

2008 Maine Cruise

Cruising Sailors of Saint Michaels

This narrative is a summary of our trip to Maine. The total package of Maine trip related materials should be of use to many of us for years. We all enjoyed the trip.

Boats together for a night on the cruise are indicated at each entry for Eagle (E), Falconer (F), Fiscal Stray (FS), and Karaya (K).

The SSB chats worked well each morning. At the 4 MHz frequency we were heard in MD. It is, however, important that SSB radios be checked out in advance for performance.

Falconer (Don and Jean Saballus), Fiscal Stray (Tod Engelskirchen and Anne Pilert), and Karaya (Irv and Jayne Hetherington) all had an opportunity to review and provide input for this summary. Tod was the lead author and should be subject to any brickbats. Where this document diverts from normal cruise report style guidelines, Tod offers his apologies. Such is life.

Havre De Grace to Block Island

6/26/08 Karaya, Falconer and Fiscal Stray left Havre De Grace at 0500 for Cape May. We did 84 miles transiting Delaware Bay in light winds. Fiscal Stray went thru the Cape Cod Canal and arrived at 1730. Karaya and Falconer sailed around Cape May and arrived about an hour later (92nm). Eagle went thru Cape May and kept on going on its way to Maine via Buzzards Bay.

All three boats took fuel in Cape May. (F, FS, K)

6/27/08 We did a morning SSB call and learned that Eagle (Mike Epprecht and crew) was off New York. Our plan was to leave Cape May at about 1630 in order to arrive at Block Island early in the day, a day and a half later. About 1500 we were hit with a very heavy thunderstorm and several boats dragged including Fiscal Stray. No damage was done but Tod really got pelted with hail -- enough to cause welts. Karaya measured 69 knot winds. Fiscal Stray had never dragged before.

We planned to leave at 2030. However, Fiscal Stray (FS) of all boats and Falconer went outside the channel and went aground. FS had to call TowBoatUS – a first. We left, finally, at 2130. (F, FS, K)

6/28/08 We motor sailed towards Block Island. Fiscal Stray enjoyed a fresh fish dinner after putting out a fishing rod and in about 5 minutes hooking a blue fish about 2 feet long. It took 5 minutes to catch the fish, 10 minutes to get it in, and more than a half an hour to filet it and clean up the mess. Overnight Falconer began taking on water, a problem that Don corrected in about an hour. They later had engine problems and found they could only run their engine at 1500 rpm or less without vibration. (F, FS, K)

6/29/08 We ended up arriving at Block Island at 0830 AM after a 210 mile trip and all were able to get town moorings (\$40 per night including launch service). This was a first for Fiscal Stray and was an indication that there were going to be fewer boats around this year than in past years. We had bakery goods from Andiamo and settled in for a nap. After naps on board we grabbed a cab on shore and all went out to dinner in town at Aldo's Italian Restaurant (OK but not great).

Our 0800 cruiser's net was successful with some relaying needing to be done. Eagle heard us as did Dick Tanczos in Saint Michaels. (F, FS, K)

Block Island to Five Islands

6/30/08 Fiscal Stray and Karaya had a lazy day of boat work and then took a launch to town for some touring of the island by taxi. We learned some very interesting history. Falconer left for Jamestown to see about getting their boat problems resolved. (FS, K)

7/1/08 Fiscal Stray and Karaya left Block Island at 0845 for Jamestown 22 nm away where we had moorings reserved at Conanicut Marine Services. The trip from Block Island was in very heavy fog. We later learned that a ferry and Coast Guard buoy tender collided very near our route at just about the time we would have passed by.

We took care of any boat issues we needed to and went to town where the hardware store, laundry, and grocery store all got some of our business. We later took the ferry to Newport and some touring and dinner at The Cook House Restaurant on the waterfront.

