

# Log of the *HILDE M<sup>2</sup>*



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VOYAGE, PHASE I: On October 15, the ETD planned so many months before, we haul the final load down to Cobb Island on the Potomac River, finish stowing gear, and go out to supper. On Thursday, October 16 we set out down the Potomac.



Part of the family aboard the HM<sup>2</sup> at Cobb Island MD:  
Janet Simmons; Jan, Fritz and Barb Edler and Buffy Redsecker

SEVEN DAYS down the waterway, the trip goes more quickly than we planned. Lots of rivers, some of them so shallow that there is a marked channel, with the shoaling you can't always tell where to go. The actual ditch is shallow, too, and being damaged by waves from boats traveling too fast. Beautiful countryside, fun to see some of the same boats again and again.

Day 1 (Thursday 11/16): Short run down the Potomac, we've done this lots of times. Anchor by ourselves in a lovely bend of The Glebe, off the Coan River, near mouth of Potomac across from the St. Mary's River. We seemed to be sailing slower than usual so we bring out the new platform and all the gear and Karl dives, cleans up the hull bottom.

Day 2 (Friday 11/17): Into the Bay and down to Deltaville, the place with the spectacular entrance channel, anchor in the harbor with several other boats. The cleaning last night made a difference, we went half a knot faster today!

Day 3 (Saturday 11/18): A sleighride to Norfolk, we're able to make it all the way into the Elizabeth River and, just as it's getting dark, to Deep Creek right before the beginning of the Dismal Swamp Canal. Several years ago we spent a day aground on this creek, but tonight we find a lovely quiet spot.

Day 4 (Sunday 11/19): Our first day on the "real" canal, with a lock. A wild trip across Currituck Sound with too much wind and not enough water, interesting. We tie up at an abandoned dock in Coinjack, walk around, meet some nice people.

Day 5 (Monday 11/20): The weather continues nice, the famed (and sometimes feared) Albemarle Sound is a pussycat. We make good time to a lovely anchorage with others on the Alligator River.

Day 6 (Tuesday 11/21): Early morning fog. Pamlico Sound presents no problem, big rush to get positioned to get through Hobucken Bridge early tomorrow, we find a good anchorage with a few other boats on a little creek and go swimming.



Motoring down the Inland Waterway in North Carolina

Day 7 (Wednesday 11/22): Neuse River calm as can be, safely through the strange bridge out in the middle of all this water. We sail triumphantly through the Gallant Channel to Beaufort and go aground in Town Creek! We struggle for three hours but can't get an anchor to dig in so we wait for the tide to help us, whew!

Days 8/13 (Thursday 11/21- Tuesday 11/28): A slip on Taylor Creek, I finally relax. Beaufort is a charming place, we continue work on all the little projects which weren't finished before we left home. In between, we enjoy walking around the town and meeting terrific people and eating good food in the restaurants and looking at all the fantastic boats that are bigger and fancier than ours! Much debating about when to leave.



A wave from the Captain as HM<sup>2</sup> departs Beaufort for her great adventure.

Day 14 (Wednesday 11/29): The folks in the next slip and I help Karl cast off the lines, he waves dramatically for his picture, and he's off. Next stop, Tortola, BVI. They drive me to the Greyhound bus stop in Morehead City for my lonely trip home

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More when it happens!

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