

2018 SCOO Cruise to Ocracoke

Monday, June 24 ~ Friday, June 29

Cruise Captains: Jerry and Donna Luh

With hopes of getting a slip at the government dock in Ocracoke, **BLUEJACKET** left her home dock and pointed east a day early. We experienced light winds out of the SW until rounding Royal Shoal where they shifted to 20kt winds on the nose the rest of the way into the harbor at Silver Lake. One spot remained at the government docks against the inside concrete wall; with the assistance of other cruisers on the dock, we managed the stiff winds on our beam and blew in to safely tie up at 3:15pm. We soon learned that Hans Nickstat, **LULU**, had arrived a couple of hours before and was securely docked. Karen and Duane McCraw, prospective members aboard **SOJOURN**, arrived about 5:00pm and clocked 45kts of wind coming down the Big Foot Slue. The day ended with thunderstorms and 30kts of wind in the anchorage.



On **Monday**, six other boats sailed to Ocracoke in favorable winds out of the SW running up to 20kts. These were Chris and Jammie Behre~**JORUM**, Tom and Diane Carbone~**JUPITER**, Ray and Kathy Ruppert~**LADY K**, Will and Beth Martin~**MARINIQUE**, Dale and Debbie Montgomery~**PROSPERITY**, and prospective members Wes and Sheryl McNair~**MERLIN**. During the day, Donna was preparing for the 5:00pm happy hour and as the last boat arrived we sat down to enjoy snacks and good conversation.

After raining during the night, we awoke to cloudy skies and dry weather on **Tuesday**. More perfect weather for a bike ride around Ocracoke Island would be difficult to plan. Twelve hardy cyclists headed out...
...first for a visit to the **Ocracoke Lighthouse**



...then for a nature walk around **Springer's Point**



...and under the salt weathered cedar trees



...to emerge onto Springer's Point Beach



where the hard packed sand provided a place of respite before heading back to continue the ride.

Next was biking to the Beach



...to enjoy some beach activities



and finally a stop at the British Cemetery.

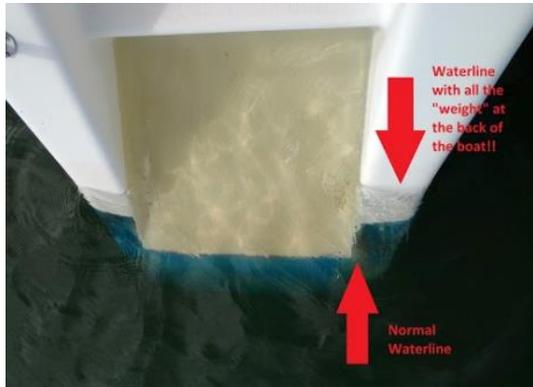


Threatening weather later in the day caused us to change our planned pot luck for a dinner out. Prospective members Karen and Duane McCraw had already prepared vegetable and tuna sushi as their pot luck contribution.



When Karen suggested a pre-dinner happy hour aboard SOJOURN, the party was on.

With seventeen SCOO cruisers and four visiting cruisers from our dock aboard Sojourn, she was sitting well



below her water line.

Everyone enjoyed the sushi and boat tour before heading off for dinner.



Without dinner reservations, fourteen of us set out for Sorella's Italian Restaurant and arrived just as they opened their doors at 5:00 pm. They graciously accommodated all of us and we were all satisfied with the quality of their food and service. We returned to our boats with a stop at The Slushy Stand for an ice cream dessert.

At sunrise on **Wednesday**, Donna was putting the coffee pot on and preparing an early breakfast for the boats planning to depart for Oriental just after the 7:15am ferry departure.



The rest of the group would arrive at 8:00 for a relaxing continental breakfast on the dock beside Bluejacket.



Available selections included banana nut bread sticks, scones, muffins, scrambled egg cups, and smoked salmon crostini's, plus fresh brewed coffee, fruit slushy's and orange juice.

After breakfast, most of the group spent the day relaxing around the boats, walking, or shopping. However, not so for 5 fun-loving adventurers who headed out to bring back some interesting fare for our pot luck dinner.



Leading the way to the clam beds were Karen, Diane, and Irene in Karen's 30hp dinghy followed by Bill and Chris in his quiet electric powered motor. Digging with hands and feet to bring up the prizes, these providers came back with lots of yummy specimens for our pot luck dinner.



Whether the choice of the day was for raw or cooked clams, everyone agreed they were delicious and the gathering process a choice activity for the next cruise to Ocracoke.



Danny and Irene Bailey aboard **SOUTHERN CROSS** joined us for the today's activities and became our newest prospective members. The evening concluded with another trip to the ice cream shop as the sun set over Silver Lake.



Our planned departure for Oriental on **Thursday** was delayed due to the forecasted and building winds out of the SW. This gave us another fun day in Ocracoke. We split into two groups for breakfast ...some to the Pony Restaurant for full breakfasts and others to the Ocracoke Coffee House for lighter fare. At 4:00 pm we all gathered at Gaffers Restaurant for their \$.75 wings happy hour.

Several couples then decided to enjoy Molasses Creek for their evening performance at the Deep Water Theater. It was the perfect ending to a SCOO Ocracoke Island Cruise.



On **Friday**, everyone was up for an early departure out of Silver Lake. We all took the 9' Slue to Royal Shoal and motor-sailed west to Oriental and the opening of the Croker festival.

From the cruise captains aboard Bluejacket, great big thanks to all participants for a wonderful week of friendship and adventures. We hope to see you out enjoying this wonderful cruising area often.

Donna and Jerry Luh