

May was an incredibly busy month at Red Eye Yacht Club and here it is June! Now that openings have really picked up, it's a good season to be a princess!

This month has allowed me to grow in all of my relationships and I am so grateful for all of the wonderful people I have met. Opening season has allowed me to become closer to all of my fellow princesses and Queen Cait. Seeing the devotion that all of the girls have in attending so many events has completely amazed me, and I've even managed to amaze myself with some extremely busy days.

Perhaps the most extreme case of this was the day of Red Eye's opening - there were two openings before ours, and three of the princesses and myself attended all of them. Running from Riverside to Neptune and then back to Red Eye was quite an adventure, and I am especially thankful to Commodore Jerry Smith of BYC for providing us transportation to all the openings. I'm very glad that there are others who believe there is great importance to attending as many openings as physically possible. I know it is the tendency with yacht clubs to support the clubs that have supported them, but if no one takes the first move to build a relationship, things will never change. These experiences have made me realize the true duty of being a princess and representing my club, and I hope that the dedication of all the girls can bring all the clubs together and improve support.

Certainly not the least important event of this month was our fantastic opening weekend! I, unfortunately, did not have the pleasure of being at Red Eye on Friday night due to a school trip that went late into the evening, but Saturday was wonderful fun. During the day on Saturday, Jerry and I attended Chesapeake Yacht Club's opening and then we headed back to Red Eye for some dancing. There was such a great turnout from other clubs that night, and the dance floor was certainly crowded. That night I also had a wonderful time with my first princess sleepover with Miss Erin Chase of BYC - the Cashmans were gracious enough to let the two of us sleep on their boat, and I thank them for all their support and for being so hospitable to me!

Red Eye's opening day was miraculous in the weather; the thunderstorms managed to stay put for a little bit while the ceremonies went on and the day was so bright and beautiful. When the rain finally came, it was a nice change from how hot the day had become. The ceremonies went wonderfully - I even got to put a "meal ticket" joke in my speech, just for Jerry. By the way, no matter what Mr. Rockel has to say, I do not enjoy being Jerry's Meal Ticket. While I thank Steve for being so wonderful and for carting the Queen and I around to Miles River's opening earlier this month (thank you Steve!), I would also like to thank everyone else who made this month so wonderful and helped our opening. Miss Judy and everyone who worked in the kitchen to prepare all of the food for the weekend especially need to be thanked. Everyone worked so hard to make the weekend a wonderful one!

As a conclusion, and as June is swiftly approaching, I would like to ask everyone to come out to Maryland's opening for the Queen's Pageant. Even if you don't like pageants (which I'm sure are mostly boring to watch), it would mean the world to me if I had a large turnout from REYC there to support me. Thank you so much for all the support you have given me, and I look forward to another wonderful month at Red Eye.

Love, Princess Courtney