

Latitude 38

VOLUME 451 January 2015

WE GO WHERE THE WIND BLOWS



GRAND MARINA



HAVE YOU EVER HAD THAT FEELING

YOU'RE NOT GETTING THE MOST OUT OF YOUR MONEY?

Grand Marina offers the best that you can get without breaking the bank!

Give us a call or stop by our office today and see what you've been missing! Visit our website at www.grandmarina.com

Currently running promos for 30' and 32' slips!

Call us for more information.



GRAND MARINA

THE BAY AREA'S PREMIERE BOATING COMMUNITY

510.865.1200

Leasing Office Open Daily
2099 Grand Street, Alameda, CA 94501
www.grandmarina.com

- ◆ Prime deep water double-fingered concrete slips from 30' to 100'.
 - ◆ Great Estuary location in the heart of beautiful Alameda Island.
 - ◆ Complete bathroom and shower facility, heated and tiled.
 - ◆ Free pump-out station open 24/7.
 - ◆ Full-service Marine Center and haul-out facility.
 - ◆ Free parking.
 - ◆ Free on-site WiFi.
- And much more...

Directory of Grand Marina Tenants

Blue Pelican Marine	116
Boat Yard at Grand Marina, The...	16
Marchal Sailmakers	91
MarineLube	118
New Era Yachts.....	120
Pacific Crest Canvas.....	38
Pacific Yacht Imports	24
Alameda Canvas and Coverings	
Alameda Marine Metal Fabrication	
UK Sailmakers	

Play Your Cards Right!



Last season brought successes in spades to Pineapple powered boats. Racers and cruisers alike found that dealing with Pineapple Sails brings results: sails that perform and endure.

This season offers new opportunities for mastering the many techniques of sailing. New Pineapple sails and the advice and service that go with them stack the deck in your favor.

Don't gamble. Give us a call today.

YOUR DEALER FOR: Musto foul weather gear, Dubarry footwear, and Spinlock Deckwear

Sails in need of repair may be dropped off at West Marine in Oakland, Alameda or Richmond and at Inland Sailing Company in Rancho Cordova.

Like us on Facebook.



PINEAPPLE SAILS

Phone (510) 522-2200

Fax (510) 522-7700

www.pineapplesails.com

2526 Blanding Ave., Alameda, California 94501

*Powered by Pineapples

BOAT LOANS

from



Trident Funding

*"a fresh
approach
from people
you can trust"*

In Northern California call
JOAN BURLEIGH
(800) 690-7770

In Southern California call
JEFF LONG
(888) 883-8634

www.tridentfunding.com

Loans will be arranged or made pursuant to a
California Finance Lenders License #605 1871.

CONTENTS

subscriptions	6
calendar	10
letters	18
sightings	58
year in preview	70
winter projects	74
season champs, pt. III	78
max ebb: never look back	84
the racing sheet	86
world of chartering	92
changes in latitudes	96
classy classifieds	112
brokerage	119
advertisers' index	119

Cover: One spinnaker, two gals, three hulls. Ha-Ha vet Tom van Dyke of the Santa Cruz-based Searunner 31 *En Pointe* sails across the South Pacific on his way to Southeast Asia.

Photo by Tom van Dyke

Copyright 2015 Latitude 38 Publishing, LLC

Latitude 38 welcomes editorial contributions in the form of stories, anecdotes, photographs – anything but poems, please; we gotta draw the line somewhere. Articles with the best chance at publication must 1) pertain to a West Coast or universal sailing audience, 2) be accompanied by a variety of pertinent, in-focus digital images (preferable) or color or black and white prints with identification of all boats, situations and people therein; and 3) be legible. These days, we prefer to receive both text and photos electronically, but if you send by mail, anything you want back must be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. **Submissions not accompanied by an SASE will not be returned.** We also advise that you not send original photographs or negatives unless we specifically request them; copies will work just fine. Notification time varies with our workload, but generally runs four to six weeks. Please don't contact us before then by phone or mail. Send all submissions to editorial@latitude38.com, or mail to Latitude 38 editorial department, 15 Locust Ave., Mill Valley, CA 94941. For more specific information, request writers' guidelines from the above address or see www.latitude38.com/writers.html.

SELECT BROKERAGE



DUFOUR 44
JUST REDUCED - \$30,000!



BENETEAU FIRST 42
\$83,000

BENETEAU BROKERAGE

BENETEAU 473	2006	\$245,000
BENETEAU 423	2005	\$139,935
OCEANIS 411	1998	\$100,000
OCEANIS 37	2013	\$183,000
OCEANIS 31	2009	\$105,000
FIRST 42	1985	\$83,000
FIRST 25	2013	\$88,500
FIRST 20	2013	\$49,000

EXCLUSIVE BROKERAGE

ISLAND PACKET 485	2006	\$529,000
JEANNEAU 45 DS	2008	\$298,777
DUFOUR 44	2004	\$219,000
JEANNEAU 43 SO DS	2003	\$169,999
HUNTER 42 CC	2002	\$139,000
SANTA CRUZ 40	1983	\$79,000
ISLAND PACKET 380	2003	\$235,000
ISLAND PACKET 380	2000	\$220,000
BALTIC 38 DP	1983	\$113,900
TARTAN 3400	2007	\$143,888
J/BOAT 33	2005	\$93,500
DUFOUR GIB'SEA 32	2001	\$54,500

POWER BROKERAGE

MIKELSON 61 PH	2002	\$795,000
OFFSHORE 58 PH	1995	\$795,000
CAMARGUE 48	1988	\$199,888
GRAN TURISMO 44	2013	\$489,000
BAYLINER 3988	2001	\$144,500
BENETEAU	1997	\$54,900

Join us January 22-25, 2015 for the SAN FRANCISCO BOAT SHOW at AT&T PARK McCOVEY COVE

WEST COAST DEBUT OF THE NEW OCEANIS 35

2015 CRUISING WORLD'S BOAT OF THE YEAR

Following in the footsteps of the successful Oceanis 38, the new 35 offers twin rudder performance, hard-chine hull, large cockpit and twin wheels. Her interior volume is as big as a 37' boat and offers supreme comfort.



— OTHER MODELS ON DISPLAY AT THE SHOW —

OCEANIS 41



OCEANIS 38



Oceanis 45
First 25

Oceanis 48
Swift Trawler 34

Oceanis 31
Barracuda 9

Pre-Show Peek at the New Oceanis 35
Saturday, January 10, 2015
at our Pt. Richmond office
SAIL AND SAVE!

SEE YOU AT THE SHOW AT McCOVEY COVE!



1220 Brickyard Cove Rd., Pt. Richmond, CA

p: 510-236-2633

f: 510-234-0118

www.passageyachts.com

Look for our
new branch office
in Jack London Sq.
January 2015

VARIPROP

Variprop is the finest automatically feathering propeller available in the world today



- Near zero sailing drag
- Powerful thrust in head seas
- Incredible control in reverse
- External and separate pitch adjustment for forward and reverse
- Greatly reduced "propwalk"
- Soft Stop™ Multidisc Brake to minimize impact when reversing blades
- 2, 3, and 4 blade models and Saildrive
- Simple, easy, one piece installation—no shaft modifications required

401-847-7960
Fax: 401-849-0631

747 Aquidneck Ave.
Middletown, RI 02842

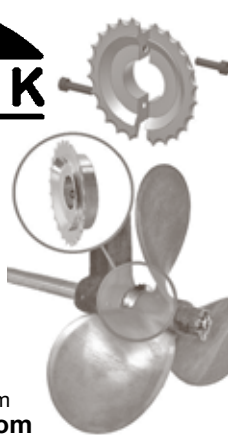
info@varipropusa.com
www.varipropusa.com

SHAFT SHARK

*The best rope,
line and debris
cutter there is!*



401-847-7960
sales@ab-marine.com
www.ab-marine.com



Fix & Color Fiberglass in Seconds



sales@ab-marine.com

sales@ab-west.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS

**YOU CAN
ALSO GO TO
www.latitude38.com
TO PAY FOR YOUR
SUBSCRIPTION
ONLINE**

eBooks email list. *Free!*

See www.latitude38.com to download the entire magazine for free! Our eBooks are in PDF format, easy to use with Adobe Reader, and also available in Issuu format.

Email: _____

Please allow 4-6 weeks to process changes/additions, plus delivery time.

Enclosed \$36 for one year Third Class Postage (Delivery time 2-3 weeks; Postal Service will not forward third class; make address changes with us in writing.)

Enclosed \$55 for one year First Class Postage (Delivery time 2-3 days.)

Third Class Renewal First Class Renewal *(current subs. only!)*

Gift Subscription Card to read from: _____

NOTE: Subscriptions going to correctional facilities, FPO/APO (military), Canada, and Mexico are first class only. Sorry, no other foreign subscriptions.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: () _____ Email: _____

CREDIT CARD INFORMATION
Min. Charge \$12

MASTERCARD VISA AMERICAN EXPRESS

Number: _____ Exp.: _____ CSV: _____

INDIVIDUAL ISSUE ORDERS Current issue = \$6 ea.

Back Issues = \$7 ea. MONTH/YEAR: _____

DISTRIBUTION

We have a marine-oriented business/yacht club in California which will distribute copies of *Latitude 38*. (Please fill out your name and address and mail it to the address below. Distribution will be supplied upon approval.)

Please send me further information for distribution outside California

Business Name _____ Type of Business _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

County _____ Phone Number _____

Latitude 38

"we go where the wind blows"

Publisher/Exec. Editor Richard Spindler richard@latitude38.com
Associate Publisher John Arndt john@latitude38.com ext. 108
Managing Editor Andy Turpin andy@latitude38.com ext. 112
Racing Editor Christine Weaver chris@latitude38.com ext. 103
Contributing Editors John Riise, Paul Kamen, LaDonna Bubak
Special Events Donna Andre donna@latitude38.com
Advertising Sales John Arndt john@latitude38.com ext. 108
Advertising Sales Mike Zwiebach mikez@latitude38.com ext. 107
General Manager Colleen Young colleen@latitude38.com ext. 102
Production/Photos Annie Bates-Winship annie@latitude38.com ext. 106
Production/Classifieds Carrie Galbraith carrie@latitude38.com ext. 110
Bookkeeping Penny Clayton penny@latitude38.com ext. 101

Directions to our office press 4
Subscriptions press 1,4
Classifieds class@latitude38.com press 1,1
Distribution distribution@latitude38.com press 1,5
Editorial editorial@latitude38.com press 1,6
Calendar calendar@latitude38.com
Other email general@latitude38.com



www.latitude38.com
15 Locust Avenue, Mill Valley, CA 94941
Ph: (415) 383-8200 Fax: (415) 383-5816





Cityyachts



San Francisco's Yacht Brokers

Since 1969

Northern California's exclusive agent



33' Greenline Diesel/Electric 2015
Free fuel for 3 years – call for details.



32' Nordic Tug
2006 • \$219,000



Farr 44
1989 • \$148,500



Alerion Express 28
2001 • \$74,500

ALSO FEATURING:

POWER

62' Service Ship, 1974.....	\$879,000
48' DeFever LRC/Trawler, 1980	\$149,500
44' Sea Ray 440 Express Bridge, 1997	\$149,900
43' Hatteras, 1979	\$85,000
41' Storebro SRC 400, 1990.....	\$129,000
40' Greenline, New 2015	Call for Pricing
39' Sea Ray SF Sedan, 1985/1991 refit.....	\$135,000
34' Californian LRC, 1982	\$48,000
33' Greenline diesel/electric, 2015.....	free fuel for 3 years!

32' Wasque, 1973.....	\$85,000
30' Mainship Pilot II, 2002	\$82,000
27' Boston Whaler Offshore Walkaround, 1992	\$69,000
SAIL	
44' Jeanneau, 1991	\$109,000
40' Passport, 1985	\$145,000
40' Beneteau, 2009	\$175,000
38' Cape George, 2000.....	\$162,500
37' Pacific Seacraft, 1980	\$109,000
36' Islander, 1981.....	\$34,000

10 MARINA BLVD., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94123 • Toll Free: 877-444-5091 • 415-567-8880

FAX (415) 567-6725 • email: sales@citysf.com • website: www.citysf.com

PLEASE VISIT OUR FUEL DOCK AT GASHOUSE COVE MARINA • OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK • 9AM TO 5PM

Yachtfinders/Windseakers

in the heart of
San Diego's boating community



A LEADER IN
BROKERAGE
SALES
ON THE
WEST COAST!



2330 Shelter Island Dr. # 207, San Diego, CA 92106

info@yachtfinders.biz

www.yachtfinders.biz

(619) 224-2349

Toll Free (866) 341-6189



NEW LISTING
70' ANDREWS, '94 \$245,000
Professionally maintained throughout, *Condor* could be on the race course tomorrow. Priced for a quick sale, she is ready to race!



NEW LISTING
46' KETTENBURG PCC, '57 \$39,900
Designed to race, but still comfortable enough to cruise with the family. This well-cared-for boat is fast and ready to compete.



45' HERRESHOFF MOB JACK, '82 \$279,000
Exquisite is first word that comes to mind when you see *Raven*. Here's your chance to own a unique beautiful vessel.



45' HARDIN CC KETCH, '81 \$129,000
A classy solid offshore vessel with graceful lines and an open, comfortable layout. Seller has made her a real gem.



44' C&C, '89 \$99,500
Fast and beautiful to look at with 2-stateroom, 2-head layout that will blow you away, she's a good-looking classic!



41' COOPER 416 PH, '80 \$59,900
Vagabundo is a sturdy cruiser with many recent upgrades including new standing rigging, sails and electronics.



NEW LISTING
38' BALTIC DP38, '87 \$149,000
Toffer has led a charmed life with consistent upgrades and meticulous care. A well-equipped boat ready for sailing adventures.



BAY AREA
36' BENETEAU 36.7, '04 \$99,500
Equipped with Harken split-drum furler, making her easy to sail shorthanded. Plus gracious interior accommodations.



NEW LISTING
35' SCHOCK, '88 \$26,500
If you are a sailor with a lust for winning and for having the trophies that go along with that, then *Shaka* is the boat for you.



NEW LISTING
32' PDQ CLASSIC, '96 \$79,000
This PDQ is a well-equipped cruising catamaran. With some TLC, she will shine. Priced below the market to allow for some clean-up.



NEW LISTING
30' CATALINA, '88 \$29,900
Tranquility is clearly a cut above the rest. Well maintained, well equipped and ready to go for long distances of coastal cruising.



NEW LISTING
26' LUDERS L-16, '49 \$9,900
After a total refit at Koehler Kraft Boatyard, including painting the hull and the bottom, she now looks like she was just launched!

SCANMAR INTERNATIONAL

Home of the Monitor Windvane

Your Source for
Self-Steering and Emergency
Rudder Solutions

- **Monitor** Windvane with optional **MRUD** Emergency Rudder
 - The **SwingGate** mounting system for open and reverse transoms
 - Upgrade your existing **Monitor** to emergency steering
- **Auto-helm** Auxiliary Rudder/Trim-Tab Windvane
- The **SOS** Emergency Rudder

Contact us to determine the best solution for your boat - multihulls too!

Introducing the



Don't drop anchor without it!

www.selfsteer.com

Richmond, CA

510.215.2010 • 888.946.3826

scanmar@selfsteer.com



FULL SERVICE MOBILE RIGGING

A SELECTION OF OUR SERVICES:

Standing Rigging • Running Rigging
Furlers • Lifelines • Repair - All at Your Slip!

We can also do full rig replacement.

Competitive Rates

More than 20 Years Experience

Firm Labor Quotes on Most Projects



Alameda

yachtcheck@yahoo.com

(510) 815-4420

THE FINEST SAILS BEGIN WITH THE BEST SAILCLOTH

Get ready for
spring sailing –
**WINTER
DISCOUNTS
NOW IN
EFFECT**

Our patented woven Vectran® sailcloth performs like the laminates with the durability of Dacron®, especially in roller furling applications. In fact, Vectran® is lighter, lower stretch, and retains its shape over a longer life than any sailcloth we've ever offered to cruising sailors. That's because Hood Vectran® is woven, not laminated to Mylar® film. And you can be sure that each sail we roll out is built by hand, with the same care and craftsmanship that has been the Hood hallmark for 50 years. To discuss your sailcloth needs – whether our state-of-the-art Vectran® or our soft, tight-weave Dacron® – give us a call today.

HOOD Sails & Service

HOOD New Sails

HOOD Sail Repairs

HOOD Furling Conversions

HOOD Free Pickup & Delivery



SAILMAKERS



Chesapeake

*Jim Fair's Outbound 46
with Hood Vectron
Full Batten Mainsail,
140% Genoa, and
Solent Jib*

PHOTO COURTESY
SWIFTSURE YACHTS
www.OutboundYachts.com

HOOD SAILMAKERS 465 Coloma Street, Sausalito, CA 94965

Call Robin Sodaro (800) 883-7245 (415) 332-4104 Fax (415) 332-0943

www.hood-sails.com hoodsails@aol.com

Outboard Engine Owners:

WE UNDERSTAND



When an engine dies, there's no walking home – just costly repairs, lost vacation time, and lost revenues.

Don't find yourself in this boat. Regular maintenance prevents expensive repairs.

We are *your* experts for outboard diagnostics, repair, repower, sales and service.



- Factory-trained and certified techs
- Open six days a week
- New and used engines bought and sold
- One-year warranty on all work performed and used engine sales
- Three-year warranty on all new engines

MARINE OUTBOARD

since 1990

OUTBOARD SALES, SERVICE, REPAIR, PARTS

(415) 332-8020

Nissan
Tohatsu
Johnson
Evinrude



Honda
Mariner
Mercury
Yamaha

35 Libertyship Way • Sausalito, CA 94965

Conveniently located at Libertyship Marina

If we're not maintaining your outboard, you've missed the boat!

CALENDAR

Non-Race

- Jan. 4** — Sail under the full moon on a Saturday night.
- Jan. 3, Feb. 7** — Chantey Sing aboard *Balclutha* at Hyde Street Pier in SF, 8 p.m.-midnight. Dress warmly and bring your own mug. Free, but RSVP to Peter, (415) 561-7171.
- Jan. 3-4, 10-11** — Three-hour Battle Sails aboard *Lady Washington* and *Hawaiian Chieftain* in Long Beach or San Pedro, featuring booming cannons, close-quarters maneuvers, and a taste of 18th century maritime life aboard tall ships. \$43-\$63. Schedule and tickets, www.historicalseaport.org.
- Jan. 4-25** — Veterans' Sail, 10 a.m., and Keelboat Sail, 12 noon, every Sunday with BAADS at South Beach Harbor, SF. Free. Info, (415) 281-0212 or www.baads.org.
- Jan. 7-11** — Portland Boat Show at the Portland Expo Center. Oregon's only boat show, featuring hundreds of new and pre-owned boats. Info, www.otshows.com.
- Jan. 7-28** — San Diego's South Bay Sea Scouts meet at Chula Vista Marina aboard the schooner *Bill of Rights* on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Sea Scouts is a Boy Scouts of America program for guys and gals ages 13-20. John, (619) 852-7811 or mossfish@gmail.com.
- Jan. 7-28** — Wednesday Yachting Luncheon Series at St. Francis YC, 12-2 p.m. Enjoy lunch and a dynamic speaker each Wednesday for about \$25. All YCs' members welcome. More info under 'Events' tab at www.stfyc.com.
- Jan. 8** — Single Sailors Association monthly meeting, Balena Bay YC in Alameda. Cocktails at 6:30 p.m.; dinner at 7 (\$6-\$9). Beginners welcome. Info, www.singlesailors.org.
- Jan. 14** — Racing Rules of Sailing Seminar Series, Long Beach YC, 7 p.m. This one covers the startline, upwind leg, and windward mark rounding. Info, www.lbyc.org.
- Jan. 15** — Club Nautique's Winter Seminar Series kicks off with Vacation Chartering 101 presented by Rod Witel, Sausalito, 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$10/members; \$15 non-members includes appetizers and beverages. RSVP to (415) 332-8001.
- Jan. 22-25** — Progressive San Francisco Boat Show, Pier 48 & McCovey Cove, expanded in this second year with new features and entertainment, including showboats and luxury yachts, a kids' zone, a sailing simulator and in-the-water education. Info, www.sfboatshow.com.
- Jan. 22-25** — San Diego Sunroad Marina Boat Show. Info, www.bigbayboatshow.com.
- Jan. 23-Feb. 1** — Seattle Boat Show Indoors + Afloat, at CenturyLink Field and on South Lake Union. *Latitude's* Andy Turpin will present the following seminars: Cruising Tahiti and the Pacific Puddle Jump, 1/24 & 1/25 at 3:15 p.m.; and Doing the Baja Ha-Ha Rally, 1/24 & 1/25, 4:15 p.m. Info, www.seattleboatshow.com.
- Jan. 24-25** — Safety at Sea Seminar in Long Beach. One-day seminar, \$160; two-day seminar, \$210; \$10 discount for US Sailing members. With Bruce Brown, Alan Andrews, John Jourdane and Dr. Steve Shea. LBYC, www.lbyc.org.
- Jan. 24-25** — Whalefest Monterey, Old Fisherman's Wharf, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free whale watching, fishing & sailing; experts & demos, live music, more. Info, www.montereywharf.com.
- Jan. 29** — Spinnaker Trimming/Sailing seminar presented by Kame Richards at Club Nautique in Alameda, 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$10/members; \$15 non-members includes appetizers and beverages. RSVP to (510) 865-4700.
- Jan. 31** — US Sailing One-Day Race Management Seminar at Encinal YC in Alameda, 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. \$35. Dee Fox, encinalseminar@gmail.com.
- Feb. 17 & 18** — Tides on San Francisco Bay by Kame Richards, Bay Model, Sausalito, 7:00 p.m. \$15 cash only. RSVP to Jim, (707) 759-2045 or jimtantillo@comcast.net.

FARALLONE YACHT SALES

HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!

SEE BOTH
CATALINAS AT
THE SF BOAT
SHOW

2015 CATALINA 385

2015 CATALINA 445

Catalina Yachts

GLACIER BAY
Classic Yachts. Serious Boats.



See the smooth-sailing 2015 Catalina 385 and the 2015 Catalina 445 with its spacious interior, featuring the innovative FlexCabin convertible bunk/office/storage room. Discover the Farallone advantage at the SF Boat Show – we'll be featuring Catalina sailboats, Ranger Tugs, and Glacier Bay Powercats – all proudly made in the USA. www.faralloneyachts.com

LIST WITH US! FIRST MONTH FREE RENT! OPEN BOAT WEEKEND JANUARY 10-11



1994 Catalina 42 \$113,000



Ranger 31 Command Bridge Call for price



2015 Catalina 385 Call for price



2014 Glacier Bay 2780 PowerCat \$179,137



1973 C&C Custom 43 \$225,000



2005 Catalina 440 \$289,000

New Catalina Yachts at Our Docks

- 45' Catalina 445, 2015 **JUST ARRIVED**
- 38' Catalina 385, 2015 **JUST ARRIVED**

Pre-Owned Catalina Yachts at Our Docks

- 44' Catalina 440, 2005 **JUST ARRIVED** \$289,000
- 42' Catalina, 1994 113,000
- 38' Catalina 380, 1999 85,000
- 38' Catalina 380, 1997 **REDUCED** 87,900
- 32' Catalina 320, 2000, not at our dock 52,500

We need Catalina listings. First month's berthing is FREE!

Pre-Owned Sailing Yachts

- 44' Norseman 447, 1984 **REDUCED** 129,000
- 43' C&C, 1973 225,000
- 40' C&C 121, 1999 **REDUCED** 98,127
- 40' Wilderness, 1983 (in Morro Bay) ... **REDUCED** 36,000
- 39' Cal, 1989, cruise equipped 89,900
- 38' CT, 1982 60,000
- 37' Hunter 376, 1997 **NEW LISTING** 82,000
- 36' Beneteau 36.1, 1999 84,500
- 36' Pearson 36-2, 1986 **REDUCED** 53,500
- 29.5' Hunter, 1995 29,000
- 28' Hunter, 1986 15,900

New Ranger Tugs (base price)

- 31' Ranger Tug Sedan, 2015 269,937
- 31' Ranger Flybridge, 2014 279,937
- 27' Ranger Tug, 2015 159,937
- 25' Ranger Tug SC, 2014 129,937

Pre-Owned Ranger Tugs

- 29' Ranger, 2011 **SOLD**
- 25' Ranger Tug, 2008 109,000

New Powercats

- Glacier Bay 2780 \$179,137

Pre-Owned Power Yachts

- Stephens 70 Classic Motor Yacht, 1966 1,100,000
- Freedom Yachts Legacy 40, 1996 **REDUCED** 199,500

Pre-Owned Fishing Boat

- Osprey 26, 1999 **SOLD**



FARALLONE

1070 Marina Village Parkway
Alameda, CA 94501
(510) 523-6730

Make 2015 the Year YOU Learn to Sail!



