

FRONT PAGE LOG – Bahamas 2008

- below are most all the notes that I have received from **FRONT PAGE** since they headed for the Bahamas on Friday March 21st ..

FRONT PAGE Report - Update From Stephanie - Friday, April 18, 2008 9:19 PM

Greetings from Chuck, Stephanie, Bill & Regena Orr

We joined the Front Page at Staniel Cay in the Bahamas on April 12 we will return to the United States on April 20 flying from Georgetown. The Captain (Gene) and Admiral (Kathy) were found in good spirits. The boat and all its many parts are functioning as expected ore necessary. Stephanie brought several replacement parts along for regular maintenance and back up parts. Crew members Kim & Jim were found in excellent condition as well and not overworked. Weather has been beautiful with daily winds 10-15 knotts. Kim and Jim are now at the Exuma Land and Sea Park volunteering for the next two weeks. See attached log for more detail.

With love,

Stephanie & Chuck

Don

We arrived in Georgetown today. We are staying at the Four Seasons Marina at Emerald Bay.

Laundry is complimentary so mom is up washing several loads right now.

After windy East winds today is was nice to be in a marina, we got the boat washed down to make Gene happy too. Unfortunately the East winds are really strong and are stretching our lines. Other boaters have mentioned they typically break one line per day or ruin fenders frequently too.

Dad got a rental car to drive the 10+ miles into Georgetown.

We found the other marina Exuma Docking Services and will move over there tomorrow.

Fuel is .10 lower too. \$5.43 per gallon. It is a lot less expensive per foot too!

We had a nice dinner at Club Peace & Plenty tonight. Excellent Key Lime Pie (my favorite is the custard style filling). YUM!

Tomorrow we will get to do a little more exploring before flying out on Sunday.

Stephanie

Thursday, April 17, 2008 – Warderick Wells

Jim & Kim packed up their items as they have been asked to volunteer at Park headquarters for two – three weeks. Kim & Jim have been wonderful crewmates and we will miss their Bahamas knowledge during the remainder of our trip. Crew members ate breakfast and did a bit of cleaning while Kathy went to the office to exchange some books.

The plan for today is to head south to Sampson for a little fuel and then overnight at Black Point.

Well, now its 5:25 pm with sunshine and 80 degrees.

We stopped in the beautiful shallow turquoise water at Sampson Cay to refuel. It's a beautiful harbor. There were needle fish in the harbor as well as about 18 Nurse sharks lurking in the clear water. We lunched on conch fritters while tied to the fuel dock (200 gallons of diesel and 9 gas)) and then headed further south to Black Point. The ride was quite nice, almost like cruising in a bath tub. (At one point we counted 18 sail boats in view.) Quite a bit different from a couple days ago where we hit four to five foot swells and had to batten down the kitchen cupboards. Today, I (Bill) placed my margarita glass on the counter as I made a drink. A couple days ago, I had to run find Regena to hold my drink since it would have gone flying off any surface I could find. (The only important reason to set down a margarita in high seas was to run out on the bow with Gene and climb out into the pulpit like Leonardo Dicaprio in Titanic to pin the anchor that was bouncing in the waves. It is a unique experience with free fall as you come off a wave. I did recover my margarita and the trip progressed.) Kathy and Stephanie "scrubbed" down the dinghy during our afternoon cruise. It was calm enough we didn't have to worry about salt spray.

We arrived at Black Harbor, which has a very large non-tourist settlement. We are one of two boats anchored out in the beautiful water. The four younger crew members dinghied to shore and explored the town. We went to both ends in the nice warm weather. The only scenic attraction of note is the Garden of Eden. Bennie Rollie came out and showed us around his garden. Most of it is decorated with various bits of driftwood. Each is a different shape and when viewed from the right location is usually in the shape of some animal or person. He said the shapes in the clouds provoked him to create all the sculptures. You can only find the shapes that you already know. He also gave us a tour of his garden. Each plant grows in a small to cavernous hole in the local limestone that covers the ground. He gave us all four of his ripe tomatoes and four finger bananas to take with us. We stopped at Lorraine's Restaurant on the way back to the dinghy dock to place our order for the evening meal. We ran the length of the menu with fresh red snapper, steak, pork chops, and ribs. We expect good food. In discussing the dress code, we decided shirts were required.

Cocktail hour in is full swing, so I have to get some cheese!

Note from Regena: we saw a variety of native birds today including: White tailed tropic bird, Bahama Woodstar, Greater Antillean Bullfinch, American Redstart, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Cape May Warbler, American Kestrel and Tennessee Warbler.

