

Ships Log Emerald Sunset February 9, 2013

2/17/2013 – Garland TX – T’was the night before sailing and all thru the house, not a creature was stirring not even a mouse. Me with my bags packed and ready to go, my first sailing adventure, as I am sure you all know. Fly to St Maarten to meet with the crew, we will have 4 catamarans for 24 of us to go cruise. Around the islands we will sail, we will swim, eat, drink and be merry without our email. Should I hope the 7 day charter afloat, turns into being stranded on an island with no boat!

2/8/2013 – David, Terry, Linda & Mary meet in airport (MIA) & get to hotel. Meet a few others in “Bar” out front.

2/9/2013 – Saint Maarten at Lagoon Marina. We have a boat and crew is all aboard. David, Angela, Glenda & Karen off for special provisions. We will stay on board tonight and hit the sails in the morning at 8am.

2/10/2013 – Out under the bridge at 9am. Then to customs to clear Saint Maarten. Turns out we had to pay an extra \$80 because last people that had this boat on charter, they did not check in the boat upon their return. About 10:30 we pull up anchor and head out. Turned into the wind to raise the main sail. Opp’s the main sail was wrapped around the “Lazy Jack” lines. So we brought it back down, took the buckles off main and then unwrapped lines. Apparently no one has had the sail up lately!!

Crew remarks – First raising of the sails, best quote “Damn baby, you looked so sexy raising that sail!!” Ben: “I thought you were all going to die!!” HA!!HA!!

Well we are underway. 4 Cats sailing away from Saint Maarten. Looks like out cat is faster than the others. Leaders of the pack!!

2pm we are at Road Bay on Anguilla. Just north of Saint Maarten. On anchor and going ashore. Well we have been to the beach and back now for a nice “Happy Hour” on our cat for everyone.

No reason for dinner, snacks and more. Dingy’s come and Dingy’s go. Beautiful sunset. Wonder what the poor people are doing tonight??

Crew remarks – A bit of topless scenery on the foredeck. Selah turned into “Leopard Lady” ferociously pursuing pads and towels blown almost off deck. Food is over-rated, let’s drink!! AB

2/11/2013 - Most of the crews go to a secluded beach for a \$7 ride. They had a great time for the morning. Then about 2pm we set sail, back towards Saint Maarten. Pretty rough seas to make the crossing. Rounded the west side of Anguilla and then headed east to the north side of St Maarten to Baie de Grande Case. Dingy’s made runs to Robs Cat for a beer and a chat. Now we are headed to the shore. Anchored 150ft from the pier, shops, rum and more. Had a great dinner – rack of ribs for \$5 and it was great. Had a couple drinks and then finally back to the cat. Well 3 of the crew made it back. 5 missing in action. Good thing we are close to the pier. A couple hours later heard

someone shooting for a ride. They had finally showed up and begging for a ride. Time to break out the Dingy one more time for tonight.

Crew remarks – “Lower Shoal Bay” difficult snorkeling. Good group for lunch and David ran on beach. Back at roan Bay, various eating and drinking choices at Lagonise & Elves. Thanks for picking us up!! Our swimming skills at that time were very poor. ;-)
Angela = AB

2/12/2013 – Pretty rough night. Windy and rain. Boat rocking and rain coming in hatches on the back deck soaking all the seat cushions. Well our choice today is to trip to a nude beach or a Mardi Gras party in town. Will see what happens. So far the sun is out and the wind is not bad. Well after a couple hours on shore, I found some peanut butter and jelly. Still could not find any Butterscotch Snapps. Had a great lunch with ribs and chips. Had a couple drinks and checked for email. & Skype on their wifi. Dingy ride back was fun, they lost the kill switch key.

Crew remarks – David got a scare after a garbage run in Dingy when 2 policeman told him to take the Dingy to the police boat. They just wanted a ride to the police boat. ;-))
Demon possessed Dingy’s tried to end this trip. Two days (nights) in Grand Case, second night was “Mardi Gras De Grand Case”

2/13/2013 - Well we will sail to St Barth’s this morning. Turns out the key not lost for the Dingy. Just had to find the right person to check their pocket’s Last night went back ashore for Fat Tuesday Celebration. They had closed main street. Had vendors and small parade. I found some wifi again. Still windy and that made using the Dingy’s to the so called dock a challenge. Then with so many tied up and the wind blowing it was the start of the “Dingy Wars”. Well finally all our crew on board plus one. Apparently no one in condition to be able to go look for which cat he belonged on. So we started the cabin shuffle. Fun Game!! Got coffee =going at 6:30 am Wednesday morning. Well started by fixing the wiring for our navigation. Got our compass and depth finder going. Engines running and waiting to get crew on deck. We left St Maarten, up and around then turned south. Put up the jib and turned off motors. Seas better today than two days ago. We let almost everyone be the Captain. Let them learn how boats respond to rudder action. How to put on autopilot and adjust. It was a long trip so I took a nap. Arrived at St Barth’s. Had some challenges finding a spot to anchor. Lots of boats. We got checked into customs and some of us went ashore. Ben is sick and Selah stayed to take care of him. We were told to tie dock in the first part of the dock area. So we did!! So we got to walk clear around the harbor. Finally found a place with alcohol and wifi. We all got caught up on our internet issues. I guess no one can go 2-3 days disconnected. Not even me. I was pleased to get notes from home. Well I decided to make a plan. There were 5 of us. I was going to go shopping for food we can eat without scolding. Then going to go back to dingy. Take food to the boat and meet the others at 8:30 only right here, deep harbor. This plan was working right up to the point of taking the dingy back to boat with food. Scott and I tried for over 30 minutes to get Dingy motor to run. Gave up and Scott went back to bar where everyone was eating to locate

