



*My Andrea...
always with that I'm lookin'
for trouble look on her face!*

use the club showers. The yacht club was also a perfect venue for gatherings of friends. The first Friday we had about 30 people at the club for a pot luck. What fun to see all my old friends. The next day Denise and Andrea arrived so right after she flew in we met at my favorite lunch spot... Island Cafe. It is a floating restaurant on the river not far from where Dale and I had Talion moored for years. Denise's best friend from high school met us as well as Morgan and her German boyfriend, Klauss. That night I am not quite sure why I met the three nieces for drinks... we were out after midnight!

*Morgan, Denise, and one
of Denise's cousins on her
fathers side, Kelsey.*



Dear Pops & Mom

October 7, 2011

As I am writing this I am off the coast of Baja on the way to San Diego. The weather has been good but we have had 15-20 knots of wind on our nose (from directly in front of us) the whole time. It makes for some slow, wet, difficult days. When I last wrote I was just concluding a trip down the coast of Washington on my sisters boat. After arriving in Portland I got settled into the Drake's boat. The house had way too many people expected so I volunteered to stay on the boat. We managed to get a great slip for it at Portland Yacht Club so I could



*Cousins! Denise and Morgan
hadn't seen each other in a long
time. The girl in front is Denise's
high school girlfriend, Sara.*



On Sunday we had folks over to the Drakes for dinner. I barbecued 6 dozen oysters for hors de 'oerves. Man there are some things you just need to be in the Pacific Northwest to enjoy!

I was only in Portland for a week after the trip down the coast so I really had to jam in things fast. I had many people to see. I pretty much got it all in even including some sightseeing with Denise, Andrea, Morgan and Klauss.

After 57 years living in Portland I had never spent time hiking through Forest

Big trees in Portland!

Park. It's a park in the northwest area and takes up many acres. Most of it is trails through dense forest with creeks, ferns, huge trees, and wildflowers. Very beautiful and a great way to spend a hot summer day.



Klauss, Morgan, Denise

Not far from Forest Park is the Rose Garden. Not sure if I had ever been there! I think this sight-seeing might be a good thing.

On Labor Day we went for a family cruise on the Drake's boat. We sailed up river for a couple of hours and then anchored along side the river so the kids could swim. They took the dingy ashore

We stopped & smelled the roses.

