

**CSSM ANNUAL DINNER
TALBOT COUNTRY CLUB JANUARY 8, 2011**

1900: DINNER
CRAIG KELTING

INVITE EVERYONE TO BE SEATED FOR DINNER

Please be seated. (Point out fire exits and rest rooms)

I would like to welcome members and guests to the Annual Dinner for the Cruising Sailors of St. Michaels. If you don't have a little card with your name on it, and no one looks familiar to you, you might want to check the other room at this point. It's worth noting that the first annual dinner, called the Winter Rendezvous, was held in February, 1975, and was actually held at the Talbot Country Club.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance, and remain standing for the invocation. I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

INVOCATION

Now, if you'll please bow your heads for the invocation. Lord, we thank you for the opportunity to meet here together in fellowship. We are thankful that you have led us to become part of this wonderful group. We also thank you for the many blessings you have bestowed upon each of us.

We are especially grateful for the chance to live in this incredible land of freedom and unlimited opportunities. We are grateful to all those who sacrificed so much to preserve the freedom that we enjoy, and we ask for your blessing for those who protect us even now.

Please guide us through the coming year, and bless this fellowship.

Amen

ENJOY YOUR DINNER

2030: PROGRAM
CRAIG KELTING

WELCOME

Welcome once again. I hope you all enjoyed your dinner. I would like to thank the club manager, Chris Wyles, the chef, and all the staff for another fine job in helping us make this a successful event. (applause) I also want to thank Janie for all her help.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

I would now like to introduce our guests.

First, let me introduce Denise and Dave Lovelady, who are here as guests of the club tonight. (ask them to stand) Dave is an important guy. He set up our web site and manages it for us, and he does it all for no charge! Please give him a big round of applause!

Next, I will ask Joe Day to introduce his guests (David & Jackie Dianich).

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I have to admit, I'm embarrassed that Joe has is sponsoring them for membership and not me, since David and Jackie are members of our church! So much for my recruiting abilities!

Mike Epprecht, would you please introduce your guest? (Heather Foster)

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RECOGNIZE NEW MEMBERS

Two new boats have joined the fleet in 2010, and I would like to welcome their crews:

Jane and Wally Jansen aboard Salty Dog

Molly and Peirce Anderson aboard Tryst (not present)

RECOGNIZE PAST COMMODORES

Now I would like to recognize the past Commodores who are here tonight:

Bill Dunton

Les Anstey (canceled last-minute, migraine)

Alex Collins

Ted Clark

Pat Koch

George Weckel

Terry Burke

Mike Gates

Dennis Sokso

Mike Epprecht

RECOGNIZE HONORARY MEMBERS

I would also like to recognize the honorary members who are with us tonight:

Gloria and Les Anstey
Joan and Alex Collins
Barbara and Ernie Cox
Bill Dunton
Mary and Stan Hutchison
Pat Koch

I WOULD NOW LIKE TO TURN THE PROGRAM OVER TO OUR COMMODORE JOE DAY

JOE DAY

COMMODORE'S REMARKS

- I would like to thank you all for your efforts and participation in making 2010 a successful sailing year for CSSM. I would especially like to thank my fellow officers: Vice Commodore Craig Kelting, Purser Jean Saballus and Flag Lieutenant Judy Tanczos. They did an outstanding job on all fronts. Jean has done a great job keeping track of our finances and maintaining our inventory of clothing and club burgees. Judy has kept us updated on the changes in member information and the related lists and documents. She also made the arrangements with MRYC for our winter luncheons, produced detailed minutes of the officers meetings, and organized an enjoyable trip to Salisbury to see the Shore Birds play baseball. Craig willingly filled in for me early last year at the Cruise Planning meeting and the first of our winter luncheons. You have been a great team to work with; it would not have been possible without you.

