



# Tiller Tales

## Gulf Stream Sailing Club August/September

### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR GSC BRIDGE, COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND GSC BOARD

I've mentioned in the past how important our volunteer leaders are to GSC. After all, the leaders are Members just like you that enjoy our water lifestyle and want to see it continue. GSC is an organization that is on a great financial footing – with a 54 year history of hosting sailing activities in south Florida. But, we do struggle getting our Members to step up and take an active leadership role. So if you enjoyed one of our parties, sailed on a boat during an ocean race, or even took out a Sunfish one of those perfect Saturdays...consider taking a more active role with GSC this next year so that we can keep this Club going strong. You can really make an impact and you always have plenty of help and support from your fellow Members.

We are extending the deadline for soliciting nominations for leadership positions to this week. Our by-laws require a slate of nominees for positions to be presented at the October General Meeting, which will be on the 9th of October at Lauderdale Isles Yacht & Tennis Club. Therefore, it is very important to have individuals identified ahead of that meeting so that they can be contacted and have the opportunity to consent.

If you are considering a positions or have a nominee for any of our leadership positions, please send in your candidate ASAP to Nancy Marsh (donomom1@bellsouth.net) - Nominating Committee Chair.

Thanks, Adeel Arshed—2012 GSC Commodore

### From The Helm - Commodore Adeel Arshed

Aaaah, the dog days of summer are coming to an end. The breeze is starting to kick up some days, but the afternoon rain is still pushing through every afternoon. This time of year is great. Its a time when us locals get free reign over the waterways! For those that don't mind the late summer heat, like me, this really is the best time of year in Southeast Florida.

While the days may still be a bit lazy, this Club certainly isn't. We've had a tremendous number of events late this summer and early fall. All the hard work put in by our Voluteers makes sure that these events are well planned, so its up to you to make them well attended! From Chilli Cook-off Cruise, Ocean Races, to our always

#### 2012 Officers

Commodore.....Adeel Arshed  
Vice Commodore...Luis Oliveira  
Rear Commodore... Chris Bare  
Treasurer...Helen Swinghammer  
Secretary.....Janis Walkow

#### 2012 Governing Board

Larry Littell  
Joanne Salvadore  
Jim Webb

#### 2012 Committee Chairs

Membership.....Betty Lou Webb  
Cruising Fleet...Chris Bare  
Gregg Henry  
Ocean Race ....Luis Oliveira  
Lake ....Luis Oliveira  
Social ...Jim Webb

### HEADS UP

**Oct 6,7th, Columbus Day Regatta**

**Oct. 9, Monthly Mtg now @ Lauderdale Isles Yacht & Tennis Club**

**Oct 27, Annual Halloween Party also @ Lauderdale Isles Yacht & Tennis Club. Wear a costume, bring a dish to share, Club will provide Spiral Ham and a Turkey. Cash Bar for drinks.**

## **From The Helm (continued)**

popular Boatathalon, there really is something to do for all types of water enthusiasts.

I want to especially highlight our Ocean Racing. We've had great attendance this summer and it really feels like Gulfstream Sailing Club is returning to our racing roots. Planning and organizing is only one aspect of Ocean Racing...you still need boats to come to the starting line! I'm proud to say that many of our boats have been making these races a priority this year. More than anything, I'd like to thank all of our GSC Captains that have taken the time and effort to get their boats off the dock and make these starts. I realize that it can be a half or even full day affair, so again, my gratitude for taking the time to support Ocean racing. \*ESPECIALLY\* those Captains that have taken new Members and Crew aboard!

Speaking of Crew, have you seen GSC's new Crew Pool page? Yes, this long requested tool is finally up and going! Thanks to the hard work of Scott Lindars, we now have a real time Crew Pool with online sign-up capability. So if you're looking to either get on a boat or looking for an extra hand at an upcoming race or regatta, I highly recommend using the Crew Pool...I've already used it to find crew for the Ocean Race V. We already have 10 people signed up with more coming online daily. So make use of this tool for the remaining Summer races as well as the upcoming Fall Regatta season. Here's how to get to Crew Pool:

\*WANT TO CREW\* -> <http://www.gulfstreamsailingclub.org/iwillcrew>

\*NEED\* crew -> <http://www.gulfstreamsailingclub.org/iwantcrew>

Just in time too, because there is a \*TON\* of racing coming up! Be it another Fall series of 420 racing on Wednesdays, or the remaining Ocean races, anyone can get out on the water. The next Ocean race will be our Pitcairn race September 29th. This fall race is a perennial Club favorite, and is a way to see our coastline in an entirely different perspective...under the soft glow of a full moon. Yes, its a night coastal race! After Pitcairn, we rapidly move on to the Bacardi Columbus Day Regatta on October 6th/7th and then our Ocean Race IV make-up (remember Isaac) on October 14. My hope is that with all the practice our Club boats have had racing this Summer, we have a great showing at upcoming regattas such as Columbus Day, PHRF SE Florida Championship, and of course our own Commodore's Cup in November.

