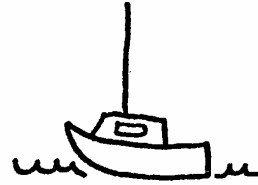


Potter to Potter

NORCAL WWP NEWS



March 1979

March 10...a dandy Delta sail! Seven boats launched from Tiki Lagoon to sail to Lost Isle: #564 Jerry & Sharon Barrilleaux with Idren Todd & Mike; #234 Harry Gordon; #567 Bob & Sharen Adair with daughter Mary; #789 Stan & Dorothy Butler; #266 John & Barbara Simpson (first time they'd sailed with us--Barbara wrote that great letter last issue); #604 Jim & Carol Mangels with children Stephanie & Jonathan; and #512 De & Sydney Marsh. Tiki Lagoon is a fundy little launching site, restaurant, and campsite tucked along the bank of Turner Cut Slough. You know you're in the country there--fields of spring green grass, low-hanging riverbank trees, beautiful rich soil, air you can breathe without choking, and folks that actually say "howdy"! A typical country gravel road let up a hill to the launch site which was so closely guarded by overhanging trees that we all decided to launch first and step the mast once we were in the water. Things went okay; we almost lost Jim Mangels overboard--he was standing atop his cabin and concentrating so deeply on rigging his boat that the gigantic horn blast from an outgoing cabin cruiser literally flattened him to the deck! And we also had a chance to meet Jerry Barrilleaux' dad and his friend, who had brought their motor skiff up to do some fishing and check out Lost Isle.

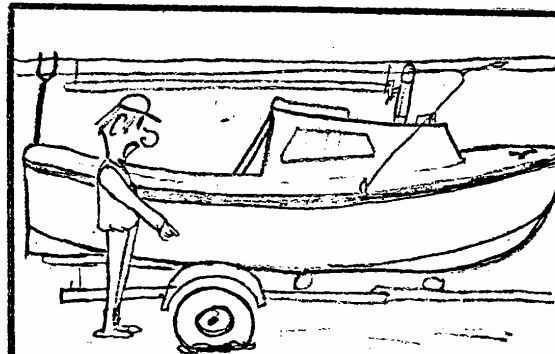
We left the dock at about 11:30 and sailed a nice beam reach up the slough; winds were gusting at about 15 - 20 knots. Even though the slough is relatively narrow, the sail was a good one--practically no tacking. Harry Gordon took some extra time to try out a new jib rig he'd worked up the night before; he pulled into the toolies a few times for adjustments.

We docked at the Lost Isle Marina. Jerry Barrilleaux' dad said he overheard people talking about the precision with which our fleet sailed in and docked, "it was impressive"! Lost Isle is quite a place; the center of attraction is a weathered bar/restau-

rant with murky lighting and dusty dancefloor which serves up 75¢ MaiTais and hefty hamburgers (we promptly sampled the latter two.) An afternoon of exploring revealed: a teeny-tiny beach, sunny meadows (complete with two ominous-looking donkies which follow you around), a woodsy path which circles part of the isle and at one point is nearly covered with huge wild berry bushes, several old telephone cable reels which teenagers were 'walking' barrel-style, and a bevy of peacocks, which insisted on staring at you from the restaurant door while you ate!

After lunch most everyone sailed out; there were several converging waterways offering plenty of exploration, and the wind escalated to about 25 knots, gusting frequently, making for a fast, exciting ride. The quickening of the wind in the afternoon brought out the bigger sailboats (from Stockton?) and the channel was full of sails.

Most Potters were back to the launch site and out of the water by about 4 p.m. Jerry Barrilleaux breathed a heartfelt thanks to De Marsh, who loaned Jerry a spare tire; Jerry blew his while trailing to the Delta and #564 rode about (10 miles?) on a very flat tire.



YA Remember That SPARE TIRE
I wanted to Get?

