

Fleet 5's Memorial Day Weekend, 2011

Plans for Fleet 5's 2011 Memorial Day Weekend were late in coming. But an idea thought about by the Sprigman, Thom Reeves and Doug Smith germinated. "Let's get some of the Long Island Fleet 5ers together on Memorial Day Weekend, maybe for a dinner or a barbecue in Greenport." Making a longer story shorter, the word got out and 18 of us rendezvoused in Greenport for the 3-day weekend including 3 boats sailing over from Connecticut. Taking part in the rendezvous were Chuck & Kris Couture, (*Five C's*), Marilyn & Peter Pandorf, (*Incredible*), Charlie & Linda Puls, (*Seapulse*), Thom Reeves & Doug Smith, (*Carter-Creagh*), John & Linda Reilly, (*Shenanigans*), Dot & Fred Salzberg, (*Rainbow's End*), Bill & Elaine Schneider, (*Taliesin*), Fred & Marilyn Sprigman, (*Islander*), Carol & Griffin Walling, (*Paramour*).



On Friday, May 27, Carol & Grif sailed over on *Paramour* and got a mooring in Stirling Harbor. And on Saturday the John & Linda and Chuck & Kris sailed over and got slips at Brewer Yacht Yard in Greenport. We gathered on *Carter-Creagh* on Saturday afternoon for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. The weather was a little iffy but held out nicely until Monday morning. We all had our stories about how we survived the winter, some of us up north in the ski country and some of us in sub-tropical Florida. But typical topics of trips, health and grandchildren tended to dominate.

At 7 o'clock we had dinner reservations at The Loft, a restaurant in downtown Greenport where we continued the merriment with good food and drink. There were more than enough cars to transport everyone back and forth from the marina.

On Sunday we got together at 10 am for brunch, again on *Carter-Creagh*. Doug made Baked French Toast Crème Bruleé, which disappeared quickly. Other people brought fruit, donuts and pastries. And there was plenty of coffee to go around. Sunday afternoon was time for leisure and/or working on honey-do lists. Fred Sprigman took several people out on *Islander* for a wonderful sail in Gardiner's Bay. And at 5:30 we got back together on *Shenanigans* for cocktails and a barbecue dinner. The grills were on the dock right next to *Shenanigans*. We all brought "something to share" and the pot luck dinner worked out just fine. Night time settled in and we all were pretty worn out and so called it a night.

On Monday morning it was overcast with a prediction for rain. By 9 am the rain started and didn't really finish until near noon. But all 3 boats making their trek back

across the Sound finally left and got home safely. Again, Fleet 5 had a great time together for Memorial Day Weekend on the briny.



Photography: Carol Walling