Wednesday, April 16, 2008 – Warderick Wells Land & Sea Park

Jim took Kim to the office at 7:45AM where she is volunteering her time to offset the mooring fees. The sun is shining and the wind is blowing a cool breeze for temps of 69 this morning. Blueberry pancakes and bacon made for a delicious breakfast. The crew (Bill, Regena, Chuck & Stephanie) packed a picnic lunch and headed off just after 10AM for a day of adventure. First stop was to say "hi" to Kim who was working in the office. Souvenir post cards and t-shirts were made for friends and family. The banaquits thought the plastic bag Bill had his camera in was food. A small floatplane arrived at "Powerful beach around 11AM. The warden was returning from the states and three guests were flying out. It was fascinating watching the pilot step out and throw an anchor, while he was unloading and loading.

A brief hike to Boo Boo Hill to see the newly erected "Front Page" sign was the first order of the day. Low tide didn't allow the waves to crash through the blowholes that we have been told are very impressive. However the wind was quite blustery on the hilltop. During our hike across the island, we saw several tree snails. The newly constructed picnic shelter was a lovely spot to enjoy lunch.

After lunch, we took the dinghy around to Butterfly beach and Causeway Bridge. Bill & Regena saw a sandy color stingray as they approached shore, under the bridge there was a pool with five baby stingrays and lots of small fish – several being sergeant majors. Bill & Regena hiked the Butterfly trail; Shady Tree trail and Tabebuia trail to meet Chuck and Stephanie at Tabebuia Beach. Sahara Desert Trail brought them to Emerald Beach and then a brief hike to Termite beach where Bill found only one termite mound. The Emerald Trail brought us to Rendezvous beach. The water at Emerald Beach was a beautiful vibrant green-blue color. A short vertical hike to see the Davis Plantation ruins were disappointing but what can you expect for remains from the 1780's on an island of limestone rock. Bill & Regena continued along the trail to meet us at Beryl's beach. Beryl's was tucked in a cove – great protection on a windy day. Peggy's trail then took us to Loyalist Beach. This beach was very impressive with picture perfect white sand and pretty blue waters. Cockle beach then took Bill & Regena to Alive Beach then following Bush Basher Trail returned to the Wild Dilly Trail to meet Chuck and Stephanie back at Capture Beach. Chuck & Stephanie zipped back to the boat to pick up Kathy to hike the Wild Dilly Trail and to see Pirates Lair.

Jim & Gene had spent the entire day working on the 20K generator. After a complete diagnosis they replaced an impellor. Unfortunately the water intake remained clogged and needed additional work. At 4:15PM Jim took the dinghy to the park headquarters to pick up Kim. Bill & Chuck took the next few hours to find the remaining shredded pieces of the impellor. The guys took a break for dinner and finally finished about 9PM.

Tuesday, April 15 – Cambridge Cay

The morning started with sunshine and toast of fresh baked bread. The four youthful members of the crew (Bill, Regena, Chuck & Stephanie) headed for the Sea Aquarium Coral Garden a couple of miles north of the mooring the dinghy ride was rough into the wind. Carlos had us all doused/drenched/soaked within the first 100 feet of the trip. A brief stop to see a sunken plane wreck was view between soaking waves breaking into the dinghy. We arrived at the aquarium rather chilled from the stiff breeze. We all jumped into the water, which received us warmly. The variety of fish was amazing. Eventually our body temperatures dropped so we returned to the dinghy only to find the breeze colder. Regena saw a ray and Stephanie saw a Trumpet fish. We can name innumerable fishes just visualize bright colors, stripes, spots, iridescent blues and more. After a quick wave to Johnny Depp, we returned south to the Front Page. The return trip provided speedy return at 18 miles per hour with the wind; we were happy to enjoy the warm sun.

After a brief change into dry clothes, the crew then ventured to Bell Rock. Anchored the dinghy at low tied in shallow water for a brief hike across the island. Carlos & Bill summited Bell Rock for photos of the islands in view. We returned to the boat watching a “mega yacht” dodge its way through the mooring field to anchor nearby. Lunch of warm stew was tastefully devoured by all. Gene & Jim used this time to swap fuel filters on the generators. A brief nap to refresh our bodies was enjoyed by many.

