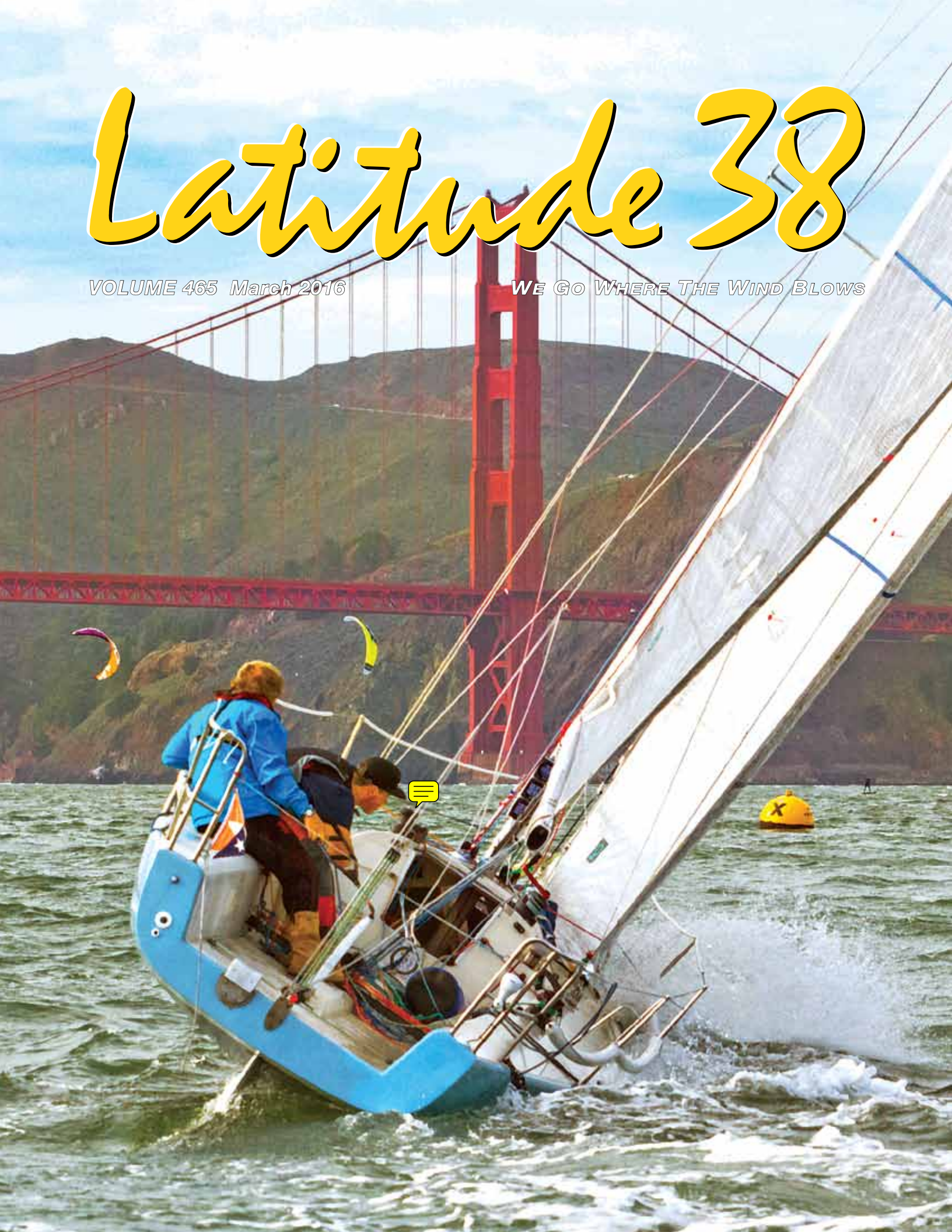


Latitude 38

VOLUME 465 March 2016

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PHOTO BY SUSAN WOLCOTT



Pete and Susan Wolcott's *Kiapa Nui** sailing into 'Ua Pou, Marquesas

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Cover: Erik Simonson/www.pressure-drop.us

Photo: Trig Liljestrand and Corey Lynch stretch out for the finish line in
January 30's SSS Three Bridge Fiasco on the J/90 *Ragtime*.

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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.



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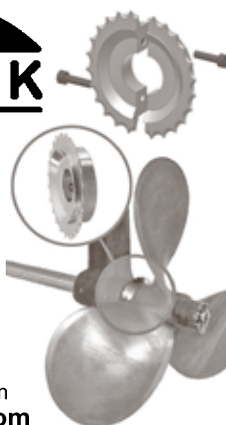
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Latitude 38

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CALENDAR

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Mar. 1-31 — Women Who Changed Maritime History exhibit, S.F. Maritime National Historic Park Visitor Center, 9:30-5 p.m. Free. Info, (415) 447-5000 or www.nps.gov/safr.

Mar. 1, 1986 — From *Letters*, volume 105: "I have a question on the Bay Area's efforts to support a boat to the America's Cup down under. Is *Latitude 38* going to oversee any type of fundraiser or start a kitty to help support a boat?"

"I mention this because I have noticed several articles in *Latitude 38* and other magazines about parties of the \$100-a-plate type to help raise funds. Maybe you should have a running calendar of events for readers to keep abreast of such local happenings. Maybe you could also have an optional \$3 to \$5 thrown in a pot at the Crew Parties."

Mar. 2 — Dave Perry presents Tactics in Crowds match-racing talk, SFYC. Forrest, forrest@sfyc.org.

Mar. 2-30 — Wednesday Yachting Luncheon Series, StFYC, 12-2 p.m. Lunch and a dynamic speaker each week for about \$25. All YCs' members welcome. Info, www.stfyc.com.

Mar. 2-30 — San Diego's South Bay Sea Scouts meet aboard the schooner *Bill of Rights* at Chula Vista Marina on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Sea Scouts is for guys & gals ages 13-20. John, (619) 852-7811 or mossfish@gmail.com.

Mar. 2-Apr. 11 — The tall ships *Lady Washington* and *Hawaiian Chieftain* will be at Antioch Marina on 3/2-9; Port of Redwood City, 3/12-23; and Sausalito's Bay Model, 3/25-4/11. Info, (800) 200-5239 or www.historicalseaport.org.

Mar. 3 — Dave Perry presents 2016 Match Racing Test Rules, StFYC, 6:30 p.m. \$25 includes buffet dinner. RSVP, racing@stfyc.com or (415) 655-7756.

Mar. 3 — Circumnavigators Charlie & Cathy Simon present *The Adventure of a Lifetime*. Corinthian YC, Tiburon, 7 p.m. Free and open to the public, but RSVP to (415) 435-4771.

Mar. 4 — Dave Perry presents *The Racing Rules and Their Tactical Applications*, StFYC, 6:30 p.m. \$30 includes a light buffet dinner and a beer. Info/registration, www.stfyc.com.

Mar. 5 — Sail a Small Boat Day, Richmond YC. Try out numerous types of dinghies, skiffs and small keelboats. Free; open to everyone; bring warm, waterproof clothing; free hot dog lunch. Info, www.richmondyc.org.

Mar. 5 — Mariners Swap Meet, Channel Islands Landing, Oxnard, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. New & used trailer boats, dinghies, marine hardware, rigging, lines & tackle, electronics, and supplies. Snacks & beverages available. Info, (805) 985-6269.

Mar. 5 — Safety at Sea Seminar, Kaneohe YC, Oahu. 8:30 a.m. US Sailing certification. \$135. Info, www.pacificcup.org.

Mar. 5, 7-9 — Celestial Navigation, SFYC. Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Mon.-Wed. 5:30-9:30 p.m. Info, www.sfyc.org.

Mar. 5, Apr. 2 — Chantey Sing aboard the ferryboat *Eureka*, Hyde Street Pier, San Francisco, 8 p.m.-midnight. Dress warmly and bring a mug for hot cider. Free, but RSVP to Peter, (415) 561-7171.

Mar. 5-6 — Safety at Sea Seminar, Bainbridge High School & Aquatic Center, Bainbridge, WA. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. \$185/Saturday only; \$335/both days. Free optional Lifesling session on 3/7, 9-11 a.m. Info, www.thesailingfoundation.org.

Mar. 5-26 — Sailing in Access Dinghies, 10 a.m., every Saturday with BAADS at South Beach Harbor in San Francisco. Free. Info, (415) 281-0212 or www.baads.org.

Mar. 6 — US Sailing Reach STEM Educator Course with Kurt Holland. Call of the Sea, Sausalito, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. \$150. Info, <http://reach.ussailing.org/courses>.

Mar. 6 — North U Trim Seminar with Steve LeMay, North Sails San Diego, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. \$60-\$139 includes lunch. Fran, (203) 245-0727 or www.northu.northsails.com.

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Mar. 6 — Mariners' Sunday, St. Luke Presbyterian Church, San Rafael, 10 a.m. Ecumenical service dedicated to mariners, with StFYC's Sons of the Sea Chorus. Brunch available at Loch Lomond YC, come by land or by boat, but RSVP to Colleen, (415) 453-0107 or cstaus1@comcast.net.

Mar. 6 — Pacific Puddle Jump Seminar & Party. Shelter Bay Marina, Panama. Info, www.pacificpuddlejumps.com.

Mar. 6, Apr. 3 — Maritime Crafts for Kids, Hyde Street Pier entrance, San Francisco, 1-2 p.m. For kids ages 5-10. Free. Info, (415) 447-5000 or www.nps.gov/safr.

Mar. 6-27 — Veterans' Sail, 10 a.m., and Keelboat Sail, noon, every Sunday with BAADS at South Beach Harbor in San Francisco. Free. Info, (415) 281-0212 or www.baads.org.

Mar. 8 — Inaugural California Boating Congress, where the marine industry, boating community and government leaders meet. Hyatt Regency, Sacramento. \$199. Mariann, (209) 334-0661 or www.marina.org/thecongress.

Mar. 9 — Liferaft Training, Golden Gate YC, San Francisco, 3:30-5 p.m. \$50. Sal's Inflatable Services, (510) 522-1824; tickets www.eventbrite.com/e/liferaft-training-tickets-20910874990.

Mar. 9 — Latitude 38 Crew List Party, GGYC, 6-9 p.m. Snacks; no-host bar; guest experts; slide show. \$7 cash only at the door (\$5 for 25 & under with ID). Info, (415) 383-8200 or www.latitude38.com/crewlist/CrewParty/CrewParty.html.

Mar. 9 — Singlehanded TransPac Seminar: Communications at Sea, Oakland YC Regatta Room, 7:30 p.m. Everyone welcome; free. SSS, www.sfbaysss.org.

Mar. 10 — Salty Dog Cook-Off Competition. Club Nautique, Sausalito, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Members free; non-members \$20, including appetizers and beverages. RSVP to (415) 332-8001.

Mar. 10-13 — S.F. International Ocean Film Festival, Cowell Theater, Fort Mason. Info, www.oceanfilmfest.org.

Mar. 10-13 — Sacramento Boat Show, Cal Expo. Powerboats & houseboats. SVMA, www.sacramentoboatshow.com.

Mar. 10, Apr. 14 — Single Sailors Association monthly meeting, Ballena Bay YC, Alameda. Social hour, 6:30 p.m.; dinner, 7 p.m.; meeting, 7:30. Info, www.singlesailors.org.

Mar. 12-13 — Potter Yachter Fest & St. Patrick's Day Party, Peninsula YC, Redwood City. Sailing for trailer-sailers on Saturday after 9 a.m.; corned beef & cabbage dinner, 6:30 p.m.; live music for dancing, 8 p.m. Breakfast & yoga on Sunday morning. RSVP to Edward, (650) 771-1945.

Mar. 13 — Spring forward for Daylight Saving Time.

Mar. 13 — North U Trim Seminar with Andrew Kerr, Long Beach YC, 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. \$65-\$144 includes light breakfast & lunch. Fran, (203) 245-0727, www.northu.northsails.com.

Mar. 16 — Racing Rules of Sailing Seminar, Bay View Boat Club, San Francisco, 7-9 p.m. Dave Dellenbaugh's video plus Q&A. Free. John, (415) 564-4779 or johnsuper@att.net.

Mar. 17 — Boating Clean & Green Dockwalker Training Program, San Leandro YC, 7-9 p.m. Also on 3/24 at Sequoia YC, Redwood City, 6:30-8:30 p.m.; 3/26, Del Rey YC, Marina del Rey, 10 a.m.-12:45 p.m.; 4/2, OC Sailing & Events Center, Dana Point, 10 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Vivian, (415) 904-6905 or www.boatingcleanandgreen.com.

Mar. 19 — Women and the Sea: a Singers' Circle, 1-2 p.m.; and Fiddle Music of Ireland, 3-3:45 p.m., aboard *Balclutha*, Hyde Street Pier, San Francisco. \$10; kids 15 & under free. Info, (415) 447-5000 or www.nps.gov/safr.

Mar. 20 — Go sailing to celebrate the vernal equinox.

Mar. 23 — Sail under the full moon on a Wednesday.

Mar. 24 — Women Sailing of HMBYC present Cooking Onboard. Half Moon Bay YC, Princeton, 6 p.m. Free. Info, wsmanager@hmbyc.org.

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'97 J/Boats J/160 \$499,000



'14 Keman ES 44 \$395,000



'98 Sydney 41 \$154,900



'05 J/Boats J/133 \$249,000



'80 Miller 44 \$99,897



'84 C&C 37 \$59,900



'09 Santa Cruz 37 \$219,000



'01 J/Boats J/105 - Pending Sale

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35' J/Boats J/105 '01	\$84,900
35' J/Boats J/105 '92	\$65,000
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CALENDAR

Mar. 24 — A Day in the Life of a Bar Pilot by Mark Manes. Club Nautique, Alameda, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Members free; non-members \$20, including appetizers and beverages. RSVP to (510) 865-4700.

Mar. 26 — SailMail/GRIB Seminar, Richmond YC, 10 a.m. Free. Info, www.pacificcup.org.

Mar. 26 — Alaska Airlines Pacific Offshore Academy #4, RYC, 1 p.m. Speakers include Lee Chesneau on Weather; Kame Richards, Driving; Bill Erkelens, Tactics, Watch Systems, Spring Ocean Races; Steve Chamberlin, Spares & Repairs, Emergency Procedures. \$30 in advance; \$45 week of event; \$60 walk-in if available. Social event to follow. Info, www.pacificcup.org.

Mar. 26 — Leadership Conference for yacht club officers, managers and members. Martinez YC, 8 a.m. Continental breakfast, lunch. \$25. PICYA, www.picya.org.

Mar. 27 — Easter.

Mar. 27 — Introductory Sailboat Rides & Open House, Cal Sailing Club, 1-4 p.m. Free. Info, www.cal-sailing.org.

Mar. 30 — US Sailing STEM Educator Middle School 1 Course, Coronado YC. Becky, bnygren@coronadoyc.org or <http://reach.ussailing.org/courses>.

Apr. 7-10 — Strictly Sail Pacific moves to Richmond's Craneway Pavilion & Marina Bay Yacht Harbor. Info, www.strictlysailpacific.com.

Apr. 9 — Opening Day Parade & Blessing of the Fleet, Pittsburg YC, 11 a.m. Jan, (925) 783-0812. Followed by lunch, \$7; RSVP to Lynn, (925) 200-5307.

Apr. 9-10 — Bodega Bay Fisherman's Festival, Westside Park, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. \$10-\$12. Info, www.bhfishfest.org.

Apr. 13-14 — Golden State Waters action summit, San Francisco. \$60-\$100. Info, www.thebayinstitute.org.

Apr. 15-16 or 17-18 — Offshore Personal Survival Course, Vancouver, BC. Info, www.vicmaui.org/opsc-safety-at-sea.

Apr. 16 — South Bay Opening Day. Sequoia YC, www.sequoiayc.org.

Apr. 16-17 — Cruise-in of Singlehanded TransPac entries, Encinal YC, Alameda. SSS, www.sfbaysss.org/shtp2016.

Apr. 17 — Swap Meet & Open House, Berkeley YC. Spaces, \$20; club tours. Info, (510) 843-9292 or www.berkeleyyc.org.

Apr. 24 — Opening Day on the Bay. PICYA, www.picya.org.

Racing

Mar. 5 — John Pitcher Regatta. CPYC, www.cpyc.com.

Mar. 5 — NorCal Opener for Mercurys at EYC. Info, www.mercury-sail.com.

Mar. 5, 19 — Spring Series. FLYC, www.flyc.org.

Mar. 5-6 — Spring Keel/Spring One Design. StFYC, www.stfyc.com.

Mar. 5-6 — SCYA E.E. Manning Series for non-keelboats 20-ft and smaller in Long Beach. ABYC, www.abyc.org.

Mar. 6, 20, Apr. 3, 17 — Spring Series #1-4. SSC, www.stocktonsc.org.

Mar. 12 — Rites of Spring for singlehanders, doublehanders and full crews. Optional skippers' meeting Friday 3/11, 7:30 p.m. OYC, www.oaklandyachtclub.net.

Mar. 12 — Doublehanded Long Distance Race. SSC, www.stocktonsc.org.

Mar. 12-13 — Big Daddy Regatta. Buoy racing on Saturday with a party in the 'pavilion' on Saturday night and a pursuit race on Sunday. RYC, www.richmondyc.org.

Mar. 12-13 — California Dreamin' Series #3 in J/22s. StFYC, www.stfyc.com.

Mar. 16, 23, 30, Apr. 6, 13, 20 — J/22 Spring Series. StFYC, www.stfyc.com.

CALENDAR

Mar. 18-20 — San Diego NOOD, hosted by Coronado YC & SDYC. Info, www.sailingworld.com/nood-regattas/san-diego.

Mar. 19 — SSS Corinthian Race. SSS, www.sfbaysss.org.

Mar. 19 — Spring Shorteez Regatta. CPYC, www.cpyc.com.

Mar. 19, Apr. 16 — Small Boat Race Series. EYC, www.encinal.org.

Mar. 19-20 — Spring Dinghy. StFYC, www.stfyc.com.

Mar. 19-20 — San Francisco Cup. SFYC, www.sfyf.org.

Mar. 19-20 — High School Winter Regatta. HMBYC, www.hmbyc.org.

Mar. 20, Apr. 17 — Baxter/Judson Series. PresYC, www.presidioyachtclub.org.

Mar. 25-27 — Southern Straits Yacht Race. A qualifier for the Vic-Maui. West Vancouver YC, www.southernstraits.ca.

Mar. 26 — Doublehanded Farallones. Skippers' meeting 3/23 at OYC. BAMA, www.sfbama.org.

Mar. 26 — Bullship, in which 8-ft El Toros race from Sausalito to San Francisco. Info, www.eltoroyra.org.

Mar. 26 — Jaws Pursuit Race & Predicted Log Race. SYC, www.sausalitoyachtclub.org.

Mar. 26 — Singlehanded Race. SSC, www.stocktonsc.org.

Mar. 26 — Frostbite Race, Clear Lake. KBSC, www.kbsail.org.

Apr. 1-3 — Ficker Cup in Catalina 37s. Long Beach YC, www.lbyc.com.

Apr. 2 — Doublehanded Lightship. IYC, www.iyc.org.

Apr. 2 — America's Schooner Cup, Silver Gate YC, San Diego. A benefit for the Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society. Spectating from Shelter Island. Schooners of 35-ft to 150-ft are expected. Info, www.americasschoonercup.com.

Apr. 2 — Trans-Folsom Challenge. FLYC, www.flyc.org.

Apr. 2 — Andy Byrd Memorial Race. CPYC, www.cpyc.com.

Apr. 2 — North Bay Series #1. VYC, www.vyc.org.

Apr. 2 — Horsfall-Vincent club race. CYC, www.cyc.org.

Apr. 2 — Champion of Champions. SCYC, www.scyc.org.

Apr. 2-3 — Wheeler Regatta. BYC, www.berkeleyyc.org.

Apr. 2-3 — Resin Regatta. SFYC, www.sfyf.org.

Apr. 2-3 — Collegiate Regatta. StFYC, www.stfyc.com.

Apr. 2-3 — Little Daddy Regatta. RYC, www.richmondyc.org.

Apr. 5-10 — Congressional Cup in Catalina 37s. Long Beach YC, www.lbyc.com.

Apr. 9 — YRA Spring Series #1. YRA, www.yra.org.

Apr. 9 — Don Wan Regatta. TYC, www.tyc.org.

Apr. 9 — Carmigglet for Mercurys at EYC. Info, www.mercury-sail.com.

Apr. 9 — South Bay Interclub #1. Info, www.jibeset.net.

Apr. 9 — Summer #1, SeqYC. Info, www.sequoiayc.org.

Apr. 9 — Commodore's Regatta. SCYC, www.scyc.org.

Apr. 9 — Clear Lake Buoy Series. KBSC, www.kbsail.org.

Apr. 9-10 — Big Dinghy Regatta. RYC, www.richmondyc.org.

Apr. 9-10 — Opti Harken Regatta. SFYC, www.sfyf.org.

Apr. 14-22 — Opti Team Trials. SFYC, www.sfyf.org.

Apr. 16 — OYRA Lightship. YRA, www.yra.org.

Apr. 16 — Wooden Boat Invitational for WBRA classes. SYC, www.sausalitoyachtclub.org.

Apr. 16 — Spring One Design #1. SCYC, www.scyc.org.

Apr. 16 — Intraclub Race #1. RYC, www.richmondyc.org.

Apr. 16 — Commodore's Cup. BVBC, www.bvbc.org.

Apr. 16-17 — Camellia Cup. FLYC, www.flyc.org.

Apr. 16-17 — J/Fest. StFYC, www.stfyc.com.

Apr. 22-24 — Newport to Ensenada Race, including a short course from San Diego. Info, www.newporttoensenada.com.

Remaining Midwinter Regattas

BAY VIEW BOAT CLUB — Midwinter Madness: 3/12. Info, www.bayviewboatclub.org.

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CALENDAR

BERKELEY YC — Chowder Races: Sundays through March 27. 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.

COYOTE POINT YC — Winter Beercans: 3/13, 3/27. Info, (650) 347-6730 or www.cpyc.com.

ELKHORN YC — Frostbite Series: 3/12, 3/26, 4/9, 4/23. Info, (831) 724-3875 or eyc@elkhornyc.org.

ENCINAL YC — Jack Frost Series: 3/19. Info, (510) 522-3272 or www.encinal.org.

GOLDEN GATE YC — Manuel Fagundes Seaweed Soup Series: 3/5. Info, (415) 346-2628 or www.ggyc.org.

ISLAND YC — Island Days on the Estuary: 3/13. John, (510) 521-2980 or www.iyc.org.

KONOCTI BAY SAILING CLUB — OSIRs (Old Salts in Retirement) every Wednesday at noon. Info, www.kbsail.com.

LAKE MERRITT SAILING CLUB — Midwinters: 3/13. Mark, (925) 245-0287.

OAKLAND YC — Sunday Brunch Series: 3/6, 3/20. Jim, (510) 277-4676, www.oaklandyachtclub.net or oyracecom@gmail.com.

RICHMOND YC — Optis & El Toro Green: 3/5. Small Boat Midwinters: 3/6. 29er Winter Series: 4/30, 5/28. Info, www.richmondyc.org.

SAN FRANCISCO MODEL YC — Victoria one-design radio-controlled races every Wednesday afternoon year-round at Spreckels Lake in Golden Gate Park. Info, www.sfmymc.org.

SANTA CRUZ YC — Midwinters: 3/19. Info, (831) 425-0690 or www.scyc.org.

SANTA ROSA SC — Spring Lake Winter Series: 3/20, 4/17. Info, www.santarosasailingclub.org.

SAUSALITO YC — Sunday Chili Midwinters: 3/6. Info, www.sausalitoyachtclub.org or race@sausalitoyachtclub.org.

SEQUOIA YC — Redwood Cup pursuit race series: 3/12. Winter Series: 3/19 (also the St. Patrick's Day Race). Info, www.sequoiayc.org.

SOUTH BEACH YC — Island Fever Midwinters: 3/19. Info, www.southbeachyc.org.

TIBURON YC — Midwinters: 3/5. Info, race@tyc.org or www.tyc.org.

VALLEJO YC — Tiny Robbins Midwinters: 3/5. Info, (707) 643-1254 or www.vyc.org.

In the Tropics

Feb. 28-Mar. 5 — MEXORC (Mexican Ocean Racing Circuit), Puerto Vallarta. Boats arriving from San Diego in the PV Race will be competing with boats from Acapulco and Banderas Bay. Info, www.mexorc.net.

Mar. 4-6 — St. Maarten Heineken Regatta, world-class racing. St. Maarten YC, www.heinekenregatta.com.

Mar. 9-12 — Loro Piana Caribbean Superyacht Regatta and Rendezvous in Virgin Gorda. Costa Smeralda YC, www.loropianasuperyachtregattaandrendezvous.com.

Mar. 9-13 — Banderas Bay Regatta, laid-back racing for cruisers, great parties. Info, www.banderasbayregatta.com.

Mar. 17-20 — St. Barths Bucket Regatta, an invitational for boats 100-ft or bigger in the Corinthian spirit. St. Barths YC, www.bucketregattas.com/stbarths.

Mar. 25-27 — St. Thomas International Regatta in USVI. St. Thomas YC, www.stthomasinternationalregatta.com.

Mar. 26-Apr. 28 — Cruisers Rally to El Salvador. Info, www.elsalvadorrally.com.

Mar. 28-Apr. 3 — BVI Spring Regatta & Sailing Festival. Royal BVI YC, www.bvispringregatta.org.

CALENDAR

Mar. 31-Apr. 3 — La Paz Bay Fest for cruisers. Club Crueros de La Paz, www.clubcrueros.net.

Apr. 4-9 — Maxi Yacht Rolex Caribbean Cup. Costa Smeralda YC, www.yccs.it/en.

Apr. 11-16 — Les Voiles de St. Barth. St. Barth YC, www.lesvoilesdesaintbarth.com.

Apr. 13-19 — Antigua Classic Yacht Regatta, attracting beautiful classic yachts from all corners of the globe. Antigua YC, www.antiguaclassics.com.

Apr. 24-29 — Antigua Sailing Week, "Where sailing comes first." Antigua Sailing Association, www.sailingweek.com.

May 2-7 — Tahiti Pearl Regatta. International fleet racing. Info, www.tahitipearlregatta.org.pf.

June 24-26 — Tahiti-Moorea Sailing Rendez-vous serves as a celebration of the Pacific Puddle Jump fleet's safe arrival in French Polynesia, while introducing fleet members to traditional music, dance, sport and cuisine. Info, www.tahiti-moorea-sailing-rdv.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.

March Weekend Tides

date/day	time/ht. LOW	time/ht. HIGH	time/ht. LOW	time/ht. HIGH
3/05Sat	0208/2.6	0812/5.8	1452/-0.1	2157/4.8
3/06Sun	0256/2.2	0905/6.0	1534/-0.4	2231/5.2
3/12Sat	0138/6.2	0747/0.1	1427/5.1	1952/1.3
3/13Sun	0324/6.1	0948/0.1	1637/4.7	2148/1.8
3/19Sat	0335/2.0	0937/5.5	1608/0.1	2302/5.2
3/20Sun	0423/1.7	1029/5.5	1647/0.2	2337/5.3
3/26Sat	0150/5.4	0801/0.6	1435/4.5	1958/1.8
3/27Sun	0220/5.3	0840/0.6	1522/4.2	2033/2.2

March Weekend Currents

date/day	slack	max	slack	max
3/05Sat	0851 2303	0105/2.1E 1249/3.3E	0417 1721	0644/1.7F 1958/2.6F
3/06Sun	0951 2336	0145/2.5E 1334/3.7E	0503 1755	0735/2.1F 2036/3.0F
3/12Sat	0222 1523	0542/4.1E 1828/3.0E	0947 2144	1241/2.7F
3/13Sun	1148 2335	0042/2.8F 1440/2.4F	0402 1728	0727/4.0E 2027/2.5E
3/19Sat	1035 2356	0209/2.7E 1419/3.4E	0535 1821	0750/2.1F 2059/2.8F
3/20Sun	1131	0257/3.0E 1504/3.6E	0627 1900	0845/2.4F 2135/3.0F
3/26Sat	1047 2216	0025/2.3F 1320/2.1F	0248 1608	0620/3.2E 1905/2.5E
3/27Sun	1130 2253	0101/2.1F 1408/1.8F	0312 1655	0648/3.1E 1951/2.1E

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LETTERS

⇅ **WOULD I BUY A BOAT SIGHT UNSEEN AGAIN?**

I bought my J/92 *Ragtime!* sight unseen in 2002. The 10-year old boat was in Massachusetts and I was in the Bay Area. I saw my purchase for the first time when the truck arrived at Nelson's yard in Alameda.

The prior owner was an experienced sailor, so he was precise in describing the boat's condition, and he sent me numerous detailed, close-up photographs. By the time I sent him the cashier's check — we didn't use an escrow — we had developed a level of mutual trust.

But at a price of just over \$50,000, a cross-country purchase was still risky. So I did have the boat surveyed in Massachusetts before agreeing to the purchase. Of course, for all I knew the surveyor could have been the seller's brother-in-law. Like the Olson 30 the Wanderer bought sight unseen, a J/92 is a fairly simple boat, so I rationalized that if there were any



LATITUDE / CHRIS

Bob Johnston and 'Ragtime!' race to Richmond in the SSS Vallejo 2.

problems, they could be fixed. I'd never sailed a J/92 before I purchased mine, so that was risky, too. But I'd sailed many boats over the years and done my research.

In my case, the transaction and the boat worked out great. *Ragtime!* is now 23 years old, and I've owned her for the last 13 years. During that time I've raced her to Hawaii three times, twice singlehanded and once doublehanded. I've also done most of the coastal races, the OYRA, lots of Bay races, and daysailing. I couldn't be happier with the boat, as she's like an extension of my arms.

Would I buy a boat sight unseen again? Probably not. But it's more likely that I would buy a sailboat sight unseen than any other major purchase. Very rarely has another sailor taken advantage of me.

Bob Johnston
Ragtime!, J/92
Richmond YC

Readers — Bob's letter — and those that follow — are in response to the following 'Lectronic that appeared on January 25:

"Generally speaking, buying or attempting to buy a boat sight unseen is not something to be recommended. Just ask Dan Hayes and Rose Alderson of Gabriola Island, British Columbia. In the January 20 *Lectronic* we reported that the vets of the 2014 Ha-Ha, having sailed their Catalina 34 *Aussie Rules* across the Pacific, had sold the boat in Australia. They then agreed to buy a Catalina 400 'fixer-upper' in St. Martin in the Eastern Caribbean. They had plans for many more years of cruising, including taking maybe five years to cross the Pacific again.

"After the couple made the long flight from Australia to St. Martin with a lot of cruising gear from their old boat, red flags started flying. For example, the woman in charge of the boat refused to even let them go aboard until their check had cleared. It got even weirder.

"The woman's story kept changing," reports Rose, "and she kept trying to get us to deposit the money in different, impossible ways to the account of someone not listed in the sales agreement. And she never even signed the sales agreement. We finally said enough was enough. Maybe we'll find another Catalina, maybe a boat in Croatia next year, or maybe we'll



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LETTERS

restore another house first."

We at Latitude caution that there are still plenty of pirates in the Caribbean. If we were Dave and Rose, having flown all the way to the Caribbean, we'd look at other boats in St. Martin, a huge yachting center; in the British Virgin Islands, an even bigger yachting center where countless charter boats come out of service; and even down in Le Marin, Martinique, where they have lots of Euro-based boats on the block. And there's always Fort Lauderdale and the rest of Florida.

(This advice was given before we learned the couple were smarting from the 30% drop of the Canadian 'loonie' versus the currently almighty US dollar. They subsequently reported they will return home to Canada, and buy something like an Antrim 27 to race, at least until the exchange rate improves for them.)

We've bought boats sight unseen twice — and still own both the boats. The first was the Leopard 45 cat that became 'ti Profligate. But that wasn't truly sight unseen, as Leopard 45 expert Tim Schaff of the sistership Jet Stream and the folks at BVI Yacht Charters had already given her their seal of approval. The second was Olson 30 #66 that just happened to be in Richmond. She was such a bargain — about \$4,000 — we didn't see how we could go wrong. And we didn't. Now named La Gamelle, she's now living on one of the best moorings in St. Barth, and we're drooling because we'll be sailing her again before you read this.

IMPRESSED WITH THEIR AMBITIOUS PLANS

I just read the January 20 'Lectronic article titled *New*



OLIVER BOYER

Boat, New Ocean, New Adventures, about Dave Hayes and Rose Alderson of the Gabriola Bay, BC-based Catalina 34 *Aussie Rules*. It reminded me of a quick conversation that I had with Dave and Rose as our Catalina 34s crossed paths on the Bay in October of 2014. I was impressed with their ambitious plans and humble attitude, so took a number of photos — including the one attached.

The Canadian Catalina 34 'Aussie Rules' sails the Bay.

Oliver Boyer
Majic, Catalina 34 Mk II
Sausalito

HE SAID SHE WOULD BE FINE SO WE BOUGHT HER

The first 11:Metre on San Francisco Bay is the one that



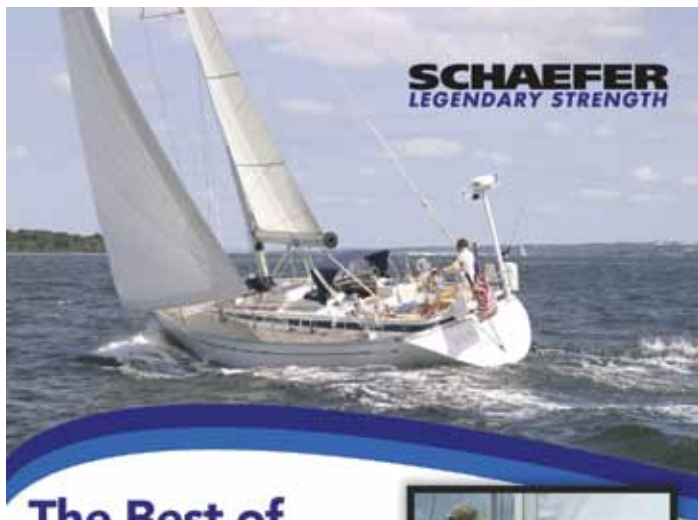
CITY YACHTS

my wife Chris and I had bought without having ever seen her. I did call Ron Holland, the boat's designer, to ask how he thought the boat would do on the Bay. He said she would do just fine, so we bought her. What do you name a boat like that? *Sight Unseen*, of course!

The 11:Metres had an active one-design fleet on S.F. Bay in the '90s.

We had a great time with the boat, sailing her PHRF (Performance Handicap Rating Formula) before the one-design class was developed, and even won the PHRF Season Championship.

Paul Kaplan
KKMI, Pt. Richmond



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- 2002 50' Bakewell-White.....\$398k
- 2007 49' Chuck Burns\$635k
- 1994 46' Nautor's Swan MkII.....\$199k
- 1999 40' Sabre 402 \$120,000
- 1998 40' J/120\$159k
- 1988 36' Freedom\$55k
- 2000 36' Sabreline Exp. MkII.....\$145k
- 2001 36 Beneteau 361 \$119,750
- 2007 35' J/109 PENDING
- 1985 34 Islander 34-2 \$45,245
- 2006 30' J/92s.....\$69k
- 1996 30' Farr.....\$58k



43' J/Boats J/133 2006
\$249,500 Contact: San Diego

IN CONTRACT



42' Bruckmann Zurn 42 2001
\$349,900 Contact: San Diego

NEW ARRIVAL

SISTERSHIP



42' Endeavour E42CC 1990
\$120,000 Contact: San Diego

ADDITIONAL USED POWER

- 1987 48' Nordic YachtsSOLD
- 2005 40' Raider Cabin RIB\$215k
- 2006 33' Pursuit 3370.....\$129k

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41' Tartan 4100 2004 carbon rig
\$259,000 Contact: Alameda



41' J/Boats J/124 2006
\$239,000 Contact: Newport Beach



40 J/Boats J/120 2001
\$164,900 Contact: Newport Beach

PRICE REDUCED



Sabre 386 2006
\$233,900 Contact: Alameda

SPEED, LUXURY



37' Hanse 370e 2008
\$187,000 Contact: Alameda



36' Sabre Spirit 2007
\$229,900 Contact: San Diego



85' Azimut 2002
\$1,499,000 Contact: San Diego

LUXURY DOWNEAST



38' Palm Beach 38 Avalon 2002
\$275,000 Contact: San Diego

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LETTERS

↑↓ RESURRECTED AFTER HURRICANE KATRINA

I purchased my Beneteau First 38 sight unseen after hurricane *Katrina*. She was in New Orleans. I flew down, prepped her for shipping, and had her trucked to Chico.



STEPHEN SWEET

Stephen Sweet took an uncommon approach to big boat ownership.

She was 'berthed' in my orchard for a year while I made all the necessary repairs. She now lives at Brickyard Cove.

At the time, it seemed like the only way I would be able to afford an ocean-going vessel was buying the victim of a hurricane. It turned out to be a tremendous learning experience, and I truly enjoyed the repair project. What I learned most of all is that I really lucked out.

Stephen Sweet
*Celebration, Beneteau First 38
Brickyard Cove, Pt. Richmond*

↑↓ THE PROBLEM WAS THAT I HADN'T TOLD MY WIFE

I bought a Ron Holland-designed 30-footer in Alameda from Boat Angel on eBay. I had thoughts of doing the Singlehanded TransPac, and with the boat's Holland racing pedigree and minimal creature comforts, she seemed like a good bet.

The information provided showed a race-equipped boat with a variety of newish sails and the Atomic Four engine that supposedly ran fine. Photos suggested that she looked good both inside and out. I made a stupidly low offer of \$800, figuring that the scrap value of the keel, tapered mast, and sails were worth three times as much. And I was sure I'd be outbid.

Much to my surprise, I was the highest bidder. After paying Boat Angel's fees, taxes and registration, I was into the boat for less than \$1,200. Did I mention that the boat was in Alameda and I lived in Kona, Hawaii? So I had some commuting to do.

When I flew back and saw the boat for the first time, I discovered that I'd gotten a little gem. The topsides had been repainted and were in great condition. The engine ran fine. There were lots of sails, including three spinnakers, and most were outstanding. The boat also had Dyneema halyards and sheets, oversize Barent winches, and a hydraulic backstay adjuster.

There were negatives, of course. The aluminum water and fuel tanks were shot, but they were easy to rip out. Most of the hardware on deck had been installed poorly, so there were soft spots. I got estimates for new tanks — \$800 — and pulled the deck hardware to clean out the rotten core surrounding the fasteners. Pumping in thickened epoxy cured much of the springiness in the deck. When all was said and done, I had a competitive 30-ft racing boat for less than \$2,000.

The big problem was that I hadn't told my wife about it. She blew up. She was not only pissed because we already had cruising boat, but also because I was disappearing for a week at a time to play with my new toy, leaving her home alone in Hawaii to slave away at her job.

Nonetheless, I seriously looked into fitting out the boat for the Singlehanded TransPac. But that would have been way more expensive than the boat. Then the airline I was working for went bankrupt, and my free air travel between Hawaii and the mainland went tits up. Based on those factors, and the fact I couldn't afford a divorce, I decided to sell the boat.

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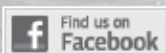
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LETTERS

I put an advertisement on craigslist for a few hundred more than the dollars I'd invested in her, and sold the boat in a week. Peace and harmony were restored with the wife, and the new owner got a great deal on a competitive sailboat.

Peter Ogilvie
'Ae'a, Pearson 35
Kona, HI

Readers — When will women accept that one sailboat is often just not enough for a real man?

↑↓ I BOUGHT HER WITHOUT A SURVEY OR A SEA TRIAL

When I was a young man living in the greater Los Angeles morass in the mid-1970s, I purchased a 32-ft Kettenberg PC sloop. I didn't quite buy her sight unseen, but I did buy her — a wood boat — without a survey or a sea trial. I was interested in a small sailing vessel that I could race one design, and back then there were about 15 PCs in Los Angeles and a good 20 of them in San Diego.

