

6-28-93 Con 4.

we were on the Bank. Great! Less than 2 feet wave.

At 9:30 we (or rather Mort) shut the genny down.  
At 11:30 ~~we~~ Mort started the Blessed Gas Genny. What a lifesaver that has been!

At 2:15 P.M. we are 17.2 miles from Gun Cay light.

Mort was able to eat some lunch today. I had a nibble. I have begun to loose weight too. (I now am three comfortable notches on my scale. actually a grometed belt. When I returned to the boat after visiting Ellen, etal, I was barely one notch. The difference is a good 4 or 5 inches.)

At 2:45 we are 13.4 miles from Gun Cay Light,  
An Hour and 45 minutes to the light waypoint.

Note: As we approached the area of Russel Beacon we saw a large work vessel running in circles. We both independantly came to the conclusion that they were replacing the Beacon that had been destroyed in Andrew. A half hour later we got a radio call from our new friend John Simmonds of "Gunner" and "Miss Kitty". He said he just saw the new Beacon and it is Black with a white light.

At 4:30 we got through via VHF to Cat Cay. They are expecting us. Bill Watkins of the Lauderdale Branch of the Club got through to them. The manager of the Club met us personally to welcome us. His name is Graham Bruce and he sounds British British.  
We arrived at 5:00 and went into slip 20 on the inside of the T on the second wooden pier

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While I got things straightened and dinner set up, Mort went down to see what he could do about the Auto pilot. Using the VHF, we communicated while Mort made some adjustments that he hopes will allow the Auto pilot to work on our Gulf Stream crossing. It was really hard on him having to steer the entire 10 1/4 hours today. I could only spell him for very short periods.

We ate cold lobster and shrimp that I had cooked up our last night in Chub!

Note: The freezers are doing nicely with the little gas gen. The fridges are holding on with our nightly plug ins. We will see what happens when we have to anchor.

We were showered and in bed by 10:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 29, 1993

Cat Cay, Rodriguez

6:30 A.M. after little sleep we left Cat Cay. The day was forecast as "good to go"

At 7:00 just after coming through the reef Mort put on the Auto-pilot. It worked. We ~~were~~ were too skeezy to say one word about it.

We felt it could go wrong at any moment. It worked beautifully all day. This was very important since this ~~is~~ was our gulf stream crossing. The Gulf Stream was georgeous!!!

Big fish jumped all day. We saw a huge tuna jump. I wonder what was after it,

The flying fish ~~fish~~ flew from our wake like living starbursts.

In the center of the stream there was not a ripple on the water. Only the rise and fall of the swells, as if the ocean was breathing.

At 1:00 we had already made our turn to the keep. This was after a shock or two of shallow water readings as we approached Biscayne Bay where there ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> supposed to be no shallows. But, once we made out the proper markers we were fine. There was no reason we could see for the false readings unless there was a dolphin playing at our transducer, or perhaps an obstruction not on the chart.

We pulled into anchorage at 5:45, and we had our anchor set by 6:00 P.M.

We tried to run the gens to bring up the cold plates. It overheated in an hour & half, but it helped the boys to hold.

I made chicken salad, the last tomatoes and ~~June 30~~ potato chips for dessert, which we ate after a very hot, but refreshing shower and shampoo. The water in the tanks gets very hot when we travel.

We ate dinner on the bow. It was a beautiful evening in the V. A. A.

June 30, 1993

Rodriguez to Marathon,  
Key Vaca.

It was a beautiful A.M. I woke Mort at 6:00 A.M. to get an early start. At 6:55 we put the regular Generator on for, however, long it will run before overheating. This should save all of our fridge foods. (It ran until 8:30 A.M.)

At 7:05 the anchor was up and the wondering Jews were off for home port.

At 8:45 we (Mort) put the little gas generator on. "Little Gen" once again saved the day.

We had a good and uneventful run, and pulled into the Marina at 1:40 P.M.

The new dockman (to replace Rick), Al, was on the pier to help us in, and Billy Atwood ran out of his boat and did a dance on the pier. He was so happy we were home. He is such a sweet & simple soul.

Al & Katy came down to say "welcome home" and Mort went to check out with Customs, and check in with the Marina.

We spent the afternoon, Mort doing line adjustments, plugging in phone, T.V. etc, and I doing laundry - we had quite a mess of clothes, sheets & towels. I usually keep very "up" on laundry as we travel, but the three hard days back to back didn't allow for any time to do some. (I had a total of 5 loads until I caught up)

Then we showered, dressed and had the shuttle pick us up and take us to Kelsey's for dinner.

We had a really great Caesar & Filet Mignon and two super drinks each. We'll go again.