

## At Sea – Day 34 Oct. 31:

Happy Halloween!

On this Halloween Day 2011 the Amsterdam was sailing in calm sea southeast between the islands of Bornea and Sumatra. We were headed for the port city of Tanjung Priok which is a suburb of Jakarta, the capital of the Nation of Indonesia on the island of Java. The outside conditions were warm and humid but not oppressive.

At breakfast this morning we met with Cruise Critic friend Barbara N. with the Cruise Critic handle of “BARBTHEHAPPYWANDERER”. In several different ports we had purchased from street vendors some plastic placemats (\$1.50 to \$6 USD each). The placemats were imprinted with an image showing a dramatic three dimensional (3D) effect. Barbara S. had mentioned these placemats to Barbara N. and she wanted to see what we had. Barbara S. took the placemats to breakfast and showed them to Barbara N. The placemats had various 3D images of the Great Wall of China, horses, cats, dogs and

birds. One that showed the three dimensional effect most dramatically was of birds feeding babies in a nest as shown in this non-3D picture on the left.



We had not seen this technology in a large piece such as a placemat before and really enjoyed the effect. Barbara N. was also impressed with these 3D images and the effect readily visible from a distance caught the eye of passing Lido stewards as shown in the picture on the right. Barbara N. said she will be looking for these little items in future ports.





During the “Good Morning Amsterdam” TV show this morning, Gene and Adele interviewed Presti, our dining room manager, and one of the dining room stewards. In the picture on the left Presti is talking about the on-board language sessions they have given passengers interested in learning some basic Bahasa phrases they may find useful in Indonesia.

Later, at 11am, Adele led an interview of Tina, from the Pinnacle Grill, and a helper as they demonstrated how to make Nasi Goreng which is a national dish of Indonesia.

A copy of the recipe for Nasi Goreng is shown below.



**HOLLAND AMERICA PRESENTS INDONESIAN FOOD WITH TINA**

**NASI GORENG**

Traditional Fried Rice in Indonesia and Malay, can refer simply to fried pre-cooked rice, a meal accompanied with other items, like sate, omelet, beef Sumatra and krupuk.

Serves 8

**INGREDIENTS**

- ½ teaspoon dried shrimp paste
- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- ½ cup small shrimp, peeled
- ½ cup of scallions, chopped
- 2 small onions, peeled julienne
- 1 teaspoon cilantro, chopped
- 2 tablespoons light soy sauce
- 1 teaspoon sambal (chili)
- 3 tbsp Kecap Manis
- 4 cups of long grain rice, cold cooked
- 1 tablespoon garlic, minced
- ½ cup small cut chicken/shredded
- ½ cup of bean sprouts

**METHOD**

Heat oil and sauté the tomato paste, vegetables, shrimp and beef mix well and add the soy sauce and sambal. Then add the rice makes sure the ingredients and rice are equally mix. Add cilantro, toss and adjust seasoning with salt and pepper. Portion fried rice. Sprinkle with green onions.



The stewards had spent the night putting up decorations for Halloween all over the ship. The dining room entrance got the most elaborate scary work as shown below.

Barbara and Pauline couldn't resist posing with the dining room greeter.



Before dinner we met with Steve and Bobbie in the Ocean Bar. Barbara had on her Halloween party hat but the rest of us just went for Halloween colors of orange and black.



About 5pm the party got started in the Ocean Bar as costumed revelers showed up in force. Here are some pictures of the ones that are fit to print.



Later, Santa became a little more frisky.





We left the party in the Ocean Bar before anyone got hurt and made our way to the dining room. The dining room had been decorated from stem to stern with hanging black and orange streamers and the stewards were all wearing crazy hats made to look like smiling pumpkins.



Roy



Danu

Gede







Presti, the dining room manager dropped by to give his somber Halloween greetings.



To finish off the evening we got a nice picture of our table mates at the Halloween festivities. Fred, who is a long time friend of Bob and Esther, joined our table in Singapore so now there are six of us.

We had made steady progress through the day on our way to Tanjung Priok which is the port city for Jakarta, the capital city of Indonesia. Our location late in the afternoon was indicated on the TV screen as shown below.



We had crossed the equator which is less than 100 miles south of Singapore and were making a turn to the west for our approach to Tanjung Priok and Jakarta on the island of Java. This equator crossing was made without much fanfare as King Neptune must have been sleeping. We suspect there will be a heavy price to pay when we make the crossing of the equator on our way back to the US.

We expect to arrive in Tanjung Priok port tomorrow morning and we have a tour booked that should show us around Jakarta.