If Cruising's more your style, look for more info later on about Fall Cruising Plans. I hear the Sunday Sails are a hit and we'll make it a point to do more of those next year. Many of our members are still out there exploring the world by water, so make sure to read their reports and live vicariously through their experiences.

I'd be remiss if I didn't thank all of our Volunteers one more time. None of these activities would be possible without the hard work and effort of these individuals behind the scenes. I've thought about ways to show our gratitude for your effort, however the best way I can come up with is to break all attendance records for Boatathalon, Change of Command, Sunday Sails and Bashes...that seems like the best way to say "your efforts are appreciated". So GSC Members, who's with me?

Time to get off the dock!

Adeel Arshed - 2012 GSC Commodore

**Heads Up (Continued)**

Join us at Sailor's Point in Hollywood for mid-week Sailing & Grilling. Every Wednesday 5:30pm till dusk. Boat rentals still only \$5 for members!

Happy Hours are on summer schedule which is the last Tuesday of the month at Rendezvous. **Our next Happy Hour is 10/30**

Dont forget our next Sunday Sail & Raft-Up on **October 21st!**

**8/25 Ocean race has been rescheduled.** New date is **10/14**. Join the fun for all the racing action! Race days upcoming on 10/14 & 10/28.

Our monthly meetings are now @ Lauderdale Isles Yacht & Tennis Club , hit this link for a Google Map.

Florida's Oldest Sporting Event Afloat



Commemorating a Small Boat Cruise Made in 1492

## Notes From the Editor - Franz J. Walkow

. Crazy Busy !!!! That is an apt description for August and September. Both for the CLUB and your Editor. First of all, our monthly meetings have MOVED. The Downtowner, while a convenient location for many and a place to gather and eat before hand, was displacing us if they had an event scheduled for the room. Of course THEY started booking the room in conflict with our monthly meeting. Plus they wanted to begin charging us, instead of the bar business covering the use of the room. It turns out, our groups eating at the restaurant, did not count. We held the September meeting at our new location Lauderdale Isles Yacht & Tennis Club and it was a success. Thanks to Adeele and others for locating a great new place.

Boatathlon was saved by a weather miracle. Four stations and six boats participated for the Holiday themed GSC signature event. The day dawned with dark skies and rain and wind and more rain. The start was postponed for an hour and then....the rain stopped for about four hours...just enough to allow GSC to run our Boatathlon !!! Then it continued to rain the remainder of the day and night. The Awards dinner at Bahia Cabana was NOT dampened by the rain, the food was better than usual, the POKER RUN was so much fun and the prizes were top drawer as usual ( worth about \$4,000). A BIG thanks to Jim Webb ( our hard working Social Chair) and wife Betty Lou and ALL the volunteers and participants for the organizing, work and worry !



Lovely Ladies "manning" the Roman HOLIDAY Boatathlon Site @ Pier 66

The long standing Pitcairn Ocean Race to Hillsboro and back, traditionally scheduled for a September Saturday night under a full moon, had only three boats participate, BUT it didn't matter, it was a great sailing experience. Your Editor and wife Janis were aboard ANYI, a Hunter 49, ably captained by Wolfgang Pozsicsanyi. The seas were calm, the breeze made for fabulous sailing under the bright full moon.

Not to paint the CLUB as only a party and social club, much racing, both big boats and small boats , (at THE LAKE) has been going on. Results are distributed as e-mails and are available on our newly very active website and our Facebook page. Fifty five year old GSC is into social media !!

