

# THE CONCORDIAN

A NEWSLETTER FOR LOVERS OF CONCORDIA YACHTS  
FALL 2012, NUMBER 53



*Fleetwood under the coast in strong wind*

## FLEETWOOD

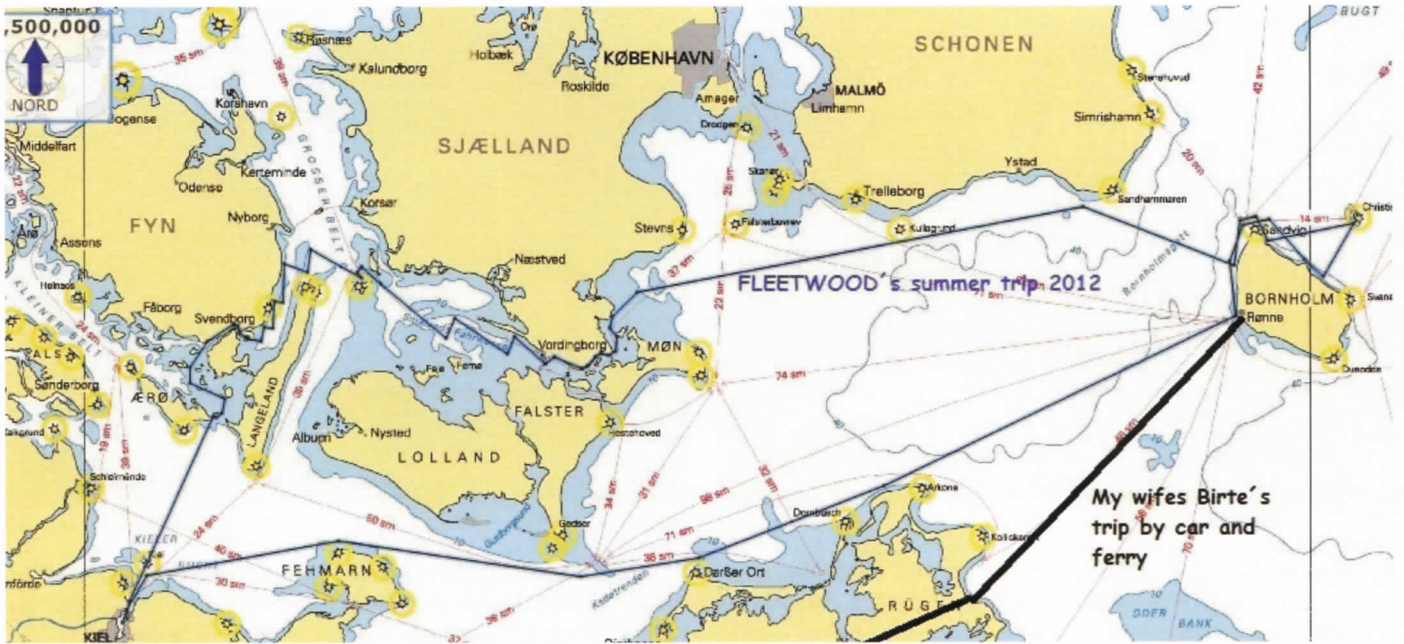
It's Tuesday morning and my old school friend Armin has to leave *Fleetwood* with the ferry back to Germany. The day before yesterday we arrived from Kiel after a sailing trip of 170 nautical miles in more or less calm conditions. Twenty four and a half hours engine running and seven hours

### Summer 2012, from Kiel to Bornholm

quiet sailing. Today the wind is completely different; a strong breeze from west brings white topplings on the waves outside the harbor. My plan for today is to sail *Fleetwood* single hand around the northern part of Bornholm to the quiet east side. My wife, Birte, and our children, Lea and Elisa are scheduled to come in the afternoon by ferry from Germany.

I left Rönne at 0800 for the short trip to the other side of the island. Jib and mizzen are sufficient for 7 knots boat-speed. The wave height is approximately 6 to 8 ft. From Rönne to the north Cape of Bornholm the coast shows its teeth: this area is called the land of granite. Beside the course is Jons Kapel (Jons Chapel), one of the most impressive rock sceneries of the island. In order to descend to the rocks where the Irish Father Jon lived and delivered his sermons from a "pulpit," according to the old tale, there are 150 stairs down from the shore side above the rocks.

Some miles north we pass Hammershus Castle Ruin, founded in 1260. Hammershus is the largest ruin in the Scandinavian countries. Hammershus has a fantastic history. Hammershus was erected at the behest of King to page 3



I read the article of Jack Parkinson in the 20th Anniversary Book. Wind and waves shall be still the same, but the mine fields are history, thank god! We passed the way of Jack and Winnie of Bourne several times, but not this year.

Waldemar Sejr at the time of the Danish crusades. It has several times been besieged by foreign troops, perhaps the most unusual occasion being the Lubeckers, who captured the fortress in 1522. Currently the national museum is cooperating with the forest and nature agency in a wide-ranging restoration which aims to conserve the remains of Hammershus.

Only four miles are still left before the Hammer Odde Lighthouse marks the northern point of the island. Immediately after passing this point and changing the course to south the sea state changes into very comfortable conditions. Today's target, Port Allinge, is starboard ahead. Unfortunately the harbor is marked by a big black ball, hanging at a mast at the entry. The meaning is simple: the harbor is occupied, no place left. The famous Allinge Jazz Festival is this week and therefore the harbor is full with Jazz fans who came with their boats.

