

Impromptu Cruise – September 19 thru September 23

As the weather this season has been so hot or rainy, many CSSM cruisers have not been able to sail much together with one cruise after another having been cancelled. At the Commodore's Picnic it was decided to try again, so the crew of *Tryst* announced an Impromptu Cruise to begin on Wednesday, September 19 and run through (hopefully) September 30.

Tryst (Molly and Peirce) and *Esprit* (Chip, single handed) planned to head for the Miles River on Wednesday the 19th leaving early. While *Esprit* was fueling up, *Tryst* headed out of Oxford's Town Creek. First sign of trouble was that the touch screen on the GPS would not respond to touch. Next the VHF would not turn on. Fearing electrical trouble, *Tryst* headed back to the slip...*Esprit* soon followed. After getting the VHF to work, we zeroed in on the touch screen issue. Chip and Peirce headed to Cambridge to get a chip to update the GPS. Once installed we tried again...still no touch screen. After a most pleasant and informative call to Garmin, it was determined that the problem was a hardware issue which could only be solved by installing a replacement unit. Since our iPads are equipped with Garmin Blue Chart and are equipped with GPS and cellular we would have a chart plotter at our disposal, so we set off around 1400 hrs. for Dun Cove. Unfortunately, we would not be able to raft up with *Fiscal Stray* (Anne and Tod) who we planned to meet on the Wye River nor *Flow* (Sara Robins and David Briemhurst) who hoped to meet us on Wednesday evening and perhaps Thursday. *Fiscal Stray* did anchor in the Wye on Wednesday night as originally planned.

Thursday, we headed out early for the Wye River. *Mistral* (Barb and Dave) planned to join us, however *Fiscal Stray* had to head back to St. Michaels due to other commitments and *Flow* had not ventured out after all. We transited Knapps Narrows with no problem. New dredging showed 9 to 10' all the way through. At the top of Poplar Island Narrows we raised our sails and we had a nice sail up Eastern Bay. When the wind dropped out we powered to St. Michaels to view the Viking Ship that was tied up the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum before heading for Dividing Creek on the Wye River and our raft up with *Mistral*, *Esprit* and *Tryst*.

We enjoyed cocktails on *Esprit* before retiring. Friday morning *Mistral's* crew discovered that they had a propane leak and needed a new regulator, so they left early for home with hopes that they could rejoin us. Since our main reason for heading for the Wye was to join up with Milers and none were available, we headed back to the Choptank with a great sail from the Wye across and down Eastern Bay. It started to rain, however we were able to tack our way to the top of Poplar Island Narrows. We were followed by the CBMM skipjack *Rosie Parks* who was headed to the Skipjack Races at Cambridge. *Rosie Parks* followed us through Knapps Narrows.

As we left Knapps Narrows, the wind picked up, so we put out a little jib and powered to Broad Creek. We were planning to meet up with *Capricorn* and *Dee Gee V* in Baby Owl Cove while hoping that *Mistral*, once repaired, could join up with us also. As it turned out, *Tryst* and *Esprit* rafted and *Capricorn* anchored close by, but joined us for cocktails on *Tryst*. *Dee Gee V* opted to anchor on the southerly side of Ledenham Creek and, prudently did not venture to cocktails by dinghy. It would have been a very wet trip. *Mistral* texted that their propane was repaired and would meet us the next night in La Trappe Creek. We had a delightful evening on *Tryst* with cocktails lasting until dark around 1900 hrs.

Saturday, we headed for La Trappe after stopping in Oxford so Chip could pick up Paula Clements and *Tryst* could pump out and get water. When we arrived in La Trappe after another nice sail, we found *Mistral* and *Capricorn* anchored behind Martin's Point. *Tryst* and *Esprit* rafted near by and cocktails were planned for 1700 hrs. onboard *Tryst*. Sunday *Capricorn* and *Mistral* had to head back. *Esprit* planned to drop Paula back in Oxford and then we would head out for another few days of sailing. Not in the cards...we woke to rain at around 0100 hrs. and it was still raining when we all woke around 0700 hrs. The forecast had changed...now saying that it would rain through Wednesday. We all decided to call it quits and head for the "barn". All in all, we had a great time, catching up with friends and enjoying some good sailing. In view of the weather and technical issues of one nature or another, we feel that all should get the nights that they tried to achieve. Therefore, we respectfully submit the following:

Tryst – 4 nights

Esprit – 4 nights

Mistral – 3 nights

Capricorn – 2 nights

Dee Gee V – 1 night

Fiscay Stray – 1 night

Respectfully submitted,
Molly and Peirce Anderson
Tryst