Join us at the
**PROGRESSIVE
San Francisco
BOAT SHOW™**
January 22 - 25, 2014
Mc Covey Cove & Pier 48
SFBotShow.com

Enter promotion code "CLUB" for
discounted online tickets

**Basic Cruising Skipper's Package
With Foulies Included!
Total Package Value: \$3,300!**

ONLY \$1295!

Package Includes:

- Basic Keelboat Class 
- Basic Cruising Class
- Bay Cruising Destination Workshop
- US SAILING Membership
- Club Nautique Basic Membership Initiation*

* One year membership required.
Offer expires 01/25/2015

**Qualifies you to charter from our
fleet of beautiful boats up to 35'!**

Call Today!

Alameda 800-343-SAIL
Sausalito 800-559-CLUB

**Club
Nautique**
www.clubnautique.net

CALENDAR

Racing

Jan. 1 — Brrrr Rabbit. CPYC, (650) 347-6730 or www.cpyc.com.

Jan. 1 — Frostbite Regatta on Lake Yosemite near Merced. LYSA, www.lakeyosemitesailing.org.

Jan. 10 — NorCal #6/Little Daddy high school regatta. RYC, www.richmondyc.org.

Jan. 14, Feb. 14 — Santana 22 Team Racing in Santa Cruz. SCYC, www.scyc.org.

Jan. 18-23 — Quantum Key West Race Week, an international midwinter classic and travel-worthy destination event for West Coast sailors. Info, www.premiere-racing.com.

Jan. 31 — Three Bridge Fiasco. This aptly-named pursuit race, the most popular on the Bay, is the first SSS event of the season. Info, www.sfbaysss.org.

Feb. 7 — Double Up and Back. CPYC, (650) 347-6730 or www.cpyc.com.

Feb. 7 — Spring Series #1. FLYC, www.flyc.org.

Feb. 14-15 — BAYS Winter Optis. EYC, www.encinal.org.

Midwinter Regattas

BAY VIEW BC — Midwinter Madness: 1/10, 2/14, 3/14. Terry, (408) 210-0517 or www.bayviewboatclub.org.

BENICIA YC — Frostbite Series: 1/10, 2/14, 3/14. Joe, (707) 628-2914, www.beniciaachtclub.com or race@benicia-yachtclub.com

BERKELEY YC — Midwinters: 1/10-11, 2/14-15. Bobbi, (925) 939-9885 or www.berkeleyyc.org.

BERKELEY YC — Chowder Races: Sundays through the end of March except when it conflicts with above. Paul, (510) 540-7968 or www.berkeleyyc.org.

CAL SAILING CLUB — Year-round Sunday morning dinghy races, conditions permitting, intraclub only, typically in Laser Bahias and JY15s. Info, www.cal-sailing.org.

CORINTHIAN YC — Midwinters: 1/17-18, 2/21-22. Info, (415) 435-4771 or www.cyc.org.

COYOTE POINT YC — Winter Beercans: 1/11, 1/15, 2/8, 2/22, 3/8, 3/22. Info, (650) 347-6730 or www.cpyc.com.

ELKHORN YC — Frostbite Series: 2/28, 3/14, 3/28, 4/11, 4/25. Info, (831) 724-3865, eyc@elkhornyc.com or www.elkhornyc.com.

ENCINAL YC — Jack Frost Series: 1/10, 2/21, 3/14. Info, (510) 522-3272 or www.encinal.org.

GOLDEN GATE YC — Manuel Fagundes Seaweed Soup Series: 1/3, 2/7, 3/7. Info, (415) 346-2628 or www.ggyc.com.

ISLAND YC — Island Days on the Estuary: 1/11, 2/8, 3/8. John, (510) 521-2980 or www.iyc.org.

LAKE MERRITT SAILING CLUB — Midwinters: 1/11, 2/14, 3/8; this year at Oakland's Jack London Aquatic Center on the Estuary instead of on the lake, due to construction. Mark, (925) 245-0287.

MONTEREY PENINSULA YC — Perry Cup/Midwinters: 1/3, 2/7. Info, www.mpyc.org or www.mercury-sail.com.

OAKLAND YC — Sunday Brunch Series: 1/4, 1/18, 2/1, 2/15, 3/1. Info, www.oaklandyachtclub.net.

REGATTAPRO — Winter One Design: 1/10, 2/7. Jeff, (415) 595-8364 or www.regattapro.com.

RICHMOND YC — Small Boat Midwinters: 1/4, 2/1, 3/1. Optimists and El Toro Green Fleet: 1/31, 2/28. Info, www.richmondyc.org.

RICHMOND YC — Laser Sundays; juniors and adults race together: 1/11, 1/18, 1/25, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22, 3/15, 3/22, 3/29. Info, <http://rycsunday.myfleet.org>.

SANTA CRUZ YC — Midwinters: 1/17, 2/21, 3/21. Info, (831) 425-0690 or www.scyc.org.



Cruising Yachts



BOARD OUR NEW BOATS AT OUR IN-WATER DISPLAYS
SAN FRANCISCO BOAT SHOW - JAN. 22-25
SAN DIEGO SUNROAD BOAT SHOW - JAN. 22-25

In-Water SF Boat Show



New Jeanneau 41DS

In-Water SF & SD Shows



New Jeanneau 349

In-Water SD Boat Show



New Jeanneau 469

In-Water San Diego Show



New 2015 Jeanneau 509

In-Water San Diego Show



New 2015 Jeanneau 53

New Model - Just Launched



New 2015 Leopard 40

In-Stock & Ready to Sail



New 2015 Jeanneau 44DS

Dealer Demo - Sale Pending



2012 Hunter 50 AC

2014 Year End Closeout!



New 2014 Hunter 33



'99 Catalina 400 \$159,000



'02 Beneteau 473 \$249,900



'97 Catalina 34 \$77,500



'04 Tartan 4100 \$294,950



'09 Catalina 375 - \$179,000



'05 Catalina 350 \$125,000



Available Mid January

Alameda Yacht Sales Office
1070 Marina Village Pkwy, #101A
Alameda, CA 94501

WWW.CRUISEYACHTS.NET

Alameda: (510) 521-1327
Marina del Rey: (310) 821-8300

San Diego: (619) 681-0633
Newport Beach: (949) 650-7245

SPAULDING WOODEN BOAT CENTER



The oldest boatyard in Sausalito!

AFFORDABLE QUALITY

We haul boats up to 42 feet long
and 24,000 lbs.

WOOD-FIBERGLASS-METAL

The Golden
Gate sloop
Phoebe
gets a new
mast.



Stop by to
see this and
our other
winter
projects.

(415) 332-3721

boatworks@spauldingcenter.org

FOOT OF GATE FIVE RD. SAUSALITO, CA 94965

WWW.SPAULDINGCENTER.ORG

CALENDAR

SANTA ROSA SC — Spring Lake Winter Series: 1/24, 2/21, 3/21. Info, www.santarosasailingclub.org.

SAUSALITO YC — Sunday Midwinters: 1/4, 2/1, 3/1. Info, www.sausalitoyachtclub.org or race@sausalitoyachtclub.org.

SEQUOIA YC — Winter Series: 1/3, 2/7, 3/14. Redwood Cup: 1/10, 2/21, 3/7. Info, www.sequoiayc.org.

SOUTH BEACH YC — Island Fever: 1/17, 2/21, 3/21. Janelle, (650) 303-8236 or www.southbeachyc.org.

TIBURON YC — Midwinters: 1/10, 2/7, 3/7. Info, race@tyc.org or www.tyc.org.

VALLEJO YC — Tiny Robbins Midwinters: 1/3, 2/7, 3/7. Info, (707) 643-1254 or www.vyc.org.

In the Tropics

Jan. 16-24 — Mount Gay Round Barbados Race Series. Win your skipper's weight in Extra Old Rum. Info, www.mountgayrundbarbadosrace.com.

Jan. 29-Feb. 1 — Superyacht Challenge Antigua. Info, www.thesuperyachtchallenge.com.

Jan. 29-Feb. 3 — Island Water World Grenada Sailing Week. Info, www.grenadasailingweek.com.

Feb. 23 — RORC Caribbean 600, with starts and finishes in Antigua. Info, www.caribbean600.rorc.org.

Mar. 3-7 — Banderas Bay Regatta, five days of friendly racing for cruising boats out of Nuevo Vallarta, Mexico. Banderas Bay is considered one of the greatest sailing venues in the world. Info, www.banderasbayregatta.com.

Mar. 6-8 — 35th St. Maarten Heineken Regatta. Boasting the largest multihull fleet in the Caribbean, a growing Melges fleet, and famous parties, this regatta's motto is "Serious Fun." Info, www.heinekenregatta.com.

Mar. 11-14 — Loro Piana Caribbean Superyacht Regatta and Rendezvous at Costa Smeralda YC in Gorda Sound, BVI. Info, www.loropianasuperyachtregattaandrendezvous.com.

Mar. 16-Apr. 18, 2015 — Cruisers Rally to El Salvador. Start from wherever you are, cruise with a group of your own making, and travel at your own pace to explore the Pacific coast of Mexico and Central America. Arrive in Bahia del Sol, El Salvador by the opening date of the rally to enjoy many weeks of activities. Info, www.elsalvadorrally.com.

Mar. 19-22 — St. Barths Bucket turns 21. Imagine 40 invited yachts from 100 to 289 feet going at it on the spectacular open waters of the Caribbean. At night, almost all the boats line up on one quay in a harbor the size of Belvedere Cove to party French Caribbean-style. You probably already know somebody on a boat and therefore have a decent shot at getting a ride. Info, www.bucketregattas.com/stbarths.

Mar. 27-29 — St. Thomas International Regatta, in USVI. Info, www.stthomasinternationalregatta.com.

Mar. 30-Apr. 5 — BVI Spring Regatta & Sailing Festival. Their slogan is "Warm Water-Hot Racing-Cool Parties." Includes a huge bareboat fleet. Info, www.bvispringregatta.org.

April 9-12 — La Paz Bay Fest. An event for cruisers that includes races, potlucks, cruising seminars, and other fun activities for the family. Info, www.clubcruceiros.net.

Apr. 13-18 — Les Voiles de St. Barth. If you can sail, there's a decent chance you can get on a boat. Info, www.lesvoilesdesaintbarth.com.

Apr. 15-21 — Antigua Classic Yacht Regatta. There are often good opportunities to crew in the Classic. Info, www.antiguaclassics.com.

Apr. 25-May 1 — Antigua Sailing Week, the granddaddy of all great tropical sailing weeks. Info, www.sailingweek.com.

June 19-20 — Tahiti-Moorea Sailing Rendezvous, hosted



PROGRESSIVE

San Francisco

BOAT SHOW

JANUARY 22-25, 2015

Pier 48 and McCovey Cove
at AT&T Park



ON LAND OR IN THE WATER,
THERE'S NO BETTER PLACE TO SEE AND BUY BOATS

SFBoatShow.com



PROGRESSIVE





VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
www.boatyardgm.com

We're just a 'click' away.



Click our
 'Yard Cam' and
 'Yelp Reviews'



IT'S SIMPLE!

**Call The Boat Yard at Grand Marina
 for the Lowest Bottom Prices!**

~ COMPARE US WITH THE COMPETITION ~



Go clean into the future.

CALL FOR A RESERVATION

(510) 521-6100 • Fax (510) 521-3684

2021 Alaska Packer Place, Alameda

CALENDAR

by *Latitude 38*, Tahiti Tourisme and other South Pacific partners, with cocktail parties, a sailing rally to Moorea, Polynesian music and dance performances, and cruiser participation in traditional Tahitian sports. Info, www.pacificpuddlejumps.com.

Please send your calendar items by the 10th of the month to calendar@latitude38.com. If you're totally old-school, mail them to *Latitude 38* (Attn: Calendar), 15 Locust Avenue, Mill Valley, CA, 94941, or fax them to us at (415) 383-5816. But please, no phone-ins! Calendar listings are for marine-related events that are either free or don't cost much to attend. The Calendar is not meant to support commercial enterprises.

January Weekend Tides

date/day	time/ht. LOW	time/ht. HIGH	time/ht. LOW	time/ht. HIGH
12/31Wed	0042/2.0	0722/6.4	1418/0.0	2106/4.4
12/01Thu	0143/2.2	0814/6.5	1508/-0.3	2203/4.7
1/03Sat	0328/2.5	0941/6.5	1632/-0.7	2339/5.0
1/04Sun	0415/2.6	1021/6.4	1709/-0.7	
	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW
1/10Sat	0313/5.1	0848/2.5	1420/4.6	2039/0.9
1/11Sun	0350/5.2	0948/2.4	1516/4.2	2121/1.4
	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH
1/17Sat	0201/2.7	0822/6.4	1515/-0.4	2225/4.6
1/18Sun	0253/2.7	0910/6.7	1557/-0.9	2307/4.9
1/19Mon	0342/2.5	0958/6.8	1640/-1.1	2347/5.2
	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW
1/24Sat	0234/6.0	0813/1.6	1421/5.5	2023/0.2
1/25Sun	0027/2.4	0658/6.2	1402/0.2	2058/4.5
	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH
1/31Sat	0230/2.6	0842/6.2	1454/-0.1	2153/4.7
2/01Sun	0321/2.5	0842/6.2	1538/-0.2	2239/4.9

January Weekend Currents

date/day	slack	max	slack	max
12/31Wed	0307	0607/3.0F	0903	1217/4.4E
	1620	1926/3.4F	2226	
1/01Thu		0037/2.3E	0342	0623/2.5F
	0901	1249/3.9E	1718	1952/2.7F
	2252			
1/03Sat		0226/2.5E	0534	0805/2.5F
	1039	1424/4.1E	1851	2130/3.1F
1/04Sun	0033	0318/2.6E	0626	0854/2.5F
	1124	1510/4.0E	1935	2213/3.1F
1/10Sat		0123/2.3F	0424	0738/2.3E
	1134	1340/1.2F	1535	1923/2.6E
	2303			
1/11Sun		0201/2.1F	0448	0815/2.2E
	1241	1434/1.0F	1623	2014/2.2E
	2339			
1/17Sat		0110/2.0E	0403	0651/1.9F
	0859	1252/3.6E	1746	2021/2.6F
	2327			
1/18Sun		0157/2.1E	0454	0741/2.2F
	0950	1337/4.0E	1823	2105/2.9F
1/24Sat		0036/3.3F	0324	0626/3.3E
	1007	1251/2.4F	1512	1840/3.6E
	2222			
1/25Sun		0121/3.1F	0402	0715/3.4E
	1113	1351/2.1F	1615	1939/3.0E
	2308			
1/31Sat		0120/2.4E	0432	0656/2.2F
	0934	1330/3.7E	1750	2031/2.8F
	2326			
2/01Sun		0212/2.5E	0527	0748/2.3F
	1026	1416/3.8E	1833	2112/3.0F

SAIL California

J
BOATS

C&C
YACHTS

A ALERION YACHTS

See us at the SF Boat Show January 22-25



'90 Santa Cruz 70 \$385,000



'94 Schooner 66 \$275,000



'86 Custom 52 \$99,000



'04 Santa Cruz 53 \$575,000



'04 Multi-hull 70 \$2,250,000



'05 Open 60 \$580,000



'01 J Boats J/42 \$239,000



'06 J Boats J/124 \$220,000



'02 Custom 50 \$449,000



'07 J Boats J/124 \$229,000



'03 Reichel Pugh 44 \$274,900



'05 J Boats J/133 \$299,000



'12 Beneteau F. 40 \$179,000



'90 Hunter Legend 40 \$60,000



'90 J Boats J/35 \$45,000



'02 J Boats J/105 \$89,000

43' J Boats J/133 '05	\$299,000
43' J Boats J/133 '06	\$350,000
40' J Boats J/120 '00	\$169,500
37' C & C 37 '89	\$79,900
36' J Boats J/36 '82	\$45,000
35' J Boats J/35 '93	\$42,500
35' J Boats J/105 '92	\$65,000
35' J Boats J/105 '01	\$78,000



'03 Open 50 \$149,000



'89 Nova 36 \$69,000



43' Riviera Conv. '97 \$249,000

SAIL CALIFORNIA
1070 Marina Village Pkwy, #108
Alameda, CA 94501

Alameda (510) 523-8500
San Fran. (415) 867-8056
So. Calif. (562) 335-7969

Visit our website at
www.SailCal.com

SAN FRANCISCO MARINA SMALL CRAFT HARBOR

Set your course a full 180 degrees from the world of deadlines and commitment, into the world-renowned San Francisco Marina Small Craft Harbor, host of the 2013 Americas Cup. Discover a boater's paradise and why so many boaters choose the San Francisco Marina Small Craft Harbor as their home port of call. From the first-time owner to the experienced Captain, there is a wealth of mariner knowledge on our state-of-the-art floating docks.



There is Something For Everyone at Our Prestigious Marina

Stunning 35-acre, 725-slip marina, featuring all floating docks, 50% new concrete docks

725 berths, accommodating vessels up to 90 feet

Electrical service from 30amp/125 volt to 50amp 125/250 volt

Free water at every berth

Sanitary pump-out service available, free to all

Shower and restroom facilities, open 24/7

The Marina Office is open daily, monitoring VHF Channel 16 & 68

Automobile parking available near the marina

Marine fuel station, featuring diesel and gasoline

Beautiful view of the Golden Gate bridge, accessible by our signature Bay Trail

Immediate Access to the San Francisco Bay World Class Sailing

Shopping, Restaurants and Nightclubs, all within walking distance of the marina

World Renowned Marina Green Park and Fitness Center

Two World-class Yacht Clubs



To reserve a transient berth or for information regarding available long term berths, please contact the Marina Office.

3950 Scott Street | San Francisco, CA 94123
415.831.6322 | www.sfrecpark.org

LETTERS

↑↓WHAT'S IN A BOAT NAME, WHITE MAN?

Can somebody explain to me the deal with rich white males naming their mega racing machines after American Indians?

Steve Fossett named his 60-ft ORMA trimaran *Lakota* after the Sioux tribe of northern Wyoming and southern Montana. The Sioux were very capable warriors.

Fossett then set the Transatlantic record with his 110-ft cat *Playstation*. After Sony's sponsorship ran out, he renamed her *Geronimo* and set a new around-the-world sailing record of 58 days and 9 hours. The cat's namesake was an Apache who battled Mexicans and Texans when they infringed on his tribe's land. After Mexican soldiers killed his mother, his



COURTESY COMANCHE

wife, and his three children in 1858, Geronimo joined a number of revenge attacks against the Mexicans.

And now Internet billionaire Jim Clark of Silicon Valley has named his new 100-footer ultra-screamer *Comanche*. The Comanche are the famous tribe of the southern Plains.

Was it disrespectful and 'disgusting' for Jim Clark to name his new boat 'Comanche'?

And lord knows how many smaller boats have been named after various tribes or individual Indians such as Crazy Horse, Chippewa, Iroquois and more. I find it disgusting. At least Stanford University got rid of the Indians mascot, followed by other enlightened school administrations. I can't wait to see the Washington Redskins get burned for sticking to their derogatory name. At least the University of Miami dropped the 'Redskin' mascot almost 20 years ago.

I know that boatowners will argue that naming their boats after Indians or Indian tribes is a matter of respect, but it's not. And it should stop now.

Sally Jane Tepper
Sundial, Catalina 22
Sacramento

Sally — You may have forgotten that before Fossett set a new around-the-world record with his catamaran Geronimo, the record had been held by French provincial aristocrat Olivier de Kersauson's and his 102-ft trimaran — also named Geronimo. De Kersauson said he named his trimaran after the famous Indian because Geronimo "never gave up," which seems to indicate respect. Oddly enough, Geronimo means 'one who yawns a lot'.

It seems to us all of these boatowners gave their vessels the names they did out of veneration for individual Indians or their tribes. While we think there's a huge movement for people to be offended by just about anything and everything, if Indians don't want their names used, even out of respect, we have no problem honoring that wish. In the case of the Washington Redskins, we think the name is pretty hard to defend, as it's not an Indian name, but a derogatory nickname. It was sort of like trying to defend 'the Savages', which was the nickname for Eastern Washington College up until the late '70s.

The funniest of all mascot names, however, had to be St. Bonaventure's. The men's teams were known as the Brown Indians, while the women were called the Brown Squaws. That all ended in 1979, when a chief in the Seneca Indian tribe and some clan mothers asked the women to stop using the name Brown Squaws. Why? Because it meant vagina. We're not sure



SVENDSEN'S BOAT WORKS

Svendsen's and 3M Old World Standards, Cutting Edge Technology.

Svendsen's has 5 decades of experience performing all aspects of marine repair in our full-service boat yard in Alameda.

At Svendsen's, the most experienced craftsmen in the business will handle your boat bottom with care, using the finest 3M materials. From thorough sanding and preparation to fine detail painting and finishing, you can trust your boat to Svendsen's and 3M.



FREE Polish & Wax

With a bottom job from Svendsen's Boat Works.

Svendsen's uses top-quality abrasives, sealants, fillers, compounds, and buffing pads & discs by **3M**



Schedule your bottom job today!

3M PRODUCT EXTRAVAGANZA!

SAVE 30%
on these products

at
Svendsen's Chandlery!

PL	PRODUCT	SIZE	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE
3M 9005	MARINE RESTORER & WAX	16 OZ.	\$29.37	\$20.56
3M 9006	MARINE RESTORER & WAX	32 OZ.	\$50.17	\$35.12
3M 9007	MARINE RESTORER & WAX	GAL.	\$144.30	\$101.01
3M 9009	FIBERGLASS CLEANER & WAX	16 OZ.	\$28.36	\$19.85
3M 9011	FIBERGLASS CLEANER & WAX	GAL.	\$128.00	\$89.6
3M 9033	CLEAN & SHINE WAX	15 OZ.	\$21.05	\$14.74
3M 9061	SCOTCHGARD MARINE LIQUID WAX	500ML	\$27.33	\$19.13
3M 9062	SCOTCHGARD MARINE LIQUID WAX	1 LTER	\$49.45	\$34.62

www.svendsens.com

1851 Clement Avenue, in the Alameda Marina

Call 510-522-2886 to learn more!

Boat Yard	x10	Metal Works	x40
Commercial Accounts	x20	Rig Shop	x50
Marine Store	x30	info@svendsens.com	

Meet me at the San Francisco Boat Show

Jan 22—25, 2015

Pier 38 & McCovey Cove at AT&T Park



A BETTER WAY TO
FINANCE YOUR BOAT

Professional ★ Efficient ★ Specialized

Financing offered through

INTERCOASTAL
Financial Group, LLC

MARINE LENDING

- Purchase or Refinance
- New or Used

RATES AS LOW AS 3.74%*

DEBBIE BETTS

510 227-5797 O

510 846-0578 C

www.bayareaboatloans.com

1070 Marina Village Pkwy # 101B

Alameda, CA 94501

*Vessel and borrower restrictions apply. Subject to change

LETTERS

if they were kidding or not, but now both St. Bonaventure teams are known as the Bonnies.

↑↓ THE JOB IS VACANT, AND MAYBE EVEN IRRELEVANT

My wife Monica and I received a letter from our friend Gayla Pickford about the current status of the presidency of the Pacific Ocean.

"Spike Africa was the first President of the Pacific Ocean that I know of," she wrote. "Spike left Sausalito and spent the rest of his days around Puget Sound. When he died, the title was passed on to Merl Petersen of the schooner *Viveka*. Merl gave title of Vice President to Bob Dixon, so Bob could take over after Merl passed on. I wonder if there are any of these true old characters still around to carry on the crazy tradition. If you know of anyone, let us know."

I told Gayla that perhaps *Latitude* would resolve the status of the President of the Pacific Ocean.

Ray Conrady
San Francisco

Readers — First, a little background. Spike Africa was the first President of the Pacific Ocean, and he took the office by self-proclamation. Nobody objected. After all, the colorful Spike not only had a great name, he was considered one of the last great schooner captains on the West Coast, as well as an expert



WEBB LOGG

Spike Africa was the first self-proclaimed President of the Pacific Ocean.

