

Agua Verde to Puerto Escondido, Jan. 2, 2016

We had made plans to meet our son, Nick, in Phoenix, AZ in early February to spend some time with him during his Chinese New Year's holiday. He would be spending several weeks with us in San Carlos before heading back to China. With the winds as strong and unpredictable as they had been, we decided it was time to begin heading north, to allow plenty of time to get to San Carlos. So, Agua Verde was to be as far south as we would go on this trip to the Sea of Cortez. It was with some regret that we couldn't explore the wonderful anchorages to the south on this leg of our journey.



Twenty-three miles to the north lay our old friend Puerto Escondido, the best next anchorage to the north. We left about 8 am along with Don and Linde and sailed north for part of the day with winds from the perfect direction for a fast sail. We tacked a bit offshore to check an interesting rock formation. It was a steep to rock surrounded by a shallow reef with a smaller rock next to it with an archway right through that rock. There were lots of seabirds all about. When the winds started freshening from the north we eventually wound up motoring for the last 3 hours. When it was time to roll in the main, we discovered a problem. Our main sail has inner-mast furling which means we can roll the sail up inside the mast instead of having to pull it down and store separately. The head loop, that is the loop at the top of the sail which attaches the sail to the roller tube at the top, had ripped away leaving the sail hanging like a bad pair of socks and not fitting inside the mast. With a lot of tweaking I got the twerking sail furled enough

to motor the rest of the way to Escondido and picked up a mooring ball. I knew I would have to deal with the problem, but everyone agreed that could wait for the next day or so. Well not exactly a perfect sail, but it was a good test of our "MacGyvering" abilities.