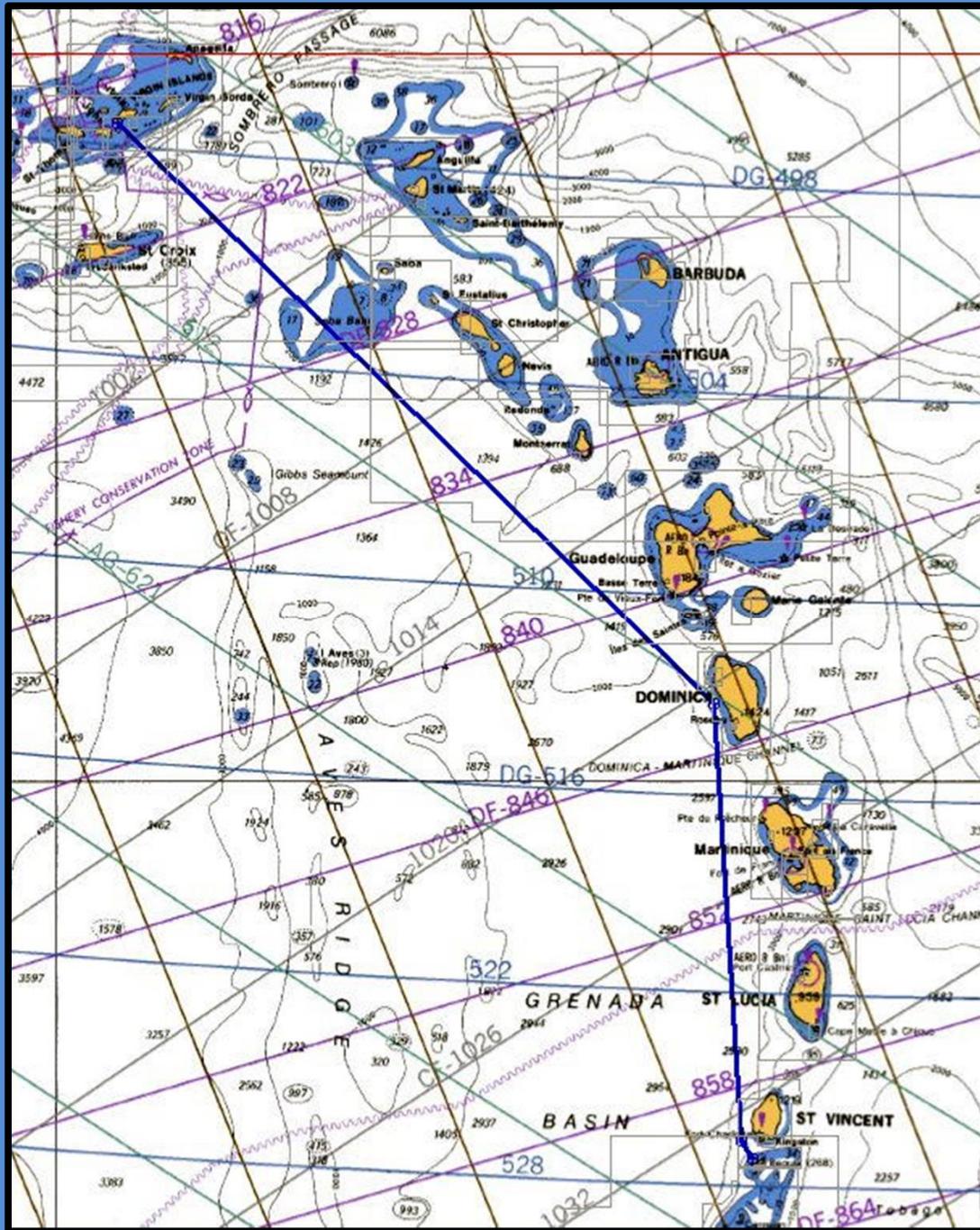


Bill and Donna Zimmerman
BVI to Dominica
January 9 to 17, 2009



Bill and Donna Zimmerman came on board in the BVI and sailed with us to Dominica then to St. Vincent and the Grenadines. We spent several days touring and SCUBA diving in Dominica. This presentation covers that part of the journey. A subsequent presentation covers the St. Vincent portion of the trip.



Donna stands watch as we leave the BVI



Bill is looking for our mooring near the Anchorage Hotel on Dominica



Our guide Sea Cat lives in the yellow house in the center of the picture



One of the elementary schools that we visited



The cruise ships are of critical importance to the people of this poor island as there is almost no commercial activity beyond tourism



A popular excursion for the
cruise ship passengers is
tubing down one of the many
rivers





There is lush
vegetation and
beautiful flowers
everywhere.
Pineapple is rapidly
becoming the major
cash crop





Octavius is our guide. The native name for the octopus is the sea cat so that is his "street name"





Sea Cat gathers some grapefruit and later shows how to grind guava into powder that is made into dough and then fried on a grill made from a broken cast iron sugar boiling pot





The dough is placed on the hot grill and then shaped into a circular patty and grilled. It is very good when it comes off the grill and is still warm but when it cools down it develops the consistency of shoe leather!



The Carib Indians live on a reservation. The women gather, dye and then weave flat reeds into beautiful baskets



Sea Cat offers a drink of green coconut milk, a common and refreshing thirst quencher in the islands



Coco beans are an important crop that the natives harvest and dry and sell to companies around the world.



One of Sea Cat's Carib friends shows us her outdoor cooking station and then demonstrates how she process the reeds that she uses to make beautiful baskets. Her husband is hard to see in the shadow of the house but he is stripping the reeds into the right size for the weaving





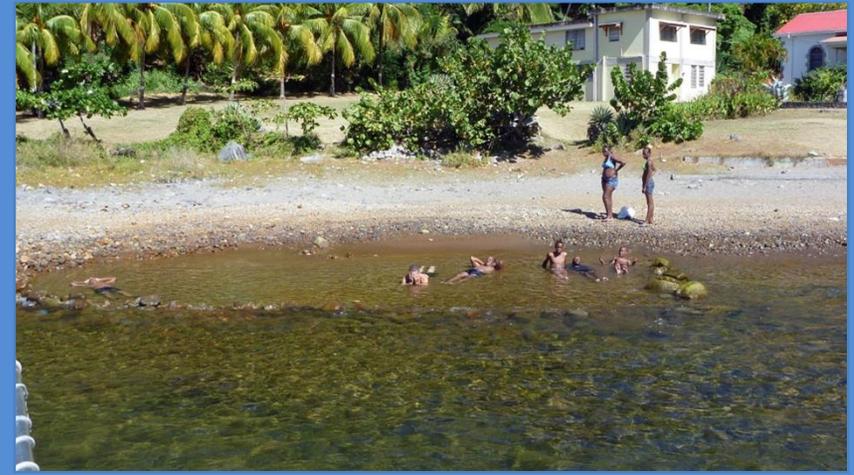
We enjoyed a wonderful lunch at a local restaurant with a fantastic view



It was a steep climb down to the Emerald Pool but the swim at the bottom made it worthwhile







We did two dives right off the town. Both were exceptional. The locals use the water by the shore as therapy since it is heated by hot springs

