

CSSM Cruise Report

2018 CSSM Circumnavigation of Kent Island Cruise

Cruise Captains: Dave and Barb Taylor, MISTRAL

Participating Boats:

- Mistral, Barb and Dave Taylor (2 nights)
- Dee Gee V, Donna Lang and Ed Buckholz (2 nights)

Participating Boaters:

- Carolyn Rugg and Larry Rovin (Whisper)
- Molly and Peirce Anderson (Tryst)
- Taline and Arsho Sarrafian (Capricorn)

Monday Aug. 20: Mistral left her anchorage in the Rhode River and had an excellent sail around Thomas Point Light and up the Severn River. She found the Annapolis mooring field almost empty and had her pick of mooring balls. While no boats were able to join her, it turned out that crews from Whisper, Tryst, and Capricorn were able to join Mistral's crew via land routes for dinner at the Red Red Wine Bar. It was a great time with good food, good wine and excellent company.

Tuesday Aug. 21: No boats were scheduled to join Mistral behind Gibson Island, so after looking at the weather forecast, Mistral's crew decided to go to Rock Hall a day ahead of schedule. Once through the bridge we enjoyed a great sail in 15 kts. of wind. We went to the North Point Marina in the Rock Hall Harbor because the marinas up Swan Creek required attention to tides. We had not been in the Harbor previously so we had a bit of anxiety figuring out the ATONs, but all went well. That night, as predicted, the heavens opened and we experienced a good drenching.

Wednesday Aug. 22: Dee Gee V joined Mistral in the marina after a long day motor sailing from Oxford. After a rest, we called the Rock Hall Tram for a ride to the Osprey Point Restaurant where we had an excellent meal and great conversation. After dinner the Tram brought us back to our boats for drinks and more conversation.

Thursday Aug. 23: The crew of Mistral was invited to Dee Gee V for a wonderful breakfast of blueberry pancakes – a delightful start to the day. The winds had picked up, and the marina fairway suddenly seemed quite narrow. Mistral also considered her limited steering ability in tight spaces, a remnant of repairs in Georgia. After waiting for winds to diminish until noon, all participants decided lunch was a good idea. We spent the afternoon walking in the small town of Rock Hall, had drinks and snacks on Dee Gee V, and another night in the marina.

Friday Aug 24: The wind was now down to acceptable levels to leave the slips, and both boats exited without incident and headed south. Both crews decided that another night in Annapolis sounded like a better idea than the Kent Narrows considering the tides, so we motor sailed back to the Western shore for an unscheduled extra night. Mistral picked up a ball in the main mooring field while Dee Gee went under the bridge further up Spa Creek where it is quieter. We met for dinner at Carrol's Creek Restaurant, and celebrated Donna's Thursday birthday with an excellent meal.

Saturday Aug. 25: Both boats headed back to their home ports, motor sailing into a southerly. The careful reader may have noticed that we did not end up circumnavigating Kent Island. We'll leave that for another time.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb & Dave Taylor

Cruise Captains