*rigger, a writer, actor and inventor. Everyone from old-time roughneck sailors to members of high society — including his wife — found Spike to be a Renaissance man. After his days at sea, Spike was a mainstay at the No Name Bar in Sausalito when it was in its heyday. He is also famous for being the mate of Sterling Hayden's schooner *Wanderer* when the actor defied a judge's order and sailed off to Tahiti with his kids. Spike passed away in 1985 at age 78, but lives on in the name of the big schooner that Bob Sloan of Newport Beach built in the 1970s and is now working out of Friday*

Harbor, and in the name of restaurants in places such as San Diego.

Upon Spike's death, Merl Petersen, owner of classic 75-ft schooner *Viveka*, assumed the position. While not quite the character Spike was, Merl had his moments. For example, he is the only person known to have taken an elephant water-skiing on San Francisco Bay, photos of which made the front pages of several San Francisco newspapers. Merl would later shock friends in Honolulu by undertaking a long restoration of *Viveka*, which had been built in 1929, and then taking her around the world, including a race to the east coast of Russia. He would own the schooner for 54 years, a remarkable amount of time.

Petersen's taking office of President of the Pacific Ocean was initially met with some resistance. Peter Sutter, founder of Sutter Sails and a longtime soulful sailor, was skeptical. But after meeting Petersen over lunch, Sutter, a friend of Spike's, decided that Petersen was indeed worthy of the title. And that was it.

As the world has become more corporate and less whimsical, and the sailing characters of old have aged or passed on, the title of 'President of the Pacific Ocean' seems to have faded. We're not sure that Bob Dickson ever accepted it. As it turns out, Dickson passed away last month as the result of

**EARLY BIRD SPECIAL ON ALL HANSE MODELS
SAVE UP TO \$63,750 CALL FOR DETAILS**

WWW.JK3YACHTS.COM

BROKERAGE SAIL.....

2006 65' J/65	\$1,499,000
1997 53' J/160	\$530k
1995 56' PERRY 56	\$619k
2005 52' TP52- Rebel Yell	\$349k
2014 50' HANSE 505	\$549k
2007 49' C Burns Schooner	\$635k
1996 48' 1D48	\$99k
2006 43' J/133 - Forgiveness	\$349k
2006 43' J/133 - Tango	\$324k
2000 42' J/42 - Reluctant	\$199k
2006 42' Bruckman / Zurn	\$389k
2007 40' J/122 - Grace	\$329k
2006 40' J/124 - Good Call	\$279k
2001 40' Beneteau 1st 40.7	\$129k
2010 36' J/111 - JATO	\$275k
2004 35' J/109 - Duster II	\$181k
2001 35' J/105 - Hibiscus	<i>Pending</i>
2001 35' J/105 - Hey Viento	\$76k
2000 35' J/105 - Kestrel	\$83k
1999 35' 1d35 Optimized	\$79k
2004 26' J/80 - Illuminati	\$42k

BROKERAGE P O W E R.....

2002 85' AZIMUT 85	\$1,998,000
2003 38' TRUE NORTH 38	\$219k
2009 30' Raider 900 RIB	\$69k
2002 28' Protector RIB	\$82k



505



**On Display
At The
San Francisco
BOATSHOW**

Hanse



385



**On Display
At The
San Francisco
BOATSHOW**

*SABRE
Yachts*



SABRE 42 Saloon Express



SABRE 38 Saloon Express



DEHLER 46 - Coming to SF Feb 2015



50' HANSE 505 2014
\$549,000 Contact: Jack Lennox



41' Island Packet SP 2007
\$417,500 Contact: Alan Weaver



38' SABRE 386 2005
\$239,900 Contact: Jack Lennox



38' SABRE 386 2004
\$259,000 Contact: Alan Weaver

San Diego: 619-224-6200

Newport: 949-675-8053

Alameda: 510-227-2100

Houston: 206-285-6200

Seattle: 206-285-6200



South Beach Harbor is a great way to experience San Francisco. Boats of all sizes are welcome in our protected deepwater harbor. Bring your boat to South Beach and enjoy all the attractions of the city.



- Two guest docks for boats up to 125'**
- 20 guest berths up to 50'**
- Casual and fine dining nearby**
- Adjacent to AT&T Park**
- Easy access to transportation**
- 24 hour security**
- Free pump-out stations**



For Reservations:
415.495.4911 (x1111)
fax: 415.512.1351

www.southbeachharbor.com

LETTERS

a fall. The longtime Newport Beach resident certainly would have been worthy of the office, as he was one of those guys who seemingly sailed in every big race and delivered boats in between.

Dickson was involved in two of the better-known moments



LATITUDE / J/R

With Merl Petersen's passing, the post is open, but is it still relevant?

in recreational sailing when it was really getting going in the 1960s. The first happened when he was bringing Jake Wood's C&C 61 Sorcery back across the Pacific from Japan in March. After three days of 50-knot winds, the seas had built up to tremendous heights when the big boat pitchpoled with some nasty injuries to the crew and damage to the boat. Bob was also at the helm of Bob Johnson's legendary Herreshoff 72 Ticonderoga when she charged down the howling Molokai Channel neck-and-neck with South African Cornelius Brunzeel's van de Stadt 72 Stormvogel for the finish of the 1965 Transpac. 'Big Ti' would nip Stormvogel for line honors.

Spike, Petersen, Sloan and Dickson — may they all rest in peace.

↑↓ THE OPTIMUM SAN FRANCISCO BAY RECORD COURSE

I'm definitely up for sailing a Latitude 38 San Francisco Bay Record time trial challenge. The attractive part is the infinite choice of start times and start/finish locations, so it's mostly a weather strategy and routing game — almost like a long ocean race. I'll be exercising my Expedition skills along with *SailTactics.com*'s new high-res runoff-adjusted current data.

But I have to wonder about making the course identical to the Three-Bridge Fiasco course. 'Fiasco' is the operative word. Can we make the top mark something other than Red Rock? Also, there's a long history of Three-Bridge course records, so there might be more initial interest if the course is different, as the first round of times will all establish new records in each category.

I would also suggest that the course pass as close as possible to all the major marinas, so we can start and finish near our home berths. So let's talk more about the optimum course before official roll-out.

Paul Kamen
Twilight Zone, Merit 25
Berkeley

Paul — We're still in the information and interest gathering stage, so if you or anyone else would like to propose a different course or make any other suggestions, we're all ears. And there is still time, as we won't start the 'season' until May 1 — International Workers Day — which means we don't have to finalize the details until the April 1 — April Fool's Day — issue of Latitude. But starting the San Francisco Bay Record is no April Fool's joke.

↑↓ THE BAMA SAN FRANCISCO BAY 'RACETRACK'

The Bay Area Multihull Association has 'maintained' a 10-mile racetrack since 2010. People can sail on it and compete for records any time. The course can be viewed at *www*.



Picture Your Selfie on a Boat

SEATTLE
BOAT SHOW
INDOORS + AFLOAT

It's a **BIG DEAL**

Find your big deal at the West Coast's largest boat show, featuring the biggest display of boats, yachts, electronics and gear. For discounts, giveaways and a complete list of exhibitors and seminars, visit us today at www.SeattleBoatShow.com

JAN 23-FEB 01 | 2015

CENTURYLINK FIELD EVENT CENTER & SOUTH LAKE UNION

www.SeattleBoatShow.com

Pacific Yacht Imports



DON BROOKE 80, '81 \$375,000



TAYANA 55, '83 \$200,000



TAYANA 48 DS, '08 \$419,000



CATALINA 470, '06 \$309,000



SLOCUM 43, '83 \$159,000



X-YACHTS 43, '04 \$275,000



NAUTICAT 43 KETCH, '84 \$189,000



SERENDIPITY 43, '82 \$124,900



HUNTER 410, '00 \$113,900



TARTAN 41, '75 \$33,000



CANADIAN SAILCRAFT 40, '87 \$69,900



SWIFT 40 CC KETCH, '79 \$65,000



CATALINA 380, '01 \$135,500



HUNTER 310, '99 \$41,500

www.pacificyachtimports.net

Grand Marina • 2051 Grand St., Alameda, CA 94501
Tel (510) 865-2541 • tayana@mindspring.com

LETTERS

sfbama.org/racetrack/index.html. But I believe it would be more fun to have a longer course, perhaps through Raccoon Strait, around Treasure Island, and around Red Rock in order to include the most variables in wind and current.

J.E.B. Pickett
Serenity, Seawind 1160
Sausalito

J.E.B. — Thanks for reminding us about the 'BAMA Race-



BAMA

track.' If we're reading the site correctly, a record run hasn't been attempted since 2010. The best elapsed time so far is 1h, 9m, 27s by doublehanders Ross Stein and Bill Pace on the F-27 Mk II Origami. The

corrected-time record is held by singlehander Stephen Buckingham's Santana 22 Tchoupitoulas — but by only three minutes and change.

THE LATITUDE 38 SAN FRANCISCO BAY RECORD

I have the following thoughts regarding a *Latitude 38* San Francisco Bay Record such as was discussed in *Lectronic Latitude* and December's *Letters*:

1) Attempts should be permitted from May 1 until September 30.

2) The following records should be recognized: Outright (elapsed time) record; PHRF (monohull corrected time) record; BAMA (multihull corrected time) record; All-female crew (corrected time); Singlehanded (corrected time); and five or more from a one-design class would qualify for a class record.

If a lot of multihulls wanted to go for the record, perhaps a 'Fast Cat' division could be set up, such as BAMA does for their season championship.

I like the idea of half of the entry fee's going to the sailing nonprofit of the entry's choice.

I've been in touch with Ray Irvine regarding running this event using *Jibeset.net* for entries and results, and he's into it. *Jibeset* is used by many Bay Area clubs, plus the Yacht Racing Association (YRA) and the Singlehanded Sailing Society (SSS), to manage race entries and scoring. Each skipper could upload their GPS track to *Jibeset*, and *Latitude* would receive an email when a track was uploaded. This would avoid the inconvenience of having a race committee volunteer on station each time someone makes a record attempt, as was suggested in a letter to *Latitude*. That would be completely impractical.

A couple of folks in the know recommend using Time on Time for scoring rather than Time on Distance.

The course could certainly be the same as the Three Bridge Fiasco. I like the option to go either way, plus skipper's choice of going by way of Raccoon Strait or Pt. Blunt. But let's take that one step further. To encourage entries, particularly from smaller, slower boats, why not have each skipper choose their start/finish point on the course, thus avoiding unnecessarily long deliveries? As long as all the marks are rounded and the track crosses itself at the start/finish point, the course has been completed. This feature would distinguish it from the Three

Our customers come first.

For the record...

Rolex Big Boat Series

- Express 37... **2nd**
- Farr 40... **2, 3**
- HPR... **1, 2, 3**
- J/105... **1, 3**
- J/111... **1, 3**
- J/120... **2, 3**
- Melges 24... **1, 2, 3**
- Multihull... **1, 2**
- ORR... **1, 2, 3**
- Quantum Key West Race Week**
- HPR... **1, 2, 3**
- IRC 2... **2, 3**
- IRC 3... **1, 2, 3**
- J/70... **1, 2, 3**
- J/80... **1, 3**
- PHRF 1... **1, 2, 3**
- Melges 32... **1st**
- Melges 24... **1st**
- Mini Maxi... **1, 2**
- Chicago-Mackinac Race**
- Overall... **1, 2**
- J/105... **2nd**
- J/109... **1st**
- J/111... **1, 3**
- Cruising 1... **2nd**
- Cruising 2... **1, 2, 3**
- Beneteau 36.7... **2nd**
- Beneteau 40.7... **1, 2, 3**
- Section 1... **1, 3**
- Section 3... **1st**
- Section 4... **1, 3**
- Section 6... **2nd**
- Turbo... **1, 2, 3**
- Stamford YC Vineyard Race**
- Class 9 IRC... **2, 3**
- Class 15 IRC... **1, 3**
- Class 16 IRC... **1, 3**
- Class 8 PHRF... **1st**
- Class 10 PHRF... **1st**
- Class 13 PHRF... **1, 3**
- Storm Trysail Block Island Race**
- IRC 2... **1, 3**
- IRC 3... **2, 3**
- IRC 4... **2nd**
- IRC 5... **1, 2, 3**
- IRC 6... **1, 2**
- PHRF 1... **2nd**
- PHRF 2... **1, 2, 3**
- Sperry Top-Sider Chicago NOOD**
- J/111... **1st**
- J/109... **1, 2**
- ORR... **1, 2, 3**
- Beneteau 40.7... **1, 3**
- Tartan 10... **1, 2, 3**
- PHRF 1... **2nd**
- North Sails Rally Cruising... **1, 2, 3**
- North Sails Rally Racing... **1, 3**
- Sperry Top-Sider Seattle NOOD**
- J/24... **1, 2, 3**
- J/70... **2nd**
- J/80... **1, 2**
- J/105... **2, 3**
- Merit 24... **1, 2**
- Melges 24... **1, 2**
- International 6 Meter... **1, 2, 3**
- Sperry Top-Sider Annapolis NOOD**
- Alberg 30... **1st**
- Cal 25... **1, 2, 3**
- Etchells... **1, 2, 3**
- Farr 30... **1, 2, 3**

- J/22... **1, 2, 3**
- J/24... **1, 3**
- J/30... **1, 2, 3**
- J/35... **1, 2, 3**
- J/70... **1, 2**
- J/80... **1, 2**
- J/105... **2, 3**
- J/109... **1, 2**
- S2 7.9... **2, 3**
- Viper 640... **1, 2**
- Sperry Top-Sider St Pete. NOOD**
- PHRF 1... **1, 2, 3**
- Contender... **1, 3**
- Ensign... **1, 3**
- J/24... **1, 2**
- J/70... **1st**
- Melges 24... **1st**
- Sonar... **1, 2, 3**
- VX One... **1, 2, 3**
- J/30 North Americans... **1st**
- J/80 North Americans... **2, 3**
- J/80 Worlds... **1st**
- J/105 North Americans... **1, 2, 3**
- J/109 North Americans... **1, 2, 3**
- J/111 North Americans... **2, 3**
- Farr 30 Worlds... **1, 2, 3**
- Swan 42 Worlds... **1, 2, 3**
- Beneteau 36.7 NAs... **1, 3**
- Oregon Offshore**
- Class A... **1, 2, 3**
- Class B... **1st**
- Class C... **1st**
- Class D... **1, 3**
- Maxi Yacht Rolex Cup**
- Super Maxi... **1, 2, 3**
- Maxi... **1, 2, 3**
- Mini Maxi RC... **1, 2, 3**
- IRC NAs
- Overall... **1st**
- Pacific Cup**
- Weems & Plath Division... **1st**
- Alaska Airlines Division... **2nd**
- PYC Spring Regatta**
- A Fleet... **1, 2, 3**
- B Fleet... **1, 2**
- Martin 24... **2, 3**
- J/24... **1st**
- Merit 25... **2, 3**
- Cal 20... **1, 2, 3**
- RCYC Frost Bite**
- J/24... **1, 2, 3**
- Merit... **1, 2, 3**
- PHRF A1... **1, 2, 3**
- PHRF B... **1, 3**
- CYC Summer Series**
- Merit 25... **1, 2**
- Martin 24... **2, 3**
- Multi... **1st**
- PHRF A... **1, 2, 3**
- PHRF B... **1, 2, 3**
- North Sails Rally Cruising... **1, 2, 3**
- North Sails Rally Racing... **1, 3**
- Sperry Top-Sider Seattle NOOD**
- J/24... **1, 2, 3**
- J/70... **2nd**
- J/80... **1, 2**
- J/105... **2, 3**
- Merit 24... **1, 2, 3**
- Melges 24... **1, 2**
- International 6 Meter... **1, 2, 3**
- Sperry Top-Sider Annapolis NOOD**
- Alberg 30... **1st**
- Cal 25... **1, 2, 3**
- Etchells... **1, 2, 3**
- Farr 30... **1, 2, 3**

- Martin 24... **1, 3**
- Cal 20... **1, 2, 3**
- Branford Invitational**
- 4... **1st**
- 5... **1, 2**
- 6... **1st**
- 4th Annual ORR Great Lakes Championship Series... 1, 3**
- Charleston Race Week**
- J/22... **1, 2, 3**
- J/24... **1, 2, 3**
- J/70... **1, 2**
- J/80... **1st**
- HPR... **1, 2, 3**
- Melges 24... **1st**
- PHRF A... **2, 3**
- PHRF B... **1, 2**
- PHRF C... **1, 3**
- PHRF D... **2, 3**
- Viper 640... **1, 2, 3**
- CRA North Sails Winter Series**
- PHRF 2A... **1st**
- PHRF 2B... **1st**
- PHRF 3... **1st**
- Duck Is. YC Thursday**
- Melges 24... **1st**
- Spin A... **1, 2, 3**
- Spin B... **2, 3**
- Heineken Regatta**
- CSA 1... **1st**
- CSA 2... **2nd**
- CSA 4... **1st**
- Gunboat... **1st**
- American YC Spring Series**
- HPR... **1, 2**
- IRC... **1st**
- IRC 2... **2, 3**
- J/109... **1, 2, 3**
- Swan 42... **1, 2, 3**
- American YC Fall Series**
- Classics... **1st**
- J/109... **1, 2**
- IRC 1... **1st**
- IRC 2... **1st**
- IRC 3... **1st**
- Swan 42... **1, 2, 3**
- Classics... **1st**
- J/109... **1, 2**
- IRC 1... **1st**
- IRC 2... **1st**
- Swan 42... **1, 2, 3**
- Class 2... **1st**
- Class 5... **1st**
- Class 6... **1st**
- Class 8... **1st**
- Class 9... **2, 3**
- Class 10... **1, 2, 3**
- Class 11... **1, 2, 3**
- Class 15... **1, 2, 3**
- Islands Race**
- DIV 2... **1, 3**
- Multihull Division... **1st**
- West Coast 70s... **1st**
- Lake Ontario 300**
- IRC... **1st**
- PHRF... **1st**
- Short Course... **1st**
- Solo... **1st**
- Indian Harbor YC - Gearbuster**
- PHRF DH... **1, 2**
- PHRF 1... **1, 2**
- Lake Ontario 600**
- Overall... **1st**
- Marblehead NOOD**
- J/24... **1, 2, 3**
- Viper 640... **1, 2, 3**
- Museum of Yachting Classic Yacht Regatta
- Brown, Non-Spinnaker... **1st**

- Newport Bermuda Race**
- Class 1... **2, 3**
- Class 2... **2, 3**
- Class 3... **2nd**
- Class 4... **1, 2, 3**
- Class 5... **1, 2, 3**
- Class 6... **1, 2, 3**
- Class 7... **1, 2, 3**
- Class 8... **1, 2, 3**
- Class 9... **2, 3**
- Cruiser Div., Class 10... **1, 2, 3**
- Cruiser Div., Class 12... **2, 3**
- Double-Handed, Class 14... **1, 2, 3**
- CRA Beer Can Series**
- Spin A... **1st**
- Spin B... **1, 2**
- Spin C... **1, 3**
- Spin D/J/105... **2nd**
- Spin E... **2, 3**
- Spin G... **2, 3**
- Spin H... **1, 2, 3**
- NYC Annual Regatta**
- CRF Spinnaker... **2, 3**
- CRF Non-Spinnaker... **1st**
- HPR... **1, 3**
- IRC... **1st**
- Melges 32... **1, 2**
- J/105... **3rd**
- J/111... **1st**
- Swan 42... **1, 2, 3**
- Pine Orchard Annual Invitational**
- Class 1... **1st**
- Class 4... **1, 2, 3**
- Ram Island Invitational**
- Class J... **1, 2**
- San Diego NOOD**
- Buccaneer 18... **1st**
- Corsair... **1, 2, 3**
- Fast 50... **1, 2, 3**
- Flying Tiger... **2nd**
- 114... **1, 3**
- J/105... **2, 3**
- North Rialto... **1, 3**
- SD to Vallarta Int. Yacht Race**
- Div 0... **1st**
- Div 1... **2nd**
- Div 2... **1, 2**
- Div 3... **2nd**
- Div 4... **2nd**
- SDYC Yachting Cup**
- Beneteau 36.7... **1, 3**
- Fast 45... **1st**
- Fast 50... **2nd**
- Flying Tigers... **1, 3**
- J/70... **1, 2, 3**
- J/120... **1st**
- Pittwater to Coff's Race**
- Line Honors... **1, 2, 3**
- IRC Overall... **1, 2, 3**
- Annapolis Labor Day Regatta**
- Cal 25... **1, 2, 3**
- J/30... **1, 2**
- J/35... **2nd**
- J/70... **1, 2**
- J/80... **1, 3**
- J/105... **2, 3**
- PHRF A1... **2, 3**
- PHRF A2... **1, 3**
- PYC Spring Regatta**
- A Fleet... **1, 2, 3**
- B Fleet... **1, 2**
- Martin 24... **2, 3**
- J/24... **1st**

- Merit 25... **2, 3**
- Cal 20... **1, 2, 3**
- SYSCO Spring Series**
- 1 Fleet... **1st**
- 2 Fleet... **1st**
- Martin Fleet... **1st**
- Merit Fleet... **1, 2, 3**
- E Fleet... **1, 2, 3**
- J/24... **1, 2, 3**
- Cal 20... **1, 2, 3**
- SYSCO Summer Series**
- 1 Fleet... **1st**
- 1 A Fleet... **1, 2**
- 2 B Fleet... **1, 2, 3**
- Merit Fleet... **1, 2, 3**
- 5 Fleet... **1, 3**
- J/24... **1, 2, 3**
- Cal 20... **1, 2, 3**
- Cruising B... **1st**
- Cruising C... **1st**
- Long Beach Race Week**
- J/24... **1, 2, 3**
- Viper 640... **1, 2, 3**
- Melges 20... **1, 2, 3**
- J/120... **1st**
- SCYA Midwinter Regatta**
- Beneteau 36.7... **1, 3**
- J/20... **1st**
- C Snow Nationals... 1st**
- C Snow Blue Chips... 1st**
- C Snow MIR Regatta... 1st**
- C Snow La Belle Tune Up... 1st**
- C Snow Springfield Tune-Up... 1st**
- E Snow Wawasee Regatta... 1st**
- E Snow Carolina YC Regatta... 1st**
- Ensign Nationals... 1st**
- Etchells Worlds... 1st**
- Etchells North Americans... 1st**
- Etchells US Nationals... 1st**
- Finn ISAF Worlds... 1st**
- Finn Gold Cup... 1st**
- Flying Scot North Americans... 1st**
- Flying Scot Midwinters... 1st**
- 470 Worlds - Men... 1st**
- 470 Worlds - Women... 1st**
- Interclub North Americans... 1st**
- International 110 Nationals... 1st**
- J/22 Worlds... 1st**
- J/22 North Americans... 1st**
- J/24 Worlds... 1st**
- J/24 Europeans... 1st**
- J/24 US Nationals... 1st**
- J/24 North Americans... 1st**
- J/24 East Coast Champs... 1st**
- J/24 Italian Nationals... 1st**
- J/24 Midwinters... 1st**
- J/24 Cinco de Mayo... 1st**
- J/24 Easter Regatta... 1st**
- J/70 Worlds... 1st**
- J/70 North Americans... 1st**
- J/70 Chesapeake Bay Champs... 1st**
- J/70 Santa Barbara Fiesta Cup... 1st**
- J/70 Cinco de Mayo... 1st**
- J/70 Miami Bacardi... 1st**

- J/80 East Coast Champs... 1st**
- Lightning North Americans... 1st**
- Lightning Atlantic Coasts... 1st**
- Lightning Bayview OD Regatta... 1st**
- Lightning California Districts... 1st**
- Lightning Moonshine Regatta... 1st**
- Lightning Deep South... 1st**
- Lightning Winter Champs... 1st**
- Lightning Winter Masters... 1st**
- Lightning Midwinters... 1st**
- Martin 242 SCCYC OD Weekend... 1st**
- MC Scow ILYA Champs... 1st**
- MC Scow ILYA Invite... 1st**
- MC Scow Wisconsin Champs... 1st**
- MC Scow Weersing Memorial... 1st**
- MC Scow Cage Match... 1st**
- MC Scow Orlando Webb... 1st**
- MC Scow Grand Rapids Champs... 1st**
- Melges 17 Inland Champs... 1st**
- Melges 20 Worlds... 1st**
- Melges 20 Newport Regatta... 1st**
- Melges 20 Miami Bacardi... 1st**
- Melges 20 Miami Winter #2... 1st***
- Melges 24 Worlds... 1st**
- Melges 24 Europeans... 1st**
- Melges 24 Santa Barbara Fiesta Cup... 1st**
- Melges 24 Muskegon Champs... 1st**
- Melges 24 Miami Bacardi... 1st**
- Moith North Americans... 1st**
- Moith US Nationals... 1st**
- Moith Euro Cup - Act 1... 1st**
- Moith Euro Cup - Act 3... 1st**
- Moith Euro Cup - Act 4... 1st**
- Moith Euro Cup - Act 5... 1st**
- Sabot Nationals... 1st**
- Sabot Dutch Shoe Marathon... 1st**
- Santana 20 Nationals... 1st**
- Santana 20 Eugene YC Memorial Day... 1st**
- Shields Nationals... 1st**
- Snipe Western Hemisphere Qualifier... 1st**
- Soling North Americans... 1st**
- Sonar North Americans... 1st**
- Star North Americans... 1st**
- Star South Americans... 1st**
- Star Miami Bacardi... 1st**
- Star Midwinters West... 1st**
- Thistle Nationals... 1st**
- Thistle Atlantic Coasts... 1st**
- Thistle NJ Districts... 1st**
- Thistle US Districts... 1st**
- Thistle Niagara Districts... 1st**
- Thistle Central Districts... 1st**
- Viper 640 Larchmont RW... 1st**
- Viper 640 Santa Barbara Fiesta Cup... 1st**
- Viper 640 Newport Regatta... 1st**
- Viper 640 Pacific Coasts... 1st**
- Viper 640 Cal RW... 1st**
- Viper 640 Miami Bacardi... 1st**
- VX One North Americans... 1st***
- VX One Newport Regatta... 1st**
- Y-Flayer Midwinters... 1st**

*majority North inventory

For more results visit
northsails.com



The Power to Perform

These results represent a fraction of the success enjoyed by North Sails customers in 2014. In appreciation, we are offering a FREE North Regatta Cap to every North customer who finished 1st, 2nd or 3rd in a North American regatta in 2014. To register for your cap, log onto www.northsails.com, then complete the online registration form. One cap per customer. Offer expires April 1, 2015.