7/2/08 – 7/5/08 The crews of Karaya, Falconer, and Fiscal Stray had a great layover in Newport and Jamestown. The marina, a mooring field as in most of New England, was a bit rocky at times. We were able to watch the fireworks from our boats on the 4th. Falconer and Karaya enjoyed visits from their children and grandchildren. (F, FS, K)

7/6/08 Karaya and Fiscal Stray left Jamestown for Hadley Harbor with a full load of fuel and water and the Hetherington's sond and 2 grandsons. After sailing in light winds we arrived at Hadley Harbor at about 1600. Watching tides and currents is important when entering this harbor and when anchoring. Luckily we picked up two free moorings (first come first serve) that friends of Jayne and Irv had scoped out for us so that we did not have to anchor on a poor bottom. Anne and Jayne kayaked in the harbor and we enjoyed cocktails aboard Karaya with the folks who had helped us with the moorings. The trip from Jamestown was 40.4 nm on the knotmeter and 37.5 nm on the GPS. The difference is unfavorable current.

We learned that Falconer had been able to have its vibration issues repaired with new motor mounts and would be able to join us soon. (FS, K)

7/7/08 Karaya and Fiscal Stray left Hadley Harbor for the 45 nm trip to Provincetown at 0830 and arrived at 1500. The knotmeter said we had come 40.9 nm, the GPS said 45.4. The difference is, of course, the current in the Cape Cod Canal – which must be done with a favorable current. The highest speed over the ground we achieved in the canal was 11.9 knots according to the GPS. P'town is one of the places where you can reserve a mooring in advance (\$40/night including launch). Both boats took on

fuel and water. Getting diesel is an adventure. The hose is dropped down to a float where you tie up to fill your tank. Payment is by cash or credit card lowered down to you in a bucket on a rope. It works. We had a nice dinner in town, dropped off Karaya's guests, and were back on our boats at 2100. People watching here is amazing and we were gone before things got really going. A stop here is one good alternative on the route north or south. (FS, K)

7/8/08 Karaya and Fiscal Stray left for the Isle of Shoals about eight nm off Portsmouth NH at 0700. On the way we transited a whale habitat area and were lucky enough to see whales several times, once in a group fairly close up. These were the best sightings of endangered Right whales the crew of Fiscal Stray had ever seen going to or coming from Maine. We arrived at Gosport Harbor between Smuttynose Island and Star Island at 1700 after a 67 nm trip. We picked up Portsmouth Yacht Club moorings. This has worked for us every time we have been here. However, we are careful not to show up on a weekend. Cocktails were observed with quesadillas on Fiscal Stray. (FS, K)



7/9/08 The weather looked a bit on the rough side so we decided to take a lay day and explore the islands. Falconer also took a lay day at P-Town. The really bad weather never materialized where we were but nearby areas got hammered. We toured Appledore Island and Star Islands. Appledore has a U of Maine / Cornell research site. Many years ago there was a hotel here run by Celia Thaxter. The hotel is long gone but its cutting garden has been nicely reproduced to its former glory ca 1873. We walked the trails running through the island. There were lots of nesting black-backed seagulls which are quite aggressive as they protect their young. The ones we saw were just about three weeks old, fuzzy looking and growing like mad. Appledore Island was our first Maine landfall.



Star Island has a summer retreat hotel – a Unitarian resort really. We toured the island, the museum, and had lunch at the snack bar. Star is in New Hampshire. This was a great lay day experience. (FS, K)

7/10/08 Fiscal Stray left with Karaya at 0645 for Five Islands ME. We had just about every kind of wind imaginable on the trip. Fiscal Stray even flew the chute part of the time. We arrived at Five Islands at about 1730 completing our 68 nm trip in 11 hours. We had a bit of a problem finding a mooring. Irv and Jayne finally got Sheepscott Bay Boat Company on the phone and we got 2 moorings for \$30 each – without a pennant on either. There are free moorings here which are in better shape than the ones we rented. However, these were all full. The guy who came out and took our money left a bad taste in our mouths. We had our first Maine lobster ashore at the lobster pound. The lobster pound lived up to expectations. Five Islands gets 4 stars for the lobster and 2 stars for the private moorings. If we could have scored a free mooring, the nice ones with kind of conical buoys, the moorings might have been 4 stars also. (FS, K)



