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At the Helm



EsCape Cod ! Provincetown. My first rendezvous. I think everyone had a good time. Mother Nature provided some challenges for the boaters, but all returned safely. Thank you to Kevin and Cindy Dinan, Richard and Carol Stidger and Susan Darcy for organizing; as well as all who participated.

The Dock Party was well attended. Thank you to our hosts Tom and Paula Dailey for providing a location, and thank you Susan Darcy for turning the party around from not happening to a happening. Live on the Lake faced challenges. First canceled by weather and then by everyone having too much to do.

The social season begins. A bridge / social in October, December, January, March, and May are possibilities. An exciting string of events that need locations.

And most importantly, ABC needs to be taught this calendar year.

What have I omitted? Please remind me.

Respectfully,

David Trudeau

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The opinions expressed in "The Log, by the Editorial Staff or Contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Berkshire Sail and Power Squadron or those of the United States Power Squadron.



BSPS & USPS CALENDARS

October 10 - Social event at Vivaldi's (see page 6 of this LOG)

November 14 -- Berkshire Leadership Team Meeting, Zucco's Restaurant, dinner at 6, meeting at 7

December 12 -- Berkshire Leadership Team Meeting, location to be determined

January 7, 2018 -- After Holiday Party - location to be determined

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<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Berkshire-Sail-and-Power-Squadron/528850690570303?ref=hl>



BSPS Info Line
413-266-1130

Do you know that we have an informational telephone line? Call to learn details of upcoming events. Refer your boating buddies for information on upcoming on Public Boating classes and

Berkshire Sail & Power Squadron

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http://www.usps.org/d2/d2_squadron_news.html

Please Remember...

All members are requested to notify our commander or editor of the death of any other member or a member's family as soon as possible. We want to express our condolences in a timely manner and we need the help of all our members to this end.

Maine Cruising Log

By Beverly & Tom Gilbert, Lenox, MA

Our 9-day cruise in Maine was on Disco Volante, our Hanse 400 sloop. The name, which has not been changed since she was christened, means "flying saucer" in Italian. But it is most recognized as the name of the motor yacht featured in James Bond *Thunderball* movie. We were fortunate to have other boat share members transport her from Norwalk CT to Boothbay Harbor where we boarded. This allowed us to spend nine full days cruising different areas of the Maine coastline.

The leg for the first group of members was from Norwalk CT to Portland ME. While entering the Cape Cod Canal, Disco was first on-scene to discover an overturned motorboat, and 9 children and 3 adults in the choppy waters of Hog Island Channel (entrance of Cape Cod Canal). Disco placed a Mayday distress call and then rescued 9 of 12 people in the water using LifeSling techniques before the Coast Guard and a diver arrived and assumed the responsibility for the remaining 3 still in the water. Unfortunately, one of the last 3 finally rescued, an 8 year old boy, did not survive. For more details on this rescue, you can Google, "Disco Volante Cape Cod Canal."

The next leg was another group of members that spent a wonderful week exploring the Maine coastline islands. They began from Portland with a final destination of Boothbay YC where we swapped Disco Volante for our car. We have done this in the past with other members, and it is a great way to explore distant cruising grounds with limited time. This involves a noteworthy chain of events where members exchange their car keys for boat keys, and this can occur 3 or 4 times with members sharing each other's cars throughout the summer. And if all goes well, by the end of the summer, everyone gets their own car back.

Some of the highlights of our cruise included places so remote that we had never heard of them before.

There is so much coastline in Maine to discover.

Boothbay Harbor

Relative to the rest of our cruise, this was probably the most familiar name. It was a fun and bustling harbor with a lot of foot traffic too. We were very pleased starting from Boothbay Yacht Club, as they were very welcoming to transients. It was across the bay from the town, so after our visit ashore, we had a quiet evening at the outermost section of their mooring field (always our preference).

Riggs Cove – Georgetown

This was a remote cove that was navigable by relying only on our GPS chart plotter and depth sounder for the final 2 miles through narrow but relatively deep passageways for our 6.5 foot draft. As expected, there was no nearby town, but we were able to borrow someone's car (which apparently in Maine is a common

practice) to visit Georgetown Pottery, Five Islands Farm Gift shop, Georgetown Country Store, and an exquisite shoreline at the Reid State Park at the tip of the island.