Channel Islands 805-984-8100 Costa Mesa Sail Care 949-645-4660
Marina Del Rey 310-827-8888 San Diego 619-224-2424 Sausalito 415-339-3000

www.northsails.com



ABOVE: J/70 flying North Radian upwind and V-Series Asymmetric sails. J.H. Peterson photo



SVENDSEN'S & PLASTIMO BRINGING YOU GREAT DEALS IN THE NEW YEAR.



Inflatable IOR Dan Buoy
Retails for: \$269.00

Sale Price: \$255.00

- Adjustable webbing sling seat for man-over-board to rest on
- Retro-reflective tapes
- Drogue anchor



Mini Contest Black P/N 55403
Retails for: \$225.04

Sale Price: \$168.78

- More modern look
- New conical card for improved reading comfort.
- Complies with ISO 613, SOLAS MED 96-98

Small Radar Reflector 25886

Retails for: \$48.38

Sale Price: \$33.86

- 2m2 reflective area
- Powerboat model includes a mounting bracket.
- Sailboat model is grooved at the ends for mounting on a shroud.
- Length x dia: 22.6 x 1.95 inch, Weight: 250 gm.
Reflective area: 21.6 Sq. Ft.



Large Radar Reflector 39099

Retails for: \$103.70

Sale Price: \$72.59

- Weight: 32 oz
- Size: 4" Diameter x 23" Long
- Reflective Area (4) Square meters
or (172) Sq. Ft.



Offer valid through 2-28-15

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK!
Chandlery & Rig Shop / 510.521.8454
info@svendsens.com / www.svendsens.com
1851 Clement Avenue, in the Alameda Marina

LETTERS

Bridge Fiasco and give strategists another piece to play with. Should each entry be allowed only one attempt? Or perhaps as many as three in a season?

Christine Weaver
Stink Eye, Laser 28
Pt. Richmond

Readers — Christine is also the Racing Editor for Latitude, and we encouraged her to submit her thoughts as a letter. Any comments?

As soon as Stan Honey returns from navigating Jim Clark's new 100-ft screamer in the Sydney to Hobart Race, we're going to ask him what he thinks about Time on Time scoring versus Time on Distance scoring for the San Francisco Bay Record.

↑↓WHAT SHOULD WE CALL YOU?

Call me a floating pet-hater.

I want to know what the sailing community thinks about pets roaming around freely in marinas. I've lived aboard my boats in several countries for the past five years, and in most places I went there were pets roaming the marinas. As a result, there was dog poop on the docks, and my boat has been boarded far more often by neighbor's pets than by any other uninvited mammal. I don't want to hurt anyone's feelings by telling them it's unacceptable to leave their 'furbabies' or 'family member's' poop where my crew and I walk and flake our sails, but if marina personnel can't enforce pet-related commonsense, who will?

Don't get me wrong, I love animals — including human beings. I love them so I don't kill, feed or breed them. I observe them respectfully in the wild, and try to limit my impact on their habitat and our planet in general. I wash guano off my deck and canvas with a Zen smile, thinking a port or anchorage without seabirds would be an even scarier thing from an ecological perspective. I've watched an osprey perch on my masthead electronics and destroy them, without losing my fascination for these gracious predators. I steer well clear of whales, idle or stop my engine when I'm under power near them, and even stop my depth sounder if I don't need it since I don't know if it attracts or annoys them.

To me, the relationship Westerners have with their pets shows a sad disconnect with nature, an acute symptom of our narcissistic anthropocentrism. It scares me that so many people want to show their love to living beings by holding them prisoner — for the greater part of their lives in solitary confinement — and yelling at them while yanking a choking collar after surgically removing parts of their genitals. That's not my kind of love for nature or for my family members, but that's just me.

I know the whole pet deal is wide-ranging from totally happy house cats and healthy family dogs, to unacceptably beaten-up pets and generations of overbreeding leading most of them to foreseeable painful illnesses. I want to be open-minded and respectful about what people do at home (as long as they don't hurt each other), but that theory applies more easily when pets stay where they belong — within their 'master's' sight.

I have a harder time living by the Dalai Lama's 'tolerance and compassion' words when pets board my boat, with the owner nowhere to be seen. This usually results in items being added to my 'to do' list, which already has an endless number of projects. I've had pets walking on my still-curing epoxy putty, then on the lens of the brand new hatch I was about to install the next day. It topped the time one did the moon walk on my solar panels, and made pounds of dog poop. I won't even mention all the poop I've had to clean from my

Come Visit Us Today!

SOUTH BEACH SAILING CENTER

at the
beautifully renovated Pier 40 in San Francisco

**15% Discount off Fabric for Projects
Scheduled at the San Francisco Boat Show
January 22-25**



**NORTH
BEACH
MARINE
CANVAS**

415.543.1887

nbmc@earthlink.net • www.northbeachmarinecanvas.com

See Your Local



**HANDCRAFT
MATTRESS COMPANY**

Dealer at the Show!



*Liz Diaz,
Master Fabric Craftsman*

South Beach Riggers

**DO IT ONCE.
DO IT RIGHT.**

PERIOD.

- Mast
- Fabrication
- Insurance Work
- Rigging
- Hydraulics
- More...

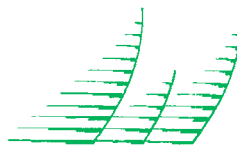
www.SouthBeachRiggers.com

415.331.3400

Come see us in Sausalito

399 Harbor Dr., Sausalito, CA 94965

8am - 5pm M - F



Westwind

**Washing, Waxing
Varnishing**

**Winter project you've been wanting to do?
10% DISCOUNT on Interior Woodwork & Interior Cleaning**



*"The boat looks great.
It really is a pleasure
to come back to a clean
boat. Your service is
fantastic."*

*- David Enzminger,
Hunter 35, 'Meerhexe'*



(415) 661-2205

Serving the entire Bay Area for more than 25 years.



**westwinddetailing@sonic.net
www.boatdetailing.com**



Adjacent to South Beach Harbor and AT&T Park • Close to dozens of fantastic restaurants and shops

SAN DIEGO SUNROAD MARINA BOAT SHOW™

January 22-25
BigBayBoatShow.com



ADMISSION
\$12 FOR ADULTS.
CHILDREN 12 &
UNDER, FREE.
CASH ONLY.

SHOW HOURS
THURS. 12PM – 6PM
FRI. 12PM – 6PM
SAT. 10AM – 6PM
SUN. 10AM – 6PM



SAN DIEGO SUNROAD MARINA BOAT SHOW™

LETTERS

decks and shoes.

I was initially mad at the pets, but after taking a deep breath and looking at them bolt back home, I figured the poor things are doing exactly what I did for years as a kid — going boldly places I was told not to, and enjoying an arrogant rush of adrenaline running away from the consequences. The pets are not to blame; the owners are, the marina personnel are, and we collectively are.

I'm not writing this to get it off my chest; all of this is part of living in communities I truly love. I just want to know what boaters — pet owners or not — marina operators, and the editors of this magazine think of the issue. Do you guys have tricks to keep free-roaming pets off your decks? Are there marinas that prevent their liveaboards from having pets on board and/or actually enforce their pet-related rules?

Gaël Simon, French Canadian from Quebec
GravlaX, X-40
Berkeley YC

Gaël — The mammals we've had the biggest problem with are sea lions. They are cute — until they crap all over your boat and/or bark all night long.

While we don't have the time to care for a pet, we're generally pet-positive, knowing they often provide outstanding companionship for many humans. Nonetheless, we very much dislike all the dog crap on the docks and around marinas, as well as sleeping dogs blocking docks, and we're frankly sick and tired of dogs licking or rubbing their wet noses against our legs. We can't help but wonder how the owners would feel if we had a grandchild who repeatedly slobbered all over them.

While not sailing specific, what bothers us more is the



CHARLOTTE WEBB

abuse in granting ever-expanding 'emotional support animal' status. As most readers probably know, the 'emotional support animal' sham went off the graph at 6:10 a.m. the day before Thanksgiving when a woman walked down the aisle of a US Airways jet at Connecticut's Bradley International Airport with a large pig over her shoulder. Everybody assumed that it was a stuffed animal until the pig, estimated to weigh between 70 and 80 pounds, became "disruptive."

Next up, pet lions as service animals.

According to US Airways, under Department of Transportation guidelines, the woman had to be allowed to board the plane with the big pig because it is an "emotional support animal." Unfortunately, the pig not only stank, but he crapped in the aisle of the plane while the woman was stowing stuff in the overhead bin. "When she tied him to the armrest and tried to clean up after him," a passenger told CNN, "the pig started to howl. The woman talked to the pig like it was a person, saying it was 'being a jerk'."

Pigs are intelligent, which is more than can be said for the woman, and for the bureaucrats who allow people who try to bring new meaning to the expression 'when pigs fly'.

↑↓ MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS, NOT GENDER SPECIFIC

I'm kinda surprised that *Latitude* found so few women who climb the masts of their boats and/or dive on the bottoms. I do both — as well as the engine work. And recently I've been splicing new Dyneema lifelines. My belief is that if you own a boat, and particularly if you want to cruise, you

CALIFORNIA'S MULTIHULL LEADERS

WEST COAST
MULTIHULLS



BEST MULTIHULL BROKERAGE



CORSAIR 31
Two from \$75,000



LAGOON 440
2004 • \$319,000



PDQ 32 CATAMARAN
A cool #10 • \$120,000



FP MARQUESES 56
1997 • \$549,000



34' GEMINI 105 MC
Three from \$71,000



NORSEMAN 400
Liveaboard • \$157,000



2001 LEOPARD 38
Very clean! • \$229,000



SUNCHASER 58
Priced to sell at \$545,000



SEAWIND 1160
Two from \$389,000



FUSION 40
2012 • \$427,000



CORSAIR 28
2006 • \$68,000



SPRINT 750 MKII
2012 • \$59,900



FOUNTAIN PAJOT BELIZE
2002 • \$324,000



TELSTAR 28 TRIMARAN
w/50hp OB/trailer • \$70,000



DRAGONFLY 35
2012 • \$395,000

SAN DIEGO
SUNROAD MARINA
BOAT SHOW

January 22-25

Step aboard the finest multihulls on the coast. West Coast Multihulls will be featured on the docks and able to review our current inventory or help you find the multihull of your dreams.

The Sunroad Resort Marina is also home to our charter base. Come check out boats to buy, to charter or to use for our ASA multihull sailing school.

Fountain Pajot
CATAMARANS

CORSAIR
MARINE

SEAWIND

NEEL
TRIMARANS

GEMINI
CATAMARANS

DRAGONFLY

San Diego
Monte Cutrell (619) 319-0136
monte@westcoastmultihulls.com
Northern California
Don Margraf (510) 469-3330
don@westcoastmultihulls.com



CATAMARAN LESSONS/CHARTERS

Learn to sail or charter from our exceptional San Diego Catamaran fleet!

San Francisco
(510) 865-2511
helmz@aol.com
www.helmsyacht.com



MARINA AMENITIES

- Full service harbor master's office
- Waterfront dining
- Free WiFi access
- Guest facilities with restrooms, showers and dressing rooms
- Water sport rentals
- Surveillance and electronic controlled gates
- Individual water hook ups
- Garbage and recycling disposal



Sausalito's Finest Marina

85 LIBERTY SHIP WAY, #205, SAUSALITO, CA 94965

415•331•5550

FAX 415•331•8523

www.schoonmakermarina.com

LETTERS

should know how to do your own maintenance and repairs. That seems normal to me and is not really gender-specific. There certainly are other women like myself I've met around San Francisco Bay.



COURTESY KYNYNTANA

Is it really that unusual to see a woman going up the mast?

I've enclosed two photos. One is from the first time I climbed my mast to replace the headstay, which broke last October on a sail on the Bay. Because *Kynntana* is a Freedom 38 with an unstayed carbon-fiber mast, we were none the wiser in the beginning to its breaking, and just kept sailing. It's probably only 35 feet up the 55-ft mast where the headstay attaches. I climb in a harness because I don't trust the bosun's chair. I'm also planning to set up a self-ascent system because I don't always have the luxury — nor the trusting nature — of having someone else haul me up.

The second photo is of me diving on my boat when I spent a week in Monterey. I did the trip down with a friend who sails and races her Cal 2-27 singlehanded, often in conditions when the rest of us won't go out. We had previously stopped for overnights at Half Moon Bay and Santa Cruz. I did a week of diving in the kelp forests with the Smithsonian Institute, then singlehanded *Kynntana* back to the Bay on a rough 22-hour passage. I came in under the Golden Gate the Friday morning of Fleet Week along with an escort of several warships, then took off the next morning for the Vallejo 1-2. That wasn't exactly a normal week for me, but pretty typical — and a lot of fun.



COURTESY KYNYNTANA

Carliane is also no stranger to diving on her boat's bottom.

Carliane Johnson
Kynntana, Freedom 38
San Francisco Bay

Carliane Johnson
Kynntana, Freedom 38
San Francisco Bay

Carliane — To clarify, we didn't go 'searching' for women who climb masts and/or clean bottoms, we were just thinking of those we'd come across in our days of sailing. You're not exactly normal — and we mean that in a good way. Respect. By the way, we got so many responses from women that we're going to have to spread them over several issues. But we think it's great, because we'd like to give them the exposure we think they deserve.

↑↓ I DID THE MAST, JOHN DID ALL THE COOKING

John, my husband, hates heights, so I've been up the mast of our Sceptre 41 multiple times. I'm the one who goes to retrieve the halyard. The first time was in Horta, Spain in 2008.

I've taken some tools to the top, too, but I usually don't know how to fix whatever it is that needs repair. In those cases we hire someone to do the job.

By the way, John is a great cook. He not only did all the cooking in the five-plus years we were out cruising, he even had a cooking blog during the winter we spent in Spain.

Shirlee Smith
Solstice, Sceptre 41
San Francisco

EXCEL UNDER PRESSURE

See us
at the
San Francisco
Boat Show
Jan. 22-25

Introducing Stratis ICE,
Doyle's revolutionary new
Lightweight, High-Strength and Durable
Fiber for the ultimate performance sails. ICE
combines the strength of Para-Aramids like Kevlar and
Twaron, weight savings equivalent to 100% Carbon sails and an
unmatched ability to resist flex fatigue. Stratis ICE is ready to deliver sails
that will go the distance, time after time.



Doyle San Francisco
Bill Colombo
Josh Butler
(510) 523-9411



AROUND THE WORLD AROUND THE BAY

Navigator Series



Endurance Series



Voyager Series



Ullman Sails San Francisco and Monterey Bay

David Hodges - 831.454.0868
dhodges@ullmansails.com

Synthia Petroka - 510.205.9412
synpetroka@gmail.com

LETTERS

↑↓ I REALLY LIKE HAVING MAST STEPS

I've been up *Scoot's* 70-ft mast a few times. So far it's only been at the dock, although I expect that at some point I'll eventually have to go aloft at sea.

Before I went up the first time, I insisted that I know the breaking strength of our main halyard. Once I learned that it was 7,000 lbs, I said, "Haul me up, I don't weight anywhere near that much."



COURTESY SCOOT'S

Vandy Shrader prefers her mast steps.

The first time I went up, I replaced the cover on the masthead tricolor light. While up there, I naturally took photos of all the scenery, the deck, and my husband way down below.

The second and third times I went up were to remove our broken anemometer and install a new one. Those times the wind was blowing a brisk 25 knots. Since we were tied up at the dock, the wind made manipulating the anemometer kind of tricky.

Our mast is equipped with folding mast steps, so I can just climb right up. I use a climbing harness tied to our main halyard as a backup. Eric, my husband, keeps tension on it from the deck. I really like having mast steps as opposed to being hauled up on one halyard and using another halyard as a backup. That methods requires too many strings.

I don't mind going up the mast, as it can be fun. Either Eric or I might go up, depending on what needs to be done. If the job involves troubleshooting electronics, for instance, he goes up. If it's a mechanical problem, just give me the tools. Since we've had our boat in places where the water is really cold, we've had her bottom cleaned by professionals wearing wetsuits. Once we reached Mexico, I did jump in to clean the gunk from our knotmeter's transducer wheel. Now that we're in the tropics, I expect to get much more experience cleaning the bottom.

Vandy Shrader
Scoots, Able Apogee 50
San Francisco / Sea of Cortez

↑↓ I DON'T KNOW IF HE STOPPED FOR A BURGER OR WHAT

We were in Santa Barbara a few years back when my fearless — not! — husband Jimmie informed me that our masthead anchor light was out. He suggested that the task of replacing it could best be accomplished by the lightest person on the boat, which just happened to be me. So up I went. Upon reaching the masthead, I extracted the burned-out bulb and lowered it to him down on the deck.

"Stay put," he yelled up, "I'll run up the chandlery and be right back."

I don't know if he stopped for a burger or what, but it wasn't until 30 minutes later that he finally returned, at which point I was able to complete the task. Actually, it wasn't so bad. The view from 50 feet up was great!


Jane Hanawalt
Dry Martini, Morgan 38
Richmond

Jane — It's a testament to your character, for a lesser person might now be suffering from abandonment issues.

↑↓ GOING ALOFT NATURALLY

Bill Lily of the Lagoon 470 *Moontide* asked me to heave ho on his battle flag, the one with the girl reclining on it, dur-

CAN A BOATYARD BRING EVERLASTING PEACE?

A photograph of two young women with long hair, wearing headbands and jewelry, making peace signs with their hands raised. They are smiling and appear to be at an outdoor event. The background is slightly blurred, showing what looks like a boat or a structure.

Peace in our time may take a while, but what Bay Marine Boatworks can do today is to guarantee your complete satisfaction when you bring your boat to us for maintenance and repair.

We will inspect the work you require on your boat, we'll tell you exactly what we will do to fix it, how much it will cost, and when we will finish the work. All three of these commitments are guaranteed.

Even though we live in an uncertain world, we do guarantee that when you make the important decision to bring your boat to Bay Marine Boatworks, you will find that we will do whatever it takes to make you absolutely at peace when you leave the yard.

our mission is to guarantee absolute satisfaction to every customer



310 West Cutting Blvd., Point Richmond, CA 94804

Tel. 510.237.0140

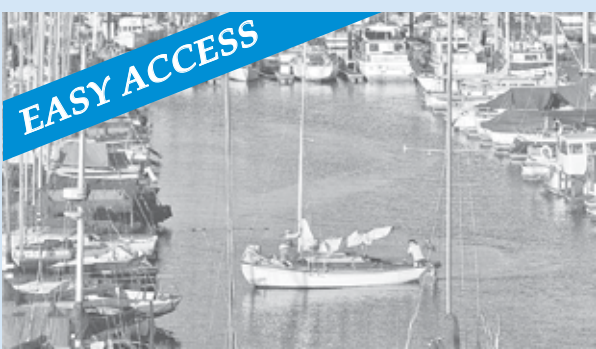
office@baymarineboatworks.com

www.baymarineboatworks.com

NEW YEAR...



NEW BERTH!



**Call for Best Value
on the Bay and a
Great Start to 2015!**



**ALAMEDA, CA
WWW.FORTMAN.COM
(510) 522-9080**

BEST VALUE ON THE BAY

LETTERS

ing the 2010 Ha-Ha. I heaved a little too hard and broke the halyard, so naturally I had to go aloft to get it.



Jennifer barely needed any clothes to go up 'Moontide's mast, much less any special gear.

I agree with Debbie Haywood Scairetta, who went up in the *Lectronic* piece, that as long as you have people you trust taking you up, it's fine. In this case it was Bill and Debbie, two of my best friends in the world taking me up. I've also trusted my life to Patsy Verhoven on the Gulfstar 50 *Talion*.

In other news, I have been in California for the past month helping my son rehab from a very bad car accident. He was the victim of a head-on collision. I will have flown back to Fiji on December 22 to rejoin Bruce Harbour on his St. Francis 44 cat *Skabenga*, which I crewed on in the Puddle Jump in the spring of 2013. We have been spending cyclone season in Fiji.

I spent the month before I returned to the States helping Bruce to install two new Yanmar diesels and a new saltwater system on *Skabenga* — as well as doing a refit of all the fittings while on the hard at Vuda Marina. As a result of that experience, I can now pass along the right tools over 95% of the time.

I recently had a woman captain tell me that the best way to learn about mechanical things is to have someone talk you through projects while you do it. It's good advice.

Hugs to all my many dear cruising friends in Mexico. I miss you!

Jennifer Martindale
Skabenga, St. Francis 44 Cat
Vuda Marina, Fiji

Readers — We saw a video of Skabenga being relaunched in Fiji. It was one of those situations where there wasn't a single crane strong enough lower the boat back into the water, so they had to use two cranes at once. It was a very delicate maneuver, but they succeeded.

⇕ THERE'S ANOTHER SIDE TO THE STORY

In the November issue *Sightings* there was an item about what the FBI described as a "... volatile, drug-abusing father who kidnapped his nine-year old son and took him to the South Pacific on his sailboat.

Not so fast, FBI!
When is a father/sailor really a kidnapper? Certainly not when he takes his nine-year-old son and sets forth on his long anticipated dream cruise. Especially not after taking the trouble of going to court and receiving the following agreement:

"After the child reaches the age of nine, the father may travel domestically or internationally for up to one year exclusively with the child." (Amended Parenting Plan, No 10-3-005509-0 SEA, filed May 5, 2011, 2:27 p.m.; Superior Court of Washington County of King. Note: This order was signed by both parents and the judge/commissioner.)

But when the time for the trip neared, the ex-wife took the boy to the Dominican Republic. Upon her return to the States, she told the father he could never see the boy again. Yet when the father offered her \$1,500, she promptly gave up the boy for what remained of his annual summer visit with her.

Strictly Sail Pacific

April 9-12, 2015

Jack London Square • Oakland, CA

THE WEST COAST'S ONLY

All-Sail BOAT SHOW!

MORE BOATS! The best selection of brands at the best prices in one location

New model introductions

FREE Sailboat rides

Shop and save on a huge selection in the sailing gear and accessories pavilion

Daily seminars from top names in sailing

Live music & special entertainment for all ages



Visit StrictlySailPacific.com
for tickets and show details



Find us on:
facebook



#SSPAC15



WHALE POINT MARINE & HARDWARE CO.

A FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED BUSINESS FOR THREE GENERATIONS
ACE Hardware
 MARINE PARTS & ACCESSORIES, PLUS A COMPLETE HARDWARE STORE

www.WhalePointMarine.com

TAYLOR Dock Steps



Single: List \$127.59 • **Now \$99⁹⁹**
 Double: List \$203.29 • **Now \$149⁹⁹**

ORION 544 Alert/Locate Deluxe Kit

Comes complete with flare gun, flares, whistle, flag, info CD... all in a waterproof case.



