

Hello from Mexico in between Puerto Villarta and Barra de Navidad. On Route 200, we just broke down and now this gives us all some time to write something.



The Drive Line broke the Bus stopped.

December started for us still in Oregon, we continued doing what we were doing the last month, but also focusing more and more towards our departure day.

Everyday we went for a walk with the doggies, had coffee, looked at more letters and pictures, packed packages to relatives with memories, made Christmas Cookies, sold a few things on Craigs-List and loaded the bus. We got an Estate Sale scheduled for the end of the year. We would be on the road when they come into the house and set everything up for all the things what did not find a new owner in the family or what would not fit on the bus.



When the Estate Lady came to make the contract we started to talk about our tour and the Big Underwear, that's what we always do but than we showed her our underwear and she was in Underwear

Heaven for the next 40 minutes. She bought 7 pair for Christmas presents. Very nice

Also Kristal, a friend of Brady came and visit she has quite a bit of knowledge about juwelery and collectable things. She got Brady and me to look differently at all the little nick nack's in the house. What I want to say is, if you informe yourself you deffinaty know more....



One day Brady's son Rez came and took one of our little Chihuahua to a cousin from Brady. It was sad but one closer step to the leaving date.

And the date was the 17th of December. Final packing, cleaning the house and a little bit of shopping. Than Brady started the bus, we put the two dogs in the bus, drove down the drive-way and closed the gate and left Brady's old home forever. It was a gray and rainy day.



We stopped at Shannons house and left Sabrina, the oldest Chihuahua with her and three other little dogs. Now there was only Kujo with us to drive to our first destination for the night. Eugene, Fred and Kim and their 3 year old son August Traugott Oskar were waiting for us. Also we had an appointment to get a new three way refrigerator, for 50 \$. Everything worked out fine then we had dinner together and decided to drive to the hotsprings on the highway 58.

When we arrived it was midnight and freezing cold' Kujo crawled into our bed and slept under the blanket. Happy to have a warm body to stay close. At 8 am we got up and jumped in the hot river bed and



soaked our freezing, white bodies for half an hour.



Time to say good bye and move on to Kujo's new home. In the high desserts of Oregon, above Klimath Falls. Buck who will take care of him met us in the city to make the doggy-deal. He brought Edie with him, one of Brady's Foster brothers. He just came out of prison, after staying there for five years and after not seeing Brady for 39 years.



And it was another sad moment to let Kujo go with him, Kujo will be one of 8 dogs now, dogs of all sizes surround Buck's property, he maybe finally will find his real bark by facing coyotes and vultures....

Back on the road to Chico. There we were going to visit Nip, another long time no see friend of Brady.

Nip is a man who always appreciated Brady's positive energy in taking live how it shows up and as well his free spirit, he had a lot of stories to tell about Brady influenced him about 27 years ago, when he picked him up hitchhiking on a unisicle down the road. He is a Doctor and Brady has since 8 month a problem with his ears.



With a shot in his butt and some ear-drops and pills Brady was on the way to be cured. Nip also gave me some pills for my yearlong shoulder pain it is gone after I took them. Yeah.... Nip took us also in the park nearby, the "Sherwood Forest" Why this name? Because in 1936 or around this time the Hollywood Movie Robinhood was filmed there. We crossed the river and the bridges where Errol Flynn with his horse acted along as Robin Hood. Than Nip took us to Kosko and went shopping with us for the tour. Muchas Gracias for all the nice support.

Sebastopol was the next city to reach. That's where we picked up Cirque en De route, Laurie, Jonah and Faeble. To get up the hill to the house from Jonah's parents Brady was forced to pull out his bus-driving skills. Two big Sequoia-Trees were framing the road and other trees and bushes were hanging into the road and curves were showing upa lot.



We stayed for two day's, filled up the water-tanks, dived into the wood-heated hot tub, celebrated Jonah's birthday, peeled fresh oranges from the garden and

got every night a well cooked dinner. We also sold around 11 pair of underwear to friends and relatives from Jonah's parents. We left in

the sunshine and drove to San Francisco where we were going to pick up Faeble and one ride share. We did it and start driving driving driving until we were 80 miles away from Tucson. Short night and we arrived in Tucson in the early afternoon to see Ruben and Paul.



25 December 2011—6pm

Parked on a Pemex Gaz Station, here it's Laurie..

Alright, first I would like to say Merry Christmas to our followers.

The weather is not that great yet so we are staying in the cosy warm bus. Drinking the delicious hot red wine, that Irmi just made. Remind me Christmas in Stasbourg, France.



I almost forgot we were in Mexico !!! Because, YES !! We are in Mexico, we crossed the border today and everything went smooth. At the same time, when

three Americans, one Germane Lady and one French girl in a pink and blue Bus called the Big Underwear cross the Mexican border the 25th at 2 in the afternoon. That's not a usual cross is it ???

