

Narragansett Bay Cruise August 13 – 22, 2021

Hosts: Jim and Suzanne Chandler – ‘Lotus’

We left Red Brook Harbor on a light wind with Holly, Sue, Ruth Ann on ‘Wings’ arriving Cuttyhunk early afternoon; got last mooring inside, Wings outside. Tom Campbell, ‘Ebba’ anchored inside. What a lovely day. Ted Schmuhl and Eric Swies, ‘Amazing Grace’ attempted to tie up at a piling. However, it was low tide and he went aground. Wings was at Lotus discussing plans, when we realized what had happened. To try to free him, we first hung out over the port rail, to get the boat on an angle.....didn’t work. So hanging out on the boom at a 45 degree angle seemed like a good alternative. As we’re hanging out on the boom, Holly adjusts the jib with wind changes. Ted steers left then right to wiggle us forward, as we say “outhaul” when he turns to port; “inhaul” to starboard. A kind man and his wife come to help tow us with their dinghy as we’re wiggling back and forth.....to no avail. Finally, Ted put an anchor out and waited for the tide to rise. He was afloat about 7:30pm and picked up a mooring Dale offered him. What a “bonding experience” to begin our cruise! The next day we relaxed, later had a social on Lotus. ‘Wings’ - Ruth Ann, Holly Sue; ‘Truimph’ - Roger Lowe, Mary Granville; ‘Estantch’ – July & Hank Turco; ‘Ebba’ – Tom Campbell; ‘Amazing Grace’ – Ted Schmuhl & Eric. Hank tells us about vanishing his steps to below decks. As he’s describing his technique of using salt in his varnish, we asked him, “What kind of salt?” Was it Kosher salt? Iodized? Himalayan? We all had a huge laugh.

6:30am we depart for Bristol, RI via the Sakonnet River. 19.4 knot wind – super sail - 7.9 speed! Made 2 long tacks up Sakonnet as wind was on the nose. Motored to Bristol arriving 1:30pm. Wings, Truimph, Lotus, Estantche gathered at Bristol Yacht Club. As Hank & Judy, Jim and Suzanne walk to launch, see a seagull sitting on tall post. Jokingly say, “Jim, you should step aside, gull may let one go” As Jim stepped to his right, gull looked over his shoulder and pooped just as Jim walked by. Luckily he had stepped aside! It was as if the gull was waiting for him, ha,ha. For our lay day in Bristol, we rented bikes. Biked to Barrington Park and had lunch overlooking a bay. Afterward Holly and Sue walked around town; Jim and Suzanne had drinks on the upper deck of the “Harborside”. We learned that “Wolf’s Restaurant” next door, has “Buck-A-Shuck” on Mondays as the Bristol Oyster Bar is closed that day. We all had cocktails and appys at BYC. Their kitchen was closed so we could bring our appys to share. A beautiful day on their new deck!

Motored to Newport. Went ashore with Judy Turco; needed a couple of grocery items, CVS and the post office. Jim and Suzanne went to 41` N. It’s such a beautiful location. Then to Midtown Oyster House for some oysters. Lotus, Wings, Estantche decide to leave a day early for Cutty, as a storm is coming in. Left Newport at 8:30am on a favorable current. Very little wind early, picked up close to Cutty - sailed in. Saw fantastic fireworks that night; lasting a long time.....beautiful.....like Boston!

Lay day in Cuttyhunk, hear the storm is "hurricane Henri". Call Kingman. They tell us they are hauling boats and that our cars are in the way. They will tow around us and hope we can get there soon. Wings and Lotus leave Friday morning motor-sailing to Red Brook Harbor on a beautiful day. We arrive in time to move our cars. Go back to the boat to remove solar panels, canvas and tie everything down. Although the trip was cut short because of Henri, everyone had a fabulous cruise! We were glad so many boats joined for the trip. It was fantastic and the company was superb!!