

We settled in at BMC for the winter. The Baltimore Boat Show is coming up and it is a good time to meet up with our Crownie friends. Everyone has their own agenda at a boat show so we meet and go our separate ways and meet up again. Henry finds a new LED anchor light that will use much less energy when we are “on the hook”. However, the best part of the day is “slunch” (supper and lunch) at Nick’s Fish House with good friends and fellow boaters. It is always good to get a boat fix in the middle of the winter. Doing it with good friends is just a bonus.

As we sit in this slip at the Baltimore Marine Center we will take a Nor’easter vs. a “Southeaster” any day of the week!!! OMGoodness.....I woke up about 4:30AM on Monday morning, Jan 25th, with the wind screaming like a freight train coming and the boat rockin’ and rollin’ and banging into the finger pier. I was awake off and on until daylight when I went to the pilothouse to look around. There were three foot waves crashing into and sometimes onto the floating pier! We have a long fetch (a large amount of open water for the wind to build up waves) on our starboard side...nothing beside of us until the tall First Mariner building. In addition to that we have a straight shot out into the harbor to the southeast. So the waves were cranked up. There is a small floating dock at the Bay Café next door that was rocking and rolling and disappearing behind the waves. A small sailboat there was taking a beating and we didn’t expect to see it when we got home that night. (It was still there) A cruiser at that dock had its canvas ripped to shreds. Waves were crashing on the sea wall along the land and the tide was high. I wasn’t sure I wanted to walk the dock to go to work but I watched some folks doing it without any problems so off I went. It wasn’t too bad and of course I had to call Henry when I was safe on land. He put another line to keep us off the finger pier. Even with fenders tied to it we damaged the exhaust cover. The wind also ripped the ghetto enclosure off of the port side so we have some taping to do. He said he almost fell out of the shower too!!! Whew....wind on the butt of the boat is not good...and the harbor had 55mph gusts! Annapolis had 58mph gusts! Glad that is over. The only good news was that it got up to 68 degrees that day. Welcome to Maryland!

The first day of spring is a warm, sunny day and we have guests coming. Bill and Betsy, who also own a Great Harbour GH47 named Pipe Dream are coming for a visit and to see Seven Tenths. They own a pipe company, hence the name of their boat. The previous owners of our boats were good friends so we consider ourselves “sister boats”. We met them last year in Gainesville, FL at the Mirage Seminar. Their daughter and son-in-law live nearby in Delaware and Bill and Betsy are here for a family fix so the four of them drive down to BMC . Within minutes the guys are in the engine room and the girls are checking out the interior of the boat. Although the boats are the “same” they are very different and it is good to share information. After much talk and a rare March outdoor lunch at the Bay Café they head back to Delaware . We will see them in Gainesville in April at the seminar and hope to see Pipe Dream in the near future.



We have been busy with some fun projects this winter. We had our settee re-cushioned in a navy blue ultra-leather. We love the color and the feel of it but it suffered some stretching so our seamstress picked the cushions up for some revamping. I need to be "wowed" by it so she is adding some more stitching for better visual effect. We replaced our old TV with a new 46" one and Henry and the older grandson mounted it above the old one. Then we bought a tool chest and put it in the space vacated by the old TV. Now Henry does not have tools stashed everywhere! We are having doors made to close in this whole area. The look will be so much neater looking when it is all done. The new blinds are up and now I am on a mission for a new rug. Spending money is fun!!!



Now it is time to head back to Middle River for the boating season. My sister, Cindy, signs on as our only crew and on March 21st we head north. Three hours later we are tied in our slip at Edwards Boat Yard. The Bay was pretty flat, weather mostly sunny and the run was good. However, on March 29th the moon is full and the tide is high and we already miss the floating docks at BMC. As I get ready to leave for work I see that the water is over the dock and is the highest I have seen it....six to eight inches over the dock and I do not have waterproof boots! So I text my boss to say I will be a little late. Yeah, I am sure they believed that one! I finally got there about two hours late. I am going to buy rain boots today!

We will now get into some spring/summer projects and "be a boat" as much as we can. Stay tuned for our 2010 adventures.

Remember, the world is seven tenths water. We should spend seven tenths of our time on it.