

## Cruise Report: Solstice/Patuxent River Cruise

Day #1 (6/21/15) Sail/motor to Dun Cove under bright sun and light breezes. Choptank cruisers were able to sail but Miles River group was forced to motor most of the way. Karaya rafted with Jasmine and cocktails/hors d'oeuvres were shared by all who attended on Jasmine. Voyager provided the shuttle service for other CSSMers since his dinghy was already launched. Senior members noted that this was first cruise with three prospective members on it. After celebrating solstice, all boats retired to dine independently.



Cocktails on Jasmine

Day #2 (6/22/15) Departed Dun Cove and motor sailed to Mill Creek (38 44.501/76 99.022) off Cuckhold Creek above the first bridge on the Patuxent River. The approach to Solomons provided the best sailing of the day from G"77" to the bridge. Prior to the gathering, dinghies and kayaks were launched and crews were out and about. Jasmine and Karaya again rafted and cocktails/hors d'oeuvres were enjoyed on Karaya. Kate and Thom shared Champagne with the group celebrating their anniversary. Mistral was awarded a CSSM burgee and the Taylors were welcomed as new regular members of CSSM.



Dinghy racing?

Dave and Barb Taylor with CSSM burgee

Day #3 (6/23/15) Group weighed anchor and motored up to anchorage off the Sotterley Plantation (38 22.728/076 31.871). We took our dinghies ashore to the dock in Sotterley Creek and were transported from the dock to the Plantation for a two hour visit and picnic lunch. Afterwards, we proceeded to St Leonard's Creek and our anchorage (38 24 595/076 29.229) just above Breeden's Point. Several boats went on to Vera's Place and got slips. A pool party was held on Mistral in their anti-nettle enclosure. The real excitement came

later after dinner when a series of thunder storms passed through and wind gusts reached 40 kts. Jasmine dragged anchor about 100' after doing a 360 whirly but was able to reset the anchor between storms. The rain brought welcome cooler temperatures.



Sotterley Plantation and anchorage



Mistral prepares for pool party

Day #4 (6/24/15) Group weighed anchor and some sailed up to Broome's Island before proceeding down river to Solomons Island while others needing repairs went on to slips at Spring Cove Marina or Zahnisers. Many of the Spring Cove crews met in the pool or at the "tiki bar" before dinner at the Dry Dock Restaurant. Following a delightful dinner joined by the crew of Dee Gee V who were returning from a cruise on the Potomac River, we had a Captains' meeting to discuss the weather pattern for the remainder of the proposed cruise. The consensus was to break off the cruise on Day #5 so that everyone could get home before the bad weather arrived on Friday and Saturday.



Sailing on Patuxent River



Rejuvenation putting up main sail

Day #5 (6/25/15) Group all left for various home ports and returned safely without mishap. The cruise Captain wants to thank all participants and reflect on the general good spirit and willingness of the crews to put up with the relatively intense heat that everyone experienced!

Cruising Nights: Moonshadow 1, Voyager 1, Onyx 3, Fiscal Stray 4, Jasmine 4, Karaya 4, Mistral 4, Rejuvenation 4