



SCOOPILOT

SAILING CLUB OF ORIENTAL

FALL 2009

Penny Monell, Editor/Lynn & Dan O'Neill, Circulation Editors

FROM THE POOP DECK

Commodore Earl Evens

Here we are at the 1st of September with anticipation of two months of excellent sailing ahead. To date, we have had above average cruises and land events with good participation overall. The success of these events can be attributed to the efforts of so many people--- cruise captains, assistant cruise captains, officers, staff and social committee. When members participate, it makes all the effort seem worth it.

Over the next few months it is important that we all think about next year's activities. Please call Gerry Crowley with suggestions that you feel may improve the quality of our SCOOPILOT events.

And finally, please take lots of pictures of the remaining cruises and activities--- we hope to put them on a DVD and show them at the annual meeting. Forward your pictures to:

dave@towndock.net

VICE COMMODORE'S MESSAGE

Vice Commodore Gordon Kellogg

The following is a list of the cruises completed from June through August:

Broad Creek Shore Picnic, June 19; Eric and Mary Anne Lind, nine boats attended.

Gone with the Wind, River Dunes; June 24, 25; Durl and Debbie Evans with Fred and Nancy Karl, fifteen boats attended.

Dowry Creek Fun Time, July 14-16; Carl and Penny Monell with Seth and Sue Hiller, seven boats attended.

Summer Moonbeam, South River; August 6, 7; Will and Nancy Huff with Earl and Sandy Evens, ten boats attended.

See the detailed activity reports for all these events below.

Thanks to all the cruise captains/co-captains, and to those who agreed to substitute, for all their hard work in organizing these events and for developing some new ideas for the future.

Please review the Cruising Schedule and Club Activities page for the remaining events. Be sure and let the Cruise Captains know of your intent to participate as soon as possible; it will assist them in making early preparations.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

George Sechrist, Membership Chairman

Please welcome as new members Stuart and Alice King on the s/v “Restless Two”, a McGregor 26. We look forward to their continued participation in SCOO events.

At the July 1 Board meeting, the following new applicants have been accepted as prospective members:

David and Jeane Shaddock, sponsored by Gerry Crowley, who sail a 42 Whitby, named “Gypsy”. Their e-mail is: drshaddock@gmail.com.

SOUTH RIVER PROGRESSIVE DINNER ***Gerry & Cheryl Crowley, Cruise Captains***

Although the weather forecast predicted potential afternoon/evening thunder storms, the cruise Captains and joining ‘cruisers’ proceeded with vigor and fortitude to South River on the afternoon of June 9, 2009. In no particular order, the cruisers and boats in attendance were as follows:

- LARRY & ROBERTA JONESSYMMETRY
- PETER FREEMAN, SUE GILL.....PINAFORE
- RICHARD JOHNS, RENE DUMONT.....XANADU
- KURT & GERT KLIGNMANN.....EGRET
- GEORGE & JUDY SMITH..... WINDBAG
- GERRY & CHERYL CROWLEY & GUESTS.....RI RA
- JOHN & DORIS BISCHOFF.....BAY-B
- HANS &HILDE NICKSTADT..... LULU
- JIM &JAN NIXON.....JIMMYNIX

As we (RI RA) approached the South River (approx. 2 miles west of the mouth), we dropped sails and watched a squall pass by the river’s mouth. We could see several boats ahead of us approaching the mouth. The squall passed quickly and we proceeded under power up the river to our rendezvous point. Although I had stated that RI RA would be early on station to receive boats I forgot how early the SCOO queue can form when there is food involved. There were six boats anxiously awaiting RI RA’s arrival.

Two raft ups followed.

- (1) LULU, EGRET and BAY-B
- (2) WINDBAG, SYMMETRY, XANADU, PINAFORE, RI RA and JIMMYNIX

Although JIMMYNIX was on station early for the raft-up, an ‘opportunity’ with the main propulsion plant ensued that took awhile to resolve....not till Tow Boat US was alongside in fact!!!!??? However the Nixon’s were in a perfect position to advise that the raft-up was adrift!!!! This scrambled all hands to stations till WINDBAG put out another anchor and perhaps RI RA’s “keel anchor” took hold.

Once JIMMYNIX completed the raft up, the cocktail hour commenced during which a “command decision” was made with a little coaxing from the “troops’ so to speak. It was decided to abandon the ‘progressive’ part of the evening’s dinning which resulted in what might be called an “on the water pot-luck social.”