The seller, Hilliard Brown, was an icon in the Southern California racing scene. He owned two PCs, and he was selling #15, which had been built after the war.

When I came down to the boat for the first time, Hilliard, who was 70 at the time, was up the mast, having pulled himself by hand. He came down and introduced himself: "I'm Hilliard and this is a halyard!"

I bought the boat and began a very humiliating period of racing the boat. She had no engine, two slab berths, but no head or galley.

But she was my first keelboat and a sweet vessel. I raced her both out of Marina del Rey and out of San Diego, always trying to beat Hilliard and other intrepid sailors in the fleet. In 1979 I finally gained some status, as I took second place in the Nationals in San Diego. It was a major milestone for me, having beaten so many of the Los Angeles and San Diego sailing Brahmins, and with a post-war PC. Wow!

I didn't sea trial or survey the boat before buying her because I knew that Hilliard was passing along a boat that would be good for me and could be a winner! God bless him. Folks like him are few and far between these days.

Not to put too fine of a point on it, but those days are gone. Way gone. As are the days of getting 20+ PC's on the starting line for a national race or even a local race. It's a sorrow.

Rick Whiting
Hope Floats, (floating home)
Sausalito

↑↓ IGNORANCE WAS TRULY BLISS BUYING OUR BOAT

In response to the editor's inquiry in *Lectronic*, we not only bought a brand new boat sight unseen, we bought it off the plans and some pictures of a partially assembled first hull. It was being built in a yard in far away Kaohsiung, Taiwan, and sold to us by a totally unknown company at the Long Beach Boat Show in 1979.

What could possibly go wrong?

Well, in the 27 months between the purchase and the launch: 1) The company went bankrupt — and reformed. 2) The interest on the loan became usurious. 3) I got to learn all about letters of credit. 4) I traveled to Taiwan to negotiate several quality control issues with the builder. 5) I signed over the letter of credit to the builder, which was very scary as there was effectively no warranty. 6) I got to figure out how to import the boat into the United States. 7) I got to commission the boat myself.

Ignorance is truly bliss. Doing what I did has to be the



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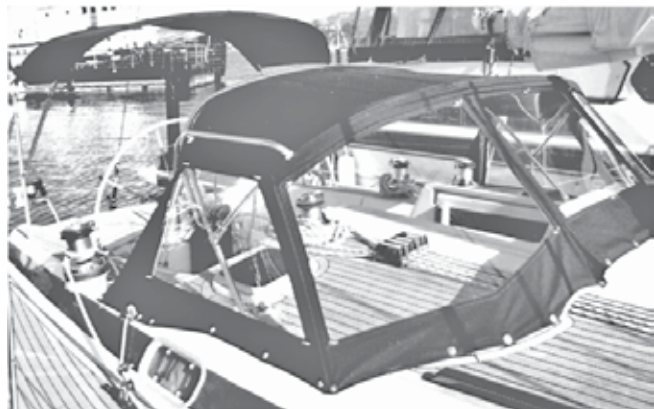
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LETTERS

definition of some mental illness that has not yet been noticed or codified by the health professionals.

It's now 34 years after we launched the boat and: 1) We still have — and love — the boat. 2) We have sailed the boat in the Baja Ha-Ha and in the Sea of Cortez. 3) We have spent more money maintaining the boat than she originally cost. It's all been worth it.

P.S. The boat is currently on the hard in Ventura while we are building boats in Xiamen, China, for an amusement park in Shanghai.

William Willcox
Faith, Scandia 34
Ventura

William — It sounds to us as though you were a brave man back then — and are still a brave man today.

As you know, the boating industry was going through an interesting phase in the mid-1970s. Boats that were dirt cheap to make in Asia were flooding the US market that had been dominated by boats built by manufacturers in Southern California. Prices in the Far East were so low that some came over on cradles made of teak. Some of the Taiwan boats from the Far East were well built, while others were 'Taiwan Turkey's', inferior in almost every way.

Back then all you needed to do to get into the business of selling new boats — as opposed to used boats — was print up a couple of 8x10 sheets with ripped off line drawings of a boat, take a booth at a boat show, and accept deposits.

As for the interest rates in the 1970s, people accustomed to today's ultra low rates might be shocked to learn that people thought nothing of paying 11 to 15% on boat loans. Of course, back then money market accounts paid as much as 9%, about nine times as much as they do now. Inflation was naturally a huge problem. President Gerald Ford led the war against out-of-control inflation by wearing a button that read 'WIN', which stood for Whip Inflation Now. It was that kind of leadership that resulted in the newest United States aircraft carrier being named the Gerald Ford.

⇓ **HE SAID THANKS WITH BEER, NONE WAS REQUIRED**

It doesn't matter whether assisting a fellow mariner in distress is the legal or moral obligation, as far as I'm concerned it's just the right thing to do. Plus, you'll never know who you'll meet in the process.

In 1970 I was stationed at Fort Hood, Texas. The post had a boat rental operation on a lake that served both the military and civilians. One day I rented a boat and came across a mariner whose boat was obviously not going anywhere under her own power. So I offered a tow, which was gratefully accepted. I towed the boat to the civilian launch ramp and helped the owner get his boat on the trailer. As I was getting ready to leave, he handed me his business card and said anytime I wanted a case of beer, I should stop by. He was the local Budweiser distributor in nearby Temple. Being a young, broke, thirsty soldier, this was like manna from heaven! Needless to say, whenever I was in Temple, I stopped by and picked up a case of beer.

Most of the time rewards for this type of activity are intrinsic, as we act out of an altruistic instinct. Or at least we should. And remembering what goes around comes around, you never know when you may be in need of assistance on the water. And every now and then there is someone who knows how to say thanks when none is required.

Harry Ysselstein
Half Moon Bay YC

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LETTERS

Harry — We've always enjoyed helping/rescuing mariners and swimmers, and have also been offered gifts. When we rescued two women, who would have never been seen again, from a flipped dinghy off St. Barth, the one woman, an artist, pleaded with us to take something from her gallery. And when we rescued the three men from a flipped trimaran during a Santa Barbara to King Harbor Race, the owner offered us the use of his catamaran in the Med. Alas, we didn't have any room for the artwork or any time to use the cat in the Med. But like you, we had such a good time rendering assistance that we didn't care about any reward.

That said, the matter that has been in discussion is not whether a mariner needs to help someone in distress — there is both a legal and moral obligation to do that — but whether being becalmed in the middle of the Bay in the middle of the afternoon without a functioning engine constitutes being in 'distress'. We think there can be more than 50 shades of gray when it comes to distress.

⇕ GERMANY'S MIND-BOGGLING BOAT SHOW

BOOT 2016, the January boat show in Dusseldorf, Germany, was mind-boggling. It's held at Messe, which has 17 arena-size halls, making it one of the largest event/conference facilities in the world. The show is a boat porn extravaganza, far beyond anything we have in the States. There are spectacular yachts at BOOT that I've not only never seen before, but never even heard of, and now mortally lust for. There is more to see than any person could see in a week. I pulled two eight-hour days, and was exhausted at the end of each.

I'd guess that BOOT is the equivalent to 10 Annapolis Boat Shows, which I believe are the largest in the US. Want catamarans from eight feet and up? There's a hall for that. Monohull sailboats? Yep, two halls for them. Canal boats? There's a hall for them. Tenders and inflatables of all kinds? Half a hall. Superyachts? There's a humongous hall for them. I could go on an on. There were even two halls for just marinas and destinations.

Dozens of boats get their "Welt" — or world — Introduction at BOOT, which is the reason I made the pilgrimage. There's stuff here that won't make it to the US for ages, if at all.

And the quality and variety of the booths, staff, and boats is unlike anything I've seen in the States. Much of the equipment and many of our boats are manufactured in Europe, which means the principles of most of these companies, not just the reps or country manager are at BOOT. Looking at sexy Karver blocks? The founding team was there. How about a Princess, Azimut or Sunseeker motoryachts? Yep, the CEOs were on hand. Looking at sail technology? Naturally North, Quantum and Incidences were there, but also the executives from Dimension Polyant. It's likely they are the folks who make the material your sails are made out of. Similarly, the carbon fiber and resin vendors were on hand. It was like peeling back the covers of the sailing industry.

Aside from being 5,500 miles away from my home in Honolulu, the show couldn't have been more convenient. There are two excellent hotels in the Dusseldorf airport, and the 896 bus — which is free — went from the hotel door straight to to the show. I stayed at the Maritime five star hotel for a ridiculously low rate because apparently nobody but yachties wants to be in Dusseldorf in January. I also found that frequent flyer miles to Dusseldorf go a long way in January, so flying Business Class helped take the edge off the long trip.

My favorite item at the show costs just \$20 for a pair, and in my humble opinion, everyone with an inflatable PFD should have them. I'm referring to Spinlock's brilliant water-activated



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LETTERS

LED that sticks onto the PFD bladder, turning it into a giant glowing target at night. It was the surprise grand prize winner of this year's METS (Marine Technology) Award. The Spinlock guys said they are priced so low because they wanted every-



TIM DICK

Currywurst and sweet potato fries was a favorite snack among BOOT attendees.

one to be able to afford them rather than have an expensive monopoly item based on their patent.

Showgoers have to eat, and the hit of the show was 'Currywurst', a giant bratwurst coated in curry sauce (often with sweet potato fries) that has taken Germany by storm. It was a 'meat in tubular form' moment that only Anthony Bourdain could love.

By the way, yes, I did buy a boat. That was my point in going to BOOT. P.S. One important note: The Europeans shows aren't "wait your turn and pile aboard" — you'll usually need to book a time to see the boat and the stands are usually rope-lined off. They'll ask for business cards. Anything with California on it will draw some attention and often priority. "You came here from California? Really?"

Tim Dick
 name yet to be chosen, Lagoon 42
 Honolulu

Readers - The answer to the obvious question of what boat Tim bought is the all new latest version of the Lagoon 42 catamaran, which was introduced at BOOT.

"This brand new version of the Lagoon 42 is two tons lighter than the previous ones," reports Tim, "plus I'm going with a custom racing mast and sails. The boat won't be finished until September, but we plan to go as green as possible in trying to win the November-December Atlantic Rally for Cruisers (ARC) from the Canary Islands to the Caribbean. And once we get her to California, we're going to enter her in the Transpac for the last leg to her new home in Hawaii."

The most recent incarnations of production catamarans have exploited almost every possible inch for maximum useable volume, giving them a bit of a boxy, wedding-cake look.



LAGOON

Tim Dick's new Lagoon 42 will be one of the first of its kind.

In our opinion Lagoon has done a pretty good job of ameliorating this with the new 42. The interior is extremely spacious for 42 feet, and it's light and jazzy. But to us the most interesting feature is that Lagoon has moved the placement of the mast

aft, which allows for good-sized headsail that is self-tacking. As the owner of a cat with self-talking headsail, this is a huge improvement.

The ARC should be a blast for Tim and his crew, as it should be 2,700 miles of mostly downwind sailing in warm conditions with 20 or so other catamarans to play with.

For those who don't have the time to fly to Germany to look at boats, we remind everyone that Strictly Sail Pacific will be held in Richmond, April 7-10. And you won't have to make an appointment to get on the boats.

⇓ **WONDERFUL CRUISING, BUT CROWDED**

Contrary to Andy Turpin's statement in the January issue



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LETTERS

World of Chartering, Desolation Sound is anything but "less traveled" in the months of July and August. Instead, visitors will find the anchorages packed tight, with as many as 100 boats, most of them from the US — jammed together. With so many boats its gets pretty busy, and with their generators



EAGER DREAMER

The stunning beauty of Desolation Sound draws lots of boaters during midsummer. Seen here is the Prudeaux Haven anchorage.

and outboards, it gets pretty noisy. Although crowded, the views in the anchorages in Desolation Sound are beautiful, and the ocean and lakes are (relatively) warm at a surprising 70-73°. Indeed, compared to Desolation Sound, the anchorages further

south in our Gulf Islands seem less crowded in July and August. On the other hand, our visits to Desolation Sound — and the rest of the Salish Sea — outside of July and August have indeed been blessed with quiet, uncrowded conditions. The downside is that it's often cooler and wetter.

After two seasons in the Sea of Cortez, we put our Sceptre 41 *Pelagia* on a ship home from La Paz in June 2015. Although we loved La Paz and the Sea, we missed our home waters and, because we are skiers, the mountains.

But we completely agree with most of Andy's article. The Salish Sea is a wonderful cruising ground, with beautiful anchorages with (near) total protection, green-treed islands with snow-capped mountains in the background, and abundant wildlife, now including humpback and grey whales! Just don't expect it to be uncrowded in the summer.

David Stapells
Pelagia, Sceptre 41
 Vancouver, BC

↑↓ A SIX-AND-A-HALF-YEAR BUILD

After six and a half years of building our Schionning-designed Wilderness 1100 catamaran *Epic*, we had her gingerly lowered into the Duwamish River south of Seattle on the morning of February 10. After so many years of work, there were some exciting moments.

Our cat's Selden mast is due around the end of this month, then we'll measure and order sails. I need to finish the electrical/wiring, add the solar system — not *that* solar system — and the SSB and autopilot.



BRIAN TIMPE

The Timpe's recently launched 36-footer has pleasing lines and a go-fast look.

We hope to meet the Wanderer and Doña de Mallorca on *Profligate* in San Diego this fall. We celebrated our 30th wedding anniversary just a few days after the launch. Following our wedding, my wife Sheri and I spent a couple of wonderful weeks honeymooning at the Club Med in Playa Blanca. As I recall, it was approximately 90 scary minutes in a car south of the Puerto Vallarta Airport. We had a wonderful time. If we ever finish our catamaran, we'd like to return to Playa Blanca.

Brian and Sheri Timpe
Epic, Wilderness 1100
 Seattle



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LETTERS

Brian and Sheri — In a world falsely enamoured with the shallow pleasures of instant gratification, we congratulate you on the many years you've worked on your cat and the many years you've spent together.

When you get south, you'll get to meet some kindred catamaran building souls, such as Arjan Bok, who spent six years building his Lidgard 43 Rot Kat in San Francisco, and Jim Milski, who spent three or four years building his Schionning 49 Sea Level in Vallejo.

With the exception of the Vallarta Coast and Careyes, the latter being where the Club Med was located, much of the Mexican mainland coast is petty much as it was 30 years ago. The Club Med at Playa Blanca must have shut down just a short time after you were there. After going through several different incarnations, it's now a luxury compound owned by some obviously very wealthy guy. A year ago the adjacent condos and Bel-Aire Hotel had been demolished and were being rebuilt in high style. But as the area was just about ground zero of ferocious hurricane Patricia in October, we're not sure what they look like today.

By the way, the winter weather in Mexico is much more salubrious than it is in Seattle, and there is no federal or international law against completing a boat south of the border. We know, because during Profligate's first two seasons in Mexico, she effectively didn't have a steering system and there was only one working light inside the entire boat. We still had a great time. After 19 winters in Mexico, we finally consider her to be finished. So come on down!

↑↓ THE CLAIM SOUNDED UNBELIEVABLE TO US, TOO

As an avid reader of *Latitude 38*, I've come to appreciate the *Letters* editor's excellent wit, style, integrity and sense of humor. But, I'm having trouble with a statement you made in response to a letter concerning *Max Ebb*. Specifically, I just can't fathom anyone going 175 mph on a boat on the Bay. The Rocket Boat surely doesn't go half that fast. I once saw a strange looking vessel that seemed to have a jet engine and jet drive, but I doubt that thing could go 175 — even on foils.

By the time the pilots of the hydroplaning boats were approaching 200 mph, the mortality rate was going up faster than the record speeds. The last I heard, the official record was something like 345 mph, but that 85% of the attempts at those speeds were fatal.

Where on the Bay could Max go that fast without crossing paths with another boat? How long would it take for the boat to get up to speed, and to then decelerate? Was the sea state calm, with very light to non-existent winds and excellent visibility?

I love *Latitude* and always pick up two copies so I don't have to share with my wife, but 175 mph?

Brooks Peterson
Neptune 16
Grass Valley

Brooks — We were as incredulous as you are, so we asked asked Max to confirm that we'd heard him right.

"The boat is Howard Arneson's 46-ft catamaran that is powered by a gas turbine and a single 16½-inch propeller that's only half submerged," he replied. "The boat may have gone faster in subsequent sea trials, but Lee and I only had one day on the boat. We were testing Howard's latest mods to the Arneson Surface Drive. Prior to 1952, 175 mph — 152 knots — would have been a world speed record.

"The boat was launched at Loch Lomand Marina in San Rafael, and the test area was in San Pablo Bay north of the



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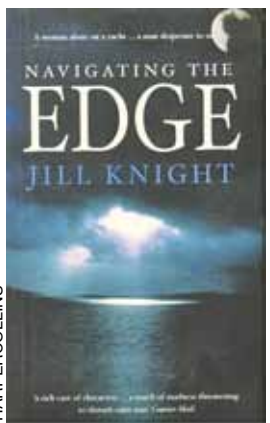
Richmond Bridge. Brooks is correct in that 175 mph, that part of the bay gets real small quickly. I enjoyed the rides, but Lee said that she understood enough of the science to be totally terrified."

A video of Howard Arneson celebrating his 90th birthday by doing about 170 mph on San Pablo Bay can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i8XNtDuDwAE>.

↑↓ SHE KNOWS WHAT SHE'S WRITING ABOUT

There are few if any women besides Jill Knight who have sailed a 100-year-old gaff-rigged cutter around the world. Mostly singlehanded, too. Jill's decades of sailing and living aboard have given her a keen sense of life on the waterfront in seamy Third World countries, where people and events are rarely what they seem.

In addition to being a fine sailor, Knight is an author. *Navigating the Edge*, her first sailing crime novel, was published by HarperCollins in 2002. It was set in Cape Town, St. Helena, and ended in the steamy jungles of French Guiana.



HARPERCOLLINS

Jill Knight's sailing crime novel is a great read.

Port Dolorosa, Knight's new novel, plays out between Brisbane, New Caledonia, and the southern Philippines, the latter being where the author lived for years in the 1980s. By the end of the first chapter there's already been a jailbreak and sailing escape from Brisbane by Josh Faro, who has snatched his two children along the way. He and the kids are headed back to the Philippines, where he had previously managed a lucrative drug smuggling operation. Rosa Brand, Faro's ex-wife's sister, is forced to give up her career to chase after Josh and the two kidnapped children.

By the 1980s, the southern Phillipines was a favorite with ex-pats on the run, unemployed combat vets, and sailors keen to profit from what looked like easy money in the drug trade. Sailboats could be renamed at will, and clearance papers fabricated easily with a counterfeit form and rubber stamp. When it was useful to both sides, bribery flourished, just as it always had.

Speaking as a vet of the Singlehanded TransPac and a circumnavigation, I think the eerie thing about Knight's novel is that given the minute and vivid details, it reads more like a memoir than a novel. I recommend it.

Peter M. Brown
Taj, custom catamaran
La Cruz

↑↓ BOGIE LEARNED TO SAIL ON A FINGER LAKE

In the editor's February response to a letter from Jacques Taglang, the editor told readers that actor Humphrey Bogart learned to sail on the great yacht *Serenade*, which was then kept in Newport Beach.

Having grown up in Rochester, New York, hometown of Maud, Humphrey's mother, I must disagree. When Humphrey was a child, his family spent summers at Canandaigua Lake, one of the Finger Lakes south of Rochester. In his biographical book, *Bogart, In Search of My Father*, Stephen Humphrey Bogart references his father's childhood and says, "...they usually spent their summer vacations upstate at Camp Canandaigua, the place where Bogie learned to sail."

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LETTERS

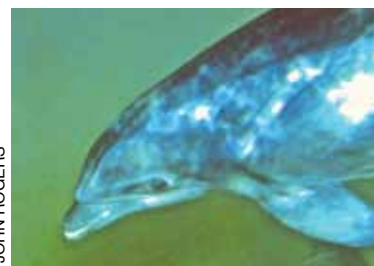
We who have sailed on Canandaigua Lake, and still have family there, would like to maintain this tenuous and vicarious link to fame. Please don't take it away!

David Allocco
Summer Nights, Capri 22
Phoenix, AZ

David — All right, you can keep the link. Let's just say that Serenade is the yacht on which Bogart learned to sail on the ocean.

⇕ SWIMMING WITH DOLPHINS

John Rogers' piece and photos on swimming with dolphins in the wild at Tenacatita Bay cracked me up. I anchored in the same place after doing the inaugural Baja Ha-Ha in 1994. A dolphin would come by like clockwork every day and scratch his back and dorsal fin on my anchor chain. It would actually move the boat around a bit. I wonder if John was swimming with the same dolphin I did?



JOHN ROGERS

Dolphins are said to be one of the smartest creatures in nature — and they're undoubtedly among the most playful.

I had initially thought the dolphin was a pilot whale, as it seemed quite large for a dolphin. Speaking of which, on another trip down Baja some pilot whales cruised by when we had fishing gear out. Thinking that these were smart cetaceans and all, we figured they would not have a problem avoiding the hooks. Wrong! They snagged one and, of course, broke the line. Maybe they aren't so smart.

Dave Fiorito
Irie, Beneteau 393
Novato

Dave — Depending on the type of dolphin, they can live from 25 to 50 years. So while it's unlikely, we suppose you could have swum with the same one that John did.

⇕ SWIMMING WITH DOLPHINS FOR HER 10TH

We were cruising aboard *Makai*, our Leopard 47 catamaran, off Isle de Saintes near Guadeloupe on February 6, 2013, and it just happened to be our daughter Genny's 10th birthday. The kids — Roy, Genny, and Marie — were doing their usual stuff, which was playing with Savannah and Shane from *Orion* and going back and forth between the boats. Then the dolphins showed up and the party got started. The kids all raced around collecting their snorkel gear, and were even joined by the 12-year-old girl from the French boat next to us. For about an hour the kids chased a mother and baby dolphin around the anchorage.

The dolphins would go to the bottom and poke around in the weeds, then zoom up between the kids and give everyone a thrill. One of the kids was close enough to touch, but the dolphins usually stayed at least five feet away. They entertained us with rolls, jumps, and tail slaps.

"Some kids get clowns for their birthday," said Mary from *Restless Heart*. "Genny and her friends got to swim with the dolphins."

Eric Mears
Makai, Leopard 47
Newport Beach

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LETTERS

↑↓ I WILL NEVER FORGET THE TOTAL ELATION I FELT

I had the incredibly fortunate opportunity to swim with wild dolphins in the BVI in 2008. My husband John and I were anchored in Great Harbour, Peter Island, between charters. Sarah Monro, a fellow charter chef, was on a boat anchored next us, and noticed there were dolphins swimming by our boat. She and I immediately jumped in with our masks and snorkels, and right in front of us were a mom and playful calf.

The calf was rubbing his little back up and down our anchor chain. We tried to keep a respectful distance, but the current kept pushing us closer to the calf. His mom didn't seem to mind in the least. At one point the calf started playing with a small coconut floating by, and using his nose tossed it to Sarah. She tossed it back to him, and this went on for several minutes — until mom decided junior needed to eat something. Sarah and I chased after the pair as fast as we could, but they were quickly gone.

I will never forget total elation I felt as we watched them swim for deeper water, the sunlight creating beautiful patterns on their backs. In the wild is the only place to swim with dolphins.

Lynn Ringseis
Novato

↑↓ DOLPHINS MORE STIMULATING THAN A PORNO MOVIE

In 2005 my then girlfriend and I were sailing out of Marsh Harbor in the Bahamas. While moving along slowly with no particular place to go, I spotted a pod of dolphins playing about 100 feet off the port hull. I stopped the boat, grabbed my fins and mask, and told the girlfriend to watch the boat and me.

For over an hour I swam with what appeared to be a group of about 12 that was feeding off the bottom. As time went on, they accepted me. They got so comfortable with me being in the water that they stared mating right in front of me for about twenty minutes! I felt like a dolphin voyeur, but did learn several new positions.

I was so enthralled watching the dolphins that I had drifted so far from the cat that my girlfriend had to launch the dinghy to rescue me from my adventure. I guess I don't have to tell you what happened to my girlfriend when I got back to the boat. I think my dolphin story trumps the back scratching story.

Glenn Kotara
Maxicat, Robertson/Caine 47
Bend, Oregon

↑↓ BEING TAKEN FOR A RIDE

I worked in Salalah, Oman, from 1974 to 1986. We used to go to the beach club in Muscat with our two young boys. Wild dolphins would come into the bay and let the kids hang onto their dorsal fins as they took them for a ride. It was incredible that the dolphins loved it as much as the kids.

John Edwards
Tsunamita, Hunter 356
Nuevo Vallarta, Mexico

↑↓ DOLPHINS LIKE TO PLAY

While cruising off Maui aboard Bob van Blaricom's *Sea Bear* in 1990, we swam with dolphins in a cove on the west coast that is a 'protected sea'. The dolphins circled the yacht, almost inviting us to play with them.

When we got into the water, they dashed up toward us, and then stayed about an arm's length away. After about 20 minutes they started to head out to sea. But when we spanked

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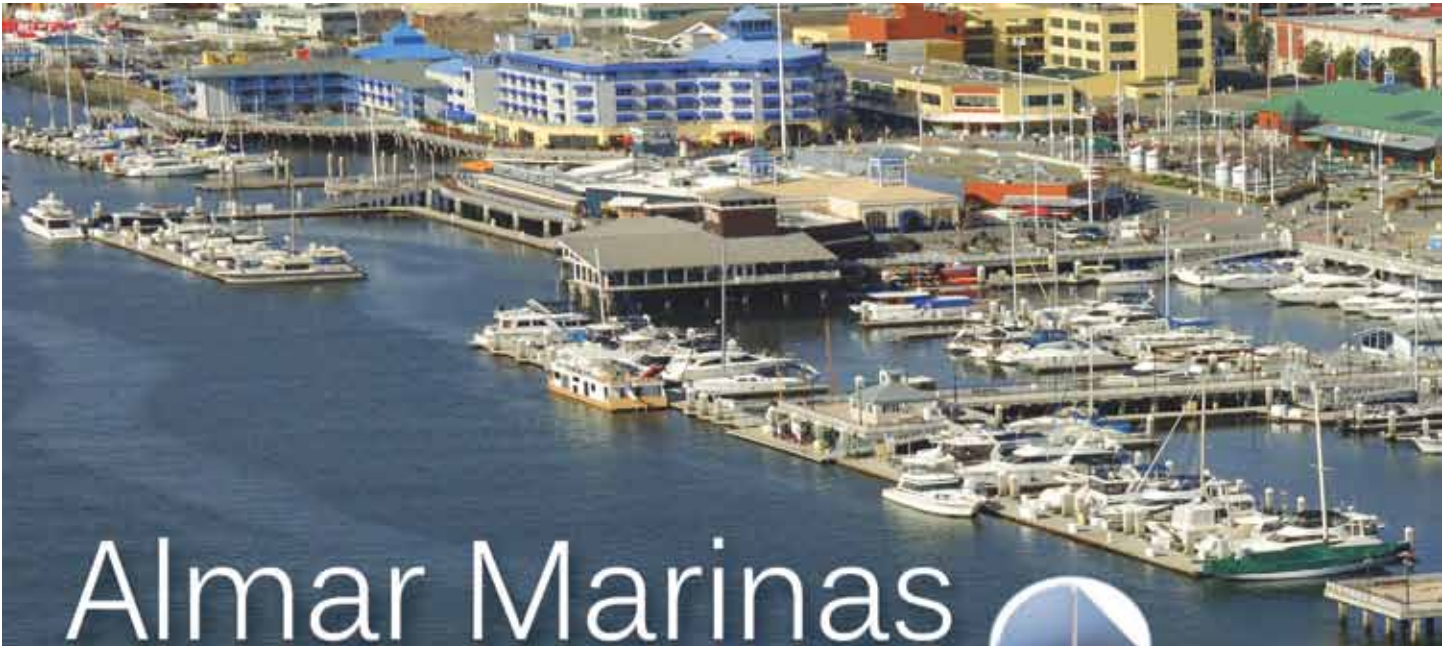
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LETTERS

the surface of the water with our hands, they returned and played for another 20 minutes. It was so unexpected that afterwards we wondered if it had been a dream.

John Sanford
ex-Kairos, Aloha 34
Tiburon

⇕ **THE SECRET IS TO WAVE YOUR ARMS LIKE AN IDIOT**

Dolphins are such curious, intelligent creatures, they will often come to check out anything unusual. The key to keeping their interest is to wave your arms like an idiot or maybe spin around. Otherwise they'll find you to be a boring, wannabe sea creature — especially if you have this silly human need to swim toward them to pet them.

Carliane Johnson
Kynntana, Freedom 38
Alameda

⇕ **TOO SMART TO TAKE THE HOOK**

I've swam with dolphins — spinners — many times in Hawaii. Swimming with dolphins is big business in the 50th state these days. Dolphins are way too smart to bite a lure. Compare the size of a dolphin brain and a fish brain and you'll get the idea.

Here at Kona, dolphins will take a tuna being used as a live bait, and eat it right down to the head — where the hook is bridled — leaving the rest.

Jay Lambert
Kona, HI

⇕ **ANOTHER INCREDIBLE CRUISING EXPERIENCE**

On several occasions during our 20+ years of cruising, we have had the opportunity to swim with dolphins — and whale sharks — in the wild. The time that comes to mind was when we were on charter with a couple that were wanting to catch some fish. Sailing about four miles off the lee side of Grenada, I saw what I thought was a school of tuna 'finning' about a half mile further west. When we got on site, it was obvious that they weren't tuna but a huge pod of dolphin. Probably thousands. It was nearly dead calm and very clear. We quickly donned snorkel gear and what we saw in the water was amazing!

Normally when you see a pod of dolphin, you think pretty much two dimensionally. But when we entered the water, we saw a three dimensional pod that seemed to go as deep as it was wide. What we saw on the surface was just 'the tip of the iceberg'. I can only equate it to a large freeway interchange where there are multiple layers of cars are going in different directions.

The other amazing thing was the incredible sound of the dolphins communicating. It was like being in a huge crowd at a public event, with everyone talking at once. It was loud.

The dolphins didn't pay too much attention to us — unless we dove under and relaxed at depth for a few seconds. Then they would come over in groups of two or three and to say 'hello'. It was just another of those incredible experiences you have when you go cruising. Needless to say, our charter guests were thrilled.

Fred and Jane Read
Merry Dolphin, Kelly-Peterson 44
Washington, DC

⇕ **HE GOT AWAY WITH IT ON THE EAST COAST — JUST**

I'd guess I'm not the first cab off the rank to advise you that Southport Seaway is a man-made entrance to the Gold



"Any fool can carry on, but only the wise man knows how to shorten sail."
— Joseph Conrad



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LETTERS

Coast Seaway on Australia's east coast, not on the west coast as you reported in an editorial response last month.

The Seaway's bar is renowned as a dangerous bar in any kind of surf or heavy swell conditions. Boats needing to get



DAZZA'S MART

into the seaway should head north and, if the bar at Jumpinpin is also too dangerous to cross, take refuge in Moreton Bay tucked in behind South Stradbroke Island.

We wonder if skipper of 'Sultanate' would dare to trip this again.

Sultanate, the catamaran that famously surfed down the wave at the Seaway, was exceptionally lucky not to have

broached. Had that happened, it would have been a disaster video. The owner was roundly criticised by the more cautious, whilst also being lauded by the foolhardy in the Australian sailing community. The best anyone can say about that episode is that he got away with it. Just.

Mark Walker
Kempsey, New South Wales
Australia

Mark — As they'd say at Noosa Head, we 'came a gutser' in placing Southport Seaway on the wrong coast. Having been there a few years ago, there was no excuse for such a mistake.

↑↓ THE ARGUMENT FOR GENUINE YANMAR PARTS

I saw the February 3 'Lectronic item about the Wanderer thinking he had an oil leak in his Yanmar diesel when it was actually rubber coming off a belt.

After 12 months of frustration with belts on my Yanmar engine, I learned that Yanmar belts have a steeper 'V' shape than most others. If you don't use the Yanmar belt, the belt which glaze, burn and then break. And it will happen over and over, often at the most inconvenient times. I learned that you have to buy factory belts to be safe and keep genuine Yanmar spares.

Tim Dick
Honolulu, HI

↑↓ A QUESTION REGARDING TAXES ON BOATS

I have a question regarding the legality of reducing the amount of sales/use tax owed upon the purchase of a boat. Take a boat you're thinking of buying for \$150,000. You buy it and you can pay California the sales/use tax on the whole amount. But, when you go to insure it, quite often the insurance company wants a breakdown of the purchase price, such as: a) hull and machinery; b) electronics; c) personal property. Some even have items called "furniture".

So if the value of the electronics is \$12,000 and personal property is \$3,000, then the hull and machinery is only \$135,000. Can a buyer request separate sales agreements for (a, b, and c) and simply submit "a" as the purchase price of the boat, thereby saving the sales/use tax on \$15,000 worth of stuff that may be old and of reduced value? As you know, the electronic device you buy today for \$1,000 isn't worth more than a few hundred a few days later. Why pay sales/use tax on it when someone has already paid sales tax on it previously? Or am I missing something here?

Please withhold my name as I also live in fear of the California taxing agencies, and don't want them opening up a case on me.

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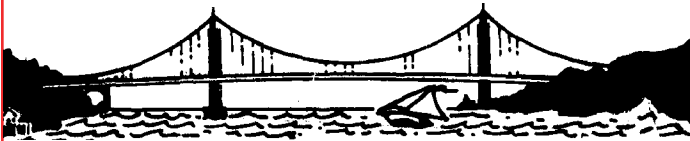
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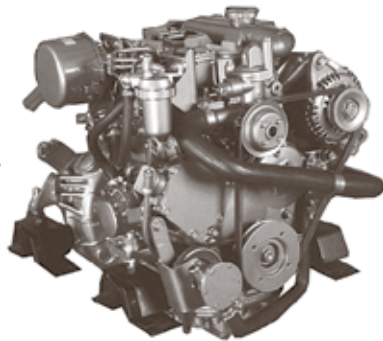
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LETTERS

Name Withheld by Request
Nevada

NWBR—The 'why pay tax on something when it has already been paid once' argument is a non-starter. After all, that logic would not just apply to the boat's electronics and 'furniture', but the hull and machinery too. It's the same argument that is made for the abolition of capital gains and estate taxes, but that's not going to happen either.

We're not experts on taxes, so you should confer with a professional for an authoritative answer, but we think we know what it's going to be.

THANK YOU JIM

I'd like to thank *Latitude* for the great January tribute article on Jim Kilroy, the pioneering maxi sailor.

After returning to the States in the early 1950s from a trip to Korea — with all expenses having been paid by the Marine Corps — I was discharged and moved to Balboa Island. That's where I first met Jim, who had just purchased the beautiful 50-ft yawl *Tasco* and changed her name to *Kialoa*.

When Jim learned that I knew how to sail, he invited me to join him on several sails in Southern California, as well as the 1957 Transpac. Chuck Ullman won that year with the revolutionary *Legend*, but *Kialoa* had a great race and I think we took third in class.

Jim asked me to deliver the boat back to Newport Beach, which I did. We sailed all the way, which is why it took us 28 days. But it was a nice and easy trip. Jim asked me to work for him, but that's when Louis Benoist, the new owner of the the 99-ft *Morning Star*, which held the Transpac record for several years, came on the scene. Benoist wanted me to take the the big ketch back to Annapolis, where he had graduated, so away I went.

Jim Kilroy is the true gentleman of yachting. He took good care of the crew and was truly concerned about their safety and well-being. From all of us in the world of sailing, we thank you Jim.

Roby Bessent
Ex-Hoot Mon, Cal 37
Long Beach

Roby — Since a lot of sailors are familiar with Jim Kilroy and his *Kialoas* I through V, with III being the all-time favorite, we're going to take this opportunity to stroll down the *Morning Star* memory lane.

As we're sure you know, *Rovy*, the 98-footer was built as a



KILROY ARCHIVES

Jim Kilroy is seen here at the helm of '*Kialoa IV*', but '*K3*' was our favorite.

schooner in Genoa, Italy in 1928. It was oil man Richard Rheem — as in the Rheem Perpetual Trophy in the St. Francis Big Boat Series — who brought her to the States in 1946 and had her re-rigged as a ketch. *Morning Star* would go on to win the Transpac five times between 1949 and 1957.

After Benoist owned her for a few years, she was sold to Fuller Callaway III, who sailed her to honors in the Tahiti Race. Then he made the fateful decision of wanting to enter her in the Transatlantic Race. In June of 1963, while sailing her across the Caribbean on the way to the Rhode Island start with a crew of just four, *Morning Star*

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LETTERS

struck a reef 150 miles off the coast of Nicaragua. Although two of the crew were thrown overboard, they managed to get back aboard. All five crew were eventually rescued, but Morning Star was a total loss.

After a brief rest, Callaway flew to New York to join Sumner 'Huey' Long's 57-ft Ondine for the Transatlantic Race, which Ondine won. Long owned various Ondines, of course, and competed against Jim Kilroy and his various Kialoas over the years. The maxi racing world has always been a small one.

↑↓ NAMED FOR THE THOMAS A. SHORT CO.

There was an error in the tribute article to Jim Kilroy, and I'd like to set the record straight regarding the first boat that he owned. The *Tasco* Kilroy owned was correctly named *Tasco*, not *Tasco II*. She was built by Lester Stone for Thomas A. Short. The name came from the Thomas A. Short Co., which Tom owned. She was launched in 1947.

Tasco II was also built in the 1960s by Stone. She was a sloop-rigged Rhodes design that was later sold to Aldo Alessio. He named her *Mistress II*.

Although I'm 87, I'm still racing. I have model EC 12s and a one-meter-long 'Soling'.

Bud Cassidy
Fort Myers, FL

↑↓ ANOTHER LETTER FROM ROBY

I hope the following will help Ben Jones who wrote in last month asking for more information about the Lapworth 36s, one of which he recently purchased.

The Lapworth 36 was designed by C. William (Bill) Lapworth and built in Costa Mesa by Chapman & Kalayjian. In fact, the building in which they were built in still exists. The Lapworth 36s were wood, and only three could be built at a time. The hull planking was 1/2-inch by approximately 1 1/2-inch, one side being concave with the other being convex. This made it easy to saturate with Resorcinol glue and place one plank on top of the other. Then long bronze anchor fast nails were driven through the plank into the one below. After the hull was complete, it was rolled over and the frames and bulkheads installed.

I can't remember how many were built, but they were well received. A few were ordered by members of the Acapulco YC, and I remember two were ordered with tinted ports and windows. One owner even wanted his delivered with dishes, silverware and playing cards!

When Carl Chapman finished one of the boats for Mexico, he moved to Mexico. Rollie Kalajian was a real engineer, and later founded Yacht Specialties, which designed and built the pedestals, sheaves and quadrants for steering systems.

Roby Bessent
Ex-Hoot Mon, Cal 37
Long Beach

Roby — Great info, thanks. It's really taxing our memory banks, but does anybody remember the crew of a Lapworth 36 driving the boat, spinnaker up, right through the surf and onto the beach just north of Bahia Santa Maria one night? It was about 50 years ago in one of the races to Mexico.

↑↓ GREAT YEARS WITH THE LAPWORTH 36

I thought I would add a little to the history of Lapworth 36s. I owned *Fleur de Mer*, hull #39, in the early 1970s. She was one of two built with teak decks. The other was *Leda II*, #71, which I believe the James family still brings out for the Master Mariners Regatta.

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LETTERS

We raced Lapworth 36s as a one design in those days, and recall we had 12 or more on the Bay. We sailed out of St. Francis YC, and spent summers with the kids up at Tinsley Island. Those were great years.