Franz Walkow - Editor

## **Kids End of Summer Party (Sept 16th) - by LeeAnn Bennett**

The end of summer celebration was a huge success. We had 24 summer participants attend. There were an additional 30+ parents and siblings that took part in the celebration. A bbq was enjoyed by everyone and the races were a fun touch to the day. Awards were given out for first through fifth place. Not to leave the others out mini trophies tied to candy strips were given to the others. This was a wonderful ending to a summer of fun on the lake. Pictures are on the Facebook page for everyone to enjoy. Several families signed on as members while others registered for the upcoming classes which start this Sunday. There is lots of excitement within the children/parent group. They love the opportunity and experiences their children have each and every time they come to the lake.

**GULFSTREAM SAILING CLUB – FALL II THIS COMING SATURDAY OCT 6 AT SAILORS POINT, HOLLYWOOD. SKIPPERS MEETING AT 11:00 AM, RACE STARTS SHORTLY THEREAFTER.**

**HUMP DAY 420 RACING IS TOMORROW OCT 3, FIRST START AT 6:00 PM, DON'T MISS THE FUN, THERE'S ONLY TWO MORE RACE DAYS BEFORE THE HOUR CHANGES.**



**RACE FEE \$5.00**

**WE ALSO LEND SUNFISH FOR A DONATION OF \$5.00 FOR MEMBERS AND \$15.00 FOR NON-MEMBERS. LIFE JACKETS AND WATER SHOES REQUIRED.**

**SAILOR'S POINT ADDRESS:  
921 N. NORTHLAKE DR.  
HOLLYWOOD, FL 33019**

**DIRECTIONS TO SAILORS POINT ARE:**

**FROM 95 GET OFF ON SHERIDAN AND GO EAST TO FEDERAL HWY., AT FEDERAL GO SOUTH (RIGHT) TO JOHNSON ST., AT JOHNSON GO EAST (LEFT) TO 10TH AVE., AT 10TH GO SOUTH (RIGHT) TO NORTHLAKE DRIVE, AT N. L. DR. GO EAST (LEFT) TO END OF NORTHLAKE DRIVE, THEN SOUTH (RIGHT) TO GATE INTO SAILORS POINT.**

## The Lost Reports of Bashes Gone BY - Jim Webb ( Social Committee Chair)

### Pool Party

The Annual Post Abacos Pool Party was held at Franz and Janis' waterfront condo off Las Olas Blvd on Saturday July 21. The club provided ribs, burgers, hot dogs, sodas and beer. Everyone brought a dish to share and the pool was used extensively to beat the heat. It was free, it was fun and a really great chance to get to know all the members. Attending from Port St. Lucie, were Sue and Tom Thompson, former very active members, who created the weekly Happy Hour and the Annual Post Abacos Party many years ago. We also celebrated our Commodore Adeel Arshed's birthday with a delicious cake from his lovely wife Krystal. A heart felt "Thank You" to Franz cooking up his famous babyback ribs and Janis for hosting and organizing this great annual event.

PS: On Adeel's b'day, the Arshed's also welcomed their daughter Leila into this world.



## The Lost Reports of Bashes Gone BY - Jim Webb ( Social Committee Chair)

### Beach Bash

The Annual GSC beach Party was again graciously hosted by Mike & Jan Rush at their beach front home on August 11 from 1 to 5 pm. Thanks to all the volunteers who cooked and setup, especially Jim and Betty Lou Webb. Although the weather tried to ruin the end of a beautiful day, we got under cover, held out against the wind and still had a great time. The GSC website photo gallery has 42 photos from this event by Jim Webb, Social Chair.



### Sam Walker posted in Gulfstream Sailing Club Fort Lauderdale , 6:40pm Aug 13

the Beach Bash was great! First, a big thanks goes to The Rush Family who puts up with our annual invasion. A special thanks should also go to: The Poop patrol who scouted the party grounds for "land mines", The crew who set up tables, re arranged the patio, iced drinks, laid out the tables with cloths, utensils ,and snacks, moved boats, set up canopies, lit the grill and got cookin' all before anyone else arrived. Then there was the person who trailered the club boats up, with a bit of help carried them down the side of the house out to the water, where he set up tillers and boards then rigged the two boats so everyone could play. It did take a couple of people to get Mike's 20 out on to the beach and into the water for even more sailing options. And the one person who cooked 95% of all the food!

Of course the same process was performed, only in reverse at the end! Those people were: Jim & Betty Lou, Mike & Marilyn, Gregg, Mike Rush, and Luis, oh,and a couple of strapping young men from the Coast Guard. (sorry if I missed someone).

However...OUR thanks goes to the people who showed up by land and by sea and had a good time. For without your participation...all would have been for naught!

