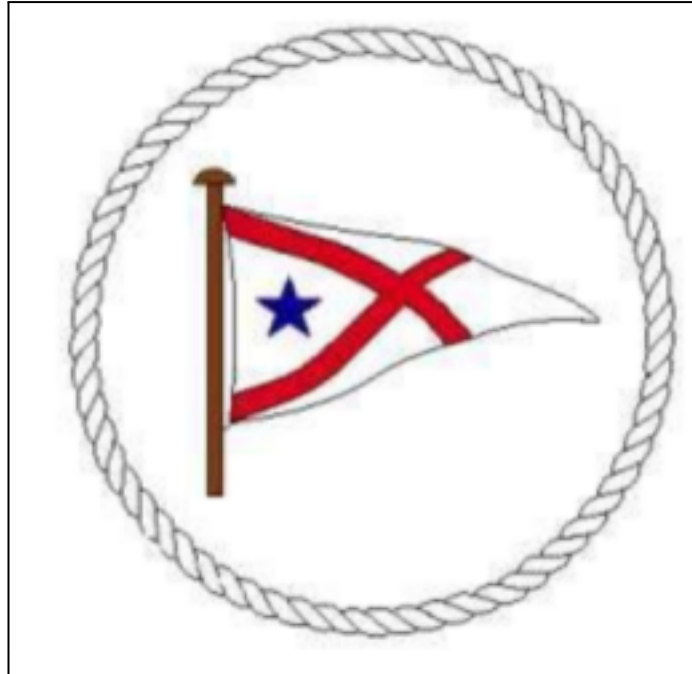


BOOTHBAY HARBOR YACHT CLUB



"CASCO BAY CRUISE"

Dolphin Marina, Potts Harbor
Snow Island, Quahog Bay

JULY 12 - 14, 2024

Cruise Captains: Chet and Evelyn Shuman
Fleet Captain: Elizabeth Gray

CRUISE TO CASCO BAY

Friday, July 12: BHYC to Dolphin Marina (24.0 nm)

Location: 43°44.34' N - 070°02.36' W Sunset: 2021

Potts Harbor: L 1021 (1.03 ft) H 1639 (8.46 ft) L 2245 (1.65 ft)



The Dolphin Marina and Restaurant is located in Potts Harbor at the south end of Harpswell Neck in Casco Bay. From BHYC go out around The Cuckolds, across Sheepscot Bay and the mouth of the Kennebec River to Small Point. Stay inside of Fuller Rock to bell "2BH" marking Bald Head Ledge. From there cross outer Casco Bay to bell "1J" off Jaquish Island. Continue around gong "8" into Merriconeag Sound. Enter Potts Harbor at nun "2" north of Haskell Island and carefully follow the buoyed channel into the harbor - reds to starboard and greens to port - around the circuitous channel. It looks tricky on the chart but it is easily accomplished.

The Dolphin is on Basin Point on the west side of Potts Harbor and the restaurant is upper right in the picture. You can reserve a mooring or a slip via Dockwa and a reservation is highly recommended. Call the marina on VHF 09 when you arrive for your mooring or slip assignment. Launch service is available for those on moorings.

The Dolphin Restaurant offers Maine coastal fare with a house specialty of lobster stew or fish chowder each with a large blueberry muffin. We will gather for cocktails on the Dolphin Restaurant deck between 1700 and 1730. The restaurant bar is located just off the deck. You may not bring alcoholic beverages ashore. We will not have evening announcements this evening.

A group dinner has been arranged for 1830 in the restaurant.

Note that the low tide at Potts Harbor Saturday morning is 1.33 feet at 1102.

Saturday, July 13: Dolphin Marina to Snow Is., Quahog Bay (11.2 nm)

Location: 43°48.69 N - 69°54.31 W Sunset: 2020

Cundy Harbor: L 1059 (1.33 ft), H 1720 (8.47 ft), L 2322 (1.71 ft)

When leaving The Dolphin, work yourself back the way you came to the bell (G "IJ") off Jaquith Island; then make your way past Pond Island Ledges and Saddleback Ledge toward Ragged Island then turn north and head up Quahog Bay, leaving nun "4" and Pole Island to starboard.

From The Cruising Guide to the Maine Coast:

Snow Island, at the head of Quahog Bay, is one of those idyllic anchorages you dream about in the dead of winter. It is a very special place both beautiful and tranquil, qualities that have not escaped local boaters. On a weekday you may find yourself alone; on a weekend, you may wish you were.

Approaches. Ledges extend northward from Pole Island. Tiny Center Island, with a spray of trees, is very obvious ahead. Bear to the right to avoid the rock south of center, then turn east and run south of Snow Island, which has a red house on its southeast tip. Anchor south and east of Snow Island in 16 feet or water at low. The bottom is mud and holds well.

