

Spring Break '06 Trip Log

Departure/Arrival Dates	Destinations	Start Hours:	End Hours:
March 9th, 2006	Steveston Harbour, Conover Cove, Winter Cove,	911	939

Thursday, March 9th, 2006 – Steveston Channel

We had a good early start with very little running around. It was just a matter of unhooking and untying and we were off by 0800. It was only an hour into the trip down the river when we could see a dark disturbance in the horizon. It turned out to be snow and more snow. At the peak of the snow fall, snow started to collect on the windshield leaving only a wiper opening. Visibility was reduced to the extent of fog. We had the radar on watching for oncoming traffic. After about an hour or two it stopped and by the time we reached New Westminster it was clear and sunny. Weather for the crossing seems satisfactory but it is



supposed to get better tomorrow so we decided to stay in Steveston. To firm up our plans we have invited Running Bear and Bob to visit us and celebrate Rick's birthday. CA started preparing the birthday dinner and at 1300 we were in Steveston Channel looking for an anchor spot. We went right to the end behind Steveston Island, beside the pier at the foot of No. 2 Road but it was very shallow there – 9- feet so we headed back toward the market and decided to tie up to a

dock on the island side. It was only a short distance from the No. 2 Pier so it would be easy to off-load our dinner guests and easy for Kona shore duty.

At 1500 we headed for Steveston by Catch-Up to buy a few things for dinner (birthday cake and croutons) and arranged to meet Gordie and Bob at the pier at 4:00. On our return the Captain picked them up and they arrived with provisions for the party. Bob brought two bottles of Chilean wine, one red one white and Running Bear brought a live Dungeness crab for an appetizer. Lots of fun and an early night. The Captain returned our guests to the pier at 1930.

When he returned we watched a bit of a music video and retired.

Friday, March 10th, 2006 – Conover Cove, Wallace Island

Woke up to the sound of the barge beside us starting up and preparing to depart – 740.

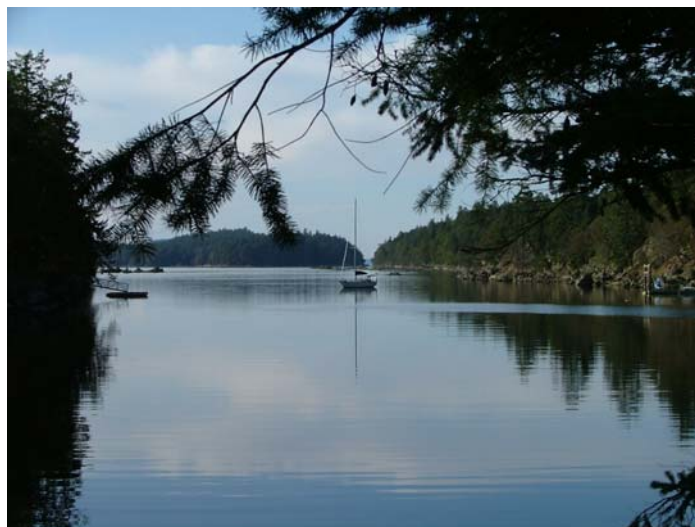


It had snowed overnight and the decks were covered with about an inch of mushy snow. After a slow start and a leisurely breakfast we showered and listened to the weather forecast. We took our time leaving Steveston to make sure the forecasted calm seas for the afternoon were upon us. After shore duty with Kona we headed out of Steveston at 1130. The weather was sunny and this allowed us to take some beautiful pictures of the surroundings in the South Fraser Arm. On our way out to Sand Heads we got

some good shots of eagles and sea lions basking on the breakwater. The cloudy day had cleared and the crossing was beautiful. Out in the strait, there were about three footers off our beam but it meant just a lazy roll for Sea Foam. CA wrote for the web site while the Captain watched the road. We decided to go through at Porlier and head for Wallace Island. Low tide will be at 2000 so we're hoping to get oysters at Panther Point before it gets too dark.



We meandered around the islands to get to Conover around 1430 which Rick was surprised to see empty. It wasn't long after docking Sea Foam when a small sailboat "Mischief" came in with four guys on board. They tied up behind us. We went for a hike to Princess Cove and then returned along the west side of Wallace in the sun. Upon our return to the Sea Foam CA prepared dinner. A Bayliner 38 "Siren Song" came in beside us around this time. At sunset we whipped over to Panther Point to catch low tide for an oyster haul. After that we watch a DVD with supper and then retired.



