

~ Eight Bells ~
News from below decks aboard
Le Pecheur D'Etoiles
www.bahamashighadventure.com

Troop 17, Poughkeepsie, NY.

August 10th 2007

Day 1. From waking up at 2 in the morning to waiting in line to get the bus to Newark, this day was long but lots of fun. After being directed to many different places, we were finally seated on our flight to Florida. At West palm we got lost, had to go through security a total of 5 or 6 times, but we finally made it to Marsh Harbor international airport. Then we were taken onboard Le Pecheur D'Etoiles. From there we were hurried of the dock and motored to Matt Lowes Cay and anchored. We were then talked to by Captain Del, first mate Marie and their dog Sunny. We then endured a swim test, but were then allowed to snorkel till diner time. After dinner we had to remember our knots as we competed in the bowline contest. Needless to say, most of us couldn't even tie the knot let alone in a fast time, but Mr. Giglio ended up winning this round. . After this, we were told we had to do a night watch. This was so there was at least one person awake to make sure the boat was safe. So our first day was in the books and we had a lot more to come.



Day 2 After waking up at 6:30, learning our cleaning duties, cleaning the boat and eating breakfast, we were on our way to Mermaid Reef. There we snorkeled around the reef where the fish eat right from your hand. After being taken back to the boat we ate lunch and were taught how to sail this large gaff catch sailing ship. After many instructions and corrections, we were under way to the island of Man- O- War. There we saw our enemy ship, the William H. After taking the sails down, we ate dinner and invited the crew of the William H. to come aboard and share skits and songs with us. After a few skits and songs, we shared thorns and roses. Thorns and Roses is where we share the things we least liked and liked most about our day.

We then shared a few more songs until the crew of William H. had to leave. We then had lights out and night watch.



Day 3 After waking up and washing and cooking and cleaning, we were ferried to Man- O- War. There we enjoyed the beautiful beach and delicious ice cream from the ice cream shop. After ice cream and the beach we motored to Fishers Bay as there was no wind to sail. At Fishers Bay we snorkeled along the coast looking for conch shells and sea biscuits. Though we found loads of conch shells, they were too small to keep so we had to leave them. Once again after dinner we had the bowline contest, except this time, everyone was ready. Pie was able to take the crown in this round. After thorns and roses we once again fell asleep and got a good rest.

Day 4 Once again starting with a good breakfast, we motored up to Bakers Bay. Bakers Bay was beautiful except for that it was being torn up for million dollar homes. We stayed on the beach for hours until it was time for lunch. After lunch we had a talk on safety capped with the attempt to fit 11 people into a 12 person lifeboat. Needless to say, it didn't work very well. We did manage to fit our 6 scouts in but with tons of trouble. After we learned about safety on a boat, we enjoyed hours of jumping off the mizzen deck. Our day ended with a hot dog roast on the beach, sand castles, and more thorns and



roses.

Day 5 Eventually waking up after a long night of night watches we chose to motor to Fishers Bay. Today was also pirate day where we had to talk like pirates. There we went ashore and enjoyed the beach, the Atlantic Ocean and the great food at Nippers. We almost lost track of time, but returned to the boat around 3:00. Then for only the second time, we raised the sails on our own and sailed down to Water Cay. There we had our pirate competition. In the Mark was the pirate champion. Everyone had a fun time and had great costumes. After we had a trial for offences like whistling, saying forbidden words and falling asleep during night watch. Eventually, almost everyone had to walk the plank but had a fun time doing it.

Day 6 After breakfast and all the other stuff, we went ashore Water Cay. There we found an overturned trailer, an old jeep and enough coconuts to go around. Some of us snorkeled out to where tons of abandoned construction was dumped. All this equipment was from a housing project that was eventually abandoned. There were a couple sharks, a barracuda and tons of fish. Back on ship we had time to jump off the mizzen deck before we motored to Marsh Harbor to dock.

After the final of the bowline contest, which was won by Mark, we all got a good nights rest without night watch before we had to leave.

Day 7 After a long sleep filled night with no night watch; everyone woke up to the sad realization that we did have to leave. After showers and a large cleaning job, we all enjoyed a small breakfast of honey buns. After this, we all packed our bags and got to spend the rest of our time exploring Marsh Harbor or just relaxing on the boat. After a fun time we finally had to get on the taxis that would take us home. Hopefully this trip would not have as many complications as before. So we finally boarded our plane home after a wonderful time in the Bahamas and onboard Le Pecheur D'Etoiles.
By Jesse Walsh