Once settled we'll designate a host boat for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres - stay alert for the 1700 communication on VHF 67!

Sunday, July 14: Snow Island to BHYC (22.9 nm)

Sunset: 2019

Boothbay Harbor: L 1138 (1.58 ft), H 1801 (8.42 ft)

On the way home, a very nice trip for power boaters is back around Small Point, entering the Kennebec River near Fort Popham, then up the Kennebec to Bath with a great view of the Bath Iron Works. Take a right under the bridge to Arrowsic and follow the Sasanoa River to Robinhood and then out through the Goose Rock Passage to the Sheepscot. Cross the Sheepscot and go through Townsend Gut to Boothbay Harbor and the yacht club. Note that the Southport swing bridge opens every 30 minutes on the hour and half-hour, but it only opens if the bridge tender knows you are coming, so hail him (or her) on VHF 09.

For sailors - work your way out of Quahog Bay and once clear of Ragged island, set sail for Cape Small. With a prevailing SW breeze you may well be on a broad reach across the mouth of the Kennebec, leaving Sequin either to port or starboard. If the sailing is great, continue across Sheepscot Bay to The Cuckolds and on across the mouth of Booth Bay before running up the bay to the yacht club.

Alternatively, head up the Sheepscot to Dogfish Head then swing east to Ebenecook Harbor and on to Townsend Gut. You'll want to motor through the gut to the harbor and the club. (See note above regarding the Southport swing bridge.)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Communications:

To keep our communications somewhat private, we will use VHF channel 67 as our “switch up” channel. We should normally monitor channels 09 and 16, hailing other boats on 09. If you wish to continue a conversation with a fellow cruiser, say “switch up” instead of the channel number and move to 67. If contact cannot be made on the low-power channel 67, return to channel 09 and say “switch up plus two” and go to channel 69.

The Cruise Captain will plan a communication to the fleet on VHF 67 each morning immediately after colors at 0800 and each afternoon at 1700 hours. Please monitor channel 67 at those times, as he or she will not call first on channel 09. At these communications we will review plans for the day and social activities for the evening.

Good VHF etiquette is to always use low power when it is sufficient to allow communications. This is particularly appropriate when we are gathered in a harbor.

The fleet is asked to monitor channel 09 at all times so communications within the fleet may be freely and quickly made. There may be the need for aid to be rendered or received. To that end, be aware of your fellow cruisers in order to render assistance should an emergency arise. Remember that the captain is the one responsible for the safety of his/her crew and vessel.

Cell Phones:

Please register your cell phone number(s) when signing up for the cruise. In this digital era, we may find it useful to set up a text chain for communicating within the fleet.

Joining or Leaving the Cruise:

When joining or leaving the cruise, it is both proper etiquette and important for safety reasons to "request permission" from the Cruise Captain. If the Cruise Captain is not available then be sure that someone continuing on the cruise is aware of your intentions.

Social Activities:

It is our custom to gather most evenings from 1730 until 1900 for a social gathering. These may be held ashore or aboard designated yachts. Unless otherwise indicated, these are "bring your own beverage, glass and ice" (BYOBG&I) affairs. Designated volunteers will provide hors d'oeuvres. The Cruise Captain will announce the plans for the evening during the morning or afternoon communications.

Tide Information:

The sunset and tide information in the cruise write-up is for the closest tide station to that day's destination.

Current Information:

If there is current information in the cruise write-up it is approximate. To be sure of getting full advantage of a favorable current or slack water, the skipper should reach the current location at least half an hour before the predicted time.

Medical Note:

Not having a Fleet Surgeon on the cruise requires each cruiser to carry whatever medications are needed and to keep the Cruise Captain apprised of any health issues or precautions.

Flag Etiquette

The United States National Ensign (or the United States Yacht Ensign) shall be flown on each yacht from morning colors at 0800 until evening colors at sunset. A yacht that will be unmanned at the time of colors shall make evening colors beforehand and shall make morning colors upon becoming manned.

The club burgee should be flown from the bow staff of mastless and single masted powerboats, at the masthead of single-masted sailboats, at the foremost masthead of vessels with two or more masts, and at the main masthead of ketches and yawls. If

the masthead is not available due to a wind vane a sailboat may fly the burgee from the starboard spreader.

A private signal may be displayed at the masthead of single-masted powerboats, at the aftermost mast of a vessel with two or more masts, from the radio antenna on mastless powerboats, and at the starboard spreader on single-masted sailboats. An officer flag is flown in the place and instead of his/her private signal.

Reference Publications:

These publications are invaluable guides to cruising destinations on the coast of Maine:

- A Cruising Guide to the Maine Coast - Hank & Jan Taft & Curtis Rindlaub (Sixth Edition, 2017)
- A Cruising Guide to the New England Coast - Roger Duncan & John Ware (Tenth edition, 1990)