



# **SAUVIE ISLAND YACHT CLUB NEWSLETTER**

P. O. Box 2524, Portland, OR 97208-2524

Vol. 317 March 2011

## **SIYC OFFICERS '09-'10**

Commodore  
Garry Weber

Vice Commodore  
George Stonecliffe

Secretary  
Marianne Mullowney

Treasurer  
Ed Mullowney

Rear Commodore  
Ed Daugherty

## **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Membership  
Ed Mulowney

Database Editor  
Susan Gierga

Cruising Coordinator  
Open  
*Contact George Stonecliffe for more information.*

Newsletter  
Susan Gierga

Refreshments  
Sue Stonecliffe

Website  
Jeff Gerritsen

## ***General Meeting***

***Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup> 2011***

*(First Friday of each Month)*

***7:30 Business Meeting***

***8:00 Program***

***This Month:***

***Roger's Marine  
Electronics will discuss  
the latest technology and  
answer your questions.***

## ***Cruise Weekend***

Stay tuned for details regarding  
April's Navigation Cruise.

Or Call

Garry Weber for info

## Commodore's Comments

Hi all

We have been working on attracting new members and several guests have attended the last couple of meetings. We can all help by telling sailing friends about our club and inviting them to see one of our programs and meet our fellow members. George's articles in the Freshwater News seem to be helping and we have had some fun and interesting programs. This coming meeting will feature a talk by Rogers Marine Electronics to tell us all about the latest electronics and answer related questions.

Hope to see you there on April first! No fooling!  
Garry

## Minutes of the Board Meeting

Held on March 1, 2011 at Ed and Sarah Daugherty's. Garry, Ed, Sarah, George and Sue were present.

1. Nomination Committee: without anyone volunteering, Garry will offer to continue as Commodore, George will offer to continue as Vice Commodore.
2. Member Mark Nerczuk suggested we consider having an SIYC Forum on Facebook. We will try to have Mark bring this subject up at the next meeting if he is present.
3. Garry will send the database for the SIYC Roster to George who will prepare and publish the 2011-2012 version.
4. George will prepare and send to Garry for approval recommended dates for Board Meetings, Club Meetings, and Cruises for 2011-2012.
5. Susan Gierga has done a great job with the SIYC Newsletter, but will be unable to continue after this year. George will step in to help if no one else is found.

6. The Tomahawk Bay Yacht Club was looking for help in co-sponsoring the Spring Swap Meet held at Tomahawk Bay/Columbia Crossings parking lot. It generates \$600-700 each year. We considered having a booth in this year's Swap Meet, but not co-sponsoring the event.
7. Ron Hughes and Terry Wilson are running this year's Race Cruise in May. \$300 is allocated to this event. No entry fee will be charged. They will be changing the course to St. Helens to Martin Slough, from 2pm-4pm, anchoring in Martin Slough that night unless winds allow us to extend the race back up river to Sand Island.
8. Discussions regarding this year's Picnic location included St. Helens public docks or Hadley's. More later.

Submitted,  
George Stonecliffe

## Minutes of the General Meeting

On March 4<sup>th</sup>, several Guests were introduced including Ralph Richardson (Tayana 37' ketch), John and Debbie Groth (Nauticat 44' ketch), Don Eudlay (Spencer 53' full cutter).

Treasurer's Report was postponed. Ed and Marianne were in Mexico.

The program for April 1 will be Rodgers Marine Electronics talking about chartplotters, software, AIS systems, Ham radio and SSB, etc.

The May 6<sup>th</sup> program will be given by our newest member, Rowen Madix. She is a pharmacist and will talk about things to know about regarding pharmaceuticals and cruising.

This month's 'Anchoring Cruise' will rendezvous at the Swan Island Lagoon on Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. Nick and Gail Wigen will be hosting this cruise. The theme will be 'Reggae Night' and the potluck will include Jerk Pork, Rice and Beans, etc. Bring appropriate side dishes!

Garry announced that the USCG has a Cruiser's Warning for the Gulf of Aden regarding pirates.

Garry also discussed an Oregon Senate Bill SB0933 that would abolish the Oregon State Marine Board, and place its functions under the State Parks Department. He recommended that members contact their State Senator and vote 'no' against this bill.

Under New Business:

1. the Nominations Committee will recommend current officers may repeat their positions unless others come forward.
2. the Race Cruise Committee announced the May 14-15 Cruise will be from Warrior Rock to Martin Island, then rafting up in Martin Slough for the night, unless good winds allow us to race back towards Sand Island for the night. The entry fee will be waived. T-Shirt orders will need to be made by the April 1<sup>st</sup> Club meeting. Bring your favorite dish for the potluck. Just members for this event please.
3. Dues are due: \$50 for members, \$20 for post members.

The main program was 'Fuel System Maintenance' given by Richard Churchill and Clint Ziemer of Independent Marine Repair LLC in Scappoose. Among other points of interest, they recommended 1. checking the fuel deck fill O-ring; 2. the seal around the deck fitting; 3. securing hoses with cable ties to prevent chafe; 4. prevent abrasion on hoses with vinyl or larger hoses cut and secured with ties around chafe points; 5. check vacuum gauge every couple hours while running at sea to preview filter loading up problems; 6. use inspection ports in fuel tanks for cleaning tanks.

Submitted by,  
George Stonecliffe  
SIYC Board Meeting

### **Anchoring Cruise Report**

We had 7 boats rafted up at Beautiful Swan Island. Ursa Minor, Cambria, Julia Max, Conch, Hawksbill, Hokuloa, and latest to

arrive, Imi Loa who had to baby their newly rebuilt engine all the way from Saint Helens.

The weather is definitely warming up ! Only one pair of longies this trip.

Great food with a Caribbean flavor for dinner aboard the host boat with Nick and Gail. Thanks !!! Potluck breakfast with some very interesting and delicious egg dishes, and don't forget the bacon !

Garry

### **Upcoming Race Cruise**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The daylight is lengthening which can only mean one thing. It is time to think about sailing your boat. The perfect tune-up for the cruising season awaits you. Please join your fellow SIYC mates for the annual RACE CRUISE May 14<sup>th</sup>. Crews of Conch and Best Revenge have eliminated the entry fee, changed the course a bit, and dreamed up some FABULOUS PRIZES. Traditional T-shirts will be available for purchase in advance. Mark your calendar and set the date NOW. The theme for dinner will be GOOD FOOD, so plan to bring your best dish. If you have any questions either Terry (503-547-2304) or Ron (503-341-7354) would be happy to chat.