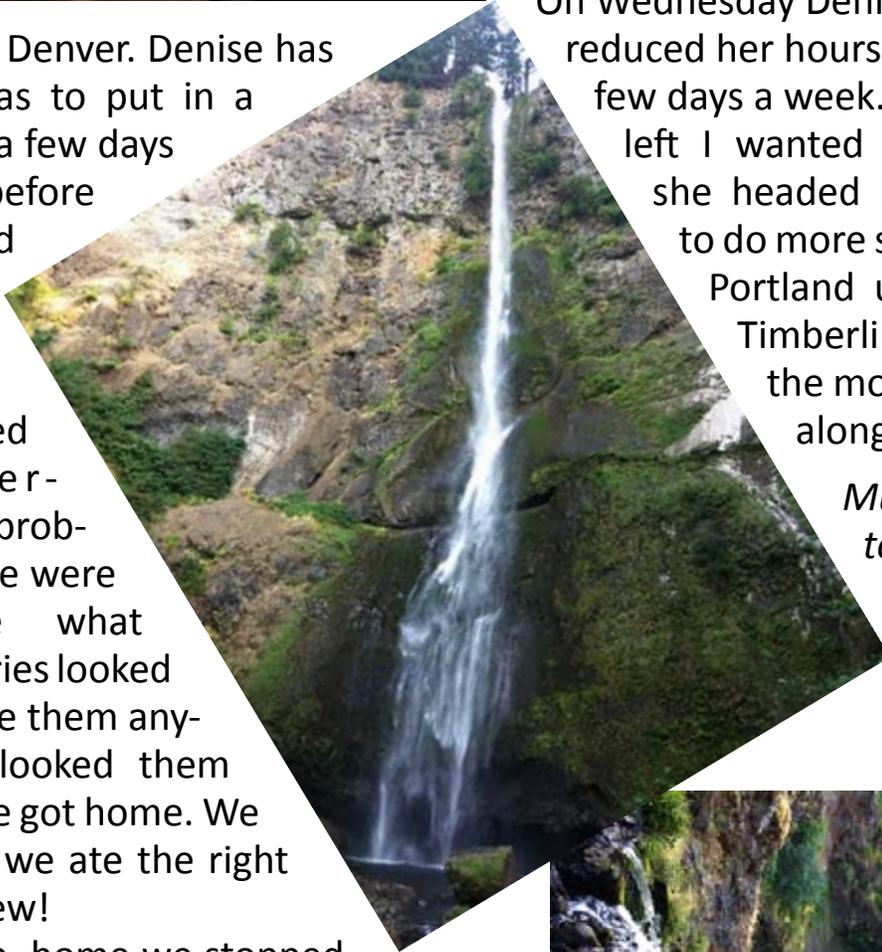




and swam from the beach and then came back and swung out from the boat with a halyard (line that goes up to the top of the mast). Jace and Nick used to love to do this. They go up to the front of the boat and climb up on the bow pulpit (railing at the front) and while holding the halyard jump away from the boat and swing out. Then they let go before the halyard slams them back into the side of the boat. Always a good activity for a lot of laughs. They even got Morgan's dad Jon to do it... very fun!

go back to Denver. Denise has but still has to put in a With only a few days Morgan before we decided from explored drove over We stopped huckleberries. The problem was we were not sure what huckleberries looked like. We ate them anyway and looked them up once we got home. We found out we ate the right thing. Whew!

On the trip home we stopped in the Columbia River Gorge to hike Multnomah Falls. We hiked all the way to the top. It is so beautiful up there. The next day Morgan and Klaus flew home to Germany and I flew to Los Angeles. I had a much too short but very fun trip to Portland.



On Wednesday Denise and Andrea had to reduced her hours at work considerably few days a week.

left I wanted to spend time with she headed back to Germany so to do more sightseeing. We drove Portland up to Mt. Hood and Timberline Lodge and then the mountain to Hood River. along the way to eat wild

Multnomah Falls is one tourist attraction I had been to many times. I can't remember the hike to the top being so far though!



Now for a very short visit with the Verhoevens. Wow... 70 years married. So many things can happen in 70 years. You are two very lucky people.

After getting on the plane at 8 am, arriving at LAX at 11, and a 2 hour ride on the shuttle to your house I was in need of lunch! Boy was I lucky that Glenda and Pam were just leaving for lunch in the mall. Perfect timing and it was great to sit with my two sister-in-laws and catch up. They are both such gracious girls you did a good job there!



Good cake and time to visit with friends.



Cousins!

Dinner was fun and I was proud to get to sit by you two. It was great to see Aunt Marie. I think she is getting younger! Glenda did a good job as the Master of Ceremonies especially with her story of your history. Great reminders of your 70 years.





During dinner Rachel and I were communicating with Jace. We were supposed to pick him up at the airport that evening but his plane wasn't to arrive until 9 p.m. and dinner wasn't served until almost 8. So we suggested he get on the shuttle and meet us at the hotel. It was fun sharing a room with Jace that night. Something we had not done since

Good time for the kids on the play structure.

we shared a house with Nick at your birthday weekend... was it outside Vegas at a golf course? That was a very fun filled weekend as I recall. And the three of us drove there and back.



Josh and Gena's kids have sure grown. And that Vivian... does she ever stop smiling?

It was a great gathering at church and lunch after. I loved Jace's stories about Nick and the chance for everyone to catch up on what he is doing. Sad to say goodbye to the Verhoevens but there will be a next time. My favorite part was to spend the extra evening with you two. Too bad BJ's was so crowded. But once again there is something for us to do next time.

My back-seat-mate Audrey... the chatterbox!





Pantera has an articulating mast meaning that the mast rotates so the sail can catch the wind better.

spent all day scrubbing and cleaning the deck, lines, wires, cushions and everything else. What a mess! As I was wet all day I didn't realize how hot it was. Well the next day it hit me. Not only was it almost 100 degrees it is was extremely humid. I had spent so much time in cool arid Colorado I could not function. I could only work on tasks until about 10 am. I got the shade up to help to cool the boat and had 5 fans facing me but it was still impossible. I had planned to do varnish and wax the sides but there was no way. I did the best I could to put away my stuff from Colorado and get prepared for the trip up the coast.

