

Friday, October 8, 2010

### **Of thieves and holidays**

This week started out very interesting and full of hope for leaving Las Palmas by Sunday. On Monday and Tuesday I stopped a shoplifter (same store, same guy. Unbelievable.), and retrieved my own bicycle from two evil 8-year old villains who tried to walk off with it (with the front-wheel locked, hehe). Apart from that I worked with Domingo on the rigging, and by Wednesday morning everything was ready to get the sails up. Genoa and staysail worked like a charm, and we were just working to bring the mainsail up. In addition I had received word that the winches were in Las Palmas since Monday and should be in the store for pickup any minute. No wonder that in my head I was already counting the minutes until I would cast off and leave Las Palmas. And then the sail got stuck on the way up. To cut a long story short: it won't work the way it was planned (using standard slides) with my crazy 30yr racing mast. Either I go back to no slides (just the sail), or I use an extra track with ball-bearing slides. The first option is ok to operate alone when the weather is not too bad. Haha. So it's the second. And that means another two weeks here waiting for parts, and another big hole in my wallet. Well, at least I could pick up the winches, because (after only a three month wait) I had received word that they had arrived in Las Palmas by ship and were being delivered to the store. Or not. Because to everybody's surprise they couldn't be found on the ship, and two days later the inquiry revealed that they are still in Madrid in customs. Which can take any amount of time. Great. Well, at least I could put Vespina into the warehouse. Or not. Because there is a vacation day next week and that seemed to have stopped all people from responding to calls. No appointment with the crane, the truck, or the warehouse. In the meantime plenty of ARC-boats are arriving and the marina is filling up. I was supposed to leave the marina today, but where should I go with two boats, no winches and no main sail? Will have to talk to the officials tomorrow. But there is good news too: My girlfriend Liz is coming to visit today for a week. Yeah!

Posted by Axel Busch in Gudrun V at 14:23

In a word... bummer, good work stopping shoplifters and bike thieves though!  
.... on the plus side other than the ARC arriving, there's not any real reasons rush wise that you've gotta hurry the leaving... atlantic crossing weather only starts getting good in november, so don't stress  
Chris

Anonymous on Oct 9 2010, 05:34

Happy to hear Liz will be visiting you. Have you thought about becoming a cop ... good work on 'to catch a thief.'  
Anonymous on Oct 10 2010, 02:52