### **A Recipe from David Dykkesten from the s/v Kailani**

Fish or Seafood Stew by David Dykkesten  
s/v Kailani

1 Cup of firm white fish or shrimp or lobster  
1 cup green bell peppers  
1 cup red bell peppers  
1 cup yellow or white onion  
1 cup carrots  
Plenty of minced garlic  
Salt and pepper  
1 pkgs. Knorr Sancocho soup mix ( "Sancocho" is Spanish for stew)

Splash of olive oil  
 Couple of table spoons of corn starch  
 3 cups water

Cube the fish or seafood into bite size pieces, set aside.

Cut the veggies into bite size pieces, Heat the oil in a large kettle, add the veggies and garlic. Cook until hot but not limp. Add water and Sancocho mix, bring to a boil and let simmer until veggies just become tender. Stir in the fish or seafood and continue to simmer until cooked (about 5 min.). Mix the cornstarch with a little water and slowly add to the stew until it thickens slightly. Salt and pepper to taste!

Serve with bread and white wine or cold beer!



Mike and Lynn Ashbridge 3/17  
 Earl and Donna David 3/29

*"Love is what makes two people sit in the middle of a bench when there is plenty of room at both ends"*

**Please continue to send letters, articles, educational opportunities, recipes, ideas for programs, and other information our Newsletter Editor Susan Gierga Or if your contact information has changed let our Database Coordinator know; again, Susan Gierga.**



- Mel Benedict 3-29
- Kathy Edwards 3-2
- Ken Frazee 3-4
- Wendy Hughes 3-11
- Marianne Mallowney 3-9
- Becky Nerczuk 3-7
- Jan Payne 3-4
- Bryan Robbins 3-20
- Chris Taylor 3-9
- Andrew Tufts 3-30

*"And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."*  
 Abraham Lincoln

**SIYC Clothing & Accessories  
 For 2009/10**

- Short-sleeved collared sport shirt-----  
 \$20.00  
     Adult - K420      Ladies cut - L420
- Long sleeved-----\$28.00  
     Adult - K320
- Sweatshirts
- Pullover, hooded-----\$24.00  
         Adult - PC90H
- Crew neck-----\$17.00  
         Adult - PC90
- Zip front, hooded-----\$32.00  
         Adult - -F258
- Fleece Jackets
- Zip front-----\$40.00  
         Adult - JP77  
         Ladies cut - LP77 (no green)
- Fleece Vests-----\$30.00  
     Adult - JP79      Ladies cut - LP79
- Wind Shirt (v-neck nylon) \$24.00  
     Adult - JP72
- Zip Front Nylon Jacket\$30.00  
     Adult - JP70
- Anorak ¼ zip pullover, hooded-\$32.00

\*\*\* All items come in green and navy except where noted.

\*\*\* A check made out to SIYC need to accompany orders.

Mail checks to: Sarah Daugherty  
10207 SE 92nd Ave  
Portland OR 97086

Note: sizes beyond L will be \$1.50 more.

## CLUB RAFFLE

SIYC will be having a raffle each month starting in February. We have suggested that members bring items to raffle with a goal of giving some special gift to Sauvie Island School. We will gather the funds until the

May meeting and then decide how the funds should be used. We make a donation to the school each year for the use of the room, but, maybe this year we could do something additional. It seems that schools can always use help and our special gift could show our appreciation for the inexpensive gathering place we have enjoyed for so many years.

Please bring an item to add to the raffle. Some ideas are as follows:

Seasonal items-October-Halloween decorations or pumpkin

Fresh baked items-a batch of cookies, a pie, a batch of brownies

Clothing items-new or slightly worn-SIYC items, something to wear for the season

Something for the galley-a cookbook, a can of sardines, Spam

Something useful any time- Batteries, scotch tape, band-aids

A bottle of wine (maybe you like white wine and you have some red wine that you could re-gift)

Boat items- slightly used dishware if you replaced a set, placemats.

## 2010-2011 CALENDAR

GENERAL MEETINGS		BOARD MEETINGS		CRUISES	
April 1	Sauvie Island School	March 29	TBD	April 16-17	Navigation Cruise
May 6	Sauvie Island School	May 3	TBD	May 14-15	Race/Drift Cruise Sand Island
June 4	Annual Picnic	At Annual Picnic	TBD		

## ATTENTION ALL SIYC MEMBERS!

**If you have information regarding any of our cruising boats, updates on locations, etc., PLEASE let me know! We can only keep this section current if we have the information!**

**Crusier Liaison: Susan Gierga**

## SIYC CRUISING BOATS – Locations out of the United States

Boat Name	Owners' Name	Location
Adagio	Jeff & Jane Woodward	West coast of Mexico
Ahwahnee	Tom & Kathy Edwards	Bahia del Sol, El Salvador
Kailani	David & Christy Dykkestén	Bocas del Toro, Panama
Moonshadow	Richard Sandefur & Anita Melbo	Malta
Perpetua	Pat & Susan Canniff	Mazatlan, Mexico
Rolling Thunder	Bruce, Jan & Max Payne	Puerto Vallarta, Mexico
Sea Tern	Herman & Nancy Ford	For Sale...
Sequoia	Craig & Barbara Johnston	Mexico
Starbounc	Earl & Donna Davis	Hawaii
Wild Rover	Mike & Gail Cannady	South Carolina...

### Cruising Websites/contact info:

**Adagio:** <http://www.svadagio.net>

**Ahwahnee:**

[www.sailblogs.com/member/voyage\\_continued](http://www.sailblogs.com/member/voyage_continued)

**Albion:** [www.teleport.com/~forsberg/log1.htm](http://www.teleport.com/~forsberg/log1.htm)

**Moonshadow blog:** <http://voyagemoonshadow.blogspot.com/>

**Perpetua blog:** [http://www.sailblogs.com/member/our\\_journeys/](http://www.sailblogs.com/member/our_journeys/)

**Perpetua Pictures:** [http://imageevent.com/our\\_journeys/](http://imageevent.com/our_journeys/)

**Kailani:** [kailaniatsea@yahoo.com](mailto:kailaniatsea@yahoo.com)

**Sequoia:**

### ATTENTION ALL CRUISERS:

*Your letters are the highlight of our newsletter!!!...* We really want to hear from you... Where you are... adventures... recipes... photos... cruising tips... gossip... well, you get the idea. ☺

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Received from Jeff and Jane Woodward

Hi Ho!