- We started out the year after our cruise planning meeting with a schedule of eleven cruises. Two cruises were added during gaps in the schedule – one to the Potomac in May captained by Craig and the other, a two-part cruise to the Piankatank and Rappahannock in September/October captained by Irv (on the way down) and Tod (on the way back). So, we had a total of thirteen cruises this season. My thanks to the cruise captains.
- In June we welcomed Peirce and Molly Anderson and their boat Tryst as members and in August we welcomed Wally and Jane Jansen and their boat Salty Dog into our membership. Congratulations. I know I speak for all when I say we are delighted to have you join us.
- While we delight in the wonderful additions to our membership, 2010 has also been a year of transition and sadly, one of loss. We lost Art Koch and Barry Albert in the first half of the year. More recently we have had several members announce that they intended to sell their boats and another member couple who have moved out of the area. So we continue to seek compatible new members to take their place and to expand our Active boats to the full twenty-five.
- It is now time to officially install our new officers for 2011 ----- I invite the officers-elect to step forward. Craig, it is in a spirit of friendship and gratitude that I pass the Commodore's flag to you. (Present flags to the other officers-elect.) I officially end my duties knowing that CSSM is in good hands and confident that the club will thrive under your stewardship.

PRESENTATION TO JUDY TANCZOS AND JEAN SABALLUS (NOT PRESENT)

(Present bottle of wine to each)

PRESENTATION OF FLAGS TO NEW OFFICERS

Commodore – Craig Kelting

Vice Commodore – Irv Hetherington

Flag Lieutenant – Stephanie Sokso

Purser – Lynn Gates

CRAIG KELTING

PRESENTATION OF “PAST COMMODORE” FLAG TO JOE DAY

Joe, please come forward. (Present the flag)

Joe, I want to present to you this flag in recognition of your service. I have more to say about you, but I'll give you a break and let you sit down if you like.

NEW COMMODORE'S REMARKS

I want to thank Joe for his hard work during the past two years and his contributions to our club. I was in a unique position during the past year to observe and appreciate the tremendous amount of time and effort that Joe expended on behalf of all of us. I admired his calm, professional approach to every task. He resolutely carried on despite the difficulties he encountered. As some of you know, there was good news and bad news at Knapps Narrows marina where Joe and Karen keep their boat. The good news was that the outside slip they had long coveted finally became available this summer, and they were able to move Day One into her new slip. The bad news was that immediately after they moved her, Day One was struck by lightning and put out of commission for the rest of the season. Joe carried on nonetheless, and I know I can count on him to continue to help me as I learn the ropes. In fact, as soon as the annual meeting was over, I noticed that Joe was quite eager to provide me with any help I needed to take over. Apparently Mike Epprecht showed the same eagerness to help him when the previous election was over. Most of all, though, I enjoyed getting to know Joe better, and Janie and I are privileged to call Joe and Karen our friends.

I also want to thank Judy and Jean again for all their work. They were a pleasure to work with, and we all owe them a lot.

I am honored to have this opportunity to give back something to the club. Janie and I have enjoyed many wonderful times as members of this club, and we have made many great friends here.

As many of you know, when our boat Makani sets sail she has aboard a Captain, me, and an Admiral, Janie. With high hopes that my new title might change that situation, I set about doing some research. Sadly, I learned two things. First, the U.S. Navy abolished the title of Commodore in 1899, re-instating it only temporarily during World War II. Second, in the U.S. Navy a Commodore ranked above a Captain but below a Rear Admiral. Oh well.

I want to thank our incoming officers for stepping forward and volunteering to serve. I also want to thank Virginia Albert, Jane and Wally Jansen, and Anne Pilert for volunteering to be our Social Captains for this year. I am delighted with the kind and capable people who will be working with me. We will all do our best, but when we stumble please remember the pay scale associated with our jobs. Open communication is critical to any organization, and I encourage everyone to contact me or any of the officers with any concerns or suggestions. Specifically, please contact me with any compliments, and refer all your complaints to Irv.