There are so many things in life that come as a total surprise; sometimes these are serendipitous opportunities and other times, alas, unwelcome pitfalls taking extreme vigilance to master or overcome. I am yet undecided about my current state of affairs but am leaning toward serendipitous adventure.

Let me back up a moment and introduce myself: my name is Dunkin, yes, just one word, like Napoleon or Madona. I was adopted a year and a half ago and thus saved from being euthanized at the local animal shelter. My female person likes to tell people I am a Norwegian Forest Cat, but I think my male person has it more correct when he says all that matters is I am easy on the edges and make him smile.

My current residence is the blue yawl Bonnie. My current occupation and vocation is ship's cat...a highly responsible position. Along with making my people smile, and keeping the fly population to 0, I have the the huge responsibility of night watch wherein I make sure the moon rises, chase moonbeams from the deck and inspect shadows for any night demons or stealthy night intruders. Thus far I have been successful albeit at times, due to inclement weather, I have had to keep watch from under the bimini or even inside. I am always rewarded with a breakfast of chicken chunks with an occasional addition of veggies in a cream sauce. I must admit, I haven't yet developed a taste for fish.

I was informed this morning, as my people prepared to haul anchor, that I now have the additional duty of journaling this voyage for the members of the prestigious group GSSC of which my people are members, and equally important, for family and friends. so... Let's back up a bit and I will fill you in on the voyage thus far. I will try to stick to the point and include only those facts about which sailors and friends wish to gain more knowledge.

There I was, happy to be off that other boat, the Golly Gee, back at our home in Florida, lazing around, catching lizards when suddenly I was tucked into a harness, and thrust into a CAR . After what seemed an eternity, we arrived in Rhode Island where this huge blue boat was on land! After another eternity, a brief stint in the air, and a gargantuan splash, we were in the water floating and bobbing away.

I am glad my people had some things to check out because it took me a few days to get my sea legs and gain control of my body functions. (I admit, it is still a bit difficult for me to move around when the floor suddenly develops a 30\* angle, or the boat begins bucking and rocking, but, my people have allowed me access to all the nooks and crannies aboard and I can usually wedge myself into a tight space that still avails a decent view of all and sundry.)

We began our voyage on the 20th of July and spent the next six days in Narraganset Bay (Pawtuxet, Bristol, Newport) where we visited a few people I remember from Florida and, Al, my male person, further checked out the boat's systems. I especially enjoyed the battery replacement which afforded me a nice view and inspection of the hidden spaces under the floor, sole as they say.

Now, can you believe this? Dave, who I have always considered to be one of the good people because he is welcome in our house, (you probably know him from Florida) came for dinner on the boat and said he is allergic to ME! Humph! But, I digress.

## Travels Aboard Bonnie by Ship's Cat (continued)

On the 26th of July, we left Narraganset Bay for the ocean and then into Buzzards Bay between the mainland and the Elizabeth Islands. My two people put up three sails calling the foremost the number one and we sailed with only a slight slant to the floor to Marion MA where we took a mooring. We spent a week dangling from #147 with people coming and going and large numbers of stores being brought aboard. The Beverly Yacht Club launch took the people to and fro but did not invite me for a ride.

On the 1st of August, we again set out sailing and motoring through the Cape Cod Canal where I could see land on both sides of the boat from my vantage point above the main hatch. My people put up main, number three, mizzen and a beautiful soft billowing sail called the mizzen staysail. Eventually, they changed the number three for a number one, and I settled into one of my favorite spots in the aft cabin for a five hour plus or minus reach to the north and east.

As I dozed dreaming of lizards and butterflies, there began a racket on deck, mumblings of a squall line, sounds of sails sliding down their tracks and what I took to be a general preparation for stormy weather. Still no engine. I allowed myself to peep out the main hatch because it really was still smooth sailing and I wanted to see what was causing all the fuss. The GPS said we were making 6.2 knots but we only had the headsail flying. Then they dropped the headsail, and started the engine just as the wind increased, rain began, and the boat began bucking and yawing. I really did not want to be in the way, so I dove into my favorite hole to wait. Waiting was not long.

In less than an hour, the boat flattened, and the racket subsided. I ventured into the cockpit to offer my help. I kept my female person, Linda, smiling while I deftly avoided cockpit puddles. All prepared and dropped anchor. A look around and here we were/are - Rockport Mass, on the tip of Cape Ann, 47NM from our start. Time for a bite to eat before my night watch. As I understand it, we will spend the night then again arise at the coming of the sun and head for Maine.