We left Cuastecomate, also known as the Secret Anchorage this morning around 0800. The seas were calm and the wind a gentle breeze out of the south. We didn't have far to go. I think Barra de Navidad is just 5 miles south. But we needed to run the water maker to fill our tanks. Barra is in a shallow mangrove lagoon with water almost as thick as the mud on the bottom. Running the water maker there would clog our filters. So we traveled on a slow bell,

making just a couple of knots. While I was fiddling with the water maker, Janie let out an excited shout. A humpback whale had surfaced just a few dozen FEET from the boat. When I got up on deck his "foot print" was still clearly visible. After the whale strike in Tenacatita Bay just a couple of days ago, we were on high alert. In a few minutes we saw him blow again. This time about a quarter mile further aft. We breathed more easily.

As we made our way to Barra, the radio was alive with reports of boats going aground at the entrance to the lagoon. That's a common occurrence. Channel markers are set from the outer bar to the big marina at the Grand Bay Hotel Complex, but the lagoon is a little further in, the channel is narrow, and there are no markers guiding you the rest of the way to the anchorage. Adding to the challenge, the water is so thick that you have mere inches of visibility. You can't see the sand bars until they are dry. The good news is that there are widely published GPS waypoints, and the bottom is soft - few rocks. So if you do run aground you should do little or no damage as long as you are going slow. So we came in with the engine at idle and we kept ourselves right on the GPS track line. There was lots of room in the anchorage. We found a spot and let the anchor go. Last time we were here, Adagio was equipped with a 45# CQR plow anchor, which did not perform well in the slippery mud bottom of Barra. We plowed furrows, and did not get the boat stopped until we had let out 185 feet of 3/8" chain. And the lagoon is only 8 feet deep! Every time we left the boat and came back from town, a new arrival was parked on top of our anchor.

This year we have a new Rocna 55# anchor. Its footprint is much larger than the CQR's. We figured that would mean better holding in soft mud. But you never know until you put it to the test. We are happy to report that when we dropped the Rocna and paid out 100' of chain, the boat came to a full stop with the chain leading straight out bar tight. The anchor was dug in and we were not about to budge. So we were feeling pretty confident. We were off in the dink to the sail makers' shop with our sail cover that needed re-stitching, and to the Port Captain's office to check in. Checking in took hardly any time at all and the Port Captain spoke perfect English, making the procedure simple. The sail maker needed a couple of hours to do the re-stitching, so we walked to town for lunch and to reacquaint ourselves with Barra de Navidad.

Around 2PM we had our business in town completed. We went back to the dink and headed out to the anchorage which was a good thing, because the other thing Barra is famous for (besides a slippery bottom) is high winds in the afternoon. About the time we ran out of gas, and started rowing the inflatable dink the mile or so back to the boat, white caps started forming. Before setting off from the big boat I had had the foresight to check the fuel tank. What I failed to notice was that the tank does not sit level in the bottom of the dink. The inch or two of fuel that showed on the stick was an inch or two of fuel in the bottom CORNER of a tipped tank - not a quarter full fuel tank. Oooops! But we were lucky. After just a few strokes on the oars a passing panga noticed our plight and gave us a tow.

But wait there's more! By the time we got aboard Adagio it was blowing in the 20's and things were getting lively. As I was busy trying to keep my balance and not spill gasoline all over the dink while transferring fuel from the jerry jug to the gas tank, Janie was noticing the boat two boats to windward of us starting to drag anchor. About that time the first boat came into contact with the second boat and the two boats were heading our way. Janie was opening the engine's sea-cock and grabbing the keys to our boat. She got the engine started as I

hopped off the dink and headed for our anchor. Somehow we managed to not swap paint with anybody and found ourselves a new parking spot. Of course the foredeck was covered with mud from our hasty anchors aweigh. But we were glad to be out of harms way. Eventually the wind died a bit and just before dark the two boats were able to untangle their chains and get both boats re-anchored.

That's the news from Barra de Navidad. We hope this finds you healthy and happy.

Jeff and Janie  
S/V Adagio

Hi Ho!

In our last email we reported our arrival in Tenacatita Bay. We spent a total of 4 nights there. Here's a little of what we did and a report of some local excitement.

Our 1st day was pretty much spent catching up on sleep and resting after our 20 hour trip from Yelapa to Ten Bay. We didn't exert much more effort the next day either. We dinghy'd ashore, met our new friends Marc & Lorrie of THOR at the beachfront palapa and spent the whole afternoon playing Mexican Train dominoes while drinking beer and tequila and munching on totopos(corn chips) and guacamole.

Getting back to the boat after our trip ashore was a little exciting. The tide had gone out and the waves had increased in size. There were breakers between us and our boat. We're not talking big crashing surf like you see at Seaside, and the water is almost 70 degrees F, but even so, it was a bit of a challenge. Our surf skills have gotten a little rusty, so I'm afraid we gave the fleet quite a show. We were a little slow and clumsy getting into the dink as we pushed it thru a lull in the seas. Then when we pulled the starting cord on the engine we just got a couple of sputters. Before we got the engine started and powered thru the surf zone we caught two waves. The dink had about 3 or 4 inches of water in the bottom, our backpack was soaked, and so was Janie. From Head to Toe! Her sopping wet hair was drooping down over her glasses. Should have gotten a picture of that!

The next morning (Thursday) we learned that while we were playing dominoes we missed all the excitement. A 36' sailboat came into Tenacatita Bay under sail and had an encounter with a whale. The details are a bit sketchy. We don't know if the boat ran into the whale or the whale ran into the boat. But we do know the whale gave the boat a good smacking. The sail drive (sort of like an inboard/out drive but under the boat instead of on the stern) had a nasty vibration and a chunk was taken out of the rudder. Cabinetry and doors inside the boat were askew. To open the door to the head (bathroom) they had to use a crowbar. There were a few leaks, but those were fixed with the help of some of the other cruisers in the bay. The next morning the boat left Tenacatita heading north in company with two other sailboats. They were pretty shook up. They had a valise type life raft - one of those that live in a suitcase and are generally stowed inside the boat. They moved it to the exterior of the boat. They also put all the ship's papers, passports, etc. into dry bags. They were making preparations to abandon ship if necessary. The next port north is Chamela about 30 miles up the line. They plan to spend the night there, and make it the rest of the way to La Cruz at the end of the next day. It's another 90 miles to La Cruz where there is a boatyard with the

facilities to make repairs. We think they made it OK, but have not heard any news one way or the other.

