

POTOMAC RIVER CRUISE
CRAIG KELTING
MAY 23 - 31



An intrepid duo (2 boats, 2 couples) headed south to the lower Potomac River for a week-long cruise on May 23, with high hopes for fun on the high seas. This may have been the smallest group to ever take part in a CSSM cruise, but the participants made up for it in enthusiasm and determination. Chuck and Ann Ellis persevered despite Chuck's recent surgery and a last-minute leak in the water tank that left them with an empty tank. They rounded up some plastic jerry cans, filled them with H₂O, and headed south.

Sunday, May 23 - Spring Cove on Mill Creek, Solomons

The lack of wind resulted in a day of mostly powering with a bit of sailing thrown in. We anchored in Spring Cove, and Happy Hour took place as scheduled aboard Makani.

Monday, May 24 - The Glebe, off the Potomac

With N.E. winds at 5 to 10, we managed to sail about half of the time during the 6 1/2 hour voyage. We were rewarded by a calm anchorage in a beautiful spot, and Ellis Island hosted Happy Hour.

Tuesday, May 25 - Olverson's Lodge Creek Marina - S. Yeocomico

We enjoyed the short, 12 mile trip to a great marina off the S. Yeocomico River. Fred Olverson and his family built this marina and run it in true Northern Neck style. The building housing the showers also houses a lounge with a fully equipped kitchen and a large screen TV. There is also a covered picnic pavillion with over a dozen picnic tables and two large gas grills. The LOW slip fee also includes free use of a loaner car, which we used to drive to the Backdraft restaurant for dinner. Chuck said his ribs were among the best he had ever eaten, although he didn't like seeing the dog get the bones to munch on outside the window. This is truly "the country", and the people couldn't be nicer. By the way, the heated pool was open!

Wednesday, May 26 - St. Mary's

Light winds forced us to motor across the Potomac to beautiful St. Mary's River. We anchored in Horseshoe Bend, off St. Mary's College. This is a beautiful spot, both on the water and ashore. It should be noted that the captains took no notice at all of the coeds tanning themselves in their bikinis. We paid our \$8 and toured historic St. Mary's City. The best part of the tour was our tour of the Dove, a replica (not exactly a duplicate) of one of the two ships that brought the Calverts and the early settlers here to found Maryland's first capital city in 1634. Our guide on board really knew his stuff about early ships and the British Navy.

Thursday, May 27 - Palmer Cove - S. Yeocomico

We enjoyed a beautiful day, with bright sun and perfect winds, and sailed out of St. Mary's River and across the Potomac to another pleasant anchorage in Palmer Cove. It took 4 1/2 hours to sail the 15 miles. We all cooked up our steaks on Makani's charcoal grill, and enjoyed sundowners and dinner together. Everyone was snug and dry when the thunderstorm came through later that night.

Friday, May 28 - Olverson's Lodge Creek Marina

With unsettled weather in the forecast, we made the long (1.3 mile) trip back to Olverson's for another pleasant marina stay. We borrowed the loaner car for some grocery shopping and a Terrific meal at Good Eats restaurant outside nearby Callao.

Saturday, May 29 - Homeward Bound

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Saturday morning marked the end of the cruise, with Ellis Island heading for the Choptank and Makani choosing to stop off in the Solomons on the way home.

Cruise Attendance

Makani - 6 nights

Ellis Island - 6 nights

Respectfully submitted,
Craig and Janie Kelting
"Makani"