



Cruise Report: Solomon's Island, MD- BURKE
Date: October 11, 12, 13 and 14, 2007

Cruise Captain(s): Terry, Sherry, & Rosie Burke, Chinook Wind

October 11, 2007-Fourteen stalwart souls in 7seven sturdy boats departed for the Little Choptank in 15 knots of Northwest wind, gusting to 25 knots. Waves were square, choppy and 2-3 feet. Coming down the Choptank and the Eastern Bay was particularly troublesome for Eagle, Falconer, Karaya, Makani and Chinook Wind. Two boats exhibited very good sense and continued on safely to Solomon's Island. They were Falconer and Karaya. The reason why will become apparent shortly. The other five being team players followed the cruise Captain into the anchorage in Hudson Creek where a bouncy time was had by all as we dealt with strong winds through the night. All anchors held and it was otherwise uneventful.

October 12, 2007- All five boats in Hudson Creek departed for Solomon's in the face of deteriorating weather with wind out of the Northwest at 15-20 knots and gusting 25 to 30 knots. The waves coming through the mouth of the Little Choptank were 4-5 feet and the smaller boats, Makani and Salt Shaker had to motor sail and tack back forth across the mouth of the river in order to make it out into the Bay. All agreed this was not a pleasant experience, exhilarating, but not fun! The Cruise Captain should have followed the lead of Karaya and Falconer and continued, on the previous day, to Solomon's, but no, his completion compulsion took the place of wisdom and all who stuck with him had to repeat the prior days experience. The immortal words of one of the skippers pretty much summed up the experience, "this sucks"!



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Once we made the turn to head South in the Bay it became a much better sail, sleigh ride is a more apt description. With Genoa alone Chinook Wind was making 7 knots and surfing on a couple of occasions to 10 knots. All the other sailors reported similar conditions.

At Zahniser's, in Solomon's most boats took a slip, regrouped and gathered for a barbeque organized by the first mate. All agreed it was a great respite from the prior two days. A good time was had by all!

October 13, 2007- This was a relaxing day for most, but not the ladies! They went shopping in the morning, and in the afternoon they took a tour of Annmarie Gardens. Thanks to chauffeur Stephanie and Denny Sokso they did not have to walk the 2.5 miles to the garden but took the land cruiser. Stephanie and Denny were at a different Marina, the Comfort Inn, but managed to participate in all of the events. Unfortunately they do not get nights.

That night we had a delightful meal at the Dry Dock Restaurant, no separate checks and the Cruise Captain is still awaiting payment from a few recalcitrant souls.

October 14, 2007-Sea bonds stayed on and headed a bit further South to visit friends. The remainder of the group headed home in what were far more pleasant conditions. We experienced ~ 10 knots of wind WNW from Drum Point all the way home. Seas were 1-2 feet. We managed to motor sail with a single tack into Town Creek at Oxford.



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Boats and Nights were as follows:

	10/11/2007	10/12/2007	10/13/2007	Nights
Chinook Wind	Yes	Yes	Yes	3
Eagle	Yes	Yes	Yes	3
Falconer	Yes	Yes	Yes	3
Karaya	Yes	Yes	Yes	3
Makani	Yes	Yes	Yes	3
Salt Shaker	Yes	Yes	Yes	3
Sea Bonds	Yes	Yes	Yes	3
Rosie	Yes	Yes	Yes	3
	7	7	7	

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Burke,
Chinook Wind