Karl Eckhardt
Boston Whaler 21
Fort Lauderdale, FL

Karl — We're almost certain that Leda II is the Lapworth 36 that used to race with a crew of topless women in the early 1980s. Given all the years that have passed, we understand that none of them are copping to it. But you're right, those were great years. On the other hand, if you're still sailing, these are great years, too.

⇕ CHARTERS IN THE SAN BLAS ISLANDS

The fact that the Lagoon 41 catamaran went on a reef at the San Blas Islands in early January, as reported in *Latitude*, really got my attention, as my wife Carole and I are going to spend three weeks in Panama. And one week of it will be on a cat in the San Blas Islands.

Based on our research, there are three main ways to charter in the San Blas: 1) Bareboat. 2) Boat with captain and cook — who might be one and the same. And 3) Share space with others on a crewed boat.

One of the 'shared space' deals is a one-way trip to or from Cartagena, Colombia. Depending on how much time you or your group wants to take, such a trip can be from three to six days or more. But just as in Mexico, things don't always go as planned.

The trip from Cartagena includes an overnight, after which you spend some time in the San Blas Islands. That part of the sail is probably similar to the second leg or third leg of the Baja Ha-Ha.

Before we signed up for our trip, we read the charter write-ups of these trips, the descriptions of the accommodations on the boats, and the comments from those who have done the trips. After checking them out, we decided we were probably a bit past our prime for that kind of sailing and fun. They tend to be more like sailing youth hostels than typical charters. It sounds like this may have been the type of charter trip that had the accident, but we don't know for sure.

We're taking a four-day sail on a shared and crewed cat that will only spend time in the islands — no overnights close to the reefs. We'll get to have some sailing/swimming-time on the beach, drink some rum, eat lots of seafood — and it will be a lot warmer than if we stayed home in Sacramento. In addition, Carole won't have to cook and I won't have to do dishes or boat chores, which is nice. When that part of the trip is over, we'll head up to the Bocas del Toro region for more days of kicking back. We'll be back in plenty of time for the boat show in Richmond in April.

Oh, one more thing. Carole says it's time for yet another sailboat. This one has to be trailerable so we can spend time on the Bay and in the Delta, go up to the Columbia River to see the grandkids, hit the San Juan Islands, and maybe even the Sea of Cortez. It will either be our 15th or 16th boat.

Pat and Carole McIntosh
Espiritu, Hunter 430
Sacramento

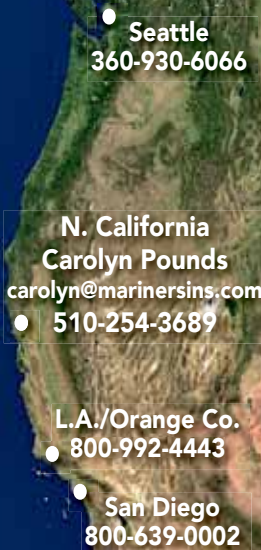
Pat and Carole — For as long as we can remember, private boats have been doing 180-mile unregulated charters from Cartagena, Colombia to the San Blas Islands. Many of the passengers are backpackers, as it's much less expensive than



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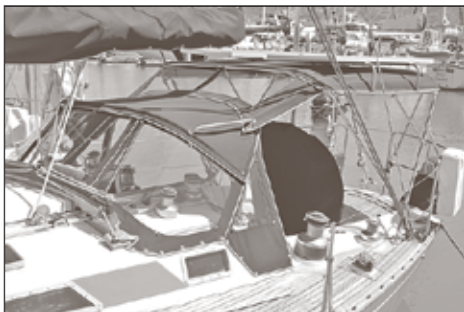
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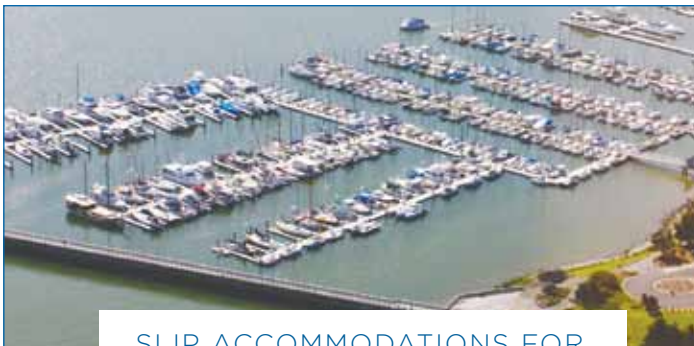
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LETTERS

flying between Panama and Colombia, and there is no road between the two countries. To show you have different this is from chartering in the British Virgins, some of the boats will take not just bicycles, but motorcycles, too. The quality of the boats, the skill of the skippers, and the cost of the trips varies tremendously. The boats are not uniformly as good as you'd find from outfits such as The Moorings or Sunsail.

As you are probably aware, the northeast wind that blows along the Caribbean coast of Colombia is one of the strongest and most consistent in the world of cruising. Fortunately, it



EMMA TRYON

mostly blows itself out once you get as far west as Cartagena, and is often not too strong in the 180 miles between Cartagena and the San Blas Islands. Indeed, it can be quite light and there might even be a back eddy to the south of the rhumbline.

Traveler Emma Tryon and her friends were lucky to escape 'Nicar's grounding. Approaching the San Blas Islands, which are low reef islands, from the east is no place for mistakes. There are only a few decent openings, and if you're not spot on with your navigation, your boat will soon be history. For once on the reef, there will be no getting off.

About 20 years ago we came down on these islands aboard our Ocean 71 Big O. It was pouring rain with lightning all about. As we recall, we didn't have GPS, so it was spooky stuff. Fortunately, the skies cleared just before dark, allowing our captain Antonio, who had been there many times before, to pick his way between islands. Not that there were any navigation markers to help.

About 10 years later we again came down on the San Blas, this time with our 63-ft cat Profligate. Having a GPS or two made it so much easier, but there was still no room for sloppy navigation.



A typical Kuna women with pipe and nose ring.

Once behind the reef, you are protected from the often huge swells of the Caribbean Sea. There is good sailing to be enjoyed in certain places, while other parts of the San Blas are littered with reefs.

The San Blas Islands are truly spectacular, with lots of sea life, and water as clear as in a bottle of fine vodka. More than a few cruisers spend a year or more at a time in the San Blas, and we can see why. Mind you, don't be expecting internet, television, stores, restaurants, bright lights or any conveniences. But if anyone is up for the simple and natural life, it's the place to be.

By the way, the Kuna women wore rings through their noses decades before it was cool, and many still smoke pipes like your granddaddy might have done.

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We left San Diego in 1998 aboard our Gemini 35 cat *Speck*, transited the Canal in March of 2000, and have been continuing to explore the Caribbean ever since. In 'Lectronic you asked for stories about fires on boats. Here's ours:

A powerboat caught fire next to *Speck* while we were tied up at the Panama Canal YC. Thankfully, a couple of fellow boaters released her lines and moved her away from the flames

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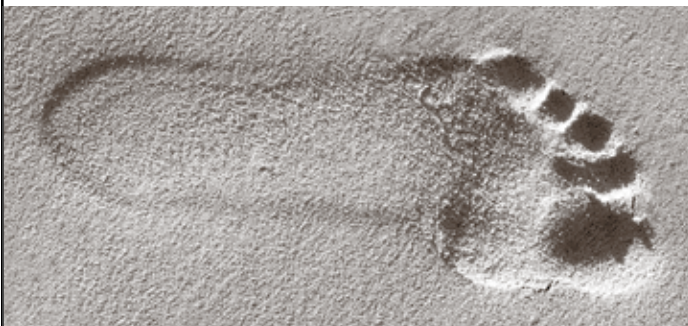
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LETTERS

just as the firefighters were arriving. We were so lucky.

We normally didn't stay at marinas, but had left *Speck* in the one when we flew home to San Diego for a visit with family. Since that close call, we do everything we can to stay out of marinas — and for more than just the fear of fires.

But we had a cruising friend of ours who wasn't so lucky with a boat fire in Costa Rica in 1999. He was ashore with his daughter and called his other daughter to come pick them up with the dinghy. The daughter had been deep-frying fish and forgot to turn off the propane stove. When they got back to the boat, she — the boat — was going up in flames.

After transiting the Canal, we continued to wander the 'wild west' of the Caribbean for a few years, then in 2003 spent two months along the north coast of Cuba. Oh my, we've had so many big adventures on our small but well-equipped sailboat! We've only spent a little, but have enjoyed life a lot while living on our cat in exotic locations. Because our needs and thus expenses are so small, we have also managed to save enough for a few land-based travels to Asia, too.

While in Singapore to visit my daughter, we were invited to participate in the Neptune Regatta from Singapore to Indonesia. When we crossed the equator, we were immediately initiated as polliwogs! In 2012 we had a different kind of sailing adventure — a six-month trip up the East Coast via the ICW. We spent three months anchored in the Washington Channel, living like locals.

Between and after those adventures, we've managed to hang out in the Exumas and other remote islands of the Bahamas almost every year. We had a near sinking off the northwest corner of the Abacos in 2009, but my husband Irwin, a calm, confident man, found the big problem and solved it. So we lived to tell about it.

We dive and snorkel, deep sea fish, wander the villages, and explore the clear waters of the out-islands of the Bahamas. We can tell you about almost every nook and cranny in that group. The Bahamas is still a beautiful, peaceful place to wander, with few hassles or fears.

We stayed at Georgetown in the Exumas from early July until mid-November of 2015. We really enjoyed having the place to ourselves after the hordes of winter cruisers had returned to the US and Canada. There was, of course, the matter of Hurricane Joaquin and its 100-mph winds, but we rode it out safely with five anchors set in a protected lagoon. The eye passed 40 miles to the east of us and devastated Long Island.

Irwin and I are now 70, but we're still going strong, and are the envy of our land-based families and friends. We plan to return to Cuba now that it is sorta legal, and then head back to Central America. We'll stay out here wandering on *Speck* until we can't lift the anchors or see the navigation markers.

Judy and Irwin White
Speck, Gemini 35 cat
ex-San Diego

⇕ A FEW POINTERS IN A CALAMITY

In my capacity as a marine surveyor, I have attended many vessels over the years when a fire has caused partial or total loss, fortunately never with loss of life. If you should happen to be in this calamity here are a few pointers:

- 1) Switch off the main supply on the 12 or 24-volt system using the main battery switches.
- 2) If the vessel is plugged into shorepower, disconnect this from the dock.
- 3) Close the valves on the propane supply.
- 4) Do not open the hatches, as this will allow more oxygen

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– Rick Egan, 136 *Kapai*, San Francisco Bay

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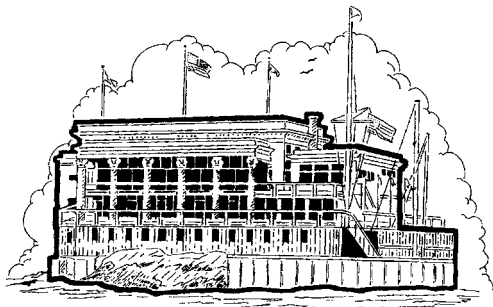
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LETTERS

in to feed the fire.

5) Try to fight the fire if you can, break the ports only if you can spray water in.

6) If the fire is out of control and the boat is tied to the dock, try to untie her so she can be towed or drift downwind to prevent the fire from spreading to other vessels, but make sure it won't drift into another dock.

But never put your life at risk fighting a fire. After all, a boat is only property that can be replaced.

More than 25 years ago in Sausalito I attended a Yorktown 38 on behalf of the insurance company. The owner of the boat was in his 90s and had just completed a circumnavigation. But he was aboard in Schoonmaker Yacht Harbor when a propane explosion blew the deck off the hull. As the mast was keel stepped, the deck got blasted up the mast, shearing off the boom at the gooseneck. When this occurred, the tension of the rig allowed the hull to collapse inboard. When the deck came back down due to gravity, it sat perfectly on top of the stanchions — some three feet above the original hull to deck joint! The vessel was in a double slip, and it was possible to walk around the vessel and see the contents of all the outboard lockers.

The had been down below when the explosion occurred. He told me he was "deaf" before this happened, and it had really knocked him for six. We had to resort to shouting and a pencil and paper for him to get his point across. He marveled at his luck and then said, "Jeez, I've been looking for that box of spare parts since I left American Samoa!" And there it was, visible from the dock amongst all his worldly goods.

That guy got off lucky, as the propane explosion didn't result in a fire. But propane is very dangerous and can be the major cause of problems if not correctly managed.

Michael P. Wilson
Marine Engineer/Recognized Marine Surveyor
Tortue, S&S 44
Mazatlan, Mexico

Michael — Our memory must be failing us because as we recall the famous incident, it took place at Basin 3 in Clipper Yacht Harbor on either a Spencer 42 or Cascade 42. And while the deck had indeed been blown off the hull, when we looked at it, it was only three inches, not three feet, off the hull. The true miracle was that despite the tremendous force of the explosion, the owner, who had been aboard, wasn't seriously injured.

⇕ A BLOW TORCH LICKING AT THE CURTAINS

The fire on my boat was the result of a unlit burner leaking in the alcohol stove. The fuel collected in the drip pan at bottom of the stove, ignited, and overheated the pressurized fuel tank. As I turned off the burner that was in use, the over-pressure valve on the filler cap released, and sent a jet of fuel vapor straight up! Ignited by the flames in the drip pan, it became a blow torch licking at the curtains. A quick-thinking friend grabbed a small CO2 extinguisher he had brought along unasked, and put out the fire. The only damage was the scorched curtains. I rebuilt the burners and didn't have another problem with the stove. I have also kept a least a mid-sized CO2 extinguisher aboard since, in addition other required extinguishers.

Jim Nash
Nalu, Cal 2-30
Kaneohe Yacht Club, HI

⇕ THEN THINGS REALLY GOT OUT OF HAND

I was aboard a Carter 39, a hot race boat at the time, for

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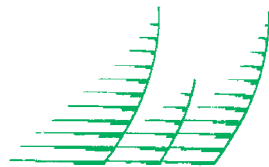


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LETTERS

the Manzanillo Race in about 1976 when the stove in the galley caught fire. Somebody had over-primed the stove, which resulted in flames burning a hole in the hose to the pressure tank. Then things started to really get out of hand.

You know how tired you can get during a long offshore race? I was asleep on the settee when it happened, and I was so exhausted that I didn't even get up. "They'll tell me if it's time to abandon ship," I thought to myself, and went back to sleep. Fortunately, a dry chemical extinguisher put the fire out. We were at about the latitude of Cabo at the time, but 200 miles offshore, and a big fire could have been a disaster.

The same owner had previously lost his Ericson 39 to a fiberglass fire caused by a poorly insulated water-lift exhaust tank. That boat burned to the waterline and the crew was rescued by a Fish & Game boat. They had just finished a Whitney Series San Nicholas Race in Southern California and would have been in big trouble if the fire had started by San Nick. That was was in about 1975.

No fires on my boats.

Mike Kennedy Sr.
ex-Audacious, Choate 40
Los Angeles

Mike — We'd almost forgotten that alcohol stoves using pressurized tanks had been a standard option on Islander 36s and other boats in the 1970s. While alcohol doesn't explode and can be put out by water, priming the stoves caused many flare-ups and some people were badly burned. Modern alcohol stoves don't use pressurized tanks, eliminating many of the safety hazards, but alcohol doesn't burn very hot and isn't a very efficient fuel.

CNG was/is another option in some areas, particularly Southern California. We remember the great Lowell North telling us he had CNG on one of his boats because he'd seen too many propane explosions on boats. CNG can explode, but it's lighter than air, so

it's not as risky as propane. The problems with CNG are that it was hard to come by except in Southern California and impossible to find in Mexico, it's not an efficient fuel, and the tank is under 10 times as much pressure as are propane tanks.



ROSE ALDERSON

This recent fire started on a powerboat and quickly spread to other boats.

Propane is by far the most popular choice for cruising boat stoves. It's also by far the most explosive. Be certain that every part of your propane stove system is in perfect condition. A few years back we were at Two Harbors, Catalina, and a guy using a canister propane stove had a problem. His little powerboat, the closest to the dinghy dock, soon became an inferno. It was one of three fires — two on boats — at Two Harbors that day.

↑↓ **WHY FAMILIES SHOULD DO THE BAJA HA-HA**
I thought I would share the story of my family's inspiration to do the Baja Ha-Ha again in 2015.

I was looking at the April 4, 2015, edition of *Lectronic*, and it had a photo from the 2008 Ha-Ha that featured our girls — Romi (then 8) and Miya (then 10) — having a great time on the beach with other Ha-Ha kids. I showed the photo to my husband Kirk Miller and daughter Miya, and within about five minutes we agreed that we had to do the Ha-Ha again in the fall.

As Romi and Miya are now a sophomore and senior, respectively, in high school, this decision acknowledged the work they



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LETTERS

would have to do to stay up with school. The big difference between 2008 and 2015 is that I would no longer be home-schooling them.

As for our Santa Cruz 50 *Bay Wolf*, preparing her was simplified by our previous Ha-Ha experience and nine-month cruise. She didn't need a lot of work.

So why is the Ha-Ha such a great family event? Let's see, there is sharing night watches during which time we got to see the moon rise, the planets, and the Milky Way more vividly than ever before.



FIN BEVEN

By all accounts, the 'Bay Wolf' girls and their many new friends had a ball on the Ha-Ha last fall.

including one about

60 pounds — and a marlin. Seeing a pilot whale and dolphin pods. The great volleyball games on the beach. Dancing with my teenage daughters at Squid Roe during the Ha-Ha party. (There is no other venue in which they would have danced with mom.) A chance for our girls to hang out with some of the younger Ha-Ha kids, which reminded them of their first Ha-Ha. Time spent off-line — especially important for the high school girls.

But above all, there is nothing like living in close quarters with your family to really reconnect! And the Ha-Ha was ideal for that.

By the way, Miya and Romi thought that a two-week hiatus from high school was not insurmountable. They front-loaded some schoolwork, did homework on the lay days, and read on days when the sailing was mellow. Their teachers were almost universally supportive. When a freshman in 2012, Miya had taken a month off from school to do the Ha-Ha with her dad, and had no problems keeping up with school.

One of the conditions of our doing the Ha-Ha was that Miya complete an early application for the US Coast Guard Academy before we left. What an incentive! We recently learned that Miya has now been admitted to the Coast Guard Academy.

Sachi Itagaki
Bay Wolf, Santa Cruz 50
San Francisco

Readers — After the last Ha-Ha, we sent a letter asking participants for reviews of the event. We were swamped with them, and have only had room to publish a few. But because we believe in the Ha-Ha so much, we plan to publish one a month until the start of the 23rd annual Ha-Ha, which will be on October 31.

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.

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SIGHTINGS

find a ride or find a crew

For longer than we can remember, *Latitude 38's* spring Crew List Parties have been a much-loved tradition among Bay Area sailors. Unlike our September Crew List shindig, which focuses on cruising south of the border, our March 9 gathering at San Francisco's Golden Gate Yacht Club (6 to 9 p.m.) functions as sort of a catchall, in that it attracts sailors with a wide variety of interests — including serious in-the-Bay and offshore racing, casual daysailing, chartering and international cruising. Its parallel goals are to help sailors of both vast and minimal experience find rides, while helping skippers find appropriate crew for their needs. As the title implies, this festive evening is designed to expand on initial contacts made via the free online Crew List database found at www.latitude38.com.



LATITUDE / LADONNA

As you can see, you can't help but make a few friends while attending one of our Crew List parties. And hopefully, you'll find the ride or watchstander that you need.

Although a boatload of *Latitude* staffers will attend, we generally don't get directly involved with crew/captain matchmaking. But we're happy to share some tips for success — probably the most important of which is to have clear expectations:

• Skippers looking for race crew should give a realistic rundown of the time commitment they expect from potential crew for practice, prep and actual races.

• Skippers looking for crew for far-flung cruising should be clear about what duties potential crew will be expected to tackle, and what expenses they'll be expected to chip in on.

• Potential crew should not be afraid to be honest about their experience or lack thereof — many skippers would rather train a newbie than take on a know-it-all who's going to critique every decision the skipper makes.

• Crew — especially females — should make it crystal clear from the get-go if they are absolutely not interested in a potential romantic relationship.

• All attendees should bear in mind that in a whirlwind meet-and-greet cocktail party like this, it's very difficult for either skippers or crew to later remember everyone they chatted with. So we suggest bringing along a stack of single-sheet sailing resumes, complete with your contact info, what you're aiming for, and, ideally, a photo.

With that we'll say "Cheers! And best of luck in finding an ideal situation."

— andy

hawaii race anticipation builds

In December's Sightings, we wrote that this July's Pacific Cup race from San Francisco to Kaneohe, Oahu, is full. Indeed, 80 boats are signed up, and another dozen are wait-listed, the most recent of which (at press time) was Greg Nelsen's doublehanded Azzura 310 *Outsider*. The entries range from Moore 24s to 70-ft sleds.

Meanwhile, 28 hardy solo sailors, including three women, have entered the Singlehanded TransPac, which will sail to Kauai's Hanalei Bay the same month. The smallest boats are three diminutive (21-ft) Mini Transats sailed by Europeans. The biggest is Michael Jefferson's Garcia Passoa 47 *Mouton Noir*, a veteran of multiple editions. Three Cal 40 skippers will enjoy competing against one another. We look forward to profiling them all in upcoming issues.

The Hawaii-bound sailors are continuing to prep their vessels and

continued on outside column of next sightings page

strictly sail pacific

If you've sailed much in California, chances are good that you've been aboard a boat that came off the drawing board of Gary Mull.

Mull designed the Santana 22 and 27, the Ranger 23 and the rest of the Ranger line, the Newport 30, Kaliks, Freedoms, the Moore 30, the Orion 50 and the Independence. He co-designed the Capri 22, of which nearly 1,000 were sold. Custom designs included *Sorcery*, *Improbable*, *St. Francis V*, *VI* and *VII*, two International 6-Meters, and the 12-Meter *USA*.

Jim Antrim, Jim Donovan, Ron Holland, and the late Carl Schumacher all worked for Mull. Influential, prolific and innovative, Mull died in 1994 at age 55.



ERIK SIMONSON / WWW.PRESSURE-DROP.US

to honor gary mull

To celebrate his life's work, Strictly Sail Pacific will feature a tent displaying Mull photos, graphics, articles and memorabilia. The show will host panel discussions about Mull and his work at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 9. Naval architect Jim Antrim and boat-builder Hank Easom are among Gary's colleagues who plan to be on hand.

On the same day, a variety of Mull-designed boats will be open for viewing, and a celebrity/charity regatta will be held in Capri 22s beginning at 3 p.m., with a social hour to follow. Donations will benefit youth sailing programs.

The regatta only has 24 spots avail-

continued in middle column of next sightings page

hawaii races — continued

themselves for the passage. To facilitate the latter, both events offer seminars. Cross-training is encouraged, and even the Hawaiicurious are welcome to attend.

The Singlehanded TransPac seminars are free and held at Oakland YC in Alameda on Wednesday nights. The next one will be March 9's Communications at Sea. The Singlehanded Sailing Society has organized a cruise-in to Encinal YC (also in Alameda) for SHTP boats on April 16-17, where everyone will be able check out how the competitors have set up their boats. See www.sfbaysss.org.

Coming up on the Pac Cup calendar are a Safety at Sea Seminar in Kaneohe on March 6 and an Alaska Airlines Pacific Cup Offshore Academy at Richmond YC on the afternoon of March 26. The cost is \$30 in advance, \$45 the week of, and \$60 at the door — they really, really want you to register ahead of time — space is limited in RYC's temporary fabric clubhouse. The PCOA will be preceded at 10 a.m. by a free SailMail/Grib seminar. See www.pacificcup.org.

— chris

The Farrier 25C 'Mojo', crewed by Chris Harvey and Bob Hyde, was among the 326 single- and doublehanded boats that competed in the Three Bridge Fiasco pursuit race on January 30. See Racing Sheet, page 90, for our report and additional photos.



SIGHTINGS

stormil saga revisited

Although cargo vessels from far-flung nations still arrive daily at Bay Area ports, relatively few foreign-flagged sailboats make landfall here these days, other than Canadian cruisers heading for Mexico. The same was true 28 years ago, when Jacek Rajck, skipper of the 45-ft Polish sailboat *Stormil* radioed the Coast Guard from four miles outside the Golden Gate requesting permission to enter the Bay. Much to his disappointment, the request was promptly denied.

It was October 1988, one year before the Berlin Wall was torn down, the astounding event that triggered the complete dissolution of the Soviet Union two years later. What was this Soviet Bloc sailboat doing so far from her homeport in central Poland? Working as a sail-training vessel affiliated with a Polish university, *Stormil's* captain had accepted

continued on outside column of next sightings page

strictly sail

able, so we recommend signing up early at www.strictlysailpacific.com. (The website will also post updates about celebrity skippers and panel members.)

But you won't find sailors mulling over Mull at Jack London Square — Strictly Sail Pacific is moving from Oakland to Richmond. The exhibitors' booths will be set up in the historic Craneway Pavilion (the old Ford assembly plant), and boats in the water will be docked in the spacious and deep-draft Marina Bay Yacht Harbor. Don't be deterred by the Rich-



— continued

mond address! There's plenty of parking, it's close to the freeway, and it's no scarier than the old location. The dates of the 2016 show are April 7-10.

You'll find the *Latitude 38* crew in booth #C-1. Ours will be among the usual booth parties on Friday night. *Latitude's* managing editor Andy Turpin and associate publisher John Arndt will present seminars. The boat show planner will be bound into our April issue, so look for much more information then.

— chris



ANDRE VOLANT

Spread: *'Stormil'* anchored on the Potato Patch. **Inset lower left:** Supporters brought out beer and other provisions. **Upper left:** A gift of Polish vodka at Pier 39. **Above:** The crew at Nelson's where they got a free haulout and bottom job.

stormil — continued

an open offer from the Australian government to sail Down Under and participate in the First Fleet Reenactment procession through Sydney Harbour, in commemoration of the arrival of the country's first prisoners-turned-settlers in 1788. It was an epic event, with nine splendid foreign-flagged tall ships stealing the spotlight.

Afterward, Rajck and a replacement crew of five students — who had just flown in — faced an extremely daunting, upwind voyage to Hawaii: 5,000 miles against prevailing swells, currents and headwinds.

Stormil's infrequently-traveled eastbound route took her from Brisbane to Fiji, Tonga, American Samoa, the Cook Island and Kiribati before finally crossing to Honolulu.

We were reminded of this crazy tale last month when Leszek Swiatek, a member of that stoic crew, dropped by our offices to say hello. Although the trip was a lifetime ago, he still remembers vividly the details of *Stormil's* arrival at Honolulu. They tied off at one of the first open docks they saw in front of a swank yacht club — probably the Hawaii or Waikiki YC — and the crew promptly

went inside to ask where they might find a berth. When the club members in the bar found out who these strangers were and where they'd come from, they insisted that *Stormil* stay out front for free, and offered drinks on the house. We can only imagine the revelry that ensued.

But a few hours later Captain Rajck appeared, looking somber. (He'd remained behind on the boat.) Outside, the crew saw that their little sailboat was now dwarfed by a huge Coast Guard cutter lying alongside it. Rajck had been told in no uncertain terms that because *Stormil* was a Soviet vessel, by government mandate she could not berth in this US port. The entire crew already had US visas and were free to visit, but the boat's status was a big problem. Two crew opted to stay in Hawaii, and leave Leszek, the captain and two others to make the crossing to California.

Before setting sail for San Francisco the next morning, Rajck had time to call US Customs in San Francisco. Personnel there approved the boat's arrival, but insisted on recording a specific arrival date. Rajck figured even if the crossing was very slow going, they could make it in 29 days, and that October date was so noted.

The 2,100-mile crossing was anything but slow though. "We had wonderful sailing conditions most of the way," recalls Leszek. So wonderful, in fact, that they arrived *nine* days ahead of schedule. But instead of being able to tie up somewhere, find hot showers and "have a party," they were told they would have to anchor three miles offshore and wait another nine days before passing beneath the Golden Gate.

With no other choice, they anchored somewhere in the notoriously unpleasant waters over the Potato Patch. When they lost their first anchor, the Coast Guard loaned them a replacement. (We suspect the Coasties were somewhat sympathetic to the plight of these obviously nonthreatening sailors.)

It wasn't long before curious fishermen started coming by to find out why on earth this well-worn sailboat was anchored in such an inhospitable spot. Word of the sailors' plight spread quickly throughout the marine community, and before long newspaper, radio and TV



LATITUDE / ANDY

Party pals: After the *'Stormil'* crew's long ordeal ended, Leszek (left) and his mates had great fun in San Francisco seeing the sights and partying with new friends such as Andre Volante, a diehard windsurfer from San Bruno. The two have remained friends ever since.

ALL PHOTOS YOUTUBE EXCEPT AS NOTED

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SIGHTINGS

stormil — continued

reporters picked up the story. Local merchants sent out food and beer via fishing boats and motoryachts, at least one of which invited the detainees over for showers. And on one occasion, Leszek recalls with a smile, someone sent out a special San Francisco 'cigarette'.

After five days, the buzz about the student-sailors' plight reached the State Department, where the decision was eventually made to let *Stormil* into the Bay. The weary crew got a heroes' welcome when they pulled into Pier 39, where Polish vodka-fueled celebrations began that lasted for days. The marina waived the slip fees and the nearby Holiday Inn gave the weary Poles free rooms. Later, Nelson's Marine gave *Stormil* a free bottom job, Oakland YC offered a free slip, and Encinal YC gave the crew meals and drinks and helped facilitate free phone calls to Poland — aided by Pac Bell employees who took up an office collection!

On that memorable night when they first stepped ashore, Leszek was seen beaming with joy on the TV news. In his broken English he said, "I have forgotten all bad situation. We are happy now!"

— andy

it can happen to the best of sailors

Late last month when an unusual WSW swell developed suddenly, Barry and Connie Ruff's Vancouver-based Wylie 39 sloop *Rage* dragged onto the beach just outside Marina Riviera Nayarit, in Mexico's Banderas Bay, while no one was aboard. Landing on the rocks in front of one of the best surf breaks in Banderas Bay, *Rage* was badly holed on her port side, which made her impossible to refloat or repair.

"Every set that rolled through sent more big jagged chunks of hull floating up between us," recalled Tamiko Willie, one of many sailors who rushed to the scene to help. "The entire cruising community and

pangeros came together and helped ferry everything we could off the boat." But as the tide rose, the prospect of saving *Rage* grew ever more hopeless. It's important to stress that *Rage* was anchored on all-chain rode, not light line, as some early reports suggested.

Barry, a native of Britain, built her from a bare hull, and during the past 30 years he's cruised and raced her extensively, including several Hawaii races. "The boat was a '10' in

every way regarding attention to detail," said Mazatlan marine surveyor Michael Wildon, "as Barry — with too many ocean miles to count — knows what it takes to make a vessel fast, simple and easy to sail."

Sadly, the battered hull eventually had to be cut up and hauled away. When the initial reports came out, some mistakenly assumed that this boat was Steve Rander's well-known race boat of the same name, which is also a Wylie design. Rander's, however, is a 70-footer. We extend our sympathies to Barry and Connie, and hope they get back out on the water soon.

— richard & andy

big fun on plastic classics

"I'm just so enthusiastic about our little corner of the sailing world and how it reaches across the generations to inspire new and old sailors alike," writes Steve Cossman, commodore of the Alberg Design Fleet of San Francisco. He describes himself and his buddies as "vintage guys sailing vintage boats." The way Steve tells it, they

continued on outside column of next sightings page

'schooner season'

Although there's never a bad time of year to sail a schooner in California, spring will bring a cluster of opportunities for crews and aficionados alike.

On April 2, Silver Gate YC in San Diego will host the America's Schooner Cup. This regatta is a fundraiser for the Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society.

"Last year we had 14 schooners, from 35 to 150 feet, from California and the Pacific Northwest," said Brad Brown of the Cup committee. "We expect the same

JOLINDA GRANIER



'Rage' aground at La Cruz. Several other boats have dragged ashore from the anchorage during the last five years.

ALL INSETS COURTESY ADFSF



LATITUDE /ROSS

approaches

number of schooners this year. Spectators can watch the start and finish off Shelter Island. We have two additional opportunities to view the race from the water: from the *Californian*, the official state tall ship — a 145-ft schooner — and from the *Bill of Rights*, a 136-ft replica of a 19th-century coastal schooner." Call (619) 234-9153 for tickets on *Californian* or (619) 500-2419 for tickets on *Bill of Rights*. No registration is neces-

continued in middle column of next sightings page

plastic classics — continued

have a helluva lot of fun doing so. (We assume that 'vintage gals' are welcome also.) Despite the fact that 'plastic classics' like his Triton 28 *Juno* and others may be decades old, Steve makes the point that they were "built to last, sail terrific, and although some are in disrepair, others are being cared for as labors of love to an extent that forsakes any logic."

Cossmann wants other oldie owners to know that members of the once extremely popular Triton One Design Group and all other owners of Carl Alberg-designed oldies are encouraged to join ADFSF for sailing and shoreside activities. Close cousins such as Rhodes Bounty 41s and Vanguard 32s are welcome also.

continued on outside column of next sightings page



Although some still believe you have to be ultra-rich and own a Bristol yacht to enjoy sailing, these ADFSF members would argue otherwise.

SIGHTINGS

plastic classics — continued

"Our idea is that many of these boats are of the same vintage, sail similarly, require much the same type of work, and therefore are probably owned by much the same type of people. We are looking to share our experiences both on and off the water."

Group members meet every Thursday for a sail, rotating helm time on one another's boats. "It's fun," says Steve. "We each get a feel for someone else's boat while the owner gets to do things he's not able to do when he has non-sailors aboard. So on any given Thursday, look out on the Bay for a lone Triton with some crazy old guys headed somewhere or maybe nowhere. They'll have lunch, enjoy the scenery in one of the greatest sailing spots of the world with hardly another boat in sight — and, there's always a wee toast to another great day of sailing once the boat is put to bed."

For more info on this fun-loving group of sailors, check out the website: www.albergsailboats.org.

— andy

schooner season

sary to watch from Shelter Island. Just show up about 11:30 a.m. for the noon start. The race runs from Shelter Island, out of San Diego Bay, and back, typically taking two to three hours. Star Clippers, a worldwide cruise ship company featuring tall ships, has stepped up as a sponsor this year. For more info, see www.americasschoonercup.com.

Woody-phies in San Francisco will want to mark their calendars for May 28, the date of the Master Mariners Regatta, when old friends will renew fierce rivalries. Fans can watch the start in front of St. Francis YC during the noon hour. Once the sailors have completed their



A favorite image from the 2014 America's Schooner Cup: The stunningly beautiful 'Curlew' blasts around the course off San Diego. If you can't catch a ride on one of these beauties during upcoming San Diego or San Francisco Bay events, try to at least get out and spectate.

— continued

grand tour of San Francisco Bay, they'll settle in at the Encinal YC in Alameda for a post-race raft-up, party and awards. Numerous local businesses and organizations, including *Latitude 38*, provide important sponsorship. Check out www.mastermariners.org.

On June 11, San Francisco YC in Belvedere will host the Great San Francisco Schooner Race. Details will be forthcoming at www.sfyf.org.

Then, as spring rolls into summer, the Master Mariners will pack the docks of the Corinthian YC in Tiburon on June 26 for their annual Wooden Boat Show.

— chris



PAT FLANIGAN

15th zihua fest sets a record

We're proud to say that *Latitude 38* played a role in starting Zihuatanejo SailFest in 2002. But back then we never could have dreamed that this fledgling cruiser gathering would evolve into the most successful sailor-supported charity event in all of Mexico. Since the beginning, the focus of fundraising efforts has been to support the education of local underprivileged kids.

As Z-Fest celebrated its 15th anniversary last week, the efforts of cruisers, plus a dedicated group of expat volunteers, local merchants and service groups, raised a record \$1,410,295 pesos (\$77,000 USD), augmented by a Rotary Club grant of \$795,000 pesos (\$43,000 USD) to Por Los Niños de Zihuatanejo, SailFest's registered Mexican charity.

As longtime organizer Lorenzo Malbut explains, "The weeklong festivities included a welcome dance party, sailing events, concerts, a gala dinner, school visits, chili cook-off and street fair, and auctions and raffles, with gifts and services donated by more than 200 local businesses."



ALL PHOTOS MARGARET REID / SAILFEST

Built by Patrick and Jeann Hughes of Seattle, the 66-ft wooden schooner 'Patricia Belle' is a repeat supporter of SailFest.



Dwarfed by the wheel of the 75-ft daysail cat 'Picante', this young scholar is obviously enjoying her first sailboat ride.

"Perhaps first among our cruising heroes this year is the *Patricia Belle*, a 66-ft home-built schooner," says Lorenzo. "They welcomed aboard 75 paying guests for the three sailing events, and then invited a large group of Mexican kids and parents to go sailing for free on Sunday. During the festival's three sailing events, 343 guests rode along — also a record — having made donations to the cause."

"Since 2002," explains the longtime expat-in-residence, "the SailFest partnership has built more than 90 classrooms, bathrooms, kitchens and playgrounds at underprivileged schools in low-income communities, and has awarded hundreds of academic and English-language scholarships."

In the planning stages this year is one of Por Los Niños' most ambitious projects to date: construction of a new vocational high school that will serve 105 at-risk local teenagers.

Repeat attendees to Z-Fest such as the *Patricia Belle* crew and dedicated part- or full-time expats such as Lorenzo take great pride in the life-changing efforts they've made, while having a good time in the process. Lorenzo's SailFest motto: "Building a brighter future while having almost too much fun."

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In the planning stages this year is one of Por Los Niños' most ambitious projects to date: construction of a new vocational high school that will serve 105 at-risk local teenagers.



Two lovely teachers in traditional costumes.

— andy

SIGHTINGS

sail (lots) of small boats

"Come on and take a free ride," sang the Edgar Winter Group in 1973. Hey, that's just what Richmond YC is saying! On Saturday, March 5, adults and kids alike can take free rides on any number of varied small craft, ranging from El Toros and Optis to skiffs and beach cats to keelboats such as the Santana 22, Ultimate 20 and Wylie Wabbit. About 35 small craft will be on hand, including that favorite toy of 21st century watermen and women, the stand-up paddleboard. It's all part of Sail a Small Boat Day, a long-running RYC tradition.

Volunteers will help visitors get on boats from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. They recommend bringing a wetsuit if you have one or waterproof clothes, plus some warm dry things to change into — be prepared to get wet! Bring your own PFD if you have one (not the inflatable type); some extras will be available to borrow.

Why a small boat? They're cheaper and easier to store, maintain and transport, plus they'll hone your sailing skills. The list of boats available to sample includes El Toros, Optimists, Lasers, Etchells, Vanguard 15s, Mercurys, 505s and more.

Not only are the boat rides free, but the hot dogs are too! For more info, see www.richmondyc.org.

— chris

the whitbread's most unlikely victors

It's human nature to root for the underdog in almost any sports competition. But when an unknown team of Mexican sailors signed up for the inaugural Whitbread Round the World Race in 1973, the odds of their winning were such a long shot that we doubt any bookmaker would have taken a bet on them. That '73-'74 race, of course, was the precursor to every fully crewed around-the-world race since, and is now named the Volvo Ocean Race.

The fact that Mexican businessman Ramon Carlin and his crew — only a few of whom had bona fide offshore racing experience —

won that first Whitbread remains one of the greatest upsets in the annals of sailboat racing. Needless to say, the story of how they did it is a fascinating tale. So we were thrilled to learn that *The Weekend Sailor*, a new film about Ramon's miracle by Bernardo Arsuaga, will debut March 11 at the San Francisco International Ocean Film Festival. For details see: www.oceanfilmfest.org.



Editorial cartoonists had fun dissing the unproven Mexican team in print, but Ramon Carlin and his partially neophyte crew definitely got the last laugh.

