Cruise Report: CSSM Miles River Shakedown Cruise

June 2-4, 2025

Cruise Captain: Keith Donald s/v Mystic with first mate Bruce in place of Debbie

Fellow Cruisers: Shaken Knot Stirred with John, Barbara and her sister Carol Flow with David and Sara and their dogs Charli and Matey Joliesse with Joni and Ray

Monday, June 2nd

Our first night's destination was Granary Creek off the Wye River. We had perfect weather with a mild breeze from the north, allowing some sailing opportunity for most of the fleet. Mystic arrived first, followed by Flow and Shaken Knot Stirred. Joliesse arrived shortly afterwards and what a sight to behold. She is a gaff-rigged Buzzards Bay 25 (33' overall length), designed by Nathanael Herreshoff in 1914. This reproduction was built in 1996 and was most recently restored by Joni and Ray to reflect all of the features of the original 1914 design.

Mystic and Shaken Knot Stirred rafted together and Mystic hosted our gathering of appetizers and Lasagna dinner. With no cooking skills whatsoever, Bruce and I managed to pull it off with the aid of the frozen food aisle of the grocery store and a microwave oven.

During our stay, an eagle and a swimming deer were spotted.

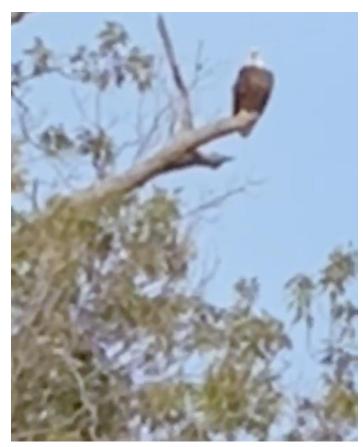












Tuesday, June 3rd

With only 12 nm to our second night's destination in Hunting Creek, we departed under light and variable winds between 9:00 and 9:30 am. Shaken Knot Stirred had other commitments and returned to home port. Despite the light air, Joliesse immediately set sail and made the 12 mile journey effortlessly. Mystic followed suit but was no match for the docile Joliesse, often adding motoring assist to catch up.

Our anchorage included a nice beach where David took Charli and Matey ashore to romp around. Around 5:00 pm, Flow and Mystic dinghied over to Joliesse for beverages and appetizers. Although Mystic had initially prepared to host this, we all wanted to get a firsthand look at Joliesse, and her comfortable day sailing cockpit.

Hazy skies from the Canadian wildfires, produced an interesting sunset.











Wednesday, June 4th

Flow and Joliesse returned to home ports. Mystic sailed to Long Haul Creek to stick around for Wednesday night Starboat racing at the Miles River Yacht Club. With less than 5 nm to go, and a pleasant morning southerly breeze, both Joliesse and Mystic frolicked up and down the Miles River for a bit.

Cruise nights:

Flow 2
Joliesse 2
Mystic 2
Shaken Knot Stirred 1



