



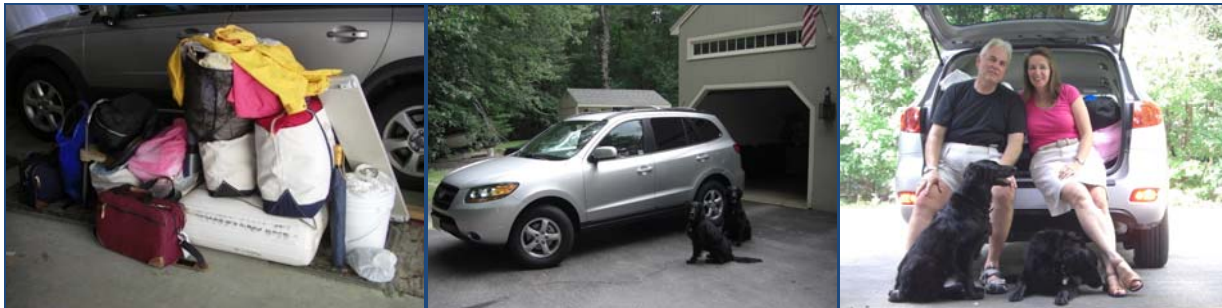
Years of dreaming... months of planning... weeks of packing, re-packing and list upon list upon list are behind us... we are on our way! We are taking Charis, the Legend, to see the ocean.

This is the first of many emails to share our adventure with our family & friends. Some of you have visited with us aboard Charis, many others have shared her mooring field for the past six years at MBBC in Vermont, and others have heard us talk about her... and talk... and talk. She is our shared passion, and now we are taking her to sea.

For the last six years, Charis has been a Hunter Legend 37.5. Her two predecessor namesakes were trailerable boats, who shared their time with us on Lake Champlain, Little Sebago in Maine and many lakes in between, as well as the coast of New England, from Penobscot Bay down to Mystic Ct, and beyond to the Chesapeake Bay. We found Charis, the Legend, six years ago at Willsboro Bay Marina, in Willsboro NY, on the western shore of Lake Champlain. While we have enjoyed freshwater sailing with our many friends at MBBC, the lure of the ocean has been a siren song, steady and strong. And so we have decided it is time to take Charis Down East, to the coast of Maine.

We have chosen the southern route, through the Champlain Canal to the Hudson River, all the way to NYC. From there we will turn left, passing up Long Island Sound and along the coast of New England to our new home in Casco Bay on the coast of Maine.

But first we had to get ourselves and the dogs – yes, of course, the dogs are coming with us! – and the last minute collection of gear from the house in NH to the boat club in Vermont. Enter a one way rental, and one more drive through the Green Mountains to Colchester on Friday August 1<sup>st</sup>.



One thing we won't miss is the 3-hour drive to get to the boat! Part of the challenge has always been the weather coming across the mountains, and this trip was no exception: major rains as we came across the pass between Montpelier and the greater Burlington area... but it sure is a pretty drive.



Saturday was lost in a blur of grocery shopping & finding places on board for all that last minute stuff..., by the time we'd returned the rental car, the skies broke open – again! – and convinced us the logical move was to spend one last evening with friends at MBBC ... and that's a True Story!

Sunday morning we woke to more rain!!!, but it was time to go... We dropped the mooring one last time and headed off for a rainy 30 mile trip to Point Bay Marina at Thompson Point.



The original plan was to strip sails Sunday afternoon, and otherwise prep the boat for the mast to come down first thing Monday morning... but the constant rain gave us a great excuse for a peaceful evening, watching for rainbows ( didn't see any ) and wondering what tomorrow will bring.



To be continued...

The crew of s/v Charis: Pam & Bruce, Shadow & Shelby