We are reminded by the film's trailer that Carlin didn't even own a boat when he and his son Enrique first pondered the idea of entering the race — Enrique had read about it while studying in Europe. They eventually purchased a brand-new S&S-designed Swan 65 that was christened *Sayula II* to compete against a formidable fleet of 16 other yachts skippered by seasoned offshore racers such as Brit Chay Blithe and French superstar Eric Tabarly.

Long before GPS, no-go ice boundaries, and other elements that make offshore racing today at least reasonably safe, back in '73 around-the-world racing was among the most 'extreme sports' going — especially during the long stretches in the unforgiving Southern Ocean. Three men were swept overboard and died during the first Whitbread, and *Sayula II* suffered a dramatic mid-ocean knockdown

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sailing alone through

As reported earlier, we've been tracking the progress of two determined singlehanders who are currently sailing in different parts of the Southern Ocean in pursuit of achieving great personal accomplishments, while setting records: Aboard *Inspired Insanity*, Donna Lange hopes to become the first American woman to circle the globe nonstop, via the Five Great Capes, and aboard *Sailors Run*, Jeff Hartjoy hopes to become the oldest American to perform a similar feat — he's now 69.

Donna is currently on approach to rounding her final cape — the most



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unforgiving waters

ominous one: Cape Horn. Having been knocked down by brutal weather, her satellite comms system is nonfunctional, but she is still characteristically upbeat. For her, the finish line is Rhode Island (www.donnalange.com).

Jeff is currently on approach to Tasmania, with two capes to pass before heading north to his starting point in Ecuador (www.sailorsrun.com). In recent weeks he battled sustained winds of 50 knots with gusts to 65 that forced him to run under bare poles. We wish them both safety and success.

— andy

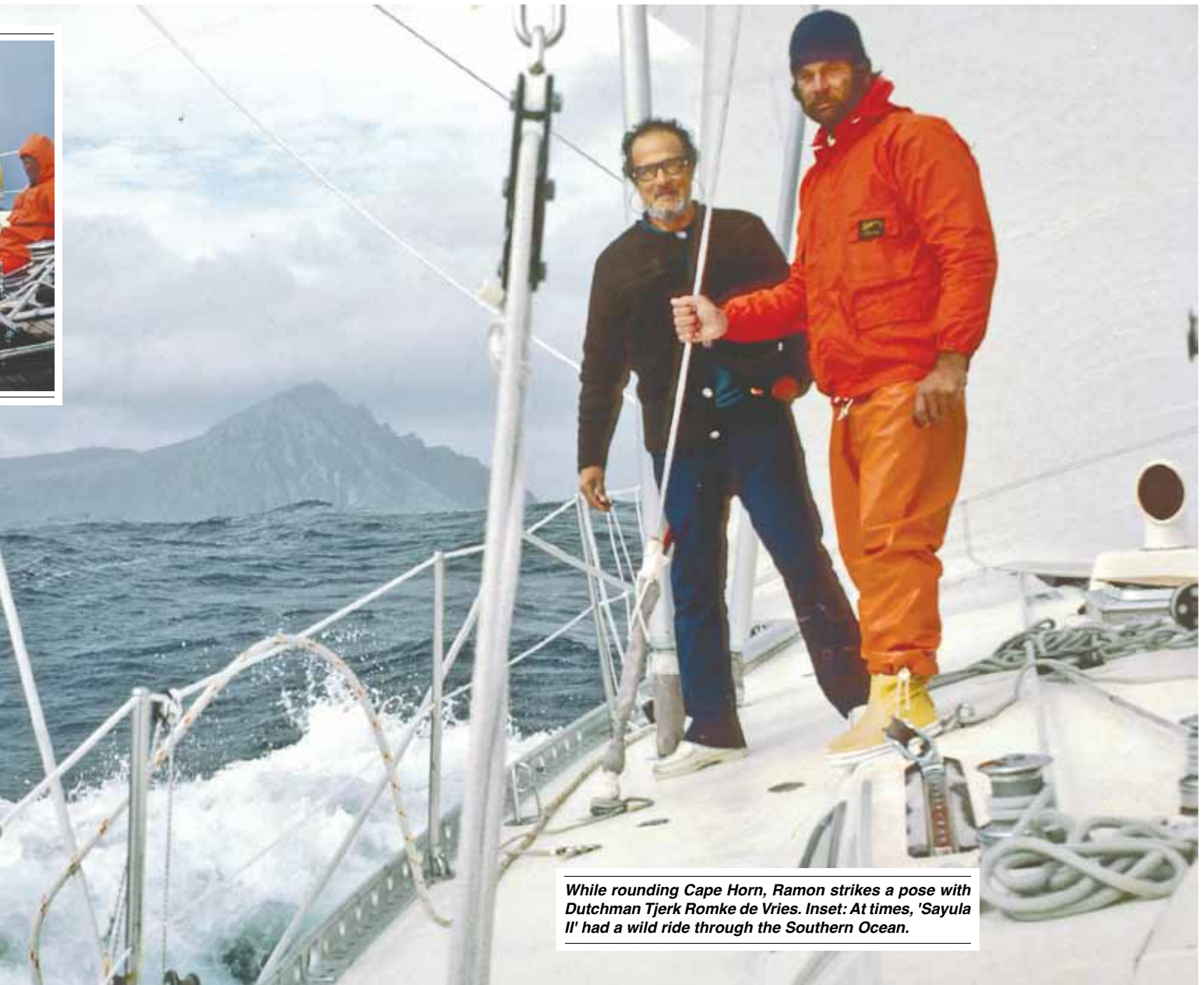
unlikely victors — continued

that easily could have been disastrous.

At the same time, the first Whitbread marked the end of an era when offshore racing yachts had comfortable bunks, crew were regularly served hot meals, and it wasn't uncommon for them to have a glass of wine — or perhaps a shot of tequila — when they came off watch. (In addition to recruiting his son and nephews, Carlin brought along his wife Paquita.)

We haven't seen the film yet, but with Whitbread vet (and Duran Duran lead singer) Simon Le Bon narrating, plus cameos by Sir Chay, Franck Cammas, Torben Grael and many of the original crew — including West Coast 'hired guns' Keith Lorence and Ray Conrady — we can hardly wait to check it out. If you miss the premiere, look for *The Weekend Sailor* to be screened in 'art house' theaters soon, and/or available via streaming services.

— andy



While rounding Cape Horn, Ramon strikes a pose with Dutchman Tjerk Romke de Vries. Inset: At times, 'Sayula II' had a wild ride through the Southern Ocean.

CALIFORNIA CREWS

While San Francisco Bay isn't exactly the worst place in the United States to be a racing sailor during winter, it's also not the best. Renowned for its beautiful azure water, generally good breeze, and tropical climate, Key West has long established itself as one of America's prime midwinter sailing venues. With the famed Key West Race Week regatta coming under new management by the Storm Trysail Club, and easing US/Cuba restrictions, the idea of packing up and heading east for a bit of yachting in the new year never sounded better. A batch of West Coast programs did just that and became part of history.

"Don't try to jibe when you're not going full speed!"

A revitalized Quantum Key West Race Week put 133 boats on the line January 18-22 with talent and hardware from around the globe. The regatta attracted Bay Area crews *Skeleton Key*, *Courageous*, *Andiamo* and *Double Trouble*. Entries from SoCal included Nigel Brownett's *Down the Line*, competing in the largest fleet, the 47-boat J/70 class; the C&C 30s *Loco* and *Barking Mad VIII*; and Bennet Greenwald's San Diego-based J/111 *Perseverance*.

The weather gods tested the various

West Coast heroes in Key West, the 'Skeleton Key' crew — John Collins, John Pernick, João Miranda Reis, David Lyons, Peter Wagner, Panda Love, Seadon Wijzen, Fabrizio Natale, Jay Vige and Peter Clark — pose by the pool with some of their winnings.

fleets with nuking breeze and challenging wind-against-current conditions that kept competitors ashore one day and provided no shortage of drama, carnage and thrilling competition on the rest.

The first day of racing, Monday, January 18, featured northeast winds that exceeded 20 knots and bumpy water with 4-ft waves rolling through the course areas.

Accustomed to powering through strong San Francisco Bay winds, most Bay Area crews were disappointed to sit ashore on Tuesday the 19th. The day was distinctly untropical, as the howling wind (up to 30 knots) was cold enough to prompt locals and tourists alike to put on hats and coats.

The sailors fared better on Wednesday, in a perfect 15- to 18-knot northeasterly. Organizers were able to fire off three more races on all courses Thursday in solid 10- to 14-knot breeze.

The final day, Friday, blew in with lightning, thunder and torrential rain. Organizers debated if the conditions were safe to proceed with two races to finish the J/70s, Melges 24s and C&C 30s, and one race for all other classes.

With several titles at stake but bad weather threatening, this was not an easy call. Forecaster George Carras from Commander's Weather described the moist tropical conditions in the atmosphere as "juicy and unstable," with a chance for more cells. But, with nothing actually on the radar, the fleets headed out for one more day of battle.

Outside the harbor in the southerly, the forecast 8-15 knots turned out to be

20+ and building, with monstrous seas enhanced by the south-flowing ebb, especially in the Division 1 and Division 4 course areas. These seas hampered the race committees in their efforts to set marks and establish their courses, so officials pulled the plug on those classes for the day. But racing proceeded in the Division 2 and 3 areas, where the ebb was not as strong and produced nothing



The 41-ft Richmond-based J/125 'Double Trouble' was trucked east in order to race in both Quantum Key West Race Week and the Conch Republic Cup to Cuba.

MARTHA BLANCHFIELD / RENEGADE SAILING

more serious than a few OCS calls.

The most dominant team of the entire regatta was Peter Wagner of Atherton and crew on *Skeleton Key*, which had the nine-boat J/111 fleet's number all week to record an incredible seven bullets out of nine races with a pair of seconds as the only blemishes on their otherwise perfect picket fence of a scorecard.

Wagner took delivery of his J/111 less than a year ago, and this was only the fifth regatta for his team. Sailing in his first Key West Race Week, he was over the moon and full of praise for both the race organizers and his talented crew. "I really enjoyed my first Key West. We had great conditions and it was a very well-run event. We're just really fortunate that we managed to sail consistently, and we had a lot of fun doing it." Wagner praised his tactician, North Sails San Francisco's Seadon Wijzen. "We got off the line well and Seadon did a great job of managing things tactically on the course."

On the first day of racing, January 18, 'City of Key West Day', *Skeleton Key* won Boat of the Day. By week's end, the J/111 crew had earned a total score of 11.0 — handily surpassing the nearest competition, the Cleveland-based *Space-*



SKELETON KEY

STORM KEY WEST AND CUBA



Kilroy's SFYC-based Melges 20 *WildMan*. "Erik is meticulous in planning, preparation and rigging," explained Magnussen.

"Next up was bow, and there was only one person for this: Cody Schlub. He did Transpac with me on the J/125 *Timeshaver*. He does not talk a lot, and this would be vital given the rest of the guys I planned on asking, who maybe talk a little more than normal... Enter the Long Beach match-racing boys, Dustin Durant and Benjamin Wheatley, our trimming team and entertainment when not racing. These dudes work hard, sail hard, keep their heads down, and are assets to any boat. Off the boat we laugh and joke to the point that it hurts. Dave Millet rounded out the crew and added some quiet stability. We also dragged along Brent Ruhne to cruise around in a RIB and be our coach. This proved vital during our practice days, as he was able to help us dial in the rig tune and get up to speed with the other guys.

"Erik and I were looking through the crew lists before the event and were in awe of some of the names. It seemed like every boat had used their two Category 3 (professional sailor) allowances wisely, and that was a bit intimidating.

"We hoisted our version-two Ullman sails literally in Key West three days before the start of the event. Our first impression was 'nice-looking sails... let's figure out this rig and make them fast.' Brent Ruhne helped us from off the boat, and, between Erik and myself on the

man Spiff, with 25.5 points.

USA 77 *Courageous*, a J/88 owned and skippered by Gary Panierello of San Francisco, raced one-design alongside seven sisterships. The fleet was able to compete on only three days due to the stormy weather. *Courageous* ended the regatta in eighth place.

Peter Krueger's J/125 *Double Trouble* competed in IRC 2 against four other boats. After opening the regatta with a victory, the *Double Trouble* crew had their hands full in their division and placed third. One of the Bay Area's most formidable big-boat programs, *DT* didn't have an answer for Andrew and Linda Weiss' New York-based Sydney 43 *Christopher Dragon* after that initial race success. After the first race, *Christopher Dragon* led around every mark to claim eight straight bullets and walk away with the win.

Skipper Julian Mann, tactician Pete McCormick, and the crew of *Andiamo*, a San Francisco-based C&C 30, vied with ten other boats. *Andiamo* could only manage a 10th-place finish, while Peter Cunningham's Cayman Islands-flagged *Powerplay* wound up in seventh with Bay Area Olympic veteran Hartwell

Jordan and current San Francisco Etchells champ Blaine Pedlow on the crew, further illustrating the staggering level of competition in what has become one of the hottest new fleets on the water.

Edwin Feo's Long Beach-based C&C 30 *Loco*, which was loaded with top So-Cal talent, was well sailed in the 11-boat fleet.

"I consider myself one of the truly lucky sailors from this area to have participated," said Keith Magnussen of Ullman Sails Newport Beach. "Ed Feo approached me a year ago to put a team together for *Loco*, and I was honored to help organize a crew. First off I hit up Erik Shampain." Shampain has been killing it on the Melges 20 circuit — recently winning the Miami Winter Series with young Liam

Action in the J/111 fleet at Key West, with the Chicago-based 'Wooten' on port tack and 'Skeleton Key' on starboard.



CALIFORNIA CREWS



BRENT RUHNE

The SoCal C&C 30 'Loco' was flyin' on the final day of Key West Race Week.

boat, we eventually got it right. Having a coach on the water is so valuable, and the three days we spent practicing before the event really paid off.

"We started the regatta a bit slow, but were still figuring ourselves out. We ended up with a second on the third race of day one, missing out on first by a boatlength. Our mistake in that race came when the wind increased on the final leg and we did not shift gears well enough. These boats are demanding, and if you are not constantly working then you will suffer. We missed out on an adjustment and it cost us.

"We improved each day to become one

Julian Mann's C&C 30 'Andiamo' team came from San Francisco to race in Key West.

of the most consistently sailed boats on the course. We had our moments with an over-early and a foul at a weather mark, but we recovered from those mistakes well and stayed positive, which is always important in a long regatta."

The mark roundings were tight, which served to make the racing even more fun. "We had a couple incidents, but people did their circles and the racing was fair."

Going into the final day *Loco* was tied for third but losing the tie-breaker. The Long Beach team had to beat Bob Moran's Annapolis-based *Bobsled*. "Friday was a fun day on the water, with huge swell at two-second intervals from the shallow water and leftover storm," reports Magnussen. "Wind was around 17 to 25 knots, and when the squall came through it left some wreckage. We had a great start, and then realized we were

over early. We cleared ourselves and bailed out to the right side of the course. Boatspeed again was key, and a nice right shift saw us pass *Bobsled*, which went left/middle. The run was epic, with everyone in the back of the bus and Dustin trimming with orders like, 'Up a quarter.'

"The second weather-mark rounding had the *Sledders* right behind us. This is where the crew work ruled! As we hoisted our spinnaker

and took off, I glanced back to see them shrimp their kite. It looked like they ran it over. We ended up crashing hard at the finish — don't try to jibe when you're not going full speed! We finished the race and looked back to see two boats going wing-on-wing with their jibs.

"Third place with that kind of competition exceeded our expectations. We had come all the way from Long Beach YC, and to represent the West Coast well was more than we could ask for."

For complete results plus photos and video, see www.keywestraceweek.com.

After Key West Race Week came to a close, some boats packed up and moved on while others, including *Double Trouble* and *Perseverance*, prepared for what was billed as the first-ever fully legal sailboat



MARTHA BLANCHFIELD / RENEGADE SAILING



PRISCILLA PARKER

STORM KEY WEST AND CUBA

race to the communist Republic of Cuba, the Conch Republic Cup/Key West Cuba Race Week.

The Conch Republic, in case you're not familiar with the moniker, refers to the Florida Keys. Following a US Border Patrol roadblock and checkpoint in 1982 on the highway into and out of the Keys, US 1, Key West seceded from the Union, declared war on the US, immediately surrendered, and applied for foreign aid. The only weapon wielded by the Conchs during their one-minute war was a stale loaf of Cuban bread.

The first two races in what would become the Conch Republic Cup were sailed from Key West to Varadero, Cuba, in 1997 and 1998, after which Club Nautico Internacional Hemingway de La Havana's commodore, Jose Eschrich, proposed a four-race series. A big chill in relations between the two countries during Bush Junior's administration put the kibosh on the 'cultural exchange through sport'.

Run for the first time since 2003, this year's Conch Republic Cup attracted 56 entries for a quick romp to Cuba and back, with buoy racing and a coastal-passage race in between.

The regatta began with a weather delay as a low-pressure system built in the Gulf Stream. The 90-mile race to Varadero, Cuba, finally started at 5 p.m.

on Friday, January 29, and a pleasant crossing ensued in 12-17 knots of easterly breeze and a 6-ft swell.

"The race from Key West to Varadero was very pleasant, and crossing the Gulf stream was not bad," said the aforementioned Seadon Wijsen, now calling tactics on the J/111 *Perseverance*. "It was very cool to see the glow of Key West on one horizon and the glow of Havana on the opposite horizon."

Double Trouble held off the hard-charging C&C 30 *Bobsled* to claim line honors in the race to Cuba, though *Bobsled* corrected out on top in PHRF B and overall.

An evening bash followed on Saturday. The long slog to the racing area on Sunday gave everyone a chance to recover before the start in view of the beach.

DT once again took line honors in the buoy race, though it was *Perseverance* that corrected out for the class win. The day's racing was again followed by festivities at Marina Gaviota.

"Communication was poor due to the lack of cell service and wifi," observed Wijsen. "The buoy racing portion was cut short with one race in Varadero and one race in Havana. The sailing we did have was excellent, with warm conditions and flat water."

Monday's Cuba Coastal Challenge from Varadero to Marina Hemingway



MAX RANCHI / WWW.MAXRANCHI.COM

Gary Panariello's San Francisco-based J/88 'Courageous' on the second day of racing in Key West.

in Havana began with an hour and 45-minute delay. But a steady 8-12 knot breeze through the afternoon and evening carried the fleet west in some close-quarters dueling, with a view of the Cuban coastline. At Marina Hemingway, the finishers were greeted with clear skies and a Jet Ski guide down the entrance channel to the customs dock.

The comparatively small *Bobsled* continued to prove her merit in the passage race — she caned the fleet to win boat-for-boat and overall.

The *Double Trouble* crew made the most of their Cuban holiday, taking a

Center: The Varadero buoy race. Only 21 of the 56-boat fleet participated. Right, top: Ron Boehm of Santa Barbara sailed his Perry Antrim 52 'Little Wing' in all the Conch Republic Cup races, scoring all bullets and running away with the multihull division. Right, bottom: The San Diego-based J/111 'Perseverance' takes the Varadero race.



PRISCILLA PARKER



PRISCILLA PARKER

KEY WEST AND CUBA

relaxed approach to the Varadero-to-Havana race. "We were still sailing the boat well, but at some point everyone had a cigar or rum in their hands," said bowman James 'the Hippie' Clappier. "We wanted to have fun and take a break from our usual seriousness of racing, so we all switched positions and mixed it up."

A lay day followed, in which the hard-working crews and race committee had the chance to see Havana, with bus tours and vintage-convertible taxi rides through the city. At Tuesday evening's reception, USCG Lieutenant Commander Cromwell, representing the newly-reopened US Embassy, and Commodore Eschrich joined the visiting sailors.

Another advancing weather front threatened to close out Marina Hemingway. Organizers, anxious to make sure all the boats could reach Florida safely,



SHERRY SMITH

The 'Double Trouble' crew in Cuba.

moved up the fourth and fifth races of the series on Wednesday. A majority of the fleet, including *Double Trouble*, chose not to participate and instead spent another day exploring Cuba before ripping back to Key West on their own accord.

Wijsen said that the *Perseverance* team elected to tour the countryside and fly home.

"Cuba is a beautiful place with a lot of potential, and it was a cool opportunity to see it right now during its major transition with normalizing US relations. It will be interesting to come back later in life and see how it has changed," said the 26-year-old Clappier.

For more, see www.conchrepubliccup.com.

The Conch Republic Cup was quickly followed by the Coral Reef Yacht

Club's inaugural Miami to Havana Race, which 46 boats started on February 10 (see www.havanarace.org).

It took a bunch of sailors to show the way, but now that the Obamas have seen how delightful a jaunt to Cuba can be, they'll follow in the wake of the trailblazing yacht racers for a March visit to the Caribbean's forbidden island.

— **ronnie simpson, martha blanchfield & latitude** / *chris*

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BUILDING NEMO —

In January, the *Latitude 38* editorial dungeon received an enthusiastic call from Ron Moore, who was eager to show us the latest boat he was building. "I am completely consumed by the project," he said.

You may recognize the name — Ron Moore is the builder of the George Olson-designed Moore 24, one of the most successful keelboats to ever grace West Coast waters.

"It's a wider layup than a stock 27," said Terry Alsberg. "It's got more glass in it. And we thought we would slice down the shear about 6 inches to reduce windage and weight aloft, and make a flush-deck boat that's just a pure race boat. So we built a custom deck for it. And we put in some stringers that went fore and aft to support the cockpit.

"In 1988, after we got the project to a certain stage, the Boatworks went belly-up, and this sat on Moore's Reef, where I had learned how to build boats working for Ron. He had a storage yard there with various ferrocement monstrosities and orphan trimarans that were hard on the hard.

I was bankrupt and eventually couldn't pay the rent, so Ron repo'd it and sold it. It ended up in Stockton. And then Rob Grant got hold of it." Grant was the racing editor at *Latitude 38* at the time.

"Rob calls me up and says, 'I hear you had something to do with this boat I bought; I just wanted to know how I should finish it off.' I said, 'You don't want to build it. You want me to build it.' So I sweet-talked him into selling it to me for what he paid for it: \$2,500 including a rusty old trailer.

"I picked it up and was trying to figure out where I could get it built. Bill Riedel runs Stretch Surfboards in Santa Cruz. He used to work for me, and he was back over on Tower Place where my company used to be. They took the deck off and tore out a bunch of the interior." But Riedel didn't have time to work on it because the surfboard shop is so busy.

"I ran into Ron and Martha one afternoon and I said, 'Hey, you still building boats?' and Ron said yeah, and I said, 'You want to build one?' He said, 'Yeah, I'd love to do that.' So I rolled it on over here." Work on *Nemo* began in earnest last April.

Ron finished removing the rest of the bad interior. Some water had gotten into the hull so he drilled some holes in it and got the water out. "The hull is tip-top now," he said. "We're pretty confident that the hull is uber sound," agreed Terry. The deck had a few flaws in it too, which Ron repaired.

"We changed our concept about how



A modern computer rendering rests on the drafting table next to old-fashioned pencil drawings and wafers of bulkhead material.

Moore's customer in the new project is Terry Alsberg, another icon of Santa Cruz boat building; Alsberg Brothers Boatworks built the Carl Schumacher-designed Express 27s, 37s, and 34s in the 1980s. The new boat will be called *Nemo*, after an Express 27 Alsberg used to own.

Nemo came out of the Express 27 mold in '86 or '87; it was never intended to be a stock boat, but rather a 'funny car'.

"Nemo's stainless steel keel is a work of art. Ron filled it with epoxy foam so it's devoid of any air inside that can distort it," said Alsberg.



the interior was to be done," said Terry. "I started thinking that this thing's basically a big girder — my background is architecture and structural engineering. You have two skins you hold apart with some verticals, so I thought how about if we just break the hull up lengthwise." The carbon bulkheads are about four feet apart. They must weigh something, but when you pick up a slice of the material, it feels weightless.

"This is going to make the whole thing into one big box girder that's very stiff on the ends. Boats get a torsion load because you've got a rig pulling one direction, a keel pulling the other direction, and the rudder pulling in another direction. By locking bulkheads athwartships all up and down, we take out those torsional forces. It should be hella stiff."

"It's like the Moore 24. It's overbuilt," said Ron. "The way Terry has the keel connect to the hull is very different. Projecting out of the top of the foil are four tapered tabs that fit in matching slots that are also tapered. You wouldn't even need nuts and bolts to hold it in."

"In Santa Cruz we always attached our keels on a stubby," said Terry. "We like stubbies as a way to ease the forces into the hull, rather than just have a hard force on a right angle to the hull surface. In the past when we used to at-

TERRY ALSBERG'S DREAM BOAT



ALL PHOTOS LATITUDE / CHRIS EXCEPT AS NOTED

Spread: Moore Sailboats in Watsonville is where Ron Moore is finishing 'Nemo', a sort of flush-deck Express 27 speedster, for Terry Alsberg, who built the Expresses. The Divinycell foam and balsa-core hull and deck are ready for paint and nonskid. Inset left: Ron and Terry. "I think maybe I'll get to build some more of these," said Ron. Inset right: a view of 'Nemo's transom and cockpit.

tach keels to stubbies, we put the bolts right through the bottom of the stubby. I always thought, you got all that weight hanging off sideways on a knockdown — and actually the side forces on the keel from going upwind are even greater — and it always just seemed sketchy to me, especially with a bulb down that far. So instead of having a 3-inch lever base on bolts like what you have on a Moore 24 or Express 27, these are 8 inches deep and they engage with these G-10 frames. This will take all the side-load."

Ron invented a razor-blade kelp-cutting system for the keel à la Melges. "It's only got this one dogged-down Lewmar hatch on it," said Terry. "The kelp cutter comes right up through the middle of that part of the boat, and so I had to get the hatch out of the way. Otherwise you'd open it and walk right into the kelp cutter. Once the hatch went off to the port side, I got that space on the starboard side. I irritated the hell out of Ron by insisting I have that little pooka there. But I thought it would be nice to have a place to stick stuff. You can put winch handles, sheets, blocks, things like that in there. If I'm not racing, just going to

Capitola to hang off the hook, I might put some beer in there and some food. Ron says it totally screwed up the interior; it was a really comfortable interior before then... But I figure I ain't never going down below on this. Tighten up a few bolts and make sure there's not water sloshing around is about it. It's basically just a big decked-over dinghy. Nobody's going to overnight on this boat."

"It's a retro boat with some throwback stuff, like a permanent backstay — no runners — so the rig won't come down in an accidental jibe," said Ron. "The Express 27 rudder has a tendency to lift out of the water and lose control. This will have an 8- to 12-inch deeper rudder." Terry will build the rudder himself.

"Ben Hall of Hall Spars will build the carbon mast. We'll have a roller-furled Code Zero and a carbon sprit supported by a jackstay," said Terry.

Once complete, the boat will weigh about 1,800-1,850 lbs., 30% less than a stock Express 27, yet with 30% more sail area. "I don't call it a ULDB, I call it a U-ULDB. Ultra ultralight," said Terry. "You want to make anything go fast, make it lighter and put a bigger engine

in it. It's going to be a taller rig than the Express 27 but still 9/10ths fractional because I like the way that bends. When Carl and I designed the 27 we jokingly said that we designed it to the Barient 10 rule. The Barient size 10 winch was just big enough to handle the fore-triangle of the Moore 24, which, if memory serves, is 121 square feet. An Express 27 has the exact same square footage in the fore-triangle as a Moore, but because it's a bigger boat, we put a bigger main on it.

"I am completely consumed by the project."

"The Express 27 has a very seakindly shape. If you look at the transom, it's got what's called dead rise. It's got a little bit of a V there. When these things are going really fast, it's when they're on a close reach, and you're heeled about 10-15 degrees. When this shape is heeled it's flat, so it's for planing on a shy reach. This is designed to be a really well-behaved boat in big seas and big wind." It will be set up for doublehanding.

Ron and Terry hope to launch the boat in April. She'll mostly be a Wednesday-night hot rod. "Wednesday night racing's real big here in Santa Cruz. There's

An interior view from before the deck went on. The carbon-fiber bulkheads are nearly weightless, so lightening holes would be overkill.



TERRY ALSBERG

BUILDING NEMO

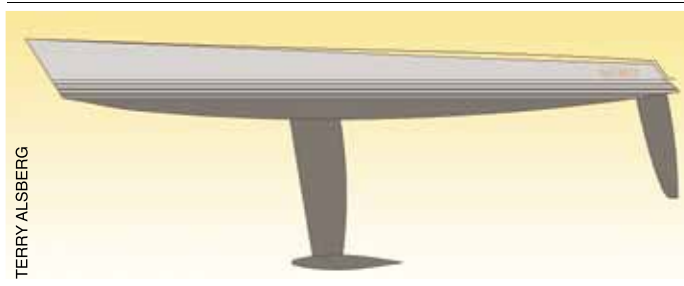
no committee boat, no entry fees, no trophies. One boat decides to be the rabbit for the start of the race, and they call out a course. If you think you beat the boat next to you then you're the hero, but nobody gives you a trophy for it. We all meet back at the yacht club and lie about how we did."

Ron said that *Nemo* will probably beat Olson 30s. "It will probably kill everybody going to weather."

"When Rob Grant sold me the boat for what he paid for it he made me promise to do the Delta Ditch together," said Terry. "And I might do the Trans-Tahoe."

Terry figures *Nemo* will set him back about five times what a good used Express 27 would have cost.

"I told Terry, it's called boat love. There's just nothing you can do about it. Don'tcha think when you put it in the water and you sail it with your wife," Ron inquired of Terry, "you're gonna forget about the money and just start thinking life's too short, you might as well do something you like?"



TERRY ALSBERG

This graphic of 'Nemo's gray color scheme also shows her deep, modern rudder and her elegant 108-lb. keel with the 700-lb. bulb.

"I invented Warmboard, a radiant floor heating system," said Terry. "Thank God for that or I couldn't afford this whole thing. I came to Santa Cruz in '77 with the idea that I was going to build a boat for myself. I figured I should work for a boat builder and learn how to do it rather than hack it up like an amateur. I worked for Ron for three years, then I started Alsberg Brothers Boatworks. I built 268 boats and don't have one now. I figured, I came here to build a boat for myself, I should have one. That was a dream for 40 years. Originally I wanted a cruising boat. Then I started understanding ULDBs and got into racing boats. Of all

the boats I built, the 27 is my absolute favorite. It's just the most fun to sail.

"When I first came here it was right in the heyday of sailing. The yacht club was full of people. There'd be 100 boats out on the water on racing weekends. Bill Lee, Ron Moore, George Olson, John Josephs with Wilderness

boats, Alsberg Brothers, and Larry Tuttle — there were six of us in this huge boat-building scene. The fastest boats were being built here in little Santa Cruz. And now Ron's building this boat here. It's a nice cherry on top of the sundae."

"I just got a call," said Ron. "A guy wants a new Moore 24..."

Right over a cyclone fence from Moore Sailboats on Grove Street in Watsonville is Dave Wahle's boatyard, home of Wyliecat Yachts, where another new boat, the partially-built prototype Wyliecat 40, awaits a buyer or investor. We'll have more on that design in a future issue of *Latitude 38*.

— chris



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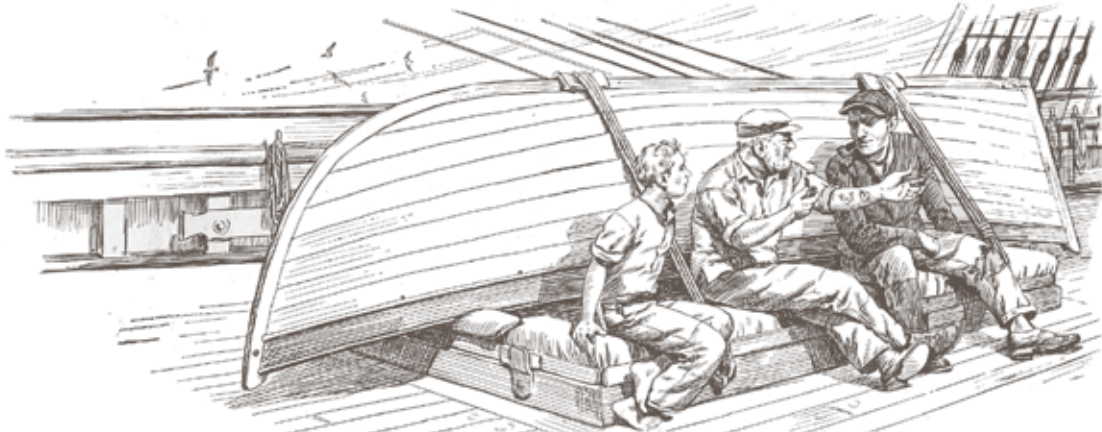
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FAVORITE DESTINATIONS

When you get out on the water with no particular agenda, do you tend to fall into the same old patterns? You know, like beating up to the Golden Gate Bridge, running down the Cityfront, and perhaps doing a lap around Angel Island. We'll admit that by most standards this daysail game plan would be hard to beat. But since we're strong advocates of creative boat use, we'd like to remind you that the Bay Area, while ideally laid out for daysailing, also offers all sorts of options for lunch-stop anchoring, overnighting, weekendening and gunkhol-

They would probably enjoy a little mid-cruise tranquility to balance out the trip.

ing — some of which you may not know about.

So climb aboard and let us take you on a thought-provoking spin around the Bay and beyond. Along the way we'll do our best to inspire you to use your boat — or one that you have access to — in more creative ways than just doing a leisurely spin around the Central Bay, or racing around the buoys.

Taking a Break for a Change of Pace

We realize that once you get all the sails up and drawing well on a nice breeze, it's hard to talk yourself into dousing them again just to make a lunch stop. But doing so can add a whole other dynamic to the overall experience, especially if you've got new inductees to the sport of sailing aboard. We'd guess they would probably enjoy a little mid-cruise tranquility to balance out the trip, rather than spending three or four straight

hours blasting along with spray flying and the rail buried. And they'll enjoy the pit stop even more if the place you choose for a respite is lush and beautiful.

Prime Pit Stops of the Central Bay

The following are some suggestions from readers, as well as from our own experiences.

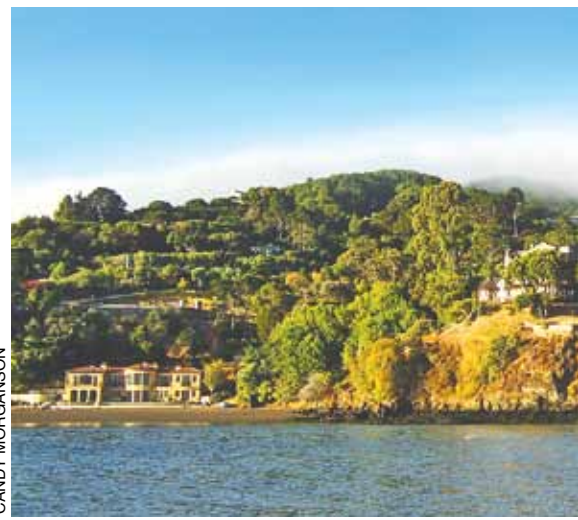
"For a lunch hook, we have enjoyed either the east side of Angel Island in the 'wind hole', or Paradise Cove, which lies a little north of Raccoon Strait," says Candy Morganson. By wind hole, we assume she means that in typical spring and summer conditions, most of Angel Island's eastern shore is in the lee of the island. It can be downright snotty on the Cityfront with winds in the high 20s, while on the backside of Angel island it's calm as a lake and warm enough to strip down to shorts and a T-shirt.

You do need to stay clear of the Quarry Point ferry docks back there, but otherwise most of the backside is fine for a midday lunch or siesta stop. (Needless to say, check your charts to familiarize yourself with bottom contours.)

Toward the north end of the island is China Cove, adjacent to the historic North Garrison immigration station. It's a cozy little spot for lunch, but be sure you drop your hook clear of the underground cables. (Signs alert you to their location.)

Of course, every Bay sailor knows about Angel Island's Ayala Cove, on the northwest side of the island. Its day-use guest slips and overnight moorings make it one of the most popular stopover choices in the Bay at any time of year.

Even in midsummer, on a weekday at Ayala Cove you can sometimes have the whole anchorage to yourself.



CANDY MORGANSON

Historic relics abound and hiking trails invite you to stretch your sealegs while enjoying incredible panoramic views of the Bay. As wonderful a resource as Ayala Cove is, though, many longtime sailors prefer to seek out more tranquil hideaways.

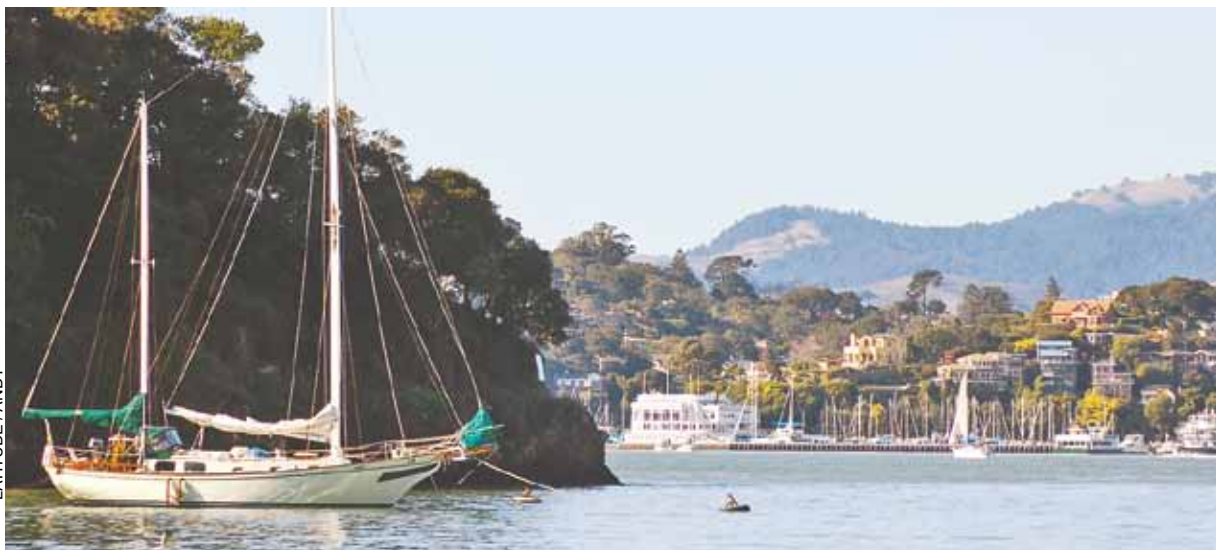
As Candy recommends, Paradise Cove, on the backside of the Tiburon Peninsula is another tranquil lunch stop. In fact, back there it's often as calm as a mill pond and warm enough for swim suits, inspiring some visitors to jump overboard for an exhilarating dip.

One of the most popular pit stops for Central Bay sailors is Clipper Cove, lying between Yerba Buena and Treasure Islands. The water is normally pretty flat there — making it popular for overnight anchoring — but since the cove lies directly downwind from the Golden Gate, strong winds often blast the anchorage. Still, it's an awesome spot, with splendid views of both sides of the Bay.

