

Monday, May 31 – Six CSSM boats rendezvoused in a busy Clements Creek off the Severn River: Avatar, Falconer, Rejoice and Rejuvenation with guest boats Salty Dog and Tryst. Navy mooring balls were available for most of our boats on a perfect afternoon and evening anchorage. The weather was great with a steady breeze blowing through the anchorage. Many of the boats had a real chance to sail to the Severn as the winds were nearly perfect.

Tuesday, June 1 – An 0830 Captain’s call brought all hands on deck where after some discussion it was determined two boats required some technical assistance – one for a water pump issue and both for some refrigeration attention. In the course of the morning Rejoice and Salty Dog headed off to the Hinckley yard in Whitehall Creek while the rest of the fleet headed for open water and more sailing on to the Mill Creek anchorage (off of Whitehall Bay). A few thunder bumpers, with large round plops of rain and wind blew through in early afternoon, just as Tryst was arriving at the anchorage area. Happy hour was held aboard Avatar and we welcomed Day One to the group. This was followed by a convergence of our dinghies at the dock of Jimmy Cantler’s Restaurant where we were joined by Virginia Albert and the crews of Rejoice and Salty Dog who hired a taxi to come over and join us. The five boats across from Cantler’s endured a few more showers but we were all snug and safe.....nobody dragged!

Wednesday, June 2 – After another 0830 Captain’s call – this was to be the morning call time for the entire cruise – the fleet left Mill Creek for a voyage to the Rhode River anchorage in Sheephead Cove. It was another good sailing day for a day sail. Arriving at the usual basin anchorage, we met with Grace who was already anchored and waiting for the rest of us. We went across behind Big Island in the area of the “brown cottage”, near where the Smithsonian and DNR operations could be seen and put down our anchors. This is an open anchorage, with fresh breezes which were enjoyed all night. The Captain’s party was held aboard Rejuvenation, which was rafted with Tryst, during which time Molly and Peirce Anderson received their CSSM burgee and their membership. We welcomed these intrepid sailors to our group. Since the Purser was also in attendance, she was able to collect their dues immediately! Salty Dog and Rejoice were able to rejoin the group today and for the most part they were functioning satisfactorily.

Thursday, June 3 – After the Captain’s call and a scheduled dinghy trip to the Smithsonian facility, we all assembled at the Visitor’s Center....enjoying the air-conditioning....to enjoy their displays and wildlife information. We then trooped out in to the woods to view an old Indian site encampment, a 75 year old overgrown dairy farm, a tobacco barn still drying tobacco inside and the ruins of the old plantation house which could not be observed due to the leaves on the trees. This was a great walk in the woods – a walk we all needed for exercise. A couple of people had their lunch at the picnic tables there before heading back to their boats. Avatar and Falconer departed early as they had to return home for commitments while Voyager showed up late in the afternoon to join the group. An evening happy hour on Day One was postponed for the group due to the storms which arrived promptly at 5 PM. After their passage, a couple of boats got together for Mexican Dominoes and another two couples visited together to enjoy the evening. Today was the day where a number of dinghy motors decided to quit – fortunately after we all really needed to have them for the Smithsonian visit.

Friday, June 4 – Leaving the Rhode River anchorages for a short run to the West River, some enjoyed another great day for day sailing and for others, their trip took them just around the corner to a slip at Pirate’s Cove while others stayed on the hook. A fuel dock was also ready and available for some of us to replenish diesel, water and a pumpout. The early afternoon was a great time for reading and/or relaxing for others. A fun evening for Pirate’s Cove for dinner brought some long distance mariners who’ve returned from the Bahamas....the crews of Fiscal Stray and Karaya came by car this time however. A fine dinner, great music, and a few fireworks completed the evening.

Saturday, June 5 – After Captain’s call we all left for our home ports and a great sail home. Judy and I really want to thank everyone who joined us – it was a great cruising group and we enjoyed all of it. Thanks for coming.

**Nights:**

Avatar	3
Day One	4
Falconer	3
Grace	3
Rejoice	5
Rejuvenation	5
Tryst	5
Voyager	2

Guest: Salty Dog 5

Respectfully submitted,

Dick Tanczos, Cruise Captain