Five Islands to Northeast Harbor

7/11/08 We headed for Robinhood Marine a grand total of 3 miles away where we took a mooring and then headed for the very nice regular Friday afternoon jazz concert followed by dinner at the Osprey restaurant. Falconer arrived at Robinhood in time to join us for dinner and vigorous use of the laundromat. Robinhood is a very well run marina which can handle any kind of repairs. This is a rightly recommended stop. (F, FS, K)

7/12/08 Tod and Anne took the layover day as a chance to visit with old friends of Tod's who live on the Sheepscott River. They were picked up by boat and later rode to Wiscasset for lunch in a Model A. Irv, Jayne, Don, and Jean took the marina's complimentary car to Bath for lunch and sightseeing.

7/13/08 All three boats moved to Boothbay Harbor 15 nm away. The first part of the trip was rough and windy with the wind on the nose at 25 knots. However, once we made the turn everything worked fine. There is nothing like downwind sailing. We rented moorings, reserved ahead, from the Tugboat Inn and Marina in the inner harbor. We were unhappy with their service (no launch and poor directions to our moorings). On shore all three crews did a bit of people watching, shopping, and had a reasonable dinner.

Eagle later recommended moorings at the Boothbay Yacht Club even though a cab ride is required to get to downtown. Boothbay Harbor is as touristy as it gets. (F, FS, K)

7/14/08 All boats left at a delayed 1000 hrs as the fog lifted, or at least tried to lift, bound for Port Clyde. We had much fog at the start with less than ¼ mile visibility. Towards the end of the trip the fog lifted and revealed an island off our port side. We had no good idea we were so close to the island except by watching the chart plotter. We arrived after the 21 nm sail with time enough to have beers and snacks at the dockside bar and General Store. (F, FS, K)

7/15/08 All of us caught the 10:30 AM ferry to Monhegan Island where we lunched with friends of Don and Jean and then hiked. This is a beautiful place with most hikes having a fair amount of ups and downs. One of the things here is to build “fairy houses,” miniature houses made of natural materials, in the woods near the trails. We saw many of these. After lemonade with Don and Jean’s friends we took the 4:30 ferry back to Port Clyde and had dinner at the Dip Net. (F, FS, K)



7/16/08 Karaya and Fiscal Stray left Port Clyde for Rockland via the Mussel Ridge Channel and Owl Bay. We had a nice motor but were never able to really sail. The 20 mile trip ended when we picked a mooring up from Beggar’s Warf, a rather funky place but nice.

In Rockland we visited the Farnsworth Museum and the local Hamilton Marine store, ate at the Black Ram Pub, and got an opportunity to buy the last available tickets for the Brubeck Brother’s Quartet who were performing down the street at the local theater. The concert was great. We bought the CD.

Rockland was another Maine surprise. We found lots of galleries, bookstores, a thriving art and music scene, and a very good chamber music series. (FS, K)

7/17/08 Karaya and Fiscal Stray left Rockland for Tenants Harbor about 15 nm away where we joined Falconer and Eagle. We picked up Cod End moorings. All enjoyed cocktails aboard Eagle where Pam kindly doled out all of Eagle’s perishable provisions to the boats staying in Maine. The crews of all our

our boats: Eagle, Falconer, Fiscal Stray, and Karaya then went into town for a wonderful dinner at the East Wind Inn.



Eagle is set to leave for a break at home in the morning but for our one night together we had a total of 4 boats: Eagle, Karaya, Falconer, and Fiscal Stray. Eagle shared galley supplies which were enjoyed by all later.

