



CSSM ANNAPOLIS CRUISE REPORT-EPPRECHT SEPTEMBER 17 – 21, 2008

Wednesday September 17, 2008

As the cruise started we found the fleet proceeding up the bay in great wind, but naturally out of the North. Several brave souls made the long tacks across the bay and then lied about how great it was once they were in the anchorage at Whitehall Bay. The weather did cooperate. There was an informal cocktail party aboard Eagle from 1700 to 1900. Empty Nest rafted up due to the absence of a dinghy. We were pleased to welcome Jim and Linda Montegue aboard Rejoice, guests of Karaya. The evening was cool and winds light still out of the North so we had a very peaceful sleep.

Thursday September 18, 2008

Captains call at 0800 was reasonably well attended and several boats where pulling up anchors and making way for Annapolis while the call was still going on. The concern was availability of moorings which turned out to be a non-issue. It turns out that 23 boats were leaving the moorings on Thursday so there were more than enough moorings in the outer harbor for 13 boats that were in our fleet. Avatar had a mooring situation when the Captain ordered the first mate to make a hasty retreat to the cockpit resulting in severe damage to Joan's shoulder. The only planned activity on Thursday was the Captain's Party on Eagle. Orient, Fritz and Wendy Moritz, guests of PC Gates, were late arrivals and chose to anchor off the seawall rather than go under the Eastport bridge to Spa Creek. They later regretted this decision as they dragged around midnight and then made the move. Sneaky way of avoiding a mooring fee. The Captains party was a success with 26 in attendance. We did have 42 lifejackets which was fortunate because the harbormaster made a comment but chose not to check. At the Captains Party, the scavenger hunt rules were handed out. All agreed that the instructions were extremely clear, the questions exceedingly easy and, most importantly, fair.



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The hunt was to occur at everyone's convenience with the teams being each boat. Of course Salt Shaker tried for an advantage by having three sailors on board, but in the end, it was a disadvantage.

Friday September 19, 2008

We awoke to another beautiful day to the sound of the Midshipmen doing their morning exercises. Eagle and Salt Shaker decided to try breakfast at Chick & Ruth's. It was a real hoot. One ex-Governor of Maryland was in attendance, the Pledge of Allegiance at 0830 and a great waiter, made for a great start to the day. The Scavenger Hunt participants were seen making their way to Gate One in search of clues. The results were to be delivered to Eagle prior to 1700 which all boats managed to accomplish. The early results made it look like Salt Shaker's strategy was working, but then the second boat submitted their answers and Salt Shaker was quickly out of the running. The results were announced at a group dinner at Phillips Crab house. Fiscal Stray won the competition with a score of 19 out of 26 available points. The prizes will certainly be treasured forever. Dinner was great and we all headed back to our boats in rather chilly weather. We later got a call from the Superintendent with reports of old people harassing the Mids for information but the Cruise Captain was able to avoid any disciplinary action.

Saturday September 20, 2008 – GAMEDAY

We awoke to another very nice day, especially for a football game. Not everyone attended the tailgate and game due to the difficulty in getting tickets. We were able to accommodate 13 of our group with good tickets. The tailgate was a big success with Chef Bill Erickson performing magic on the grill. The beer was cold and companionship great. The Brigade of Midshipmen marched on at 1510 and the game started at 1530. The first half was touch and go with Navy getting a touchdown late in the half, only to be



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upstaged by a Rutgers TD just before the end of the half. The Cruise Captain was thinking about the CSSM Jinx early in the second half, since the CSSMer's haven't seen a win in a number of years. Then Navy started taking control and finished with an unexpected victory over Rutgers 23-21, in front of a crowd of 37,821, which is good for a 36,000 seat stadium.

Another good night for sleeping.

Sunday September 21, 2008

Cruise terminated and captainship handed off to Ellis Island for the Baltimore Cruise.

Boat Nights

Chinook Wind 3

South Wind 4

Avatar 3

Ellis Island 4

Fiscal Stray 4

Salt Shaker 4

Karaya 4

Empty Nest 4

Falconer 4

Eagle 4

Lynx 3

Guest Boats

Orient 3

Rejoice 3