Thursday we took the dinks to shore, met our friends from Thor and walked to the Blue Bay Hotel a little less than a mile. At the hotel we caught a taxi that took us to the town on the other side of Ten Bay, La Manzanilla about 4 miles away. In the town there is a park with native alligators. We saw 4 or 5 of them in a penned area and a couple more that were just out in the river. The biggest was about 5 or 6 feet long and looked like he would weigh about 200 pounds or so. La Manzanilla also had some very nice stores, good produce, nice craft stores, and some good palapa restaurants. We bought a BBQ'd chicken to take back to the boat for supper, and had a nice lunch overlooking the bay. Our cab driver met us at the town plaza just as planned and dropped us off very near our dinghies on the beach back at Ten Bay.

Friday we took the Jungle River Trip in our dink. We've been wanting to do this ever since we heard about a land controversy that's going on over the palapa restaurants on Tenacatita Beach at the end of the Jungle River. The Jungle River is just as we remembered it. The pangeros have been keeping the channel open and they are still actively using the river. There's not quite as many boats going up and down the river as we remember from 2008, but there are still people taking rides. Some of the passengers are from the Blue Bay Hotel. Some are just visitors to the beach near the anchorage. When we got to the pangero landing at the end of the river where we used to park the dinks before going to Tenacatita Beach and the palapa restaurants, there was a guard. We asked if it was all right to go to the beach and he said it was OK. He had us write our names in his note book. Then he let us through the fence. We started to walk up the road where the tienda (convenience store) used to be, and another guard whistled at us and motioned us to go to the beach. So we did. There was a small group of Mexicans fishing in the surf with nets they would toss. We took pictures of them showing off their catch which they were taking from the nets and putting into 5 gallon plastic buckets then walked further down the beach. At the end of the beach is a hotel with a restaurant that used to be quite a going concern back in 2008. There was a fire burning in the kitchen and so we thought that perhaps they were still in business. As soon as we walked up the steps a third guard was there to let us know that the business was not open to the public and we were to move on. He said we could go out the gate at that end of the beach and walk to the next beach. Up on the headland that separates the one beach from the other there was another guard posted. He was watching us through binoculars. We waved to him and he waved back. Everybody was very friendly and polite. But made sure we did not breach any boundaries. All the guards were in uniforms and carried night sticks and radios, but we didn't see any guns.

Saturday morning we got up early and motored in calm seas and light airs to Bahia Cuastecomate, also known as the Secret Anchorage. It's only a couple of hours between Tenacatita and here. It's called the Secret Anchorage because it is tucked up around a headland and not visible from offshore. It's a pretty little village; all dirt roads; a few houses and a couple of hotels and guest houses. About a dozen palapa restaurants line the beach. During the weekend days it's been quite busy with lots of families with kids of all ages; very good people watching. When we arrived we were the only boat in the anchorage. Last night there were two of us. Now the fleet has grown to six. We plan to leave in the morning for Barra de Navidad, the biggest city close by. It's only an hour trip. We will tell you all about it

next time we write. With any luck, we will have an internet connection in Barra so we can download the pictures we've taken.

Bye for now,  
Jeff and Janie  
S/V Adagio

Hello everybody!

We are now anchored in Bahia Tenacatita, south of Cabo Corrientes on the Mexican Riviera. We left Banderas Bay from the little town of Yelapa Tuesday morning around midnight. We spent two nights in Yelapa. Yelapa is a little difficult to explain. Back in the 15 or 16 hundreds the Mexican government ceded the land back to the native Indians. Yelapa is only about 15 - 20 miles from Puerto Vallarta, but because it is situated in a narrow steep canyon in a small natural bay, the village is quite isolated. They just got hooked up to the electrical grid in 2001. And even today there are no roads to the rest of the world. The only way in is by boat or horseback due to the steep jungle terrain.

We had read all this in our guide books and expected a more or less primitive native culture. What we got was quite different. As we arrived at the entrance to the bay there were two pangeros competing for our business. Each wanted to rent us a mooring buoy. The bay is so steep sided that it is very difficult to anchor. It's too deep too near to shore, and often there is a shore break due to the swells that come rolling in from the open sea. What they do is fill an old refrigerator with concrete and drop it to the bottom with a line attached and use that to moor visiting boats. The mooring we used was just 600 feet from the surf line. It was over 100' deep. When the wind was blowing, we were very comfortable with the bow facing the incoming waves. Unfortunately much of the time the wind was calm and the boat lay in the trough of the waves and rolled wildly.

There are several palapa beach restaurants very near the mooring field. And there are rocks that come down the mountain all the way to the beach separating one side of town from the other section of town. To get from one side to the other you need to either go by boat or mountain goat yourself up the narrow pedestrian "streets". It's a crazy quilt town. All straight up and down. The "roads" often turn into stair cases, all with homemade steps of varying grade. The height of the steps change all the time. But the views are spectacular. So when you get winded or your legs give out, you just look out over the bay and up the mountain until you muster the effort to go on.

There are two waterfalls. We hiked up to the little one. Near the pool at the bottom of the falls was a little palapa bar offering killer margaritas. After our hike up the steep hill we took advantage of the libations and took in the view of the falls and the surrounding jungle. The falls are about the height of the lower falls at Multnomah Falls. Not nearly the volume of water. But very pretty. Just down from the pool, there is a bridge that crosses the stream. Homemade concrete and re-bar. Stacked alongside the bridge were washbasins and buckets of laundry waiting for attention. We sipped our margaritas and watched the birds while listening to the music of the water coming down the naked rock cliff. We observed the vegetation all around the water, trees, vines, flowers; a riot of green.

Then we walked back down into town. On the way down we took more time to look around and "get" what the place is all about. There were almost as many gringos as there were Mexicans. Lots of rentals. Rooms. Houses. Very 1960's Height/Ashbury. In one fairly large open palapa restaurant there were dozens of odd photographs. We didn't really understand what they were all about until we bumped into the flyer advertising the symposium on photographing supernatural images. Another poster was for a masseuse. Apparently she, or he, specialized in releasing your spirit energies. Another poster was for natural childbirth. The picture it carried was of a tall thin lady with a big ball for a belly. The ball was the black/white ying/yang symbol.

