

Wednesday, Sept. 28, 1994

N.J. to Manh Harbour

Hoorah!!! We flew back to M. H. via American Airlines (didn't fly U.S. AIR because of recent crash)

It is good to be back. (In spite of a rainy month while we were gone, We found the boat in great condition.

Had lunch at Couch Inn Cafe, and dinner aboard.

Ham steak, Beets & Apple Sauce

Thursday, Sept. 29, 1994

Couch Inn

We got some unpacking done, interrupted by the entire world stopping by to welcome us back. What a great feeling

We went to happy hour at the Couch Inn Cafe (Kip's place). It was great to see everyone again

But we are exhausted from our queuing month.

Temperature: Low 68° High 86°  
Sunny: Light Breeze out of South 109

Monday

November 21, 1994

Marsh Harbour

It has been almost 2 months since I've made an entry. It is very remiss of me. One of the reasons is the Wizard Organizer we bought. It has taken up most of my early A.M. hours, (which I usually use for this log), just programming all of the information we want into its memory banks. However, it is long over due that I make some entries here. I'll try to touch all of the salient points.

a) Shortly after our return Mort installed the "tide right ladder". It is wonderful, and has eliminated 80% of the stress on my knees, ergo they feel great. Not perfect yet but nearly so.

b) He has gotten all of the bow windows re-varnished and caulked.

c) He has re-varnished all of the door frames forward, as well as fibreglassing around the hatch to the upper deck and re-varnishing the hatch cover. (This a major major job, but it stopped the huge leak that had developed over the <sup>past</sup> year.

d) During this period - Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> to today - we have been very involved with the following social endeavors.

1) Marsh Harbour Yacht Club Meetings - a huge social evening once a month.

\* 2) Cocktails at Mangoes each Tuesday - 5 to 7 with 1/2 priced drinks and free munchies. There is the best great food and lots of it.

\* 3) Thursday evenings Cocktails at Kip's place, 6-to whenever. Free munchies and 50¢ off each drink.

4) Private (small groups) happy hours on Mess Shug's Too, Shamrock, Child's Play,

\* We don't do these every week.

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Shared Tins, Oh Suzzana, etc. etc. etc.

5) Dinnies out: Mangoes, Wally's, Jib Room, Bayview, not to leave out pizza from the new just opened Pizza Hut at the Admirals Yacht Haven Marina at the end of the Harbour. They will deliver, even to those boats on anchor. (Delicious & fun.)

e.) We start each day by listening to the weather on the HAM net from: 7:45 to 8:00 ±. Then we listen to the Abaco Cruisers Net, anchored by different boats in the area. I occasionally do the net. I will be doing it this A.M.

This net is very important because it fills cruisers in on local weather and sea conditions, special at the shops and restaurants.

f.) After the nets, we go our separate ways with chores. Mort does, as I mentioned, maintenance & improvements. I do laundry, meals, cleaning & scrubbing, as well as other mundane things like mending clothes and scrubbing decks.

g.) About every three weeks I join "the girls" (second mates on local boats and some landlubbers) for lunch at one of the restaurants. They meet every week on Tuesday. It is really not my "thing", but if I don't go occasionally they seem hurt. There are several of us who just do this occasionally. I could live without this. It feels like we're back in the grid somehow.

h.) We've had friends over for dinner on occasion for example: Kip from the Couch Inn Cafe. Boy was nervous cooking for a travel chef.

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i.) Of course, much of these last few days, well actually the past two weeks, was spent in preparing for and enduring the winds and rain from Gordon. At first the 45+ winds were from the S. S. E., then on its return they were to be from the N. N. W. Each circumstance required a different set of "extra lines, bumpers etc.". First the Benini had to be taken down, and then it had to be put back up. The little boat had to be secured in another slip rather than behind the boat - it's usual position. A lot of extra work - particularly for Mort, exhausting.

This is not to mention the tension created by the possibility that Gordon would become a hurricane over the Abacos. Also, we were tracking the course which meant we listened & recorded, at least 3 extra weather stations during the course of each day. Gordon was a very unusual storm, which began off the coast of Nicaragua, tracked its way all the way up to the outer banks of N. Carolina and then did an about face all the way back to St. Augustine, Florida. On its circuitous route it touched both coasts of Florida as well as blasting the Florida Keys.

j) During these two months things have been very very busy for our kids. In order by age. The eldest first.

- 1) Paula is finishing her residency and interviewing for a medical position in the real world. The girls & Tom are great. She is exhausted.
- 2) Ellie has just finished taking her Quads.

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for her doctorate. The boys are well, and Mark is kept very busy. They are exhausted.

3) Richard has had his divorce hearing. (Thank God that is over.) He has really pulled himself together and has a wonderful job at a new High School in Birmingham teaching Biology and Physics Science. I'm sure he is exhausted. Phew!!!

We are so proud of all of them.

k.) And, yesterday we were invited to join two locals, Angie the waitress at Wally's, and her husband Mark (otherwise known as Injin Joe), for a pickup truck ride to the top of Abaco to see the Wild Horses of Abaco, and the 4000 acre citrus orchard on which the horses have freedom and are protected by Bahamian Law.

Angie is a five foot tall 300 lb. black Bahamian girl of 32 or 33 years of age. She has a gorgeous face with skin like silky melted milk chocolate. Mark is a 6ft 4" Texan who's father was a full blooded Cherokee indian. He is 47 years old. They are an amazing couple. It was wonderful of them to devote their day off (Mark is the foreman of the Orchard) to sharing the Horses and the "Farm" with us. We came home with Grapefruits and oranges and lemons and lemons and breadfruit and oca and casawa.?? (This is a root) and bananas and more. We treated them to lunch and dinner and got every penny's worth back in pleasure. The horses were gorgeous and looked healthy and beautiful. Almost as though someone had groomed them. We got some pictures & some video. A great day.