I can tell it will be an important watch tonight because the moon is fully round and who knows what can happen aboard a small ship in a big ocean anchored beneath the rocks at the end of Cape Ann on the North Atlantic?

( To be continued....)

> Respectfully, Dunkin ,Ship's Cat for Bonnie



## **John and Barbara Gehrig - Cruising Log of Full Deck in the Chesapeake**

Tuesday, July 31<sup>st</sup> – After 5 days at sea traveling 880 nautical miles (nm) from Ft Lauderdale to the Chesapeake Bay, Full Deck arrived in Bodkin Creek with Captain John, Steve Hurt, Ingo May, and Jeri May at 4:00 AM. We had a short celebration and then crashed for some much needed sleep. Upon awakening, Ingo, Jeri and Steve packed, and after a debrief on the 5 day passage from Fort Lauderdale, John dinghied them to shore at our friends' Glenn and Juanita Robbins' home, and they departed, leaving John to fend for himself awaiting Barbara's arrival.

Wednesday-Friday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> – John fixed and resupplied the boat, and visited with friends Glenn and Juanita Robbins, and Ted and Nell Welsh, all of whom live on Bodkin Creek (located between Annapolis and Baltimore on the western shore of Maryland). We used to live on the Bodkin years ago, and still love returning to this beautiful creek. Barbara and her Dad, John Broyhill, arrived around noon on Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> and we reunited with a grilled salmon dinner on the boat. John B was very excited to be spending a week's vacation on Full Deck.

Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup> – After getting fuel and water aboard, John, Barbara and John B set out across the Chesapeake Bay northward to Fairlee Creek for the first leg of their cruise (16 nm). Fairlee Creek is on the eastern shore of Maryland and is a favorite spot for boaters on the weekend to anchor out and party. Barbara spotted an eagle in flight near the entrance to the creek, and we anchored and swam amid the many partiers in Fairlee. Glenn and Juanita met us on their Formula powerboat named PFD (Pet Flotation Device). We all feasted on grilled steaks and after dinner we enjoyed gazing at the stars from the trampoline on Full Deck.



Sunday, August 5<sup>th</sup> – We weighed anchor and said goodbye to Glenn and Juanita on PFD outside Fairlee Creek and headed north for the Sassafras River (our favorite spot on the bay). The trip from Fairlee Creek to Turner Creek on the Sassafras River was 16 nm. We unsuccessfully tried to find our friend Dave Hyman's mooring on Turner Creek, and were disappointed that the creek had filled up with moorings to the point that there was no room to anchor. We decided to move on and ended up sailing the full length of the Sassafras (an additional 6 nm), through the drawbridge in Georgetown to Dave Hyman's mooring at his house. Dave was



there to greet us, but he was unable to return for dinner as a line of severe thunderstorms associated with a cold front passed through. We were relieved to be on a mooring as this strong storm passed us. We called our brother in law, Hunter, and sang him Happy Birthday!

Monday, August 6<sup>th</sup> – Dave came out to say goodbye with a bag full of delicious Maryland Eastern Shore tomatoes, and we stopped at Skipjack Cove Marina for diesel, water, gas & oil for the dinghy, trash, pump-out, and ice. We then set sail on the 20 nm trip to Havre de Grace, which is located at the head of the bay on the Susquehanna River on the Western Shore. We docked at Tidewater Marina that is owned by our good friends Gary and Barbara Pensell, and they gave us a tour of their beautiful new and very modern house adjoining the marina. We all went for dinner at Giovanni's and were delighted when our friend Dave Brown joined us.



Tuesday, August 7<sup>th</sup> – Waving goodbye to Barbara Pensell (and wishing her a Happy Birthday!) as we left Tidewater, we set sail for the 45 nm journey to Annapolis, and flew the spinnaker until the wind died and then we motor-sailed. After picking up mooring ball #16 at the end of Ego Alley, we dinghied ashore and joined the crowd at the Navy band concert on the town dock. We had crab cakes at Middleton's, ice cream at the local parlor, and were back to the boat and in bed by 10:00.

