



CHRISTMAS IN JULY CRUISE 2006 GATES JULY 15, 2006

Hello CSSMers -

On July 15th five member boats and one guest boat arrived in Duns Cove for a one night cruise called Christmas in July.

With a large green and gold "Happy Holidays" flag flying from the masthead we ushered in the beginning of another memorable evening on the water.

Sovereign was the best decked vessel with Christmas tree on the bow, stockings on the rail and a red capped skipper at the helm. In all, three trees graced the raft up with Christmas music setting the mood, and lots of red and green clad sailors getting into the "spirits" of the occasion. We actually had a bit of a late start to the social hour as a 30 knot plus squall arrived at about 1700 hours. It cooled the area down and shortly there after, dinghy's were lowered and the party was underway. While the best Santa hat was Tom's one size fits all 4X, Terry got the nod for most inspirationally dressed in his holiday suspenders and musical tie. Ginny announced that she forgot her wine; so to forego any wine whining, we found a chilled bottle of white in Salt Shaker's bilge, and she was relatively quiet for the rest of the party.

A traditional dinner was assembled with everyone pitching in a special dish. The pecan stuffing was heated in the microwave and paired well with the roast turkey and real homemade gravy along with salad and vegetable. Stephanie topped it off with a spectacular pumpkin dessert and pecan pie. There were even a few leftovers for the next day!

After dinner Mr. & Mrs. Claus arrived with a sack full of 13 beautifully wrapped gifts to kick off a Yankee Swap. I still can't believe that John kept the Crookies, but several exchanges produced a satisfied end result for all.

When we got to the singing, guest Susan, from guest boat Zara, insisted that since she was #1 in the swap, she should be #1 in the 12 days of Christmas, and so it was so! While we were not necessarily on key, we were all very strong in the volume department, and we ended (just like Bob Hope) with Silent Night.

In the morning Sovereign, with all her canvas up, sailed into the sunrise to be followed shortly there after by the rest of the well fed and rested fleet. Not one lump of coal surfaced during the entire cruise.

Merry Christmas everyone!

Lynn & Mike
"Salt Shaker"



CHRISTMAS IN JULY CRUISE 2006 GATES JULY 15, 2006

Boats the qualified for one night:

Andiamo
Aurora
Chinook Wind
Salt Shaker
Sovereign
Zara