

Seagate and Wild Blue Alaska Cruise – Tuesday, May 6, 2008



The boats departed at 6:00AM from Pruth Bay today headed for the community of Ocean Falls. This now empty town of 40 full-time residents was in 1980 a city of several thousand, had a paper mill, a large electric power plant and was a regular stop for the Princess Cruise Line.

(← View from Wild Blue's pilothouse in Ward Channel)



(← Seagate threads her way through narrow channels)

Today we cruised 46 miles through narrow channels to open passages to visit this ghost town. The waters were just glassy – no wind, no waves and there are just a few other boats here.



(← Wild Blue enjoys flat seas and calm winds on the way to Ocean Falls)

When things get calm, Pat goes gardening. Wild Blue sports an herb garden on the canvas-enclosed fly bridge. It's a great sunroom for growing plants.



(← Pat the “constant gardener” tends her herb garden)



We arrived at Ocean Falls to temperatures in the 40s and an empty harbor at the foot of many snow-covered peaks. There was no cell service, just a cold phone booth. However two brand new PC systems with satellite internet service were located in the heated marina “shack”. A great place for creating more Alaska Blogs!



(Willie traps two huge crabs 100 feet off the dock→)



(← *Ocean Falls, population 40*)



(← *Ocean Falls Marina lounge known as the “shack”, the source of Blogs #2 through #5*)

Tomorrow we push onto the Bella Bella – Shearwater area, a short two hour cruise, to celebrate Walter Benedetti’s 90th birthday and pick up fresh crew.