Kim used her connections to get us a mooring ball at the south end of the park. Our eight-mile afternoon cruise wasn't as calm as we had hoped. Occasional five-foot swells and 15 -20 knot headwinds made additional crew members scramble to close drawers and pick up items that had fallen out of place. Eventually we turned to harbor and ran with the swells with cocktails back in hand. Safe harbor was found between Hog Cay and Warderick Wells. The crew took the dinghy ashore for a brief hike to the Pirates Lair and Turtle Beach. Bill discovered a variety of lizards to photograph. We had a windy walk up the beach to London Gin Rock for a few photos. The sun tried hard to peak through the clouds. Our return hike through the spiky limestone “moon rock” lead us to find deep holes and an illusive Hutia. (An extremely large gunniea pig looking rat thing, the only native land mammal to the Bahamas). Back on the boat, appetizers and Bahama Mama's turned into “dinner” with several delicious varieties served. Including Paso Robles sourdough bread with black olive tapenade featuring Paso Robles olive oil & California olives. Crewmembers watched a DVD and others played a game of dice. Navigator Chuck spent the evening watching the weather and advising on changing wind conditions. We have safe harbor protected from strong winds from the North West. The crew desires calm winds to enhance exploring opportunities for Thursday.

Monday, April 14, 2008 –Highborn Cay

Captain's Log

(I only know the date since the computer fills it in automatically) as noted in the previous log, watches were abandoned.

Morning dawned at Highborn Cay. Gene and Stephanie went for a morning dinghy ride to explore the “other side of the island” before the remainder of the crew arose. Front Page pulled out of our slip by 9am. The days events were planned out to be visiting ruins at Norman's Cay of the nightclub run by a drug lord. We were to visit a wrecked plane, ruins and then visit the Exuma Sea Park visitor's center. There were no mooring balls available, and the winds were switching to Northwest, so the lack of sheltered harbor made us rethink our plans.

We motored down to the Wide Opening and went from the west shore to the east of the Exumas to head down to Cambridge Cay. Approximately 32 miles in 3 hours. Cambridge Cay was the nearest mooring or anchorage that would be protected from west or northwest winds. There are over a dozen mooring balls here and a few were empty. The islands nearby provide plenty of adventure, so plans were filled for two days adventure. (Kathy is impressed with last night's rum cake. A local “catering company” showed up with fresh rum cake dockside late night. It was breakfast this morning, and late night snack tonight) (and

just in case you are wondering, this is Bill Orr, the brother of son in law, Chuck "Carlos" Orr, filling out the log.)

We pulled into the mooring between Bell and Cambridge Cay's just after lunch. We missed the first thunderstorm that rolled through and the second passed just south of us.

The clouds finally thinned as Kathy, Stephanie, Carlos, Bill and Regena (Bill's wife), pulled out in the dinghy to head south to caves at rocky dundas for snorkeling. It was high tide, but the cave was impressive, quite similar to thunderball grotto. (at low tide, you walk around. At high tide, we swam around the cave.) Very impressive sunlight thru the hole in the top. This was followed by a visit to Larry's reef and some snorkeling near the fast moving channel. (Hold on tight.) Fish sightings included: various parrot fish, various angelfish, butterfly fish; lots of brightly colored fish & coral. The group hit a beach nearby to explore and then moved across the harbor for pictures and a walk on the little island with the Exuma Sea Park sign and pay station. The waves were dousing the dinghy occupants in the crossing, so we gave up on dry clothes and just 'went with it.'

Eventually we made it back to the Front Page where Gene, Jim and Kim were entertaining Jack and Z. (Z is short for something Czech, that we forgot and she was willing to shorten.) (Zdenka according to a business card we found.) They volunteer for the Exuma Sea Park down here. Cocktail hour quickly followed which made everyone forget about cold wet swimsuits and enjoy the company and conversation.

Dinner was a fresh chicken potpie made by Kim with sweet potatoes. This was followed by a lovely sunset over the bow. At this point, we are watching news, discussing people who shouldn't wear speedo's and filling out log books and playing Mexican train by Chuck, Stephanie, Bill & Regena.

Guest Captain Out.

Sunday April 13 – Staniel Cay

Crew arose in time for 9AM weather. After breakfast, Kathy, Bill, Chuck, Stephanie & Regena went to Thunderball grotto for snorkeling. The view was spectacular with sunny skylight with bright coral under the sunlight and the bright colorful fishes mobbing for breadcrumbs. Warm waters of 82 degrees made snorkeling pleasurable. After the crew took the dinghy to Big Majors to feed the wild swimming pigs the leftovers from previous meal prep. One large pig hustled down the beach to beg for scraps. He even swam out to the dinghy before we arrived at the beach. Another tourist boat arrived and the crewman ran ashore chased by pigs and tossed his bag of scraps to avoid being mauled by the pigs. A little piglet made an appearance with a cute squeal to beg for scraps.