Jerry has a lot of foresight, though; he wrote me a letter which begins: "I nominate myself for the Boner of the Month award..." Couldn't have said it better myself, Jerry; not only is your nomination accepted, but you are now elected to the Boner of the Month Club! (You're in the best of company.)

A big thank you to Jerry for a great Sail idea--Lost Isle is a one-of-a-kind place, and we never would've found it without Jerry speaking up, then checking out the launch site, providing road directions, etc. Thanks!!

APRIL SAIL

APRIL 7-8 BODEGA BAY (Optional overnight)

This event was suggested by Stan Butler, who sent along the following article (Thank you, Stan!):

"On St. Patrick's Day Stan Butler decided to make a checkout sail of Bodega Bay prior to the April 7-8 Potter Yachter cruise. Didn't take much effort to get De Marsh's company as crew. The weather broke beautifully; sunny skies, and adequate but not overpowering winds drove #789 at hull speed all day. (Couldn't be that the 6-8 foot swells contributed to St. Patrick's green on Stan's face...)

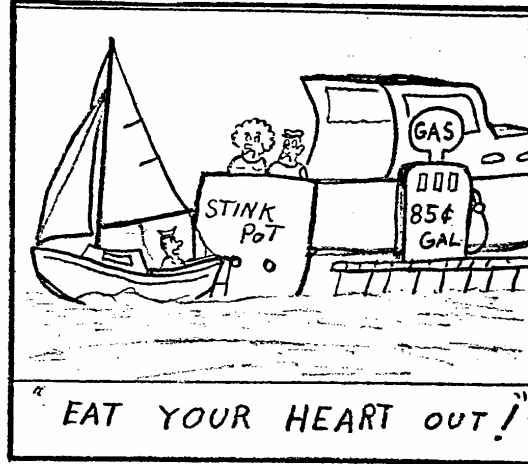
In a matter of minutes they found themselves out beyond Bodega head and alongside the outer buoy from which a southern heading drove them all the way to the entrance of Tomales Bay on a single broad reach tack. Would you believe the return trip took less than 2 hours while weaving among crab pots all the way!

Doran County Park offers various activities for the group. For the non-boaters a safe sandy beach (bring kites), and a rock outcrop for climbing or for fishing and crabbing. For the boaters a choice of waters from protected to the open ocean dependent upon your confidence level and the strength of your stomach. Abalone season is open and the skindivers of the group, water conditions permitting, will try for the entree portion of an abalone feed (bring French bread). Overnight is optional, park fees are \$5.00 overnight or \$1.50 day use, launching is included but there are no docks. As with all coast areas dress for cold weather, expect strong late PM winds.

Directions: North via 101 to the E. Washington-Bodega Bay freeway off-ramp. Continue on E. Washington following the Bodega Bay directional signs. Doran Park is about 2 miles south of Bodega Bay or 58 miles north of the Golden Gate Bridge. Allow

75 minutes driving time from the bridge. Launch time 10:00.

A special note for the Potter owners who are missing these fun outings. Few of us are expert sailors; we all make mistakes, but group sailing has proven safe and we have had some very enjoyable times together. A few goofs, a few good humor laughs; won't you join us because after all, we're all in the same boats!."



FUTURE SAILS

May 5 (Sat.): Uvas Reservoir. Bob Adair suggested a sail at Uvas, in Santa Clara County. He sailed there recently and says there's plenty of water and it seems like a great place for a group sail. Details and road directions in next issue.

May: Monterey Sail? De Marsh is checking out a Santa Cruz-to-Monterey (or a Moss Landing-to-Monterey) sail, which will possibly also be offered in May--maybe the 19/20? (Mother's Day & Memorial Wknd take up the other two may weekends). Details in the April newsletter.

June 3 (Sun.): Jim Mangels and Bob Adair suggest Woodward Reservoir, near Manteca. It supposed to be a good sailing area, and shore line camping is available. Sailing there in early June would be better than going there. in later summer heat.

July 7 (Sat.): How about another 'Chicken Bay' sail (launch from Estuary Park) or ??

