

Hi Everyone

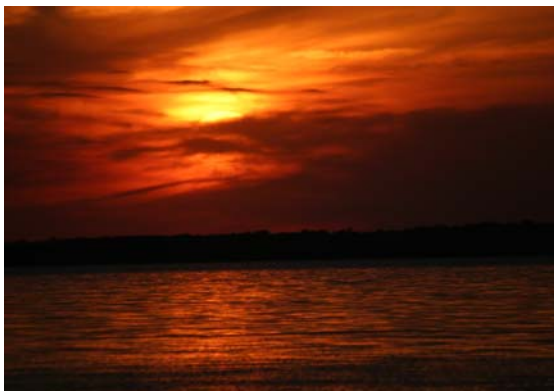
Travel update. So far, the trip has been great. SOUVENIR handles very well under sail and motor.

Right now we're in Cape May, docked at Canyon Resort Marina with N-NE winds of 35+ kts. and reported seas of 10+ ft. Our plan is to stay here for the day and leave tomorrow a.m. for a run up the Jersey Coast. We'll see if wind and waves cooperate. We're the only sailboat in the marina - and definitely the only big black stick in Cape May - fishing boats are it around here.

After leaving Annapolis Tuesday we had a nice 24 mile sail consisting of beats, reaches and runs to St. Michaels in SE winds building to 18 kts. Had a little trouble dousing the main, just the two of us, so I rigged a lazy jack system with the spin halyards and sheets. Works great! Overnighted at Higgins Marina. Enjoyed our first BBQ on SOUVENIR. Feasted on steak, corn on the cob and fine wine.



Wednesday we spent in St. Mike's - visited the very interesting Maritime Museum, and then wandered around town. Kathy, who is not a shopaholic by any stretch of the definition, bought something from just about every store. Maybe we shouldn't go back there again! Wed. night we watched the local Wed. evening races from our slip and then drank much at Foxy's restaurant on the waterfront. That's the same Foxy's as in the BVI Foxy's.



We left St. Mike's Friday A.M. for points north. We had another very nice 24+ nm sail of beats and reaches, until the wind quit at the Bay Bridge. We motored another 15 nm or so to Still Pond on the Eastern Shore. Dropped the hook there, enjoyed the Bald Eagle and Osprey acrobats, and watched a very fine sunset from SOUVENIR under calm seas. Had a good night's sleep.

Friday morning started with NE winds of six kts. Hoisted the sails and the anchor. The winds built to 10-15 knots and the beat of 25+ nm to Back Creek at the entrance of the C&D canal could not have been better. We maintained boat speeds in the 7 kts range throughout using our cruising sails! Docked free at Chesapeake City Dock around 2 p.m. Wandered the very nice, quaint, friendly town of 2 x 3 blocks long and then settled in for dinner and drinks at the Chesapeake Marina and Inn overlooking the harbor.



Chesapeake City from the Marina

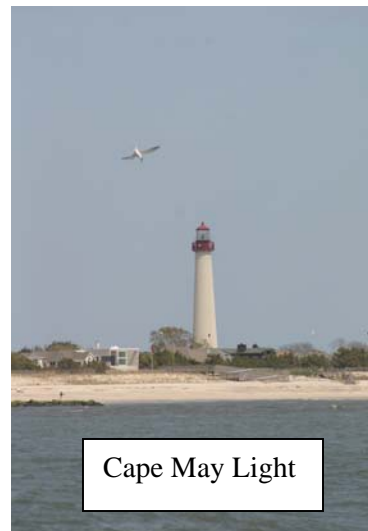
Our plan for Sat was to head out about 2 hours before high tide and catch the ebb down the Delaware to Cape May. But Kathy woke up very before sunrise and was determined to leave right away. A little anxious to see her childhood best friend who lives in Vilas, near Cape May. So we left around 7:00 a.m. about 2 hours before low tide. Worked out fine as we rode the



Ship John's Shoal with nuclear power plant on Delaware River/Bay

ebb for the first 3 hours or so through the canal, into Delaware River, which was as flat as glass. The nuclear power plant was the first sight as we entered the river, and with the flat, hazy conditions, and nothing else in sight except the reeds on the sides of the river, it was a very eerie scene indeed. The tide turned with 1.5 kts of

current against us for about 1.5 hrs. SOUVENIR handle it well rarely going under 7 kts under motor. We cruised outside but parallel to the shipping channel until we reached Ship John's Shoal and then ran a rhumb line to Cape May, dodging a few shallow shoals and, as we neared Cape May, many anchored fishing boats. Had to be very careful motoring around Cape May point due to shifting shallows. The tide had turned again in our favor and rode the ebb to Cape May inlet hitting 9+ kts at times. Found out the "on demand" government chart we have of Cape May point is not very accurate. Fortunately, our Garmin GPS was accurate, followed the instrument, and avoided



Cape May Light

the shallows where the fishing boats tend to anchor, and entered the harbor entrance safely. We powered all 73 nm and made the trip in about 8.0 hrs.

Last night we hooked up with Kathy's friend and hubby. Had cocktails on the boat then dinner at the Lobster House, a unique dining experience. A huge restaurant, bar, outdoor cafe, take out, store all rolled into one, located dockside next to the commercial shrimping fleet. Drank some more then headed back home to SOUVENIR. And now here we are, feeling the vibrations of the wind through the mast and heeling at dockside, preparing breakfast and to explore Cape May.