



# Bass River Rendezvous Round Up

Mary Lou Walsh, AP

The Bass River Rendezvous on Boater's Beach in West Dennis on 11 September drew our biggest crowd of the year. In bright sunshine but blustery breezes, the group gathered on the leeward side of the point, using the small dunes and grasses as a windbreak.

Boaters arrived in Bass River from other points and some traveled down river to the beach.

**Barb and Terry Wilcox** and **Joan and Evan Croft** came on the Wilcox's *Back Forty*, **Dave Atwood** on *Bearing C's*, **Mike Leyden** on *Waterfront Property*, **Dave Akin** and his guest on *Sandcastle*, **Gail and Charles Burke** with **Jim and Mary Ann Morse** aboard the Burkes' *Skye & Sea* all made the scene. The workmanship on **Ed Ruckle's** beautifully restored 1970 Boston Whaler, *SPRAY*,



featured in last month's *Porthole*, was admired up-close all afternoon.

**Garnet Venables** and **Vicki Blair-Smith** (good to see you – don't be a stranger) came in their kayaks, paddling four miles each way from the headwaters of Bass River and fighting opposing currents both ways.



Among those who drove were **Deirdre Leyden** with their guests, **Bob Wilson, Deb and Dave Black, Hugh Blair-Smith, Paul Brown, Paula Bacon** (on the way to her 50<sup>th</sup> D-Y High School reunion) and yours truly.



Despite boat problems that kept *Serenity* on her mooring, nothing would stop **Walt Penczar** who arrived in his dinghy and wins the prize for smallest boat of the day.

Regulars **Bob and Penny Bach** arrived aboard *Penelope* with their son and grandchildren.



The highlight of the afternoon was the debut of a new trivia game developed by the Burkes, dubbed "CCSPS Challenge". The competition was fierce and teams were reformed with each new game trying to get the advantage. Lesson learned: don't yell at the TV when *Jeopardy* is on! It's a lot harder when you're on the spot than it seems when you're on the sofa!

# Bass River Rendezvous Pictorial

Special thanks to roving photographers Mary Lou Walsh, Deirdre Leyden and Gail Burke



The biggest surprise of the afternoon was how much beach has been lost since last year. The gathering has always been scheduled around a high tide to accommodate the sailboat keels, but as the water rose, in a scene reminiscent of Egg Island gatherings, we literally ran out of beach in some places and hunkered down, clustered on the remaining sand, trying to stay out of the wind. Good thing it's a friendly group! (Note to self: consider low tide times next year. That will help the paddlers and dinghy people, as well, so they can travel with the currents).