

Dear friends,

We wish you a MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR

The best wishes for a lovely 2009

We have had a great motor cruising this summer. A trip there took us from the solitude in North Alaska to the busy cruising area around Victoria and Seattle, where we shared warm summer days with 114 other boats on our first anchor place.

We left Cordova, where we had spent the winter, in the middle of May. The wind pattern started to change from SE to NW, so it was time to head south. After a week cruising in the western part of Prince William Sound, we went out in the Gulf of Alaska. We sailed along the coast, so we could see the beautiful mountains and glaciers. We visited three places along the coast, Ice Bay, Yakutat and Lituya Bay, before we rounded Cape Spencer and went in to the Inside Passage.

We spent the summer cruising south, sometimes inside, sometimes outside the islands to see the different landscape and wildlife. We have been long way up in the fjord land with high mountains around us, beautiful waterfalls everywhere.



Between Cape Spencer in the north and Strait of Juan de Fuca in the south there are so many things to see and so many places to visit. We only saw a little part of it of course, but after more than 60 anchor places and 3 towns we feel, that we have a good idea of the area. The 3 towns we visited were Sitka, Ketchikan and Prince Rupert. Sitka was interesting because of the Russian influence from long time ago, and there were some interesting buildings to see. The highlight was the totem park. It is a beautiful place, where many different totem poles are standing among the trees. It gave a good impression of the poles, when you stroll though the park. Sitka has a beautiful surrounding, when you look out over the sea, there is a big volcano still smoking and hundreds of islands. We liked Ketchikan too, and also here we saw beautiful totem poles and a longhouse decorated very nicely with Indians figures in strong colors.

In the end of October we were still lucky with the weather, when we came to Daphne Isle, a small island belonging to Trisha and Kaspar. It was here we stayed last Christmas, when our visa to USA ran out. We tied up to their dock and spent the next month working on Dana. We have not seen Trisha and Kaspar since Puerto Montt, almost 2 years ago. Again we enjoy their friendship and hospitality.

Tomorrow we are leaving the dock for a month sailing between the San Juan Islands in U.S.A.

The plan is to sail back to Daphne Isle at the end of the year and leave Dana there for the winter, while the crew fly home to Denmark. When we come back in the spring, Dana is going on the hard for painting of the bottom. When the wind goes to NW, we are going south to California and Mexico.

Kind regards

Henrik & Lene



NB! More pictures on our web page www.sy-dana.dk in the Danish letters (breve).