Saturday, March 11th, 2006 – Winter Cove

We were up reasonably early. Note that with northerly winds blowing it is better to anchor on the north side of Conover Cove rather than tie up to the dock. The waves lap against the hull and “Princess” CA is easily put off her sleep. CA took Kona to shore while Rick prepared the ship to leave Conover. CA untied and pulled away from the dock all on her own. It was a comfortable cruise and we arrived in Winter Cove without a hitch. We anchored in a deep spot (25ft) in a north bay in front of Boat Passage. We geared up for a dive and although it was rougher than expected our dive on the inside of Anniversary Island was a success other than the fact that both our dive computers broke down.



Sunday, March 12th, 2006 – Winter Cove

We learned that this spot is exposed to Boat Passage’s currents which cause the boat to waver resulting in our anchor snubber line creaking and the hanging chain rattling on the bottom at low tide.



Went walking on Saturna around the very short trail at Winter Cove Marine Park. Kona very lively and interested in exploring new terrain. Had a snack on the rocks overlooking Boat Passage. Returned to the boat and took off to set a prawn trap just off the southern tip of Anniversary Island in 240 feet of water. Maiatla called us on the radio late afternoon to let us know that they had arrived in Steveston public dock and their intention to meet us. We couldn’t tell him exactly where but we would call him tomorrow to arrange a meeting spot. Tony Khristian called immediately afterwards to let us know that he has a new boat, a small 28’ diesel powered vessel called “Oceanmine”. He was calling from his return from Indian Arm. That’s all the information we could get do to broken radio transmission coming from Second Narrows bridge. Picked up prawn trap to find 21 prawns and 5 squat lobsters. Returned to the SF and prepared oysters and prawns for supper. Watched a DVD and retired.

Monday, March 13th, 2006 - Glenthorpe Passage

Woke up early again due to a noisy anchor and snubber line from Boat Passage currents. After breakfast and bread preparation CA hailed the Maiatla to inform her crew that we were moving to Prevost Island. They were underway and going to have to wait for the tide at Active Pass around 1530. We departed Winter Cove at 1110 for Prevost Island. As we prepared to anchor the Maiatla called and told us they were on the south side of Active Pass and would be in Glenthorpe Passage in 30 minutes. We got our crab trap

out and headed for James Bay in the Catch-Up. We dropped our crab trap by some nearby mooring buoys and carried on to James Bay. As we left our anchorage the Maiatla rounded the point. We drove over to them and told them what we were up to. We proceeded to James Bay and off loaded by the orchard. We walked along the east bank and down into the head of the bay where the stream is. We had to hurry away as it was time to dive. We returned to the SF and got dressed to dive at Selby Point. We took off at 1445 and returned to the SF at 1600. While the Captain stowed the scuba gear CA prepared for dinner. The Captain checked the trap, and finding nothing relocated it to the outside of Secret Island. The Maiatla and her crew arrived at 1900 and we enjoyed dinner and an evening together. We enjoyed appetizers of scallops from the day's dive. They departed at 2230, Kona went for her evening walk and we retired.



Tuesday, March 14th, 2006 – James Bay

We moved the boat over to James Bay to weather out the southerlies. There was protection in there with very little wind or waves. Easier access to shore with more interesting things to see. We went for a hike to the Peili Point or almost there. It was a long 2 hr hike since we went in a round about way. Paths are not that good and there was a lot of slope and rough ground. Not for the weak. Couldn't find the way across to Tricomali Channel.



Wednesday, March 15th, 2006 – James Bay



Long day – Pancake breakfast with canoeists. Discovered they were a camp for young offenders that have an adventure in lieu of jail time. Two guides/counselors with four boys age 14 to 18. Had a nice chat with them and they made away to head for Wallace Island. We hurried to prepare to dive off Peile Point. Returned at 1300 and prepared to go with

Andrew and Janet for a day sail aboard the Maiatla. Good fun and a new experience for Captain Rick. Returned to the SF at 1900 and invited our friends for supper. After dinner we all felt sleepy by 2100 and skipped dessert. Guests left and we retired. Kona would forfeit her evening walk tonight.

Thursday, March 16th, 2006 – Montague Harbour

Had a slow start. After breakfast Andrew came to our swim grid to clean his numerous sea cucumbers and scallops. He gave CA a lesson on how to extract the



muscle from sea cucumbers. After poking through them at one end you slit them all the way to the other end and lay them flat. Tons of water and a few guts sploosh out when you open them up. Five bands of white muscle lay the length of the sea cucumber. Next the fillet knife goes under one muscle at a time and separates it from the skin. We fried the muscle

parts up in garlic and butter and decided they are between a squid and a scallop. They resemble cooked macaroni noodles and would probably be good done like calamari. Not really worth the trouble to extract them. After Kona and the Captain returned from shore and CA's bread was made we headed to Montague along with the Maiatla. When we arrived we



anchored in the southeast corner of the bay to stay out of the southerlies that were still blowing but only slightly. Andrew tied up to the fuel dock and after getting some water his young crew determined that this harbour had nothing for them so they headed back to Ganges. CA finished baking her bread and we loaded up in the Catch-Up and headed to the park for a hike around. Met a lovely elderly lady and her walking partner, Stubbles, a terrier type dog. She told us she was 85 years old and walked this park everyday. She has lived on the island for 20 years and lives in a retirement home on Wobbly Way. After our walk we putted along the shoreline and looked at the houses there back to our anchorage. We had happy hour, dinner and a movie. Retired by 2300.



