

Log of the *HILDE M²*



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TORTOLA AT LAST! After many adventures, Karl and the *Hilde M²* arrive at their original first destination: Road Town, Tortola, BVI.

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Several ever-so-welcome phone calls keep us in touch after Karl and the HM² reach Puerto Rico, so Passage 2 isn't the torment for the home folks that Passage 1 was. All details aren't in yet as to just what has been fixed and what remains unfixed -- when I'm talking to the person I love most in the whole world, who's entirely too far away at the moment, you don't really expect me to hold in depth discussions about equipment, do you?

Evidently things are now in reasonably fair shape, though, for on Wednesday, November 26, he's ready to head out, just waiting for weather. Conditions are finally favorable Sunday, November 30, and he departs at high tide (about 6 PM EST). The trip is uneventful (hooray!) and on Tuesday morning, December 2, he reaches Jost Van Dyke, which he has decided might be the easiest place to clear into BVI.

JVD is just fine, although the town is extremely small ("there's nothing there") so he heads on to Tortola, through the Drake Channel which I enjoy visualizing; because we've sailed there on cruise ships. He gets a mooring for Wednesday night at West End and calls home (yippee!), as the winds are too strong to go on to Road Town just then. But today they are able to go around there, and tonight when I get home there's the agreed-upon message on the recorder with his new mailing address:

Karl Edler
Yacht "Hilde M²" In Transit
General Delivery
c/o Postmaster
Road Town, Tortola, BVI

He suggests annotating lower left corner of envelope or package for PM to hold for two weeks. This so that he can fetch mail upon return to Road Town before leaving the area, since he plans to go sailing and not necessarily stay long in the harbor.

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NEXT ON THE ITINERARY, after cruising in the Virgins including a hoped-for New Year's visit with friends in St. Croix, will be the departure for Panama around the 5th of January. Hope to have another "Letter from the Captain" to pass on to you before then.

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Addendum: In case you're curious about the logo for The Voyage -- if you're a fellow Southern Cross owner, you'll recognize the anchor cross; some of you may also recognize our BAKA CORPORATION electronic edelweiss designed by our daughter-in-law Janet Simmons; we like to think these express our interests in the out-of-doors, folklore, and modern technology, and also show there's a spiritual element in this Voyage as well as in the voyages all of us make every day. In case we don't see you before then, MERRY CHRISTMAS!

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