7/18/08 Karaya, Falconer, and Fiscal Stray headed for Camden 19 nm away to pick up our Wayfarer Marine moorings. Wayfarer has moorings, floats, laundry, a launch, and a chandlery, all of which, except the floats, we took advantage of. The other option in Camden is the Camden Yacht Club which also has moorings and floats. We enjoyed lobster rolls at a dockside restaurant in the inner harbor while watching the schooners coming and going. We walked around town, picked up groceries, and had dinner aboard. (F, FS, K)

7/19/08 A lay day in Camden for all. We took a launch in. You can leave the free Wayfarer launch on either the marina side or the town side of the inner harbor. There was an arts and crafts fair going on. The library in Camden is beautiful. We enjoyed lunch at the Camden Yacht Club, a beautiful old Victorian club and later had dinner together at the Atlantic Restaurant. This was a pleasant day in a beautiful town. (F, FS, K)

7/20/08 The three boats took fuel and water and pumped out then motor sailed in light winds heading for Castine 22 nm away. We rented mooring balls off town, had lunch ashore, and enjoyed an interesting tour of the State Of Maine, the school ship of the Maine Maritime Academy. After dinner on our boats, it began to rain. In fact it poured. (F, FS, K)

7/21/08 We all hiked around town for a bit with Anne and Jayne concentrating on gardens. About noon Anne and Tod left for Deer Island for a visit with friends who had arranged a guest mooring for us in Sylvester Cove. We toured the island by car in cool rainy weather. After dinner it was nice to get back to the boat which had been closed up and was warm.

Falconer and Karaya stayed in Castine chatting at the local bookstore coffee shop before heading back to the mooring field in pouring rain. (F, K)

7/22/08 Fiscal Stray left for the Wooden Boat School on the Eggemoggin Reach where we met Karaya and Falconer. We all had a great sail down the reach. We arrived at about noon after an 18 nm trip and picked up three (\$15 per night) moorings. After a tour of the grounds we had cocktails on Karaya and dinner on our own boats. The day was pleasant, cloudy but not the rain we had expected. (F, FS, K)

7/23/08 We agreed to leave early for Northeast Harbor 18 nm away in order to pick up moorings in this popular place. We motor sailed across Jerico Sound and enjoyed a beautiful view of Mt. Desert Island for many miles. We passed Bass Head light about 50 yards offshore in swift currents. We arrived at about noon and took the last 3 moorings (\$25 per night – float space was available). Northeast Harbor was a goal of the trip in that it is, at least mentally, our turnaround point.

7/24 /08 to 7/26/08 We all took a layover in Northeast Harbor. The harbor gave us fog and then more fog and a bit of wet weather. The town is a joy. We took advantage of the stores and restaurants. There is even a full sized laundry in the basement beneath the grocery store. It was nice to have a few days in a cruiser friendly harbor where just about everything was available including propane – for less than we pay at home. The crews on Falconer and Fiscal Stray attended the regular Thursday night lecture series at the Morris yard where a guest speaker gives a talk. The one we heard was on round the world cruising. Anne and Tod on Fiscal Stray had dinner with the former owners of the boat.



Everyone had the opportunity to tour Mt. Desert National Park by bus or car. We visited the Thuya Garden along the ridge on the other side of the harbor. Falconer and Karaya had family come to visit. This was time to relax as the fog was thick and it was, after all, the turning point. (F, FS, K – 4 nights)



Northeast Harbor to Portland

7/27/08 Karaya and Fiscal Stray left NE harbor for Lunt Harbor, Frenchboro, on Long Island 11 nm away. Falconer stayed behind visiting with family. In Lunt harbor we picked up \$20 moorings and went ashore for a hike visiting the museum and taking advantage of some very nice island trails. The more major lobster pound was closed (Sunday). However, on our walk we ran into Tammy, a local woman who has a small snack bar type restaurant. We ordered ahead 4 dinners and 4 pieces of homemade blueberry pie to be eaten at her one table at 5:30 PM. When we arrived the food was ready for us and put on the table immediately: four big lobsters, great blueberry pie with vanilla ice cream, and a wonderful experience. The cost was \$50 per couple with tip included. This is a Maine experience not to be missed. (FS, K)