We really enjoyed the town and would have spent more time there except for the rolliness of the place. Ashore there was lots more to see, but back on the boat at night it got really crazy. So we decided to head out even though the weather forecast was calling for 20 knots of wind around Cabo Corrientes, the southern headland for Banderas Bay. We set the alarm for midnight, which only gave us a couple hours of sleep. We really don't like to make arrivals or departures during hours of darkness, but Yelapa is a wide open bay. We just needed to slip our mooring and avoid the other moorings. Which was a little tricky since it was a very dark night. Heavy overcast. No moon or stars. Everything went smoothly. After a few minutes of anxiety we had Yelapa in our glowing phosphorescent wake and we were on our way. We weren't sure of our destination. Either Chamela, 90 miles down the coast or Tenacatita 115 miles. We checked into the HAM net around 7AM to see if we could talk to anybody in Chamela. It has a reputation of being a rolly anchorage, and we had had enough of rolly. But we were not getting very good reception on the radio. Lots of noise. We called on the VHF radio for "any station in Chamela" when we were in range around 3 PM, but got no answer. At that time we were motor sailing, which means that we were using both the engine and the sails for speed, and we were really making good time. We had the seas and the wind astern of us and were always making over 6 knots, often more than 7, and occasionally while surfing down big seas we were doing better than 8. The wind was in the neighborhood of 20 knots, and the seas between 6 and 8 feet. Dead astern.

We finally rounded the headland of Tenacatita Bay and screamed into the anchorage just as the sun was setting. We found a spot to put the anchor down amongst a group of 15 other boats. I was wearing a headlamp to put the sail cover on. By the time we hit the rack we had put in a 20 hour day, and slept the sleep of the dead.

More later. Hope this finds you all healthy and happy.

Jeff and Janie

Hi Ho!

Today was our second day in Barra. It turned into a sort of get things done day. Neither Janie nor I slept very well last night. There have been lots of recent thefts of dinghies and dinghy engines here. Normally we hoist the dink up to deck level at night, using a 6:1 block and tackle attached to the spare main halyard. After the dink is up out of the water, we use a heavy bicycle cable and a padlock to secure the dink and engine to the lifelines. In addition we have a lock that goes over the fasteners attaching the outboard to the dink's transom. But yesterday afternoon and evening it was blowing hard. In the past we've had trouble.

Sometimes strong wind gets under the boat and tries to fly it up over the lifelines. So last night we decided to settle for bringing the dink up close astern in the lee of the big boat and lock the engine and dink to the stern pulpit using bike cables and padlocks. This is less secure than our normal routine since a thief could cut the cable and make off with the dink and engine. We slept with our ears open and got up a couple of times during the night to check on things.

Luckily when dawn came the dink and engine were still with us. But we were a little groggy. Barra is famous for being the home of the French Baker who makes daily morning rounds in a panga to deliver fresh baked goods to the fleet in the marina and lagoon anchorage. When he announced his arrival on the VHF radio, we ordered a baguette and a couple of almond croissants. By the time we had our second cup of coffee, he was alongside making the delivery. What a civilized way to start the day!

Yesterday we got our sail cover to the local sail maker for re-stitching. He did a good job at a fair price and so we asked if he was interested in coming out to look at our dodger. It was on the boat when we bought her in 2002. So it's well over 10 years old. The leather on the forward and aft edges has become cracked and worn, and some of the stitching is getting to look pretty tired. After breakfast we called up the sail maker and set a time to meet him at a nearby dock. We brought him out to the boat in our dinghy. He said there was still some life in the old dodger, so we took it off the frame and took it and the sail maker back to the sail loft.

The next order of business after a quick lunch was to take in the garbage and laundry. It's been two or three weeks since we've been near a laundry so we had quite a sack full, including all the bedding, towels, etc. Here in Barra the dinghy dock is at the pool bar of the Sands Hotel. It's about a mile by dinghy from the lagoon anchorage to the Hotel which has a concrete seawall separating the lagoon from the open-air bar and pool. You bring your dink up to the seawall, toss your stuff out of the dinghy up onto the seawall, then scamper across with the sea painter which you tie off to a palm tree or whatever is convenient. Then you walk through the lobby to the street. It's a good arrangement for all parties. The hotel has become the local cruisers' hangout which gives us a friendly and convenient place to meet and party, and of course the hotel gets lots of cruisers' business. The garbage goes into any of the 50 gallon blue plastic drums that are on every street corner in Barra. The lavanderia (laundry service) is about three blocks away from the Sands. I dropped off the duffel bag of dirty laundry around 1:30 and picked it up at 5:00. We had about 45 pounds of laundry. It cost 170 pesos (\$14 USD). The laundry lady laughed as I lugged the clean laundry down the street, calling me Santa Claus.

While waiting for the laundry to get done, I dinghied over to the Grand Bay Marina and Hotel complex to see about getting internet wifi. When we get a chance, we will take some pictures of the Grand Bay for you. It's gorgeous. The marina is full of 100'+ mega yachts. Most worth millions. Some worth tens of millions. The grounds of the hotel are lush with tropical plants. There is a roped off salt water swimming area adjacent to a manicured beach. The lawn furniture is all teak with white linen tablecloths, and fancy umbrellas. Hammocks with macramé fringes are tied off to the palm trees which have their trunks freshly painted white from the verdant lawn to about eye level. Of course there is also a fresh water pool. It has blue tiles on the bottom and sides. It's a free form pool that wanders around tropical

gardens. There are several little pedestrian bridges that arch over the clear warm water. Naturally there are lots of uniformed wait staff carrying umbrella drinks and tasty snacks around on silver trays.

We have an antenna on the boat that amplifies wifi signals, and using it, we were able to "see" several internet sites, but they are all encrypted so we were unable to get online. Several of the sites had "Grand Bay" in their titles. So the reason for my visit to the complex was to see about purchasing access to their sites. After some inquiries, I was directed to the concierge in the lobby, seven floors above the pool area. The nice lady at the desk said I could buy internet time by the month, week, day, or by the hour. We ended up buying 5 1-hour sessions for 130 pesos (about \$11 USD).

That's about how the day went for us today. Of course we also had lots to see from the boat. Fishermen rowing ancient dugout canoes full of nets. All sorts of birds; pelicans, frigates, cormorants, gulls, terns, long legged odd looking birds that we don't know names of. And there are always new arriving sailboats and others heading out. We will write more later.

