

September Club Event: Hurricane Raft-up

By Martina Sestakova

Thank you, Anne and John Martin, for hosting the Club's September event, the Hurricane Raft-up in Swan Creek (September 17-18).

This event was our Club's largest raft-up ever that anyone could remember! At one point, we had 10 boats rafted together: 8 Pearsons, 1 Catalina (chartered by the Martins), and 1 power boat (belonging to friends of Geff Lampshire). The adventure began early in the day after dragging on the first boat's anchor. We powered all 10 boats forward, at least 100 yards while still tied together, across Swain Creek before Dolce Vita dropped her anchor for a secure night. It was quite a sight to see the entire raft motoring across the creek. The neighboring boats in the anchorage were surely in awe of our club's amazing raft moving expertise!

The attendees included our hosts, John and Anne Martin on their chartered boat, Jack Janos with his crew of Rick Cook, Lynn and Marty Gaynor, Ron Harbin, Geff Lampshire, Bob Morrow, Martina and Jordan Snyder, Ed and Joan Criscuolo, and Jonathan Coppersmith and Laurie McCallum.

After a day of mostly motoring on the Chesapeake Bay with little wind, we gathered in Swan Creek, and enjoyed a spread of wonderful appetizers (which ended up being our dinner) and refreshing drinks, which included Bob Morrow's gigantic barrel of homemade Bohemian Goombay Punch. A fun time was had by all. Saturday morning brought sunshine, yummy coffee, and strawberry shortcakes with whipped cream! Many of the participants continued on sailing with the Martins to other anchorages. Beautiful weather and togetherness brought smiles to all.

Photos from the event are at this link: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/4V4WWEHriEclT2FT8>

- ✓ John Coopersmith & Laurie on Nautilass-P36
- ✓ Jordan & Martina-Base Camp II-P31
- ✓ Geoff Lampshire-Merrie Kate-P31
- ✓ Bob Morrow-Serendipity-P37
- ✓ Anne & John-35.5 Catalina-Falken
- ✓ Ron Harbin-True Blue-P31
- ✓ Lynn & Marty-Dragonfly-P31
- ✓ Ed & Joan-Dolce Vita-P323
- ✓ Jack Janos w/Rick Cook-Antares-P365
- ✓ Chris & Nicole on power boat



A Week of Adventure!

By Joan Criscuolo

A flotilla of 6 sailboats set sail one day on a 7-day tour! There was our host and hostess boat, Falken with John and Anne, Dragonfly with Marty and Lynn, Serendipity with Bob Morrow, True Blue with Ron, Base Camp with Jordan and Martina, and Dolce Vita with Ed and Joan. Our theme was “no plans!” This meant we would gather every morning for a fleet meeting, listen to the weather and wind report, and then decide where to head to get in a good sail and a good anchoring spot.

By unanimous vote we sailed, (and I mean really sailed!) from Swan Creek to Eagle’s Cove, then to Queenstown Creek off the Chester River and then to White Hall Bay. We were blessed with good wind the majority of the time.

Our Flotilla reduced after the first night when True Blue returned home. Serendipity had to depart after the second night. Base Camp followed suit after the third night. Falken, Dragonfly, and Dolce Vita continued another night rafted up.

At this point, which was Thursday, the storm was threatening and different “plans” had to be made. So, the fleet decided to weather out the storm in Swan Creek. Off we went, either by motor or sail, back to where we started from. We crossed the Bay a total of 4 times!

For those of you familiar with our raft ups you know how much we like to eat and, most of all, how much we love to share what we cook! This was no exception! The idea was to each make our own meals and just eat together. We made our own meals, got together on the host boat and spontaneously shared each other’s dinners and desserts! This was done each night! What a variety of dishes throughout the week! From casseroles, chicken, to homemade crab soup and, of course, applesauce! Anne and John shared with us their traditional dessert. She kindly is sharing it here! South Beach Ricotta Creme-part skim ricotta, vanilla, unsweetened cocoa powder, stevia w/cool whip & mini morsels on top. What a group!

We had a glorious week, but, as in everything sailing, there is always some misadventure. Anne and John chartered their vessel, a Catalina 355, and discovered, to their dismay, their anchor wouldn’t even hold it’s own boat, let alone rafted up boats. Dolce Vita took on the job of anchor boat without batting an eye (lots of practice from their cruises down South)! One issue resolved!

