

# View from the Marina

## **FALL BOATING GETAWAYS - OPTIONS GALORE!**

by

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Boating options are plentiful year round, but this time of year is especially great! Maybe a boat show, a cruise ship, a sailing or power class or a private bareboat charter? In short, anything to do with boats is fun! Let's look at a few.

Boat show season is starting. Of course, most shows were canceled last year and this year they will still look a bit different if they have them. We have already been told of a Trawlerfest in Newport that's been canceled. So far, it looks like there will be lots of boaters crowding the docks in Annapolis, Ft. Lauderdale and all the shows with a craving for all things nautical - boats, boating gear, charters, classes and more!

Fall boating also offers the chance to see Mother Nature at her best as the leaves change color offering beautiful views. There are many cruise opportunities to view these brilliant colors in the Northeast, on the Great Lakes and elsewhere. If you're interested, do a web search and you'll see what I mean. Choices

abound from "brunch cruises" to weeklong and longer getaways on large cruise ships to a wide range of both domestic and foreign destinations.

While we in the South are looking forward to the busy winter boating season, we know that our sailing and cruising friends up North are preparing to winterize their vessels. That's a sad time for them, but they take solace in the joy of planning that winter or spring charter vacation!

A friend used to tell me how he would sit by the fireplace and read all of the boating magazines that would come in the mail, looking forward to that next issue of CRUISING WORLD or PASSAGEMAKER. My friend could live vicariously through the pages of cruising stories and plan his own charter vacations. Planning is part of the fun after all!

Fortunately we don't have to do that in Florida, but we do understand what it means and the importance of winterizing to our boating family members in the north.

In the meantime, enjoy the boating life, it's always fun!