I’m not going to divulge the evening’s menu/fare, as you should have been there to enjoy it. Let’s just say you missed a lovely dinner, desserts and camaraderie that did justice to RI RA, which in Gaelic means/connotes..... A place or state where exuberance and revelry prevail: where music and merriment compete and the conversation flows smooth as the Guinness ebbs in the glass. ” Ri..Ra agus Ruaile Buaile”, a phrase translated roughly as “devilment, good fun, or any social activity that improves with fine food, a nice pint of Guinness, or a dram of Uisce Beatha whiskey.”

Around 2000 hrs. the skies were darkening, and it wasn’t just evening approaching. The raft-up was broken up and all boats with the exception of RI RA set individual anchors for an evening on the hook. RI RA took departure and transited the South River in darkness with light wind and a drizzling rain heading back to Oriental....arriving a little after 2200 hrs. with only two (2) minor groundings....but that’s a story for another time.

RI RA wishes to thank those boats and individuals and particularly the Chefs for participating and hope everyone enjoyed themselves as much as we did.

BROAD CREEK SHORE PICNIC

Eric & Maryann Lind, Cruise Captains

On Friday, June 19th, 2009, nine boats voyaged to lower Broad Creek for the annual SCOO Summer Solstice Cruise. Eight boats tied up to the Lind’s dock in Whortonsville, while RiRa tied to a neighboring dock, due to depth. The weekend proved to be one of the hottest weekends so far this summer, but this did not deter the cruising fun! New members, inactive members and experienced and experienced members alike shared in this event.

Friday afternoon, skippers and crew joined for a potluck and BBQ on the Lind's deck. Crews representing Merry Mary, Spindrift, The Restless Two, Take Five, Miss El, RiRa, Miranda,

Symmetry and Odyssey joined the crew from Lansa for good food, socializing and sharing boating stories and hors d'oeuvres. Larry Jones won the closely contested game of horseshoes.

Saturday, most vessels competed in the Whortonsville Yacht and Tractor Club Annual Race with our very own Miranda taking first Place!

Sunday saw some boats heading home while others remained at the Lind's dock for the next cruise----Thursday River Dunes Cruise, which is close by on Lower Broad Creek.

“GONE WITH THE WIND” CRUISE

Fred & Nancy Karl Cruise Captains

A bright day with light breezes and great warm pool weather greeted us on June 24th at River Dunes.

SCOO boats started arriving about noon. There were fifteen boats in total. Two that were slated to come could not make the trip.

River Dunes provided us with wonderful amenities. By three PM, the pool was filled with SCOO members. The conviviality became heightened when the poolside bar opened.

Dinner was preceded by an enjoyable cocktail hour. The meal was hearty, although unremarkable, with the exception of the watermelon salad with red onion which was great! A door prize of a photo on canvas of a sailing ship on the Antarctic coast was won by the Cutlers. Wyatt was delighted!!

The day at River Dunes was an enjoyable one, especially sharing it with like minded people who enjoy being on the water together. By ten the next morning boats were leaving with a concern for a rising southwest wind.

DOWRY CREEK FUN TIME CRUISE

Cruise Captains Monells & Hillers

On Tuesday morning, July 14, seven of the twelve boats originally signed up for this event departed Oriental and nearby ports through the remnants of pea soup fog which had blanketed the Neuse and surrounding creeks in the overnight hours.

Once safely docked, some enjoyed relaxing in the pool before dinner; others took advantage of the view and cool breezes afforded from the porch of the clubhouse. That evening, the group enjoyed a barbeque chicken dinner prepared by Co-Cruise Captains Seth & Sue Hiller, accompanied by pot luck dishes everyone provided. A briefing on the activities for the next day was held, and “Charades Cribsheets” were distributed. After socializing in the clubhouse, most turned in early after a long day. (They also knew that the next day would be a full one!)

On Wednesday, spousal communication skills and dingy handling were tested in the Blind Dingy Race. Blindfolded husbands rowed a course out to and around a mark on the water, guided by their wives' directions. Time was carefully recorded by the Race Committee on shore.

The First Place team, Bob and Stacey Taylor, devised the winning technique, the "knee tap", wherein the wife would tap the knee of her husband which corresponded to the oar he should pull on. Ed & Sandy Braun came in 2nd, with Andy & Mary Anton finishing in 3rd place. The gallery provided encouragement and/or ribbing as the races took place.