Please take note on your programs of some of the key events that we have scheduled for the coming year. Thanks to Virginia, we will have a lunch presentation by the Director of the Choptank River Eastern Bay Conservancy on January 20 at the Miles River Yacht Club. Our Cruise Planning process is in full swing, with our meeting scheduled for Feb. 12 at the St. Michaels Library. If you haven't already done so, please plan a cruise that you would like to run and submit a cruise plan to me before the meeting. Remember that cruising in company is what we are all about, and the best way to go on a cruise that you would enjoy is to pick your preferred place and time and run one. Janie and I have planned a Commodore's Cruise south to Yorktown from May 17 to May 28, and we hope you can join us. We plan to stay a couple of days near historic Yorktown, at a nice marina in a creek that also offers a protected anchorage.

Watch your email for notice of all our upcoming activities. The web site calendar will be updated later this month, and once the cruising schedule is put together the cruises will be posted as well.

AWARDS PRESENTATIONS

And now at last, it's time for the awards presentations! The awards this year are a combination of our traditional awards and some new ones that are being given out for the first time. The people presenting the new awards have also been responsible for creating the actual awards, and I want to thank all the presenters for their contributions.

SPIRIT AND SERVICE: To Dennis & Stephanie Sokso (Presented by Craig Kelting)
Awarded to the members whose enthusiasm and service were of most benefit to the club.

The first award is a new one. The Spirit and Service Award is given to the members whose enthusiasm and service were of most benefit to the club. During recent years, we have all benefited from the use of a wonderful facility, the clubhouse at Tilghman on Chesapeake. Although many people have worked hard on the activities involved, there are two people who have enabled every one of those activities for the last three years. Dennis and Stephanie Sokso have arranged for use of the clubhouse, assumed responsibility for what happened during the functions, and worked hard to help with preparations and clean-up afterward. They have done so with grace and good will, and their efforts have really not been fully appreciated. Dennis and Stephanie, please come forward and receive your award.

GOOD SAMARITAN: To Dick & Judy Tanczos and George Weckel (Presented by Irv Hetherington) **Awarded to the members who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to provide aid to a fellow sailor in need. To be given out only if merited by exceptional service.**

The term Good Samaritan is derived from a Bible parable expressed in the Book of Luke. It refers to a compassionate person or persons who unselfishly help others in need.

When I severely injured my left knee in the Bahamas in March and needed surgery ASAP I had the problem of getting Jayne and I, our two dogs, and Karaya back to Maryland. While Jayne handled the non-boat logistics, George Weckel and Dick and Judy Tanczos, as well as others, quickly volunteered to help in any way necessary. These three CSSM members donated well over two weeks of their busy spring time, changing numerous personal appointments and commitments, and delivered Karaya safely back to our MRYC slip from Brunswick, GA. They efficiently accomplished this in spite of being totally unfamiliar with Karaya's operational procedures and systems and by overcoming a number of unexpected problems along the way.

I am pleased to be presenting the 1st CSSM **Good Samaritan Award** to
George Weckel and Dick & Judy Tanczos.

CRUISE OF THE YEAR: To Chuck & Ann Ellis (Presented by Tod Engelskirchen)
(Chuck and Ann were not present)

Awarded to the Cruise Captain who develops and leads a cruise which is outstanding and meets one or more of several criteria: most interesting destination, most fun, most participation, most adventurous, most interesting route, best planning to bring an exceptional experience to the cruisers or most out of the box thinking.

The Cruise of the Year award is given to the Cruise Captain who develops and leads a cruise which is outstanding and meets one or more of several criteria: most interesting destination, most fun, most participation, most adventurous, most interesting route, best planning to bring an exceptional experience to the cruisers or most out of the box thinking. It is not necessary to meet more than one of these criteria. Flexibility is desired.

