



BALTIMORE CRUISE REPORT – CHUCK ELLIS
SEPTEMBER 21-24, 2008

The Baltimore/Canton cruise began without a formal change of cruise captains as the Annapolis cruise captain was anxious to get to Italy. Thanks to South Wind I was able to fly the cruise captain flag after Jim retrieved it from Eagle's flag halyard.

Sunday's destination was Bodkin Creek and Ellis Island was the first to anchor up. Followed by Karaya, Falconer, Southwind, Empty Nest and Salt Shaker. When word of an impromptu cocktail party aboard Ellis Island began to spread Sea Trial appeared over the horizon at 1655 hours and just as the cruise captain was completing his list of attendees a large three legged **CONDOR** with a tattoo saying Airframe came up the creek. The Anstey's were a welcome surprise! The sight of Airframe was enough to chase off any non CSSM boats.

The anchoring of the CSSM was a sight and sound to behold! Here are the new audible anchoring signals replacing hand and previous verbal signals not necessarily in the order used:

OH!	Forward
HUH	Reverse
Slow Down Damn it	Neutral
JES	Stop
WHAT	Slow

The impromptu cocktail party included an orientation of the Anchorage Marina for Tuesday's stay and a graphic map of surrounding sites using Empty Nest's captain as a visual aid. Either the visual aid or the cruise captain's approach was ineffective as no one paid any attention and the presentation was cancelled.

Monday we found wind out of the Northeast at 5 – 10 and had a great sail into the Patapsco with the fleet arriving at the Anchorage Marina as early as 1000 hours. With a Safeway across the street, West Marine a block east and Mamma's on The Half Shell about three blocks all enjoyed Canton. A group dinner was held at _____ with a Monday night special of 14oz prime rib for \$14.95.

We were joined by Virginia and Barry for dinner.

Tuesday Ann led a walking trip to the Broadway Market in Fell's Point. Some returned with fresh sausage while others partook of bagels on site.

NOAA was calling for 15 – 20 NE Tuesday building to 15-20 with gusts to 25 on Wednesday so the cruise captain after consulting with weather officer, Jean Syballus, declared that Tuesday night would be spent in Whitehall Bay (25 NM from the Anchorage) and that would be the official end of the cruise.

Early departures were the order of the day. Empty Nest left the cruise to journey to Rock Hall (the original Tuesday night destination) and a winter haul out. Not sure why that is



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done in September! Lynx departed for home. Sea Trial continued on beyond the Bay Bridge and radioed back that they were headed for home. Those remaining enjoyed a great sail with the winds building as the day went on but nothing over 20. It was just a great sail and the anchorage was calm. Ellis Island, Southwind, Salt Shaker and Falconer headed for home early Wednesday morning. Airframe, the flying CONDOR was seen leaving Whitehall Bay but never again.

CRUISE NIGHTS:

Ellis Island	3
Southwind	3
AirFrame	3
Salt Shaker	3
Falconer	3
Empty Nest	2
Sea Trial	2
Karaya	2
Lynx	1

Submitted by Chuck and Ann Ellis