Disco on mooring at Riggs Cove, Georgetown Marina at Derektor Robinhood on Georgetown Island

Potts Harbor, Harpswell

We found great dining options at Dolphin Marina, and we were able to borrow bicycles to ride around the island which was so pretty. On our bikes we found Harpswell Harbor Nature Preserve with just a few boats in the cove – making for a great flatlander hike for us. Biking around, we also came across a restaurant called Estes in a very low traffic area near nothing else, but had a sign for twin-lobster for \$19.95. We couldn't resist and the waitress offered to sit with us to demonstrate how to easily extract the meat from the shells. That was a fun experience. Good thing we had a long bicycle ride back to the boat to work off that lunch.

Seguin Lighthouse

This was undoubtedly the highlight of our cruise. We only wish we could have stayed there longer. The cove only had room for 4 moorings (in addition to a Coast Guard mooring for emergency use). So it was total isolation except for the other sailboat couple from Scotland who

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Maine Cruising Log

(continued)

have been at sea for over 3 years and possibly on Seguin Island next season as the new lighthouse keepers. And then of course the current lighthouse keeper couple. The lighthouse keepers Tara and Brian Flanagan were extremely friendly and gave us a tour of the lighthouse. The hiking trails were amazing, and tick-free due to Seguin's lack of indigenous mammals. We spent several hours at the lighthouse (long social visit), and they also offered us some of their lobsters that they had in a pot in the cove (along with a pot to cook it in). Brian recently had one of his articles, "Sailing with Canines" published in Sail Magazine. We think Brian and Tara may visit us when they are in the Berkshires next spring.

Seguin Island cove with Disco - courtesy Lighthouse



Keeper Tara Flanagan
View of cove from Seguin Island



South Freeport

We picked up a mooring far away from shore (a common theme and preference for us), and enjoyed another quiet night in the harbor. We were told this was the only "Brewer" marina remaining under Brewer ownership, as all of the others have recently been sold to Safe Harbor. The harbor was some distance from the village, but we felt compelled to visit L.L.Bean just to say we did so.

Portland

This became our final destination to hand off Disco Volante to the next members. For convenience for them we stayed at a marina closest to the harbor entrance as they had a float plan that required them to log some miles as soon as possible. The marina staff were great. After they learned that we had never been to downtown Portland, they insisted we take their car and visit. We were glad they encouraged the visit as the choices of restaurants was endless, and Old Port had a vibrant walking district. We were told when we returned (which was after the marina closed), to just leave the keys in the car. Welcome again to Maine's relaxed culture and hospitality – even in the big city of Portland.

Here are a few things we learned on our first cruise in Maine.

- Spending only 9 days on the Maine coastline allows only miniscule discovery of its expansive coastline.
- Yes, there are lots of lobster pots everywhere (we only saw one bay where they did not exist). But with some visibility (we did not encounter much fog), skill, and a lot of luck (which likely explains our experience) you may be able to avoid some or all of them.
- While we almost always have a dinghy with engine on our cruises, the need is imperative for most of the coves that you visit in Maine.
- Cool summer nights made for extremely comfortable sleeping weather. Most mornings we wore our fleeces, but by late morning we were storing them until the next morning.
- We already have the next portion of the coast planned. Now we just need to find a boat to do so.

Upcoming Activities

Don't miss our activities:

Social event - October 10 - at Vivaldi's; free dinner is covered by BSPS; alcohol costs are the responsibility of each member -- see page 6 of the LOG.

ABC Course - Target Date: Nov 4-5 (Sat-Sun)
call Leo Robillard at 413-499-1625 if you'd like to join the event or know anyone interested.

After Holiday Party - January 7, 2018 - Save the date. More information to follow. Costs will be paid by the Squadron.

The Provincetown Review

All things considered the spring Rendezvous went pretty well. The start of the trip for 3 of 4 boats was very nautical. There was more than enough wind and waves; with zero visibility radar was critical for the “white out” conditions. Either we love our boats and a challenge, or we need more education and/or basic common sense to leave in conditions like that, you choose!