List \$149.99
Now \$129⁹⁹

FORCE 10

3 Burner Propane Stove



FORCE 10

Model 63351
 3-burner

NOW \$1239⁰⁰

Model 63251: 2-burners
NOW \$1199⁰⁰

KUUMA Water Heater

120V with heat exchanger.



SS 6 gal • #406011 • **NOW \$269⁹⁹**
 SS 11 gal • #411011 • **NOW \$339⁹⁹**

PORTABLE HEATER

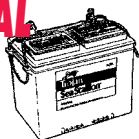
Indoor safe propane heater.



Mr Heater
 4,000-9,000 BTU: **NOW \$99⁹⁹**

TROJAN & CENTENNIAL Batteries

MARINE DEEP-CYCLE BATTERIES



24TM • 85amp..... **NOW \$119⁹⁹***
 27TM • 105amp..... **NOW \$139⁹⁹***
 6 Volt..... **NOW \$149⁹⁹***
 8D • 12 Volt..... **NOW \$199⁹⁹***
 *Price with trade-in of old battery of equal size.

JABSCO TOILET

Manual
 29090-2000
NOW \$189⁹⁹

Electrical
 37010-0090
NOW \$499⁰⁰*

*Special order
 1-2 days



FILTER 500 FGSS by Racor

Filter Element

Whale Pt \$9⁹⁹

Filter Unit: List \$249.99

Whale Pt \$199⁹⁹



205 Cutting Blvd, Corner of 2nd, Richmond
510-233-1988 • FAX 233-1989
 Mon-Sat: 8:30am - 5pm • Sun: 10am - 4pm • whalepoint@acehardware.com
 Go to www.WhalePointMarine.com for additional discounts!

LETTERS

After the boy turned nine, the father took his son on the agreed-upon cruise. Did he ask the reneging ex-wife? No, as it wasn't required in the parenting agreement. Besides, would you?

What we're really talking about here is a Seattle FBI office that turned 30 agents loose to collude with an angry ex-wife and trump up a warrant based on hearsay material, material made up out of whole cloth after being gleaned from acquaintances that go all the way back to high school. One of his true friends, since grade school, said the FBI called him and used every psychological technique to get him to say something incriminating about him.



3NEWS.CO.NZ

Billy Hanson was returned to his mother after his father was arrested in Niue.

The FBI can call Jeffrey Hanson, who is my son, volatile. They can call him a drug-abuser and a kidnapper. They can call him whatever they please, but they should remember that in 46 years he has never been arrested for anything. As for the mother, I'll only say that her behavior with the boy speaks for itself.

So let's cut to the chase. Those of us who know the mother suspect that she will rush off to the Dominican Republic with my son's son, where she will be immune from extradition. I wonder how the FBI will like their 'kidnapper' then.

To recap what has happened to date, my grandson Billy was yanked off my son Jeff's boat *Draco* at Niue in the South Pacific in late October. Bill was flown back to his mother's home in Pennsylvania. My son was flown back to the States and is in custody, waiting for a court date in Seattle. I've been unable to contact either one of them.

Draco is on the hard in Niue, where there are already \$10,000 in charges against her. The 'food bill' for the haul-out crew, by the way, was \$400. I guess the sailboat must have looked like Christmas to the island police as they bent to the FBI's wishes. Most of the other islanders were kind and generous to both Jeff and his son Billy.

William Hanson
 Planet Earth

Readers — Child custody battles have to be among the most heart-wrenching miseries known to man. Based on the 'he said, she said' nature of them, it's hard to ever know who is the more deserving and/or unfit parent. So we have no idea what's going on in this particular situation. The point of our running this letter is to try to make sure everyone understands that no matter how emotional one might get, and how unfair things may seem at any given time, it's a complete loser's game to ever try to take child-custody laws into one's own hands. The law has too many resources to be fought.

As people age, there is nothing more important in life than family. So we feel your pain, William, and hope there might be some relief down the road and that you may be reunited with your son and grandson.

↑↓ SAILORS SHOULD BECOME CITIZEN SCIENTISTS!

I've been sailing for over 35 years and am also a marine scientist with Oikonos Ecosystem Knowledge. In fact, I was the founding board member over a decade ago. I am also a member of Berkeley YC, and the Chair of our Ocean Stewardship



Almar Marinas

Everywhere you'd like to be



Est. 1973

Now Available at
Oakland Marina
Ballena Isle Marina



Join one Almar Marina and enjoy reciprocal privileges at any of Almar's 16 locations from San Francisco to San Diego and out to Hawaii. Each marina provides programs and events that are included in your slip fees:

- *Boat Handling
- *Social Events
- *Electrical Courses
- *Anchor Outs
- *Seminars on Local Destinations

www.almar.com

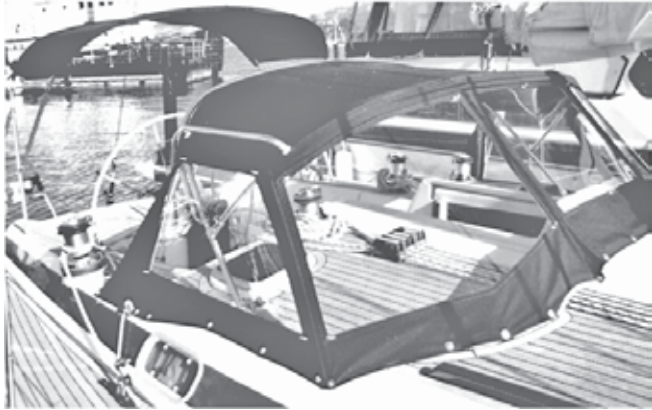
855.SLIPS 4 U
855.754.7748



Yacht owners trust

Pacific Crest Canvas

for the best in design, service and quality.



We strive to make our products the
Highest Quality at the Best Prices
With over **50 years** combined experience

Offshore Dodgers

Aft and Side Handrails
Polycarbonate Windshield
Removable Window & Covers

Full Enclosures

Sail covers, boat covers,
Biminis, weathercloths,
And everything else!

Upholstery

Exterior carpeting
Interior & exterior seating
Oceanair blinds and screens

Repairs

Window & zipper replacement
Patches and restitching
Two day turnaround!



www.pacificcrestcanvas.com

At Grand Marina, Alameda Open Mon.-Fri. 8-4
Behind Blue Pelican 510-521-1938

LETTERS

Committee. As such, I would love to have all sailors become 'citizen scientists' and use our very important free apps to that end. I'm talking about Spotter Pro and/or Whale Alert on your iPad and iPhones, and See & ID Dolphins & Whales on Androids, iPads and iPhones.

The term 'citizen scientist' has taken hold in the scientific community all around the world. There are many international public volunteers who are involved in collecting all kinds of data for many different types of research organizations and studies. It is important to furthering our knowledge.

This letter is an invitation to sailors to become citizen scientists by collecting whale-, porpoise- and dolphin-sighting data. The increase in ship traffic around San Francisco increases the probability of ships hitting whales. Having citizen scientist/sailors on the Pacific or in the Bay collecting data on whale, dolphin and porpoise sightings will provide important data and help identify 'hotspots' as well as recording the temporal and spatial distribution of whales. It could result in a reduction of collisions between vessels and whales.

As a marine scientist, I was very pleased and excited when I received the Spotter Pro app, and field tested it from March through December 2013. I also used it all of 2014. The app was given to me through EarthNC from NOAA Cordell Bank (CB-NMS) and Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuaries (GFNMS), and Point Blue Conservation Science to field test it on my many trips offshore as a trip leader and sailor. Each time I was field testing the Spotter app, I created a summary of what went well as well as recommendations for changes. The app was constantly upgraded for several months in 2013 by EarthNC.

I have made my invitation to the general public as well as captains on whale-watching trips and fishing vessels. Everyone has been very impressed with the collection of data using the Spotter Pro app, and it is really cool to see the nautical chart and show the track lines in or near the new shipping lanes created in June 2013. This app shows the location of whale sightings using blue balls on the nautical chart on my iPad.

All of these important data are collected quickly and efficiently. For the past 20 years I have collected data by writing down the latitude, longitude, weather and sea conditions, number of whales and other comments. When I got to land, I entered the data into a large database and conducted an analysis. Thanks to the apps, the data on the iPad and iPhone are live and are uploaded to NOAA and Blue Point.

Following are instructions for downloading these apps: Spotter Pro became available to the general public in August 2013. When you are at the iTunes Store, search for 'Spotter Pro' and this will appear: "Spotter pro-field data capture & sync". Click on 'download'. This is the app that I have been using since March 2013 as a marine scientist, and I still use it. It works great on all the trips I do as a leader during whale watching trips out to the Farallones and beyond. I also use this app, which works well along the coast of California, when I'm sailing. When I was in Baja in February 2014, the GPS worked but the nautical chart did not show up because it's not available in Mexico.

Whale Alert became available mid-September 2014. When you go to the iTunes Store, search for 'Whale Alert', and you'll get 'Whale Alert-reducing ship-strikes'. Click on that and it shows up on your screen. Then click 'download'.

See & ID Dolphins & Whales will help you identify species and includes guidelines on how to see the species. You can also download this free app from iTunes.

It is extremely important to document the locations and

Easy Access

EMERY COVE
YACHT HARBOR

In The Center of San Francisco Bay

Perfect Location - Great Investment!

BUY OR RENT A SLIP

- BUY A SLIP - Save money and earn equity! Enjoy tax savings. Listings start at \$32,000. Emery Cove Yacht Harbor is the only marina on the Bay with FEE SIMPLE (not a grounds lease) dockminium ownership.
- RENT A SLIP - 35-60' slips, rates from \$9.80 to \$10.80 per foot.

AMENITIES

- Wide fairways, free wireless, modern facilities and Marina Guard® ground fault monitoring.
- Restaurants and shopping within walking distance.
- Free bus: Emery-Go-Round to Bart & Amtrak

ON PREMISES

- Emeryville Yacht Club
- Magnificat 4 Charter
- Mathiesen Marine
- Rubicon Yachts
- Seaward Coastal Ventures
- Websolar



CALL FOR AN INFORMATION PACKET | 510-428-0505

3300 Powell Street, Emeryville, CA 94608 | www.emerycove.com | Email: info@emerycove.com

WWW.RUBICONYACHTS.COM

RUBICON YACHTS

EMERY COVE • SAN RAFAEL • SF



56' PHILBROOK AEROCAT, 2003
\$775,000
Emery Cove (510) 601-5010



45' JEANNEAU DS, 2008
\$289,000
Emery Cove (510) 601-5010



40' CATALINA 400, 1995
\$122,500
San Rafael (415) 484-1300



50' SAMSON, 1991 \$120,000
Berkeley (510) 601-5010



38' HANS CHRISTIAN MK II, 1982 \$59,000
Emery Cove (510) 601-5010



40' PEARSON, 1981 \$42,000
Emery Cove (510) 601-5010



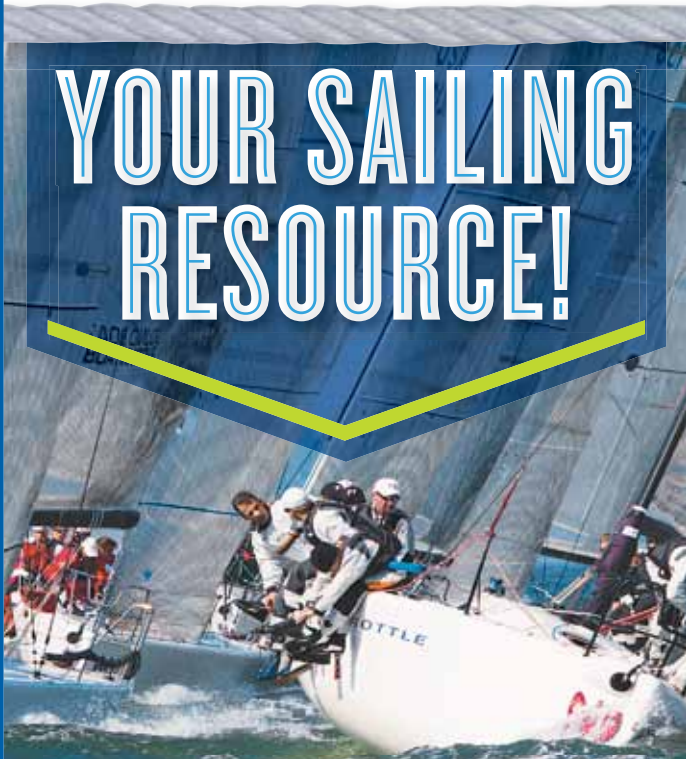
24' PACIFIC SEACRAFT DANA, 1988
\$52,000 Emery Cove (510) 601-5010

3300 POWELL ST., EMERYVILLE (510) 601-5010 • 25 THIRD ST., SAN RAFAEL (415) 453-4770 • 48 COLIN P. KELLY JR. ST., SAN FRANCISCO (415) 484-1300



West Marine®
Rigging Service

YOUR SAILING RESOURCE!



Rigging Inspections
Furler Installation • Lifelines
Running Rigging • Standing Rigging
Dock & Anchor Lines
Mobile Rigging Service Available

**SCHAEFER
MARINE**

FSE ROBLINE
WORLD CLASS YACHTING ROPES

RONSTAN

POWERLITE
PRO RIGGING

Johnson
Marine Hardware

NEW ENGLAND ROPES
COMPOSITE & NITELINE

SAMSON

facnor
FURLING SYSTEMS

Hayn Marine

FORESPAR

SmartRigging
The Intelligent Choice

HARKEN

888-447-RIGG (7444)

**Drop off your rigging orders
at the store nearest you!**

Or visit our Onsite Rigging Locations in:

Alameda, CA • 730 Buena Vista Ave. • (510) 521-4865

Newport Beach, CA • 3433 Via Lido • (949) 645-1711

San Diego, CA • 1250 Rosecrans St. • (619) 255-8844

Seattle, WA • 1827 15th Ave. W., Ste. A22 • (206) 926-0356

www.westmarine.com/rigging

LETTERS

numbers of gray whales and the endangered blue, fin and humpback whales, especially if they are sighted near or in the shipping lanes.

If you have any questions you can contact me at carol@oikonos.org or ecokeeper@gmail.com.

Carol Keiper
www.oikonos.org
Sea Quest, Ericson 35
Berkeley YC

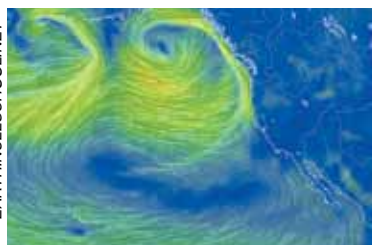
↑↓ THE MOTHER OF ALL PILOT CHARTS

For the mother of all pilot charts, visit bit.ly/PilotChart. It's really quite cool.

Charles Lane
Shamwari, Tayana 37
San Francisco

Charles — We've mentioned this in *Latitude* before, but it's so great that it merits being featured once again in case anyone missed it. What can't be seen in the still photo version is that the site graphically illustrates macro wind patterns around the world using video. And the 'globe' can be rotated, so any particular spot in the world can be selected

EARTH.NULLSCHOOL.NET



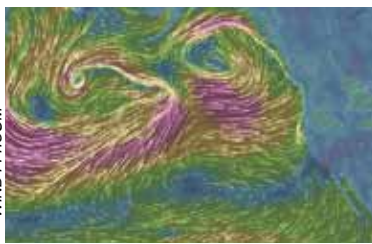
North Pacific wind patterns on December 18, 2014. Very cool!

for a more detailed view of the wind as well as the wind speed. It's absolutely brilliant.

↑↓ WHEN FREE WEATHER SITES COMPETE, SAILORS WIN

Like a lot of sailors, I was really impressed when the bit.ly/PilotChart animated weather graphics of the world came out. But it appears they have been leapfrogged by www.windyty.com. For in addition to the wind patterns of the world, you can also select overlays of

WINDYTY.COM



This enhanced version is even better.

wind, temperature, pressure, clouds and humidity, and you can pick the altitude. Unreal.

Devan Mullin
Points Beyond, Shannon 38
Newport Beach

Devan — That site is a new one to us, but we have to agree that it has eclipsed the other one. But we're sure the latter will soon attempt to catch up, as we're pretty sure everybody has access to the same databases.

↑↓ THE RAIN PAST THE WIPERS

The rain pelted down on the cabintop of my boat as I perused the December issue of *Latitude*. In a world bursting with gluttony for fame and recognition, did *National Geographic* search out their 10 entries for 'Adventurer of the Year', or did the entries self-qualify or nominate themselves? And are armchair warriors who vote for the candidates supposed to vote on known, rather than unknown, variables about each person and each adventure? After all, things like sponsor-



Discover Brisbane Marina

GREAT LOCATION! Just minutes to Central Bay sailing.
GREAT STAFF!
GREAT RATES! Starting at \$6.02/foot!
MARINA GREEN with picnic/BBQ areas
 and Bay Trail access.
HOME OF THE SIERRA POINT YACHT CLUB



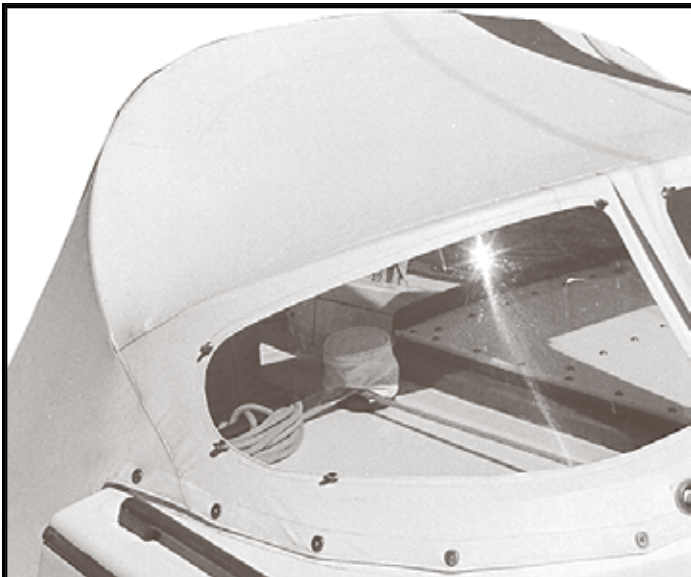
From Hwy 101, take the
 Sierra Point Pkwy exit and
 follow the signs to the marina.

**400 Sierra Point Parkway
 Brisbane, CA 94005**

www.ci.brisbane.ca.us

(650) 583-6975

harbormaster@ci.brisbane.ca.us



*"I blew most of my money on broods, booze
 and boats...the rest I just wasted."*

– Elmore Leonard, R.I.P.



**CLASSIC CANVAS
 STARBUCK CANVAS WORKS
 415•332•2509**

67 Liberty Ship Way, Sausalito, CA 94965
saintarbuck@sonic.net

"Unless you just don't care."

CHRIS BOOME INSURANCE AGENCY

800-853-6504

San Francisco Bay



**MARINE INSURANCE SPECIALIST
 WITH ACCESS TO ALL MAJOR CARRIERS**

Here's what our customers say:

"We have been using Chris Boome for insurance on *Golden Moon* for 13 years. Chris is knowledgeable and fair, and responds promptly to our needs. He is an expert sailor and brings great knowledge to all discussions on sailing. I recommend him whole heartedly.

– Kame Richards
 Express 37 *Golden Moon*
 San Francisco Bay

Call Chris 650-373-0595 • 650-464-0728 cell

www.chrisboome.com • Lic: OA99058

Boomeins@aol.com

RIGGING SERVICE CENTER

SEE THE HANSEN RIGGING DIFFERENCE



**STANDING
RIGGING
SPECIALISTS**

LEISUREFURL™



Our commitment to you starts here, at our state-of-the-art facility providing great service and products.

THE ONLY

Our Docks or At Your Slip

HANSEN RIGGING

2307 Blanding Ave., Alameda • 510.521.7027

www.hansenrigging.com



CDI
Cruising Design, Inc.

The best value and reliability

- Mainsail and Jib reefing
- The only U.S. patented furling system for Cruising Spinnakers
- Manage all your sails safely from the cockpit!

MADE
IN THE
USA

607.749.4599

www.sailcdi.com

sailcdi@verizon.net

LETTERS

ships, trust funds, and other forms of financial support can certainly play into who is the 'most adventurous'.

The way I see it, each of the candidates probably faced many common challenges, and in addition was unwilling to let life slip by while being an idle spectator. In the case of a sailor, it would be the inability to find home in a slip.

'Contests' such as the *National Geographic's* seldom encapsulate reality, isolation, and challenges faced by all people each day. I think we should all boycott this, and adventure outside more often. I encourage all to look past the wipers at the distant drops falling.

Andy Stuhan
Anemone, Searunner 42
Napa

Andy — We did our best to edit your letter, but must confess we're not completely sure what points you were trying to make or what you want to boycott.

For what it's worth, Liz Clark of the Cal 40 Swell told us she was "surprised" at being one of the 10 nominees for National Geographic's Adventurer of the Year, so we assume she didn't nominate herself.

↑↓ AMERICA'S NEXT TOP MODEL/ADVENTURER

I agree with *Latitude's* negative feelings about *National Geographic's* having people vote for one of 10 candidates to be the winner of their 'Adventurer of the Year' award. I'm sure they will do a nice write-up on all 10 of the nominees, but having readers vote for a winner?

We have been reading the publisher Richard Spindler's fine mag since 1985, and I have to admit, I agree with everything he says. It sounds kind of weird, but it's true. As I read some of the letters, I think to myself, 'Oh boy, Richard will have something to say about this'.

We saw *Profligate* a couple of summers ago anchored by Birdrock. We had a pitcher of Bloody Marys. The lights were on at *Profligate*, but nobody was home. Next time.

Mark & Patti Miller
Patricia A, Westsail 28
Southern California

Mark and Patti — Nat Geo's 'Adventurer of the Year' sounds like the magazine version of 'America's Next Top Model' or some other trashy television program. We are firmly against the concept of ranking 'adventuring'. Furthermore, we think

there is another category of adventurers who are so into it they never care about recognition or come to the attention of the mass media.



COURTESY MANU RERE

Even if he were nominated, Glenn Tieman probably wouldn't be interested.

Southern Californian Glenn Tieman, for instance, who years ago built Peregrine, a Wharram Pahi 26 catamaran for \$3,000. As memory serves us, Glenn cruised the Pacific on \$1/day for the first five years, then \$3/day when he spent the next five years cruising to and around Asia. After his family convinced him he was missing out on life, he returned to Southern California briefly to teach school. Realizing that his family was wrong, he spent \$14,000 to build Manu Rere, an ancient flat-deck 38-ft catamaran design. Lashings were all that were used to hold the boat together, and to attach the

Build your own racing yacht!



Berkeley Marine Center

www.berkeleymarine.com • 510-843-8195

See Us at the San Francisco Boat Show • January 22-25

CAT[®]

Authorized Cat Marine Engine Dealer

COMMERCIAL MARINE & PLEASURE CRAFT SALES/SERVICE

Dockside facility at KKMI
Complete marine engine service, from oil changes to overhauls
530 W Cutting Blvd, Richmond, CA 94804
(888) 407-7301



www.petersonpower.com/onthewater

ONCE A SAIL, FOREVER A SEA BAG

SEA BAGS[®]

★ MAINE ★

WE TRADE BAGS FOR SAILS

Recycle your sail with us and
get a **FREE** Sea Bag!

Totes, gifts, wine bags & accessories,
all made in Maine from recycled sails.



Email Christa@seabags.com to learn more.

1-888-210-4244 • SEABAGS.COM



Check
out our
"Must-See"
website!!

The Iverson's Dodger is now available in the Bay Area!

Dodgers • Bimini Tops • Enclosures



206-849-2274

www.iversonsdesign.com



**HOGIN
SAILMAKERS**



Call today to discuss your sail inventory

(510) 523-4388

- Full service and repair loft
- ATN spinnaker socks
- New racing and cruising sails
- Roller furling conversions/new sun covers
- Sails are manufactured in our Alameda loft
- Boom and canvas covers
- Strongtrack

1801-D Clement Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501

sales@hoginsails.com

www.hoginsails.com

LETTERS

rudders to the hulls. The last time saw Tieman was in Turtle Bay in November 2007. There's a guy who belonged in National Geographic but wouldn't want any part of it.

As for agreeing with everything we've written, thank you, but we're not even sure we do.

↑↓ T-BONE STEAKS SEEM APPROPRIATE

I just read your response to my November issue letter regarding the *Profligate-Panache* 'meeting' at Scorpion Bay, Santa Cruz Island, in early September. You wrote that you'd T-boned a boat in Richardson Bay in 1979. OMG, I've been laughing for three days! You guys are something else.