Dragonfly had the most trouble when their head blocked up twice and their raw water pump for the engine cooling broke down. The head cleared up once but failed for good a second time. On the morning of the storm in Swan Creek, Gratitude Marina came out to Dragonfly’s boat, fixed the engine and for a great reasonable cost! We were all grateful to Gratitude for their service!

With the storm fast approaching. Falken took a mooring ball since their anchor wasn’t suitable for any kind of anchoring. We tried to raft up to Falken on their mooring but was told we couldn’t do that by the Swan Creek Marina. Now does this stop our Pearson group? Of course not! Dragonfly simply motored to Falken, picked up John and Anne, and we enjoyed our last dinner together on Dolce Vita. Anne and John did well on their mooring. The marina owner felt bad the next morning about not letting us have our sundowners, and ended up giving them the night free. All they had to do to return the boat was to pull up to a floating dock.

For your information when sailing in these areas, Fairwinds does not accommodate sailboats if a pump out is needed and Burt Jabin’s in Eastport closes their pump out at 4:00pm. Annapolis Landing closes at 7pm. Swan Creek has a self-serve pump out.

The storm proved to be as predicted, lots of wind. We clocked a 34-knot gust of wind! We did a lot of swinging around, but by morning we were just swaying side to side because we were aground! The creek lost approximately 3 feet of water! By the next high tide at 6:30 am we effortlessly got on our way. Dolce Vita was first off her anchor, soon followed by Dragonfly!

It was unanimously agreed upon that we were ready to embark on another similar cruise, hopefully next season! We had such a fabulous time! Lots of sharing, camaraderie, laughter, and good problem solving!

Photos from the event are at this link: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/4V4WWEHriECLT2FT8>

Member Happenings

Long Island Sound Trip (July 5 to July 28, 2022)

