Hi Family,

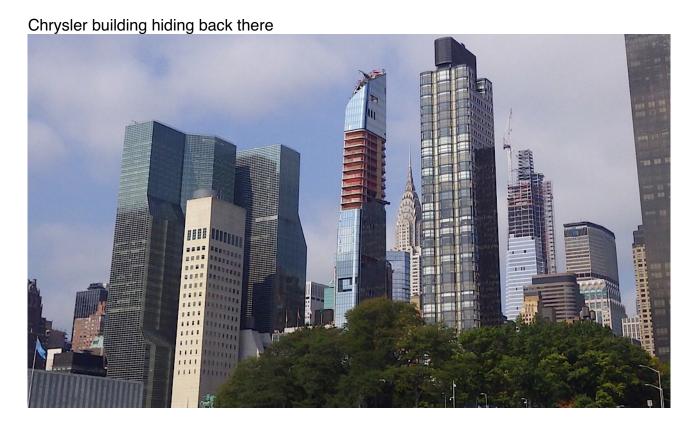
Hope you're all okay.

We've been 5 days coming up the Hudson to Catskills here where we've had the mast taken down as the bridges aren't high enough for us any further up. It's 30 nautical miles or so to where we turn off the Hudson to go to the Erie canal. We have 30 locks to negotiate to get to Lake Ontario!

Sailing through New York was spectacular & we timed it well down the east river so that the famous Hells gate current was with us, but not too strong (it can get up to 5 knots!)

Here we come!





Latest NY fashion, wonky buildings



This guy landed right next to us... In this photo we've got both the Chrysler building & the Empire State building - by chance!



The Brooklyn bridge



What's she doing on the coastguard's boat?



Daytime from our Ellis island anchorage



& night time , in fact it's 6 a.m. and we're leaving to head north. The eerie lights are where the twin towers used to be and yesterday was the 18th anniversary of 9/11.



Here we are all ready to leave tomorrow... it's been a tough day. Some of the stays didn't want to budge. They finally surrendered after many hours of dedication (and lots of swearing).



We're the only boat heading north. Here they all think we're mad. All the Canadians and Americans are heading south. The weather was fabulous this afternoon but yesterday morning....Brrrrr! looks quite pretty though. Not too good for navigating.



Some fabulous scenery & I think we'll be seeing lots more.