Wednesday, August 8<sup>th</sup> – Departing Annapolis harbor we were reminded of the true Dog Days of summer on the Chesapeake with no wind and no waves. As we motored the 45 nm trip south toward Solomons Island, we snagged a crabpot (on the propeller that was not running) and John Gehrig (not John Broyhill) had to dive to free it. We tied up at Solomons Island Yacht Club and after a tour of their beautiful facility, we sat on their second story deck and enjoyed the view of Solomons harbor. We walked across the street to Solomons Pier and ate dinner watching the best sunset of the trip (so far) as the sun set under the Patuxent River Bridge. John Broyhill retired to the boat, and John & Barbara went to the world famous Solomons Tiki Bar for a mandatory mai tai.

Thursday, August 9<sup>th</sup> – We departed Solomons for our 46 nm excursion across the Bay to the Eastern Shore. We sailed past Hooper Strait Light through Hooper Strait, past Sharkfin Shoal, and up the breathtaking Nanticoke River with 20 nautical miles of unspoiled and uninhabited marsh. When we tied up at the brand new and free floating pier in Vienna (population 278), we were disappointed that we could not navigate the remaining 20 nautical miles of the Nanticoke River due to the low Route 50 bridge in Vienna. One of the locals from Vienna came to the boat for happy hour and informed us that his farmer friends downriver had told him that a big catamaran was coming upriver. When we toured his workshop he gave us a bag of Maryland Eastern Shore tomatoes, and we had dinner at Millie's (the best and only restaurant in town) where it was steak night. After dinner, we called our daughter in law, Jenna, and sang her Happy Birthday!

Friday, August 10<sup>th</sup> – We waited over an hour for a line of thunderstorms to pass and departed Vienna at 9:40 am to sail the 27 nautical miles down the Nanticoke River and up the Wicomico River. One of the many waterman on a boat named Shiloh Lady II took time out of his busy day to admonish us for sailing too close to his crab float. Fortunately, most of the watermen are not like him! We sailed up the Wicomico River to the beautiful, quaint waterfront community of Whitehaven where we were met by Barbara's brother Mark and his friends Billy and David where they saved us from a very hard landing as we tied up at Billy and Karen's bulkhead with a 22 knot beam wind. Mark took his dad, John B, home to Salisbury a few miles up the river, and we were sad to lose such a good crewmember after 8 days of cruising the Chesapeake, covering over 220 nautical miles.

Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup> – John worked on the boat, Barbara did laundry at Mark's house, and that evening Mark had a fantastic crab feast for Barbara, John, John B, and friends' Audra, Sarah, Billy and Karen. We just love steamed crabs Maryland style!

Sunday, August 12<sup>th</sup> – Barbara, John and John B took a drive through the Eastern Shore of Maryland countryside to Rumbley, MD, located on the Manokin River, and we had awesome cream of crab soup, soft crab bites, and arguably the best crab cakes we have ever had. We then toured the fishing villages of Deal Island and Wenona, and met David Gladden (John B's friends' Gordon and Mary Sue's son) at the marina, and he gave us a tour of the Ida May, which is a Chesapeake Bay Skipjack that Gordon and his brother recently restored. We took the lower ferry across the Wicomico River on our return to Whitehaven and had happy hour on the boat with John B and our hosts, Billy and Karen.

Monday, August 13<sup>th</sup> – Barbara left early to finish the laundry and do some chores at her Dad's house, and David took John and Billy on the brand new Salisbury fireboat where he demonstrated it's handling and water shooting capabilities. It was most impressive. Billy then took John on a tour of his many farms culminating in a trip to the packing house where they were packing watermelons. They left with 7 of them, one of which ended up on Full Deck for the next leg of our cruise. Karen and Billy invited us to a big family party that they were having for their granddaughter Hanna who was leaving for her next Naval assignment in Norfolk. We were honored that they included us and had a great time.

Tuesday, August 14<sup>th</sup> – We departed Whitehaven with David and Audra's 13 year-old daughter, Sarah, aboard bound for Smith Island – population 200. We sailed early and motor-sailed when the wind died. We decided to approach Smith Island from the deeper dredged western entrance instead of the long winding Tangier Sound entrance. After traveling 26 nautical miles, we arrived in Ewell at Ruke's pier at 12:30. We all had soft crabs at Rukes, and met an entrepreneur named John, who manages Ruke's, rented us his personal golf cart, gave us a tour of the island in his personal car, and appeared to be the perfect choice when he told us that he has an agreement to purchase Ruke's. There are 3 towns on Smith Island. After touring the two towns on the mainland (Ewell and Rhodes Point), Sarah drove us by dinghy (her first time piloting a dinghy) to Tylerton, which can only be reached by water. Tylerton was interesting, but the general store was closed at 3:30 when we arrived. After our return to Ewell, with Sarah driving the dinghy, she then took us on a golf cart excursion throughout the Smith Island mainland. Sarah did an excellent job driving the dinghy and the golf cart! Both restaurants on the island are closed for dinner, so we ate on the boat. After dinner Sarah and Barbara managed to beat John in every game of Uno (luck!).

