

2021 COLUMBUS/INDIGENOUS PERSONS DAY CRUISE

To All Cruising Sailors of St. Michaels,

The following is the Cruise Report for the 2021 Columbus/Indigenous Persons Day Cruise (or, more accurately, the “Ring Around the Choptank Cruise”).

Ah, we had great plans! Across to Harness Creek! Down to the Little Choptank!

And then the weatherman chimed in, and so . . .

Friday, October 8. Intended Destination – Dun Cove, Harris Creek, Choptank. Actual Destination – La Trappe Creek, Choptank.

The plan was to pick anchorages based on wind. The original plan was to start at Dun Cove and then head across the Bay. NOAA gave us NE 10-15 with gusts to 20 all weekend, so that didn't sound good, so we opted for a quick first day to La Trappe Creek instead. *Whisper* pulled away from the dock around 1200 and scooted around to La Trappe. Rather than anchoring in the usual spot at the mouth of the creek, we went further up where we could get more protection from the NE. *Whisper* anchored and took *Moonshadow* on one side. I ferried the four-legged crew ashore



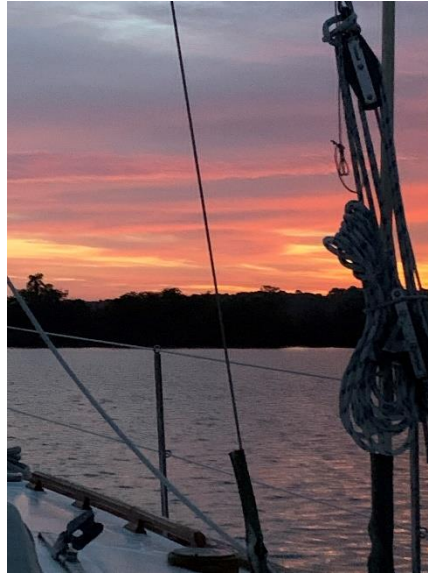
before *Tryst* tied up on the other side. *Mistral* and *Mystic* anchored separately.



Cocktails at 1730 on the raft, with *Whisper* providing Uber service. Everyone admired Peirce's new fashion accessories.



Sunset, and sunrise the next morning (the dogs get up early), were spectacular!



While we "Tankers" were having fun, the Milers who were going to join us were engaged in an Impromptu Cruise – see attached report.

Saturday, October 9. Destination – Dun Cove, Harris Creek, Choptank.

Repeat after me: NE 10-15 with gusts to 20. So today we are going to Dun Cove. *Tryst* started to procession out, followed by *Moonshadow*, *Whisper* and the rest of the fleet. *Whisper* rolled out the genoa with a straight shot to the mouth of Harris Creek on a 310°, doing an easy 5+ knots with a peak of 6.5 knots. Others such as *Moonshadow* were more energetic:



Due to the forecast winds we elected not to have a raft-up, so everyone anchored near the North end of Dun Cove (*Moonshadow* and *Mystic* rafted initially). Carolyn and I dinghied around to visit. Then the hordes arrived (5 boats flying Eastport Yacht Club burgees) and as we watched them setting up for rafts we decided to head back to *Whisper* just in case someone anchored too close. Larry and Judy stood on the bow of *Moonshadow* and glared at one of them until he moved, while *Mistral* had to ask one to move (they did). *Mystic* quickly cast off from *Moonshadow* and staked out a spot.

The scene with all the mast lights was lovely:



Saturday, October 10. Destination – Bobby Owl Cove, Leadenham Creek, Choptank

NOAA forecast N 15 with gusts to 30. Hmmm. Bobby Owl Cove it is. *Whisper* got lazy and just motored around, while others went with some combinations of power and sail. *Moonshadow* headed home. Whitecaps galore on the Choptank, and observed wind speeds of 24 knots. *Shaken Knot Stirred* was already in the cove when we arrived. *Tryst* and *Mystic* rafted with *Whisper* and *Mistral* rafted with *Shaken Knot Stirred*. About 1630 Molly observed that radar showed a line of rain about to hit us. In order to lighten the load on the raft, *Mystic* cast off and reanchored. The storm was not too bad and cleared out just in time for cocktails, with *Whisper* providing Uber service again. And best of all, we got to welcome Keith and Debbie as the newest CSSM members!



Sunday, October 11. Destination – Dun Cove (Again?).

NOAA still isn't cooperating – N 15 with gusts to 30 again! *Tryst* and *Mystic* are headed home, and the rest of us are going back to Dun Cove! Genoa only out Broad Creek at 5.5 knots. As we gybed over to head for Harris Creek, one of the four legged crew (Cooper) started to let us know he was NOT happy with this, so we furled and motored the rest of the way, anchoring in the North branch of the cove again. Mistral and Shaken Knot Stirred were not far behind. Cocktails were on Mistral and, what do you know! John and Barbara became the second new members in two nights!



Tuesday, October 12. Home

All good things must come to an end, and CSSM cruises as well. Mistral and Shaken Knot Stirred headed back to Oxford, while Whisper was staying out for a few more days and headed out under genoa alone (wind N-NE at 10-15) on our way to Harness Creek on the South River.

Speaking only for the crew of *Whisper* (two-legged, that is), we had a lot of fun on the cruise and hope that the other members on the cruise enjoyed themselves.

Participating Boats:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Nights</u>
<i>Whisper</i>	4
<i>Mistral</i>	4
<i>Mystic</i>	3
<i>Tryst</i>	3
<i>Moonshadow</i>	2
<i>Shaken Knot Stirred</i>	2

Respectfully submitted

Larry Rovin

Carolyn Rugg

Cruise Captains

Where the Wind Blew Us
October 8-9, 2021

The Miles River boats *Karaya*, *Fiscal Stray*, and *Gambrinus* were excited to join the Choptank contingent for the largest cruise of the season, but the fickle finger of the winds had other ideas. When the weather forecast necessitated a change of rendezvous anchorage from Dunn's Cove to Trappe Creek, they realized they had to alter course. After consulting with the cruise's captains, Larry and Carolyn, they followed the cruise's mantra to adjust course to go where the wind would blow and to the Wye River it blew them. Sort of. We did have to motor....



By five, the three boats had rafted in Granary Creek for a delightful evening munching vegetables and sampling a new boxed Chardonnay from Wishing Well. It certainly passed muster!





Beautiful sunset and great conversation: a good time was had by all.

Saturday morning all three boats headed back to MRYC to get back before the bad weather which in the end didn't arrive. It's where the wind blew...or didn't. You never know but cruising with CSSM is always a wonderful adventure!

Participating Boats:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Nights</u>
<i>Fiscal Stray</i>	1
<i>Gambrinus</i>	1
<i>Karaya</i>	1