

Saorsa II – 2013 Cruise

SitRep 001

Here we go again!!!

In the spring of 2013, *Saorsa II* and I will again be heading out on an extended cruise. It is planned to be the longest cruise we have undertaken to date; we will be away for approximately fifteen months. Depending on how quickly I can get my shore-side life organised (see below), departure from Lake Ontario is planned for late May or early June.

Broadly speaking, we will travel down the St. Lawrence Seaway, River and Estuary, around la Gaspésie into the Canadian Maritimes, south along the Atlantic shore of Nova Scotia, across to Maine, New England, and New York, and then further south to Florida via Delaware Bay, the Chesapeake Bay, and the Intra Coastal Waterway (ICW). Then we'll cross to the Bahamas and spend the winter of 2013 – 2014 complaining bitterly about the lack of ice for my rum punch. In the summer of 2014, *Saorsa II* and I will return to home port on Lake Ontario, perhaps satiated.

As some might imagine and some of you will know, extensive preparations are needed for an undertaking of this duration. Accordingly, I am severing many of my shore-side connections, e.g., moving possessions into a storage unit, putting my house up for sale.

As always, *Saorsa II* is receiving much care and attention. In addition to the usual out-of-season maintenance and small refit tasks, She is being fitted with newly fabricated stainless steel potable-water tanks and a NavTex weather receiver.

Between the upheaval and chaos in my domestic life and the work necessary for *Saorsa II*, I'm a wee bit busy these days. Nonetheless, contact with friends and acquaintances is invited and welcome.

For those who may be interested in more directly experiencing salt water, there will be crewing opportunities on board. This is not, however, for the faint of heart. There is no accommodation aboard *Saorsa II* for passengers. Please contact me directly if interested; book early to avoid disappointment!

Yours aye,

Bill.

