



Chesapeake Fleet
Cape Dory Sailboat Owners Association, Inc.

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TO: Interested members of the Chesapeake Fleet (CDSOA) regarding Fall Cruise 2003

Having survived the cold, wet weather of the Spring Cruise and the long runs of our ambitious Summer Cruise, we have yet another treat in store for you.

The daily runs are short, 14nm is the longest one, so there is plenty of time for sailing on your own, sleeping late, or whatever. Each day is an anchorage, but we're never very far from a marina. If you need water, fuel, etc., we'll be passing through Kent Narrows on the 3rd day, and we'll be sailing by St. Michaels on the 5th day.

Some of the creeks will be new to some of us, but I've been to all of them and can attest to their beauty. And, yet, there will be some shallow water – after all, this is the Chesapeake Bay – but unlike our summer cruise, there shouldn't be a serious grounding problem. (Maggie Rose almost ended up on a rock jetty coming into Deal Island and that was most unfortunate, but I had never been there and had been assured there would be no problem (obviously my local knowledge source was wrong!))

During recent cruises we've had many enjoyable raft ups but we've also had a few incidents of rough weather causing us to break up the raft. Also, our happy hours have tended to be on the same boats each time and have lasted for several hours, which is usually nice and fun, but leads to a lot of hor d'ourves and very few evening "meals" for which we all provision. So, borrowing our idea from other sailing clubs, I'd like to try something different on this cruise. Unless there is rough weather, we'll have a happy hour each day and we will or will not raft up, but Happy Hour will be held on a different boat (s) and will last for no more than 2 hours. At this point I would suggest that the rafting boats leave the anchor boat and anchor individually, unless previous arrangements have been made with the anchor boat. This will give the crew of the anchor boat time to clean up, have a real meal, and enjoy some privacy if they desire.

So, when you notify me of your participation for this cruise, please state the following:

- 1) Date you plan to join the cruise and whether you will continue through the awards dinner
- 2) Whether you would be willing to host a happy hour on your boat

Note: If we have a large turnout, I'll arrange for more than one anchor boat each evening.

Please advise me of your intentions by September 1. Call or e-mail if you have questions- Phone-717 854 9919, or email-smenchey@blazenet.net

CDSOA (Chesapeake Fleet) Fall Cruise 2003 Schedule

- Fri Sep 26 For those who can begin on Friday, we'll plan to anchor in **Swan Creek**, near R "10".
- Sat Sep 27 On day 2 we'll be in **Queenstown Creek**, probably close to the mouth of Salthouse Cove. Low tide occurs at 1414, so enter the Creek cautiously.
- Sun Sep 28 We'll probably want an early start since high tide in Queenstown Creek is @ 0900 and it's also best to negotiate Kent Narrows before low tide (about 1500). The good news – there's plenty of water in **Tilghman Creek**, where we can anchor in whichever cove is most appropriate for the conditions that day. If you haven't explored the town of Claiborne, you're missing a very nice little town with several B & B's and a great view of Eastern Bay.
- Mon Sep 29 No need for an early start unless you want to explore "on your own". There will be plenty of time to reach (pun intended, hopefully) **Quarter Creek**, the first creek north of the Wye Narrows, off the **Wye River**. This is a beautiful anchorage with excellent protection.
- Tue Sep 30 On this day we will begin the really "laid back" portion of the cruise. The only possible challenges will be getting into **Leeds** and **Hunting Creeks**. Read the Cruising Guide and study the chart and you should not have a problem. Note that the shoal marked by G"1" at the mouth of Leeds Creek extends southwest of the mark and this is where most boaters run aground. If you enter the Creek on a heading of 030 degrees M and keep G"1" about 100 yds to port you shouldn't have a problem. Once inside there are plenty of delightful coves with good protection. There is a great place for dinghy exploration and, of course, you're just across the (Miles) river from St. Michaels if you need anything.
- Wed Oct 1 Today we go to **Hunting Creek**. There is plenty of water (10 ft) at the entrance but there are submerged pilings and shoals. The Cruising Guide describes this well and, if we proceed cautiously, we shouldn't have a problem. (I'll be happy to lead the way in if you're hesitant.) A good anchorage is at the bend where the creek turns to the northeast.
- Thur Oct 2 Having completed all the above creek entries and exits, you are now entitled to an awards dinner. No doubt some of us will receive more noble awards than others, but it should be fun. The dinner is tentatively scheduled for the **Crab Claw** (a private room), starting with social hour at 1800, dinner @ 1900.