The crew joined the Front Page who was anchored of Big Majors to cruise north to Allan's Cay to see the Iguanas. The afternoon winds from the southwest made for breezy cruising. Approximately at 4 hour cruise of 40 miles. Brief anchorage at Allan's Cay allowed the "crew" to take the dinghy to see the iguanas. There were over 100 native iguanas who hustled down the beach to greet us and beg for food. They disliked carrots at first but changed their minds realizing carrots were edible. After taking full advantage of this lovely photo opportunity, two "tourist" boats arrived full of people. It was speculated they came from a cruise ship of out Nassau.

Due to southwesterly winds anchorage would not be calm therefore we found safe harbor and fresh locally baked bread and rum cake at Highborne Cay. Marina rate \$2.30 per foot per night. Drinking water .50 per gallon. A brief hike to the end of the island to find the "spring" / beach made noteworthy the discovery of Bahamian Mockingbirds, black faced grassquits and ruins of a homestead. A brief rain shower saved the crew from "swabbing" the deck/boat. After a refreshing shower to rid one selves of baked on sunscreen and salt the crew enjoyed a tasty dinner of pork tenderloin, baked new borne potatoes and cheesy broccoli. Crew reviewed photos from the day as well as Bill & Regena's February adventures to Guatemala.

Captains Log
April 12, 2008

4PM Received VHF call from "Polymer Paradise" to be picked up at the airstrip of Staniel Cay. Pilot Larry Brown zipped us up to 7,500 feet in a ten-seater plane to clear of the thunderclouds. The Staniel Cay airstrip was unremarkable other than the water on both sides. Chuck, Stephanie, Bill & Regena were in good spirits after a private flight from Nassau. They considered walking to the "marina" but rather decided to acclimate to Bahamian "time" by removing all timepieces from wrists and donning shorts exposing very pale skin.

Captain Gene & Kathy showed up with the marina golf cart and passenger trailer for safe transport to the boat. (Following Disney rules all hands and feet remained inside the cart at all times).

Celebratory cocktails were consumed with delight as dinner preparations were underway. Kim prepared a delicious "pot roast". Crew supported the local PTA by purchasing two dinners of chicken and rice with local flavored macaroni & cheese. BBQ ribs were sold out upon our arrival much to Chuck's dismay.

Crew quarters along with soft pillows were received with exhausted delight.

(Note: Bill & Regena left Paso Robles, CA at 5:45PM on Friday. Chuck & Stephanie left Winona, MN at 3:00AM on Saturday. Chuck and Stephanie left with temps in the low 30's and snow

FRONT PAGE Report - Update From Winona - 4/11/2008 11:41:09 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time

Marv,

Well it's less than 24 hours before we leave for the Bahamas to join the "Front Page" for refreshing drinks and lots of sand between our toes. I have a suitcase full of mail, parts/filters, etc. for the captain. Last e-mail from them was on Wednesday with plans to meet us at the marina on Staniel Cay.

Last Sunday the northern 1/3 of Minnesota got snow. They were supposed to get about 6 inches but got 20 to 30 inches of heavy wet snow. Our corner of the state managed just rain. The last day or two has been the same. Snow over most of the state except for us. They got about a foot in central to northern MN yesterday and last night during thunderstorms. We got rain only. About 1.5 inches. We're supposed to get rain today and snow tonight and tomorrow morning when we fly out. About 1 to 2 inches is expected here but so far we've been too warm for any to stick to a road. The cities should get both rain and snow today. The first barge of the season finally started breaking ice through Lake Pepin yesterday and should be arriving in St. Paul this morning. The average date for the first tow is March 20th. It's also the latest ice out on record for Lake Pepin. So much for global warming.

We will return to MN late on the 20th and sometime that week I will send a brief update with a few photos.

Stephanie

FRONT PAGE Report - Greetings from the Bahamas - 4/2/2008 9:29:41 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time

Hello to all,

We're in a lovely nature preserve on a mooring ball. The anchorage is protected from the east winds that are blowing daily from 15-25 mph. The anchorage has a total of 22 mooring.

The aqua blue water, sand beaches and small land trails lead to many ruins where the Loyalists settled in the late 1700's.

We've had some daily repairs.... we make water every three days and have adequate time to read and explore. Kathy, also known as the Discovery Channel, keeps us informed as to history, sites to go to, and info about nature that is new to us.