Sybaris and Shenanigans held hands for most of the trip from Narraganset Bay to Cuttyhunk ending the day with the “Raw Bar” coming along side and a restful night’s sleep in smooth anchorage in the outside harbor. Mistress was a smarter cookie and stayed in Long Island Sound until the heart of the storm blew by then ran to Cutty for a late evening anchor, much to our delight. Day two was mostly a slow race to the west end of the Cape Cod Canal to raft up in Onset for the night. Pizza and ice cream in town delighted all, providing a great end to the day. A mid-morning favorable current flushed us through the canal and into the Bay in jig time where we had to put our tails between our legs and turn the motor on to get to Provincetown. Provincetown offered us another chance to raft up but the very next day Mother Nature dictated we break the raft up and anchor separately. As I tidied up the deck and cockpit a bit I was distracted by an exceptional trawler lingering off our starboard. I said to myself, “self, what is this boat up to?” and to my surprise I looked up and find Bev and Tom Gilbert waving from the helm of Glory Days! They were traveling with friends and boat owner, Captain Joe.

Provincetown provided the BSPS members arriving by car many choices of accommodations. Everyone went in “different directions” and all seemed very pleased. The beaches, camping, harbor and history had us all entertained, not to mention the continuous circus of people watching that occurs on Main Street. We also found out that Drag Shows are not the only live theatre on Main Street either...but that is another story for a different publication!

I cannot say enough about our two restaurants choices. We settled on “The Lobster Pot” and “The Patio” and both of these eateries provided exceptional food and the most professional service I have seen in a while. It is a testament to both as both restaurants handled our changing attendance figures with most polite consideration. Cindy and I were thrilled to hear a comment from one member saying that the food far exceeded their expectations. The whole weekend exceeded our expectations and had a great time.

Lastly, we need to thank all of the participants who took the time to attend the event and make it such a success. We have all heard the old adage that “you get out of life what you put into it.” The members and friends of Berkshire Sail and Power Squadron make these events special.

Kevin & Cindy Dinan



From the Mouth of Moby Dick (The Squadron's Mascot)



Miscellaneous Snips - Quotes overheard at the Provincetown Rendezvous and Dock Party.

- The location for this rendezvous is super – kind of protected anchorage and some can come by car.
- What, we have tickets to a male strip show?
- Absolutely great choices of restaurants for both nights!
- But we have a pool! Not as big as yours or as cold!
- Did you see the lobsters?
- Wow, what's with this weather? Now the chop is 3 to 4 feet!
- Did you try the burgers? They are scrumptious!
- Don is really, really good on the grill – a true Grill Master!
- Do Leo and Susan schedule these events so they can have a party?
- I cannot believe the sunset – it is gorgeous!

Get Involved – Just Jump In!



Educational Opportunities

Learn How to Safely Operate a Boat,

To Sail

To Pilot

To Navigate

To Cruise the Oceans of the World Over

It All Starts With the USPS, ABC of Boating

In addition to the ABC Course, USPS offers many additional courses. Call Leo Robillard at 413-499-1625 or John Holden at 413-458-5143 if interested in some of our courses.



Ask Mr. Melville

Got a question about BSPS or USPS®? Not certain what to do? Send a note to Mr. Melville.

***Note: Mr. Melville was away but took Moby with him.

Dear Mr. Melville. Okay, I saw that National wants to raise their dues? What did they decide?
Signed: *To Dues or Not*

Dear "To Dues or Not"

Yes, there will be a dues increase of \$2 for a single member and \$3 for a family. But looking at the impact on my budget, since I've switched to McD's lattes from Starbucks, I'm still saving money. Of course, my boating fees haven't gone up yet but no doubt that is coming. *Mr. M.*

Dear Mr. Melville. More news on courses?

Signed: *Need to Know More News*

Dear "Need to Know More News"

I bet there's something in this log that answers your More News Needed. Look for it! *Mr. M.*

PIZZA PARTY

October
10th



Pizza Social

Free to members and guests

Pizza, salad, soft drinks, coffee, and tea,
compliments of

Berkshire Sail and Power Squadron.

Bring your own beer or wine if you wish.

**Time 6:00 pm, Tuesday, October 10th
at Vivaldi's Pizzeria, 5 Cheshire Road, Pittsfield
(in Allendale shopping center).**

Come and enjoy!

**Please RSVP to Cdr Dave Trudeau
at omdavia@gmail.com or call 413-717-4012.**