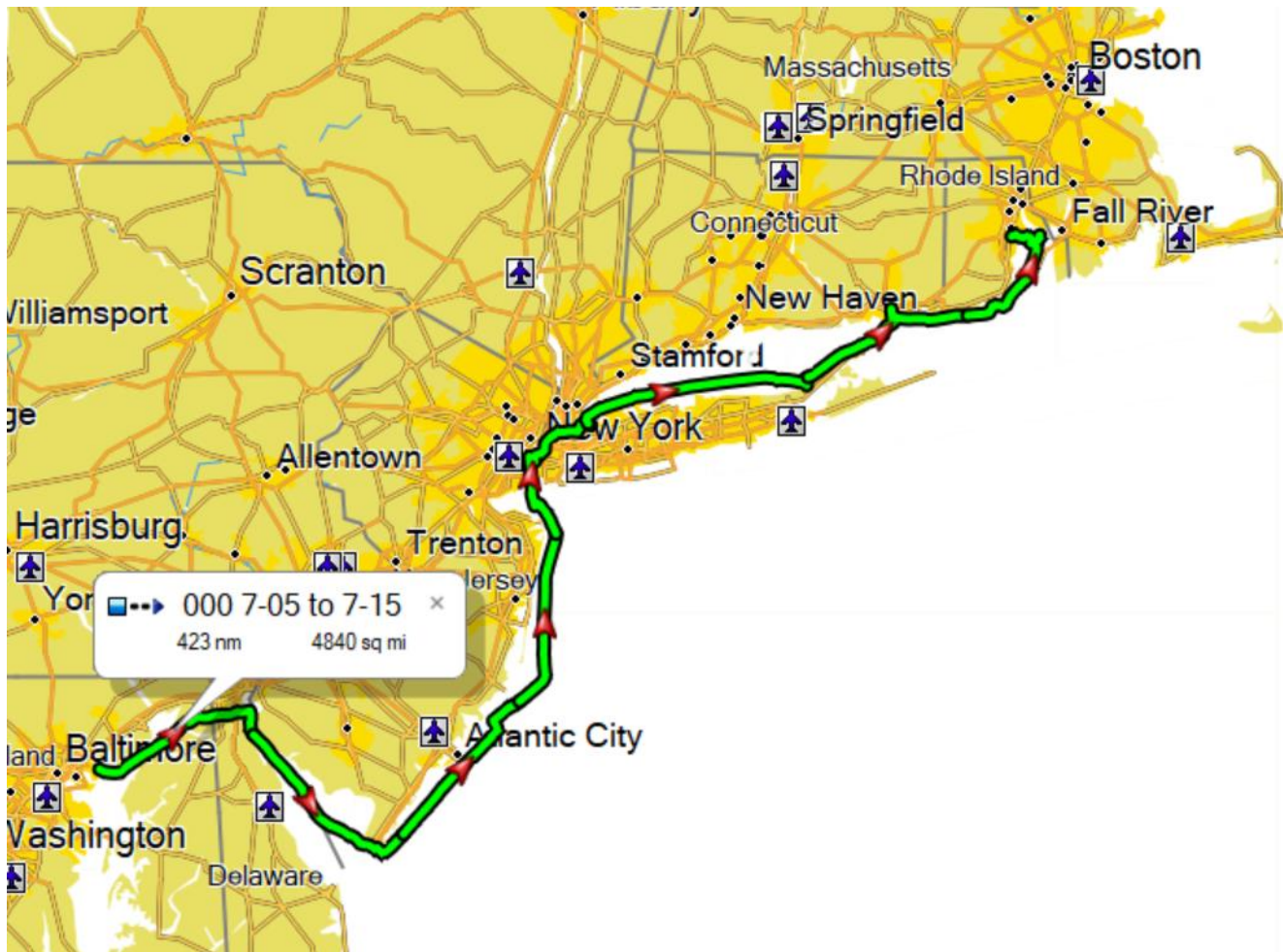
By Ron Harbin

I had wanted to do this trip for several years. I've sailed from Cape May to Block Island and then through Buzzards Bay and the Cape Cod Canal a couple times (on a friend's boat). And I've sailed from Newport to Martha's Vineyard (on a bare boat-chartered boat). But I've never had my Pearson 31 out of the Chesapeake north of Virginia and I've never been through NYC, the Long Island Sound or much of the Narraganset Bay – until NOW.

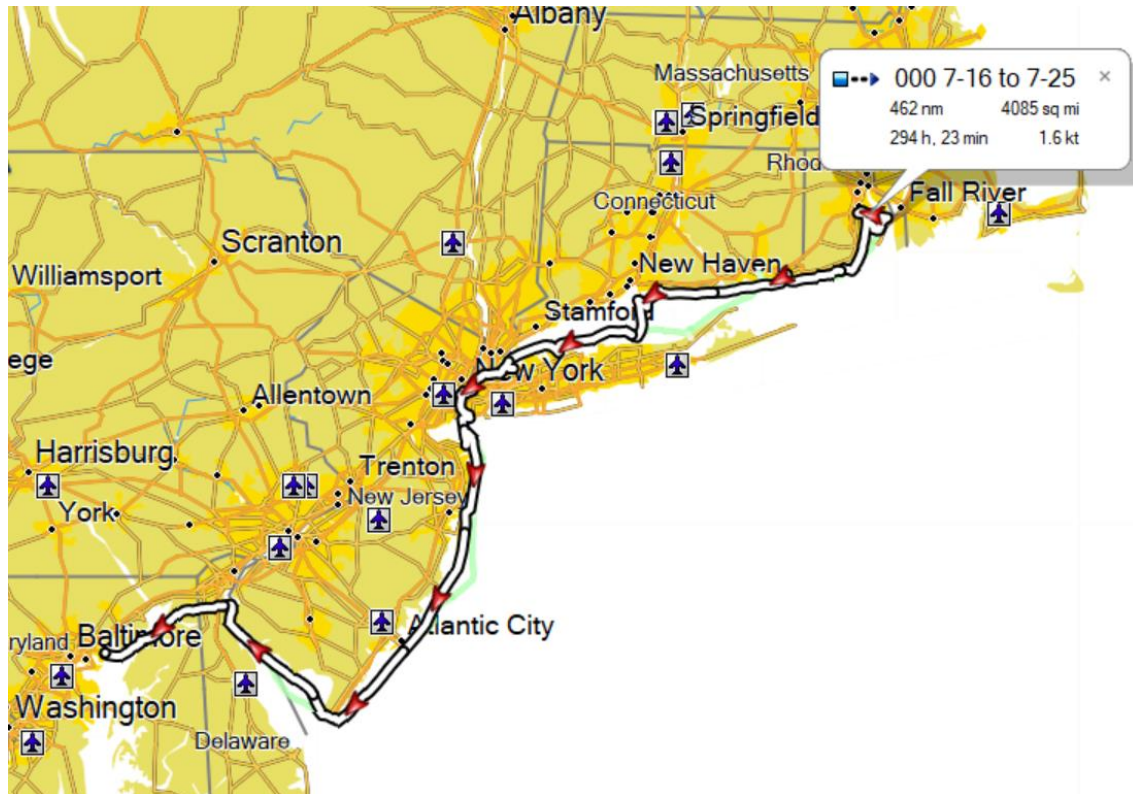
The trip lasted almost a month and I traveled about 900 miles. About a third of that was motoring/motor sailing. I put about 120 hours on the engine. The plan was to leave on July 5th (with our Commodore Jordan) and to be gone for about a month. Jordan needed to be back home after 8 or 9 days. Everything went pretty much as planned. Jordan took an Amtrak train back home (DC) from New London CT and I continued on to the Narraganset Bay.