If you bring along a dinghy, or some other means of getting ashore, there's

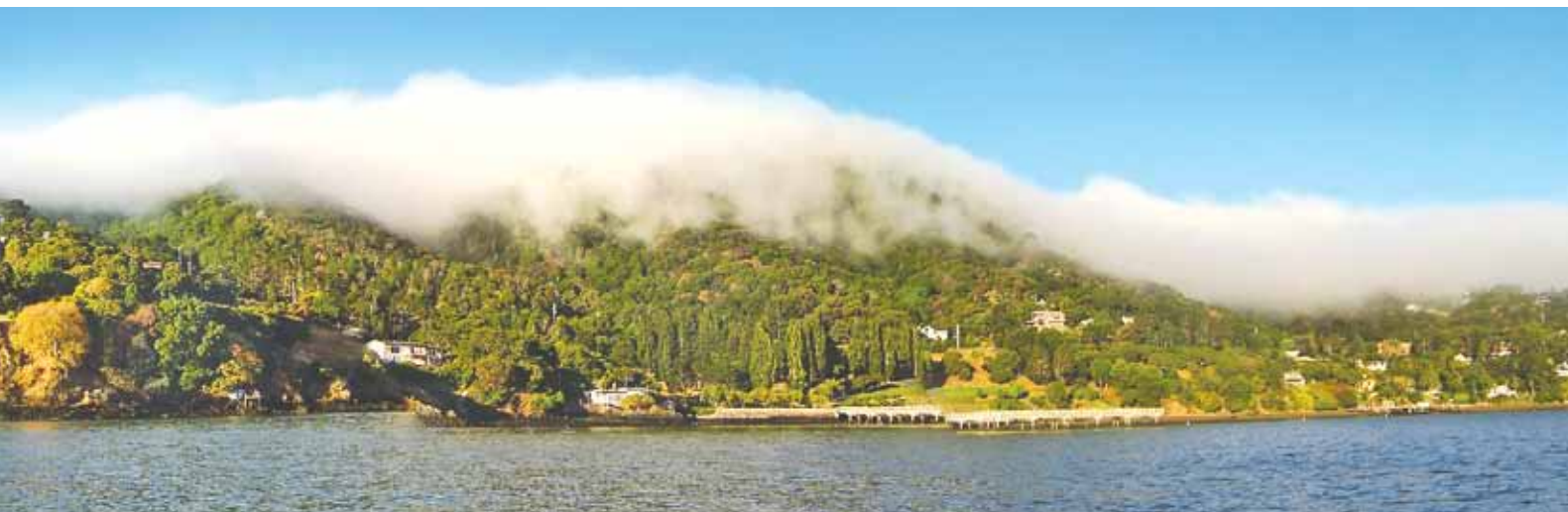
all sorts of cool stuff to do on Treasure Island these days, such as checking out the Treasure Island Winery, which offers tastings, and the Treasure Island Sailing Center, a community sailing facility that introduces both kids and adults to our sport. (And yes, the T.I. Marina often has guest slips, if you really don't want to hassle anchoring.)

Here's a recom-



LATITUDE / ANDY

IN THE CENTRAL BAY & BEYOND



mentation we'd never heard before. Jeffrey Mount urges sailors who are looking for a change of pace to check out Coyote Creek inlet. "It's as far south as you can go in the Bay," says Jeffrey. "It has the best-bird watching anywhere and complete solitude. It's tricky for deep-draft

The lush green hills of the Tiburon Peninsula create a pleasing backdrop for a visit to Paradise Cove.

Near-shore waters are shallow, so you need to anchor out a ways and, of course, if you want to explore ashore you'll need a dinghy, kayak or paddleboard. But it's certainly worth the effort. Poking around the late-1800s waterfront buildings will transport you to a bygone era when many different types of Bay Area fisheries were prolific. In addition to the waterside village, there are picnic tables and barbecues on a grassy knoll overlooking the anchorage, and miles of hiking trails wind through the adjacent hills.

Overnighting On the Hook

If your shoreside exploring inspires you to linger overnight, China Camp is a fine place to do

so, as it's a long fetch from the shipping channel, and therefore less rolly from ferry and ship wakes than the backside of Angel Island and elsewhere. But even here you'll need to anchor carefully, as the direction that your boat lies will reverse with the current every six hours or so, unless the wind is very strong — which it rarely is back there.

"Paradise Cove is good for an overnight too," advises Candy. "But it can be a bit rolly until the ferry boats quit for the day, and tide changes can be

disconcerting in the middle of the night. It can sound like surf as the current swooshes by your boat. Holding tends to be good in goeey mud."

Aquatic Park is one of the Bay's most overlooked anchorages.

By contrast, in Ayala Cove big wakes and changes in current are practically a non-issue, as the protocol there is to moor bow-and-stern between neighboring mooring balls.

Although it lies right along the Cityfront, San Francisco's Aquatic Park is one of the Bay's most overlooked anchorages. It's true that motorboats are not

Small-boat sailors make an annual pilgrimage to China Camp, one of the most historically fascinating spots along the shoreline.



LATITUDE ARCHIVES

Within two blocks of Jack London Square you'll find live jazz, fine restaurants and a variety of shops.

boats, but otherwise easy to explore out of Westpoint Harbor in Redwood City, the best new-ish marina in the South Bay." We have to admit, that's a new one to us, so we'll have to check it out for ourselves one of these days.

Back on Marin County's eastern coastline, about an hour's sail north of Paradise Cove, is one of *Latitude* reader Mark Wheelles' favorite spots: China Camp State Park, a quiet corner of lower San Pablo Bay where you'll feel as though you're a million miles from the Cityfront. Its significance as a former Chinese-American shrimp-fishing village not only earned it state-park status, but it's also on the National Register of Historic Places.



LATITUDE / LADONNA

FAVORITE DESTINATIONS

allowed, probably due to the superhuman swimmers whose clubs are based there. But most sailors don't realize that a sailboat can use its engine when anchoring and getting underway. You can also beach a dinghy there — but be sure to lock it — in order to explore the festive atmosphere of Fisherman's Wharf, Pier

windy homeports. That said, though, because most Bay sailors are marina-based, many are almost completely unfamiliar with anchoring. If that sounds like you, no worries. There are plenty of options in the Central Bay and beyond for overnighting dockside with enticing amenities ashore.

Among the most obvious choices are: Oakland's Jack London Square, which offers shopping, restaurants and live music venues; San Francisco's South Beach Marina,

where you can stage a cockpit tailgate party in advance of taking in a Giants game next door at AT&T Park; Pier 39, with its arcades, restaurants and aquarium; as well as Sausalito's Schoonmaker Marina, which is walking distance from the heart of the downtown strip, which bustles with restaurants, art galleries, tourist shops, and, of course, the No Name Bar. All these marinas maintain transient guest slips.

Berkeley Marina is another one to consider, especially when one of your favorite bands is performing up the hill at Cal Berkeley's Greek Theater. A public bus or taxi will get you there and back.

Rivers Ripe for Exploring

"In your coming article on 'where to go,'" asks Marc Johnstone, "can you please describe in detail how to get to Napa and Petaluma without running aground?"

We've never actually had that problem, but we always try to stay on the outside of river bends where the deepest water tends to flow, and keep an eagle eye on both our GPS track and the rivers' nav aids. Truth is,

though, meandering up either of these lazy rivers is so calming that it would be easy to let your guard down and wind up in the mud.

The best advice, however, is probably to plan your trip carefully with the tides and currents. Depending on where you start from, you may have to leave the Central Bay on an ebb, in order to arrive at the river mouth on a flood — which, of course, provides higher water. Of the two, the Napa is probably a wee bit trickier, so Google Napa Valley Marina and check out their blow-by-blow instructions.

Even more important than keeping



Sailing up the Napa River past the relics of the Mare Island Shipyard. Many historic buildings are now being repurposed.

39 or Ghirardelli Square. (You do need to arrange a permit in advance from the harbormaster: 415-859-6807.)

It's easy to let your guard down and wind up in the mud.

Guest Docks Make it Easy

San Francisco Bay's typically rowdy conditions produce sailors that are often regarded as being more competent all-around mariners than those from less-

With a store, diner and bait, Moore's Landing is a popular stopping place for Napa River travelers.

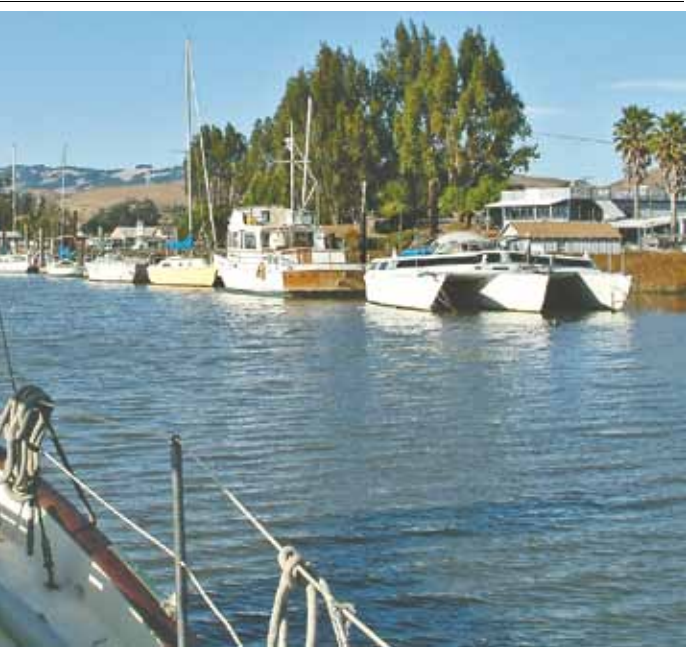


Buddy-boating in Georgiana Slough. The water might not be turquoise blue, but it's fresh and warm, the sun is hot, and it's often fog-free.

mud off your keel, though — as reader Tim Dick will confirm — is keeping your masthead from whacking a bridge. (Heights are always marked on charts, of course.) "A key criterion when replacing my First 42s7 was that the new boat had to be able to pass beneath the bridges over our three great rivers: the Sacramento, Napa and Petaluma. The ruling (MHHW) air draft is 70 feet in each case, which seems like it's not a coincidence.

"The idea of not being able to dawdle slowly up the Petaluma River on a lazy Saturday — the closest we'll get to the salubrious French canals — is too awful to contemplate. Likewise being able to

IN THE CENTRAL BAY & BEYOND



On the way up the Petaluma River you'll pass Gilardi's Lakeville Marina, a tranquil spot with a splendid sunny climate.

bask in the 'pretend Caribbean' of the Delta and Tinsley Island just has to be available. And how can one live without being able to cruise right into Napa wine country to hit a concert at the Uptown Theater? Just ask yourself, why are you really owning that boat?"

As Tim alludes, the Bay Area's rivers offer a whole new world of possibilities for sailors who've been stuck doing laps around the Central Bay.

Strait from our home base at Sausalito Yacht Club. The cruise through San Pablo Bay is filled with fascinating history that remains vibrant today.

"I recommend you take the time to read up on the history of the sites in Tiburon and points north, as it makes the trip more interesting. Entering the Petaluma River (actually, River and estuary) through the rotating railroad bridge near Highway 37 reminds us of entering the locks on a canal trip through France. Sailing upriver past farms and vineyards adds to that sense.

"Once in downtown Petaluma, there

is a lot to see and do. Restaurants (Central Market is our favorite), antique stores, shops, theaters, live music, hiking trails and then just hanging out at the dock. The dock facilities are good and Petaluma Yacht Club is at the top of the gangway, and worth a visit.

Mast height is limited to 70 feet to get

under one of the bridges and at low tides the water can be thin, so a little planning is needed. Certainly this is worth a two- or three-day visit, which we do every year."

As the Petaluma Chamber of Commerce will surely tell you, ever since the town was established in 1858, the river has been the focal point of downtown. It was, after all the conduit that allowed area farm-

ers a relatively easy means of shipping their hay, eggs and produce to San Francisco atop flat-bottomed scow-schooners such as the *Alma* — the last of her breed.

The Bay Area's rivers offer a whole new world of possibilities.

So after passing under the D Street bascule bridge, and entering the turning basin, you'll find yourself right in the heart of town. As Larry says, a great variety of dining, shopping and enter-

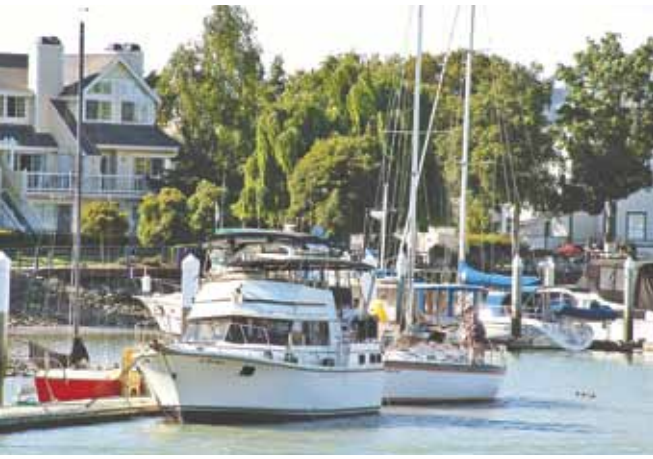


LATITUDE / JOHN

You could explore the meandering waterways of the Delta for weeks and not see it all. But it kinda sounds like fun, doesn't it?

tainment options lie within a few blocks of the docks. In the summer months, this is a favorite destination for yacht club 'cruise-outs', however, so it's wise to make arrangements in advance. (See

In recent years downtown Napa got a modern facelift. The new guest dock is great, but overnighting is not allowed.



Benicia Marina is a very friendly place, where you can often find guest dockage.

Larry Moraes agrees: "Our favorite Bay Area destination has to be the Petaluma Turning Basin in downtown Petaluma.

"The trip begins with a cruise up through Raccoon



ART HARTINGER

FAVORITE DESTINATIONS

www.cityofpetaluma.net and call 707-778-4303 in advance to arrange a bridge opening time.)

The city of Napa was also laid out along a river, of course, but until recent redevelopment you wouldn't say the river was actually the focal point of the downtown layout. These days, there is a nice guest dock right in the city center that sailboats can get to if their draft is moderate. But sadly, overnighing is not allowed.

So after docking there and exploring downtown, the best options are to head back downriver and overnight at the Napa Valley YC (advance arrangements required: 707-252-3342), or to the friendly Napa Valley Marina, which is literally surrounded by vineyards, and usually has side-tie space available (707-252-8011).

As much fun as you can have on those two North Bay rivers, however, they are minor trickles compared to the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers of the California Delta. As we've seen by the enthusiastic participation in our annual Delta Doo Dah rallies, hundreds



PAUL DIXON

Is this a tranquil scene or what? Paul Dixon had a blast sailing his vintage folkboat 'Stella' upriver for an overnight getaway.

of Northern California sailors absolutely love poking around in the seemingly endless Delta waterways.

Not far from the Carquinez Bridge,

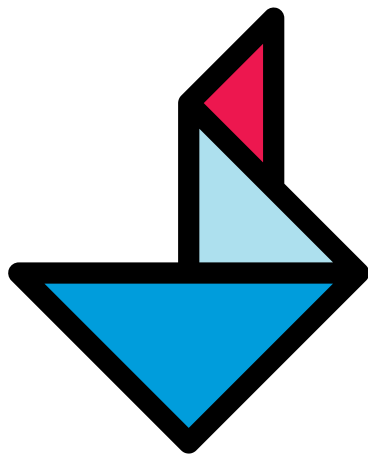
where the mighty Sacramento enters San Pablo Bay, lies Benicia, a favorite stopover for avid sailor Goose Gossman: "Benicia is overlooked, uncrowded, and friendly. Winds are mellow in the Carquinez Strait in fall, winter and spring.

"I was on the water yesterday, testing my Potter mini-motorsailor *ReGale's* new bilge-keel foils, and saw Joe Miller in his dink giving a standing welcome to some cruise-ins from Vallejo. Meanwhile, Chuck on *Warwhoop* was spinnaker sailing solo towards Mt. Diablo's rendition of Hawaii, and a pretty young lady was paddling her 'one-blue-eye-and-one-brown-eye' pup around the marina.

"We walked dog-friendly First Street where my wife and I had a piece of the best carrot cake ever at a new bakery/cafe called Dinah's, just a couple of blocks from the marina.

"And, best of all, the fog rarely makes it past the Carquinez Bridge."

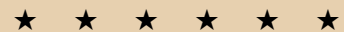
Noble Brown reports, "The Vallejo YC visited the Stockton YC, which is primarily a powerboat club. It's a beautiful club, the people were very gracious, and they



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IN THE CENTRAL BAY & BEYOND

came out and took photos, as if they had never seen ten sailboats at their club before. I would recommend that other sailors check it out for themselves."

"As for the Delta," says Candy Morganson, "Three River Reach used to be nice until the 'aquarium' weed and hyacinth started taking over. Since we haven't been up the river for a few years, I can't say how bad it is now."

"I liked the Outrigger on Threemile Slough," suggests Paul Dixon. "You pull up, take a shower, wash your clothes, have dinner and a couple of drinks, then crash on your boat! New owners Dennis and Heidi are increasing the hours, and bartender Lisa is super-nice. They didn't even charge me, since I wasn't using power."

"I went up last year between jobs in June, and it was easy since my (Redwood City-berthed) 1947 Folkboat *Stella* was at Fred Andersen's dock in Richmond. I rode the tidal current up to Bethel Island, and was doing 12 knots over the ground at Benicia."



As Jazz Cup and Delta Ditch Run sailors will tell you, there's often good breeze in the Delta, which makes sweet sailing on flat water.

With the suggestions from readers and the experiences of *Latitude* staffers we could probably write a book about the waters of San Francisco Bay and the Delta — and, of course, it would have to include the time we smacked the company ketch, *Big O*, into a Carquinez

Bridge tower after getting caught in a powerful eddy.

Better yet, though, we'd prefer that you go out and create your own memories — happy, pain-free memories — while exploring Bay Area rivers, gunk-holes and rarely used anchorages. And when you have a particularly memorable experience, we invite you to drop us a line and tell us all about it.

— andy



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"Not again!" I groaned. "Why, oh why does it always have to be on my dock?"

The offending object was a perfect specimen of dog poop. It had happened before. I had complained to the Harbor-master, but there are several liveaboard dogs on the dock, and without positive evidence linking the calling card to the dog who left it, marina management was powerless to take action.

I uncoiled a few turns of hose, turned on the faucet, and began to wash the offending material back into the Bay when a shrill female voice caught me all standing.

"Max!" the voice shouted. "What are you doing? Stop!"

It was Lee Helm, graduate student in naval architecture and a known tree-hugger. Instantly a long train of thought flashed through my consciousness. Sure, I guess if I were a good citizen I should walk all the way up to the marina park, find a doggy poop bag dispenser that wasn't empty, bring a bag all the way back down to my boat, collect the poop, and walk all the way back to the trash bins to get rid of the thing and then all the way back to my boat. But it wasn't my dog, and it wasn't my dog's poop. Furthermore, as various so-called boating advocacy lobbying groups used to insist back in the day when they were fighting hard against laws prohibiting overboard discharge, it's a tiny bit of pollution compared to industrial and municipal sources, and a tiny bit of pollution compared to other biological sources like sea lions, birds and fish. It is "to diaper a seagull," as one particularly memorable editorial in a long-gone sailing magazine summed it up.

All this in the fraction of a second between hearing Lee Helm's voice demanding I stop, and the stream of water knocking most of the dog poop into the harbor.

It was all gone and the dock was clean again by the time Lee had run down the gangway and reached my berth.

"Gosh, Lee," I started to explain, feigning involuntary carelessness, "since this isn't from my dog, it didn't even occur to me that I should have disposed of it properly. It's annoying enough just finding it here next to my boat."

"No, Max, that's, like, not the point," said Lee, catching her breath. "You need to save a sample. Then the marina can figure out who done it."

"Really?" I said. "They can do that?"

"For sure," Lee informed me. "I just read this in the new regulations for liveaboards: If you have a dog, you have to

submit a saliva sample to the marina office. They send the samples of all the dogs to a commercial DNA lab, where the results stay on file. Then, when you find something like you found just now, you send in a sample and they match it to one of the known dogs."

"I didn't think the marina had the budget for that kind of thing," I said.

"It's not expensive," Lee informed me. "There are a few competing companies that offer the service — and they have great names: There's PooPrints, there's Mr Dog Poop, and there's DogPile ID. That last one is run by the U.C. Davis Veterinary Genetics Lab. It's really intended for condo complexes and residential associations where they have some control over most of the dogs in the nabe. But, like, with a marina, with all the docks behind gates, it's a finite set. We know exactly which dogs are suspect."

"How do I buy in?" I asked. "It would be worth a lot not to find this stuff on my dock every so often."

"No cost to the berther, at least not directly," said Lee. "The marina pays about \$30 or \$35 for each dog that it adds to the DNA database. They make this a requirement of being a liveaboard with a dog. It's just a saliva swipe, easy to do. Then, when there's an offending pile, you ask the marina office for a sample bag, put in a small amount of poop, and they send it off to the lab. Cost of the DNA match is between \$50 and \$150, depending on which vendor they use."

"The dog's human was one of the more congenial liveaboards on our dock."

"And once the offending dog is nailed," I added hopefully, "the owner is evicted from the harbor?"

"Possibly," said Lee.

"On the other hand," I said after thinking it through for a second, "I imagine the first positive match and a warning usually puts an end to the problem, since denial won't work anymore."

Meanwhile, a large black lab was



pulling its human, whom I recognized as one of my liveaboard dock neighbors, rapidly down the dock in our direction.

"Suspect number one?" Lee whispered.

"Could be," I said as the dog abruptly stopped at my dock finger, ran right over to the spot that I had just cleared of the deposit, and gave the dock surface a very careful sniff.

"You think that dog knows something that we don't?" I asked the owner, trying not to sound too accusing. After all, the dog's human was one of the more congenial liveaboards on our dock, a good neighbor and a frequent volunteer at the yacht club.

"Fido hasn't been off the boat all morning," she answered, pulling the dog back to the main walkway by its leash. "But that nose doesn't miss a trick, so something interesting was there recently."

"Yup," I confirmed. "Third time this month. A real steamer..."

"We have an Astroturf pad on the foredeck," explained the liveaboard, "so even in a potty emergency, the poop is pretty much under control. I do have my suspicions about who the offender might be, though."

EVERY DOG HAS ITS DNA



After thousands of years of selective breeding, some dogs actually like 'messing about in boats'.

"How did you get your dog to start using the Astroturf?" asked another one of my dock neighbors who stopped by to pet Fido and join the conversation. He was not a liveaboard, but he told us that he had a dog, and that he had to harbor-hop up and down the coast because the dog absolutely refused to use any of the onboard facilities, regardless of incentives or punishments.

"He once held it for 19 hours going up the coast from Morro Bay to Monterey," he said. "But he's a smart dog, and now he just refuses to eat or drink on the boat."

"The secret is the smell," suggested the woman with the black lab. "You have to get another dog to pee on the pad first, because they like to go where another dog has gone before. That's a difficult enough assignment, actually, but there's a lot of good advice on the Web about how to do this."

"I'll try almost anything," he replied. "I can't sail off to the South Seas until my dog learns to do it on board. And I can't sail in very strong wind either, because when the boat leans over, my dog starts

skidding around on his claws. So we end up using the motor alot."

"When the skipper is nervous, the dog is nervous," observed the black lab's human after the would-be ocean voyager was out of range. When a dog relaxes, the pads on its paws are very good at nonskid."

"Isn't that where Paul Sperry got the idea for the non-skid herringbone pattern in the original Toppers boat shoe?" I asked. "Back in 1920-something?"

"Fact check!" exclaimed Lee, pulling out her phone.

"It won't surprise me if this is another apocryphal myth," I predicted.

"Hey, it's true!" Lee announced with some surprise, after only a few seconds of Internet browsing. "Except it was 1935, not in the '20s. According to the Sperry website, that is."

The dog owner bent down and extended her hand, which the black lab took as an invitation to

shake hands. This gave her a chance to examine her dog's paw pads in detail.

"I don't really see a Toppers sole," she said. "But it does have little ridges."

"Wikipedia confirms it too," Lee added after a few more taps on her phone. "And Sperry's dog was a cocker spaniel named Prince."

"Well, then, thank you Prince," I said as I looked down at my Toppers moccasins.

"We better be off," said the woman with the black lab. "Fido has some urgent business to attend to in the

park."

"That must be awful," I said to Lee, still thinking about my other dock neighbor who could not sail overnight because of his dog's shore-leave requirements.

"I dunno," Lee surmised, "I think maybe some people use their dog's short endurance and lack of sea legs as an

"Sailing is way safer offshore, with nothing to hit and a lot less stuff to hit you."

excuse to make only short coastal hops and never go too far offshore. They feel safer close to land. But, like, it doesn't compute. Sailing is way safer offshore, with nothing to hit and a lot less stuff to hit you."

I still had the hose in my hands, so I gave the dock a few extra high-pressure

squirts to try to wash away the smell, hoping to make my dock less attractive to another dog for more of the same.

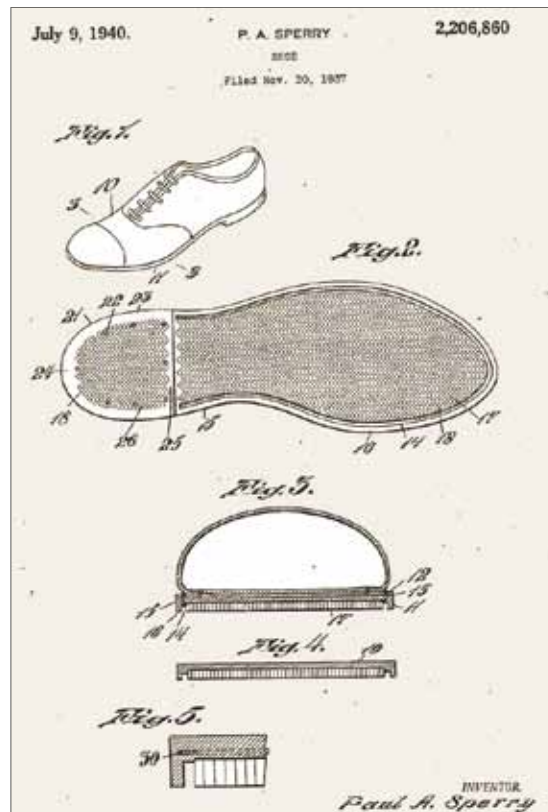
"I wonder what else they can tell you from a dog's DNA," I thought out loud. "I imagine they can send you a nice pie chart sorting out which breeds your mutt is made of, sort of a dog version of 23andMe."

"39andMe," corrected Lee. Dogs have 39 chromosome pairs. Humans only have 23."

"That's why they have so much more common sense than we do," I

suggested. "It explains why they have to be selectively bred for thousands of years, just to get them to like sailing."

— max ebb



The original patent application for the Toppers boat shoe sole. You be the judge: Does the illustration above look like your dog's paw?

THE RACING

*This month we feature the mysteriously appealing **Three Bridge Fiasco**. Then we wrap up the **Berkeley Midwinters** and the **Perry Cup**. Plus we check in on the **Mott Midwinters** in the North Bay and the **Redwood Cup** in the South Bay. Since the **RegattaPRO Winter One Design** and **Corinthian Midwinters** concluded in February, we've printed their results in **Box Scores**. And we finish up with a quick note about March's **Doublehanded Farallones**.*

Record Three Bridge Fiasco

There's no question that the Singlehanded Sailing Society's Three Bridge Fiasco is the most popular yacht race in the West, if not on the entire continent. The real mystery remains: How can such a fiasco be so popular? Consider everything it has going against it: It's in January. Only one or two people are allowed on each boat. The winter currents on San Francisco Bay often overpower the breezes. Unless there's a big storm of course. The starting area is a mish-mosh crowd of 300+ boats ranging in size from 19 to 65 feet, with one, two or three hulls. The pursuit format starts don't occur at orderly five-minute intervals; rather boats start at seemingly random times in random directions. (Is that boat in your way racing, or can you politely request that they clear the line? Who knows.) The marks are defined in the Sailing Instructions, but not the order or direction of rounding.

Gate Bridge, Red Rock just south of the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, and Yerba Buena/Tresure Island at the Bay Bridge — but not necessarily in that order!

With the race date, January 30, falling near a half moon, the currents were less overpowering than is often the case. But, after a couple of rainy months, the ebb was more persistent than predicted. Breeze at the start came and went repeatedly, favoring some and frustrating others. A vast wind hole stretched from the Richmond Bridge south past Southampton Shoal, trapping many a competitor. Red Rock was nicknamed 'Red Lot'. "Oh, I see: 'Red' means stop," quipped one Moore 24 sailor. Then a lively westerly, in the teens, came up on the Cityfront in the afternoon.

The Wylie Wabbit *Jack*, which had started at 9:49, returned to GGYC first, at 2:09. The last finisher, the Catalina 30 *Bay Wind*, made it around with almost an hour to spare before the 7 p.m. deadline.

Jack's Bill Erkelens had a last-minute change of sailing partner. His wife Melinda broke her foot a few days before the race and was given a boot to wear and told not to sail. "Keith Stahnke filled in and sailed very well! Keith is a good sailor who knows San Francisco Bay better than most and was very fun to sail with," said Erkelens.

"The overall plan was to choose a direction that kept us moving. Starting mid-

fleet with plenty of bigger boats behind puts a demand on avoiding any prolonged transitions.

"The wind looked light but solid going up toward the Golden Gate Bridge, so we started off in that direction. We went out to the best ebb after the start, then took a fat layline into shore to get around Blackaller. We then looked down toward



The always-entertaining — and informative — Moore 24 start in the Three Bridge Fiasco. Turn the page for more photos from January's epic pursuit race.

Fort Mason and it still looked light, so we went toward Red Rock."

They sailed low under spinnaker to keep their options open to go through Raccoon Strait, the north side of Angel Island, or past Point Blunt, the south side. "We started seeing building breeze in Richardson Bay, so we went pole forward and up toward the new wind. It filled, and we jib-reached into and through the Strait." They stayed low along the shore of Angel Island before cutting across to the Marin side and drifting through the brief wind shadow of Tiburon's final point. A jib fetch to Red Rock followed.

"The last of the boats ahead sailed high above the layline, getting lee-bowed by the ebb. We sailed low to reach the cone of Red Rock and then sailed up once in the cone. The boats ahead that sailed high needed to go bow-down to reach the Rock, and the ebb pushed them down behind us. We got a lucky puff to get around Red Rock and had a light-air kite reach with ebb behind us to the Slot. We stayed in the channel for max ebb. The boats behind that went high got stuck under Point Blunt, and the boats that sailed low had to wait a long time for the filling wind from the southwest." *Jack* found only a small hole behind Yerba Buena Island, then beat up to the cone of Alcatraz, across to San Francisco's Gashouse Cove, then on to the finish.

Sailing with Melinda, Bill had previ-



Bill Erkelens (hanging out on the trap) and Keith Stahnke finished January 30's Three Bridge Fiasco ahead of 289 other boats.

Despite — or perhaps because of — the above quirks, this year's race topped previous editions with 368 entries (a tie with 2011), 326 starters, and — most amazing of all — 290 finishers.

The 21-mile course is a wide-ranging Bay tour that takes the racers from the startline off Golden Gate Yacht Club, to Blackaller Buoy near the Golden



SERGEI ZAVARIN / WWW.ULTIMATE-YACHTSHOTS.COM

ously won this race in 2005 with the Hobie 33 *Enzo*, in 2007 with the Moore 24 *Tortuga*, and in 2008 with the Mumm 30 *The Word*. "My father, Bill Erkelens Sr., won overall in 1999 with Mark Rudiger as crew on *E-2*, a C-Class cat; and in 2003 with Rudiger on *Freedom*, a D-cat."

Coming in at 2:21 was the first single-hander. Jonathan 'Bird' Livingston on the Wylie 39 *Punk Dolphin*. *Punk* also went clockwise starting with Blackaller. "No rocket science: The Bird observed where the wind was blowing so we followed," writes Livingston. "The *Punk* kicked out the jams and sniffed out the shifts. The *Punk* then guilted me into a peel to the half-ounce chute after Red Rock when the pressure faded, and that kept us in the game."

"The post-race cold beer numbed my sore-assed body — another Three Bridge — another three ibuprofen and another three days of recovery!"

Bill Erkelens summed it up: "I love the race and look forward to next year's!" See www.sfbaysss.org.

— *latitude/chris*

SSS THREE BRIDGE FIASCO, 1/30

SINGLEHANDED:

PHRF <108 — 1) **Punk Dolphin**, Wylie 39, Jonathan Livingston; 2) **TIJD**, Beneteau First 30JK, Dirk Husselman; 3) **Ragtime!**, J/92, Bob Johnston. (7 boats)

PHRF 111-159 — 1) **Fugu**, Wilderness 30, Chris Case; 2) **Green Buffalo**, Cal 40, Jim Quan-

ci; 3) **Iniscaw**, Martin 321, Max Crittenden. (11 boats)

PHRF >162 — 1) **Rock On**, Olson 25, Tom Cavers; 2) **Summertime Dream**, Schumacher 1/4-ton, Scott Owens; 3) **Tchoupitoulas**, Santana 22, Stephen Buckingham. (8 boats)

SPORTBOAT — 1) **Taz!!**, Express 27, George Lythcott; 2) **Archimedes**, Express 27, Joe Balderama; 3) **Elise**, Express 27, Nathalie Criou. (4 boats)

NON-SPINNAKER — 1) **Kynntana**, Freedom 38, Carliane Johnson; 2) **Sobranite**, Alerion 28, Paul Descalco; 3) **Meliki**, Santana 22, Deb Fehr. (6 boats)

DOUBLEHANDED:

PHRF <108 — 1) **Derek M. Baylis**, Wyliecat 65, Zan Drejes/Alex Mehran; 2) **Andale**, J/109, Bruce Reeves/Bill Buckingham; 3) **California Condor**, Antrim Class 40, Buzz Blackett/Jim Antrim; 4) **Yucca**, 8-Meter, Hank Easom/Kevin Burrell; 5) **Swift Ness**, J/111, Reuben Rocci/Nesrin Basoz. (34 boats)

PHRF 111-159 — 1) **In the Fog**, Etchells, Katie Love/John Gilmour; 2) **Ad Lib**, Aphrodite 101, Bruce Baker/John Skinner; 3) **Uno**, Wyliecat 30, Brendan Meyer/Dave Kresge; 4) **Azure**, Cal 40, Rodney Pimentel/Ted Floyd; 5) **Life Is Good**, Wyliecat 30, Andy Hall/Chris Penn. (32 boats)

PHRF >162 — 1) **El Gavilan**, Hawkfarm, Chris & Nick Nash; 2) **Gypsy Lady**, Cal 34 MkI, Val Clayton/Jonathan Gibbs; 3) **Old School**, Yankee Dolphin, Dick Loomis/John Amen; 4) **Moxie**, Cal 28-2, Michael Stephens/Laurence Bekins; 5) **Constance**, Tartan 34c, Paul Schroeder/Jewel Liang. (27 boats)

SPORTBOAT — 1) **Rufless**, Melges 32, Rufus

Sjoberg/Dylan Benjamin; 2) **Ragtime**, J/90, Trig Liljestrand/Corey Lynch; 3) **Mas!**, Moore 24, Mark English/Ian Rogers; 4) **Giant Slayer**, SC27, David Garman/Ashley Bell; 5) **Magic**, Express 27, Reed Phillips/Mike Reed. (26 boats)

EXPRESS 27 — 1) **Peaches**, John & Michael Rivlin; 2) **Dianne**, Steve Katzman/Wil Anderson; 3) **Motorcycle Irene**, Will Paxton/Zachery Anderson; 4) **Abigail Morgan**, Ron & Oliver Kell. (18 boats)

EXPRESS 37 — 1) **Elan**, Jack Peurach/John Duncan; 2) **Mudshark**, David Fullerton/Tom Bria; 3) **Snowy Owl**, Jens & Liv Jensen. (9 boats)

ISLANDER 36 — 1) **Califia**, Tim Bussiek/Nina Riehs; 2) **Zenith**, Bill & Peter Nork; 3) **Frolic**, Steve & Susan Hodges. (6 boats)

J/105 — 1) **Perseverance**, Steve & Gregg Kent; 2) **Mojo**, Jeff Littfin/Brendan Bradley; 3) **Lightwave**, John Robison/Simon James. (10 boats)

J/24 — 1) **Downtown Uproar**, Darren Cumming/Loren Moore; 2) **Evil Octopus**, Jasper Van Vliet/Steve Meyers; 3) **Flight**, Randall Rasico/Jessica Ludy. (6 boats)

J/22 — 1) **Samba Pa Ti**, Gerard Sheridan/Halsey Richartz; 2) **Tom Allen**, Russ Silvestri/John Bonds; 3) **T-Bird**, Mike Bishop/Amand Farrelly. (6 boats)

MOORE 24 — 1) **Banditos**, John Kernot/Chris Chapman; 2) **Mooretician**, Peter Schoen/Roe Patterson; 3) **The Jackal**, Hogan Beatie/Dan Malpas; 4) **Eclipse**, Will Baylis/Rich Bergsund; 5) **More Cowbell!**, Kathryn Meyer/Greg Tonole. (25 boats)

SF BAY 30 — 1) **Wind Speed**, J/30, Meghan & Maureen Castruccio; 2) **Encore**, Wylie Gemini, Michael Vare/Matthew Sessions; 3) **Friction Loss**, J/30, Jenny Thompson/Evelyn Hull. (14 boats)

WYLIE WABBIT — 1) **Jack**, Bill Erkelens Jr./Keith Stahnke; 2) **The Bar-ba-loot**, Sarah & Paul Deeds; 3) **Keala**, Ron & Kelsey Tostenson. (5 boats)

NON-SPINNAKER — 1) **Hot Ice**, C&C 110, Mike Haddock/Laura Gammill; 2) **Q**, Glenn Isaac-

For more racing news, subscribe to 'Electronic Latitude' online at www.latitude38.com

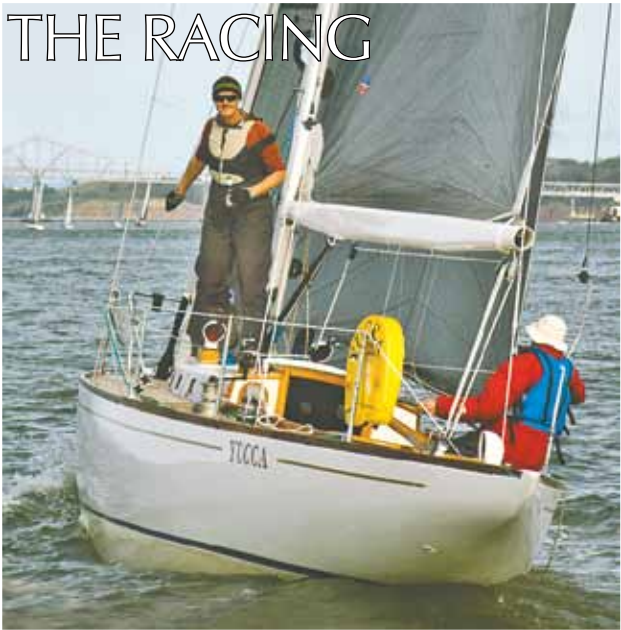
February's racing stories included:

Corinthian Midwinters/Robgatta
Hawaii Opening Day Races
Artemis Racing's new turbo 45
Double Trouble on the Forbidden Island
Cruiser racing in La Paz
Remembering the First Whitbread

Plus previews of racing seminars, the Great Vallejo Race, the Race to Alaska, March races in the Bay Area and more!