Nevertheless, another hour to go there is the next harbor: Gudjem! Gudjem is of a kind. For Bornholmers as well as for tourists. And it's impossible to say Gudjem without saying tourists. In the summer season the little fishing village transforms into a seething metropolis, in which all sorts of shops and eating places lure folk from far and near. The atmosphere on a hot summer day is unmistakably Mediterranean – and happy. And there's always been something going on in Gudjem, which is thought to be Bornholm's oldest trading centre. For many hundreds of years, fishing, and especially herring, was the main occupation in Gudjem. At the beginning of the 20th century, Gudjem had twenty-five smokehouses. Today only one, Gudjems Rogeri, sells smoked herring and other fruits of the sea on the harbor. But Gudjem is much more than herring, for example there are



Fleetwood, moored in Gudjem Harbor



Gudjem, from above



Fleetwood's crew on granite rocks



Bornholm Typical Castle Church

daily trips to the island of Christiansö. Every day, when the ship leaves the harbor at 10:00, the chorus of the stuff of the local shops and restaurants are singing a farewell song.

From here we are four on board and we enjoyed the harbor of this little town very well. We had wonderful walks through the coast and we had a bath in the Baltic two times a day. Because my wife Birte arrived with the car we had the opportunity to drive very easy to the south of the Island where Balka and Dueodde Beach are located. Both areas don't have an attractive or sufficient harbor nearby. Nevertheless a visit is a must. Bus connections are very good, but we have our car in standby. Dueodde is probably Denmark's best beach. The extremely fine quartz sand at Dueodde is so fine it has been used for hourglasses. Huge dunes are formed from the extra fine wind-borne sands which since the ice ages have been blown. At Dueodde you can see very high free shifting sand dunes. The extension is approximately one mile from the sea to the surrounding forests area.

Back in Gudjem plans will be made for the next days. Friends of ours are in Svaneke, only ten miles south. The strong westerly breeze is still blowing, but in lee of the island this will make a safe and quick trip. Svaneke is still chock-full of friendliness, charm, history, interesting shops and even

more interesting people. And interesting people are more than usually, caused by the anchoring of a big cruiser outside the harbor taking hundreds of American tourists. The landing officer explained: "usually we anchor in front of Rönne, but with respect to wind and waves we decided to visit Bornholm from the lee side..." A big surprise for the Americans is to see a Concordia Yawl in the harbor. Nice discussions developed during that day, and at least it was a big surprise for me to learn who all have a friend knowing someone owning a Concordia.

But Svaneke has more than that. Svaneke is the home of the island's only brewery, Svaneke Bryghus, and the operating centre of Pernille Bülow, one of the pioneers of the extensive Bornholm's glass business and last but not least sweets, liquorices, chocolate, ice-cream toffees and art in all manifestations are produced here.

From Svaneke we visited the big forest, Almindingen, the fifth largest in Denmark. Almindingen is called the most beautiful forest in Denmark. The reason is the variety of scenery, with everything, from hills and hollow cliffs, cleft valleys, large erratic blocks from the ice ages, idyllic forest pools and a huge variation in plant and animal life.

Back in the harbor we meet our friends Antonio and Anneke



Hammershus Ruins



Ronne Old Harbor



Gudjem Cafes at Harborside

with children, we met them first one year ago. Our plan is to sail together to the islands Christiansö and Frederiksö which are a very special place. The islands' 100 or so residents in many ways inhabit a living museum. Everything is under conservation orders, even the flowers. Therefore the whole buildings, forming an old fortress are still as they were when they were built.

In 1684, the Danish king decided to establish a Baltic base in order to keep an eye on the movements of the Swedish fleet. He chose Frederiksö and Christiansö, with the natural harbor making it an ideal location for a fortress. However, by 1855 the islands were obsolete for military purposes and the king abandoned the fortress. A number of soldiers remained on the islands, settling as fishermen.

Today, the island is still under the ownership of the Ministry of Defence and the people living here have contracts for their homes with the Ministry. During summertime the islands are visited by over 80.000 tourists, the majority spend three hours, before returning to Bornholm. Only the sailors, like us, and some campers have the opportunity to stay overnight. No cars are here and after the daily tourists are away its time to enjoy the silence of this quiet place. We stayed three days. The third day a strong SSW wind makes the stay very uncomfortable,



Duoedde Beach Dunes



Christiansö

the waves came more or less direct into the harbor and we decided to sail back to Bornholm. We sailed three hours against the wind before entering Allinge. Allinge is very close to Bornholm's most northerly point and the natural reserve Hammerknuden. The people from Bornholm say that the route round the Hammer Promontory is one of the most spectacular trails in Denmark. We enjoyed the four hours walk through the rocks and the view to Sweden, which is 20nm away.

After three days in Allinge we took a day with easterly wind to change the Islands side. The last harbor is Hasle, still a fishing village, but not that kind of charming as the villages on the east side are. Nevertheless this is a good place to say "see you in Kiel" to my wife Birte and the children. Tuesday morning at 07:00 they have to leave for the ferry to Germany. My friend Klaus arrived the same day for the trip back to Kiel. We had five days and we had plenty of luck with the wind and the weather: two days eastern wind between 15 and 20 knots, three days western wind between 8 and 12 knots.

Kiel, we are coming back!  
KERSTEN PROPHET



Fleetwood sailing west