

Friday,

May 20, 1994

Marathon & Country

Much has happened since my last entry on 2-21-94. I'll try to note highlights.

- a) The stabilizers were installed and sea tested. (They were wired backwards and gave us a real rough ride until wires were reversed.)
- b) new depth sounder transducers installed
- c) Props changed - old ones redone and stowed
- d) on 3-15-94 finally after 4 ice makers and 3000 we finally got our money returned from V-Line. On 3-30-94 Has Lars Kenmore ice maker delivered.
- e) On 3-29-94 had a shot of cortisone in each knee. They are much improved but not perfect. The diagnosis is osteoarthritis. ~~Shit!!!~~
- f) Bought Suzuki engine - 5-4-94
- g) Mort applied for A.S.
- h) Went to Davis flea Market w/ Bobbi Colkin. Bought tide night boarding stairs at a bargain price. A 1500.00 unit for \$300 and \$200 additional for parts to complete.
 - i) Finished provisioning
 - j) John Moran put relays on both engines to boost electric power to start engines

Friday, May 20, 1994 Con't.

k.) fueled up for trip

We are - we think - all set and are waiting for the right weather to begin our "shake down" cruise to the Dry Tortugas.

Yesterday Mort spent the entire day charting our course. Then at cocktails we had Charlie & Barb. (At cocktails they told of their recent trip to Cuba on "Happy Trails". Very interesting. We also had a visit from Loose & Giles. They were on "Laughing water" in the Bahamas when we met them in 1992, but now have a new vessel Report. They are a lovely French Canadian couple. He is a Barrister and she is a divorce lawyer.) Bobbi of "Even So" joined us. Loose & Giles told of their robbery at gun point at Hatchet Bay.

It was a superb cocktail time. Then Bobbi, Giles, Loose, Mort & I piled in the car and went to Porkey's and then to Miami clubs for ice cream cones. All in all a super evening.

(Mort had his usual, Ribs, and I had mine, Caesar Salad w/Chicken).

Today is partly cloudy and the wind is predicted to increase from the N.E. to 20 knots through Saturday.

If this is the case our planned departure will be on Sunday.

Saturday, May 21, 1994

Marathon

The wind is blowing 20% \pm , and we won't leave today. This is really good since Mort + I are doing all of the last minute things at a leisurely pace!

Tonight we are to have cocktails on Reposte with Gile & Luce.

The Reposte is beautiful. One of the prettiest sailboats we have ever been on. It is a "Scheel".

Cocktails were great with wonderful munchies of Carrots vinaigrette (raw) Celery stuffed with Gorgonzola, cucumber sandwiches ala "high tea"

When we returned I made dinner of a wonderful Greek salad.

Sunday, May 22, 1994

Marathon

Still blowing, but pretty. I finally got to Rain of the pilot house windows. Mort pattered all day and actually said, "I'm ready to go."

We worked until 2:00 then sat on the fantail and watched the boats go by. We were joined for cocktails by Toni & Pete of Good Mode. Then Bobbi came. After dinner which was Casso & Linguine the three of us, Bobby, Mort & I, played Rummy Tiles.

It looks as though when we return from the Tortugas, Bobby will be departing from us to go up the Gulf Coast.

Today we learned that we may have all of the kids with us early in September. That would be Great! It was a super day!!!!

Sunday, May 22, 1994 Con't

Marathon

It is still blowing. I've been up since 5 A.M. the groaning of the boarding ladder woke me. I hope we can leave tomorrow.

Had a waiting day. Did odd jobs. Played Rummy tiles (Bob Mort & I) between 2:30 & 4:30. Then we had Cocktails on the pier with the Vogels, Yatie & Al, Hopie & Gordy and then we were joined by Luce & Giles. We like them very much.

Dinner was Ham Steak, Tomatoes & Vidalia/w Blue Cheeses & Browned Potatoes. Yum.

We watched ^a Movie on T.V. and then Crashed.

Monday, May 23, 1994

Marathon to Key West

A.M. Temp. 76° (Very Cool) Wind N.E. under 10k.

It was a day to go. By 6:00 we were on deck having Coffee and doing our Pre-Go Routine.

At 8:00^{A.M.} we Cast off lines with Giles & Luce on the pier.

Note: First crack out of the barrel the Si Tex is flashing "Fix Not Received." Oh Well.

The Magellan is working so far and I take back everything I said about it.

Note: The New Northern Lights Geny is running at 192° and the Port Engine at 169° Star Engine 160° ±

At 10:50 we are at Key Lois about 1/2 way to Key West & our first Anchorage.

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At 11:30 at "Nine Foot Shoal." (7.2 K overall incl. piloting) ^{our speed is}

At 11:40 Bobbie called that he spilled Coffee, and at 11:41 our Aitey came back on. Yahoo!!! Signal must have been weak.

Note:

In Engine Room, Port Engine Alternator Gauge Below 30 amps. Discharge. Upper station does not confirm, shows slight charge. ^{for} Most decided to tap ^{it} it went to reasonable reading.

At 11:45 ^{P.M.} we had a dolphin on the bow. The water at this point has magically cleared to a beautiful aqua.

At 12:20 P.M. we are approaching Boca Chica Channel. Breeze now out of the North. It is great to have the Aitey Back. The Stabilizers are doing a great job.

The ride from Marker #12 was hair raising. Boats of all sizes, shapes, pulling skiers, pulling Parasailors, the whole shebang in a 150' Channel. All of this at an extremely low moon ~~high~~ tide.

We were at the anchorage and the anchor set at 2:05 P.M. Position 24-34.10 N 81-49.14 W

A really good first days run.

We are anchored at Key West on the west side of Wisteria Island, also known as Christmas Tree Island.

The three of us played Rummy Tiles and I made "Gourmet" Plints Moore (beefed up beef stew), Bread & Butter, and Coffee for Bobbie. Then Bob left to get his little boat rigged on his swim platform for travel tomorrow.