

Gary Worrell

From: Gary Worrell [gcw@igx.net]
Sent: 11 September, 2012 16:26
To: 'Gary Worrell'
Subject: Postcard
Attachments: Hello.jpg; 20120906AtlanticSunrise01.jpg; 20120905AtlanticSunset02.jpg; 20120906AtlanticFlyingFish01.jpg; 20120906AtlanticFlyingFish04.jpg; 120907AtlanticWhale02.jpg

Hello (see attached).

Many new members in the Postcard List since the last. If this is your first, Welcome. You're in good company. You can view the previous mailings at the archive:

<http://igx.net/Postcards>

It'll cure insomnia.

I am on a different kind of trip this time. Instead of holding my breath and travelling underwater, I sailed on the surface aboard a cargo ship. I got my own room with bath, and I saw the Sun every day. We departed Norfolk, Virginia, and headed East.

I managed to catch almost every Sunrise & Sunset along the way, and the clear skies at night allowed magnificent views of the Milky Way. Unfortunately, I couldn't photograph the Milky Way because the vessel was always rocking, never still.

As many of you know, it's Hurricane Season in the Atlantic. We didn't actually sail through any storms, but we certainly felt the effects. During the worst of it, we experienced 15 foot waves and the ship was taking rolls in excess of 30 degrees (measured). I was fortunate to have a bunk that was aligned athwartships (left-to-right for you land lubbers) instead of alongships (front-to-back), so I didn't roll out of my bed while trying to sleep. I did however slide back and forth on my sheets, causing mild brush burns. No sea sickness, but since the vessel was constantly moving, it wears out your legs while standing because you are always compensating for the ever changing angle.

And of course, I had CargoCAM ® mounted high up, looking aft, to show you the ship rolling and pitching. Here are a couple of minutes of real-time HD video (those of you who are motion challenged may want to take Dramamine):

<http://igx.net/Video/CargoCAMClip.wmv>

As the video shows, there aren't many things to take pictures of out in the middle of the Atlantic. I did try for about an hour to capture a good picture of the Flying Fish. But these little suckers move quick, and coupled with the ship motion, the attached photos were the best I could do. I also caught some Whale Breath, but they didn't venture close enough to see anything but the spray.

I was scheduled to disembark at the first port call. But when we arrived, the local dock workers went on strike and we had to anchor outside the harbor. By late afternoon, there were two cargo ships and two passenger ferries waiting for permission to dock. The passenger ferries were allowed to dock at around Sunset because they were carrying women, children and elderly, but were not going to be given permission to leave after the passengers got off the vessels. But drama ensued later that night when the passenger ferries just slipped off their own mooring lines and bee-lined it out of the harbor. That didn't help the union-management negotiations.

We were able to dock the next day, but not without more drama.

I'm staying for a few days to look around before flying home. But where am I?

G.