Anyway, thanks for the accolades regarding *Panache*. She's still an unfinished symphony, but then aren't all boats? I really didn't expect a cover shot; besides, I've got way better ones than what I sent you. I only used it as it pertained to the story.

We're planning to be out at Santa Cruz Island next year, potentially in late spring. Any chance you'll be there then? If not, we'll plan to be there the same time you're scheduled to be there. A cover shot from the *Latitude* quad chopper would be awesome!

The last time *Panache* was covered in *Latitude* was in June 2004, page 115, in the *Sightings* section. I purchased her six months later. There was a second photo of her on page 178 of the same issue in an advertisement for Yvonne Soy Photography. The photo showed the previous owner trimming lines from aft.

Adriel, my wife, and I also want to thank you for your dinner offer, and will take you up on it. What do you say we settle up on that next year at Santa Cruz Island — but only if *Profligate* is anchored!

Martin Buxton
Panache, Bill Lee ULDB 40
Santa Cruz

Martin — Here are the details on the time we T-boned a boat in Richardson Bay in 1979. We'd been up in the Delta aboard our 41-ft Bounty II Flying Scud, and had left Antioch at about 7 a.m. to catch a favorable ebb and beat the afternoon breeze. We arrived back in Richardson Bay about 4 p.m., a little bleary from strong winds in San Pablo Bay. All of a sudden we felt the bow of our boat collide with another vessel. We were so pissed that some ignorant jackass could have hit us as we were motoring up the Richardson Bay Channel on a clear and calm afternoon. As we went to the bow to give the idiot owner of the other boat hell, we were surprised to notice two things: 1) The other boat was anchored, and 2) We weren't in the channel after all. Based on that information, it seems as though the collision might actually have been our fault. We're happy to report that we haven't come close to having a collision with a boat, underway or at anchor, until we gave you a fright in September.

Next year at Santa Cruz Island on September 7 and 8 right after the Labor Day crowds have left? See you there.

↑↓ THE NIGHTMARE IS ALMOST OVER

I sent the following letter to Tere Grossman, President of the Mexican Marina Owners Association:

It's been a year since I 'lost' my boat *Pelican* to the Mexican government via SAT (the Mexican IRS) in Guadalajara, and I still await learning the legal status of my boat. As we plan a trip south, I wonder if I can make stops in Mexico, or must I sail directly from Los Angeles to Central America?

Would it help if we 'charged back' the MasterCard pay-



VALLEJO MARINA



Gateway to the Bay & Delta

The North Bay's Only Full-Service Marina!



- Slips starting at \$6.79 per foot!
- Concrete and wood docks
- Covered berths available
- Night security guard

(707) 648-4370 • Fax (707) 648-4660
 42 Harbor Way • Vallejo, CA 94590
www.ci.vallejo.ca.us

BOAT LOANS

New / Used / Refinance

Unbeatable rates.

Call us today
for a free quote.

(800) 233-6542

See us at the
January Boat Shows
San Diego Sunroad
 January 22-25
Seattle Boat Show
 Jan. 23 – Feb. 1

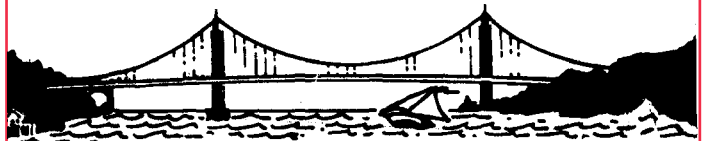
San Diego, Newport Beach, Alameda & Seattle



www.seacoastmarine.net

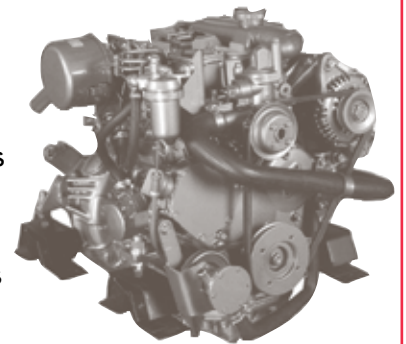
A division of Seacoast National Bank.

SAUSALITO



LIST MARINE INC.

- Full service engine shop
- We service all makes
- Dockside facilities
- Mobile service trucks



P.O. BOX 2008 / 69 LIBERTY SHIP WAY • SAUSALITO, CA 94966
Adjacent to Schoonmaker Pt. Marina

415•332•5478

www.listmarine.com

Every Mack Sail Is Proudly Made In Our Stuart, Florida Sail Loft

Our 46th Year

MANTA 42 PROJECT

Our rigging department installed a new Schaefer Gamma Boom on this Manta 42 that makes regular runs from the East Coast of Florida to the Bahamas. We then built a new jib for the existing camber boom and new full batten mainsail for the roller-furling boom. Our extensive experience with offshore catamarans and with furling booms provided our customer with a great, integrated system.



Photo: Billy Black

The Biggest Small Loft In The USA



Call (800) 428-1384
info@macksails.com
www.macksails.com



WE SHIP EVERYWHERE AND PAY THE FREIGHT ON NEW SAILS AND MACK PACKS.

LETTERS

ments for slip fees of \$3,000 when my boat was 'owned' by the Mexican government? Or possibly the other marinas that collected some \$12,000 after 2009 by accepting my supposedly invalid Temporary Import Permit?

On November 28, I received the following response from Ms. Grossman:

"I am in Mexico City, and today I went to the Tourism Department with Maria Elena Carrillo, our association lawyer, to inquire about your case. It seems as though your boat will be released soon — albeit maybe 'Mexico soon'. When that happens, the file will be closed and it will be as though nothing ever happened with your boat. But until that happens, the authorities recommend that you don't stop in Mexico. These days information on all boats in Mexico is on computers, so no matter where you went in Mexico, you could have problems until the file is closed. I will let you know when the file on your boat is closed."

I thanked Tere for the information and her efforts, and assured her that I would not try to bring *Pelican* back to Mexico until I heard from her. After all, we are still recovering from our 'run for the border'.

John Hands
Pelican, Beneteau Idylle 1150
San Diego

Readers — This letter begs for some background and clarification. In late November of 2013, AGACE, a subagency of Mexico's version of the IRS, raided about eight marinas in Mexico, complete with heavily armed marines and prison buses. The new head of the agency was under the false impression that they had stumbled upon a bounty of foreign-owned boats in Mexico that owed a fortune in duty. Unfortunately, the AGACE 'auditors' knew as little about boats as the head of AGACE knew about the legality of the boats' being in Mexico, and 338 foreign-owned boats were impounded, some for as long as four months. The hiring of lawyers in attempts to free impounded boats only seemed to delay their ultimate release. It was one of the most self-destructive moves that Mexico could have made, and cost them a fortune in bad publicity.

Seventy-five year old John Hands was born in Berkeley and had a long career working for the likes of IBM, Control Data and Amdahl. He retired to Mexico for the first time in 1981, then came back to California for six years of work, during which time he bought *Pelican* as it came out of The Moorings charter program in Loreto. He later brought the boat up to the Delta to outfit her for cruising, then returned to Mexico in 2003. He spent five years — and four hurricanes — in the Sea of Cortez, two years in the Huatulco area, and most recently three years in the Puerto Vallarta area. For years, Hands extolled the pleasures of living aboard in Mexico.

Alas, Hands was one of those who got trapped more than most in the temporary insanity of a seemingly unthinking and uncaring Mexican bureaucracy. When his *Pelican* was 'audited' by AGACE at Nuevo Vallarta, they noted that his 10-year Temporary Import Permit seemed to be out of date, and declared that his boat was in Mexico illegally. They wanted a \$7,500 USD fine — in addition to keeping his boat! Nice for a guy living on Social Security who had long been one of Mexico's most vocal supporters.

The 'problem' was that Hands had gotten a 10-year Temporary Import Permit in 2009 at Salina Cruz. Unfortunately, and unbeknownst to Hands, an official used the expiration date of Hand's 180-day tourist visa for the expiration date of his TIP — even though that was 9½ years short of the true expiration date. After all, he'd gotten a 10-Year TIP, not a Six-Month TIP,

#1 Selling LED Brand
Dr. LED
LED Lighting ●●●



The Navy specifies the use of
Dr. LED's lights...Shouldn't you?

Dr. LED High-Quality Marine
LED Products you can count on!
Designed in the USA and built to last.

www.DoctorLED.com
Promo Code: LAT38

WINNINGEST RIG SHOP IN THE WEST!



No
'Precious Metal'
Shortages
with Easom!



YRA racers, southbound cruisers – take advantage of Easom Rigging.

Pick a boat – any boat.
We can make it sail faster,
smoother, and more
comfortably.

From Catalina 30, Express 27
to Grand Prix – we put
everything we know into
every boat we work on.

Call us about yours.



Easom Racing and Rigging

1230 Brickyard Cove Rd., Suite 102
Point Richmond, CA 94801

(510) 232-SAIL (7245)
www.easomrigging.com

RICHARDSON BAY MARINA

formerly Kappas Marina

MODERN FACILITIES IN A WELL-PROTECTED HARBOR

Concrete
– Dock System

Well Maintained
Facilities

Beautiful
Surroundings

- DEEP WATER BERTHS:
BASIN AND CHANNEL
DREDGED
- CARD KEY SECURITY SYSTEM
- DOCK CARTS
- PUMP OUT STATION
- AMPLE PARKING
- CLEAN SHOWER AND
TOILET FACILITIES
- WITHIN WALKING
DISTANCE: MARKET/DELI,
LAUNDROMAT,
RESTAURANT
- AT EACH BERTH:
LARGE STORAGE BOX,
METERED ELECTRICITY,
PHONE HOOKUPS, WATER

BERTH YOUR BOAT IN SAUSALITO

415 332-5510 www.richardsonbaymarina.com
100 Gate Six Road, Sausalito • Fax 415 332-5812

Ultra Anchor

HOPE FOR THE BEST. PREPARE FOR THE WORST.

* Upcoming boat shows:
Toronto 1/8 - 1/18
San Diego 1/22 - 1/25
Seattle 1/23 - 2/1

Ultra Marine West | HOME OF THE ULTRA ANCHOR
www.ultramarinewest.com • www.quickline.us • 714 843-6964

YOUR SAILING HOME

MARINA BAY YACHT HARBOR

RICHMOND CALIFORNIA

Great Location Deep Draft

Reserve today
(510) 236-1013
www.mbyh.com



SPECIALISTS

Your best source of insurance, tailored to your needs and competitively priced, for your boat or yacht, marine contractor liability, yacht club, boat yards, and boat builders/restorers

We Insure:

Sail or Power ♦ Classic or Contemporary
Fiberglass ♦ Aluminum ♦ Steel ♦ Wood

At Heritage Marine Insurance you will find knowledgeable insurance professionals who provide superior service and the finest coverage available today.

To be sure you're getting the best insurance value please contact us for a quote.

www.heritagemarineinsurance.com

800-959-3047

Fax 860-572-5919

info@heritagemarineinsurance.com

Classic Program available exclusively through:



© 2014 Insurance policies issued by ACE Recreational Marine Insurance are underwritten by the insurance companies of ACE Group.

LETTERS

which doesn't even exist. While this was an obvious error on the part of some Mexican bureaucrat, for reasons known only to other Mexican bureaucrats, they not only refused to correct the error, they seemed intent on nailing Hands with an inexcusably large fine and the outrageous seizure of his boat.

Unable to pay the fine, Hands simply took off from Puerto Vallarta with Pelican and made a 1,000-mile run for the U.S. border. As you might imagine, doing a Baja Bash running from Mexican authorities was anything but tranquil. But Hands made it.

As illogical as the Mexican government can be, sometimes they are surprisingly forgiving. For instance, a couple of folks with boats impounded in Ensenada were successful in runs for the U.S. border. Months later, the files for their boats were cleared by AGACE, and they were told they were free to return to Mexico — despite having blatantly defied Mexican authorities by running for the border. And Hand's Pelican will, apparently, also be forgiven — albeit in 'Mexican time'.

As far as we can tell, Hands was one of the few foreign boatowners who wasn't cleared within less than four months, and was treated much worse than almost all other boatowners.

The good news is that AGACE, AGACE agents, harbormasters, and foreign boatowners seem a lot more knowledgeable these days, so nobody is expecting a repeat of the November 2013 fiasco. That said, if you're coming to Mexico, make sure you have all the correct paperwork, make sure everything on your TIP — including serial numbers — is correct, and follow the rules. It's not that hard and it's certainly not that expensive.

OLD AND NEW TECHNOLOGY

It's raining lions and St. Bernards up here in Portland, so in order to warm up, I sat down and read *Lectronic Latitude*. What a great job you're doing with the aerial photos from your



CRAIG SHAW

Shaw's new-and-improved swaging machine.

DJI Phantom Quad and Go Pro at the Marina Vallarta and other spots. It's an awesome tool for *Latitude* — and your own childish enjoyment. By the way, that's a major compliment, as you never really want to grow up. And congratulations on sticking with it even after the disappointment of losing a few quads.

I turned my antique Kearney swaging machine into a super swaging machine by having a machinist friend make longer shafts and an outer bearing plate, all to my design. It works awesome! In fact, I just finished up doing the rigging for a 50-ft ketch, and will be driving my camper — with my 10-ft sailing dinghy — down to Baja next month to install the rigging. I can't wait for the sunshine, the beauty of Baja and the Sea of Cortez, and to see all my wonderful friends in Mexico again.

I've enclosed a photo that somebody — I wish I knew who — took of my Columbia 43 *Adios* during the 2013 Baja Ha-Ha. I sure have loved doing the Ha-Ha's in the past, and am looking forward to doing his fall's Ha-Ha for sure.

Craig Shaw
Adios, Columbia 43
Portland, Oregon

Craig — We're glad you liked the shots from the 'drone'. They were actually taken with a \$1,400 Phantom Vision 2+ rather

Best wishes to you for a wonderful New Year!



Powerboat or Sailboat, a unique and special place to start and end your day is at Owl Harbor Marina, in the California Delta, near San Joaquin River channel marker 41.



WWW.OWLHARBOR.COM • 916-777-6055

Suncoast Yachts

Exclusive California Dealer for

ISLAND PACKET & BLUE JACKET YACHTS



NEW 2015 ISLAND PACKET 485

SOLD – Last chance to see her at the San Diego Boat Show January 22-25.

Special Boat Show Pricing Incentives to Order Your Own!



NEW 2015 BLUE JACKET 40

Come see this beautiful boat at the San Diego Boat Show January 22-25.

Special Boat Show Pricing Opportunities!

BROKERAGE LISTINGS

IP SP Cruiser 41, '08	\$399,000	Island Packet 27, '87	\$36,000
Catalina 38, '85	\$39,500	Grand Banks 42, '02	\$419,000
Island Packet 380, '01	\$219,000	Sea Ray Express 46, '87	\$89,500
Gemini 105MC, '05	\$109,000	Lien Hwa 47, '95	\$149,500
Island Packet 320, '98	\$114,900		

2330 Shelter Island Dr., #105, San Diego, CA 92106
(619) 523-8000 • www.suncoastyachts.com

OPEQUIMAR

MARINE CENTER CENTRO MARINO

Our Experience Makes the Difference



High velocity pump fuel dock, 46 gals./min. • Travelift: 88 tons, 100' length, 23' beam
Dry storage for vessels up to 300' • VHF radio ch. 68 • 24-hour security • Dock rentals
Sales & rent of used & new boats • Full service boatyard • Do-it-yourselfers welcome

The Most Complete Marine Center Open 365 Days
Puerto Vallarta, Jal. Mexico / Tel: (322) 221-1800
www.opequimar.com / info@opequimar.com

SAN DIEGO'S RIGGING CENTER

since 1983



Proudly serving for over 30+ years

Safe, cost effective,
professional rigging solutions.

**We'll get you ready for your next
sailing adventure!**

Design consulting • Commissioning
Refits • Custom line and hardware

WE SHIP
RIGGING
WORLDWIDE

2805 Cañon St., San Diego CA 92106

619.226.1252

www.pacificoffshorerigging.com



- Awarded five-star outstanding club of the year by PICYA.
- New! Military membership available to all active men and women of the armed forces. Email or call us for more information on how we are celebrating our brave men and women.
- Join us for an amazing dinner any Friday prepared by our executive chef and staff!

For more information contact:

membership@oaklandyachtclub.com • (510) 522-6868



Oakland Yacht Club

on the Estuary in Alameda

Celebrating 100 Years of Boating Tradition

(510) 522-6868 www.oaklandyachtclub.com

LETTERS

than our Phantom 2 with a GoPro. A couple of days before, we 'weed-whacked' a palm tree near a pool and crashed the latter. As it hit the ground, it broke into its three components. The quad itself landed on the ground next to the pool but was undamaged. The GoPro landed on the ground and was also undamaged. Alas, the gimbal, a critical \$350 part, hit the ground and then plopped into the swimming pool. Electrical components don't want to swim any more than cats do, so that will have to be replaced.

The truth of the matter is we greatly prefer the Phantom Vision 2+ to the nearly twice- as-expensive Phantom 2 with



Craig Shaw's Columbia 43 'Adios' in the 2013 Baja Ha-Ha.

a Go Pro. While the latter takes higher quality video, the photographs are no better than with the 14 megapixel Vision 2+. The problem with the Phantom 2 with GoPro is that you have to choose video or still photo and all other control choices before you take off. With the less-expensive Vision 2+, you have full control and information from the

quad from the get-go, and thus don't end up with thousands of stills and minutes of video you never wanted.

DJI was supposed to come out with a new \$2,899 Inspire top-of-the line model featuring 4K video. Unless you're shooting in or for Hollywood, we suggest that the Vision 2+ is more than adequate for 95% of possible uses — and until you have one, you never know how many great uses there are for them.

Congrats on the antique swaging machine. We love all that ancient heavyweight equipment that still works as well as when it was new, the better part of a century ago. What craftsmanship! You should visit the Matthew Turner tall ship building site in Sausalito, as you'd be fascinated by some of the great old equipment they are using to build that vessel.

⇓ PACIFIC FORECASTS FROM MEXICO TO PANAMA

During the last cruising season NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) announced their intention to provide operational forecaster-curated weather forecasts for the Pacific Ocean from the U.S. border to Ecuador. As you know, there are no professional forecasts available for this area, so this would be of great use to all cruisers in Mexico. NOAA has delayed implementation of that plan, but an email campaign from "important customers" — such as us cruisers — can help get the implementation back on track.

The following is an email that I received from Jeffrey Lewitsky of NOAA:

"Our initial plans were to have the forecasts that you mentioned become operational on December 1, 2014, however, that will likely be delayed until sometime in 2015. Please note that what is currently available is not directly enhanced and adjusted by our forecasters, as it is not yet operational. In other words, our forecasters do currently create an underlying 10 km by 10 km gridded database which is updated every 6-12 hours, but the resultant text output that you have seen is not yet edited once it is created. Once the forecasts become operational, our forecasters will thoroughly quality control the text output. In addition, they will also create a synopsis at the top of the product, describing the weather conditions and forecast for the next 1-5 days. We also hope to include wave direction and period information in the text products

It's Beautiful... It's Private... It's Home



Making boating easier – and more fun! – is what Oyster Cove is all about. That's why we rate number one with many Bay Area boaters. Oyster Cove is an exclusive yet reasonable facility of 219 berths, accommodating pleasurecraft in slips up to 60-ft long. **Oyster Cove is the private Peninsula marina closest to bluewater boating.** No other private Peninsula marina is better situated or offers nicer, fresher surroundings.

OYSTER COVE MARINA

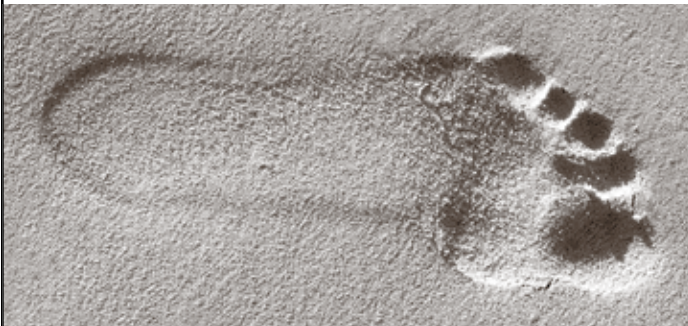
385 OYSTER POINT BOULEVARD #8A,
SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO

(650) 952-5540

- Berths 30 feet to 60 feet
- Double Finger Concrete Slips
- Five Minutes from SFO
- Close to Mass Transit
- Heated Dressing Rooms & Showers
- Laundry Room
- Nightly Security Patrol
- Complimentary Ice

www.oystercovemarina.net

MEXICO CRUISERS STEP ONE:



MAKE A RESERVATION AT MARINA EL CID
FIVE STARS FULL SERVICE MARINA
MAZATLAN

*You'll get such a great "impression"
from our marina services and beaches,
you may never leave!*



www.elcidmarinas.com

011-52 (669) 916-3468

marinaelcidmazatlan@elcid.com.mx

COVER CRAFT

Your Boat

is a thing of beauty.
We want to keep it that way.



*We combine communication, innovation, experience,
and passion to create the best looking and most
durable covers possible.*

- Classic dodgers and biminis
- Drop-top folding dodgers
- Custom canvas for sailboats

560 W. Cutting Blvd., #2
Richmond, CA 94804
Inside the KKMI boatyard

(510) 234-4400

Quality
Yacht
Canvas

Water. Anywhere.



Come see us
at the San Diego
Sunroad Boat Show
January 22-25

Up to 40 gallons of fresh water per hour

The world's first
truly portable
powered desalinator.

www.rainmandesal.com

Authorized Dealer
Kevin Horne: (949) 209-7777

SAL'S

INFLATABLE SERVICES, INC.

**LIFERAFT
TRAINING**



Save
the Date!

Reserve
Now!

Wednesday, March 11 at Golden Gate YC
3:30-5:00 p.m.

Reservations required • Just \$50!

Latitude 38 Crew List Party follows at 6:00

PHONE (510) 522-1824 • FAX (510) 522-1064

salsinflatables@sbcglobal.net

www.salsinflatableservices.com

LETTERS

in 2015.

"I will keep you posted on our progress. In the meantime, if you have found these forecasts to be of use, could you please send another email stating such and your desire for them to become operational? The more such feedback we get from important customers such as yourself, the more quickly we can implement this new enhanced service by showing that there is a great demand for it."

In view of this, I encourage everyone to write Lewitsky at jeffrey.lewitsky@noaa.gov, stating that the experimental forecasts have been of great value, and that you eagerly await the operational version.

Rob Murray
Avant, Beneteau First 435
Vancouver, BC

↑↓ TO EACH HIS OWN

All the people I know who participated in the 21st Ha-Ha gave it an enthusiastic thumbs-up. I can only assume that Mr. McManus, who complained about it in December *Letters*, was the kid nobody liked in school.

Bill Reitz
Kind of Blue, Catalina 36
Sausalito

Bill — We appreciate your support, but don't think you need to say nasty things about people. What really gets us is that we don't try to sugar coat the Ha-Ha — even though it's by far the easiest of the well-known cruising rallies. We try to list as many possible hazards as possible and go out of our way to point out that we have no control over the weather — as if anybody needed to be told that. For what it's worth, more than half the other big cruising rallies were delayed this year: the ARC, the Caribbean 1500, and the TransAtlantic.

↑↓ UNPLANNED NON-OBSOLESCENCE

All the hoopla about the 25th anniversary of the Magellan Nav 1000 handheld GPS reminded me that mine stopped working in January 2000. I thought it was a victim of the Y2K hoopla, which we all know turned out to be a false alarm. Nonetheless, I thought my 1000 had given up the ghost for good.

Being a good pack rat, I've kept the Nav 1000 along with all the rest of my nautical memorabilia. To my surprise, a recent article in *Latitude* mentioned that some folks were still using their revered handheld GPSs. So I guessed Y2K had been no match for the 1000. After 14 years of its collecting dust, I put new batteries in — and the old Nav 1000 came back to life!

It took about 25 minutes to find satellites and digest the data, but it's as reliable as before. I guess I'll keep it for emergencies, or conversation.

Jorge Moreles
Bolero, J/46
Dana Point

↑↓ DON'T DITCH THE FLARES

In a recent *Latitude*, the editor wondered if flares are still necessary in the age of GPS. When my Morgan 45 *Painkiller* sank in the Caribbean in 2000, we were in 12- to 15-ft seas. At midday, when the Coast Guard C-130 was flying ellipses over us, we used the flares so they could spot us amongst the spume.

