

Hi All,

Sorry that we have been incommunicado for so long. We've just been busy having fun and not taking time to write. We started heading south in earnest after a fun but overcast 4th of July in Wrangel, AK. The mantra after July 6th became "If the sun ain't shine in we're head south, if it does shine we stay put". Needless to say we spent many more days moving south than staying put. Still when the sun did come out it was glorious AND WE REJOICED!

Today we're headed down Johnstone Strait under beautiful blue skies and a 35 kt gale that was predicted but has failed to materialize as yet (let's hope it stays that way!!). We are headed toward real civilization and giant cities (anything over about 3,500 souls is giant to us).

Anyway I thought that I would take the opportunity to send along a few pics for all you folks back home (and wherever). I'm sending them in several emails to limit file sizes. Enjoy!

A bit about each photo: **PLEASE SEE PHOTO GALLERY FOR PICTURES (Hold cursor over picture to get title)**

CrossRoads and Cloudy Bay - We spent nearly two months joined at the hip like this on almost a daily basis with our good buddies, Henry and Janice on their gorgeous Nordhavn 55. We'll miss them when they head back home to England. Great folks and great fun...'Allo, 'Allo (an inside joke).

Klag Bay Equip - This seldom visited bay along the western coast of Alaska's Chichagof Island was home to a gold mining operation in the first part of the 20th century. Everything from old tractors, to barges, conveyors, workshops and a radioman's shack has been left rotting on shore.

Inside Passage Transport - You never know what you'll see along the Inside Passage. This guy in a skiff, miles from anywhere, is pushing this "trailer" to its new home.

Ell Bay Fishing Boat - CrossRoads and Cloudy Bay pulled into anchor in this beautiful cove along the eastern shore of Baranov Island to this classic scene of a lone fishin boat at anchor. Later the fisherman and his beautiful 21 year old daughter came to visit and fixed us up with a fine King Salmon, which we promptly had for dinner.

Baranov Warm Springs Seiners - A view out our back door where the Seining boats raft up three and four deep while they enjoy the hot springs awaiting fishing opening that may last only a few hours.

Baranov Warm Springs - This is why fisherman and cruisers alike come here. A perfect natural hot springs tub within an arms length of a raging river. FANTASTIC!

King Salmon - As most anyone who has fished with me would tell you...I'm a lousy fisherman. I only catch stupid fish, I won't say why but I can guarantee that this salmon was one of the dumbest on the planet. I did the species a favor removing it from the gene pool.

Anyway, caught in Alaska, about 17 lbs.--

Little Halibut - Halibut are naturally stupid like most bottom fish, so they are a perfect target fish for me. Just drag a hook along the bottom with a piece of meat (in this case a hunk of my King Salmon). Northern BC, CA 18lbs.

Bigger Halibut - I told you they were stupid. I caught another halibut in the Broughton Islands, BC, CA. This time I was fishing alone in my dinghy so it was a bit of a chore to hook him, haul him, harpoon him and drag him into the dink where I bashed his brains in to stop him from flopping around and busting the place up (they're all muscle). Took me all day to butcher up his 50 lb carcass and clean up the mess in the dink and the back of CrossRoads. We have been feasting on him ever since, so I guess it was worth it.

Claydon Bay Crabs - This is what you get in even a marginal crabbing area when you have really primo crab bait. Yup, that's my King Salmon's head that we kept frozen for just this purpose. We had yet another crab feast with these guys.

LIFE IS GOOD!!!

Stan Heirshberg

CrossRoads N50-01