Aug. 5 (Sun.): ???
(Bring your Sail Ideas to the Anniv. Dinner!)

NEW OWNERS

Welcome to the Potter Yachters! Our group now totals 29 boats, and the newsletter is mailed to 33 addresses.

The newcomers are:

Potter #578 - 'Welkin'
Sally Loos
Pat Scott
P.O. Box 353
Littleriver, CA 95456
707 937-0048
(Sally & Pat purchased Dan Gurney's boat.)

Potter #767
Ed & Susan Cahill
194 S. Coombs #16
Napa, CA 94558
707 253-1057



Don't Worry, This Book
Tells EVERYTHING about
running aground!

POTTER NATIONALS

The following is from the Southern California West Wight Potter Assn. newsletter:

"Potter Nationals (Sunday, April 29): The time honored Potter Nationals for 1979 will start at 1:30 p.m. (at Marina del Rey). Following the race, between 4 - 6:00 p.m., awards and festivities will be held in the Burton Chase Community Building. A buffet dinner will be served for \$2.50; however reservations and advance payment must be made by mailing the reservation coupon below.

TO: Joe O'Conner, 760 Lomita Blvd. #10,
Harbor City, CA 90710

Please make dinner reservations for _____
@ \$2.50. \$ _____ enclosed.

The Nationals represent the fleet's most popular annual event and again should provide an exciting Sunday for all in attendance. Out of town guests are especially welcomed and may receive commercial rate accommodation--space permitting--at the Sea Lodge Motel, 327 Washington St., Marina del Rey 90291, phone 213-821-2557. Rates are \$35 single and \$37 double with plenty of parking space for the Potter. For further information on the Nationals or if you can help with this event call Chuck Holden at 213-372-7896 or Frank Foote at 714-770-4329."

The newsletter from S. Cal. includes a map and layout of the race, and directions to the launch site. If you'd like a copy, call me at 408 255-8579 and I'll send you one.

OPENING DAY

Opening Day of the San Francisco Yachtin Season unfortunately is scheduled for the same day as the Potter Nationals: Sunday, April 29. (Maybe if you drive REAL fast...)

We're all gravitating to this decision about Opening Day: we'll launch from Sausalito and sail to Angel Island. Jerry Barrilleaux writes: "On Opening Day it will be best to launch early, before 8:30, to avoid congestion. Bring plenty to eat & drink, and take along a few water bombs for protection."

We'll make final plans at the April Sail or Anniv. dinner.

ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Reminder: First Anniversary Party:
c., April 21, 5:00 p.m., Kings Table Restaurant, Redwood City.

There will be a drawing for a door prize (I sneaked a few bucks out of our treasury & a nifty little item sure to please).

Bring along your ideas for sails this summer, and bring your mementos, slides, and photos from this past year. (We never did get a 'scrapbook' going; not enough contributions.)

CHECK THIS!!

The March issue of Trailer Boats magazine includes a 3-page, 10-photograph article that's sure to draw your interest: "West Wight Potter A Pocket Cruiser for the First Time Buyer". The article details the magazine's (favorable) evaluation and test run of a brand new Potter. It also explains her transfers of building rights since 1966, and offers a few suggestions and improvements worth noting.

Good reading; and, of course, they thought she was great!

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All cartoons by Jerry Barrilleaux

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HELP! Jim & I will be gone most of the month of May and if someone doesn't volunteer to send out the newsletter there just won't be one for May! It doesn't have to be long or involved--send out postcards if you like! I'll give you the mailing list and the stamps and you can let your imagination go wild. I know there are some 'closet writers' out there! First come, first serve!

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Dates to Remember:

April 7 (±8): Bodega Cruise

April 21 (Sat.): Anniv. Party

April 29 (Sun.): -Potter Nationals
-Opening Day

May 5 (Sat.): Uvas Res. Sail

(May (19/20?): Cruise to Monterey

June 3 (±2): (Woodward Res.?)

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