Friday, March 17, 2006 – Gillnetter docks

Got up at 0700, listened to the weather and pulled anchor. Got to Active and waited for two ferries to go through. While waiting CA made the Captain's breakfast. Went through



Active with an ebbing tide at 3-5 knots. CA drove through and a ferry was coming up behind. Very tense for her. Headed for Sand Heads. Sea lumpy and confused. Waves were three foot crossing the Gulf

but going in our direction after about half way. Lots of current at Sand Heads not in our favor so we tucked in a Steveston, tied to the market place dock and took Kona for a walk. Shopped at the grocery store and returned to the SF. Strong wind blowing up the river. CA couldn't hold the stern line when we untied so she let go the line and was left on the dock. Captain jumped onto the SF and had to maneuver to pick CA up off of the dock. Big rolling waves in the river – glad to be surfing them! 1-2 knot current against us still. Tide just changing. Met a tug towing a barge at Patulla Bridge decided to go under the bridge out of the navigation channel to let the barge go through. When we got under we looked back and we were in his channel and he was scratching his head. Don't quite get why you would go under



the bridge on opposite sides than you would expect. Arrived Gill Netter docks and after a Kona walk with the Captain, we barbequed and watched two DVD's and retired. Very quiet and peaceful night.

Saturday, March 18, 2006 – Home Dock

Got up 0900 and had a half knot current or more in our favor so decided to go right away. Took Kona for morning shore duty and cast off. New approach to safe untying of dock lines. Now keep a dock line right at the pilot house door with one wrap around the bulwark and secured to the cleat there to keep the boat in and when we have untied stern and bow and are safely onboard can undo the last line from the cleat while on the boat. Had breakfast, showered and cleaned up dishes. Put a call into Jeanette and Billy to find out arrangements for dinner party at their place tonight. CA named all the pictures taken this trip and added pictures to the log. Arrived home safe and sound on a beautiful sunny day. Ben was on the dock to help us in. Another pleasant voyage completed on the Sea Foam.

Sea Foam Schedule:

Thursday:

Depart Mission: 0800

Arrive Steveston: 1300

Friday:

Depart Steveston: 1130

Arrived Porlier Pass 1350

Saturday:

Depart Conover 0920

Arrived Winter Cove: 1145

Sunday:

Winter Cove

Monday:

Depart Winter Cove 1110

Arrived Prevost Island Glenthorpe Passage: 1220

Tuesday:

Depart Glenthorpe

Arrived James Bay

Wednesday: James Bay

Thursday:

Depart James Bay 1400

Arrive Montague Harbour 1420

Friday:
Depart Montague Harbour 0730
Wait for ferries to go through Active Pass 0800
Arrive Steveston 1130
Depart Steveston 1430
Arrive Gillnetter: 1800

Saturday:

Depart Gillnetter: 0930
Arrive Mission: 1300

Weather:

Thursday: Calm, started snowing and then heavy snow reducing visibility and then clearing upon arrival in Steveston. Mid afternoon in Steveston – sunny 10 C

Friday: Snow overnight with wind from the east off the mainland. Morning snow melting and cloudy skies. Clearing up around 1000 and winds easing. Sunny skies crossing the Strait. Beautiful sparkling sea with three foot waves.

Saturday: Sunny but windy from the northwest

Sunday: Sunny and calm

Monday: Cloudy with sunny breaks. Winds from the southeast.

Tuesday: Windy and raining through the night and early morning. By 1000 the sun came out and warmed us. By 1230 the wind had picked up from the SE and a squall with rain lasted about 20 minutes. Windy and cloudy with sunny breaks.

Wednesday: Still SE winds blowing. Rain squall but cleared before our dive. Sun appeared for short periods. Calm winds into afternoon and evening.

Thursday: Woke to cloudy skies, wind and rain. Cleared up and blue sky for short periods from noon on. NW coming tomorrow

Friday: Woke 0700 to cloudy skies and light northerlies already starting. Clouds beginning to break up as we approached Sands Heads. Sunny and blue sky with a few cloudy patches by afternoon.

Saturday: Woke up at 0700 to cloudy skies with a few sunny breaks. Continue same throughout the trip home.