Ready to eat our Christmas meal and ready to hit the road in the early morning tommorow. Feliz Navidad !!!!!

Christmas passed and on the 25th of December we crossed the border to Mexico with no problems at all. We start again to drive a lot till dark to the first Pemex Station to have a dinner and some chocolate liquors for Christmas celebrations.

Next day we drove more than a lot and stayed over night Las Bocas south from Navojoa, at the Pacific Ocean.

When we asked for a save place a woman said we should park in the back yard of her sister's house right by the water. Because it is too dangerous outside, in the night, at the beach, in this city.



So we did..... it was still chilly the air and the ocean. Just before it was bed time the family, mother daughter, grandchild's and cousins (all feminine) stepped out of the house and we invited them in our rolling house. Laurie offered some of her cloths donation box and the girls were thrilled. Next morning a short dip in the freezing Pacific than back on the road. For the next two days we drove in the day and slept in parking lot s at Gas Stations. We stopped for needs and shopping. Until we arrived in Tepic from here we wanted to go along the coast to the Guatemalan Border. On this day we made 150 km in 5 hours. Mountains and all this holyday traffic made us go slow.



As well the Police stopped us and we had to pay 500 Pesos for having somebody riding on the roof and having the door open.... Haha.

After a short dip in the Ocean in the middle of

Puerto Vallarte we stayed one more night at a Pemex Station.

Now the days and the nights are hot and we were lucky that Faeble got to know the Pemex worker better so we could use the showers in the night and morning.

Back to driving in a beautiful area of mountains and fields and trees and bushes and villages... everybody is sitting and watching the things passing by.... Suddenly a nasty sound and here we are where the newsletter started. The drive line broke.

5 Minutes after we stopped right on the street, because the motor also just gave up a Mexicano and his wife stopped and asked if we need help and that he knows a mechanic in the next town.... One kilometer away. So he got him. He figured everything out... he removed the broken driveline and now we should move. But there was no moving at all the motor don't start, the engine stopped to fast and it was too hot still. He went charged the big batteries at his shop came back and the bus started right away. To move the bus a tractor came and pulled us to his shop.



That's where we stayed the next night and half of two days. This piece of bus structure you can not just buy around the corner. You go and search for it at

different mechanics in the area. So Daniel started to call around in a circle from 100 km (65 miles) and found this.

A guy who had the right sized driveline steal tube and the connecting piece what was a little longer at the connection end. He brought us to a welder who took the broken piece apart and put the still usable parts together with all the new pieces. BOOM ready. All this happened 100 km away in another city. When Daniel the mechanic came back he put the rest of the things together and tightened it back to the bus. One short test drive and we could go back on the road. For a total from 440 \$ the whole experience was covered.

But the muffler was damaged as well, so it was a louder ride than before in the bus. This afternoon we only went for a few Miles and we all desired to jump in the



water. We drove down a road to the beach and had to stop and stay over night in front of a gate. When we drove down to the beach in the morning, we had to cut some low hanging branches to finally see an incredible wonderful paradice beach.



An old ruin of an Hotel was watching over the place, their was coconut palm trees and rocks to go fishing. Fabel collected coconuts, Jonah and Brady went fishing and laurie and I did

some boogyboarding until a guy came and told us that the current and the waves are very dangerous.

We left in the afternoon because we had to anyway. It was getting close to New Year in fact it was the 31. December. There was no

beer no wine no food in the bus to celebrate so we drove into Barra de Navidad to find all that and also the party mood. After dinner we were all tired. Just Laurie and Jonah went into the City, Faebel played guitarre at the beach and than went to bed and Brady went to sleep on the floor and I I observed all that. When Laurie, Jonah suddenly everywhere the fireworks went off. On our glock it was only 11pm. But this was wrong. It was the new year.

Feliz Ano

Hello... Hi... This is Faeble. (: {

Elephants are buses,
U turns, new faces,
new friends, new
commitment. It is all
just another piece of
a puzzle that we live
and let go of in the
future but feel



strongly for in the moment. Hardship comes as a side dish of this roller coaster ride. Side dish, meaning not the main event or main course, but that is the price we pay for our dreams sometimes and the food we eat for our hearts desire to see the world and search... So many people in this world seek adventure for reasons of feeding their loved ones... to bring them the comfort that so many have had and decide not to share for reasons I am familiar with unfortunately. Why do I? Why do we? Adventure... I sit and stare into the blue eyes beyond the sand and think how lucky I am. How lucky we are... I am grateful but what is that truly worth other then a few words. One thing is for sure this is an adventure like no other. To see the souls of the others shine through their eyes and words. Shining out so bright beyond belief it leaves me baffled and in beauty. My friend Finisia Medrano would say we could be walking in life's beauty. I would say driving.

Blessed be.