THE RACING

THIS PAGE: LATITUDE / CHRIS EXCEPT AS NOTED



This page: more from the Three Bridge Fiasco. Clockwise from bottom left: The rounding of Black-aller Buoy by the morning's clockwise boats; 'Yucca's distinctive transom is a common sight for Bay racers; it required tenacity indeed to get around Red Rock, but Peggy Lidster has renamed this Express 27 'Athena'; Jonathan Livingston on 'Punk Dolphin' was the first singlehander to finish.

son/Liz Baylis, Schumacher 40; 3) **Ohana**, Bene-teau First 45f5, Steve Hocking/Marika Edler; 4) **Jeannette**, Frers 40, Henry King/Laura Watt; 5) **Stink Eye**, Laser 28, Christine Weaver/Steve Sarsfield. (26 boats)

MULTIHULL 0 — 1) **SmartRecruiters**, Extre-mere 40, Jerome Ternyck/Erwan Griziaux; 2) **Adrenaline**, D-Class cat, Bill Erkelens Sr./Chris Steinfeld; 3) **Miller Racing**, Marstrom 32, Randy Miller/Daniel Roberts. (6 boats)

MULTIHULL 1 — 1) **Millennium Falcon**, Cross 27, John Donovan/Doug Frolich; 2) **Sea Bird**, F-27, Richard & Mike Holden; 3) **Wingit**, F-27, Amy & Ray Wells. (16 boats)

OVERALL:

SINGLEHANDED MONOHULL — 1) **Punk Dolphin**; 2) **Rock On**; 3) **Fugu**; 4) **Green Buf-falo**; 5) **Iniscaw**; 6) **Nancy**, Wyliecat 30, Pat Broderick; 7) **Taz!!**; 8) **Archimedes**; 9) **TIJD**; 10) **Painkiller**, J/80, Eric Patterson. (36 boats)

DOUBLEHANDED MONOHULL — 1) **Jack**; 2) **In the Fog**; 3) **Banditos**; 4) **Ad Lib**; 5) **Perseverance**; 6) **Uno**; 7) **Azure**; 8) **Mooretician**; 9) **Derek M. Baylis**; 10) **Life Is Good**. (267 boats)

DOUBLEHANDED MULTIHULL — 1) **Smart-Recruiters**; 2) **Millennium Falcon**; 3) **Sea Bird**; 4) **Wingit**; 5) **Adrenaline**. (22 boats)

Complete results at www.jibeset.net

Berkeley YC Midwinters

Oh my goodness, what a beautiful weekend! On Saturday, February 13, we started on time, the buoys all stayed where we put them, there was sunshine, and the water was flat and sparkly. The flood kept potential over-earlies at bay and the wind was about 5-8 knots from the WSW — where it belongs, by the way. All 51 boats that started finished. Elapsed times ranged from one hour 17+ minutes to just under two hours. And it was warm. What more could anyone want?

OK, so the world isn't perfect. At our appointed hour on Sunday, there wasn't enough wind to start the 35 boats that came out, so the 'cat-in-the-hat' was deployed. There was sunshine and a tiny hint of wind from a northerly direction. All the weather prognosticators were essentially in agreement — the wind would come from the north.

Sure enough, in about 30 minutes enough of this breeze filled in and the sequence was started. And then, 10 minutes later — all stopped. The second division (the Express 27s) started drifting

backward and the next division wasn't going to be able to start, so — bang, bang — we stopped the agony. Then, in another half hour a new little breeze arrived and we got the remaining five divisions away, choosing a short course because of the flukiness. Naturally, the wind picked up, there was a huge left shift in the direction, and the elapsed times shrank to less than an hour of racing. Reminding us, yet again: Never bet against a westerly!

Special thanks to those boats that showered the Race Committee with yummy treats: *Dura Mater*, *Critical Mass*, *Hang 20* and *Hoot*.

Valentine's Day weekend concluded the 2015-2016 BYC Midwinters. Congratulations to the 39 trophy winners! Your next date with destiny is February 28. That day's Trophy Winners Race will be followed by the trophy presentation at BYC.

— *bobbi tosse*

BYC SATURDAY MIDWINTERS (4r, 0t)

DIVISION A — 1) **Family Hour**, Henderson 30, Bilafer family, 9 points; 2) **Arch Angel**, Antrim 27, Bryce Griffith, 10; 3) **CentoMiglia**, Flying Tiger 10, Mark Kennedy, 11. (10 boats)

DIVISION B — 1) **Special Edition**, Wilderness 30, Mike DeVries, 6 points; 2) **Hoot**, Olson 30,



THIS ROW: FRED FAGO

THIS ROW: LOUIS BENAINOUS / WWW.BENAINOUS.COM

Andy Macfie, 8; 3) **Baleineau**, Olson 34, Charlie Brochard, 17. (10 boats)

DIVISION C — 1) **Phantom**, J/24, John Gulliford, 5 points; 2) **Shark on Bluegrass**, Olson 25, Tom Nemeth, 8; 3) **Stink Eye**, Laser 28, Christine Weaver/Jonathan Gutoff, 16. (10 boats)

DIVISION D — 1) **Ypso**, Cal 2-27, Tim Stapleton, 5 points; 2) **Achates**, Newport 30, Robert Schock, 10; 3) **Mad Max**, Santana 22, Megan Dwyer, 11. (6 boats)

EXPRESS 27 — 1) **Motorcycle Irene**, Will Paxton, 4 points; 2) **Wile E. Coyote**, Dan Pruzan, 14; 3) **Eagle**, Ross Groelz, 18. (18 boats)

CAL 20 — 1) **Can O'Whoopass**, Richard vonEhrenkrook, 7 points; 2) **Raccoon**, Jim Snow, 8; 3) **Green Dragon**, Marcus Choy, 14. (8 boats)

BYC SUNDAY MIDWINTERS (3r, 0t)

DIVISION 1 — 1) **Hoot**, 5 points; 2) **Ragtime**, J/90, Trig Liljestrand, 6; 3) **Yankee Air Pirate**, Olson 30, Donald Newman, 9. (5 boats)

DIVISION 2 — 1) **Frogflips**, J/24, Richard Stockdale, 4 points; 2) **Twoirrational**, Moore 24, Anthony Chargin, 6; 3) **Evil Octopus**, J/24, Jasper Van Vliet, 9. (6 boats)

DIVISION 3 — 1) **Two-Step**, Santana 20, Mark Werder, 6 points; 2) **Mad Max**, 7; 3) **Raven**, Santana 22, John Hopkins, 7. (4 boats)

EXPRESS 27 — 1) **Motorcycle Irene**, 3 points; 2) **Dianne**, Steven Katzman, 6; 3) **Salty Hotel**, John Kearney, 12. (6 boats)

DOUBLEHANDED — 1) **Sparrowhawk**,

This page, top row: The conditions were fabulous for photography at EYC's Jack Frost Series on January 23. Bottom row: Berkeley YC's Midwinters in February, left to right: It's challenging to singlehand and fly a spinnaker while buoy racing on Greg Ashby's Wilderness 30 'Nightmare', but BYC's Sunday series hosts 8 doublehanded and 13 singlehanded entries; Donald Newman's Lake Tahoe-based Olson 30 'Yankee Air Pirate' and Trig Liljestrand's J/90 'Ragtime' on a spinnaker reach.

Moore 24, Bill Gutoff/Scott Cyphers, 6 points; 2) **Wild1**, Flying Tiger 10, John Lymberg/Ben Williamz/Cian Walsh, 6; 3) **Fugu**, Wilderness 30, Chris Case/Chris Hughes, 9. (8 boats)

SINGLEHANDED 1 — 1) **Ragtime!**, J/92, Bob Johnston, 3 points; 2) **Grace**, Beneteau First 300 Spirit, Jindrich Dokonal, 11; 3) **JouJou**, Capo 30, Thomas Boussie, 14. (8 boats)

SINGLEHANDED 2 — 1) **Critical Mass**, Mancebo 24, John Dukat, 3 points; 2) **Rock On**, Olson 25, Tom Cavers, 6; 3) **Dura Mater**, Cal 2-27, Jackie Philpott, 12. (5 boats)

Full results at www.berkeleyyc.org

Tiburon's Mott Midwinters

Races one and two of Tiburon YC's Bob and Ester Mott Midwinter Series were held on a delightfully warm Saturday, February 6, under mostly sunny skies and light wind conditions. Volunteer race committee Rob Hutchinson served up a four-leg, 3.4-mile course that, combined with the mild north breeze, provided for an exciting downwind start.

Lon Woodrum's Olson 25 *Lion* was the first boat around all three course

marks, and went on to win the race by almost 20 minutes on corrected time. Ian Matthew's C&C 29-1, *Siento el Viento*, overcame a late start to claim second.

Race two was held under the lessening breeze of the afternoon, and the RC wisely sent the fleet on Course 1 reverse, a shorter 2.3-mile windward-leeward course. Mariellen Stern's custom 26-ft wooden sloop *Cinnamon Girl* got out ahead of the fleet on a good start, but again *Lion* pulled away on the beat to the windward ISO mark and never looked back, earning line honors and a corrected-time win in race two. *Siento el Viento* was again the second boat across the finish line, but this time it wasn't enough, as *Cinnamon Girl* edged out *Siento* for second place by just nine seconds on corrected time.

The third and final race of the series will be held on Saturday, March 5. Race registration is open to non-members. The single-race entry fee is only \$15, and registration is available online at www.jibeset.net.

— cam tuttle

THE RACING SHEET

Perry Cup Finale

What a break in the weather on February 6! The sunny sky was warming, the breeze was 5-8 knots and Monterey Bay was relatively smooth. Eight Mercurys sailed a double-sausage course finishing downwind in each of the four races. The wind gradually shifted from the north to the west during the day.

Race one had those going on the port tack off the line picking up a nice shift that put them ahead. Doug Baird and Tim Cordrey led the way on both laps.

In race two, Randy Smith and Debbie Newton were hot and stayed on starboard off the line to pick up the changing wind direction. Those who followed them did well.

In race three, Pax Davis and Dave Morris followed Jack and Patti McAleer around the first lap. Rather than going left they stayed in the middle and picked up some wind. Davis won a tight one over the McAleers.

In race four, Mark and Liz Chandler were paying attention to a fleet of FJs that had their own northwest wind. While the rest of the fleet went off the starting line on the starboard tack, the Chandlers went on port tack, picking up



ROXANNE FAIRBAIRN

At the 65th Corinthian Midwinters, the Aotea Team Trophy for the best yacht club team comprised of three entries in three different divisions went to the SFYC team of (left to right) Nick Gibbens' 'Shenanigans' (Express 27), Hank Easom's 'Yucca' (PHRF 3), and Glenn Isaacson's 'Q' (Non-Spinnaker 1).

the northwest wind. They won by a lot. Baird won the day and the Perry Cup Series.

— pax davis

PERRY CUP SERIES (13r, 3t)

MERCURY — 1) **Axon**, Doug Baird, 34 points; 2) **Space Invader**, Dave West, 52; 3) **Christmas Pudding**, Jack McAleer, 53. (13 boats)

Full results at www.mercury-sail.com

Redwood Cup Pursuit Race

Sequoia YC's Redwood Cup #3 on January 23 was everything it was adver-

tised to be — chili, chili, chili — but filled with rainbows, a big ebb, and plenty of wind, which made for a wonderful race. It started with kites up and a building ebb. As the boats fought their way to the first mark, it was a combination of spinnaker and then white-sail, upwind work. From Mark 12 it was a downwind run to Y going against the ebb, with some boats choosing the shallows and others choosing the shortest distance to Y. From there, it was another upwind beat back to the channel and to the finish line and the chili-night competition at the club. There is nothing better than hot chili after a good windy and wet race on the South Bay!

— mike reed

Doublehanded Farallones in March

The Doublehanded Farallones Race will kick off the Bay Area's 2016 ocean racing season on March 26. Note that this one does not follow the NorCal ORC requirements like other local offshore races. Rather BAMA, the Organizing Authority, has its own list of safety requirements and a skippers' meeting on March 23. Sign up by March 21 to avoid a late fee. See www.sfbama.org.

— latitude/chris

REGATTAPRO WINTER ONE DESIGN (7r, 2t)

J/120 — 1) **Chance**, Barry Lewis, 5 points; 2) **Mr. Magoo**, Steve Madeira, 11; 3) **Kookaburra**, Tom Grennan, 13. (5 boats)

J/105 — 1) **Wonder**, Tom Kennelly, 9 points; 2) **Godot**, Phillip Laby, 10; 3) **Roxanne**, Charles James, 18; 4) **Ultimatum**, Peter Colin, Baldwin Miller, 33; 5) **Perseverance**, Steve & Gregg Kent, 35. (24 boats)

MELGES 24 — 1) **Looper**, Duane Yoslov, 6 points; 2) **Personal Puff**, Dan Hauserman, 10; 3) **M1**, Ian Collignon, 17. (8 boats)

J/70 — 1) **Prime Number**, Peter Cameron, 8 points; 2) **Rampage**, Thomas Thayer, 15; 3) **Christine Robin**, Tracy Usher, 15. (12 boats)

MOORE 24 — 1) **Moorigami**, John Siegal, 6 points; 2) **Mooretician**, Peter Schoen, 11; 3) **Twoirrational**, Anthony Chargin, 12. (9 boats)

J/24 — 1) **Snowjob**, Brian Goepfrich, 5 points; 2) **Froglips**, Richard Stockdale, 11; 3) **Evil Octopus**, Jasper Van Vliet, 12. (6 boats)

Full results at www.jibeset.net

CYC MIDWINTERS (4r, 0t)

IOD — 1) **Bolero**, Richard & Mark Pearce, 6 points; 2) **One Hundred**, Paul Zupan, 9; 3) **Ariel**, Robert Vellinger, 18. (4 boats)

PHRF 1 (<19) — 1) **Wicked Sister**, Farr 36, Richard Courcier, 9 points; 2) **California Condor**,

THE BOX SCORES

Antrim Class 40, Buzz Blackett, 12; 3) **Racer X**, Farr 36, Gary Redelberger, 12. (10 boats)

PHRF 2 (19-69) — 1) **Peregrine**, J/120, David Halliwill, 5 points; 2) **Double Digit**, J/111, Gorkem Ozcelebi, 14; 3) **Aeolus**, J/111, Rob Theis, 18. (15 boats)

PHRF 3 (70-111) — 1) **Yucca**, 8-Meter, Hank Easom, 7 points; 2) **Pain Killer**, J/80, Tim Russell, 9; 3) **Another Girl**, Alerion Express 38, Cinde Lou Delmas, 14. (16 boats)

PHRF 4 (112-141) — 1) **Arcadia**, Mull 27, Godie Nash, 5 points; 2) **Magic**, Etchells, Laurence Pulgram, 12; 3) **Ahi**, Santana 35, Andy Newell, 17. (6 boats)

PHRF 5 (>141) — 1) **Siento el Viento**, C&C 29, Ian Matthew, 11 points; 2) **Luna Sea**, Islander 36, Dan Knox, 16; 3) **Mojo**, Ranger 33, Paul Weismann, 20. (7 boats)

SPORTBOAT — 1) **Kuai**, Melges 24, Daniel Thielman, 10 points; 2) **Insolent Minx**, Melges 24, Zhenya Kirushkin-Stepanoff, 13; 3) **CentroMiglia**, Flying Tiger 10, Mark Kennedy/Pearl Prisco, 16. (13 boats)

SF BAY 30 — 1) **Heart of Gold**, Olson 911S, Joan Byrne, 8 points; 2) **Wahoo**, Capo 30, Walter

George, 12; 3) **Wind Speed**, J/30, Tony Castruccio, 20. (6 boats)

J/105 — 1) **Roxanne**, Charles James, 5 points; 2) **Russian Roulette**, Sergey Lubarsky, 10; 3) **007**, Justin Hersh, 14. (5 boats)

EXPRESS 37 — 1) **Golden Moon**, Kame Richards, 4 points; 2) **Bullet**, Laurence Baskin, 11; 3) **Escapade**, Nick Schmidt, 16. (5 boats)

EXPRESS 27 — 1) **Shenanigans**, Nick Gibbens, 6 points; 2) **Tequila Mockingbird**, Matt Krogstad, 13; 3) **Ergo**, Chris Gage, 19. (12 boats)

CAL 20 — 1) **Raccoon**, Jim Snow, 16 points; 2) **Just/Em**, Ted Goldbeck, 18 3) **Can O'Whoopass**, Richard vonEhrenkrook, 19. (9 boats)

NON-SPINNAKER 1 — 1) **Q**, Schumacher 40, Glenn Isaacson, 4 points; 2) **Sea Ghost**, Bene-teau First 42, Ron Roberts, 18; 3) **Harp**, Catalina 38, Mike Mannix, 18. (12 boats)

NON-SPINNAKER 2 — 1) **Knarrly Boo**, Knarr, Jason Holloway, 15 points; 2) **Big Shot**, Santana 22, Cameron McCloskey, 22, 6; 3) **Zingara**, Islander 36, Steve & Jocelyn Swanson, 22. (10 boats)

MULTIHULL — 1) **Adrenaline**, D-Class cat, Bill Erkelens, 10 points; 2) **Wingit**, F-27, Amy Wells, 12; 3) **SmartRecruiters**, Extreme 40, Jerome Ternynck, 14. (3 boats)

Full results at www.cyc.org

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With reports this month on *Why Worldwide Chartering Is Trending Upward*, an update on the possibilities for *Chartering in Cuba*, and *Charter Notes*.

Yacht Chartering: One of Sailing's Healthiest Segments

The publishing group Bonnier Corp., which produces both *Sailing World* and *Cruising World* magazines, recently released an annual report on the current state of the sailing industry called *The Sailing Market 2016*. Interestingly, one of the most upwardly-trending segments of the entire industry is bareboat chartering. Specifically, the chartering industry can boast its fifth straight year of growth.

The report doesn't speculate on why the chartering market is so healthy compared to other market sectors — such as boat manufacturing and new boat sales — but we've got a few thoughts on the subject. It's probably safe to say that a vast majority of people who are introduced to sailing are thrilled by it, and would love to take part in some aspect of the sport often if time and money allowed. But with the long hours that many jobs demand these days, and the ever-more-frenetic schedules of kids, many new inductees to sailing are reluctant to buy a boat of their own, for fear they won't be able to use it often enough to rationalize the expense. And, of course, neither boats nor slips are getting less expensive, not to mention the cost of maintenance, repairs and much-needed upgrades.

But even the most dedicated workaholics need a vacation once in a while, and if they're even casually into sailing, a bareboat charter makes a whole lot of sense. Sailing vacations are not only active and exhilarating for kids and parents alike, but while raising our own

Can't afford to fly halfway around the world to charter? No worries. Consider the Northwest or the Channel Islands. (This is Avalon, Catalina.)

kids we found that charter trips were one of the few times when every family member could honestly say that they were thoroughly enjoying the experience. As a consequence, such adventures are rare opportunities for building lasting memories and family bonding — without your kids even realizing that they are being 'held captive' in a relatively small space.

As years go by, and your kids' lives become more complex and demanding, happy memories from those family charter trips will probably become more precious to parents and kids alike.

So as much as we love the idea of buying a brand-new boat from one of our boat broker buddies — then equipping it with all the latest goodies offered by marine suppliers — we realize that's not in the cards for everyone. But that's no reason that you can't get out on the water for a week or more when vacation time rolls around.

Finally, as you undoubtedly know, you don't have to fly halfway around the world to enjoy an invigorating — if not life-changing — sailing getaway. If the cost of long-range airfare is a deal-breaker for you, remember that the splendid cruising grounds of the Pacific Northwest are only a short, affordable flight away, and the Channel Islands are accessible from a variety of Southern California charter bases that are less than a half-day's drive from the Bay Area.

— *andy*

Do You Hear Cuba Calling?

At the risk of tiptoeing into politics, we have to say that it's always seemed a bit silly to us that for more than 50 years Americans have been officially restricted from traveling to Cuba, one of our closest neighbors — especially since Canadians, Europeans and the citizens of dozens of other nations can travel there freely.

But if you keep up on national news, you know that big changes are occurring in US-Cuban relations. Following the re-



GREG DORLAND



LYNNE CAPPI



ROGER DAVIS

sumption of diplomatic relations between the two longtime adversaries last summer, a stunning agreement was announced last month that allows direct commercial flights to Cuba from US gateways. Then two weeks later the White House announced that President Obama would be paying a visit to the once-feared socialist republic late this month — the first such presidential visit since Calvin Coolidge traveled to Havana 88 years ago!

As you read this, the five largest American airlines are scrambling to secure routes to Havana, as well as to the island nation's nine other international airports — including Cienfuegos, where bareboat bases are located. We're talking 20 scheduled round-trips to Havana daily, and 10 flights daily to each of the satellite airports.

Does this mean we can all pack our seabags and jet off tomorrow to sail the



LATITUDE ARCHIVES

OF CHARTERING



Image of a vibrant culture surrounded by clean, clear water. Despite the Spartan lifestyles of most citizens, bareboats are modern designs.

unspoiled waters of Cuba? Well, no. Not exactly. Although flight schedules will soon be firmed up, there are still some pesky, government restrictions you have to deal with. The US Department of the Treasury still maintains that the purpose of your visit must fall into one of 10 specific categories that include pursuit of journalistic, religious, educational and humanitarian activities. Sadly, endeavors such as sailing, snorkeling, dancing to spicy salsa music, and swilling rich Havana Club rum are not on the list.

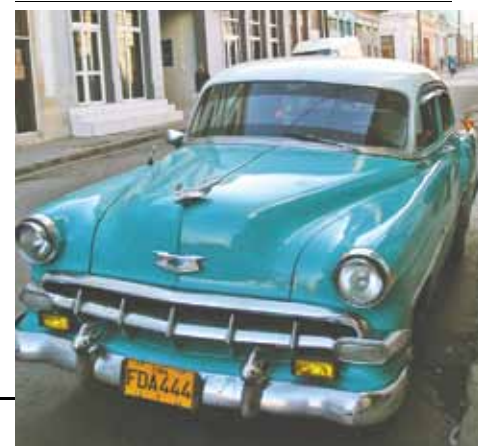
The truth is, though, that enterprising sailors have been fudging the rules in order to sail in Cuban waters for decades. For the US government, the key restrictions have to do with the embargo against "trading with the enemy." That is, as an American citizen you may not

engage in any form of commerce with Cuba — at least for now. How did sailors get around this? Typically, they would fly in from somewhere like Mexico or Jamaica and upon arrival ask the Cuban customs agent *not* to stamp a visa into their US passports. (We've never heard of that request being denied.) In the context of bareboat chartering, the easiest way to obey the letter of the law has been to simply invite along a friend with a Canadian, European or other non-US passport, and have him or her handle all financial transactions. Silly, right?

We'd be willing to bet that the "trading with the enemy" nonsense will be out the window soon. But in any case, if the idea of sailing these unspoiled waters intrigues you, we'd urge you to pay a visit soon, before — we hate to say this — the rampant influences of American commercialism ruin Cuba's unique, 'old-Caribbean' charm.

A quick Google search will introduce you to several European bareboat operators with whom your foreign crew can make all the arrangements. Fleets include late-model catamarans that

If you're a classic car buff, you'll love poking around Havana. Cuban mechanics often have to improvise to keep their classics running.



WORLD

are reportedly well maintained. And be aware also that crewed 'cabin charters' — where you share a boat with others — are also offered by at least one company.

For an in-depth look at what you'll experience on an expedition to Cuba, we'd suggest you delve into *Latitude 38's* electronic archives and read: *Forbidden Island* in our July 2003 issue, and a two-installment *World of Chartering* report in the June and July 2010 issues (all at www.latitude38.com).

In the meantime, we'll share some insights gleaned from those articles and conversations with Cuba chartering veterans:

- We've been told time and again that most Cubans love Americans and American culture; it's just that our governments haven't been able to get along. So you'll probably find that the folks you meet in town and out on the water are not only friendly, but intensely curious about life in the US.

- As much as Cubans are curious about our culture, not many of them speak English, so having at least one crewmember who speaks Spanish well would be a wise addition to your crew.



LYNNE CAPRI

Cigars? Oh yeah. Cuba's got a cigar-smoking culture like no other — we'd be astonished if there were restrictions on smoking in public.

- One American pastime that Cubans are completely enamored with, of course, is baseball. One friend of ours took in a game and absolutely loved it — Cubans are passionate about many things in life, but they're over-the-top about baseball.

- While we're on the subject of national passions, as you probably know, Cuba's unique style of music

is a national treasure that has always been a point of pride among its citizens. Similarly, red-hot salsa dancing is also a national passion. So save some energy to check out the music and dance venues in the towns you visit — and especially in Havana.

- We're not sure if this is still true, but in the past visitors have been restricted from bringing in most types of electronic gear. So if you're in the habit of bringing along such things as a handheld GPS, a VHF and an iPad for navigation, you'd best check with your charter company about current regulations.

- Needless to say, you should expect your movements and activities to be monitored much more closely than they would be in other Caribbean chartering venues. You may be asked to submit a proposed itinerary, and you'll probably have to check in with officials whenever you get to a new town or village. Although this sounds like a hassle, think of it as an opportunity for cultural exchange. Everyone we know who's sailed in Cuba was less than thrilled about these check-ins, but most said that the officials they

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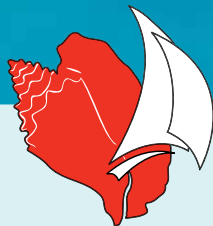
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OF CHARTERING

met were surprisingly friendly. Some even consented to posing for photos and accepting a beer or other 'cultural exchange' gift.

- All purchases must be made with one of the two national currencies: the Cuban peso or CUP (referred to as "moneda nacional" in Spanish) or the CUC, known as the convertible peso. Unless things have changed radically lately, you cannot spend US dollars anywhere, and it's nearly impossible, to change them. So travelers are advised to bring euros instead. (This info may change soon, what with the thaw in US-Cuba relations.)

- Sailors we've talked to tell us that navigational hazards are pretty well marked, and unlike some Caribbean sailing venues, in Cuba they follow the "red, right, returning" convention.

Be aware, however, that some areas are quite shallow, so you'll need to practice proper watchkeeping, just as you would anywhere else.

- We're told that bareboat companies do offer provisions, but resupplying in local markets can be challenging, espe-



ROGER DAVIS

Yum, spiny lobster. Biologists tell us that Cuba's fisheries are the most prolific in the Caribbean due to careful management.

cially regarding meat products. However, it's very common for fishermen to offer freshly caught lobster or fish when you see them out on the water.

Hopefully this overview will pique your curiosity enough to take the plunge and give chartering in Cuba a try. And if you do go, we'd love to receive a charter report detailing the highlights of your

trip, plus feedback on the charter firm you used.

— andy

Charter Notes

We've boxed ourselves into a corner this month, leaving little space for Charter Notes, but we do want to remind you of two things:

First, as you turn the page of your calendar to March, consider that the prime summer chartering season is only three months away. So there's no time like the present to firm up your plans for a summer sailing getaway. Where to? The so-called Salish Sea of the Pacific Northwest is always a winner, Maine and Chesapeake Bay are well-worth considering, and although it will officially be hurricane season in the Eastern Carib, odds are you'll have a terrific time there, with smaller crowds than in winter.

Second, we'll remind all legit charter operators that next month we'll publish our annual comprehensive list of all Greater Bay Area charter boats (sail only). So send your info soon. (See examples under Chartering at www.latitude38.com.)

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CHANGES

With reports this month from **Totem** with the 'facts on a year of cruising'; from **Escapade** with tips for first-timers heading for the Med; from **Beach House** on Isla Providencia and the San Blas Islands; from **Ocean Echo** on the passage to Hawaii and life in the Ala Wai Yacht Harbor; from **Iolani** on completing half a Pacific Loop; and **Cruise Notes**.

Totem — Stevens 47 Jamie and Behan Gifford and Kids Cruising Facts From 2015 (Pacific Northwest)

Ten years ago my husband Jamie and I wanted to live minimally and shed things that we didn't really need. We wanted to live close to nature, sourcing power through the sun and wind, and

raise our children — Niall, Mairen and Siobhan — in tune with the environment. So we took off cruising in August 2008 and have been at it ever since.

To give you an idea of what we — including this girl who grew up sailing with her

Behan, at right, after getting a Hindu blessing in Sri Lanka.

dad on San Francisco Bay — have been up to, here are the 'facts' for our year 2015, during which time we crossed the Indian Ocean and entered the Atlantic:

Summary Log

Distance Traveled: 7,988 miles

Days at Anchor: 249

Days Docked: 59

Days Moored: 20

Nights on Passage: 37

Sailing

Our best 24-Hour Run: 239 miles, between Durban and Simon's Town (with an Agulhas Current assist!)

Best Sailing: The west coast of Madagascar. Unparalleled.

Worst Sailing: Everywhere between Malaysia and the Maldives (equatorial calms and the season of no wind).

The Gifford family in Mexico shortly after they started cruising in 2008. That was seven years and something like 34,000 miles ago.

Geographical

Countries Visited: Ten in all: Thailand, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, the Maldives, the Chagos, the Seychelles, Comoros, Madagascar, South Africa and Lesotho.

Harbors and Anchorages Visited: 70

Islands Visited: 52

Deepest Anchorage: 130 ft., at Gaadhoo Island, Hadhdhunmathee Atoll in the Maldives. As per Murphy's Law, we anchored as the light was fading and a squall was arriving.

Shallowest Anchorage: 12 ft., at Mut-samudu on Anjouan Island in Comoros

Times We Floated the Anchor Chain to Protect the Coral: Three

Most Beautiful Anchorage: Tough call, but Anse Lazio at the north end of Praslin Island in the Seychelles is stunning.

Cultural

Most Startling Ethnic/Religious Hatred: Malaysia

Least Ethnic/Religious Strife: the proudly diverse Seychelles

Countries Most Marred by Trash Pollution: five-way tie among Malaysia, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Maldives and Comoros.

Consumables

Gas: 104 gallons for the outboard and generator

Propane 92 lbs.

Diesel: 489 gallons, mostly used between Malaysia and the Maldives as there was too little wind

Cheese: 84 lbs.

Crittas

Whales: We saw humpbacks (Madagascar), sperms (north of Sumatra), and pilot whales (South Africa).

Coollest Animal Sighting: 97-way tie. Seriously. South Africa, Madagascar, and Sri Lanka have wicked-cool beasts!

Greatest Heart Rate Accelerator: Getting mock-charged by an African elephant, who herded us a quarter mile down the road in reverse at dusk.

Best Unmentionable Story

Pipistrelle on the Reef in Chagos. It was a drama of rescue, repair, camaraderie, lousy seamanship, another rescue, delusion, lies and unfathomably bad behavior. What a story! Wait for the book.

Mostly we're all grateful for another year living this crazy life afloat, and all the wonder it brings.

— behan 01/15/2016



Readers — Behan is a regular contributor to SAIL and 48° North. She and her family maintain an extremely informative and professional blog at www.sailingtotem.com based on having sailed 34,079 miles as a family.

Escapade — Catana 52 Greg Dorland and Debbie Macrorie First-Timer's Guide to the Med (Squaw Valley)

With the value of the dollar having soared against the euro from February 2014 to February 2015, and having since held relatively steady at 1.08 dollars to the euro, there hasn't been a less expensive time to cruise the Med in many years. As veterans of sailing across the Atlantic, and partway across the Med last year, we offer this first-timer's guide.

Getting to the Med can be half the fun, and as long as the appropriate weather season is observed, it can be a relatively pleasant sail that results in a great feeling of accomplishment. Boats generally

TOTEM



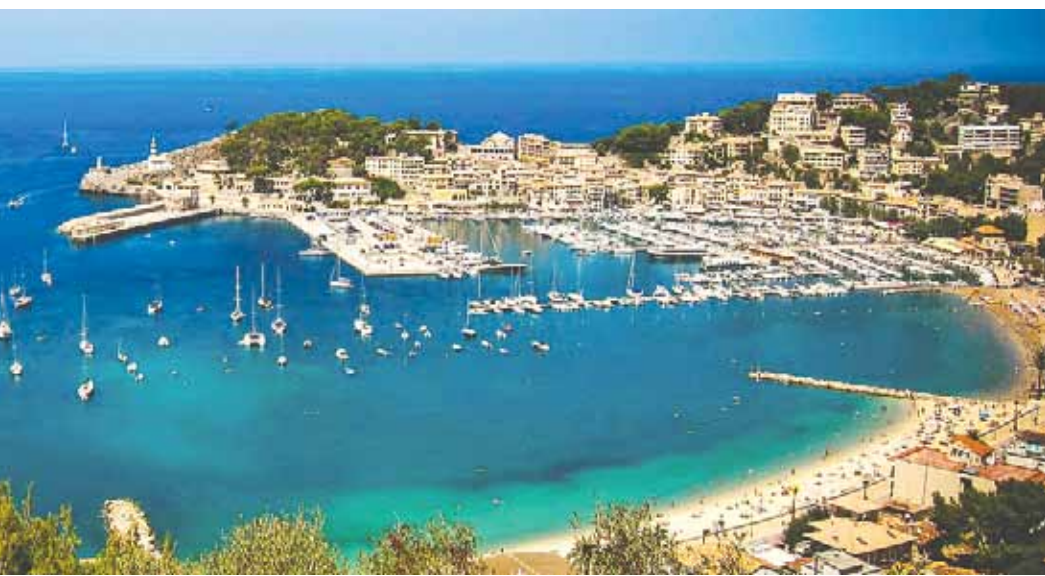
TOTEM



IN LATITUDES



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Why take a month to sail to the Med? First of all you have the adventure of it. Second, you have the incredibly deep culture of Portugal, Spain, France and Italy. Third, you have destination 'carrots' such as, clockwise from lower right, Puerto Soller, Mallorca; Portoferraio, Elba; and Portovenere, Italy.

leave the Caribbean starting the first of May. In our case we left at the end of May, as one of our crew got tied up at work for an extra two weeks. By then the normally consistent tradewinds had backed off, so we waited another week in order to conserve our fuel for the Azores High. It would turn out to be a prescient move.

The trip across the Atlantic — while being subject to the vagaries of the weather — also depends on the boat you have and your cruising philosophy. A few of the boats that left in early May were caught in an unusual late-season storm south of the Azores, and a number of the crews had to be evacuated by the US and Portuguese navies — who happened to be doing joint exercises in the area. Tragically, a young French girl from one of the boats died of hypothermia.

I think this storm pointed out that many of yesterday's assumptions re-

garding weather patterns have become less reliable. Nonetheless, we still try to minimize risk of major storms by voyaging in the 'best season' and by not having to meet artificial schedules. Friends and crew come to the boat, not the other way around. That's very important.

On day two after leaving St. Martin for the Azores our Spectra genoa ripped, leaving us with just the small Solent jib and the huge Code Zero for the front of our boat, and thus a large hole in our sail inventory. By day six it was time to turn toward the Azores, as everyone on the boat had had quite enough of bouncing around 24 hours a day. We caught a day of no wind, so we motored, using precious fuel in an effort to get back up to the receding wind.

Another five days of chasing the light winds brought

us to calm waters and just outside our fuel range to reach the Azores. Some patience and a little more light wind got us to the eerie flat calm of the Azores High, at which point we had to motor the last 300 miles to landfall.

So much of the pleasure of cruising under sail is in the great people you meet. During the crossing we stayed in contact with three wonderful Portuguese guys on the very first Catana catamaran ever built. They gave us a rousing welcome as 15 days out of St. Martin, we rounded the point at Flores Island and sailed into the anchorage.

Flores was a little quiet for our crew, so we sailed over to Horta, where seemingly all the crews crossing the Atlantic stop for R&R. A few days in port were enough to get everyone back on the boat for the next leg, a 6½-day half-sail, half-motor to Portugal's beautiful Algarve region. It's the most southwestern point of Europe and the closest to the Azores.

It was quite windy as we neared the Strait of Gibraltar, but the wind immediately shut off once we were inside the Med. We were left with a long motorboat ride to Valencia. All in all it, was about a monthlong trip, including stopovers, from the Caribbean to inside the Med. It could easily turn into two months if anyone was hell-bent on sailing the entire way — as some are.

For example, we hailed a French-owned 35-footer on the way to the Azores. The skipper told us they had already been out 30 days just from the Bahamas! The crew had enough provisions for 60 days, as they planned to "save money" by sailing the entire way.

The Atlantic crossing was long and — to me, at least — boring at times. With the autopilot on there really isn't much to do other than stand watch. We had a crew of five, so I floated and didn't have to stand a normal watch. The crew still had three hours on followed by nine

About to spend their second season cruising the Med, Greg and Debbie are living out a life-long dream. It's not always easy, but it's worth it.



ESCAPADE

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hours off.

Needless to say, meals become a focal point of the days. My wife Debbie, a fabulous cook who owned a very popular restaurant in Tahoe for decades, cooked multi-course dinners when the boat wasn't bouncing around too much. When the going got rough, she pulled something hearty out of the crockpot.

What did we do with so much time on our hands? Pablo, our 21-year-old Spanish student, must have watched all 50 movies we have onboard. Debbie and I each read Tolstoy's epic *War & Peace*. Lance and Robbie, our other two crew, duked it out for hours on end playing cards. All in all it was a very benign passage, which is not to say it would be next time or for anybody else.

Staying in Contact/Weather Forecasts. Once in the Med, we had to figure out the easiest way to get consistent weather forecasts that we could understand, and how to communicate with our friends and each other. Our 'unlocked' iPhones took care of both problems. We have had pretty good coverage within a few miles of the coast everywhere we have traveled in the Western Mediterranean. The drawback is in having to get a new SIM card and telephone plan in each country.

If you have a bank account in a European country, you can get a telephone plan that withdraws payments directly from your account. If not, you have to pay higher fees and recharge your phone once a month. To get a bank account, you need proof of residency. While we have a long-term — one year — tourist visa for France requiring a French address, we haven't been back to Paris (our French address) to set up the account.

So, we are currently using an Italian SIM card that gives us SMS, Internet access and local phone calls. It doesn't give us foreign calls, but it's not a problem because we use Internet access to Skype.

'Escapade', as seen during her glory days of the Banderas Bay Regattas in Mexico. She's not the lightest of cats, but Greg and Debbie love her.

Although we use the Internet access every day, we only spend about 35 euros a month on it.

We're not sure, but Internet access might become more problematic as we enter the Eastern Med this summer.

Languages are an issue. Brush up on your college Spanish, French or Italian, as it will really help. Having said that, most everyone in Western Europe speaks English, and nearly everyone is quite helpful. But you are in their country, so in my opinion they are doing us a favor by trying to converse in our language. It has worked out very well for me to thank people for speaking English, and to ask them if I may speak to them in my language. This has been particularly helpful when talking on the telephone.

The only problem is that people are now trying to be so helpful speaking English that you tend to assume they speak English like a native. Not so. There's a huge difference when talking about different kinds of salami, cheese and wine, and discussing technical problems with your boat.

I find the translation program apps on my phone to be very helpful, but limited. The translations are largely verbatim and come across as disjointed and odd. But they are often all I have had. (I speak very limited French, and Debbie and I are currently taking beginning Italian lessons four times a week).

When dealing with boat matters, I like to communicate by email, copy the English version of the email into the language translator, translate, and then copy the translation onto the bottom of the email so it arrives in both languages (sort of). Be patient and expect some issues with miscommunication.

I'll have more next month.

— greg 01/21/2016

Beach House — Switch 51 Scott Stolnitz and Nikki Woodrow Isla Providencia/San Blas Islands (Marina del Rey)

As we approached Isla Providencia — which belongs to Colombia even though it's 150 miles off the east coast of the much closer Nicaragua — we were hailed by 'Mr. Bush' on channel 16. He is the local agent who handles small craft and is quite famous in the cruising community. He also gives a whole new meaning to ADD.



There are a lot of people with the last name of 'Bush' in town, and they are the descendants of former slaves, Spaniards, Puritans, pirates and privateers. Before he became 'respectable', even the famous buccaneer Captain Morgan sought refuge here from the various navies that were chasing him. Many things on Isla Providencia and much smaller Isla Catalina are named or nicknamed after Morgan. For example, a split in one of the small mountains is officially known as Split Hill, but is locally referred to as Morgan's Arse.

We eventually anchored at a lovely, well-protected, shallow spot off Santa Catalina Island, which is connected by a relatively new footbridge to the much larger Isla Providencia. Providencia/Catalina get an average of 200 cruising boats a year. We were the third of 2016.

For the most part, the people here speak an English-based Creole similar to Belize Kriol or Jamaican Patois, which



LATTITUDE / RICHARD

IN LATITUDES



PHOTOS COURTESY BEACH HOUSE



'Beach House' adventures in the Western Caribbean, from lower right: Scott and his buddy Manfred. The bridge between Providencia and Catalina Manfred got built. Horsing around Providencia style. The cannons are quiet these days. A bigger version of this month's cover. 'Beach House' in the San Blas.

means they can talk to each other without your understanding them. Many of the older folks speak 'The King's English', but the younger kids are more likely to speak Spanish.

