

## 2007 CRUISING CALENDAR

We continue to experience strong interest in the area of cruising activities. In 2006 we again enjoyed outstanding participation at our primary Wayfarer cruising event, the North American Cruising Rally, held at Cedar Point State Park on the St. Lawrence River. Participants consisted of 15 parties who launched 12 Wayfarers. At the State Park marina this made quite an impression. Earlier in the year three Wayfarers joined together for an early summer Chesapeake Bay cruise which was held on Maryland's Eastern Shore. While it was still cold and rainy up north, summer was in full bloom on the Chesapeake. As in past years this turned out to be a fun cruise and an excellent way to kick off the summer sailing season. In 2007 we intend to continue these two popular events and hope to do more. We are also looking at two new opportunities—a weekend cruising rally on Rhode Island's famous Narragansett Bay and a Georgian Bay cruise in the area of Killarney, Ontario.

The following cruising events are planned for the upcoming year:

1. Chesapeake Bay five-day Maryland Eastern Shore Cruise. Dates are May 29<sup>th</sup> – June 2<sup>nd</sup>.
2. The 2007 North American Rally will take place at Killbear Provincial Park located on Parry Sound, Ontario. Dates are July 21<sup>st</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>.
3. Narragansett Bay Rally near Jamestown, Rhode Island. Less than a week long. Dates to be announced.
4. Killarney Cruise, Georgian Bay, Ontario. A four to five day cruise planned to take place around the Labor Day weekend.

Detailed information pertaining to each of the above events will be sent out by separate e-mail, as well as posted on the USWA and CWA web sites. However, the brief overview below will give you an idea of what is being planned for of each of these events.

**Chesapeake Bay Cruise.** This is a five-day cruise starting out from the harbor town of Crisfield, located on the southern portion of Maryland's beautiful Eastern Shore. This past summer we visited two island communities, one located on Smith Island in Maryland waters and the other on Tangier Island in Virginia waters. These remote, isolated towns are long established fishing communities that offer a fascinating glimpse back in time, when fishing was the primary way of life on the Eastern Shore. The scenery is very beautiful and there is an abundance of wildlife, especially marshland birds.

In 2007, providing winds and weather cooperate, we hope to expand the cruise to include the picturesque town of Onancock on Virginia's Eastern Shore.

Be aware. Due to safety and coordination reasons the number of boats we can accommodate is limited. This is a boat camping cruise that entails sleeping onboard and requires all boats be fully equipped to deal with all aspects of cruising, including reefing, anchoring, etc. Sailing will entail open water passages, meaning that skippers and crew

must be fully capable of dealing with rough water conditions. Skippers are wholly responsible for their own safety, as well as that of their crew and boat.

Since we expect to be staying in marinas this cruise is ideal for qualified couples. Also, we have one extra boom tent available for loan upon request. Contact Dick Harrington at [rmharrington2@juno.com](mailto:rmharrington2@juno.com).

**North American Cruising Rally.** After a hiatus of two years the rally will return to Killbear Provincial Park in 2007. Killbear, located on expansive and picturesque Parry Sound in the heart of Georgian Bay's 30,000 islands on Lake Huron, is southern Ontario's premier park. It occupies the entire peninsula that forms the southern entrance leading from Georgian Bay into the 'big sound'. The park is huge, consisting of seven individual campgrounds with a total of nearly 900 campsites. Located within a mature forest setting, the campsites are large, attractive and offer lots of privacy. Comfort facilities are the best anywhere.

The south shore of the peninsula, where most camping is located, consists of white sandy beaches interspersed between ragged granite outcroppings. It is excellent for swimming and for mooring or beaching the boats. The crystal clear, but cool, Lake Huron waters are comfortably warmed in the shallows of the beaches. As in 2004 the rally will be centered at the Lighthouse Point Campground.

The rich and scenic geography of the Georgian Bay region offers a perfect setting for the rally. This location promises many picturesque and exciting sailing opportunities. Consisting of more than five by six nautical miles of open water, with a depth of over 300 feet, Parry Sound alone offers numerous places to explore. Previous excursions have included sailing through the famous "Hole in the Wall" (this is a must!) as well as a trip into the quaint town of Parry Sound for lunch and sight-seeing. In the opposite direction, outside Parry Sound, lies the mind boggling expanse of Georgian Bay with its many thousands of islands. There are far more potential destinations than a week of sailing could possibly cover. Certainly high on the list of possibilities will be a return trip to the Pancake Islands, a small group of grassy rocks far out in the middle of the sea, where we had great fun landing and picnicking.

There will be more specific information regarding the rally coming along soon. However, if you wish, you can e-mail Tom Graefe at [tmgraefe@comcast.net](mailto:tmgraefe@comcast.net), or Dick Harrington at [rmharrington2@juno.com](mailto:rmharrington2@juno.com).

**Narragansett Bay Rally.** Narragansett Bay, home of Newport, Rhode Island, is one of the wealthiest and most renowned sailing centers in the US. Tom Erickson, one of our regular rally participants, has sailed Narragansett Bay on several occasions and loves it. But finding a campground along this part of the seaboard where we could run a rally has been challenging. Recently, we have located a town campground in the vicinity of Jamestown, Rhode Island, that could work as a location for a rally. The campground itself is not as attractive as others we have stayed in and the comfort facilities are marginal. On the other hand, the location and access to Narragansett Bay is excellent. At

the present we are still gathering information and finalizing details. We are thinking of a shorter duration event that can complement the other activities planned. We will post more information as things develop. Contact Tom Graefe at [tmgraefe@comcast.net](mailto:tmgraefe@comcast.net).

**Killarney Cruise, Georgian Bay, Ontario.** A four to five day cruise is being planned for the Killarney area around Labor Day, September 3, 2007. The cruise will go out of and return to Killarney, which is at the north end of Georgian Bay. This will be a cruise with participants sleeping and cooking wherever the cruise ends each evening. There are no towns or docks so we will be camping. We will sail as a fleet, however, each boat needs to be equipped to be self reliant and have an experienced sailor on board. The cruise will take place around or over the Labor Day weekend to try and avoid road travel on the Friday and Monday afternoons and evenings. A maximum of six boats can participate in the cruise. Details of the cruise will be worked out to suit the needs of those wishing to participate. If you are interested in the cruise contact Alan Asselstine at [majam41@gmail.com](mailto:majam41@gmail.com) or 613 526 0803.

Dick Harrington, Tom Graefe and Alan Asselstine