

Dear friends,

we wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy year 2022!

2021 was our second year as boat owners - again with many and also new challenges. Our plan: back on the boat in March. But again because of Corona we could not leave until the end of May. But then we were vaccinated twice.



After our arrival aboard in Messolonghi, we had to discover a major damage in the cooling of the engine. We had to wait a long time for the good but very busy mechanic from Patras. In addition, Walter had been diagnosed an atrial fibrillation at the beginning of the year. This could be treated by a slight intervention in January, but it came back in spring. So we decided to fly home at the end of June and postponed the repair on our engine until later - for now this other "repair", on the heart.

So in July and August we were in beautiful Heidelberg. Walters heart could be brought back into the right rhythm, we could enjoy the summer, while in Greece the temperatures rose above 40 degrees and whole regions were on fire. Seeing friends and family, going to the playground and zoo with Felix (Gisela's nephew) and Caros children, band rehearsals, jazz choir were on the agenda. We were able to enjoy and had a good time. And even a visit to our temporary second home Berlin was included.

At the end of August it was time for Messolonghi again. We flew to Preveza in the Ionian Sea, and our friends Angela and Walter from Spechbach near Heidelberg (!), who also have a boat in Messolonghi, picked us up from the airport, they had already brought us there, wonderfully friendly, very nice and always helpful. But then came a time that brought us to the limits of our patience and resilience: Waiting for the mechanic, for the spare parts, for the installation and repair... not nice!

But nice was the visit of Florin (Giselas other nephew) and his girlfriend Michelle. With their rental car we were able to make impressive trips to the surrounding area and the Peloponnese. A wonderful change of pace. Of course we reported about it in our blog www.sailing-aglaya.eu.

In the middle of October we finally got going. We had a few beautiful days in the western Peloponnese (the Corinth Canal is still closed) and anchored in beautiful bays, more than last year, which is what we had planned for this year. Our plan was a winter berth on land on the island of Leros, a little northwest of Rhodes, off the Turkish coast, in the Aegean Sea. Throughout October it was very stormy and uncomfortable there, and then when we had some problems with water in the boat, we decided to go to

Kalamata. A nice interesting town, a place for our boat on land, where the hull will be overhauled over the winter.

In March, if Corona lets us, we're off again: Sporades, Cyclades, Dodecanese ... What we learned: It is not a vacation to have and maintain such a ship, it is a lot of work. And: We should plan much more



generously, be more flexible, if sometimes not everything goes as planned. There are always beautiful bays and tomorrow is another day.

It was a mixed year, but it also had many wonderful moments. So we can't complain at the end of our second year of learning. It was beautiful!

In the meantime, we are back in gray Heidelberg, we celebrated Gisela's mother's 93rd birthday. We meet our friends again, go to the Palatinate and to Hamburg, hopefully on New Year's Eve to Upper Swabia, and and ... 2022 can come.

We wish you a wonderful new year and hope to see you or hear from you!
Greetings from

Gisela & Walk