Providencia has a population of about 6,000, a lot of them young kids. Authorities say that over 800 of the island's young men — a shockingly high percentage — have been killed, imprisoned or are missing because of involvement in drug smuggling.

We have been having more than the usual beginning-of-the-season teething issues with *Beach House*, and have been a bit overwhelmed by it. Currently our generator is out, one watermaker is out, and our port engine has two broken bracket bolts. This means our normally triply redundant battery charging system is down to just a single way to charge the

batteries.

The engines are still burning a bit of oil, with the starboard worse than the port. The starboard fuel tank has 'bug', but fortunately is getting cleaner at the expense of many fuel filters.

The new fuel-polishing system wasn't initially plumbed properly and hadn't been doing its job, but is now working. We have a few electronic gremlins and a water system gremlin, too, but other than that, everything more or less works fine or will be repaired in Panama before we take off across the Pacific for Australia again.

We rented an ATV and went around the three- by six-mile Provi-

dencia. With all our stops it still only took about two hours. The diving here is apparently excellent, and the Colombian mainlanders use this as a tropical vacation getaway. Some of the reefs are lovely, and you can motor around the island in plenty of water — *inside* the reef, which is a real plus. The main town of Isabel can be walked in about 10 minutes. A supply ship comes from the sister Island of San Andreas 40 miles to the SSW. With 40,000 people, San Andreas is much bigger and more commercial.

A great — and huge! — guy named Manfred has been our host here. He helped us get 100 gallons of diesel and a mechanic to sort out our dinghy's electrical issues. A fisherman by trade, Manfred says water and medical care are the only two big problems on the island, which he says, "is otherwise paradise".

They actually do have enough water; it's getting it to the residents' homes that is the problem. They also have a hospital and an X-ray machine, but don't have any experienced doctors who know how to use the equipment. So when a girl broke her arm the other day, she had to wait overnight to be flown to San Andreas to see a trained doctor.

Webster Archibald is Manfred's full Christian name, and he's a descendant of either escaped slaves from Africa or slaves of the pirates who were left here to guard the island. It's possible that 'Archibald' was his great-great-great grandfather's owner. He's not sure, but it's quite fascinating.

Manfred got involved in politics and became a council member to get the 150-meter footbridge built between Catalina and Providencia, as well as some other community projects. Once he'd accomplished his goals, he quit the council saying that all the local politicians were corrupt. What else is new?

Nikki and Scott, taking a break from getting 'Beach House' ready for another trip across the South Pacific.



BEACH HOUSE

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Manfred is charming, entrepreneurial, muscular and hunky-handsome. He's married to a gal from Nicaragua, but still turns the heads of all the young women. He also runs a 'round the island' tour boat, which seems to be packed with young girls. Go figure.

No matter how we timed our departure, our trip to Isla Porvenir in the San Blas Islands of Panama was going to take two days and two nights. The first six hours were a bit too hard on the wind, but the wind backed and we sailed pretty much the rest of the way. Crossing the path to the Panama Canal, we figured we'd see a lot of ships, but we didn't.

The first thing we learned is that there is no way to get cash in the primitive San Blas Islands. As a result, we couldn't check in with customs and immigration at the airfield. Panama is quite pricey, as it costs us \$365 for two people, the boat, and the small Guna Yala Council fee. Given our water shortage due to both watermakers having gone out of service, our stay in the San Blas will be shorter than we'd like. Many cruisers spend weeks, months — and sometimes years — in this 40-by 15-mile area sprinkled with 365 small islands.

The 50,000 or so Guna Yala (or Kuna Yala) who live in the San Blas are an anachronism in the modern world. They are one of the few peoples of Central America who staunchly refused Christianity. The Guna Yalas' religious beliefs include village shamans, and they are known for being very superstitious.

There are three male chiefs of various geographical areas, and one big chief for the entire people. Nonetheless, it's a matriarchal society, with home life ruled by the women. Only a few speak Spanish or English, and they have a very unusual language of their own. A swastika, which is actually an ancient symbol, is prom-

Once the Kuna Yala women bring their molas to your boat, they will wait forever until you buy their work. They have incredible tenacity.

intent in their flag.

The Kunas' grandparents fought against the Panamanian government, and the San Blas were declared an independent autonomous region in 1925. The people seem to have a high natural resistance to diseases such as malaria and yellow fever, which killed tens of thousands of Westerners, and they are known for living long lives.

It's an absolute must to buy some *mola* cloth from the Guna Yala. Two of the most famous *mola* artists are Lisa, a transvestite, and Venancio, who is a "master *mola* maker". We didn't meet Lisa, but transvestites are not unusual among the Guna Yala. In many cultures — Tonga and French Polynesia come to mind — if there are too many male children, one is chosen to help in traditional female roles. There is no stigma to sexual orientation in these islands.

The Islands of the San Blas are very much like the Tuamotus of the South Pacific in that everything here is owned by someone. This includes all the land and the ocean surrounding the islands, as well as the fish, the lobster, the conch and even the coconuts. So we technically needed permission to go ashore, but we actually saw few people on shore of whom we could ask permission. Only the Kuna Yala are allowed onshore after 6 p.m., because they are strongly against intermarriage and other foreign influences on their culture.

We wish we could have stayed longer, but we were getting low on water and knew we had boat projects to work on before crossing the Pacific again, so we took off to Portobello and the Panama Canal before we really wanted to.

— scott and nikki 01/09/16

Ocean Echo — Hallberg-Rassy 45 Hellmuth Starnitzky The Ala Wai Yacht Harbor (Alameda)

[Editor's Note: While the following information may be a little dated, we don't frequently get reports on Hawaii, and we don't think things have changed much, so we're publishing it anyway.]

In May 2014, three friends and I completed a 3,118-mile crossing from Puerto Vallarta to Honolulu in 23 days. The sailing was pretty dismal the first week as we had to use the engine at low revs to get from longitude 105W to longitude 120W before we found reliable wind. Once the wind kicked in, it first blew from the NNW, then



slowly clocked around the farther west we sailed. By the time we approached the Hawaiian Archipelago, it was out of the ESE and generally blowing at 20 to 28 knots true. Squalls were numerous west of 130W, and they brought gusty winds and rain. Once they passed, they had sucked all the wind out of the area for awhile.

Other than a spell of strong wind and very large seas, the passage was rather uneventful, as nobody got seasick or hurt, and nothing of consequence broke on the boat. We mostly sailed under a double-headsail configuration, with staysail to leeward and the genoa poled out to windward. It worked well. My Hydrovane wind-steering gear worked superbly, even in the following winds and large swells, keeping the boat at an apparent wind angle of about 160 degrees. It was really quite remarkable, and a boon for the crew and autopilot.

We did have a period of winds to 36 knots and seas to 20+ feet, brought on by a squash zone between the North Pacific High and a low to the northeast.

A potential problem with the boom



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traveling on non-US passports and were slated to fly out at noon.

It was very important that we'd gotten a *zarpe*, which is the clearance document from Mexico. I thought I'd read that US authorities do not care about foreign exit permits, which is obviously wrong. [Editor's note: We've checked back into the United States at San Diego something like 30 times over the years with our boats, and have never gotten or needed a *zarpe* from Mexico. Hawaii is different.]

I remember *Latitude 38's* lamentations years ago about the difficulty in getting a slip at the Ala Wai Harbor, and getting a slip still is not easy. The waiting list for permanent tenants is long, and the possibilities for temporary moorage are limited. After I'd filled out an application, a physical boat inspection of my boat was conducted at the loading dock to establish that my boat was in compliance with USCG safety regulations and in seaworthy condition. Part of this process is to physically establish the overall length of the boat with a tape measure, then go through the items the USCG prescribes for vessels of her size. After passing the at-the-dock test, a boat is then required to motor out of the harbor to the no. 1 buoy in the entrance channel to demonstrate engine functionality. The assistant harbormaster explained these measures to be necessary to ensure that boats are able to leave port under their own power in case of a tsunami warning.

Once those things were done, I could take possession of a slip on a renewable 15-day temporary permit that was good up to 120 days a year. The Ala Wai has three types of transient slips: what appear to be rather new floating docks in the middle of the basin; older fixed concrete docks along the cityfront; and moorage where the boat is tied to a stern buoy at the breakwater, requiring exit

Corners of the Ala Wai Yacht Harbor can be disgusting with trash because the marina is a partial toilet bowl for the Ala Wai Canal.

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OCEAN ECHO



Clockwise from lower right; The Ala Wai is an urban marina. Fresh ahi is a welcome addition to any menu on a passage. Dug out of a reef, the Ala Wai could not be built today. Waimea Bay, on the North Shore, is flat during the summer. Coral reefs are a danger around the islands. Oahu beauty.

vang attachment was our only boat problem, and resulted in our diverting from our original destination of Hilo on the Big Island to Honolulu. We figured there was a better chance to get repairs in the big city.

Our passage from Puerto Vallarta took longer than we'd anticipated — we only averaged 135 miles a day — and by the time we entered Ala Wai Harbor we had almost no food left. But no one had gone hungry, so the amount of provisions was just about right. We did catch three modest-size fish — one ahi and two mahi-mahi — which provided a welcome change to the menu. We saw no vessels during the last 20 days of the passage.

We arrived at the Ala Wai Yacht Harbor on a Sunday afternoon, so the harbor office was closed. I had been in touch with the port captain's office by SSB e-mail to arrange for berthing, but was told that slips are handled on a first-come, first-served basis upon arrival — after our filling out an application form and

having the boat inspected. Since the docks at Hawaii YC were packed with cruising boats rafted three-deep, and with no slip readily available, we docked across the way at the Waikiki YC. We found a temporary home there for a few days, by which time arrangements were made with the port captain for a temporary slip. The folks at Waikiki YC were most accommodating and gracious in allowing us to use their fine club facilities.

We checked in with Immigration, Customs and Agriculture the first thing the day after we arrived, which was a Monday. The process was easy and efficient, from the first call to let authorities know we had come from another country, to completion of the paperwork and the inspection by the woman from Agriculture. All the officers were professional, polite and quick, which was good, because two of my crew were



OCEAN ECHO

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and entry via the bow. While no floating dock slip was available, I consider myself lucky to at least have been assigned a fixed concrete dock side-tie, as entry/exit via the bow is not possible on my boat — except by acrobats.

Water comes with the very reasonable slip fee of \$22.80 /day for my boat, which including the davits measured in at 50 ft.. A security deposit of \$75 for dock key and shower card needed to be paid in cash and was refunded by check. The concrete pier where *Ocean Echo* was berthed was 45 ft. long and three ft. wide — and led to a public street immediately beyond the gate.

Security consisted of an old-fashioned padlock. I was glad I carried a fender board to protect my fenders from the rather rough surface of the concrete and its vertical wooden 'fenders', some of which have nail heads and bolt nuts protruding.

Bathrooms from my side of the harbor were a 10-15-minute walk — hardly convenient. Trash could be deposited at the loading-dock dumpster 300 yards or so away, which wasn't convenient either. There was Wi-Fi. Fortunately, I have a Wi-Fi booster installed on top of the aft radar mast and was able to purchase Internet access from a public service provider.

Electricity, however, has to be arranged directly with the city's power company, which entails establishing an account (pre-payment on credit card not possible), a physical mailing address for the bills (port captain's office), and a \$20-\$35 hookup fee (depending if one wants same-day hookup or can wait for a day or two). The process via phone was quick and easy, although having to do so at all was a hassle.

We stayed at the Ala Wai until June, at which time we set sail for Sitka, Alaska.

— *hellmuth* 10/15/2015

After 3,000 miles of open ocean, the majestic and verdant peaks of the Marquesas are a welcome sight. Even if the anchorages are rolly.

Iolani — Hughes 48 Yawl Barry and Sylvia Stewart Stompe Half-Looped (Sausalito)

With *Latitude's* old friends Barry and Sylvia having completed half of their North Pacific Loop — Mexico, French Polynesia, Hawaii, the Pacific Northwest, and back to Sausalito — we thought we'd pitch a few questions their way. In addition to being very successful racers with their *Islander 36* and *Hughes 48*, they virtually rebuilt the entire boat.

1) *Assuming just the two of you did the crossing and trip to Hawaii, are you comfortable with long passages, such as the upcoming one to Alaska?*

"We are comfortable doublehanding the passages. We do three-hour rotations from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., and fatigue has not been a problem. Daytime is more casual, but either one of us is always on deck or just ducking below if need be. We did the Nuku Hiva-to-Hilo passage from December 27 to January 13 and only had one bad squall. It blew 45 to 55 knots, so it was lucky we had been sailing with just the jib and jigger. We also had two days of 24-30-knot sustained trades. In the midst of those conditions, we questioned our sanity. But when conditions get nice again, or we make landfall, we love it again. Our 22-day passage from Mexico to the Marquesas was great — except for a couple of days of unpleasant sea state near the end. We are hoping Kauai to Vancouver in late May or June is as good a passage."

2) *How often, if ever, did the two of you fly a chute?*

"On the way from Mexico, just a couple times, and only during the day. We tried it for a few hours on the way from French Polynesia to Hilo, but gave up as it was fluky and lumpy. With just two crew, who may need to get some chores done or take a nap, it's not always a top priority to fly a chute. But if the seas are orderly with a long swell, and wind is 10-16 knots, we love to fly the chute.

For example, we had a great six-hour sail between the Marquesas and Tuamotus during which time we flew both the asymmetrical and mizzen staysail. We did the same thing during a 25-mile run inside the atoll at Makemo. We cherished both of those times. When we've raced during our cruise — such as at the Banderas Bay Blast — we do fly the spinnaker."

3) *There aren't that many ketches out cruising*



any more. What did you like about the rig and not like about the rig?

"You know why they call them ketches? Because they're always trying to catch up! That's why we have a yawl. We love our yawl because there are so many possible sail plans. Sparkman & Stephens, who designed our boat, primarily did sloops and yawls, but not many ketches.

One downside of a yawl is the extra expense for rigging and sails. A second is that there isn't much room for the 'Jungle Gym' aft. You know: dinghy davits, solar panels, engine hoist, wind-vane, radar, surfboard holder, antenna array, fishing rod holders with cleaning station, wind generators, and all the other gadgets that slow a sailboat down. Although we did put some of that stuff on *Iolani's* mizzen mast. Sylvia's answer, which follows, is better."

"We love our yawl rig because the jib and jigger combination is great, not only



IN LATITUDES

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY IOLANI

Whitehawk told us the hair-raising tale from 10 years ago of having his chain wrap during a 50-knot blow at Fakarava, and having to release his anchor and chain after the stainless bow roller was destroyed! He then had to transit the lagoon in those conditions to find protection 30 miles away. Yikes!"

5) How difficult was it to get/find Internet in the Marquesas/Tuamotus/Tahiti?

"There is barely any fast Internet, even in Tahiti! Almost all islands and atolls have slow Internet, but not all anchorages. You need to be in town, and you get used to the slower speeds. You do much less Internet surfing. We mostly used Wi-Fi from cafes — such as the dockside Snack on Nuku Hiva — because it's so social an experience. There are pay-for-time cards available from the post office or other providers, so you just need to be in range of antennas. Many people use boosters to pick up signals when they are in the anchorage."

6) What is your dinghy/outboard combination? Is it adequate?

We have a 10-ft inflatable with an inflatable floor, and the 8-hp outboard gets two of us on a plane. We have planed with three adults and free-diving equipment. We like to roll up and stow the dinghy and motor for passages. I've been out cruising two times, and each time I bought a 10-ft inflatable with an 8-hp outboard. The first time I paid \$850. Mostly recently we paid \$1,000. Each time the dinghy and motor were in almost-new condition. Thank you, *Latitude 38 Classy Classifieds*."

7) What do they not have in Polynesia that you should have brought more of from US/Mexico?

"Alcohol! Booze is very expensive in the islands, as they tax it heavily to dissuade locals from drinking. Specialty foods, snacks, and nuts are all expensive, if available. For example, a bag of

There is great hiking to be enjoyed in the Marquesas, but the rivers and streams can be very dangerous after a heavy rain.



Clockwise from lower right; Sylvia looking down on Daniels Bay, Nuku Hiva. A trained chef, Sylvia loved preparing fresh fish. Unlike the Marquesas, the Tuamotus are low and hard to spot. Yet another beautiful sunset over Moorea. Sylvia and Barry, looking younger than before they took off.

in heavy winds, but in light and fluky stuff, too. When it's roly and light, the mainsail slatting and battens popping is not only unbearably annoying, but also damaging. We busted our outhaul in the ITCZ on this last passage due to it. So we go with mizzen and jib in light air to give the mainsail a break. The mizzen staysail — which you hoist up the mizzen — is great fun to fly because it's so easy in all respects. The loads are reasonable, it's easy to trim, deploy, snuff, and is a great training sail, too."

4) Anchoring in French Polynesia can be difficult because of the deep water. Any tips or learning experiences? And have other boats had a lot of trouble?

"We had some anxieties about the anchoring in deep water, but it really wasn't a problem. There were only a couple of times when we had to anchor in 80 to

100 ft. with a mud bottom. After that, anchoring in 45 ft. is no problem! A good windlass is key. If you have all chain and it's 3/8", you can't control lowering it by hand. You have to have a windlass.

"Anchoring among coral heads was a much greater issue than anchoring in deep water. The folks on *Soggy Paws* taught us to pick up pearl farm floats that had washed ashore and use them to buoy our chain above the 'bommies'. We dove on our chain often, and especially before pulling the hook to see if our chain had wrapped around coral. We didn't hear of any boats that had anchoring issues this year.

"However, John on



IOLANI

CHANGES

Doritos for \$14! So bring your favorite munchies. Food staples are reasonably priced; even produce, which is not cheap, is mostly comparable to prices at farmers' markets in California. Boat parts, hoses and fasteners are metric, so bring them if you don't want to substitute sizes. Other than that, we were able to get what we wanted."

8) *What was your favorite stop in each of the following: 1) The Marquesas; 2) The Tuamotus, and 3) The Society Islands?*

"Daniels Bay (actually called Hakatea) was our favorite in the Marquesas for the magnificence of the setting and the nice locals. Fakarava was our favorite in the Tuamotus, because the free drift diving in the south pass with the sharks was a high point in our lives. Huahine was our favorite in the Societies because it has so many good anchorages, it is mellow with friendly locals and a nice town, and has archaeological sites and superb walking, snorkeling and surfing. Huahine has everything!"

9) *Did you have just snorkel gear or scuba gear, too? Happy with decision?*

We love to free dive. So we use a mask, snorkel (simple is better, so not the ball in cage with multi turbo flush ports), fins, shorty wetsuit, and weights. We have scuba, but save the air tank for emergencies."

10) *Any piece of gear that surprised you for being more valuable than you expected?*

"A plastic two-inch putty knife for cleaning the prop and bottom. More than once we were mortified to find barnacles covering everything."

11) *Is there any piece of gear that you didn't have, but wish you had?*

"Next time we'll have a bimini. *Iolani* is one of the few boats that didn't have one. We have resorted to using an umbrella

When you are as curious and gregarious as Sylvia and Barry, you have no trouble making friends with the locals, even the 'quiet types'.

for sun relief while on passages."

12) *What's your favorite food from French Polynesia?*

"The excellent fresh fish, which can be purchased direct from the fishermen for \$5/kilo! Tuna prepared as *poisson cru* (raw fish) with coconut cream costs \$8-\$15 on shore. The best cooked dish was tuna with a vanilla cream sauce at Chez Tara, a nice restaurant at Avea Bay on the southwest side of Huahine. It was just \$17 for the entree, and it was amazing! The traditionally cooked pig is great, but the side dishes can be heavy with lots of starchy stuff and not much fresh green veggies or salad. All in all, the prepared food in French Polynesia is no more expensive than here in Hawaii, and some things are even cheaper."

— *latitude/rs 02/03/2016*

Cruise Notes:

A law was passed in 2007 requiring for the first time that US citizens traveling to Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean and Bermuda have a **passport**. As a result, 18 million passports were issued in the US in that year alone, and a total of 49 million in a three-year period. Adult passports are only good for 10 years, which means that 49 million passports are going to expire in the next three years. As a result, officials expect a flood of requests to get passports renewed. It costs \$110 to renew a passport and it can be done by mail. First-time passports cost \$135, and the applicant has to show up at a designated post office, court or other agency. Children's passports are good for just five years. Please remember, many countries will not accept your passport unless it is valid for six more months. So don't miss out on a great foreign sailing adventure because you don't have a current passport.

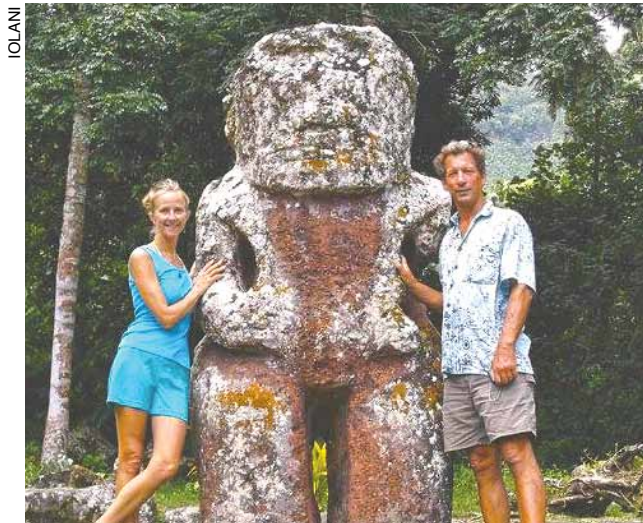
It was just a few months ago that Howard and Lynn Bradbrooke of the Vancouver, B.C.-based Sabre 452 **Swift Current** reported that having completed a five-year loop of North America — ending with their boat being trucked from Milwaukee to Vancouver — they were done with long-distance cruising. They said they would stick to cruising in the beautiful Pacific Northwest. Maybe Thomas Wolfe was right when he wrote the novel *You Can't Go Home Again*, because the former lawyer and his wife seem to be having a change of heart. Looking at a map of their five-year trip, they write,



"On the one hand it looks like a very long way to travel on a slow-moving sailboat. On the other hand, we are thinking that maybe we should start over again." Memories of the sun-drenched tropics can do that to folks living in a dark and damp Pacific Northwest winter.

John and Geri Conser of Newport Beach report they will join Eric and Tamara Barto on the latters' Aikane 56 catamaran **Sea Child** for "the trip of a lifetime". In early February they were slated to join *Sea Child* in Phuket, Thailand for passages to the Maldives, the Red Sea, Port Sudan, the Suez Canal, and Corfu, Greece.

John Conser designed and built Warrior 29 and Conser 47 catamarans in Southern California. Geri has been a marine photographer for many years. The Bartos are from Maui, where they own Paragon Sailing Charters, a successful sailing/snorkeling company. Having owned *Sea Child* for six years, they've been breaking their circumnavigation into two to three months of cruising followed by two to three months back working on Maui. They started their trip in Trinidad, and have so far sailed throughout the Caribbean, through the Panama Canal, across the Pacific, and



IOLANI

IN LATITUDES



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The Latitude Wayback Machine takes you to the 2009 Banderas Bay Regatta in celebration of March's 23rd edition. Top row, left to right: Lisa and Wayne Zittel are still sailing strong. Heather and David split up, as they'd said they would. David bought the SC50 'X' in Malaysia, married a Filipino woman, and is refitting 'X' in Monterey. Jim and Kent Milski sailed around the world on their cat 'Sea Level' and are back in La Cruz. Laura Willerton succumbed to cancer, but Louis Kruk is cruising in the Caribbean with 'Cirque'. Middle row: Kim and David are cruising their Catana 42 'Maluhia' in the South Pacific. David Crowe traded his 70-ft cat 'Humu-Humu' for a ranch. Jim, with wife Jamie, passed of cancer. Bob Smith keeps cruising the Sea of Cortez, while Patsy Verhoeven keeps doing every Ha-Ha and Ta-Ta, and this spring will cross to French Polynesia, Hawaii, then back for another Ha-Ha. Bottom row: Cruiser racing conditions on Banderas Bay are spectacular.

to Phuket.

As we recall, *Aikane* was the first or second in what was to be a line of catamarans built in Trinidad for *Catana*. That idea never panned out, but *Sea Child* looks great.

Using the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea to get to the Med used to be the preferred way to go around the world until about 2000, when Somali pirates started hijacking private yachts as well as ships. Cruisers gave up the Red Sea route entirely for going around South Africa in 2011 after four West Coast sailors on the yacht **Quest** were kidnapped and then murdered by Somali pirates. Although the Somali piracy has been almost eliminated, concerns about trouble at other places from Aden to the northern end of the Red Sea have almost eliminated private yacht traffic. A few boats are again taking that route, but we

personally still consider it fairly risky. We wish the best for the crew of *Sea Child*.

Northern California's Jeff Zarwell was in **Cuba** recently to run the Conch Republic Cup, which included racing from Florida to Cuba, off Cuba, and from Cuba back to Florida. While in Cuba, Jeff ran into a Cuban problem. There was no Wi-Fi, so the only Internet access was via the government computers in hotels. These computers would not allow him to get weather reports from the usual Internet sites or post the race results. Ah, life on the prison island some refer to as the 'Workers' Paradise', where the only human activities allowed

are those specifically approved by the government. We think all Americans, particularly students, should be required to visit Cuba.

After enduring the notorious strong winds along the southeast coast of South Africa for months, Mike and Deanna Ruel of the Maryland-based *Manta 42 R Sea Kat* hauled their boat at Cape Town in anticipation of a long sail across the much more mellow South Atlantic.

"The cost of a haulout here in Cape Town is about the same as it is in the States," Mike told *Latitude*, "but the labor is about 40% less."

What's on the couple's 'to-do' list? "We've got a saildrive leak to repair and our bottom paint is 30 months old. In addition, we're getting new rigging, new sails, a new mast track, new batten cars, a new StackPack for the main, curtains with Strataglass, and maybe a new AC/heater. We're also getting a new damper for the port engine, having had to replace the one on the starboard engine."

That's a lot of work, but keep in mind the Ruels have sailed many thousands of ocean miles, many of them hard ocean miles, in just the last few years.

The Ruels report that rough weather isn't the only danger around Cape Town.

"We're deeply saddened to learn of the **loss of two members of the Royal Cape YC**, who perished early this morning when their sailboat ran aground in a fog, breaking the vessel into pieces."

As if anybody needed a reminder how rough the ocean can be off South Africa, and why so many people wish they could still safely go around the world via the Red Sea and the Med, in mid-January Sunsail Yachts received notification that one of their Leopard 44 cats had been spotted overturned 40 miles off the coast of Cape Agulhas. It was four days short of a year since her South African crew of

With a new bottom, 'R Sea Kat' was ready to continue on from Cape Town. After 200 miles, Mike and Deanna can expect an easy passage.



R SEA KAT

CHANGES

Anthony Murray, Reginald Robertson, and 20-year-old **Jaryd Payne** had last been heard from on what was to be a 6,000-mile delivery of the new cat from South Africa to a charter program in Thailand.

The families of the deceased men are furious on two counts: First, when the families hadn't heard from the men in several days after the start of the voyage, the company told them they were "over-reacting" because the boat had encountered "a little bit of bad weather" — not mentioning they might have been in the path of the 100-knot winds of cyclone **Bansi**. Secondly, it took four days for the company to inform the family that the hull had finally been found.

There is more. In October of last year, the 52-ft catamaran **Lama Lo**, type unknown, was hit by a whale 50 miles off the coast of South Africa. After taking on water in one hull, the then unbalanced cat flipped in strong winds and heavy seas. The older Frenchman who owned the boat and his younger South African crew grabbed the EPIRB and got into one of the boat's two dinghies, thinking a dinghy would be safer than



With the flipping of 'Lama Lo', above, and the Sunsail cat, below, it hasn't been the best year for cats on the east coast of South Africa.

the life raft in the rough sea conditions. They were quickly separated from the overturned cat — and her life raft. The dinghy eventually flipped, causing them to lose most of their supplies. The dinghy

later flipped again, this time landing right-side up! Thanks to their EPIRB, the duo were rescued by a French ship 12 hours later. As you can see from the photo in the upper left, the cat, like the Sunsail cat, did not sink. That is not to say either was necessarily habitable.

At this point, we'd like to proclaim that **Windyty**, which creates world-wide animated weather maps for free, is one of the greatest educational and safety tools ever created for sailors. For example, we were trying to think how anybody in their right mind would want to try to deliver a cat from Cape Town to Thailand, given that it's challenging enough to sail from Thailand to Cape Town. Thanks to Windyty, we could see that in January, it's not that bad at all, as long as you can make it a little north and into the following winds across the top of Madagascar and into the westerly trades of the lower latitudes. The huge challenge, of course, is making the first 500 or so miles upwind into the following winds.

But that's just one example of how Windyty makes worldwide, regional and



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local wind patterns understandable through animated graphics. Want to understand Northers blowing down the Sea of Cortez — and sometimes jumping across Baja near La Paz to the Pacific? It's there. Want to understand the sequence of wind coming through the Gulf of Tehuantepec from the Gulf of Mexico? Bingo. Want to understand why sailing east from Cartagena is so difficult? No problem. Want to get a decent understanding of the wind patterns anywhere in the world? Windy is the tool. Simply brilliant!

Intrepid — but perhaps somewhat incompetent — American sailors Bob Weise and Steve Shapiro, both 71, left Norway last July aboard the 40-ft, 18-ton **Nora** hoping to sail to Maine. Things have not gone well. So far they've only made it to Hayle, Cornwall, England. What's worse, they've had to be rescued nine times in seven months. To date they've been rescued in Norway, Denmark, Scotland, Ireland and England. It's unclear if they've made it by a country without having to be rescued.

The most recent January incident

was particularly troubling. According to the local harbor-master, "They either didn't understand or couldn't properly [secure the boat in advance of a severe drop in tide] because the yacht fell over when the tide went out." Not only was neither man aboard when the boat went onto her side, but they'd left a candle burning inside the boat! The candle started a fire, which apparently took three hours to put out.

Shapiro described himself as a "screenwriter and author originally from California," while Weise is a former helicopter pilot for the US Army. Shapiro downplayed the damage, saying the fire was limited to some clothes. Yet the tipped-over *Nora* and fire precipitated a response from firefighters, two rescue boats and an ambulance. Brits started to grouse, as a typical rescue response in England costs about \$22,000. The lo-



Crewman Steve Shapiro downplayed the damage suffered by the tipping of 'Nora' and the fire aboard, but she looks in bad shape to us.

cal harbormaster said he was concerned about not only the mens' safety, but that of those who might have to rescue them yet another time.

This is **not the first time** an older American sailor has created inordinate problems for rescue services in Britain and on the Continent. It's been something like 10 years now so we can't remember the details, but an elderly yet game sailor from Northern California be-

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came infamous for having to be rescued so many times he was asked to leave.

A wicked boat fire broke out one afternoon in mid-January aboard the powerboat **Rhum Runner**, which was berthed at the Island Water World Dock in Cole Bay, St. Martin, in the West Indies. Thick black smoke could be seen from the decks of the many megayachts and smaller boats in the area. The fire on the powerboat quickly spread to the adjacent powerboat **Lo Emma** and the Lagoon 42 catamaran **Naughty Dreams**. All three boats were complete losses.

"We were at Lagoonies when the big fire broke out at the closest dock to leeward of us," report 2014 Ha-Ha vets Dave Hayes and Rose Alderson, formerly of the Gabriola Island-based Catalina 34 **Aussie Rules**. "The three boats went up in quick succession. Some brave folks, who got much closer than most would have dared, untied the next boat in line and pulled her away. This created a fire break, allowing the firemen to keep the flames from spreading further. Thankfully the fire started on the end of the dock and the wind was blowing away, or many more boats would have been destroyed."



ROSE ALDERSON

Once fiberglass boats start burning, it's extremely difficult to put them out. Getting them away from other boats becomes the main goal.

In mid-January, many news outlets were gleefully taking potshots at Paul Allen, Microsoft co-founder, after the anchor chain of his 303-ft motoryacht **Tatoosh** reportedly damaged 14,000 sq ft of coral in the Cayman Islands. Before the sniggering had stopped, Vulcan, Inc.,

Allen's company, responded as follows: "Vulcan Inc. and Paul G. Allen have a long history of responsible exploration and a commitment to ocean conservation. On January 14, 2016, **Tatoosh** was moored in a position explicitly directed by the local Port Authority. When her crew was alerted by a diver that her anchor chain may have impacted coral in the area, the crew promptly, and on their own accord, relocated their position to ensure the reef was protected."

Frankly, we tend to believe Allen's side of the story, and suspect that all radio transmissions to and from the ship were recorded so that he could prove it. **Tatoosh** is the smaller of Allen's motoryachts. He also owns the 415-ft **Octopus**.

Allen has loaned **Octopus**, which is equipped with a submarine and ROV, for a variety of rescue and research operations. These include assisting in a hunt for an American pilot and two officers whose plane disappeared off Palau; loaning his yacht to scientists to study the coelacanth, a "living fossil" that was once believed to be extinct; and loaning his ship to the Royal Navy in their attempt to retrieve the ship's bell from **HMS Hood**.

Lee Chesneau at Strictly Sail Pacific

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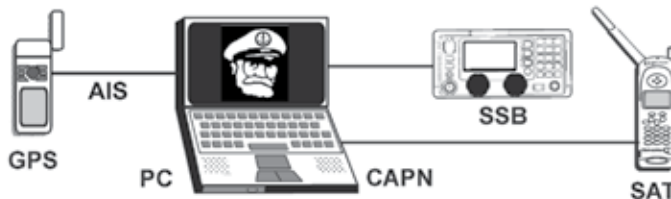
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which sank with 1,400 crew in 9,000 ft. of water in the Denmark Strait during World War II. The bell was located but not recovered because of bad weather. Three years later, *Octopus's* ROV recovered the bell, which is now on display at the National Museum of the Royal Navy. An Allen-led research team also announced that it had found the Japanese battleship **Musashi** in the Sibuyan Sea off the coast of the Philippines. *Musashi* and its sister ship **Yamato** were the largest and most heavily-armed battleships in naval history. Neither survived the war.

The bottom line is that it's not right to hate people because they are beautiful or because they are rich. Being beautiful and rich, however, is unacceptable, isn't it?

Errata: Last month we reported that private yachts can get a permit to visit the **Marietas Islands**, home to Playa de Amor, and stay overnight up to four times a month. That's incorrect in the sense that the park closes at 6 p.m.

In January there was an incident when as many as three boats were on moorings that failed in the deep waters of **Yelapa** cove on Banderas Bay. Fortu-

nately, there was no damage.

"My catamaran was the first to break free," reported Brian Charette of the Jackson Hole-based **Cat2Fold** catamaran. "I was awakened by someone yelling 'Ahoy!' In a daze, I thought the boat near me was drifting toward the beach. In reality, my boat and I were being blown out to sea with a 150-ft line, and an inadequate mooring weight hung from my bows. I ultimately dropped the mooring in about 500 ft. of water. The bottom is very steep and deep at Yelapa.

"Then I grabbed the only other mooring that I could see. It also soon became dislodged from the sea floor. I dropped it, then found another one, this one very close to the beach. I hooked onto it, and stayed put for the rest of the night."

From Dominica, to Niue, to the Caribbean, to the Pacific Northwest, to Europe — we can't recall how many times we've had to report on boats being lost because



STEVE BRENNER

Brian is a bit of an unusual guy. 'Cat2Fold' is a bit of an unusual Hughes catamaran design. And this is a very unusual downwind sail plan.

they tied on to **mooring balls** skippers assumed were safe or had been assured were safe. Be skeptical and careful! This is especially true in Mexico and in Yelapa, where we believe some locals rent out moorings made for *pangas* to owners of cruising boats.

How inexpensively can you cruise Mexico? Here's a hint. Brian Charette reports he recently spent \$5 for eight-grapefruit, three avocados, one canta-

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loupe, one papaya, one mango, and a bunch of hot peppers. It proves once again that Whole Foods really isn't the low-cost leader.

If you think Brian is exaggerating, Victoria Bradford of the San Francisco-based Cal 43 **Conviva**, who did the 2011 Ha-Ha and the 2012 Puddle Jump, reports that she still has the receipt showing that she paid only about \$100 for about 200 pounds of fruits and veggies just before they Puddle Jumped. The couple are now in Southeast Asia.

What about **the cost of meds**? We paid \$10 for one hundred 100mg tablets of Metroprolol, a common blood pressure medicine. That's a 200-day supply for us. Friends told us it's even less expensive at the Wal-Mart in Puerto Vallarta.

Like father like daughter. In La Cruz we bumped into Bob Stanic of the San Pedro-based Cal 46 **Aerie**, who was with his lovely 24-year-old daughter Kali. She works for a big environmental company in Washington, D.C., so she was delighted to get away from the frigid capital to join her dad for two weeks in Mexico. Dad and daughter started in La Paz, and had a wild ride down to Isla Isabella in winds from aft to 35 knots.

"Kali did great!" said her proud father. "And so did my Cal 46."

Readers may remember that Bob did the 2015 Ha-Ha with his charming stepdaughter Erin Grayson. It turns out that in early February Erin was just about to depart Cabrillo Beach aboard her Catalina 30 **Fairy Tale** to sail down the west coast of Baja. She was possibly going to buddyboat part of the way with Holly Scott aboard the latter's Cal 40 **Mahalo**. Erin expects to have two novice male sailors as crew. Stepdad Bob says Erin is a fine sailor who honed her cruising skills by doing a circumnavigation of all the Channel Islands but San Miguel last summer. "She got into some heavy wind on the west end of Isla San Jose, which was good experience."

It's amazing how ignorant people can be about Mexico. Even Mexicans. We were recently on the phone with a **T-Mobile** tech in Houston, and when we told him we were calling from Puerto Vallarta, he repeatedly warned us how dangerous it was. "I'm a Mexican," he said, "I can tell you that everybody is getting decapitated or otherwise killed." We tried to explain that as in the United

States, certain areas are dangerous but many are extremely safe. But he wasn't believing us.

Speaking of T-Mobile, we've had tremendous success getting unlimited free data in the Puerto Vallarta region as part of our T-Mobile non-contract plan. And unlike the unlimited free data T-Mobile gives you in Europe, it's mostly 3G and thus pretty darn fast.

A month ago we were surprised to receive a letter from Laura Golden, who had sailed across the Atlantic with us on our Ocean 71 **Big O** 20 long years ago. Hadn't heard from her since then. If we thought that was a long time ago, we just got a note from Virg Erwin, who reminded us that we'd met once before.

"You stopped by the Sausalito Cruising Club to offer me some advice the day before my wife, one-year-old and I set sail for the Marquesas with our Westsail 32," wrote Erwin. "Don't worry," you told me, "you're not sailing off the edge of the world. You find other sailors willing to help you anytime you need it."

"That was so comforting," he continued, "and it was true."

It was also 39 years ago! Where did all the time go?



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For specs, photos and opportunity to view this classic yacht, please contact: **Wayne Emme, 619-756-5170**
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WHAT'S IN A DEADLINE? Our Classy Classifieds Deadline is the 15th of the month, and as always, it's still pretty much a brick wall if you want to get your ad into the magazine. But it's not so important anymore when it comes to getting exposure for your ad. With our online system, your ad gets posted to our website within a day or so of submission. Then it appears in the next issue of the magazine. So you're much better off if you submit or renew your ad early in the month. That way your ad begins to work for you immediately. There's no reason to wait for the last minute.



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10-FT WALKER BAY GENESIS RIB 310. 2008. Santa Cruz. \$1,500. Lightly used. Includes oars, removable tube tires, seat. Bow storage. Call (831) 423-4985.

24 FEET & UNDER



19-FT OPEN 5.70, 2012. Richmond Yacht Club. \$25,000. One-design planing hull, yet easily handled by a crew of 2 or 3 on the Bay. Proven, fast boat, season champ, active Bay fleet with almost 20 boats. Main, 2 jibs, 2 asymmetrical spinnakers. Complete USCG and one-design fleet gear. 2012 Honda 2hp outboard. Galvanized trailer. Always dry sailed. Ready to race or daysail. Custom-made full boat cover. Info: dave.peckham@gmail.com.

