

Guy and Melissa
A brief photo journey through the year
to go along with all of those blog entries you recieved without any
photos!



This year we sailed over 7610 miles. This is a rough approximation of our course.



We sailed with very light winds
down the coast of Baja California,
Mexico.

The desert colors, and the lack of
on shore lights was in stark
contrast to coast of California with
its green hills and bustling cities.





Entering Bahia Magdalena, Mexico at sunrise

Bahia Magdalena is larger than San Francisco Bay, with less population than Alameda, California. The desert meets the sea, and the wildlife is amazing. We came here to see the Grey Whales at the southern end of their yearly migration.







We headed south again and around the tip of Baja, bypassing Cabo San Lucas, and heading to San Jose Del Cabo where we met, Loren on Full Moon, along with Roberta and John on Mystic. They made being stuck, due to weather, at the most expensive marina we had ever docked at an enjoyable experience. (Unfortunately we were having too much fun apparently to take any photos of each other at the time).

Oh yeah, along with being the most expensive marina, it also lacks potable water at the docks, so the local bottled water company will bring the water cooler bottles out and fill your tanks with them.



A chance to get some fresh vegetables at the local super market added new Mexican delights to our cooking. Including the beginning of the tropical fruits; mangos, papayas, pineapple, and of course every kind of chili pepper one could wish for.



San Jose Del Cabo is a tourist city, and that means restaurants. Each with fresh tortillas, empanadas, guacamole, and fresh salsas.



Of course after 10 days of howling east winds, it was flat calm for the sail to Frailes.



Then again calm all the way to La Paz





Floyd and Leigh came to visit, and we went out to see the whale sharks. (Video coming soon).

It was very exciting to be here during Carnival. The party never seemed to stop, being anchored right off the Malecon, we fell asleep to the beat of the Mexican music every night.





At the end of February we made a mad dash back to the San Francisco Bay area to apply for our long stay visas. The paperwork was immense, but being able to stay in French Polynesia longer than 90 days would be worth it.

While we were there, we had some time while the French Polynesians had our passports. So we used the time to visit some of our bay area friends. It also seemed like a good time for a road trip to Washington State to catch up with the Jones clan.



We had a last ice cream at our favorite ice cream parlor in La Paz, checked out of the country and along with Rand and Cormac for crew, headed off across the Pacific Ocean.

The second time for us, but the first time for them.



22 days later, we made landfall in the Marquesas.





We celebrated with beer, baguettes, breadfruit, sight seeing, and of course a few boat repairs





After Rand and Cormac headed home, we headed to Anaho bay, Our favorite anchorage in the Marquesas to wait for our friends Greg and Ruth to join us for the passage to the Tuamotus, and some great SCUBA diving.



The SCUBA diving is excellent, as are the friends we make in Tahanea, and Fakarava.





Guy, Melissa, Oli, Jes



Jes



Oli

Sunrise Diving





Ben and Cori join us at the south end of Fakarava.
Ben works for bread.
After a month of diving Fakarava its time to put away the dive compressor.
The captain waits for the crew.
Refilling the cooking gas.
Ben learning to SCUBA





In between dives we celebrate birthdays, navigate reef strewn waters, and meet the locals, young and old.



In Rangiroa we catch up with a local dance performance, fix the windlass, say goodbye to Ben and Cori, and set sail for Tahiti, where we arrive at sunset.





In Tahiti we are surprised to meet up again with some of the crew of Larka, who graciously take us on a tour of the whole island the morning after we anchor. It is the first taste of civilization since Mexico, a great chance to stock the boat with good food.

Top: Moorea in the sunset, Lizzie and Oli strike a pose, Melissa gets directions to the don't miss sights from Las Vegas resident, and Tahiti restauranteur Joy, resupply, and the view from Aiki