With the exception of a (light) rain day in Cape May NJ and coming down the Chesapeake Bay into Middle River at the end, the weather was good. I declared the trip a big success!

Going North



Going South



Highlights

- Having a compatible Crew. Jordan was a delight to have on board. We got along great and he is an accomplished and good sailor.
- Coast off NJ. We were never more than 10 miles off the coast but it was rough much of the time and it seems like the wind is usually from the south (except for the day we were headed north). I was a little nervous offshore – we did over nighters in both directions. True Blue did just fine.
- Visiting the Statue of Liberty. We were not able to go onto the island but we spent the night in a (somewhat crowded) anchorage about a quarter mile to the west and anchored next to it for breakfast the next morning.
- NYC/East River/Hell Gate. It's a busy place on the water too. We timed the current pretty well in both directions and didn't get tossed around too much. More importantly, we didn't get run over. Hell Gate is just north of Manhattan and Roosevelt Island. It is where the Harlem River enters the East River from the north. The bridge passing over the East River has the same name (Hell Gate Bridge).
- Current. It doesn't stop at Hell Gate. There is lots of current where the Long Island Sound empties into the Atlantic. It is about 10 miles wide but is shallow. There is also lots of current in certain areas of the Narraganset Bay.
- Wind. It seems like it blows a lot more in Long Island Sound and in the Narraganset Bay. I'd say the sailing was better than in the Chesapeake but the Chesapeake has it beat on anchorages.
- Temperatures. The air temperature was definitely more pleasant further north since the water stays pretty cool up there. The last week of the trip was pretty warm, however. The water temperature in the upper Narraganset Bay were good for swimming and the visibility was good underwater (which True Blue's bottom appreciated).
- Delaware Bay. I'd say it lived up to its reputation of being a not very nice place to sail. There are almost no good anchorages, lots of current (especially up north), and a fair amount of ship traffic. We were lucky that the weather was good in both directions.
- Visit to the Pearson factory in Bristol RI. The area has changed a lot and parts are now the Herreshoff Museum but it was a very nostalgic visit. I'd love to go back and spend more time in Bristol.
- I had essentially no boat problems. Thank You True Blue!!

Lady Liberty



Sailing in NY Harbor



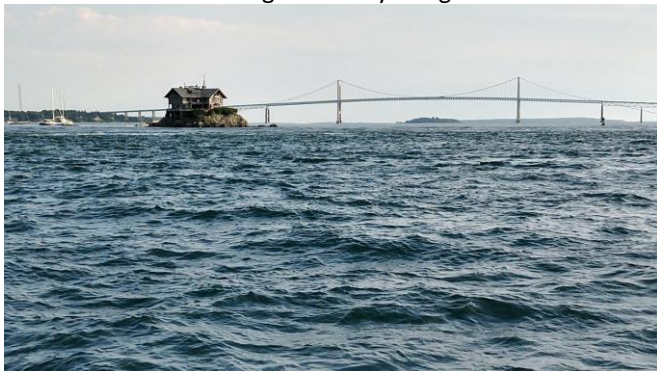
Approaching Hell Gate (the short bridge in the background)



My (likely) last submarine ride (in New London where I went to Sub School)



Narragansett Bay Bridge



Location of Pearson Yacht factory



Member Happenings - Do you have an update to share in an upcoming newsletter or with our club members via email? Reach out to Martina at martinaprague@verizon.net.

SAIL ON!

Questions/comments? Contact the 2022/23 CLUB OFFICERS * www.cbpsa.org

Commodore: Jordan Snyder (josnyder@comcast.net) * Vice-Commodore: Martina Snyder (martinaprague@verizon.net)
Treasurer: Anne Martin (annekmartin45@yahoo.com) * Secretary: Joan Criscuolo (stampbyjoan@yahoo.com)