Winners were presented with beautiful handcrafted trophies with a Gold, Silver or Bronze Oarlock mounted on cherry wood which were made by our multitalented Cruise Captain/cook/woodworker, Seth Hiller!

Most of the group cavorted in the pool that afternoon, where Ed Braun amused us with his amazing lung capacity and ability to swim the length of the pool underwater & shoot water out of a noodle at unsuspecting swimmers.

That evening, communication skills were again tested in a game of Nautical Charades. Four teams competed for the coveted first place. The winning team was Ed Braun, Mary Anton, Jane Bliss and Stuart King. The group overcame their initial reluctance to take part in this event, digging deep and coming up with some really ingenious depictions of titles, etc.

Another barbeque was held on Wednesday evening, with lots more chicken, hot dogs and hamburgers, together with the remains of Tuesday's pot luck.

Weather conditions were wonderful for the middle of July, with a cool breeze and the "isolated T/storms" which are always predicted, missing us. (No bugs either!)

Present on the cruise were:

Andy & Mary Anton	"Marissa"
Ed & Jane Bliss	"Out of the Blue"
Ed & Sandy Braun	"Groundbreaker II"
Stuart & Alice King	"Restless Two"
Bob & Stacey Taylor	"Pelican"
Bob & Elaine Wolfinger	"White Gate"
Carl & Penny Monell	"Take Five"

Thursday morning we departed for home, with the ever present wind in our face conditions which seem to accompany any leg of a SCOO cruise! Perhaps we should consider an Alternate Destination Cruise, where people sign up and the destination will depend on the wind direction on the date of the cruise - - similar to Wednesday night races, but choosing whichever destination is more downwind!

SUMMER MOONBEAM SOUTH RIVER CRUISE *Cruise Captains Evens for Huffs*

What started out, as a one-day cruise became a two-day event. Six boats went over on Thursday Aug. 6th before the event was changed to the 7th due to forecasted thunderstorms and possible high winds.

The following boats arrived on Thursday:

Jerry and Molly Grubbs	Wind Dancer
Stacy and Bob Taylor	Pelican
Hans and Hildegard Nickstadt	Lulu
David and Sandy Netting	Second Wind
Kurt and Gurt Klingman	Egret
Steve and Kim Snyder	Fine Lion

Steve and Kim are in the process of applying for SCOO membership--- they sail a Catalina 42.

On Friday the following boats arrived:

Gerry and Cheryl Crowley	Ri Ra
John and Julie Rahm	Island Chariot
Joe Valinoti	Il Gatto
Buddy and Kay Rogers	Hearts Desire

The Grubbs and Snyders stayed over from Thursday. Buddy and Kay Rogers with the Evens' aboard arrived on their 53' Hatteras. Now that's a trip--- twin diesels, total a/c, wet bar, huge saloon, etc, etc, etc. We all gathered in the salon for a very comfortable cocktail hour before heading home that evening. The Grubbs and Snyders stayed overnight before heading for home and Ocracoke respectively. The weather was perfect and no mosquitoes--- it can't get any better than that.

LONG DISTANCE CRUISE REPORT

Bill and Sandy Donaldson, aboard their 43' Saga Sloop, "Lucille", arrived in Block Island, RI after a 530 mile passage from Beaufort, NC. They then cruised to Onset and Hingham, MA to spend some time with family. Next they departed Boston for the passage to Nova Scotia and arrived in Shelburne the third day after a very foggy trip during which they actually had some pretty good sailing. Shelburne is located on the Southeast coast along a beautiful arm of the ocean. They continued along the south shore of Nova Scotia to Baddeck Harbor on the Bras d'Or Lake, which is a large salt water lake with outlets on the southwest and northeast corners. Around August 17, we learned that after a 166 mile passage from Baddeck, they were off the coast of Newfoundland, heading for White Bear Bay. They noted that the rocky coastline rose straight up to very impressive heights, and they were looking forward to their adventure along this rugged coast.

REMAINING SCOO EVENTS

Ocracoke Cruise – September 1-4

Regretta September 8

September 22-24 Bath-Little Washington Cruise

September 30 Commodore's Cup

October 9-11 Mumfest, New Bern

October 15-16 Heritage Night, Matthews Point Marina

October 20-23 Beaufort-Cape Lookout Cruise

November 4-5 South River Wind-up Cruise

PILOT DEADLINE

The next deadline for Pilot material will be December 1, 2009.