

St. Mary's Rendezvous Cruise Report

HETHERINGTON CRUISE

The Hetheringtons had to forego their planned cruise when Jane was severely bitten by a pit bull and had to have dressings renewed twice a day. You'll be sorry to hear the pit bull is O.K. (it should be put down. Jane is doing well).

There were only two boats scheduled to go on the cruise, in addition to Irv and Jane, and I said I would substitute as Cruise Captain if I could modify the cruise plan significantly –Irv agreed and said he would notify the Commodore.

Monday-we cruised to the Solomons with North winds at 15-23 moderating as we entered the Patuxent but providing an all day sail. It was a gorgeous day and a wonderful sail. We anchored in Old House Cove where CHINOOK WIND and BEOWULF (John and Mary Wolfe) joined us for cocktails. Both were participating in a Poplar Island Sailing Club cruise and I asked them to join us for drinks. [Commodore's note: the first night of the Poplar Island cruise was Tuesday, not Monday, and was not in the Solomons. I would not have allowed a cruise night otherwise.] They happened to be at Zanhisers on their cruise. We had hoped TRYST would make it, but they had returned late Sunday from Mass. (Pierce's 50th reunion at Williams), started late, lost the wind and had to do some motoring. They arrived about a half hour after the others returned to their cruise: but cocktail hour continued aboard our rafted boats. A night was awarded to CHINOOK WIND after a lot of whining by her captain when the Commodore approved it under his discretionary powers since in the anchorage there was no crowd and the weather good. The temperature was perfect for sleeping.

Tuesday- and again we had North winds at 9-23. We sailed all day but it was a bit raggedy in the Potomac. The restaurant on Carthagenia Creek was closed till Thursday and while Irv had been told it would open for his cruise there was no way they'd open for four people. We proceeded to Smith Creek and anchored after learning that the Spinnaker restaurant was closed Mondays and Tuesdays. Again, we rafted up and, after cocktails, had dinner aboard TRYST.

Wednesday-off to explore the Yeocomico in West winds at 7-15, a great sail across the Potomac. Then on to the Coan River for the anchorage. We rafted and had drinks and dinner aboard AVATAR.

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Thursday-on to Hudson Creek, but with a South wind at 20-25 TRYST suggested Dun Cove because of the wind direction and seas. We needed jackets that day. It was rough with a lot of yawing in heavy seas. Both boats motor sailed under headsails only. Again we rafted, had drinks and dinner aboard TRYST –poor Pierce had to share his steak. AVATAR had anchored when the rain started about 1930.

Friday-brought another beautiful day with the SW winds at 6-9 going W; and we sailed home.

It was a great trip with very comfortable temperatures for sailing and sleeping. The icing on the cake was that the winds permitted sailing everyday. It was also great to share the experince with Molly and Pierce, excellent sailors, who had sailed the Chesapeake since 1970 and been almost everywhere. If you like to sail, you missed one of the better cruises we've had in several years.

AVATAR – 4 nights

TRYST – 4 nights

AVATAR

[Commodore's note: Due to the controversy, Terry Burke requested that his cruise night be deleted, and I honored his request.]