



THREE RIVERS CRUISE REPORT 2008 JOE DAY OCTOBER 19-21, 2008

The Three Rivers Cruise turned out to be a two river cruise plus one spontaneous marina dinner.

Congratulations to Fritz and Wendy Moritz on qualifying for membership (finally!) and right to fly the official club burgee.

Sunday, October 19

The forecast for Sunday was for winds out of the NNE backing to N at 20-25 kts. and a high temperature of 58 degrees. Day One slogged up the Bay in the morning recording maximum wind gust of 26 kts. with plenty of water over the bow. The anchor received a good wash down as a result. Early afternoon arrival at beautiful Saltworks Creek was uneventful except for the slight delay waiting for the Laser-like sailing dinghies of the Naval Academy to cross the bow on the Severn. Salt Shaker and Voyager arrived just after Day One having departed from Mill Creek on Whitehall Bay where they had spent the night after what was reported to be a very interesting Herring Islander/CSSM Cruise Race and party the day before. On their way up the Severn Voyager decided to join the Academy dinghy race much to the consternation of the race participants and no doubt their mentors. In any case, other than a few unkind gestures and shouts from the dingy sailors, there were no untoward incidents.

Winds died down in our secure anchorage and cocktails and appetizers were enjoyed on Day One as the sun slowly descended and the cool night air began to settle in. The creek was still and quiet thereafter and everyone enjoyed a peaceful and cool and comfortable (relatively) night.

Monday, October 20

After the cruise captain's call at 0830 and breakfast, Salt Shaker and Day One departed for Harness Creek off the South River while Voyager headed for home port. Winds were light and were not conducive to sailing much of the way, especially early in the day. Sea Bonds had arrived at Harness Creek late that morning and was anchored when the two boats from Saltworks Creek arrived early that afternoon. A little later Makani arrived and settled in near our other boats in a nice section of the creek just to the north/northwest of the kayak dock of Quiet Waters Park.

It was surprising to see several boats already anchored in the creek considering the time of year and on a week day. One of the boats was from Canada, probably headed south. Later in the afternoon several other sail boats came in and rafted together, and very large, robust looking power boat also anchored nearby after thoroughly surveying the location.

The Gates and Days enjoyed a nice walk in the park in sunshine and comfortable temperatures (low 60s). Cocktails and appetizers on Day One at 1700 were in full swing when it was learned that Orient was in the South River and on the way in. They arrived after sailing up part of the river about forty-five minutes after cocktails began and managed to tidy up the boat and join the party. They were greeted with a welcoming toast



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and, after some lively discussion, were presented with the official CSSM club burgee (the night of October 20th would be their qualifying overnight). Of course another toast was in order, and this was followed by a special toast to Barry and Virginia Albert.

The Moritz's had prepared a special sign for Barry and Virginia and all formed up for a group photograph while holding the sign. The party broke up about 1900, again with a beautiful sunset and the cool night air descending. Another peaceful, cool, quiet night at anchor followed, but the forecast for the following day suggested it would not be so quiet.

October 21

It was decided at the 0830 captain's call that the prudent course would be to head for home ports given the weather report calling for winds up to 30 knots forecasted for later in the day as a dry cold front settled over the area. Makani and Orient were scheduled for departure in any case and Sea Bonds, Salt Shaker and Day One decided to join them and forego Pirates Cove on the West River. We also agreed to get together that evening for cocktails and dinner on a non-floating location. All boats departed around 0915-1000 hours for the trip down the bay. Winds picked up as we headed out of the South River and were 15-20 kts with building seas out on the bay. The good news was that for once the winds were from a favorable direction (NW), and all enjoyed a nice romp close/beam reaching to home ports under partly cloudy skies with plenty of sunshine in between. Later in the day wind gusts were report at 30 kts. or more.

The Weckles invited all for cocktails at their house at 1700 hours and were joined there by Commodore Dennis and Mrs. Commodore Stephanie. The cruise captain's flag was turned over to Dennis for the Snow Ball Cruise the following weekend. The crew of Makani arrived at their home port late and were not able to join the group for dinner which took place at the Bay Hundred Restaurant where we enjoyed good food, drink and service at a table for ten. Most of all we enjoyed the camaraderie of fellow sailors. Thus, the Three River Cruise (that became a two river cruise plus a dinner) concluded.

Photographs to follow.

CRUISE NIGHTS:

Makani	1
Orient	1
Salt Shaker	2
Sea Bonds	1
Voyager	1
Day One	2

Submitted by Cruise Captains Joe and Karen Day