By the way, I had both my new and outdated flares, and all of them worked. So don't discard the old ones. But don't store them with the current ones either, as the Coast Guard

Visit The Raymarine® Mobile Showroom*

ISE Show at Cal Expo in Sacramento Jan 8-11, 2015 & The San Francisco Boat Show McCovey Cove at AT&T Park and Pier 48 Jan. 22-25, 2015



Raymarine Mobile Showroom

- See the latest Raymarine technology
- See and try the ALL NEW Wi-Fi & Bluetooth equipped c-Series and e-Series widescreens plus the New aSeries Touchscreen Multifunction displays.



Visit our mobile showroom.

Visit us at the Boat Show or at our Shop during the whole month of January 2015 for Special Boat Show pricing!

aSeries Multitouch Multifunction Displays



*Mobile Showroom will only be displayed at the San Francisco Boat Show Jan. 22-25, 2015.

Multifunction Displays Start at \$799.00 before Boat Show Discounts

Come experience the All Touch, Pinch-To-Zoom on the a6, a7, a9 * a12 Multifunction displays.



Star Marine

ELECTRONICS

Visit Our Showroom At
333 Kennedy St. • Oakland, CA 94606
510-533-0121
www.starmarineelectronics.com

SAN FRANCISCO BOAT SHOW SPECIALS*

See Us at the Show January 22-25

- Engine Discounts
- Special Financing
- FREE Rigging Hardware
- Extra Warranties

HONDA
MARINE

 **YAMAHA**

EVINRUDE

MERCURY
Outboards

*Good the entire month of January 2015

Outboard Motor Shop
Where the professionals shop!



(510) 533-9290

www.outboardmotorshop.com



333 Kennedy St., Oakland, CA 94606 • Fax 510-533-3374

POLISH & WAX

A buffed boat not only looks great, but will hold its shine and value for longer!
Call for a buff!

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Interior Cleaning
- Detailing
- Wash Downs
- Maintenance
- Carpet & Cushion Cleaning



Seashine

Fully Insured & Marina Approved
Call now for a Free Estimate

Serving the Bay Area Since 1986

510 428-2522 or 415 457-6300
www.seashine.net

NOW OFFERING COVERED SLIPS FOR SAILBOATS



THAT'S RIGHT... YOU HEARD CORRECTLY

- Of course you have to remove your mast
- We will unstep your mast...*on us*
- We will store your mast...*on us*
- You get your sailboat in a covered slip

*When its time
to go sailing again,
We will step your mast...on us*

Call for details

NAPA VALLEY MARINA

1200 Milton Road • Napa, CA 94559
(707) 252-8011 • Fax (707) 252-0851
www.napavalleymarina.com

Marina • Boatyard • Chandlery • Brokerage

Dealers for
YANMAR

Interlux
yachtpaint.com

Distributors for *Brownell*
Boat Stands

LETTERS

doesn't approve of it.

Ron Landmann
Minden, Nevada

Ron — *There was an incident in the Ha-Ha this year where the Ericson 35 Lily Rowan, which had a non-functioning engine, called for assistance to get towed the last few windless miles into Bahia Santa Maria. We're still not sure why they didn't start by giving a GPS position, but eventually they fired a flare. Even though it was a beautifully clear and calm day, it could barely be seen from just a few miles away. Perhaps what we're really trying to say is that mariners need to fully understand the considerable limitations of flares.*

↑↓ I KNOW FIRSTHAND THERE IS A WHALE PROBLEM

On page 72 of the November issue you report on a 'whale of an app' concerning whale populations, and mention that "sailors — especially those who transit coastal areas — are often concerned about colliding with cetaceans, for their own sake as well as for the whales' sake . . ."

Tell me about it. As *Latitude* knows, in June 2012, while I was singlehanded up the coast of Baja to complete a 12-year circumnavigation with my Perry 47 *Reflections*, my boat was hit by a whale and sank.

The U.S. Department of Commerce and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration subsequently sent me about 37 database pages of information about reported whale collisions. So there really is a problem.

But having had my boat sunk by a whale would not stop me from sailing around the world again. Those 12 years I spent circumnavigating were just amazing.

A very wise man once said, "The path to happiness is paved with interesting experiences, not things." That wise man was the publisher of *Latitude*, and I have that quote posted on the map of my world cruise. But having read that you bought a canal boat, how many boat 'things' do you have now? LOL.

But thank you so much, my friend, for *Latitude* 38. I cannot tell you how much I have enjoyed it over the many years it has been published.

Max Young
ex-*Reflections*, Perry 47
Antioch

Max — *Thanks for going overboard with the kind words.*

The sentiment about experiences bringing more happiness than objects has been expressed by many people over the years since about the time of Confucius, so it's hardly original. In fact, if we remember correctly, we were paraphrasing something Paul Cayard had recently written in Seahorse magazine.

We now have four boats/things. True, on the surface it might seem hypocritical to have four boats while claiming that experiences are more important than things. But the boats are actually tremendous 'experience generators'. Take the 63-ft catamaran Profligate, as she has been the mothership of 18 Ha-Ha's, was the mothership for the founding of the Zihua SailFest, the Northern California Cat Cup, the Banderas Bay Blast, the Pirates for Pupils Spinnaker Run, the SoCal Ta-Ta, the Sea of Cortez Sailing Week Revival. In addition, she's done more races, shorthanded and fully crewed, than a sailor could shake a winch handle at. She's also been to the Caribbean and back, rescued people on flipped boats, towed boats off rocks, and played host to literally thousands of guests and contributors to charitable causes. We can't imagine what our life would have been like without her.

Our second largest boat is the Leopard 45 cat 'ti Profligate,

**FREE FIRST MONTH'S RENT FOR
30' • 32' • 40' SLIPS!**

LOCH LOMOND MARINA



**Free Pump Out Station • Modern Launch Ramp
Guest Slips Available • Marine Mechanical Boat Repair
Arena Yacht Sales • Andy's Local Market • Bait Shop
Land or Sea Canvas • Windjammer Yacht Sales • Loch Lomond Yacht Club**

110 Loch Lomond Drive, San Rafael, CA 94901

Phone: (415) 454-7228 • Fax: (415) 454-6154

www.lochlomondmarina.com

Harbor Master – Pat Lopez • pat@lochlomondmarina.com

McDERMOTT COSTA

insurance brokers - est. 1938

Commercial Operations

- COMMERCIAL POLICIES
Marinas, Yards,
Yacht Clubs,
Brokers,
Shipwrights

Recreational Inshore/Offshore

- YACHT & BOAT POLICIES
Offshore, Coastal,
Inland and
Liveaboards



**CALL FOR
2015
QUOTES**



Lic. #OB21939

**BILL FOWLER – Marine Specialist
McDERMOTT COSTA INSURANCE
(510) 957-2012 Fax (510) 357-3230
bfowler@mcdermottcosta.com**



**Convert your auxiliary drive to
CLEAN, QUIET ELECTRIC**

- Gear Reduction now available in stainless steel
- Low maintenance and affordable
- No noxious gas/diesel fumes
- Superior torque at low RPM



**5%
Discount!**

**Use code
LAT38 online or by phone**



THUNDERSTRUCKMOTORS
Inspiring and Enabling the EV Community

**SALES • SERVICE • CONSULTING • CUSTOM PROGRAMMING
www.ThunderStruck-EV.com • 707-578-7973**

Easy Shoreside Travel

ZAPPY PRO FLEX 500

Compact
Easy Storage
Convenient



- 500 W Motor
- 48 V System
- Off Road Tires
- Battery Type: Sealed Lead Acid
- Charger: 100V-240V UL Approved
- Charging Time: 4-6 Hours
- Max Speed: up to 15 mph
- Single Charge: up to 15 mph
- Max. Capacity: 275 lbs
- Net Weight: 128 lbs

O'Connell Electric Scooters

2363 Mariner Square Drive, Suite 149 • Alameda, CA 94501
(510) 865-7255 • oconnell1@earthlink.net

KISSINGER CANVAS

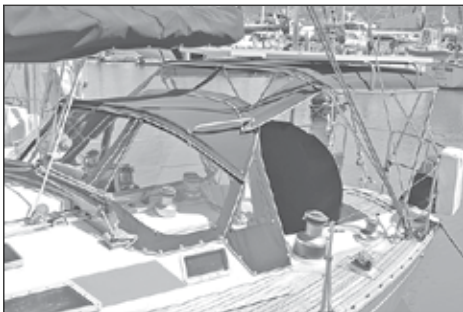
Marine Canvas & Interiors

STEVEN KISSINGER

(925) 825-6734

Covering the Entire Bay Area

- Biminis
- Enclosures
- Boat Covers
- Cushions
- Sail Covers
- Awnings



DODGERS

20 Years in Business

Side handrails and window covers included.

OPTIONS

Aft handrail, dodger cover, sailing bimini.

Free Estimates and Delivery

LETTERS

which we have in a yacht management program in the British Virgin Islands, but personally use three months a year. Our belief is that if you don't spend time in the Caribbean each year, there is no way you can keep up with what's going on in sailing. La Gamelle, which we picked up for under \$5,000, is the third Olson 30 we've owned. We used her for Zen sailing on San Francisco Bay, then took her to the Caribbean, where we gave away the Honda outboard and now Zen sail her singlehanded. To our way of thinking, sailing the engineless Olson 30 in the Caribbean is about as close to pure sailing as you can get.

As reported last month, we recently bought a surprisingly inexpensive small steel canal boat in the Netherlands, which we plan to share to with two partners and use two months each year in Europe. The four boats are our 'homes', for as the French would say, we have "no fixed domicile." The Wanderer and Doña de Mallorca do a lot of 'sleeping around' and have a lot of 'experiences'. We wouldn't trade it for all the cars, jewelry, clothes and other crap we could have spent the money on.

FLICKERING LEDS

After *Latitude's* recommendation a couple of years ago regarding 12-volt LED light strips, I purchased several. They've worked great in the galley, saloon and master stateroom. They easily attached to the flat-surfaced gelcoat with the stickyback.

Recently, however, the strips have begun to fail. Not the whole strip, but individual LED 'bulbs'. They start flickering, then go out. I can get them to come back on by pressing my fingernail on the failed 'bulb', but after I let up, it goes out again. It's not as if I can replace the individual bulbs. I guess I'll have to live with it, or replace the whole strip.

I look forward to *Latitude* every month.

Scott Harris
Makarios, Island Packet 485
Lake Havasu, Arizona

Scott — Thanks for the kind words. We haven't had a problem with individual 'bulbs' failing, but our strips have gotten about 20% dimmer. So we bought three new 15-ft LED strips, which cost all of about \$50, for Profligate's large saloon. If and when the old LED strips get too dim, we'll replace them. For right now, they're bright enough.

VASELINE MIGHT HELP

It is highly unlikely — basically impossible — that the actual LEDs are degrading. More likely the problem is a resistor or other component in the dimmer control, or possibly oxidation of the connector to the LED strip. Fixing the latter requires plugging and unplugging the connector a few times to wipe off the oxidation, then coating it with Vaseline to prevent future oxidation. Many, but not all — sigh — LED strips can take straight 12-volt via a good old-fashioned switch. Of course, that only gives you two choices: lighting with all the romance of an operating theatre or none at all.

Tim Dick
Sausalito / Honolulu

In a typical month, we receive a tremendous volume of letters. So if yours hasn't appeared, don't give up hope.

We welcome all letters that are of interest to sailors. Please include your name, your boat's name, hailing port and, if possible, a way to contact you for clarifications.

By far the best way to send letters is to email them to richard@latitude38.com. You can also mail them to 15 Locust, Mill Valley, CA, 94941, or fax them to (415) 383-5816.

Johnson Hicks

MARINE ELECTRONICS

We can't print prices or products but I can say there are some great bundles that aren't available ANYWHERE else!

We are headed to the city for the show!!

Santa Cruz 831-475-3383
Sausalito 415-331-3166

**Booth
516**

GARMIN

GARMIN

www.JohnsonHicksMarine.com

ONLY IN MARINA VALLARTA...



352 VESSEL CAPACITY (UP TO 160 FEET), ELECTRICITY, WATER, PUMP OUT, 88-TON TRAVELIFT, DRY DOCK, RESTAURANTS, SHOPS, HOTELS, AIRPORT PRIME LOCATION, COORDINATES: LAT: 20.39 N, LONG: 105.15 W



Marina  Vallarta

BAY VIEW GRAND

MARINA VALLARTA

TELS. +52 (322) 221-0275

+52 (322) 221-0722

PUERTO VALLARTA, JAL. MÉXICO

OPEQUIMAR
CENTRO MARINO

www.marina-vallarta.com.mx ~ italia@marina-vallarta.com.mx

Captain's License

Maritime  Institute

Captian OUPV - 6 Pack/100 Ton

San Diego, CA - February 2 - 13

Catalina, CA - January 19 - 30

Newport Beach, CA - February 16 - 27

San Rafael, CA - January 12 - 23

Able Seaman

San Diego, CA - February 16 - 20

San Rafael, CA - February 9 - 13

Long Beach, CA - February 16 - 20

Radar Observer - Unlimited

San Diego, CA - January 19 - 23

Long Beach, CA - February 9 - 13

Basic Safety Training

STCW-95 Approved

San Diego, CA - January 26 - 30

Call Today!!! Toll Free: 888-262-8020
www.MaritimeInstitute.com

new access to the big playground

"The Bay is a big playground," says Kame Richards of Pineapple Sails. "That playground is publicly owned, and anyone who wants can have access to it." It was such thinking that led him to conceive the Alameda Community Sailing Center two years ago, and bring it to life as a means of opening up the Bay to local residents young and old who don't have access to a boat.

"Once you poke your nose out of the harbor, you can go south, or north, or anywhere you want without someone looking over your shoulder. If you go out the Gate, the playground extends all the way to Japan!"

Freedom is an underlying theme in all of Richards' remarks, including the freedom to go where you want to go, freedom to make decisions based on your own experience, and even freedom to make mistakes. "If you sail a dinghy all afternoon and you never tip over, what have you learned?" Richards asks, rhetorically.

"The first two years of the Center, we taught youth sailing in the Ballena Isle Marina. The marina management was very gracious and donated the use of their docks and their shoreside facilities at no charge. We spend the first day

teaching kids to capsize their boat and then recover. It takes an hour for the first kid to find the courage to tip the boat over, but by the end of the day, we can't keep the kids out of the water. But the best moment comes on day three, when we take the kids out from behind the breakwater. Their eyes open wide when they see San Francisco and realize that their own little boat could take them there."

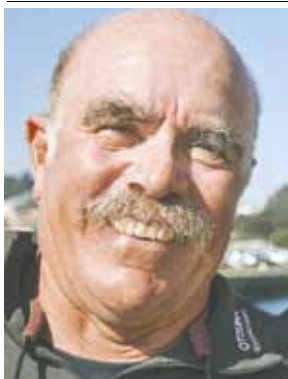
The new Alameda Community Sailing Center is located just west of Encinal High School, on property that once housed the Naval Air Station, but now belongs to the City of Alameda. The site is adjacent to a public park, and offers access to a lagoon that is formed by the Naval Air Station's outer breakwater.

"We plan to start teaching classes in the lagoon this next summer," says Richards. "We have a wonderful sand beach that the kids can sail off of, and it is a great place for kids to play and explore. The

downside is that at low tide there's 150 feet of mud between the beach and the water. But that gives us a chance to talk about tides and currents, and life in the Bay."

Although the center has focused on youth sailing in its first two years, Richards is very clear that the goal is not just to create another youth sailing program. "We have focused on

youth sailing because we have a small fleet of JY Trainers that were donated to us by the Treasure Island Sailing Center. But we would like to acquire six boats like the FJ so we can offer adult classes as well. Our goal is to make this a *community* sailing center, open to all. Last summer, working with Ryan Nelson, who manages the rig shop for West Marine in Alameda, and Svendsen's Marine, our local Laser dealer, we provided space for Laserpalooza, an all day event that celebrates all things Laser. Our goal is to become a resource that adds



LATITUDE / CHRIS

The new Community Sailing Center is the brainchild of sailmaker Kame Richards.



JOHN TUMA

Fast is fun, but these kids would probably tell you that slow can be fun too. What the heck, they're out in nature skippering boats with no adults aboard.

2015 pacific puddle

Based on the emails we've been receiving, adventure-hungry sailors all along the West Coast of the Americas are busily preparing to do the Pacific Puddle Jump — that is, the 3,000-mile crossing to French Polynesia. Registration for this loosely formed rally is now open at www.pacificpuddlejumps.com.

As regular readers know, after coining the phrase Pacific Puddle Jump nearly 20 years ago, we have always dedicated lots of ink to reporting on this ambitious crossing. In addition, we host Puddle Jump Send-off Parties each winter, and co-host the annual three-day Tahiti-Moorea Sailing Rendezvous every June with our Tahitian partners. Here are the key dates for 2015:

- Feb 25 — Vallarta YC PPJ Seminar



ALL PHOTOS JOHN TUMA

jump revs up

& Party, 3-6 p.m., Nuevo Vallarta, Mexico (at Paradise Village Marina).

- March 4 — Balboa YC, Panama, PPJ Seminar & Party, noon-4 p.m.

- March 7 — Shelter Bay Marina, Panama, noon-4 p.m. (Caribbean side of Canal.)

- June 19-21 — Tahiti-Moorea Sailing Rendezvous, Papeete waterfront and Club Bali Hai Hotel, Moorea.

Latitude staff will also be giving informational seminars on the PPJ and cruising French Polynesia at the Seattle Boat Show, January 24 & 25, at 3:15, and at the Strictly Sail Pacific boat show in Oakland in April (dates TBA).

Look for additional updates here, and online at *Lectronic Latitude*.

— andy

alameda sailing — continued

depth and richness to community life in Alameda."

The Alameda Community Sailing Center is an ambitious project, and things look good for the near future. "With two years under our belt, we have credibility with the city, and our relations with the city are very good," says Richards. "We are offering dry storage for small boats here at our facility to help defer the costs of running the Center, and eventually we hope to have more space elsewhere on the island. We have a dedicated cadre of volunteers on the board of directors. We are registered with the State of California as a Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation, and we have been granted 501(c)(3) status from the IRS, so the business side of things is moving forward."

What has been the highlight of the first two years? "The end-of-season party," replied Richards without hesitation. "It was a big celebration. The kids were showing their parents what they had learned, and one kid even offered to teach his grandfather how to sail. That's what we want to see. We want to get everybody out on the playground!"

For more information or to make a donation, check out the website at www.sailalameda.org.

— john tuma

Contemporary American kids are the most lethargic generation in US history. Getting kids off the couch and into active, character-building activities is a goal well worth aiming for.



SIGHTINGS

loïck's amazing atlantic charge

"The story is quite bizarre," said French sailor Loïck Peyron, 55, in reference to his record-breaking crossing on the 104- x 74-ft *Banque Populaire VII* in November's singlehanded Route du Rhum from Saint-Malo, France, to Point-à-Pitre, Guadeloupe. We caught up with him at Artemis Racing's base in Alameda in early December.

"I didn't know three months before the start that I was going to race on this boat. I was planning to do it on a 40-ft wooden trimaran that's 34 years old — an old lady." Peyron speaks excellent English with a slight Gallic lilt: "So I was sailing in September starting to do my qualification. I received a call from a friend who was in charge of the *Banque Populaire* sailing team. They had a problem — their skipper, Armel Le Cléac'h, injured himself and was not able to race. So they were asking me to replace him. My answer was, 'No, I'm sorry, I can't, because your boat is too big and I'm maybe too old; I'm not in the best physical shape. I didn't race alone on a multihull since

continued on outside column of next sightings page

bermuda confirmed

If you were stranded on a desert island during December, you may not have heard the news: In 2017 the 35th America's Cup will be held in Bermuda, not San Diego.

The challenger series (minus the usual title sponsor, Louis Vuitton) and the finals will be raced in foiling, wingsail, 62-ft catamarans. So far, Emirates Team New Zealand, Sweden's Artemis Racing, Britain's Ben Ainslie Racing, Luna Rossa Challenge of Italy, and Team France have declared challenges.

Racing for all teams will begin with the America's Cup Qualifiers, where teams are seeded — with bonus points — according to their results in the AC World



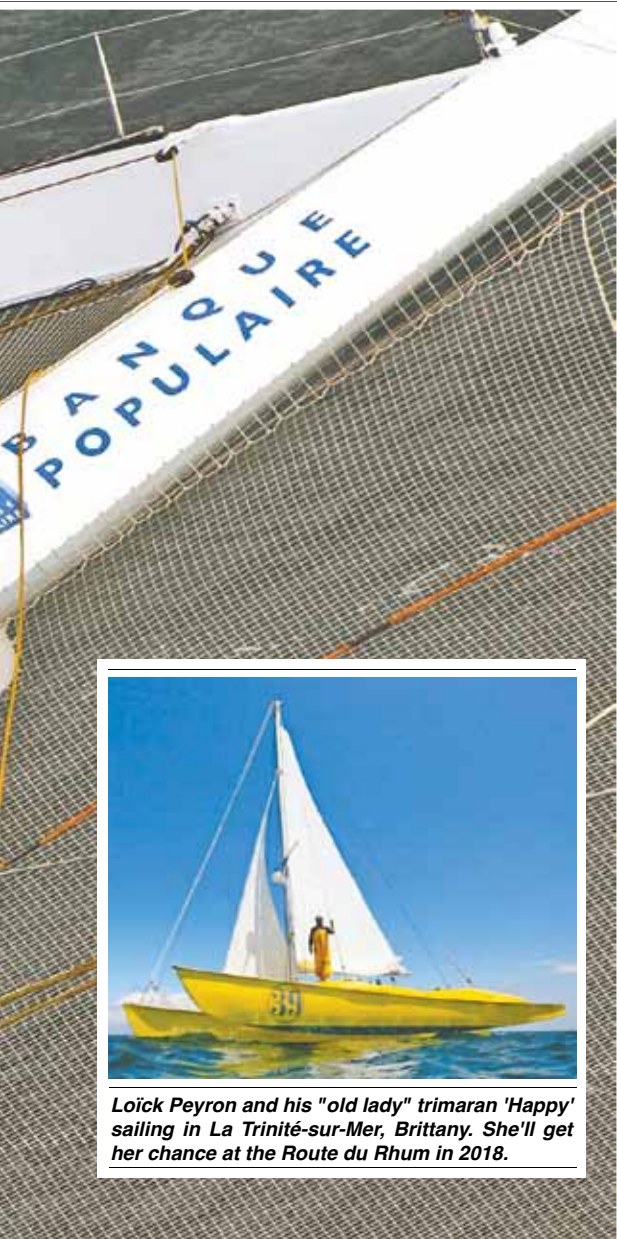
as ac35 host

Series. The top finishers will then go on to compete for the America's Cup Challenger Playoffs and the right to race the defender, Golden Gate YC's Oracle Team USA, in the America's Cup Finals in June 2017.

The AC World Series will be held in the existing fleet of 45-ft cats, modified to foil, in 2015 and 2016. The Red Bull Youth America's Cup will be back too, and will also be raced in the foiling AC45s.

The best America's Cup news we've heard lately is that Iain Murray, regatta director for AC 34 in 2013, will return in the same role in 2017.

— chris



Loïck Peyron and his "old lady" trimaran 'Happy' sailing in La Trinité-sur-Mer, Brittany. She'll get her chance at the Route du Rhum in 2018.

SPREAD: YVAN ZEDDA; INSET: CHRISTOPHE LAUNAY / SEALAUNAY

loïck — continued

2002.' I spent the night thinking, and then I called back and said, 'Why not? Because that's a crazy story and I like crazy stories.'"

Of course, this giant trimaran wasn't designed for solo sailing. "It's more than a physical challenge, it's really a cerebral one," explained Peyron. "It's so big, even if you're in the best shape, you can't fight against it. You need to think a lot about what's going to happen and be sure you are still able to manage it. That's a very nice challenge. So I was quite lucky to be called."

Peyron led the 3,542-mile race from the very first night, when horrendous seas wreaked havoc with the fleet. "When you're beating into each wave in more than 20-25 knots upwind, it is not comfortable at all, so I did not sleep. The first two days it was impossible even to sit, bouncing off each wave; very noisy, very stressful. When the sea state is better, the boat is not suffering, which means the skipper is not suffering. Then it's a bit less uncomfortable than on smaller multihulls, because this one, she is so big and so wide, she is a lot more stable. You need to produce a lot more effort to work the sails — but it's a bit less stressful."

On the fourth and fifth days Peyron was in better shape, as he'd had a chance to sleep a little. "We were quite lucky to have a full moon, and some nights were very, very nice. You are downwind, with flat water, 35 knots, alone on the boat under the moon, a bit of music — that's cool. But that's not like a cruise, because in the speed is a risky factor. The best way to finish a race is to win it, and you never know until the end if it's possible."

