

3-21-95 Con't.

We were at the anchorage in Green Turtle at 1:00 P.M. It took ONE & a Half hour (1½ hrs) to get our anchor to bite.

We had a bite at 2:25. We finally moved to the Bluff to drop our anchor - just opposite the new little fuel dock at Bluff house.

Bill & Di were ⁱⁿ no more than an hour after we were set. After they dropped anchor they came aboard for a minute, via their dingy, to say hi and talk of evening plans. We invited them to join us for cocktails & goodies. Maybe we won't even eat dinner. (all we had to eat today so far was a banana each and at 3:00 Mort had some salami slices and I had a hard boiled egg.

Cocktails were at 6:00 P.M.

Munchies were Smoked Oysters & a very mild Creamy (Sage) blue Cheese (contributed by Di) and Cheddar, Mushroom Pate, Mini Quiches and crackers (Courtesy of M. S.T.)

Mort & I had a lite cocktail since we were tired. They left at 6:50 and our Anchor light was on at 6:55.

We read & talked to 8:30. Then jeans off and bedtime.

The light breeze we had all evening moderated and was very pleasant.

Note: went back on Nagrosyn today.

Wednesday, March 22, 1995 Green Turtle to Sale Cay
A.M. Sunny & Cool. 70°

It is a beautiful morning. Light winds. I awoke at 5:30 after a very soft & mainly restful night. The anchor was up at 8:07 A.M. and we began our trip to Sale Cay in the company of Wind Minstral.

Note: 9:00^{A.M.} Watermaker on - We are down 6". Hopefully it will run the 3 hours needed to fill the tank.

Note: There was a "Big Time" disparity in the weather reports. Palm Beach gave us a superb forecast, of West So. West winds 5-1 K today W 5-10 K tonight and Thurs. W.S.W 10 K becoming W 15 K at night. But, The Hans said Portsmouth said Gale force winds tonight & Thursday out of N.W.

If necessary we will hunker down at Sale Cay. We really pray we can make it to West End and a marina before anything bad hits us.

Important

Note: Waypoint 76 not good - must not go to 284° until passed Crab Cay.

We were in Sale Cay Harbour at 3:35
We were anchored at 3:50. A great bite.
At 4:00 P.M. our ~~###~~ Engines were off.

We don't know how Bill does it. His trip was a good hour + longer than us. He dropped his anchor visited us by design to say he was taking the diggy ashore to wash the bottom. Then he went back to boat showered and they both came to us for a cocktail, then after dark they went back and put the diggy up on their boat.

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I'm exhausted just ~~to~~ telling it. He has some stamina, and he is only one year younger than Mort, ~~and~~ Mort has incredible stamina for a man his age. Bill, however, is a Canadian woodsman and is built like a bull.

Dinner was Lamb Chops, stewed tomatoes & Green Fettuccini. Very Good Day!

We went to bed at 8:30 pooped and not happy about the fact that the winds have picked up to 20+ knots right down the mouth of the anchorage.

Thursday, March 23, 1995 Sale Cay to West End.

Mort was awake from 1:00 A.M. worrying about the winds and weighing should we go - should we stay. We were very affected by the winds, our swinging and pounding was very uncomfortable. To stay we know we would have at least one more day and one more night of this discomfort. Maybe more. We also knew that if we went, with the West winds at ¹⁵20k, we would have a fairly comfortable run on the back with the waves on our nose - 2 to 4 feet - The only bad part would be the exit through the reef into the Ocean where we could find who knows what. (We) he decided to go and I was in total agreement since the weather info we got seemed to suggest that Mort was correct.

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We called Di & Bill on VHF and told them our plan. They said that West wind on their nose was not good (they are a sailboat) and their decision was to stay another day since the winds were forecast to switch to the N.W. which would allow them to put up sail and use their motor as well & pick up speed.

We weighed anchor at 6:40 A.M. The only problem we had with the run, was the anxiety of what we would find when we got to the reef and the ocean.

At 12:50 we were at the reef & we could see the ocean breaking on the coral. We didn't like what we saw, but we had made our choice and we knew the boat could handle it with the stabilizers. We went out and made our turn ~~at~~ as soon as we had 30 feet of water.

Interesting, we lost nothing over from the roll, which was controlled by the stabilizers, but some things fell over from the pitch when we first went out - nose to the waves - The waves we encountered were, Mort says, 6 to 8 feet they seemed bigger to me.

As soon as we were passed the mouth of the entrance the waves subsided. We were at the fuel dock at Jack Tar Marina at 1:30 exhausted, but, happy. We took 250 gal. of fuel (125 each tank) at \$1.45 per gallon.

Then we went to our slip, the T Pier just beyond the fuel dock. Our favorite place in this marina. When going to that Dock Mort likes

Slip
W-26
on West 26

3.23.95 Cont

To have the nose pointing out of the marina, so when we take off we just "move on out". This meant turning "Shugah" in the turning basin. While he was making this manoeuvre a Trawler and a sail boat, both, moved into the basin and into our swing. Mort had to perform a miracle to keep out of their way and make it to the dock. We were fine, but unnecessarily rattled since they could have stayed in the channel a minute or two more, and no hassle for anyone. By 4:00 we were secured, plugged in, the water on and ready for a shower.

After our shower we walked over to talk to a HAM named Evert or Ewert to ask if he could put word out over the Ham Net that we were safely in West End - also we asked him to let Bill know that the conditions were not the greatest on the ocean. Evert & Jean are on a boat named Capricious. After that ~~Shugah~~ called Carol & left a message.

Then we come back to the boat for a drink and dinner of Hot Corned beef sandwiches & Three Bean (barroom) salad. Yum!!

Mort is euphoric that we are here since the wind is really picking up. He said that this was one of the "Best Indications" he ever made. Tomorrow will be worse and we would have been, again, stuck in Great Sale Cay.

Thank God we are here in safe harbour - safe & sound. We fell blissfully asleep at 8:30 P.M.

Note: We were finally able to raise Jack Tar on VHF at 18 miles out.