7/28/08 Karaya and Fiscal Stray sailed the 6 nm to Swan Island and Burnt Coat Harbor. Out of the fog, the sailing brig Arrabella followed us into the harbor. This is another beautiful place. We hiked to the lighthouse and back for an ice cream. We had cocktails on Fiscal Stray and then Italian sausage (courtesy of Eagle) for dinner. The moorings were \$20. For an additional \$10 we bought a container of fish chowder. (FS, K)

7/29/08 Karaya and Fiscal Stray left Swan Island bound for Perry Creek via the Deer Island Thorofare and Fox Island Thorofare. It was a 20 nm motor – no sailing. We met Falconer on the way and all three boats picked up moorings in Perry Creek. We did a dingy tour of the creek and out into the Fox Island Thorofare. We had cocktails and appetizers on Falconer then, in light of what looked like an impending storm (which never showed up) left for our own boats and dinner.

On the way to Perry Creek we checked out Hell's Half Acre and the area near Camp Island and Bold /Devils Island. These beautiful anchorages are a sure thing for a return visit. (F, FS, K)

7/30/08 We all left Perry Creek. Falconer headed for Tennants Harbor to try to meet friends. Karaya and Fiscal Stray headed to Buck's Harbor where we met Mike and Dawn on Anagoda and John and Christine Butler from MRYC. We all had lunch at the South Brooklyn Store and agreed to there meet later for dinner. The restaurant is great. You would never know it was there unless you were told where it was behind the store. The eight of us had a wonderful time talking about cruising in Maine and the Bahamas.

The Buck's Harbor Yacht Club is a classic. It looks like it has not changed in 100 years. Maybe it has not. (FS, K)

7/31/08 We picked up diesel and water in Buck's Harbor and headed for Pulpit Harbor 15 nm away. We got there just as it started to rain and picked up a pair of moorings. This is one time we hoped the owner did not show up. We had dinner on Karaya. (FS, K)

8/1/08 We decided to spend a second night in Pulpit Harbor. We took the dinks on a scenic ride then to the public dock and then walked to the store about half a mile away. There is no restaurant here, just the store, but they do sell sandwiches – very nice place all in all. Anne and I visited with another Morris 36 owner, a couple from Maine. They had taken their boat to Europe twice and to Bermuda a couple of times. (FS, K)

8/2/08 In fog we moved from Pulpit to Camden to do laundry and get real showers. The very friendly people at Wayfarer got another \$40 from us. We had a great dinner at the Atlantis restaurant near the inner harbor and yet another shopping opportunity in the Camden metropolis. (FS, K)

8/3/08 Karaya and Fiscal Stray headed for Christmas Cove 43 nm away. We hit a couple of waves of thunderstorms but had a nice, if wet, ride. We picked up moorings from Coveside (\$40) and went ashore for a long walk on the island, saw the swing bridge in action, and had dinner at Coveside. (FS, K)

8/4/08 Karaya and Fiscal Stray left Christmas Cove at 0900 for Damariscove Island and the Basin on the New Meadows river.

Our one hour stop at Damariscove Island was quite nice. We went ashore to sightsee and hike. The island is rich in history with first settlement in 1608 – foundations of the early buildings are visible. There are many nature trails along the rocky shore and across wild-flower covered rocky meadows of the interior. There is an inland pond full of ducks. It is hard to believe that, very long ago, this island was one of the most important ports on the east coast of North America. The harbor is sheltered from most directions. There are 2 moorings here. If you can snag one of these, this might be an interesting place to spend a night or two.