Jeff and Janie  
S/V Adagio

La Cruz Anchorage, Banderas Bay, Nayarit, MX

Saturday, March 12, 2011.  
At anchor, Bahia Chamela.

We arrived here late yesterday afternoon after an exciting day. Jeff woke out of a sound sleep when the VHF radio came alive around 5am yesterday. An earthquake in Japan had created a tsunami. For several hours that was the only real information we had, but the radio was alive with opinions, information gleaned on various internet sites and lots of conjecture and random chatter. Then we got the report that the wave had reached Hawaii. What happened there didn't sound too bad, so we were inclined to keep the anchor down and stay put in the Barra de Navidad lagoon. An hour or two later reports started coming in about the wave arriving in California and doing significant damage. That spurred us to action. We picked the hook and headed for sea.

Once we were outside the harbor we could see it was a calm day, good for traveling north. Normally when you travel from one port to another in Mexico you need to go to the Port Captain's office where you present him with the ship's papers, crew passports, etc. After a short conversation and after the port captain makes copies of your documents and after the ship's captain signs in a few places, the port captain pulls out his stamp to make everything official. Of course, under the extraordinary circumstances we didn't have time to visit the Port Captain's office. So we called him on the VHF radio. At first he tried to talk us into not leaving, saying there was no danger here, but we said we were already outside the harbor, did not want to return, and would like to check out via the radio now. There was some hesitation and we were asked to stand by. A few minutes later another voice came on the radio and we successfully cleared Barra de Navidad for La Cruz.

We had a very light southerly breeze and a gentle 3-4' swell at about 10-12 seconds. It was so

calm we never even took the sail cover off. There were lots of boats just outside the harbor, but they thinned out as we headed north. During our travels we saw several turtles, we were visited by a large pod of speckled dolphin, and we saw several whales both near and far.

Our first choice of anchorages was Caleta Paraiso, 31 miles north of Barra de Navidad. As we entered the little cove we saw a couple of whales blowing by the rocky islands near the entrance. Just as the guidebook described, Paraiso is a beautiful place. At the head of the cove is an inviting sand beach with a small beachfront hotel. We dropped the hook and set it, but didn't feel comfortable. Both shores were steep and rocky with swirling water currents, and there was a small surf at the beachfront. So, we pulled the hook and moved a little further offshore. As we were pulling the hook, we once again noticed the whales. It appeared to be a mother and her calf and they were quite active. We moved the boat away from the beach out to the entrance of the cove, dropped and set the anchor, but it still didn't feel quite right. We decided to watch the whales awhile then move eight miles further north to Chamela.

The whales were REALLY active. Janie saw the calf fluke (raise his tail completely out of the water to dive). A short time later the calf breached, coming clear out of the water with his whole body, catching as much as 10' of air. After a while we picked up the hook and headed north. The whales were very near the islands on the right hand side exiting the cove, so we favored the left shore to give them lots of room. But, on our way out they turned and swam directly towards the boat. They were only a boat length away when they dove under the starboard bow. At this point Janie was screaming excitedly! She wasn't afraid, just overwhelmed with what was going on. Jeff, thinking of the recent collision between a whale and a sailboat, told Janie to sit down and hold on to something substantial. Then he put the gear shift to neutral, turned and looked over the stern rail. All he could see was black and white skin a few feet under the boat. The whale was huge. At least as long as the boat and wider. These were humpback whales and their back is solid black, but various parts of their underbody have large white areas. So, they must have twisted on their sides or been swimming up side down when Jeff saw their black and white skin under him. They must have been taking a close look at the funny looking "whale" visiting their playground. The calf surfaced first about 20' astern of us. Then we saw Mama blow a patch of bubbles 8' in diameter before she surfaced and blew about 100' astern of us. Jeff put the boat back into gear and when the transmission made it's little bump, Janie thought the whale had made contact with the underbody of the boat.

Wow! What a thrill!

The rest of the trip to Chamela was uneventful. We dropped our hook amongst 6 other boats. By nightfall we had a dozen boats in the fleet. We must have still been getting some residual effects from the tsunami, because all the boats were acting strangely. Normally all boats in an anchorage end up facing more or less the same direction due to the forces exerted by currents or wind. But last night here in Chamela, we were all just twirling around randomly. There were little whirlpools along the boats' hulls. It was like the boats were dancing with each other. They twirled and danced all night long. They were very calm about it. No rock and roll. Just a gentle non-stop waltz all night long.

The water level here in Chamela came up a little higher than normal because of the tsunami, but there was no real damage done. But we heard on the morning HAM radio net that an 18"

diameter water pipe that went under the channel from the town of Barre de Navidad to the Grand Bay Marina and Hotel was disturbed by the water rushing in and out of the harbor. The pipeline was un-burried and floated to the surface, blocking the entrance to the lagoon anchorage. No boats can enter or leave the lagoon until the pipeline is sunk and re-burried. So it's a good thing we got out while the getting was good. We also got emails from friends in La Cruz. There the water rushing in and out of the marina several times did quite a bit of damage, tearing docks apart and setting navigation buoys adrift.

I'm sure we will all be getting all sorts of reports of exciting times created by the earthquake in Japan.

We are enjoying Chamela. We took the dink to town and to the beach front palapa restaurants this morning. We were able to buy some internet time from one of the hotels. Coming back to the boat through the surf was a little damp, but our surf technique is improving and we managed not to embarass the fleet in front of the locals.

That's the news from here. Hope all is good with you.

Jeff and Janie  
S/V Adagio  
Bahia Chamela, MX

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**Received from Ken and Ruth Frazee**

Dear Friends,

Just to catch everyone up to date regarding our latest adventure. We departed Friday Harbor, April 2010 for a quick trip to SE Alaska to say good bye for a while, returning to Friday Harbor in late June. The Misty Blue was hauled out in late July at Port Townsend (one of the few yards you can work on your own boat) for some routine maintenance. As Ruth had hurt her hip earlier, I recruited a few friends to help take the boat south to San Diego.

We departed Port Townsend the first of August in good clear weather. We had no real time frame and wanting to see the scenery, we choose to harbor hop to San Diego. We had only two over nights...one from Cape Flattery to Newport,Or and the other from Eureka, Ca to Bodega Bay, Ca. The weather was fairly good, with NW winds, generally, to 25 kts, with gusts to 35 kts a few times. The worst of the weather was around Cape Blanco, especially, from Port Orford to Brookings. We had anchored in the Port Orford lee, but the weather forecast called for bad weather, thus we decided to depart at midnight if we were going to have to sit out some bad weather, thus we rolled and smashed our way to Brookings overnight.