Time to go home! I was a little concerned after leaving the boat on its mooring for the first time. I landed in San Jose del Cabo (close to Cabo San Lucas) and took the bus from there to La Paz which is a 3 hour bus ride but usually saves about \$200 in airfare. Shelly



Yep... that's me snorkeling!

picked me up at the bus station and gave me a ride out to the boat in her dingy. YAY! Everything was just as I had left it except for the bird poop and Baja dust everywhere. The next day was Sunday and the marina was closed so I snuck into their fuel dock to wash the boat. I



Shelly loves Pantera

I did take one day off for a sail on "Pantera" A friend from Sydney, B.C., Bob Smith built and designed the boat completely from scratch. It is a very high tech and very fast catamaran. I have always wanted to go for a sail so when Shelly said they were going out on Sunday I couldn't resist tagging along. There was not a lot of wind but it was very interesting how the boat works and we managed to get in a little snorkeling while we waited for the wind to come up.

Then back to the boat and struggling with my tasks. Then it broke... the toilet in the forward head. Now you may say "Big deal it's just a toilet" but it was an electric toilet that I won in a bet with Dale 12 years ago. We went on a diet and if I lost the most weight I would get a push-button electric toilet and if he won he would get these fancy graphite oars for the raft. The toilet and I have history!



Now which one would you want? The ugly old one on the left or... ahhhh pretty!

I researched the cost to repair and it would be \$525. Ugh! Then I started looking into replacements and for \$600 I can get a brand new vacuum flush (like the motor home). So I moved the hand pump style toilet out of the back head (bathroom) and put it up forward so everyone can share it and I am saving my pennies for a new one. It was a sad day but I had to throw the old one in the dumpster.

Luckily that was all that broke before Carolyn arrived in La Paz on Wednesday 9/28. We got groceries, fuel, and water and headed out with a little time to stop along the way to San Jose del Cabo where we were to pick up Marv on October 3rd.

We stopped in Bahia Los Muertos (where I have stopped many times before) and went up to the fancy hotel for lunch. It was so hot I jumped in their pool while I waited for lunch to arrive. Then they gave us a tour of the hotel grounds complete with chapel, cinema, waterfall, gardens, tennis courts, pools, and horse stables. Nice place to visit but with the price of rooms at a whopping \$500-\$800 per night I think I will stick to the boat.



Patsy Verhoeven got in some hot water outside La Paz.
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Patsy Verhoeven, currently on her way from La Paz to Cabo to San Diego for the start of her fifth Baja Ha-Ha aboard her Gulfstar 50 *Talion*, took this photo of her water temp gauge less than a week ago not far from La Paz. If you think it must be wrong, Pat and Jeannie Hughes, who will be doing their third Ha-Ha aboard the schooner *Patricia Belle*, tell us that in the four years they chartered out of Mazatlan, the last season water temp out by the islands regularly hit 94!

- latitude / rs

I emailed my friend, at Latitude '38 magazine as we were leaving and look what he put in their on-line magazine!

the dock. We said we were going to have dinner in their restaurant so they said we could stay for free. The restaurant was so cheap... dinner was only \$10 each! Now we are plodding along at 5 knots and are half way to San Diego where I'm going



A quick dunk before lunch

to rent a car and come up to visit you. But I can't stay for long because the Baja-Ha-Ha Rally starts on October 24 and I have lots to do! See you soon...

The next day we were to pick up Marv at the San Jose Del Cabo Marina. He flew in at 7 and expected to be there by 8. After we got fuel it was only 3 pm and they wanted to charge us \$50 to wait at

to rent a car and come up to visit you. But I can't stay for long because the Baja-Ha-Ha Rally starts on October 24 and I have lots to do!

See you soon...

Love,

Patsy

p.s. Hope the larger type helps!

*San Jose del Cabo Marina
Not a bad place to wait!*