

3/14-15-16/07 Days 58, 59,60 – At Sea - Wed., Thur., Fri., 14, 15,16 March 2007: The seas were calm and weather sunny as we cruised the Indian Ocean on the way to Cochin, India. On March 15 we started taking one Doxycycline HYCL 100 mg capsule each day to provide protection from malaria in the countries we were scheduled to visit.

March 14 was a great day to catch up on correspondence and just kick back. The highlight of the day was at dinner in the evening where there was a 1920's prohibition and speakeasy theme. Some of the passengers wore hats and other clothes consistent with that time but the Amsterdam dining room staff was completely decked out in caricatures costumes that made for a festive, fun time. Here are some photos from the speakeasy goings-on.

Shady characters at the head table.



Head waiters ready for a rumble.



Yudan, our waiter, keeping a watch over the proceedings.

Thursday was another day at sea. The ocean



was very calm. The Amsterdam is so steady that on many mornings when we wake up we have to think for a few moments to determine if we are docked someplace or out at sea. Trudy, our next door neighbor, came over and we worked on getting her new wireless mouse and digital card reader functioning as well as downloading a bunch of pictures from her camera. This is always fun for Orlin, pretending to know what he is talking about as he passes on what he learned from Steve just a couple months ago.



On Friday evening the Amsterdam held a special dinner for the passengers on our deck. The pool area was decorated and tables were set up next to the pool. It was warm but pleasant with a gentle breeze coming in from the open ceiling. The next day we learned from Fekko Ebbens, the Hotel Manager, that the ship altered course several times during the dinner to dodge passing rain squalls that could have dampened the festivities.

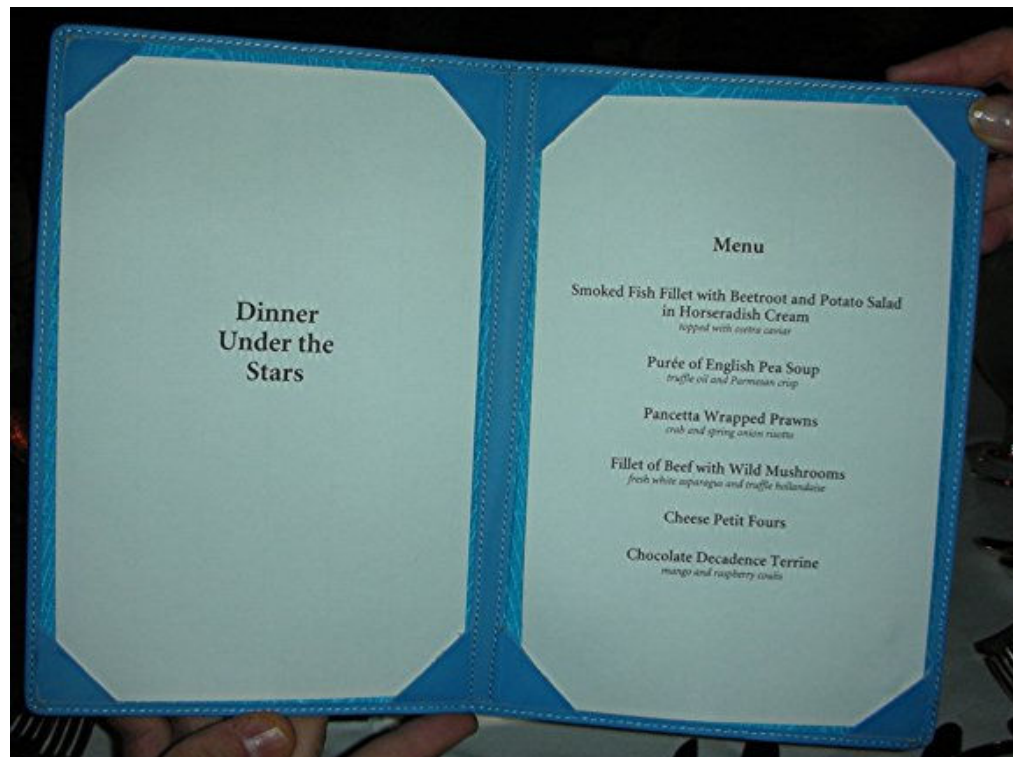
One of the ship's bands provided dinner music.

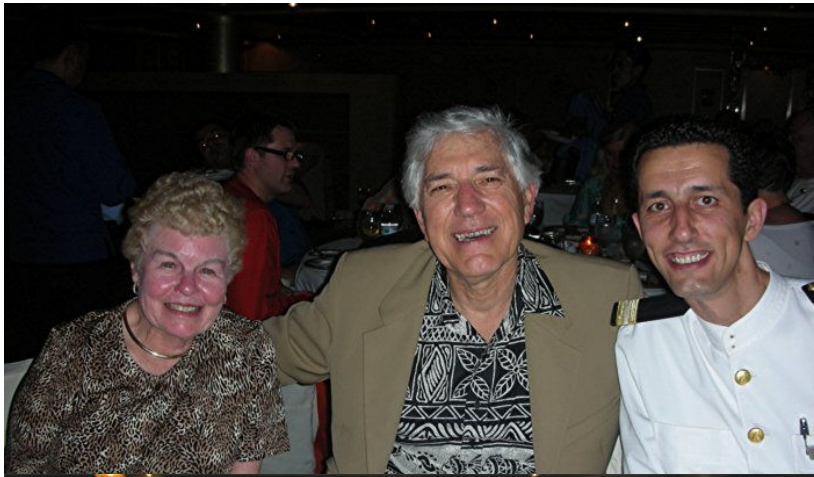




It was fun chatting with our neighbors during cocktails. Here are Mike and Martha who hail from Tennessee and, like us, frequently wear the Tennessee Volunteer Orange colors around the ship.

The occasion was billed as "Dinner Under the Stars" with cocktails at 6:30 followed by a great six course meal.





Each table was hosted by one of the ship's officers. We were happy to have Murat Kaya, the Beverage Manager, at our table. He has always been very friendly and a big help to Dorothy (Bluewhale) in taking care of the meetings of www.cruisecritic.com participants. Before the night was over Barbara had enlisted Murat's expertise for helping her buy a couple of carpets when we arrive in Turkey.



Also seated at our table were (Left to Right) Gail, Doug, Jackie and Howard.

Some of our other neighbors were seated at adjacent tables.



Here are Don and Gloria,



Richard and Sandy,

At the table shown on the right were (clockwise) Susana Beleo who is the Guest Relations Manager, Carl Deremo, Martha, Mike Offerle, Trudy, Jack and Evelyn Colwell.



Dick and Ann



The dessert was served in beautiful style to complete a most enjoyable evening.

Friday was a slow day with glassy sea around us. The highlight of the day was when Barbara sighted a school of flying fish frightened out of the water by the ship's bow wave. Tomorrow we arrive in

Cochin, India.