The remainder of the trip was pleasant. We bypassed both San Francisco and Los Angeles...spending one night at Catalina Island. Our most expensive moorage was Santa Barbara, where in addition to paying a dollar a foot, we had to BUY a \$60 card (no refund) to get in and out of the gate, plus entrance to the rest rooms! We spent a couple days at Marina De Ray, where we receive reciprocal privileges at the Pacific Mariner Yacht Club...very nice people! We spent a night at the fuel dock in Ventura, as we discovered late in the evening

that all the facilities were closed, everyone had gone home...the Harbor Patrol was of no help. As the telephone number was posted on the fuel dock...we called and got permission to spend the night.

We arrived in San Diego and there was space at the "police dock", thus we spend two weeks there, before moving over to the Navy facility at Fiddlers Cove on the Coronado Strand. We left the boat there for six weeks. There is an anchorage available for out of County boats where you can stay for 90 days. One has to get an inspection (at the police dock)...I was told that it was to ensure that the boat will stay afloat, should the owners depart for the duration. Friends used this option, and apparently its no big deal.

We departed with the Baja Ha-Ha the end of October for Cabo. Ruth was feeling good by then...we were joined by some Friday Harbor friends for the trip. There were two stops: Turtle Bay, which we really enjoyed and Bahia Santa Mara. The trip was uneventful, good sailing winds from the north...nothing over 25 kts...good weather...no problems with the boat. Nothing to complain about, except what did we get for the \$350 spent for the entry fee? Escort service? Well anyway, it was a good trip.

We have spent the winter in Baja, enjoying the sights, people and food! We are now on our way to Guyamas to haul the boat for the summer and head for home.

Ken and Ruth Frazee  
SV Misty Blue

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February 23, 2011

SV Misty Blue  
Santa Rosalia, Baja, Mx

Hello,

We are writing from Santa Rosalia, a small town on the Baja side of the Sea of Cortez, about 75-100 miles north of Puerto Escondido. Santa Rosalia is a very unusual town for Mexico...it once was a French mining town and has a French influence...even French Baguettes from the French bakery!! Most unusual is that most of the buildings are made of wood, instead of concrete, blocks, etc. This wood was shipped in from the Pacific Northwest in the holds of old sailing ships, as ballast, sometime around 1800. The buildings are standing and in pretty good shape, considering they are a couple hundred years old!! As one walks around town, some of the Mexicans look part French. The church is actually a structure sent in the late 1700's from France, designed by the Eifel of Eifel Tower fame. It is a metal building with wonderful stained glass windows...kind of a pre-fab tin building from antiquity!

The copper mine has been closed for about 50 years, the old structures are still visible, though in very poor shape. The harbor was constructed so the copper ore could be loaded on ore ships. The mine is rumored to be reopening soon, but in Mexico, seeing is believing! If it did, it would be a huge boom to the town, as Santa Rosalia is a very poor town...but, you would know that by looking at it!!

We are tied to the dock at Marina Santa Rosalia, which is a very "funky" place...docks are in tatters, the office at the top of the dock is almost ready to fall over (it is only half of a building...missing the south half)...it is really the clubhouse for a bunch of old expats, who are

very helpful and friendly. The marina has about 10 slips...much more character than the new Singlar (Govt run) Marina that is cheaper, rather sterile and empty!! We really like the old place and guys that hang around here!!

We are enjoying the culinary arts of Santa Rosalia...deep fried, bacon wrapped hot dogs, with all the junk on them yesterday...Ruth had one, and Ken, well he had two (they were small). We ate them as we sat on the sidewalk...very good!! People who have been with me in Port Townsend know how much I like the hot dogs from the little hot dog stand there...maybe I need to go back and do a comparison! Of course, the ones from Roakes (near Portland) are great also!!

Tonight, we visited Terco's Restaurant...had rotisserie chicken...was great...(chickens from Sinaloa (Mexican State)). (Most chicken from Baja has a yellow color, from what they are fed...these were white like the ones from the US)...anyway, the dinner, including mashed potato, gravy, rolls, etc was great...Amazing, just like I was sitting in Friday Harbor! Tomorrow is either pizza or beef fajitas)...

We will be departing here in a few days, when we get a good weather window, to Guyamas, on the mainland side of Mexico...about 90 miles east of here. We will haul the boat out of the water and put it in storage for the summer...probably for eight months...

The trip home, will entail catching the overnight ferry from Guyamas to Santa Rosalia, then the overnight bus from Santa Rosalia to Tijuana, then the bus to San Diego....pick up the truck and drive home!!

Back to Puerto Escondido...maybe a week ago, Ruth returned, from the trip home to help Debbie with her surgery (turned out very well). We spent the night in Loreto in a small, very romantic and old world hotel...really a neat place. The following day, we departed on the boat north to Isla Carmen for the night...the following afternoon found us in San Juanico, a very attractive anchorage, along with 6 or so boats...a place where we would have liked to spend more time. From San Juanico, it was a rather long trip to Bahia Concepcion (Playa Santispac), a large bay with wonderful beaches, with fine sand (hard enough so my dinghy wheels don't sink into it!). While there, we met a very nice couple from Vancouver, Canada...spent the afternoon with them, on the beach (they were RVers...retired sailors). The beach is lined with ... a restaurant and lots of palapas and RV's...We spent two days there. From there, it was another long day to Santa Rosalia.

If we have learned anything about the Sea of Cortez, it was that one always powers north and gets to sail south...never the reverse, unless it is summer. We have not sailed since leaving La Paz, when we had a chance to sail from one island to another! The wind is always blowing from the north or no wind!!

Some of the things we will remember about Baja are the bright stars at night...one can almost read by them at times...the sounds and smells of the towns...must be the spices and cooking...the sidewalks are always interesting (normally in bad repair...always different...The kind and friendly people, including our attempts to speak the language...the food, both good and bad...the strange business practices...squeezing orange juice in the morning...the

taxi...colorful rocks and mountains...and listening to Don Anderson give the weather forecast in the morning...among other things!

Next year, we will be heading south, along the west coast of the main land of Mexico...lets hope the wind conditions remain the same! This will probably be the last we send out this year, as we will be heading home soon for the summer.

