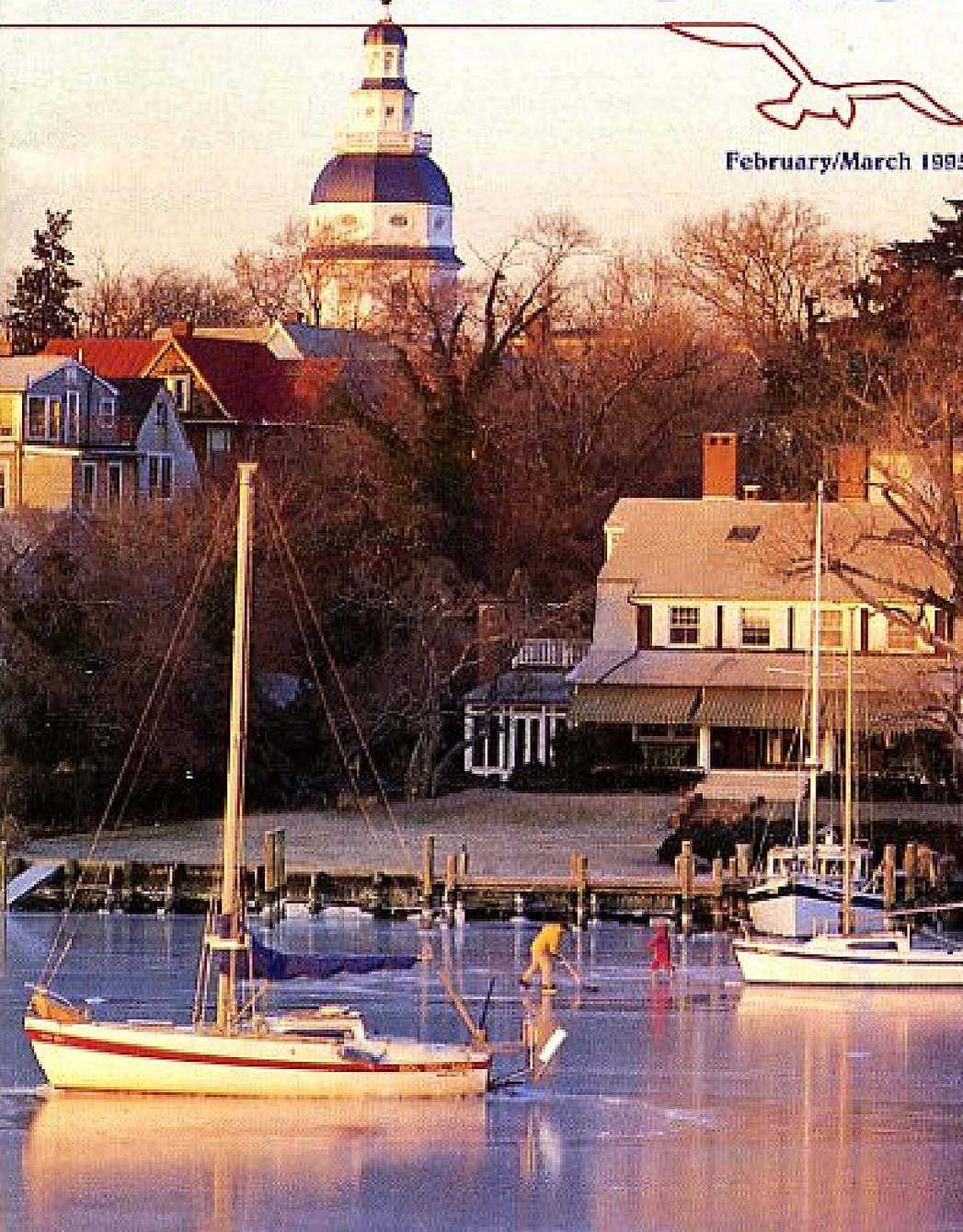


Inside

ANNAPOLIS

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says George. "Annapolis is a prosperous place to do business, full of good friends and good people."

Has it changed much since they came here? "Yes," says George. "It has become more international in flavor, more people from abroad, and there's more diversity in the restaurants," says George. "But basically it remains the same, a beautiful, interesting place."

A charter captain and diver from Miami, Bob Allen came to Annapolis in the summer of '88, lived aboard, did some chartering, then left for Europe where he captained a Swan 65 for several years. "Annapolis didn't get out of my system, though," says Bob. "You might say it was an infatuation that blossomed into a full blown love affair." Leaving Europe, he returned, bringing Angie, his bride, with him. Moving onshore they set up housekeeping in an apartment on Maryland Avenue, and Bob went to work at Bay Yacht Charters in Eastport. Angie went to work at a law firm just down the street.

"I love the people, the setting, the quiet, the

crabs, I really love the crabs, and the ability to walk to work when I want to. Bob's office is just across the bridge in Eastport. For a native of Texas, the change of seasons was an unexpected plus. "I was warned about the winters, but I love the snow and sledding."

Bruce Bachenheimer, another anchor dropper, still lives aboard his boat in Spa Creek. He has become an importer of teak lumber. Not old enough to have a mid-life crisis, Bruce has already led several lives—he was a student in Japan, a Wall Street trader, an off shore cruiser, and now an Annapolis businessman. Coming to Annapolis from Venezuela and the Caribbean, he ducked into the harbor to escape nasty weather and decided to stay. In true Annapolitan fashion, he opened his business, Annapolis Maritime Corporation, on the 4th of July 1993.

"I stayed because I liked the colonial flavor, the seaport atmosphere, and Bay sailing. But what really surprised me is how receptive everyone has been. There's no good old boy, closed preppy network here," he says. "Everyone from old timers to newcomers have been helpful and friendly to me since I went into business."

On the same day in the Fall of '92, two men dropped anchor in Spa Creek, just off the Naval Academy seawall. Dennis Boyd from Colorado and Gavin Buckley from Australia. Both world cruisers, they became friends and began moving around Annapolis together.

"We began meeting a lot of interesting people," says Dennis. Of course, the fact that they were both handsome bachelors didn't hurt. "We liked the quaintness, uniqueness and friendliness of the town, and we wanted to continue meeting people without becoming part of the bar scene. Most of the other countries we had traveled to had coffee houses that were popular meeting places. We thought that would go well here. Most of our colonial forefathers had met in coffee houses so Annapolis with its historical background seemed a natural place to start one." They opened The Moon on Randall Street, which they recently sold to pursue other business interests.

"While most of America is heading out to malls, Annapolis is different," says Dennis. "It