

SCOO 2009
SOUTH RIVER PROGRESSIVE DINNER CRUISE
JUNE 9, 2009

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 JONES	SYMMETRY
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 to and 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 into what might be called an on the water pot-luck social.

I’m not going to divulge the evenings 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/connotates..... 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 Buaille”, 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. A few pictures (Compliments of Rear Commodore Crowley) follow:



GEORGE & JUDY SMITH, CREW OF WINDBAG,



PAST COMMODORE JONES, COMMODORE EVENS & REAR COMMODORE CROWLEY IN DISCUSSION ON THE FOREDECK OF SYMMETRY WHILE JAN NIXON OF JIMMYNIX PRAYS FOR OUR ENLIGHTENMENT



WINDBAG'S JUDY SMITH FINALIZES THE DOCKING OF
PINAFORE (PETER FREEMAN & SUE GILL)



THE COCTAIL HOUR BEGINS ON RI RA



SO WHY ARE ALL THE ADMIRAL'S HEADS DOWN AND
ALL THE CAPTAIN'S HEADS UP??????....DID I ASK WHO WANTS TO
VARNISH???



GEORGE & JUDY SMITH IN CONVERSATION WITH PETER FREEMAN & SUE
GIL



JIMMIE NIXON (JIMMIENIX) GOING AFTER SOME OF THE GOODIES WITH
COMMODORESSS EVENS LOOKING ON



COMMODORESSS EVENS KEEPS A WATCHFULL EYE ON COMMODORE
EVENS WHILE RICHARD JOHNS OF XANADU DOES SAME