



FOURTH OF JULY 2007 – CHUCK ELLIS JULY 3 – 5, 2007

The July 3rd participants gathered in Baby Owl Cove beginning with the Cruise Captain's ship at about 3:30PM. All the apprehension about being too crowded in Baby Owl was over when I found one boat in the Cove upon my arrival. South wind with our guests Jim and Mary Campbell were second to arrive and rafted on our port side. As Chinook Wind, Esperanza, Wayward Wind, ghost of Sovereign, Salt Shaker, Rejuvenation, Makani, Aurora and Quiet (guests of Barry and Virginia) arrived it was evident we would all fit in the back of the Cove just fine. Blue Heron didn't even need to find shallow water upon arrival and was anchored with the group.

All reported favorable winds on their journey to Baby Owl and the usual Captain's Party began promptly at 4:58PM with the exception of Chinook Wind who wanted to "freshen up" and called for the "water taxi" at 5:20PM. Since Aurora was the only one who had a motor on their dingy they were elected to pick up Terry and his guest Curt Thorne. Even though Aurora's dingy is the strangest one in the fleet it is always there and always dependable. Thanks Denny!

I am told 12 boats is not a record but it sure was a great crowd and we had some fabulous food.

A great day turned into a great night with cool breezes throughout the Cove. Our wake up service BIG "E" RAT was busy laying his trot line sometime before 5AM I was told. BIG "E" RAT must have an issue with sailboats as his trot line went right along our fleet and he was able to run his line then drop the line, gun his big engine and proceed up through all our anchored boats. The good news is it didn't look like he was getting many crabs. I had the pleasure of removing his trot line anchor from my anchor line. He had placed his line right over my anchor.

The wind coming out of Broad Creek was right on the nose except for Esperanza who decided to tack out (it only took one and a half hours). Once we hit the Choptank it was great sailing in 15-20 knots all the way to Cambridge. The "ghost of Sovereign" was experiencing engine problems and decided to head for home and take the land yacht to Cambridge. Blue Heron headed for home and family commitments. Esperanza's guests Fritz and Wendy Moritz also headed for home.



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All the good wind we had made docking at the Cambridge Yacht Club a real challenge. We were assigned 60 foot slips and with the wind blowing 15-20 knots everyone had difficulty getting settled in and tied off. While it's great to have a big slip the 20 foot width and wide spread between pilings made the exercise look like putting a square peg in a round hole. Lesson learned and if this is repeated next year we will have smaller more accommodating slips. Unfortunately Aurora did sustain some damage to its cap rail as it got caught under the finger pier.

The picnic was outstanding. With barbequed ribs and chicken, salads, etc., etc. and with all you could possibly eat no one walked away hungry. Cambridge put on their usual spectacular fireworks show that lasted almost an hour.

Attendees were Chinook Wind and their guests Curt and Heather Thorne, Ellis Island and their guests Jim and Mary Campbell on South wind, Esperanza, Les and Gloria Anstey via land yacht, Bob and Barb Meyn via land yacht, Rejuvenation, Tom and Ginny Cornwell via land yacht (everyone enjoyed meeting our commodore in person), Salt Shaker, Aurora and Makani. Also in attendance were our new best friends Jim and Betsy who were honorary members from 6:00PM to 8:00PM using Esperanza's guest's dinner tickets.

Submitted,

Chuck and Ann Ellis



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Here's the recap:

	July 3rd	July 4th	Total nights
Ellis Island	1	1	2
Southwind	1	1	2
Chinook			
Wind	1	1	2
Wayward			
Wind	1		1
Salt Shaker	1	1	2
Blue Heron	1		1
Makani	1	1	2
Aurora	1	1	2
Rejuvenation	1	1	2
Quiet	1		1
Esperanza	1	1	2
Ghost of Sovereign	1		1