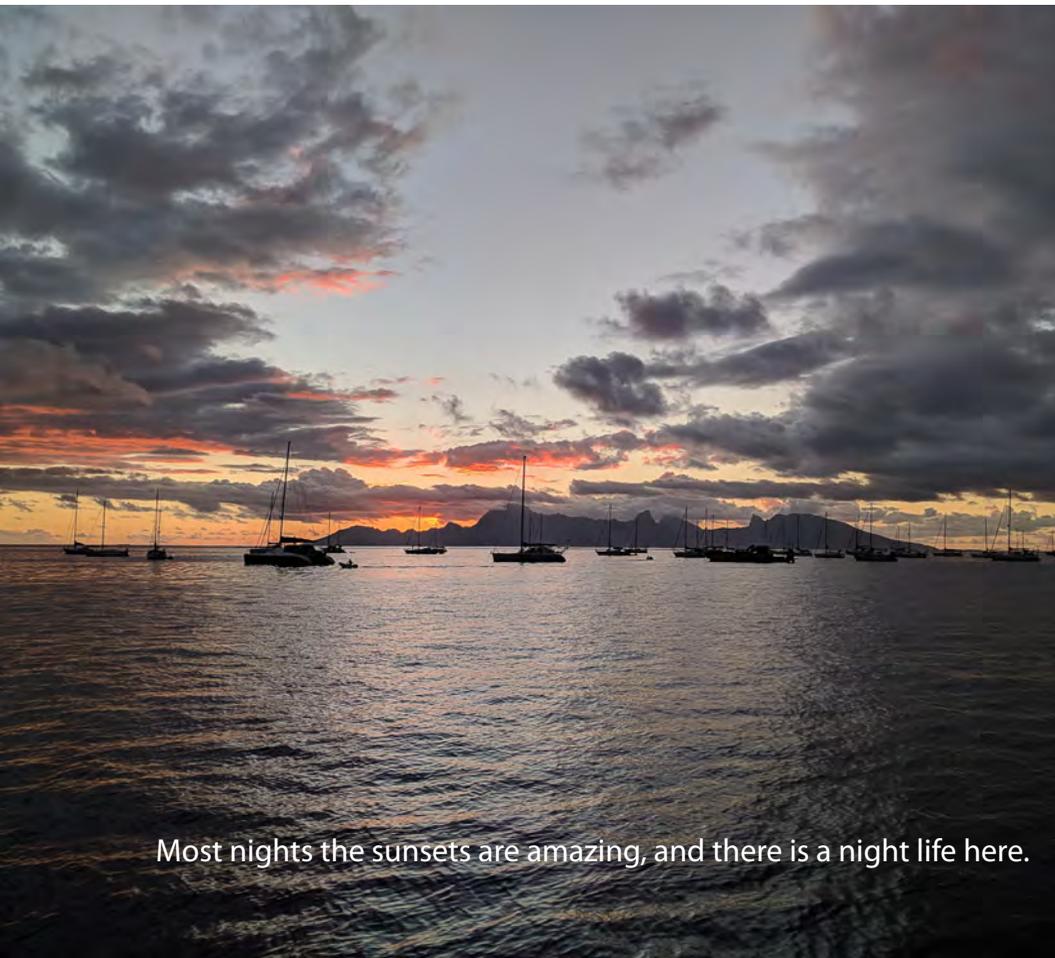




The Market Down Town Tahiti



Colorful food trucks called Roulottes



Most nights the sunsets are amazing, and there is a night life here.



Lisa from Magic, and Melissa at a roulotte



Tahitian dancers at the Meridian



After Tahiti we head 14 miles to Moorea, a sleepy little island with great diving.



Safely anchored behind the reef



Guy's daily radio contact with Allen and Don



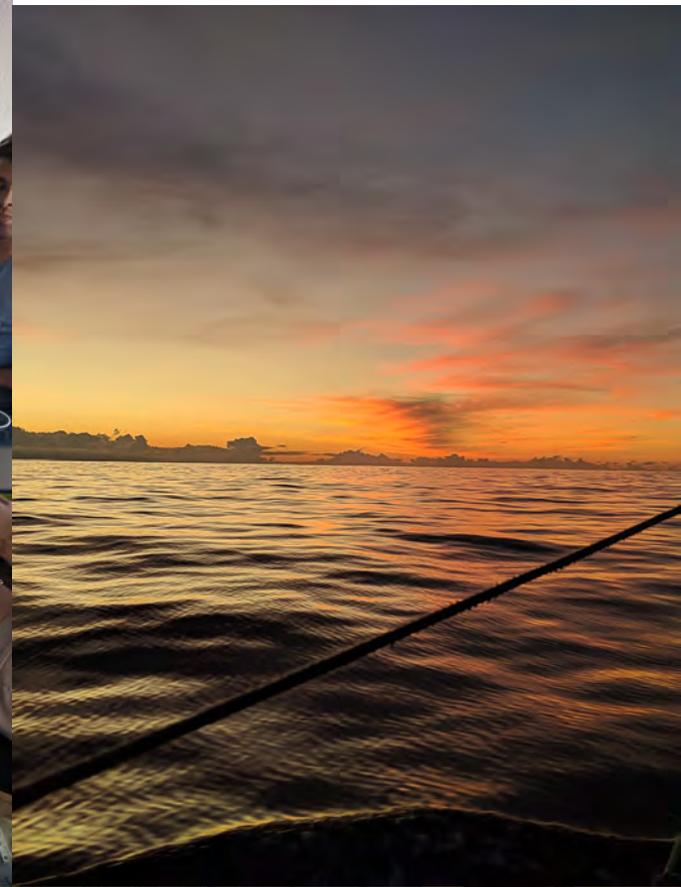
Repairing the bilge pump



Cruising is about special places and special people. Two boats this year really made a difference for us, Larka (Roger, Tina, Jes, Oli, and Lizzie), and Magic (Lisa and Brian). Perhaps the hardest part of cruising is saying hello and goodbye to the people you meet along the way.







All too soon the season in the South Pacific was over, and we had to find somewhere safe for the Southern Pacific Hurricane season. We decided to head for Hawaii.

Our friend Greg joins us again for the trip from Tahiti to Hawaii with a stop at Fanning Atoll on the way.







Fanning Atoll only had 4 boats visit it this year, counting us. Our stop at Fanning was a short but busy 4 days. Then we were headed out again for Hawaii.





Celebrating Arrival In Hawaii