someone with an operational Dingy. Chris brought his Dingy. He tried to start ours, no luck. So he towed us back to our boat. We tied it up. Later he brought some more of our crew and took our gas can from Dingy. Much later the rest of the crew arrives. All back and safe again.

Crew remarks – Long sail to Gustavia in St Barths. One south and all helped steer. Street parade of Drummers in Black & White faces. David and Angela had greasy tapas.

2/14/2013 – Valentine’s Day!! I made coffee and sampled my chocolate covered waffles, yum yum.... Scott working in kitchen to make breakfast, egg & potato casserole. Others starting to stir as they smelled the food. Well Scott cooked a great breakfast. Then he had to clean up since it was his day to be the “Galley Wench”. Each day, a different person of crew was the “Galley Wench”. Most everyone went ashore. We got our water and other provisions resupplied. In Afternoon we moved up to a smaller bay with good beach and snorkeling. They started to fix spaghetti dinner and got the sauce and noodles done. By then it was Happy Hour time. We hosted on our boat. We ate so much junk food that it was 2 ½ hours later when the other boat crews went home. We were not hungry. Looks like Steve may stay again!!

Crew remarks –

Best Valentine’s day ever for “Young Love”!! Big happy Hour on our boat for entire fleet. Boat was so crowded, it was down at the stern over a foot. Dang “Kids” up late looking at stars and laughing a lot!! They thought they had stayed up until 2 am but it was only 10pm.

All met at Le Select for cheeseburgers. Motored north to Anise De Colomblor, an empty bay, with tiny beach, ok snorkeling but no facilities at all. Kids Ben & Selah very sick for two days, leading to slow period.

Captain Star Date 2/14/13- Today was out boats happy hour...and life couldn’t have been sweeter, sexier or more fun than this came compliments and kisses abounded until my face and the faces of all our friends new and old cracked with the strain of it all. Dave said I was awesome. Claudie said I was pretty, Linda said she loved me and best of all Terry said he’d like to truly keep in touch later. Life is good!! Happy Love Day. Selah.....

2/15/2013 – Well everyone is up and had breakfast. We will be headed out back to St Maarten to find “The Beach” Nice crossing from St Barth to St Maarten. Went up to Baie de Orientale and it was a challenge with breakers and swells. We got anchored and settled in. We are down to three boats. One opted to return to Simpson Basi. Well the Dingy wars continued. They took trash to shore and looking for more beer & rum. Everything was good till they had Dingy loaded and tried to come off the beach. They were trying to walk it out past the breakers and then get in. About the time they tried to get in a wave swamped the Dingy. They had nothing to bail with. They got in the Dingy and just splashed all they could out over the transom. Then they motored back. It took an hour with the Dingy full of water. Finally arrived at boat. Most of the ice bags were

half melted. Everything else floating in the Dingy still. We managed to get it all onboard. Then bailed out DINGY. We now have 3-4 of us that are sure the Dingy wars are not over. Only Darth Dingy knows the power of the Dark Dingy Force.

Happy Hour – after a couple hours rest and the promise of only 100 yard ride we decided to once again see if Darth Dingy was able to be controlled. They had a good spread for the happy hour so we did not need dinner. But they were running out of booze so we promised Darth Dingy only one more trip and we were safely home again.

Crew remarks – Nice sail from Anie to Orient Beach. Big trouble with dingy landing on the beach. Ben bought out the store & David & Ben tried to sink the dingy. Dave did another James Brown split and was out of commission for the rest of the evening.& half dead the next day too. David refused to touch the Dingy ever again.

2/16/2013 – Battery for lights is dead. The kids actually made it to 11:45pm last night. Beautiful sunrise. We will navigate back to Simpson Bay today. We finished at Phillipsburg and headed to the outside of bridge at Simpson Bay. Should be docked by 5pm or so to end the cruise.

Crew remarks – Nice sail south from Orient Beach to round Southeast tip into Phillipsburg to buy gas. Very pretty town, beach & resorts. Then motored west to Simpson Bay & anchored for the last time. Linda fall with red wine. Terry goes AWOL!!! Leaving his kitchen duties unfinished.;-(