Wednesday, August 15<sup>th</sup> – Departing Smith Island at 9:00 AM, we set sail on the 12 nautical mile journey for Tangier Island, Virginia (population 500). We approached the town from the western bay side. Docking at Parks Marina was a pleasure with 81 year-old Milton Parks handling the lines. Tangier Island has 3 tour boats that arrive daily from Reedville, Crisfield, and Onancock during the summer months, but crabbing and oystering are still the main industry. Tangier Island is built on three major ridges with a marsh in the middle. We walked Main Ridge and the exercise felt great. We then had a soft crab lunch at

Fisherman's Corner, followed by a golf cart tour of the Island with Michelle who was born and raised on Tangier, and had an accent that made communication questionable. Sarah captained the dinghy through the Tangier Harbor to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation Facility and we were amazed at the number of crab shanties in the harbor. Milton set us up with a local fisherman who sold us two dozen soft crabs and gave us a very educational tour of his crab shanty, and we had more soft crabs at Lorraine's for dinner. We tried to contact Sarah's Great Uncle Strickland who lives on the island, but we were told that he was in the hospital "on the mainland" in Salisbury.

Thursday, August 16<sup>th</sup> – We set sail at 8:30 AM and had a nice upwind sail in 10 knots of wind for the 12 nautical miles to Crisfield and we continue to be pleased with the performance of the catamaran. We had lunch at Waterman's Inn where Sarah's mom Audra met us to drive Sarah home to Salisbury. Sarah was great crew and it was a pleasure having her aboard. Barbara and John took the walking tour of Crisfield and were amazed at the number of condos that had sprouted up along the waterfront. Dinner was crab cakes at Captain Tyler's. We just can't get enough crab!

Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup> – We departed Crisfield in the dark at 5:30 AM to take advantage of the 10 to 20 knot southwest winds and try to beat an approaching cold front and resulting storms and northerly winds. The sail north was delightful, averaging 6.5 knots for the 85 nautical mile trip to Bodkin Creek. We flew the spinnaker for 4 hours, and arrived at 6:30 PM, just in time to anchor, stow the sails, and greet the first thunderstorm of the approaching cold front. Glenn and Juanita joined us for turkey chili and veggie salad for dinner.

Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup> – We pulled anchor in Bodkin Creek and had a relaxing day-sail with Glenn and Juanita in unpredicted 5 to 8 knot easterly winds on the Chesapeake Bay. We flew the code 0 and had a fun time. Upon our return we secured Full Deck at Glenn and Juanita's dock in their 23 foot wide slip, and all went to dinner at one of our favorite local neighborhood restaurants called Tall Oaks Restaurant.

Sunday, August 19<sup>th</sup> – We relaxed around the Robbin's house and John took the dinghy to visit with friends Ted and Nell. We finally hooked up with John and Bev Schaefer aboard Permanent Vacation when they arrived and dropped anchor in Bodkin Creek. John and Bev are friends from Gulfstream Sailing Club in Ft Lauderdale. We all visited with Ted and Nell for the afternoon.

Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup> – John did boat maintenance and Barbara did the laundry, and then we took John and Bev to Seaside Restaurant, which is a wonderful Baltimore crab house. After feasting on crab soup and steamed crabs, we returned to Full Deck for ice cream and apple pie. John and Bev are continuing their cruising north through the C&D canal tomorrow so we were glad we got to spend some time together.

Tuesday, August 21<sup>st</sup> – With Full Deck securely tied at Glenn and Juanita's dock, Barbara and John set off by car for the 6-hour drive to the Outer Banks and a birthday visit to the beach house of Steve and Linda Watkins. We arrived at 4:30 PM and had a fried fish feast helping Steve celebrate his birthday. Happy Birthday, Steve! We are planning to spend a few days relaxing on the beach and by the pool before returning to Full Deck on Friday.

More later...John and Barbara Gehrig



Full Deck and PFD at dock

Chris Bare — Boat for Sale - 1981 O'Day 34 Sailboat for sale in Fort Lauderdale, Florida

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