We motored and did some sailing on our way up the New Meadows river headed for the Basin. Once there we checked out some moorings. Karaya found a good one but the ones Fiscal Stray looked at were

“marginal” so we anchored. We did a dingy exploration up the creek which feeds this very sheltered harbor. At one point you come to a reversing falls – or so we were told. We were advised not to go further up the creek than that point. Cocktails were on Karaya. The day’s trip, counting the excursion to Damariscove Island, was 27 nm. (FS, K)

8/5/08 Karaya and Fiscal Stray headed for Portland and the Portland Yacht Service moorings – a 24 nm trip. We sailed part of the time! We checked out the anchorage at Jewel Island – might be great for another trip. The moorings at PYS are a bit rocky but they do tend to settle down at night. We had appetizers at the Porthole and dinner at the Sebago Brewing Company. Falconer was already on a mooring here when we arrived. (F, FS, K)

Portland to Riverside CT

8/6/08 The crews of Fiscal Stray and Karaya went into Portland where we visited the great Italian store there, Micucci on India street. We had pizza for lunch with free coffee and bought great cheeses and lunch meats. We hopped on a bus and got a free ride to the LL Bean outlet as we were taken for people off a cruise ship. After visiting the outlet store Irv and Tod went back to our boats while Jayne and Anne shopped. It poured down rain all day. (F, FS, K)

8/7/08 Karaya, Falconer, and Fiscal Stray headed for York, a 42 nm trip down the coast. The seas were a bit rough initially but as the wind angle improved we had a good day of sailing. We all picked up town moorings. We had dinner at the quaint Pub below a local restaurant. (F, FS, K)

8/8/08 Falconer headed for Salem. Karaya and Fiscal Stray left for Marblehead MA and the Corinthian Yacht Club – a 47 nm trip. We skirted storms much of the way sailing in sunlight then, at the end, got very wet. Friends, Nancy and Peter Allair met us here. After drinks at the Corinthian YC, a classic yacht club of the old school, we crammed into their car for a trip to the Barnacle for dinner. It stormed like mad while we were eating. We had a wonderful time. It would have been nice to spend an extra day here but moorings were not available as a wooden boat regatta was set to begin the next day. (FS, K)

8/9/08 We left Marblehead for Scituate at 0900 and arrived 21 nm later at 1230. We had a nice day, a welcome change, and were able to sail at a close reach for an hour or two. Laundry, groceries, shopping, even a movie theater are near the dock. (FS, K)

8/10/08 We stayed a second lazy day in Scituate. Karaya took the grandchildren out for a sail on Cape Cod Bay. (FS, K)

8/11/08 We left Scituate at 0600 to make a favorable current thru the Cape Cod Canal and arrived at the New Bedford YC in South Dartmouth (Padenarem) at about 1500 after a 57 nm trip. We had a beautiful sail on Buzzards Bay after a downpour coming through the Cape Cod Canal.

When we arrived at the NBYC mooring field we were surprised to find several Tow Boat US type boats towing in several boats which seemed to be turned over. We found out later that a pair of water spouts had come thru the harbor earlier in the day and had flipped over 7 power boats in the 20 foot class. All had been on moorings.

We were invited to dinner at the home of Vernon and Pricilla Quarstein, cousins of Anne's. It stormed overnight with much lightning and rain. (FS, K)

8/12/08 We left Padenarem at 9 AM for Newport where Karaya and Fiscal Stray got moorings at the Newport Yacht Club with the help of Karaya's friend Ray. We had drinks and dinner at the Newport YC with Ray and enjoyed seeing all the beautiful yachts. It was a pleasant day. We had decided to take the Long Island Sound route home from here. (FS, K)

8/13/08 Karaya and Fiscal Stray moved to Mystic arriving in time for the 1440 highway bridge opening. We had reserved dockage (\$3.75 per foot). After tying up at the bulkhead (they provide much needed fender boards) we found ourselves attached to land for the first time since Havre de Grace. We walked around the park until the exhibits closed. You really need more than one day to do this place justice. (FS, K)



8/14/08 We headed for Essex, 28 nm away and about an hour up the Connecticut river, and faced foul currents the entire trip. We arrived at Brewer's Dauntless Yacht Yard in a thunderstorm, waited it out in the river and picked up our moorings. We had dinner at the Griswold Inn in this quaintest of quaint Connecticut towns. (FS, K)

