

CRUISE REPORT: CHOPTANK SHAKEDOWN

This cruise was designed to give all participants an opportunity to test out their boat before taking any longer cruises. We were blessed with good weather and a great opportunity to spend time with long time friends and get to know 2 Prospective Member Boats, Mystic (Keith Donald and Debbie Spear) and Shaken Knot Stirred (John and Barbara Pomije).

Day 1, May 20th: After a nice sail in light wind, Moonshadow approached Broad Creek to be greeted on the radio by Mystic who was just reaching the mouth of Broad Creek after traveling across the Bay. Moonshadow took in her sails shortly after entering Broad Creek and motored the rest of the way up to Baby Owl. Shaken Knot Stirred called Moonshadow on the radio to let her know that she was almost to Baby Owl. After Moonshadow completed anchoring in Baby Owl, Shaken Knot Stirred and then Mystic rafted up for some cocktails and munchies. Everyone enjoyed a lovely social time and getting to know each other. Surprise- the Pomijes and the Weavers have good Pennsylvania friends in common. What a small world. Mistral anchored a short way away and Gambrinus who had sailed from the Miles and Elusive from Bachelors Marina rafted with them for social hour. Keith and John decided to motor over in Keith's dinghy to introduce themselves to the other members. The gentlemen, ever safety conscious, had a "men overboard drill" as they approached to tie up with Mistral. We are pleased to report that their auto-inflate life jackets operated. They were able to inspect the dinghy's electric motor prop from a birds eye view and it continued working, as did phones and hearing aids, even after batteries were exposed to the water. Keith and John were welcomed on board of Mistral and met all the folks on that raft as they enjoyed some social time before rowing back to the Moonshadow raft. All boats broke off from their rafts and anchored independently for their overnights. It was a beautiful evening at anchor.



Day 2, May 21st: Gambrinus left early as planned to go through Knapps Narrows for a return to the Miles. Before leaving they discovered issues with their head and windlass. All to be tweaked when they returned to home port. Moonshadow pulled anchor around 9:30am and headed out for La Trappe Creek. Mistral, Elusive, Mystic and Shaken Knot Stirred followed. The wind was non-existent when the day began, but later arrivals did get some sailing in before entering La Trappe. Mistral anchored and Shaken Knot Stirred rafted with them. Moonshadow anchored and Mystic and Elusive rafted with them. Everyone enjoyed another beautiful evening with wonderful comradery. Keith tested out the dinghy and motor. He was able to take a nice tour of the anchorage with the electric motor working perfectly. The rafts broke up around 7:30pm.

Day 3, May 23rd: All boats returned to home ports

Nights:

Elusive- 2

Gambrinus-1

Mistral-2

Moonshadow-2

Mystic-2

Shaken Knot Stirred- 2

Submitted by:

Judy and Larry Weaver, Cruise Captains

S/V Moonshadow