

Bob Glisson's 2011 Reply to Joe Muscara's Invite to Sail on hi new boat

Joe's Tortuga Inn Cruises

ARRRRGHHH!!! Cap'n Joe,

You be a desperate skipper to be offerin' passage to us scallywags. But then, you be one of us and like the dangerous life. I'm up to a wee bit of the crusin'. Thar be plenty of rich prizes and pretty wenches in & aroun' the Chessapeak, er Chesalook, er... the Bay. If ye be thinkin' of relievin' some of the well-to-do of thar necessities, you be needin' to get a Letter of Marque from some politician needin' some votes (See 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. Washington, D.C.). Then ye can be a "legal" pirate (like bein' in Congress or workin' for the federal guvmint). Just ask Cap'n Henri, he's been doin' it fer years. I suggest the followin' modest list for ye provisionin':

-) 32 casks of premium grog
-) 15 cutlasses
-) 9 grapplin' hooks
-) 1 short plank for long walks
-) A keel-haulin' line
-) 29 belayin' pins (good for throwin')
-) A 3-pounder swivel gun (originally I thought of a 6-pounder & you'd rule the bay, but the swivel gun is more easily hidden)
-) Other firearms as to the crews preference...since ye be berthed in the Peoples Republic of Maryland we may have to resort to slingshots or BB guns ("you'll shoot your eye out"...who gives a crap, it builds pirate character).

A few other thoughts. If Cap'n Tim (aka the Seahawk {in his eye} or as some of us know him, Cap'n Whiny Pants ..."hey, they're using their motor and sails to win the race" (Marine Corps axiom: the only unfair fight is the one you lose); sorties down, put him to work as he knows how to sail. Same with Cap'n Max (aka the Viking) 'ceptin he likes his ration of grogall two months worth at once. Course, which of us don't? Har, har! Now, Cap'n Todd is good too, but bears watchin' especially around the swivel gun....he gets a bit twitchy....or was that with a B? Some of the rest of the bilge rats also got some trainin' (read: housebroken). Oh, shiver me timbers, but I almost fergot, we can be usin' Rick as the "powder monkey" for the swivel gun; 'course based on his previous waterborne adventures, he should only be handlin' the plastic explosives (they won't blow when he falls down or overboard) and I'll be holdin' the detonators, thank you very much.

Well, that is pretty much my take on ye invite...and a mighty good one it be.

Your humble servant,

Long John Silver

P.S. Tell your lovely lady Johanna that we be takin' good care of your prize ship for ye. ("What the h... were you thinking Joe!")

Subject: Joe's Tortoga Inn Cruises

Johanna has been bugging me to buy a place on the water for a while. Since I don't think we have seen the worst of the real estate market yet, especially second homes, I was hesitant. Instead I bought a two bedroom two bath floating condominium. It is a 42 foot sailboat which I am keeping in Rock Hall Md. Johanna calls it Rock Bottom as in "we hit Rock Bottom last weekend". Rock Hall is less than two hours from Plymouth Meeting. The marina is Osprey Point Marina dock D number 19. The boat, er ship is called Orion. I hope to be there several days a week starting in May. I have to put in a big screen so I can watch the horse races. The ship can hold ten people for day trips and six or seven for overnight trips. Rock Hall is located so you can take day trips to Baltimore, Annapolis, or St Michaels. All of you are invited down, this isn't totally altruistic, I need crew to crank winches and throw lines to dock. We have a range of sailing experience in the frat from Captains to dumb heavy ballast and you all are welcome.

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