Kathy went up to the office with Kim yesterday and fed the Bananquits (small wren like birds). At one time there were nine beautiful little birds with bright yellow chests sitting on her hand or flying nearby waiting their turn at the sugar.

The satellite TV went out (Kathy is cheering). This leaves us with a three minute weather report each morning at 9 a.m and the internet. We can get underground weather on the internet.

Jim and Gene have taken to watching the beach goers instead of TV or the stock market.

Our travel companions (Kim and Jim) know the area well. Kathy painted our boat name on a piece of driftwood for posting on a trail peak (Boo Boo Hill). Boats that visit the island and park post a sign and resign it everytime they come back. The hill is named for a place to leave broken boat parts. Mounting the sign with stainless steel screws will be one of the projects for the day. Tomorrow we cruise to another mooring field in the park.

Last entertainment was watching the 90's movie, "Captain Ron". Movie time on the Front Page is 6 p.m. with popcorn. Bedtime is around 8:30 a.m.

Warderick Wells island is also a station for Royal Bahamian Defense Force. They use a small armed craft with a crew of six. They patrol waters for poaching, drug dealing and general law enforcement.

This is truly a quiet life style in a remote and natural environment.

Have a great day.
Gene, Kathy, Kim and Jim

FRONT PAGE Report - Greetings from the Bahamas - 3/31/2008 2:25:43 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time

Dear Family and friends,
Nine days out and we are doing fantastically well. The beauty here is outstanding. The water ranges from clear turquoise to deep Cerulean Blue with a thousand shades between.

After four days in Bimini we went to CHub Cay for one night. Trip went well. 2-3 ft waves. Kim and I went to beach and found lots of green nerites= a very unusual, small (less than 1/2 inch) shell. We left for Nassau about 9:30 a.m. and the waves and wind intensified as we travelled. It was quite bumpy but not the worst we have experienced. Everyone was very careful as we moved around the boat.

One night in Nassau was enough. We were successful in finding a new macerator to replace the one Gene burned out by accidently switching the wrong switch after the holding tank was empty. Another treat in Nassau was the marina was across the street from a shopping center that had a nice grocery store (along with several others) and a DAIRY QUEEN. Guess what we had for dinner that night!!

The trip to Allens was great. The sun was warm and wind was gentle. After putting down the anchor we had lunch then went ashore to see the iguanas. There was a naturalist there so we got a lot of information. A tender from another boat(yacht) pulled in and in the course of conversation we discovered four or five mutual friends, including Skip Johnson from WBL.

Our next stop(later the same day) was at Normans Cay. It was only about 3 p.m. when we got there so we climbed in the dinghy and saw the crashed two engine plane, climbed up to the vacated resort and walked down the road to the house where a drug king pin had taken over and evicted the occupants in the 70's.

From there we went around to the beach and Norman Cay Club. A delightful spot for a Bahama Mama and some seviche. Gene wanted conch salad but they didn't have any. This was a great substitute. Got back to the dinghy just as the sun was setting over the water.

The following day we anchored the boat at Shroud Cay. Trips to the beach, through the center of the island on a creek which lead to the other side and climbing a small hill to look out at both sides of the island was the exercise of the day. The view was breath taking.

Bella LUna, a couple who left Legacy Harbour in Dec. heard us on the radio. They came over to visit, then we met them in the creek. Later they came over for drinks and Lasagne dinner. Fun to see them

The next morning Chris and Alana came over to join us on a dinghy trip down to Highbourne Cay. We climbed to the Loyalist ruins, took lots of photos and came back down to enjoy the beach. Moving to another beach we found a trail that had been cut through the brush to the other side of the island. Again the views were breath taking. After walking down the beach about a 1/2 mile we noticed some large black rain clouds approaching. Our beach exploration was cut short to get back to close windows on the big boats before the rain hit.

After lunch we put the dinghy up and moved the Front Page to a mooring ball inside Exuma Park, almost in front of the park headquarters. The center of the natural harbor is very shallow so the boats are moored around the edge in deep water. There is a reef to drift snorkle, a large sperm whale skeleton on the shore, picnic area and clear, beautiful water. Paradise. Volunteers at the park are doing work such as building a roof for a Chickee Hut, building stairs, repairing motors, etc. It is truly a gorgeous place.

This morning Kim went to work at the office to help out and get free mooring for us for a couple of days. The wind is blowing pretty good but we are protected. We will be here for about three days so will have internet access.

