



Log Entry # 9 – Isn't this how you make Christmas Dinner - Or Cabe here we come Musings from the cockpit....

Sunday 23, December, only 2 more days to shop! We've been at sea for three days now since leaving Ensenada. Winds from N-NW 18-30 MPH. Boat performing flawlessly. We have been on a port tack with only subtle sail changes and running on a combination of sails: full head sail (Yankee), full main and staysail; then to one, then two reefs in the main, douse the Yankee and then no staysail. Boat is making 6-8 knots continuously. Seas swells are 8-16 feet with a NE chop of 3-5 feet. Boat on port beam reach.



Looking for the Green Flash!

At sunset, we saw the 'green flash' just as sun peaked under horizon, Suzan had seen it before, but Linda did not see it, so she is not initiated into the Green Flash club. Crew is exhausted due to motion of boat. The girls say they are getting a great Pilates workout and that their "core" is getting strong.... I don't know what that means, but I will take their word for it. We are making for Magdalena Bay and look forward to a quite anchorage where we can straighten out the ship and get some quality sleep.

Christmas Eve Day - I put "hand line" over the side, looking for a christmas dinner fish du-jour... and got a nice little bonita for tonight. We then anchored in a lovely desolate bay that use to be a whaling port. The locals continue to use the area and have constructed drying nets, tin shacks and even a church. We walked through the 'village' and were surprised to find it abandoned as though everyone dropped whatever they were doing, including making dinner. The frying pan is still on the stove and the mayonaise bottle open with a knife in it.



Christmas Fish

Christmas Day - Life at sea is challenging as one must keep a weather eye out for wind and sea conditions... I keep having to go below to look at the computer and the electronic chart lookout for shipping detected using the AIS. We encoun-

tered five container ships today and into evening hours and talked to most, the watch officer on a Maresk container ship wished us a Merry Christmas... and we the same to him and his crew. Suzan has done a superb job with all things electronic and we just got our first weather maps at sea (this trip). Linda has been cooking up some superb onboard meals which vary per sea and motion conditions of boat. Christmas Day dinner is a one pot meal that we have to tie to the stove as the seas are too rough and it would go flying. Sailing: So after a lovely evening of sailing we got into a frontal system out of Magdalena Bay heading to Cabo San Lucas. Wind was steady 20-25 increasing to 30 plus. Highest gust was 39 mph. Linda was not happy. Sail set was a close port reach. Sea; pacific swell ran 8-16 feet with a 6 foot wind chop from a 30 degree differential. Boat running on staysil and two reefs in main doing 8-9 knots. Lasted about 5 hours then winds abated to constant 20 mph as we approached Cabo... then died off and it was time to diesel.



Tying down dinner



Speaking of dieseling, I think, (hold breath) that I know what the previous problems with air in system as had to bleed several times since San Diego. It seems that there is a combination set and locking screw on the primary filter which Larry Heck and I changed in Friday Harbor in early August...seems that the locking screw, the one to bleed the filter with was tight, but the setting bolt just under it was ever so slightly loose... hence the air in system. Since tightening 'perkie', it has been running flawlessly. Hope it continues. Will change oil in either Aca-pulco our next destination or in Costa Rica.

Do you Yamaha - We don't

Well what can we say, several days before the 15hp Yamaha on our new Walker Bay skiff dies when we are about 1/2 mile from boat. The fuel line comes ripping

off the engine and its engine fitting falls into the drink... we rowed back or MaaMa. In Cabo, Yamaha is the preferred outboard engine.... and we saw at least 100 or more in use. Now one would conclude with so many Yamaha's in use, we could find the appropriate part. Checked with three chandleries, no parts. Asked if there was a Yamaha dealer in Cabo... seems no one knew... so walked 16 blocks to the Suzuki dealer, but no parts, although he offered to order them, 1-2 weeks at best. Said no. Still not giving up I finally asked two gringo's selling fishing adventures where I could find a part for my Yamaha. He asked if I had tried the Yamaha dealer... What! there is such a thing in Cabo? ... a well what a well kept secret. Finally located the dealer but it seems the amigo closed his operations for the holidays, no one knew when he'd return...so I hope to find part in Acapulco...



Very tight harbor

Scenes from Cabo

Cabo is a very expensive town. The Port charges about whatever it can get for moorage with no rhyme nor reason for the cost. A month's moorage is about the same as a year in Seattle. This is one of the most congested of harbors we have seen with boats, jet skis, people and pelicans everywhere,..each scatters as the next



Lots of jet skis and colorful eateries



Local road sign

the next mega yacht comes by and WOW there are a lot of Mega Yachts here.



On to Acapulco! Fair Winds _/) Suzan and Michael