22-FT LATE MODEL 'TUNA, 2002. Sausalito. \$10,500. Rare chance to own a youthful Santana 22. Dandy, hull #806, wet-sailed, very good condition, lightly used as her owners are too busy messing about with an antique woody. 2010 Tohatsu MFS-5BL, 5hp 4-stroke. Standing rigging replaced 2010. Recently installed roller furling, extra hank-on headsail, brand new main cover. All USCG safety equipment. Clean interior, Porta-Potti and nice cushions. She's pretty and ready to sail with SF berth. Please contact (415) 608-4956 or tennmaripprkng@gmail.com.



22-FT CATALINA, 1970. Sacramento. \$2,500. DH Enterprises trailer. Original main and jib sails, Swing keel, HIN 200. Anchors, cushions, lifelines, table settee, roomy cockpit. Boat needs a little love. One of the most popular sailboats around. Contact asi-acadmin@csus.edu or (916) 278-2842.



15-FT MONTGOMERY, 2010. Scotts Valley. \$11,000/obo. Lightly used, mostly fresh water. Always garaged. Single-axle trailer with extendable tongue. 2hp Honda. Double reef main and jib. Fully rigged and ready to sail. Looks new! More info at (408) 203-0409 or keck.zest@gmail.com.



17-FT BULLSEYE. Herreshoff sloop, 1989. Tiburon, CA. \$1,900/obo. Wonderful daysailer, very stable with an 800lb full-hull keel. Well maintained. Green gelcoat, teak seats and rub-rail trim. Two mainsails, genoa + std jibs with self-tacking boom, three covers, side-mount electric outboard with 2 marine batteries. Call or text (415) 279-9908 or email robertliburdy@comcast.net.



18-FT MARSHALL SANDERLING, 1976. Napa. \$8,500. Beam 8.5-ft, draft 19 inches board up, 4.5-ft down. Includes 4hp Yamaha outboard with mounting bracket, depth gauge, tiller hold device and more. Contact (707) 287-5632 or (707) 224-7723 or garylmichaud@gmail.com.



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25 TO 28 FEET



CATALINA 27, 1979. Oakland Yacht Club, Alameda. \$8,500. Very cute, recently (beautifully) redone Catalina 27, with 6hp outboard, 95% + 110% jibs, fresh bottom paint and brightwork. Great Bay sailer. See website for more information! www.patrickandvallerie.com. Contact Reconnaissance@kolasinski-law.com or (209) 535-3104.

COLUMBIA 26 MK II. Clipper Harbor, Sausalito. \$4,900. New standing, running rigging. New Yamaha T9.9 4-stroke electric start outboard, new wiring, new cabin cushions. Hauled out and bottom painted in 2014. Contact Stan at (707) 539-5840.



28-FT LASER. Sausalito. \$22,000/obo. Very good condition. Rebuilt recently. Sails in good shape. Standing and running rigging redone. Comes with trailer. Ready to go in the water now. More information at (707) 834-8983 or michaellscott@gmail.com.



27-FT CATALINA, 1984. Monterey. \$9,500. Standard rig, roller furling, fin keel. Dinette interior, diesel, propane stove. Wheel steering conversion removed, all parts come with sale. Tiller installed. Tiller-pilot. Bottom Jan 2014. Non-transferable slip. For more info contact (831) 601-9322 or tom@tomleduc.com.

27-FT COLUMBIA 8.3, 1978. Eureka, CA. \$5,500. Solid boat-newly replaced cabin sole, refinished brightwork. Recently refreshed Yanmar 2QM15 modified to heat exchanger cooling. Separate enclosed head. Two jibs, main and spinnaker. Includes triple axle trailer. Contact (541) 993-1707 or abark@gorge.net.



27-FT CAL 2-27, 1976. Vallejo Yacht Club. \$5,500. A very good boat in nice condition for a reasonable price. Great array of sails, all in fine condition, including four jibs, two spinnakers, and a fully-battened main. New standing and running rigging from 2012. Atomic 4 runs well, Autohelm, steering compass, VHF, Windex. Rave review from *Practical Sailor*. Well maintained by a highly successful racing sailor. See www.practical-sailor.com/reviews/boatreeview/Cal_2-27-1139-1.html. Call (707) 642-6765.



25-FT OLSON 25, 1984. \$12,000. Single-handed TransPac vet. Ready to go again with little further investment. Roadworthy trailer included. Email for additional pics, inventory. Need permission to buy? Get it first, then contact me via email at museumofsail@gmail.com.



25-FT S2 7.9, 1982. Medford, Oregon. \$10,000. New running and standing rigging, faired epoxy bottom, no blisters. Quantum Kevlar sails, EZ loader trailer. For more info contact (541) 690-8153 or S27.9forsale@gmail.com.

27-FT BRISTOL, 1968. Sausalito, CA. \$3,100. Seaworthy sailboat: Decent condition, cabin, includes Nissan 2-stroke 9.5hp outboard. Great day boat for SF, stable in heavy winds. Needs a scrape, but solid since '68. More at <http://bluewaterboats.org/bristol-27/> or call (310) 880-3951.

27-FT CATALINA, 1977. Berkeley Marina. \$6,000. *Windhorse*. Sailed on Bay last 12 years. Well kept up. Illness forces sale. Full-batten main, spinnaker, spare headsails, 9hp Evinrude. Dinette model. Contact info@carpenterdesign.com or (541) 885-5450.



ALERION EXPRESS 28, 2008. San Rafael, CA. \$80,000. Beautiful condition with larger 2-cylinder Yanmar diesel engine. Full electronics. Shoal draft keel, trailer option. Dodger not included. More info at (415) 699-4290 or (415) 456-7650 or pdccatalina320@gmail.com.

29 TO 31 FEET



30-FT ALBERG ODYSSEY 30 YAWL. 1969. Santa Barbara Slip. \$18,000/obo. Beautiful boat well equipped for cruising. Fiberglass hull/deck. Lead ballast. 2010 rigging. Reliable diesel. Excellent ground tackle. Solar, dodger, sails. Chameleon nesting dinghy. Information at (805) 234-3137 or jfride@gmail.com.



30-FT KNARR, 1961. San Francisco West Harbor. \$42,500/obo. US 103 *Sophia* is a beautiful 1961 Borresen Knarr with a wooden hull. *Sophia* has been perfectly restored, including cabin top, cabin sides, toe rails, plywood/glass deck, keel bolts, garboards, cockpit seats and cockpit. She also has a new full cover, new aluminum rig and recent haulout. *Sophia* has won multiple season championships and is ready to race/sail. She is located in the S.F. West Harbor slip which can go with her subject to harbor regulations. Information at (510) 812-5939 or (415) 789-1903 or dwntrs@aol.com.

30-FT CAPE DORY, 1982. Marina San Carlos, MX. \$25,000. Upgraded rigging, gel batteries, full-batten main, Furlex, wheel, Lewmar ST30s, dodger, Autohelm, CQR, propane stove, solar panel, dinghy, EPIRB and more. Documented, custom trailer, US delivery possible. Contact (575) 758-8366 or jmac@laplaza.org.



31-FT SENORITA HELMSMAN, 1977. Alameda, CA. \$24,000. Rare Swedish fiberglass sloop in remarkable condition! Repowered and new rigging in 2010. Quality sail inventory. She is ready to sail away! See website for complete specs and photos: <http://sailingr901.wix.com/vsviduri>. Then call (510) 501-2225.



ERICSON 30+, 1981. Marina Green, San Francisco. \$18,000. Original owner. Universal 16hp diesel. Standing rigging replaced in December 2013. Lifelines and running rigging replaced in 1997. Harken self-furling jib installed in 1997. New sails in 1997. Marina Green slip included! Contact (650) 400-6898 or Dfoley@ewingfoley.com.

29-FT SHIPMAN 28, 1974. Berkeley CA. Rare Shipman 28. Sleek Ollie Enderlein design built in Cork, Ireland. (LOA: 29.06', beam: 8.53', draft: 5.9'). Solid fiberglass heavy-built hull, fin keel design, and extended rudder for superior control and stability. Sloop rigged; roller furling jib and mainsail can be raised from the cockpit. New storm sail, 170% genoa, and spinnaker (halyard and pole). Yanmar 16hp diesel, new in 2000. Beautiful all-teak interior. More information and details on request at aable1j@gmail.com.



30-FT IRWIN, 1975. Alameda. \$9,500. Universal diesel M3-20B, 270 hrs. 3 jibs, 2 spinnakers and main. Same owner since 12/77. Sailed on Bay and Delta. For more information: (510) 236-5394.

YANKEE 30, 1971. Brisbane Marina. Best Yankee 30 on the planet. Looks great, sails great, race winner. See website for details, pricing, and contact info: <http://doubleplay.website>.



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31-FT CAL 31 SLOOP, 1979. Banderas Bay, MX. \$17,000. Well maintained. For sale near Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. Diesel engine, jib furling, propane stove/oven, fridge, windlass, tiller, autopilot, solar panels, VHF, GPS, windvane. New bottom paint and zincs (Oct 2015), West Marine raft w/elec trolling motor. This has a larger than usual interior for a 31 footer and is actively sailed now. From US call: 011-52-1-322-171-3485 or contact j_hindman@sbcglobal.net.

32 TO 35 FEET



33-FT CUSTOM STONE SLOOP, 1958. 39,000/obo. *Little Packet*, has a unique cockpit with a built-in dodger for warmth on SF Bay. She has always been well maintained including refastened hull, renewed keel bolts, varnished spars and trim. Same owner since 1971. Sailed as far as La Paz. Has a very comfortable interior. For more information, contact (510) 654-7704 or dickwr8@gmail.com.



CREALOCK 34, 1988. Woodley Island, Eureka CA. \$57,900. This well-built, extremely seaworthy bluewater boat is a veteran North and South Pacific voyager. Since 2008 I have kept it in La Paz, BCS, sailing in the Gulf and stored on the hard during the hurricane season. Well maintained. Returned to Eureka in spring 2014 and berthed there now. Increasing age (mine) and physical issues force sale. Survey, equipment list, details and photos on website: <http://bit.ly/1Kb5kJo> or via email at donaldesnyder1@gmail.com or call (541) 890-4168.



34-FT DUFOUR GRAND LARGE, 2013. Sausalito. \$160,000. Rare Dufour 33.5 excellent condition. Dual helm, no backstay for open cockpit. 29hp Perkins diesel, fore and aft cabins, galley, head. Genoa furling jib, StackPack full-batten main, dodger, electric windlass, offshore sails, reefing system led aft to clutches. Folding transom for swim platform. Saildrive, folding Volvo prop. Teak rails, cockpit deck and seats. Very well maintained. Contact (925) 349-6393 or fritzsails1957@yahoo.com.



30-FT HUNTER, 1990. Emeryville, CA. \$28,000. Clean, well maintained and roomy. 16hp Yanmar diesel. Full-batten main, Dacron 95% furling jib, spare main and all rigging in good shape. Lazy jacks, self-tailing winches, lifelines, Lifesling. Large salon w/dinner table, fwd and aft berths sleeps 6. Full galley w/sinks, alcohol stove and range, fresh and hot water, large cooler, head w/shower. Battery charger and monitor, JVC stereo w/cabin and cockpit speakers. Older canvas dodger and covers. Tons of storage, cupholders, lights and other conveniences. New main '07, new standing rigging '09, major engine service '12, new bottom '13, head rebuilt '13, fresh zincs, new batteries and oil. Pics and more info on website. www.arcuri.com or contact (650) 888-4812 or jeff@arcuri.com.

33-FT NONSUCH, 1989. Grand Marina, Alameda. \$98,880. Queen of her fleet. True classic coastal cruiser, easy handling, fast and great livability. Low hrs, well maintained. Attention-getter wherever she goes. More info at <http://gypsypirits.me>. Contact (530) 412-0144 or cbellasail@sbcglobal.net.



32-FT JIM TAYLOR RACE SAILBOAT. 1998. Santa Barbara, CA. \$59,500/obo. *Danger Zone* is a Jim Taylor (Marblehead, MA)-designed 32-ft carbon fiber race boat. Carbon hull, deck, cockpit, Hall carbon mast and boom 1860+/- lbs. Custom carbon tiller/rudder/keel. 5 new North sails designed in 2014 by JB Braun-North Sails. *Danger Zone* won 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002 New England PHRF championships. Current PHRF rating 36. Totally restored and refurbished in 2013-2014. \$12,000+ Nexus instrumentation package w/GPS speed/VMG, etc. New VHF radio/GPS. Fast and fun-capable of beating maxis in the right hands. We have, you can too! Custom trailer and delivery anywhere negotiable. Located SBYC. See online at www.danger-zone.net. Contact Steve at (617) 838-4648 or info@americanglobal.org.



ERICSON 35, 1972. \$12,500. Excellent cosmetic condition, good sails, new jib. Universal diesel. Great liveaboard: wood grain cabin sole, custom futon bed. Hot/cold running water. 12v refrigerator, flat screen TV. CD/DVD/Xbox. Contact (510) 213-0202 or quickjantony@gmail.com.

35-FT HINCKLEY PILOT, 1969. Sausalito Yacht Harbor. \$120,000. Classic Sparkman & Stephens sloop, captain/owner-maintained, easy to singlehand, large sail inventory, excellent condition. Transferable slip close to boardwalk, with parking pass. US-documented for charter. E Dock, slip #223. For information contact tfunk50@gmail.com.



34-FT HUNTER LEGEND 35.5, 1984. Barra de Navidad, MX. Newer rig with very good standing and running rigging. Schaefer furling on 140% genoa, main, 3 reefs, asymmetrical spinnaker in sock, full spinnaker gear. Lewmar #48 primary. Fixed vang, sails custom made for boat by E. P. Offshore, pole. Yanmar 3gmf, 23hp with 22 hrs. Many spares. Autohelm 3000, VHF, depth, GPS, LPU hull and decks. Honda EU2000, Engel reefer, large ice box. Teak interior. 3 doubles 1 single. Dodger and bimini. 4 anchors. 11 ft. Achilles with 8hp Tohatsu. Hot and cold pressure water. 11' 7" beam. 5' 6" draft. Nice condition. Call (949) 482-8467.



30-FT WYLIECAT 30, 1997. Santa Barbara. \$55,500. *Dazzler*. Major refit 2007-08, Yanmar diesel, Pineapple carbon sail, Icom VHF, Garmin GPS plotter, Raymarine speed/depth, XP5 and ST2000 autopilots. Fusion stereo. AGM batteries, shorepower, charger. For more information contact rwwales@gmail.com.

33-FT CAL, 1972. Emery Cove Yacht Harbor. \$13,800. Modified stern. Skeg rudder. Tiller. Volvo diesel under 400 hrs. Harken Mk II. Newer rigging. Surveyed in December. Priced to sell. Buy it with a slip for extra discount. Contact (626) 410-5918 or ngolifeart@gmail.com.

35-FT C&C LANDFALL, 1982. Tiburon. \$12,000. Recent engine work, new transmission, newer rod rigging, upholstery. Harken furler, B&G instruments, 2-speed self-tailing winches. New prop. Great Bay boat! Needs TLC, mostly cosmetic. Must sell. Contact (707) 291-7867 or markvoss@sonic.net.



32-FT PEARSON 323, 1982. Berkeley Marina. \$36,950. Excellent condition. Removable cockpit, headsails, liferaft, autohelm, panel. Monitor windvane, achilles LT-2 also available.

32-FT CATALINA, 2000. Santa Cruz Yacht Harbor, Slip C17. \$69,000. 386 hrs on Yanmar 27hp diesel. New prop and bottom paint. Factory installed Raytheon NavPod electronics, Schaefer roller furling jib and canvas dodger. Refrigeration. Well maintained. More info at (831) 818-7683 or judithscollon@rocketmail.com.

35-FT HUNTER 356, 2002. Marina Bay, Richmond. \$64,000. 2002 *Cruising World's Boat of the Year* in class. Too many extras to list. Contact Ken for more info: (325) 347-2349 or cordero@wcc.net.



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32-FT SCHUMACHER SYNERGY 1000. 1999. Sausalito. \$57,000/obo. Carbon spars, rebuilt engine. Race ready, asym or pole w/4 jibs, 3 asyms, 3 spin, 4 jibs, 2 mains. EPIRB and most OYRA gear. Call (415) 518-3394 or (415) 990-9779 or contact: bmrwadcliffe@gmail.com.

32-FT BRISTOL, 1971. Berkeley Marina. \$4,000/obo. Classic beauty, sound hull and great interior for her age. Does need some TLC. Atomic 4 not running and some rigging issues. New head, no electrical problems. Good liveboard. More info at 4morphus@gmail.com.

36 TO 39 FEET

39-FT BAVARIA, 1994. Everett, WA. \$65,000/obo. Opportunity. Selden custom cutter rig, radar, wind generator, solar panels, SSB, Hydro, raft, dinghy, Honda 4-stroke, EPIRB, 40hp Volvo 1380 hrs, dodger, cover, cushions, windlass, etc. Photos on website <http://1drv.ms/1spFYLQ>. Contact (509) 370-4222 or gastonmartin@hotmail.com.



38-FT MORGAN 382, 1978. Brisbane Marina. \$39,900. *Skylark* is both sea kindly and comfortable underway and owners lived aboard for 11 years. She has a large well-protected cockpit and is rigged for doublehanding. Original Yanmar 3QM has just 500 hours. Second owners have lovingly cared for her the last 25 years, but are leaving the area. An excellent Bay and offshore boat. For a full equipment list and photos contact (650) 722-4546 or bh.hackel@gmail.com.

37-FT CSY CUTTER, 1978. Discovery Bay. \$37,000. Two staterooms, two heads with showers. Perkins 4-108, runs strong. Large cockpit with bimini and cockpit table. Full-batten main. Huge refrigerator, freezer. Caribbean and Mexico vet. This boat truly sleeps six in comfort. Photos available on request. Call (530) 219-1566 or sailorbayone@gmail.com.



36-FT CAPE GEORGE, 1987. Vancouver, BC. \$189,000 USD. Must see! There were only approximately 30 CG 36's completely built by the craftsmen at CG Marine Works (prev. Cecil Lange & Son). This is one of the finest examples afloat! A 2-owner boat with extensive refits in 2007 and 2014. Meticulously maintained in Bristol condition. This is a true bluewater world cruiser, or will sail your local waters in comfort and style. Compliments wherever she is moored. All custom-built magnificent teak interior. Too many extras to list here. For complete description and photos please email or phone. (575) 770-1872 or wse541@gmail.com.



39-FT CAL, 1971. San Diego Harbor, CA, Chula Vista Marina. \$12,000/obo. *Knot A Clew* just repowered, Perkins 4-108 diesel, new batteries, gauges, alternator, paint, tiller, fast. Signet instruments, Big Richie compasses. Ready for Newport to Ensenada, trophied last time. Contact: granahan@cox.net or (949) 280-6220.



37-FT TAYANA PILOTHOUSE, 1981. San Diego. \$79,000. A proven offshore cruiser. New bottom paint. Aluminum mast. No teak deck. Cruise-equipped/liveboard-ready. Numerous upgrades. For detailed portfolio and photos go to website: <http://www.tayana37ph.com> and then contact mail@tayana37ph.com.

38-FT CATALINA 380, 2001. Alameda. \$105,000. Bristol condition. Well maintained. Sleeps 6. Large cockpit w/ table. Yanmar 40hp 420 hrs. Full electronics. 4-person inflatable dinghy, 8hp outboard. Great sailing characteristics for SF Bay or coastal cruising. Contact (415) 205-0687 or dtsailor51@gmail.com.



37-FT CUSTOM CRUISER, 1992. Delta. \$85,000 firm. *Sisu* a 37 Custom Cruiser built by owner/professional boat builder. Launched in 1992. Unstayed carbon fiber mast, hard dodger, 3 watertight compartments also 2-piece dinghy. All-teak interior with a lot of built-in storage, 2 staterooms. Propane heat and galley with refrigeration unit. 150 gals water, 85 gals fuel, Yanmar diesel. Docked at residence on the Sacramento River. Call Jack. (209) 200-9200.



36-FT CATALINA, 1989. Half Moon Bay. \$46,000. Handles like a dream, very spacious inside, very strong construction. Diesel engine, 2000 hrs. Depth finder, electronic depth sounder, electrical system, 2000 hrs. Bimini, 2000 hrs. Original beach chair, 2000 hrs. Water, and great refrigerator that was replaced 5 years ago, gas stove. Head with composting toilet and shower. 8' 6" dinghy that has never been used. Jib is roller furling, with additional jib, spinnaker, lazy jacks on the main. Motorized anchor windlass and extra anchor. Full safety equipment. Jack lines and tethers.



37-FT BUCHAN SLOOP, 1965. Port San Luis Harbor, Avila Beach, CA. \$6,000/obo. Solid hull and rig. Needs paint and engine work. Electronics of unknown condition. Lien sale. Info at (805) 595-7895 or bliintner53@gmail.com.



38-FT INGRID, 1979. Bellingham, WA. \$49,000. Well maintained Bluewater Ingrid ketch can take you safely across the Pacific. Isuzu 54hp repower in 1999, new Staaf mainsail, Dickinson Pacific stove, custom mattress. For more information, contact (360) 770-4525 or (360) 856-9016 or debrandoug@gmail.com.

40 TO 50 FEET



48-FT MAYFLOWER KETCH, 1985. Puerta Vallarta MX. \$109,000. Sleek and graceful Mayflower ketch. Properly equipped for a crew of two, bluewater cruiser carries and flies up to five sails. Designed by George Stadel II, the *Oriana* has proven performance, good construction, and attention to detail. Ample captain's cabin, attractive, roomy salon, and fully-equipped galley, the boat is a comfortable liveboard in any of the world's ports. Powered by the dependable Perkins 92M, under power the craft cruises comfortably at 7.5 knots. Equipment includes roller furling on all masts, self-tailing winches, 300-ft. chain anchor rode, three sturdy anchors, watermaker, and more. More information at www.theoriana.com. Contact (480) 447-7316 or info@theoriana.com.



49-FT JEANNEAU SUN ODYSSEY. 2007. Ventura Harbor Village Marina. \$335,400. Exceptional performance cruiser. Three-cabin configuration. Wood interior, stainless appliances. Full electronics, autopilot, bow thruster, full-batten mainsail/3 reef points, 150% roller furling genoa. More info at (805) 220-0705 or Jeanneau.perception@gmail.com.



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40-FT SCHUMACHER CUSTOM, 1991. Australia. \$138,000/obo. Numerous podium finishes from Bermuda to SF Bay to PacCup. Strip plank/GRP composite by Mark Lindsay. Dry wt 13,300. Solid boat that loves any condition, any direction. Hall spars, Rod, Carbon P-Pole, race and cruise sails good to excellent. PHRF 72. Presently in cruise mode; dinghy, Honda 9.9, Spectra, DuoGen, IC-M802, Lewmar windlass, three sets ground tackle, Viking raft, etc., easily removable for race mode. Please contact jkcoggan@gmail.com.



40-FT CREALA, 1992. Rio Dulce, Guatemala. \$110,000. Crealock-designed performance cruising cutter. Double-ender. Fin keel. Skeg hung rudder. Maintained and extensively cruised by one caring owner. Very good to new condition throughout. Aesthetic. Cruising equipped. Engine 1750 hrs. More information at tillsonds@yahoo.com.



47-FT ATKINS INGRID, 1970. Astoria, OR. \$50,000. s/v *Fairanne*. Jack Atkins design, hull #1. Mahogany/oak, 37hp Kubota, full complement of electronics. A beautiful, heavy cruiser. Please contact fairanne68@yahoo.com or call (503) 717-0393.



47-FT CUSTOM CRUISER, 1983. Gary Mull performance cruiser. Pittsburg, CA. \$250,000. Fast, strong, aluminum with beautiful Awlgrip finish. Loaded to cruise. Just returned from 6 months in Mexico. Very special boat. More information at www.sailboatlistings.com/view/51161. Contact ed.witts@gmail.com or call (925) 948-5613.



CATALINA 42, 2001. Newport Beach, CA. \$174,500. Full Raymarine elec. Inverter, windlass with remote, DVD, dodger, new bottom paint, 56 Yanmar low hours. Roller furling. 2-cabin, elect fridge. This boat is turnkey. Contact (714) 376-7688 or (949) 548-3874 or ginka_62@yahoo.com.

46-FT MORGAN 462 KETCH, 1980. Mazatlan, MX. \$130,000. Extensively refurbished, teak interior, hull insulated, marble countertops, 2 Vitrefrigo AC/DC reefers and freezer. New Raymarine MFD, autopilot, Spectra 200 T, solar, wind gen, Kubota genset, Honda 15 w/starter, 9.5-ft. Caribe, chaps, davits, new epoxy hull. 105 lb. CQR w/300-ft. of chain, 65lb. CQR w/200-ft. of chain, 2 stern anchors. Spares and much more. More information at http://chapelsculpturestudio.com/pages/chapel_home.html. Contact (510) 593-4290 or chapel48@gmail.com.



44-FT KELLY PETERSON, 1977. San Diego. \$110,000. Major refit 2012, new Yanmar 75hp, new fuel tanks, new rigging and chain plates, dodger, bimini, pedestal, super cold machine refrigeration, Force 10 three-burner stove with oven, deck and cabin Awlgrippened new nonskid, new electronics including Raymarine E127 chartplotter, digital color radar, Standard Horizon Matrix VHF, all new batteries and Kyocera solar panels. Too much to list. May consider small trade. More at <http://endless summersailing.tumblr.com/>. Please contact (949) 291-6115 or jerrygahan@yahoo.com.



43-FT RON HOLLAND, 1986. Marina Riviera Nayarit, MX. Aft cockpit, 2 staterooms, 2 heads, spacious, well equipped and well maintained for cruising. Singlehanded all over Pacific Mexico in comfort and now lying in a fantastic location. See website at www.sanctuarycharters.com/sabbatical.php. Info: office@sanctuarycharters.com.



47-FT VAGABOND, 1981. Newport Beach. \$65,000/obo. Project boat. Interior cosmetically overhauled beautifully. Needs electronics, mast, rigging on board. Ford Lehman 85hp needs work. Teak decks need attention. Hull in good condition. Call for details, photos: (949) 689-4978 or lisa@bywaterbyland.com.



40-FT C&C, 1981. Marina Bay Yacht Harbor. \$65,000. New Beta diesel professionally installed, bottom paint 10/2014, new hull paint, stanchions, lifelines, batteries. Autopilot, windlass, 10-sail inventory, spinnakers. Racer/cruiser, PHRF 93, dry boat. For info contact garyfox@att.net.



42-FT BENETEAU 423, 2005. San Pedro, CA. \$179,900. Two cabins, deep keel, classic rig. This Mexico veteran is completely outfitted and ready to go cruising. For info visit our website: <http://finisterraspecifications.blogspot.com>. Contact (949) 491-3521 or (949) 500-4364 or yatdesign@aol.com.



44-FT F&C, 1979. Morro Bay, CA. \$110,000 possible partial trade. One of the most gorgeous sailing yachts ever built. Designed and built by German Frers, sistership to the late Roy Disney's famous *Shamrock*, possibly the only example of this fast and beautiful, go-anywhere, blue-water cruiser on the West Coast. Strong fiberglass hull and deck with teak deck overlay. Centerboard shoal draft 5'11": go to weather board-down 7'6". Interior finished in South American hardwoods, 2 staterooms, 2 heads, sleeps 6. Only a few hrs on rebuilt Perkins 4-108, large sail inventory, upgraded electrical system, newer upholstery, stainless dorades, full dodger, much more. May consider partial trade for fiberglass mid-30s sailboat. Call (805) 235-4046 or tackorjibe@gmail.com.



40-FT LYLE HESS CUTTER TOOLING. \$1. Price drastically reduced! Help save this piece of art! Lyle Hess English Channel Cutter 40 tooling for sale. This is the big sister to the Bristol Channel Cutter 28. This is Lyle's biggest fiberglass boat and is big for its length. This is hull tooling only. All data to build. Call Stan at (714) 501-9602.

41-FT ISLANDER FREEPORT KETCH. 1977. \$75,000. Center cockpit cruiser, great liveaboard. New Doyle main and headsails, Harken furler, mainmast standing rigging, lifelines, halyards. Five new batteries, new bottom paint. Genset, watermaker, SSB, autopilot, solar panels. Info at www.desideratasailing.com. Contact staffordjm1@gmail.com.



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47-FT GULFSTAR SAILMASTER, 1979. Richmond. \$115,000. Price reduced! Ha-Ha veteran! If your dream is to go cruising or live aboard on the Bay, this well equipped and well maintained cruising sloop is ready to set sail. Please take your time reviewing the extensive details on the website. I'm sure it'll become clear that this listing offers tremendous value when considering both the bones of the vessel as well as the many accessories desirable for the boating lifestyle. More info on website: www.svwish.com. Contact (559) 269-6930 or (925) 461-1822 or captwish@gmail.com.



45-FT KANTER ATLANTIC, 1983. Trinidad. \$59,900. Reduced price! This turnkey, go-anywhere yacht is a proven circumnavigator. Excellent sailing performance, maneuverable, and strong. Fully loaded with an extensive inventory of cruising gear. Meticulously maintained/updated. More info on website: <http://thissideupyacht.com>. Please contact (408) 431-4333 or (360) 431-3723 or tsusailboat@gmail.com.



40-FT KALIK, 1980. Santa Cruz, CA. \$63,500. Gary Mull 40. Well built and designed racer-cruiser. Built in Korea's best yard. Great boat. Fiberglass deck and hull, strong mast and boom. Great layout, 6'4" headroom, double quarterberth cabin with door. Head and 2nd helmsman's head. Shower, hot water heater. All teak, very well built. Some unfinished projects and maintenance. Perkins 4-108 runs great. Instruments, lots of sails. 55 Arco 2-speed primary winches. 36" wheel w/ leather. Large T-shape cockpit w/teak seats. Very few built. Contact Steve at (831) 332-1366 or (831) 334-2606 or s.elmore@att.net.



49-FT TRANSPAC KETCH, 1980. Point Loma, San Diego. \$125,000. Pristine. One owner. Professionally maintained since new, this is a very elegant and spacious 3-stateroom yacht. With 120hp Ford diesel, 13-ft. Boston Whaler. Huge master stateroom, private head with stall shower. Call Paul at (619) 222-9463 or contact pointproperties@yahoo.com.



42-FT TATOOSH, 1981. Alameda. \$99,900. Price reduced! From Robert Perry and Ta Shing. *Windrose* is safe, fast, comfortable, and cruise-ready. Beautiful teak interior, 2 cabins, 2 heads, Cruisair heater/air conditioner, new dual Seafoam refrigerator and freezer, Force 10 stove. Yanmar 55hp, Neil Pryde sails, spinnaker, Viking raft, 10-ft Zodiac inflatable dinghy, 4hp Mercury, autopilot, Monitor vane. Full electronics: 2 new Garmin's, radar, Icom SSB, new Iridium sat phone, AIS/DSL VHF, new EPIRB, wind spd/dir, depth, 2 solar panels, wind generator, new 160 amp alternator. Extensive ground tackle and custom dual anchor rollers. Complete cruising canvas. Just returned from 4 years in Caribbean. Contact (415) 497-9079 or jonessail@aol.com.



43-FT BENETEAU 423, 1987. South Beach, SF. \$109,950/obo. Great live-aboard and passage maker! Three-stateroom layout, central heat and air, large quality refrigeration, roomy cockpit and swim scoop with handheld shower! Great for living, entertaining and loaded for comfortable passage including all new sat. weather, moving maps, autopilot, radar and 2 new Garmin 15" touch screen navigation systems. All new hatch and port windows, rigging and more! Website with pictures: <https://tinyurl.com/k8s8b56>. Please contact (510) 253-5883 or beneteauforsale@gmail.com.



48-FT BENETEAU FIRST 47.7, 2003. San Francisco, CA. \$195,000. One of the nicest examples of this fast cruiser/racer available. Well maintained; "Euro" galley model; owner's stateroom forward, two guest cabins aft, many options. More information and pictures on website: www.sloopveronese.com. Contact (415) 637-6678 or (707) 781-7145 or sloopveronese@hotmail.com.



40-FT HUNTER 40.5 LEGEND, 1993. Channel Islands Harbor. \$69,000. Popular performance cruiser with custom aluminum arch and only 688 original engine hours. Autopilot, power winch, lines led aft. Call for pics: (707) 815-5111 or contact jghague@yahoo.com.



41-FT CT, 1976. Vallejo. \$52,000/obo. Veteran cruiser. Owned by the same owner since 1976. It has many cruising extras. Sails, anchors, and ground tackle. Set of world charts. 75hp Volvo diesel. Contact maspragg@aol.com or (415) 726-3322.



44-FT RP44, 1992. Harbor West, San Diego. \$89,000. Built in 1992 by McCannagh this Reichel Pugh is ORR-certified and has a PHRF rating of 38. Comfortable accommodation and above all precision-built quality by global leaders in carbon. New sails: Sobstad Pentex mainsail, triradial 155% headsail, BX15 (60%)/BX10 (40%) Stealth film black Aramid laminates from Dimension-Polyant and X-HP 165% asymmetrical spinnaker, .75 oz, and racing Harken roller furling. Please contact Curtis.w.collins@gmail.com or (808) 286-5202.



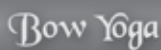
44-FT CATALINA MORGAN, 2007. Oak Harbor, WA. \$260,950. A real deck salon, light and airy with a settee you can sit at and enjoy the outdoors. Both forward and aft cabins have queen berths with head and showers. Just-serviced 75hp Yanmar with 870 hrs. Newer batteries and two 85-watt solar panels. Cruising spinnaker, power winches, hydronic heat. Raymarine L120 radar, chartplotter autopilot, bow thruster. New dodger and glass. Leisure Furl boom. May consider trade. Please contact (408) 666-3261 or jerryfisaia@aol.com.



43-FT J/133, 2006. Marina del Rey, CA. \$199,900. Excellent condition and fully loaded for racing and cruising. Sleeps 8, 2 heads, full electronics with 4 GPS screens, radar, electric main housing winch, Yanmar diesel 54hp, sat phone. Full racing suite of UK sails, and comfort amenities for long-range cruising. Please contact for detailed description. She has completed races while primarily used as a fast, fun family boat for cruising and great times together. For more information contact joesimpkins@lacarguy.com or (310) 570-3182.



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38-FT NAUTIGAL, 1938. Point Richmond. \$20,000. Myron Spaulding of San Francisco designed, built. Historically significant. Fir on oak classic. Sails like a witch. Varnished teak. Good sails, spinnaker, gear. 26-year owner; ask me anything at cjffstokes@msn.com or (925) 787-6741.

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42-FT FONTAINE PAJOT - VENEZIA. 1995. Bocas del Toro, Panama. \$180,000. Well equipped catamaran ready for world cruising. Please contact us for additional pictures and a complete equipment list. Email sailsouthernbelle.com or (504) 655-6673.



35-FT BENETEAU CATAMARAN, 1986. Ensenada, MX. \$60,000/obo. Boat has two 17hp Yanmar diesel engines, two 20-gallon water tanks, two 20-gallon diesel tanks, two double berths and furling genoa sails. Call (928) 301-2189 or (928) 899-0401 or edbooty10@yahoo.com.

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WANTED

CATALINA 42 OR EQUIVALANT. Bay Area: \$1,000 for 2 days. Planning a 2-day charter for a round trip sail to Half Moon Bay. Wanting to charter a boat in mid-March. Resume and references provided. Contact vobreza@aol.com or call (408) 806-6846.

PONTOONS WANTED RIO VISTA. I have a 20x50 floating home with fiberglass pontoons that seep. I am looking for 2-4 large pontoons (35' minimum length) to insert under the home. Photos preferred, price/shipping tbd. Please contact phil@peckhamandmckenney.com.

ALUBAT OVNI 43, 435, 455 WANTED. Emeryville. Have cash. Looking to buy an Alubat Ovni or Cigale in any condition (complete refit?) wherever she is lying or stored. Similar world-class sailing vessels considered. Contact (510) 508-0151 or pfetherston@sbcglobal.net.

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TRAILERS



27-32-FT SAILBOAT TRAILER. Alameda. \$7,500. Sailboat trailer, built in 2012. Used twice for 30-ft sailboat on Hawaii race (Pacific Cup). Contact (650) 533-7732 or Captmaddog@gmail.com.

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50' FORCE PH Ketch by Hudson. Famous Wm. Garden design, large comfortable liveaboard cruiser, 2 helms, diesel, dbl aft plus 2 other cabins, 2 marine heads, stall shower, full galley, ship's table/settees, 2 salons, Autohelm speed, wind, GPS, radar, EPIRB, MORE! Asking **\$89,900**



44' CLASSIC 1936 Raised Deck Express Cruiser. Capable coastal cruiser. Twin 4-71 diesels, diesel auxiliary generator. Flybridge and pilothouse helms, aft canopy. Gatsby-era elegance, owned by same family since 1951. Very good condition and ready to cruise to Mexico now! **Reduced to \$49,900 Asking**



43' TRAWLER by Kha Shing Flybridge, aft double stateroom, dual helms. Beautiful cruiser/liveaboard. A fisherman's dream! Twin Lehman diesels, 20KW genset, autopilot, GPS/chart, teak appointments, full galley, 2 heads with showers, hot/cold pressure water, swimstep-mounted dinghy and outboard, MORE. Asking **\$89,950**



48' CT Offshore Cruising Cutter. FG, LOW HOURS Deere dsl, stoutly-built comfortable & seaworthy dbl-ender w/U-shaped full galley (refrig/freezer, 3-burner range w/oven), two heads, overhauled mast, inverter, cabin heat, radar, AP, teak interior, more. Asking **\$49,900**



37' TAYANA Cutter Exc. cond. High quality traditional FG double-ender. Perkins dsl, wheel, warm teak paneled inter., recently replaced (Hood) main & stays', new Force 10/3-burner range, more. Hauled 11/20/15. Sea-kindly passagemaker beauty & ready to sail. Asking **\$49,900**



40' PIED À MER Weekend Retreat on the water in Marin. Great views of bridges, islands, North Bay, etc. Full kitchen, bathroom, living room, decks, etc. Watch the ships pass by. Offered as a vacation cabin; could be made to cruise. Pos. liveaboard berth & more! Now **\$16,950/offers**



35' ISLAND PACKET Lightly used on San Francisco Bay so she's super clean/ready to cruise. Huge, comfortable cockpit w/room for everyone. Massive, well equipped galley & fantastic layout below w/roomy aft & forward cabins. Built to high standards to sail safely. Asking **\$98,500**



30' NEWPORT Sloop. Diesel, many recent upgrades, wheel steering, dodger, bimini/cockpit enclosure, all lines led aft, 2 jibs-main-spinn & drifter. New batteries, galley w/3-burner range & oven, convertible settee, Autohelm, GPS/chartplotter, MORE! Asking **\$14,950**



38' CHEOY LEE Offshore Sloop. 40 hp dsl just professionally rebuilt. New main, RF jib + genoa, windlass, 3 anchors, head/shower, wheel steering, dbl course lifelines, bow/stern pulpits, galley, 4 single bunks/1 dbl, teak appointments; teak & holly sole. Asking **\$26,950**

REDUCED!



36' ISLANDER Sloop. Pretty much the most popular sailboat ever designed; this is a very nice one. Dsl, RF, dodger, self-tailers, 2-course lifelines w/pulpits. Beautiful tropical hardwood interior, cruise equipped, +. Asking **\$34,950**

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Bottom Painting

Uh oh, it looks like someone neglected to give the boat above her regularly scheduled bottom paint job. Notice how the bottom paint has deteriorated, exposing the gelcoat. This can allow hard, calcified growth to develop, which can degrade the performance of the vessel, and in time, damage the hull.

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