

Cruise to Maple Bay Marina -Sept 22-24th

What a grand weekend! We headed out on Friday morning. It was calm, sunny and warm so we decided to go over to Cowichan Bay to get some crab to share for "Happy Hour". With four cooking in the pot an hour later, we were on our way to Maple Bay Marina.

When we arrived **Ray**, on *Patriot* was there to greet us on the dock. How nice to see him at a squadron cruise. That evening Commander **John** and **Carolyn** arrived on *Stealth*, and **Laura** and **Thomas** arrived on *Serendipity*. We had "Happy Hour" on *Charlotte Time*, sharing the crab and other goodies. Then the seven of us went up to the Shipyard Pub Restaurant for dinner where we shared an enjoyable evening with many stories and much laughter.

On Saturday other members arrived and some left due to other commitments. We were delighted to see **Anne** arriving for a short visit, on her new 17' Arima. Wow! What a great boat! Anne is looking for the perfect name for her boat, so if you have any suggestions, let her know by sending her an e-mail at anne@amckinnell.com. Then **Len** arrived with **Ron**, **Janice** and dog, **Winston** on the *Dawna 2*, for a quick visit and lunch at the pub, before heading back to Sidney. Unfortunately, **Ray** had to return to town also, but it was good to see all these members join in, even for a short time. **Len** and **Lynn** from the Brentwood Bay Squadron came for a short visit on *Our Totem*. It was nice of them to join us.

Some of our group took a long walk towards Genoa Bay Marina, then on a side trail to a lovely spot overlooking Sansum Narrows. Apparently the view was spectacular. Later that day, **Cynthia** and **Richard** arrived on *Sea Scooter* and **Don** and **Cheryl** motored in on *Valeda V*.

That evening after more visiting and admiring each other's boats we headed up to the shelter for a potluck dinner. There were Langley Power Squadron members at the shelter as well, so we were introduced all round. Then it was back to the boats for more visits, or off to bed. The night was so peaceful.

At 0600 hours on Sunday morning our Commander and crew headed back to Sidney to attend the District meeting on our behalf. It was still dark! Now, isn't that dedication to his duties?

At noon the rest of us headed back towards Sidney with several diverting to Genoa Bay Marina for a delicious lunch. There **Bill** on *Sagacity* joined us for coffee. He had been to the Grand Banks reunion at Telegraph Harbour for the weekend. I learned later that **Kathy** and **Kathy** had driven up to Maple Bay, but had gone to the wrong marina so didn't find us; what a shame as we had been watching for them.

If you were interested in cruising to nearby areas for a day or a weekend with other squadron members, we would love to hear from you.

The next cruise, if there is enough interest, will be on Easter Weekend. Give me a call!

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