will be an early bird gift basket raffle. **To be eligible for this raffle, you must mail your check by March 10, 2005.** The cut-off date for reservations will be March 17th. This is a popular party, so mail your check mailed early. Make your check payable to MVYC, and mail it to Zita Pojeta, 8726 Parry Lane, Alexandria, VA 22308.

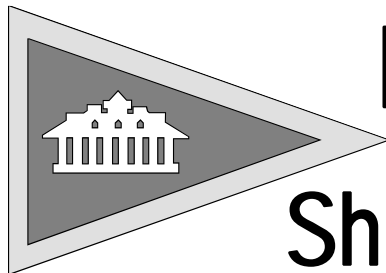
The Children's Easter Egg Hunt on the Point will be held on Sunday, March 20, 2005 from 1:00-2:30 PM. Julie Thomas and Maureen Mason will host this event. Please bring a snack or dish to share. Children should bring a basket or container for eggs. There is no charge for this event, so just come and enjoy the Easter celebration with the little ones.

Mark your calendars now for **Commissioning Day**, Sunday May 1, 2005. Susana Gomez and Mario Moreno will chair this event, and they are in need of volunteers to be on the committee. Please give them a call at (703) 799-8942 if you can help. It takes many hard-working individuals to make this day a success. Thanks to those who have already volunteered to help. Also, we'd like to thank Jackie Knight for her help and guidance as we plan this event.

The next **Social Committee Meeting** will be Monday, February 28, 2005 at 7:30 PM.



Alexi, Zoe & Christine Stavropoulos enjoy a day of football and food at the Superbowl Party. (Photo: George Holthaus)



MVYC Ship's Store

*Wear the MVYC logo, and
support the Swim Team!*



Sales benefit the MVYC Swim Team. Items available at home Swim Meets and other events.

Ladies tank top.....	\$15
Sweatshirt: Grey zippered.....	\$36
Navy/White crewneck	\$25
Navy/Grey hooded.....	\$36
Polo shirt: Navy/White	\$22
Sleeveless white	\$17
Shorts	\$10
MVYC Burgee	\$35
Dolphins Swim Team T-shirt	\$5
Visor, white	\$5
Polartec jackets: Full zipper	\$55
Half zipper	\$60
Cup holders, each:	\$3
set of 2	\$5

For information, contact:

Suzanne Floyd (floydspd@aol.com or 780-3414)

MVYC Club Calendar – March 2005

		1 Afternoon - Private Party Eve - Clubhouse closed for cleaning	2	3 Garden Club Mtg - 8 am - 2 pm 8 pm - Membership Mtg	4 7 pm - TGIF	5 Eve - Private Party
6	7 7:30 pm - Bridge Group	8 Eve - Clubhouse closed for cleaning	9	10	11 7 pm - TGIF	12
13	14	15 Eve - Clubhouse closed for cleaning	16	17 7 pm - Coast Guard Auxiliary Mtg	18 7 pm - TGIF	19  6 pm - St. Patrick's Day Party
20  1 pm - Children's Easter Egg Hunt	21 7:30 pm - Board Mtg	22 Eve - Clubhouse closed for cleaning	23	24 7:30 pm - Sail Fleet Mtg	25 7 pm - TGIF	26
27	28	29 Eve - Clubhouse closed for cleaning	30	31	April 1 7 pm - TGIF	April 2 MVYC Grounds Clean-Up Day and Pancake Breakfast

MVYC Club Calendar – April 2005

3	4 7:30 pm - Social Committee Mtg	5 Eve - Clubhouse closed for cleaning	6	7 Garden Club Mtg - 8 am - 2 pm 8 pm - Membership Mtg	8 7 pm - TGIF	9
10  11 am - Sail Fleet Spring Kick-Off Brunch	11 7:30 pm - Bridge Group	12 Eve - Clubhouse closed for cleaning	13	14	15 7 pm - TGIF	16
17	18 7:30 pm - Board Mtg	19 Eve - Clubhouse closed for cleaning	20	21 7 pm - Coast Guard Auxiliary Mtg	22 7 pm - TGIF	23
24  Noon - Power Fleet Brunch Cruise to Alex.	25	26 Eve - Clubhouse closed for cleaning	27	28	29 7 pm - TGIF	30