

Norwalk Islands Excursion, May 31

On a suddenly sweltering sunny afternoon, 41 DMA members and their spouses boarded the Spirit of the Sound, a 64-foot electric aluminum catamaran run by the Norwalk Maritime Center, and departed Norwalk harbor for a delightful and informative cruise around the Norwalk Islands, a chain of more than 25 islands amid partly submerged boulders, reefs and mudflats along a six-mile stretch and mostly about a mile off the coasts of Norwalk and Westport. They are a host to several different types of recreational activities, including camping, boating, kayaking, swimming and bird watching. Ownership of the islands varies, with about a half dozen held in private hands, some owned by the governments of Norwalk or Westport and some are part of the Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge.

The breeze over the cool waters provided a welcome respite from the heat on the land as we listened to one of the Maritime Center crew members talk about the history of the islands in this stream. The winds were light and variable, the sea was calm and the day was resplendent.