Several cruises could have been in the running for this award. For instance, Anne and I could have gotten it for the cruise we led from Urbanna to St. Michaels. It appeared that we arranged for the most rain and foulest weather encountered on a CSSM cruise in years. However, I did not nominate myself and I trust no one else did either. Thankfully, Chuck and Ann Ellis presented the Fourth of July Choptank Extravaganza Cruise. This event attracted 7 boats to the Tred Avon to view the fantastic Oxford fireworks and then moved on to the Cambridge Yacht Club where we again saw fabulous fireworks and had a festive dinner provided by the YC. Great planning and coordination a fun time was had by all. Thank you and congratulations on winning the Cruise of the Year Award for 2010 to Chuck and Ann!

HANG IN THERE: To Mike & Lynn Gates (Presented by Larry Rovin)

Awarded to a member who sticks with it or “hangs in there” for one reason or another after most of us would give up.

I have been asked to present this year’s “Hang in There” Award. This award goes to a member a member who sticks with it or “hangs in” for one reason or another long after most of us would give up.

The circumstances surrounding this year’s winning effort bring to mind Einstein’s definition of insanity – “doing the same thing over and over again expecting a different result.” I’m not passing judgment – just making an observation.

This year’s winner had been experiencing engine difficulties, in particular overheating. Prior to the July 4th weekend cruise, and in anticipation of grabbing some low hanging cruise nights, our intrepid Captain contacted his Marina and was assured that everything was in working order. Thus reassured, he and his trusting Mate departed and arrived uneventfully for the first night in Dun Cove.

The following morning, as the rest of the fleet headed out for what turned out to be a delightful downwind run to the Little Choptank, our winning skipper reported to the Cruise Captain that he was headed back to the marina not because of any difficulty, but because the current Maryland registration sticker was, in fact, at home on his desk rather than in clear view for any prowling gendarmes. We waved a cheerful farewell, assuming that we would see them again shortly.

Alas, as the fleet sailed on its way, our modern-day Gilligan and his Mary Ann – overheated (that is, the boat. Not them. Yet). In due course Tow Jamm delivered them back to the Marina where, after some work, the crack mechanic declared the problem solved! Just a bad gasket on the raw water strainer that was allowing air into the system and preventing the raw water from pumping!

Skeptical but willing to suspend disbelief in the quest for another night and the Eastern Shore cuisine of Madison Bay R & R, they departed again at about 3:30 and took advantage of the favorable breeze. At about 5, as the rest of us were about to hit the bar for an hour and a half warmup to our scheduled dinner time, we received a report that they were approaching the entrance to the Little Chop under power and would be in soon. We were delighted that we soon would be sharing their company.

It wasn't until about 8, after a few rounds, lots of good local food and a fight between the barmaid and a customer (the barmaid won), that we noticed that our final crew had not arrived. Dick Tanczos got to work with his cellphone and we determined that right after reporting to us that all was well, all went not well indeed. Just after reporting in, they noticed that no water was coming from the exhaust. The engine overheated and, with the wind having died, they anchored just inside Green "1".

Have you ever passed a boat anchored in a really bad spot and wondered "Why the hell are they anchored there? What kind of idiots are they? Must be a charter!"

The Cruise Captain went to bed that night only slightly concerned, as the forecast was for light winds. We awoke in the morning to howling East winds and the realization that someone out there was not having a very good time at all.

In fact, at about 2 am our hapless comrades awoke to 20kt winds from the absolute wrong direction and 4 foot seas. 175' of scope kept them in place, if not comfortable. At dawn they sailed to the Bay side of Knapps Narrows, dropped the sails and made it from Green "1" to Red "4" before the warning buzzer screamed one last time. With the wind behind them they made it to the bulkhead at Tilghman Island Marina, at which point our resolute Captain was faced with a full-fledged mutiny by his entire crew, who jumped ship. Later help assisted in getting the boat back to the Marina.

I have been assured that the result was a "very mature" 2 page email to the Marina general manager. Sure. Incidentally, the "final resolution" was that "they suspect" that the problem was cracks in the hose from the thru hull to the strainer.

With that, I am pleased to present the 2010 "Hang in There" award to Mike and Lynn Gates on *Salt Shaker*.

