

## ***Leg 3 of the Baja Ha Ha to Cabo San Lucas***

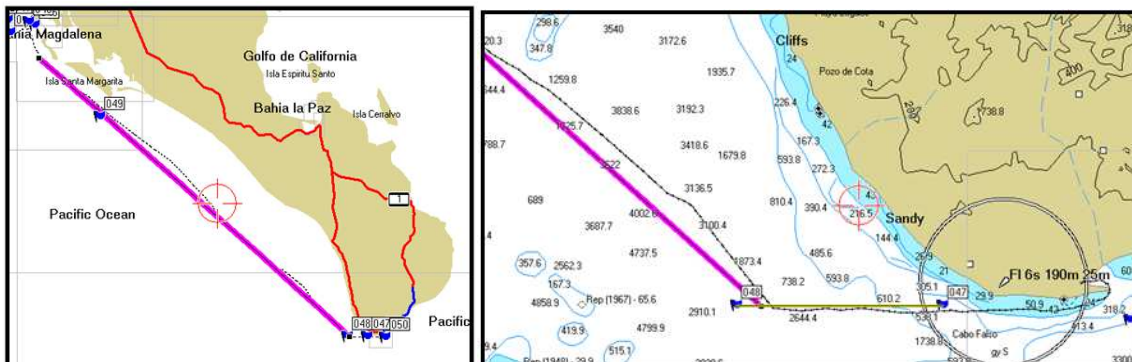
We began Leg 3 of the Baja at 7:10 am the morning of November 5<sup>th</sup>. The race was started early so that we would only need to spend one night at sea to reach our destination Cabo san Lucas, 155 miles away. The grand poopah awoke us with roll call at 6 am and the news that high winds 25-30 kts were predicted. It seemed a good time to practice reefing and using our new gale sail so Duane and I did the drills and we were ready to go. Well the winds didn't materialize and we began with another rolling start (motoring) but by 9:00 am the winds began but not the 25-30 we had expected so we rapidly lost ground to others in the fleet. Still it was a good opportunity to take photos of the other boats as they passed us. By 9:30 we said enough, doused the gale sail, took out the reef, and off we went trying to catch up with the fleet.



Throughout the nite the crew worked tirelessly to catch up and by morning we had closed and passed most of our competition but alas we did have to resort to the iron genny for about 5 hours.



We crossed the finish line the next morning at 9:39 am after 1589 minutes and only 300 hours on engine. We then turned east and headed for cabo san lucas.



Sailing into Cabo was exciting because it signaled the end of our Baja Ha Ha adventure but also the beginning of the Baja celebration. As we approached the harbor entrance many fancy condo's lined the shore.



We were also saluted by two America class sailing boats who actually circled us giving hi-5s all the way.



Cabo harbor was filled with ships of all kinds and there was plenty of traffic but we were able to find the marina easy enough and finally get tied up at their wharf. It seemed strange to be nestled in with so many megayachts and right next to the busy Cantina Baja. The marina was very well equipped but also very expensive so we planned to only spend a few nights before leaving for La Paz.



We also were greeted upon arrival by two members of our own yacht club, Josie Renner and Mary Foster, who flew down to enjoy the fleet's arrival. Mary is our newest Vice Commodore and viewed this as one of her official duties. The Baja Ha Ha beach party was held at Mango's on the beach with the fleet anchored in the background. A very good time was had by all as you can see in these pictures.



# Lots of fun!

(what goes on in Cabo stays in Cabo)



And of course the highlight of the Baja Ha Ha celebration was the “From Here to Eternity” contest. The CIYC was represented of course by Annette and Ed and here they are showing excellent form.



On November 9<sup>th</sup> we moved “out” to the cabo anchorage in preparation for our heading north up into the sea of cortez and spending the holiday in La Paz. Although this was the end of the official Baja race it would not be the end because so many of the boats and crews who we had met were also going to La Paz as a mini-Baja fleet.