Take care  
Ken and Ruth  
Santa Rosalia, Baja, Mx

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**Received from Craig and Barbara Johnston**

Dear friends and family:

We just completed a four-day journey from Manzanillo northward back to Banderas Bay, and what a wildlife expedition it was! We had constant sightings of various forms of sealife, which made the trip a constant and interesting surprise.

- Whales – we saw humpbacks breaching (jumping almost completely out of the water), tail slapping, flipper slapping, and spy-hopping. This occurred at least three times – that we were looking – and we saw plenty more, just cruising by, blowing up plumes as they made their way past us. We heard reports on the radio a few days ago about *Luffin' It* which had too close an encounter with a whale – resulting in bent propeller, bent shaft, compromised through-hulls, interior damage from the impact. This happened one day ahead of us, in Tenacatita Bay, on the way north. So we did our best to stay at least ¼ mile away from the whales, although sometimes they appeared unexpectedly, very close by...

- Turtles – Two days ago, we counted 82 turtles in a six hour period. They were widely spaced, usually solo and only rarely two or three at a time, all seemingly heading south. At first we thought they were floating chunks of wood – so common in the Pacific Northwest – but when we went to check out one of the chunks, it lifted a head, looked at us, and rotated itself around to watch us as we circled it. These guys are about 2 feet long – maybe 3 feet with heads and legs extended.

- Stingrays – I've mentioned before the strange behavior of these guys, leaping out of the water, doing flips in the air, and then belly-flopping down on the water. Usually, it's a group of them, in a line – almost like a line dance. Why? I think for fun, but maybe to dislodge parasites. We also saw two flotillas of stingrays, just below the water, with wing tips just above the surface. They are close together, in a checkerboard pattern, making altogether a large, dark, fast-moving diamond in the water.

- Dolphins – Every anchorage seems to have two or three dolphins who cruise around among the boats, perhaps feeding on the trout-sized fish that seem to

congregate in the shade under the boats. These are big dolphins – maybe 8 feet in length?

- Pelicans – We never tire of watching these guys, circling around the anchorage at sunrise and sunset, dive-bombing into the water, sometimes 7 or 8 at a time, scoring a small fish perhaps one time out of ten. They are amazing flyers, swooping down to a few inches above the water and gliding for 60 feet or more without a wing-stroke.

- Boobies – These smaller birds, which seem to be everywhere, follow the pelicans closely, in case there are any dropped fish... Other times they circle around, saying, "Ow, ow, ow, hahahaha!" They follow us as we travel, circling the boat, hoping for a place to land, or a dropped fish (we're not actually fishing most of the time, but these are seemingly not really smart birds...)

- Red tide – Groan – Not sure what this is, but most anchorages seem to be plagued with dirty, brownish-red water. This is maybe an algae bloom, but in one anchorage we saw millions of tiny swimming critters, when they passed over the top of our white flopper-stopper. Other folks have told us that the red tide is associated with this year's colder-than-usual water, due apparently to a "La Niña" weather/ocean temperature phenomenon. The reason I say "groan" is that our watermaker really doesn't want to work well (or even at all) in the presence of all those little red critters. The filters clog quickly and smell like the dickens when we take them out to replace them. We're running quickly through our supply, and not getting enough water in the bargain.

On land, we spent time in La Manzanilla, Barra de Navidad and Manzanillo. I found an acupuncturist in Barra who resolved – in one hour – some shoulder and elbow pain that had been plaguing me for weeks. The acupuncturist – Doug – is a young Oregonian graduate of the Oregon College of Oriental Medicine, who lives in Barra during the winter, surfs four days a week and does acupuncture the other three.

In Manzanillo, we became familiar with the buses to the WalMart-Soriana-Comercial district (for groceries and other necessary supplies, such as watermaker filters, see above). We practiced our dinghy beach landings and launches some more, with mixed results. In Santiago (adjacent to Manzanillo) the waves aren't really very big, but somehow we haven't mastered the technique of getting out past the waves without at least one of them putting many gallons of seawater over the bow of the dinghy. We make new rules for ourselves each time, but somehow full success is rare. Here are some of our rules:

- Always take a full set of dry clothes in a plastic bag.
- Put everything possible into a watersports dry bag.
- Bring along big garbage bags to wrap groceries and clean, dry laundry.
- Wear a swimming suit.
- Wear water shoes or sandals to avoid damage to tender feet from rocks, stingrays, whatever.
- On landing, leap out quickly into the shallow water to control the dinghy, but not too close to the dinghy, or it'll knock you down into the water.

- On launching, walk the dinghy out beyond the breaking waves – but not so deep that you can't heave yourself back into the dinghy.
- Lift the bow of the dinghy up and over the breaking waves
- Start the motor before climbing back into the dinghy, but not until the water is deep enough... (What's deep enough?)
- Always keep the dinghy perpendicular to the breaking wave.

You get the idea...

In Manzanillo, we spent part of our stay in Santiago Bay (see beach landings above) and part at the Las Hadas anchorage. One of the many attractions of Las Hadas is the dinghy dock, meaning no beach landings. It's an exotic resort, built in Moorish style, up the side of a steep hill. Our dinghy dock landing fee (about \$9) entitled us to use of the pool, where we could mingle with the drunk gringos who were paying \$300 plus per day to stay there. (Actually, half the people at the pool were cruisers from the anchorage...) Las Hadas was the location where "10" (Bo Derrick & Dudley Moore) was filmed. Around the namesake resort are many others in various – mostly Moorish – Mediterranean styles, and numerous plush private residences. It could all have been lifted out of the Spanish Riviera. The resorts have loud music going until very, very late. One night they went until at least 2 am. That's one of the downsides. The other is the pollution in the air from the coal-fired power plants across the bay. It's not difficult to figure out why the resort seems to employ full time painters with large buckets of white paint. Our boat is covered with a gray film, and we're very much looking forward to getting onto the dock at La Cruz where we'll have a hose with fresh water at our disposal.

We're here in Banderas Bay, near Puerto Vallarta, awaiting the arrival of son David and his fiancée, the lovely and charming Tara Hernandez. They'll only be with us for a few days, but we're looking forward to having a great time together. Then, assuming we've resolved the watermaker and other assorted boat issues, we'll head north to the Sea of Cortez. We'd like to spend at least a few weeks there, before our passage to Hawaii in mid-April, weather permitting.

Best wishes to all.

Craig & Barbara Johnston  
S/V Sequoia