BEST RECRUITER: To Dick & Judy Tanczos (Presented by Irv Hetherington)

Awarded to the member who brings the most new members into CSSM.

Webster defines “recruiting” using the verbs... engage, strengthen, enroll, replenish, renew or restore... the health, vitality, and intensity of an organization. It is most appropriate to apply all of these action words to the building and sustaining the ranks of the Cruising Sailors of Saint Michaels.

In 2010, Judy and Dick Tanczos, with much fervor and grace, sponsored two additional CSSM members, Peirce & Molly Anderson, and Jane & Wally Jansen,

As well as others in years past.

Their efforts go far beyond merely finding new members. Personal follow up and support insure that new members are integrated into all aspects of our CSSM community on & off the shore.

In this spirit, we honor and present the 1st ***CSSM Best Recruiter Award*** to

Dick & Judy Tanczos.

PRACTICING SAILOR: To Wally and Jansen (Presented by Mike Gates)

Awarded to the captain or crew who, because of forgetfulness, poor concentration, or is a victim of the elements, fails to complete a task, thereby causing a glaring error observed by his or her peers.

The Practicing Sailor Award goes to the captain or crew who because of forgetfulness, poor concentration, or is a victim of the elements fails to complete a task, thereby causing a glaring error observed by his or her peers.

On our mid bay cruise in late August we were at anchor in the Rhode River when we were hailed by the incoming guest boat that they were 15 minutes out and requested anchoring instructions. I had never meet them and suggested, since it was close to the magic hour, that they raft with us for cocktails. They accepted, and casually stated that they were easy to spot as they, out of respect, were flying a # 7 pennant from the starboard spreader. I thought that was a nice gesture, and stated I would keep an eye out for them. For those of you who are new to CSSM, the recognition pennant for the club from 1971 until 2006 was the # 7 pennant flown from the starboard spreader. It looks like this (Will display a # 7 pennant at this time). Low and behold, as they came into view they were in fact flying a red & yellow "L" pennant instead of the customary "7".

Since it was their 6th and qualifying night, all is well that ends well, and they hoisted their new CSSM burgee immediately up the starboard spreader to replace their "L" pennant.

To Wally and Jane Jansen it is my pleasure to present The Practicing Sailor Award!

CRUISINGEST SAILOR: To Irv & Jayne Hetherington (Presented by Mike Epprecht)
Awarded to the member who has logged the most number of nights on sanctioned cruises for the year.

I am pleased to present the Cruisingest Sailor of the Year for 2010. This award goes to the member who has logged the most number of nights on sanctioned cruises for the year. While it is highly coveted by all members in recognition of their participation in cruises, the real attraction is the sheer beauty of the trophy. Look at this, wouldn't you all love to have this prominently displayed on your mantle for a full year. Brings tears to my eyes just thinking about it.

On to this year's winner. As I was preparing for this, I went back to collect some history to see if this year's performance was an aberration or a continuation of a pattern and pattern it was. For the last three years, Karaya participated in over 50% of the cruises and logged at least 50% of the total cruise nights. One anomaly did pop up and it was their late start this year. Their first cruise night wasn't until June 20th. After some research, I found that Baxter and Maggie conspired to delay the first night out until it was sufficiently warm to meet their standards. Please join me in applause for the crew of Karaya: Irv, Jayne, Baxter and Maggie Hetherington, the 2010 winner of the Cruisingest Sailor award with 25 cruise nights. Baxter and Maggie declined the invitation due to the cold weather.

ONE AND ONLY (UNO EN ISO): To Joe Day (Presented by Craig Kelting)
Awarded to the outgoing Commodore by the incoming Commodore.

Joe, please come forward.

Joe, I want to thank you once again for your service, and present to you this magnificent award. This is traditionally given to the outgoing Commodore, and I know you are happy to receive it, in more ways than one.

ADJOURN

That concludes the evening's festivities! Please drive safely on your way home.