Wish you were all here with us. Would love to share this beautiful place with you. Everyone has told us it is better than the Abacos, we now agree whole heartedly.

All for now.
Love,
Kathy (Mom, Grandma)

FRONT PAGE Report - 3/26/2008 5:54:59 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time

Dear Marv,
We arrived in Chub Cay today about 4 pm. Sun shone through a few clouds but temps are warming. Waves were two to three. Good trip. The marina looks great but there are very few boats here.

Plan to leave here tomorrow and head to Nassau for fuel before we head on to the Exumas on Fri.

All is well. The 8K generator quit today but the guys already have it fixed.

We are loving the blue skies and blue waters.

Kathy, Gene, Jim and Kim

FRONT PAGE Report - 3/25/2008 2:38:47 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time

Dear family and friends,
We had a lovely Easter inspite of rain and winds here in Bimini. Monday we took the dinghy down and did some exploring. Couldn't go out in the ocean to see a sunken plane because of high waves so came back in and explored to the opposite end of the island. Beautiful blue water. In the afternoon we rented a golf cart and explored the tiny roadways (more like sidewalks). Checked the whole island out in two hours. Lots of new development on one end. Lots of poverty.

Did some shell and sea glass hunting. Today we are staying close to home. Checking weather hoping that tomorrow we can leave for Chub Cay. Still cloudy and windy today....13 ft seas in Gulf Stream. We got across on the right day. Tomorrow we have about 80 miles to Chub.....only about 10 in the Gulf Stream, the rest in the tongue of the ocean and up on the Bahama bank. Waves should settle down to 4ft. IF they don't we stay another day.

So far schedules still hold. Will keep you posted when we get to another site with email. SKYPE so far hasn't been to successful. Tried calling Don and Julie....no luck! Paul and Lindsay couldn't hear us but

we heard them clearly.

All for now.
Love,
Gene and Kathy

FRONT PAGE Report - March 23, 2008

Rain and thunder graced the early morning hours as we made the decision to attend a church much later than originally thought. Pancakes and bacon filled the empty tummies on board. The rain let up and a little sunshine appeared long enough to walk up the hill to the Wesleyan Methodist Church for their 11 a.m. service. The pastor was a volunteer here for six months of the year. Others volunteer to fill the pulpit for varied lengths of time through out the rest of the year. The small congregation was very friendly and presented us with a Bimini Boaters Guide as we waited for the service to begin. As the service let out the sun shone long enough for us to walk back to the boat.

Everyone was on their own for lunch but ham and potato salad and baked beans will be served for dinner about 7 pm.

Low tide between 4-5 should provide a great opportunity to find some good sea glass.

FRONT PAGE Report - March 22, 2008

Early weather forecasts were favorable for crossing today as thunderstorms and winds will increase on Sun and Mon.

Departed Marathon at 7:28 am. with partly cloudy skies and waves of 2-3 feet. Headed up Hawk's Channel to Isamorada area. From there we cut over the reef and headed for Bimini.

Observed a tow pulling a 150 – 200 ' decommissioned Navy communication ship being towed to deep water to be sunk and become a fish habitat.

Not to many boats around but the seas were not uncomfortable. Speed increased as we entered the Gulf Stream.

Got into Bimini at 3:30 p.m. and found dockage at Bimini Bluewater Marina. About an hour after we docked the rain began. Kim and Kathy were thankful for the rain as it did a tremendous job of washing the boat down. Gene and Jim went over to clear customs and get the fishing permit. There was a parade with kids decked out with balloons and decorated bikes and golf carts down by the customs house.

Cocktails and appetizers were served when the guys got back. Dinner was chicken on rice with green beans. Excellent.

Mexican train dominoes occupied the evening hours. Kim claims the championship for the evening.

FRONT PAGE Report - March 21, 2008

Temp 58 degrees
Partly Cloudy skies
Full Moon

The captain rose at 5:30 a.m. filled with anticipation of departure. The full moon glowed over the marina an hour later as Jim and Kim Townsend arrived. Marv brought over the latest virtual bouy reports. By 6:45 friends began to arrive to assist with untying lines and to wish the Front Page Bon Voyage. Promptly at 7

a.m. the captain blew the horn to signal leaving the dock. Mary K , John, untied lines, Betty blew the conch horn, Marv took photos and Ron and Sandy waved from B dock. Paula on Tin Man waved from the back of Tin Man and Katie on D dock waved and wished us well as we rounded the corner to leave Legacy Harbour. The sun was spreading a lovely peachy pink in the Eastern sky.