

Cruiser Updates for June 5, 2024 PNW CCA Meeting, Suzette Connolly



Figure 1: Hoptoad and Totem in Kona

Sonny and Margie Stolsig -- Hoptoad

Hoptoad left Mexico late March and had a 21 day passage from Isla Clarion to Hilo, Hawaii. They are planning to leave Kona for the Marshalls middle of June. Heading to Micronesia, Guam, Japan

Jamie and Behan Gifford – Totem

Jamie and Behan are sailing west again, this time as empty nest crew. After a boisterous 16 days from Baja to Kona, Totem is back in the USA for the first time since 2017. Our circumnavigation took us through the South Pacific; it's fun to choose a wholly different route now, as we look to head to the Marshall Islands later this summer. Now that we don't have to filter routing options by where the other kid boats are, we're leaning into less commonly visited destinations as we get back into active voyaging again. Meanwhile – anyone with summer plans in Hawaii? Look us up!

Scott and Mary Malone – Morningstar

Morningstar left Mexico after 2.5 years headed to American Samoa. Scott is single handing across the Pacific and Mary will fly over July 3. They plan to cruise and explore all four of the island groups in Tonga before heading to New Zealand for cyclone season. While in New Zealand they plan to explore and hike around various parts of New Zealand. Scott passed the halfway point to American Samoa Monday night June 3, about 2,200 miles to go. Whooo

Jim and Barbara Cole – Complexity

Barbara and Jim Cole fly back to their boat in Malta June 9. Their HR 36, *Complexity*, has been stored in a dry berth since September while they have been home in the US. After recommissioning the boat they will cruise the Western Mediterranean and Northwestern Africa before crossing to the Caribbean by the end of this year. Please wish them luck in avoiding the Iberian orca who for the past few years have been playfully ripping off rudders and even sinking sailboats coming and going to the Med. They plan to cruise the Antillies and ABC Islands until June 2025.

Kaspar and Trish Schibli – Starfire (courtesy Doug Cole)

Kaspar and Trish are in CapeTown at the V&A Waterfront planning their next passage.

Bill and Kathy Cuffel – Jarana

Kathi and Bill departed Tunisia in early April, touched down briefly in Trapani in Sicily and crossed to Sardinia. Much of our time in Sardinia they were pinned down by weather, but we got to spend a couple days in the Madalena Islands. From there they crossed over to Mahon and then Fornells on Minorca with a bus ride to Ciutadella. In Mallorca, stops included Porto Colom and Cabrera.

They continued to Ibiza and ended with two fantastic days at Formentera.

The boat is now in Cartagena where they are working through a long list of projects to get the boat ready for an Atlantic crossing this Fall. The city has a huge array of pedestrian streets with tons of small

shops, restaurants and tapas bars. Like many Spanish towns, there is a very active night life. There is some tourism, but not the huge hordes of people like in many other Spanish coastal towns. (And no all-night discos).

Among Bill's list of projects is a lithium battery installation. They return to Seattle on July 1st.