8/15/08 We stayed a second night in Essex. Anne met two old friends for lunch while the rest of us lunched together. Jayne did laundry while Irv and Tod toured the Connecticut River Museum which has reciprocity with the CBMM. (FS, K)

8/16/08 Karaya and Fiscal Stray left Essex at 0700 for Black Rock harbor near Bridgeport 49 nm away. We got a spot on a float for \$1.50 per foot from the Fairweather YC. The good news was that the float was very secure and a good value. The bad news was that the nearby "Captain's Cove" area is funky to say the least. A good meal is not in the cards here. Too bad as there are a lot of boats around and it would seem that a better restaurant should be supportable. (FS, K)

8/17/08 We motored to Riverside YC in Riverside CT with Karaya. Anne's parents had been members here which facilitated getting reservations. We later had dinner at the Riverside YC which does a great job with good food, great presentation, and good value. There are two areas of the restaurant. The more

formal one, shirts and ties required, was empty. We enjoyed a deck table with a view of the Manhattan skyline.

RYC brings back lots of memories for Anne and Tod. There were fewer ghosts this time. The club seems to have a lowered emphasis on sailing and racing in particular. It is still a great place. (FS, K)

Riverside CT to Saint Michaels

8/18/08 We left Riverside at 0715 headed for NY and Hells Gate with a plan to hit Hells Gate at slack tide at 1138 hrs. We arrived as planned and went down the East River with current building the whole way down and out into New York harbor. The trip was easy and interesting – a little less hectic than our previous trips.



Both boats had planned to keep on going to Cape May. However, as we passed Sandy Hook, it looked like this was not going to be an easy trip. After a couple of hours of beating into head on winds at 20 + knots we decided that turning around was a good idea. We had a rather nice downwind sail back to Atlantic Highlands inside Sandy Hook. We got there and picked up moorings at 2000 hrs. Atlantic Highlands YC has moorings for sail boats only for \$45 per night. You can take a fast ferry into Manhattan from here. This could be a very good spot from which to visit New York. The trip to Atlantic Highlands with the aborted side trip was 79 nm. (FS, K)

8/19/08 Karaya and Fiscal Stray left for Cape May at 1100 in order to arrive in daylight. What a difference a day makes. This turned out to be one of our best sails of the trip. After a while the motors were off and we had fun. A broad reach to Cape May can be very enjoyable. We were going too fast. Both boats took in their jibs and brought in their mains. We still arrived just before sunrise. We entered Cape May Harbor and anchored in the usual place near the Coast Guard Station. The trip was 118 nm and was completed in 19 hours – at over 6 knots even when we tried to sail slower. This all reinforced the old adage: Gentlemen never sail to weather. (FS, K)

8/20/08 We stayed at anchor and took a lay day in preparation for an early start the next day. (FS, K)

8/21/08 Karaya and Fiscal Stray picked up anchor at 0600 to catch the Cape May Canal at dead low tide so that Karaya could make it beneath the two 55 foot bridges. Karaya made it easily beneath the bridges and we had a pleasant trip up Delaware Bay. We arrived at the C&D canal with 47 nm on the knotmeter

and 52 nm on the GPS – a favorable current. We anchored and rafted together at Still Pond with 77 nm on the knotmeter and 85 nm on the GPS. We had cocktails and dinner together one last time for the trip. All in all this was a very pleasant last night. (FS, K)

8/22/08 Both boats left for the MRYC at 0830 and arrived at 1530 hrs. The last leg was 37 nm.

We would do it again and may do so soon. We did have more motoring, fog, and rain than we expected. Such is Maine and New England.

The entire trip was 1581 nm on the GPS.

Eagle had one night with two or more CSSM boats on the cruise.

Falconer had 28 nights.

Fiscal Stray had 56 nights.

Karaya had 57 nights.

Thank you for reading this far, The CSSM Maine Cruisers: Falconer, Fiscal Stray, Karaya, and Eagle.

Respectfully submitted to CSSM,

Tod Engelskirchen and Anne Pilert, Cruise Captains