Peyron arrived at Guadeloupe in the middle of the night on November 10, setting a new record of 7 days, 15 hours, 8 minutes, 32 seconds. "The finish was really stressful again: a lot of maneuvers, a lot of people around, in the dark."

Regarding his 'old lady' trimaran, *Happy*, Peyron said, "*Happy* is waiting for another story, which will be done in four years. I never changed my mind; I just delayed." In the meantime, he'll be busy with Artemis Racing's America's Cup team, which plans to keep its base in Alameda for the foreseeable future. "When other helmsmen like Nathan Outteridge are not here, we have a lot of sailing tests to do on the 45-ft boats, and then I'm the test helmsman. In the design team, I'm the Swiss Army Knife. I'm the little drop of oil. I like being part of all the departments. When you're alone on a boat, you have to do everything. You can't be good everywhere, but you need to know things in all kind of areas."

On December 8, the Fédération Française de Voile named Loïck Peyron Sailor of the Year.

— chris

nav error dooms volvo entry

If ever there was an illustration that even the world's best sailors occasionally screw up, it was the disastrous grounding of *Team Vestas Wind* November 29 on remote Cargados Carajos Shoals, 240 miles northeast of Mauritius in the Indian Ocean. The Danish-flagged 65-ft Volvo Ocean Race boat was blasting north at 19 knots, midway through Leg Two, from Cape Town, South Africa, to Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, when the nighttime calamity occurred.

Fortunately, none of the nine crewmen was badly injured during the crash, and all were able to make it safely to shelter ashore, but the aft section of the \$5.5-million boat was completely trashed during the grounding and the hull may not be repairable — although a plan

continued on outside column of next sightings page



LATTITUDE / CHRIS

Accessible as he is talented, Peyron is one of sailing's best-loved superstars.

SIGHTINGS

vestas — continued

is in progress to remove her from the reef with minimal environmental damage.

For millions of Volvo Ocean Race fans around the world, the burning question in the aftermath of the incident was how world-class sailors using top-of-the-line nav gear could have made such a costly error. The answer came nine days after the mishap, when skipper Chris Nicholson — a five-time VOR veteran — and navigator Wouter Verbraak

admitted that Verbraak simply had not zoomed in far enough on the electronic charting software to see the reef-strewn, 25-mile-long bank.

One factoid that's emerged in the aftermath is that the exclusion zone (see graphic) put in place to keep the fleet away from potential piracy, was moved farther west shortly

The tragic grounding of Team Vestas Wind's VO 65 left sailors the world over wondering how this could happen to offshore racers of this caliber. The hull has now been removed.

before the start of the leg. Cargados Carajos had not been within the go-zone previously. Even so, you have to wonder if such an error would have been made a generation ago when only paper charts were available.

Vestas team members are reportedly assessing the possibility of having a new one-design VO 65 built in time to compete in the final stages of this nine-leg, 38,000-mile competition.

Although Vestas' tragic grounding may have dominated the sailing world's headlines for Leg Two of the VOR, it should not overshadow the incredible racing that is going on at the pointy end of the fleet, with another ultra-close race to the finish line and a three-way tie atop the leaderboard after two legs. With Alvamedica (US/Turkey) and SCA (Sweden) temporarily suspending racing to render assistance to Vestas, and with MAPFRE (Spain) still notably off the pace, this edition of the VOR is quickly becoming a three-horse race with Leg Two winner Team Brunel (Dutch) now tied on points with both Dongfeng (China) and Abu Dhabi at four points each.

To put in perspective how close the racing has been so far, Dongfeng has now finished second in both race legs, trailing the respective leg winners by less than half an hour after more than 10,000 miles of racing, losing Legs One and Two by 12 and 16 minutes respectively!

Leg Three offers many compelling story lines as the now-six-boat fleet will race 4,670 miles from Abu Dhabi, UAE, to Sanya, China. The sponsor-driven leg is one of the least conventional sailing routes of the entire VOR, making for what will likely be a long and difficult upwind slog — tantamount to a navigator's worst nightmare. The three leaders have all the momentum while MAPFRE desperately needs a good result to silence their critics. The youth on Alvamedica seem primed for a podium finish, while SCA hopes to play spoiler and take a flyer from the back. Follow the action at www.volvoceanrace.com or via the VOR app that's downloadable from that site.

— latitude/andy & ronnie simpson

in-the-water boat

With plenty for sailors to look at and investigate, the second Progressive San Francisco Boat Show will take over San Francisco's McCovey Cove and Pier 48 January 22-25. Brands of sailboats in the water will include Beneteau, Catalina, Jeanneau, J/Boat, Hanse and Sabre, plus many other lines represented by brokers. In addition to sailboats, kayaks, SUPs, trawlers, classics, runabouts, ski boats and fishing boats will be on display.

Seminars on a broad range of topics are included in the price of admission.

VOLVO OCEAN RACE



The graphic above shows fleet positions several days after Vestas' (light blue) crash. Note the exclusion zones west of the fleet.

BRIAN CARLIN / TEAM VESTAS WIND



show this month

They include getting started in sailing, anchoring, docking, maintenance and repair, cruising SF Bay, sail trim, intro to kayaking or paddleboarding, insurance, financing, and how to buy a boat.

Discover Boating will facilitate hands-on sailing classes, including a catamaran course. A sailing simulator, Try It Cove Pool, Fred's Shed advice center, a Kids' Zone, food trucks, a bar, and numerous marine exhibitors will round out the show. See www.sfboatshow.com.

— chris

rimas *finally* makes landfall

One hundred and twenty-two days after leaving San Francisco Bay on August 10, Russian-born American Rimas Meleshyus *finally* made landfall last month at the port of Pago Pago, American Samoa, aboard his engineless San Juan 24 daysailer *Pier Pressure* — a voyage of 4,000 miles. For weeks, he'd been sailing and drifting at 1 to 3 knots in anticipation of landing there or at neighboring Samoa (an independent nation). But he probably would have missed them both if friends monitoring his trip had not reached out to authorities to tow the tiny sloop into port. They'd received requests for a tow via *Pier Pressure's* DeLorme InReach transponder device.

Since Rimas' first offshore adventure in Alaska in 2012, which ended with his first San Juan 24 grounding in the Aleutian Islands,

continued on outside column of next sightings page



BRIAN CARLIN / TEAM VESTAS WIND

SIGHTINGS

***rimas* — continued**

he has only made landfall once without assistance — and that time he drifted back into the Sausalito anchorage on a strong flood current after a failed attempt to sail down the coast. By any measurement, Rimas is no great sailor, and his stubborn determination to make history by sailing a San Juan 24 around the world is a severely flawed notion, at best.

But while we certainly wouldn't encourage such misguided behavior, we have to admire Rimas' stoicism and unflinching determination. We've reported on dozens of dreamers with grand plans whose unconventional boats never got past the Farallones — the *Flyin' Hawaiian* and the *Tin Can* come to mind. By contrast, despite Rimas' seemingly crazy ideas, he put his life on the line to pursue his sailing dreams, and refused to give up and call for rescue, even when he lost both his dinghy and outboard during a tropical storm months ago.

Meanwhile, on several sailors' forums Rimas has become the favorite punching bag of mean-spirited bullies who don't even have the balls to sign their real names to their vitriolic posts, let alone venture offshore alone in a tiny boat to prove their mettle.

What's next for Rimas? Hopefully, he'll give up his dreams of circumnavigating aboard *Pier Pressure*. But we wouldn't bet on it.

— *andy*

lakota bites

According to the World Shipping Council, the number of shipping containers lost at sea in recent years has increased dramatically. The average for the past three years was more than 700 — up from 350 in the Council's previous report. Last month we were reminded of what a dangerous menace wayward containers can be to small-boat traffic when the famous 60-ft trimaran *Lakota* collided with an unseen container off the coast of Ecuador, roughly 350 miles southwest of Balboa, Panama.

Luckily, she was motoring at only five or six knots at the time, so damage to her starboard ama was not substantial. Initial repairs were made while in the water off Panama's Balboa YC. *Lakota's* new owner was en route to Hawaii when the collision occurred.

As longtime readers may remember,



Spread and above: The notch taken out of 'Lakota's starboard ama should be easily repairable. But we can only imagine what would have happened if she'd been traveling at the record-setting speeds she is capable of. Right inset: Wayward containers are a terror to navigation worldwide. In 2011 when the 774-ft 'Rena' slammed into a New Zealand reef, 900 containers went adrift.

SPREAD & LEFT INSET FRANK NITTE



wayward container

the late adventurer Steve Fossett bought the speedy tri in the early 1990s from French sailing phenom Florence Arthaud. He broke the Japan-to-San Francisco record (with crew) in 1995, then set a new singlehanded record on the same route the following year. In 1998 Fossett set a new solo TransPac record (San Francisco to Kauai) with a time of 7d, 22h, 38m — a full day faster than the previous record, clocked by Peter Hogg in 1994 aboard *Aotea*.

Not only are wayward containers a hazard to navigation, but in some jurisdictions shipping companies are legally responsible to retrieve them and, of course, they — or their insurance companies — are liable for the lost merchandise. Shipping industry representatives point to steps taken in recent years to

continued in middle column of next sightings page



NEW ZEALAND DEFENSE FORCE

MV TATRY



kite man lost in the tehuantepec

Nearly three weeks overdue on a passage from El Salvador to Mexico, the overturned hull of the unusual 40-ft 'hybrid wave-piercer' trimaran *Seven Sisters* was discovered on or about November 25 by the 721-ft Liberian-flagged bulk carrier *Tatry* in the middle of the Gulf of Tehautepec, roughly 350 miles southwest of Acapulco.

Despite a five-day search using both air and surface resources of the US Coast Guard, owner Tom Kardos, aka the 'Kite Man of Berkeley', was never found. He was in his mid-50s.

"From his last reported position," wrote friends Bill Yeargan and Jean Strain, "he was 100 miles south of Huatulco on the edge of the Tehuantepec winds and seas. Our guess is that the boat could not handle the waves and turtled." As experienced Central America cruisers know, the Tehautepec is notorious for periods of extremely strong winds and big seas, conditions that often exist hundreds of miles out to sea.

According to posts on Kardos' blog, *Seven Sisters* was robbed of key pieces of equipment in Costa Rica last April while he was in the US attending his daughter Lena's college graduation. Among the many missing items were batteries, a 70-hp outboard motor, refrigeration components, and even the steering wheel. According to Yeargan and Strain, who run the annual El Salvador Rally, "All that was left was the electric maneuvering motor and rudder linkage. He steered the boat using only a tiller/pilot."

Seven Sisters was a very unusual design in that she had a



It's clear that Kardos had taken steps to survive atop 'Seven Sisters' overturned hull. The hole, center aft, is where the shaft of a small electric motor protruded. Note the broken ama.

main hull like a monohull, but little if any keel. She also had two wave-piercing amas, thus the 'hybrid' name, but wasn't particularly beamy.

Kardos was as atypical as his boat. Back in 1979 he famously landed a hang-glider on the 10-yard line of Berkeley's Memorial Stadium during the second quarter of the 1979 Cal-USC football game — dumbfounding 76,000 spectators and both teams. He also experimented with kiteboarding on the Bay 36 years ago.

— richard & andy

breaking the pink/blue color divide

While it may not fit the progressive narrative about equality of the sexes, it appears there is something of a natural division of labor on sailboats. In the overwhelming number of cases, men do most of the sailing and the mechanical chores, while women do most of the cooking and cleaning. Blue jobs and pink jobs.

There are exceptions, of course. Liz Baylis and Melinda Erkelens, for example, are outstanding helmswomen. Dawn Riley worked the pit in her America's Cup syndicate boat. Ashley Perrin has run the bow

continued on outside column of next sightings page



SEVEN SISTERS

Tom Kardos was well-liked within the Central American cruising community.

SIGHTINGS

pink / blue — continued

on a number of racing boats. Doña de Mallorca changes the engine and transmission oil on *Latitude's* cat *Profligate*. And on the male side, a lot of men are great cooks. We've even heard rumors about a few men who wash dishes and clean.

One of the tasks done the least by women is going up the mast,



TERRY RAY

Looking regal, Debbie stands by while a mischievously smiling Mark straps her into her harness.

which is why our interest was sparked by a photo of Debbie Hayward-Sciarretta atop the mast of *Yesterday's Girl*, her and her husband Mark's *Zigzag*, Oregon-based Santana 30/30. Mark sets the scene: "Last winter some birds broke the Windex atop our Columbia River boat. While I'm usually up for going to the top of the mast, my chemo treatments for prostate cancer have resulted in a 25-lb weight gain along with a serious loss of both muscle and stamina. As a result, I couldn't haul myself up the mast as I'd done in the past, nor could I grind Debbie up, nor could she grind me up. As I'd recently purchased a Winchrite electric winch handle online (\$465), this was almost the perfect opportunity to check it out. I say 'almost' because our proper bosun's chair was hidden away in the garage, so we had to use an REI rock-climbing harness that I

hadn't used in years. Debbie was a real trooper to go up using that."

38: Debbie, how long were you up for?

Debbie: About 45 minutes.

38: Had you been up a mast before?

Debbie: Yes. Before we were married I'd gone up on Mark's Lagoon 380 cat *Younger Girl*. But that time I didn't have to be up as long because I had a proper bosun's chair. I didn't like the REI climbing harness from the get-go, as it was uncomfortable, and it made the job take much longer. Make sure you have a proper bosun's chair before going up a mast.

38: Did you drop anything while replacing the Windex?

Debbie: Just one screwdriver. It missed Terry Ray's head by about 18 inches. Nobody should be beneath somebody working up a mast.



TERRY RAY

Debbie atop the mast, doing what traditionally has been considered to be a 'blue job'.

38: Do you have a fear of heights?

Debbie: No. But you do have to trust whoever is in charge of the halyard. And I trust my husband. I'd go up again if we had the right chair. Not bad for a woman of — ha, ha, ha — 47, right?

38: We're very impressed. Do you know of other women who have gone up the mast?

Debbie: My friend Terry Ray, who is a 50-Ton Coast Guard Master; Jane Roy; and a few others.

38: You've gone up, but have you — and we know this sounds terrible — gone down, as in cleaned the bottom?

Debbie: I've done a little of that, but we normally hire people to do the bottom.

Two memories of women going up masts stand out for us. The first was aboard Roy Disney's 86-ft *Pyewacket*: Ashley Perrin was going up and down the mast of that huge machine like a yo-yo. The other was when Heather Cosaro went to the top of *Profligate's* 90-feet-above-the-water masthead. We were impressed by Heather's swagger and fearlessness as she went aloft, and also by what she was wearing at the time: a pirate outfit complete with high-heeled, thigh-high boots. You don't see that too often.

— richard

containers

minimize the loss of containers. But as demonstrated in two recent catastrophes, in extreme situations minor precautions have little effect: The 2011 grounding and loss of the 774-ft *M/V Rena* sent 900 containers into New Zealand waters, and last year the complete loss of the 1,037-ft *MOL Comfort* launched 4,293 containers into the Arabian Sea — the worst container-ship disaster ever.

Here's the only thing we can report on this subject that's even close to good news: Researchers from the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) have been studying a submerged container that's been lying on the seafloor of the vast Monterey Bay Marine Sanctu-



SPREAD MOONDANCE: INSET COURTESY KEVIN ELLIS

— continued

ary for a decade, and — so far, at least — they have found no negative effects from its presence. In fact, it serves as sort of an artificial reef, colonized by encrusting species such as worms, scallops and snails. Needless to say, though, if the contents of this steel box had been toxic, the researchers' findings might have been different.



This container serves as an artificial reef in Monterey Bay.

— andy

our man in nuku hiva

It would be nice to think *Latitude 38* had an editorial 'bureau' in the remote Marquesas Islands. We don't. But we do have an expat friend there whom we think of as 'our man in Nuku Hiva' — one of the principal clearance ports for cruisers arriving from the West Coast.

Born and raised in Southern California, Kevin Ellis is said to have taken his first steps aboard the family's Chris-Craft. In 2006 he left his IT career and set out on a South Pacific adventure aboard his Dufour 45 with two friends. They made landfall at Nuku Hiva 24 days later, and two days after that Kevin met Annabella, a lovely local girl who'd recently returned from many years living in France. Fast forward to the present: Now a family with two bright-eyed kids, the Ellises run Yacht Services Nuku Hiva, which offers just about every shoreside service a visiting cruiser could need, from repairs to horse rentals (www.yachtservicesnukuhiva.com). And they also represent the Tahiti yacht agents who facilitate bond exemptions and clearance for Pacific Puddle Jumpers. Last year, they assisted 130 visiting boats.

— andy



Spread: After weeks of sailing to get there, making landfall in the Marquesas is often said to be one of the most thrilling arrivals possible on Planet Earth — partially because you can often smell the rich scent of the fertile land a day or two out. **Inset:** When Kevin Ellis first arrived at Nuku Hiva in 2006 he fell in love not only with the islands and their culture, but also with Annabella, who is now his wife and mother of his two handsome kids.

SIGHTINGS

worthwhile winter reading

Because we're wordsmiths by trade, you probably weren't surprised to read in last month's *Sightings* that we still like books — you know, good old three-dimensional hard copies. Having reviewed several worthwhile new nautical offerings last month, we'll pick up where we left off with a few more suggestions for your winter reading.

The Legend Of The Sea — The Spectacular Marine Photography of Gilles Martin-Raget. (Gilles Martin-Raget, \$45) — Anyone can take pictures of boats. Especially with today's 'smart' cameras. And if you shoot enough, even complete wingnuts will score nice-ish pics now and then. However, to elevate sailing photography to art — and do it consistently — takes a special dedication, a strong right brain and maybe a touch of genius. Not to mention an intimate knowledge of sailing and the sea. Gilles Martin-Raget has certainly earned his place among the lofty few at the top of this game. This book celebrates Martin-Raget's more than 30 years behind the viewfinder with images from all the great sailing venues; America's Cups past and present; and everything from cutting-edge new yachts to dinghies to century-old classics. The images are so razor-sharp that we found ourselves bracing for the next wave, involuntarily ducking the spray, or wanting to slather on more sunblock. And remember, these are stills.

Convergence (Sally-Christine Rogers, \$24.95) — If you don't rec-

continued on outside column of next sightings page

imp crew

Much laughter, but also emotional reminiscences, filled Tad and Ann Lacey's Belvedere home on November 5 at a reunion of the *Imp* crew. "Stories flowed into the night," said *Imp's* sailing master, Skip Allan.

Ron Holland designed the innovative 40-ft IOR racer *Imp* for Dave Allen. The remarkable boat went on to glory, including wins in the SORC, the Fastnet, and the Big Boat Series in 1977. The crew featured a talented young group of Northern California sailors, many of whom are pictured below. In the disastrous Fastnet Race of 1979 — when 18 sailors perished — *Imp* was briefly thought to be lost with all hands.

"The impetus for getting together started when Skip Allan said that Ron Holland would be in town," recounted Steve Taft, *Imp's* sailmaker and alternate watch captain. Holland now lives in Van-



Reliving glory days, left to right: Don Jesberg, Skip Allan, John Ravizza, Tom Wylie, Ron Holland (holding 'Imp's half hull), Bill Barton, Tad Lacey, Skip Steveley, Ragnar Hakansson, Steve Taft, Commodore Tompkins, Warren Wheaton and George Kiskaddon.

DICK ENERSEN

reunites

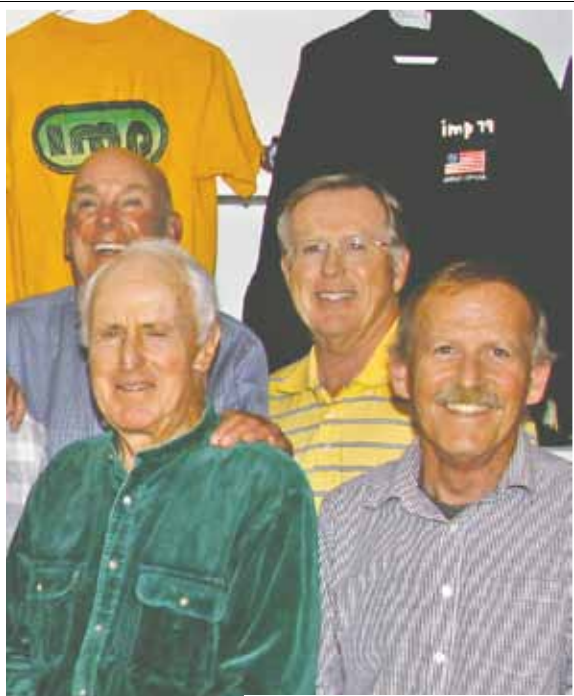
couver, British Columbia.

"It felt a bit eerie," said Bill Barton, *Imp's* jib and spinnaker trimmer, "as just down the street is the home of the late David Allen where our whole mission began on David's first boat, *Privateer*, then on the Gary Mull-designed *Improbable*."

The Laceys' home was decorated with *Imp* memorabilia — shirts, foulies, magazine articles and photo albums, and the evening's entertainment included an eight-minute film of *Imp's* 1977 heroics shot by David Allen's son Peter.

"After a few minutes we all felt like it was just yesterday that we beat around the Fastnet Rock in 60+ knots of wind and huge seas at 2:30 in the morning on August 14, 1979. All hell had broken loose, and we would be close friends for life," said Barton, who chronicled *Imp's* career in his book, *The Legend of Imp*.

— chris



'Imp' and her predecessor, 'Improbable', round the Fastnet on this cake, made by Skip Allan.

SKIP ALLAN

winter reading — continued

ognize the name, Sally-Christine Rogers is the wife of Randy Repass, founder of West Marine. This book is about their voyage to and around the South Seas with their three children aboard the Wylie 65 cat ketch *Convergence*. Although the custom-built vessel is more high-end than most cruising boats out there, Rogers' splendid presentation and down-to-earth style (with frequent homages to her seafaring father) ranks this as one of the best cruising books we've ever seen. Of particular note, it is presented in 'magazine style'. That is, rather than page after page of text with a few fuzzy photos here and there, every spread in *Convergence* comes alive with excellent photography. If we had to be stuck on a desert island with only one book to read, this would be an excellent choice. Go get a copy! (Available in February at West Marine.)

The Captain and Mr. Shrode (Tony Johnson, \$16.95) — Longtime *Latitude* readers may recognize the names Tony Johnson and Terry Shrode, whose 2001-2003 circum-

navigation on the 1972 Ericson 39 *Maverick* was chronicled in frequent installments in *Changes in Latitudes*. What we really liked about those articles, and this book, was that it was not a tale of rich guys with glitzy boats and unlimited funds, or minimalists in wooden boats with no engine, or groups of young hard bodies racing high-tech machines. It was just two regular guys approaching retirement age and, on a budget, setting out on one last grand adventure while they still could.

The other thing we really liked was Johnson's writing, which reminded us a lot of one of our favorite authors, Ernest Gann (whose *Song of the Sirens* is among our favorite sailing books ever). Like Gann, Johnson can wax philosophical, poetic, pragmatic, and hilarious in a single paragraph. Describing the perennial cruiser issue of overloading the boat with safety stuff, he observes: "The boat has so much safety gear that the extra weight will no doubt prevent us from getting out of harm's way in the first place, thereby assuring its use. And in the interest of full disclosure, it may be relevant to mention that all the gear was installed and will be operated and maintained by amateurs." Our only gripe about this book is the almost total absence of photos. But you can still enjoy them at the guys' website, www.usmaverick.net.

Call Me Captain — Memoir of a Woman At Sea (Susan Scott, \$19.99) — "Reports of oil spills, pollution and global warming make many people picture the ocean as one big cesspool of dying creatures choking on six-pack rings," writes author Susan Scott in a sailing memoir with a refreshing twist. The twist is that much of this book refutes that perception, and indeed celebrates her enduring love of the sea and all the creatures that live in it. For nearly three decades, Scott authored a regular marine biology column in the Honolulu *Star-Advertiser*. When her marriage broke up, she refitted the the couple's older Wauquiez 37, *Honu*, and sailed it with one young crewman to isolated Palmyra Atoll to work as a volunteer biologist, and later on to Australia. All through this book about discovery and rediscovery, Scott sprinkles little gems about the creatures we've all seen but don't think much about — such as the fact that female pilot whales go through menopause at about age 36, yet continue to have sex with males long afterward. A visit to the boat by a couple of curious female pilot whales "made me feel good," says Scott. "In the world of mammals, we aging women are not alone."

Happy reading!

— jr



If you enjoy photographic artistry, check out Martin-Raget's new collection.

BLOOMSBURY